

SPECIAL SHOW EDITION

tonkinese
BREED CLUB



tonkinfo

Autumn
1996
ISSUE 14

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EDITOR: Sarah Inigo-Jones

Hello to everyone,
 Tonkinfo is a little late this time to allow for all the Tonkinese Breed Club Show information to be put together. As it is our first show it is a very exciting time for the Club, Members and their Cats and hopefully we will be fully supported by you. So settle down with a nice cup of Tea and I hope you will enjoy this edition,
 Best Wishes

OOPS!!

I managed to leave out the captions for the photographs from the last

Tonkinfo!!

Page 9 Coco

Page 15 Katalyst Munchinella

Page 16 Treedancer Lilac Korene

And Linda's computer completely forgot about :

Merit List Corrections

My apologies to members for the omissions/errors in the Merit List in the last Tonkinfo; (L Vousden)

corrections are printed below:

Club Member	Cat	1995	Total
Mr & Mrs Linnen	Treedancer Midnight Midge (74a)	2	2
Mrs & Miss Greer	Treedancer Lilac Korene (74c)	3	5
Mrs & Miss Richards	Romantica Remus (74d)	3	3
Mr & Mrs Rawlinson	Romantica Rousseau (74d)	7	9



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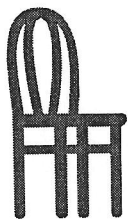
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NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Sarah Inigo-Jones

As our first show looms large in the calendar I have to admit to being very excited, starting a new show, especially a breed specific one, is a pretty fraught affair and we are totally dependent on you - the Exhibitors, Breeders and Fans of Tonkinese to support us and

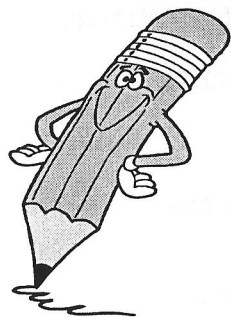
help to make our 'Tonkinese' day a success. For the first time our 'Tonks' can compete against each other in Open classes (to give us a taste of things to come) but we have to 'break even' to ensure a show next year, so I hope you have all sent in your entry forms! Now is the time to prove to the Doubting Thomas's of the cat fancy just how much support the Tonkinese have and that we are here to stay. I am also very happy to include Household Pets in our show, as it isn't just the pampered pedigrees that are important, but all our furry friends. I hope to see you all at the show.

The committee would like to express its great sadness at the sudden death of Roy Robinson. He was greatly appreciated as our genetics advisor and he will be missed.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

(Mrs Linda Vousden)

I can hardly believe that I'm already preparing my pen decor for the Supreme show in November, this year has simply shot past. I'm also preparing the Club table for the Supreme, we'll have Tonks on exhibition and our Club literature, brooches and T-shirts will be available so do visit us in Club



Row and perhaps help us out for 20 minutes or so. Once again the Club will be representing the Tonkinese in the National Cat Club's World of Cats on 14th December, this is always a great success. I'm organising a rota to help man our exhibit, if you can volunteer even half an hour of your time it will be much appreciated. Regarding the Tonkinese Standard of Points - we are still awaiting GCCF approval (the next Council meeting is in

October) we will be able to issue the new SOP as soon as we have approval, we'll keep you informed. I'm keeping my report very short this issue as the magazine space will be far better utilised for our Club Show information.

Sadly I take this opportunity, on the Club's behalf, to offer our profound sympathies to the family of Mrs Sandra Miller who died in August. Sandra was a Club member who had just begun her life with the Tonkinese, which she loved very dearly.

TRAG & RESCUE REPORT - Sylvia Clarke Rescue Officer

The kitten register is working very well at present with a bimonthly list. It would be helpful if all breeders notify either myself or their Area Advisor when their kittens are sold. This would solve the problem of unnecessary telephone calls. If you don't know who your Area Advisor is give me a ring on 01926 612854 for this information.

I am hoping to place an advertisement in 'Cat World' in the autumn, which should generate some interest.

