

Aussie cat Clyde in mystery Outback odyssey

澳洲貓咪克萊德離奇內陸歷險記

An Australian cat named Clyde was on his way home to Tasmania after turning up at an Outback hospital thousands of kilometers away in the country's latest mystery pet odyssey.

Clyde, a long-haired Himalayan who had been missing for three years, appeared at Queensland's Cloncurry Hospital, 3,800km from the southern state of Tasmania, and was identified by his **microchip**.

The pedigree feline was a birthday present for Ashleigh Sullivan, now 19, before he disappeared from the family home in Hobart, capital of the southern island state.

"The (family) plastered southern Tasmania with photos looking for him when he did originally go missing to no joy, so they are just stoked," said Queensland veterinarian Donna Weber.

"(Sullivan) still can't believe it and I'm sure they're going to be really glad to get him home," she told ABC radio.

Weber said Clyde was skittish and had "obviously been living like a wild cat" but appeared to be well-fed and as **fit as a fiddle**. He was being flown back to Hobart to be reunited with his owner.

Sullivan's mother Kathleen Phillips said four-year-old Clyde must have **stowed** away with tourists driving across the country.

"The people (must) have got to their destination and realized they had a passenger but didn't know where he was from or how to return him," she said.

In July, white mongrel dog Muffy appeared in a Melbourne **suburb**, flea-bitten and filthy, an incredible nine years after going missing 2,000km away on Queensland's Gold Coast. (AFP)



In this photo made available on Sept. 15, 2009, vet Donna Weber holds a cat called Clyde in Cloncurry, Queensland, Australia before Clyde was reunited with his owner in Hobart. PHOTO: EPA/DONNA WEBER

這張九月十五日發佈的照片中，澳洲昆士蘭省克朗庫里的獸醫朵娜·韋伯在貓咪「克萊德」返回霍巴特與飼主團聚前，抱著他合影留念。

照片：歐新社/朵娜·韋伯

澳洲一隻名叫「克萊德」的家貓踏上返家旅程：家在塔斯馬尼亞的地竟出現在離家數千里遠的內陸一間醫院，成為澳洲最新的寵物離奇歷險故事。

已失蹤三年的喜馬拉雅長毛貓克萊德，出現在距離南部塔斯馬尼亞省三千八百公里遠的昆士蘭省克朗庫里醫院。牠的身份已透過晶片確認。

這隻純種貓本是現年十九歲的艾荷利·沙利文的生日禮物，後來牠從塔斯馬尼亞省首府霍巴特的家中走失。

昆士蘭獸醫朵娜·韋伯說：「當牠走失音訊全無時，（這家人）在塔斯馬尼亞省南部到處張貼照片尋貓，因此現在他們十分興奮。」

她對澳洲國家廣播電台表示：「（沙利文）至今仍不敢置信，我相信他們非常高興可以接牠回家。」

韋伯說，克萊德很容易受驚，「顯然過去這段時間都過著野貓般的生活」，但似乎沒有餓著肚子且非常健康。牠將被送回霍巴特與飼主團聚。

蘇利文的母親凱瑟琳·菲利普斯說，四歲大的克萊德一定是搭上遊客的車，才會橫渡澳洲。

她說：「那些人（一定是）到了目的地，才發現這個不請自來的乘客，卻不知道牠從何而來，也不知道該把牠送回哪裡。」

今年七月，九年前在昆士蘭黃金海岸走失的白色米克斯狗「麻菲」，也滿身跳蚤髒兮兮地出現在兩千里外的墨爾本郊區。 (法新社/翻譯：袁星塵)



TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **microchip** /'mʌkrəʊ,tʃɪp/ n.

晶片 (jīng1 piàn4)

例：When the vets examined the stray dog, they were unable to find a microchip.

(獸醫檢查這隻流浪狗時找不到晶片。)

2. **stow** /sto/ v.

妥善放置 (tuō3 shān4 fāng4 zhì4)

例：The passengers stowed their luggage in the overhead compartments, and got ready for the flight.

(乘客將行李妥善放置在上方儲物箱，準備起飛。)

3. **suburb** /'sʌbɜ:b/ n.

郊區 (jiāo1 qū1)

例：Wilbur has always dreamed of leaving the suburbs and moving to the city.

(威爾伯一直夢想著離開郊區搬進城裡。)



IDIOM POINT 重要片語

as fit as a fiddle 身體健康

Somebody who is **as fit as a fiddle** is in very good health. In the article, Clyde was in good health despite living as a stray for three years.

Examples: "Even though she's just a few days short of her ninetieth birthday, Dora is **as fit as a fiddle**," or "After months of vigorous training, the players are all **as fit as a fiddle**."

若說某人「**as fit as a fiddle**」就表示他的身體非常健康。文章中提到，克萊德雖然在外流浪了三年，健康狀況卻十分良好。

例如：「雖然再幾天就要過九十歲大壽，但朵拉的身體還是非常硬朗」，或是「幾個月的激烈訓練下來，球員們的健康狀況十分良好」。