



Mymystic Chawæ & Mymystic Malia

Photo by: Anatoli and Valentina www.photocats.co.uk

**MERRY CHRISTMAS &
A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

TONKINESE BREED CLUB
Committee & Contacts 2010

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Don't Forget To Advertise Your Kittens
on the Tonkinese Breed Club web site – its free.

Breeders sell more kittens through Club kitten lists than any other medium.
Just complete the form that you can download from the kitten
list page and e-mail it to tbc.uk@ntlworld.com

Subscription Renewals for 2011 are now due –

Enough Said 😊

Editor's Notes

Linda Vousden

Hi Folks,

First, and most importantly, thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue. This is a bumper issue just for Christmas – I had so many interesting photos that the E-Tonkinfo was too big to e-mail this time, and I've managed to include many of the photos in the postal issue (in black & white of course). We'll be back to normal for our Spring issue, in the meantime I hope you enjoy this Christmas issue.

Well it has to be said that the UK Cat Fancy is facing problems – and could do with more support, and/or a more active voice, from its participants. It's all very well breeding cats for pets but without the support structure of organisations such as the GCCF they'd just be pretty moggies, with a much lower price tag.

Having said that – **did you know that this year was the GCCF's centenary year?** If you didn't then you're in good company. I was desperately working to get our ringworm clearance certificates (*see article later in this issue*) so that Mike and I could be part of both the TBC show and the GCCF Supreme show – which I fully expected to be very special this year in view of the Centenary celebrations.

What celebrations? The Supreme was a supreme disappointment. You'd never have known that the UK Cat Fancy, the first in the world, was celebrating anything at all. The show catalogue mentioned it in three unassuming sentences, there was nothing on the front cover, there were no obvious tributes within the halls and the only souvenir was a poor quality white tee-shirt (with a price tag of £18) with a tiny logo in the corner, even the GCCF staff wouldn't wear it without something underneath! What a huge shame. The only saving grace was the pleasure of helping on the TBC table.

I then visited the National CC show, once a swirl of colourful activity. OK the new venue doesn't have the nostalgic appeal that Olympia had, but at least it used to be friendly and you knew you were attending something special. I can tell you that I wasn't the only person who found the show to be soulless, and the helpers (admittedly very busy) unhelpful and off-hand. So sad.

So what a complete joy the Maidstone and Medway show was, managed by Anne Gregory. Despite heavy snow keeping away half the exhibits, 10 of the judges and several trader, the show was extremely friendly, very accommodating, colourful, fun and exactly what was needed to restore my faith in time for Christmas ☺

All the very best to you & yours for Christmas and the New Year – Linda V

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Do you have an artistic streak, are you imaginative, can you contribute to an e-mailed Tonkinfo? DON'T FORGET – I'd like you to send me a picture of one of your cats on the front cover of Tonkinfo.

Remember to keep me up to date with any e-mail address changes and remember that you can also print yourself a hard-copy version from the .pdf file on the Tonkinfo page of the TBC web site.

Deadline for Tonkinfo Spring 2011 Issue:

February 28th - E-mail items to tbc.uk@ntlworld.com

Neither the Editor, Committee nor Club is accountable for opinions expressed by individuals in this issue



Tonkinese Breed Club - Chairman's Report *Sue Amor*

What a busy time we have had since the last Tonkinfo. More and more of our lovely cats are achieving success at various shows. We took part in a very busy Joint Foreign BAC seminar, assisted by the Guild of stewards and judges. There were over 100 people present at the seminar and the Tonks worked their magic with the crowds. We had a smashing stand at this year's Supreme and hope that you came along to say hello. The GCCF are still working hard to bring about the changes that exhibitors want. Please look on the GCCF website www.gccfcats.org to see the exciting changes to the open classes and BOB that were discussed at council. The genetics committee are working really hard to ensure that the GCCF keeps ahead of the rest with regards to the health and wellbeing of our cats.

Each breed is being asked to update their breeding policies and there is plenty of guidance available on the GCCF site. The Tonk BAC are working hard to update our breeding policy. Thank you to Linda Vousden for getting the ball rolling.

Once again we had a lovely show on 30th October. Thank you to Kathy Wilkinson, our show manager, and the committee and other volunteers who all worked together to ensure its success. A big well done to all the exhibitors. I am sure there will be some photos elsewhere in this publication. **I'll finish my report by wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May 2011 be all you want it to be!**

Tonkinese Breed Advisory Committee Report *Hon. Secretary, Linda Vousden*

Incorrect Tonkinese Registrations: In the past few years there have been several Tonks incorrectly registered by the GCCF, including one or more cats that should not even be registered as Tonkinese but have since been bred from. The TBAC wrote to the GCCF in September – and still awaits a reply. If you are accepting a queen to stud or buying a new cat for breeding please check with me if you have any doubts or queries about its pedigree.

