NORWEGIAN

FOREST CAT

AUTUMN 2022

NEWSIETTER DAPHNE DITTEDE

BUTTERS How did i get here?

WEEKLY WEEGIE WANDERS

Lead training your weegie







Nub

KIDS drawing competition winners

EXCLUSIVE CAT FEATURE FELINE COMPETITON



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Chairpersons Letter



Well things seem to be getting more normal now. We attended The Lakeland and District cat show recently which was well attended, although we were a little concerned over the numbers in the show hall after the public were admitted. Our Premier got his second Grand certificate so just one to go, and our Grand girl got a reserve Imperial certificate.

One of the next shows we are going to attend will be the Supreme on Saturday, 22nd October 2022. This will be the first show at the NAEC, Stoneleigh Park, so it will be interesting to see the new venue and to how it compares to the NEC. The NFCC will be there with a Club Table, so even if you are not exhibiting please do come along to say hello and see the cats.

Best wíshes,

Tony Brewood

How did i get here? Daphne Butters, NFCC President

How Did I Get Here? This is a question that I still ask myself, life has a strange way, full of twists and turns, and I believe that fate plays a huge part. This article will hopefully tell the readers a little more about me, my lifelong love of cats and how I ended up in the cat fancy and President of the Norwegian Forest Cat Club.



Childhood Memories

I always loved cats but actually did not have a house cat until I was in my early twenties and living in my own house. Being brought up on my grandfather's dairy/mixed arable farm, cats were seen as working animals, living outside to keep down the vermin and were NEVER allowed inside the house. The farm cat was called Thomas, a shorthaired ginger tabby who lived in the cow byre, sleeping among the bags of cattle feed and always present at milking time for his bowl of

warm milk straight from the cow. When he disappeared (most probably died of old age) my grandfather refused to replace him as he was sure that cats were unclean animals that would poo in his corn store, given half the chance. Years later he was astonished to witness my cat using a litter tray! Meanwhile, my friend's farm was almost overrun with cats and many times we would hide the kittens so her father would not find them and drown them (ves. it was harsh but back in the 1960s country people didn't neuter cats so things could quickly get out of hand with the number of kittens appearing).

My favourite cat living at my friend's house was a black and white shorthair, he had no name but was very affectionate. This photo (left) is of me with "No Name" when I was about nine years old.



First Cat to Show Cat I finally got my first cat, Sarah (ABOVE) in 1983. She was a beautiful grey and white longhair, living at a Cats Protection foster home in Middlesbrough. Her first six months of life had been awful yet she was ready to forgive humans and I fell in



love as soon as I saw her. Several months later she was joined by Meggie (ABOVE) who had been hand raised by the foster carer and as long as she lived I think that she believed that she was a little human just waiting to grow up. They were eventually joined by several other rescues – I was still unaware of the cat fancy at that time.

It was a quirk of fate that was to change everything, an advert in the local newspaper in September 1988 stating "Come and see 400 cats today at Spennymoor Leisure Centre, Northern Counties Cat Club Show". That advert impacted upon my life so much. Steve and I went to look and after chatting to lots of people we were encouraged to enter some of our cats at a forthcoming charity pet cat show in Gateshead. We entered two cats - Marie and Janine. I remember feeling so sick with nerves on the morning of the show but when I came back into the hall after judging to see rosettes on both pens, I was hooked and our show career began - the rest, as they say, is history. A couple of shows later, at the Lancashire Cat Club Show in March 1989 I saw a breed of cat that I had only read about in magazines - two Maine Coons in competition.

I stopped dead in my tracks – these were the pedigree version of Sarah, not the same colour but they had the same sort of face and fur type. That day we had taken Sarah to the show – her first show and she had ended up winning Overall Best Household Pet out of over sixty HHPs entered.

So, the following day I was already on a high when a cat fancy friend phoned to say that she had seen an advert for Maine Coon kittens for sale. At that time there were only about six breeders in the UK. I could not believe that one of them was just eight miles away. I phoned to enquire and the first question I was asked was which doctor's practice I was with. I told them my doctor's surgery though I did think that this was a very strange question - it turned out that the husband was a local doctor and they had a rule not to sell kittens to any of his patients. Two days later we visited and looked at various kittens. One, originally not offered to me, took my eye - a solid blue and white. A couple of weeks later, Breeze (RIGHT) came to live with us, joined a couple of months later by Hunky who was a red classic tabby.

