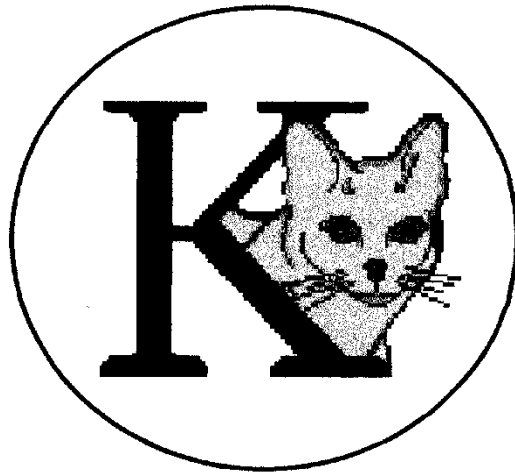


Winter 2024

The Korat & Thai
Cat
Association



Newsletter
Winter 2024

www.korats.org.uk



K&TCA Newsletter

Winter 2024

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PICTURE GALLERY – MEMBER'S PHOTOS



Kanzona Divine Sparks – Korat
Courtesy of Elaine & Paul Evans



Custard – Thai Blue Point
Courtesy of Colin & Gail Davies



Sparky [L] & Bob [R] - Korats
Courtesy of Elaine & Paul Evans



Archie (L) & Yoshi (R)
Courtesy of Angela Adam



Flash (L) & Duchess (R)
Courtesy of Moira Zanatta



Indi (L) & Blue (R) Thai Blue Points
Courtesy of Linda Hill

PICTURE GALLERY – PHOTOS FROM OUR SHOW



Jasumik Chai (XSH a 32) Thai Variant
Owned & bred by Jane Couch



Gr Ch Jasumik Myfanwy (KOR)
Owned & bred by Jane Couch



Gr Ch Saluay Chailai-Sawan (KOR)
Owned & bred by Clare Treacher



Ch Sawatao Cheewit (KOR)
Owned & bred by Gaye Sinclair



Sifsafs Murder Dans Mittens (KOR)
Owned by Jane Couch, bred by
Anne Kynde Christensen



Kanzona Night Brightness (KOR)
Owned by Paul & Elaine Evans, bred by
Felicity Black

Thanks to all members/breeders who shared photos of your wonderful cats! Please email dee@korats.org.uk with photos for the next newsletter.

K&TCA Officers & Committee

President

Mrs Judith Jewkes

Vice President

Mrs Lynda Ashmore

Chairperson

Ms Julie Cherkas

07879 476789

Vice Chairperson and GCCF Delegate

Mrs Jen Lacey

01832 293831

Honorary Secretary

Ms Clare Treacher, 24 Passey Place, Eltham, London SE9 5DQ

07714 279625; secretary@korats.org.uk

Honorary Treasurer/Membership Secretary

Mrs Dee Hillier-Kidston, 32 Ashton Avenue, Rainhill, Prescot, Merseyside. L35 0QG

07921 719001; dee@korats.org.uk or membership@korats.org.uk

Show Scheme Support

George Terry

See below for contact details

Newsletter Editors

Dee Hillier-Kidston

See below for contact details

Julie Cherkas, (Sub-Editor)

See below for contact details

Committee & Officer Contact Details

Member	Location	Tel. Number	Email address
Dr Caroline Bertram	Hampshire	07825 951019	carolinebertram4@icloud.com
Mrs Felicity Black	London	020 7485 1211	felicityvincent@gmail.com
Ms Julie Cherkas	Southampton	07879 476789	jusarka@yahoo.co.uk
Mrs Dee Hillier-Kidston	Merseyside	07921 719001	dee@korats.org.uk
Mrs Jen Lacey	East Northants	01832 293831	jen.lacey@btinternet.com
Mrs Louise Portsmouth	Wiltshire	01793 938543	louise.portsmouth@mac.com
Ms Georgina Terry	Surrey	07342 982646	beeorchidgirl@hotmail.com
Ms Clare Treacher	London	07714 279625	clare.treacher83@gmail.com
Mrs Janet Williams	North Wiltshire	07765 276534	Janet.p.williams@me.com
Mrs Sarah Williams-Elliss**	Retford, Notts	07807 888718	serennol@gmail.com

** Substitute GCCF delegate

Chair's Report

In the words of Noddy Holder

“ 🎵 it's Christmas! 🎵 ”

I hope everyone is safe and dry after the recent storms. It was quite scary here on the south coast and I was worried whether I'd still have a roof on the house! Luckily, no damage was done but it was very noisy!



I can't resist putting a picture of Izzi (aka Imp Gr Ch and Gold Oly Imp Gr Pr Jusarka Thai Lilac Promise) on this page. She's now 17.5 years young but still doesn't look or act her age! She still has that look though 💙

I spent a busy summer rearing 9 kittens ready to go their new homes in October. They were so much fun and better entertainment than watching TV! They are now all happily settled into their new homes. I miss them a lot – but not emptying all those litter trays and Hoovering a couple of times a day! I'm hoping for more kittens in the New Year!

It was lovely to see many of you (and your cats) at our show in October; I enjoyed the day immensely but found it exhausting after helping to set up on Friday afternoon and then clean up afterwards on Saturday. If you were there, thank you for bringing your lovely cats along. I hope you enjoyed your day, and your cats were successful in their classes. A huge thank you to those who stayed to help clear up afterwards. Many hands make light work is definitely true!

This edition of newsletter has many interesting articles for you, and I'd like to thank Dee and Clare for starting the ball rolling to get these to you before Christmas. It's a bit of a thankless task (putting the newsletter together) so if anyone has any input (articles on your cat's antics or photos) which we can use for the next edition, due around March next year, then please send them to either Dee or myself – contact details are on page 5.

