How long do our cats live?

The study
The Aim - To compare the lifespan of crossbred and purebred cats and identify how long cats live and what they die of.
The Data - 4,009 deceased cats randomly selected from all deaths in 118,016 cats attending 90 practices in England.

Lifespan Results
Average lifespan of cats overall: 14 years
Crossbred cats have a longer average lifespan of 14 years compared with 12.5 years for purebred cats.
On average, a cat’s lifespan is reduced by 6 months for every 1 kg increase in adult bodyweight.

Average lifespan of popular cat breeds (years):
- Birman 16.1
- Burmese 14.3
- Siamese 14.2
- Persian 14.1
- Crossbred 14.0
- British Shorthair 11.8
- Maine Coon 11.0
- Ragdoll 10.1
- Abyssinian 10.0
- Bengal 7.3

Most common causes of death in cats over 5 years old:
- Trauma 47.3%
- Kidney disease 13.6%
- Cancer 12.3%

Most common causes of death in cats under 5 years old:
- Trauma 47.3%
- Viral infection 6.6%

Most common causes of death in cats overall:
- Trauma 12.2%
- Kidney disease 12.1%
- Cancer 10.8%
- Lumps/Growths 10.2%
- Brain disease 7.9%
- Lung disease 5.4%
- Heart disease 4.2%

Preventive Health Advice
- Annual veterinary health checks help to identify and manage health conditions earlier.
- Vaccinations help to protect your cat against several serious and possibly incurable diseases.
- Ensure your cat is microchipped, especially if allowed outdoors.
- If you think your cat is ill, the sooner veterinary advice is sought, the better chance your cat has of recovering.