

Once again, a really lovely show, really well organised by the excellent show team headed by Jackie & Elaine. Steve & I always have a really nice day here, and as in previous years, we had some really wonderful cats and kittens to handle. My thanks to the committee for inviting me, to husband Steve for stewarding and especially the exhibitors for entrusting your felines to us.

IMPERIAL CLASS- AV SLH GR PR NEUTER MALE

IGP, ADAMS' GR PR FILENSIO THE-MUFFIN-MAN (RGM ns 03 31 (60 27sw)) MN, 11.09.12

Black Smoke & White Sepia (Burmese Pattern) Ragamuffin. A huge male with a really broad masculine head, well developed rounded contours to muzzle and cheeks and 'puffy' whisker pads. Good medium sized ears, sitting well apart on the head and positioned with a slightly forward tilt. His forehead shows the correct moderate roundness. Large walnut shaped eyes, pale aqua green in colour and very expressive. Nose break present. Full, slightly tapered chin, balancing the rest of the head well. Short thick neck, broad chest, really large and very heavy body of clear rectangular shape. Well muscled, fleshy pad present in the abdomen area. Medium length limbs, well boned to support the body, large round paws. Tail length balanced the body, it was very well furnished with a plume effect. Currently in very full coat, it is soft and dense, feeling plushy to the touch, some older coat present at the moment, very well developed ruff framing the face, shorter over the shoulders and longer down the sides of the body, ending with full knickerbockers. Good silvery white base to the black smoke pattern with white to chin, bib, chest, underbody and toes. Fabulous to handle, a very laid back boy who really enjoyed all the kisses and cuddles. He really does have a very sweet gentle expression. Beautifully presented for the show.

RESERVE, SALTER'S GR PR ADSETLO ONECOOLCAT (RAG n (66)) MN, 27.05.07

Seal Colourpointed Ragdoll. Another large male, long bodied and muscular with well boned limbs and large round tufted paws. Medium sized ears, set well apart and with a slightly forward tilt, good clear flat plane between them. Nicely balanced head with well filled cheeks and a rounded shape to the well defined muzzle. Firm chin of good depth. Large eyes, quite a deep shade of blue and set in a good slight oblique setting. Gentle dip to the medium length nose. I really did like his clear headlines. Broad chest leading to the long body, well muscled and weighty. Tail was quite bushy, length just about reaching the shoulders, ideally I would like to see it a touch longer for perfection and took this into account when placing today. Currently undergoing a seasonal moult, he is typically between coats though his coat is of medium length, feeling silky and quite dense, ruff and knickerbockers present. Good contrast between the dark seal brown points and the beige body, slightly deeper toned top shading evident over the back. A little shy and unsure today though he stood well on the table and he started flirting with us once he returned to his pen. Super condition, especially considering that he is nine years old.

I also considered:

EMERY'S GR PR SKOGVENNS ODIN (NFO a 09 (67 31a)) MN, 08.05.11

Blue & White Norwegian Forest Cat. So close between this boy and my Reserve Winner today, a very difficult decision. Large ears, following the triangular headlines well. I felt that the Ragdoll had slightly better head balance overall today, as this boy's head could have been just a little larger overall to balance the wonderful body size. Straight line to the nasal profile. Chin could be a touch deeper and stronger. Lovely body, very good size and substance, he stands slightly higher on the back legs, his legs and paws are very well boned indeed. Long bushy tail reaching the shoulders. Quite a full ruff, well developed for the time of year. His coat is his crowning glory, especially for a blue where often there is a

softer coat. He had lots of woolly undercoat with a very good slightly harsher topcoat present. Well developed knickerbockers. The deep blue colour contrasted with the whites well. It was a very difficult decision, both really nice boys and the Reserve really could have gone either way. I deliberated long and hard about this one, finally placing the Ragdoll above Odin as I felt that the head to body size balance was slightly better. He was great to handle and very well presented for the show.

WATKINS' GR PR KRYSTALTOZE GIACOMO (SBI d (13c5)) MN , 25.06.12

Red Point Birman. Sadly this boy refused to be handled enough to be assessed properly today. He was very unhappy and although we managed to get him out, he made it known that he really didn't want our company so we returned him to his pen. He has a lovely strong broad head, large almost round eyes which are quite a deep shade of blue and well opened. Nose of medium length dip present, slight nose bump evident. Well developed cheeks and very pleasing muzzle shape. Chin could be a little firmer for perfection. Long body, overall he appeared to be well balanced although we were unable to really get a really good look and feel, to do a proper assessment, sadly I didn't get chance to check the feet or the bite. Warm red points, pale cream body with some deeper red top shading over the back. I hope that he was just having an 'off-day' as he looked like being a very promising cat in this class.

