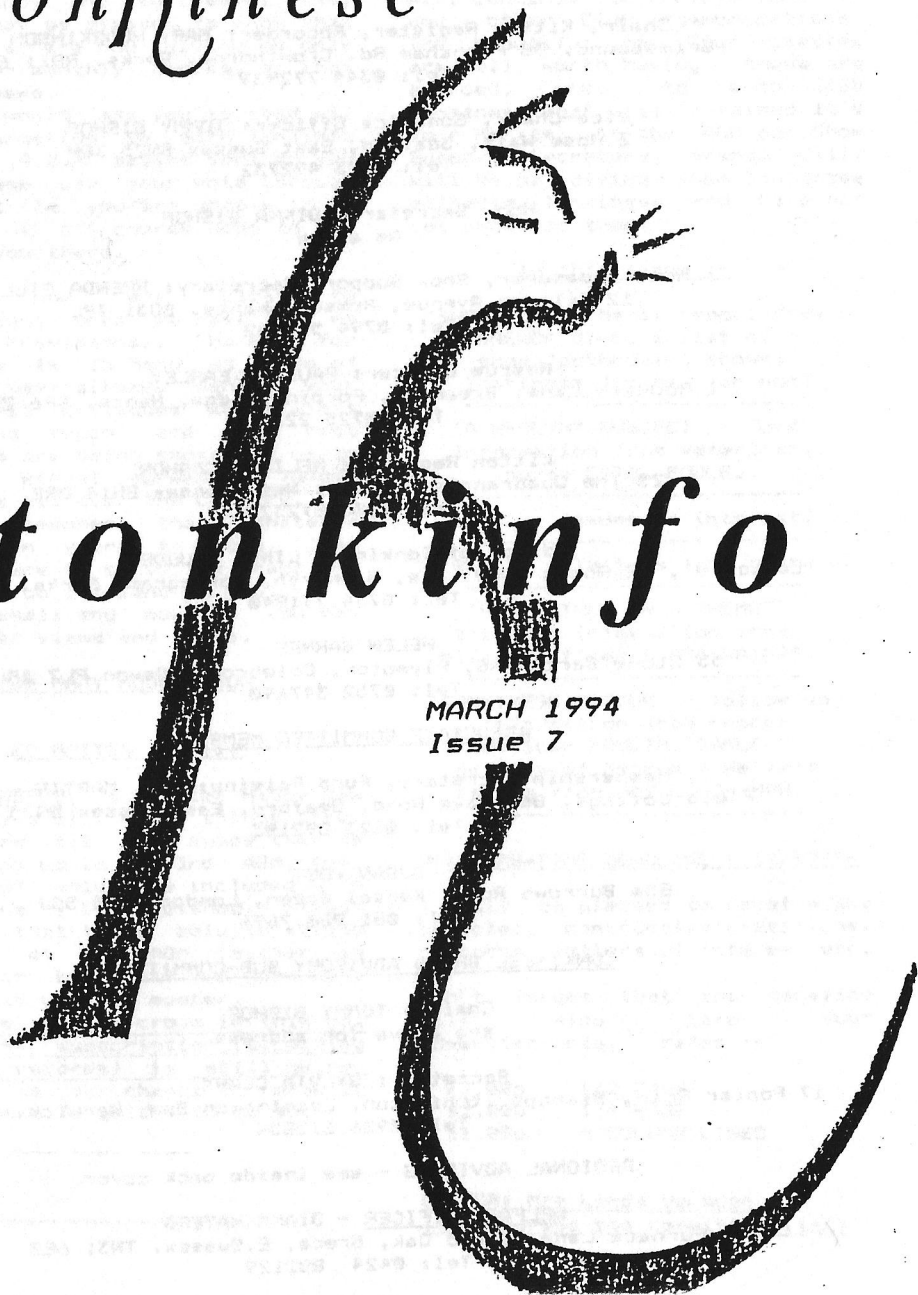


TONKINESE
BREED
CLUB

tonkinese

tonkinfo

MARCH 1994
Issue 7



T O N K I N E S E B R E E D C L U B

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CHAIR'S NOTES

Well, this is Tonkinfo 7! On a personal note I wish you and your cats a happy and successful 1994, and you may be pleased to know that my doctors are now giving me only 6- and 8- monthly checks, so that is good news.

Now, I would ask you to read all the information in both Tonkinfo and the A.G.M papers sent to you and please use your vote through the post if you are unable to be there - I of course hope to see many of you there.

