

Russian Cat Interest Group of SA

BLUE. BLACK. WHITE. BLUE SPOTTED TABBY.

February 2014

ISSUE 5

RCIG NEWS

Hello all RCIG Members,

We are 6 weeks into 2015 already, but we wish you a successful 2015 anyway.

We sent out an e-mail to all Russian Cat owners in January to remind everybody who owns a Russians to pay their RCIG membership fee for 2015. I urge you to do so as we would like to capture the details of all our South African Russians and their owners. This will make things easier for you the owner and for us the guardians of the breed in South Africa, the Russian Cat Interest Group of SA), in case of an emergency or lost kitten/cat. The RCIG is becoming increasingly involved in rehoming Russians, or assisting cat owners find their cats if they went for a "walk". Essentially we are a big Russian Cat family and we are keen to ensure that all Russians are safe, sound and looked after.

Our cat show season is about to start in Feb/March 2015 so should you wish to show your Russians please get into contact with us so we can guide you?

Kitten season has been in full swing since Sep/Oct 2014 with possible last litters arriving in Apr/May.

In winter the female cats get a break from pregnancies, birthing and raising kittens. And many of them go back onto the show bench.

Davanté Russians

Cyril and Vanessa have completed their stud runs and Mr Vali is living in his accommodation now. His regular visitor is the Howell families first Russian Blue, Navi the neuter boy. Those to fella's are happy to hang with each other.

A little Russian Blue girly has also joined the Howell household and in the next couple of months a second Blue girly will be joining them. If all goes to plan, the older female will be mated around December and have her first litter in Feb 2016. So let's watch this space.



Azreal "V" vir Vendetta aka. Vali,

Russians Rule!

Azreal "V" vir Vendetta aka. Vali, on the previous page is the only entire Russian Blue Spotted Tabby in the world. He is a future stud at Davante Russians in Johannesburg.



Azreal Whimsical Winona aka. Whimsy is a future Brood Queen at Davante Russians

Ruskia Russians

The Vet family have welcomed a new family member on the 18th December 2014. His name is Nathan and we hope that the Ruskia Russians are looking after him well.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!! Chris and Saskia!



Baby Nathan and first time mother Sylvie babysitting 😊

Look who's been a year with his devoted slaves

Hello everyone Neo here, I would like to tell you that on the 25th of January was my first year anniversary with my new mom and dad. The year has flown by so fast and I am such a spoilt boy, my mom caters to my every whim and even tells AbFab to **stop bugging** me when I am trying to sleep as she can be a bit of a pain in the butt with her being a busy bee all the time! I do love her dearly but I can't play tag and chase all the time I also need my beauty sleep!

My days are spent sleeping, garden visits with my mom, dad and AbFab and my favourite pastime of all is being brushed and having my tummy rubbed which is done on a daily basis sometimes even twice if I push my luck J

To all my children, grandchildren and great grandkids out there your 'ol man has landed with his paws in the butter and could not ask for a more purrrfect life of retirement.

To the future Azreal kids going to their new homes both kittens and as retired adults your first mom Leanne only choses the best slaves for us and we are very lucky to have had her first J Thank you mom Leanne for the first 7 years of my life you took care of me and for finding me this amazing new home and mom.

Lots of love Neo



Ch Azreal Pyret Prince Dmitri (IMP) aka. Neo

Russian Blue - Russian Black - Russian White

Russian Blue Spotted Tabby

Cats and Colours

Recently I was asked what colours the cats could enjoy. That is an excellent question, because of course colours have an impact on the behaviour of cats. By anthropomorphism, one would think that cats or other animals perceive colour as we do, of course it would be a mistake. Colour perception is present through the cones in the retina, and which are sensitive to blue, green or yellow.

Without having to repaint your apartment coloured spots placed at appropriate locations can be enough to help your cat. Cushions, baskets, blankets, for example.

Studies have shown that the retina of a cat is more receptive to indigo shades of blue and green.

Like most animals and humans, red is a colour that enhances aggressiveness: place 2 cats that do not support each other in a red room and a fight is guaranteed.

Violet and purple will allow anxious cats to calm down, there are also colours that reassure cats at the end of their life, or cats who have suffered a big psychological

shock: a cat attacked by a dog, for example, or a cat who has been the victim of an accident will recover faster in a room where purple is the dominant colour. Similarly orange and yellow shades boost the immune system. To be used without moderation for colds or contagious diseases, but also if kitty loses appetite, orange makes you hungry! Yellows would also be able to stimulate older cats who have no desire to play. They make you want to move and do more physical activities.

