



A Publication by the Siamese Cat Society of NSW Inc.



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Proudly affiliated with CATS NSW



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From the Editor

The Siamese Cat Society (SCS) committee has been unable to meet this year until July, now that Covid 19 restrictions have begun to ease in NSW. In this August 2020 issue of **Felis**, we continue with another breeder's story—part 2 of 'Life with Gem' by Lee Gallagher, and include an article on Cat Breeding, and another on the benefits of grass for cats by Sandra Sweetman. A big thank you to these authors for their contributions. But sadly, we also need to report on the passing of one of our longterm, very dedicated members, Penny Richardson (see page 3).

Application for membership can be downloaded from the website, or see the December 2019 issue. Full membership applications must include a copy of the registration of the cat or kitten named on the registration.

As stated in the April edition, membership fees for 2020 remain the same. **Please make sure you have submitted your registration number details** to our Secretary:

Sharon Black: tamjanasiam@optusnet.com.au. Payment details for advertising space in **Felis** are available on the Membership application form.

Also, note new laws for pet desexing. Owners **must desex** companion cats by 4 months old to avoid an additional fee of \$80 on top of the \$50 registration fee, unless they supply a letter from their vet to the contrary. The additional fee will apply annually until the cat is desexed.

If you have any news, photos or stories of your cats, kittens, or stud updates etc. are all welcome. If you wish to add or correct any details in our Breeders and Stud Lists posted on our website and previous newsletters, or contribute in any way to our next newsletter, please email the Felis editor:

Marion Anstis at: frogpole@tpg.com.au

Important Notification: the Siamese Cat Society 2020 special show with Cats NSW

Cats NSW have invited SCS to join them for their 2020 Finale Cat Show to be held in November, 2020 (date to be confirmed), presumably at the North Richmond Panthers Club, but final arrangements will be advised to members when known.

In Memoriam

Sharon Black

Penny Richardson of Trilian Cattery, NSW, has fought many battles during her involvement with cat breeding, particularly with the one very close to her heart....."pure, one-breed Siamese". In addition, being an integral founding member of Cats NSW and also its first junior vice president, presented its challenges...

But none have challenged her in the way that cancer has during these past seven years. Many times she began to rise above it, only to find it reoccur. Finally and sadly, on Friday afternoon 17 April, 2020, Penny lost her battle, and we lost a very long-standing member and breeder of our SCS club.

Penny was first and foremost a dedicated **Pure Siamese breeder** who loved the breed passionately. Penny had many years of knowledge and experience gained from breeding Pure Siamese. She bred many beautiful pure siamese cats. On the show bench, her cats were beautifully presented, and they always did well. The beautiful kittens she bred, often from her famous and much-loved imported Japanese-bred Chocolate Point stud, ACF SLV AOE GL DB GC Puresweet Wulfenite, affectionately known as 'Wulfie', were always in demand (see Penny's article about the Siamese purebred in our December 2019 issue).

Penny also had a long history with the Siamese Cat Society. She was on the committee for many years as Secretary, and attended and assisted at many cat shows, at which she was often a steward. She was also often the cook at shows, producing many delicious meals. In her long years on the committee of the SCS society, Penny worked hard to ensure that the Pure Siamese breed was successful and retained its integrity. The SCS committee has donated \$200 to the Ovarian Research Fund as a small token of posthumous thanks to Penny for her tireless promotion of Siamese cats.

I am sure our SCS members and owners of Trilian cats have many memories of Penny to keep forever. Our thoughts are with her husband Grant Richardson and family.

RIP Penny, you will be missed by many.



Penny receives one of her many awards at a recent show. She is surrounded above by some of her beautiful kittens by **Puresweet Wulfenite**



Siamese Cat Society of NSW inc.

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Membership Drive and SCS Supporters 2020

SCS committee member Sandra Sweetman has been working hard arranging supporters for SCS in 2020 and a number have offered prizes for our Membership Drive Competition.