We are now very close to Affiliation; once we have that we go on to Provisional. The work for all this is in hand, as those of you who have already sent in your four Merit critiques know: lists are being typed and the best critiques are being chosen by us to show the widest spread of judges and shows all over the country.

Please remember that, whatever happens in years to come, I am always there to serve the Breed and I hope to be a friend to you.

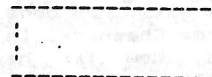
Well, I shall end now so you may read other views and ideas.

From MARY HODGKINSON

ED WRITES

DEAR MEMBERS, a belated Happy New Year to you all. First things first - you are all well aware that we are coming up to our 3rd AGM, full details of which are included with this issue by Diana Bishop. Please remember that to be able to attend or vote at the AGM (either in person or by post) you must be a fully paid up Club member.

If there is a cross in this box your 1994 subscription (according to our records) is still owing- so this is your chance to renew it if you have forgotten to do so.



Fully paid members are also eligible to receive any Club awards that they may have won and will continue to receive Tonkinfo and other Club communications. The beautiful new Club rosettes are well worth having - these are awarded, once, to each Club Tonkinese that has attained it's four Merits. At the AGM our Show Support Secretary, Brenda Gill, will be giving them to those eligible Tonkinese who have not yet received them.

In this issue :-

'SHOWTIME' - Merit report from BRENDA GILL; a list of some forthcoming shows; Tonkinese Judges - or not?

'A HEALTHY SUBJECT' - More information from veterinary nurse CAROL POOLE.

'CATS' - issues of interest.

'IN REPLY' - letters from members.

'VARIATIONS ON A THEME?' - breeding information from welfare officer DIANA WATERS.

'TONKINESE RESCUE' - follow up information from rescue officer PAULINE EARLEY; details of Rescue & Welfare raffle from HAZEL FORSHAW.

NEXT MAGAZINE DEADLINE - 15/09/94

I shall be pleased to receive any articles, constructive criticisms, cartoons, letters of interest etc.

Don't forget that the magazine will also take your advertisements, rates :-

£3.00p	1/2 PAGE
£2.00p	1/4 PAGE
£1.00p	6 COLUMN LINES

EDITOR: Mrs Linda Vouden
(for address see committee list)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

A very successful year for the Club and the Breed in all areas but one - OUR REGISTRATION POLICY! - and the worry here not caused by the Club. At the time of Recognition, mindful of the problems with one parent Breed-Siamese - we applied for a 3 generation policy (agreed by all members at the time) and were forced by the GCCF into taking on immediately the 5 generation policy which was (and of course always must be) our eventual aim but which at that time, and even now, does not allow for the fact the Siamese had only a 3 generation policy up until 2 years ago and that only 3 generations are entered on the Application for Registration forms. This meant that hundreds of cats had been wrongly (according to our official policy) registered as Tonk, including a stud who had sired 17 litters. Mrs Pring proposed a scheme which (after a postal ballot) we all agreed: the Club to vet its own registrations in consultation with the Genetics Committee and ask for the removal of cats who could be genetically damaging; the Executive turned this down, but gave retrospective status to 2 cats who did not conform (including the said stud). This has resulted in a worse mess: a very large number of cats who do not conform to our official policy as it stands but who have been registered as Tonkinese. GCCF refuses to remove most of these cats from our Register, in view of the fact that 2 have previously been given retrospective status, and the cats in question do not differ from those in terms of their lack of genetic damage to the Breed. This is a stalemate: to break it, your Officers discussed with Mrs Pring the possibility of reverting to the originally proposed 3 generation policy until the problem is bred out. There was not time for a postal ballot if this was to go before the January Executive, but the new proposal was put in the Christmas Tonkinfo, and not one member objected - had they

done so, the proposal could have been removed from the Executive Agenda - as it is, it was passed and was already on the Agenda to be confirmed by Council when objections were made. I have applied formally for its removal from the Council Agenda and long discussions with Mrs Pring have resulted in her agreeing to come to our AGM (if she possibly can - I gather that it depends on the smooth installation of the new GCCF computer) and discuss the problem with our members. So far, not one person has come up with an alternative suggestion to a temporary reversion to 3 generations - can some genius bring a new idea to the AGM? It is a question of weighing up all the elements and plumping for the least of the evils. I am still waiting to hear if the GCCF Genetics Committee has come up with anything helpful to us but am tied to your Editor's deadline! Good luck to you all and especially your cats -

Diana Bishop

[In fact the deadline was deferred for over a week for Diana's report but has had to go to the printer in time to ensure that you receive the AGM data and papers, enclosed with this issue, two weeks before the AGM - as per the TBC rules (rule 25) - ED]

MISSING ISSUE 6?

