

TONKINESE BREED CLUB

tonkinfo

December 2021
Vol. 7, Issue 2

£1 (free to members)



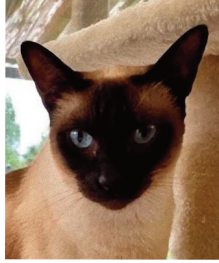
*A Very Happy Christmas to all our Members,
and a healthy and prosperous New Year*

Winners of the August 2021 Virtual Show, Breed Support Classes



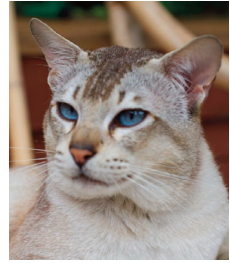
=2nd overall:

Lilyput Camberwell Beauty BCR
Owner: Lorraine Phillips



1st overall:

Mirah Chunga CPP
Owner: Vanessa Scheepe-Vermond



=2nd overall:

Tonkyway Chertan TCR
Owner: Julie Singleton

TONKINESE BREED CLUB

President—Mrs Linda Vousden

Vice-President—Dr Sarah Caney BVSc PhD DSAM MRCVS

OFFICERS and COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman: Julia Craig-McFeely

Tel: 01865 241323 julia.cmcf@gmail.com

Vice-Chairman: Jo Sturgess

Hon. Secretary and Webmaster: Linda Vousden

Lansdale, 12 Robinhood Lane, Winnersh, Berks RG41 5LX

Tel: (0118) 9619444 tbc.uk@ntlworld.com

Hon. Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Mike Vousden

Lansdale, 12 Robin Hood Lane, Winnersh, Berks. RG41 5LX

Tel: (0118) 9619444 michael.vousden@btconnect.com

Committee Members

Nicky Harmer, Beth Noble, Gerry Smith,
Lizzi Smith, Mike Smith, Annette Wright

Delegate to GCCF Council and Tonkinfo Editor

Julia Craig-McFeely julia.cmcf@gmail.com

WELFARE

Mrs Valerie Chapple val.chapp@btinternet.com

Cover picture: Beth Noble's **Kwayskatya Farha**, one of her beautiful entries in the 'Tonkinese as Digital Art' class in the Summer Virtual show.

HONORARY SECRETARY'S NOTES

Linda Vousden

Hello everyone,

I hope this finds you and all your furrles well and looking forward to Christmas. So far this has been another quiet year for the Committee and the Club, largely because we haven't been able to run a show for two years. If you have any questions about the breed or suggestions for Club activities please do let us know: all members' opinions and experiences are valued, both new and existing members.

Many of you know that I have been gathering all sorts of information on the Tonks since 1991, and have an archive of pedigrees that has been used many times for breed progression and the work of the Tonkinese BAC. If anyone would like more information on the background of your own cats I may be able to help, so just drop me an email

– and, if you are so inclined, please spare a minute to send your Tonkinese information for this historical record.

I hope you all enjoyed our August Online Show, thank you to everyone who entered even one photo of their beautiful Tonks. It was such a pleasure to see them! Unfortunately, as you all know our 2021 December 'real' show had to be cancelled again, but we plan a show for 2022 and look forward to seeing you all there, either as an exhibitor or visitor.

Indeed the wealth of pictures in the shows has inspired me to produce a new book to commemorate the breed's first 30 years with the GCCF. All profits will be shared by the two Tonkinese Clubs. Look out for the ad below.

Cheers,



Linda

VIRTUAL SHOW(S)

It has been a delight for everyone: organisers, judges and owners, to be able to show off our Tonkinese in our Summer online show. This brings our impressive total to three shows, and has provided us with a wealth of extremely professional-looking photographs that provide anyone interested in the breed with a fantastic place to discover more about the cats. Our judges have also found it very useful to get a really good sense of the variation in colour, pattern and type within the breed. Quite apart from that the shows are a goldmine of pictures for *Tonkinfo*—and you may be surprised to know that getting people to send pictures in for this is quite difficult!

The shows are still online so do take the opportunity to have a look and admire not only the cats, but the photography: look out particularly for the 'Breed Support' classes, where the cats were specially posed to give face-on, profile and full-body pictures.

April 2020:

<https://tonkinesebc-webshow.weebly.com/>

December 2020:

<https://tbcwebshow-dec2020.weebly.com/>

August 2021:

<https://tbcwebshow-aug2021.weebly.com/>

The shows will remain at these URLs for the foreseeable future, so you have plenty of time to see them.

www.tonkinese.info

tonkinfo

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Julia Craig-McFeely

I think when I wrote for the last newsletter that I had been vaguely expecting life would be a bit more 'normal' by now than it actually is, even though I was pretty sure nothing would ever be quite the same again! I have been stuck in my house for nearly two years now thanks to being on the shielding list, and like most people in my position have been thankful every day for my cats. Early in the first lockdown many of our breeders were able to 'get together' on a WhatsApp group to discuss how we would cope with breeding during this time, and came up with sensible and workable ways to allow people to see our kittens, to meet the prospective owners, and sort out how to get the kittens to their new homes. There were various obstacles to be overcome, particularly at first, not the least of which was a short period where we weren't sure whether we would be able to vaccinate our kittens. The GCCF stepped in and put pressure on the RCVS, who ruled that primary vaccinations were considered 'essential' and ensured that message got through to vets and legislators. The vaccination of pets has been one of the big successes in animal husbandry over the last few decades, with the incidence of deaths from enteritis and cat 'flu dramatically reduced. The RCVS recognised that those massive gains to the health of our pet population could be wiped out at a stroke if primary vaccination was lost.

We now have a new issue with vaccination due to the worldwide shortage of vaccines. If you haven't had to get your cat 'boosted' yet you may be in for a rude awakening! Our advice (and that of the GCCF) is to book your cat in for their booster well in advance. The advice of the manufacturers is that an 'annual' booster can be done as much as 15 months after the previous vaccine without a significant fall in antibodies, as long as the cat received its first annual booster a year after its kitten course (that all-important first booster

must be no more than a year after the kitten course that was done by your kitten's breeder). So if your vaccine is due in the next weeks and your vet doesn't have any vaccines, you can still book ahead and you have around three months grace to get it done. I know that for some people vaccines are a bit of a sore topic: they are never 100% effective, but having seen the results of these illnesses on unvaccinated pets I would personally never leave my cats unvaccinated. One person told me that they didn't bother because their cats didn't go out, but had no idea that many diseases can be carried into their house on the clothes of visitors (or indeed their own).

Not surprisingly, many dogs and cats bought to amuse people who couldn't pursue their normal lives during pandemic restrictions are ending up in rescue centres now that the humans can get back to their normal social behaviours, and they're finding that having a pet can be an inconvenience (to put it politely). Please spare a thought for the extremely valuable work that charitable rescue centres do: they are always under-staffed and under-funded, so if you have a local rescue centre that is trying to pick up the pieces with unwanted pets after the last couple of years please do consider making a donation to support their work.

Once again I must say a **huge thank you** to our Secretary, Linda, who put an insane number of hours into designing and managing our three enviable online shows. She has sworn that she won't do it again, but we're hoping that our next show will be a real one even though we had to decide to cancel our 2021 show, despite the appearance of the COVID situation improving, because there is so much uncertainty, not only about how shows might work but also about a winter infection surge. Some shows have taken place though, and the Tonkinese Cat Club plan to run their real show in March. I do hope that will be well-supported with entries.

FELICITY JOINS THE FAMILY

Mary Watters

Amid all the excitement of a new kitten, the impact on existing cats must not be underestimated, for the comfort and happiness of all the family is at stake. This is of especial note when you have indoor cats, and their home is their kingdom.

