

# HISTORIC NEWS TONKS WILL BE CHAMPIONS



At the GCCF Council meeting today (June 19th 2002), Linda Vousden stood up, on behalf of the Tonkinese Breed Club & the Tonkinese Breed Advisory Committee, to present arguments for Tonkinese promotion to Championship. The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy voted in favour of promotion so, as of June 2003, the UK Tonkinese will be a Championship breed.

Linda said "I've maintained that it would take us 10 years from the time we had our own BAC [1993] to become Champions - we not only had to verify our uniqueness, but also overcome prejudice from some established members of the Cat Fancy who couldn't understand this uniqueness. Thanks must go to so many people who actively helped the breed prove itself - may they be remembered"

## Acting Editor's Notes

Hello Folks,

I seem to be head cook & bottle washer at present. The production of Tonkinfo landed in my lap most unexpectedly, and with only a few weeks to produce it from scrap, hence the delay in posting it - but I hope the headline news justifies the delay.

My many Club duties, not to mention my non-Club commitments, mean that this is the *only* issue of Tonkinfo I'll be able to do. I'm sure there must be a PC Publishing Wiz among you who would love to get your teeth into a project like this! Please give me a call - the future of Tonkinfo is in *your* hands as members. In the meantime I hope you enjoy this small but beautifully formed issue!

- Linda Vousden

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## **TONKINESE BREED CLUB**

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**Membership Secretary:** Ms Sue Davison (see above for details)

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**Kitten Registrar:** Miss Miriam Haas Tel: (01626) 859087

**Cup Secretary:** To be advised, *until then contact L Vousden*

**Editor - Tonkinfo:** *Volunteer needed for the Autumn issue!*

**GCCF Delegate:** Mrs Kathy Wilkinson (see above for details)

**Substitute Delegate:** Mrs Linda Vousden  
.....

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Kathy Wilkinson**

*Hello*, as I am your new Chairman, it was suggested that

I should write a few words to introduce myself. My name is Kathy Wilkinson and I have been owned by animals of various kinds for many, many years, but only for the past nearly 7 years by Tonkinese as well as by my moggies - I have 7 moggies and 5 Tonkinese.

I have 3 'show boys' - Bruno (brown), Nimrod (chocolate tabby) and Mischa (caramel tabby), and they have done very well over the years. Bruno achieved 44 Merits and then got his 3 ICs; Nimrod got 26 Merits and 3 ICs; and Mischa got 9 Merits (he retired himself for a while!) and I brought him back out last year. He was originally registered as a lilac tabby and got 1 IC as such last summer. He had to be re-registered as a caramel tabby and he recently got his 3rd IC as such. I also have Buster (brown) who is a registered PAT cat - also note that the first PAT cat in this country was/is a Tonkinese - and Buster goes on exhibition at shows to show off the Tonk's lovely nature. Bunty, my lovely brown girl (Bruno and Buster's sister and half sister to Nimrod and Mischa) stays home with the moggies. She is wonderful.

I have been on the TBC committee for a few years now and have been your Delegate to the GCCF, and was also the Editor of Tonkinfo, for most of that time. I am very pleased to be your Chairman and will do my best for you and the Club. I know that I have a lot to learn.

**HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT - Linda Vousden**

Such a lot has happened for the Tonks since the Autumn issue of



Tonkinfo. Having read the front cover, you will already know our most exciting news! Some very important changes have been made to the Tonkinese registration policy, and if you are breeding Tonks (or any other kittens) you *will* need to pay careful attention to the new GCCF rules on the registration of kittens/cats, see details in this issue.

**Brenda & Miriam have now retired from Committee after serving for several years, thank you for all of your hard work for the Club ladies, we wish you well and a happy 'retirement'. However, we are lucky that Miriam has agreed to carry on running our Kitten List.**

Unfortunately despite the efforts of several people to contact them we have no news of Jane & James Tyacke who leave another two places on the Committee & the editorship of Tonkinfo, we hope they are both well. For the past few years now we've been asking members to consider standing for Committee - an injection of new ideas and enthusiasm is both desirable and necessary. As you see, there are two vacancies on Committee. If you are interested please contact me. We don't expect you to have great experience of the Tonkinese, but we are seeking people willing and able to serve the Club. If you would like to talk the idea over with me, to find out what's involved etc., then you're welcome to call me on 0118 9619444. I've now been on the Committee since '93, initially the objective of the Club was to support the breed through to Championship, now its main focus is probably the Club show. We do keep trying to think of things to involve *all* members (such as the Club book I produced a few years ago, and the Club's web site) but we need to get feedback from members - are we doing what you want?