A couple of members did not receive their copy of Tonkinfo issue 6 (the Christmas issue). If there are any other members who might be missing this issue please contact Diana Bishop for your copy. - ED

ARACLETT IN THE SHETLANDS!

One of Ewan MacKenzie-Bowie's beautiful brown Araclett Burmese-varient Tonk girls has gone to the Shetlands from Cheshire. Is this a Club record, how far have your kittens gone? - write in. - ED

TONKINESE RESCUE

First of all I am very pleased to be able to tell you that the two Tonks from Scotland, who have a chlamydia problem, have been found a very loving home in Wales. The couple who now have them drove from Mid-Glamorgan to Glasgow to pick them up, a fourteen hour round trip - there's love and dedication for you! This makes a total of seven Tonks which have been found new homes through the Club this year. Another eight have been helped through other rescue organisations because I have been able to put people, on my 'wanting to home' list, in touch with those organisations. I would like to thank those people who have offered to foster; twice this year you were almost needed, but the cats in question were found a home before your services were called upon - so you can see that although you have not been contacted yet it is very valuable to have you standing in the wings (or should that be paws) waiting. Hazel Forshaw is going to do a raffle, in aid of rescue, at the AGM again this year. Last year's was super - thanks again Hazel.

- Pauline Earley (ISHMAEL)

SPECIAL WELFARE & RESCUE RAFFLE

I am organising another prize draw to take place at the 1994 AGM. Each person who brings a can or box of cat food will receive one free ticket (the cat food will be given to Pauline Earley for her Tonkinese rescue), more tickets will be available on the day. So please support your lovely cats who sometimes, through no fault of their own, need to be re-homed.

- Hazel Forshaw (ISHOKATS)

[Anyone wishing to donate a prize please contact Hazel (0344 773200) or take it along on the day and please note that this is separate from the Club raffle which is also to be held at the AGM - ED]

TIGGER THE TERROR!

Bonzer Blu Tigre, better known as Tigger the Terror, is my blue tabby Tonkinese. He was awarded his first merit at the Short Hair Cat Society show on January 8th 1994, at the age of 5 months - am I correct in thinking that he is the first blue tabby to hold a merit? He is a little demon in disguise. His most recent exploits include stealing a whole roast chicken, half a joint of beef, stripping wallpaper down to the plaster and eating his way through all the net curtains he can get his paws on! Other interests and hobbies include eating, contemplating eating, sleeping (dreams about food) and terrorising Rana the Birman. He has our household well under his huge paw!

Of course we adore him despite all his horrible ways - and he knows it! - Debbie Fisher

[Debbie sent in a beautiful photo of Tigger which I had hoped to print here, sadly it copied too darkly. I hope she doesn't mind this sketch - which by no means does Tigger justice! - ED]



SHOWTIME !!

We are well into the 1994 season with such shows as the Southern Counties, Surrey & Sussex and Croydon (to name but a few) already under our belts. For those of you who do not show your cats and haven't been to see a show this year I've listed just a few below, come along and meet some more members of your Club, have a look at the cats whose names you probably already recognise from this magazine. Don't be put off showing your own cat by the impressive list of merits that some cats have deservedly won, the number of merits gained is not only an indicator of quality of the cat but very much an indicator of the number of shows that one is able to attend, there are many more stunning cats within the Club - so those of you who haven't shown yet but are not sure how to go about it contact your regional advisor for some useful information.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY :-MARCH

26th - KERNOW CAT CLUB, the Guildhall, Royal Parade, Plymouth. (Helen Barnes will be running a Club table at this show, so go along and support her if you can).

APRIL

9th ESSEX CAT CLUB, Picketts Lock Centre, Edmonton, London.

16th TBC AGM! St SEBASTIANS HALL, CROWTHORNE, BERKS.

23rd BEDFORD & DISTRICT CAT CLUB, Queensway Hall & Leisure Centre, Dunstable, Beds.

30th JERSEY CAT CLUB, Springfield Hall, Springfield Rd. St. Helier.

MAY

7th N.EAST SCOTLAND CAT CLUB, Caird Hall, Dundee, Tayside.

14th NORFOLK & SUFFOLK CAT CLUB, Kingsbush Centre, London Rd. Godmanchester, Cambs.