Such was my situation in July, when three-month-old Felicity joined my two-year-olds, Dulcie and Cecilia. Sisters, Cecilia is a constant live wire, and Dulcie extremely fond of a loving cuddle. Before Felicity's arrival, I took care to read as much as I could from the many excellent sources of advice available. Some authors found a week was all that was needed for friendship to be established – others warned of eight months, or even that resident cats would never quite accept the newcomer. But such pessimistic articles did not know the friendly demeanour of the Tonkinese. I had high hopes ... but a weight of responsibility, too!

I decided it might be useful for other people to hear about the points I chose to lead to good integration, and how they worked for me. It is not definitive! To anyone in a similar situation, the top tip would be to trust your instincts, and the clues your cats give you. After all, you know them best.

My key points for integration were:

Exchange scents
Monitor claws and trim if too sharp
All cats must feel secure
Time and supervision are needed

The following is what happened:

Felicity did not enjoy the journey to her new home. She arrived tired and a bit stressed. Funny, that. None of my cats enjoys my driving ... However, I placed her in the special room we had prepared for her, and spent the first evening with her, playing gently and watching her discover her surroundings as she relaxed.

Dulcie and Cecilia did take matters into their own paws, when, within hours of her arrival, (and likely curious about where I had been all afternoon) they were pushing their paws under the door of Felicity's room. The following day, with more paws waving, and the exchange of 'miaows', I dared to open the door a miniscule amount – whereupon brave Felicity promptly flapped her paw through the gap. I watched as Dulcie's eyes widened



and her fur raised in slow motion along her spine, going all the way down to the tip of her tail. It was impressive.

Cecilia hid behind Dulcie and watched; her eyes glued to the door. However, there was no hissing. It seemed a positive beginning.

I allowed 72 hours like this for Felicity to settle in. During this time, I swapped bedding between Dulcie, Cecilia and Felicity to exchange scents. My normal cuddles with all three also helped. Exchanging rooms to share scents is advised too. This was a tricky one – for Felicity was in my bedroom which has been Dulcie and Cecilia's secure room for two years. I added a new climbing frame and swapped the order of toys to make a little difference and distract from this, and then let Dulcie and Cecilia explore. It seemed ok.

Fortunately, Felicity arrived as my summer holiday began, so I had time for supervision of the meetings. The first few took place with Felicity in her wire basket, in a neutral room, (with plenty of different height furniture for vantage points.) Sessions started at under 5 minutes long and built up – but increased or

decreased as seemed appropriate. The first meeting was like watching a silent movie in slow-motion. After their prior eagerness to see what was going on, Dulcie and Cecilia edged towards the basket tentatively. Big eyed, they stared at the unconcerned Felicity. Their ears were firmly forward, and their little faces had looks of utmost concentration. Sniffing the air, Dulcie suddenly gave a big hiss. Cecilia, looking first to Dulcie, sniffed her, as if to be sure of what she had just heard – then she, too, looked at Felicity and gave a hiss. Subsequent early meetings made it clear that Cecilia was actually more at ease with Felicity, and Dulcie was more cautious. When Cecilia became defensive of Felicity and chased Dulcie away one morning, it made Dulcie very nervous. I was inspired to separate them, and to work on Cecilia making Felicity's acquaintance first.

At the same time, I needed Dulcie to know she was involved. One lucky morning I took advantage of her sleeping at the top of her 'turret' climbing frame, and I let a meeting between Felicity and Cecilia take place with her present. Dulcie's interest in Felicity was

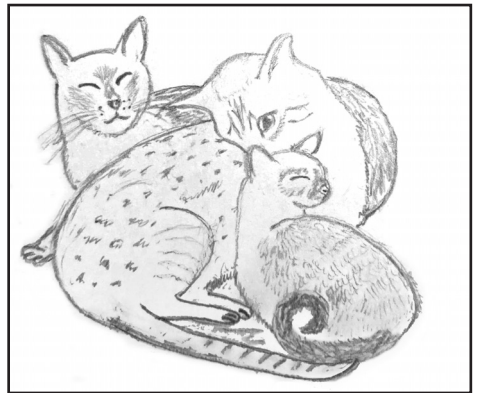


instant. She watched as they played 'chase'. It was very special to see how the normally bouncy Cecilia instinctively acted gently with Felicity – allowing her to leap on her tail and jump



over her – and tapping her so, so lightly when she wanted her to stop! Clearly, Dulcie wanted to be part of the fun that Cecilia was having. Gradually she gained the courage to jump down, edge forwards and touch noses with Felicity in a very sweet way. Little by little she joined in, tail waving happily.

After Felicity had gained confidence in a single room, I allowed her to explore the house by herself, with me. Then, all were ready to play together. My surveillance now became more about checking that Felicity did not get into dangerous situations or become too over-excited. Several times I was aided by Cecilia, who went running to see what the matter was when Felicity called or squeaked. One afternoon I was rewarded by the sight of Cecilia, sitting with Felicity curled up with her, licking her vigorously!



As true independent play began, the difference between cat and kitten could have caused problems. While Dulcie and Cecilia are still young enough to enjoy play, they no longer exhibit the dramatic pounces, the sideways swaggers and general springiness that is the typical play/learning of a kitten. Games of hide and seek in the tunnel and gigantic leaps out from behind corners delighted Felicity, but to begin with, rather startled Dulcie. Cecilia was quicker to adapt, and the house soon echoed to thuds and thumps as they chased each other around. At this point I learnt that being pres-

ent and involved (and having a good selection of toys ready) helped to smooth matters if Dulcie (particularly) or Cecilia showed signs of flagging, or over-excitement. Felicity was only little and could be injured whilst playing with two bigger cats. Watching them carefully allowed me to judge when to take over so that all had a positive memory of their interaction for next time.

Cecilia took on a double role. First, she often instigated play with Felicity, whilst Dulcie watched and, when she paused, Dulcie continued. Then, when Felicity slept (often in 'her' room) Cecilia became extra-loving to Dulcie. She rushed to her, and they began licking each other energetically, before dozing contentedly in a bundle. It very much looked as if Cecilia was reassuring Dulcie – that Felicity was a friend, and that they were friends, too.

During the 'integration process' of a new kitten, adult cats also need reassurance from their owners. Seeing my play with Felicity could have made Dulcie and Cecilia feel left out. I noticed that, very often, once Felicity had gone to sleep, they bounded up to me, clearly asking me to play with them. We have always played, and it was important to continue this – having our own time together to ease the changes around them.

Now, almost a month after Felicity's arrival, we have moved from the stage when their meetings are all play, to spending quieter time together as well. Mornings tend to be more active. All three then have a good afternoon siesta, and, if one wakens, they come to me for a cuddle, to play, or they wander about, exploring. After first trying to persuade Dulcie and Cecilia to play during this time, Felicity has understood this change of pace. There have been a few occasions when Cecilia and Felicity have slept together on my bed – not curled up,

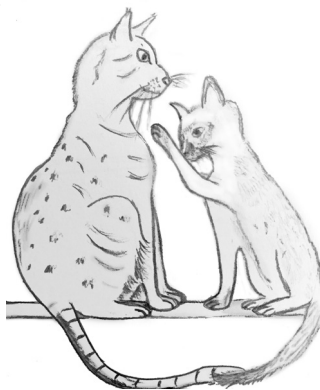
but side by side. Dulcie is still a little wary, and whilst very good natured, she plays for less time, and seeks out quieter places when she has had enough. Only once have they been curled up together so far.

It has been wonderful to see the gentle and caring side of Cecilia emerge, the good nature of Dulcie, and the sweet interaction between all three. We are making good progress, but the process is not over!

A lot of guides recommend feeding new cats and established cats on either side of a closed door, to mix positive associations of food and comfort and to use eating together as a bonding activity. This didn't work for me. Dulcie and Cecilia have a mad passion for kitten biscuits. This means that they paw under the door and distract Felicity from her food. I cannot leave food out when all three are together, either, as they have an excellent memory for where to find it and this becomes their sole focus.