IMPERIAL CLASS – AV SLH GR PR NEUTER FEMALE

IGP, ENSOR'S UK & IGR CH & GR PR KITTAH THALIA (SBI a (13c2)) FN, 13.05.06

Blue Point Birman. What a purr box, this girl absolutely adores attention. She is a real lady and unless you have judged or stewarded, you might not know what it means when someone says "stands well on the table". This girl does just that, when she stands on the table, it's like seeing how you would expect a Birman to stand when wanting attention at home. Lovely strong breadth to the strong rounded head with full cheeks and a very well developed muzzle. Good medium sized ears, sitting well apart. Large expressive eyes, deep blue in colour. Good slight dip to the medium length nose. Full chin. Medium/large body which is long and weighty, size balanced the head well, she had thick-set limbs and short strong paws. Well furnished bushy tail reaching the shoulders. Lovely silky texture to the well presented long coat. She does have some deeper toned top shading to the bluish white body, though still exhibits good contrast with the mid/deep greyish-blue points. Very impressive feet markings all round. This girl was one of the 'purriest' cats we had all day, Beautifully presented for the show. Fabulous condition, you would never guess that she will be eleven years old in a couple of days time.

RESERVE, STOLLERY'S GR PR SHEERCLASS TRIXIE (MCO n 22 (64 41)), FN, 13.05.09

Brown Classic Tabby Maine Coon. A very strong contender for the award today. Loved her head shape, overall medium in length with nice breath, though I felt that my Birman had the edge on overall head balance today as in comparison to the body, Trixie's head was very slightly small when compared to her fabulous body size. Large ears, well furnished and sitting about an ear's width apart. Head of medium length, showing breadth with fairly full cheeks and high set cheekbones. Beautiful green eyes, large and well opened, set in a good slight oblique setting. Shallow concave curve to the nose. Square muzzle shape, firm chin of good depth. Really well developed body, long and rectangular in shape, really large and heavy with wonderful boning to limbs and large round paws. Tail was very well furnished, very good length, easily reaching the shoulders. Long coat with lots of undercoat present, good longer guardhairs down the back. Very warm brown classic tabby pattern, well marked head, limbs and tail though the pattern is a little diffused to the sides of the body at the moment (due to seasonal moult and new guardhairs just

starting to lengthen). Lovely full ruff and breeches. Beautifully groomed for the show and she was really super to handle.

MAINE COON BROWN/BLUE TABBY (INC BI-COLOUR) ADULT MALE

CC & BOB, CANNELL'S MABALAKAT WALTER WHITE (MCO n 03 22) M, 22.04.15

Classic Brown Tabby & White Maine Coon. A well balanced youngster of fourteen months. Lovely large ears, well furnished with tips and tufts, set high on the head to give him an alert expression. Good medium length head, breadth developing well with cheeks filling out nicely. Slight oblique set to large green eyes. Good shallow concave curve to the nasal profile. Good square shaped muzzle, chin of good depth and quite firm. Lovely long body, he feels very well muscled and strong, well boned limbs of medium length, really large round tufted paws. Long flowing tail, very well furnished and tapering slightly towards the tip, length balanced the body well, reaching the shoulders. Excellent gloss to the topcoat which covers his undercoat, he has a well developed ruff and breeches. The coat shows differing lengths along the body, starting short over the shoulders and increasing in length down the back and sides. Good tabby markings to the head, saddle is quite well marked (though a little solid in places), fully coloured tail. Sparkling white going up the face, along the entire underbody and limbs, extending up the sides of the front limbs towards the shoulders. Great to handle and really well presented, not a hair out of place.

AC BI-COLOUR RAGDOLL

BOB, CANLIN'S CH RAGZNDREAMS CHANCENCOUNTER (RAG a 03 (66 31a)), M, 17.05.15

Blue Bi-Colour Ragdoll. A large and deceptively heavy male who was very well muscled. Medium sized ears, sitting well apart with a flat plane between them. Strong masculine head, well filled cheeks which taper to a rounded well defined muzzle and firm chin. Large eyes, pale to mid blue in colour. Medium length nose showing a gentle dip. Really long heavy body, substantial boning to limbs and paws. Bushy tail reaching the shoulders. Currently in shorter summer coat – presentation was superb, not a hair out of place. He has a short ruff, medium length coat to the body with quite full breeches. Nicely marked bi-colour pattern, full white collar, white limbs and underbody with a balanced white inverted 'v' going up the face. Bluish-white body, contrasting with the bluish-grey points, head markings are slightly deeper in tone than the tail. Initially a little unsure when we reached his pen though he was easy to handle once he came out onto the table.