This year's **Membership Drive Competition** will be bigger and better with 3 prize bundles up for 'grabs' to the members who introduce the most new members during this 2020. Each of these 3 bundles will include one of each of the following products: a show cage, a sifter litter tray and a maxi litter tray. In addition, a set of show curtains will be included in two of the bundles. The overall winner will have first choice of the bundles, and the other two place-getters follow in order. The organisations who kindly offered their products to make up our bundles are listed below:

1. **VEBO PET SUPPLIES** are providing 3 collapsible show cages: medium size. These cages are ideal for travelling, attending shows and events, for a cat recovering from surgery as well as for general use around the house. They are extremely robust and well made. Details can be found at: <https://www.vebopet.com.au/>
2. **CAT MATE** are providing 3 sifter litter tray sets note: their eco-friendly wood pellet litter contains natural oils to inhibit the growth of bacteria that cause the ammonia smell. Details: <https://www.catmate.com.au/>
3. **CATZ MATZ** are providing 2 sets of show curtains for the above cages which are designed and made especially for the above show cages. Contact Catz Matz for all your show needs. They make and design show curtains and accessories to your specifications including traditional, 'bling bling' or with frills along with show cage beds. Details: <https://www.facebook.com/catzmatzbeds>
4. **OZ PET** are proving 3 x maxi litter tray sets. Oz Pet is an anti-microbial and, environmental garden friendly cat litter and these maxi litter trays are ideal for larger cats. Details: <https://www.oz-pet.net.au/>

Details for Competition Entry in 2020: anyone who is already a member of our Club has the opportunity to compete in this contest simply by introducing a new member for just \$5. Even if they don't own a 'pure' Siamese cat or any cat but just want to support our club they can join and become an Associate member. The top 3 members who introduce the most members during this year, 2020 will win an item from one of the prize bundles. Once again **BIG** thanks to our Supporters: **Cat Mate, Oz Pet, VEBO Pet Supplies and Catz Matz.**



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CAT MATE: a Naturally Superior Performance in cat litter. Our eco-friendly wood pellet litter is the ideal solution for cat owners seeking quality cat litter that is easy to use and super absorbent. Our product contains natural oils that inhibit the growth of bacteria that cause the ammonia odour.

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Catmate contains natural oils that inhibit the growth of bacteria that cause the ammonia smell. Catmate wood pellets are heavier than paper-based litter and don't stick to your cat's feet even when wet.

Tracking & Staining - Why it matters

Kitty Litter should be contained to the tray, you don't want it sticking to your cat's feet and ending up all over your home. A cat's feet and fur should remain the colour nature intended. **Catmate** has none of the pigments or added colouring that commonly stain cat fur (particularly white).





Beautiful curtains for
your show cage!



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE PRIZES: OZPET —3 maxi litter tray sets (top); VEBO —3 collapsible show cages (one shown here); Cat Mate— 3 sifter litter trays (bottom left); CATZ MATZ—2 sets of show curtains—set up in cage above.



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Oz-Pet Cat and Pet Litter is deemed the **ORIGINAL** Wood Pellet Litter and was first introduced to Australia in 2004 by our Australian-owned company based in Woodburn NSW. Using waste sawdust materials from local mills in the Northern Rivers regions, Oz-Pet produce wood pellets that are ideal for Cat Litter, as well as Bedding for numerous varieties of animals.

Oz-Pet were the first to develop a **UNIQUE Two-Piece Sieve Tray** system that provides a more economical way to manage your cat litter use, giving you a longer lasting and odour-free litter. Our product is available in most pet stores around Australia, and can also be purchased from our online store, which also includes our accessories range. We have warehouses in Sydney, Newcastle, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart for fast delivery to service our customers.

Oz-Pet is **ODOUR FREE** - the biggest advantage of Oz-Pet is that it stops the strong odour and eliminates rather than masks the smell of ammonia. The eucalyptus oil in the pellets stop the bacteria growing that causes the smell.



THE MYTHS AND BENEFITS OF CAT GRASS

Sandra Sweetman

Cat grass is actually a name used to describe several different types of grass which are popular with cats. People sometimes confuse cat grass with 'catnip' which is a perennial herb from the mint family Labiatae. Catnip, but not cat grass, contains an essential oil 'nepetalactone' that can make some cats 'high'. Cats are known to sometimes respond to catnip by sniffing, chewing and licking it plus head shaking, followed by chin, cheek, and body rubbing on it. Cat grass however does not induce this 'high' feeling in cats and can be beneficial to them.

Some different types of cat grass

There are several *types* of cat grass for cats to consume. Cats much prefer the young grass shoots as these are sweeter and softer compared to a more mature grass that is not as soft.

Some varieties of cat grass include:

- Orchard grass or cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*)
- Common oat, cat oat (*Avena sativa*)
- Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*)
- Wheatgrass (*Triticum aestivum*)

Why do cats eat grass?