POSTSCRIPT:

As November skies darken and we move towards winter I can pass on the happy news that Dulcie, Cecilia and Felicity are completely integrated. Having enjoyed daytimes together, I had remained cautious about the night, and sleeping together. Anything could happen whilst I was asleep! However, it hap-



pened quite calmly and unexpectedly. Felicity had been getting more reluctant to be separated from Dulcie and Cecilia as bedtime approached – and Dulcie and Cecilia were often found sitting outside the bedroom door. One night I tried them together. Very naturally and easily they settled to sleep and that was that! Mission accomplished – three happy cats and one very relieved owner!

RESOURCES FOR INTRODUCING A NEW KITTEN

BOOKS

Remembering that most cat books try to be a reference source for looking after a cat throughout its life, authors tend to devote between a paragraph to a double page spread on techniques for integrating your new kitten into your family.

Most will counsel the need to keep the new arrival quiet and calm for the first hours, making sure that food, water and a litter tray are present. They advise allowing the kitten to explore for the next few days, coaxing it out from hiding places rather than frightening it by pulling it out, and making sure that humans (particularly children) understand not to overwhelm it with attention, or to scream and jump about near it.

I found some quite intriguing comments for cat and kitten introductions.

—First introduction should take place when the kitten is in a deep sleep, and the resident cats can investigate and sniff the newcomer. (*Cat Owner's Manual* – Dr Bruce Fogle)

—If a kitten is raised in a litter, it will get along well with all other cats. (*The Cat Owner's Problem Solver* – John and Caroline Bower)

—A cage in the kitchen or living room will provide security for the new arrival and quickly allow it to adjust to any other animals in the house and vice versa. (*The Ultimate Cat Guide* – Alan Edwards)

Two books gave sensitive advice –

“Give your kitten time to explore the eating, sleeping and litter tray areas before you introduce it to any other animals. Give it a chance to take in all the strange scents of its new home. Both new and

existing pets feel threatened by unfamiliar scents and may react defensively ... if absolutely necessary, move the animals and talk to them both in a calm, reassuring manner. Don't worry about any hissing, spitting and growling. This is how they begin diplomatic discussions before establishing their position in the family.

Don't try to block their view of each other; a potential threat that can't be seen will make them more anxious.” (*Tonkinese Cats At Home* – Linda Vousden)

The Perfect Kitten by Peter Neville and Clare Bessant has a twelve-point plan for a stress-free introduction, summarised as follows (abridged from 300 words):

- 1) Spend time getting your kitten comfortable in an animal pen. Then bring your adult cat into the room and play with it – letting it see the kitten but ignoring it.
- 2) Allow the cat to move away and watch the kitten from a distance. Do this for a few minutes several times a day. Brief, controlled introductions work better than long, tense periods of confrontation.
- 3) If there is any sign of aggression, employ a remote distraction (like dropping some keys) to stop the intent to attack.
- 4) Feed both cats - the adult cat at the edge of the room and the kitten in the pen.
- 5) Gradually move the food closer to the pen each time you feed the cats.
- 6) In between these short introductions, keep the cats apart. Play with your kitten in different rooms, to ensure that its scent is widespread. This allows gradual familiarity without confrontation.
- 7) Move the pen around the room, and

then around the house. Place it at floor level and feed the cats again.

- 8) Do not be in a hurry to have a face-to-face meeting.
- 9) Next, place the adult cat in the pen whilst the kitten is free to wander around the room.
- 10) When you feel they are ready, delay feeding time and place extra-tasty food some distance apart. Then bring the adult and the kitten into the room and close the door. Provide a place of safety for the adult cat to jump up to if it feels threatened and stay in the room.
- 11) Graduate to supervised meetings in other parts of the house.
- 12) Once you are confident that the cats are happy with each other leave them alone for short and then longer periods until you no longer need to supervise them.

ONLINE LINKS

There are many links on this topic to be found on the internet.

The following link to icatcare is very clear:

<https://icatcare.org/advice/introducing-an-adult-cat-to-your-cat/>

Mike and Lizzi Smith (the breeders of my three) have a very detailed section on their Chorus Tonkinese website that gives very sensible advice:

<https://choruscats.uk/info/kittenguide/04-other-cats/>

The Blue Cross is also helpful:

<https://www.bluecross.org.uk/pet-advice/introducing-cats>

Jackson Galaxy, the American phenomenon, has many useful tips. Googling his name will automatically give a list of helpful articles. Here are two related to cat introductions:

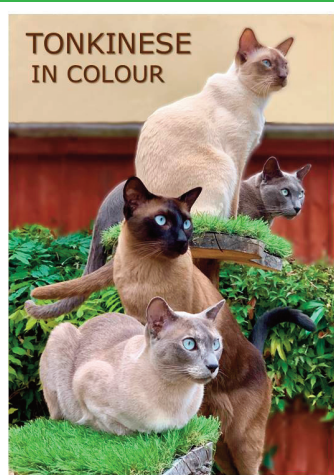
<https://youtu.be/4DJYcfiRu4> (How to introduce your cat to a new kitten)

<https://youtu.be/tsYT7yIOdqQ> (How to introduce cats)

Cole and Marmalade is a website by a devoted cat owner. This video (alas, advertising Feliway) gives some sweet, quick tips:

<https://youtu.be/uzYtF2FJRcg>

Gathering and reading or watching as much as possible will help you to judge what will work best for you and your cats.

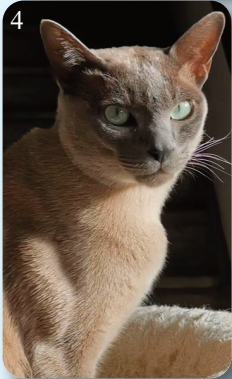
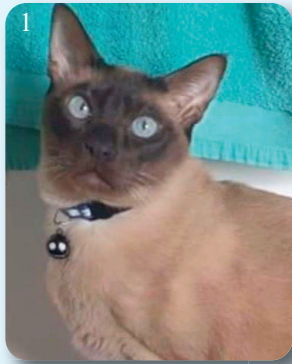


TONKINESE IN COLOUR

Published jointly by The Tonkinese Breed Club and The Tonkinese Cat Club.

This new book has just enough history to mark the first 30 years of the Tonkinese with the GCCF. The rest of it consists of over 200 photos in full colour—from heads to paws. The plain English guide to understanding Tonkinese colours will be of interest to all owners, breeders and judges.

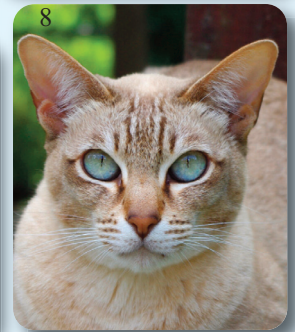
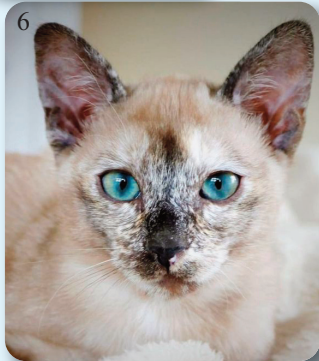
Available soon from the TBC web site—hopefully in time for Christmas orders! With discounts for members of the Clubs and extra discounts for orders of more than 5 books—great for kitten packs.

