

# **Abyssinians and Somalis Compete at The Perth Royal Show 2011**

Once again the Perth Royal Show was upon us and the Abyssinian and Somali community came out in force to compete for that prestigious award "Supreme in Show". All the cats and kittens competed first for the Best of Breed Awards in the Desexed, Kitten and Entire sections. Then the cats and kittens had to compete against cats and kittens across all three groups to try and gain a place in the judges Top 10 for Desexed, Kittens and Entire Cats. With 38 Desexed cats, 70 Cats and 40 Kittens, we were really unsure as to how we would go against cats and kittens from the other groups.

The judges this year were Nick Tricarico from Victoria and Valerie Harney from Queensland. There were over 170 cats and kittens competing across the three days with the Desexed Cats and Kittens been judged on the Saturday, the Entires and Domesticals been judged on the Sunday and the finals been held on the Monday. There was a very strong contingent of Abyssinians and Somalis competing this year. In total there were 26 Abyssinians and Somalis in show, including an Abyssinian litter.

The competition was tough, but both the Abyssinians and Somalis wooed both the judges and the audience with their personality and temperament both on the bench and after judging when the public were allowed to look at the cats and stroke them during the "Meet the Breeds" talks.

At the end of the finals on Monday each Judge announced their Top 10 Kittens, Desexed and Entire Cats in show. We all waited anxiously for the results. It was fantastic to listen to the judge's positive comments about the Abyssinians and Somalis that they had placed in their Top 10 in each section. For each Ring and each category there was at least one Somali or Abyssinian and in some cases both in each of the Judges Top 10.

Rossi, my Tawny Somali Neuter was 7<sup>th</sup> Best Desexed Cat in show in one Ring and was placed 9<sup>th</sup> in the other Ring. It was also great to see Maureen Campbell at the Perth Royal Show again. Her Tawny Abyssinian female was placed 4<sup>th</sup> Best

Entire in one Ring and her lovely Tawny Male Abyssinian Kitten was placed 10<sup>th</sup> Best Kitten in one Ring.

Jan Fuller had a good day with her Cinnamon Abyssinian boy Tex getting 8<sup>th</sup> Best Entire in one Ring and her Cinnamon Abyssinian Male Kitten placing 7<sup>th</sup> in one Ring. Savuti a beautiful Tawny Abyssinian Entire Male, who is co-owned by Jan and Helen Norwood, was 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Entire under Judge Valerie Harney.

Carole Carroll's Male Somali Kitten Teddy was placed Reserve Kitten in Show in one Ring and 5<sup>th</sup> Best Kitten in show in the other ring. He was also named Best Somali Exhibit in Show in Ring 2. Her Tawny Somali Female Molly was 7<sup>th</sup> Best Entire in one Ring. Karen Hsi's beautiful Tawny Somali Entire Shere Khan was Reserve Entire in show under Nick Tricarico and was also named Best Somali Exhibit in the same Ring.

The prizes for Best Somali Exhibit in each ring were kindly donated by our very own Debbie Thomas from Nareira cattery in Sydney and Cats "N" Critters Pet Sitters here in Rockingham. I would also personally like to thank Betty Mitchell who knitted and donated over 30 mice for all the Group 3 Exhibitors at the show. All the cats looked stunning and were perfectly groomed. They were a credit to their owners. Everyone was thrilled with their results.

On a personal note I had mixed feelings and emotions as I travelled to this year's show. I cannot believe that it is a year ago that Helen Norwood's husband Nicholas passed away during the first day of the show. It was hard not seeing Helen at the show this year, seeing her face beam with joy as her cats are presented to the judges on the bench, or sitting in the card room filling in catalogues with Carole eating nuts from her container and talking about kittens and matings. It was also hard not seeing her Tawny Abyssinian Neuter Jodaerin Armani in the cage next to my Somali Neuter boy competing against him as he has done so many times since 2008. Just remember Helen that you are always in our thoughts.

*Lynne Moorman*

Perth

# ABYSSINIANS AT THE PERTH ROYAL SHOW 2011



Savuti with Judge Valerie Harney



Hottentot with Judge Nick Tricarico



Musicman



Tex



Abyssinian Litter 1



Jan Fuller with Savuti



Gypson



Tex

# SOMALIS AT THE PERTH ROYAL SHOW 2011



Rudi with Judge Nick Tricarico



Tarek



Rossi



Tarek with Councillor in Charge  
Dudley Preston



Ali with Judge Valerie Harney



Sweet Suzanne



Carole Carroll with Teddy



Cookie



Shere Khan



Molly



Joey