# The Abyssinian Breeder 30th **National Show**

# Canberra, 18 May 2014

## **GK's Comments**

#### **Before the Show**

Thanks mainly to Birman Cat of Canberra members, we revived the show dinner, which was held at the splendidly appointed Ainslie Football and Social Club. Held of the Saturday night, and thus after the Birman All-breed but before The Abyssinian Breeder show, this was highly enjoyable and well attended by all the judges and most exhibitors.

In addition to providing good surroundings, good food and an opportunity to mingle with friends and meet the judges, the dinner featured a surprise (which I guess should not have been a surprise) presentation to me, to mark the 30<sup>th</sup>

Abyssinian Breeder show. It was made by Sue Shawn, who said a lot of very kind words, many of which I tried to return, as well as adding many words of thanks to the Birman Club members who each year provide essential assistance for arranging and running



## **During the Show**

There were more presentations!

First, Wendy Newton gave me an Abyssinian Breeder Show History album, with two huge pages for each show since 1984, featuring photos of winners, general show information and interesting details, artistically produced as only Wendy does it. I regard it as a compendium of memories, and often look through it.

Then, Lynne Moorman came, almost staggering under the weight of three smaller but thicker presentation books, with leatherlike covers gold-embossed with Egyptian motifs, containing literally hundreds of good wishes and congratulations from cat people around the world. Lynne must have

been assembling these for months, and they were all handwritten on large star-shaped cards of various colours. See also Lynne's article.

Then there was the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake. Some of this was captured by the ever-present Wendy, as you can



The Abyssinian Breeder show.

Months earlier, Sue had asked for my best photos of our Nile Phantom Of Hope, and then quietly arranged for the best two to be enlarged to poster size (90 x 60 cm) and mounted. She presented them to me at the dinner, and as you can see from the accompanying photo, they made quite an impression. The two photos



### The Show Itself

Because this was the 30<sup>th</sup> show, we decided to have a fourth ring, and judges from the US, UK, Continental Europe and Australia. Because of good preparations, this went almost like clockwork, but judging was at times hurried. However, the number of exhibits entered was 50, a drop from the 60+ we'd had in recent years, though we did have two first-time exhibitors, in Amanda Ashby from Brisbane and Tracey Jack from Sydney. Of the 50 entries, 39 were Tawny and the other 11 divided pretty evenly among Cinnamons, Blues and Fawns. The quality was very high, not only among the Abys but also Somalis, of whom there were 11 entered. Runner-up to Supreme Kitten was a Somali

Supreme Exhibit was the Supreme Cat, Eileen &

Karel Pittaway's Tawny male, CCCA Ch & Emerald Gr Merindalee Ch Harrison Ford. R/U to Supreme Exhibit, and Supreme Kitten, was Carol Collins's Tawny male. Osiris(V) Simply Perfection. Supreme Desexed Cat, in a small but very high class field, was Kay Cooper's CCCA Ch & Gold Dbl Gr Ch Nile Fortunati.

My thanks go to the Birman Cat Club of Canberra; Denise White, show coordinator, producer of the catalogue and floor manager; Lorraine Vahland, who ran was the card-room with assistance from Ben White; Alison Moore, who made arrangements for the judges produced switch-over plan for the Saturday to Sunday floor configurations. Thanks also to Wendy Newton, for sponsoring the four top-10 Exhibit rings (with some external assistance) and providing many of the best photos at the show (see them at http://www.nileabys.com/showphot.htm and in this article) and also the show dinner. Thanks also to the stewards, Deric Kenyon, Chrissy Mangin, Dale Plummer, Ben White and Debbie Thomas, with further thanks to Debbie for finding such uniquely Australian

and artistic judges' presents. Thanks finally to all the exhibitors who came from all around the country – I



hope to see you in Canberra next May for the 31<sup>st</sup> show. Do bring most of your cats and friends!