Merry Christmas, and I wish you all health and happiness for 2025.

Kind regards

Julie Cherkas - Chairman



Committee News



Merry Christmas everyone! Not sure where this year has gone!

The cats had a new furry addition arrive in their home 6 weeks ago, a 6 week old Poodle cross puppy! It was not planned but Archie was dumped in the waiting room at work one morning. I hadn't planned on getting another dog until later next year, but I do love a white fluffy dog (though he was rather dirty and scruffy at that point)! Fast forward 6 weeks and we are all settling into life with a very sweet but crazy puppy! Kaya enjoys playing with him, but the others are not quite as keen on his energy levels! Callee is most definitely jealous (she's a real mummies girl), and it could take a little while for her to warm to him but the others just want him to chill out so they can sit with him! He can now go out for walks so keeping fingers crossed this will tire him out!!

What's been going on with the club:

KTCA Show 2024

Our 17th annual show was a great success thanks to our show manager Ian Macro and assistant show manager Dee Hillier-Kidston. It was a very enjoyable day for all the exhibitors and visitors. The committee worked hard on the day making sure, along with the show managers, that the day ran efficiently from set up to tear down.

We had 16 Korats and Thais, and 5 Household Pets attend. All the cats looked beautiful and did their owners proud. A big thank you to their owners for entering the show and bringing such lovely exhibits. We hope to see you all and more again next year on Saturday 4th October 2025. (See later in the issue for results and photos.)

Supreme Cat Show 2024

A few weeks after the KTCA annual show came the turn of the Supreme. We had two Korats and a Thai in competition. All three cats and their owners had a lovely day out showing off the breed. Maia most definitely enjoyed the toys she got for being such a clever girl. (See later in the issue for more information.)

Here's what's coming up in the coming months:

Show Points Scheme

The KTCA show points scheme runs from January to December each year. If you are thinking of entering your results this year for a chance to win your cat's category, then contact George (see show support secretary details) for a spreadsheet to start completing, if you haven't started already. Results need to be in by January 31st 2025. No entries will be considered after this date. If you are unsure of how to allocate points, see later in the issue for information.

GCCF Registration rule update

At the last GCCF council meeting a new rule has been put in place that affects breeders when considering mating their Queens. An upper age limit has been set for breeding females. Many queens have been retired from breeding by their 8th birthday, so this age has been fixed as the limit except for exceptional circumstances. Breeders will be able to ask the GCCF Board for dispensation with a brief explanation of why a female is still required for breeding and a statement of her breeding history. This will give another two years taking the queen to her 10th birthday as the absolute limit. The next GCCF council meeting will be reviewing the breeding age for stud cats so keep an eye on the GCCF website for further details on this. (See the GCCF News page for more information.)

New show title for kittens

The GCCF Show Review Group have proposed a new title to encourage show entries and bring more kittens onto the show bench. Successful pedigree kittens will be awarded 'Kitten Champion', and HHPs 'Kitten Master' for three breed/colour class wins at three events on different dates. Rule changes to facilitate kitten titles will be reviewed in February 2025, and a new certificate and a system update will begin. (Again, see GCCF News for details.)

Clare Treacher

RVN CertSAN ISFM CertFN & DipFN

Saluay Korats

KTCA Secretary

GCCF NEWS

The October Council meeting fits in on the Saturday after the Supreme as there are no shows held that weekend. That's enough of an excuse to show a picture of K&TCA's Vice President, Lynda Ashmore, (left) looking resplendent and still on her feet after a long hard day in her role of Supreme Show Manager. She's presenting rosettes to Bjorn, winner of the Supreme Household Pet title.



As it happened much of the Council business was about shows, particularly in respect of training judges more efficiently, as new (and younger) ones are badly needed. But there was something new and different that may appeal to Korat and Thai exhibitors.

A title for kittens



The Show Review Group proposed the new title to encourage show entries and bring more kittens onto the show bench, possibly with first time owners becoming new exhibitors. Successful pedigree kittens will be awarded 'Kitten Champion', and HHPs 'Kitten Master' for three breed/colour class wins at three events on different dates. There was plenty of support for the idea, and after a few queries on practicalities a vote was taken to accept the idea in principle with 78% of delegates in favour. Therefore, the necessary rule changes to facilitate kitten titles will be back for Council scrutiny in February, and preparation of a new certificate and a system update can begin.

Another change at the meeting signals a ***BREEDER ALERT***

An upper age limit has been set for breeding females. Most queens (almost 99%) have been retired from breeding by their 8th birthday. It was agreed that this should be fixed as the limit except for exceptional circumstances. Breeders will be able to ask the Board for dispensation with a brief explanation of why the female is still required for breeding with a statement of her breeding history. This will give another two years taking the queen to her 10th birthday as the absolute upper limit. I doubt it will affect any, but something to be aware of, along with the possibility that at the next meeting there may be discussion on the length of time a male is used for stud.

No special Korat/Thai news this time so a chance to welcome 3 new breeds that have joined the GCCF family.



The **American Curl, Transylvanian and Kurilian Bobtail** (as pictured above) now have their paws on the first rung of GCCF's ladder to breed recognition. The Chair announced at the start of the meeting that breeders of each had applied for a Breed Name (which allows registration) and the Board had approved this following the recommendations of the Genetics Committee. They may be at GCCF shows on exhibition or in Pedigree Pet classes so there's a chance to see them.

