

THE SOMALI CAT CLUB SHOW - 15.3.2008 - MRS ANNE GREGORY

The highlight of my show year! I felt very privileged to be judging the beautiful Somalis and some gorgeous Non-Pedigrees at my club show and would like to thank Shelagh, Kit and the committee for the work and thought that went into such a fantastic event. What a great team! The atmosphere was really warm and friendly; it was great to meet up with friends old and new and the standard of the cats was extremely high, ensuring a thoroughly enjoyable, exciting and challenging day for all concerned. I would also like to thank Linda Dutton for her hard work and excellent company as my steward. I do hope she enjoyed her day among the cream of the UK's Somalis.

AC SOMALI CHAMPION, MALE

1 GCC TAYLOR'S GR CH BRIZLINCOAT BEAU GESTE, 63, M, 29.5.2004

What a perfect start to my day! A wonderful Somali with the proud assurance of a lion and the affectionate temperament of a kitten! Superb type and quality! Mature and in his prime, he really looked magnificent as he was beautifully balanced and though large and masculine, had style and elegance. Excellent head with generous curves forming a moderate wedge with gentle contours to the brow, profile and cheeks. The forehead was high and there was excellent width between the large, well-cupped ears. They were broad at the base and well furnished. Lovely smiling muzzle. The profile showed a slight break and the chin was firm. Long, elegant neck and excellent head carriage. The eyes were large, set obliquely and almond shaped. They were well spaced and very expressive. Rich hazel tone. They were outlined with black and then highlighted with lighter spectacles. The facial markings were excellent. Muscular body with a firm, lithe feel to it. He stood tall on long, slender legs with oval, tufted paws. Excellent tail that was long, well furnished, broad at the base and formed a full brush. Excellent coat quality, it was soft, fine and dense but lay flat along the spine. Excellent ruff and breeches. Superb triple ticking that was clearly defined. Rich apricot base coat with well-defined black ticking. Excellent heels reaching to the hocks. There were some seasonal grey roots, but the new apricot was growing through and could be seen clearly. Beautifully presented in sparkling form. I was thrilled when he was later awarded Best Exhibit in Show - a first time for the same cat winning this award two years running !!! Many congratulations!!

RES: WATTS' CH EMANAN GERONIMO, 63, M, 3.3.2002

Another very handsome and balanced male with a confident, affectionate temperament that is so typical. Very good head with excellent eyes and expression. Gently curving contours with width at the top although I felt the ears could have been slightly larger for perfection? They were very well furnished and cupped though. Slight dip in the profile and good chin. Beautiful eyes of excellent almond shape and oriental set. Brilliant hazel tone and very expressive. Excellent body, legs and tail. Firm, lithe feel to him. Lovely coat that was fine, soft and dense. Really rich apricot base and excellent black ticking. Beautiful ruff to frame the face and full breeches. Excellent black heels and facial tracings. A gorgeous Somali, unlucky to meet the winner on the day but still of the highest quality.

AC SOMALI CHAMPION, FEMALE

1 GCC WATTS' GR CH BRIZLINCOAT TOOMAI, 63, F, 4.9.2003

A beautifully mature and balanced queen of excellent type and style. Excellent head forming a moderate wedge with gently curving contours and a generous muzzle to give the true Somali smile. Large ears, well cupped, tufted and furnished, set well apart but not low on the head. Excellent profile showing a slight break and good depth to the chin. Beautifully expressive eyes of almond shape and set obliquely. Deep golden tone. Black eye liner and paler spectacles to highlight. Excellent facial tracings. Excellent body, legs and full brush. Rich deep apricot to the base coat and the ticking was well defined in black. Heels stretched to the hock with deep apricot breeches. Lovely black shading along spine and tail to the black tip. Beautifully presented in sparkling condition, a delight to judge.

RES: HINES' CH STACYM QUINTESSANCE, 63, F, 27.4.2006

An attractive younger female who was unlucky to meet the winner. Very good moderate wedge with gently curving contours. Large ears, well cupped and set well apart but not low on the head. Excellent, expressive eyes of rich hazel. They were set well, of almond shape and contributed to her smiling expression. The profile could have more of a break and the chin was reasonably firm. Very good body with a firm, lithe, muscular feel. Very good legs and tail. Lovely coat quality, it was soft, dense and

fine. It lay flat along the spine and the breeches were developing. Excellent rich, deep apricot to the chest and belly. She was lacking a ruff and that did make her look a little "exposed". Excellent rich colour and very well defined black ticking. Lovely heels. Excellent condition and temperament.

