

*SHOW ISSUE*

*ton* *skinese*  
BREED CLUB



*Autumn*  
*1997*  
*ISSUE 16*



**TONKINESE BREED CLUB**

President: Alison Ashford

Vice-President: Mary Hodgkinson

**OFFICERS & COMMITTEE**

**Chairman (Acting):** CAROL POOLE  
7 Langworthy End, Holyport, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 2HJ  
Tel: 01628 784646

**Vice-Chairman:** SYLVIA CLARK  
17 Poplar Road, Bishop Itchington, Leamington Spa, Warwick CV33 0RG

**Hon Secretary:** LINDA VOUSDEN  
'Lansdale', 12 Robin Hood Lane, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 5LX  
Tel: 01189 791940

**Hon Treasurer:** MIKE VOUSDEN  
Contact as per Hon Secretary

**Membership Secretary & Show Support:** CHRIS RICHARDS  
41 Park Close Road, Alton, Hants, GU34 2EZ  
Tel: 01420 86085

**Rescue Officer:** SYLVIA CLARK  
17 Poplar Road, Bishops Itchington, Nr Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV33  
0RG  
Tel: 01926 612854

**Committee Members**

DOREEN BURKE - Club Delegate  
FELICITY JOLLEY  
SUSAN VOGT  
KATHY WILKINSON - Substitute Delegate

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### Notes from the Temporary Compiler:

Hi there!

Tonkinfo is a little late .....

When the Committee asked for a volunteer to get this issue ready for distribution at and after the Show, Yours Truly offered hesitantly. Since then I have discovered that I must be a frustrated newspaper-person and have indulged myself in the various items contained in the magazine. Help has been to hand, or rather paw, in the forms of most of my feline family. Tuppence, my timid tortie moggy, has been the most help, but all of them have been fascinated by my efforts to get to grips with my new scanner for bringing in my photos.



I hope all those who were able to collect the magazine at our Second Show had an enjoyable day and that their cat(s) did well. Perhaps you read it while the Open judging was going on, but probably you have read it at home afterwards with a cuppa or two. Those who were unable to come to the show will find a report about how it all went in the next issue of the magazine.

I hope you enjoy this issue and hope you like the change in layout – it changed initially because an A4 set-up is much easier to do when time is short, but may end up being permanent. Anyway, the next issue will be in the hands of someone else.

Regards

*Kathy Wilkinson*

## HONORARY SECRETARY'S NOTES

Thanks to the sterling efforts of Kathy Wilkinson many of you will be reading this at our 2<sup>nd</sup> exemption show. The rest of you will be reading this after hearing from other members what an enjoyable day it was. Unfortunately it seems that a few members have not heard from us for a while, this is due to some confusion over the mailing list which we have now been able to clear-up – *many apologies* to those of you who have been inconvenienced.

The eagle-eyed among you will have noticed some changes to the Committee, we welcome Felicity Jolley and Kathy Wilkinson who have jumped in with both feet and already put some hard work into serving the Club – not to mention the hungry mouths of those at the show (eh, Fliss?). Regrettably Sarah Inigo-Jones resigned from the Committee at the end of October, we wish her well in her new endeavours. Our acting-Chairman is Carol Poole and our new substitute-Delegate is Kathy Wilkinson. Unfortunately Doreen Burke has resigned as Show Manager for personal reasons. We are grateful to Doreen for the work she has done and particularly to Susan Vogt who gallantly took on the difficult role of acting & assistant Show Manager until other arrangements could be made. We were delighted when Helen Hewitt agreed to be our Show Manager, ably assisted by her colleague Sandra Bush. Both Helen and Sandra are veterans in the art of running the Kensington Kitten & Neuter Cat Club show. Mo and Kevin Leaver have again successfully taken on the role of local publicity officers and added a real feather to their caps by inviting celebrity vet, Trude, to present our trophies! Iris Shrigley has, in her capacity of Cup secretary, produced a fabulous display of trophies – even more than last year. So many members have offered and given their help for this year's show that it is sure to be a totally enjoyable day – thank you all.

Did you read the note in the recent newsletter about the Club calendars? They are printed on a single 160gsm A4 sheet and feature one of the following colour photos of a Tonk – (1) Brown, (2) Chocolate and Brown Tortie, (3) Lilac, (4) Red, (5) Chocolate tabby or (6) Multi. We can also provide you with Club pedigrees sold in packs of 5; they are printed on 130gsm card and feature the Club logo. Both the pedigree packs and the calendars will be on sale at the Club show and from the Club table at the Supreme show. Each item costs just £1.50p or £1.70p mail order (for mail order send a cheque to Mrs L Vousden, payable to the Tonkinese Breed Club, and be sure to specify which colour calendar you want). We are reducing the last of the Club T-shirts to the clearance sale price of £5.50p so if there are any left over after the show they will be available at the Supreme. I look forward to meeting more Club members soon, please don't forget to visit the Club table at the shows and visit us in the National Cat Club's World of Cats where we will have three beautiful Tonks on exhibition. If you can spare just half an hour to help on your Club table it will be very much appreciated!