The full report of October's Council Meeting can be found here:

<https://www.gccfcats.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/October-Council-Report-2024-1.pdf>

Jen Lacey ((K&TCA Delegate to Council).

K&TCA's Show Points & Awards Scheme

This scheme relies on you telling Georgina Terry about your show successes. Points are allocated for wins at all GCCF shows throughout the year and runs from January to December. Make sure you send George your points after a show or keep a list yourself to submit at the end of the year.

All results will be needed by 31 January 2025 to participate

What The Show Scheme Support Needs

The information needed to place the cat into the correct category is: Date/Name of Show; Name/Title of cat; breed [Korat or Thai (the GEMS code is best)]; Adult/Kitten/Neuter; Male or Female. Then which awards it won and the points, although we are happy to allocate points for you once we have all the other information.

What Rewards Will You Get?

Special laminated certificates are awarded to the winners of each category:

- * Best Male Adult; Best Male Neuter; Best Male Kitten
- * Best Female Adult; Best Female Neuter; Best Female Kitten
- * Best Breeder, and Runner Up, awarded to Breeders with the most overall points.

The Certificates are awarded at the AGM each year, along with the Title Rosettes (see below). To encourage you all to send in your results, a reminder of the points follows. Breeders can include cats bred, but no longer owned, by them.

Special K&TCA Club Rosettes for Change of Title

As a club member you are entitled to claim a special rosette each time your cat gains a new title, e.g. Champion, Premier, Grand Champion, Grand Premier, etc. Your cat's title and full pedigree name will be printed on the tails of the rosette. Title rosettes for achievements during 2024 will be presented at the 2025 AGM.

The Points Allocation

BREED CLASS – Kitten, Adult or Neuter

Awarded CC, PC, or 1st in Kitten Class = 20 points

2nd Place = 10 points

3rd Place = 5 points

GRAND CLASS - Adult or Neuter

Awarded Grand [CC or PC] or UKGR = 30 points

Reserve Grand = 20 points

Withheld Certificate = 10 points

IMPERIAL CLASS - Adult or Neuter

Awarded Imperial Grand [CC or PC] = 40 points

Reserve Imperial = 30 points

Withheld Certificate = 15 points

OLYMPIAN CLASS - Adult or Neuter

Awarded Olympian = 50 points

Reserve Olympian = 40 points

3rd Place in Olympian = 30 points

4th Place in Olympian = 20 points

5th Place in Olympian = 10 points

OTHER AWARDS

Best of Breed award = 20 points

Best of Variety Section 4 Adult, Kitten, Neuter = 30 points

Overall BOV = 40 points

Overall Best in Show = 50 points

Overall Best of Best (Joint Shows) = 50 points

Send details to Georgina Terry by 31st January 2025

beeorchidgirl@hotmail.com

If notification is not sent, no points will be awarded

Korat & Thai Cat Association 17th Championship Show

Saturday 5th October 2024

**OVERALL BEST IN SHOW
PEDIGREE
IGC SALUAY SAENG LALI SAWAN (KOR)**



**OVERALL BEST IN SHOW
HOUSEHOLD PET
IGMC RUPERT (NPL a)**



Pedigree

Adult

**IGC SALUAY SAENG
LALI SAWAN (KOR)**



Kitten

**JASUMIK PETIT FLEUR
(KOR)**



Neuter

**SERENNOL JENANCA-
CHINDA (KOR)**



Household Pets

**Non-Pedigree Pet
IGMC RUPERT (NPL a)**

**Pedigree Pet
BEAR (PPS a)**

Olympian Class

**AV Imperial Grand Premier Neuter Female –
Judge: Mrs S Tokens
Oly – IGR CH SALUAY SAENG LALI SAWAN (KOR)**



ADULTS

Imperial Grand Champion Class

Grand Champion Adult Female – Judge: Mrs S Token

Imp – GR CH JASUMIK MYFANWY (KOR)

Res – GR CH SALUAY CHAILAI-SAWAN (KOR)

Grand Champion Classes

Korat Champion Adult Male – Judge: Miss C White

Grand – CH KANZONA OTTO (KOR)

Korat Champion Adult Female – Judge: Miss C White

Grand – CH SAWATAO CHEEWIT (KOR)

Res – CH DARIKA PHONG BOONNAM MIGNON (KOR)

Thai Blue Point Champion Adult Female – Judge: Mr S Crow

Grand – CH JUSARKA FOLLOW-THE-DREAM (TAI a 33)

2nd, Res w/h – CH JASUMIK BLODWEN (TAI a 33)

Breed Classes

Korat Adult Male – Judge: Miss C White

CC - SAWATAO CHU BAKA (KOR)

Korat Adult Female – Judge: Miss C White

BOB – IGR CH SALUAY SAENG LALI SAWAN (KOR)

Thai Blue Point Adult Female – Judge: Miss C White

BOB – CH JUSARKA FOLLOW-THE-DREAM (TAI a 33)

CC – JASUMIK RHIANNON (TAI a 33)



CH Darika Phong Boonnam
Mignon (KOR) (IMP)



Sawatao Chu Baka (KOR)



CH Jusarka Follow-the-
Dream (TAI a 33)

KITTENS

Breed Classes

Korat Kitten 14 wks – 6 months Female – Judge: Mr S Crow

1st & BOB – JASUMIK PETIT FLEUR (KOR)

Korat Kitten 6-9 months Male – Judge: Mr S Crow

1st & BOB – SIFSAFS MURDER DANS MITTENS (KOR)



Kanzona Divine Sparks (KOR)

NEUTERS

Breed Classes

Korat Neuter Male – Judge: Mrs S Tokens

PC – KANZONA DIVINE SPARKS (KOR)

2nd – KANZONA NIGHT BRIGHTNESS (KOR)

Korat Neuter Female – Judge: Mrs S Tokens

PC & BOB – SERENNOL JENANCA-CHINDA (KOR)

***Grateful thanks to both Clare Treacher and Louise Portsmouth
for this report and the stunning photographs of the exhibits.***

Maia's Supreme Adventure

By Clare Treacher RVN CertSAN ISFM CertFN & DipFN, Saluay Korats

Last year Maia and I went to the Supreme for the first time. Maia gained her first UK Grand certificate and handled the different atmosphere well so this year I decided to try to get her second certificate and come home with a new title....