We started to show more seriously, as far south as London and as far north as Glasgow. The following year I was asked to become secretary of the Maine Coon Cat Club, the previous secretary had been my breeder and she was emigrating to Canada. There were so few Maine Coon people around at that time and it was not difficult to end up getting involved in the club very quickly.

I held that position for a number of years and was responsible for collating data and applying for the breed to go through all the promotion stages to championship and colour split classes. We imported several cats from America, starting in 1992 to increase the gene pool and became close friends with breeders in Florida, a best friendship which continues today.

Meeting Dustin and Falling in Love with NFCs

One cat in particular caused a real stir in Maine Coon circles, his name was Keverstones American Dream, a brown classic tabby & white (left in the photo below) and we imported him in 1992. He and his daughter became the first GCCF champions and it was through showing him that we ended up falling in love with the Norwegian Forest Cat, in particular, a cat that we would frequently compete against - and loved so much - Volsung Dustin (right in the photo) - he even visited our house when on his way north on holiday and I treasure this photo of the two cats together, both lovely examples of their respective breeds. Those two boys competed against each other for Grand certificates and Best of Variety many times. I still look back at those days and wonder if the Norwegian Forest had been around when I was looking at getting my first pedigree cat, it could easily have been a Forest Cat instead of a Maine Coon. Starting to Judge

I suppose it was a natural progression that I would get involved in stewarding and by 1994 I was stewarding regularly. It was Mary Kalal (who was Anne Gregory's sister) and Lynda Ashmore (who now runs the Supreme and of course her beloved Yorkshire shows) that really pushed me to join the stewarding scheme. Back then, the criteria for judge training was guite different. You had to have bred and shown regularly with success for four years, then collect official stewarding certificates from all over the country for another four years before you could apply to become a judge. Once accepted as a probationer judge, you had to judge at this level for two years before you could apply to become a full judge, even if you had completed all the assessments long before that. So, ten years to become a judge - of your first breed. Two years after I started on the Maine Coon stewarding scheme, I applied to the Norwegian Forest Cat scheme - my second breed to train on - and having become a full Maine Coon judge in 2002, I became a full NFC judge in 2004.

Club Chairman and Beyond





In 2005, the Norwegian Forest Cat Club was looking for a chairman, and I applied to take on the position, having been a member for several years. I worked with a lovely wide variety of people during my time on the committee and enjoyed it immensely. Since standing down and taking a back seat as more people were now becoming actively involved with the club and the breed, (so it made sense to have NFC owners on the committee). I have continued to support the club and the breed in any way I can. When Lindsey Grant, who was the NFCBAC secretary became a probationer judge, I took on the BAC secretary's job to allow her to train without conflict of interests and handed the job back to her upon her successful promotion to full NFC judge. I state without hesitation that throughout my judge training and my time on the committee, the committee and members were extremely supportive of me, my chairmanship, my training and my judging. I felt very honoured to be asked to be one of the

club's vice-presidents, the committee knew how close to my heart the club is. The club suffered a huge loss when Anne Gregory died, she had been such a strong supporter, advisor, judge and the club's show manager alongside her husband Brian. At that point, they decided to ask me if I would like to become the club's president, a position of which I am immensely proud and honoured to be. For many of the newer members, not knowing the my history and long term membership and association with the club, you probably had no idea of why a judge, who never actually owned a Norwegian Forest Cat, could end up becoming the club's president - so now you know, and it's a bit of NFCC history for anyone interested in years gone by.

Daphne Butters

This photo is of the Norwegian Forest Cat Club Show in 2007, over ninety cats entered. I took the photo from the stage, happy times.

Daphne Butters, Linda Grant and Gr Ch Noynarock Mabel- Best of show winner 2019



Ann In

KIDS COMPETITION WINNERS

well done to our winners you will receive your prize in the mail!



Joshua Rees 11

Chloe Rees 7

Ethan Haynes 14



WEEKLY WEEKEND

WEEGIE WANDERS

A Harness Training Story

When we were approached about writing this article, I must confess to some imposter syndrome. We have been Norwegian forest cat guardians to Irusan (our red) and Breshen (our blue) for two and a half months. We are not 'cat behaviourists' (I write this while Irusan passionately attempts to lie on my laptop ... again).