21st MIDLAND COUNTIES CAT CLUB, Three Counties showground, Malvern Worcs.

JUNE

4th MERSEYSIDE CAT CLUB, Kingsway Leisure Centre, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire.

11th LONDON CAT CLUB, Crystal Palace Sports Centre, Norwood, London.

25th EAST SUSSEX CAT CLUB, Rye Sports Centre, Rye, East Sussex. Show Mngr. Mrs Diana Waters.

GCCF COUNCIL MEETINGS DATES:-
22nd JUNE '94, 26th OCTOBER '94

THE ISHMAEL CHLOE MEMORIAL AWARD

Just a reminder to you all that this award has been donated by Pauline and Terry Earley and will be presented, at the AGM, to the Brown, Blue, Chocolate or Lilac Tonkinese gaining the most Merits in a year. - Brenda Gill
(Show Support Secretary)

TONKINESE JUDGES - OR NOT?

It has recently been brought to the attention of the Club Secretary (Diana Bishop) that on two separate occasions the Tonkinese Assessment Class has been judged by judges who are not on the GCCF list of Tonkinese judges. Fortunately this is not a common situation (and Diana has been asked to look into the two cases in question) but it is something that we should be aware of. It is the responsibility of show managers to ensure that the appropriate judges are invited to a show, however it is advisable for anyone showing their Tonkinese to be aware of those who are on the GCCF Tonkinese judge list; the booklet 'A List of GCCF JUDGES AND CLASSES' is available from the GCCF. The 28th June 1993 edition shows that there are 38 full judges on our list - since then there have been the following changes:-

Mrs A Bailey (added 20/10/93)
Mr G Gow (added 20/10/93)
Mrs E Jones (resigned 14/7/93)
Mrs P Short (resigned 20/10/93)

- ED

MERIT AWARDS FOR TONKINESE SHOWN FROM JAN '93 - DEC '93
TAKEN FROM 'SHOW WORLD'

CLUB MEMBER	CAT	1993	TOTAL
BARNES	SANKABAR HUXLEY	74C	6
BISHOP	ADRAYSH DAWN CHORUS	74F	4
BISHOP	EPISCOPUSS CAESAR	74F	4
BURKE. DR	ADRAYSH OLI TU	74D	2
BURKE. DR	OAKVIL TEMPURA	74F	3
BURKE. DR	ADINNSH WONG MEI	74D	5
BURKE. DR	ADINNSH XIN WUN	74F	4
BURKE. DR	ADINNSH MEILATA TU	74D	3
BURKE. DR	TAJENS RED HOT POKER	74D	2
BURKE, J	ADRAYSH LILAC FREEZE	74C	1
CARTER	ADDEISH KISHA CANDIDA	74B	2
FLETCHER	CHUMBLIN CHOCOLATE CHIP	74B	1
FORSHAW	ISHOKATS BIANKA	74B	3
GATES	ADINNSH SU-LIAN	74B	2
GATES	TALOFAPUSS ANDROCLES	74F	2
GILL	TRIMORR TZAR SPACIBA	74F	4
HARDY	AZULEJO ALPINE SUNSET	74B	1
HODGKINSON	ADHUIH ATLAS	74F	3
HODGKINSON	ADRAYSH HEY FRANKIE	74C	4
HODGKINSON	GRIMSPOUND CEASARLASS	74H	2
INIGO-JONES	EPISCOPUSS EUROPA	74J	7
JOHNSON	DOWNASH MIA-ATHENE	74	1
JOHNSON	DOWNASH THEODORABLE	74	1
MacISAAC	ADDEISH BLUEBERRY FORTUNE	74A	5
MacMAHON	ADRAYSH RICKYTIX	74B	2
MacMAHON	EPISCOPUSS CASSANDRA	74F	1
MAKEPIECE	ROYANDI SYRINGA	74C	2
MAKEPIECE	SYLVAKIB CHINCA TOI	74C	2
MARTIN	EPISCOPUSS FERNAND	74F	4
NETLEY	EPISCOPUSS EPICURUS	74C	2
O'ROURKE	CARASH QUEENOFHEARTS	74D	3
PEARSON	LEAROYD HEIDI	74C	2
POOLE	ADDEISH CLARINATH OBERON	74C	2
POOLE	ADRAYSH STORMBRINGER	74C	1
POOLE	CLARINATH MYSTIC STREGONA	74C	2
PRICE	TONKABELLA DIGGORY DAI	74B	2
SHARRATT	TONKABELLA EVA EVANGELINE	74B	1
SHARRATT	TONKABELLA FINGAL FREDERIC	74B	1
SHARRATT	TONKABELLA FRISCO FRANCIS	74B	1
VOUSDEN	ADDEISH CASPAR LILACFLUSH	74C	4
VOUSDEN	ADDEISH LANSDALE FABLE	74A	3
WILKINSON	BONZER OCTOPUSSY	74B	2
WRIGHT	KEO KITTYWITCH	74C	3
WRIGHT	KEO PIONEER	74D	3
WRIGHT	KEO PRINCESS BLOSSOM	74E	1