*Linda Vousden*

## **BAC NOTES**

5 NOVEMBER!! (Bonfire Night)!! This is the date when the GCCF Executive meets and will look at our application for promotion of the Tonkinese breed from Preliminary status to Provisional. You may feel that this does not affect you at all and only affects those people who show their Tonkinese. Well, if there were no Tonkinese on the show bench, the breed would not be so popular, as it is thanks to these people (and it costs at least £25.00 to show one cat) who talk to the general public, get their cats out of the pens and answer all questions and generally promote the Tonkinese that breeders are able to sell their kittens. I am sure that 90% of Tonkinese pet owners first saw a Tonkinese at a show and were so impressed that they made further enquiries and became hooked. They were then able to contact the Tonkinese clubs who provided them with names of breeders. To get more publicity for the breed the Tonkinese BAC has to work towards Championship Status and it is very hard work. The amount of paperwork and proof of show success and breed lines demanded by the GCCF is enormous and their standards are rigorous so let us all hope that we are successful on 5 November in achieving the intermediate step of Provisional Status.

The 1998 Tonkinese Seminar is being held in the summer this time: forget the cold of the Conway Hall. SUNDAY 28 JUNE at the Oliver Bird Hall in Solihull so that some of our Midlands members can attend. As well as cats, we hope to have someone from Langford (Bristol University Veterinary Department) to give us a short talk.

We have had two new judges apply to us to judge Tonkinese: Mr John Hansson and Mrs Jean Gamble, both experienced Siamese and Oriental judges. The BAC has duly approved their applications which have now gone to the GCCF for their stamp of approval.

*Carol M Poole*  
*Tonkinese BAC Secretary*

## SHOW SUPPORT NOTES

Please do not forget to send your show results in. Your CATS HAVE DONE WELL and *CATS* (the magazine) do not always print our results. Please send a SAE when sending for your 4<sup>th</sup> qualifying merit (of which 2 must be as an adult).

Cups to be won are:

The ISHMAL CHLOE MEMORIAL CUP	For the most successful chocolate
The MYMYSTIC LANSDALE FABLE TROPHY	For the most successful blue
The ISHOKATS TROPHY	For the most successful chocolate, chocolate tortie or chocolate tabby
The WIZADORA CUP	For the most successful red adult
The GRIMSPOUND ROSE BOWL	For the most successful tortie
The EKAHTI CUPS	(a) the most successful adult male (b) the most successful female adult (c) the most successful kitten (d) the most successful neuter
The TONKAHOLICS TABBY FEMALE KITTEN CUP	
The TONKAHOLICS TABBY MALE KITTEN CUP	
The MYMYSTIC GOLDENSHADOW CUP	For the most successful brown adult, kitten or neuter
The TONKAHOLICS SHIELD FOR THE MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITOR	Who has joined the club within the preceding 2 years
The TONKAHOLICS EXHIBITORS TROPHY	
The MELUSINE TROPHY	The Breeder's Trophy

Come on! Send in your results, even new members have a chance of winning one of our beautiful trophies.

Is there a cup of trophy you would like to donate to our club? If so write to me or to Linda (Vousden) with details.

GOOD LUCK!

*Chris Richards*  
*Show Support Secretary*

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Thank you once again for supporting your club this year. A big welcome to all our new members.

Please ring me if you have any ideas on:



Raising money for the Welfare



Club members' 'get together'.

I had thought about hiring a hall for a couple of hours with the intention of having a 'Good as New sale' (50/50 sale), cake stall or jumble sale, but would need your help for this. Any offers, please give me a ring.

Would anyone like to hold a garden party next summer, preferably Outer London region?

Congratulations to club members:   Numbers   37   Mrs Jean Sharrat  
  251   Miss Julie Illingworth  
  309   Mrs B Entwistle

You have won a small prize!  
Watch this space, will it be you next time?!

Anybody needing new membership forms please contact me. A new member missed joining for a few months because they sent the membership form to an old address.