However, we happily share the following thoughts with one significant caveat. These are our personal experiences. They are not the only approach to stress-free harness training for your Skoggie family members, who will invariably have their own personalities.

Being neurotic over-planners, we made a four-stage plan for harness training, which has worked for us:

Stage 1: Positively Associating the Harness.

We choose to adopt positive reinforcement for every bit of training, as they are, obviously, cats. They have no innate desire to please us, and rightly so. As we all know, a cat is NOT a dog. They will not hang on your every word and do not experience unadulterated bliss after doing what they are told successfully. For this reason, positive reinforcement for cats = food. 1. Positively associate the sight of the harness: put the harness on the floor and place your cat's favourite treat in the middle of it (or on top of it, depending on the type of harness you have). Do this a few times over a few days.

2. Positively associate the sound of the harness: Whether it be Velcro or snaps, open and close the harness beside your cat, and no less than two seconds after each noise, provide a treat. Again, rinse and repeat a few times.

3. Positively associate the feel of the harness: drape your harness over your cat's back; the first time they don't shake it off, provide a treat straight away. Again, rinse and repeat.

Stage 2: Wearing the Harness When embarking on this stage, we found the most valuable aspect of stage 1 was inadvertently training the boys that harness 'stuff' happens in one area of the house.

1. Bring your cats to your 'harness stuff' area.

2. Drape the harness over your cat and provide a treat.

3. Attach the clasps of the harness around their body and immediately provide a treat. (Important: try very hard not to catch any fur in the clasps, any negative association at this moment can set you back a good



few days)

4. Give your cat a stroke and (you guessed it) another treat.

 Take the harness off immediately, and you are done for today.
Time to lie on the sofa and cuddle.
The next day, repeat steps
5 but leave the harness on and let your pet wander about the house. (You may need to motivate the making of those first steps with treats or their favourite toy)
Stay with them so that if they get caught in anything or start to lose their shizzle you can remove the

harness, avoiding negative associations.

7. After a few harness wears, you are ready to attach the lead. Simply clip it to the harness and walk about the house with your cat (be prepared for a few indignant glares when they realise there is an 'end-point' to how far they can wander from you).

8. Once comfortable with the harness and lead, have them chase their favourite toy while you walk along beside them. We found this

helps them get the idea of 'forward motion' while walking with you.

Stage 3: The Great Outdoors

Seeing your Norwegian kittens experience the great outdoors for the first time is arguably the best part of this process. We have not written step-bystep instructions for this stage as, let's be honest, anything can happen. Be ready to improvise.

Upon opening the sunroom doors, harnesses and leads donned, fluffy necks craned out, and pupils expanded to black orbs of singular feline focus, we (the humans) set foot outside first, and the kittens followed in their own fascinated time. They weren't aware of the concept of lead-tangling yet. A frantic removal of the breakfast table ensued. Onto the grass, they moved. Grass, it would seem, is a fascinating thing. Our boys spend a lot of time exploring every blade and flower. We allow them this joy.

Finding out we can't run as fast as they



can was an exercise in utter disbelief for our cats. They stared at us in bewilderment; we felt inadequate in the face of their disgust. They eventually adjusted their speed to avoid the 'leash yank' when they realised we simply can't help it.

When it came to flying things, they learned the hard way not to eat a bee. We were ready with treatment recommended by our vet and kept an eye out for swelling. They needed to learn this lesson only once, and bees have become anathema.

Our garden time together is the favourite part of every family member's life, at present. Weeding with Wegians is a hilarious exercise in "playing with plants".

Stage 4: Expanding Horizons. Getting your Skoggies into the garden may be as far as you want to go, but we want our lads to be able to go where we go (fantasies about catcamping holidays abound).

We are currently working through the process of expanding their horizons, and the following is our journey thus far ...

First, we have clicker trained them to get into their cat rucksacks on command. This is to avoid any unexpected "dog-encounters of the tense kind". They can jump into the safe space on our backs should a canine ominously appear in the distance.