AC SOMALI GRAND PREMIER, MALE

1 IGP STABLES IMP GR PR MERLIESIN CAISEAL BEAG, 63, MN, 26.10.2003

My fifth wonderful Usual - no wonder I was having such a great day at the show! A really handsome and balanced cat of excellent type and "presence". Again, here is a Somali in his prime and with the confidence and panache to show himself to ultimate advantage. Excellent head with pleasing contours and large, well-cupped and furnished ears. Excellent profile showing a slight break and depth to the chin. Beautiful almond eyes with an oblique setting. Rich golden tone and smiling expression. Lithe, muscular and stylish with long legs and a full brush tail. Superb coat that was dense, soft and fine. It lay well along the spine. Really rich colour and excellent ticking. Long black heels to the hock. Beautifully presented in sparkling condition and with a superb temperament.

RES: WATTS' CH & PR EMANAN BOOTSTRAP BILL, 63C, MN, 15.7.2005

A handsome blue of excellent colour and with super type. Gentle expression, but he was a little "up tight", I think he was not too keen on his neighbour!!! Excellent moderate wedge with gently curving contours. High forehead and good width between his large, well cupped and furnished ears. Very expressive almond eyes with an oriental setting. Slight break in the profile and a good chin. Long body with excellent muscle tone and a firm, lithe feel. Long legs with oval, tufted paws. Very good brush. Excellent coat quality, it was very fine and soft to the touch. It lay flat along the spine and there was a pleasing ruff and breeches. Soft blue ticking with a warm base coat giving a very good overall impression. Beautifully presented in excellent condition. Some choice language but no malice.

AC SOMALI GRAND PREMIER, FEMALE

1 IGP ABBOTT'S GR CH & UK IMP GR PR BEAUMARIS ANGELICA, 63A, FN, 6.11.1997. A purry extrovert who was thoroughly enjoying her day out and looking great for eleven years old! She is quite large for a female but beautifully balanced and has style and elegance. Broad head forming a moderate wedge with generously curving contours. Large ears, well cupped and furnished, were set well apart but not low. They were broad at the base and rounded at the tips with little tufts. Excellent eyes, large, set well apart and almond shaped. They were a greeny gold tone. Slight break in the profile and good chin. Excellent body, legs and tail. Beautifully presented in sparkling condition, her coat was soft, fine and dense. Rich copper impression made up of the deep apricot base and very well defined cinnamon ticking. Cinnamon heels to the hocks. Excellent breeches and a ruff to frame the face. A great credit to her owner.

RES: JONES' GR PR MERLIESIN ROSHANA, 63BT, FN, 3.3.2002.

A very attractive female with such a smiling expression! Very good head type with breadth and balance to the skull and a moderate wedge with gently curving contours. The ears were a good size, cupped well and furnished. Large eyes that she tended to hold a little wide until she relaxed back in the pen. Lovely clear, green tone. Slight break in the profile and good depth to the chin. Very good body, legs and tail. There were some problems with the coat on the day, but I felt she was of sufficient quality to award the Reserve. It was soft, fine and dense, but on the flanks, it was a little "woolly" and the ticking was not well defined in those areas. On her head and back, the overall impression was of a dark chocolate tortie with defined ticking in dark chocolate and red over a red/apricot base. On her sides, the ticking was not so clearly defined and the impression was of a mingling of apricot and red as found on the chest, belly and breeches etc. I felt this could be seasonal and so made allowance. Otherwise she was shown in excellent condition and had a superb temperament.

SORREL SOMALI ADULT, MALE

1 CC + BOB TAYLOR'S BRIZLINCOAT ARABIAN NITE, 63A, M, 31.5.2007

A young male who is developing well and who was looking good for his age. Very good head type with excellent ear size, shape and set. Lovely profile showing a slight break and good depth to the chin. Nicely rounded muzzle giving the Somali smile. Beautiful eyes that were very expressive. They were a rich golden tone, of almond shape and set well apart and obliquely. Lithe, muscular body with very good

legs and tail. Soft, fine, dense coat of rich coppery tones made up of a deep apricot base and very well defined cinnamon ticking. Beautifully presented in excellent condition and with a superb temperament,
AC SILVER SOMALI ADULT, MALE

I did consider exhibit 18 for BOB, but he is jowly which made his head appear too round and his chin was weak which did not help.