I have recently taken the rescue work over for the club and am learning how to proceed with rescue and re-homing. It is a growing problem as the breed becomes more popular. Many people buy a Tonkinese kitten without really knowing much about the breed and find they have a lively, mischievous kitten, which for some people is difficult to manage. So often a new home has to be found. There have been two kittens in the London area who have been sold with no papers whatsoever, the breeder promising to send the necessary documents on and failing to do so. One of these kittens had to be re-homed after, firstly, being neutered and given the required injections. Another female cat was found wandering in Hampshire, she is about 2 1/2 years old now and living with some nice people in the Cotswolds. There are some quite sad situations in which cats are found, but happily most are re-homed in a relatively short space of time to kind, caring people. The cost of caring for homeless cats and any vets fees incurred is quite phenomenal.

The club has a rescue fund if anyone has any pennies to spare, or perhaps some enterprising person might like to have a coffee morning or some other fund raising activity. I am sure any donation would be greatly appreciated.

One last point I would like to make, if anyone knows of any Tonkinese cat which is in distress or danger don't hesitate to give me a ring. It could save a life.

Chris Richards has taken over the position of Membership Secretary and Show Support and now has the task of collating all the results that you send to her, Please Remember you are only eligible for our trophies if you send in your results regularly, and claim your fourth qualifying Merit Rosette by including a S.A.E.

First, I would like to say how pleased I am to be your new Membership Secretary and Show Support. I hope that I won't let you down and will endeavour to give my best to the Club.

If anyone is entitled to a qualifying merit rosette, please send copies of your merit certificates to me plus a stamped addressed envelope and I will, without delay, return your rosette.

Available now are the Results forms for this year's shows. You will need to submit 1996 show results by January 1997 so do not delay and get those results in. Good luck.

I thought it would be nice for fellow members, especially our junior ones, to get in touch via pen pals. Anyone wishing to be a pen pal please write to Sarah Inigo-Jones with your personal details which will be produced in the next Tonkinfo.

Chris Richards



FOR SALE

Complete set of light brown "velour type" exhibition curtains.
Ideal for the Supreme. Set comprises drapes, litter curtain, pelmet
and side drapes.....£40

Also for sale: Set of wheels for heavy luggage, i.e. cats and
baggage
Cost £25 used twice but will accept £10.

Chris Richards
41 Park Close Road
Alton Hants
01420 86085



BREED ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWS

The 1997 Tonkinese Seminar will be held on Sunday 5th January 1997 at
Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1, 10:30am to 4:00pm.

The subject this year is 'Coat Pattern' we hope to have about 20 cats for
discussion.

Ticket prices, which include a buffet lunch, are £7.00 for TBC members
and Judges and £8.00 for non-members are available from Carol Poole, 7
Langworthy End, Holyport, Maidenhead, SL6 2HJ. Last year there were
more people wishing to attend than we had tickets, so to avoid
disappointment please apply early.

A Tangle of Tonks

Dear All

I wrote to Tonkinfo last year to tell you about the antics of my 3 lovely brown Mymystic cats, the Bandits - Bunty, Bruno and Buster, and how happy my husband, Richard, and I are with them. Here's an update.

I started showing Bruno and really got the 'show bug' so started to exhibit Buster - he took to this like a duck to water and even the vets at vetting-in call him a 'poser'. He always gets lots of attention and really laps it up, he can't pad quick enough so just holds his front feet stretched out, so they look like starfish. He particularly likes children and especially anyone who is in a wheelchair - he seems to know that they are 'special' too.

WELL, last autumn we thought that Bruno was going a bit cross-eyed, and as I JUST have to have a boy to show, I persuaded DEAR Richard to let me have another kitten. As I wasn't sure about Bruno's squint, I held R's promise in reserve and waited to see what happened. In February Linda Vousden's 'deliciously evil' brown Burmese, Shadow, proudly presented her human and feline house mates with 6 wonderful kittens, and sometime after that I managed to remind Richard that he had said I could have a new baby. OK, he said, but only one, and NOT a girl.

At this point I must ask if other people find female Tonkinese as awe-inspiring as we have? Bunty has been a never ending source of wonder to me since I was first told about her when she was about 2.5 days old, and the intelligence, spirit and personality that this young lady has shown in overcoming some problems is almost frightening - our Vet is extremely pleased with how she has developed and she can twist him around her paw! Her intelligence is why Richard said I couldn't have a girl, but boys are OK, they are so much more 'laid back' in their attitude to life - except where fish for tea is concerned!

