

CAT CHAT



Cats
New South Wales
Incorporated

THE ALL-BREED MAGAZINE FOR THE BREEDER, EXHIBITOR & CAT FANCIER

All about: Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)
Breed focus: the NORWEGIAN & SOMALI cats
& the SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW



WELCOME READERS: to our second issue of 'Cat Chat'

There is a lot happening in this issue: the focus being on FIP with a couple of educational and informative articles contributed by Dr Gretta Howard and the Feline Health Research.

We are also holding our first 'Christmas in July' Photographic Competition with three great prize packages up for 'grabs'. Many thanks to all our sponsors for supporting this. You can enter up to 3 photos of your cats/kittens/litters that just have a Christmas theme and the winning photo will be featured on the front page of 'Cat Chat' December issue. You can find details of the prizes inside this issue along with information on how to enter. A BIG thank you to our two Competition Judges: Marion Anstis and our own Di Stokes.

Our breed focus this issue, and a BIG thank you to two of our Cats NSW Judges: Peta Sperduty for the Norwegian Forest Cat and Debbie Thomas, Nareira Cattery for the Somali for writing these articles.

We have the results of Cats NSW highly successful Sydney Royal Easter Show along with an interesting article from 'Ducks to Cats' from one of the interstate Exhibitors. Thank you Jane Cockerton for this lovely story.

Please make sure you check out the 'recent updates from Cats NSW' page along with News from the Show Committee and Cats NSW News.

We also have a 'Members Own' page so if you would like to see your cat/kitten/litter please send a photo and information through to me.

Please enjoy!

Sandra



Editor: Sandra Sweetman
Email: catchat@iinet.net.au



Recent Updates from Cats NSW Committee

MICROCHIPS FOR REGISTRATION

Every kitten and cat must have a microchip at the time of application for registration.

DESEXING CERTIFICATES FOR TRANSFERS

All kittens or cats being transferred from a breeder to an owner who is not a registered breeder must be desexed. A sterilisation certificate or letter of exemption from a registered veterinary surgeon is to be provided with the transfer application.

Please note: the Cats NSW Registrar's postal address has changed. Members should also be aware that the details on the reverse side of any pedigrees issued prior to February 2023 may have the old postal address on them.

The new postal address for the Cats NSW Registrar is:

Cats NSW Registrar

PO Box 5033

South Tamworth, NSW 2340

all changes for pedigrees, title updates etc need to be mailed there.

VETTING OF ALL CATS/KITTENS

All cats and kittens entering the show venue, regardless of whether they are entered in the show as an exhibit/on exhibition or not entered, must be examined by a Vet before being benched in their show cage. Any cat or kitten not entered in the show will need to be benched in a cage or container approved by the Show Manager, in the designated quarantine area.

CHALLENGES FROM ACF AFFILIATES USED AS PART OF MAJORITY FOR CATS NSW TITLES

Members who reside more than 400km from Sydney GPO are able to include challenges from interstate ACF bodies in their majority of challenges. They are able to use NSW CFA and/or other CCCA affiliate challenges but only as a minority for any one title upgrade.

ACCEPTANCE OF COLOUR CHANGES THROUGH DNA RESULTS

Adult exhibits (*9 months and over*) cannot be reclassified for colour and pattern prior to judging or during judging on the day but only after judging is completed. Reclassification may then be made after examination and agreement by three (3) ACF or CCCA licenced judges and the completion of the Application to Amend Colour/Pattern Cat over 9 months form. Alternatively, a DNA test result may be used to inform an Application to Amend Colour/Pattern Cat over 9 months form.

DNA results for inheritable disorders, blood group, colour, agouti, points and longhair carriers etc. may only be recorded on Certificate of Registration and Pedigree when the swab sample is taken and submitted by a Veterinarian who must scan and record the microchip number on the laboratory form. A certified copy of the original Laboratory certificate must be submitted to the Registrar for the test results to be added to the pedigree. The DNA test results are to be recorded in a separate section on the pedigree specifically designated for DNA results.

Note: this will only be included on the Certificate of Registration and Pedigree of the cat that was tested. It will not carry through to the Certificate of Registration and Pedigree of any progeny.



FIP is no longer a death sentence

A serious cat disease

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)

Dr Gretta Howard BVSc (Hons) (University of Sydney)
MVS (Sm.Anim.Pract.) MANZCVS (Sm.Anim.Med.) MRCVS

What is FIP?

Feline infectious peritonitis (*FIP*) is a serious disease in cats caused by a mutation of the common feline enteric (*gut*) coronavirus (*FeCoV*). The mutation allows the otherwise insignificant virus to enter, to escape the gastrointestinal tract lining by entering the gut macrophage cells (*an immune system cell*) and hitching a ride to other parts of the body, infecting the abdominal cavity, chest cavity, eyes and in some instances, the brain. Usually, a cat's immune system prevents clinical FIP but in some cats infected with enteric FeCoV, the immune system fails to eliminate the infection and clinical FIP develops with devastating consequences.

Over 30% of pet cats and over 80% of breeding cats have been exposed to FeCoV (*the relatively harmless enteric form*).

While the relatively harmless enteric coronavirus (*FeCoV*) is highly transmissible between cats, the mutated form FIP itself is not contagious to other cats and the feline coronavirus is not the same as the human coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

Clinical signs of FIP

Cats with clinical FIP develop a range of clinical signs such as:

- Fever unresponsive to antibiotics.
- Fluid in the abdominal and/or chest cavities.
- Palpable enlarged abdominal lymph nodes.
- Change in the symmetry of the pupils or eye colour.
- Neurological signs (*brain infection*).

The clinical signs depend on whether the cat has the effusive or '*wet*' form of FIP or non-effusive or '*dry*' form of FIP, although more often than not, there is a combination of wet and dry forms present, known as a '*mixed wet and dry*' FIP.

Dry FIP is typically much harder to diagnose as there is no obvious fluid-filled body cavity to sample from and instead pyogranulomas form either in a focal spot (*e.g. intestine or kidney*), or multiple sites (*e.g. abdominal cavity, brain*).

Cats at risk of FIP

The majority of cats that develop FIP affected are young between 3 months and 2 years of age (*80%*), or elderly cats, and the disease often affects purebred cats, especially the following breeds: Ragdolls, Abyssinians, Bengals, British Short Hairs, Exotics, Devon Rex, Birman. Interesting, the purebreds that are less commonly represented are Siamese, Persian and Himalayan cats.



Cats that have been housed together in a rescue facility where multiple cats share a litter tray are also at a higher risk of developing FIP.

FIP is more common in male cats, with a male to female ratio of 2:1.

Any cat that has previously been exposed to enteric feline coronavirus can potentially develop FIP, but in the vast majority of cats, the enteric coronavirus is insignificant and does not require any treatment.

Diagnosis of FIP

Laboratory changes on blood work typical of FIP may include:

- Hyperglobulinaemia (*elevated globulins*).
- Non-regenerative anaemia (*low red blood cell count*).
- Neutrophilic leukocytosis (*elevated white blood cell count*).
- Elevated liver parameters (*ALT, ALP, elevated bilirubin*).

An albumin to globulin ratio of **< 0.8** raises the suspicion of FIP in a young cat. It's important to note that no single laboratory abnormality will occur 100% of the time. If the albumin to globulin ratio is **< 0.4** then there is a **> 90%** likelihood that the diagnosis is FIP.

Fluid analysis for cases of 'wet' FIP typical changes include:

Specific gravity of 1.017-1.047.

Protein > 35g/L in **all** cases.

Low cellularity (*< 20 000 cells/ml*) containing mainly non-degenerate neutrophils and macrophages.