Make use of Tonkinfo, have your say as a Club member. If you come across an item, story or a source of interest for Tonkinfo, or want to post a notice on the web site notice board - *please do get in touch with me.* ☺

## AGM 2002

The Club Annual General Meeting took place on 12th May, unfortunately it wasn't well enough attended to provide the required quorum for voting on Rule changes etc. So papers were sent to all voting members of the Club on the two issues presented at the AGM. 55 voting papers were returned (no spoilt papers) and the results were as follows:-

1) That the £2 entry fee be waived when applicants pay for either a long-term membership or for 2 consecutive years' membership at the time of joining. To be effective immediately.

For : 53 Against: 2 Abstained: 0

2) Club Rule 5d). Replace "The quorum for Committee meetings shall be six members." with "The quorum for Committee meetings shall be more than half the number of serving Committee members." For : 46 Against: 8 Abstained: 1

*By more than the required 2/3rd majority the amendment to Club Rule 5d) is now in effect, please ensure that you amend your copy of the Rules accordingly, dated 25/May/2002.*

Those members who were able to attend raised over £35 in the small raffle, which will go to our Welfare fund. Several members also made donations with their apologies, including Vince & Coral Macey who kindly paid for our tea! The Club awards were presented (see details later on) and certificates have since been posted to members who were absent. Well done everyone for so successfully showing your cats in 2001, your results have helped to secure Championship for the Tonks.

## Tonkinese Breed Club member has 1st ever South African Grand Champion Tonkinese!



Accompanied by her friend and mentor (and international judge), Johan Lamprecht, Jeanine Grobbelaar travelled for 10 hours from her home in Cape Town for the Kimberley cat show [and we think our trips to cat shows take a long time! - Ed]. - but it was all worth it. Loeloeraai Loral Yamani Je Ju became a Champion and Loeloeraai Loral Wujar Gundaya became South Africa's first Grand Champion Tonkinese.

Jeanine said "It was an *incredible* experience. The Kimberley Show was amazing, small, but so very, very well organised and so much fun, but when I heard the announcement it was one of the greatest moments of my life. The cats were absolute stars. GO TONKINESE!"

Jeanine stated that she met her first international Tonk-lovers after seeing Linda's 'Mymystic' web site and joining her Tonkinese internet group in 1999. Since then she has stirred up a whirlwind of activity in the South African Cat Fancy and, with the help and guidance of Johan (and the support of her friends from the internet group) she convinced them to officially recognise the breed (October 24th 2000) - not an easy task. In October 2001 the S.A Tonkinese were granted Championship status. Jeanine is now the most significant Tonkinese breeder in South Africa (her cattery name is Loeloeraai). Her Tonkinese are highly sought after, she has taken the trouble to select her lines very carefully. Friends from Australia and America have allowed her to have their kittens and she may soon have one from England.

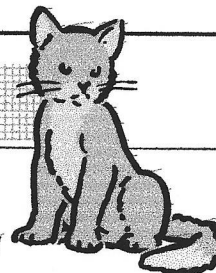
**Many well-deserved congratulations, Jeanine**

**'PUSSY LAWN' & 'KITTY GRASS' - Su Davison**

Most of us who keep indoor cats will have purchased these products, followed the instructions on the lid only to find that even with great care in watering and placing on the window-sill the greenery lasts for so short a time your cats barely have time for a good chew. After some experimentation, I found a method that ensures many harvests from one box and also keeps the grass growing and verdant.

Fill a fairly deep but wide plant pot with compost then fill up to the top with a quarter of a box of one of the above products. Mix the seed lightly with the top layer of the compost, then thoroughly soak in water. Leave in a cupboard until the seeds begin to sprout; then place the pot in the garden in partial shade keeping it well watered.

Once the grass is well grown bring it back into the house every evening for your cats to graze on, in the morning put it back outside, not forgetting to water. This way the grass remains healthy and continues to grow for many weeks and the cats love it.

**CAT SHOWS TO VISIT**

Well besides the obvious (*our own show, see details on page 12*) here are a few shows coming up that you might want to visit even if you aren't showing your cat, after all where else can you find so much to buy for your furry friends?

