

SHOW : Hinckley and District Canine Society Open Show
VENUE : The Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh Park
DATE : Sunday, 24th. February 2013
BREEDS : Rough Collie, Smooth Collie, Border Collie
JUDGE : Denis Beardsworth (Maysinder)

Judge's Critique

I would like to thank the committee of this society for asking me to judge at this show. It was my first experience of Stoneleigh Park, but I found it very welcoming, and friendly. The show was well organized, and seemed to run very smoothly.

ROUGH COLLIE

I had a total entry of 13 Rough Collies, and I have to say, ALL were of a very high standard, and I knew my task wasn't going to be easy. Each one could have taken the top honours, and on another day, they could easily do that.

JUNIOR (3 entries, 0 absent)

1 Howard's **Shandlmain Pesquero Blue**

I have long been an admirer of the Wicani and Demelewis/Corydon lines, and in my opinion the teaming together of these two lines is going to produce a future winner. And here it was! A lovely Blue Merle puppy bitch. The coat was a bit pale for my liking, but I'm sure maturity will enhance this girl's appearance in that department. From head to tail, I thought everything was otherwise as it should be. Best puppy, and went on to take Puppy Group 2.

2 Malpas's **Lanlin Sieze the moment**

This puppy bitch was unlucky to come up against my winner on the day. Lovely shape of head, correctly placed and well tipped ears, good arch of neck, correct angulation. Lacked a bit of rear leg muscle definition for my preference, but still a puppy, so I'm sure that will improve, and I didn't penalize her for it. On the move, her tail carriage, whilst acceptable, was a little high, and that swung my decision.

3 Malpas's **Lanlin Rememberme**

POST GRADUATE (6 entries, 0 absent)

1 Scott's's **Aniesh Flynn's Top Secret.**

A lovely Blue Merle dog, and reminded me very much of my own blue dog at the same age. Good, all-round angulation, classic head with correctly defined stop, supported superbly by a long well-arched neck. Good strong hind quarters, giving him effortless smooth drive on the move. Showed strongly, and I had no hesitation in giving him RBOB.

2 Skinner's **Nikal Its Gud To Be Black**

A lovely tricolour dog. Another classic example of what I like in Rough Collies, let down only by - in my opinion - a little lack of tightness in it's thigh muscles. Otherwise, a strong, solid dog with a beautifully groomed and healthy coat, and looked very good on the move

3 Aikman's **Welanga Fire Opal**

OPEN (4 entries, 1 absent)

1 Milligan's **Ch. Alfsden's Hallelujah**

I've liked this boy since I first saw him as a puppy, and he has gone on to great things. He isn't a Champion for nothing, and he gave everybody a master class in what showing is about. Strong, beautifully defined, confident, and my idea of the Rough Collie as it should be. It was my privilege to run my hands over this boy, and I couldn't fault him anywhere. BOB and Group 3.

2 Malpas's **Lanlin Ghostly Blues**

Again, another that reminded me of my blue boy, and on any other day would have won the class. Loved his markings, head, ear set, topline, and looked great on the move.

3 Aikman's **Welanga Earth Wind**

SMOOTH COLLIE

I was looking forward to judging my first Smooth Collies, as I think they have that noble appearance that I like. A shame that there was only one entry, but a worthy winner just the same!

Junior (1 entries, 0 absent)

1 Pointon's **Kingrock Claudia**

A Sable Bitch only two weeks out of puppy, but had the noble almost snooty elegance that I like about her, that can only improve as she matures. Good, correct shaped head and elegant neck, superb top line, and moved well. In my opinion her age may have cost her a placing in the group, but - again in my opinion - one to watch for the future.

BORDER COLLIE

JUNIOR (1 entry, 0 absent)

1 Kinton's **Kinaway Memories**

This was a lovely, classic puppy bitch. a little skittish when standing and moving, but only to be expected from an enthusiastic puppy. Full of energy and life, and in my view has a promising future. She went on to take Puppy Group 3.

POST GRADUATE (3 entries, 2 absent)

1 Hamson's **Wizaland Highland Diamond**

This girl is nearly seven, but defied her age. A lovely shiny coat. Well groomed, and full of energy. Her sweet face just melted me, along with correctly carried ears, neat feet, and a strong drive on the move.

OPEN (3 entries, 1 absent)

1 Beddows's **Borderpride Eternal Touch ShCM**

This was a good, strong dog with everything in the right place, and confident and strong movement. Paid a lot of attention to the handler when standing and moving, and certainly knew how to show. Best of Breed.

2 Hamson's **Wizaland Kristal Moon**

This was a very pretty and well constructed bitch, and I just loved her. She didn't stand quite as well as my winner, and her being out of coat swung it the way of my winner, but I had no hesitation in calling her back in the ring to award her Reserve Best of Breed.

I watched the Group judging with interest, as I had 3 adults and two puppies in with a good chance. I was delighted when group judge Maggie Foreman gave three of my choices group placings, and I wish to thank Maggie for liking them as much as me.

Denis Beardsworth
Maysinder Collies