Secondly, we started by taking them a walk up the lane, up the street and to a friendly neighbour's garden for a visit to slowly expand their known world. For trips further afield, they now get into their rucksacks, strapped into the car and taken into the Angus Glens to places we know aren't frequented by dog walkers. We still motivate them with treats to get them to consistently walk beside us and not get distracted by long grass/trees/bats/ birds/flies/dirt/midgies/a random gust of wind. They are getting better and better at this every single trip and can now go short distances without too many stops.

Our next hopes are for a more extended hill day ... we will see how long it takes Irusan and Breshen to decide that they will indulge their mad, bipedal companions.

Stay tuned for further updates...

Faith Comrie and James Malarky



We are looking for photos of your favourite felines...

WINNERS will receive a surprise in the post... Entries close 30th September 2022.

Please email to norwegianforestcatclub@gmail. com Include the name and age of cat.

Images will be shared onto social media and onto the newsfeed of the website.













NFCC Hon Secretary & Welfare Officer

Some news about a few of the cats that have been rehomed through the Norwegian Forest Cat Club Welfare over the past three years with photos from their new homes.

I can truly say that Welfare Work can be very rewarding but is also sometimes verv time consuming. It was a bit of a challenge too during 2020/2021 with restrictions on moving around the country and meeting people and seeing vets was sometimes problematical to say the least! Despite these challenges I did manage to find good homes for a number of Norwegian Forest Cats and I suspect there will be more to find homes for as the economic recession starts to hit home, though I hope I am proved wrong.

Elrond (formerly called Murphy) is a deaf pure white Norwegian forest cat who was re homed at the age of 7 to a safe indoor home on the northern edge of the Lake District.

As you can see here he has settled in and loves his new best buddy, Robert.

Sadly, his previous owners had to take the difficult decision of finding him a new home after he had been with them for 5 years. Murphy, as he was known then, had started to attack their other elderly cat which he had previously tolerated. They had tried a number of things to see if they could remedy the situation but none had worked and after talking it through with them it was decided the best course of action was to find him a new home where he was the only cat. They brought him to us and then he went by pet courier to his new home in Cumbria.



Loki & Freya join Kaisia

Kaisia (Tegwel Mair) was rehomed from Somerset to a lovely gentleman, Michael, in the summer of 2018 at the age of 11. The photo below is of her in her new garden at the age of 12. She is now 15!

Kaisia was being cared for by Jo after both her owners sadly passed away unexpectedly. Jo couldn't take her in as she had cats of her own so contacted the Club to see if we could help. I met with Jo half way between Milton Keynes and Taunton and brought Kaisia home. From there Michael's daughter who lives in nearby Northampton kindly transported her to her new home. Where as you can see she seems to be very content.

Freya and Loki were rehomed





to Michael in October 2019 (at 6 years of age) after spending some time with us. They have also settled well. They enjoy the company of the other cats and are thoroughly spoilt!



It was a long drawn out process involving Linda and myself but we got there in the end. Their previous family were relocating to the States and did not want to take them with them.

Again they spent some time with us before they went to their new home.

Mrs Miggins (now called Morska)

Morska was rehomed because her family could not handle her behavioural issues any longer. I was told that she could be verv difficult and aggressive when being handled in any way, especially when she had to be taken to the vets for vaccinations or a checkup. She was also not interacting with the family or their other cat in the way they expected. She was brought to us at the age of 5 in 2021 so we could assess her and find her a good home. She was certainly a very stressed cat. We found her a home with Debbie and her family where she has been given the time and space to come out of her shell and now interacts with their other cat and her behaviour is slowly improving.



We do try and find out where the cats originally came from and contact the breeders where we can; but this is not always possible when the owners can't remember and/or have lost the cat's paperwork. Sadly, too, some of the breeders have passed away as was the case for Elrond, Kaisia and Sarabi.

Welfare isn't always about finding new homes either as I do provide information and support to the families that have adopted Welfare Cats. I also take calls from all sorts of people just wanting to know about the breed and sometimes from people just wanting to tell me about their wonderful Wegies!

