



Merry Christmas & A
Very Happy New Year !

Editors Notes:

Hi, hoping you will enjoy browsing through our Autumn issue of Tonkinfo. Some of the committee members have written about themselves and their background in cats/Tonkinese and I hope you find this interesting.

Are you ready for Christmas? Have a good one – and please remember to send in your subscription for 2014.

Best wishes

Kathy Wilkinson

(Neither the Editor, Committee nor Club is accountable for opinions expressed by individuals in this or any other issue)

CONTENTS

- ✧ Committee & Contacts
- ✧ Hon Secretary's report
- ✧ Committee Thumbnails
- ✧ Welfare Report
- ✧ Club Show
- ✧ Mymystic Tonkinese Christmas Trifle
- ✧ 'catty' Christmas carols
- ✧ Discovery by Cornell University
- ✧ Tribute page
- ✧ Annual subscription form

TONKINESE BREED CLUB COMMITTEE & CONTACTS 2013

PRESIDENT: Diana Harper
VICE-PRESIDENT: Dr Sarah Caney BVSc PhD DSAM MRCVS
VICE-PRESIDENT: Linda Vousden AMACC

CHAIRMAN – Christine Tamlin	Tel: (02380) 845376 E-mail: christine.tamlin@btinternet.com
VICE-CHAIRMAN & TONKINFO — Kathy Wilkinson	5 Beltana Drive, Gravesend, Kent DA12 4BT Tel: (01474) 352711 - answerphone E-mail: pamplecat@aol.com
HON. TREASURER – Mike Vousden	Lansdale, 12 Robinhood Lane, Winnersh, Berks. RG41 5LX , Tel: (0118) 9619 444
HON. SECRETARY – Linda Vousden	Lansdale, 12 Robinhood Lane, Winnersh, Berks. RG41 5LX , Tel: (0118) 9619 444 E-Mail: tbc.uk@ntlworld.com
TBC Rescue & Welfare — Valerie Chapple	Tel: (01428) 661392 E-mail: val.chapple@tiscali.co.uk
TBC Web Site – Linda Vousden	<i>(incl. Kitten, Stud & Breeders Lists)</i> As per Secretary
Membership Secretary – Mike Vousden	As per Treasurer
AGM Awards – Rebecca Sara	Tel: 07870 572160 E-mail: Rebeccasara08@live.com
TBC Show Manager – Kathy Wilkinson	As per Vice Chairman
TBC Show Cups — Christine Tamlin	As per Chairman
Committee Members:	Julia Craig-McFeely, Karen Durden, Ann Hazelden and Rachel Millward
TBC Delegate to GCCF Council - Substitute Delegate –	Julia Craig-McFeely Kathy Wilkinson
Club Representatives on the TBAC	Julia Craig-McFeely, Karen Durden, Christine Tamlin, Linda Vousden and Mike Vousden

TONKINESE BREED CLUB WEB SITE

- Kitten List & Stud List
- Downloadable forms and useful documents, Club publications etc.
- Breeders' cats re-homing page
- The rescue & welfare page for lost and found Tonkinese.
- Members 'For Sale' page, for any cat-related items you wish to sell (equipment, furniture, artworks, books, magazines, craftwork, cat houses etc.)
- The Tonkinese BAC page
- Blog Page for use of Members
- Roll of Honour for Tonkinese with Titles and Merit Awards

If you link to the TBC site please check the address, there are still members who have the wrong address. The TBC web site is www.tonkinese.info



Hon.Sec's Report - *Linda Vousden*

Hi Folks,

It's certainly been an eventful time since the last issue of Tonkinfo - what a year it's been for the Tonks and our Club members!

Sadly, as the Club is now into its third decade, we inevitably have to say farewell to more of the wonderful cats that laid the groundwork for the breed and the Club in the 1990s, it is too painful to mention names here but the Club's roll of honour will help to keep many of them in our hearts and minds for a long time to come.

