

ABYSSINIAN CAT ASSOCIATION SHOW – 7 MARCH 2009 –

MICHELE CODD

Many thanks to Ian and the Committee for inviting me to judge; it was a real pleasure to see so many Abyssinians together. My steward, Rosie Clarke, was an absolute gem, handling every cat with care, consideration and the tact that they appreciate; she was also very good company - we must do it again sometime! The light was not brilliant in some parts of the hall, so eye colour was sometimes difficult to assess.

Usual Male Kitten:

1 BOB PONTELOS' PONTABY ENRICO, 28/08/2008. 1 present. Sweet-tempered boy, with a moderate wedge, showing a slight indentation forming a gently rounded muzzle. In profile, he has a gently rounded brow, slight nose break, firm chin. Eyes are expressive, deep amber in colour, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting; he has good width between large, cupped ears that follow the line of the wedge. Lithe body of good size for his age; slender legs and oval paws; tail reaches his shoulder, could be thicker at the base. His coat is fine, short and dense, with an apricot base and 4 bands of ticking, darker on his spine, leading to a solid black tail tip. Black on the base of his feet, I'd prefer it extended further to his hocks. Paler round his eyes, he has dark vertical lines over his forehead and across his cheeks, paler hair on his chin and a faint broken necklace.

Female:

1 CHILCOTTS' NISHALKA JUNO, 08/07/2008. 1 present. Moderate wedge with slight indentation forming a rather narrow and pointed muzzle at present. In profile, she has a gently rounded brow, slight nose break, chin could be a little firmer, level bite. Expressive eyes are yellow in colour, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting; ears are large and pricked, set well apart and follow the line of the wedge. Elegant neck, lithe body, slender legs and oval paws, tail reaches her shoulder, is a little thin at the base. Her coat is short, close-lying and glossy, not quite as dense as the male's, but glowing with health. She has 5 bands of ticking on a pale apricot base; a darker spine line and solid tail tip, very faint broken necklace and black on the base of her feet – I'd prefer it extended higher to the hocks. On her head, she has vertical lines over her brow and clear lines from her eyes to ears, with paler hair round her eyes and around her mouth and onto her chin.

Blue Male Kitten:

1 HORNER'S NISHALKA KHEPRI, 26/9/2008, 1 present. Gentle boy, well grown for his age, with good width between large, cupped ears that follow the line of a moderate wedge,

with a slight indentation forming a slightly rounded muzzle. In profile, he has a rounded brow, rather a straight nose, firm chin. Eyes are deep gold in colour, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting. Elegant neck, lithe body; slender legs and oval paws; tail reaches his shoulder, needs to develop more thickness at the base. His coat is fine and close-lying, fairly short and quite dense, with 4 bands of ticking over a rather cold-toned base. He has a darker spine line and solid blue tail tip, with blue soles of his feet and mauvish-blue pads, blue up the back of his hind legs towards his hocks. Soft, warm mushroom colour on his tummy and round his eyes, paler round his mouth and chin, he has no necklaces or barring, and the head markings are somewhat faint at present.

Female:

2 present. 1 BOB MURRAY'S MARJANWA NALADAWN, 21/10/2008. Wiggly baby, with good width between large, nicely tufted, cupped ears that follow the line of a moderate wedge, slight indentation forming a gently rounded muzzle. In profile, she has a rounded brow, slight nose break, level chin could be a bit deeper, level bite. She has expressive amber eyes of rounded almond shape in an oriental setting. Elegant neck, lithe body; slender legs and neat oval paws; tail of correct length could be a little thicker at the base. Her coat is fine and close-lying, short, could be denser, and she has 4 bands of ticking over a slightly cold-toned base, but has a good pinkish mushroom coloured tummy and up her chest, paler patches round her eyes, with minimal paler hair around her mouth. She has a darker spine line and solid blue tail tip, blue on the bottoms of her feet, not really extending high enough at the back of her hind legs. She shows very faint 1/2 bars on her hind legs and a broken necklace, and faint vertical lines up her brow and from her eyes to edges of her ears; 2 MISKELLYS' GLENDAVAN OCEANA, 10/6/2008. Sweet tempered older girl, with good width between large, pricked ears that follow the lines of quite a short wedge, a slight indentation forming a gently rounded muzzle. Her eyes are deep amber in colour, large & expressive, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting. In profile, she has a rounded brow, slight nose break, chin is level but could be a little deeper, level bite. Elegant neck, but she has rather a plump body at present; slender legs and oval paws; tail is a little short to balance and needs to develop more thickness at the base. Her coat is a little long, but fine and dense, with 4 bands of ticking over a rather cold and 'silvery' looking base, albeit she has a soft pinkish mushroom tummy, chest, throat and chin. Darker spine line and solid blue tail tip, I'd like the blue to extend higher up her hind legs to the hocks, but she shows paler hair round her eyes, and good head markings up over her brow and from the outer edges of her eyes towards her ears.