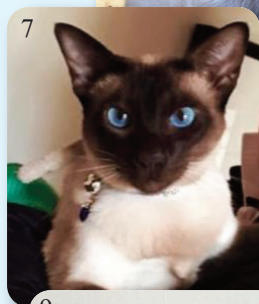
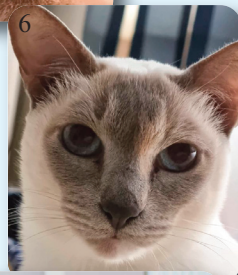
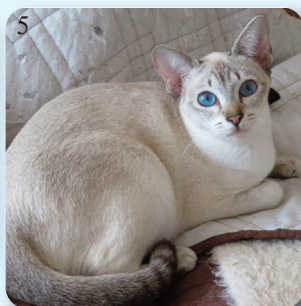
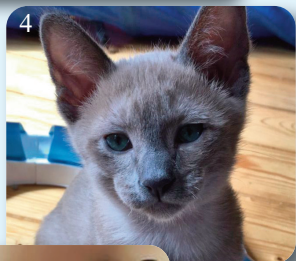
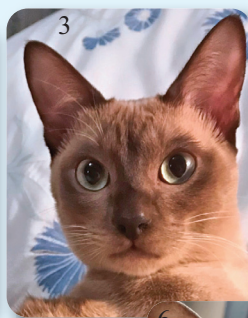


From the December Virtual Show

Open Class winners:

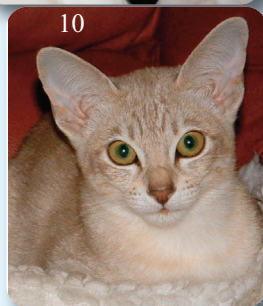
- 1 Tonkinini Creme Brulee (Annette Wright)
- 2 Tallica Glayva Oframeses (Julia CMcF)
- 3 Tonkinini Trickster (Annette Wright)
- 4 Lavandablu Grissley Aslan (Ria Pierlot)
- 5 Taleh Ko Sau (Allegra Loch)
- 6 Tonkinini Dancing Queen (Allegra Loch)
- 7 Rameses Tobermory (Alex Lloyd)
- 8 Mymystic Nimue (Linda Vousden)
- 9 Chorus Lux Aeterna (Mike & Lizzi Smith)
- 10 Tonkinini Misty Morning (Allegra Loch)
- 11 Mymystic Pagan (Linda Vousden)





More Open Class winners:

- 1 Adsepbu Bustopher Jones (Ulla Korterman)
- 2 Tonkyway Sapphire Zuhra (Julie Singleton)
- 3 Chrous Dulciana (Mary Watters)
- 4 Rameses Nutcracker (Julia CMcF)
- 5 Tonkyway Zorria (Julie Singleton)
- 6 Tallica Armadale Castle (Nicky Phillips)
- 7 Taleh Chiang Mai (Allegra Loch)
- 8 Tonkinini Trickster (Annette Wright)
- 9 Silkorchid Havanaoohnana (Marcus Eilertsen)
- 10 Mymystic Shade (Linda Vousden)
- 11 Toptonk Lexus Rameses (Julia CMcF)
- 12 Quinn von Dachsleren (Vanessa Scheepe-Vermond)
- 13 Lavandablus Hugo Heros (Marlies Hendriks)



TONK TAILS

Hearing me bemoaning the lack of contributions for our newsletter, one of our members suggested that perhaps people felt diffident about sending things in, worrying about length or suitability, or might just need a nudge. Please do send in stories about your cats; things they have got up to; experiences that might help someone else; ideas for amusing your beasts; a bit of text to accompany some lovely photos... And if you feel that's too ambitious for you, why not start with this? Don't wait, do it now! (Go on, you know you want to).

If you are owned by a Tonk (or by many Tonks) your life can never be dull.

Share your Tonk Tails in our special section starting in the next issue of **TonkInfo**.

All readers/subscribers can contribute.

Email Julia.cmcf@gmail.com

Send a photo and answer the following questions:

Cat's Name:

Colour:

Favourite food/treat/toy/game...

Most often to be found...

Best Moment (so far...)/Most Notorious Episode...

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Memberships are due in the New Year. If you're not sure whether you have renewed you can always check here: www.tonkinese.info/have-i-renewed-yet.html. The page lists your post code and the last year for which you have paid your membership fee. If you are due to renew in 2022 you can now do so online or download a renewal form to accompany a cheque from the same page—and you don't have to wait until the day renewals are due, so you can do it whenever you think of it: www.tonkinese.info/subscription-renewal.html

*If you pay online please MAKE SURE we have **Your name** as a reference so that we can identify the payment correctly.*



tonkinfo

www.tonkinese.info

SHOW TITLES AND HOW THEY HAVE CHANGED

Linda Vousden

Once upon a time a cat had to win five Challenge Certificates (CCs) to become a *Champion*. This was reduced to three CCs in late 1969 when the title of *Grand Champion* was introduced. Only three ‘Grand’ certificates were required to become a *Grand Champion* – but for both the Open and Champion of Champions (Grand) classes there had to be a minimum of seven exhibits present in the class for a certificate to be awarded. Neutered cats could compete for *Premier* titles rather than *Champion*. So when you see *Champions/Premiers* and *Grand Champions/Grand Premiers* way back in your pedigrees from those days you can imagine the quality of the cats and the dedication of the exhibitors.

The classes were certainly bigger in the 1970s, for instance at the 1972 National Cat Club show there were sixteen Siamese seal-point males competing for one CC in their Open class; in the Siamese seal-point female Open there were nineteen exhibits. No wonder people used to take pride in their 4th, 5th and 6th placings. Heaven knows how many Persians were shown!

The first ever GCCF Grand Champion was Brynbuboo Little Monarch (British Blue). He was awarded his title in 1971. He held that title for two years before the next Grand Champion cat came along. He won his first certificate at the National CC show in 1969, his second at the Lancashire CC show in 1970 and his third at the Southern Counties in 1971 (he also won Best in Show that day).

There was, and still is, controversy about allowing a GrCh into the Open class (as the Breed classes used to be called). In June

2002 the ‘Best of Breed Only’ option of the Breed classes was introduced so that GrCh cats were no longer competing against cats in the Open/Breed class for CCs. A decision that most exhibitors were very pleased with.

Bizarrely, to encourage exhibitors back to shows, the 2002 decision to keep GrChs from competing in the basic Breed classes was reversed this year, by a marginally approved proposal from the Siamese Clubs. It has not yet been implemented but will allow for titled cats to enter ‘either the class for which the title qualifies them, OR the class for a title they have already achieved’. Effectively this means that GrChs may again compete with untitled cats in the Breed classes – a good day for pot-hunters perhaps? Hopefully our Tonk exhibitors will keep to the moral high ground that they always have!

Now we have an extended hierarchy of titles for cats to win: the *Imperial* titles, and above that *Olympian* (Bronze, Silver and Gold levels), each progressively more difficult and requiring competition against a wider range of other breeds. Household pets have their own equivalents with the *Master Cat* titles.

The first UK Tonkinese to win a title was Ch Bonzer Midnight Violet on 12 July 2003. If you haven’t seen it already, the Club web site has a section under the ‘SHOWS’ tab (Titles, Merits and BIS History) listing the Tonks that have won their titles – and well deserved they are. <https://www.tonkinese.info/titles-merits-bis-history>

There is nothing like the feeling when your Tonk wins its first well-deserved title!

TBC KITTEN LIST

The Breed Club Kitten List is a valuable resource for potential owners seeking kittens and looking to verify a breeder’s credentials if they have found them elsewhere. If you are not already on the Club Breeders List please let the Club Secretary know at tbc.uk@ntlworld.com.

CATASTROPHE

Charles Carroll

The book said a healthy, happy Siamese cat should be affectionate, vocal and eager to eat. So as I pushed cat food through a hole in the bathroom floor at 2 o'clock in the morning two thoughts occurred to me: first, that the book had got it wrong; or second, that despite appearances to the contrary, the animal currently hiding under the floorboards was not a Siamese cat. Perhaps some sort of large mole. Either way, affection did not seem to be very high up its list of priorities. As for my list of priorities, it looked like this: 1) Sleep, 2) Get this cat out from under the floorboards, 3) Send it back to the breeder. I went to bed.

Since our other cat, a Tonkinese, was called Calamity, it seemed only natural—and appropriate—to call the newcomer Catastrophe. When we first met him at the breeder's cattery in the Midlands he was a big purring bundle of fur. We were assured he was the most affectionate, well behaved, charming, child-friendly cat that ever set foot in a litter tray—even the local mice liked him. So out came the chequebook and ten minutes later Catastrophe was in the back of the car heading down the M40.