> TO CONTACT WELFARE: Fiona Hermon Tel: 01908 642115 / 07581216294 Email: fiona.hermon@btinternet.com

> Donations can be made to welfare via the donate button on the website



Sarabi

This is 8 year old Sarabi (a beautiful blue tortie tabby with white) happily settled in her new home. She was rehomed as she decided she no longer wanted to get on with the other cat in her household, a 5 month old Maine Coon. Her owners decided they would rather keep the kitten and rehome Ice somewhere quieter. So, she came to us for a few weeks until she could go to her new home with Richard & Amanda. Sarabi has become good friends with Richard & Amanda's

other cat Gandalf and is very well cared for indeed.

Magnus We took in this lovely 7-yearold male neuter silver tabby as the family where he was living could no longer keep him. He was being stressed too much by the presence of two dogs and had started to spray where he shouldn't and also had started to ambush the dogs. They had tried everything they should to get him settled with the dogs and nothing had worked so sadly decided it was better all round to find him a new home. He is now off to a new life in Merseyside with Bea.



CAT WHEEL REVIEW

I have a Cazami cat wheel, the lady sells them on Facebook and imports them into the uk. She's a Bengal breeder.

It arrived by courier and took a couple of hours to build. The instructions were easy enough to follow. It has a sturdy base with 6 wheels like you'd get on a skateboard. The main wheel sits on top, we have it fairly close to the wall in the lounge. It's 135cm tall on the base, so takes up a fair amount of room! There are foam pads on the inside where they walk, these have been scratched a bit but I haven't needed to replace them. It's easy enough to move if you need too.

The instructions for training are helpful, she recommends not to ever place a cat onto the wheel but to use toys to encourage them. My cats don't like laser pointers and I don't really like them as the cats never get to win or catch their prize. We used feather wands and fishing toys with lots of praise and encouragement. Two of the cats got straight on, some of others started to use the wheel when we encourage them with a toy. Three of the cats won't go near! (We have 10 cats) She said not rely on treats as a reward but our 2 older NFC's will only get on when offered a dreamie otherwise they're not interested! Perry will run straight into the lounge on it and cry for a treat, I'm really pleased I've trained him, although my 18 year old daughter

says it's me that Perry has trained.

Three of our cats regularly hop on and have a run, Evie just walks on it and is quite happy having a stroll at night, I can hear it from upstairs when the house is quiet but it wouldn't say it's particularly loud. They soon get used to starting and stopping it when they've had enough. We've not had any injuries.

When we've had litters of kittens they all climb all over it and it's chaos, they start on it at about 6 weeks old.

So overall I'm really pleased with it, it was expensive and I wouldn't buy one if I only had one or two cats but I'm pleased mine get a good use out of it. I'm sure I could get them all using I if I had more patience with training cats

Thanks

Nícola Carríck of Eastcroft cats





Cazami Bengals for the little tiger in your life











Review – Ferris Cat Wheel- By Jenny Digweed

I had always wondered whether cat exercise wheels would be a good way for my indoor cats to let off steam. Having done some research, I was put off by the fact that some of the cheaper wheels had reviews saying they had come off their base, or moved about when cats were on them. The only wheel I was considering was the Ferris Cat Wheel, sold in the UK by distributor Cazami. Being the largest cat wheel on the market, they allow large breed cats to run naturally with no pressure on their spine. I also couldn't find any record of them having come off or been dangerous to cats in any way. The downside was that they were quite pricey and take a large amount of space. It still felt a bit of a gamble as to whether my cats would actually use it. Amazingly, I then won one in a raffle! So, how did the cats get on?

With some light training from me, I found that some of the cats used it and some weren't interested. The kitten we got after we already had the wheel is self-trained and much more confident than the others, so I would say starting them as early on it as possible will make them more likely to use it. The wheel is surprisingly quiet, you can hear a gentle whooshing sound which increases if they go faster. It's really nice to see them using it and being able to run flat out, which they could never do around the house. It must be a good stress reliever.

Overall, it's worth it for the cats who enjoy it, but be aware that if you have a cat who is reluctant to try new things, you may find they also show little interest in this. I've really enjoyed watching the cats use it and I like knowing that they do have a way to properly exercise if they want to.

Jenny Dígweed

Cazami Cat Exercise Wheel | Facebook current price £444 including VAT

Disclaimer: Cazami cat exercise wheel do not recommend young kittens having access to the cat wheel at the same time as adults. Kittens can use the wheel under supervision.

