

Foreword by Helen Ralston

Chief Executive of Cats Protection

For thousands of years, the relationship between people and cats has been celebrated throughout the world – from ancient times when cats were seen as mystical creatures to be honoured and sometimes feared... to the present day when, as the nation's number one pet, a cat is part of the family, giving pleasure by its sheer presence as it welcomes you home, or providing company for those on their own.

Part of the pure pleasure of having a cat in your life is ensuring it is cared for in the best possible way. As Cats Protection is the UK's leading cat welfare charity, I am delighted to introduce a book which has, at its heart, the welfare of cats.



Our experience has taught us how complex cat welfare can be – from behaviour to feeding, from environment to socialisation – and when contemplating a facility that will bring many cats into closer contact, how these basics must be considered from all angles.

Designing a cattery, whether for a commercial enterprise or rescue facility, is a serious undertaking, and this book will help you to incorporate into your plans the needs of the cats you wish to accommodate.

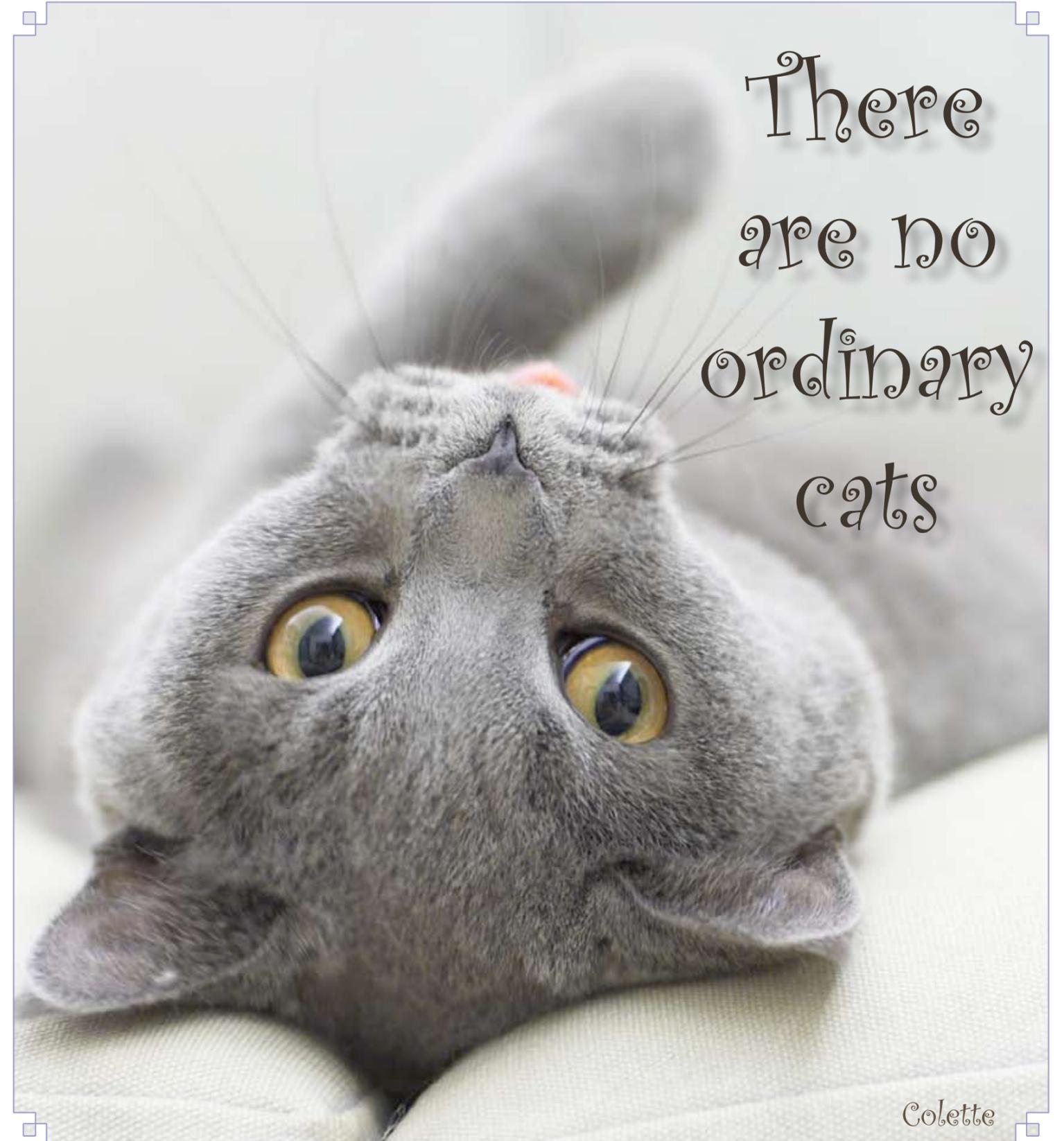
The relationship between man and cats is a developing one and we, as cat lovers, have a responsibility to encourage that relationship – and providing the best environment must surely be a firm footing from which to build.

Helen Ralston, Chief Executive of Cats Protection



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Reg Charity 203644

There
are no
ordinary
cats



Colette

Cats Protection Giving cats an extra life

Formed by a group of cat lovers in 1927, Cats Protection has grown to become the UK's leading feline welfare charity. Today, through our nationwide network of Adoption Centres and voluntary Branches we rescue and rehome 60,000 cats and kittens every year.

Growing need

It's hard to imagine that so many cats need our help, but when you look at how the cat's popularity has grown – (there are a **staggering 9.7 million domestic and feral cats in the UK**, making puss the number one pet) it's no wonder that the demand on our services is greater than ever.