- **The Tonkinese Cat Club 2nd Exemption Show** - June 22nd at Alton (Hants) Community Centre.
- **Wiltshire & District Cat Club** - July 6th at the Oasis Leisure Centre, Swindon.
- **East Sussex Cat Club** - July 13th at the Summerfields Leisure Centre, Hastings
- **Lincolnshire Cat Club** - July 13th at the Lincolnshire Exhibition Centre, Lincoln
- **Chester & North Wales Cat Club** - 10th August at the North Gate Arena, Chester
- **Three Counties Cat Club** - 17th August at the Guildhall Civic Centre, Southampton
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Don't forget that the Kensington Kitten & Neuter Cat Club show, which is normally at Bracknell in July, is now on November 9th!

**WELL KNOWN PEOPLE WHO  
HAVE TONKINESE INCLUDE:-**

ROBIN WILLIAMS  
(GARDEN DESIGNER & AUTHOR)

WOLF  
(ITV'S GLADIATOR)

ROGER COOK  
(OF THE 'COOK REPORT')

DO YOU KNOW ANY OTHERS?

How many lives does a  
nuclear Tonkinese have?

18 half-lives of course!!

## Did you know .....

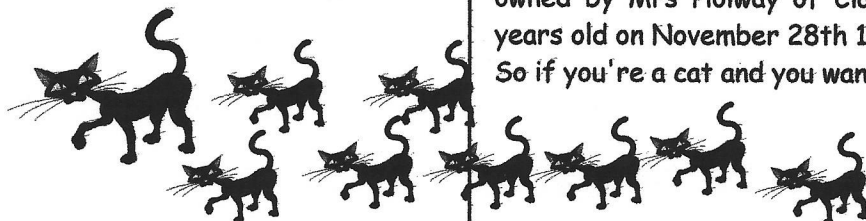
- 200 cats a day are taken in by The Cats Protection League.
- There are approximately 7.3 million cats kept as pets in the UK.
- Only 8% of cats are pedigrees.
- There are more cat owners in the South and more dog owners in the North.
- Cat ownership in Scotland is the lowest in the UK.
- Nearly 55% of cat owners live in towns.
- Cat owners take their pets to the vet less than dog owners; 81.8% of cat owners compared to 89.1% of dog owners.
- Over 30% of cat vet visits are for vaccination.
- The main reasons why British people keep cats as pets is companionship (27%) and love of cats (31%).
- A female cat can, in 5 years, be responsible for 20,000 descendants.
- A sexually active feral tom cat 'owns' an area of about 3 square miles.

### Sources:

Pet Ownership Survey, Gfk's Home Audit 1994,  
The Cats Protection League/Spillers Arthur's Survey 1993  
Pet Food Manufacturers Association 1993

#### The Largest Pet Litter

This record goes to a Tonkinese cat owned by V. Gane of Church Westcote, Kingham, Oxon, who gave birth to 19 kittens in one go in 1970.



#### The Oldest Domestic Cat

The average life expectancy for a neutered, well looked after cat is now 15 - 17 years for a male and 17 - 19 years for a female. However, Ma, a female tabby owned by Alice St. George Moore of Drewsteignton, Devon, was 24 years old when she died in 1957.

This record was actually beaten by another tabby - Puss, owned by Mrs Holway of Clayhidon, Devon. He was 36 years old on November 28th 1939 - he died the next day.

So if you're a cat and you want to live a long life, it might be worth moving to Devon, *but watch out for those birthday parties!*

#### The Most Prolific Domestic Cat

When Dusty, a tabby from Bonham, Texas, USA gave birth to her final kitten in 1952, she had produced 420 kittens in 17 years.

#### The Oldest Feline Mother

A little way behind Dusty was Kitty owned by George Johnstone of Croxton, Staffs, UK. In 1987, she gave birth to her last two kittens at the age of 30. When she died 2 years later, she had produced a total of 218 kittens during her life.

*What amazing records - but what kind of SLIME-BALLS were the owners !!! [Ed.]*

**BREEDER'S MYTHS & SUPERSTITIONS?***Linda Vousden - Mymystic Tonkinese*

What is it that makes our kittens turn out the way they do? The influence of the sire and the dam on the developing foetus is something we like to think that we have some control over but I hope this article will show how misguided we may be. Before addressing some of the "breeder's tales" bear with me while I set the genetic scene.

Each gene governs a specific inheritable factor - one for the coat length, one for the coat-colour, one for the number of toes, one for potential temperament, one for potential size, one for the sex of the cat and so on and so forth. The genes are arranged in fixed locations (the same position in every cat) along the length of the chromosomes. Cats have 19 pairs of chromosomes, 18 are matched pairs. The 19<sup>th</sup> pair (the sex chromosomes) has one difference - the pair will be matched in a female (XX) and unmatched in a male (XY). *So, if the genes along the matched chromosomes are arranged in an identical order in every cat, why aren't all cats identical?* Here are two very good reasons.