AC Abyssinian Adult:

2 present. 1 MISKELLYS' GLENDAVAN KAISER SOEZE, 23, male, 23/8/07. Handsome boy, very mature for his age. Good width between large cupped and pricked tufted ears that follow the line of a moderate wedge with well-developed jowls, slight indentation forming a rounded muzzle. In profile, he has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break and firm chin. Eyes are well apart, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting, looking larger when he relaxed in his pen, deep amber in colour. Muscular neck and body, fairly slender legs, oval paws; tail is just a little short to balance, thick at the base and tapering. Coat is dense, fine and short, with 4 bands of ticking over a warm apricot base, darker down his spine to a solid black tail tip, with black base to the paws extending a little way up his back legs towards the hocks. Good head markings over the brow and from the outer edges of his eyes towards his ears, pale round his eyes, with a slightly paler chin; 2 SHAMMAS' CH MIKKAR ASHANTI WARRIOR, 23, male, 31/12/07. Shy boy, with good width between large, cupped and tufted ears that follow the line of a moderate wedge, slight indentation to form a rounded muzzle. In profile, he has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break showing a bump on the nose, level chin could be a bit deeper, level bite. Eyes are large, deep amber colour, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting. Muscular neck and body, slender legs and oval paws, tail reaches his shoulder, could be thicker at the base. His coat is fairly dense, close-lying, short and glossy, with 4 bands of ticking over a warm apricot base. Paler hair around his eyes and mouth, darker vertical lines over his brow and across from his eyes to the outer edge of his ears. He has a darker spine line and black tail tip, and the black extends up his back legs towards his hocks.

Usual Abyssinian Non-Breeder's Adult:

1 present. 1 KELSALL'S PONTABY LUCIANA, 20/2/08, female. Feisty girl, with good width between large, cupped and tufted ears that follow the lines of a moderate wedge showing a slight indentation forming a slightly rounded muzzle. Eyes are deep gold in colour, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting. In profile, she has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break with a bump on the nose, very firm chin. Elegant neck and lithe, muscular body; slender legs and oval paws; tail reaches shoulder. Her coat is short, fairly dense, close-lying and glossy, with a warm apricot coloured base, ticked with 4 bands, darker spine line and black tail tip. She has black bases to her feet, but I'd prefer the black extended higher to her hocks. Head markings show darker vertical lines up her brow and out from her eyes to the edge of her ears, paler hair round her eyes and a pale chin and upper lip.

Debutante Adult:

1 present. 1 MISKELLYS' WAVETAILED GANDOLF, 23e, male, 3/6/08. Vocal boy, only just adult and still naturally immature. Good width between large, pricked and tufted ears that follow the lines of his wedge, slight indentation forming slightly rounded muzzle. Eyes are only medium in size, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting, hazel colour. In profile, he has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break with a bump on the nose, chin could be deeper, level bite. Coat is short with a rather cool-toned pale base, 4 bands of ticking giving an overall cool fawn appearance, darker on his spine and solid fawn tail tip, fawn up his back legs towards the hocks, pink paw pads. He has paler hair around his eyes and mouth, and blurred lines up over his brow and across from his eyes to the outer edges of his ears.