1 CC POINTING'S TAJURA ARCTIC MOON, 63S, M, 29.10.2006

This young male is still developing and looked much better out of the pen when he was being handled. The head formed a moderate wedge with curving contours. The ears were large, well-cupped and set well apart but not low. The eyes were of almond shape but set a little straight. Slight break in the profile and good chin. Muscular body with a firm, lithe feel to him. Long legs. Very good tail to balance. The coat was fine and dense but he did tend to lift it on the spine. Pure silver base coat with excellent triple ticking in black. Excellent black heels to the hock. There was some tarnish, but the overall impression was silver. Excellent condition and temperament.

2 FRANCIS' NOTHIM LISIL ECORALIM, 63DS, M, 4.10.2000

This male was just not in show condition, he was gentle and affectionate but very rangy and lacking muscle tone. The head formed a moderate wedge with curving contours but was heavily jowled. Well set and cupped ears. Good profile showing a slight break and there was depth to the chin. The eyes were of almond shape, but deep set and straight rather than oblique. Thin body but the legs appeared rather heavy boned and coarse. Very thin tail, bald down the centre. Good lilac colour and well ticked. I was concerned as he did not like his mouth inspected and tended to flinch.

AC SILVER SOMALI ADULT, FEMALE - 5 beauties, a strong class!

1 CC + BOB HACK'S ADSETSH BARWICK BLUE, 63CS, F, 11.6.2007

A beautiful young female with a great deal of potential. Excellent head forming a moderate wedge with generous curving contours and large, well cupped and tufted ears set well apart. Excellent eyes of almond shape with an oblique setting. Attractive smiling expression. Very good profile showing a slight break and a firm chin. Lithe and muscular body with very good legs and tail. Soft, fine coat that lay flat along the spine. Ruff coming along well. Very good breeches. Excellent blue ticking on a silver base with just minor tarnishing to the face. Excellent condition and a superb temperament.

2 STABLES' GR CH AMORES OPHELIA FIZKIN, 63S, F, 14.2.2003

A beautifully mature, elegant female of excellent type and balance. Moderate wedge with curving contours and a very pretty, gentle expression in those large, almond eyes. The ears were large, well cupped and set well apart but not low on the head. Very good profile showing a slight break and a fairly firm chin. Excellent body, legs and tail. Beautiful coat that was soft, fine and close lying along the spine. The base coat was silvery white and the ticking very clearly defined in black. Some tarnish apparent and a broken necklet. I debated long and hard between these two females, and I felt the blue silver had a slightly better chin and did not have a necklet - the competition was SO close, I had to be really picky!!!

3 MASSIE'S SUPATOFT LUCINDA, 63S, F, 17.1.2007

Another very attractive female of very good type and expression. Very good head of moderate proportions with the desired curving contours. Her large ears were well cupped and set well apart but not low. In profile she showed a slight break and the chin was reasonably firm. Expressive eyes of almond shape with an oblique setting. Smiling expression. Lovely lithe, muscular body with slender legs and oval tufted paws. Long tail to balance. Soft, fine coat that was dense and lay flat along the spine. Silvery white base and clear ticking in black. She did have tarnish, but the overall impression was of a silver cat. Excellent condition and temperament.

4 HOZIER'S AVADORE CZARINA, 63S, F, 10.6.2007

This female was gentle and had a sweet expression but I felt her head was rather round. She needed more of an indent to form the muzzle and a little more length to give the moderate wedge. The ears were large and set well. Expressive eyes of almond shape with an oblique setting. In profile there was a slight break but the chin could have more depth. Excellent body that was elegant, lithe and muscular. Very good legs and tail. Clear silvery white base coat with excellent black ticking. Minimal tarnish. Excellent condition and temperament.

5 DARWISH'S SORAFEL LEONORA, 63CS, F, 20.7.2006

A pretty female of good type but she did tend to hold her ears high. She was heavily tarnished however and when viewed "face on" looked like a blue rather than a blue silver.

AC NON-PEDIGREE KITTEN - If the Somalis were challenging, this class was a nightmare!!! All three were beautiful and deserved a first prize!

1 WEBB'S ALYS, LH TABBY & WHITE, F, 6 MONTHS

A little star who was so pretty and confident. She was beautifully presented with an excellent tabby pattern that was so well defined and spotless white to contrast. Large shining eyes that were very expressive. The coat was glossy and gleamed with condition. To top it all, she had the loudest purr and was paddling her paws the whole time she was being judged!