1. To supplement their diet

Grass juice contains folic acid (*vitamin B9*) that can help support the cat's growth and increase the oxygen levels in their blood. If your cat is chewing on grass then it might mean that they need a vitamin boost in this area or they might have a dietary deficiency.

2. To reduce anxiety

Some cats are known to engage in what is termed as '*stress or emotional eating*' which causes the cat to eat, and this is not to reduce the hunger pangs, but to relieve anxiety. The cat's behaviour might change, showing signs of '*displacement*' behaviour, showing prolonged or repetitive behaviour that serves no apparent useful purpose and may become excessive. When stress hits they need an outlet. Some cats can over-groom themselves, become excessively vocal, or engage more frequently in some sort of activity to soothe themselves such as eating. If you notice that your cat is chewing on grass excessively or displaying any signs of stress or anxiety then get in touch with your Vet who can help your cat with this behavioural issue.

3. Parasites

A common theory is that cats eat grass because they feel unwell and ingestion helps them to vomit, which may help the cat to feel better. Some researchers, however, conclude that this is unlikely and that the grass consumption is just an instinctive behaviour to help purge their stomach tract of parasitic worms.

4. Fur or Hairballs

Cats are clean animals and are often seen grooming themselves: as the cat grooms itself to remove the loose hair from their coat this can then get caught up in their tongue and swallowed. Most of the hair will pass through their digestive tract with no problems but some can stay in the stomach and form what is called the '*fur or hair ball*'. Usually this is vomited or coughed up. It has been stated that cat grass can also simply relieve an upset stomach.

Outside grass

Be careful if your cat eats outside grass to ensure that it hasn't been treated with pesticides or fertilizers. If it has then it is best to keep your cat well away from it as it would be poisonous. A safe alternative is to grow your own grass indoors for your cat. You can purchase a cat grass kit or cheaper still, grow your own. Most garden stores and major Hardware stores sell pots of cat grass or you can purchase a packet of seeds and grow your own.

How to grow your cat grass

Cat grass is very easy to grow. You will just need:

- a small pot to grow it in
- a packet of organic potting soil (*this is safer as your cats could be digging in it and you don't want any fertilizer mixed in with it*)
- a packet of cat grass seeds
- some plastic cling wrap
- water

1. Start by filling your pot with the soil stopping about 25–50 mm from the top of the pot, and then simply scatter a handful of cat grass seed over the top of this in a thin layer.
2. Add a small amount of the soil over the top of the seeds so that they are just covered with the soil.
3. Water the seeds in with about half a cup of water as you want the soil to be moist.
4. Cover them with the plastic cling wrap that's not too tight as you still want an airflow to come through. Place them in a warm, dark place for a couple of days until the little spouts first start appearing. Check soil moisture daily.
5. When the spouts appear you can take off the plastic cling wrap and keep them in a nice sunny position (without over-heating). When your grass is about 100 to 150 mm it is ready for the cat to eat.

An alternative way to grow cat grass without using potting mix:

You will need:

- a glass jar with a wide opening or a bowl
- some decorative stones available from a garden shop, major Hardware stores or a '*bargain*' type shop
- Some unbleached Paper towels or even a coffee filter
- Grass Seeds
- Water

1. Simply fill your jar or bowl with the stones: to about 2/3 full.
2. Place on top the paper towel or coffee filter and arrange your grass seeds on top of this. If you want to speed up the process you can pre-soak your seeds beforehand overnight in water.
3. After a couple days your seeds will begin to sprout. When they have grown to about 100 to 150 mm they are ready for the cat to eat. Do not let the stones underneath dry out.

LIFE WITH GEM, part 2

(Part 1 in Felis Vol. 64, April 2016)

Lee Gallagher



Dad Awesome Gem (seal), Mum Kauai Platinum Gem (lilac) on top of him, son Akamai Gem (seal) front, son Keoni Gem (blue), behind.

Since our first article in Felis, April 2016, about our imported stud, Kaluamoa Awesome Gem, much has happened with him. He has continued to be exhibited at cat shows with success and has also sired 21 litters since his first litter of 1 female kitten – Astraxalotte Sapphire Gem (Gemmie) in late 2012. One of his best kittens was Astraxalotte Zaffre Gem, born in November 2014, one of 4 seal point male kittens. Zaffy went to Clive Bray in New Zealand who sadly passed away from a brain tumour in 2016. Zaffy was then moved to Auckland, where he now resides as a stud cat for Jenny Thomsen of Sailavie Siamese and Orientals. He is also one of many titled cats from Gemmie. A photo of Zaffy with his dad was part of the first article.