Introducing new cats to the Carroll household has never been a particularly difficult affair. Generally we put the box on the floor, open the door and wait for the newcomer to emerge inquisitive and eager to explore its new surroundings. And so we waited. And waited. Then we lost patience and gave him a little encouragement. I now accept that this process might have been handled a little better.

His exit from the box would be familiar to anyone who has seen pictures of a Pershing missile launching from a nuclear silo. He shot across the kitchen floor, rose several feet in the air, bounced off the microwave and landed on a work surface before realising he was in a corner with nowhere to hide. In a textbook display of what not to do I

lunged after him—a gesture he clearly misunderstood—and ten seconds later he was behind the oven. I turned to my wife, “Are they meant to do that?”

For Catastrophe it was a case of “any port in a storm” and if he'd had a chance to think it through he probably wouldn't have opted for the back of the cooker, but that night he put right his mistake by heading for the bathroom. The following morning we looked behind the cooker and—horrors—he had disappeared.

Most of Day Two was spent with mounting panic searching for the new hiding place. Needless to say, underneath the bathroom floor was not the first place we thought of looking and nor was it the fiftieth or the ninetieth. In fact it was only as I threw my socks in the laundry basket at the end of the day that I saw the small gap where one floorboard fails to meet the wall. I put my socks back on and went to find a torch.

There is no dignity involved in searching for a missing cat. I grovelled on the floor with the torch in one hand and a mirror in the other trying to reflect light round a corner to get a clear view of the space between the joists. Just out of arm's reach a pair of red eyes stared back. It would be going too far to say that they looked smug, but something about the situation told me that the cat had the upper paw. I might have had control of the food and water supplies, but the eyes said “I've only got to do one poo down here and you'll have to take up the whole floor.”

I tried to tempt him out with food, I tried to drag him out by force, I even thought about trying to starve him out, but in the end I went to bed. Twenty minutes later I was asleep and he popped out for a snack.

This went on for the next three weeks. Every night he would wait until he was sure everyone was asleep, and then he'd creep out for

a bite to eat before crawling back under the floorboards at first light. At least we didn't have to worry about integrating him with Calamity! Eventually in desperation I went to bed with a screwdriver under the pillow and pretended to be asleep. Sure enough, out he came and while he was downstairs I whipped out the screwdriver and closed the hole. Siamese can get quite angry can't they?

His new home was under the bed. This was an enormous step forward! Now we could see our new cat without lying on the bathroom floor with a mirror. But he became adept at staying hidden behind something and so we finally abandoned the attempt to win him over, accepting that we had bought a Siamese cat that simply didn't like us.

Christmas came and went, and then one morning in January we were woken by a yowl from under the bed. After four months, two weeks and three days our cat had spoken to us. Joy unbounded! Perhaps he had finally decided that we weren't trying to murder him and he was going to be a bit more friendly. We jumped out of bed. He hid.

But the relationship had moved into a new phase: the "under the chair" phase. Catastrophe gradually began to annexe new territory. From his power base under the bed he colonised the bedroom chair, then the washstand and finally on one momentous occasion we walked into the room to find him sunbathing on the duvet. There are few pleasures in life greater than seeing your cat in the daylight for the first time in five months—even if it is only for three-quarters of a second.

The annexation continued. During the spring whole rooms were conquered and daylight forays became commonplace. But still whenever he encountered a human he would go into retreat.

Then came the "gay period". For reasons best known to himself he eventually decided

to allow me to touch him. I didn't kill him and I think he was encouraged by this. In due course he even deigned to be picked up, but still he wouldn't let my wife Kate, or my three year-old daughter anywhere near him. Kate announced that he must have certain latent tendencies and suggested it was high time he visited the vet. In truth, this was something that should have happened months earlier, but there had never been a hope of getting him into a basket. And so after being cruelly tricked in an episode I still don't like to talk about, he was taken to the vet where our concern and affection for him was demonstrated surgically.

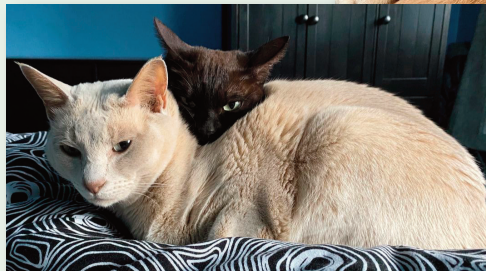
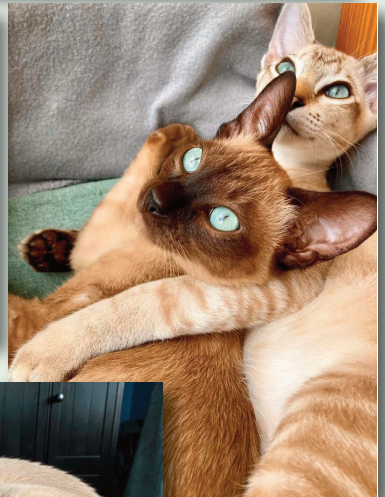
It's possible this may have changed the way he viewed us. Conceivably his little pussy brain might have thought about the experience and concluded that if other people behaved like the vet then perhaps his new owners weren't so bad after all. Whatever it was, by degrees he became more and more bold until one night last month he walked into the sitting room, yelled at us and then sat down on my lap purring. And from there the relationship progressed by leaps and bounds. He started going outside—and more importantly, coming back again. He now insists on being present at my daughter's story time each night and demands to see the pictures. He has also taught Calamity how to rip up the stair carpet.

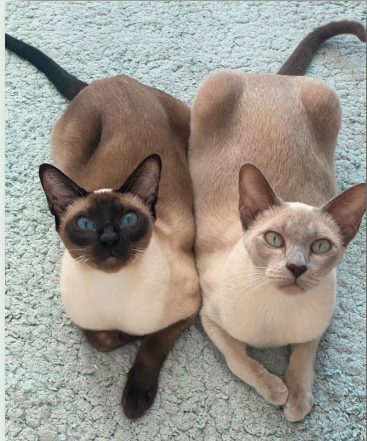
So what have we learned from the last nine months? Well for a start, if the book says introduce your new cat to the household slowly then that's what it means. Secondly, and I can't stress this too highly, nail down your floorboards before you let a Siamese into the house. Thirdly, if you want to avoid all this trouble, get a Tonk. And finally, if you do happen to find yourself with a Siamese trapped under the bathroom floor, try reading it *The Three Little Pigs*—they seem to like it.

BEST BUDDIES

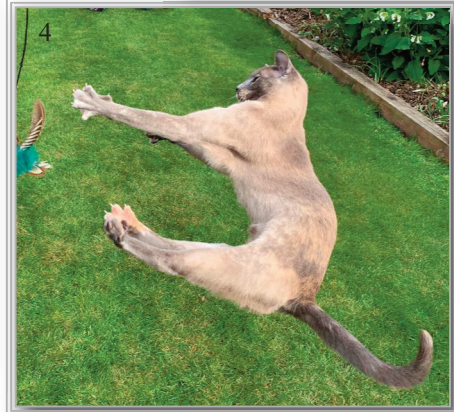
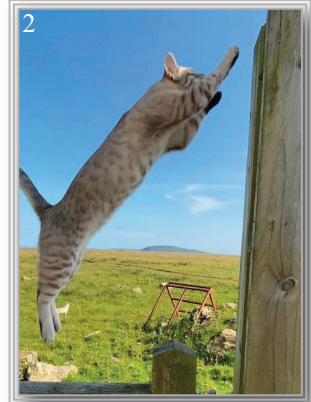
*I have been wondering for a while where the idea of cats being solitary animals came from. They are so obviously *not* solitary. One person said 'Kipling has a lot to answer for', and that does indeed seem to be the origin of this idea. Last time someone said to me, 'studies have shown ...' I asked them 'what studies?' They weren't able to point to a single one: no self-respecting scientific study could ignore the fact that feral cats always choose to live in colonies. The popularity of the 'Best Buddies' class in the online show is testament to just how much the Tonkinese — and any cats — love nothing better than to be snuggled up with another cat, and these two pages show pictures from the Summer 'Best Buddies' class that will not be a surprise to any of you, but you can wave them at the next person who spouts that irritating remark, 'Cats are solitary animals'. Ed.*