Tonkinese AOV Progress: Submitted in May 2009 Progress and/or response from GCCF – still nothing.

New Tonkinese Breeding Policy: The GCCF requires a new breeding policy for each breed. It must comply with the standards set by the Genetics Committee, which you can see on the GCCF web site. For the TBAC I have written an 11 page guide covering all aspects of the correct breeding of Tonkinese – genetics, colours and coat-patterns, suitable cats for breeding, suitable matings, health issues, DNA testing etc.

It has been reviewed and approved by the TBAC and will be available to all breeders after some minor amendments are made during the the TBAC meeting in February 2011. In the meantime if you have any questions about the Tonkinese Breeding Policy please feel free to contact me.

Christmas Greetings From Your Fellow Club Members

Happy Christmas from
Lizzie, Steve and the
Tarjika Cats



Christmas Greetings to
you all from the USA,
Elena Starta
(Elinga Tonks).

We wish everyone a Happy
& Healthy Year
Jean & Peter Adams
(Whyoo Tonks)

Happy Christmas
to all from
Karen, Steve & the Tyrius Tonks

Happy Christmas to Everyone, from Catherine and the
Mimaperks Tonks

Best wishes to all for Christmas,
Sue & Gerry Smith
(Chataya Tonkinese)

From Val Chapple,
TBC Rescue & Welfare.
I would like to thank all the Tonk owners breeders and friends
and especially those who have helped with welfare cats,
whether it be giving them new homes or helping with care
and information when needed.
I wish you all a Happy Catty Christmas!

Happy Christmas Everyone, from Wilma Morrison & the
Phabbay Cats in cold & snowy Scotland

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to all,
from Linda, Mike & the Mymystics

Tonky's Christmas!

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells,
Tonky's up the tree,
Oh what fun he's having there,
But what a mess for me!

Tidy up, hurry up,
Guests are coming round,
But wait a minute, what's all this?
Look what Tonky's found...

I meant to hide those gifts away,
Oh, whoopsy, I forgot.
Dear Tonky's had a party,
And shredded up the lot!

He has a taste for sticky tape,
And bows and twizzly things,
And since he can't read labels,
All the prezzies are for him!

Who needs the Christmas fairy?
Tonky's flying round the room!
The tinsel trail is everywhere,
I'd better get the broom...

The bell is ringing, oh dear me,
Our guests are at the door,
The presents are in tatters
And I haven't swept the floor.

But when it comes to meet & greet,
Good old Tonky's on the case!
Well, I guess it's only right,
After all, he owns the place!

With blinking eyes & winsome purr,
He welcomes everyone,
And leads them in as if to say,
'Look what I've just done!'

Everybody laughs and loves
His zany decorations.
Christmas wouldn't be the same
Without some Tonky celebrations!

*Best Wishes for Christmas & New
Year to all fellow Tonk lovers, from
Jenny and the Kichiko Cat Clan.*



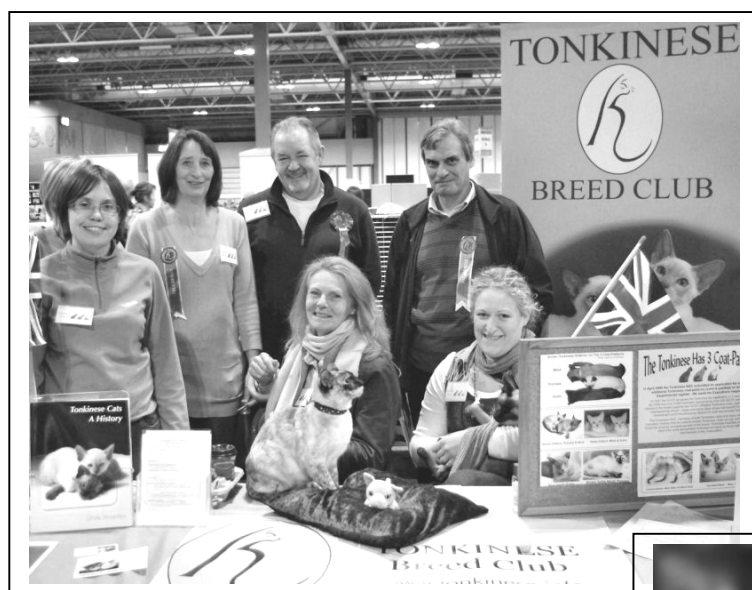
Tonks At The 2010 Supreme Show

What a wonderful day we had at the Supreme this year. We had a fantastic stand on Club Row with both the pointed and solid coat patterns represented. However in competition there were only 5 cats entered and of those only 3 were present. One Adult, one kitten and one neuter. Obviously it cannot be helped if cats cannot attend but the Supreme is an excellent venue to showcase the breed.