Supreme Exhibit - CCCA Ch & Emd Dbl Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford with owner Eileen Pittaway

# **Top 10 Exhibits Tables**

# Ring 1 – Kathy Calhoun [CFA USA]

| Pos.             | Cage | Name  | Туре     | Owner/Breeder             | Comments                              |
|------------------|------|---|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1st              | 37   | CCCA Ch & Emerald Dbl Gr Ch<br>Merindalee Harrison Ford | TWN MC   | E. & K. Pittaway/Exh      | R. 1 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 30   | CCCA Ch & Gold Dbl Gr Ch Nile Fortunati                 | TWN NC   | K. Cooper/G. & J. Kennedy | R. 1 Best Dsx, <b>Supr Dsx</b>        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 7    | Osiris(V) Simply Perfection                             | TWN MK   | C. Collins/ M. & S. Shawn | R. 1 Best Kit, Supr Kit, R/U Supr Exh |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 13   | Osiris(V) Sammy's Whisper                               | TWN FK   | M. & S. Shawn/Exh         | R. 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Kit              |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 5    | Johari Shaka Zulu                                       | TWN NK   | T. Jack/C. Collins        | R. 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Kit,             |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 25   | Ikati Jabulani  | TWN\$ MK | D. Plummer/J. Chrobok     | R. 1 4th Kit, <b>R/U Supr Kit</b>     |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 34   | Plat Gr Pr & Gr Ch Nareira Calvin<br>Cline              | TWN\$ NC | L. Moorman/ D. Thomas     | R. 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dsx              |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 42   | CCCA Ch & Brz Dbl Gr Ch<br>Osiris(V) Bees Knees Chances | TWN FC   | M. Lorenzi/M. & S. Shawn  | R. 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cat              |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 46   | Joylincar Storm Chaser                                  | TWN\$ MC | C. Carroll/Exh            | R. 1 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cat              |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | 45   | Willowpark Bambi  | FWN FC   | M. Mitchell/Exh           | R. 1 4 <sup>th</sup> Cat              |

Supreme Desexed Cat - CCCA Ch & Gold Dbl Gr Ch Nile Fortunati, with owner Kay Cooper, judge Kathy Calhoun and a UFO (Wendy Newton's electronic flash!)

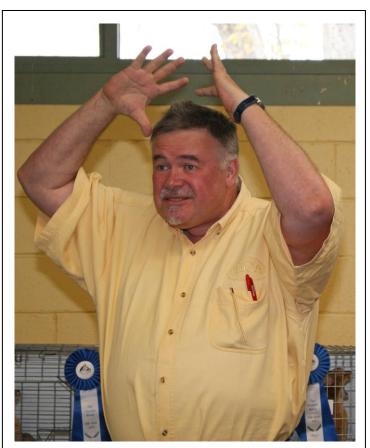


Ring 2 — Kurt Vlach [TICA Austria]

| Pos.             | Cage | Name  | Туре     | Owner/Breeder             | Comments  |
|------------------|------|---|----------|---------------------------|---|
| 1st              | 25   | Ikati Jabulani  | TWN\$ MK | D. Plummer/J. Chrobok     | R. 2 Best Kit, R/U Supr Kit                         |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 41   | Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden                | TWN FC   | M. & S. Shawn//Exh        | R. 2 Best Cat, R/U Supr Cat                         |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 37   | CCCA Ch & Emerald Dbl Gr Ch<br>Merindalee Harrison Ford | TWN MC   | E. & K. Pittaway/Exh      | R. 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cat; <b>Supr Cat, Supr Exh</b> |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 23   | Johari Rhythm N Blues                                   | BLU MK   | C. Collins/Exh            | R. 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> Kit                            |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 19   | Swift Dr Pepper   | CIN MK   | B. White & W. Newton/Exh  | R. 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Kit                            |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 29   | Gold Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Bear's<br>Jive Talker          | TWN NC   | A. Ashby/M. & S. Shawn    | R. 2 Best Dsx                                       |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 33   | ACF AoE & Gold Dbl Gr Ch<br>Osiris(V) Lucrezia Borgia   | TWN FC   | C. Mangin/M. & S. Shawn   | R. 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dsx                            |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 32   | ACF AoE & GPN Narleekatz Elusive Diamond                | TWN SC   | K. Goodrick/Exh           | R. 2 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dsx                            |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 17   | Swift Tui   | TWN FK   | W. Newton & B. White/Exh  | R. 2 4th Kit  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | 11   | Cenglow Magic Miss                                      | TWN FK   | E. & K. Pittaway/S. Doyle | R. 2 5 <sup>th</sup> Kit                            |



Supreme Kitten – Osiris(V) Simply Perfection with owner Carol Collins



Judge Kurt Vlach demonstrating the correct placement of the antlers on a reindeer!