It was sad to have to say farewell to Dr Tommy Bishop who passed away earlier this year. Along with his wife, Diana, Tommy was one of the founders of this Club; together they bred the lovely Episcopuss Tonkinese. We offer our warmest wishes to Diana who has kindly agreed that we may hold new classes at our next show – the Episcopuss classes (adult, kitten and neuter), in which all colours and all coat-patterns shall compete together; a first for Tonkinese.

Of course, unless you have been on an extended tour in the Arctic, you'll know that the biggest news for Tonks this year has been the acceptance of the solid (BCR) and pointed (CPP) Tonkinese coat-patterns with GCCF Experimental status! Already we have cats winning the necessary Merit certificates that contribute toward these coat-patterns getting Championship status. Especial thanks to Club members Chris & Nikita Richards, Catherine & Jon Bernard, Rob Spencer-Fleet, Janine Davies, Rebecca Miller, Julie Singleton, Tamzin Mee and Natalie McNally-Roberts for getting their BCR and CPP Tonks straight on the bench - we hope that many more Tonk owners will join them in the coming year.

On that subject, I am the official collator of Merit results for the Tonkinese BAC, which will eventually apply for Championship status for the BCR and CPP Tonks – once we have enough Merits. **So remember to send your Merit wins into me** via the link on the TBC web site (just go to www.tonkinese.info/please-add-my-cats-merit) for the form.

In May 2014 we are looking forward to another Tonkinese first - the UK seems to be quite good at setting Tonk firsts ☺ . The two Tonkinese Clubs will be holding a joint show. This means that each Club show will be held individually but share a venue and costs. Of course this also means that exhibitors may enter both Tonk shows with the opportunity to win a Merit, or other certificates, at each show. There will be some slight changes in the way the two Clubs run their shows, and we are sure that it will be an enjoyable experience. As Mike and I have spent the previous Fridays helping to set-up every single TBC show since our very first, I can tell you that we are delighted we'll not be trailing around in the dark and wet, lugging boxes back and forth this time – well it might be wet but it won't be dark ☺ Keep an eye out for more news in the future.

Isn't it nice to have a copy of Tonkinfo so close to Christmas? Thank you Kathy.

On behalf of all the Committee I wish you, your families and your furries a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2014!

Cheers, Linda

Committee Member Thumbnails:

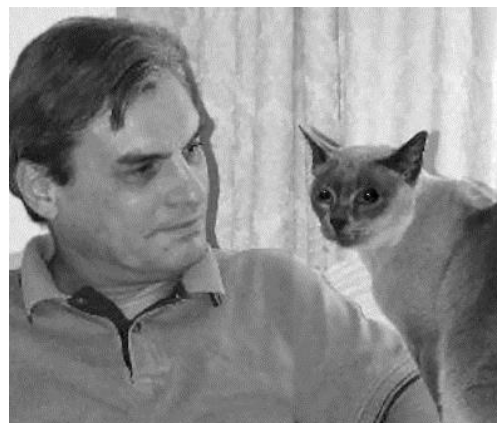
LINDA VOUSDEN

(TBC Vice-President & TBC Hon.Secretary)

I grew up with many much-loved family pets; my favourites were usually the cats. In 1976 my parents gave me Moral, a beautiful lilac-tabby Siamese, who in turn gave me my first extraordinary experience of breeding pedigree kittens. In 1991, to keep Moral company in her old age, Mike and I obtained our darling blue Burmese girl, Mistry. On Christmas Eve Mistry delivered seven Tonkinese kittens - a breed still new in the public eye. They were so wonderful that we kept three (Speckle, Fable and Caspar) and never looked backed. When Moral passed on our gorgeous brown Burmese, Shadow, came into our lives and from her descended the Mymystic Tonkinese. I had become utterly involved with this amazing breed, on the TBC Committee & the Tonkinese BAC - working to finally see all three Tonkinese coat-patterns on the show bench. My habit of gathering data on subjects I enjoy has resulted in two books (Tonkinese Cats and Tonkinese Cats – A History). Some of our wonderful Mymystic Tonks have helped to lay strong foundations for the breed, in pedigrees and in Tonkinese show history. Finally, with the acceptance of the 'solid' & 'pointed' Tonks, I have time to work on my other desires; developing my cat art and working to be a GCCF Tonkinese judge. I've lived and loved Tonks for over two decades now. I've met some wonderful people and their Tonks in the UK and abroad, and hope to carry on doing so for a long time to come. If you'd like to see what I'm up to please visit me at www.tonkinese.me.