So I humbly asked Linda if she would consider me as a prospective Mum, and was over the moon when she said yes. Knowing that I would want to show him off too, she suggested the little lilac tabby pointed boy, Mymystic Mischa, and after we'd met in April I happily settled to preparing everything for him.

Linda and I arranged to go together to the FAB Day at Bristol Veterinary School on Saturday, 18 May. I was SO excited as I would be able to bring Mischa home with me on the Sunday. I got to Linda's on Friday p.m. and had a lovely time with the kittens that evening - I think I spoke to Linda and Mike too! I 'phoned Richard on Saturday morning and told him how gorgeous Mischa was and also that little Nimrod, the chocolate tabby pointed boy, loved me too. It was absolutely true - he had lots of cuddles with me on the Friday evening. OK, said Richard, you'd better ask Linda if you can bring him home too. I was ecstatic! ! Well, you can't have an 'only' kitten, can you? I didn't know when to broach the subject to Linda as she actually wasn't feeling very well, but eventually the matter came up when we'd reached the Veterinary school and were talking to someone else. I was so very relieved when she agreed to let me have both babies. So on Sunday morning I brought the kittens home. The weather was wet and windy, but I drove as fast as I could down the M4 and M25 and the weather improved, AND of course I was telling them all the way home about their gorgeous half sister and half brothers and the older moggie family, AND how happy they were all going to be together I felt everything was going to be fantastic - and then I brought the basket indoors and World War Three broke out. Bunty took one look at the kittens and started snarling, growling and hissing and THEN Bruno and Buster saw them and they started too. The three of them looked so evil that I am sure their Mum, Shadow, even at her worst would have looked

positively benign compared to the 3 of them. I could've cried. Poor little Mischa was trembling at this verbal onslaught, Nimrod wasn't much better. Poor Little Guys. The moggies were OK with them though - one good thing I suppose. To be quite honest the next few days were horrendous, and doesn't time go slowly when things are going wrong? The kittens were kept segregated upstairs - so it was a real good thing that Nimrod had come with Mischa or he'd have been so lonely. A routine developed where we'd put the Bandits out into the new run in the garden and let the Little Guys mix with the moggies. Then the Little Guys had to go back behind a glass-panelled door (they had 2 rooms upstairs to play in and the stairs to hurtle up and down) when the Bandits came back inside. So they would bawl to come out and play, and the Bandits would swear back at them through the glass. I started to let Bruno and Buster in to see more of the kittens but even my lovely Buster was growling and sometimes dabbing them. I'd upset my adorable Bunty good and proper though - not only was she snarling at her half brothers, she was snarling and bashing her litter brothers too if she even thought the babies were about, so she only saw them through the glass. The Saturday was my birthday, and it was so miserable with everyone separated and my Bandits upset. In the afternoon I decided to leave the door open and see what happened. I was ready to grab the kittens but as it turned out this wasn't necessary. I kept having to pinch myself, and could hardly breathe I was so nervous. The Bandits were asleep on the settee when I opened the door and the Little Guys trundled out. They got up with me in an armchair to have a cuddle and it was some time before the Bandits realised they were there. Bruno and Buster looked a bit taken aback but then went back to sleep. Bunty started growling and then bashed Bruno and Buster and went out of the room. But at least she didn't attack the babies.

This was 6 weeks ago now, and sometimes I think it was just a nightmare. We regularly have a herd of Tonkinese elephants charging round upstairs, and up and down the cat tower, and some of the less staid moggies join in too. Bruno has had a habit since we got him of 'slurping' a big black fur spot on my moggy Teddy's back, and now the Little Guys slurp him - he does look like Mum, doesn't he? Well, he is dark brown, but how they think his face with the long brown-black nose looks like Shadow's neat round Burmese face, I don't know. But I don't think it's his face they're looking at! Buster actually invites them to slurp him - they'll be asleep and he will go and cuddle up to them and lift a back leg in invitation! Not that they need much encouragement. But if they get hold of a button they get a kick in the chops and off he goes - sharp teef see!