As we thought about our breeding program, we travelled back to Hawaii in 2016 to look at what female kittens Charlee Abrams had available and, of course, she did have! A beautiful lilac point female named Kaluamoa Kauai Platinum Jewel that we purchased and had sent to Aus-

tralia in late 2016, with only 10 days quarantine, this time. She was a bit skittish on arrival, but her temperament and disposition started to come through quickly. She and Gem became friends quickly, but our intentions were not to mate them to each other.

Meanwhile in 2016, Gem had 4 of his progeny in the male/female Top 5 kitten categories. Another two kittens from our cattery were also in the Female Top 5. Awesome Gem was second in the Males, as was Astraxalotte Perle Star in the Female Cats. However, what we thought was a good year on the show bench in 2016 would be outdone by our results in 2017....

In 2017, out of 7 categories, our cats/kittens finished first place in 5 categories. Overall, we had 10 placings. We had 3 male and 3 female kittens in each Top 5 with a 1st, 2nd, and 5th place in each category. Awesome Gem was the best Male Cat and Kauai Platinum Jewel was the best Female Cat. Moana Gem was also 3rd in the Fe-

males. Rounding things off was our Red Point Neuter Manako Gem gaining first place.

During 2018, we continued to exhibit at shows, including the Nationals in Brisbane where we did well, especially our red point neuter who was reserve in 6 of 7 rings. At the end of the year, we had a first place in 3 categories of the Cat of the Year with 2 kittens placed in each of the male, female and desexed kitten categories. Awesome Gem and Platinum Jewel were each 2nd in their categories, while Manako Gem was in first place in the Neuters. Two of our cats were also in the Top 5 for Neuters and Spays, but with a new owner. By this stage, Platinum Jewel (Vanda) had had 2 litters with 10 kittens in total. A question had to be asked and Charlee Abrams would provide the answer.

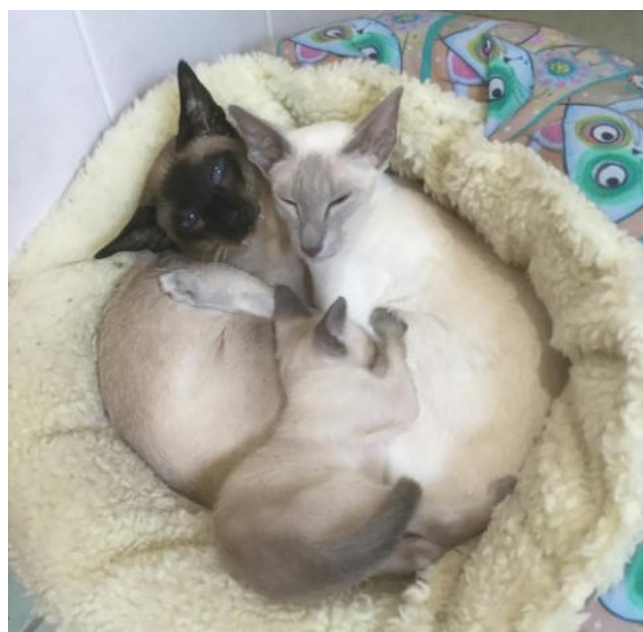
Each year, Cheryl and I have travelled to America to visit family friends and on our return journey, we would have a week in Hawaii and take one day to fly over to Kauai to visit Charlee Abrams. In 2019, we did not get to ask our question because Charlee came straight out and asked us if we had mated Gemmie to Platinum Jewel yet. We replied no because they were related, to which she said why not experiment and see what you get. So when we returned home, Platinum Jewel was mated with Gemmie and the result saw 3 male kittens born – 1 seal and 2 blue. More later.

Meanwhile, on the show bench, we tripped around New South Wales, when we weren't overseas, attending shows. At the end of the year, we had gained 2 first placing's – Male Kitten and Female Cat. Our other results were 1st, 2nd and 5th in Male Kittens, 2nd and 3rd in Male Cats, 1st in Female Cats (by one point), and 2nd in Neuters with our Red Point.

Now back to our mating. Our cattery, the Astrax-alotte cattery, has produced for the first time ever a "Made in Australia" pure Siamese litter: 3 beautiful male kittens from fully imported bloodlines. The father is Siamese Show legend seal point – Nat Sh Ch, CCCA Diamond TR GD CH & Dia DB GD CH & QLD CH Kaluamoa Awesome

Gem and the mother is CCCA Sapphire TR GD CH & Dia DB GD CH Kaluamoa Kauai Platinum Jewel. Both of these cats were imported by Cheryl and myself from Kaluamoa Cattery on Kauai in Hawaii which is owned by Charlee Abrams. Awesome Gem arrived in Australia in 2011 and Platinum Jewel followed in 2016.