The question is what can we do as a club to encourage you to bring your beautiful cats to the biggest show of the year? This show attracts a large number of members of the public and they struggled to find the Tonkinese cats in competition. We appreciate that the supreme does require a huge effort, both in travelling distances for some of our members and the long day and effort of drapes etc. So as a committee we would really appreciate any feedback.

One thing that we would like to propose is a minibus (or buses) organised by the club. Members would then be able to book and pay for a seat on the bus. Logistics will be investigated if we know there is demand. So please respond and let us know if this would help and encourage you to come to the Supreme 2011!

Many thanks, Liz Edge, TBC Committee



Left: Some of the gang, who represented the TBC at the Supreme, in front of one of our new show banners

Right: The real stars of the day were our exhibition Tonks – J. Bernard's Mimaperks Perkins Saturnus (74qv) and C. Baxter's Tarjjika Cobweb (74ev) & Tarjjika Rafiki (74bv)



The Details of a Dental by Liz Edge

Back in August this year the time had come for Taya to go in for a dental - she had one a year ago but had developed chronic stomatitis and the best remedy was to

remove all but her front teeth. But how many of us really know what goes on when we leave our loved ones for surgery? Here is what happened in Taya's procedure.



1. Firstly Taya was weighed and given a pre-medication to slightly sedate her and to provide pain relief for during and after the procedure. She went back to her "kennel" to allow for these drugs to take effect. I noticed that she was definitely groggy and her 3rd eyelid came up.

After about 20 minutes she was taken through to the dental theatre. Here she had a catheter placed to allow the veterinary team to have access to her vein.

She was then given an induction agent (liquid anaesthetic) into the catheter to make her unconscious.



2. When this drug had taken effect she had a tube known as an endotracheal tube placed in her wind pipe. This was then connected up to the anaesthetic machine. This provides her with Oxygen as well as anaesthetic gas to keep her asleep. She was also hooked up to intravenous fluids to support her kidneys and maintain her blood pressure.



3. Taya then had a series of Xrays to assess the state of her teeth - this allowed the vet to establish that a root had been left behind from her previous dental and would need to be removed.



4. You probably recognise the x-ray as it is similar to the ones that are used in human dentists!



5. The surgeon then got on with the job of removing all of her back teeth, which was fairly fiddly.



6. During the whole procedure the nurse monitored Taya's heart rate, her respiratory rate, her blood pressure, her temperature and the percentage of expired Carbon Dioxide. All of these parameter allowed the nurse to make decisions on how much anaesthetic gas to give her. Just enough to keep her asleep but to minimise the negative effects of anaesthesia.



7. Once all of her teeth were removed she was cleaned up, the gas was turned off and when she could swallow her tube was removed. She was taken back to her kennel where she was monitored continually until she was recovered enough for me to take her home!

All this took place on a Tuesday, on the Saturday she went to the Three Counties show and gained her first Premier Certificate - she has since gone on to achieve her Premier Title to add to that of Imperial Grand Champion.

BEING A SHOW MANAGER – Kathy Wilkinson

Kathy gives us a fascinating insight into just how our cats shows are produced and the details that most of you never know about.

When I first started showing cats I thought Show Managers – and Judges – were the bees' knees, gods and goddesses in disguise! I held them in great esteem and if I had to phone them to ask a question, I quaked at the knees. Shows were an important event that I went to as often as I could to show off my lovely Tonkinese boys. I had absolutely no idea how things were arranged – *the 'show fairy' did it all.*

Light gradually began to dawn when I joined the TBC committee late in the 1990s and the show was discussed at the committee meetings. I got more and more interested and back in 2003 volunteered to be the person who gets the 'goodies' for the exhibitors and Best In Show pens, plus doing other jobs as necessary on the day, obligatory as a committee member! I soon learnt there is a lot of hard work to be done. I also started doing table work at other shows to learn more about the processes. Eventually I was asked if I would like to become Assistant Show Manager of our show and jumped at the chance. The Show Manager decided a 'jump in the deep end' would be the best way for me to learn and was happy to leave all arrangements to me, but was there if I needed her, and I think I can say that the show went quite well.

Since then I've also been lucky to be able to call Helen Hewitt (a very respected show manager) my friend and mentor. I've now arranged 4 Tonkinese Breed Club shows, and 3 other single breed shows; and I'm the Assistant Show Manager for the Kensington Kitten & Neuter CC and Essex CC all breed shows. However, I much prefer the single breed shows and I'm dedicated to our own club show.