2 ISAAC'S CG, SH BLACK TORTIE, F, 18.6.2007

Another beauty who was a really rich tortie with patches of deep, rich red mingled in the jet black. Very pretty face with full cheeks and large, orange eyes. She had been very well presented in sparkling condition and had the sweetest temperament to compliment her looks.

3 SZWED'S LULU-BELLE, LH TORTIE & WHITE, F, 28.10.2007

This little female seemed a trifle overwhelmed by her day at the show but was very beautiful. Lovely face with large eyes that were a little apprehensive. She felt cuddly and did relax into my arms. Beautiful coat that was immaculate white with patches of red and jet black. Beautifully shown in excellent condition.

AC SOMALI BREEDERS ADULT

1 TAYLOR'S BRIZLINCOAT AVANDA, 63, F, 18.11.2006

A beautiful female of excellent type with particularly expressive eyes. I really liked her coat quality and the rich golden colour made up of the excellent apricot base and defined black ticking.

2 WATTS' CH EMANAN GERONIMO, 63, M, 3.3.2002

3 HACK'S ADSETSH BARWICK BLUE, 63CS, F, 11.6.2007

AV JUNIOR ADULT

1 POINTING'S TAJURA FURST INLINE, 63, M, 15.3.2007

Young male of very good type and overall balance. He has real potential I feel. Rich usual with a clear, deep apricot base and defined black ticking. Lovely black heels! Excellent temperament and condition.

2 DARWISH'S SORAFEL LEONORA, 63CS, F, 20.7.2006

AV NOVICE EXHIBITOR'S KITTEN

1 BURNS' SOMANTIKKS TATSO TAILSPIN, 63, M, 2.12.2007

Promising kitten of good type and overall balance. Lovely head and pleasing expression with a Somali smile. The coat was soft and fine. It is developing well and promises to be a rich colour with defined ticking. Excellent condition and temperament.

2 BURNS' SOMANTIKKS TOSHIKI BLAZE, 63A, M, 2.12.2007

Litter brother to the Usual and another promising kitten. I liked his head very much, there was a good profile with a slight break and a lovely firm chin. Developing well and he had a muscular feel. The ticking is coming well and he was a soft blue with a warm base coat. Broken necklace. Excellent condition and temperament.

AC SOMALI DEBUTANTE NEUTER

1 ABBOTT'S SUENICO DELLABELLA GOWANA, 63A, FN, 3.9.2005

A very pretty female of excellent type and with a sweet, smiling expression. Very good moderate wedge with large, well cupped ears set well apart. Excellent eyes. She felt firm and muscular with slender legs and a very good tail. Soft, fine coat that was a really bright sorrel with excellent cinnamon ticking. Confident and assured.

2 ROBERTSON'S DANDSSOM JAAJALE, 63AS, MN, 23.2.2007

I did not feel this young male had such good head type as my winner. He did have excellent coat quality, it was really soft and fine. The base was silvery with cinnamon ticking but he was also quite heavily tarnished. Excellent condition. Sweet temperament although a little tense.

AC SOMALI MAIDEN NEUTER

1 ROBERTSON'S DANDSSOM JECLAAN KARO, 63AS, MN, 23.2.2007

This boy had good overall type but his head was spoiled by rather small eyes that were deep set. He did have a beautiful coat that was soft, dense and fine. It lay flat along the spine and he had a good ruff and breeches. Super full brush tail. Lovely heels - excellent for a silver. Some tarnish apparent. Excellent condition and shy temperament.

AV VISITOR'S NEUTER

1 MORRISON'S PR EMANAN DAVEY JONES, 63, MN, 15.7.2005

A handsome, strong and balanced Usual with style. Very good head showing a moderate wedge with rounded contours. Large ears set well apart. Very expressive almond eyes in an oriental setting. The profile showed a bread and he had a good chin. Lithe, muscular body with very good legs and tail. Rich golden tones made up of the apricot base and well defined triple black ticking. Excellent heels. Well presented in excellent condition and with a super temperament.

2 CARPENTER'S BRIZLINCOAT OUTOF THEBLUE 63C, MN, 18.2.2006

I really liked the type and look of this Blue, but he was really cross! We were barely able to judge him properly and I certainly could not assess his bite. He had a beautiful tail and was a soft blue with a warm base coat.