I also considered:

CANLIN'S CH RAGZNDREAMS TOTALLY DEVINE (RAG n 03 (66 31)) F, 07.05.13

Seal Bi-Colour Ragdoll. A pretty girl who was very easy to handle. Good breadth to the head, ears were well placed though perhaps just a little on the large side in comparison to the rest of the head. Well developed cheeks leading to a rounded muzzle. Deep blue eyes, their shape wasn't quite as good as the male as they were a little too almond in shape for me. Gentle dip to the nose. Chin quite firm. Overall, a medium sized female though she is heavier than she first appears and has a long body, ideally I would like to see her a little larger at three years old. Fair boning to medium length limbs and round paws. Balanced bushy tail. Very good coat length and texture, especially for July with ruff and knickerbockers present. The coat felt dense and silky to the touch. Nicely marked bi-colour pattern, quite a deep shade of beige to the body, paler tone on the neck, deep seal brown points. Super to handle, a very laid back gentle girl.

NORWEGIAN FOREST ADULT MALE

BOB, EMERY'S IGR CH NOYNAROCK JASPER SKOGVENNS (NFO n 21 (67 20)) M, 01.08.12

Brown Tabby Norwegian Forest Cat. A huge male with a lovely expression, typical of the breed, he really looks down his long straight nose at you! Large ears, well furnished and set well on the strong balanced triangular head. Excellent oblique set to oval shaped green eyes. Firm chin. Really large long heavy body, really well muscled, he was once of the heaviest cats we handled all day, though it really is all muscle and not fat. Huge boning to legs and paws, he stands well on the table, showing that his back legs are slightly longer than the fronts. Tail reached the shoulders, furnishings a little lacking at the moment. Other than the tail, he has a very well developed coat, especially for the time of year, with lots of woolly undercoat and a good slightly harsher topcoat present. Full ruff and breeches. This boy is a joy to handle, he really does have a fabulous affectionate temperament.

NORWEGIAN FOREST ADULT FEMALE

CC, MYSCHYFKITZ EDELWEISS (NFO w 62 (67 14a)) F 31.07.15

Orange Eyed White Norwegian Forest Cat. The young lady exudes femininity. Large ears, set high on the head and well furnished. Their outer edges follow the triangular headlines nicely. Balanced head of triangular shape with a good long straight nasal profile and firm chin. Obliquely set gold eyes, large and oval in shape. Long body, nicely muscled, solid boning to limbs with back legs clearly slightly longer than the fronts. Very well furnished bushy tail which reached the shoulders and balanced body length very well. Well developed coat for eleven months old, she already has a woolly undercoat which is covered with longer guardhairs, well developed knickerbockers and a ruff framing the face. Slight staining evident to the back legs below the hocks, though the rest of her was pristine white. Lovely to handle.

2ND SPENCE'S AMURUSKO BATTY BETTY (NFO a 03 23 (67 31at)) F, 25.05.15

Blue Tabby & White Norwegian Forest Cat. Slightly older than my winner, a well grown girl who has very pleasing muscle tone and body length. Really large ears, sitting high on the head. Good triangular head shape with a long straight nasal profile. Oval shaped green eyes, sitting obliquely. Chin quite firm, though not quite as strong as my winner's today. Long body, nicely boned limbs and paws. Well furnished bushy tail, reaching the shoulders. Currently in shorter coat, the texture is a little soft at the moment as the harsher guardhairs are still developing. Ruff is beginning to lengthen and she has some knickerbockers present. Attractive blue tabby markings with white to face, underbody, limbs and going slightly up the sides of the body. Slight staining to white on back legs. Overall today the slightly younger white female had the edge on coat development and chin strength. Betty was really lovely to handle and enjoyed the attention.

I considered for BOB:

EMERY'S CH NOYNAROCK MOONSHADOW (NFO ns (67 26)) F, 19.04.15

Black Smoke Norwegian Forest Cat. Slightly older than the females competing for the CC, this girl has a very well muscled body, nicely boned limbs and a long bushy tail. Triangular head shape with large well placed ears. Pleasing oblique set to green eyes. Good straight profile. Firm deep chin. Medium length coat, some undercoat evident, overall it is slightly softer than the male's today (she is much younger than him and her adult coat is still developing). No points for colour and pattern, but her smoke pattern still warrants a mention as it really is excellent, you genuinely cannot see that beautiful silvery white base colour until the black fur is parted.