Members will have the opportunity to have a full merit list (from 1991-1994, results as in 'Show World') at the AGM; or if they send me a S.A.E I can mail one to them. At the moment Merit wins and side class placings are taken from 'Show World' and 'CATS'. May I ask members, who attend a show, to offer to send me a list of Tonkinese attending, and the results of assessment and side classes. This will provide a more up to date record, and I would appreciate the effort.

- BRENDA GILL

[If you have any updates/corrections/queries please contact Brenda and not the magazine.]

- ED]

THE SUPREME SHOW

Once again we look back on another SUPREME and reflect on how well we have done; so how well have we done as a breed this last year? Nineteen entries (plus two on exhibition), with only one absentee, travelling from Middlesex - Bucks - Berks - Devon - East & West Sussex - Yorks - Norfolk - London and Wales. They were Mrs PA Jenkinson (Addeish Arrons Nibbs), Mrs L MacIsaac (Addeish Blueberry Fortune), Mrs L Vousden (Addeish Caspar Lilacflush and Addeish Lansdale Fable), Mrs C Poole (Adraysh Stormbringer), Mrs H Barnes (Samkabar Huxley), Miss MS HODGKINSON (Adraysh Hey Frankie and Adhuish Atlas), Dr & Mrs Bishop (Adraysh Dawn Chorus and Episcopuss Caesar), Mrs JLJ Martin (Episcopuss Fernand), Mr & Mrs JF MacMahon (Adraysh Rickytx), Mrs JR Price (Tonkabella Diggory Dai), Mrs HV Forshaw (Ishokats Bianka), Mrs RE Gates (Adinnsh Su-Lian), Mrs P Wright (Keo Pioneer), Mrs DR Burke (Oakvil Tempura) and Mrs S Inigo-Jones (Episcopuss Europa).

Note: underlining denotes a merit, a total of thirteen were awarded by Mrs Kidd. Our decorated pens ranged from Roman temples to leafy glades, jungles to chocolate boxes and many, many more. Congratulations must go to everyone for their imagination and effort.

So what did we think of the venue - cold, no atmosphere or colourful with lovely big pens? What did you think? How have you done this past year, was it fun or just hard work, do you think the judging was consistent - and if not why not? Was 1993 a good year for the breed, yes it must have been. More merits, more breeder's prefix's and a centerfold in 'Cat World'. Our kittens are being sold and more owners are showing and joining the Club. We must still do more if we are to go on as a breed, careful and responsible breeding must always be a

priority, if you are not sure-ASK! One thing about our breed is the readiness of people to help. Our beautiful cats are well known for their friendliness and this seems to have rubbed off onto the owners. We need more breeders with prefix's and more cats in shows building up their tally of merits. The Club is growing and what a lovely advertisement we had in the Supreme catalogue. We still need more members though, so spread the word and recruit anyone who shows an interest in the breed.

- John MacMahon

MOTHER OF 24 BACK ON THE CATWALK!

SUPERMODEL Duchess, known to her friends as Alaking Honkytonk Cowgirl, is a beautiful brown girl who has not been seen on the catwalk since her successful kittening good looks were set aside for motherhood. Her manager, Mrs Diana Waters, was delighted when Duchess decided that she was ready to return to the catwalk after having 24 classy kittens (in three litters). Duchess re-entered show business at the prestigious Southern Counties Show and walked away with her merit and several side-class places. Later Duchess said "It won't change me, I still want to have more children, but you may see me again!"



'CATS' - Issues of interest.

No. 591 Veterinary viewpoint-Zoonotic diseases (diseases transferable between animals and humans).
No. 614 Feline Coronavirus and Feline Infectious Peritonitis.
No. 615 Veterinary viewpoint-Kidney failure in cats.
No. 618 Veterinary viewpoint-Feline Heart Disease.
No. 623 Veterinary viewpoint-Hand rearing kittens; plus a special article on the Asian group of cats.