For a **definitive diagnosis** of FIP the following tests can be used:

Direct Immunofluorescence (*IFA*) for **FIP** antigen in body cavity fluid sample in 'wet' FIP cases (*not blood*) (*available through Vetnostics or Veterinary Diagnostic Pathology Services (VDPS)*) which has a **> 99%** specificity and **75%** sensitivity for FIP.

FIP **PCR** on fluid sample (*'wet' FIP*) (*available through IDEXX laboratories*).

Immunohistochemistry or immunocytochemistry from an FNA or biopsy sample from an enlarged lymph node (*'wet' or 'dry' forms*).

Brain MRI and/or CSF tap (*'dry' FIP*).

Co-morbidities such as toxoplasmosis and/or mycoplasmosis (*if anaemic*) could be present, so ruling out these diseases via toxoplasma titres (*IgG and IgM*) and a Mycoplasma PCR test is helpful. Testing for FIV and FeLV is recommended.

False negatives are common, so if a definitive diagnosis of FIP cannot be obtained, or the owner has financial constraints, then an anti-viral treatment trial can be considered. Usually, cats with FIP respond rapidly to remdesivir injections or GS-441524 oral tablets, with fever resolving and significant improvement noticed within 3-5 days of starting treatment, sometimes as early as 24 hours after the first injection. For cats that are eating well, they can start GS-441524 tablets whereas cats that are not eating should start remdesivir injections until they are feeling better (*daily subcutaneous injections if stable or intravenous if critically ill*).



If FIP is suspected, do not wait for test results before starting a treatment trial. Timing is critical.

Faecal sample

Due to the fact that so many healthy cats carry feline coronavirus (*FeCoV*) with very little consequence (*except for diarrhoea in some cases*), obtaining a faecal PCR test that returns a positive coronavirus sample is unhelpful in supporting a diagnosis of FIP.

Blood serology

The feline coronavirus antibody test is generally unhelpful, as cats can have a high titre due to exposure to feline coronavirus but not necessarily have FIP, but more importantly, if negative, FIP still cannot be ruled out.

Dr Gretta Howard BVSc (Hons) (University of Sydney)
MVS (Sm.Anim.Pract.) MANZCVS (Sm.Anim.Med.) MRCVS

Dr Gretta Howard's interest in FIP

As a new graduate Vet in the year 2000, Dr Gretta had to deliver very sad news to a young family with their beautiful new kitten who had developed FIP. The kitten had a very swollen abdomen full of fluid, a high fever and breathing problems.

Unfortunately, at this time, there was no treatment available and as the cat was suffering, euthanasia was the only option.

18 years later, Dr Gretta first heard about GS-441524, a new anti-viral FIP treatment, when she attended a lecture about its discovery at an Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists Conference in Queensland in 2018.

Dr Gretta has always had an interest in infectious diseases and as a side-project during the first COVID-19 Sydney lockdown, Dr Gretta started volunteering as a Veterinarian with the FIP Warriors Facebook group and via email, communicating with Vets and owners located all over the world, including USA, Europe, Russia, South America, Middle East, Asia and home in Australia, to assist remotely in the management of their FIP cases. Through this rewarding, yet challenging experience, Gretta has collaborated with many other Veterinarians and Cat Rescue groups who treat vast numbers of FIP cases.

Dr Gretta currently accepts face-to-face and telehealth consultations for FIP management, often working collaboratively with referring veterinarians within NSW.

Further information can be found at:
<https://www.turramurravet.com.au/fip/>

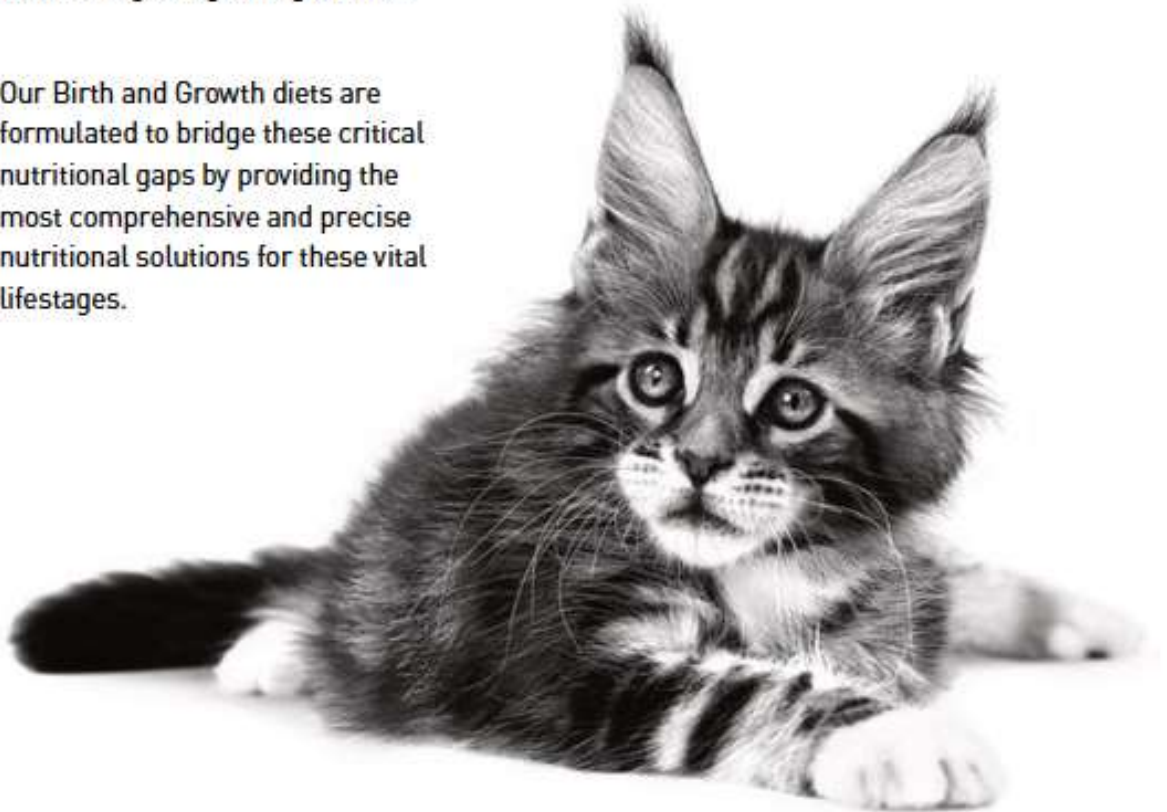
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FELINE CORONAVIRUS & FIP

Feline coronavirus is common in cats and shares that scary name with COVID-19. Fortunately it doesn't affect humans and causes negligible, if any, symptoms in cats aside from mild diarrhoea.

But when the feline coronavirus changes to a specific strain of the coronavirus, Feline Infectious Peritonitis (*FIP*) can develop. In about 10 percent of cats infected, the virus will multiply and mutate, resulting in an FIP virus infection that spreads throughout the cat's body. It can cause an extreme inflammatory reaction in the tissues surrounding the abdomen, chest, kidney, eyes or brain.

Until recently, a diagnosis of FIP was a death sentence for a feline patient. But that notion has been turned on its head over the last few years as new methods of diagnosis and treatment have been developed.

Now Veterinarians are in a position to successfully treat 80 percent or more of cats with FIP. But the treatment can be expensive.

Over the last year, successful treatments have made use of injections of the COVID-19 treatment drug remdesivir (*GS 5734*) and an antiviral drug *GS-441524*.

The manufacturer that developed *GS-441524*, has not developed the drug for use in cats so various laboratories in China and eastern Europe started manufacturing *GS-441524* and selling it on the black-market.

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, Vet Boards and Border Force have made it difficult to import *GS-441524*. Vets who made use of the black-market drugs to treat FIP were warned off.