# Ring 3 — Nick Tricarico [GCCF Victoria]

| Pos.             | Cage | Name  | Туре     | Owner/Breeder             | Comments                                      |
|------------------|------|---|----------|---------------------------|---|
| 1st              | 31   | ACF Dia AoE, CCCA Sapph TGC,<br>Dbl Plat, Dia & Supr DGC<br>Osiris(V)Fast Talker  | TWN NC   | M. & S. Shawn/Exh         | R. 3 Best Dsx, <b>R/U Supr Dsx</b>            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 7    | Osiris(V) Simply Perfection   | TWN MK   | C. Collins/ M. & S. Shawn | R. 3 Best Kit, Supr Kit, R/U Supr Exh         |
| 3rd              | 37   | CCCA Ch & Emerald Dbl Gr Ch<br>Merindalee Harrison Ford   | TWN MC   | E. & K. Pittaway/Exh      | R. 3 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh             |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 17   | Swift Tui   | TWN FK   | W. Newton & B. White/Exh  | R. 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Kit                      |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 35   | Nat Show Ch, Aus Nat Pr, CCCA<br>DGC, ACF Brz AoE Supr GPR, Tpl<br>Plat GP, Tpl Pr, Dbl Ch & Gr Ch<br>Joylincar Sun God Amun Ra | TWN\$ NC | L. Moorman/C. Carroll     | R. 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dsx                      |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 25   | lkati Jabulani  | TWN\$ MK | D. Plummer/J. Chrobok     | R. 3 3 <sup>rd</sup> Kit, <b>R/U Supr Kit</b> |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 11   | Cenglow Magic Miss  | TWN FK   | E. & K. Pittaway/S. Doyle | R. 2 4th Kit                                  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 5    | Johari Shaka Zulu   | TWN NK   | T. Jack/C. Collins        | R. 15 <sup>th</sup> Kit,                      |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 43   | CCCA Ruby Tpl Gr Ch & Dia Dbl<br>Gr Ch Nile Holly Ghost   | TWN FC   | G. & J. Kennedy/Exh       | R. 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cat                      |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | 46   | Joylincar Storm Chaser  | TWN\$ MC | C. Carroll/Exh            | R. 3 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cat                      |



Judge Nick Tricarico, with Ben White presenting Swift Tui

# Ring 4 — Phillipa Holmes [TICA UK]

| Pos.             | Cage | Name   | Туре     | Owner/Breeder             | Comments                                      |
|------------------|------|--|----------|---------------------------|---|
| 1st              | 7    | Osiris(V) Simply Perfection  | TWN MK   | C. Collins/ M. & S. Shawn | R. 4 Best Kit, Supr Kit, R/U Supr<br>Exh      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 34   | Plat Gr Pr & Gr Ch Nareira Calvin Cline  | TWN\$ NC | L. Moorman/ D. Thomas     | R. 4 Best Dsx                                 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 37   | CCCA Ch & Emerald Dbl Gr Ch<br>Merindalee Harrison Ford                          | TWN MC   | E. & K. Pittaway/Exh      | R. 4 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh             |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 13   | Osiris(V) Sammy's Whisper  | TWN FK   | M. & S. Shawn/Exh         | R. 1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Kit                      |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 30   | CCCA Ch & Gold Dbl Gr Ch Nile Fortunati  | TWN NC   | K. Cooper/G. & J. Kennedy | R. 4 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dsx, <b>Supr Dsx</b>     |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 44   | Tijah Cloud Nine   | BLU FC   | SHatcher/Exh              | R.4 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cat                       |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 15   | Willowpark Betty Boop  | TWN FC   | M. Mitchell/Exh           | R. 4 3 <sup>rd</sup> Kit                      |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 31   | ACF Dia AoE, CCCA Sapph TGC,<br>Dbl Plat, Dia & Supr DGC<br>Osiris(V)Fast Talker | TWN NC   | M. & S. Shawn/Exh         | R. 3 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dsx, <b>R/U Supr Dsx</b> |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 3    | Wyangan Phantom Chances  | TWN MK   | M. Lorenzi/Exh            | R. 4 4 <sup>th</sup> Kit                      |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | 26   | Nareira Issey Miyake   | TWN\$ FK | D. Thomas/Exh             | R. 4 5 <sup>th</sup> Kit                      |

