



Brynbuboo Little Monarch

To start right at the beginning, I bought a queen from Mrs. J. Richards of the well-known Pennsylvania prefix: she was my very first British Blue. Although a normal sized kitten she grew into a very large cat for a female, a trifle too high and narrow in the legs but with wonderful eye colour and good broad head. I called her *Thomasina Buboo*.

Her first husband was *Tralpark Christopher*, a lovely cat owned by Mrs. Ann Winter who lived just over the mountain from where we lived at the time. She had a fine litter of six and one of these, a female, *Champion Brynbuboo Blue Mist*, has become the foundation of nearly every pedigree in Sweden. Unfortunately *Christopher* was neutered soon afterwards, so I was unable to repeat that line.

After attending several shows and critically appraising the breed, I decided I would like to use *Ch. Jezreel Jomo*, bred by Mrs. Iris Johnson, for *Thomasina's* second husband. Apart from being nice and cobby and heavy jawed, he had a fascinating way of using his litter tray which to me spelt character.

There were only three in the litter this time and one, which was very small, died. The remaining two, both males, were very strong lusty kittens and grew and thrived. When they were only ten days old it was quite obvious that one of them had a gorgeous head and was going to be a very handsome boy. I registered him *BRYNBUBOO LITTLE MONARCH* in anticipation! The other one was registered "*Choochi*" and I noticed that when I called

Britain's 1st Grand Charnpion

BY PATRICIA ABSALOM

him they would both come, obviously liking the sound of the name, so when the real *Choochi* went to his new home, I continued calling *MONARCH* "*Choochi*" as a pet name and still do.

BRYNBUBOO LITTLE MONARCH's first show was at the age of 4½ months at the Kensington Kitten & Neuter Cat Show in 1967. On this occasion, as on several others, I failed to witness his triumph, as I asked a friend, Mrs. Rosemary Wilkes, if she would take him for me. However, she telephoned me in the early afternoon to say he had won his "Open" or Breed class and they were putting up firsts on his pen so fast she didn't know where she was! Eventually he won nine lsts and was Best Shorthaired Kitten in Show, which was a lovely start to his show career.

As I said, he was a very large kitten, huge bones and frame and when he reached the age of 9 months he looked nothing because he still had to mature and fill his fine frame, so, after a very poor showing at the National that year, I retired him for well over a year to enable him to fill out and regain his lost splendour. It was worth doing because he did mature and, from the age of 2½ years, went from strength to strength.

He was awarded Challenge certificates by Judges Miss Robson, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Vickers and Mrs. Towe. He became Best In Show at the South Western Counties show in 1969, the West of England, the Midland Counties and the Southern Counties.

To earn a Grand Championship, a cat competes in the Champion of Champion class and, by GCCF ruling, there must be a minimum of seven exhibits competing before a Grand Challenge certificate may

be awarded.

BRYNBUBOO LITTLE MONARCH won his first Grand Challenge certificate at the 1969 National where he was amongst a class of fourteen Champions; his second one at Bury, Lancashire, in 1970 where the entry was nine Champions and, lastly, at the Southern Counties, 1971, where he was also Best In Show. From there he retired from the show bench as GRAND CHAMPION. It was only retirement of a kind, however, because his progeny have been keeping the flag flying for us ever since.

From his two queens, *Ryelands Blue Heather* and *Manana Angel Topping*, his most well-known progeny on the show benches are:

Champion Brynbuboo Maximilian, Best Shorthaired Kitten at the Midland Counties;

Champion Brynbuboo Blue Vinca, litter-sister of the above and also owned by Mrs. Joy Foster;

Premier Brynbuboo Blue Bandit, Best In Show five times, owned by Mrs. Cynthia Bennett;

premier Brynbuboo Tom Bombadil, owned by Mr. and Mrs. King, the National's Best Shorthaired Neuter for the last three years, winner of a Grand Premier certificate, and chosen five times Best In Show.

Premier Brynbuboo Madam Monheath, owned by Mrs. S. Swain;

Our latest kitten successes have been *Brynbuboo Blue Aristocat*, Best British Blue male kitten at the 1971 National and Best In Show in his first show in Sweden; *Brynbuboo Blue Edward*, Best Short-

haired kitten at the 1972 Kensington; *Brynbuboo Blue Maxitwo* Best Shorthair at Amsterdam now living with Mrs. Erika Sikorski in West Berlin; and my own little *Brynbuboo Blue Plush*, Best Shorthaired Exhibit at the 1972 West of England Championship Show at Malvern and Best of Breed out of 15 entries at the 1972 National. Most of these kittens came from litters of eight and seven. In fact, *Maxitwo* and *Blue Plush* are litter brother and sister and were in a litter of eight which proves that *LITTLE MONARCH* is not only good looking but virile, too!

I have found to my surprise and great pleasure that with *LITTLE MONARCH's* daughters, when mated to my *Champion Brynbuboo Brown Peter*, (a wonderful marbled Brown Tabby Shorthair, who appears on the cover of "Champion Cats of the World"), I can get exceptionally good Spotted. In two litters there have been two outstanding Brown Spotted, a female, *Champion Jiminy Jennyanysdots*, who has been Best In Show three times and was a Champion all before a year old, and my own *Brynbuboo Bosselot*, a male, who has so far remained unbeaten in his Breed classes and was Best of Breed at the 1972 National. Judge Mrs. K. Vickers report on *Jennyanysdots* at the National reads: "Garbett's Jiminy Jennyanysdots, the most beautiful Spotted Brown Tabby female that I have ever seen, as near to perfection as I personally believe possible, according to the G.C.C.F. standard of points". Another Judge, Miss Kit Wilson, said of *Bosselot*: "He is the best Brown Spotted I have seen for many years". They are of identical breeding but the mothers were not litter sisters.

BRITAIN'S 1ST GRAND CH. (CONT'D FROM P.17)

LITTLE MONARCH is used regularly by other people also. One of his sons is a *very* fine Black, *Champion Westways Black Prince*, owned by Mrs. A. west.

LITTLE MONARCH was the first cat of any breed to earn the title **GRAND CHAMPION** in Great Britain. He has held it for two years and is still the only one apart from a Siamese and, of course, we don't compete with them although we compete against all other foreign and British shorthairs.

A judge's critique on him written by Mrs. **Towe**, one of our senior judges, read: "Beautiful cat, later Best Shorthair, big cat, excellent type, lovely short coat of correct colour, good tail, good eyes, lovely temperament'.

I have mixed feelings about allowing a cat, once it is a Champion, to compete in the ordinary

Open class. On the one hand it does seem a bit unfair on the ones that have not yet achieved the title, on the other hand an up-and-coming youngster could quite often be better than one that is already a Champion - there are Champions and Champions! One could say that the best cat should win. A great deal depends on the judge.

Having been asked how to recognize a Grand Champion in the making, it is difficult to make any hard and fast rules, but I would say look for good bone structure first, then naturally all the points correct for the breed, allowing for some to change with age, i.e. big ears can be grown into but must be set correctly, a longish tail can look much shorter when maturity thickens the body and legs, good eye colour, and, last but not least, an affable temperament. With good care and feeding,, all else should follow.

GRAND CHAMPION BRYNBUBOO LITTLE MONARCH

Born: March 11, 1967

Sire	Grandsire
CH. JEZREEL JOMO	CH. ALDRA'S DARK TALISMAN
British Blue	British Black

Granddam
JEZREEL JUSTINE
British Blue

Dam	Grandsire
PENSYLVA THOMS- INA BUBOO	CH. TRALPARK AMBROSE
	British Blue

Granddam
CH. PENSYLVA BELLA
British Blue