A HEALTHY SUBJECT (?)

Following my article on Feline Leukaemia in issue 5 of Tonkinfo I was going to write on another of the feline infectious diseases, FIP, but a very good article on the subject appeared recently in CATS issue 614 (December 24th). I therefore decided to write on the use of drugs in postponing or preventing oestrus (calling) in the queen. I opened the winter edition of the FAB journal and there was an excellent article by Danielle Gunn-Moore on this very subject! So for those of you who do not have a chance to read this journal, and as it is a subject which concerns most of us as breeders, I will give you a shortened version.

'OVARID 5mg' (MEGASTROL ACETATE) is the drug which seems to be recommended, or used, by most vets and the 'data compendium' sheets suggest the dosage as follows:

"1. For postponement of oestrus start in di-oestrus (the short period of sexual inactivity between calls during the breeding season) and give 2.5mg per cat (ie. 1/2 tablet) daily for up to two months. If starting in anoestrus (the non-breeding season) give 2.5mg per cat once weekly for up to 18 months.

2. For prevention of oestrus give 5mg per cat per day for 3 days, commencing as soon as the signs of calling are seen."

HOWEVER the reason some vets refuse to prescribe this is because of the adverse reactions to this drug which include: failure to return to oestrus, inflammation of the uterus and pyometra (infected uterus) which frequently necessitates spaying. I do know of a cat breeder who has had two young cats spayed due to pyometra, which were on Ovarid tablets.

When I purchased my first female kitten, a burmese, her very experienced breeder said she used

'Ovarid 5mg' very successfully in her breeding queens, giving only 1/4 tablet when she suspected they were coming into season and they always returned to calling in 3 weeks. I took her advice and used the same dosage. As I am not as good at detecting early signs my queens usually continue to call for 2 days following the administration of the tablet, but return to call again in about 2-3 weeks. I used it on my queens before their first litters, although some breeders will only use it when the queens have kitted once.

From conversations with other breeders it appears that 1/4 tablet is frequently used. However I would like to re-iterate Danielle Gunn-Moore's opening statement that although these drugs can be used successfully in a controlled breeding programme you should think carefully before using them.

I would also like to point out here that it is illegal to treat other peoples' animals and therefore the passing on of Ovarid tablets, or indeed any other form of medication, is wrong!

Carol M Poole, BA VN
CLARINATH Tonkinese & Burmese

It is often the case that when we obtain drugs for our cats (or indeed for ourselves) for one reason or another we are not fully aware of the exact activity of that drug or it's possible side-effects. Besides writing these very useful articles for us, Carol has said that she will be more than happy to help with related information where she can; however she stresses that she is not able to advise treatment and you must obtain this from your own vet.

If you have any queries please write to the magazine and I will forward your enquiries to Carol, for publication in the next issue.

- ED

IN REPLY ...WHAT A LOT OF TOMMY ROT!

Sorry, but I just couldn't resist the pun, but well, I mean, what were we supposed to think about Dr Tommy Bishop's letter in issue 5 of TONKINFO!

Here was I expecting some sensible and constructive information on the subject of inbreeding and what did we get - an unwarranted attack on some supposed persons against inbreeding. Who these people are was not forthcoming and it read as if it was the majority of us. I thought it an insulting and arrogant letter and the vibes that came across of someone 'getting' at 'people' that inbreed were quite strong.

Perhaps I read it wrongly, and one should always give people the benefit of the doubt - so I will. Maybe it should have been worded a little differently, so as not to upset folk! After all our cats and cat clubs are supposed to be our relaxation and fun time, not bad feelings and aggression.

This letter was originally MUCH longer, but not wishing to be drawn into a 'guns at sunset' situation, I have curtailed it somewhat!!

(Diana Waters, ROHESE)

UTTER RUBBISH!!

I refer to Tommy Bishop's article in the October edition of TONKINFO.

"Bloody minded prejudice", "weapon to turn on those you envy" - this is very strong language for someone to use, who is simply explaining their personal opinion and their breeding programme. To each his own. As Diana Waters says in her very lucid explanation of inbreeding, we should be working together in selective breeding before launching ourselves into the world of inbreeding. After all the

'type' of the Tonkinese is a decision to be made by all of us and not for one breeder to impose a certain 'type' on us - by which we should all gauge our breeding standards.

Many of us are against inbreeding at this point in time when there is such a huge gene pool available to us. Why not take time to develop your line? There is no prize to be won for rushing.