Visitor's Adult:

6 present. 1 MISKELLYS' GLENDAVON KAISER SOEZE, 23, male; 2 CLARKE'S ABDERUS ARIADNE, 23, female, 28/3/08. Not really in 'show mood' today, and made sure we knew about it! Good width between large, pricked ears that follow the lines of quite a short wedge, with a slight indentation forming the muzzle – this was a bit square when she was out of the pen, but slightly rounded when she was returned and relaxed. Deep amber coloured eyes, rounded almond in shape in an oriental setting. In profile, she has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break and level chin. Elegant neck and lithe, muscular body; slender legs and neat oval paws; tail reaches her shoulder, and is quite thick at the base. Coat is short, with a slightly pale base colour, 4 bands of ticking, fine but quite dense, close-lying. Good overall golden brown appearance, with a darker spine line and black tail tip, really striking black extending up her hind legs all the way to her hocks. On her head, she has correct vertical lines up her brow and from the outer corner of her eyes to the edge of her ears; pale hair round her eyes and a cream chin; 3 MURRAY'S CH CATSMAGIC NARTJIE, 23a, female, 14/12/2005. Wide between large, cupped, well tufted ears that follow the lines of a moderate wedge with slight indentation forming a rounded muzzle. Large, expressive eyes, rounded almond in shape, oriental setting, quite a pale hazel in colour. In profile, she has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break, very firm chin. Elegant neck, lithe, muscular body; slender legs and oval paws; tail reaches her shoulder, could be thicker at the base. Coat is short, close-lying and fine, could be denser. Base hair is bright apricot, with 4 bands of rich cinnamon, just a little darker on the spine, with a solid cinnamon tail tip. Pink paw pads and solid cinnamon on the base of her feet; very faint vertical marks up her brow and towards the outer edges of her ears. Paler around her eyes, and she has very pale hair on her chin and extending down her throat; Extra 3 ANDREWS' SYRINX ARIANNA, 23e, female, 13/03/2008. Very mature for her age, she has good width between medium-large, cupped ears that follow the lines of a moderate wedge, slightly indented to

form a rounded muzzle. Hazel coloured eyes are rounded almond in shape in an oriental setting; in profile, she has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break and firm chin. Fairly elegant neck, rather a plump body, slender legs and oval paws, tail reaches her shoulder, could be thicker at the base. Her coat is dense, very soft in texture (recently had a bath perhaps?), 4 quite warm-toned bands of fawn ticking over a fawnish cream base. Correct vertical lines from the inner edges of her eyes and extending out towards her ears from the outer corners. Paler hair round her eyes and mouth, needs to develop a darker line down her spine, although the tip of her tail is solid fawn; Unplaced: HARRISON'S

MERRYDANCER DAISY, 23, female, 26/04/2008. Wide between large, beautifully pricked, tufted ears that follow the lines of quite a short wedge, slight indentations forming a slightly rounded muzzle. Eyes are hazel in colour, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting; in profile, she has a slightly rounded brow, slight nose break and convex nose, chin is slightly shallow, level bite. Elegant neck, lithe and muscular body, slender legs and oval paws, tail reaches her shoulder, could be thicker at the base. Coat is fine, close-lying and short, with an overall golden brown appearance, but she has grey roots to the coat on her body, then an apricot layer, then 4 bands of ticking. Darker spine line and solid tip to tail; correct vertical lines from her eyes up her brow and from her eyes to the outer edges of her ears. The black on the base of her feet does not really extend far enough up her hind legs. She has a very pale chin and slight broken necklace; Unplaced: PONTELLOS' NISHALKA KERIA, 23c, female, 10/04/2007. Good width between large, cupped ears that follow the lines of her wedge; slight indentations form a slightly square muzzle. Large, expressive eyes, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting, deep gold colour. Slightly rounded brow, only a slight concave dip at the nose rather than a break, chin is receding but has good depth, level bite. Elegant neck, rather a plump body, slender legs and oval paws, tail reaches her shoulder but is too thin throughout its length. Coat is short and fairly dense, with a rather silvery base under 4 bands of ticking, darker down her spine to a solid blue tail tip. Cool mushroom-coloured hair on her tummy, chest and throat; pale hair around her eyes and mouth, extending onto her chin. She shows faint blurred darker lines from the outer edges of her eyes to her ears, and a very faint broken necklace.

AC Except Usual Abyssinian Non-Breeder's Neuter:

1 present. 1 SPRAGG'S PR HIGHLIGHT JACK FROST, 23as, MN, 17/06/2005. A little unsettled today. Needs more width between medium-large ears that are held a little high, not quite following the lines of a moderate wedge with slightly rounded muzzle formed by slight indentations. In profile, he has a rounded brow, slight nose break and good firm chin. Eyes are large, rounded almond in shape in an oriental setting, hazel in colour. Muscular neck and solid, muscular body; fairly slender legs and oval feet; tapering tail reaches his

shoulder but has an end pip. Coat is dense and fairly short, fine textured, with a good silvery white base and bands of sorrel ticking, giving an attractive overall silvery peach appearance. He has a slightly darker line down the spine to a solid sorrel tail tip, solid colour on the base of his feet and a little way up the back of his hind legs. On his head, he shows vertical lines from the inner edge of his eyes, and horizontal lines extending from the outer edge of his eyes to his ears, paler hair around his eyes.