#### Notes:

- Cats are Abyssinian unless otherwise stated;
- \$ = Somali; TWN = Tawny; CIN = Cinnamon, BLU = Blue; FWN = Fawn
- M = Male; F = Female; N = Neuter; S = Spay; Dsx = Desexed Cat; C = Cat; K = Kitten
- Supr = Supreme (across the four rings); Exh = Exhibit; R/U = Runner-up to.

# **JUDGES' REPORTS**

# Ring 1 – Kathy Calhoun [FCC USA]

I would like to thank Abyssinian Breeder (and the Birman Cat Club) for inviting me to judge in Australia. It was a great experience, beautiful cats,

wonderful hospitality and a fantastic country. Thanks to all the breeders and exhibitors for coming out, entering the show and supporting the clubs. Overall the standards are very comparable to those written an applied in CFA in the United States. I would like to point out that the Abyssinians and Somali's shown at this show were appropriately sized and had outstanding coats. The colour intensity was magnificent and the condition stellar. Some of the cats were legacy to some of the US lines which was very nice to see and appreciate.

Judging a breed specialty show is great experience for the judges invited. One of the many benefits from a judge's perspective is being able to focus on one or two breeds and seeing them at all stages of development. It was a fantastic opportunity - Thank You!



Phillipa Holmes judging

Here are my to 10 exhibits, in ascending order

10<sup>th</sup> [Cage 45] WILLOWPARK BAMBI - A beautiful fawn Abyssinian female cat. The coat colour on this kitty was fantastic. The coat was a wonderful rose-beige colour ticked with light cocoa brown. The body of the cat was well developed and had proper substance.

9th: [Cage 46] JOYLINCAR STORM CHASER -A lovely tawny Somali male cat. This cat has a great intensity displayed by fantastic almond eyes, vibrant colour and a strong but rounded muzzle.

8th: [Cage 42] CCCA Ch & Brz Dbl Gr Ch OSIRIS(V) BEES KNEES CHANCES - Tawny female cat with great coat, condition and colour.

7th: [Cage 32] Plat Gr Pr & QFA Gr Ch NAREIRA CALVIN CLINE- A lovely tawny Somali neuter cat with a beautiful profile. This cat's almond eyes were brilliant, large and expressive. The cat had wonderful coat and was presented in great condition.

6th: [Cage 25] IKATI JABULANI – A fantastic tawny male Somali kitten. This kitten had wonderful coat and was in great condition. The texture was soft to the touch and had the proper density along with a wonderful full brush to the tail. Also, this kitten had a wonderful head that was a slightly rounded wedge. The chin was full and carried that roundness. The colour was intense and brilliant.

5th: [Cage 5] JOHARI SHAKA ZULU - An awesome tawny neutered kitten. The wonderful ear set on this lovely kitten was large, alert, broad at the base and nicely cupped. The lovely almond eye was accentuated by the fine dark line which was by a light coloured area. The vibrant coat colour with the proper length and resiliency to the touch was a great part of my choosing this cat

4th: [Cage 13] OSIRIS(V) SAMMY'S WHISPER -A fabulous tawny, female kitten with a wonderful intensity of colour both in the eye and the coat. I was really impressed with the eye shape and size. She had wonderful almond eyes with rich, deep colour. This kitten had a wonderful ear set which are broad and cupped as though listening. A lovely female!

3rd: [Cage 7] OSIRIS(V) SIMPLY PERFECTION - A lovely tawny male kitten that is a fantastically balanced cat with an outstanding head which has slightly rounded wedge without flat planes. An

alertness and brilliance from the end to end! The coat had fantastic ticking and colour. A great cat!