Kaluamoa Awesome Gem, now just having turned 9, is still being shown on the bench and has almost reached the pinnacle in titles gained. At the first cat show in 2020, I was asked why we keep taking Gemmie to shows to which I replied that he likes travelling in the car, he enjoys being "on show" and thirdly if we didn't enter in some shows, the public would not have the chance to see an entire male on the bench. The mother, Kaluamoa Kauai Platinum Jewel will turn 5 in June and also enjoys the show bench having reached a high level in her awards.



Fatherly bliss! Dad Gemmie and Mum Jewel nestle together while young son Akoni Gem has dinner.

To enhance the Siamese breed, we have sold two of the litter kittens from the above mating to two Cat Breeders as show cats and future studs – the seal male and one of the blue males. Both of these kittens have inherited the incredible loving temperament of their parents along with their classic looks. The third male now has a home with the Dean of Christ Church Cathedral – Newcastle, Katherine Bowyer. We knew the two stud

kittens would adjust well into their new homes and help in developing the bloodlines within Australia. The seal point is now part of the Garthowen Cattery near Tamworth owned by Chris Wiseman. Chris is delighted that she, not only has one of Gemmie's kittens, but that the mother is Platinum Jewel – not to mention that the male is a seal to boot! Chris told me that “she is thrilled to own such a prospect and see Astraxalotte Akamai Gem on the bench against his father when he gets older”.

Another of the kittens, a blue boy Astraxalotte Akoni Gem is now owned by Sandra Sweetman of the Shiloh Cattery. Sandra told us, “I’m so delighted to have a blue to compliment my breeding program. In the past, in the 90’s, I successfully bred show-winning blues, lilacs and seals but I had a gap for a number of years and then coming back into breeding these past few years I was surprised by the lack of blues particularly that there were no ‘pure’ studs around. This kitten has endeared himself to our family, such a lovely overtype with the vivid blue eyes and an elegance that is imperative for any breeding program. His temperament is just like his father’s, gentle and loving, more of a dog than a cat. I feel very honoured that Lee and Cheryl sold him to me.’

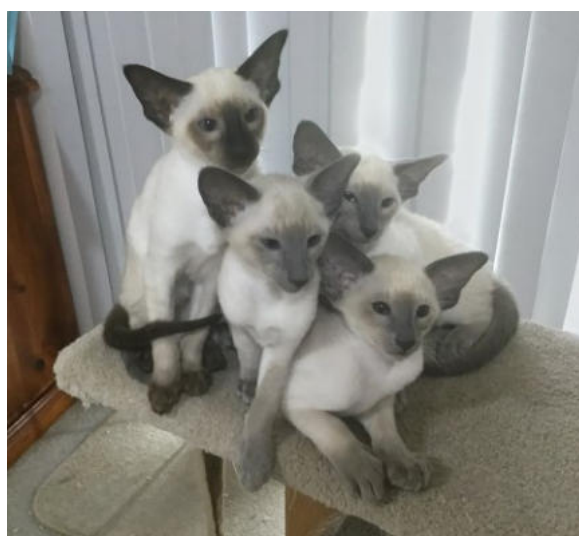
The kittens have a cross back to the famous stud cat Grand Champion Davisiam Shaz Beau of Kalua-

moa known as Beau from Charlee Abrams Cattery from Kauai, in Hawaii. Beau was CFA Hawaii 2010–2011 Best Cat and the father of Grand Champion Kaluamoa Kauai Noelani, CFA Hawaii 2011–2012 Best Cat, and Grand Champion Kaluamoa Kauai Bright Jewel, CFA Hawaii Best Kitten in 2011–2012 and CFA Hawaii Best Cat for the 2012–2013, 2013–2014, and 2014–2015 show seasons.

Both these kittens have an exciting future ahead of them. Having only, at this time, been entered in one Cat Show at Goulburn, due to cancellation of all others to this point because of the Corona virus. The 3 boys gained one first place each at Goulburn and it will be interesting to see them on the bench as they grow and develop.

We always think of a legacy as being an amount of money or property left to someone in a will but, we, the Gallagher Family, have given an on-going legacy to the ‘pure’ Siamese world and this exquisite breed of cat by releasing these two kittens: a seal boy and blue for the future of the Siamese breed.