Fortunately it is legal for the drug to be compounded for cats by a compounding pharmacy. The company BOVA Australia is compounding *GS441524* in tuna flavoured tablets.

A less expensive option, mefloquine (*commercial name Lariam*) is a human antimalarial drug that has antiviral effects and has been used to treat FIP. In several cats where owners were unable to afford a full course of remdesivir, mefloquine has achieved a clinical cure.

The search for cheaper and easier remedies for FIP goes on. Sydney University PhD student, Sally Coggins, is studying these drugs for the treatment of FIP, making use of data from Australian Vets who are treating FIP cases in their practices.

Although treatments can be expensive, the situation continues to evolve. As we usually recommend, early detection and following the advice of your vet is the best course.



To get cat health stories direct to your email or to support cat health research in Australia, go the

[Feline Health Research Fund website](#)



When you go on vacation and ask your parents to watch over the cat...

Before



Two weeks later



catsu

DAVE, I DON'T CARE HOW HIGH ON 'NIP YOU WERE. NEVER CLICK ON A LINK THAT SAYS, "CHECK OUT THIS PIECE OF STRING."



Members PHOTO COMPETITION

'Christmas in July' dress up your cat/kitten photo competition

Enter your cat/kitten or even litter in our fabulous 'Christmas in July' dress up your cat/kitten/litter photo competition. There are 3 prize packages up for grabs for 3 lucky winners and the winning photo will be featured on the front cover page of the December issue. The two runners up will be featured inside.



This is a fun competition. Dress and decorate your furry friends now. The photograph will need to have a 'Christmas' theme in it and will be judged on:

Cuteness, originality, creativity and festive appeal.

There are three prize packages 'up for grabs'.

ELIGIBILITY:

The 'Christmas in July' dress up your cat/kitten/litter photo competition is open to **all members of Cats NSW**. The cat/kitten or litter needs to be registered with Cats NSW. The competition is open to all groups: 1, 2 3 & companions.

If a 'non-member' wishes to enter the Competition, they need to first become a full financial member of Cats NSW.

For membership details contact the:
Membership Secretary, Cats NSW Inc. email: membership@catsnsw.com.au

Members can enter up to three photographs per membership. Any child entering needs to have a parent/guardian who is a financial member of Cats NSW and cite the members (*i.e. parent/guardian*) name.

The overall winning cat/kitten/litter will be featured on the front cover page of 'Cat Chat' December 2023 issue.

You can have as many cats in the photo as you want and a litter does not have to be complete as long as there is more than one litter/sibling kitten in the photo. The photo of the cat/kitten(s) can be of an 'over the rainbow' deceased cat that was taken between the period of July 2021 to July 2023.

If the photo is of a young litter or part of a litter then this can be a pending Cats NSW registration.



JUDGES:

Our two wonderful Judges are:

- ◆ Di Stokes, Jnr Vice President Cats NSW and Cats NSW Photographer.
- ◆ Marion Anstis, Photographer for the Siamese Cat Society of NSW Inc.

The Judges decision will be final.

SPONSORSHIP and PRIZES:

The sponsors of this competition are:

- ▶ VEBO – 3 x show double size cages.
- ▶ EAC Animal Care – 3 x packs of 'Inside-Out' Probiotic & Nutraceutical specially formulated supplement for cats.
- ▶ Eye Envy - 3 x complete Eye Envy packs.
- ▶ Coco Red Nut Creations – 3 x sets of show curtains.
- ▶ Made With Love – 3 x sets show cage accessories.
- ▶ Likimat - 3 sets of either a cat bowl and 2 x Likimats or 3 x Likimats.
- ▶ Plush Puppy – 3 x \$50 gift vouchers for purchase of a range of grooming products.
- ▶ FIDO's – grooming product.

COLLECTION OF PRIZES:

Winners of the prize packages can collect these at the Cats NSW AGM and the Cat of the Year awards celebration on Saturday 25th November 2023. Alternatively, they can be arranged to be collected from the Cat Chat Editor, Sandra Sweetman: suburb Castle Hill, NSW.

AGREEMENT TO RULES:

By entering 'Christmas in July' dress up your cat/kitten/litter photo competition the entrant agrees to abide by these Cats NSW Official Rules and decisions.

The entrant agrees to participate based on eligibility requirements explained in these Official Rules. The entrant agrees to accept the decisions of Cats NSW as final and binding. If entry rules are not complied with Cats NSW reserves the right to disqualify an entry. A maximum of one prize package will be awarded to any one Entrant.

The competition will be judged by Di Stokes, Jnr Vice President Cats NSW and Photographer and Marion Anstis Photographer for the Siamese Cat Society of NSW Inc date to be determined between 11th to 15th September 2023. Winners will be notified by email notification, and details placed in the December issue of 'Cat Chat' magazine where their photos and a short bio will be displayed.

ENTRY PERIOD:

This Contest **begins on 1st July 2023 and will end on 31st August 2023**, at 5:30pm, Australian Eastern Time. Entries outside this time period will be deemed ineligible to enter.

HOW TO ENTER:

Eligible entrants can enter the 'Christmas in July' dress up your cat/kitten photo competition by submitting an email entry and a separate photograph attachment of the cat/kitten. If you use a mobile phone to take the photograph, then the image needs to be set at a high resolution to ensure a really good quality photo.



ENTRY DETAILS:

All entries need to be emailed to: catchat@iinet.net.au

The entry needs to include the following:

- ▶ Entrant's Full Name:
- ▶ Contact Phone No:
- ▶ Contact email:
- ▶ Cat/Kitten/Litter's Pet Name:
- ▶ Cat/Kitten/Litter's full registered name:

Note: neither of the two Judges or the *Cat Chat* Editor, Sandra Sweetman will be entering this competition due to fairness and impartiality.

MEET OUR SPONSORS:

VEBO PET SUPPLIES: pet cage supplier for over 10 years, all size and types.
<https://www.vebopet.com.au/>

EVOLUTION ANIMAL CARE: Probiotic & Nutraceutical specially formulated supplement for cats <https://evolutionanimalcare.com.au/>

EYE ENVY: the all natural ultimate tear stain remover <https://www.eyeenvy.com.au/>

COCO RED NUT CREATIONS: cat curtains, donut beds, crate beds, crate covers, aprons, show crate covers, bags & Dog trolley sets facebook: cocorednutcreations

MADE WITH LOVE: cage number holders, beaded and light up show cage decorations, teasers, beaded dangles etc
https://www.facebook.com/groups/1035249013975678/?ref=share_group_link

LIKIMAT: designed to improve your cat's mental, digestion & oral health. Based on a challenge/reward treat delivery system that engages cats over a long period of time: delivering small portions of their favourite treat or food. <https://lickimat.com/>

PLUSH PUPPY: an all Australian natural shampoo & grooming products. <https://plushpuppy.com.au/>

FIDO's: manufacturers, distributes pet grooming & health products.
<https://www.fidos.com.au/>

Once again, **A BIG thank you to all our Sponsors:** VEBO PET SUPPLIES, EVOLUTION ANIMAL CARE, EYE ENVY, COCO RED NUT CREATIONS, MADE WITH LOVE, LIKIMAT, PLUSH PUPPY, CAT MATE & FIDO.