MIKE VOUSDEN (TBC Hon. Treasurer)

It wasn't until I met Linda, and Moral, that I'd ever had a pet cat. It was the beginning of an unexpected but happy and fascinating experience. Mistry was the first kitten I'd owned and she was a sheer delight, so it was not hard to slip from being a kitten owner to becoming as involved as Linda in the world of cats – although when I became the TBC and TBAC Treasurer all those years ago, because I'm an accountant, I didn't think I'd still be doing it today. Nor did I ever think that I would happily turn out at the crack of dawn to travel across the country to cat shows. We've had some wonderful experiences – bringing up litters of beautiful and intelligent kittens, proudly watching some of them go from being Merit winners to titled cats. I've worked at many Supreme shows, and at every TBC show, seeing the Tonks become more and more popular with the public. I've watched how the breed has grown from the foundation cats, including our own Pagan and Pharoah. It's good to see that Tonks haven't been spoiled by time, they are still wholesome and intelligent with bags of character and long may they stay that way!



ANN HAZELDEN

In 1997, after a lot of deliberation, my first husband, Michael, and I decided the right cat for us was a Tonkinese. We went to see Jo Logan and fell in love with a beautiful blue kitten. Majik subsequently became ours. She went on to have five litters and whilst she is now 16, she still enjoys life though somewhat more sedately.

From Majik's litters we kept one chocolate girl, Button, and accidentally re-acquired a soppo great big blue boy, Frociuous, who I sold to the wrong owner. Button also had one litter but I realised when Michael died that it would be impossible for me to carry on breeding cats by myself.

Sadly Button had to be put down earlier this year. I have shown Frociuous but he is not totally enamoured with showing so now I am just a Tonkinese owner, or rather I am owned by two Tonks.

We did discover that we actually had our first Tonks in 1979. We mated our Siamese, Jubilee, to one of Helen Hewitt's Burmese studs. We thought that the kittens were lovely but we could not keep them and so sold them. It wasn't until much later that we discovered that they were Tonkinese. This probably influenced our decision to buy a Tonk.

Apart from Tonks, I was an electrical installations engineer, now retired. I also make cards. I remarried in 2011.

The Club Show

October 2013 has certainly not been my 'usual' October as we didn't have a show. It felt so peculiar as for many years once the show was over I could think about Christmas, but this year I could have started 'doing' Christmas even before the supermarkets!

SO! I told you big changes were afoot: - the next Tonkinese Breed Club show will be on 24 May 2014 at New Haw, our new venue. I am also very pleased to announce that the Tonkinese Cat Club will be sharing the show date and venue with us.

WHICH MEANS? That everyone who wants to will have the opportunity to enter both shows with the possibility of winning 2 certificates on the same day. With only one lot of travel expenses.

Also, for exhibitors accustomed to travelling home in the cold and dark at the end of October – you will be able to go home in the light and not have to remember to put the clocks back as well when you fall into bed.

Seriously, I do hope that everyone will see this as a good move for both the clubs. We share a love of a beautiful breed of cat and a shared show date and venue makes good economical sense for clubs and exhibitors too,

The schedules should be out at the beginning of March.

The committees of both clubs are looking forward to a great show – please join us to make it a success. Even if you are not able to enter a cat, it would be great if you could attend, and if you would like to learn more about the 'workings' of a show, eg table work, then please give me a call or send an email.

Kathy

KITTENS

Advertise yours on our club web site, it's free!

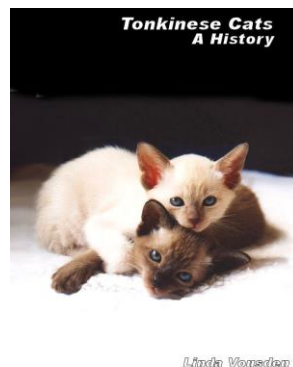
With 2,000 to 3,000 hits per month more Tonk kittens are sold via the web site than any other medium.