SO – back to the 'show fairies' - i.e. the Show Manager, with the aid of the Club's Committee. The person officially responsible for everything is the Show Manager, his or her name is on the Show License and if anything goes wrong, the buck stops with them. However, it is really helpful to have a Committee who are willing to be positive towards helping when requested, but leave you to get on with the pre-show arrangements. They really come into their own when planning of 'the day' itself starts, to help with anything and everything that is asked of them. Everyone has a role to play and how well they play it reflects in the success of the day. Now let me tell you a little about some of the main things involved in a show:

Venue – I've been lucky enough to be mainly involved with shows that have got a settled venue. To start from scratch to find a venue must be a bit of a nightmare.

Judges – you have to book them in plenty of time because they are not allowed to judge the same classes for the same breeds within a certain time period or within a certain area. Even worse, if your show clashes with another show on the same day, it can be very difficult to get hold of popular judges. You are not allowed to engage a judge more than one year before the show. So you literally start arranging the show for 2011, for example, on the day after the 2010 show.

Stewards – some judges arrange their own stewards, but it's always wise to check with them when booking. It can be a big problem getting people to steward these days, so if know someone who likes stewarding, you have to cherish them.

Goodies for exhibitors and Best in Show pens – with the recession it's become very difficult to get anything. Some companies now only give bigger items for Best in Show cats and then only if their food is the only food in the pens. Some companies don't even acknowledge your letter.

Certificates – have to be pre-ordered from the GCCF. They have to be carefully written of course and every certificate must be accounted for (feels like you are signing for them in blood).

Rosettes – can really only be ordered once the entry has closed. They are expensive, so you only want to order the bare minimum. You need to be confident that the company you use will

have them ready on time – one year the lady who makes our Best in Show and special rosettes (i.e. for Imperials and Grands) was sick and it was touch and go whether we would have the rosettes on the day. This year we have trialled pennants and badges, which seems to be much better. Stored rosettes are soon flattened and take up a lot of room, whereas badges are much easier to store and will stay ‘fresh’.

The Show paperwork

Schedule - I think this was the worse thing that I had to do that first year. You must try your very best to make sure that the judges are allocated as fairly as possible – don't give the same judge several Breeders' classes etc.. This seems easy until the entries are in – see later.

Catalogue - The person who does your show paperwork is definitely someone to keep happy. You want to keep your show closing date as late as possible to get as many entries as possible, but the person processing the entries for the catalogue needs time to get them entered on the software and sent back to be checked, then any corrections go back for adjustment etc. Proofing entries is very time consuming, but the effort is necessary to save time on show day if you have missed something. Mind you, you can't do much about an exhibitor's poor handwriting. Once the entries have all been processed, the judges' loading is done. The Show Manager gets a list showing all the classes that have been entered under each judge, with the number of cats entered under that judge. This is where the fun starts. You obviously can't have Judge A having 100 cats and Judges B and C only having 30 each. There is an upper limit recommended by the GCCF (70 cats) so classes have to be re-assigned so that all judges have approximately equal numbers of different cats. This does not affect the Open classes as you can't change these judges classes unless they are sick on the day. Only Miscellaneous classes can be reallocated before going to print, and you just can't avoid upsetting some exhibitors who may have spent a long time considering which classes to enter. I've often arrived at a show and found that my cats are being judged by someone I would never have dreamt of entering them under.

The judges' books - each judge has a sheet for every class with the tear off slips. The slips are checked at the Admin tables to ensure the judge has signed each one, that the appropriate award, e.g. CH or PR, is shown, Best of Breed etc. The slips then go to the people writing certificates & awards cards and preparing rosettes. They are finally pasted onto the awards board and into the '*The Show Book*' as a master record. Other paperwork checks the progress of each judge through their classes, and works out the Best of Variety, Best in Show etc. Table work can be very interesting – every exhibitor should do at session to see what is involved. You can make some new friends doing this as well – AND you usually get fed and are given a catalogue once you have finished your engagement! The downside is, if you're showing a cat you must be confident about leaving it on its own for most of the day, or have a friend look after it. You have to stay and do your allocated job until it's finished – usually until mid afternoon. You're obviously allowed to go to lunch and the loo, and then feed your cat, but you can't leave your job for long as it upsets the flow of work (cards, rosettes etc).

The night before the show -once the above is all done, you recruit people to help set up the show on the Friday evening. Rosettes are unpacked, place cards set out for the table-workers and show manager's 'stuff' arranged. I always keep the catalogues safely in my car until show morning, no-one is allowed to read them before judging starts, and as soon as the show paperwork, GCCF paperwork, veterinary paperwork and certificates arrive it's put in my car so I don't forget it!

At this point I take a deep breath and try to get a good night's sleep. Hopefully show morning will run smoothly, there won't be any judges calling to say they can't come – resulting in a panic to re-allocate classes, amend paperwork, arrange counter-signatures etc. All being well everything will go smoothly and everyone will have a good day, so that all the hard work will have been worth while. Then the returns are made to the GCCF, accounts checked, paperwork put away etc.