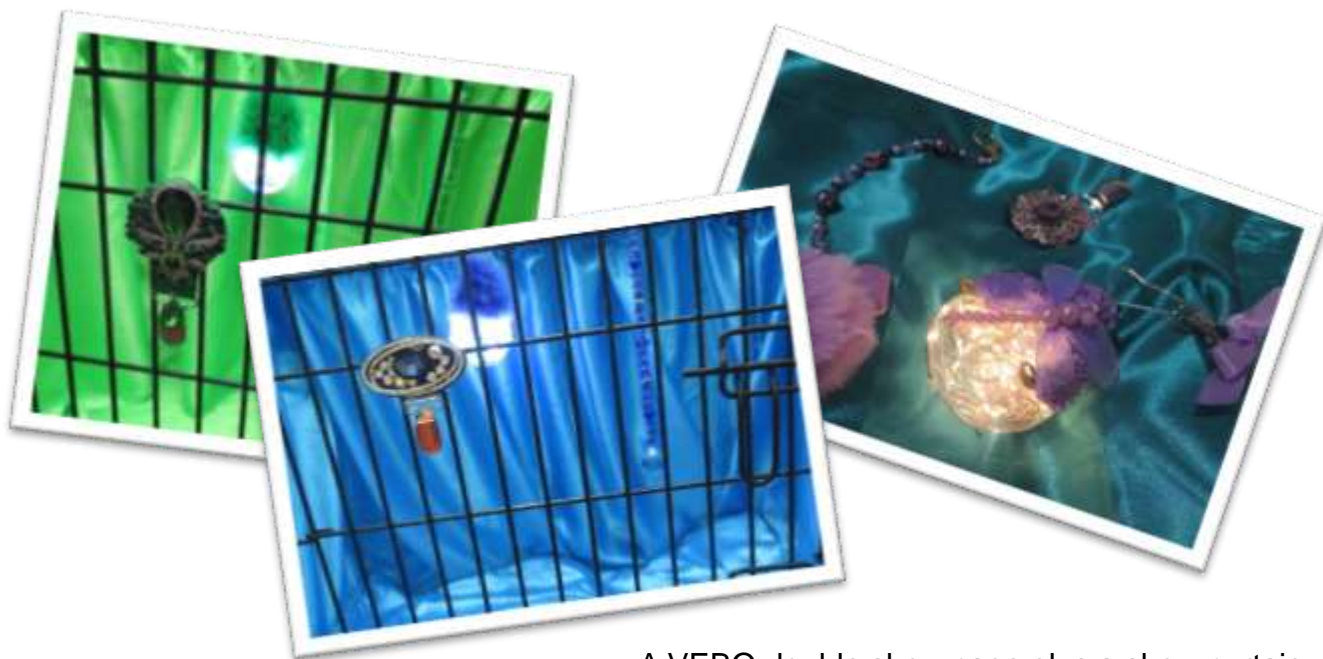


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and the PRIZES ARE:

There are three prize packages 'up for grabs' and each one will consist of a:



A VEBO double show cage plus a show curtain set from COCO RED NUT CREATIONS in either turquoise, mid blue or bright green along with a show cage accessory set from MADE WITH LOVE *plus:*

- 1 x pack from EAC ANIMAL CARE of 'Inside-Out' Probiotic & Nutraceutical supplement.
- 1 x pack of EYE ENVY tear stain remover.
- 1 x set of either a cat bowl and 2 x Likimats or 3 x Likimats from LIKIMAT.
- 1 x \$50 gift voucher spending spree for purchase of a range of grooming products from PLUSH PUPPY.
- Plus from FIDO's: grooming product.



The overall winner's cat/kitten/litter will be featured on the front cover page of the December issue of 'Cat Chat'. The two runners up will be featured inside.




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and the JUDGES ARE:



Marion Anstis: has an AAPS and LAPS in photography (*Australian Photographic Society*), and has been accepted and won awards in a number of national and international photo competitions. She has a passion for photographing animals of all kinds.

Marion has been a member of the Siamese Cat Society for a number of years, and is the Editor of their magazine '*Felis*' and Assistant Secretary. She regularly contributes photos of Siamese cats to *Felis*.

Marion is also an accomplished author, publishing four books on Australian frogs and tadpoles. She has also done several talks at conferences and community events.



Di Stokes: Since early childhood I have been a lover and carer of all creatures great and small, from puppies and horses growing up, working as a Vet Nurse, performing animal rescues and rehoming wherever possible. I firmly believe that the onus of responsibility for our animals lies completely with us.

I became involved with the cat fancy back in the late 90's when my husband presented me with my first pedigree: a gorgeous Foreign White kitten "*Ketchen Snow Fonzie*" bred by Joan Baker. We were smitten by this little guy and it wasn't long before we had increased our family to two Siamese Seal Points.

A few cat shows later and the journey had well and truly begun. In 2001 we brought home our first Russian Blue and not long after, began Raska Cattery at our home in Prospect NSW.

In 2013 I was a founding member of a new and exciting organisation now known as Cats NSW Incorporated and was honoured to be elected as their first President.

Over the years I have been heavily involved with Cats NSW Inc. stewarding, advising, processing, setting up and pulling downs shows, vetting-in, photographer, runner, card-writer and companion judging. I am currently the Cats NSW Inc. Junior Vice President and also Cats NSW Inc. Membership Secretary.

I am working with rescue groups or mentoring breeders with feline health and kitten issues, gardening in our veggie garden or creating unique Show Awards with my rosettesandribbons business. Thank you and Hugs: Di.



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How to show your cat or kitten

by: **Sandra Sweetman**

Back in 1990 we purchased our first Siamese cat Comenarra Lancelot bred by the late Mary Sherwood, a pedigree seal point neuter with registered papers. In the past I had successfully shown horses, I thought we would place him in just the one show with his Breeders blessing. Lancelot came out Cat of the Year many times over and won many Best in Show awards. I commenced my breeding program with his cousin, a blue point: Comenarra Blue Pilar.

Be warned showing your cat or kitten can be very additive and also great fun.

The Breeder that you purchased your kitten/cat from will help you and also let you know if they are what we term 'show quality'. You will also need registered pedigree papers with a Governing Cat Organisation such as Cats NSW transferred over into your name. A drawn up copy of the pedigree will not suffice. You can always approach a Breeder to purchase a show quality kitten and most will sell you what is termed 'pick of the litter', the one the ticks all the boxes for a possible winner at Cat Shows.

A companion is a kitten or cat that is a rescue, has unknown parents or may have a pedigree parent/s but is not able to compete in the pedigreed classes. A specific companion section, known as Group 4 is available for Companion cats or kittens to be shown in, and they must be desexed and at least 12 weeks of age. A companion can be shown up to 3 times in a Cats NSW Show but for the 4th Cat Show must be registered with Cats NSW. A companion kitten or cat registration form can be found on the Cats NSW web site (*please cut & paste link*):

https://catsnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/28092022_CATSNSW-Application-for-Companion-Kitten-or-Cat-Registration.pdf

All other aspects of showing a kitten or cat apply to the companion section. They must be in a suitable show cage with coloured curtains and must have a current vaccination certificate for checking. Judging of companion kittens and cats is based on presentation and temperament, they must be clean and well groomed, outgoing and friendly. They may be any colour, size, shape, or coat length and are not penalised for missing tails or other deformities that do not affect the wellbeing of the kitten or cat.

For more information, the Group 4 judging standard can be found at:

https://www.acf.asn.au/notices/notices/standards/Group%204_All_2020.pdf

All cat/kitten exhibitors showing both pedigree and companion exhibits should familiarise themselves with the Cats NSW show rules found on the Cats NSW web site:

<https://catsnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/CATSNSW-SHOW-RULES-adopted-19.03.2012-updated-18.04.2017-amended-18022023.pdf>

Nowadays you can show your kitten at a few Cat Shows without joining a Cat Association such as Cats NSW but if you wish to continue then you will need to become a member. It's like a 'try it out' before you join.

The question now is: how do I show my cat/kitten?

You will need to enter your kitten or cat in the Cat Show before the closing date of the competition. Details of any upcoming Cat Shows can be found on the 'upcoming Cats NSW Show Dates' page 29 and at: ■ Cats NSW: <https://catsnsw.com.au/>

- Online entries for Cats NSW can be completed through: <https://www.catshowsonline.com/> although exceptions are made for manual ones. All the relevant paperwork/entry will need completing.