Maia and I started our journey the day before the show as it's too far to do all in one day. Maia enjoys travelling, even more so now we have a dog pushchair for her basket to go in for a smoother ride for her and a far easier trip for me. The journey to Coventry is an easy one by train and once there it was just a short walk to the hotel for the weekend. Checking in was smooth and off we went to find our room. As soon as we got in the hotel room, Maia knew we'd arrived and was ready to get out and explore. As always, she loves a nice hotel room! A little exploring and rolling around the floor before settling on the bed. Maia spent most of the evening on my lap purring, except when room service arrived for dinner, where she just sprawled out on the bed to wait for me to finish!



It was an early start on Saturday morning, and it was pouring with rain which made for some interesting country roads. Vetting in was well run this year with barely any wait compared to last year. Vetting in slip signed and off we went to work out how to put pen drapes up! I started decorating Maia's pen while she sat patiently waiting to go in. Pen drapes up, then came the task of putting her Ferris wheel together! Louise arrived to help complete her pen with finishing touches and the display materials for the club.

Maia settled into her pen well and we went off to check the Korat and Thai classes running order.



Maia with judge
Naomi Johnson

Korat Neuters were up first. Kanzona Night Brightness (Bob) was awarded a Premier Certificate and a Best of Breed. Bob now had time to relax before Best of Variety judging later in the afternoon. Korat and Thai Adults were a few hours away so time for breakfast and some shopping. I was a little lucky that the judges steward collected Maia for me as I misjudged the timing and thought they'd be judging British Shorthairs far longer than they were, so I missed Maia being judged but



Bob with judge
Janet Williams

she was awarded a UK Grand certificate and Best of Breed, giving her the UK title!!

Next was the turn of the only Thai in show, Champion Jasumik Blodwen (TAI a 33). Blodwen was awarded a Grand Challenge Certificate and Best of Breed. Both adults would compete in Best of Variety Section 4 Adult. Time for a look around all the cats and see some amazing decorated pens showing off the theme of 'All the fun of the fair' really well.



All three cats were assessed for Best of Variety. The Section 4 Adult went to a lovely 3 year old Devon Rex female and the Section 4 Neuter went to a beautiful 10.5 year old Bengal neuter female. Overall Supreme Best in Show went to the Section 4 Kitten, a lovely Abyssinian kitten, not yet 5 months old. What a great achievement!

It was now time to pack everything away and get a taxi back to the hotel to relax, eat and reflect on the day. Maia was very proud of all her winnings and was strutting around the hotel room like she often does after a show at home. We spent the night in the hotel and made our way back to London the following morning.

I am so very proud of Maia as she continues to amaze me with her achievements. She had kittens earlier in the year and returned to shows in July where she got her second Olympian Certificate, her next outing she won Overall Best in Show at the Korat Breed show and now she gained her second UK Grand certificate to become UK Imperial Grand Champion Saluay Saeng Lali Sawan. Not bad for only 3 shows this year! Maia will attend a few more shows before she takes a show break to have her last litter. Can my special girl achieve any more before being neutered and starting again.....



Maia joins several Korats dating back to 1990 who have gained their UK titles as Adults or Neuter. We have not yet had a UK titled Thai, so I really hope one day soon a Thai joins the list. It would also be lovely to see more Korats and Thai's at next year's Supreme.

YEAR	KORAT	YEAR	KORAT
1990	UK GrPr KHIRIGA KATRINA	2006	UK IGrCh JENANCA MAMUANG
1991	UK GrPr KOORAHK TUHP TOH	2008	UK IGrCh CHANDRAKAN KARNCHANA
1991	UK GrCh RATAEKORA MOONSPUN COBWEB	2008	UK IGrPr MAIPENRAI TAOPRINCESS
1993	GrCh & UK GrPr RATAEKORA PHRA NGAM	2008	UK IGrCh, IntGrCh NIKELSILVA NEPTUNE
1996	UK GrPr JENANCA MEENAH	2009	UK GrCh KOORAHK FRANK
1997	UK GrCh CHUMAKI DAYBREAKER	2010	UK GrCh & IGrPr JENANCA ANJALI
1997	GrCh & UK GrPr KIROPAT SEU SAHT	2010	UK GrPr MAIPENRAI DOWJAI
1998	UK GrCh GHELIANA DENENBRAL TOSCA	2011	UK GrCh THEOAKS MILDRED
1998	UK GrPr CHARLWIN BARNABY	2011	UK IGrPr MAIPENRAI DOC FLOWER
1999	UK GrCh VAYDEL LARN	2013	UK IGrPr THEOAKS GEORGE
2001	UK GrCh & IGrPr KOORAHK BENJAKALYANI	2024	UK IGrCh SALUAY SAENG LALI SAWAN

Our Korat Journey

The first time we met a Korat was when our then neighbour got a Korat kitten named Lily, and it was instant love. David, my husband, and I were living in Camden and we had always dreamed of getting a cat for many years but we always put it off for various reasons, the flat was too small, the litter tray will be smelly, the huge commitment etc. In the end the Korat bug got the better of us and I went about looking for a breeder and was lucky to find Felicity Vincent very near us. After the initial contact with her we were put on a waiting list and about 12 months went by before we got the news that the kittens were there and in the meantime, we had decided that maybe it was better to get two. Arion and Philomela (Ari and Mela on a daily basis) were born on 11th July 2021 and we eagerly got to bring them home just over 3 months later on 23rd October. It was the longest 3 months ever!