Photo credits: Marlies Hendriks, Miriam Haas, Allegra Loch, Vanessa Scheepe-Vermond, Ria Pierlot, Linda Vousden, Beth Noble, Malgorzata Skuza, Leann Atkinson, Lorraine Phillips





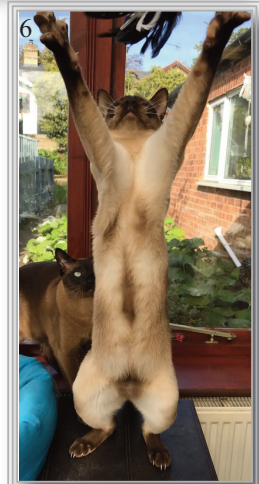
Entries in the class: Best Action Shot



- 1 Rameses Tobermory (Alex Lloyd)
- 2 Rameses Chao Fah (Mairi Forbes)
- 3 1st place: Chevy van Zuylenhove (Marlies Hendriks)
- 4 Tonkinini Heaven Scent (Nikki Phillips)
- 5 Rameses Chatchada (Mairi Forbes)
- 6 Tonkini Peppermint Twist (Sally Atkinson)

This should be a permanent feature in Tonkinfo, so please send me your action shots for this page!

Next issue: Get those YAWNS!



SHORTAGE OF CAT VACCINES

Owners may not be aware that there is currently a worldwide shortage of cat vaccines. Antibodies do not usually decline significantly until 15 months after the previous vaccination as long as a cat has received both the two kitten vaccinations AND the first adult vaccination one year after the kitten vaccinations. However, our advice is to book your cat in for vaccination well in advance of need, to ensure there will be a vaccine for you.

GCCF NOTICE REGARDING SALE OF UNVACCINATED KITTENS

13 Oct 2021

GUIDANCE FOR BREEDERS REGARDING THE CURRENT SHORTAGE OF CAT VACCINES

Unfortunately there is a worldwide vaccine shortage due to COVID related production issues combined with an increase in the number of cats needing vaccination.

The GCCF Veterinary Officer has contacted all the major UK vaccine manufacturers and they are all giving the same advice to veterinary practices which is to prioritise primary vaccination courses and delay booster vaccinations for up to 3 months.

There will be no rule change in relation to vaccination as the clause in Rule 1/10 b ii covers situations when a breeder cannot vaccinate kittens in an emergency.

Breeders should make every effort to find a practice that will provide a complete vaccination course at the usual age i.e. 9 and 12 weeks. It is most strongly recommended that you try to book a litter in as far ahead as possible i.e. at least 4/5 weeks before the first vaccine is due. If you encounter difficulty please explain to the practice that vaccination prior to sale is a GCCF rule that is there for the protection and welfare of kittens up to 12/13 weeks of age before being released to their new homes

If no practice in your area is able to either fully vaccinate kittens or give only a single dose of vaccine, the GCCF Veterinary Advisory Committee has agreed that kittens may be rehomed under the emergency provision

of GCCF Rule 1/10 b ii which requires the breeder to inform the GCCF Office with a valid reason for failure to vaccinate. The kittens must be at least 12 weeks old and have had at least one health check by a veterinary surgeon before rehoming.

At present you are asked to send a copy of a Vet's letter confirming that the kitten was not vaccinated due to a supply shortage and that a health check has been carried out on the kitten before it was rehomed. A copy of this should also be given to the new owner. The breeder must also advise the new owner that the kitten must be fully vaccinated by their own veterinary surgeon at the earliest opportunity. The new owner should also be advised that the kitten should be isolated from all other cats until at least 7 days after the 2nd dose of vaccine.

This is an interim measure. The Veterinary Officer is preparing a form which can be used to make this process easier for the breeder and their veterinary surgeon and remove the need for a vet's letter as all the necessary information will be covered by the form which will include a blank space for the kittens health check result and need to be signed by both breeder and vet before being sent to the office. The breeder will not need to inform the office in any other way if the form has been submitted correctly. This form will be available to download from the GCCF website shortly.

Please check the GCCF website regularly for the latest information.

Dr Susan F Moreland BA Vet MB MRCVS
GCCF Veterinary Officer
11th October 2021

FURTHER UPDATE FROM THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY AND FOOD STANDARDS SCOTLAND FOLLOWING THE RISE IN CASES OF FELINE PANCYTOPENIA

An update on the investigation into the recalled cat food following a rise in cases of feline pancytopenia and responses to common consumer queries.

26 August 2021

The Food Standards Agency has been working closely with Fold Hill Foods over the course of the investigation into the recalled cat food. The company has co-operated fully.

The results of extensive testing identified higher levels of mycotoxins in some samples of the recalled cat food. This includes specific compounds known as T2 and HT2. These products are no longer on sale.

Mycotoxins are found in some types of feed and food and do not, in themselves, indicate they are the cause of feline pancytopenia. No causative link between pancytopenia and the recalled cat food products has been established.

As a result of these findings, Fold Hill Foods is working with its local authority to take steps to resume production.

Next steps in the investigation

A multi-agency approach will continue to try and identify the causes of the pancytopenia. As new information emerges, we will review our approach on managing any identified risks in animal feed and inform industry so that they can take any action required as a result of our findings.

Details of the original product recall notice were published on 17 June:

www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/alert/fsa-prin-36-2021-update-1

Frequently asked questions

We understand how upsetting the past two months have been for cat owners and know how important it is that the cause of the recent feline pancytopenia cases is established.

Our tests and analysis to date have not found a causative link to the pancytopenia cases, but our investigation is ongoing and we will provide an update once we have more information.

Was the pancytopenia outbreak not caused by cat food?

To date testing has not been able to definitively determine a cause, we have not ruled out cat food or any other possible causes either.

Is it safe for anyone who still has the recalled cat food to feed it to their cats?

Cat owners should not feed any recalled cat food to their cats and should continue to follow the advice in our recall notice.

What other possible causes are being investigated?

We continue to work with the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) and the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to identify the possible cause of the pancytopenia. At this stage we are not ruling out any possible cause.

Why is the company being allowed to restart production if it is not known for sure that its cat food is safe?

To date a causative link between the feline pancytopenia and the recalled cat food has not been established, and so the company is working with its local authority, Lincolnshire County Council, to resume production.

Some social media posts have shown the results of mycotoxin tests, suggesting food is unsafe for cats. Why has action not been taken?

We are aware of some social media posts, in which test results have been misinterpreted as showing a danger to cats.

The mere presence of mycotoxins in cat food does not necessarily pose a risk to cats. Mycotoxins are naturally occurring substances produced by certain types of moulds (fungi) which can grow on a variety of different crops and feedstuffs.

If mycotoxins are widely found in animal feed, should people be concerned about other brands of cat food?

No. There is no evidence linking any other products to feline pancytopenia.

Royal Veterinary College Feline Pancytopenia Update Monday 13th September 2021

The RVC is aware of 565 cats that are known to us based on cases treated at our own hospitals and information provided by some vets in the UK.

Of these there was 63% mortality at time of reporting.

NB. This data probably represents only a percentage of cases, as many cats may not be presented to a veterinary practice and/or investigated by a vet.

Only a small percentage of the vets in the UK are actively reporting to the RVC at this time.

The data from our survey is provided by third parties and has not been independently verified and is correct when provided by the vets concerned.

Therefore, the percentage of mortalities may change after submission of the information.