The show schedule will explain the cut off time for having your kitten or cat what is termed 'vetted in'. This is where all kittens/cats are checked by a vet to ensure that they are healthy, have no fleas or any infectious conditions. You will be allocated a number where your cage will be. This will be on a slip of paper referred to as your 'Benching Slip' which will be given to you when you arrive at the show. You can bring your own cage or hire one for the day at a minimum charge of around \$5. Note: be on time as 'vetting in' will have a cut off time and you could be denied entry if you arrive late. Remember to bring along your kittens/cats current vaccination card.

Show cages are referred to as either a single or double with the approximate dimensions of (*approximate size in cms*):

- ◆ Single: 60 length x 45 wide x 52 high or
- ◆ Double: 75 length x 50 wide x 57 high.

Note: some Cat Shows will charge extra if the cage is over 76 cms.

All cages need to have an access: front opening (*i.e. an opening door to the cat inside*) with a reasonable size that opens up on the front of the cage.

A cage must also be covered on the two side panels and the back with a solid water resistant type of material such as 'Corflute' which is corrugated polypropylene, a fluted plastic which is lightweight yet rigid or with any similar material. Alternatively to this, a water proof cloth stretched tight can be used. The purpose of this is to provide separation from the cat in the adjacent cage.

Types of Shows:

There are 2 types of shows. Closed Judging or Open Judging. With regards to Closed Judging all the Exhibitors are required to leave the hall during judging, and return once judging has been completed, usually around 12.30 -1.00pm. Most of our shows now are Open Judging and this is where Exhibitors are permitted to sit on chairs and watch the cats being judged. Most Cat Show finish at around 4pm after they have awarded the Best in Show and Supreme exhibit prize.

What do I need to bring?

You will need a set of curtains and a base for the cage. First of all ask your Breeder whether you can borrow a set as many Breeders will have a spare set hanging around. If you then get 'hooked' on Cat Shows you can purchase a set or make your own.

Show curtains can be in any colour or pattern, but they should complement your kitten. They can be plain or fancy but remember that the Judge must be able to see and have access to your kitten. They will bring your kitten out of the cage for judging but will often take a final look while they are back in their cage so a clear view is really imperative. The base also needs to be flat as you will need to place the litter tray on it.

You will need a couple of bowls for your kitten, one for water and one for food. The ones that hook over the cage bars are good as they can't be tipped over in the cage. You will also need a small litter tray along with whatever litter your kitten/cat is used to. Some extra items such as baby wipes for any spills, plastic bags for rubbish, kitten's favourite toy, some lunch for the kitten/cat and a large bag to carry everything in will save quite a few trips back and forth from the car. Some Exhibitors even bring along a spare set of curtains and base just in case your cat soils its cage.



Show Day has arrived?

The night before:

Get everything ready for the show and one of the show rules is that all kittens/cats have both front and back claws cut. This is to stop them scratching a Judge or Steward. I always do mine late afternoon, the day before the show and then I hide all the portable scratching posts so they can't resharpen them.

Make sure you also check the kittens/cats ears as you might need to clean inside them and check for fleas. If your kitten/cat has any cuts or scratches it would be best to check with your Vet as this could affect how your kitten/cat is judged on the day. Check the kitten/cat is also clean and well groomed.

The day of the show:

Your kitten/cat will need to travel in a secure carrier to the show and allow yourself plenty of time so you don't arrive there feeling stressed and anxious. When you arrive there will be a desk manned by helpers where you will receive the '*Benching Slip*' that will show your cage number and you will also receive a copy of the Show Catalogue if you purchased one.

These people are very helpful and will explain to you where to go and what to do. The first thing is to have your kitten/cat vetted in and then find where your cage number is. These are placed within groups in a number order around the venue on tables. If you brought your own cage then start by setting this up, if you are hiring one then you can place up your show curtains, base, feed and water bowls along with the litter tray. When this is set up you can place your kitten/cat in the cage and make sure you lock the door.

Don't worry if your kitten tries to hide as it's new to them. You can cover the front of the cage with a towel to allow them time to settle down. Judging usually commences at around 9am and before this starts the Show Organiser will introduce the Judges to the Exhibitors. Our Shows are divided into four different groups which are:

Group 1. These contain the longhairs breed such as Persians, Ragdolls, Exotics and Siberian.

Group 2. These are shorthair breeds such as Siamese, Orientals and Peterbald.

Group 3. These include Burmese, Cornish and Devon Rex, Sphynx, British Shorthair etc.

Group 4: These are known as '*companion cats*' and include both shorthair and longhair varieties. All companion cats must be desexed.

You can sit in front of the Judging table and watch the cats being judged but make sure your mobile is on silent so as not to disturb anyone. The Judge will talk about each kitten/cat they are judging and examining and it's an excellent way to learn about any particular breed. The Judge will, between judging each cat, wash their hands using a spray bottle of disinfectant and wipe them with a paper towel so as to ensure that there is no cross contamination. The Judge will have a Steward assist them and their role is usually to open the cage doors and/or take the kittens/cats out of their cages and bring to the judging table. The Judge will then at the end award Best of Breed and usually the top 5 Exhibits or more in each category depending on what Cat Association is holding the show. Best in Show and Supreme are usually awarded after lunch.



The Show Manager usually will announce when the show over and you can then pack up, load up your car and go home after a wonderful day out. A suggestion is to find yourself a Mentor, an experienced Breeder who will help you before the show and on the show day. Most Breeders would feel honoured if you approached them and asked. Note: each Cat Association have what they term Cat of the Year (COTY) awards where you earn and accumulate points from every Cat Show you attend.

Cats NSW: If you join and have membership with Cats NSW then the following points are awarded:

- ▶ 1st Place in Top 5: 5 points
- ▶ 2nd Place in Top 5: 4 points
- ▶ 3rd Place in Top 5: 3 points
- ▶ 4th Place in Top 5: 2 points
- ▶ 5th Place in Top 5: 1 point
- Best In Group: an extra 5 Points
- Supreme Exhibit: extra 5 Points


Happy showing!

There are the following categories for this point system:

- Top 5 Kittens in Group 1, 2, 3 & 4
- Top 5 Entire Cats in Group 1, 2, & 3
- Top 5 Desexed Cats in Group 1, 2, 3 & 4



Article written by: Sandra Sweetman: part of this was first published in the Siamese Cat Society of NSW Felis: Dec '21

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All about: CAT NIP

Treat your cat – plant catnip



Spring is here and the warming weather is the ideal time to give your cat a treat by planting catnip. Catnip (*Nepeta cataria*) is cheap, readily available and easy to grow from seeds or seedlings. It is sometimes found under different names including cats wort, cat wort, or cat mint.

You can grow it indoors or in the garden and it can be dried and stored over winter and still retain its attractive properties. Kittens show no reaction to catnip and about one third of cats never develop an interest.

But even if that is the case with your cat you will still have a pleasant, robust plant that is effective in repelling insects including cockroaches and mosquitoes. However, cats that like it, generally love it. They will rub themselves happily in the plant, or chew on the leaves. After ten or fifteen minutes they will then wander off, relaxed and satisfied



Benefits

As well as being a pleasant addition to their environment, you can make creative use of catnip in managing your cat. By controlling access you can extract some extra benefits such as:

providing enrichment for an indoor cat by periodically hiding it around the house or in a toy,

introducing them to a new toy (*like that expensive cat wheel you just bought*) by placing catnip on or around it,

de-stressing them in advance of some potentially stressful event like being in a vehicle, going to the vet or being bathed,

re-igniting their interest in the old cat scratch pole and away from your new leather sofa,

gently introducing them to a new person or location.