NOTE: All listing requests should now be submitted on the form that you'll find on the kitten list page.

If you want to know more about the history of the Tonkinese, or the Tonkinese Breed Club, you need

"Tonkinese Cats – A History"

only available from
www.tonkinese.me



Welfare report

It has been a bit of a strange year so far. At one point I was asked to re home five pairs from five separate owners, two pairs being in Scotland. I managed to sort them out, and the two Scottish pairs are still with their original owners who are hoping to keep them.

One pair went into an animal rescue because I was only given two days to find a home for them, and the other two pairs I successfully re-homed.

At the same time I re-homed a lovely blue boy who has a bowel problem, and he is loving his new home and Siamese companion.

I have had several people contacting me with a view to re-homing their cats but not actually doing so. At the moment I have people waiting to give homes but no cats to re-home – one lady lives in Germany and is waiting to fly over as soon as the right cats are available.

Val Chapple

and

A Letter From The New Mum of a Tonk

Hi Valerie

Just a quick update on Chula, he's now 'Stanley' and is as impressed with that name as much as Chula! He does know his name but chooses to ignore it, typical man, selective hearing! Stanley has settled in very well and gets on great with Izzy the siamese, sometimes he's a bit boisterous but they cuddle up together all the time. He still has bowel trouble, not much difference even with the special food and powder, so the vet has suggested a high fibre diet with the powder. Hopefully might help a bit. He goes out on his harness in my garden and must have been used to children, as he plays for ages with them, sitting in a box and being pulled around the house.



He is a fantastic cat and I have a lot more visitors now who just come Stanley visiting! I've sent some pictures but probably too late for the calendar and not suitable, but I will send some better ones and maybe he could star next year. I hope his previous mum is doing better and will be pleased to know he's happy, settled and much loved. Could you let me know how to buy a calendar, is it through the website?

Thank you for introducing Stanley to my family, he's a very special cat.

Kind regards

Lisa Wright

Mymystic Tonkinese Christmas Trifle

Ingredients:

- Chocolate Brownies (a tub from a supermarket will do if you don't want to make them yourself)
- Small can of Apricots
- Fresh or small can of Raspberries (or Strawberries if you prefer)
- Fresh or small can of Blueberries (or Blackberries if you prefer)
- Half a tea cup of Baileys Irish Cream with Caramel
- Large tub of thick fresh whipped cream (tinned cream is NOT acceptable)
- Lilac cake decorations (your choice but must be lilac)
- Chocolate shavings (dark, milk or white – your choice)

Method:

1. Line the bottom of a trifle dish with brownies
2. Add a layer of apricots using a little of the juice to moisten the brownies
3. Add a layer of whipped cream
4. Add another layer of brownies
5. Drizzle generously with the Irish Cream and Caramel (if not too generous then you can drink what's left in the cup)
6. Add a layer of raspberries (or strawberries, or both if you like)
7. Add a layer of whipped cream
8. Add a layer of blueberries (or blackberries, or both if you like)
9. Add a layer of whipped cream
10. Decorate with your lilac decorations and chocolate shavings
11. Destroy by plunging spoon into the confection and eating. Warning – Very Rich.

... why is it a Tonkinese Trifle? because it's brown, blue, chocolate, lilac, red, cream, caramel & apricot ☺

*Wishing Everyone A Very Merry Christmas –
Linda, Mike and the Mymystic Tonks*

**Visit a new web site www.CatArtPlus.com
for interesting artwork and books – much of it featuring Tonkinese.**

Twelve Cats of Christmas

On the **first day** of Christmas when I brought home my tree
My 12 cats were laughing at me.