Another big dream of ours was to make a permanent move to Spain as part of an early retirement plan which, probably unsurprisingly, was accelerated due to the Covid pandemic and the realisation that life is too short, carpe diem! Ari and Mela were of course always going to be part of this plan, our precious babies. In Camden the plan was initially to have them as indoor cats exclusively, but this soon became untenable and we started taking them out in the courtyard of the estate we were living in and always under strict supervision, of course along the way there was the odd mishap of losing one, usually Mela. The first time she disappeared she went in the nearby allotments and was gone for 5 hours. Needless to say we were beside ourselves with worry but also hugely relieved when she eventually stood outside the front door meowing to get in. Just to know that she knew where she belonged was such a huge relief. With this and various other 'nerve-racking' outdoor experiences with them we knew that our future home in Spain had to be a place that was not just perfect for David and myself but for them as well.

During the pandemic David and I had applied, mainly due to lock down boredom and generally just for fun, to go on the Channel 4 TV programme A Place in the Sun, not thinking that we would ever be selected to go on it but lo and behold almost 2 years later we were invited to a screen test resulting in a 4 day filming process in and around Spain's Valencia Province in October 2022. Without revealing too much about the show, we obviously bought a place, one that we had already seen online that, with a few minor sacrifices, ticked all the boxes for all 4 of us.

Next our priority was how to get Ari and Mela to Spain with us in the safest possible way. Taking them on a plane was out of the question for both of us, too many sad horror stories that did not end well for the poor animals. We wanted to be with them, and them with us all the way. Using a pet transport company was also out of the question (and too expensive) so in the end driving in the car from the UK to Spain was the only option, now we just had to figure out the route. Going via ferry seemed

the best option so David had booked tickets with Brittany ferries going from Portsmouth to Santander. As their pet cabin tickets sell out really fast he just booked a random ticket that was available which was in late April 2023, however when we bought the property on the show in October 2022 we were looking at a 3 month window for the purchase to complete which meant we would have to make a move late January early February, which meant that the ferry crossing in April now had to be abandoned and we now had to consider driving via France which we really did not like the idea of, such a long journey by car with 2 cats.

David kept contacting Brittany ferries to see what the options were but all was fully booked, then one evening we were about to get ready for bed and I heard David shouting from the bedroom "I found a cancellation on the ferry for February!!!" Through David's tenacious nature he'd kept checking the ferries every day for possible cancellations and he was able to change our booking from late April for late February, this was such a huge relief for us, and we felt we could now really start planning the move. The removal company was booked, and we had to organise the certificates for Ari and Mela from the vets, rabies shots had to be done at least 21 days before travelling but we had already had them done in December and now just needed to visit the vets a week before leaving to have the right certificates for the Spanish authorities.

At this stage we were of course extremely excited to go but also nervous, this was a big thing for us and for the unsuspecting Korats. A week before the move the removal company came to pack and collect all our belongings, we had donated most of our furniture to charity which would be collected the day before we would leave and already gone through all the nooks and crannies in cupboards and wardrobes to clean out stuff we really did not want or need anymore and all that was going in the car with us was put in to a spare closet so the removal people would not accidentally pack our passports or any other important items like that. And while the removal guys were there, we were lucky to be able to leave the cats with our lovely neighbour who herself has 2 cats. This might surprise other Korat owners that they would be in a small flat with other cats but over time the 4 got to sort of know each other and if not become best friends at least tolerate each other's space enough for them to be with our neighbour for what was 8 hours of packing a small flat.

Bringing the cats back into a near enough empty flat took a little getting used to for them. Now where was their beloved cat tower and all the usual places they would jump and climb. Ari kept looking up where the tower was and looking for places to climb up it even though it was not there. Seeing that kind of behaviour in your cat where they are suddenly confused by change is really hard and you try your best to play with them to make them forget. The only thing left for them was a few select toys and their 2 radiator beds for another week before the trip. The day before we were leaving British Heart Foundation came to pick up the furniture we had donated, now the flat was really empty and we could sense a restlessness in Ari and Mela and we were eager to get going now. On the day of leaving, Friday 26th February 2023 we had to load up the car with all our essentials both for us and cats so you can image a Vauxhall Astra packed to the rafters with clothes, frying pans, kitchen knives, toiletries, duvets, pillows etc AND then the litter tray and 2 cat carriers, cat food, extra litter, toys and so forth. We managed to cram it all in and off we set around 4 pm with a couple of our neighbours waving us a bittersweet goodbye.

Our ferry from Portsmouth was departing at 21.30 so we had plenty of time. Our plan before going was to take Ari and Mela in the car a few times to get them used to it but we did not manage to do it as much as we wanted so were a little anxious to their reaction. The only time they had really been in the car was to and from the vets and Mela especially was not keen on going in the car on those trips because she knew what that meant, so a long journey like this was going to be something else. From the start we knew we could not keep them in their carriers, they would meow to get out and explore so we had them on leads in the car. David was driving and I was sitting in the back. Now I know that it is probably not legal to drive with cats roaming around the car like that but at least keeping them on a lead in the car we could prevent them from distracting David while he was driving, to a certain extent. And explore they did, it was almost as if being in the car was second nature to them, they did not seem stressed at all just intent on roaming around in all the nooks and crannies and they only settled down as we approached Portsmouth. Checking in was easy and the lady in the booth was very curious about Ari and Mela and also complimented the vets for the excellent paperwork.