Thursday 2 September 2021 - A spokesperson for the RVC said:

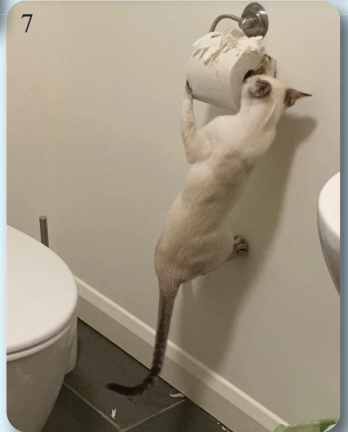
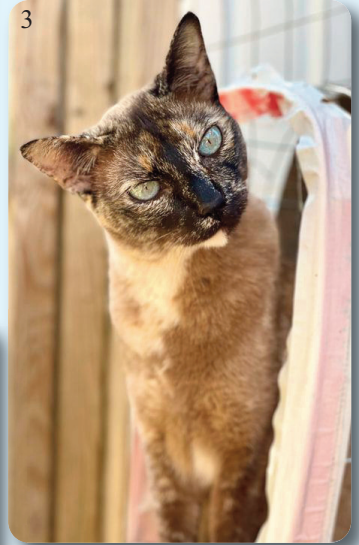
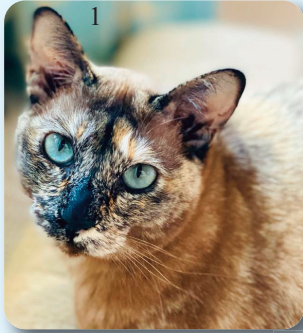
The Royal Veterinary College (RVC) continues its investigation into the sudden increase in feline pancytopenia in cats in the UK.

Currently, we are sadly aware of over 500 affected cats. Investigations into an underlying cause do not suggest a link with common feline infectious diseases, common toxins (e.g., heavy metals, oestrogen) or deficiencies/excesses in vitamins or minerals.

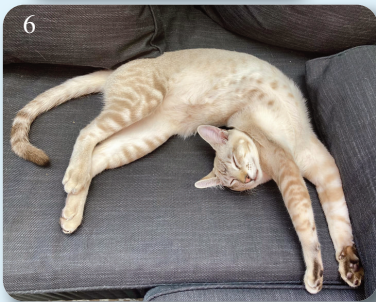
Results of analyses by the RVC of cat food involved in the product recall published by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) have been shared with the FSA. We would like to draw your attention to the latest FSA statement published on 26 August 2021. This contains a number of Frequently Asked Questions including reaffirmation that cats should not be fed diets listed in the recall. To date the FSA's testing and analysis has not been able to definitively determine a cause. It has not ruled out cat food or any other possible causes and its investigations are continuing."

Our investigations are ongoing and we are still collecting data from practising veterinarians, as well as testing food samples associated with affected and unaffected cats to determine the significance of these findings. We have shared our results with the FSA in order to assist them with their investigations into this matter.

To support our ongoing efforts, we are encouraging vets who have seen cats with unexplained severe thrombocytopenia and/or neutropenia, with or without concurrent anaemia, to complete our survey (rvc.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/pancytopenia).



Some Miscellaneous
Class Winners from
the online show
(sorry, there were too
many to include
them all, but go and
look at the online
pictures!)





11



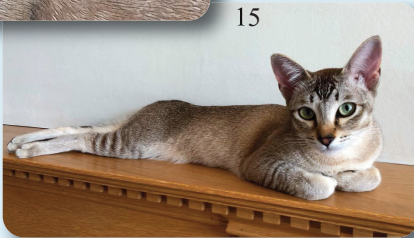
12

- 1 Overall best eye colour (TCR): Tonkinini Dancing Queen (Allegra Loch)
- 2 Best 'in the shadows' picture: Chorus Lifes Delight (Miriam Haas)
- 3 Most distinctive tortie pattern: Tonkinini Caramella (Sally Atkinson)
- 4 Best 'in the shadows' picture: Rameses Chao Fah (Mairi Forbes)
- 5 Most appealing kitten (M): Lavandablus Hugo Heros (Marlies Hendriks)
- 6 Happiest male: Quinn von Dachsleren (Vanessa Scheepe-Vermond)
- 7 Naughtiest kitten: Rameses Chatchada (Mairi Forbes)



13

- 8 Best full body picture BCR and most striking tabby pattern: Rameses Tobermory (Alex Lloyd)
- 10 Best full body picture TCR: Snowtonk Skittles (Ulla Korterman)
- 11 Peekaboo picture: Chorus Agnus Dei (Mike & Lizzi Smith)
- 12 Best cat/kitten enjoying nature: Quinn von Dachsleren (Vanessa Scheepe-Vermond)
- 13 Tonkinese as digital art: Kwayskatya Jools (Beth Noble)
- 14 Best eye colour for TCR coat pattern: Gr Ch and Pr Mymymstic Pharaoh (Linda Vousden)
- 15 Most appealing kitten (F): Silkorchid Havanaoohnana (Marcus Eilertsen)
- 16 Best cat/kitten enjoying nature: Rameses Chatchada (Mairi Forbes)
- 17 Best full body picture CPP: Adsepbu Bustopher Jones (Ulla Korterman)



15



14



16



17

CELEBRATIONS FOR 150 YEARS OF CAT SHOWS

July 2021 marked the 150th Anniversary of the world's first dedicated cat show, which took place at the Crystal Palace in 1871. Mike and I went to both the TICA and GCCF celebration shows – there were no Tonks at either.

London Cats Worldwide (LCWW) Anniversary Show

Held at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, on the grounds of the original Crystal Palace. As with TICA style shows this show was held over two days 7 and 8 August. Rather cheekily they claimed it was their 150th anniversary!

If you remember showing your Tonks there back in the 1990s you would be very disappointed in it now; it is so run down and trees completely obscure the landmark foundations of the original Crystal Palace building.

The show fliers advertised there would be over 200 cats across a variety of breeds present, but there were probably no more than 100 over the two days. There were ten international judges, including three GCCF judges, in 12 judging rings. Entry fee per cat was £120 for one day or £160 for both days, plus an extra £40 if you wanted double benching space. You have to be a dedicated 'points hunter' to regularly show with them! You can take your own 'penning' or hire a metal pen for another £30. There were some trade stands of cat bric-a-brac plus a GCCF stand that attracted quite a bit of attention, especially with the lovely posters made up especially for the anniversary.

Due to COVID restrictions visitors could only attend a four hour pre-booked slot, a.m. or p.m.; but there were no other conditions once in the hall. It rather baffled me that there were so many overseas exhibitors. Despite wanting a good gate to cover funding of the event, it was also typical of a TICA style show that there really wasn't anything for the visiting public. Catalogues are provided for exhibitors but none are available to visitors, and the exhibitors' own pens barely allow visitors to see the cats – unless they view them around the crowded judging tables. Apart from having specially-printed rosettes you wouldn't have known that this was an anniversary event at all unless you visited the GCCF stand. Suffice to say I was overwhelmed by the London Cat World Wide anniversary show.



Special GCCF Show Celebrating 150 Years Of Cat Shows

Held on 14 August at the Stoneleigh Exhibition Centre in Kenilworth.

Due to COVID this show was not open to the public and visitors' passes were extremely limited, but I was able to get a couple as I really didn't want to miss such a special anniversary.

COVID requirements were strictly maintained, distancing, mask-wearing and presentation of our COVID passes were all required. In order to reduce handling of cats there were no miscellaneous classes but there were two fun classes – I assume cats were automatically entered as I couldn't find them in the schedule.

The show was as per the GCCF Supreme, i.e. ring judging (where cats are taken to a special judging area rather than being judged at their individual pens). As a celebration of the anniversary all certificate winners were awarded double certificates; for the kittens there was a special 'Crystal Palace Commemorative Kitten Class' (despite the show being in Kenilworth!) and there was a 'Judge's Choice' Rosette awarded by each of the sixteen judges. The rosettes all had commemorative tails.