On the **second day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 2 mangled garlands
and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **third day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 3 missing Wise Men,
2 mangled garlands, and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **fourth day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 4 males a-spraying,
3 missing Wise Men, 2 mangled garlands, and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **fifth day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 5 shredded gifts
4 males a-spraying 3 missing Wise Men 2 mangled garlands, and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **sixth day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 6 fallen angels
5 shredded gifts, 4 males a-spraying, 3 missing Wise Men, 2 mangled garlands,
and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **seventh day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 7 half-dead rodents,
6 fallen angels, 5 shredded gifts, 4 males a-spraying, 3 missing Wise Men, 2 mangled garlands,
and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **eighth day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 8 shattered ornaments,
7 half-dead rodents, 6 fallen angels, 5 shredded gifts, 4 males a-spraying, 3 missing Wise Men,
2 mangled garlands, and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **ninth day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 9 chewed-through light strings,
8 shattered ornaments, 7 half-dead rodents, 6 fallen angels, 5 shredded gifts, 4 males a-spraying,
3 missing Wise Men, 2 mangled garlands, and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **tenth day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 10 tinsel hairballs,
9 chewed-through light strings, 8 shattered ornaments, 7 half-dead rodents, 6 fallen angels,
5 shredded gifts, 4 males a-spraying, 3 missing Wise Men, 2 mangled garlands,
and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **eleventh day** of Christmas I saw beneath my tree 11 broken branches,
10 tinsel hairballs, 9 chewed-through light strings, 8 shattered ornaments, 7 half-dead rodents,
6 fallen angels, 5 shredded gifts, 4 males a-spraying, 3 missing Wise Men, 2 mangled garlands,
and my 12 cats laughing at me.

On the **twelfth day** of Christmas I looked at my poor tree – 12 cats a-climbing,
11 broken branches, 10 tinsel hairballs, 9 chewed-through light strings, 8 shattered ornaments,
7 half-dead rodents, 6 fallen angels, 5 shredded gifts, 4 males a-spraying, 3 missing Wise Men,
2 mangled garlands, and my 12 cats laughing at me.

Two Christmas songs – sing both to the tune of ‘Jingle Bells’

Dashing through the house,
And Jumping high and low,
We chase a cat nip mouse,
As fast as we can go.

The mouse is old and worn,
And we bit off its tail,
What fun to rip the stuffing out,
And leave a catnip trail!

Chorus:

Oh, cat toy bells, cat toy bells,
Ringing loud and clear,
Oh, what fun, to play and pounce
When Christmas time is here!

I found a fuzzy ball,
That jingled when it bounced,
I rolled it down the hall,
And when it stopped I pounced.

The ball stayed where it lay,
I'd tired it out at last,
And then it tried to get away,
But I was much too fast!

Chorus:

Oh, cat toy bells, cat toy bells,
Ringing loud and clear.
Oh, what fun to play and pounce,
When Christmas time is near!

Anonymous

Dashing to the vet's in a brand new red sports car.
We have no litter box; I hope it isn't far...
I'll scream and claw and cry, to make them all feel bad.
While plotting in my tiny brain to make the vet go mad!

Chorus:

To the vet's, to the vet's, to the vet's we go.
If I had a choice in this, I'd rather just say "no-o"!

To the vet's, to the vet's, to the vet's we go.
Why must we always do this? You know I hate it so!

They check my fur for fleas; they check my ears for mites;
They give me lots of shots; I give them lots of bites;
They want to see my eyes; they want to see my teeth;
They check out every inch of me, above and underneath.

Chorus:

To the vet's, to the vet's, to the vet's we go.
If I had a choice in this, I'd rather just say "no-o"!

To the vet's, to the vet's, to the vet's we go.
Why must we always do this? You know I haaaate it soooooo!

Discovery offers hope against deadly cat virus

Announcement by Cornell University

Anyone who has been around the Cat Fancy – involved with showing and breeding - for more than a few years will have heard about the horror 'FIP' (Feline Infectious Peritonitis) can cause. This disease is horrible and heartbreaking for the owners. Kittens are particularly vulnerable, especially in shelters and catteries, and no-one has known what causes the feline enteric coronavirus (FECV), a normally benign intestinal virus, to mutate into the malignant FIP virus, which then moves away from the intestine and travels throughout the body, killing most cats within weeks. Current tests cannot distinguish between the common FECV virus and the killer FIP virus, and there are no effective vaccines or treatments.