*Chris Richards*  
*Membership Secretary*





**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** - write them  
in NOW

1997	SHOW/EVENT
22 November	Supreme Cat Show, NEC, Birmingham
6 December	National Cat Club Show, Olympia, London
21 December	Herts & Middlesex Cat Club Show, Edmonton, London
1998	
10 January	Short Haired Cat Society Show, Telford
17 January	Notts & Derby Cat Club Show, Bilborough, Notts
31 January	Southern Counties Cat Club Show, Edmonton, London
7 February	Shropshire Cat Club Show, Stafford
14 February	Croydon Cat Club Show, Guildford, Surrey
21 February	Bristol & District Cat Club Show, Chipping Sodbury
28 February	Coventry & Leicester Cat Club Show, Stafford

Details of these shows will be advertised in *CATS* nearer the time, or are available on the list published by the GCCF – ask anyone who shows regularly and they will be able to give you the name and address of the Show Manager of the show you are interested in if you want to start showing your Tonkinese or Moggie. Otherwise come along and talk to the Tonks who will be there and introduce yourself to their owners, even if they are not a member of our club, I am sure they will be pleased to talk 'Tonk'.

The book 'Tonkinese Cats' (written by Linda Vousden and due to be published by Kingdom Books) was expected to be available at the National Cat Club Show. Unfortunately their overseas printers have advised the publishers of some technical problems and the book is not expected to be available until early 1998. Linda wishes to thank everyone for their support and apologises for the delay in the return of the photographs, which are still held by the publishers.

## IMPORTANT - THE SUPREME

Come along and see the Tonkinese who are entered, and also stop off at the Club Table and talk Tonk to those who are manning it. One of Sue Arnold's 'Suantre' cats will be on exhibition.

## IMPORTANT - THE NATIONAL

Look out for our Club's representatives at the World of Cats at the National Show.

Come along and meet Mymystic Pharoah (blue tabby boy), Clarinath Nightshadow (lilac boy) and one of Felicity Jolley's cats – at the time of writing I am afraid I don't know the name of the cat she will be bringing along.

See these 3 lovely representatives of our breed and talk to the members who are manning the table during the day.

The calendars mentioned in the recent 'flyer' will be available at the Club Table as well as other Club items.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are due 1 January 1998. Some people may have paid them at the Show but if not, please send to the Treasurer, Mike Vousden (address on page 2). Cheques should be made payable to 'The Tonkinese Breed Club'. Subscriptions are:

Single	£5,
Joint	£7 and
Junior	£2.

Dear All,

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me when I was put up for the Committee in April. Although I just missed getting on to the Committee at that time, I have recently been informed that I am now a member.

I am increasing my knowledge of Tonks 'every day in every way' – often learning the 'hard' way through being a proud Mum to my 5. The knowledge I have about 'cats' in general (we always had several moggies as family members) has helped, but Foreign cats are definitely 'different'.

I promise that I shall do my utmost to promote the breed in the best possible way(s) that I can. I have been trying to do this by regularly showing Bruno and Nimrod (and exhibiting Buster) and will continue to do my best in any other way that I am asked.

Thank you again.

Yours sincerely

*Kathy Wilkinson*

#### SOME HUMOUR!

Q: How do you spell 'mouse trap' using only 3 letters?

A: CAT

Q: What do you call a cat that works for a doctor?

A: A first-aid kit

Q: What is a cat's favourite TV programme?

A: Miami Mice

Q: There were twenty cats in a boat, out at sea. One jumped out. How many cats were left in the boat?

A: None, they were all copy-cats.

Q: What do you call a disastrous cat?

A: A catastrophe

## DISABLED ANIMALS CLUB

On my resumé for the Committee elections I put down about my membership of the above club. I thought I'd tell you a little more about it: I discovered this club a couple of years ago now when one of my moggies, Tuppence, was having a problem with dislocating knees – luxating patellae is the proper term – something that is not too common in cats.

I was at my wits end trying to find out information about this problem (without bothering my super vet too much) and how best it could be dealt with etc. In one book I found the problem mentioned in relation to Devon Rex cats and so asked various breeders at shows about it, explaining that I only wanted some basic information. Every person I asked denied knowledge about it.

Finally I saw the DAC mentioned in a cat magazine, wrote to one of the co-founders (Suzanne Conboy-Hill) and she 'phoned me the same day she received my letter and was a great support. I also had information back from Bristol Veterinary school.

Tuppence had her left hind leg operated on and (touch wood) her knees are OK now – she has some other problems but that is our Tuppence. If she can find anything different to get, our Tuppence will go all out to get it!

Suzanne is a Chartered Clinical and Counselling Psychologist in the NHS, and is closely associated with several Associations studying different aspects of animal behaviour. The other co-founder, Jan McIvor-Tope, is working towards a Masters degree in Criminology and is also a member of various Associations studying animals. So these two ladies are no 'light-weights'. Both had dogs and cats with physical difficulties and decided to start this club in 1994 in an effort to help owners keep in touch with each other, to provide support and be a source of information on all sorts of things such as canine carts, hydrotherapy pool, how to get a physiotherapist and even contact lenses for cats!

