

The 59<sup>th</sup> SABCCI Show was held on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October at our usual venue of Knocklyon. Unfortunately judge Mr George Gow had to drop out but Mrs Pat Perkins and Mr Steve Morris-Nash stepped in to cover his classes, our other judges were Mrs Barbara Prowse, Mrs Joan Smith and Mrs Michele Codd – Mrs Prowse and Mrs Smith were judging in England on the Saturday and flew over early Sunday morning to judge for us – we are so tremendously grateful for them taking all this trouble for us. We had an excellent entry of 135 cats and had to ask Margaret Baker to step in as well to do the non peds for us.

It was a lovely bright day, such a change after last year when we had the most horrendous storm which badly affected our gate – no problem this year as we had an excellent turnout!

We had a few problems when some of the certificates weren't signed; we were desperately short of help on the table and several workers had never done it before so there were necessarily a few hitches and some of our judges had to leave to catch flights back to the UK. The certificates have been sent to the judge for signing and will be passed on to the winners as soon as they arrive back, our apologies for any disappointment.

What an interesting Best in Show!

All the Persian winners, adult, kitten and neuter had the same SHEERBLISS prefix, 3 lovely exotics all bred by our long time northern supporters Heather Craig and Alan Bell. And would you believe all the Semi Long Hairs also shared a prefix – 3 gorgeous ISHCUS Maine Coons, bred by our own well known Sharon Saville. Incidentally, her famous SUP TARA GR PR &INT GR PR ISHCUS RED DEVIL, owned by Em Callan and Jacqui Russell became the first HIBERNIAN in the country – what a wonderful day for Ishcus!

The BIS winners were –

PERSIAN – Christine Wall's INT CH SHEERBLISS ENRICO (Exotic)

SLH – Sharon Saville's INT GR CH ISHCUS MELISA (Maine Coon)

BRITISH - Maura Lenihan's SKYOTA SIODA DATHUIL (Selkirk Rex)

FOREIGN – Joy Frizelle's PR ACCLAIM DIVA FEVER (Egyptian Mau)

BURMESE – Karen Sluifers' TARA GR CH & PR ALDEBIZ GINCHIKARA

ORIENTAL – Pamela Sharp-Popple's DENSON BRUCEGRAHAMNUTT (Havana)

SIAMESE – B Tranker's SIAWYE SHERLOCK (SealPoint)

OVERALL BISINT CH SHEERBLISS ENRICO

*The complete list of BOV winners is available on the SABCCI website.*

Now for the most difficult part of this report, my thanks to the many people who worked so hard to make the show a success. I am blessed with an amazing committee, every one of whom worked their socks off; it's a real team effort. Gloria who trouble shoots during the day then runs Best In Show so effortlessly; Karen who did the publicity, Hugh on the cups, Elizabeth doing the litter bags, Alice who does the information table and seems to keep a cool head when everyone else is rushing about like mad things; Alison who sorts out all the money and magically makes sense of it Not on the committee but where would we be without them - Betty who organised the vets was then spotted beavering away on the results table, and Carmel running the table under extreme pressure with her hardworking team, but sadly undermanned, a sterling job under very difficult conditions. But mostly to chairman Tony who does all the odd jobs no one knows about, from getting the judges to and from the hotel and airport, making all the signs and erecting them, moving tables and chairs about ( With a lot of help from Alice I must say) and being the last person out of the hall, after sweeping it out. (Yes, we even have to do that folks!) But chiefly for listening to all my moans and saying 'don't worry, we'll sort it'. Bless you Tony

And to you the exhibitors for bringing your glorious cats for all to see, thank you each and every one of you.

Ronnie Brooks

Show Manager

PS Don't forget it's the big one next year – our 60<sup>th</sup> and any ideas that you'd like to see let one of us know.