We finally boarded the ferry and got to our tiny cabin which was very close by to the car. This was the part of the journey that was the most stressful for Ari and Mela. Being in the animal cabin area with mostly dog owners around us and some barking noises through thin walls and other strange noises and vibrations made them not want to come out of their carrier at all initially and when they did, they hid under the duvets of the bunk beds. We thought we would try to give them a seasickness tablet mixed in their food that we got from the vets just in case, but they were so unnerved by the situation that food was the last thing they wanted. Eventually the following evening they came out to explore the small cabin and had a little bit to eat. When we arrived at Santander in Spain on Sunday morning it was time to get Ari and Mela back in their carriers and hope that the final stretch of the journey would go as smooth as possible.

This was the part of the journey I was least looking forward to, the long drive in the car and getting through customs at the Spanish border! First of all, we knew we had more tinned cat food than we were allowed but we wanted to stock up so we had plenty as we did not know what kind of quality food we would be able to find in Spain! There was no need to worry however, we practically flew through passport control and customs were super friendly and just handed us the scanner to scan Ari and Mela's chips and that was it, "hasta luego" and off we set for our road trip part 2, from Santander to Ontinyent AND we later discovered that there is plenty of cat food available in Spain for our 2 fussy little eaters.



We took the drive in 2 big chunks, David drove the first 4 hours straight, then a quick pit stop to have a sandwich and then I did the last drive down to Ontinyent. Ari and Mela were again in a more comfortable space in the car and again exploring everything while being on their leads, they also slept more on this stretch and Mela had a long nap in my lap which just felt so bonding between us. About 9 hours later we finally arrived at our new home.

The estate agent was waiting there for us with the keys to the property and a completely new life starting for the 4 of us at that moment of driving up the driveway to the house.

It felt surreal and exciting at the same time, we could not believe we had made such a drastic life change in such a short space of time and we still pinch ourselves every day to see if it's all just a dream, but here we are and Ari and Mela have



settled in perfectly well and love all the space they have to roam around here. We love that they can move about freely and unsupervised most of the time, and yes of course they do unfortunately bring in the odd gift for us, small birds, lizards and mice but overall, we reckon they don't do too much damage to the rich animal eco-system here. We certainly feel that Ari and Mela are much happier here and we are looking forward to many wonderful years here, the 4 of us :-).



Should you wish to know more about our story here in Spain you can follow us on Instagram fromheretoontinyent. Also at some point our episode of A Place In The Sun will air on C4, so keep your eyes peeled.

Jesper, David, Ari & Mela



Hazards of Christmas



Christmas Trees Real Christmas trees will shed

pine needles that can cause upset stomachs, cuts to paws and in severe cases perforation of the intestines if ingested. Real trees contain oils that are irritating to a cat's mouth and can cause drooling and vomiting. Real trees need preservatives, fertiliser and pesticides in the soil to keep the tree healthy, these are likely to seep into the water and are toxic to your pet. Make sure you Hoover daily to get rid of needles, keep the base of the tree and water tray covered and make the tree as sturdy as possible.



Artificial Christmas trees are a better option but the plastic needles can still cause vomiting and obstructions if ingested. Trees coated with fake snow can cause irritation to the mouth and may make your cat salivate, vomit and have an upset stomach, so best to avoid these.

Trees are a great source of fun for some cats; climbing to the top and knocking them over is a strong likelihood!

Tinsel Cats love tinsel, but tinsel definitely doesn't agree with cats! It can cause blockages or worse pass through to the intestines and start bunching them up and cutting through the bowel and lead to very serious consequences. Make sure you avoid tinsel or are really careful that your cat does not try to eat this.

Glass Baubles Cats love to play with the baubles and take them off the tree to play with



around the house (mine used to love this!). Glass baubles can fall and shatter into shards of glass. If a cat decides to chew or swallow these they can cause irritation, blockages or perforation of the gastrointestinal tract. Make sure you choose shatter proof tree decorations.

Fairy Lights Fairy lights are the first thing people put on the tree and a must have but cats are very curious and some will try and chew or pull the wires and will risk electrocution.

Make sure the extension lead has an automatic shut off if damaged and tape loose wires on the floor or wall to avoid cats pulling on them. You can also get battery powered lights that look just as good so why not try those.

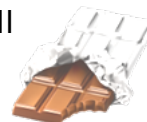


Snow Globes Who knew these beautiful ornaments were potentially so fatal! (I didn't until



a few weeks ago when doing a bit of antifreeze research for work). Some snow globes contain anti-freeze otherwise known as ethylene glycol. If a cat was to knock this off the shelf and smash it, as little as a teaspoon of this liquid can prove fatal to a cat. Make sure you keep these ornaments in a cabinet or check the ingredients thoroughly to ensure it does not contain anything toxic.

Chocolate Advent calendars, Christmas tree decorations and gifts can all contain chocolate. Chocolate contains Theobromine that's severely poisonous to cats. Make sure presents aren't placed under the tree that contain these. Keep advent calendars out of the way of pets and avoid hanging tree chocolates.



Meat string and bones Delicious meats are cooked around Christmas and many kitties would love to help with these!! Some of these like Gammon have string wrapped around it. This may be more intriguing to cats as it's soaked in meat juices. String, like tinsel can cause major problems with the intestines so make sure these are discarded safely.