What about green? The colour of plants, it would stimulate the action of homeopathic and herbal treatments. Its soothing properties are similar to those of blue, but would also be conducive to sleeping.

Blue and shades of blue are essential during hot weather, they would regulate the cat's body temperature.

Blues are defined as cold colours.

It would seem that an animal who had a heat stroke is recovering more easily with moistened blue towels. It is also the anti fights between cats colour, soothing, relaxing, ideal for calming a nervous cat or to defuse conflict.

Of course, colours are not everything, and like humans, kitty may have different preferences than Felix. These are generalities and in no case more!

A visit to the vet is indispensable if your cat is sick, and appropriate therapy is also inevitable when things are serious. It is clear that if Felix and kitty fight every time they meet, blue nor green will change anything.

This is only a gentle and natural way to promote a harmonious environment for your favourite cat.

Marie-Hélène Bonnet
Cat behaviourist

Thank you Laurence Devergne for the article.



*All Russian's are Neutered & Spayed before they go
to their new Pet Home.....*

RCIG Committee Members



Russian Cat Interest Group of South Africa

Our committee members & breeders are as follows:-

Alma Pretorius (Esky Russians)
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Should you wish to contact us, please do not hesitate.

Regards your RCIG Team

Russians that have been rehomed

Terri



Silersheen Terenti Blue Star aka. Terri

7 Year old Terri who was dumped by his previous owner with Alma of Esky Russians in mid 2014, has been adopted by Chantelle Barske and family who live in Sandton Johannesburg.

Terri is a large Russian Blue neuter boy, who was bred by Carol Wood of Silersheen and is a very affectionate cat. He has the entire family doting on him and currently is an only cat.

A note of thanks must go to Samantha van der Walt who owns two of her own Russians, a Blue and a Blue Spotted Tabby, for assisting Chantelle Barske and her family with Terri's adoption. We are so pleased that Terri has a family that he can call his own.

*Russians are indoor cats only and need
SUPERVISED outdoor visits.....*

.....continuation Rehomed Russians

Boo



Esky Boo

Boo is a 4 year old Russian white ex stud, who was bred by Alma Pretorius of Esky Russians. Boo was uneasy around other males and was rehomed with his female friend Jade in the beginning of last year. Their owners had to move and with complexes not allowing people to own pets, they had to go back to Alma.

Tristan Voss from Cape Town fell for lovely Boo and enquired whether he could adopt Boo. At that stage we have search far and wide for a home willing to adopt both Boo and Jade but nobody seemed interested.

Boo will join Tristan and Nishka in March 2015! Thank you so much Tristan for opening your heart to Boo and we wish you, Nishka and Boo a lot of love and cuddles.

Jay



Azreal Jalayla JustaStar aka. Jay

Jay is a 2½ year old Russian Spay female who went to Galen Grassi as a 12 week old kitten in early 2013 as a show Russian. Sadly Galen will be moving into a new place soon where once again people are not permitted to have pets.

Luckily for Jay, a lady enquired about adopting a Russian just a week before Jay came up for rehoming. Caitlin de Kok went to meet Galen and Jay, and decided there and then that Jay is her kind of soul, friendly and easy going.

Jalayla has moved in with Caitlin just a little over a week ago and is starting to settle in her new forever home.

We thank each of you for opening your heart to a Russian.

From time to time Russians do come up for rehoming.

Russians Rule.....

A bit of news from our counterparts in France ☺

A Wonderful Blue Day

AICR (International Association of the Russian Cat), the French RUS breed club had its RUS Special on 8 February.

(In France, there is only one breed: RUS which includes the 4 varieties: Russian Blue, Russian Black, Russian White and Nebelung.)

We were all a bit anxious as 20 RUS was the minimum number of cats required for this Special.

32 RUS (16 RB and 16 NEB) were present. A record! There has never been a cat show with that many RUS since the breed was introduced in France. Sadly there was no Russian Black or White. Those 2 varieties are even more confidential in France than the other 2.