Prejudice, "bloody minded" or otherwise, is not necessarily the reason for ones dislike of inbreeding. "Envy", well who envy's you? I, for one, do not! I would not like to be in the position of publicly defending my breeding programme.

We have seen the results of inbreeding in other breeds - look west over an ocean! If a fault develops in an inbreeding programme it may not appear for several generations by which time it may have entered several other lines if carried by a public stud. This is only a possibility, but not one to be overlooked. Perhaps one should keep the inbreeding 'in house', selling kittens for 'pet only', until several generations have been bred.

Our gene pool must surely be the largest of all breeds with the Siamese, the Burmese and of course the Tonkinese available to us. I must, therefore, dismiss as nonsense your comment for the need to have a "big bank balance" to be able to travel the world in order to avoid inbreeding. Most of us have got there, or are getting there, by patience and by shopping around and are producing clean lines and merit winning kittens second to none without the need of a large bank balance.

The delicate reputation of the Tonkinese as a breed is not helped by constant reminders that rather a lot of Tonks hail from an

'in-bred' background. The cat world is a small place and some of the comments one hears cannot be doing us, as a breed, any good at all.

Please, let's co-operate in selective breeding, giving each other sound advice and help to use the precious pages of TONKINFO to do this.

(Doreen R Burke, TONKITU Tonkinese)

.....

Dear Editor,

I think Dr Bishop had an outburst himself in Tonkinfo issue 5. Are we to be called "bloody-minded" if we don't agree with his views on inbreeding? As for saying that having pseudo-religious beliefs is much of the argument against inbreeding it won't wash Dr Bishop, it is an insult to other breeders who do not happen to hold your views. What do Aristotle, or the gods, have to do with the subject- let us get back to the present day! After all don't we live in a democracy where everyone is entitled to his, or her, own opinion; and if voiced should not be subjected to a tirade of abuse, especially by another Club member. I also suggest that you use some additional reading matter.

(Pauline Earley, ISHMAEL)

THE QUESTION OF INBREEDING

I was interested to read the opinions expressed on the subject of inbreeding in the October issue of Tonkinfo. I feel it important to present my views on Tonkinese breeding, which have nothing to do with any so-called "pseudo-religious" beliefs; I am merely concerned with the welfare of our breed.

It is possible for any breeder, novice or experienced, to produce good quality Tonkinese kittens without resorting to inbreeding.

The primary consideration must be careful selection of the parents which should possess the desired qualities of type and temperament that the breeder wishes to manifest in the kittens. This method of selection inevitably leaves the breeder at the mercy of the laws of chance as to whether or not the desired characteristics are passed on to the offspring.

I fully appreciate that a more reliable method of producing kittens with the desired qualities is to 'line-breed'. For example, the mating of offspring back to a parent can effectively double up the genes which code for desirable characteristics. Inbreeding in this way, however, is of dubious value unless the lineage used has been well researched and is known to be as free of defects as possible. One must always bear in mind that defects as well as desirable traits can be 'fixed' using line-breeding and that these may be almost impossible to eradicate in future generations. The Tonkinese being a hybrid, has an inherent legacy from its parent breeds of, for example: tail kinks, flat chests and eye squints. As responsible breeders we should be endeavouring to eliminate these problems from our cats.

It is my view that we are limiting our cats' potential by not availing ourselves of the full gene-pool available to us- outcrossing is the way forward to ensure that we have the best possible selection of cats upon which to base our breeding programme. It is worrying in my opinion that, at present there is only a handful of Tonkinese stud cats available in this country, and further that a number of these studs are already second generation Tonkinese. Why are we limiting our gene pool so early?

(Helen Barnes, SAMKABAR
Tonkinese & Burmese)

VARIATIONS ON A THEME

I thought this simplified version of the colour variations that can be expected from the 4 basic colour matings might be of interest to the novice in colour genes. This is just a basic chart for mainly the BROWN, and briefly for BLUE, CHOCOLATE and LILAC. It does not include the reds, creams, torties or tabbies. The colours in brackets are the colours 'carried' by a cat and are identified by (BL) Blue, (CH) Chocolate. The actual percentage of colours in a litter, and the colours they carry, is a matter of chance.

