

The Abyssinian Breeder 30th National Show

Canberra, 18 May 2015

The Show

After the 4-ring 30th anniversary show the preceding year, we went back to the customary three rings, and had judges from the USA, New Zealand, and Australia. They were, respectively, Donna Fuller, David Scadden and Marisa Thislewaite. The number of exhibits entered was 54, an increase from the 50 the preceding year. Of the 54 entries, 45 were Tawny, 6 Blue and 3 Cinnamon. The Aby Somali proportion was 43-11. The quality was very high, as always, among both breeds.



NZCF judge David Scadden with Ch Osiris(V) Hearts Perfection, Supreme Cat & Exhibit



US judge Donna Fuller with CCCA Ch, Gold Ch & Dbl GPN Narleekatz Roxy R/U to Supreme Desexed

Supreme Exhibit was the Supreme Cat, Michael and Sue Shawn's Tawny male, Ch Osiris(V) Hearts Perfection, who had been Supreme Kitten the preceding year. R/U to Supreme Exhibit, and R/U Supreme Kitten, was the Shawn's Tawny female, Osiris(V) Miss Dior, while Supreme Kitten this year was Eileen and Karel Pittaway's Tawny male, Merindalee Dustin Hoffman, and R/U to Supreme Cat was his sire, the Pittaway's Tawny male, CCCA Gr Ch & Dia Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford. Supreme Desexed Cat was Lee Clarke's Tawny neuter, Ch Cenglow The Real Deal, while Runner-up to him was Kaylie Goodrick's Cinnamon Spay, CCCA Ch, Gold Ch & Dbl GPN Narleekatz Roxy.

My thanks go to the Birman Cat Club of Canberra; Denise White, show co-ordinator, 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 three top-10 Exhibit rings (with some external assistance) and providing the great photos from 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. Thanks finally to all the exhibitors who came from all around the country – I hope to see you all in Canberra next May for the 32nd show.

Top 10 Exhibits Tables

Ring 1 – Donna Fuller [CFA USA]

Pos.	Cage	Name	Type	Owner/Breeder	Comments
1 st	35	Ch Osiris(V) Hearts Perfection	TWN MC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 1 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh
2 nd	31	CCCA Ch, Gold Ch & Dbl GPN Narleekatz Roxy	CIN SC	K. Goodrick/Exh	R. 1 Best Dsx, R/U Supr Dsx
3 rd	41	Osiris(V) Maid In Australia	TWN FC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 1 2 nd Cat
4 th	50	Ch Nile Sangria	CIN FC	G. Kennedy/Exh	R. 1 3 rd Cat
5 th	7	Merindalee Dustin Hoffman	TWN MK	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 1 Best Kit, Supr Kit
6 th	25	Cenglow The Real Deal	TWN NC	L. Clarke/S. Doyle	R. 1 2 nd Dsx, Supr Dsx
7 th	52	Brz Gr Ch Gunsmoke's Woodford Reserve (Imp USA)	TWN\$ MC	D. Plummer/C. & M. Munro	R. 1 2 nd Dsx
8 th	36	Abytawe Benny And The Jets	TWN MC	B. White & W, Newton/K. Cooper	R. 1 5 th Cat
9 th	22	Shilabo Georgia Moon	TWN\$ FK	D. Plummer/Exh	R. 1 2 nd Kit
10 th	13	Merindalee R We There Yet	TWN FK	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 1 3 rd Kit

Ring 2 — David Scadden [NZCF New Zealand]

Pos.	Cage	Name	Type	Owner/Breeder	Comments
1 st	15	Osiris(V) Miss Dior	TWN FK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 2 Best Kit, R/U Supr Kit, R/U Supr Exh
2 nd	40	CCCA Gr Ch & Dia Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford	TWN MC	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 2 Best Cat, R/U Supr Cat
3 rd	5	Osiris(V) King Of Thorns	TWN MK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 2 2 nd Kit
4 th	47	CCCA Ch, ACF AoE & dual Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden	TWN FC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 2 2 nd Cat
5 th	13	Merindalee R We There Yet	TWN FK	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 2 3 rd Kit
6 th	41	Osiris(V) Maid In Australia	TWN FC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 2 3 rd Cat
7 th	35	Ch Osiris(V) Hearts Perfection	TWN MC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 2 4 th Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh
8 th	28	PN Narleekatz Dora The Explorer	TWN SC	K. Goodrick/Exh	R. 2 Best Dsx
9 th	6	Tijah Monkey N Around	TWN MK	S. Hatcher/Exh	R. 2 4 th Kit
10 th	31	CCCA Ch, Gold Ch & Dbl GPN Narleekatz Roxy	CIN SC	K. Goodrick/Exh	R. 2 2 nd Dsx, R/U Supr Dsx