The club is hoping to get the message across to vets in general practice and those in training that disability doesn't necessarily result in a poor quality of life: paralysed dogs trundle along on carts, blind animals negotiated their territory faultlessly as long as nothing is moved far out of line and there are amputee cats that whizz up trees better than 'able-bodied' cats!

Animals have no concept of disability and so only have to make the physical and not the psychological adjustment to disability. Members of the Club want to promote the following:

To promote the health and welfare of cats and dogs with developmental or acquired disabilities, including behaviour disorders arising from emotional trauma.

1. To promote rehabilitation in the form of nursing and social care as an alternative to euthanasia.
2. To gather and disseminate knowledge from veterinary surgeons, nurses and animal behaviourists regarding the rehabilitation of disabled dogs and cats.
3. To lobby for research into rehabilitative options for cats and dogs with developmental or acquired disabilities.
4. To examine and debate ethical issues in the rehabilitation of disabled cats and dogs.
5. To support and, where possible, advise owners of disabled cats and dogs.

We hope to attract as wide a membership as possible, from owners who want to know that others share their love of a disabled animal to practitioners and researchers who may be able to change attitudes and improve care options for pets.

I liaise with the veterinary schools throughout the UK – it is presently rather one-sided with issues of our magazine going out to the different veterinary schools and to the students' representative body. We have had some interesting replies and some information back which is going into our files.

If you are interested, please contact me and I'll let you know more.

*Kathy Wilkinson*

## CAT SHOWING

To those Club Members who don't 'show' - have you actually considered showing your Tonkinese or household pet? Try it and there's every chance that you will find it is a most addictive 'hobby' that soon becomes a way of life.

I have been showing for a couple of years now and can honestly say that even though I often say 'never again' when my cousin Lisa and I have had a few problems finding a venue - neither of us is much good at reading a map, and this isn't helped when 'the boys' are shouting directions from the back of the car (they're always wrong) - or have sore feet from being stepped back upon by others trying to read the Results Boards. But I save my pennies from the housekeeping and eagerly await the next Show Schedule to arrive on the doormat. I am now becoming quite expert on feeding Richard and myself on whatever happens to be on offer at the time and taking advantage of those '3 for the price of 2' offers that are about. Fiddling the housekeeping is quite a science!

I am lucky to have some beautiful Tonkinese but am seriously thinking about showing one of my moggies. I think showing an HP (household pet, NB they are all full of sauce too!) is just satisfying as showing a pedigree. Just take the time and go and have a look at the HP section in a show. Their owners take just as much care to prepare their cats - some of them take a lot more work than a streamlined, minimum prep-time Tonkinese, and they are all just as proud of the achievements of their lovely cats as the owners of the pedigree breeds are. Remember too that your household pet could end up being Best in Show - at the moment our Tonks can't, except at our own show!

Give a moment's thought to the problems of judging the household pets too. With our Tonks the judges have a Standard of Points to refer to, but in a class of Black and white moggies there can be a different coat pattern in each cat - I have 3 black and white cats and they are all different. I have stewarded for a friend who judged Household Pets - she breeds British Shorthairs and is 'studying' to be a judge for them, and she agreed that it is far easier to judge a pedigree, as not only do you have the SOP to go by but also they are more used to be shown and allowances don't have to be made for them being upset.

So don't put down showing a household pet, after all both pedigree and HP should be equally well loved and looked after so the only difference is that the pedigree owner has a piece of paper listing the mother and father of his/her cat and other ancestors, whilst often only the mother is known of the HP. If your HP is confident about meeting strangers, why not give it a go?

See earlier issues of *Tonkinfo* for details of how to enter a show, or talk to a fellow club member. The rules are similar for pedigrees and HPs, and the Show Manager will help you complete the form if you don't know anyone else to ask. GO ON, be a devil! Get addicted to something enjoyable rather than to something dangerous to your health!!

## CATS CAN BREED WITH MANY SPECIES OF WILDLIFE

Yes I thought that would get your attention! It's staggering to look back over just 50 years and see how far we've come in our technical and scientific knowledge, our approach to life and our understanding of the creatures that share it with us.

