

# Lancashire Cat Club

## 9th March 2013

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### Show Report

I just came for a half day visit - it's a good venue but oh dear, Wigan is in a process of reworking all the roads. I had trouble getting into the site and on leaving even worse as all temporary signs were at road level - not much use with a big van in front! Still MOAN over at least I don't have a cat !! as well.

My first visit to the Lancs was about 1983, so many years so many shows!! The bright and colourful show hall was just clearing as I got there. I deposited my bag & food etc with an obliging Ken from Kelvin Scratchers; BIG thank you Ken it made a great base to meet people at and kept things safe.

A quiet hall was perfect to go get some judging photos and again thanks to everybody who was so willing (err most!!) as I asked, be asked and cajoled people into into modelling with a cat of their fancy. I really love this bit as I get to see the cats out of the pens, see smiling judges giving cats a secret BIG HUG, there is a very special feel all round at this time. I tried at this show to make notes so as to put names to faces and to MOST cats. I do hope I get them right or Marcia will sack me. I was not going to be there by the time all the rosettes were on, or at best in show but I think Heather and others will have done those.

I will now admit to a secret fantasy !!!! during judging mooching round with camera to spot cats who I took a fancy to and would return to photograph, I looked closely at my favourite breed entries! Then I mentally JUDGE them!! Later I look to see if I get it right. Sad or what!!!!

I caught up with Chris T Pat the Show manager she seemed very pleased with the way things were going, not too many gremlins and she was appreciative of all her willing helpers. A show is never ONE person it's a team the well oiled the better (nono not that sort of of oiled!!)

It was good to see Heather Hannan looking good and enjoying her judging day. Her Mum Mrs Jean Crockart (President of the show and who has been part of it growth since its inception) looked fantastic in her aquamarine outfit, she was just passing the Chinnie kittens and as quite a fan of the breed took one in her arms for a cuddle. My fave pix of the day human and cat in harmony.

After a quick lunch at Ken's stall and with the hall filling up a buzz was all around. I went round again catching up with stall holder friends and getting to know new ones. I love the way exhibitors come back in to hall and immediately, with or without results on the pen, pick up their cat and cuddle it. It's always a nice picture to catch. Win or lose we still love them. At some pens I was able to ask for a picture of their cat and no one ever says no! so less of the photos are 'in the pen' with the bars spoiling the view.

My cutest cat pix was a Bengal kittie what a babe standing tall and posing next to him a HUGE Bengal was being judged - the little kittie was saying 'wait while I get all growed up I will show you a tiger cat!!' The two Pat P's had such a chuckle. Also a Silver tabby Maine Coon owner Janet asked me to photograph him. Well I don't think he had any legs

as at a word of praise he lifted his head and rolled over and over for tummy tickles....show nerves not this super photogenic cat.

Soon it was time for me to set off just before best of show. I was tired and weary I hoped I had a fair set of photos. Thanks everybody.

## **Liz Mills**

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***Show Manager: Mrs Christine Titterington***

***Assistant Show Managers: Mrs Janet Pointon & Mrs Vicky Beddall***

Saturday the 9th of March 2013 saw the Lancashire Cat Club hold their 65th All Breed Championship show. Spring does seem to be coming later this year but it was a welcome sight to see the daffodils pushing their way through on my short trip into town and across the new road system to the Robin Park (when I was a kid Robin Park was a running track and those changing rooms were ohhh so cold!!) - the Lancs show for me is always a welcome milestone in the show calendar when the weather does seem to be turning the corner away from winter and into the longer days when travel to & from shows can usually be accomplished in daylight. The venue for this show is the Robin Park Profiles Fitness centre situated just across from the DW Stadium - home to Wigan Athletic FC & Wigan Warriors and in close proximity to the Robin Retail Park and only a couple of miles away from Wigan town centre where for the last couple of years the show has coincided with a Continental Food Market held in the town centre.

Judging got underway quickly with results coming in quickly to the tables - I always feel I have plenty of time early in the morning on show day and then once things start to happen it flies by in a blur. I am pleased to announce I had my silver Burmilla girl made up to Premier at this show and I would like to congratulate fellow Asian exhibitor Erica Bates on her Tiffanie boys new title - Imperial Grand Premier Teignage Sir Pouncealot - I believe the first Tiffanie male to hold the Imperial Title. Working on tables at shows you do get asked all kinds of questions and one of the best for this day was the conformation to a delighted exhibitor that her cat had gained an Olympian award at the show - it is just so wonderful to see other exhibitors' true joy at moments such as these. I was most encouraged to meet a new YES! candidate at this show - Mollie Rogers who had been second stewarding in the HP section for judge Sally Giles and then spend her afternoon distributing prize cards - the enthusiasm of these young people and willingness to assist at shows is such an encouraging sight for the future of the cat fancy - Mollie is the 40th YES! candidate and I hope I will meet her again along with Mum Sara at future shows.

The Miscellaneous prize cards for the Lancs show were certainly something to be coveted and printed in silver on some very posh card - I was also delighted to find out that the club classes had a prize money award alongside the rosette with a very generous £5 for first place, £3 for second place and £1 for third place in addition to place cards. Stalls at the show were a mix of old and new with the awards board being situated in the very airy space at the entrance to the building.

In the afternoon the residents of the splendidly bedecked crimson and ivory Best in Show pens had taken up their places by 3.20pm, with judge Mrs Val Kilby doing the honours for BIS judging assisted by her steward of the day Doreen Dobson and also assisted by Kaye Wilson & Joan Smith with Assistant Show Manager Mrs Vicky Beddall doing the commentary. After carefully assessing each of the seven of the worthy section BIS winners in turn Mrs Kilby narrowed her selection to a final 3 cats which were:

- Persian adult – **SUPREME IMPERIAL GRAND CHAMPION GEMKIN STARWIND**
- Semi Long Hair adult – Birman - **SARMOYAH PRINCESS AURORA**
- and the Burmese kitten - **EMER BEAUTIFUL DREAMER**

before announcing the brown Burmese kitten – Dr Peter Collins **EMER BEAUTIFUL DREAMER** bred by Mrs Niblock as the overall winner of the Lancashire Cat Clubs 65th show much to the delight of the gathered crowd.

The Best in Show Household Pet was a familiar face – Mrs Pat Kidd’s **OLYMPIAN GOLD IMPERIAL GRAND MASTER CAT ALFRED** a Short Haired Tabby & White senior citizen looking in fine fettle for his age of 14½ years.

Congratulations to Christine Titterington and her show team who after a busy show day managed to get everything completed with the show closed and most exhibitors hitting the road for home by 4pm. Next years date for your diaries is Saturday 8th March 2014 – see you back in the pie eating capital of the world for the Lancashire Cat Clubs 66th Show.

**Heather Bradley**