1) Every gene is composed of two parts called alleles (pronounced 'aleels'), one on each of the paired chromosomes. The alleles are not necessarily identical, one allele may be a dominant version of that gene's particular inheritable factor, and the other allele may be a recessive version of the factor; they may both be dominant or both be recessive - and on rare occasions possibly even a mutant version. So, disregarding mutation, there are 16 possible combinations (expressions) for each gene (allele pair). Obviously, a high percentage of the genes will be expressed consistently in each cat, with differences that are indistinguishable to us - eg. each normal kitten will have two eyes, four legs and 1 heart with only slight differences in size and shape. When you consider just the genes for

the coat-pattern, coat-type and coat-colour you can see that there are numerous variations possible.

2) The sire and the dam each contribute 19 pairs of chromosomes via the sperm and ovum. It is pure chance that determines which of the chromosome strands from each pair (with their particular combinations of alleles) is taken from each parent to form the 19 new pairs of chromosomes in the kitten - there are now 524,288 possible combinations!

**Myth No. 1. "The sire's genes have more influence on the kitten than the dam's".** Perhaps this has arisen because there are fewer studs than queens. Any notable similarities between the litters of different queens, who have visited the same stud, are attributed to the stud as the common denominator. Thus, breeders are inclined to talk about 'blood-lines', good or bad. However, we've already seen that every time a kitten is produced it could inherit its parental make-up in one of several hundred thousand different ways. So, unless the kitten is from an in-bred line, the genetic influence of any ancestor more than 2 generations back - no matter how illustrious - is either negligible or non-existent. Once a line ceases to be in-bred, any characteristics that the breeder sought to 'fix' by in-breeding will have no substantial influence two generations later.

[The only exception will be a line that is in-bred to the extent of effectively being pure-bred, i.e. closely related cats are bred back together so often within three generations that the chromosomes become almost identical in each kitten].

**Myth No. 2. "There is a 50/50 chance of getting a female or a male kitten".** Although this would seem to be logical, there is an occasional predominance of male

kittens in a litter. Some breeder's of many years' experience are convinced that it occurs every other year; I know of no scientific evidence to support this theory. The predominance of male kittens is due to the variance of sperm maturity, and the specific ratio of acidity/alkalinity of the queen's vaginal tract, during copulation - factors we have no control over but I would be interested to hear if anyone knew otherwise!

**Myth No.3. "The number of kittens produced depends upon the number of times the queen is mated."** The confusion is understandable, a queen may produce kittens from different toms during the same mating period (super-fecundity). However, the number of kittens produced depends entirely upon the number of ova released during ovulation, which occurs after the first copulation. It doesn't matter how often the queen is subsequently mated, the number of ova available to be fertilised are already in place. Thus the queen, not the stud, determines the potential litter size. The number of kittens a specific queen will have in each litter is likely to be consistent; for example, some queens have litters averaging 3-4 kittens, some may average 5-6 and there are the occasional queens who consistently produce large litters of 8 or more.

**Myth No. 4. "The depth of colour depends upon the darker parent."** Naturally, Tonkinese breeders are interested in the way colour behaves in their cats, especially the brown and chocolate colours. While the sperm consists solely of nuclear material, the ovum contains a rich store of cytoplasm. Cytoplasm consists of enzymes that control the production of melanin (pigment). The gene that governs the formation of colour is only carried on the female (X) chromosome; it may produce either Orange (red and cream) or Non-Orange colour (brown, blue, chocolate, lilac and tortoiseshell). As the female's chromosomes are both X, she can produce both Orange *and* Non-Orange. The male has only one X chromosome, which is

paired with the male (Y) chromosome - this means that he can only produce *either* Orange *or* Non-Orange.

[I've not mentioned Caramel or Apricot because the caramel and apricot effect occurs, effectively, once the Orange or non-Orange colours have been fixed.]

There is a hypothesis that dark-pigmented dams x light-pigmented sires produce kittens with more intense pigmentation than the kittens of light-pigmented dams x dark-pigmented sires - there is no supporting scientific evidence, but this theory is also held by some poultry and dog breeders. Personally, I have been interested to note that the warmer browns and chocolates in early Tonkinese generations has tended to come from lines in which the original dam was brown or chocolate Burmese. Alternately, the colder brown or chocolate Tonkinese appear to come from lines in which the original dam was a brown or chocolate Siamese - this may be pure supposition, or perhaps it is worth looking at in more detail?