Then immediately start work on next year's show!



WOT A LUVERLEY SHOW!

When your club needs you the members get their cats out. The T B C show on the 30th of October 2010 must have been one of the happiest ever, threatened with cancellation at one point the show was rescued by its club members. With a good number of cats entered in either competition or on exhibition the atmosphere was buzzing, happy faces every where with such a great team spirit at all times. My partner Chris and I nearly didn't get there the day before I went to Bracknell to help with setting up on the way home my car decided to give up the ghost or very nearly so too late to get help I limped home went to bed had a sleepless night we got up at the crack of sparrow, into the unhappy car with three cats and so on a wing and a prayer we set off eventually arriving at the show. It was worth it the time just flew by and nine hours later we set off for home tired happy and proud of our three successful cats. Thank you all, next year can't come quickly enough -

Val Chapple

Send In Your 2010 Show Results

Don't forget to send in your show results for 2010 to Catherine Bernard, before the end of January, in time for the Awards to be presented at the AGM in April – it doesn't matter even if you only have one or two show results - it is possible to win something - it just depends on the returns. There is a form available for your use, you'll find it on the TBC web site.

FESTIVE PUNCH

(Non-Alcoholic and delicious!)

1/4 cup of sugar,
1/4 tsp. of ginger,
1/4 tsp. of cloves,
6 eggs (well beaten),
1/4 tsp. of cinnamon,
1/2 cup of lemon juice,
1 quart of vanilla ice cream,
2 cups of orange juice (chilled),
1 pint of ginger ale that has been chilled,

Cut ice cream into chunks in punch bowl.

Pour in ginger ale and beaten eggs, add spices and sugar, orange juice and lemon juice.

Stir and Sprinkle nutmeg on top.

Serves 20.

Living With Ringworm - The Resolution

If you read the Spring Issue of Tonkinfo you'll remember that we had a problem with ringworm in our house ...

Having lived through the trials and tribulations of ringworm, with long, highly depressing periods thinking it would never be resolved, I STRONGLY recommend everyone takes more stringent steps to reduce the risk of it occurring in the first place.

Aside from any minor afflictions the cats had, which cleared up within a few weeks, we had to deal with the far more difficult problem of clearing the house of spores – and believe me it was VERY EXPENSIVE. Remember, ringworm is not dangerous or desperately harmful to the cats but it is very difficult to eradicate because it's a spore-carried fungus. All things considered, it's amazing that so few people appear to have a problem with it. When we show any of our cats the first thing we do on returning home is to take them straight to the bathroom and wipe them down with a damp cloth in the, albeit limited, effort to mechanically remove any potential problems. Then the bedding is all washed and the baskets are disinfected. We've been showing for 20 years and have never brought a problem home with us so I'm sure our precautions must have been of some value against the fur floating around a cat show, the money and other items handled there not to mention all the people we brush against. I once read that at any show about 5% of the cats/people carried the spores – even if they weren't actually 'suffering' from ringworm. What's more we have no control over the fur flying around a veterinary practice, so never be embarrassed to have the table wiped down before you put your cat on it.

We finally had our 2nd of the 2 required negative tests just before the Club show, and actually received our GCCF clearance certificate the day before the show! I asked when our names would be removed from the list of 'ineligible exhibitors', which is sent to each show manager. I was amazed to find that households with declared ringworm are not included on the list – surely show managers ought to be alerted about households with something so contagious?

Action Plan:

Our cat bathing routine is described in part one of this article (Spring 2010 issue) in

addition to which we had our disinfectant handwash, Trigene, VirkonS disinfectant and plenty of new vacuum cleaner filters. Trigene is good but cats can't be in contact with it when it's wet so Virkon is far safer and can be used in the laundry, as an aerosol and as a wipe (it is DEFRA approved) - but in the end the only thing that is guaranteed to kill ringworm spores is bleach. Since bleach cannot be used on the cats we had to maintain a **rigorous** daily routine of vacuuming, surface cleaning and laundering. We went through gallons of bleach, mountains of cleaning cloths and boxes of latex gloves. With 10 cats it wasn't possible to isolate the 'afflicted' cats from the others so they **all** had to be medicated and regularly bathed (ideally they should be bathed daily but since it took about 20 – 30 minutes per cat this wasn't feasible, so it came down to twice per week and then once per week for maintenance after the symptoms had cleared up). The little darlings soon cottoned-on to bath time and we spent half as long chasing them as bathing them! They weren't isolated from each other but they were restricted to the living room, kitchen, hall and landing. Each day we had the same household cleaning routine, every room plus the stud quarters:

Clear cats out of the room > vacuum thoroughly all surfaces > wipe down all surfaces with bleach solution > leave to dry before allowing cats back in. Bleach all litter trays & bedding, sterilise food bowls with Miltons.