Cazami cats will sponsor our club show next year- by donating a wheel to our raffle!







Official Norwegian Forest Cat Calendar



PURCHASE YOUR CALENDAR NOW FROM THE NFCC WEBSITE. WWW.NFCC.CO.UK

Attention all Breeders and Exhibitors

From the GCCF website: A Breed Advisory Committee (BAC) is a committee of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (GCCF).

There is a BAC for each breed with a responsibility to work in the interests of the cats of its Breed by establishing, monitoring and maintaining its Breeding Policy, Registration Policy and the Standards of Points. The BAC also monitors the training and performance of the Judges on its list and candidates wishing to become Judges within its Probationer Judge Appointment Scheme. The BAC also provides a forum for discussion between the Constituent Clubs. A BAC considers all aspects of its particular breed within its Section.

The BAC operates in accordance with its Constitution which is based on a GCCF template for BACs and after personalisation to meet specific BACs purposes is approved by the GCCF's Board of Directors. Once formed the BAC become the sole group recognised as the advisory/recommending body to the GCCF Council for that Breed.

The BAC nominates persons who have satisfied the BAC as to their suitability to become a Judge, to the GCCF Council for appointment as a Probationer or Full Judge of their breed. It also maintains contact with Judges on their Breed Judge List to keep them aware of any objectives in the development of the breed(s) and any amendments to the Standards of Points. Monitoring the ability and progress of Probationer Judges in their BAC Scheme is a key activity together with providing advice, training and tuition as required.

The committee organises seminars to communicate and debate current affairs with all Judges on their Breed Judge List, Breeders and Exhibitors and facilitates practical demonstrations and training for stewards and Judges.

In the scope of the breeds for which the BAC is responsible, the BAC makes proposals to the GCCF Board of Directors on matters relating to Standards of Points, Registration Policies, advancement of status and applications for new coat colours or patterns. Such proposals are the sole prerogative of the BAC.

A note from the NFCC BAC Chair: Fiona Hermon

I thought I ought to write a few words about the Norwegian Forest Cat Breed Advisory Committee, which I currently Chair, as I think I need to make the membership aware of how important this committee is for our breed and that it desperately needs new blood.

I have been involved with our BAC for well over 15 years now, as a club representative, as Secretary (stepping down from the Secretary role for a time whilst I went through the BAC as a Judge) and currently serving as Chair. The Secretary has also been a long-time member of the BAC and I know that she also wishes to retire soon and that position will need filling. I too am planning to retire after one more year, as I have done my part for the breed and feel that as I am no longer actively involved in breeding it needs someone who is. We also have a temporary Treasurer holding the fort. In summary all the officer positions on the NFC BAC will need filling at the electoral meeting in the Autumn of 2023.

As you can see from the description above from the GCCF the BAC has a variety of roles including ensuring the standard of points is maintained and that the breeding/ registration policies are adhered to and kept up to date. The other important role it plays is in the training of judges and running a seminar. None of the work that our BAC does is particularly onerous and it meets twice a year via Zoom so no travel is required. We are currently up to date with our policies and do not currently have any Pupil Judges going through on our breed.

The NFCC works together with members from the Norsk Skogkatt Society and there are usually 4 representatives from each club plus Secretary, Treasurer and Chair present at the meeting. Serving on the BAC is very rewarding and fun, being part of a like minded group. You not only learn a lot about the breed but also the way the GCCF manages breeds and the judges of the breed. It is an opportunity to be involved in the breed's development and to introduce improvements to the benefit of the breed. For instance, the recent introduction of genetic testing for PKDef & GSDIV. Occasionally the BAC organises seminars which are a good opportunity to learn about different aspects of the breed and meet other breeders and judges in a relaxed setting.

Please do contact myself or the NFC BAC Secretary if you want to know more and wish to get involved.

A Letter from: Heimdal...

As dictated to his human, Jane Currie.

Heimdal is a very handsome red boy (photographs below) who has written to me before and who is quite a character.

Hi Jenny

Heimdal Currie here!

I enclose two recent photographs – me inspecting a recent birthday present and one with Lomond, the little Pekingese. I am twice his weight and size so he can forget the idea of being Emperor of China!

Life is a drag in this heat.