**Myth No. 5. "Kitten ghosting will disappear in adulthood."** It doesn't matter what breed or colour the cat is, its genetic make-up includes a gene for *tabby*. In kittens, especially kittens from the albinism group (including Tonkinese, Burmese & Siamese) the production of coat-colour is incomplete but with successive moults the coat-colour and coat-pattern becomes more defined until the cat reaches maturity - generally between 1 and 2 years of age. The tabby pattern that may be seen in kittens is often masked by a more dense coloration of the fur - but it is still there and if the tabby markings are fairly strong they are *not* likely to be completely masked even when the cat is fully mature.

Unless you breed tabbies, you might be surprised to learn that the type of tabby pattern, if known, can be used to our advantage. This is noticeable in the orange coloured cats whose tabby pattern is



incompletely masked by the orange coat-colour. A breeder of red/cream/apricot Tonkinese who uses queens/studs that have an underlying ticked tabby pattern will produce cats that effectively have a clear body. However, an underlying classic or spotted tabby pattern will inevitably be visible in a mature orange cat, and the mackerel tabby pattern only a little less so. On the other hand, when breeding the brown or chocolate Tonks a ticked pattern may be more obvious in a mature cat, giving a rather brindled effect to the coat.

**Myth No. 6. "The kitten takes its temperament from its mother."** This is one of those nature versus nurture matters. It would seem logical that the kittens learn from their mother how to react to situations, objects, people etc. To some degree this is so. However, it is proven that the potential temperament of the kitten is inherited from both of its parents; should *either* one of the

parents be of a nervous or aggressive disposition so will its offspring. This shows us how crucial it is that we should only breed from well-adjusted cats.

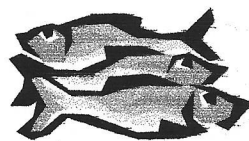
**Myth No. 7. "The coat-colour of the cat influences its behaviour."** This may sound like pure fantasy, but it's not. The neural pathways responsible for stimulating melanin-producing enzymes are the same as those for adrenaline - this is consistent in cats, dogs and people. There are studies being conducted on this matter and I hope to bring you more information in a future issue of Tonkinfo, but I'll just leave you with the thought that the apocryphal fiery red-head is not so apocryphal.

If you know of any other breeder's myths (there are plenty) that you would like 'exposed' please do tell me for future issues, I just love digging around for information - *precedents & history are my buried treasure!*

## SIGNS OF AN IRREPRESSIBLE CAT LOVER

*Found on the web by Kathy Wilkinson.*

- Your son pages you with an emergency and you call to ask if something has happened to the cats, not thinking that something might be wrong with your son!
- You eat Tuna salad at least twice a week, because your cat likes it.
- Your significant other gets "Happy Father's Day" cards "signed" by the cat.
- You have perfected the art of writing without moving the end of the pen, because you know that if the cat sees you he will come and help!
- You "meow" at people in the office or at class, and are surprised they don't understand.
- You get a present beautifully wrapped with a bow and ribbon and think "The cats will love these!"
- You take the cat's side over the children's/husband's in all arguments.
- You always go through the cat food aisle, even when you don't need any pet supplies, to see if there are any new cat toys.
- You decide to sleep on the couch all night because the kitty didn't want to get off your tummy after the film had finished.



### Club Awards Presented at the AGM for achievements during 2001

Most successful adult male - BONZER RED RUM (J PONSFORD)  
 Most successful adult female - TINTORETTO MISTY STARDUST (K PLUMMER)  
 Most successful neuter - BONZER MAH JONGG (J BRENNAN)  
 Most successful kitten - TINTORETTO MISTY STARDUST (K PLUMMER)

Most successful brown - MYMYSTIC GOLDENSHADOW (K WILKINSON)  
 Most successful blue - TINTORETTO LULLABY BLUSH (K PLUMMER)  
 Most successful chocolate (series) - BONZER MAH JONGG (J BRENNAN)  
 Most successful brown/blue/choc./lilac - ADOUZSH HYPNOS (B RAWLINSON) &  
 TINTORETTO LULLABY BLUSH (K PLUMMER)  
 Most successful Caramel or Apricot (series) - MYMYSTIC ZAFRAN (L VOUSDEN)  
 Most successful red adult - *No results returned - not awarded*  
 Most successful red adult/kitten/neuter - *No results returned - not awarded*  
 Most successful cream adult/kitten/neuter - *No results returned - not awarded*  
 Most successful tortie - MELUSINE BELLACLOVA (M HAAS)