If this sounds good but you lack the space or the green thumb, then you can buy preparations like sprays or the dried herb that have the same effect from pet stores and online.

Downsides

There are few downsides to catnip. It has been used in traditional herbal remedies for humans for centuries and its effects are well studied. The active ingredient, nepetalactone, is not addictive and causes no harm or long-term behaviour changes. There are rare reports of cats getting tummy upsets from over-eating the plant and of males becoming aggressive, possibly because the active ingredient mimics the pheromones involved in mating. In either case, just discontinue the use and chat to your vet.

Finally, be thoughtful where you put your plant. An over-enthusiastic cat may cause cat or plant a harmful fall if placed in a high location such as a window sill or balcony.

Get planting!

If you want to get more deeply into the catnip story go to the all about catnip page on the Cat World website.

First published in the Feline Health News 20 October, 2022



To get cat health stories direct to your email or to support cat health research in Australia, go the

[Feline Health Research Fund website](#)

Profile on a Breed: THE NORWEGIAN

Norwegian Forest Cats by: Peta Sperduty

If you are looking for a large fluffy cat that is gentle, friendly, inquisitive, active and that wants to be with you and your family but not overly in your face, that is also happy to chill in their favorite spot then the **Norwegian Forest Cat** is the breed you are looking for.



The Norwegian or “wegie” as they are affectionately known known is a relatively new breed to Australia having first being registered in Australia in the 1980’s and being first accepted in ACF in 1987. They have a long history roaming the Scandinavian countries forest dating back many hundreds of years. The Skogkatts as they are known in Norway features in Norwegian fairy tales and mythology, these enchanted cats of the forest were said to have been able to appear and disappear at will. It is also said that on the death of Balder, Freya – the goddess of love and fertility drive a carriage pulled by Skaukatts/Skogkatts to his funeral.

There is much speculation about the ancestry of the modern Norwegian, it is said that Turkish longhairs are possibly the ancestors of the Norwegian which is entirely possible, as Byzantine emperors had Scandinavian guards called the Vaeringer. There is also speculation that the Norwegian, Maine Coon, Siberian and Turkish longhairs all have common ancestral base, but this has not been proven as yet. The Norwegian Forest cats were said to have explored the world on land and at sea on Viking ships, as protectors of grain stores. Over the years this extensive travel has led to them interbreeding with local European domestic cats and has led to the breed almost becoming extinct in Norway. The Norwegian people became increasingly worried that they would lose their distinctive breed claiming its name in their country.



Photos: top RH side: Fairwind Mr Bojangles, bred by Di Fry, owned by Christian Nimmervoll. Bottom LH side: Jaymlynkatz Skadi, bred by Denise Grace, owned by Sandra Dukes, middle: Norskatt Never Again owned and bred by Sandra Dukes & left Norskatt Coola Copy owned and bred by Sandra Dukes





Efforts were started in the 1930's to bring back this natural breed but were halted due to World War 2. In the 1950's a group of Norwegians lead by Carl Fredrik Nordane formed a club and set about saving the distinctive natural cat breed

of Norway the Skogkatts for which they had success and is the modern day Norwegian Forest Cat we see today.

Norwegian's are a very muscular active cat that has one very unique feature unlike any other cat breed being that they can climb down a tree head first.

Norwegian's adults have a full double coat that is magnificent to behold with their soft undercoat and water resistant top coat, mane and full tail which in the cold is used to wrap around their body to help keep them warm in the snow. They also have toe tufts which help protect their feet from the snow and ice. Their coats are easy to maintain with a daily comb through.

They have a triangular head with large oval shaped eyes that are set on a slightly oblique angle give them an alert expression, they have a straight profile from forehead to chin. Norwegian's are not an overly vocal cat that prefer to communicate with a series of sweet chirps and trills rather than meows which is a delight to hear.

Written By Peta Sperduty:

who is slave to 3 gorgeous Norwegians. She is also a qualified Veterinary Nurse and All Breeds Judge



Photos: top LH side: Fairwind Born to be Wild bred by Di Fry, owned by Christian Nimmervoll. RH photo from the left to right Guysndolls Aksel, Guysndolls Sunniva, Guysndolls Burning Love bred by Debbie LeStrange, owned by Peta Sperduty & ACF AoE, BzDB GD Ch, QFA Gd Ch, NSW CFA Gd Ch Guysndolls Aksel owned by Peta Sperduty

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Details: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1035249013975678/?ref=share_group_link



Profile on a Breed: THE SOMALI CAT

THE SOMALI is first cousin to the Abyssinian and shares most of its characteristics. The essential difference is that the Somali has a beautiful semi-long hair coat. The coat is easy to care for, only requiring occasional combing. The longer hair comes from what is known as a recessive gene, and because of this gene, it is possible to have both long and short-hair kittens in the one litter. The short-hair kitten is known as an Abyssinian (*Variant*).

They are very active but not exuberant. Somalis are well balanced, even tempered, hardy and calmer than their cousin the Abyssinian. They are sociable towards other cats and have a gentle temperament. They also have very playful natures which makes them ideal when playing with children. The Somali demands attention but is less possessive than the Abyssinian.

They are good hunters, so living indoors is the best way to keep them safe and healthy. Plenty of activities and affection will keep your Somali in top shape. The Somali has a medium to high activity level, they are also affectionate, active and playful, retaining their playfulness long after kittenhood. They are extremely devoted, loyal and loving to their humans.

Colours of the Somali:

Tawny, Ruddy or Usual Somali

The Tawny coat is a ruddy brown (*burnt sienna*), ticked with various shades of darker brown or black; the extreme outer tip to be the darkest, with orange-brown undercoat. Tail tipped with black. The underside and inside of legs to be a tint that harmonises with the main colour. The nose leather is tile red. The paw pads are black or brown, with black between the toes, extending slightly beyond the paws.

Cinnamon or Sorrel Somali

The Cinnamon coat is a rich, warm, glowing red, ticked with chocolate brown, the extreme outer tip to be dark, with red undercoat. Tail tipped with chocolate brown. The underside and inside of legs to be a tint that harmonises with the main colour. The nose leather is rosy pink. The paw pads are pink with chocolate brown between the toes, extending slightly beyond the paws.

Blue Somali

The Blue coat is a warm beige, ticked with various shades of slate blue, the extreme outer tip to be the darkest, with blush beige undercoat. Tail tipped with slate blue. The underside and inside of legs to be a tint that harmonises with the main colour. The nose leather is old rose. The paw pads are mauve with slate blue between the toes, extending slightly beyond the paws.

Fawn Somali

The Fawn coat is a warm rose-beige, ticked with light cocoa brown, the extreme outer tip to be darkest, with blush-beige undercoat. Tail tipped with light cocoa brown. The underside and inside of legs to be a tint that harmonises with the main colour. The nose leather is salmon. The paw pads are pink with light cocoa brown between the toes, extending slightly beyond the paws.

There are Silver variations on the above colours.

Above information taken from: <http://nareira---home-of-quality-somali-cats.weebly.com/>



Profile on a SOMALI CAT BREEDER

Debbie Thomas: NAREIRA CATTERY

I have always loved cats and they have been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. I commenced in the cat world with showing companions in 1996 and then went onto breeding and showing under the *Nareira* prefix. Although I love all cats, I fell for the beautiful Somali and its cousin the Abyssinian.

I am an experienced steward of many years and was recognised as a Tutor Steward with the NSWCFCA. I was invited by the NSWCFCA Management Committee to become a Companion Judge and completed the training in May 2003. I have had the privilege of judging many wonderful cats and kittens around New South Wales and at the Perth Royal Show. I look forward to every assignment as a learning experience and enjoy meeting fellow cat enthusiasts.



