

Chapter 9: Conclusion

This training handbook has highlighted that there are 3 categories of cats, of which the companion cat lives with and is dependent on humans for its welfare; stray cat is a companion cat which is lost or abandoned and which is living as an individual or in a group (colony) and finally feral cats which have none of its needs met by humans.

Stray cats (more affectionately called “Companion cats”) have many of their needs indirectly supplied by humans, and live around centres of human habitation. The CCC is a volunteer network of individuals who attend to the daily needs of stray cats in Auckland in terms of shelter, feeding and health. This is supplemented by undertaking TNR activities to manage the stray cat population. This not only improves the lives of stray cats in the community, but also halts the breeding cycle and reduces nuisance behaviours.

Foster tips and adoption process is also included in this handbook, which are key mechanisms to transition stray cats to companion cats.

The handbook also highlights potential hazards and risks to ensure personal health and safety of every volunteer.

A new, but critical responsibility for each CCC member, is the completion of the cat tracking reporting form for **EVERY** cat trapped and transported to the Vet clinic for Veterinary assessment and intervention. This information will provide vital statistics and best practice learnings about the Society’s Colony cat care and TNR activities, which will be of immense help in the future of the Coalition.

In conclusion, our deepest gratitude and admiration for the members of the CCC, who passionately dedicate their time and resources to care for the stray cats in Auckland. Thank you.

Footnote: The following photograph epitomises the effect of TNR and the important work the Community Cat Coalition undertakes. Pictured is a family of 3 generations (grandmother 2 years old), her daughter (10 months) and her kitten (4 months) who are stray, but who are cared for, happily living their lives as strays. These are lives saved and that is the sole purpose of the Coalition.