Most successful tabby adult, male - BONZER RED RUM (J PONSFORD)  
 Most successful tabby adult, female - TINTORETTO MISTY STARDUST (K PLUMMER)  
 Most successful tabby neuter - BONZER MAH JONGG (J BRENNAN)  
 Most successful male tabby kitten - MYMYSTIC MUNGOPARK (S CLUTTERBUCK)  
 Most successful female tabby kitten - TINTORETTO MISTY STARDUST (K PLUMMER)

The Tonkinese ambassador - most often on Exhibition -  
 MYMYSTIC STARSHADOW (K WILKINSON)  
 Most successful exhibitor (who has joined the Club within last 2 years) -  
 JEAN BRENNAN  
 Member who has supported the breed by showing the most Tonkinese in the year -  
 JENNY & ANTHONY PONSFORD

18 more Special Certificates were awarded to Club members whose Tonks have won three qualifying Intermediate Certificates.

**"How your Tonks can help you spring clean when you are too tired to play with them" *tried & tested by Su Davison***

- 1 Open a cupboard in need of a good clear out ensuring there is nothing dangerous for cats inside.
- 2 Make a cup of tea and relax in the armchair.
- 3 Have a nice snooze or watch TV.
- 4 When fully refreshed, remove cats from cupboard.
- 5 Sort through contents of cupboard now strewn all over floor.
- 6 Discard all unwanted rubbish plus savaged articles.
- 7 Remove cats from cupboard again.
- 8 Replace kept articles back in cupboard.
- 9 Remove cats attached to contents in the cupboard and close door firmly and thank them for a job well done.

## WHY SHOULD WE GIVE TO ANIMAL CHARITIES?

Deciding which charity, or even which type of charity, to support can be a difficult one. People's responses to fundraising appeals can be angry, or challenging. Tom Pauk, Chairman of the Mayhew Animal Home, wrote a letter to PetPlanet.co.uk giving a personal view of charitable giving.

It was while trying to attract sponsorship for my run in this April's Flora London Marathon [2001] that I began to notice an interesting phenomenon associated with fundraising for animal charities. Some people I approached acknowledged the good work done by charities such as The Mayhew, but quite properly said they preferred to support other charities. However, others were unsympathetic and in some cases, openly hostile to the notion of giving money to an animal-related cause. Typical responses included 'but what about the humans?' or 'how can you give money for animals when you should be giving to cancer/children/the blind/refugees?' It was as if they believed there is a finite sum of money available in the imaginary public 'pot' and that in giving money to an animal charity they would be denying money to a far more deserving cause. This seems to be a curious argument.

*First*, the collective purse is vast, and therefore it need not be a question of benefiting one charity at the expense of another. Just because I choose to support The Mayhew doesn't mean that other charities will get less. *Second*, if all the public's donated money went to, say, only cancer and children's charities, then many other worthy causes would suffer, and our community and culture would undoubtedly be the poorer for it. *Third*, people are diverse in their interests and one person's worthy cause may not necessarily be someone else's. We should respect these differences. *Fourth*, as charities take on more of the responsibilities for social policy - a role that has been traditionally covered by the State - there is an ongoing need for continued financial and other support from the general public.

While it may be argued by some that a refuge for battered women is a more deserving cause than, say, a new roof for a church hall, or that a campaign to raise money for new hospital equipment should attract more donations than one to save an endangered species from extinction or a fund to keep a painting for the Nation, surely we should be promoting a sense of charitable giving which embraces as wide a spectrum of interests as there can be. In that way, all charities benefit, and society as a whole becomes the richer for it.

At the root of some people's antipathy towards animal charities, there perhaps lays the notion

that organisations such as The Mayhew exist only to benefit animals. This represents a misconceived view of the root causes behind many animal-related problems.

Our experience at The Mayhew has taught us that behind much animal neglect and cruelty lies a gamut of human issues including poverty, violence, ignorance, greed, loneliness and mental illness.

The disturbing phenomenon of multi-animal households (private homes with over 20 animals usually living alongside their owners in squalid conditions) is a case in point. Animal hoarding can be a result of mental illness, and more often than not occurs with people who believe (albeit wrongly) that they are in fact helping their animals. 'Accidental neglect' amongst these animals is all too common. The Mayhew, among other organisations, bears the enormous financial cost of dealing with these households, and we see a direct and positive effect on the animals we treat and rehome as well as on their human companions.