Ring 3 — Marisa Thistlewaite [QFA Queensland]

Pos.	Cage	Name	Type	Owner/Breeder	Comments
1 st	35	Ch Osiris(V) Hearts Perfection	TWN MC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 3 Best Cat; Supr Cat, Supr Exh
2 nd	47	CCCA Ch, ACF AoE & dual Plat Dbl Gr Ch Osiris(V) Elizabeth Arden	TWN FC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 3 2 nd Cat
3 rd	7	Merindalee Dustin Hoffman	TWN Mk	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 3 Best Kit; Supr Kit
4 th	40	CCCA Gr Ch & Dia Gr Ch	TWN MC	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 3 3 rd Cat, R/U Supr Cat

		Merindalee Harrison Ford			
5 th	41	Osiris(V) Maid In Australia	TWN FC	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 3 4 th Cat
6 th	13	Merindalee R We There Yet	TWN FK	E. & K. Pittaway/Exh	R. 3 2 nd Kit
7 th	14	Swift Savannah	TWN FK	B. White & W. Newton/Exh	R. 2 3 rd Kit
8 th	25	Ch Cenglow The Real Deal	TWN NC	L. Clarke/S. Doyle	R. 3 Best Dsx, R/U Supr Dsx
9 th	8	Osiris(V) Coco Mademoiselle	TWN FK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 3 4 th Kit
10 th	4	Osiris(V) Golden Wings	TWN MK	M. & S. Shawn/Exh	R. 3 5 th 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 – Donna Fuller [CFA USA]

I want to thank all of the Abyssinian and Somali breeders (as well as the Birman club members) for the opportunity to return to Canberra to see all of your lovely cats. The last time I did these shows is one of my favourite memories among all my trips 'down under'. As always, the hospitality has been lovely and I enjoyed myself immensely. A special "Thanks" to Christine for stewarding for me and keeping my mechanics and paperwork straight.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to present my choices for best exhibits in show.

Best Exhibit: Cage 35 – Ch Osiris(V) Hearts Perfection, Tawny Abyssinian Male. This elegant 1-year-old boy was the most outstanding cat in this year's show. His colour is a deep ruddy with coal-black ticking distributed evenly; his coat texture had all the resilience I look for in an Aby. His body was muscular and his head was beautifully proportioned with no flat planes and well-set large ears. There was never any question but that he was best in each category as I went through the judging --- best Tawny male; best Tawny Aby; best Aby; best adult entire; and, of course, BEST EXHIBIT!!

2nd Exhibit: Cage 31 – CCCA Ch, Gold Ch & Dbl GPN Narleekatz Roxy, Cinnamon Abyssinian Spay. Although 5 years 7 months old, this girl felt as muscular and firm as a yearling. Her colour was glorious and covered every millimetre of her. Her ticking was even and coat resilient. She pranced about on the table showing herself to her best advantage. She was clearly my Best in the Desexed category.

3rd Exhibit: Cage 41 – Osiris(V) Maid In Australia, Tawny Abyssinian Female. Although only 9 months old, this girl has the show game down pat – she is a total "suck-up"! However her performance is not what got her to the top; she has vibrant colour and very even ticking. Her head and ear-set meet the standard to a T.

4th Exhibit: Cage 50 – Ch Nile Sangria, Cinnamon Abyssinian Female. This 1 year 3 month old girl has outstanding ticking and coat texture with deep, deep red



Merindalee Dustin Hoffman, Supreme Kitten, with co-owner/breeder Karel Pittaway.

base colour. Her body and condition are a perfect balance for a show cat.

5th Exhibit: Cage 7 – Merindalee Dustin Hoffman, Tawny Abyssinian Male Kitten. This 8 month old boy showed great maturity as well as exceptional balance for a “teenager”. His ticking was fully developed and the ground colour vibrant.

6th Exhibit: Cage 25 – Ch Cenglow The Real Deal, Tawny Abyssinian Neuter. It was a very close decision for Best and 2nd in Desexed and while the Cinnamon girl took best, this 1 year 4 month old Tawny boy is a superb example with wonderful colour and great coat texture. He has nice large ears which compliment his lovely head.

7th Exhibit: Cage 52 – Brz Gr Ch Gunsmoke’s Woodford Reserve (Imp USA), Tawny Somali Male. Although 6 years and 4 months old, this lovely boy showed like a kitten. His coat is luxurious and full with vibrant clear

ruddy undercoat and distinct tipping which is distributed very evenly overall – an especially difficult accomplishment for a Somali.



