

# The Tonkinese Breed Club's 1st Championship Show

Report by the  
Tonkinese Breed  
Club Committee  
Photos by  
Jeanine Grobbelaar

**HELD in Bracknell on 8 November, this was a highly anticipated event! After reliably working for Tonkinese Championship Status since the breed's initial recognition by the GCCF, the Tonkinese Breed Club was delighted to stage the World's First All-Tonkinese Championship Show and the Europe's only Tonkinese Championship show. Almost every colour and pattern of Tonkinese was present - and every cat and kitten was on its best behaviour. We were, as ever, grateful to our Show Manager, Mrs Helen Hewitt, and presented her with a Victorian silver brooch and a pashmina on which to wear it; and to our Assistant Show Manager, Mrs Linda Vousden, who put her heart and soul into making this a special show for the Club.**

We were determined to make it as memorable an event as possible and invited all exhibitors to dress for the occasion - in Aquamarine of course. Special prizes of collectible blue teddies were given by Linda, to those who most entered into the spirit of the theme. Each exhibitor was given a highlighter to mark up their catalogues, a Club calendar to mark up Club events and one of the new Club badges, designed in time for the show. In addition, special hand-painted glassware was presented for each Best in Show and Best of Breed, and a similar gift was presented to each Judge.

The exhibition pens were all beautifully decorated and thanks to Chris Richards (Tonkaholics) an example of each of the brown Tonkinese and Tonkinese variant coat-

patterns was present for those who wished to learn about the differences, they attracted much attention.

We hope our judges enjoyed their day, Joyce Green (who judged at the Club's very first show in 1996), Jean Gamble, Ronnie Brooks, Anne Skilling (from New Zealand, who has been watching and judging Tonks there since the mid-80's) and Doreen Burke (our first 'home grown' Tonkinese judge).

Special thanks go to Nicky Goulter who managed the day's administration flawlessly and made sure that Linda was able to enjoy the day - and even get to see some of the cats; to Anne Cox-Horton who gave the hall a special decorative touch and managed the cup-table so smoothly - not to mention providing us all with ears! Special thanks also go to

Kathy Wilkinson who, as usual, ensured that every cat was provided with a treat and that the BIS went home laden with goodies, and for stepping in at the last moment to steward; to Jeanine Grobbelaar who had come all the way from Cape Town (yes, the one in South Africa) to be our official photographer for the day, providing most of the photos for this article; and to Mike Vousden who is always quietly supportive in the fray. Thanks also to Joe, Nikita and

Chris our most efficient rosette runners; to Jo Richards, Gillian Wheatley, Jayne Radcliffe, Joanna Pollock and Lesley Meakin who came along specifically to help out on the day - the Tombola sold out by mid afternoon and sales from the Club table were excellent! I am sure that we've missed out some names so please forgive us - the help we had from so many volunteers was truly appreciated. It was a pleasure to welcome Sarah Caney again (from Langford and the FAB), a staunch supporter of Tonks for many years; and 'thank-you' to June Gillies and her Ocicat and Bengal Cat Club team, who always make sharing a hall a pleasant experience. We wish them well for 2004 when they have their own first Championship show.

Now the details you really

want to read: -

**Overall Best in Show and Best in Show Adult:** Liz Case's lilac female, FECHELDEE CHAILAI TITAYA (bred by Vince and Coral Macey).

**Best in Show Kitten:** Justin Robbin's brown-tabby male, TAMTONKS WILLSHAKESPEARE (bred by Christine Tamlin).

**Best in Show Neuter:** Valerie Chapple's brown male, MYMYSTIC PAGANSUN (bred by Linda Vousden) - the third year running that BIS Neuter has been won by a Mymystic Tonk.

**Other Best of Breeds were:**

Chris & Jo Richards' TONKAHOLICS ISLA TANIKA (74e); Hilary Goodburn's TOSHIKI ETHEODOR OFHYLILY (74c); Lydia Lines' TOSHIKI SILVARA (74pt)

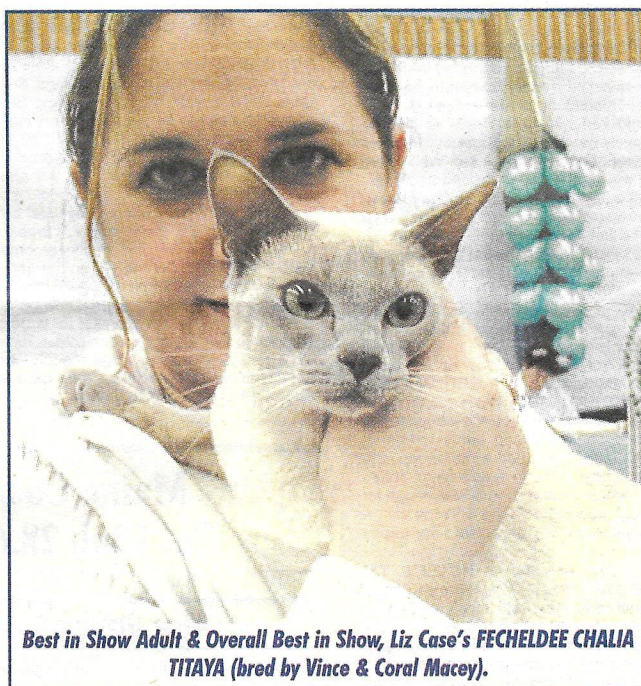
... and the cat voted by the public, as their favourite on exhibition was Linda & Mike Vousden's ADDEISH LANSDALE FABLE, a 12 year-old blue male neuter who has faithfully represented the breed since 1991.

We all had a good day and hope that you'll join us for our 2nd Championship Show on 30 October, 2004, at the Bracknell Leisure Centre.





**Best of Breed, Chris & Jo Richards' TONKAHOLICS ISLA TANIKA.**



**Best in Show Adult & Overall Best in Show, Liz Case's FECHELDEE CHALIA TITAYA (bred by Vince & Coral Macey).**



**Best in Show Neuter, Valerie Chapple's Brown Male, MYMYSTIC PAGANSUN.**



**Best of Breed, Hilary Goodburn's TOSHIKI ETHOEDOR OFHYLILY.**





**Best of Breed, Lydia Lines' TOSHIKI SILVARA**



**BIS Kitten, Justin Robbins' TAMTONKS WILLSHAKESPEARE.**



*Photo by Marc Henrie a.s.c.*

**Mike Vousden (Hon Treasurer), Linda Vousden (Asst. Show Manager)  
and Nicky Goulter.**