During this last 12 months, we have made contact with Siamese owners and breeders in North America and Europe. It is our intention to mate Platinum Jewel (Vanda) with Gemmie when she comes into season later this year, so that more breeders and owners can share the joy that we have experienced.



Gem's 2020 babies: Seal boy Akamai Gem at back, Blue boy Keoni Gem in front of him, Blue boy Akoni Gem lying in front of Keoni Gem, Blue boy Akuma rear right.

Postscript: Since writing this, Lee and Cheryl have been informed that Gemmie has cancer in the jaw and that a full scan has revealed a spot on his lung. That is the “bad” news! NOW the good news – Platinum Jewel (at right) is again pregnant to Gemmie so the birth of their litter is eagerly awaited.



Mum Kauai Platinum Jewel (lilac) and 2020 babies: Seal boy Akamai Gem at back right, Blue boy Akoni Gem lying on Mum, Blue boy Keoni Gem beneath in front.

SHOW RESULTS 2020

Three live Cat Shows before Covid 19 restrictions and two online shows

Results of the only three Cat Shows held at the beginning of 2020 due to the restrictions and social distancing of the coronavirus (COVID19) virus. These Shows featured a top line-up of International, Interstate and local Judges. Some of our pure Siamese results from each show are listed below:

1. Phoenix Rising Show, North Richmond Panthers Club, 8th February, 4 rings, hosted by Cats NSW

Results, Top Placements:

Kittens (5 entries):

Shiloh Mai'u Aurora, female seal point, 4th x 2 & 5th x 2

Owner and Breeder (O & B): Sandra Sweetman

Entire Cats (3 entries) but no pure Siamese

Desexed Cats (4 entries)

Kalinya YM Giselle, spay seal point 2nd, 3rd x 3

O & B: T & B Hurry

Gold DGC Christernee Illyria, spray blue point 4th x 4

O & B: P & Gunczy

2. Goulburn AP&H Cat Show 7-8 March 2020, 3 Rings, hosted by CFA (Cat Fanciers Association)

Results, Top Placements:

Kittens:

Astraxalotte Akamai Gem, male seal point placed 2nd, 1st & 2nd.

Astraxalotte Akoni Gem, male blue point placed 3rd, 3rd & 1st. Judges Choice award by Christine Tomlinson best overall type kitten.

Astraxalotte Keoni Gem, male blue point placed 1st, 2nd & 3rd.

Owner and Breeder (O & B): The Gallagher Family

Entire Male Cats:

Kaluamoa Awesome Gem, male seal point placed 1st x 2 awards.

Kaluamoa Platinum Jewel, female lilac point placed 1st x 3 awards.

O: The Gallagher Family, B: Charlee DC Abrams, USA Hawaii

Neuter Cats:

Astraxalotte Makoto Wulf, male, lilac point placed 2nd, 1st & 3rd.

O & B: The Gallagher Family

3. Cool Country Cat Club Show, On Jerra Pond, 14 March 2020, 3 rings hosted by Cats NSW

Results, Top Placements:

Kittens (4 entries)

Kalinya LD Rebel, female seal point placed 3rd x 3

Kalinya YM Leaf, female seal point placed 4th x 4

O & B: T & B Hurry

Entire Cats (3 entries) but no pure Siamese

Desexed Cats (4 entries)

Kalinya YM Giselle, spray seal point, 1st x 1, 2nd x 2

O & B: T & B Hurry

4. Online: hosted by ITS SHOWTIME, Everything for Aus Cat Shows, April 2020

Results, Top Placements:

Kittens: (30 entries)

Lookatmese Shooting Star, seal point reserve group 2 under Judge: Angela Irvine.

O & B: Amie Hobbs

5. Online: hosted by the The British Shorthair C. C. & the Siberian & others Clubs, 4 rings, 24th May 2020

Results, Top Placements:

Kittens (11 entries) (overall 184 cats & kittens entered)

Astraxalotte Akoni Gem, male blue point placed 3rd x 2, best group 2 kittens, 2 x best group kitten, 1 x Supreme Exhibit ring 4 and Supreme of Supremes overall Exhibit.

O: Sandra Sweetman B: The Gallagher Family

Shiloh Mai'u Aurora, female seal point, 1 x reserve best of breed Siamese kitten and 3rd best group 2 kitten. O & B: Sandra Sweetman.