In 1951 a book on cats was written by an International Cat Judge (and at the time also the editor of the magazine "The Cat Fancy" - no names mentioned) in which he makes a number of extraordinary statements. For example he states it as a fact that cats are able to mate freely with many species of wildlife and as examples he quotes the Devonshire Crabbitts (the result of a mating between a cat and a rabbit). He also refers to a litter from a Pomeranian dog, which hiss and purr and are guarded by the household tom. Can you imagine any respected authority on cats getting away with such a statement today - or perhaps you still believe in flying cats (see *Cat World*, August 1995)? Elsewhere in the book there are certain intriguing anatomical statements such as "the cat's sense of smell is directly *attached* to the brain" and that the "spinal cord too is very complexly *associated* with the brain".

Our knowledge of feline physiology has improved considerably in the last few decades; perhaps this is directly related to the increasing number of different breeds of domestic cat. Those among you who collect cat objects, books or prints will know just how scarce the older 'cat' items are compared to anything relating to dogs, birds or farm animals. Today there are many excellent sources of reference for the breeder, exhibitor and caring pet-owner on subjects such as coping with feline medical problems, hand-rearing kittens and even feline genetics - a subject of particular interest to the Tonkinese admirers.

Thanks to an increasing number of dedicated cat-watchers we have also begun to seriously consider the feline psychology. We British folk may not be ready to consider analysis for ourselves (on the grand scale pursued in the USA) but we are now more willing to recognise that many of our cats' behavioural problems are better solved by trying to understand why they occur rather than simply treating them as bad behaviour. In autumn 1994 the Animal Care College at Ascot ran the first course, under the direction of Peter Neville, on understanding the interface between felines and humans. Over 110 students enrolled and approximately 25 successfully completed the course including 2 members of the Club, Mrs Kathy Wilkinson and myself. It's a 6-month course requiring considerable time, research and practical study but well worth the effort - I wholly recommend it, especially to breeders.

I wonder what the 'cat fancy' of the future will find to laugh about when it considers our current knowledge of the species?

*Linda Vousden*

## UPDATE ON THE BANDITS AND THE LITTLE GUYS

Well, I thought you might like to have an update - you might remember that last year I wrote telling you about how World War III ensued when I brought Mischa and Nimrod home to be with the Bandits - ie their older half-brothers and sister, Bunty, Buster and Bruno.

Things have continued well except for a couple of hiccups. The first when Linda, their breeder, came to help me take the 3 show boys to the 1996 BOB cats show. Her queen Shadow (my Tonks' Mum) had just finished calling and of course when Bunty smelt her Mum she went potty. She went back to HATING all 4 of her brothers - but again was perfectly OK with my moggies, fortunately she soon recovered.

Then in November we had a slight replay of this when we got home from the Club show - we had stayed with Linda and although the boys hadn't been anywhere near her cats (they'd stayed in the outside run) Bunty could still smell 'strangers'. So because Bruno, Nimrod and Mischa smelt 'different', they got a darn good thumping and so did poor Buster, and he'd stayed home with her!

My, Bunty is so bossy. That gorgeous little female Tonkinese might be just a bit smaller physically than her brothers - which I am told is usual for Tonkinese females, but by golly her spirit is far far greater. And the intelligence, well.... Bunty should be taking the science degree, not me. She is always at least one step ahead of Richard and I. Do you like this picture of my little Bossy Boots? Fantastic, isn't she?



Oh yes, I must tell you about my Chemistry exam last October! I have to have a home exam because of my joint problems and although I had told the OU admin staff **umpte**n times about my cats they hadn't told my invigilator about them. I 'phoned to check and Mr Hudson's wife said that he didn't really mind them that much. I thought that sounded ominous.

When Mr Hudson turned up and was set upon by 3 browns and 2 tabby Tonks as well as some of my moggies he was definitely not a happy man. Well, I had tried to warn him about them and I had told him that they are very nosy, but they DID think his briefcase looked interesting!

I put some of the cats outside the room and shut the door and thankfully they didn't start clawing the carpet straight away. However, I was soon busy laughing at the exam paper - it could have been written in Russian as far as I was concerned, and



Mr Hudson was sitting reading his book when all of a sudden there was this enormous WAAAAAH – Buster had hidden behind an armchair and decided it was time to make his presence known.

It had to be seen to be believed – Mr Hudson did this most fantastic impression of a Jump jet or something out of a cartoon. The vertical take off and then the running movements of his legs were hysterically funny I had to make a rush for the loo it was so funny. Shame he didn't think so.

The boys have all been doing very well in shows – Nimrod especially, he's had several red card days now. I have virtually decided to 'retire' Mischa because he decided he didn't like being shown after his come back at the end of March - he couldn't be shown for quite a while as we had to wait for his fur to grow again after a bit of a mix-up when he went in to be neutered in December and he came home with a spay stitch as well as a sore rear end!! When he went to his first show after that he got really upset and was almost as bad at the next one, so I decided not to show him as he was unhappy. However, he is looking so gorgeous that even Richard – who isn't too keen on having 'cats in cages' – says he ought to be shown, so I have crossed my fingers and booked him for the Supreme. He will only have the one class there, so hopefully he won't be too bad.