Bones once cooked become brittle and splinter easily which can cause blockages and perforations of the intestinal tract. Make sure any left overs are discarded safely and put in the outside bin that pets cannot get in to.

Onions These are often put in gravy, stuffing or with roast potatoes but these contain an ingredient called Thiosulphate which is toxic to cats and can lead to anaemia. Make sure cats do not get any of the Christmas dinner that may contain this and discard leftovers safely.

Mince Pies and Christmas pudding All grapes, raisins, currants, and sultanas as well as foods that contain them are toxic to cats so don't let them steal or lick a mince pie!



Mouldy food We stock up on food for the holiday period but quite a lot goes to waste. Mouldy food especially dairy, bread and nuts contain a lot of toxins that can make your pets very sick if they ingest these. Make sure the waste food recycling cannot be accessed and is thrown away regularly in the outside bin where your pet cannot get to it.

Alcohol Quite a lot of this is consumed during the festive period! Make sure you keep this out of reach of your cat as even as little as a tablespoon could cause severe problems with their liver and brain.



Lilies These are a problem all year round but pretty flowers are often bought at Christmas as presents or table decorations. Lilies are extremely toxic to cats and often even the smallest nibble on a leaf can prove fatal. Lilies cause renal failure and convulsions. Make sure Lilies are not part of any gifts or table displays.

Poinsettia, Mistletoe and Ivy These plants are often seen as Christmas time flowers. They are mildly toxic and can cause vomiting, drooling and diarrhoea. The berries on the mistletoe and ivy are far more toxic than the poinsettia.



Pot Pourri Often bought as presents or potted up around the house for guests to enjoy the smell. It's actually quite toxic and can lead to serious gastrointestinal problems, lasting days after the material has passed through. Keep well out of reach or probably best not to use it.

If your cat manages to get itself into trouble even after all precautions this Christmas, make sure you contact your vet for advice. Be aware of these hazards but still have a great Christmas everyone!

By Clare Treacher RVN CertSAN ISFM CertFN
For contact details please see page 5

£Treasurer's Notes

Hi Everyone,

Hope you are all keeping safe and well!

It's been a busy year. Genie and Eva have been enjoying their zoomies around the house. Maisie not so much. It's far too childish for her now. We had a little celebration for her in August when she turned 18. She's always been a vocal cat but now she has a particular squark for specific things that she expects us to jump to lol.

For instance, if the heated bed she sleeps on has turned off (it has a countdown timer of 7 hours). We absolutely know that 'beds off' meow! Or her bowl is empty – another particular yell for that too! Any time day or night; she has no preference for what time she squarks.

So, as we end another year, Mark and I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Here's to a safe and prosperous 2025!



Meanwhile in Treasurers Corner...

Our accounts are healthy, and we currently have 81 members. Thank you to all those that continue to support our wonderful breed. We really do appreciate your loyalty in these difficult times.

Ways to pay your membership subscription, due on 1st January 2025:

- You can pay by PayPal; membership@korats.org.uk. To avoid paying a fee, please remember to choose friend, family or gift NOT goods and services when paying by this method.
- You can still pay by cheque, payable to: Korat & Thai Cat Association and send your remittance to the Treasurer's address on Page 5.

The preferred method of payment:

- A Bank Transfer or Standing Order. Account Name: Korat & Thai Cat Association. Account No: 66677568. Sort Code: 30-90-28. If using BACS, please add 'email' or 'paper' to indicate how you receive your newsletter, along with the subscription year and how many members in the reference. For example: 'Paper2024-2'. If there is no option for a reference, please let me know by email or you can send a text to 07921719001.

It's been a while since receiving your details, especially those long-standing members so I need a little help to ensure I have your most up-to-date information. Please can you [click this link](#) and fill in the online form. The form is secure and will only return to me. I will only use the info on the form to update your details that we hold for club communications.

If you have received the paper version of the newsletter, you can scan the QR code with your phone's camera, and it will take you to the form.



Annual Subscription:	Paper Newsletter	Emailed Newsletter
Single	£9	£7
Joint/Family	£11	£9
Overseas	No Paper Option	£7 Single £9 Joint/Family

Lastly, I would like to welcome the following new members and returning members:

Yang & Xiaotong Yu, London.

Helen Cojeen, Hythe.

Julie Sanders, Southampton.

Linda Hill, Bury St Edmunds.

Colin Davies, Dorchester.

Richard & Lindsey Best, Cardiff.

Moirá Zanatta, London.