Bunty is gradually getting better, and has actually been seen PLAYING with them. I have seen her washing Mischa too. The problem seems to be if she suddenly realises what she is doing, i.e. playing with one of 'Them', or realises that Richard and I are watching to see how she is getting on with 'Them' and then she will start all the abuse and dabbing. I know I expected too much from the Bandits, hoping they'd love the Little Guys on sight, but I did so hope they would settle straight away as my moggies did with the Bandits last year. I love my Bunty so very very much, but my little idol has turned out to have paws of clay! Nevertheless, I still adore her and always will, funny little lady that she is. Is this what people meant last year when I was warned that Tonkinese are 'naughty'? But by golly, aren't cats glorious? As I started to draft this letter (1 July), I looked across at the settee and saw the most glorious sight - a Tangle of Tonks! All five of them cuddled up together, and it's really hard to tell where one starts or finishes. The moggies are scattered about in their usual places - the armchairs and beds, but it is that Tangle of Tonks that is so astonishing!

Regards to all - Kathy Wilkinson

The Tonkinese Breed Club Club Services

'Tonkinfo' - Published three times a year, Spring, Summer and Winter.

Advertising Rates:	Full Page	£5
	Half page	£3

Items for sale

Full General SOP	.30p + SAE
Single faced SOP (please state Breed No.)	.20p + SAE
Stud List	£1 + SAE A5
Breeders List	.50p + SAE A5
Club Badge (Pink, Turquoise or Lilac)	£4.50 + .50p P&P

Available from the Secretary - Linda Vousden

Photos and Logos may be used, as long as I can get the scanner to work!

Cheques payable to the 'Tonkinese Breed Club'

Lost & Found ads -Free - Send to Editor.



WANTED

**PRIZES LARGE AND SMALL FOR THE SHOW
RAFFLE AND TOMBOLA
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS RICHARDS
01420 86085**



Cat Showing for the Novice - The complete story - Part 1

There are many reasons why cat owners start to show their cats, most novices have been gently persuaded into it by the breeder of their kitten (It goes something like this“Oh yes the beautiful little Brown, Blue, Choccy, Red, Tortie, etc. The one nibbling your ear, I'm afraid I couldn't let him/her go unless they were shown once or twice”)!!



In all honesty, new owners looking for 'just a pet' have an unerring ability to pick the one Fabulous Show Quality Kitten of the lot, so before I have all the breeders in the country breathing down my neck ,it is a two way street!

Anyway you have either made a conscious decision to buy a kitten to show or you have agreed to show somewhere in between falling in love with said kitten and writing out the cheque.

As a novice it is completely daunting and confusing and however much the breeder helps you , one can feel really silly phoning for the eighth time that night. Don't loose heart, all the 'professionals' started somewhere, and on your journey through this magical trip (you will have to forgive me, I enjoy showing, as long as it is OK with the cat) you will meet some wonderful and eccentric 'Cat' people. **WARNING:** Showing a cat is not cheap, apart from the obvious costs of entry fees, travelling expenses, refreshments for the exhibitor(s), and a show catalogue, there are also the hidden costs, such as keeping your cat in tip top condition with the required vaccinations and veterinary check ups. There is also the fact that most cat shows have many companies selling wonderful 'cat' oriented products that just beg to be liberated back to your house!

There are two cat fancy governing boards, the GCCF (Governing Council of the Cat Fancy) and the CA (Cat Association). Most of the Tonkinese cats in the TBC are registered with the GCCF and about 95% of cat shows are run by GCCF affiliated cat clubs, so, as I don't know anything about CA shows, This is only relevant to GCCF cat shows.

The first thing to establish is that your cat is registered with the GCCF,

- the breeder is aware, and happy that you are going to show your cat
- the cat has been transferred to your name, 21 days before the date of the show,
- the cat is a full Tonkinese and not a 'Variant'

To establish these fact you will need the pink form that the breeder gave you when you purchased the kitten (or posted to you later, depending on the vagaries of registering kittens). At the top of this form it has the GCCF logo,(a cats eye) and the letters GCCF, it is called an 'Application for the transfer of ownership of registered cats'. This form contains lots of information, so before you fill it in and send it off, it is a good idea to 'photocopy' it. It will have been signed at the bottom right (signature of present registered owner(s)) by the breeder, who has previously registered the litter of kittens with the GCCF, and is the 'present owner'

- Make sure it is a GCCF form, if it isn't 'phone your kittens breeder.
- Transfer the cat to your ownership by filling in both sides of the form and sending the right amount of transfer fee (currently - £6) to the GCCF, also include a self addressed and stamped postcard, this is very important as the GCCF will stamp this card when they receive your application and will return the card to you, this is the official day that the kitten is transferred to your name, although the paper work (transfer form) may

take much longer to reach you, it is your proof that the kitten is in your ownership and you can then show the kitten 21 days from that date.