In 1999 I was successful in breeding a litter of Somali kittens to a sweet blue Somali queen named *Farrington Eat Bugs*, this litter of 3 kittens went on to win Best Group 3 Litter in Show and then went on to win Supreme Litter at the Federal Cat Show, there were over 23 litters entered in the show.

I am now a member with Cats NSW and enjoy showing my cats with this innovative and friendly association.





Some of the beautiful Somali cats & kittens that Debbie Thomas has bred. Debbie is a Cats NSW Companion Judge.

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Check out the website www.eyeenvy.com.au



Upcoming Cats NSW SHOW DATES

<i>Date of show:</i>	<i>Organisation:</i>	<i>Venue:</i>
 Saturday 8 July	Western Districts Cat Society	Venue: Philip Charley Pavilion, Hawkesbury Showground, Racecourse Rd, Clarendon
 Saturday 15th July Sunday 16th July	CCCA National Cat Show	Venue: Logan Metro Sports & Event Centre, 357 Browns Plains Rd, Crestmead QLD
 Saturday 29 July	Tamworth Cat Society	Venue: Carinya Christian School, 25 Boronia Drive, Tamworth
 Saturday 26 August	Borderline Cat Club	Venue: South Tweed Sports Club, 4 Minjungbal Drive, Tweed Heads South
 Sunday 17 September	Cats NSW Incorporated <i>(note: this is on Sunday)</i>	Panthers North Richmond
 Sunday 15 October	Cats NSW Incorporated ANNIVERSARY SHOW incorporating a 'pure' Siamese Speciality Ring <i>(note: this is on Sunday)</i>	Panthers North Richmond
 Saturday 4 November	Cats NSW Incorporated	Panthers North Richmond
 Saturday 25 November	Cats NSW Inc. AGM & COTY <i>(Cat of the Year awards)</i>	Panthers North Richmond



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NEWS from Cats NSW Show Committee

Cats NSW Show Sub Committee members:

Helena Sugar, Di Stokes, Rosemary Rogers, Fiona Cooper & Crystal Maher

Cats NSW Anniversary Cat Show 2023: 15th Oct 2023

Four ring Open Championship Cat Show proudly presented by Cats NSW incorporating a 'pure' Siamese Specialty Ring

Introducing the following Judges:

◆ **Theresa Imboden–Johnson**, QFA commenced breeding Persians under the prefix Martes and has successfully shown Persian and Exotics for over 20 years. The Martes prefix is well known in Australia and New Zealand for its many Best in Show and Cat of the Year Awards.

She is a fully qualified All Breeds Judge, starting with Group 1 in 1986 and has served as an executive member of the Management Committee as well as holding the position of Treasurer of NSW CFA for 15 years before retiring. She has also held the position of Treasurer with the Co–ordinating Cat Council of Australia and the Feline Health Research Fund.



INTERNATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

New Zealand, Europe, South Africa, 2006 Singapore, 2008 Singapore, 2010 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Beijing, Jakarta, Borneo, Chengdu and Thailand. **Judging all exhibits ring 2.**

◆ **Elizabeth Andresen**, GCCFSA began showing Siamese in South Australian in 1978, in 1979 relocated to Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. In 1981 she commenced Judges training in Group 2 (*Siamese/Oriental*) and continued on to complete Group 3 & then the longhair in 2000 making her an All Breeds ACF Judge.

She has judged in most States & Territories in Australia. Her first overseas judging assignment was in Kuala Lumpur in 2001 and then New Zealand in 2004 & 2005 & again in 2015 & 2016.



She is a life member of the CANT in the Northern Territory, a committee member holding the position of Prefix Recorder and also a member of the Tutor Panel. She enjoys judging and breeding our beautiful felines and meeting old & new friend on her travels.

INTERNATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

2001 Malaysia, 2004 New Zealand, 2005, 2017, 2018 New Zealand, 2016, 2017 China.

Judging all exhibits ring 3.

◆ **Karen Moore**, GCCFSA has been breeding and showing cats for the past 40 years under the prefix 'Euphoria'. Commencing with Burmese, which is still her main breed today, Karen has also had extensive experience in breeding Siamese, Orientals, Foreign White, and Devon Rex cats, winning 8 NSW Cat of the Year Awards with these breeds.

Over the years, she has imported both Burmese and Devon Rex from the UK to supplement Australian bloodlines. Karen is an international All Shorthair Judge and is a qualified Tutor Judge in all Shorthair Breeds. She is a life member of the Oriental Cat Club of NSW and a founding member and past President of the Rex Cat Club of NSW. **Judging ring 1, groups 2, 3 & 4.**



◆ **Fiona Cooper**, *Cats NSW Inc*

Fiona has bred Siamese, Orientals, Foreign Whites, Burmese, Devon Rex, Scottish Folds and even a litter of Abyssinians under the 'Fioric' prefix over the past 26 years. She gained her Group 3 Judges license in 1999, followed by Group 2 in 2003 and then completed Group 1 training in 2008. Fiona has been a regular exhibitor for over 25 years and has enjoyed judging in most states of Australia.

INTERNATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS: New Zealand, South Africa and China. *Judging all exhibits ring 4.*



◆ **Ian Honour**, *CQI* has owned and loved Orientals since marrying Bernadette Roberts in January 1985 and they breed Orientals together under the 'Byanda' prefix since 1990. Wisp of Vanwillow entered their lives and introduced them to the unique characteristics and playfulness of the Oriental an unique breed of specialised cat.

Ian is an experienced Judge in Groups 1 and 2. He has been a member of numerous cat-related committees for Clubs, State and National bodies. He is the co-breeder and co-owner of many Cats of the Year, in both the Oriental and Turkish Van breeds. *Judging group 1 ring 1 and also the 'pure' Siamese Specialty Ring.*



Entries will be via www.catshowsonline.com

If you experience issues or would like manual entry to be done on your behalf please contact the Show Secretary: details found on the Show Schedule.

An advertisement for eac animal care products. The top part features the eac logo (e in blue, a in orange, c in green) and the text 'animal care' and 'advancing animal health'. Below this, there are images of two product containers: a black bag labeled 'eac intestine' and a white jar labeled 'eac probiotic'. To the right is a silhouette of a cat. At the bottom, the text reads 'holistic nutraceutical supplement optimising immune & intestinal health of felines'. Contact information is provided at the very bottom: 'sales@eac.animalcare.com', 'www.eac.animalcare.com', and '08 7076 9000'. On the left side of the advertisement, there is a smaller image of a ginger cat with its paw raised, with the eac logo and the text 'Supporting the health, well-being and vitality of your feline friend!'.

For more information about this health product visit: Website URL: <https://eacanimalcare.com> email: admin@eacanimalcare.com or phone : 08 7076 9000



Cats NSW LATEST NEWS

The new postal address for all cat/kitten registrations, title updates etc is:

Cats NSW Registrar

PO Box 5022

South Tamworth NSW 2340

Please note the current bank account details:

Commonwealth Bank

Cats NSW Inc. Show & Fundraising Account

BSB: 062 572

Account: 1019 6375

Litter age: for those showing litters, the age of kittens has been changed from 12 weeks to 10 weeks at Cats NSW and affiliate clubs shows.

Entry for Cat Shows is made electronically via: <https://www.catshowsonline.com>

Note: that provision has been made for hard copy entries. If you experience difficulties entering through catshowsonline or would like to enter via a manual entry which can be done on your behalf, please contact the Show Secretary: details found on the Show Schedule.

For all membership enquiries:

Please contact our Membership Secretary:

Di Stokes email: membership@catsnsw.com.au



Please note: all membership renewals are due by: 1st July 2023

RESOLVING DISPUTES BETWEEN CAT BREEDERS AND KITTEN/CAT BUYERS

Sometimes disputes between breeders and buyers of kittens/cats can arise and a member might refer the matter to Cats NSW. This could be, for example about the sale of a cat/kitten or the return of a deposit. These are, however usually a private contractual matter between the member and the buyer.