And our services are wide ranging. As well as our core work of rescue and rehoming, the charity promotes the benefits of neutering, **helping to neuter more than 100,000 cats every year**, and offers a wealth of expertise and knowledge through its wide range of literature, informative website and national Helpline.

Cats come into our care for a variety of different reasons – some have been abandoned, some are the result of a divorce or house move, whilst others are simply given up when their owners can no longer look after them.

Seeking happiness

Although our cats come from very different backgrounds they ultimately all want the same thing – a loving home to go to and a second chance of happiness

Helping our cats to 'seek happiness' is the charity's devoted team of 5,500 volunteers, who come from all walks of life, offering different skills and experiences.

From hands-on welfare work such as fostering cats and hand-rearing kittens, to the practicalities of running a Branch such as bookkeeping and fundraising, our volunteers help out in whatever capacity they can.



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How you can help There are many ways in which you can support our work



Get involved!

We're always on the look out for people to join us.

Have you considered offering your business skills and expertise to assist in the running of one of our Branches? Are you able to give a little time, have some spare energy and enthusiasm that could benefit cats who desperately need your help?

Make a donation

We receive no government funding and therefore rely on cat lovers like you to help continue our vital welfare work. Whether you choose to give a one-off donation or commit to a monthly gift by direct debit, your contribution will be very gratefully received.

Spread the word

Your day-to-day life will bring you into contact with cat lovers who might be able to consider giving a cat or kitten a second chance in life.

Adopt a rescue cat or kitten

Our Adoption Centres and Branches around the country have many cats awaiting new homes.

For further information please:

- Phone our Helpline on 08702 099 099
- Visit our website at www.cats.org.uk
- Write to us at Cats Protection, National Cat Centre, Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath, Sussex RH17 7TT Reg Charity 203644

Help us in our fostering programme

Could you consider offering a cat a short-term home whilst a new one is found? Whether you already have a multi-cat household or cattery, are planning one for the future, or just want to help give more cats a better life – please get in contact with us about fostering or volunteering.



“Getting actively involved with Cats Protection is immensely fulfilling and provides you with the wonderful experience of helping many cats”

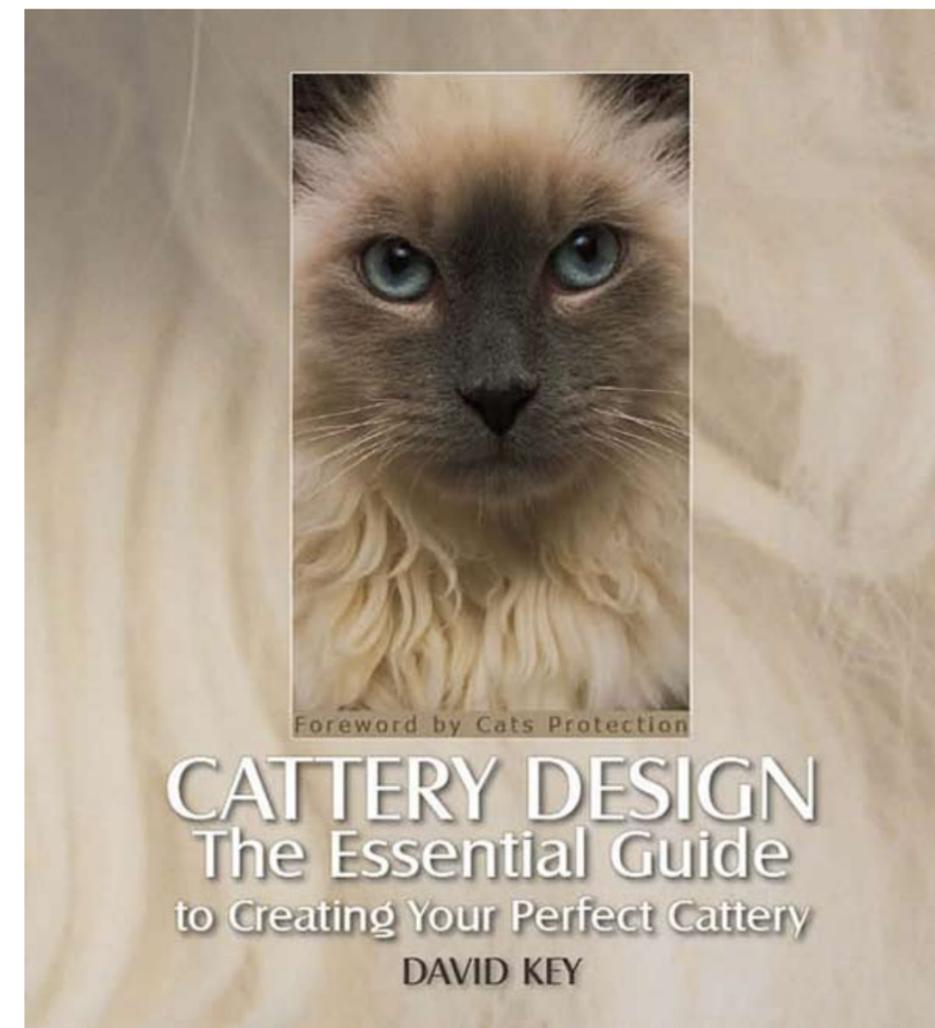
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VISIT US FOR MORE INSPIRATION

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EXPERT CATTERY-BUILDING ADVICE

The essential guide

This essential guide will provide you with an easy to read, encouraging and inspirational overview of cattery systems, equipment and materials. With step-by-step guidance for creating your perfect cattery design at your fingertips, and real life case studies, this book will help you understand how catteries can be improved with cat welfare knowledge.

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