The very few visitors permitted into the house had to use hand wipes and remove their shoes. Packages had to be left in the porch until they could be sprayed. Now we have clearance we're in the process of replacing cat bedding, toys, curtains, soft furnishings and rugs etc. A good excuse to look at the décor. The cats are revelling in the free use of the cat pen again, and are making the most of 'illicit' visits to other rooms in the house.

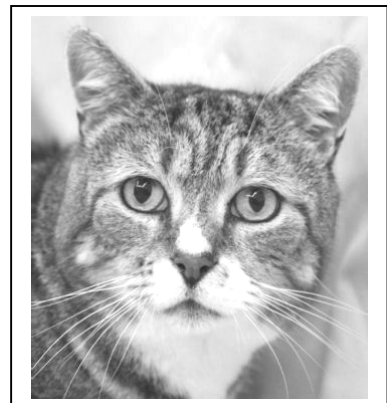
Honestly folks, I sincerely urge you to routinely take precautions against ringworm – “Better Safe Than Sorry” !

**THE TONKINESE BREED CLUB'S
8TH CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW OCTOBER 2010
Report by Lynda Scott, Photos by Miriam Haas**

I think I've found a new collective noun. Without a doubt it's a *celebration* of Tonks and the show is a wonderful opportunity for celebration. The cats shone, the owners glowed with pride and the public definitely came to see Tonkinese. I know because I was on the door and the majority of visitors asked where the Tonkinese were benched as they bought their tickets. It was easy enough to direct them thanks to the new banner provided by Linda Vousden which stood high and proud over the breed club table at the far end of the hall. "Just head on down to that banner and work your way back up" I could say and off they would march with that confident stride of people who know exactly where they were going.

Of course a show doesn't just happen. Kathy Wilkinson makes show management seem so easy when we know it isn't and her hard work is much appreciated! Linda Vousden manned the breed club table, which looked particularly good this year thanks to the beautiful tablecloth and backed by the aforementioned banner. Luckily copies of her new book had arrived in time for us all to have a look at, everyone searching to see if photographs of their cat had made it into print. Elizabeth Edge and Christine Tamlin made sure winners got their trophies and Catherine Bernard talked many a passer-by into having a flutter on the tombola. Val Chapple worked all day fund raising for Tonkinese rescue and selling her new calendar. Her table was visited by those who are new to the idea of taking on an older cat and existing owners who stopped by for a chat, to give her updates on cats she's already re-homed or to place requests for 'just one more' because they too now realise that one Tonk is never enough. Special mention should be made of the Household Pet entries and winners. Both pedigree and non-pedigree pets are a valuable addition to any show and quite often the entry point to showing for junior owners.

- Best Non-Pedigree & BIS Pet was Carter, a beautiful tabby and white longhair owned by Miss N Jardine. Carter, six years old, started life with his current owner as a rescue from a vet and had never been shown before. He may not have had a great start in life but he sure had a great start to his show career!
- Best Pedigree Pet was the 4 month old kitten Brahms, a lovely shorthair tabby kitten owned by Mrs S Mooney & Mrs L Garrard.
- BOB & BIS Adult was Catherine Bernard's Ch Copernicus Cherry Blossom.
- BOB & BIS Kitten was Rebecca Hitching's Cwtchycatz Rogue, a delightful kitten who captured many a heart.



- BOB & BIS Neuter was Christine and Jo Richard's GrCh & IGrPr Tonkaholics Isla Tanika.

The other Best of Breed winners were:

- Adult - Hilary Gooburn's Ch Toshiki Hylily Zodiac;
- Kitten – Coral & Vince Macey's Fecheldee Tabina;
- Neuter – Linda Newberry's PR Mimaperks Tiffany Case.

The crowd gathered to watch the final judging for overall Best in Show. It can't have been an easy decision with such a wonderful kitten and two superb tortie adults in the final line-up but eventually the coveted Best in Show was awarded to the unstoppable Tonkaholics Isla Tanika.

To see photos of the day visit the Show Page on the TBC web site.

A Perfect Christmas Trifle

Serves 6-8

Ingredients

- 1 box of Trifle sponges
- 500ml ready made custard (get the best stuff you can or make you own if you like)
- 250g Mascarpone cheese (a reduced fat one makes you feel less sinful if you prefer)
- Ground cinnamon
- 280ml Whipping cream (so much for sins)
- Frozen berries 300g (anything you like)
- Brandy
- Juice and zest of 1 orange
- 4 tblsp Golden caster sugar

First cut the trifle sponges in half and use them to line the bottom of the trifle bowl. Put a splash of brandy (or what ever you prefer) into a bowl and add half the juice of the orange and the zest. Pour this over the trifle sponge base and leave to soak in.