In the bottom right hand side box will be the 'Current Transfer Fee' there may also be other information. If it says 'NO PROGENY TO BE REGISTERED' it means that the breeder has registered the kitten on the non-active register and does not wish you to breed from this cat the reasons for this are many and varied and I will not tackle them here. If it says THIS CAT MAY NOT BE SHOWN it probably means that you have a 'variant'. Unfortunately these can only be 'exhibited', more about that at another time.

The next thing you need to know, is where the shows are going to be held, initially your breeder will be a good source of information, and they may even have sent you your first schedule, shows are regularly advertised in the back of 'Cats' and 'Cat World', however the best thing to do is buy the annual 'Show list' of all the cat shows that are held up and down the country from the GCCF. The GCCF show year runs from 1st June to 31st May, so, for instance, we are currently using the 1995/1996 list, which lists all the shows form the beginning of June 1995 to the end of May 1996. the new list for the beginning of June 1996 to the end of May 1997 is published in time for the Supreme show which is held mid November and is available from GCCF stalls at some of the bigger shows or directly from the GCCF office Price £3.

So now you are armed with your list of shows, it is time to choose one, it is worth remembering that your application form to attend a show, usually has to be returned to the Show Manager, or their assistants at least six to eight weeks before the date of the show so it worth applying for your schedule about three months before the **actual** date of the show. Send a stamped, addressed A5 envelope (all schedules are A5 size) to the show manager, who's name and address is on the show list , mark the outside of the envelope SCHEDULE REQUEST FOR ???SHOW this helps the show manager to recognise 'show' mail from personal mail, and speeds things up a bit.

It is in your best interests to enter promptly, the show will always have a closing date, after which entries cannot be accepted, but there always the proviso of, 'or when hall capacity is reached', this means that some venues are of limited size, and only a certain number of exhibits are allowed, so that when this limit is reached the entries close, even if this is before the advertised closing date.

Just to make things really difficult before you start there are three different types of show

- Exemption
- Sanction
- Championship

and three different levels at which cats are shown

- Preliminary
- Provisional
- Championship

For your first show it is a good idea to choose one that is reasonably close to home, so that you and the kitten go through the least amount of stress as possible. Exemption shows are smaller and possibly friendlier? than Championship ones, but do not have the kudos of the bigger more established affairs. I am not going to attempt to tell you the differences now, I would end up writing a book. Suffice to say that at present the Tonkinese are being shown at the Preliminary level (with every thing to go for), and if you have a good 'Tonk' you may as well start at a championship show

So now we get to the schedule, at first glance this is complete gobbledegook, **DON'T PANIC.**

Sit down with nice cup of Tea and turn to the **Open** class section, right at the beginning, it starts with long-haired section, turn the pages slowly until you get to the Foreign Section, Tonkinese are shown in the 'Foreign Section'. There are three sections, Foreign Adults, Foreign Kittens and Foreign Neuters, I will assume that you are starting with a kitten (that has not been neutered), and is between the ages of 14 weeks and 9 months old **On The Day Of the Show** you may not show a kitten that is under 14 weeks old on the day of the show, and after nine calendar months old the kitten is officially called an adult. Look down the list of 'Foreign Kittens' until you find a line a bit like this