See you in 2025, 😊

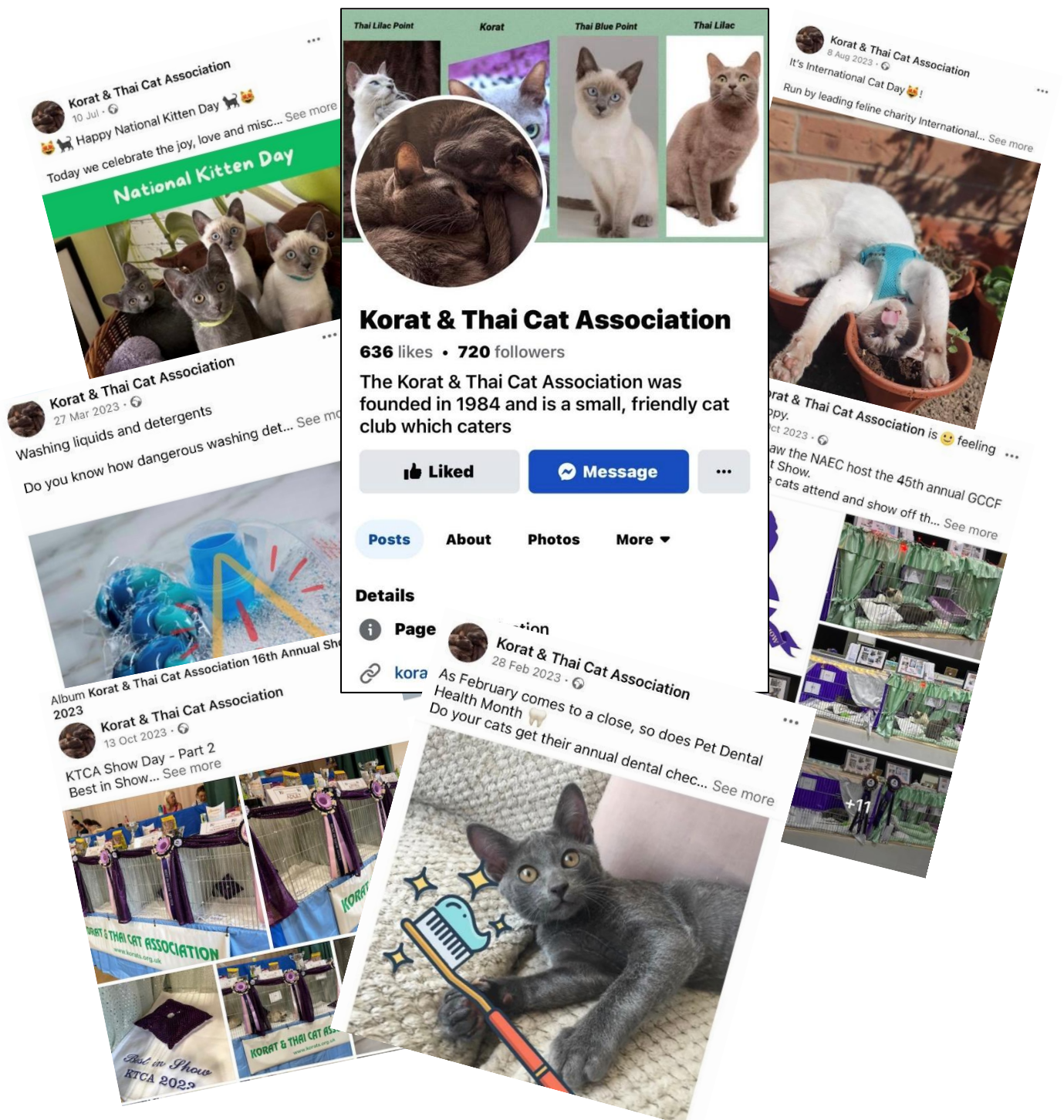
Dee >^..^<

Korat & Thai Cat Association on Facebook

Have you seen we are on Facebook?

Facebook is another way to keep up to date with the club. We post important information relevant to the breed and club, general cat health, pictures from our annual show and a few shows throughout the year if Korats and Thais are in attendance. We also put posts up so you can show off your beautiful Korats and Thais enjoying life at home and a couple of times a year have a photo competition for the winner to be the clubs profile picture. We'll also share other posts we see, and think may be relevant during the year.

So, if you haven't already, find us by typing Korat & Thai Cat Association into the Facebook search bar; like the page and start scrolling! We look forward to seeing your cats on one of our posts soon.



Cartoon Page





KORAT & THAI CAT ASSOCIATION

LIST OF BREEDERS

NAME / LOCATION	PREFIX / TEL NO	EMAIL / WEB ADDRESS
Felicity Black* [KOR] London	Kanzona 02074851211	felicityvincent@gmail.com
Julie Cherkas [KOR & TAI] Southampton	Jusarka 07879476789	jusarka@yahoo.co.uk
Jane Couch* [KOR & TAI] South Wales	Jasumik 01792791207	janecouch60@gmail.com
Clair Harding-Brown*[KOR & TAI] Devon	Clairabelle 07889119224	animalantix@me.com
Helen Hawkins* [KOR] Manchester	Koorahk 01612816482	koorahkliliwen@gmail.com
Cathy Nichols* [KOR] Humber Bridge	Nikelsilva 01482627029	nikelsilva@yahoo.com
Gillian Pigott [KOR] Dorset	Bluesilk 07890555850	gpigott@btinternet.com
Louise Portsmouth [KOR & TAI] Wiltshire	Cattleya 01793938543	louise.portsmouth@mac.com www.cattleyacats.com
Gaye Sinclair* [KOR] London	Sawatao 07814894733	gab.s@talktalk.net
Clare Treacher [KOR] London	Saluay 07714279625	clare.treacher83@gmail.com
Sarah Williams-Elliss* [KOR & TAI] Nottinghamshire	Serennol 07807888718	serennol@gmail.com

* Denotes stud ownership

OVERSEAS KORAT BREEDERS

Camilla Baird	Primprau's	Denmark
Bernd Pollesche	Kobalt	dkkorat@yahoo.dk
		Germany
		bpollesche@arcor.de

+++++

K&TCA KITTEN LIST SERVICE

Contact **Dee Hillier-Kidston** (details on page 5) with your litter information for inclusion on the KTCA website. Please include date of birth, number of kittens born, type of kittens (i.e. Korats or Thais), number of each sex still available and date the kittens will be ready for their new homes. A photo can also be added.

Please remember to let Dee know when your kittens have been placed.

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The Korat & Thai Cat Association

www.korats.org.uk

by:

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy

5 Kings Castle Business Park, The Drove, Bridgwater TA6 7PF

Telephone 01278 427 575

Website www.gccfcats.org

Email info@gccfcats.org

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