I doubt if I'll show him again at an 'ordinary' show as he does not seem to like all the fuss of being got out of his pen - if he's grumpy it won't do any good to him or to the breed's reputation. Life is actually a lot easier now because of Mischa's choice: I can take Buster out on exhibition without having to decide which of the others to leave home. Buster likes showing off and is getting quite a following, almost a fan club of people who come to check his 'starfish' feet.

So, life in the Wilkinson Household is not boring, and it is terrific to see how the moggies and Tonks interact – the Tonks all love Big Teddy, Bunty almost to the point of obsession – that's Big Ted on the bean bag with the 5 Tonks. I am so lucky to have such a lovely feline family.

Regards

*Kathy Wilkinson*



PS When my husband checked this through for me he said I ought to let you know that he's not so bad either!! He says he's a lot greyer since we've been taken over by cats. His sanity has suffered, but his patience has improved!

PPS I took Bruno, Buster and Nimrod to the Kentish Cat Society show on 18 October and when we got home Bunty started having the miseries. You really

wouldn't believe the growls and hisses that emanated from her. She's even laid in to Mischa and he stayed home with her. Perhaps it was because we haven't had a show day since the end of July so she had forgotten that they come home smelling 'different', but by golly I was glad to go to bed that night. It took a few days to get back to normal. Goodness only knows what she's going to be like when Bruno and Nimrod are away for our Club show, and then just 2 weeks after that Bruno, Nimrod and Mischa will be away - each time we are going away late the Friday morning and won't be back until the Sunday lunchtime. Well, I think I'd better get the boys some suits of armour made.

**And now, some CULTURE:** A work colleague, knowing how besotted with felines I am, gave me this poem. I believe he saw it on the Tube.

**A 14-Year-Old Convalescent Cat in the Winter**

I want him to have another living summer,  
To lie in the sun and enjoy the *douceur de vivre* –  
Because the sun, like golden rum in a rummer,  
Is what makes an idle cat *un tout petit peu ivre* –

I want him to lie stretched out, contented, revelling in the heat, his fur all dry and warm,  
An Old Age Pensioner, retired, resented  
By no one, and happinesses in a beelike swarm

To settle on him – postponed for another season  
That last fated hateful journey to the vet  
From which there is no return (and age the reason),  
Which must soon come – as I cannot forget.

*Gavin Ewart (b. 1916)*

## GARDENING

I am the first to admit that my gardening ability is extremely limited, confined mainly to supervising my husband, Richard, cutting the grass – can't call it a 'lawn', and sometimes planting some tubs for the summer, although for the last couple of years I have managed to avoid this contribution because of my Open University studies. However, I do like to dream sometimes of what I could do if I had the time and the knowledge, so I am usually very interested in any articles in the various cat magazines that are supposed to help you have a garden that is safe for your cat.

BUT what does drive me right round the bend are the articles that list plants/shrubs that should not be used because they are poisonous for cats. I suppose I do want to know this, but what I really WANT and NEED to know are the names of some plants that are OK to use. I have several large gardening books and the local garden centres are quite friendly, but they don't seem to be much use in helping me choose plants to use. I know about Nepeta – see I'm showing off that I know a proper name for a plant – but apart from that, zilch. Re indoor plants I know not to use Spider plants as they are a mild narcotic for a cat, and Leopard Lilies are dangerous to both humans and cats, so my lovely specimen had to go – I found out what it was after I'd got it and couldn't bear to throw it away so re-homed it.



Have we a gardener amongst our members who would be willing to write an article for us on this subject? Tell us about your successes with your gardens and your plants in relation to your cats.

## COOKERY

Here's a recipe that caught my eye a long time ago because of its name. It actually tastes quite nice too. Black treacle or honey could be substituted for the golden syrup.

### *MOGGY*

Preparation time: 25 minutes

Cooking time: 25-30 minutes

Pre-heat the oven to 170°C/325°F/Gas Mark 3

Ingredients: 12-16 squares

12 oz (350g) SR flour

½teaspoon salt

1½ teaspoons baking powder

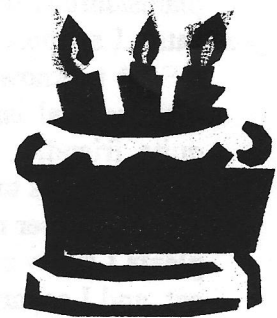
3 oz (75 g) lard

3 oz (75 g) margarine

4 oz (100/125 g) sugar

1 tablespoon golden syrup

About 3 fl oz (90 ml) milk



Method:

Sieve together the flour, salt and baking powder. Mix in the lard and margarine by rubbing with the fingertips until the mixture looks like breadcrumbs.