6. Cats NSW (live): The Siamese Cat Society congratulates Cats NSW on '*paving the way*' and hosting the first Cat Show since the COVID-19 virus situation on Saturday 18 July 2020 at North Richmond Panthers Club. The previous face to face Cat Show was on 14th March. The Show was held under the rules and regulations of the COVID-19 situation and was a huge success. This was a 3 ring show and Group 2 was judged by Cats NSW Judges: Ring 1: Fiona Cooper, Ring 2: Debs Armishaw and Ring 3: Hazel Rossiter. Our 'pure' Siamese were well represented.

Results, Top Placements:

Kittens: (5 entries)

Astraxalotte Akoni Gem male blue point placed 3 x 1st Breeder (B): The Gallagher Family. Owner (O): S Sweetman.

Kalinya LD Rebel, female seal point placed 3rd, 4th & 2nd O & B: T Hurry to T & B Hurry.

Shiloh Bond, neuter seal point placed 2nd & 2 x 3rd O & B: S Sweetman

Shiloh Nalinee, female seal point placed 4th, 2nd & 4th O & B: S Sweetman

Entire Cats: (3 entries)

Shiloh Mai'u Aurora, female seal point, 3 x 2nd Owner and Breeder (O & B): S Sweetman

Desexed Cats: (4 entries)

Kalinya YM Giselle, spay seal point 4th, 2nd & 4th O & B: T & B Hurry



Kalinya YM Giselle, O. & B. T & B Hurry, judge Debs Armishaw

(Further images overleaf. All photos by Sandra Sweetman)



**Above: Akoni Gem B. Gallagher family,
O. S. Sweetman, judge Debs Armishaw.**



**Left: Shiloh Bond, O & B. S. Sweetman
judge Fiona Cooper**

**Below: Shiloh Naline, O. & B. S. Sweet-
man, judge Debs Armishaw.**



SCS STUD LIST 2020

Below is the current list of purebred Siamese studs in Australia. If there are any changes needed, please email the editor, Marion Anstis: frogpole@tpg.com.au

Stud	Breeder/Stud	Location/Contact	Email
1. Ecumene Ziggy Stardust Seal Point 2. Lextris Oberon Seal Point	Valda McDermott Jingili	(02) 9838 7170 0408465427 Baulkham Hills, NSW	Jingili@bigpond.com
1. Elizabethcat South Yumi of (Imp Jpn) Seal Point 2. Kalinya SO Leci Gold Seal Point	Tony & Bev Hurry Kalinya	(02) 4272 7764 Unanderra, NSW	hurry1@hotmail.com
1. CH Astraxalotte Onesimo Seal Point 2. Kalinya Outback Nugget Seal Point 3. Nat SH CH CCCA DIA TGC & DIA DGC & Qld CH Kaluamoa Awesome Gem (Imp USA) Seal Point 4. Garthowen Blue Kai Blue Point	Lee & Cheryl Gallagher Astraxalotte	0407 042 900 Singleton, NSW	lee.gallagher1@bigpond.com
1. Karrina Thunderbolt Seal Point 2. Astraxalotte Akamai Gem Seal Point (future)	Chris Wiseman Garthowen	(02) 6769 5512 Attunga, NSW	wiseman253@activ8.net.au
1. Lookatmese Bon Kurei Blue Point (future) 2. Lookatmese Shooting Star Seal Point (future)	Jay & Amie Hobbs Lookatmese	0490 762 589 49 Grace Bvd Smithfield Plains, SA	hobbsamie@gmail.com
Kaluamoa Ocean Eyes (Imp USA) (Approved mating only) Lilac Point	Sharryn Hilton Fullcircle	0414 567 895 Picton, NSW	sharrynhilton@me.com
ACF Silver AoE Gold Double Grand Champion Puresweet Pacific Wulfenite (Imp Japan) (Now a closed stud) Chocolate Point	Sharon Black Tamjana	0402035965 10 Ibis Rd, Lalor Park, NSW	blackshar@optusnet.com.au
Astraxalotte Akoni Gem Blue Point (future)	Sandra Sweetman Shiloh	0402 409 996 Castle Hill, NSW	sandra_sweetman@iinet.net.au
Lealjo Philippe Blue Point	Diana Bundesen Lextris	(07)49396921 19 Clay St, Emu Park, Qld	dbundesen@bigpond.com

SO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CAT BREEDER?