Pet neutering provides another useful example. Failure to have pets neutered leads to thousands of unwanted animals in centres across the country. A lack of public knowledge and understanding of the neutering process, as well as simple financial constraints, is usually the cause for this. Rescue centres such as The Mayhew are left to deal with the resultant animal over-population. As a consequence, we devote considerable resources towards education programmes in schools, clubs and community centres with a view to addressing this and other related issues of responsible pet ownership.

Finally, a more humanitarian stance in support of the services provided by animal homes is of relevance here. We have lost count of the number of people whose pet is their closest companion in the ongoing battle against loneliness and old age.

The money raised by The Mayhew through charitable giving has a beneficial effect not only on the animals we rescue, treat and rehome but also on the wider human community as a whole. I fully appreciate that some people may nevertheless not choose to support the activities of an animal charity such as The Mayhew. *But let's not judge those who do.*

## THE TONKINESE BREED CLUB 3rd SANCTION SHOW

**DATE:** NOVEMBER 9th 2002  
**VENUE:** Bracknell Sports & Leisure Centre (Berkshire)  
**SHOW MANAGER:** Helen Hewitt  
**Assistant Show Manager:** Linda Vousden

### Schedules:

The Assistant Show Mgr. will automatically send a schedule to all Club members who exhibited at the 2001 show. Schedules will be sent free to any other Club member who requests one, in writing or by e-mail please. They will be sent out from the end of August.

### Open Classes:

This year the Open Classes are colour-split into two groups (1 = Brown, Blue, Chocolate, Lilac and Caramel 2 = Red, Cream, Apricot, Tortie, Tabby & Tortie-Tabby). Sanction and Championship show colour splits are dependant upon attendance at the three previous shows so join us in 2002 to help boost our attendance figures for future colour-splits!

### Special Features:

Three shows will be held at the Leisure Centre on the same date (the Kensington K & N CC, Bengal & Ocicat Club and Tonkinese Breed Club) we'll share the hall and facilities with the Bengal & Ocicat Club but ours will still be a separate show. There are many advantages - no more queuing up outside for vetting-in, good parking, catering facilities, licensed bar, very close to Bracknell for shopping etc. The venue is easily accessed from the M3, M4, M40 and M25. An added perk is that those of you who wish to show two different breeds (Tonk & Russian for example) can do so on the same day eg. TBC Show and Kensington Show!

### NEW - 'Tonkinese Pet' Section :

As well as including some fun classes for the Tonks who are used to being shown, we have come up with a rather special idea for members who wouldn't normally show their pets, but would like to just for the Club show. This show is now purely for Tonkinese so there is no Household Pet section., instead we have a **Tonkinese Pet** section ! These classes will be for *properly registered* Tonks who are not normally shown - eg. Tonks kept purely as a pets, or they may have been shown in the past but now look a little different from today's show Tonks. They will be judged as pets and not against the Tonkinese Standard of Points. All adults entered into the Tonkinese Pet section must be neutered. There will be many awards available including Best In Show Tonk Adult Pet and Best In Show Tonk Kitten Pet. *Please note:* we still cannot include any Tonkinese on the Reference register (ie. registration numbers beginning CSREF).

## PREVIOUS BEST IN SHOW WINNERS

**1st Exemption '96**  
 Carol Poole's Clarinath Nightshadow  
**2nd Exemption '97**  
 Sylvia Clark's Wizardora Hooray Henry  
**3rd Exemption '98**  
 Jenny Ponsford's Bonzer Red Rum

**1st Sanction '99**  
 Jenny Ponsford's Bonzer Flash Harry  
**2nd Sanction 2001**  
 Shona Clutterbuck's Mymystic Mungopark  
**3rd Sanction 2002**  
*Come along and see for yourself!*

**IMPORTANT BREEDER'S INFORMATION****TONKINESE REGISTRATION POLICY AMENDED - 21ST FEBRUARY 2002.**

Two proposals from Linda Vousden, approved by the Tonkinese BAC, were presented to the GCCF Executive to amend the Registration policy, for the purposes of clarification. Both proposals were approved.

- 1 Change the phrase 'three (3) generations' to 'three (3) preceding generations'. This is in line with GCCF requirements and confirms that the three generations does not include the kitten being registered, but refers to the Parents, Grandparents and Great Grandparents.
- 2 Include Tonkinese-Variants within the three preceding generations of kittens being eligible to be registered on the Full Register.