2nd: [Cage 30] CCCA Ch & Gold Dbl Gr Ch NILE **FORTUNATI** – A tawny neutered cat with a very impressive ear set. Very alert, large and moderately pointed. Wonderful boning with a long, graceful, well developed body.

1st: [Cage 37] CCCA Ch & Emerald Gr Ch **Merindalee Harrison Ford** – This cat impressed me from the time I saw him in his cage. The intense colour was impressive. His almond shaped eyes were both brilliant and expressive. His body can be described as medium to long with grace but well developed. The overall balance of the cat was impressive. I would have to say the cat had a regal appearance and was a very memorable cat!

# Kathy Calhoun

CFA All-Breed Judge

## Ring 3 – Nick Tricarico [GCCFV]

Firstly, I would like to thank the club for my invitation to participate at its National Specialist Show in Canberra. I feel privileged to have been asked. I would also like to congratulate George Kennedy on the running of his 30th show. A huge feat over such a period of time, to keep the club together, let alone continue to run shows.

Secondly, I would like to thank the visiting judges, Kurt Vlach from Australia, Kathy Calhoun from the USA, and Phillipa Holmes from the UK. I enjoyed their friendship and camaraderie.

Thirdly, I would also like to thank the exhibitors. I was pleased to see exhibitors whom I have met over the years from the different states - Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia. It was nice to catch up again with them and they were friendly and engaging, as always enthusiastic about their cats. The atmosphere at the show was warm and inviting and everyone seemed happy.



R/U to Supreme Desexed Cat: ACF Dia AoE, CCCA Sapph TGC, Dbl Plat, Dia & Supr DGC Osiris(V)Fast Talker, with owner Sue Shawn

Fourthly, I enjoyed the dinner on the Saturday night, mingling with club members and exhibitors and judges.

I have judged for the club on one other occasion and as per last time it was a taxing time judging the crème del la crème of Australia's Abyssinians and Somalis from all over Australia and trying to piece together what I thought were the best ten in the show. There were many exhibits which I loved but I just could not place in the top ten because of the level of competition and quality of the exhibits.

1<sup>st</sup> Cage 31, Tawny Abyssinian neuter, ACF Dia AoE, CCCA Sapph TGC, Dbl Plat, Dia & Supr DGC Osiris(V)Fast Talker, aged around three and a half years. The colour standard for the Tawny reads 'glowing, warm, rich tawny brown ... orange-brown undercoat." This guy had it. He had perfect ticking and a coat that was short, fine and close, resilient and with a lustrous sheen. He met the type beautifully as well, and his green eye colour gave me the perfect expression I am looking in the Abyssinian cat. He was a little more rotund than I would like in an Abyssinian but he is a neuter, a loved pet, and I make allowances in the neuter class.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Cage 7, Tawny Abyssinian male kitten, Osiris(V) Simply Perfection**, who was my best kitten. He was only eight months old but had a muscular body, a well-ticked coat, very good coat colour and undercoat colour, with wonderful head type and profile. It was very close in selecting my supreme but in the end I went for maturity and overall type, even though I knew where my heart lay.

3rd Cage 37, Tawny Abyssinian adult male,

CCCA Ch & Emerald Dbl Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford, who was my best cat. He was a solid, muscular cat, approximately two and a half years old, with rich and lustrous coat colour, excellent ticking, undercoat and type. I would have liked to have stretched his body length by an inch or two to get it totally into balance.

4<sup>th</sup> Cage 17, Tawny Abyssinian female kitten, Swift Tui, who was my second-best kitten and approximately six months of age. Stunning, excellent type overall and coat. But the male kitten had it over her in muscle and coat development. I would gladly have taken her home.

neuter, Nat Show Ch, Aus Nat Pr, CCCA DGC, ACF Brz AoE Supr GPR, Tpl Plat GP, Tpl Pr, Dbl Ch & Gr Ch Joylincar Sun God Amun Ra, an absolutely stunning cat who was seven years of age. Elegant and muscular, with great coat colour and ticking. Excellent type and head type. I really wanted to push him up to a higher placing but I just couldn't do it given the quality of those above.