Sandra Sweetman

The other day I was sent some beautiful photographs of a kitten that I had sold six months ago and it was so wonderful to see how he had developed and most of all how much he was loved by his new owners. I did wonder at the time though, do these new owners and potential owners realise some of the challenges facing breeders when raising a well-adjusted and loving 'pure' Siamese kitten... So to help you avoid or at least be prepared for these in advance, here are some tips to help you get started in this demanding, but very rewarding journey as a new Siamese cat breeder!

1. Initial Costs Involved

Many people have the mistaken idea that Cat Breeders make a huge sum of money by selling their kittens and that cat breeding as a whole is a profitable business....

There are, however, a number of initial costs to be outlaid in 'set up costs'. You need to pay a yearly registration for your Cattery prefix name, along with annual membership fees to a governing Cat Organisation such as Cats NSW or CFA (Cat Fanciers of Australia). You will also need breeding stock to be registered with your local Council as well as other initial incidental costs in setting up your breeding accommodation.

2. Breeding stock

You will need to acquire your parent cat(s). Registered breeding stock costs vary from \$1,500 for females and \$2,000 for males upwards depending on the bloodlines and future show potential. There are also various miscellaneous on-going fees including vaccinations, regular worm-

ing etc., which are normal commitments for all pet owners as well. A way of gaining an idea of good breeding stock is to know the reputation of the Breeder, and also to check out the many Cat Shows. You should see some excellent progeny on the show bench and learn how to prepare your cat for showing.

3. Showing your cat

To enter, compete and profile your cat. Entry fees can cost between \$50-\$100, depending on how many cats you are entering. Depending on where the show is located, you may have to travel, in which case there will be additional costs to consider.

4. On-going cat care

Food, cat litter and veterinary care are the main on-going expenses for the lifetime of your cats.

5. Breeding

Pregnancy: finally your kitten becomes an adult cat. A breeding female is known as a queen and an entire male is known as a stud. If you don't have a male cat to mate your female to, you will need to take her to visit a stud and pay a fee which can vary from approximately \$500 to \$1,000, depending on the bloodlines and the stud's reputation.

Birth: the queen will require a safe place to give birth and its best if you keep some kitten formula on hand such as Wombaroo or Di-Vetelac just in case she has low milk supply or is unable to feed them. Be prepared for at least one night of missed sleep or maybe many! Sometimes complications can occur requiring veterinary atten-

tion. Once the mother goes into labour the breeder needs to stay with the Queen to ensure there are no dramas. This may involve sitting up with her through the night, but you will find she will gain great reassurance from your presence, which is your reward.

Kitten care: any litter of kittens will definitely consume an unspeakable amount of food. The quality of food is important for their health and development, and most Breeders will not skimp on these costs. A lactating queen will also eat more than usual so expect your daily household costs to increase during this time. There is a good deal of maintenance that increases as the kittens get older such as changing and washing the bedding and changing/cleaning of litter trays. In cold weather, running heating pads 24/7 can be necessary.

Veterinary Care: a healthy litter still requires vet care, and many Breeders will get the litter vet checked at 8 weeks and vaccinated and most will do a follow-up vaccination at 12 weeks. There is also the cost of micro-chipping. You will also need to be prepared for any emergencies or unexpected visits to the Vet.

6. Selling Your Kittens

The day approaches when you have to sell the kittens. This can be very difficult when you have

loved and raised them as part of the family for 12 weeks and then they need to leave for their new homes. You will have advertising costs at this time, so you will need to consider this as well, when pricing your kittens. It is wise to learn the average going price for similar kittens, before you set your price.

Despite all the above challenges and costs, breeding precious Siamese kittens is a highly rewarding time in your life. The final reward though is when the new owner contacts you to let you know the kitten has settled in and how much they love it. It's always a joy to be sent those photographs of the kitten growing up and how the kitten has developed.

As a Breeder, I have always had a '*life-long*' love for this friendly, exquisite, loving breed of cat. Part of the reward is the friends that can be made within the Cat Fancy and the fun of attending the occasional Cat Show along with opportunities to promote this unique, beautiful breed. If you are considering breeding then I encourage you to find a '*Mentor*' breeder to help and guide you. There are many '*pure*' Siamese Breeders who would be more than willing to welcome you into the Siamese breeders' world. And a good way to find them is to join our Siamese Cat Society, if you haven't already!



Above: Outdoor Stud cage being prepared for a new stud male



Right: Young stud-to-be Astraxolotte Akoni Gem (Hugo) checks out his new heated home at Shiloh Cattery

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