My slaves (John and Jane) are suggesting that now 7 years old I should be eating "7 year plus" senior food – sounds disgusting!

I have tried to contact my old chum Larry in Westminster to suggest we would make much better leaders of the Country than the two challengers but he is too busy with his fashion shoots – no sense of responsibility!

I had better away, soon be lunch time.

Regards

Heimdal.



This year's GCCF Supreme Show will be held on Saturday, 22nd October 2022 at the NAEC, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

In Celebration of HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

Each year the GCCF licenses around 135 Championship Shows – plus the Supreme Show.

The Supreme Show is unique: it is run by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy itself (all other Championship Shows, large or small, are run by Member Clubs) there are classes unique to the "Supreme" and titles which can only be won there. The show caters for all breeds of cat which are recognised by GCCF and there is a special section for Household Pet cats. There is also a competition for the best Decorated Pen.





































GALLERY















A Letter from: Lucy...



My name is Lucy; I am a white and black Norwegian Forest Cat. As I am an NFC, I am extremely intelligent as well as pretty, and therefore I regard myself as superior to all other cats and humans! I disregard all other opinions on this matter, and do demand servants in attendance most of the time!

Chapter 1 Early Days

I know very little about my early life or where I was born, but I believe I was born in year 2000. I had a sister called Honey who had more black fur than me.

We apparently lived in a place called Canvey Island on the north bank of the Thames estuary. Judging from the early photos, we were well cared for and got on well with each other. I think we were mostly indoor cats even then.

Our happy existence was shattered in early 2006 when our human carer was taken very ill and could no longer look after us.

As a result, we were both taken to

the animal shelter at Heydon, near Royston, part of the Wood Green Animal Charity in July 2006.

This came as quite shock to me as we were supposed to muck in with a lot of 'common' cats, in a large compound! [The nice individual cages had not arrived then].

The people there were very nice to us, but had so many other cats to care for as well as me and Honey.

I did eventually cope by hiding under a blanket most of the time- my usual trick, but when I did come out I was able to assert my authority on others in the pen, so I am told!

Summer passed into autumn and then winter and both of us were still there. Quite why I don't know since we were so pretty. Perhaps new humans thought 2 of us would be too much to look after; also I got a reputation for being 'fierce', as well as being invisible under my blanket!

At last, in December my new humans must have decided that they would have to split us up to get new homes. Somebody came along and rehomed my sister Honey at that time and I have never seen her again.

I was left alone, but still ruling the roost in the compound, though my beautiful fur was getting a bit knotted, mostly because I was a bit grumpy about being combed!

Chapter 2 Adoption

Unknown to me a couple living near Oundle had a black and white cat that suddenly died quite young in late February 2007, possibly due to a heart attack.

A week or so later they went looking for a replacement, and after visit-

ing Godmanchester and another shelter in Cambridge without success, arrived at Heydon on a wet Sunday afternoon. I was, of course, invisible under my blanket as usual!

They found one cat called Tiger, who seemed nice, but was quite old and were about to go when they noticed a sign saying 'Lucy, Norwegian Forest Cat' . It said I was bit 'fierce' and had been in shelter 9 months. Well, so would



you be 'fierce' with all those other 'common' cats to control!

The people showed some interest in this notice, so one of the staff went to find me and disturbed me under my blanket.

I showed no great interest in them, but they must have taken a shine to me as they asked to provisionally reserve me and arranged to come back and see me the next weekend. By then it was mid March 2007 and a much better day. I was aroused from my rest yet again to be inspectedmost undignified, and I displayed little interest. I don't make an exhibition of myself in public, but then Paul, one of the staff at Heydon, took to me and the visitors into the office.

I thought 'This is better, individual attention again!' So I behaved myself, and having fully inspected the office, I started being all friendly and fussed up to these new people, who seemed taken with me. I can turn on the charm when I want to!

These people said they would adopt me despite my 'record' and promised to collect me the next day once my jabs etc, were done. The Sunday was a nice spring day, and after much complaining by me I was ready to go.

I was persuaded into a basket quite ample for a normal size cat, but a little tight for me and my beautiful coat! After being put on the back seat of the car, we set off and I complained all the way back to their house 40 miles away. Well, I wasn't consulted so I would complain wouldn't I?

TO BE CONTINUED....





