



The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy

Australia & Victoria Inc

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JUDGES PROFILE – MRS. EVELYN HIRD

I have been involved in the Cat Fancy for well over 30 years, having recently retired from Judging at the end of 2006.

Breeding under the Prefix 'Frelyn' with my husband Fred, we enjoyed many years of exhibiting our Persians with excellent results on the show bench. Later we started our Exotic program, again delighting in many successes' at Shows, and to this day – I still enjoy this breed.

During my early days in the Cat Fancy, I was honored to be mentored by Mrs. Beryl Chandler.

Beryl and I worked for the 'Diamond Jubilee' Show, and when we started there was not a red cent in the bank!

We spent many a time cooking late into the night to have a cake stall to raise funds for this prestigious Show.

We also ran a 'Crystal Show' with a visiting American Judge, again to raise funds for the Diamond Jubilee Show.

The end result was a wonderful Show and we were presented with a Diamond Jubilee plaque from the Commonwealth of Australia, which is still on display at the Office of Governing Council.

Also during my time with Governing Council, I had the privilege of being Head Tutor for the Group 1 candidates; in fact I'm honored to say that all of GCCFV Group 1 Judges have been trained by me, with the capable assistance of several Assistant Tutors.

A wonderful rapport is still in force with most of my previous 'trainees' and I enjoy following the progress of their Judging careers. My 'kids' (and yes - I have always called them - my kids) still phone to discuss what they have put up at Shows they have been invited to Judge at, this gives me enormous pride and pleasure.

I'm told that my last class of students were 'in fear of the dreaded red pen!' - this I used when marking exam papers, and at the completion of this last class, I was presented with a giant red pen by my students!

I have always loved the cats, the exhibitors and the Shows, and count myself as having been extraordinarily fortunate to have contributed to the Cat Fancy in some small way.

There comes a time in ones life when although the 'spirit is willing', the body is saying 'time to retire'!

Unless one can give 100% to the beautiful felines entrusted to us, then anything short of this is unacceptable to them, their owners and most importantly - to myself.

Evelyn Hird
Group 1 Head Tutor Judge (Retired)
GCCFV