The entry fee was £50 for the first cat in a double pen plus £5 for each additional cat – with a £15 discount where cats shared a double pen. An excellent deal in my book, especially when compared with the costs of the LCWW show. There was a Commemorative catalogue (£5) available for exhibitors and visitors.

All pens were double and cats from the same household were permitted to be penned together, a joy for photographers. Although, unfortunately, the hall was very dark so photos were not really up to par.

Unlike the LCWW show, which was very impersonal, this show had an air of excitement and after a long show drought it was clear that exhibitors and judges were all pleased to see each other again.

The GCCF had a well-manned table, stocked with all the usual documents and goodies; the decorative posters were displayed and, although there might have been much more pazzazz in normal times, there was definitely a feeling of celebration.

I'm glad Mike and I were able to be there.

Linda Vousden



Rhian Mitchell (GCCF Office) and colleague on the GCCF table

Moving on.....

So that's it, they've gone. Their little faces were pressed against a strange-smelling carrier and their little paws reached through the bars. Due to lockdown it was the first time their new owners had been able to see them in real life and feel the softness of their fur. We had done everything through the medium of FaceTime: met them, learned something about their home and family and tried to make an assessment as to whether they would make loving owners who would care for our precious babies for their whole lives.

We waved goodbye, they promised to keep in touch with regular bulletins and photos, and then they were gone. And then we turned around to give our attention to their mum who was missing her family and the kitten we are keeping who suddenly seems very small.

So how do I feel? A little sad, a lot proud, hopeful that nothing will go wrong and relieved that I've bred kittens that have thrived and have been ready to move on to give other people the love and fun that we've enjoyed over the last few months. Will I do it again? In a heartbeat!

(And here they are, amazingly already a year old)

Lisa Knill



Cumberland Cat Club and Yorkshire County Cat Club held Saturday 13 September.

I recently took part at the above shows held in Doncaster. It has been some years since I've been to a cat show, so I felt a bit like a novice, especially as many of the things I remembered had changed anyway because of COVID. Apart from the Open class, we were allowed just one side class in each show. We had to supply proof of COVID vaccination tests and show a NHS lateral flow test taken 24 hours in advance. Masks were mandatory, and visiting public were not allowed entry. Vetting in was from 7.45–10 a.m. At 1.30 p.m. we were allowed back into the hall and judges continued to judge classes throughout the rest of the afternoon. Everyone was given a rosette for each show that they entered and this was placed on their pen. Stickers were awarded rather than rosettes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Best of Breed, etc. for classes they entered, which could be attached to the main rosette. Certificates were awarded as previously. The show was full and the atmosphere was buzzing with friendly owners. The shows attracted a large entry, but ours was the sole Tonkinese present: Hylily Happiloni Halo (Bluebelle) was awarded two Challenge Certificates and two Best of Breeds. Bluebelle was incredibly inquisitive when first placed in her pen and a little restless. She quickly settled and was calm and content for the rest of the day. The show finished later than anticipated.

Karen Plummer



Easy Christmas Cake Recipe

- * 8 oz. flour
- * ½ brick of butter
- * 1 cup of water
- * 1 tsp baking soda
- * 8 oz. of sugar
- * 1 tsp salt
- * 8 oz. of brown sugar
- * Lemon juice
- * 4 large eggs
- * Nuts
- * 2 bottles wine
- * 2 bags of dried mixed fruit

- Sample the wine. Take a large bowl, and then check the wine quality again. Pour one level cup, drink and repeat.
 - Turn on the electric mixer. Beat the butter in a large fluffy bowl, add one teaspoon of sugar and beat again.
 - Check that the wine is still OK. Try another cup.
 - Break 2 eggs and add 2 eggs to the bowl then chuck in the fruit.
 - Pick the fr*%\$@£ fruit up off floor. Mix off the turner (if the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterers just pry it loose with a drewscraver).
 - Sample the wine to check for tonksistency then sift two cups of salt or something.
 - Check the wine. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.
 - Add one table; then add a spoon of sugar or sumatt, whatever you can find!
 - Greash the whole oven. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and pick yourshelf off the floor.
 - Don't forget to beat off the turner then throw the bowl through the window.
 - Finish the wine and wipe counter with the cat.
 - Take taxi to supermarket and buy cake.
- Bingle Jells from the Mymystic Mob!



TBC Recommendations For Breeders

©2021 Tonkinese Breed Club

In addition to the GCCF Code of Ethics and Rules For Registration and Showing of Cats the TBC strongly recommends that the following points are noted by owners of queens and studs.

1. If breeding first-generation (Burmese x Siamese) Tonkinese, ensure that both parents comply with the current Tonkinese Registration Policy. Some cats are on the Reference register because they have ancestors that are not permitted in the Tonkinese breed programme (e.g. Orientals, cats of unregistered or unknown parentage, or experimental colours).
2. A stud owner is not obliged to accept a queen to stud and may refuse mating on application or on inspection of the queen on health or other grounds.
3. GCCF-registered Queens and Studs must be on the active register. Queens not registered with the GCCF may be accepted for mating provided their registration is not endorsed 'not for breeding'. Studs must have their Certificate of Entirety (COE) and DNA test results as required by the Tonkinese Registration Policy lodged with the GCCF prior to the registration of their first litter. Stud owners should retain a copy of the COE and DNA test results to show to a queen's owner if requested.
4. Studs and visiting queens must be vaccinated against Feline Enteritis, Feline Herpesvirus and Calicivirus (no less than 14 days before the mating). Homeopathic vaccinations are not acceptable. Vaccination certificates must be available for inspection.
5. Studs should be regularly tested for FeLV and FIV, even if they are inoculated against FeLV and the documentation should be shown to the owners of visiting queens on request.
6. The stud owner must supply the following for the queen's owner: a) A mating certificate that complies with GCCF Rules For Registration and Showing of Cats Section 1 Rule 3d (<https://www.gccfcats.org/About-GCCF/Forms-Downloads>) b) A full pedigree of the stud showing at least three generations with full registration numbers; c) A receipt for the stud fee.
7. The stud owner must make clear any conditions relating to the kittens or repeat matings, before the queen is left with the stud.
8. The stud premises should be available for inspection, by appointment, by the queen's owner prior to the queen being brought to stud.
9. Queens should be tested for FeLV and FIV before going to stud, ideally no more than 24 hours before the visit (unless from a fully-tested indoor household, when a longer time interval may be agreed with the stud owner), and the documentation should be shown to the stud's owner. PCR testing for Chlamydia, FHV and Calici virus are also strongly recommended for both studs and queens.
10. The queen's owner has a responsibility to make arrangements, including the inspection of stud premises, well in advance of taking the queen to stud, and should make enquiries about the availability of the stud before testing and making any other arrangements.
11. The queen's owner should be aware that the stud fee is for the services of the stud and does not guarantee conception.
12. Kittens should be registered with the GCCF and must not be sold less than 7 days after completion of a full course of vaccination against at least Feline Enteritis, Feline Herpesvirus and Calicivirus. The breeder must supply each kitten owner with a valid vaccination certificate signed by a veterinary surgeon showing that the first vaccination and booster have been completed; a pedigree certificate that includes at least four generations, at least three with full registration numbers; the GCCF registration card for the kitten.
13. It is essential that all breeding Tonkinese must be DNA tested in accordance with the requirements of the current Tonkinese Registration Policy (see <https://tonkinesebac.weebly.com/downloads>). If you are unable to download a copy please contact the Club Secretary (tbc.uk@ntlworld.com) to obtain one.

*List of available DNA tests applicable to the Tonkinese breed (*currently required for studs):*

*Burmese Head Defect

*Burmese Hypokalaemia

*Progressive Retinal Atrophy (rdAc)

*Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (PKDef)

*Burmese GM2 Gangliosidosis

Korat GM1 Gangliosidosis (low prevalence)

Mucopolysaccharidosis VI (MPS VI) (low prevalence)