AC Abyssinian Pr or Gr Pr:

1 present. 1 CULLEY'S PR ANNERA PALADIN, 23, MN, 14/5/2004. Good width between large ears, held a little too low and so not quite following the lines of a good moderate wedge with slight indentations forming a slightly rounded muzzle. Eyes are hazel in colour, in an oriental setting, a little too small and he was inclined not to open them enough, so although almond in shape, they could have been more rounded. In profile, he has a rounded brow, slight nose break but a roman nose in profile, firm chin. Muscular neck and body, fairly slender legs and oval feet, tapering tail reaches his shoulder and is thick at the base. His coat is fine but not soft, with very good texture, could be a little denser, fairly close-lying. Good warm golden brown appearance, apricot base with 4 bands of ticking, darker spine line and solid black tail tip, black bases to his feet, extending a little up his hind legs towards his hocks. On his head, vertical dark lines up his brow, and from the outer edges of his eyes towards his ears, paler around his mouth and eyes.

Blue, Chocolate, Lilac or Fawn Neuter:

1 present. 1 SHAMMAS' GR CH MIKKAR BLUE CANDYTUFT, 23c, FN, 30/07/2001. Good width between large, cupped ears that follow the lines of a moderate wedge, slight indentations forming a gently rounded muzzle. In profile, she has a slightly rounded brow, only a slight concave dip at the nose, rather than a nose break, firm chin. Eyes are a rather pale yellow-green colour, but very good rounded almond shape in an oriental setting. She is suffering a little middle aged spread, but has good slender legs and small oval paws; tail reaches her shoulder, and is tapering from a thick base. Her coat is short, fine and quite dense, rather a cold-toned base colour, but good pinkish mushroom colour on her tummy, chest and throat, overlaid with 4 bands of soft blue-grey ticking. She has darker ticking on her spine to a solid blue tail tip, mauvish blue pads and blue on the base of her feet, extending a little way towards her hocks on her hind legs, slight broken necklace. On her face, she has paler hair around her eyes, vertical lines from the inner edges of her eyes and horizontal darker lines from her eyes towards the outer edges of her ears.

ACA Class: AC Adult Female Over 18 Months:

1 present. 1 SHAMMAS' CH MIKKAR LITTLE MYNX, 23, female, 29/12/2006. Stylish girl, with good width between large, cupped and well tufted ears that follow the lines of a moderate wedge, with slight indentations forming a slightly rounded muzzle. Lovely large, expressive eyes, rounded almond shape in an oriental setting, looking a slightly pale shade of hazel. In profile, she has a rounded brow, slight nose break, chin has good depth but recedes just a little, level bite. Elegant neck, lithe & muscular body; slender legs and small oval paws; tail is thick at the base, tapering well, could be a touch longer to balance. Coat has lovely texture – fine but not soft – and is short and dense, close-lying and glossy with a warm apricot base and 5 bands of ticking. She has a darker spine line and black tail tip, black paw pads and black extending slightly up her hind legs towards her hocks. She has a faint broken necklace, vertical markings from the inner edge of her eyes, and horizontal lines from the outer edge of her eyes to her ears. Paler hair around her eyes and very pale patch on her chin.

Neuter or Kitten Never Shown Before:

1 present. DEL VIGNA'S HEIDI, (HP), FN, 1 year 10 months. Soft and silky girl, purring her head off – quite a testimonial, since it was her first show. Attractive tabby, very well prepared, though her claws were quite sharp – she wasn't using them in anger, but a bit more clipped off would be good!

Friendliest Neuter:

1 present. PARRY & EATON'S TAMMY, (HP), FN, 8 years. Another friendly, purring girl – a pity she was the only one present in this class, as it was smashing to give some HP cuddles, and this girl thoroughly enjoyed them! Oh, and she was also a sweet ginger and white cat, in super condition and very well prepared.