There were several breeders as well as pet owners for whom as well as their kittens it was the very first time to go to a show. A NEB breeder came from Portugal especially for the occasion. He flew with his queen and her 4 month old kitten. We also had several club members (pet owners) who came (cat less) just to spend the day with us, travelling great distances for some.

The whole day was a blast. Time flew at light speed. Everybody was simply so happy to be together, to meet, to chat, to admire the RUS beauties present as well as those left at home (there was a lot of pictures showing on mobile phones).

The public was there too, eager to talk to exhibitors and asking questions about the breed. 2 699 visitors were recorded.

The RUS were judged by All Breed judge Daniel Counasse (BE), a connoisseur and lover of the breed. His judging was very interesting to follow as he detailed each cat and when some were competing for the same title, he explained his choice. (Judging in France is "public")

During his judging, he selected 9 RUS which he deemed best.

His selection would be announced later in the afternoon on the podium. However, after his judging was finished, Best Varieties were called onto the podium. The owners went to the podium with their cat and received a rosette as well as a present. Then a full breed presentation was also done by the Club's President on the podium with several cats, explaining everything to the public who was all ears.

Then came THE moment everyone had been waiting for: the 9 RUS cat numbers were called on the podium. The judge of the Special explained a few things to the public and then proceeded with the Special. He of course started in reverse order.



No. 9 – Isil du Jardin des Agapanthes, NEB stud
Also won BIS for semi long hair breeds



No. 8 – Jazz du Fort de la Bosse Marnière
NEB young male. 1st show for him and his owner
Also won NEB Best Variety (= Best of Breed) – Nom BIS

Russians need to be LOVED.....



No. 7 – Gilou de Taïga – RB stud
Also won BIS Honor for SH breeds



No 4 – Fuzzy Wuzzy Asterix – NEB kitten Nom BIS



No. 6 – Igor de Belldonne – RB stud Nom BIS



No 3 – Discordia Modry Puch – NEB queen Nom BIS



No 5 – Quiana Warinja von Ramenka – RB queen
Nom BIS



No 2 – Jiska Lara du Jardin des Agapanthes – Rbfemale
Nom BIS

Russians keep you entertained.....

Just a note on the Russians placed in 1st and 2nd place, Jiska Lara du Jardin des Agapanthes, her brother Joe du Jardin des Agapanthes are the grandkids of Azreal Serafin, who was bred by Leanne Hewitt in 2009 and was born into the first "S" litter.

Nice to see that the offspring from South African bred Russians do appear on the International Show Benches from time to time.



Winner: Joe du Jardin des Agapanthes – RB male – 1st show for him and his owner. Also won RB Best Variety (= Best of Breed) – and BIS for short hair breeds.

"The write-up and pictures of the topic "A Wonderful Blue Day" were supplied by Laurence Devergne from Jardin des Agapanthes Russians in France".

A friendly reminder.....

If you are a Russian Cat Owner, and your circumstances have changed, whether it is financial, terminal illness, or relocation to another country and you cannot keep your Russian. Please contact RCIG in order for us to help in the rehoming of your Russian. Please never just hand them over to friends, or family without our knowledge, and **never, never, hand them to Shelters or SPCA's.**

Cat Humour



Picture watermarks

NB. I would like to make each of you aware that I have decided to put a RCIG Logo watermark onto all pictures that we use in our Newsletters going forward. The watermarks don't suggest that the images we photographed by me, but rather by the RCIG members and breeders. We need to protect the images of your Russians from scammers using them as their own. Please feel free to add your own watermarks to your images in future..... No watermarks were added to the French selection.

Our Newsletter is made available every February, June and October, by e-mail, Facebook and Issuu.com -x-

Russians make good babysitters.....

Russians own you – You are their slave.....

Before you purchase a pedigree kitten/cat, please spend time researching the breed and make sure that you approach an Ethical, Reputable & Responsible Breeder. Purchase cat magazines, visit the website <http://www.kittensandcats.co.za/> and see who the registered breeders are or call the SACC Registrar Johan van Rooyen to find out who the Ethical breeders are. 011 616 7017- <http://www.tsacc.org.za/> Please ask as many questions as you can possibly think of when dealing with the breeder of your chosen breed. We want to stand together against BYB as they breed "fruit salad" cats, harm their breeding cats, and simply don't care about anything as long as they make money of often sick, unaltered and underage kittens. Share this info with your family and friends.



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us on Facebook
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