Add the sugar and the golden syrup and mix well. Stir in sufficient milk to make a fairly stiff dough.

Roll out to about ½ inch (1.5 cm) thick, place on a large, greased baking sheet and bake in the pre-heated oven for 25-30 minutes, until golden brown. Cut the cake into squares before it has quite cooled.

Best eaten freshly baked.

### WORDSEARCH PUZZLE

The words are to be found backwards, forwards, up, down and diagonally in the frame below. The words are the 'pet' names of the Tonkinese that I know.

There are quite a few letters left over, so the next part is like another puzzle too. Write down all the left over letters on a piece of paper, and mixed up among these are the four words telling the small prize that I am offering (clue: a '\_\_\_\_\_'). When you think you've solved this second part, send me (Kathy) a postcard saying what you think the prize is - don't forget to put your name and address on it too - to arrive by **18 December 1997**.

I shall take all the postcards I receive with the correct answer to the Herts & Middlesex show on 21 December where I shall ask another Committee Member to draw a winner from the bag. So have a go and Good Luck. Winner will be announced in next issue.

- Beau · Beryl Boomer Bruno Bunty Buster Clova  
 Duke Fable Harvey Henry Katie Kischa Little Al  
 Max Meg Minnie Mischa Monkey Nemesis Nimrod  
 Pagan Pharoah Pud Rameses Sasha Solly Speckle  
 Tay Tegwyn Thug Treasure Vulcan Wispa Xaman  
 Zafaran Zebedee Zephyr

H	F	F	X	S	E	S	E	M	A	R	T	T	A	Y
P	A	B	S	A	S	H	A	I	I	C	H	M	G	B
H	B	R	L	Y	R	E	B	N	N	D	U	P	E	E
A	L	U	V	U	L	C	A	N	V	A	G	A	M	A
R	E	N	E	E	A	P	S	I	W	M	M	G	A	U
O	P	O	A	T	Y	K	S	E	O	I	A	A	X	N
A	V	O	L	C	E	Y	L	L	O	S	H	N	X	T
H	E	I	T	A	K	G	B	W	X	C	C	N	Z	R
O	L	O	S	Z	N	O	W	U	U	H	S	Y	A	E
E	K	U	D	G	O	B	B	Y	S	A	I	O	F	A
E	C	R	P	M	M	E	X	U	N	T	K	D	A	S
D	E	T	E	E	E	Q	A	L	N	I	E	O	R	U
E	P	R	Y	W	E	W	U	V	T	T	M	R	A	R
B	S	O	O	A	K	I	H	E	N	R	Y	M	N	E
E	I	A	P	T	H	L	A	E	L	T	T	I	L	D
Z	E	P	H	Y	R	S	I	S	E	M	E	N	P	R

## LETTER TO A BREEDER FROM A NEW OWNER

Dear Madam

Overhearing your conversation on the telephone with my wife last evening I feel I would like to put on paper some points that should be passed on to new owners/'parents' of your off-spring.

### 1. HEALTH WARNING

- (a) Sanity can be, or will be, affected.
- (b) Shoes at all times should have good deep imprinted soles – for sudden stops.
- (c) Slippers or any footwear should have built-in steel toecaps. Not for kicking out, but for continuous protection from toe nipping.
- (d) Shoes should be slip-on type, ie no laces, as there is little more nerve racking than to be halfway around Asda and discover two Tonkinese kittens hanging on to your boots.
- (e) Bald or balding heads should be covered – good scratching areas, definitely a huge draw for the Tonkinese breed.
- (f) Bathrooms should have Chubb 5-lever locks fitted, as shaving is a 'Life in your Hands' affair. It should preferably be carried out by a stand-in, a trained stuntman.
- (g) Kitchen units should be fitted right to the ceiling, ie no gaps. Flying Tonkinese landing on microwave ovens cause many nasty stains on carpets and other various parts. People of a nervous disposition should avoid kitchens at all times.

### 2. SELF PRESERVATION

- (a) Male and female attire should be of denim type material, including underwear, ie claw proof, also nip proof.
- (b) Sports programmes, especially record breaking programmes such as the Olympic Games, should not be watched by the family whilst cats are present.