8th Exhibit: Cage 36 – Abytawe Benny And The Jets, Tawny Abyssinian Male. This 13 month old male was the runner-up Tawny male to the BIS, but was very competitive. His colour and ticking were excellent and his overall type met the standard very well.

9th Exhibit: Cage 22 – Shilabo Georgia Moon, Tawny Somali Female Kitten. This 7 month old Somali girl had a lovely coat with rich ground colour and exceptional ticking for such a young kitten. Her head conformation and ears finished a lovely look.

10th Exhibit: Cage 13 – Merindalee R We There Yet, Tawny Abyssinian Female Kitten. Only 6 months old, but already shows intense colour and very even ticking on a resilient coat. I was impressed with her lovely head and profile as well as her overall condition. I thought her expression exceptionally pretty and pleasing.

Once again, I extend many thanks to the lovely “cat people” of Australia for giving me the opportunity to handle all these superb cats and to return to my favourite country other than my home.

CCCA Gr Ch & Dia Gr Ch Merindalee Harrison Ford, R/U to Supreme Cat

Ring 2 — David Scadden [NZCF NZ]

Well, what an experience to be invited to judge such a wonderful range of Abyssinians at your show in May. I was delighted by the overall type on display and the richness of Tawny ground colour evident in many of the exhibits. Placings came down to finer points such as eye shape and set, ear set and profiles.

I would like to thank the club for the hospitality shown and it was a very friendly and well run show.

1st: No. 15, OSIRIS(V) MISS DIOR, Owners: Michael & Sue Shawn

Just 10 days off being in the cat class, this Tawny kitten is all grace and elegance and was my best kitten. Fabulous rich coat colour with high definition in the ticking. Body and tail balance well, lovely profile and ears broad and cupped at the base, with slight forward tilt. Showed herself off well. Has marvellous eye shape, set and striking colour.

2nd: No. 40, CCCA Gr Ch & Dia Gr Ch MERINDALEE HARRISON FORD, Owners: Eileen & Karel Pittaway

This 3 and a half year old Tawny Male was my best entire cat and is showing the full development of an excellently presented stud. Great boning and muscle tone, well balanced, with rich Tawny ground colour. Has a great Abyssinian expression, and great eye colour and shape.

3rd: No. 5, OSIRIS(V) KING OF THORNS, Owners: Michael & Sue Shawn

Just over 6 months of age, this Tawny kitten was my reserve kitten and is showing great maturity for his age. Well balanced with good boning. Great eye shape, set and colour, great profile and ears cupped at the base.

4th: No. 47, CCCA Ch, ACF AOE & dual Plat Dbl Gr Ch OSIRIS(V) ELIZABETH ARDEN Owners: Michael & Sue Shawn

This 2½ year old Tawny female was my reserve entire cat and is showing great maturity and balance. Has rich Tawny undercoat and good contrast in ticking. Great profile, eye colour and set are very good, lovely ear set.

5th: No. 13, MERINDALEE R WE THERE YET, Owners: Eileen & Karel Pittaway

This female Tawny kitten is only 6½ months old and was my third best kitten. She is beautifully balanced, has great ear set, and profile. Firm chin and good muzzle, with a good amount of egg shell white on the chin.

6th: No. 41, OSIRIS(V) MAID IN AUSTRALIA, Owner: Michael & Sue Shawn

Just over 9 months of age, this Tawny female was my third best entire cat and showed good development for a young cat. A little longer in all component parts, but balances well. Great width between the ears, good eye shape and colour.

7th: No. 35, Ch OSIRIS(V) HEARTS PERFECTION, Owners: Michael & Sue Shawn

This Tawny male is just over 1 year old and showing good maturity for his age. Not the largest exhibit but well proportioned. Rich Tawny ground colour, good profile and firm chin.

8th: No. 28, PN NARLEEKATZ DORA THE EXPLORER, Owner: Kaylie Goodrick

This Tawny Spay is just over 3 years of age and was my best de-sexed cat. Very well balanced in body and tail, with strong boning and muscle tone. Fine silky coat texture and good ticking.

9th No. 6, TIJAH MONKEY N AROUND, Owner: Sue Hatcher

This 8 month old Tawny boy is showing good development for his age with good overall maturity. He has great eye colour and rich Tawny ground colour, a firm chin and good width between the ears.

10th: No. 31, CCCA Ch, Gold Ch & DGPN NARLEEKATZ ROXY, Owner: Kaylie Goodrick

This 5½ old Cinnamon Spay was my reserve desexed cat and the only non-Tawny to appear in my overall Top 10. Showing an even cinnamon background, she is well balanced and has a very good Abyssinian expression. Overall good balance, and great profile.