315 Tonkinese Assessment Kitten.....Mrs Kyper-Moore
this is the **open** class, its number (315) and the name of the judge who will be judging the class, mark this with a bright coloured pen so that it is easy to find later when you are filling in the entry form. Now continue through the schedule until you get to the Miscellaneous Classes, once again you will need the Foreign Kitten section. Here you will find a selection of classes that appear a little daunting at first , but you will soon get the hang of it, as before mark the classes for which your kitten is eligible, at the front of your schedule there is lots of information on the show in very small type, read all this very thoroughly, it include a definition of classes, and will be easily understandable after about the fourth time you have read it. If this is your first show your kitten will be a Novice, Debutante, Maiden, Non-Breeders (if you are the breeder, you don't need to read this!), Radius if you live within 25 miles of the show hall(as the crow flies), and a visitor if more than 25 miles away. Pull the entry form out from the middle of the schedule, if there are two choose the pedigree version. Fill this form in very carefully directly from your pink transfer form, if you have received it , or the 'photocopy'. Usually your entry fee is for the kitten and its pen in the Open class and three side classes it also includes the admission of one person, Three side classes is usually enough for a first show, no good overdoing it until you are sure that you both enjoy the process, for each class you have entered the kitten will taken out of its pen and handled by the judge and their steward. Buy a catalogue now if it is available, it will be more expensive on the day. Read all the information on the entry form carefully and don't forget to sign the form and send the cheque!! Photocopy this form the send the original to the address on the entry form, also include a stamped addressed postcard, so that you entry acceptance can be confirmed, and a copy of the current general Standard Of Points (SOP) for the Tonkinese (available from Linda Vousden). That's all there is too it !!! I have run out of time and space so watch out for Part 2 in the next 'Tonkinfo'.

Cat Showing for the Novice - The Complete Story - Part 2

After you have sent off all the original bits of paper to the address on the entry form, you should be left with the following, the schedule and your photocopy of your entry form, this should be kept in a safe place along with your postcard that will be returned to you by the show manager or his/her assistant, it will say 'entry received and accepted' or something similar, sometimes there just has an illegible squiggle on it. Try not to lose this as you will need to take it with to the show to check things with.

Of course your cot will be in tip top condition anyway but they do manage to do the daftest thing as a show day looms near, one of mine managed to walk through a pot of red paint the night before the Supreme one year. She was most upset to be plunged into the bath with unseemly

speed, the water was red and the air was blue! If you cat does need a bath, try to do it a few days before so that they are not too fluffy! Make sure that they have no unwanted guests, and that the cat is completely scratch, bite and blemish free, clip their nails so that if they are frightened they cant mangle the vetting in vet or worse the judge! Check and carefully clean ears and give the whole cat a gentle brush to remove any loose hairs.

If this is your first show you will need a show kit to take with you in the day, these can be purchased from 'Paws for thought' or 'Purrfect Pets' by mail order and consist of a plain white litter tray, food and water bowl and a white show blanket. At all shows (apart from the Supreme) all cats in competition are judged at their pens, it is essential that all pens contain the same equipment so that there are no distinguishing marks to single out any particular animal. A piece of 2 foot square white 'vet' bed on the floor of the pen is also allowed plus some form of heat/cool pack, check the rules in the schedule of each individual show carefully.

The night before the show check the preparation of your cat is complete and pack your show bag with the following

- white blanket/s
- white litter tray
- white food/water bowls
- litter (your cats normal brand) / scoop
- cat food
- water
- cat brush/mitt for that final polish
- disinfectant and cloth
- plastic bags (to put dirty trays in)
- kitchen roll
- cats vaccination certificate
- schedule/copy of entry form/map of where you are going
- marker pens
- anything the humans may need

make sure that your cat carrier is clean, with a comfortable blanket

try to arrive at the show hall in good time, there is nothing worse than upsetting the cats by having to rush them into unfamiliar pens. As you enter the building follow the vetting - in signs, collect your vetting -in slip and tally from the person who is usually sitting close to the vetting in area and wait to be told which vets table to visit. Vetting in is a serious matter and a vet will refuse entry to any animal that in their opinion is not in perfect health, however, as show cats are so pampered there is very rarely a problem. After clearing vetting - in the vet will sign your slip and you may they go into the show hall and pen your cat.

The pen number will be on the vetting in slip or envelope, disinfect your pen then put in the litter tray, food, water and blankets, then put your cat in the pen and settle it in. You will be told when to leave the show hall to allow the judging to begin, at this point you must remove the food bowl from the pen, leave the water in place. You are then locked out while the judging takes place, sometimes you can watch from a balcony or cafe and this is a good time to chat to all your friends and catch up on the cat news. The catalogue will be available as you leave the hall, and you can mark up your copy with your pens and find out how much competition your cat has! The hall will usually be closed for 2-3 hours but the results will begin to trickle out before then and will appear agonisingly slowly on the awards board, the awards board is a long wooden thingummy with little



bits of paper stuck to it, the numbers of the classes will run along the top and the results slips will be stuck below the appropriate numbrs as the day goes on, ones feet can get very tired by the time you have done a few trips to the board so wear comfy shoes. That is about it really, if you are lucky enough to be placed in any of your class you will be collecting prize cards and rosettes, some are delivered to your pen by willing runners and the rest you have to queue for, it is best to ask the TBC member nearest to you, I am sure they will be only to



willing to help and give advice and launch you on your show career.
Good Luck and hope to see at a show soon.

