

SHOW : Exonian Canine Association
VENUE : The Matford Centre, Marsh Barton, Exeter
DATE : Saturday, 7th. December 2013
BREEDS : Rough Collie, Smooth Collie, Border Collie, Bearded Collie.
Shetland Sheepdog
JUDGES : Denis and Mary Beardsworth (Maysinder)

Judge's Critique

Denis and Mary would like to thank the committee of this society for asking us to judge at this show. The venue was superb, the welcome warm, the standard of all entries was high, and there was a sumptuous lunch to sustain us on the long drive home. We would also like to specially mention our excellent steward Leah, whose efficiency and help were second to none. The Shetland Sheepdog bitches were judged by Mary, and Denis judged all the other classes.

ROUGH COLLIE

There was a total entry of 14 Rough Collies, which was a good total, considering there was the British Collie Club Open show on the same day!

GRADUATE (6 entries, 1 absent)

- 1 Avery's Zannara Cassanova. This sable boy is still just a puppy, but didn't have the usual gangly, gawky appearance about him at all. His coat was profuse, gleaming and well groomed. His long arched neck led down from a well formed skull, well positioned ears, and a sweet expression. A good deep chest, strong shoulders, and solid body were driven effortlessly on the move. I felt he was a little slack in the rear, but he's still a puppy, and I'm sure that will tighten up before long. I awarded him best puppy, and he ran my best of breed close, being awarded Reserve Best of Breed, and best puppy.
- 2 Scamp's Jaysur Swingtime To Marketdene. A very nice Tricolour bitch, with another well proportioned head, and the correct amount of stop. Another one with a good length of neck - which I feel is missing from many modern Collies! She had neat, well trimmed feet, which is a point I always look for, so a big green tick for that one. She also had strong hindquarters and correct angulation, but on the day, although it was a close decision, I felt she wasn't quite as attentive to her handler on the move. Such a pity
- 3 Lockyer's Ladnar Magic Circle

OPEN DOG (3 entries, 2 absent)

- 1 Scamp's Marketdene The One And Only. Although 'the one and only' that entered the ring in this class, this five and a half year old shaded Sable thoroughly deserved first place, and it would have taken something exceptional to beat him. I love the Classic Collie, and this was as near as you can get. A strong well muscled, beautifully defined dog that made it look effortless on the move. A dog I'd be pleased to have at home, and was worthy of best of breed.

OPEN BITCH (5 entries, 2 absent)

- 1 Scamp's Jaysur Swingtime To Marketdene
- 2 Avery's I'm Posh An Smart Via Vonarkle. A very nice sable bitch, again well groomed by her owner/handler. Showed well, and had all the neccessities, but I felt that her top line let her down on the move on the day. Maybe she didn't like the surface?
- 3 Booth's Jotars Mystical Love

SMOOTH COLLIE

OPEN (2 entries, 1 absent)

- 1 Beeney's Rycombe Jolly Jonquil At Coneypark Again the only entry that actually turned up, but if this 19 month old sable bitch hadn't deserved the place, I wouldn't have awarded it. She had the noble expression, carriage of head, long arched neck, and perfect four square stance that oozed class. This carried on back through her deeply ribbed chest, lithe flanks, and strong, correctly angled hindquarters, which generated the effortless drive necessary. A pleasure to go over, and a pleasure to see on the move. Best of Breed, and deservedly so.

BEARDED COLLIE

This was my first time judging Bearded Collies, but this is my second favourite breed after Roughts, so I am learning more and more about them all the time.

GRADUATE (No entries)

OPEN DOG (2 Entries, 1 absent)

- 1 McCawley and Charlesworth's Brimblebec Blue Blazer. This was the classic Bearded Collie that everyone knows and loves. Majestic when standing, and sheer poetry on the move. He looked like he could keep it up all day. His coat was more than fit for purpose, he stood on strong forelegs, and was four square naturally. Noble head and expression, with just a hint of the 'cheeky chappie'. Good strong musculature in keeping with his size, which gave him the drive to command the ring on the move. Another one I could gladly take home, and of course I awarded him best of breed.

OPEN BITCH (2 entries, 0 absent)

- 1 Ransom's Kirstancourt Keisha For Trystam. I liked this one a lot, and apart from coat colour, had all the same characteristics of my BOB - in a feminine way, of course. Reserve best of breed, and lost out to my winner by a whisker!

- 2 Ransom's Trystam Saint Breaca. Kennel mate of first placed bitch. She was a good bitch, worthy of better, but I have to be honest, and I felt that on the day, she was a bit nervous and tentative, as though she didn't want to be there. It was purely my observation of course, but that's why I placed her second.

