

## **SUPREME SHOW 2011 (Show Manager's Report)**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Supreme Show was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Blanchardstown on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2011. Our 'usual' date is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in April but this year this happened to be Easter Sunday; the previous Sunday was Palm Sunday which was also felt to be inappropriate; the following Sunday was the May Bank Holiday and many council members felt we would not get a good attendance on a Bank holiday. So the choice of dates had to be Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April or 8<sup>th</sup> May; I was unable to book a penning firm for April as they were all fully booked with a multitude of Shows in the UK so 8<sup>th</sup> May it was. As it happened this was most fortuitous; I had been waiting for a knee replacement operation and was given a date in March – the change of date meant I was (fairly) mobile by Show Day although still on crutches.

The new venue was a huge success; a lovely Hall, exhibitors with cats could stay at the hotel, plenty of free parking, easy to find and opposite the largest shopping centre in Ireland! It was however very expensive but – well it was the 21<sup>st</sup>!

Our judges were GCCF judges Mrs Fryer , Ms Devereux, Mrs Kaye and Mrs Green, and Mrs Johnson from FIFe. Sally Hume stepped out of retirement to judge the non peds and do the British BOV; Mrs Jennie Watson from N Ireland was also due to judge but very sadly lost her mother shortly before the Show; Mrs Johnson also had a traumatic time as her father was admitted to hospital suffering from a heart attack 3 days before the Show, but Sarah – being a Show Manager herself – was prepared to come over Sunday morning and return Sunday evening. We are so very grateful to you Sarah for putting yourself out for us in this worrying time.

We had a good entry of 105 cats, a nice selection of stalls, a handsome raffle, the ever popular Childrens Art competition and a Speakers Corner, where Jim Stephenson, the animal behaviourist, was in excellent form and gave a most interesting talk.

As 'extras' for the 21<sup>st</sup>, we had commemorative ribbons on every pen; we had a special gift for 10 lucky exhibitors – if there was a yellow sticker on the back of the pen number they won a special prize. Not forgetting the very handsome ballpoint pens generously donated for every exhibitor by Georgina Goodison.

We were very disappointed not to be able to advertise locally but got a good response from the internet adverts (visitors were asked as they came in where they had heard about us and a surprising number heard about us via facebook!)

At the end of the day an unexpected glitch arose when judge Joyce Green, Carmel Byrne and one of our stewards Sasha Maxwell, who had left their luggage in the hotel porters room found the lock to the room had jammed and they were unable to retrieve their luggage. A locksmith had to be called out to force the room open – this took several hours and although the hotel offered hospitality it meant they were stuck in the hotel and missed connections, particularly poor Carmel and Sasha who had to travel on to Limerick. (Joyce was spending a few days with me, so although annoying it wasn't so desperate as Carmel)

Any Show stands or falls with the background helpers and there are so many to thank. Firstly Lorna for organising the raffle (with help from husband Ken), the workers and coming over to my house to help with paperwork and rooting around in my attic getting stuff out when my crutches got in the way; Carmel for organising the table, a mammoth task at this Show, and her wonderful hardworking band – Sue, Caroline, Elizabeth and Alison – thank you all. Tony and Alice Forshaw for all their help setting up and Tony's lovely signs; the ring signs, BIS signs and regrettably the road signs that went missing; Georgina for sorting out the finances as showday treasurer; Karen for organising the Speakers Corner; Margaret who stewarded then went on to comper the Best in Show; Betty for organising Vetting In and being available for advice when needed; Gloria who made the Best in Show look so easy (it isn't!). Mostly a big thank you to all the exhibitors for bringing your beautiful cats and making it such a special day.

The **BEST IN SHOW** winners were

BEST NON PED Clodagh Hayde's OLLIE (SH Ginger male)

BEST ADULT John Archer's SUP INT GR CH SHADANZA TANZANITE (Singapura F)

BEST KITTEN Heather Craig & Alan Bell's SHEERBLISS CONFETTI (Exotic F)

BEST NEUTER Em Callan & Jackie Russell's INT GR PR ISHCUS RED DEVIL (Maine Coon MN)

**SUPREME BEST IN SHOW**     **INT GR PR ISHCUS RED DEVIL**