Put the berries into a saucepan with the caster sugar and heat until the berries have melted and the sugar has dissolved. Leave to cool and then pour over the trifle sponge base.

Take the custard and add the mascarpone cheese and a couple of tsp of cinnamon, whisking together until combined. Pour this over the top of the fruit and let the trifle set in the fridge for a while. Whip the cream until soft peaks and use to decorate the top of the trifle.

Dispelling Some Myths

Myth: Putting garlic in your cat's food will get rid of worms. Fact: Garlic can cause anemia in cats, so this is not a good ingredient to put in their food.

Myth: Cats heal themselves by licking their wounds. - Fact: Actually, licking the wounds is harmful and slows down the process of healing.

Myth: Brushing a cat's teeth is pointless -Fact: Brushing your cat's teeth can help prevent oral disease. The toxins produced by oral bacteria are so destructive that sticky enzymes are produced in the mouth to protect the mucus tissues – this builds up as plaque. Plaque, which forces the gums from the teeth and leads to bacterial infection that gets into the blood stream and affects the body organs, notably the kidneys (and in people the heart, liver and brain are affected – fact).

Myth: When a cat purrs it means he's happy - Fact: Cats purr when they are happy but also when they are in pain. Purring is an expression of an emotion than an expression of happiness.

Myth: Cats can have cow's milk - Fact: Cats are actually lactose intolerant and can get an upset stomach from drinking milk.

Myth: Cats should eat fish - Fact: Cats can eat fish occasionally, but too much fish in their diet leads to painful Yellow Fat Disease (steatitis).

PREFIX WORDSEARCH

See if you can find all the listed prefixes (past and present) in the grid below.
This fiendish little game has been brought to you by Miriam Haas.

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

Amorcatz, Angisan, Bonzer, Chinktonks, Clarinath, Dimovita, Episcopuss, Fecheldee, Herkayz, Ishokats, Kittykus, Lavalette, Melusine, Mymystic, Quelazure, Rameses, Romantica, Samkabar, Suantre, Tamtonks, Tarjjika, Tonkitu, Whyoo, Yokota.

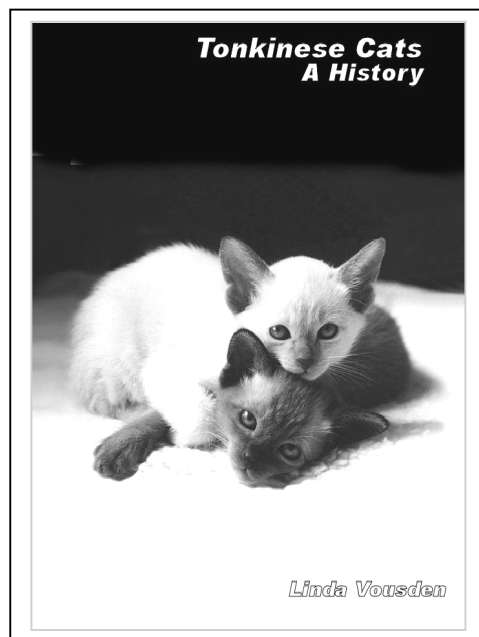
... and along the way you'll find some pet names of Tonks known & loved, how many can you find?



A New Book On Tonkinese Available Now

I'd like to thank every one who supported me by sending photos of their Tonks, and for encouraging me to finish the book – it only took seven years

I'm delighted to say that it has already gone to Tonkinese enthusiasts in over a dozen countries. I now have back-orders because the first print run has sold out, but I am expecting more in by the end of January. If you are interested in ordering a copy you'll find all the information you need on my web site – www.mymystic.com. Please note that it is only available from me. If you've any questions please contact me, Linda Vousden, on: tonkcatshistory@ntlworld.com



Please Join My Campaign - While researching for my book I must have read most of the web sites and articles on Tonkinese, and kept finding the same tired mistakes. It's so annoying when people who write magazine articles, and generic books about cats, call us "a new breed", "a hybrid", "a cross between Burmese and Siamese".

Do you know who the worst offenders are? **WE ARE** – the people who love the Tonks so much that we put up web sites about them with all the information that the article writers draw from.

So I am calling all Tonk lovers across the world to join together and let's get our image corrected and updated! I've already started with the Tonkinese chat lists and now I'm calling on you to join me. If you have any of the following phrases (or similar) on your web site please consider updating them: -

- **'The Tonkinese is a new breed'** - No its not! It was accepted for registration nearly 50 years ago, its been a long time since it was a new breed.
- **'The Tonkinese is a Hybrid'** – No its not! You don't hear anyone calling the Balinese, Asians, Exotics, Orientals, Angoras etc. hybrids; nor do you hear them constantly referred to by their F1 parentage. You might correctly say that the Tonkinese was revived as a breed in the 1960s as a cross-breed of Burmese and Siamese. Better still you could say that it pre-dates the Burmese and was first recognised as an individual breed (the Chocolate) way back in the late 1880s.