Midge (The Tonkinese Cat)

Tonks, like myself, are very loving and friendly cats. We like to have the company of other cats in our home. I do tend to talk a lot which can get very annoying for my owners I am half Siamese and half Burmese and I think I get the talkative side from my Siamese parentage. I like to be handled and I love lying in somebody's arms, especially hanging over their shoulders like a baby.

I have been blessed with a very good set of teeth but as us males are more tolerant and placid than females it would have to be something very serious for me to use them.

I live in a household with another cat whom I adopted as my substitute mother when I came to stay at 11 weeks old. There is also a 7 year old boy who lives with us and he has pulled my ears and tail and lifted me by the fur from one chair to another but I have never once lashed out with my claws or teeth. This I think proves how tolerant a cat I am.

I also like pretend fighting and chasing my adopted mum all over the house but being a lot heavier and stronger than her I sometimes get carried away in the fun a become too boisterous which inevitably leads to slippers or newspaper being thrown in my direction to warn me to calm down.

Our house also has a goldfish and I can sit for ages behind the glass tank watching him swim about. When his tank is being cleaned, Bob, that's the fish, is put in a basin of water and I try and play with him but it is very hard to do this as he is in this stuff called water which I hate. The only time that I don't mind water and getting wet is when I am allowed outside and it starts to rain but that's entirely different as I am usually pre-occupied stalking birds.

My eating habits to me appear normal but my nickname is "THE BIN" Maybe this is something to do with me eating everything and anything whether it be cat food or human food. My attitude is if it is good enough for humans then it's good enough for me. I enjoy curry, chicken, fish, prawn crackers, bread and butter, chops and of course any kind of cream including flavoured ice-cream.

During my owners mealtimes my mum and myself are allowed a slice of chicken roll and this is supposed to keep us away from the table. My mistress likes chicken and if she is in the mood she allows me to take pieces from her mouth. I do this very carefully and have never had any accidents yet.

Sleeping habits - now this is definitely one of my favourite past times. I enjoy being warm and seek out the warmest places, which include jackets that have carelessly been left on the settee or in between all my mistresses teddies on the bed. At bed time I believe that I have a god given right to be in bed between my mistress and master. I sleep on my back, my side or my stomach but I must have my head on a pillow. Well this is the way they sleep so I just copy and do the same.

My owners have lots of toys to keep my mum and myself amused so playtime is real fun but I

prefer rolled up bits of silver or green paper and I have been known to play for ages with them. My other favourite toy is a furry mouse but first I have to chew its tail off then I have a good play with it . When I have had enough of this I either chew it to bits eating all fur and leaving the plastic shell or hide it under the furniture to be played with at another time. I have also been known to steal items of the child's, bits of lego or meccano, small animals for the farm set and knitted toys. I hate travelling especially if confined to a basket or a carrier. I think it is the sound of the engine I don't like as I am fine in the good weather when I like sleeping in the car on the parcel shelf.

Short or long journeys - it doesn't matter I holler the place down - so it's not surprising that I don't attend many shows as I am usually hoarse by the time I arrive. While at any show I am the perfect gentleman and love people looking and talking to me.

Visiting the vet: - I don't mind this at all as the people in the vets are really nice and for some reason like me. It doesn't matter if it's only a wee check up or an injection I just like the attention.

Claw cutting: - This I also enjoy as I just lie on my mistresses lap and let her get on with it. I also love being groomed and could put up with that all day.

Shows: - I have now achieved three merit certificates which I am very proud of and am doing my bit for full Tonkinese recognition. I have also been shown as an exhibition cat at several shows resulting in many enquiries about kittens for my breeder.

If ever anyone tells you that Tonks are not friendly, just tell them my story as we are very laid back cats who ever had the good fortune to walk this human earth.

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