(For the purposes of this table 'carrying' is abbreviated to car')

<u>STUD:</u>	<u>QUEEN:</u>	<u>KITTENS:</u>
BROWN carrying no colours.	BROWN BLUE or CHOC or LILAC	ALL BROWN ALL BROWN with a percentage car' (BL) or (CH) or both.
BROWN (BL)	BROWN BROWN (BL) BROWN (CH) BROWN (BL) (CH) CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE (BL) LILAC	ALL BROWN, 50% car' (BL) BROWN & BLUE BROWN BROWN & BLUE BROWN BROWN & BLUE BROWN & BLUE
BROWN (CH)	BROWN BROWN (BL) BROWN (CH) BROWN (BL) (CH) BLUE BLUE (CH) CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE (BL) LILAC	ALL BROWN ALL BROWN BROWN & CHOCOLATE BROWN & CHOCOLATE BROWN BROWN & CHOCOLATE BROWN & CHOCOLATE BROWN & CHOCOLATE BROWN & CHOCOLATE
BROWN (BL) (CH)	BROWN BROWN (BL) BROWN (CH) BROWN (BL) (CH) BLUE BLUE (CH) CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE (BL) LILAC	ALL BROWN BROWN & BLUE BROWN & CHOCOLATE BROWN, BLUE, CHOC & LILAC! BROWN & BLUE BROWN, BLUE, CHOC & LILAC! BROWN & CHOCOLATE BROWN, BLUE, CHOC & LILAC! BROWN, BLUE, CHOC & LILAC!

When you use a blue, chocolate or lilac stud you get a different mixture depending upon what colours the cats carry, the dilute factor being very important to the outcome. It would take a long time to write them all down! A LILAC stud would produce :- a) BROWNS to a pure BROWN, b) BROWN & BLUE to a BROWN (BL), c) BROWN & CHOC' to a BROWN (CH), d) the magic combination of BROWN, BLUE, CHOC & LILAC to a BROWN (BL)&(CH). It is also very interesting that a BLUE (CH) put to a CHOC' (BL) can produce BROWN, BLUE, CHOC' & LILAC. All the above kittens would have a percentage that carry their prospective colours. I hope this is put simply enough - it is quite a complex subject!
- Diana Waters (ROHESE)

[The Burmese 'COMPLETE MATING CHART' booklet is even more comprehensive but, of course, does not include tabbies
- ED]

A PROPER SEMINAR PLEASE!

I feel, as a long time breeder of cats, that I have to voice my concern at the lack of information being circulated to the Club members about the breeding of the Tonkinese itself.

Not about the standard of points, or affiliation or a show (heavens forbid yet awhile) but about the cats themselves. People need to have seminars to show how they are, or are not, progressing in type; to be able to see a good Tonk, a not so good Tonk, the different variants, eye colour variations - to decide what the majority like. Oh we know what a few people like but do we all agree? These things need to be seen and discussed.

We need seminars with Tonkinese as described above, actually present. For people to bring what they consider their best and worst Tonks, and to see if others agree. Most important we need judges to see as well!

So please a New Year resolution-lets' have at least TWO PROPER seminars this year. Well organised, in a venue easily accessible and as acceptable as possible to the majority. We really don't need to discuss further Standard changes until we know how we are doing so far! We need to know first hand from the judges what their views are and, indeed, to see who is interested enough to turn up!

I also breed other breeds (gasps) and have much more info on the experimental and provisional breeds from those clubs than I do from the TBC. They also have regular seminars.

So come on committee let's hear it for the Tonks !!!!!

Diana Waters (ROHESE)

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AREA 6 - SCOTLAND

TOMMY BISHOP - as per Area 1
JEAN SHARRATT - as per Area 5

Tonkitu

Tonkinese

ANNOUNCEMENT

OAKVIL TEMPURA 746 and TAJENS RED HOTPOKER 74d
(Mili) (Red)
(5 Merits) (3 Merits)

Following a brief, but enjoyable, honeymoon
Mr. & Mrs. R. POKER wish to announce that they are
expecting babies shortly.....
(Probably before you have read this TONKINFO!

OTHER NEWS!

WONG MEI (Beryl - 9 Merits) & sister
MEILAI TU (Ami - 3 Merits) are expecting
to announce their marriages during 1994,
and produce the first 3rd Generation RED babies.

Brother Rastus (XIN WUN - 8 Merits)
is looking forward to celebrating his
FIRST birthday, with his sisters
Beryl & Ami, in MARCH.

KITTEN ENQUIRIES ARE WELCOME

DOREEN R. BURKE
Tel. 0271-863849 0252-835624
Devonshire Surrey

AT STUD

Sweet and gentle RED is available to
special queens and lives at his
'London' address !!
Marriages may be arranged by
'phoning Trisha on 081-943-0067