Definitely no:

Fencing	-	claw attack training information
Swimming	-	gives ideas for bathroom and kitchen sink antics
Wrestling	-	gives rise to 3.30 am Graeco-Roman bouts on beds

- Shot Putting - kicking cat litter competitions – no need for practice in this field as World Record already magnificently/unbeatably won last year by Mymystic Moonshadow Bunty (then aged 5 months) and she's even better now!!
- Karate/Judo - head and body fights already at Olympic Standards
- Sprinting - FORget it!! And as for the recent attempts to break the land speed record and the sound barrier – what a waste of time and money. This is done every day in our house.
- Steeplechase - they could train the athletes – over chairs, beds, window ledges, tables and worktops, every type of course covered.

- (c) No plastic/artificial flowers of big leaf variety to be displayed. Detached leaves when not spotted lying in the bath are lethal. When wet foot placed unknowingly on them, funny achievements, positions and places can be found for the soap, apart from the soap tray.

Needless to say I/we would not be without any of them!! This statement is NOT made under duress. [Please, Kathy, will you now remove the rifle barrel from my left nostril?!]

Yours,

Twitchy of Gravesend

The breeder in question replied, but her answer was so full of support and encouragement for the Tonkinese Storm-Troopers that now form part of the family that I did not feel it mete to publish it here!

## THE FELINE ADVISORY BUREAU

Did you know that our club is affiliated to the Feline Advisory Bureau (FAB)? As such we receive a copy of their magazine, which contains articles and information on various topics – recent articles have covered the different types of flea products and diabetes in cats. If you wish to borrow the magazine, please ask a committee member about this and your name can be put on the distribution list.

Twice a year there are also seminars: one, in May, down at The Bristol Veterinary School at Langford - remember the television programme 'Vet School'? - which (I think) is usually co-sponsored by a cat club I have been to 3 of these now and cannot speak highly enough about the way in which the Vets/speakers put over the information they are trying to impart to attendees. During the lunch break there is usually a tour around the Veterinary School and some of the specialist treatments are explained.

There is also another seminar/conference as part of the AGM in the autumn. I went to the 1996 one – held near Heathrow, and that was extremely informative. Unfortunately the 1997 AGM and conference was held at Basingstoke which is not only too far for me, but also I had the Kentish Show that day and had to chaffeur 'the boys' to do their bit for the breed. However, I discovered that notes from the lectures were available and the FAB Central Office have kindly sent me a copy and only asked for a donation.

It was hoped that Central Office might have a table at our show, but unfortunately no-one has replied to this offer at the time of writing. If you would like more details about the FAB, I can let you have them as I am a member, and I know some other members of the Committee are.



## CHRISTMAS

Well, it isn't long until Christmas now. I personally feel that it has got far too commercialised these days, and that it is something I could almost do without!! Too much drinking, too much eating and altogether too much spending – all of which most of us start to regret just after Boxing Day! And I do find it aggravating that people who ignore you for the rest of the year suddenly start talking to you as though you're their long lost friend about a week before Christmas and then just after Boxing Day it's back to the cold shoulder again!



However, if there are small children WHO STILL BELIEVE IN FATHER CHRISTMAS in the family I think it can be quite magical – see, I'm not such an old spoilsport after all. I've been thinking and here are some ideas for Christmas presents:

How about buying a female member of the family some 'Pawsession' by Calvin Claw?

Or 'POISSON espurrit de parfum' by Catfish Dior?

Or some 'Tonkara' by Purrlain?

Or maybe a 'Scratch' watch?

For an artistic friend, a print of a work by Andy Warhund, Pablo Pawcasso, Vincent Van Dogh or Jackson Pawlock might be *the* answer?

Seriously though, let's hope it won't be long before we can all get our hands on Linda Vousden's book 'Tonkinese Cats'. Why not ask your family for a book token for Christmas and keep it ready to buy this book – speak to Linda about it at the Supreme or National.

And **FINALLY GOODBYE**: Well, I have just about put everything I can think of into this edition – I think all I've omitted is an Agony Aunt, Horoscopes and a fictional story. Good thing I don't have the worry of filling pages every time, it's really nerve wracking. Much, much more difficult than I thought it would be. Remember the quality of your magazine is affected by YOU, so put pen to paper or fingers to keyboard and submit something to the Editor.

However, I have enjoyed producing this issue, I hope you haven't been bored by my efforts. I look forward to seeing some of you at our Show – there's just 7 days to go as I type this!! Will I get it copied in time? .....

To all members, do come and tell me what you think about my efforts, but, more importantly, come and meet Bruno, Nimrod and Buster if we're at a show – perhaps sometimes Mischa will be 'out', but anyway just come and talk 'Tonk' if you see we're at a show you attend. Everyone who knows me realises how impossible it is for me not to talk 'cats' in general but I especially like talking about my babies and would love to hear all about YOUR moggies and Tonks.

Have a very happy Christmas everyone, however you spend it. See you soon!!