Critique – Richmond Dog Show Society Judge: Mrs J Millard

My thanks to Richmond Championship Dog Show Committee for the invitation to award my first set of Challenge Certificates in GSPs. I was delighted with the both the quality and quantity of the entry. Temperaments were without exception excellent. I found heads to be mixed with some evidence of tapered muzzles and some very strong in skull presenting a less and desirable appearance, lighter eyes were more prevalent than I'd anticipated and detracted from otherwise appealing expressions. Upper arms were a weakness in terms of a lack of length and angulation. More generally I found some males to be too tall to appear typical and some bitches to be a little strong all over. I found some otherwise sound exhibits lacking the bone to demonstrate the noble appearance. I was delighted with movement on the whole, finally coats were mixed with only one exhibit possessing a real marked 'coarseness'.

Special Beginners Dog (1). 1 Green's Kazanpaul War Horse. Pleasing upstanding male forms one part of a developing team, would prefer a touch less length of leg, but otherwise a typical male with nice bone sound top line covered the ground with ease.

Minor Puppy Dog (1). 1 Smith & Reardon's Winterwell Maida Stone. 6 month old with quite an unquashable enthusiasm which was quite endearing, eye catching when it comes together, good bone and for one so young a noble appearance, scores in front angulation and well off for rib.

Puppy Dog (2). 1 Smith & Reardon's Winterwell Maida Stone. 2 Rose and Hunt's Pingarypoint Top Secret at Kavacanne. Taller exhibit nice tight feet and good bone, balanced, nicely arched neck, moved well.

Junior Dog (2). 1 Coe's Goosepoint Waddington At Abbanash (AI). 15 month male, coming along nicely, good length of neck with good arch, pleasing head with well-set ears workmanlike but not overdone, correct top line. 2 Green's Kazanpaul War Horse.

Post Graduate Dog (3). A difficult class to judge. 1 Goff and Dales' Seasham Live Wire at Shoshoni. Pleasing chap possessed texture to his jacket which was worthy of note, regrettably he had a tendency to roach his top line, which detracts from an otherwise pleasing picture. 2 Thomas & Taylor Knabynnus Autumnharvest. Upstanding male who is a little strong in head for my liking, but scores in depth of chest and is presented in super condition. 3 Pingault's Taftazini Aiden Abbett.

Limit Dog (5,2). A quality class where places could change on a different day. 1 Harris' Barleyarch Pringle JW. Young male liked this outline and his 'look at me' attitude correct bone tidy coming and going correct proportions and shown in first class order *RDCC*. 2 Pitman's Pitwit Noble Opal. Not quite covering the ground as well as 1 scores in well bent stifles depth of chest and lovely neck into good shoulders lovely type. 3 Braine's Grenetrest Canterbury Bell JW.

Open Dog (5). 1 Thurm's Sh Ch Bryburn Bacchus JW ShCM. Not the flashiest but he I just loved this type really looks like he could work all day noble with no exaggeration masculine, lovely head and moved well delighted to award him the DCC. 2 Smith & Reardon's Sh Ch Winterwell Fowl Play. Striking male who showed like an ultra-professional a little too much slope to his top line for me excels in forechest liked his head and very sound going around.

Veteran Bitch (4). 1 Thurm's Sh Ch Valger Odette. The most gentle of dispositions, yet I'm certain she could do a hard day's work, classic outline, melting expression, so very sound on the move, really scores in construction to the fore. 2 Coe & Pitman's Multi Ch Pitwit Leeona. Pushed 1 all the way. Loved her less than cooperative spirit, longer than 1 but not incorrect, balanced throughout and shown in first class order. 3 Schoneville's Balvenie Midnight Rambler ShCM.

Special Beginners Bitch (2). 1 Robertson's Kazanpaul Australia. Handler has a tendency to over stretch this bitch but she's a worthy workmanlike exhibit who otherwise shows well. 2 Lauchlan's Blythehill Blossoms. Stronger in head than I would prefer, but really scores in ribs. Super condition, not totally co-operating on the day, which perhaps cost her higher honours.

Minor Puppy Bitch (4,1). 1 Cox's Cushatlaw Serendipity. The oldest bitch in the class, found her to be feminine with a dark eye many would envy, balanced throughout and showed well. 2 Trow & Jowsey's Winterwell Stoney Trail. Much younger exhibit, well off for bone but not overdone, really scores in rib and lovely outgoing attitude at her first show. 3 McIlwaine's Winterwell Steppin Stones to Benoveor.

Puppy Bitch (5). 1 Rose's Kavacanne At Karwendel. Showed like a veteran and had real appeal, super smart on the stack, and didn't disappoint on the move pleasing head and expression nice neck moved around easily *BP*. 2 Cox's Cushatlaw Serendipity. 3 Trow & Jowsey's Winterwell Stoney Trail.

Junior Bitch (6,1). I was splitting hairs in this class; places could have easily changed. 1 Sielski's Orchidstar Okey Dokey. Lovely quality bitch, really nice outlines, nothing overdone. Well-constructed to the fore, moved with reach and drive, a pleasure to assess. 2 Rose & Gaffney's Pingarypoint The Way To Kavacanne JW. Flashier than 1 and eye catching but would prefer a little more bone and a little less enthusiasm, excellent condition. Thoroughly feminine. 3 McIlwaine's Winterwell Steppin Stones to Benoveor.

Post Graduate Bitch (13,2). 1 Roden & Mann's Jacofraze Desire from Keigame. As I went over this bitch, I thought she might well push hard in the line-up and she really did. I kept her in mind as I assessed the other classes, her day will come I am sure. Loved her size and outline, classic short back but well ribbed and has a depth some would envy, very sound on the move. 2 Elrington's Barleyarch Dorito At Tequesta JW. A different type, but soundness in abundance, more moderate but not incorrect, superbly handled and presented, muzzle tapered a little more than 1. 3 Duddridge's Ankerwycke Minnie The Minx.

Limit Bitch (13,1). 1 Blay's Barleyarch Skye at Longbarrow ShCM. Sound, pleasing bitch handled to best advantage, very clean coming and going, lovely nature, workmanlike but feminine, attractive head, being ultra-critical I would prefer a touch less weight. RBCC. 2 Rumney's Kacela Sweet Ayana. Pushed 1 all the way, slightly longer in loin but not overly so balanced for the fore and rear and moved well, put on a good show. 3 Rose & Gaffney's Kavacanne Vixen JW.

Open Bitch (7). 1 Izard's Sh Ch Yockletts Cordiale JW. Just adored this bitch at first glance, she personified what I was looking for, a well-coordinated HPR of medium size, eye catching but not flashy, lovely long shoulders, a gracefulness to compliment the powerful exhibit she was. Delighted to award her the BCC & BOB. 2 Harris' Sh Ch Barleyarch Playtime (AI) JW. Unlucky to meet 1 because she challenges the best, I can totally see why she has her title. Nothing overdone, a nice size and an attitude that really suits the show ring. 3 Cox's Sh Ch Cushatlaw Irresistable JW ShCM.