Critique – Paignton & District Fanciers Association Judge: Mr D R Alcorn

It was a pleasure to judge this breed in the glorious South West on a beautiful day. My two stewards were bang on and made for efficient ring management — thank you both for helping me out. I was favoured with a super entry of quality GSPs, thank you all for bringing them. There appeared to be a great atmosphere around the ring and decisions were accepted in a sporting manner. I was a little surprised to find a few with very weak pasterns which showed in front action coming towards and perhaps some coats were a bit on the soft side, however this was more than made up for by the fitness of the dogs presented, they were all in great condition.

Puppy Dog (3). 1 Rose & Hunt's Pingarypoint Top Secret at Kavacanne. Well grown dog of substance with good bone, presented in first class order. Has masculinity throughout and strength in bone. Keeps his outline together going around and handled with composure to get the best from him. A steady mover who knew his job well. 2 Mann's Valger Ragnar. Smaller all through than 1, and a bit less together at the moment, but a cracking type stood up with lots of breed attributes. Super temperament, grand head, topline, and well–muscled quarters. Shade loose in his pasterns at the moment. 3 Murray's Winterwell Whakapapa with Worlewood.

Junior Dog (1). 1 Coe's Goosepoint Waddington At Abbanash. Quite a well grown lad who looks to have shot up a lot, and now just needs time to come on and to fill in and deepen. He has a masculine head with good big nose and holds his topline well stood and moving. Presented well, and stands on super feet, but needs more condition on him.

Post Graduate Dog (0). No Entries.

Limit Dog (0). No Entries.

Open Dog (3). 1 Brown & Burns' Sh Ch Magregor Threesacrowd At Pothouse JW ShCM. This is a grand dog who was on great form today. Appeals for type in outline with a noble appearance, short back, and powerful outlook. Clean head, neck and throat. Has the virtue of well laid shoulders and length of upper arm. Good depth and super ribs which are well back into his short strong loin. Fabulous width in hindquarter, particularly in second thigh, and has great strength through his hocks. A super moving male who shows off his balance and moderation out and back and around, he goes with aplomb and rapport with his handler, great carriage and confidence, and uses himself very well. DCC. 2 Thurm's Sh Ch Bryburn Bacchus JW ShCM. Lots of similar attributes to the winner here today, he perhaps scores over 1 in head, however this chap wasn't quite so settled going around or moving away today which was the deciding factor — however, having said this, his enthusiasm for the job in hand appealed to me greatly! Scoring hugely in breed type, he stands well over his ground and has strength, power, and a short back. RDCC. 3 Jackman's Navigareamor Hardtoport.

Special Beginner Bitch (2). 1 Robertson's Kazanpaul Australia. Nice quality to this bitch, who presented a typical picture. Liked her head proportions and expression, clean neck and well-laid shoulders. Little bit long in the middle. Strong quarters which she used to advantage on the move, powering her along with ease. BSB and very pleased to see her claim the respective group later in the day, great job. 2 Duddridge's Ankerwycke Minnie The Minx. This young bitch was presented in good order and handled quite nicely; her owner just needs more miles on the clock. Not quite the accuracy of footfall of the winner away and back, needs time to mature and come together.

Minor Puppy Bitch (1). 1 Cox's Cushatlaw Serendipity. Nice type and style to this sweet baby who has a very positive attitude and put on a great performance. Appeals all through at this early stage of growth, she is moderate with balance and femininity, but has enough substance and body for her age too. Positive movement away and back, one to watch.

Puppy Bitch (2). 1 Rose's Kavacanne At Karwendel. Smart bitch who is growing on really nicely and is great to go over. Well-conditioned with balance throughout, she presents a typical outline with lots of breed attributes. Covers the ground with ease and accuracy going around and is tidy away and back. Maturity and finish allowed her to claim a well-deserved BP, and I thought she looked great in the puppy group later in the day. 2 Serpa & Peters' Winterwell Piha at Pontopresa. From a very different mould to the winner, this young lady was giving away a lot in age here today. Needs to settle to her job but liked her strength in topline and hindquarter; her muscular condition has to be commended.

Junior Bitch (4). 1 Rose & Gaffney's Pingarypoint The Way to Kavacanne JW. A shapely sort of good type who put on a great show and has rapport with her skilled handler. Head coming along nicely and leads to a well-constructed sound body. Balanced fore and aft she's well ribbed up in between. Tidy mover away and back and goes around with tremendous verve and impulsion. Great muscle tone, particularly in the rear and second thigh. 2 Robertson's Kazanpaul Australia. Well-deserved placing in this class, just not quite the impulsion of the winner on the go around today. 3 Taylor & Taylor-Morris' Drysika Cha Cha at Pelenrise.

Post Graduate Bitch (9,2). 1 Waddell's Magregor Wiff Waff. Super type of bitch who moved out with the best overall balance in this very mixed class. Has a good shape to skull. Clean in neck and wither, has strength of topline and shortness of loin. She is well angled fore and aft and moves away and back with strength and power from low hocks. Neat feet. Gives her handler a bit of a hard time, but she's still a baby and has bags of time. Not surprised I liked her now I see her parentage — from two favourites of mine. 2 Birkenshaw's Barleyarch Sabrita for Gilcar. A very substantial bitch of good type, she's obviously very well looked after at home and was just carrying a bit much weight for my liking. Has a well–proportioned head, excellent lay of shoulder and strength in topline and hindquarter. Stands on good feet; close up – preferred the shorter outline, and vivacity, of 1. 3 Roden & Mann's Jacofraze Desire from Keigame.

Limit Bitch (12,2). 1 Ellis' Soellis Fannie Annie JW. This smart bitch stood out but had to be bang on form to head up this lovely class, and she certainly was and couldn't be denied. She is sound, well-constructed and very typical throughout. Feminine head with a great expression, neat ears, and balance. Well laid shoulders lead cleanly into her short level back and right along to a correctly set on tail. She possesses depth and spring of rib, shortness of coupling and strength in loins. Her back end has super width, well bent stifles and low hocks. Be she stacked, moving, or free standing she displays great conformation and type along with a keen and alert persona. Uses every inch of herself to advantage on the move with strength and economy and wasn't going to overlooked today. BCC & BOB. 2 Rutherford's Cushatlaw Charisma of Dappledele. This is another really sound and very well-made bitch whom I admired greatly. She has many breed attributes and was so close up to the winner. Well-muscled and presented and handled to advantage, she was a very close contender for top awards today. 3 Mann's Elfindrew Lacey To Valger JW.

Open Bitch (6). 1 Thurm's Sh Ch Valger Odette. What a cracking bitch of great type, and with a lovely head. Has power and substance combined with femininity and elegance. Her construction throughout appealed to me, as she is balanced all through, and presented bang on form and in first class order. Great front and rear angles, nothing is overdone here, which showed in her economical movement where she covered the ground with smooth ease and great composure. As always from this ownership, presented in first class order and handled calmly and unobtrusively. 2 Cox's Sh Ch Cushatlaw Irresistable JW ShCM. I thought this bitch was super for type. Good front assembly and complimentary rear angles, with excellent body depth and ribbing. Stronger headed that 1, but with good proportions. A useful workmanlike sort with good bone and soundness. Moved out well away and back, but in a hair-splitting decision I just preferred the energy of the winner on the move today. 3 Mervyn's Ir Sh Ch Lux Ch Tomanipoint Schumacher CJW 15.