

Thank you to the Border Collie Club of Great Britain for inviting me to judge at their 40th Anniversary Championship Show. I thank each exhibitor for the opportunity to assess your bitches; 128 is a very flattering entry for a single sex appointment. Thank you also to my two stewards who made the day go very smoothly.

The overall quality of entry was very high and the competition for top places in several classes, and in particular the challenge, was very close indeed.

MPB

1. Ratcliffe's ARRODARE FUEL TO THE FLAME. 7m b/w. Dark baby who took the day in her stride. In profile she presents an balanced outline. Dark headed, with eyes to match, she has an alert yet feminine expression, using her well placed ears. Good height/length proportions; good shoulders, nice rear angles, correct croup and a lovely long tail. She moved with good reach and drive for such a baby, using her hocks well. I would consider that she has a bright future ahead of her. BEST PUPPY BITCH and BEST PUPPY IN SHOW with the agreement of my co-judge.

2. Catten's BRYTESS AURORA. 7m b/w.

Another beautiful baby who made her handler work hard in this class. Shown in beautiful condition with a good front assembly. Would prefer better hind angulation although she did move well once she had settled.

3. Burkett, Harlow & McDowell's BIRK CROSS TIME TO DANCE.

PB

1. Tunnicliffe's LITTLETHORN CALIFORNIA. 11m b/w. A very showy young lady with a feminine head, good eye colour and well set, mobile ears. I would prefer a better upper arm but she has a excellent croup which leads into good hind angulation giving her plenty of drive on the move. Correct topline which she maintained on the move.

2. Ratcliffe & Green's WILD SPEED ANGELS BAD ROMANCE (imp ROM) 9m b/w. A real fidget for her handler, but when she settled I could see her excellent upper arm and well laid shoulders giving her the best reach in the class. Another shown in excellent condition and could easily swap places with 1 on another day.

3. Vlascic's HATS OFF OF BORDERTREOWE.

JB

1. Wiltshire & Rottger's CALEYKIZ BOOGIE ON. 15m b/w. Darker bitch who is in between coats at present. Lovely front and rear angles on this girl who displayed the best reach and drive in the class. A correct topline which she held when moving, with a beautiful long tail to finish the picture.

2. Friderics' ARRODARE REBEL HEART. 13m b/w. This bitch has a beautiful head and eye colour. Up and tipped ears which she used well. She has a good front assembly. She moves with enough forward reach and drive from behind but I would prefer a lower head carriage when moving. Preferred the topline on 1.

3. Preston's WIZALAND SOOTHE MY SOUL.

YB

1. Yyttenhove's MY SWEET DEVILS EYE NYM. 21m blue/w. Beautifully constructed and shown in excellent condition. This bitch has excellent shoulder lay, upper arm, croup and rear angulation which gives her superb reach and drive on the move. She easily has the best feet of the class. She was superbly presented and pushed very hard for the RCC. I'm sure her day will come.

2. Spencer's JEPHANIL LADY BOLLINGER AT TOBERMORAY JW. 22m b/w. Different in type to 1 but she still moved around the ring with ease, with good drive from behind. Not the front of 1.

3. Carley's JUPAVIA ARIZONA JW

NB

1. A FUEL TO THE FLAME. 1 mpb

2. Cornforth's ALTRICIA TOUCH THE SKY FOR CHARCHRIS blue/merle. A bigger bitch who was not placed in Yearling. Nice shape and moved well in profile.

PG

1. Tunnicliffe's LITTLETHORN SHELBY. b/w. This bitch has a lovely head and neck flowing into a very good shoulder and upper arm. She has correct body length and a gently sloping croup. She used her hocks very well, giving her good drive in her movement. Excellent in profile.

2. Smith-Dodsworth TUDORHURST FANTASY FOR BORDERCOT. b/w. This bitch is very sound and moved with ambition in all directions. She just lost out on coat today.

3. Wiltshire's CALEYKIZ MAKE M'YA APHRODITE

ML

1. Rettie & Alcorn's DALGUISE FOREVER SPECIAL. b/w. This girl is a real powerhouse, she is so welcome constructed. A feminine head with well-placed ears which she used well. Excellent angulation front and rear which gave her the best reach and drive in this class. In good, thick coat which was in excellent condition.