**6**<sup>th</sup> Cage 25, Tawny Somali male kitten, Ikati **Jabulani**, around eight months of age. Excellent type and head type, I couldn't fault him. Great coat colour and ticking for one so young, although as a kitten the

coat was not as developed as those above it. I had to acknowledge him. Very ferocious as well; all he wanted to go was lick me to death – it was great to see such personality.

7<sup>th</sup> Cage 11, Tawny Abyssinian female kitten, Cenglow Magic Miss, four months and my 4th best kitten. For a young kitten, she had lovely type, coat colour, ticking and texture. I would love to see her again in six months and see her development.

8<sup>th</sup> Cage 5, Tawny Abyssinian neuter kitten, Johari Shaka Zulu, eight months old. He was my 5th best kitten. Nice type, good coat colour and ticking but not quite as good as those above it. A great effort in such a quality field.

9<sup>th</sup> Cage 43, Tawny Abyssinian female cat, CCCA Ruby Tpl Gr Ch & Dia Dbl Gr Ch Nile Holly Ghost, who was my second-best cat, and which was three and a half years old. I particularly liked her musculature and coat colour, ticking and type. She had great

# Ring 4 — Phillipa Holmes [TICA UK]

I would like to thank all those involved in The Abyssinian Breeder Abyssinian and Somali 30th National Specialist Show, from the management, the administrators, the ladies with the catering – just lovely – the drivers, the runners and my steward Derek who was highly entertaining. I was honoured to take part. I enjoyed my colleagues' company and the

opportunity to meet new people from around the world, Thank you Nick Tricarico for your interesting company on Saturday evening and it was lovely to meet Kathy Calhoun from the USA, I of course know Kurt Vlach very well as we see each other often in Europe. The clubs hospitality was excellent.

Here in GCCF we have specialist shows such as this and they are well attended like yours. I can say happily that the excitement and enthusiasm is alive and kicking on both sides of the world.

I thought your cats were very nice indeed and the quality was high. They are for me more like the cats I see in GCCF rather than TICA, as I think there they are a little finer and in some parts of the world a more

presence and this was one cat I really wanted to push up higher in my top ten. I was so frustrated and disappointed that I couldn't do so in such a quality field.

**10th** Cage **46,** Tawny Somali male cat, Joylincar Storm Chaser, 14 months of age. A superb specimen, rich and well ticked coat, excellent type, but I could not push him any higher.

There are several exhibits which I would like to give a special mention to. Cage 23 was a Blue Abyssinian female kitten which was eight months of age. A delightful kitten which met the type standard well, it had a well ticked coat, but like a lot of blues, a slightly grey undercoat. Cage 24 was a Fawn Abyssinian female kitten of eight months. Excellent type and

great coat colour, ticking and texture. Also Cage 30, a Tawny Abyssinian neuter male of 16 months. A solid and muscular cat, with excellent type and coat colour and texture, who was unfortunate to have had Cage 31 up against him.

R/U to Supreme Kitten, Ikati Jabulani with owner Dale Plummer

flared ear is seen and preferred (though not by me). I thought also the richness of your colours was good too, as I am seeing paler Abyssinians almost everywhere. In GCCF colour and pattern is very important in all breeds.

I started judging the kittens; first I did the Somalis, and my final kitten class was I think 11 Tawny Aby female kittens, some of whose ages were very similar and whose looks were

very close. It was a difficult class as the quality was really very high; thank you breeders and exhibitors for giving me such a pleasurable headache. The neuter class was exceptional, I know they are the finished product and not subject to their hormones but really these cats were all lovely.

Here is my TOP TEN in reverse order, I'm afraid I have left their titles off as some had more than the Queen! [Titles reinserted with apologies to Her Maj – Ed.]

### 10<sup>th</sup> – Kitten, Cage 26 – Nareira Issey Miyake

Beautiful Tawny female Somali kitten of 8+ months old. A good size and weight, beautiful almond eye shape, and I think she had the best chin of all the

Somalis. Good coat showing good levels of ticking, nice lengths and well groomed.

## 9<sup>th</sup> – Kitten Cage 3 – Wyangan Phantom Chances

Nicely grown Tawny Abyssinian Male of 5+ months. Very nice alert and listening ears, lovely curve in profile. Good medium long body length, with a lithe and graceful look. Slightly paler coat colour but well ticked and lovely and clean with no barring present.