The mutant virus was discovered by a Cornell vet in 1963, and since then Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine, along with many other scientists and institutions, have been working to try and discover what makes this normally harmless virus turn lethal. The research has been going on for 30 years, being handicapped by the virus's ability to quickly mutate – the same problem encountered when search for a cure for the common cold. Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine has used viral genetics to show what changes happen when the benign virus changes into the FIP virus, and are hoping that this knowledge will form the basis of tests, vaccines and treatments to protect cats from this disease. The results of their work, achieved through gathering the world's largest sample collection for FIP, were published in a journal, Emerging Infectious Disease, in July 2013.

Having worked in the pharmaceutical industry I know how long it can take to develop drugs, so I think it will be a good few years yet before there is anything in the way of a vaccine available, but at least if tests become available it will be a step forward in the fight against this horrible disease.

To read Cornell's announcement for yourself: <http://news.cornell.edu/stories/2013/06/discovery-offers-hope-against-deadly-cat-virus>

SHOW RESULTS

Congratulations to everyone who has shown their cats this last year.

Please remember to send your show results in and they will be assessed towards the AGM awards and so let club members know how well your cat or kitten has done this last year.

Please send to Rebecca Sara on Rebeccasara08@live.com



Tribute page:

Imperial Grand Premier Mymystic Pagansun - 18 January 2001– 8 November 2012 (Bill) to all his cat show friends.



Bill passed away unexpectedly on our way to the vet on the 08/11/12

He was at the TBC show last year where he enjoyed much attention from his friends.

We miss him so much he truly was the most beautiful Brown boy in all the world.

Val Chapple

(Editor's Note – Bill was an absolute darling, and showed his wonderful nature at our last show, chatting away to people as usual.)

Grand Premier Mymystic Goldenshadow – 22 April 1995 – 26 January 2013

Bruno



Bruno was a gentle cat, a gentleman in the proper sense of the word. He was a fixture on the Tonk show circuit for many years – gaining 44 Merits, his ICs and then went on to become a Premier. He wasn't shown for a while as I had the other cats to take out and thought he had earned his retirement, but he would still try to get in the basket on show days, so eventually I brought him out again and he achieved Grand Premier at nearly 13, and being Best Foreign Neuter at 2 big Championship shows during that time.

Unfortunately, in early November 2012 Bruno was diagnosed as being diabetic. He had been on treatment for renal problems for a few years and was doing well with the condition until this time. Sadly, although his

diabetes was stabilised, his kidneys deteriorated and, despite all treatment, Bruno became an angel at the end of January 2013.

Kathy Wilkinson

Imperial Grand Premier Mymystic Nimrod – 22 February 1996 – 26 September 2013



Nimrod was known by many as the 'WOW cat', especially when younger. He was a stunning example of a chocolate tabby and gained his Merits, ICs, PCs etc and was then retired so that other of our cats could come out. He returned to the show bench at age nearly 12 and gained his Imperial Grand Premier in straight shows – and at that time it turned out that he was developing hyperthyroidism. A few years ago he also appeared on the Paul O'Grady television show Pet Clinic to talk about allergies – being chauffeured up to the TV studio in a big silver Merc!

He developed pancreatitis 18 months ago, and did well until the end of August this year when it flared up, requiring

insulin. Sadly, his diabetes could not be controlled and 'the' decision had to be made.

He had slept in my arms for nearly the whole of his life, and I miss him dreadfully.

Kathy Wilkinson

TAIL END:

Here's hoping you have a peaceful Christmas
and that 2014 is a better year for everyone

Best Wishes
The Committee



And Finally

A gentle reminder to pay your annual subscription for 2014:

SUBSCRIPTIONS FEES - Please circle the relevant boxes

	Annual	Double	Long Term	
			5 Years	10 Years
Single	£6	£12	£28	£55
Joint	£8.50	£17	£38	£65
Junior (under 18)	£4	£4	Not Available	

Title & Name:.....

Address:.....
.....

Post Code:..... **Tel No.:**

E-mail:

Please send the tear-off slip and your cheque to the Hon Treasurer, Mike Vousden at Lansdale, 12 Robinhood Lane, Winnersh, Berks. RG41 5LX. (Cheques payable to the 'Tonkinese Breed Club')