DO THE TONKS A FAVOUR – UPDATE YOUR WEB SITES!

If you want to find out more – just read my book 😊

HOW WELL DO YOU SPEAK TONKINESE?

There were no correct entries, but congratulations to Val Chapple & Miriam Hass for getting very close. Here are the answers

- 1) Which of these produces a hybrid? **(E)**
- 2) What was the Tonkinese first known as, by the Cat Fancy? **(B)**
- 3) Which of these UK cats was a Tonkinese? **(E)**
- 4) What is a Burmese variant? **(B)**
- 5) What is the Tonkinese type? **(B)**
- 6) What is meant by the 'Tonkinese expression'? **(B)**
- 7) How many Tonkinese colours are accepted by the GCCF? **(8)**
- 8) In a litter of 1st gen. Tonk kittens what proportion will have a Pointed coat? **(C)**
- 9) What percentage of female kittens will be tortoiseshell if one of the parents is red or cream?
a. 100% b. 50% c. 0%
- 10) Can two Tabby parents have a non-tabby kitten? **(A)**
- 11) Can two non-Tabby parents have a tabby kitten? **(B)**
- 12) Who first described, in writing, cats with the Tonkinese coat-pattern? **(A)**
- 13) When were Tonkinese first officially recognised in the UK? **(A)**
- 14) Which of the following is FALSE? **(A)**

Photo Competition - Winners

Right: 'Kitten/s' (Janina Mischker)
Below right: 'Cat/s' (Val Chapple)
Below left: 'Senior/s' (Miriam Haas)



CAUTIONARY TIPS FOR THE WINTER



Keep the holidays a happy time - not a time for an emergency visits to the vet.

The Christmas tree is the one thing we have at this time of year that we have at no other time – and its a magical land for kittens or cats– of course it has its risks but these are easily managed if you know what to look out for ☺. Just remember that if you do have a tree its going to be ransacked at least once!

Ensure your Christmas tree is stable; cats & kittens *will* try to climb it. Tinsel may be attractive but when eaten it can cause blockages, which often require surgery to remove. This year, think about leaving it off the tree all together. Shiny or small ornaments may be swallowed or broken, if you must use them

hang them high up on your tree. Larger, less intriguing ornaments can go near the bottom. Chewing on electrical cords can cause problems ranging from burned mouths, to electrical shock to death by electrocution. Unplug decorative lights when you're not there or wipe/spray cords with a foul tasting solution.

Food and drink - that you should never give your cat:

- Rich, fatty foods, like gravy or grease, can cause problems ranging from an upset stomach to pancreatitis.
- Alcohol can cause serious intoxication in pets, and many pets are attracted to the sweet taste of drinks, especially eggnog. Be sure to clean up and rinse all glasses after Christmas parties.
- Chocolate, coffee, and tea all contain xanthines that are dangerous to animals. Chocolate is especially a problem because pets love its flavour. Unsweetened baking chocolate and dark chocolate are the worst culprits, but all chocolate, fudge, sweets and dried fruit should be placed out of your pet's reach.
- Popcorn, raisins (can be toxic to cats), or cranberry garlands are beautiful, but can cause an obstruction when eaten.

Gifts Under the Tree - Edible items left under the tree can be very tempting. And, remember that companies often package pet gifts wrapped in ribbon. Make sure to remove ribbons or ties before you present gifts to your pet. If played with and swallowed ribbon or string can cause intestinal obstruction, requiring surgery. Batteries for toys or other gifts can be toxic and may also cause intestinal obstruction. Keep in a safe place until they are ready to be used in the gift.

Visitors - Some cats love visitors and behave very well but if your pet tends to be fearful (or even aggressive) around strangers or in crowds, make sure it has a quiet room to sneak away to with water, food, a place to rest, and a litter box. When inviting visitors, make sure they know you have a pet – they may be allergic to dander.

Poisons – Festive Poisonous plants include • Lilies • Holly • Mistletoe • Poinsettias • Hibiscus • Ivy

Car Safety - Warm engines are a favourite place for outdoor cats, so honk the horn or bang on the hood before starting your car. Antifreeze has a sweet taste that cats like but it's toxic enough to cause serious illness and even death very quickly. Make sure your car isn't leaking any fluids and keep containers clean and safely locked away.

Do you have a tip to share that will enhance our cats' safety in the home?

E-mail it to tbc.uk@ntlworld.com