## 8<sup>th</sup> – Neuter Cage 31 – Tawny Abyssinian neuter, ACF Dia AoE, CCCA Sapph TGC, Dbl Plat, Dia & Supr DGC Osiris(V)Fast Talker

Tawny Abyssinian Neuter of nearly 4 years. He has a beautiful head and expression. Slightly paler coat colour but beautifully clean of barring and the ticking was excellent. Well-muscled but still lithe and graceful.

## 7<sup>th</sup> – Kitten Cage 15 – Willowpark Betty Boop

Very chatty Tawny girl of just 6 months. Nicely grown and had good body length and long legs. She had a lovely expression and a beautifully sized and set to her ears. Good ticking present and a lovely lustrous sheen to her coat.

### 6<sup>th</sup> – Cat Cage 44 – Tijah Cloud Nine

Very beautiful Blue Abyssinian female cat of 13 months, I think she was also a little hormonal as she wasn't at her easiest. I loved her look super eye shape and size nicely balanced by large alert and listening ears. Lithe and graceful body with slightly arched back, very nice balance to this girl. Beautiful coat colour lovely warm mushroom and blue. Fine texture and resilient to the touch.

#### 5th – Neuter Cage 30 – CCCA Ch & Gold Dbl Gr Ch Nile Fortunati

Another Tawny Abyssinian neuter, a little younger at nearly 2 years of age. Again a beautiful head and expression, lovely lithe and graceful medium long body, legs are long and slim and he has a lovely balance. He has a great presence too and this helps any show cat. What I liked about him more than No 31 was that the richness of his colour was better.

# 4<sup>th</sup> – Kitten Cage 13 – Osiris(V) Sammy's Whisper

This was my best female Tawny Abyssinian kitten and she was 5+ months old. Again a talker, wanting my attention. I thought the balance of this girl was excellent, I loved the look she has and the eyes and ears aided that expression. Good medium long body, again with litheness. Super coat texture, lustrous resilient and soft. Excellent ticking and lovely and clean.

#### 3rd Cat Cage 37 – CCCA Ch & Emerald Dbl Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford

My Best Cat. Very handsome – and he knew it! Tawny Abyssinian boy of almost 2 and a half years. I loved his expression. Lovely profile with gentle curve, nice chin and superb almond shaped eyes. Good medium long body; he was beautifully muscular without being heavy or coarse. All boy! I loved the richness of the colours in his coat, super texture and lustrous sheen.

#### 2nd – Neuter 34 – Plat Gr Pr & Gr Ch Nareira Calvin Cline

My Best Desexed Cat. Tawny Somali male neuter of nearly 4 years, in superb condition. I liked both Somali neuters but for me the older boy was made to look slightly pudgy and out of balance by this boy. He has lovely length to the body and is muscular and lithe under all that coat. Beautiful lengths and still showing excellent levels of ticking. Rich in colour. But I loved the head of this boy too and he has excellent ear set which really aids that expression. He was beautifully groomed.

## 1<sup>st</sup> – Kitten Cage 7 – Osiris(V) Simply Perfection

My Best Kitten and my Best Exhibit. Tawny male



New exhibitor and breeder-to-be, Tracey Jack, with her foundation queen-to-be. Johari Rhvthm N Blues

Kitten of 8+ months. I saw this kitten early in the day and his impression stayed with me throughout. I don't normally promote a kitten sin ce I think they still have a way to go, but this boy is almost into adulthood and he has such presence he was impossible to ignore. Beautiful head with good almond eyes, lovely large alert ears, cupped at the base and arched forward. Slight curve in profile and lovely chin to balance. He is moderately long and well grown, lithe and graceful, slim well muscled legs and oval compact feet. His tail is long and tapering. He has a beautiful, resilient lustrous and soft coat with good dark ticking and rich

ground colour. Really for me he was the whole package and my worthy winner.

Again thank you to all the exhibitors for allowing me to handle and judge your cats – it was truly an honour.

Phillipa N. Kolmes

TICA Approved Allbreed and GCCF Judge (UK)