Osiris(V) Miss Dior, R/U to Supreme Kitten and Exhibit, with co-owner/breeder Sue Shawn

Ring 3 – Marisa Thislewaite [QFA]

First I would like to thank all The Abyssinian Breeder very much for asking me to judge at your specialist show this year. It was a great honour and I enjoyed myself immensely. The quality of the exhibits was exceptional, fantastic temperaments and the breeders and owners should be very proud. Abyssinians are one of my most favourite breeds to judge as the standard is very clear. I take my hat off to you all, as you also have a standard with so many listed faults and withholds and it was very obvious by the quality of exhibits that we judged that as a group, you all strive to achieve this. Thank you all for a wonderful day.

My Overall Top Ten Exhibits were

10th Best - No 5 OSIRIS(V) KING OF THORNS Tawny Male Kitten

A fabulous young boy with super temperament. Has great overall balance in all aspects from the ear set, profile, body length right down to the tail.

9th Best - No 8 OSIRIS(V) COCO MADAMOSELLE Tawny Female Kitten

For such a young baby kitten she really impressed me. Everything was there on the day just in a mini version of the breed. I was impressed with her colour and ticking for such a young baby. Ear-set was broad and well



Ch Cenglow The Real Deal, Supreme Desexed, with QLD judge Marisa Thislewaite

cupped, eyes large, almond shaped and ready for action. She will be one to watch!!

8th Best - No 25 CH CENGLOW THE REAL DEAL Tawny Neuter Cat

This boy had the most wonderful body and elegant neck. When I held him up on the table with my hand under his chest the balance to his body, tail and head was perfection. His coat and ticking and coat

in fabulous condition. Had a great presence to him!!

7th Best - No 14 SWIFT SAVANNAH Tawny Female Kitten

She was the 2nd best female kitten in a very special line up of girls. What stood out for me with her were her large eyes, gentle profile, broad ear-set giving her a wonderful alert expression. Had great coat and wonderful feel to her body.

6th Best - No 13 MERINDALEE R WE THERE YET Tawny Female Kitten

Again the intensity of colour and ticking was fabulous on this female. Was an excellent line-up of female kittens and she had the edge in all aspects from her firm body, head shape, eye expression was alert, profile gentle, chin strong and coat texture resilient. A very feminine young lady!!



Brz Gr Ch Gunsmoke's Woodford Reserve (Imp USA), Supreme Somali Exhibit

5th Best - No 41 OSIRIS(V) MAID IN AUSTRALIA Tawny Female Cat

A beautiful young girl just in the adult class. A very graceful and elegant female that kept me going back to look again and again at her beauty. Was very impressed with her ear size and set as they were large, set really well apart with fabulous cupping. The cupping gave such a wonderful balance to her overall head shape. Very special!!

4th Best - No 40 CCCA GC & DIA GC MERINDALEE HARRISON FORD Tawny Male Cat

The intense colour and sheen of his coat was fabulous and eye-catching. His body was strong and muscular. His eyes were brilliant and the look he gave was strong, deep and soul touching when standing back in the cage looking at me. A wonderful example of an Abyssinian!!

3rd Best - No 7 MERINDALEE DUSTIN HOFFMAN Tawny Male Kitten

The first thing that stood out on this male kitten was the intensity of the coat colour and tipping. The sheen coming off his coat was so impressive right down to the tips of his toes. A well balanced young boy with a firm, strong body. Fabulous head and overall expression. Striking young boy!!

2nd Best - No 47 ACF AoE CCCA Ch & dual PDGC OSIRIS(V) ELIZABETH ARDEN Tawny Female Cat

A gorgeous, elegant female. The size and cupping of the ears set on an extremely broad top of head set the scene for the rest of her face. She had wonderful large almond eyes that were very expressive. In fabulous condition as her body was strong and her coat resilient. Just love her!!

Best Exhibit - No 35 Ch OSIRIS(V) HEARTS PERFECTION Tawny Male Cat

Just walking along the bay of cats he stood out as I was seeing just pure elegance. I couldn't wait to judge him and when I had my hands on him was even more excited to handle him as he fit the standard to perfection. His body was firm and strong with a long tail to balance. The great coat colour and tipping on such a short coat was topped with a glorious sheen. The ears were extremely well cupped and facial expression with those green eyes just screamed Abyssinian. He was in prime condition. To top him off he had real show charisma. The breeder should be very proud to have bred such a lovely boy. Congratulations!!