2. Ross's BORDAQUEST DIAMOND DUST. b/w. Very close decision between 1 and 2. Another well constructed bitch. Very accurate coming and going, showing the correct hind movement missing from many exhibits today. Not quite the reach or coat of 1 but overall a very nice bitch.

3. Brailsford's CHOYSTEAN INCA DAWN AT AMBRECK

LB

1. Walters' GOYTRE DADDIES SAUCIE GIRL JW b/w. This girl is a quality bitch right from her correct, feminine head and ears all the way through to her well let down, powerful hocks. Her well-placed shoulders and correct upper arm give her the reach that is so desired. Accurate hind movement. Out of coat which kept her from further honours today.

2. Gorley and Ratcliffe's ARRODARE GOOD LUCK CHARM b/w. Another beautiful bitch out of coat but presenting a beautiful shape. She too has an excellent front assembly and good hind angulation although she did not show the reach of 1 today. Close decision between 1 and 2.

3. Shamatova's TONKORY I'LL BE THERE FOR NASHDOM

OB

This class was full of quality bitches and I was spoilt for choice. All of the first five are worthy of a CC.

1. and RCC. Wiltshire and Beasley's CAYLEYKIZ SMOKIN' RHYTHM. b/w. Beautiful bitch who was shown in top-class coat and condition. She has an excellent lay of shoulder and upper arm giving her the reach I was looking for. Very good pasterns. She has a correctly sloping croup and very good hind angulation. She has a powerful, ground covering gait that was a joy to watch.

2. Ratcliffe's ARRODARE DEVIL IN DISGUISE JW. b/w. This dark bitch is so well balanced with the best length of neck of the whole day. She too has a correct front assembly and moved well around the ring in profile. Not quite the drive 1 today.

3. Turner and Alexander's LOCHIEL SHOWS PROMISE

AOC

1. Donald's LOCHEIL VIOLETS ARE BLUE blue/w. This seven year old blue and white bitch is so beautifully balanced. She has a correct head with well-placed ears which she used well; she has a beautiful eye colour to match her coat. Her superb front assembly gives her excellent reach and her powerful hindquarters give her plenty of drive in her flowing movement. Wonderful head carriage on the move and first class muscle tone. In profile, and both coming and going, she showed the accuracy and stealth I was looking for. I was delighted to award her the CC today. BEST in SHOW on the referee's decision.

2. HATS OFF OF BORDERTREOWE. Blue/merle. 3rd in Puppy.

Nice head with up and tipped ears. Good shoulders. Move steadily with a lovely long tail to finish the picture.

3. Spurr's DREAMWORK LOVE HAPPENS

GC

1. Sh Ch SIANWORTH MYSTIC DREAM JW b/w/t. This bitch flowed around the ring showing off her correct front and rear construction, moved with powerful drive.

2. Tansley's BILYARA ICE MAIDEN. This bitch showed her very accurate movement both in profile and coming and going. However she did not show the drive of 1.

3. Brailsford's. CHOYSTEAN INCA DAWN AT AMBRECK

VET

1. Grant's LOCHEIL ALL THAT'S MAGICAL AVEC COUSSIERE. b/w. This 9 years old bitch still shows her quality. Very feminine head with a lovely reach of neck and front assembly. Her side gait shows a good reach with plenty of drive coming from a still powerful backend. A pleasure to judge.

2. Fawcett's BORDERTIME FASHION TO B b/w. 10 1/2 years old and still full of beans! Although not quite the ground covering gait of 1 she still moved very well and showed accurate front and rear movement and was a pleasure to judge again.

3. Sh Ch SIANWORTH MYSTIC DREAM JW

SPECIAL WORKING

1. MOSHANTA MUST BE LOVE AT JANQUILLOW. b/w. This five-year-old bitch is very soundly constructed and shows great balance on the move. She has good reach and drive when viewed in profile and has accurate movement coming and going. She was placed in a very strong Limit bitch class but did not have the coat today to compete for higher honours.