**What this means for the Tonks is :-** if you have bred 4th generation Tonkinese kittens whose three preceding generations include Tonkinese Variants you CAN NOW register them on the Full Register (providing they have a Tonkinese coat-pattern & comply with the rest of the requirements for the Full register). The GCCF requires you to include a letter when requesting Full Register for kittens with Tonkinese Variants in their pedigree - the Tonkinese BAC has raised a form for this purpose obtainable from both the Hon. Secretary of the Tonkinese Breed Club (Linda Vousden) or the Hon. Secretary of the Tonkinese Cat Club (Mrs Christine Richards).

**CHANGES IN KITTEN REGISTRATION - Effective 1st June 2002.**

**Section 1 New Rule 3d** - "When a litter is registered, the application for registration must be accompanied by a copy of the certificate of mating unless the person registering the kitten(s) is also the owner of the stud." \*

**Section 1 New Rule 3e** - *describes the requirements/contents of the mating certificate.*

**Section 1 New Rule 3f** - "If a kitten is sold unregistered, in addition to the pedigree (see Rule 10) the seller shall supply a copy of the certificate of mating whether or not the seller is the registered owner of the sire. Any applications to register the kitten at a later date must be accompanied by this certificate."

**Section 1 Amended Rule 10a** - "When a cat or kitten is advertised or sold as a pedigree cat or kitten the breeder shall, at the time of sale, provide the purchaser with a properly completed pedigree signed by the breeder, carrying 3 generations at least, showing all the breed numbers and registration numbers, also the breeder's name and address. *If the cat/kitten is not registered, a copy of the mating certificate (Rule 3d) shall be supplied by the breeder to the new owner.*"

\* For your convenience we have designed a mating certificate to comply with these Rule changes (30p per pack of 10 available from Linda). Queen owners, you are responsible for correctly registering kittens so we recommend that you make use of these forms. It is also up to you to provide a copy of the new mating-certificate to owners as per the new Rules.

**There are numerous Rule changes affecting the registration/transfer of ownership of cats, effective 1st June 2002. It is important that you are aware of the changes, so make sure that your copy of the GCCF Rules is up to date.**

## TONKINESE RESCUE

### **New Club Rescue Officer - Pauline Earley (01725) 512339**

Fliss Jolley, who has been our Rescue Officer for the past four years has recently moved abroad and we shall miss her. She worked tirelessly, successfully re-homing many Tonkinese, and other breeds where necessary! We wish her well in her new home and I know that several of our members have reason to be grateful to her.

We are fortunate that Pauline has agreed to take on the role again. I say again because Pauline was our Rescue Officer before Fliss - she stood down for health reasons, but we are delighted that her health permits her to come back to this essential work.

Pauline and another member (Karen Gibbins, whom you may know from her craft stand at the Club show most years) are working on a web site specifically for the Tonkinese Rescue. It'll be linked to the TBC web site as soon as it is on-line.

## CLUB WEB SITE - Kitten List & New Stud Page

To keep a Club such as ours, with members all over the country, *fully* informed is nigh on impossible. We try to give you the main news through Tonkinfo but this does have its time restrictions, and lets face it - how many of you really read it all?

It used to be said that important notices should be placed in *Our Cats* newspaper, but a very small number of members actually take that paper. Obviously, if we have really important information for you, we send out a bulletin to all members. Increasingly now, members have access to the Internet, so the Club has had its own web site for the past couple of years. One argument is that we should not rely on the web site to pass information on to members - but nor should we ignore this very valuable resource, so I do hope that those of you who can access the Internet check the TBC site periodically - and don't forget to use the e-mail if you'd like to contact the Committee, put something on the notice-board, ask questions about the Club and what is going on - etc. etc.

The TBC site kitten list has been extremely successful, so do remember to send Miriam (and Linda) details of your kittens to be included on our on-line kitten list!

**Finding a suitable stud can be something of a safari - so we are going to add a new page to the TBC site listing Tonkinese studs.** Please let me know if you have a stud you want included, there is a form that you can print off the web site and post to Linda or just send her a full copy of his pedigree with your contact details (it's up to you how you wish to be contacted) and whether or not you have any conditions regarding the kittens etc. Of course the usual blood tests will be required and this will be noted on the Stud page.

Remember, you don't have to have access to the Internet to have your kittens or your stud listed on the TBC site.

*By the way, if you don't know the TBC web site address by now - then you haven't been reading Tonkinfo properly!*