BORDER COLLIE

GRADUATE (3 entries, 0 absent)

- 1 Garland's Tonkory Doyle. A strong dog, built to round up sheep all day. Not in the best of coat, but I never let that get in the way of my judgement - unless there's nothing else to sway my decision. Sound and solid both front and back, with a good head, and very attentive to the handler. I liked this boy when he moved with the others at the start of the class. He continued this later in the head to head for Best of Breed, and this won it for him.
- 2 McDevitt's Closheps Opti Mist. Not much to say, except that this bitch ran my winner a close second, losing out - in my opinion - on not moving quite so well.
- 3 Battishill's Tidespring Ruby Wax

OPEN (5 entries, 3 absent)

- 1 Davis's Kinaway I am Sir Matt For Jacamalis. An almost 5 year old dog that was another I liked when running round the ring at the start of the class. Another built to work effortlessly all day. Everything was right about this dog. Reserve Best of Breed.
- 2 Battishill's Tidespring Ruby Wax

SHETLAND SHEEPDOG

Exonian Canine Association always get a good entry of Shetland Sheepdogs, so the task of judging was split between Denis (dogs) and Mary (bitches), and a joint decision was made for the top honours.

SPECIAL YEARLING DOG (4 entries, 2 absent)

- 1 Pierce's Philhope Light The Way. A 23 month old dog, in full profuse coat, and a fine example of the breed. Showed great maturity in the ring, attentive to handler, and used his correctly placed ears well. Good depth of chest, nice top line, and firm hindquarters. Moved well.
- 2 Watkins' Manorwood Super Tedd. Only 7 months old, and his 'youth' cost him first place, but he'll do a lot of winning I'm sure. Best puppy dog, and after a joint decision, best puppy in breed.

POST GRADUATE DOG (4 entries, 0 absent)

- 1 Eldred's Dippersmoor Star Struck At Belthorne. Lovely eyes, correct stop, head in all correct proportions. Supple body, and drove well on the move.

- 2 Marsh's Mohnesee Black Again. Ran the winner extremely close, but I just preferred the eyes of my first place.
- 3 Moore's Santiara Moon River

OPEN DOG (8 entries, 2 absent)

- 1 Marsh's Mohnesee Mackeson. Both Mary and I loved this boy. Everything there is to like in a Sheltie - he had it. I awarded him Best Dog, and after a very easy discussion later, he was awarded best of breed. As a bonus, he also took Group 4.
- 2 Moore's Amethrickeh Ice Aqua At Santiara. I love Blue Merles, and the markings on this boy were stunning, with none of that muddy blue colour that you so often see. Only just lost out to my first place, and when it came to awarding reserve best dog, I called him back in the ring to award it to him.
- 3 Watkins' Manorwood Paddinton Bear.

At this point, judging was placed in the hands of Mary Beardsworth to judge the bitches, and her critique is below.

SPECIAL YEARLING BITCH (4 entries, 1 absent)

1. Garbett's Malaroc Magic Touch. 13 month old Sable bitch. This lovely girl put up a great performance. She stood well, and had neat and well placed ears. I particularly liked this lady's sweet expression. Her coat was of correct texture, and presented well. She moved with purpose.
2. Avery's Lynviews Christmas Joy. Another youngster with similar attributes to 1st place, but I just preferred the other's expression on the day. BUT still a puppy, and I gave her best puppy bitch.
3. Sharrock's Avonwick Summer Storm.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (4 entries, 3 absent)

1. Rodwell's Kimarg Summer Sunrise. A very nice bitch. Beautiful head with correct stop. Nicely shaped eyes, and carried her ears well. Very attentive to her handler. In full flow, her topline came to the fore, and she moved easily across the floor. Well presented. What a pity because of absentees, that she had no competition in the class!

OPEN BITCH (10 entries, 3 absent)

1. Roberts' Kelvgrove Krazy Dreams With Cressilo. I really liked this 5 year old, and she continued to catch my eye. She just seemed to have it all. A well presented sable, with good ear carriage, and the correct shaped head. Stood with purpose, and moved with grace. Demonstrated her lovely top line on the move. Had a sweet expression, and was presented and handled to her best advantage. Best Bitch.
2. Watkins' Manorwood Princess Jazmin. My critique of first place also applies to this lady. I found it very difficult to split them, but after moving them together, I just felt first was fractionally better on the day. It was an easy decision to award her Reserve Best Bitch.

3. Wood's Petara Sheer Destiny.

Denis and Mary Beardsworth
Maysinder Collies