

SHOW : Billingham Synthonia Canine Society Open Show
VENUE : Temple Park Leisure Centre, South Shields
DATE : Sunday, 27th. February 2011
BREEDS : Rough 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, and also Keith and Terri Brand for submitting my name to the committee. The venue was one of the best I've ever been in for an open. It was well organized, and my steward did a sterling job in making the whole experience appear seamless. It was a pity that the entry numbers in my classes were low, but in the current economic climate, not unexpected.

ROUGH COLLIE

JUNIOR (2 entries, 0 absent)

- 1 Franks and Fox's **Danfrebek Amazing Grace**
An 8 month old Sable and White bitch. Well presented, and in amazing coat for one so young. Stood well when she wanted to, lovely top line, well boned, good turn of stifle and feet well trimmed – which I am very keen on – ears used to good effect, and moved effortlessly for the most part. Best puppy, and went on to take Puppy Group 2.
- 2 Gibson's **Knowleytop Blue Eyed Girl For Dipdown**
A 6 month old blue merle bitch in only her second show. Still at that awkward gawky stage coatwise, which was unfortunate, as she is a very promising youngster. I loved her markings. Her overall build and shape were pleasing, but her inexperience and slight skittishness let her down a little. I'm sure she'll grow out of that quickly, and I look forward to watching her develop.

GRADUATE (2 entries, 0 absent)

- 1 Gibson's **Wicani Aniesh A touch Of Glamour**
A three and a half year old tricolour bitch. I have always been a fan of the Wicani line, and this girl was very much in that mould. Noble and pleasing head, elegant neck, and good angulation combined to give her the look that appeals to me. Again – as with all exhibits I have to say – well trimmed feet, which added to the overall well balanced look. She moved superbly, and was well handled.
- 2 **Danfrebek Amazing Grace**

OPEN (3 entries, 1 absent)

I have seen both the entries that turned up in this class from ringside in the past, and knew it was going to be difficult to select the winner.

1 Gibson's Dipdown Jackaby John

A 6 year old Tricolour dog in full, well groomed coat, and superbly presented. A good, well shaped head and elegant neck led on to a well boned and appropriately muscled body which gave plenty of drive to his movement. A joy to watch him on the move. BOB

2 Fox's Alanita Sweet Jazzmine

A 6 year old tricolour bitch with the sweetest of expressions, and the most appealing eyes. A neat stop, and the elegant neck that is another on my 'tick list' of likes. Profuse coat covered her solid and well angled frame. Moved very well, but flew her tail, which made my decision on placings that little bit easier.

BORDER COLLIE

This was the first time I have judged the breed, and hopefully not the last. All entries were well presented and of top quality.

GRADUATE (2 entries, 0 absent)

1 Down's Sheltysham Show Blooms

A 21 month old, very pretty bitch, with an excellent top line, and plenty of drive on the move. Good ear position and carriage, excellent jawline. Well formed rib cage, and a good healthy sheen to her coat. Looked a picture of health and enthusiasm, and could probably be on the go all day if asked.

2 Alexander and Turner's Locheil Sudden Impact

A 9 month old dog. A close call, but for me, just lost out on maturity. His conformation was absolutely fine, but for me didn't quite move as well as 1. Went on to take Puppy Group 1, beating my Rough Collie selection into second place!!

OPEN (3 entries, 0 absent)

1 Alexander and Turner's Locheil Shows Promise

- and in my opinion she does! A 2 year old bitch who performed really well on the day. Stood perfectly, and was a picture of concentration, whilst still looking like she was enjoying herself. Nicely formed head, good ear carriage, and a deep, well sprung chest. Lovely lean flanks, strong hocks, and well muscled giving her plenty of drive and control on the move, which looked effortless. BOB, and took a well deserved Group 4.

2 Down's Sheltysham Shapeable

5 year old bitch. Another with an excellent top line. Conformation sound, coat in excellent condition and well presented, but for me, didn't quite move as well on the day as 1st.

3 Illingworth's Locheil Storm Ahead To Ronanspey

I watched the Group judging with interest, and the adult line up in particular was very strong. I was delighted when group judge Mrs. P.E. Lister picked the Border and Rough Collie puppies in 1st and 2nd, and also when my Border BOB took Group 4. This put the icing on the cake of what was for me a very enjoyable day. It certainly kept my smile going on the long drive home! I would like to thank Mrs. Lister for thinking as highly of my choices as I did.

Denis Beardsworth
Maysinder Collies