CHOCOLATE OR LILAC POINT BIRMAN KITTEN

1ST & BOB, BRIGLIADORI & ROBSON'S SHWECHINTHE ELVIRA (SBI c (13c4)) F, 13.03.16

Lilac Point Birman. My 'take home kitten' of the day, such an adorable baby, only just old enough to be at the show, yet so confident and affectionate to everyone. She really has such a gorgeous expression and exhibits lovely Birman type. Medium/large ears, already sitting well apart on the rounded head. The head shows excellent breadth for age. Beautiful deep blue eyes, large and expressive, almost round in shape. Good slight dip to the nose, well developed muzzle, full chin. Very well grown, broad chest, long body with substantial boning to thick-set limbs and short strong paws. Impressive furnishings to the bushy tail, especially for one so young. Long baby coat, off white in colour, it felt really soft and silky. For just fourteen weeks, her pinkish-grey points are very well developed, the colour is already well developed across the mask and to the tail. Colour is starting to develop up the legs. Since limb colour is still developing, full gauntlet length and shape was quite difficult to assess in the hall lighting. She appeared to have socks which easily covered the back feet and well marked gloves which ended in straight lines, finishing below the leg/paw angle. This baby has the most delightful temperament, all she wanted to do was be cuddled and purr. Beautifully presented for the show. What a 'pocket-job', her owner is very lucky that this baby was still present after judging, and not hidden in my white coat to take home to Yorkshire with me.

SEAL POINT BIRMAN NEUTER

BOB, BUSH'S PR MLYWARD XANDER (SBI n (13c1)) MN, 18.04.15

Seal Point Birman. A well grown and weighty male with a long heavy body and well boned limbs. He has a very nice typical Birman expression with gorgeous large deep blue eyes. Medium sized ears, set wide apart on the head. Broad rounded head, well developed full cheeks tapering to the muzzle. Slight dip to the nose, very slight bump present. Full chin, quite firm. Medium length coat with ruff present, pale beige colour, small patch of deeper toned shading present between the shoulders. Generally well marked feet all round. Well developed deep seal brown colour to ears and mask, tail and limbs are still developing colour. A little unsure today and not happy with his neighbours but he allowed us to handle him. Very well presented for the show.

BLUE POINT BIRMAN NEUTER

Two really gorgeous girls to consider for BOB in this class. It gave me a real headache trying to decide on a winner from two wonderful ten year old females, both deserving of the BOB.

BOB, BUSH'S IGR CH & IGR PR TARKUSHA SAFFIYA (SBI a (13c2)) FN, 13.05.06

Blue Point Birman. A beautiful mature female, large and very well balanced. Lovely expression with a strong broad rounded head and wide placed ears of medium size. Large eyes, correct almost round shape and a lovely shade of deep blue, she has kept her eye colour well. Full round cheeks, slight dip to the medium length nose, full chin. Long weighty body, well boned legs and paws. Very well furnished bushy tail, balancing the body. Excellent contrast between the long, very pale bluish-white coat and the mid toned greyish-blue points. Her coat length was slightly better developed than Thalia's today. White covered all toes on front feet, well marked white socks and gauntlets. So little to choose between this girl and my Imperial winner today, I finally went for Saffiya as I felt that she had the edge on coat development and contrast today, but a very close run race between two beautiful mature ladies.

I also considered:

ENSOR'S UK & IGR CH & GR PR KITTAH THALIA (SBI a (13c2)) FN, 13.05.06
Blue Point Birman. My Imperial winner, reported above.

I finished my day by choosing best in Show SLH, from three really lovely cats. The adult was **ENSOR'S UK IGR CH KITTAH ARTEMIS**, a really beautiful Seal Tortie Point Birman with a very strong head, lovely all round balance and excellent markings to points and feet. The kitten was **BRIGLIADORI & ROBSON'S SHWECHINTHE SWEETMELODY**, a very promising baby Seal Point Birman and litter sister of my Lilac baby reported earlier. This girl shows a huge amount of promise, showing wonderful type and beautiful deep blue eyes. I finally went for the neuter, **NEWMAN'S IGR PR DAIRYMAINE KASABIEN**, a massive Red Tabby Maine Coon who looked better today than I have ever seen him in the past. Long heavy body, huge boning to limbs and a well balanced strong head. Fantastic coat all round, groomed to perfection. Today really was 'his day' as I see that he was also chosen as Best SLH exhibit in the joint Wessex Show too, so he was certainly on a roll. A very well deserved win, congratulations to his owner and breeder.