A dispute such as these should be resolved by the relevant government body e.g. Department of Fair Trading, Consumer Claims Tribunal rather than individually to Cats NSW.

Members should be aware that buyers may refer disputes to their local state based Consumer Tribunal, please refer to your local Consumer Group for information on the process.



VALERIE CASHMAN



Cats NSW takes this opportunity to wish Valerie Cashman: Groups 1, 2 & 3 (*All Breeds Judge*) best wishes in her retirement and to thank her for her time and contribution to our Cat Fancy.

Valerie bred Burmese, prefix '*Aurora*' for about 22 years and has been an All Breeds Judge for approx. 20 years.

Her beloved Blue Burmese '*Aurora Elusive Blue*' lived to the age of 21 years and her half-brother is 14 years old now. Valerie enjoyed great success with her Burmese, in Australia and overseas and many Aurora descendants are still proving themselves on the show bench and breeding quality kittens worldwide. ie; Canada, Europe, Russia, Norway, New Zealand and South Africa.

She has judged in all states of Australia and the Northern Territory as well as in New Zealand. **Cats NSW and members wish her all the best for the future.**



**The two new display banners from:
Western Districts
Cat Club.
One of the affiliates of
Cats NSW.**



BREEDERS: please make sure your details are correct/up to date on your Cats NSW Breeders listing on the Cats NSW web site:
<https://catsnsw.com.au/breeders/>.

For all changes/updates: please email the Web Master:
webmaster@catsnsw.com.au



From *DUCKS* to *CATS*

written by: Sandra Sweetman & Jane Cockerton

Jane Cockerton travelled 1,700 kms from Rockhampton Qld to Sydney for the Royal Easter Show and spent nearly 6 months in planning the trip. She stayed at pet friendly caravan sites in her luxurious sleeper horse float. Just the travel down took two days.



Previously the COVID restrictions put a dampener on her first couple of show years but she held out hope of attending the Sydney Royal and this year her dream came true.

Jane brought down 6 cats: 3 Elf's and 3 Sphynx and has been breeding for 5 years.

She was originally from the UK and came to Australia in 2006. Jane started breeding in the UK '*call ducks*' a type of water fowl for many years with great success. It was in 2017 that she decided to commence a journey towards her real passion: breeding cats.

As a child she grew up with a cat or two around the house and was involved in many rescues over the years.

The first cats to arrive were Sphynx, followed by Elf from Russian and European lines way back in 2019 and they achieved great success at the Cat Shows. Her first litter of kittens followed with equal success.

Jane said that attending the Easter Show was so much fun. Everyone was extremely friendly and interested in talking about '*cat stuff*'. She particularly loved helping out and talking to the public. She stated that there is a definite distinct atmosphere and '*buzz*' about large, special Cat Shows.

Janes states that she was very impressed with the quality of exhibits and the presentation of cats at the Sydney Royal and it will help her strive to be among the top entries in years to come. She said that she will definitely be back again.



Photo: shows Jane's future queens Born Bold Indiana, 11 months old. She is looking forward to breeding a litter from her.



Results: Sydney ROYAL EASTER SHOW

And the
SUPREME WINNERS ARE:

Ring 1: **COONMAGIC ATOMIC BLONDE**

Exhibitor: Fiona Cooper. Breeder: Kim Mattock, SA
Main Coon female (White MCO w)



Ring 2: CCCA AOE GL DB GD CH NSWCFD DGC
GREENCROFT JUSTA DUCHESS

Exhibitor: Jeanine Brown. Breeder: Suzette Greentree

***** BEST OVERALL EXHIBIT *****

Persian spay (Black Tortie Bi-colour spay)



Ring 3: **CHAYNIKOTY JUST LIKE FIRE**

Exhibitor: Tracey Stewart. Breeder: Petra Kettle
Siberian male (Red Mackerel Tabby with White)



Supreme Companion Exhibit
COM GOLD DGC **CHESSIE PEAKE**
Exhibitor: Alvin Kathage.
(Seal Tortie Point spay)

The Cats NSW Advance Sydney Royal Cat Show was a resounding success. Judging was completed by 1.00pm and all Exhibitors were back to their exhibits by 1.30.

Supremes and Best in Show in the Farmer Dave Arena presented at 3.30pm to a tantalised public audience.

No show can go on without the Exhibitors and their exhibits, Judges and Stewards and I would like to thank everyone for playing their part. I would especially like to thank the following, without their assistance the show would not run.

Margaret Harris from New Zealand, Jenny Weekes, Fiona Cooper, Barb La Rocca. Di Stokes, Brad Stokes, Rebekah Darmody, Jeanette Rossiter, Hazel Rossiter, Andrew Fraser, Debbie Thomas, Ali Moore, Hazel Faraway and Renee Bont, our floor and card room stewards. Tony Hurry, our Assistant Chief Steward.

Helena Sugar, President Cats NSW





fido's By Mavlab



Cats NSW MEMBERS PAGE



Photo left shows: DB GD CH Chainoponds U Love Me at the Borderline Cat Show on 14th August 2022 winning Supreme exhibit. The Judge was Shara McKay. Owner and Exhibitor: Rosemary & Harold Rogers who breed Persians and Exotic's for temperament, style and purrsonality. Photo right shows: the winning supreme prize rosette.



New members cats:

Danielle & Thomas Clewett-Dang companion cats. Left is **Fern** a white tabby (*Lady Fern Miller*) and below **Pepi** (*Pepito Tuxedo*) They are both rescue cats. Pepi was surrendered by his family and Fern was a feral cat. Danielle & Thomas have had them since they were 4 months.

Pepi is now 4, Fern is 2 years old. The 'Merry May Days' 13 May '23 was Danielle & Thomas first Cat Show as Exhibitors.



Photo left shows:

Max (*Shiloh Maksim De Neveah*) in New Zealand

Owner: Kim Oberholzer.

Breeder: Sandra Sweetman.

Max has become a poster star for Petcover one of the sponsors of the New Zealand Siamese Cat Association Cat Show 8th July '23.

If you would like your cat/kitten included on this page and they can be at rest or play or winning an award at a Cat Show please send photo and information through to: the Editor, Sandra Sweetman at Cat Chat email: catchat@iinet.net.au



Around the shows

'Ku-Ring-Gai Himalayan Cat Club' 1st April '23



All photos are copyright to Colleen Blair and Di Stokes



'Merry May Days' Cats NSW Cat Show 13th May '23



UPCOMING NEWS for next issue



If you would like to contribute an article, story, photo of your kitten/cats/litters etc or if you have any suggestions for future articles for 'Cat Chat' magazine please contact the Editor: Sandra Sweetman email: catchat@iinet.net.au

Our next issue will be out in December, 2023 and along with all the regular features and stories will feature the following breed focus:

Group 1: MAINE COON cats

ACF AoE BZ DGC Coolcoons Nanuk, Highest Group 1 Point Scorer 2020 Cat of the Year



Group 3: DEVON REX cats



Photo of Stella. ACF SILVER Award of Excellence, CATS NSW PLATINUM DGC, TFA GL PN, ACT BZ TGC, ANCATS BZ DGC & NATIONAL CHAMPION Edapusrex Don't Doubt Me. Stella will be 13 years old in September.



The **WINNERS** will be announced for the **'Christmas in July'** dress up your cat/kitten photo competition



Focus on cats/kittens eye problems including:
COMMON EYE PROBLEMS IN KITTENS

CONJUNCTIVITIS IN CATS

plus: **it's all about: CAT GRASS**

