

WELKS

Wow! My thanks to you all. The show management was impressed, whilst I was "gobsmacked", at this turnout for a General Ch Show. It was more like a Club show with 85 exhibits making 92 entries (and only about a dozen absent) with many classes in double figures, a packed ringside sportingly applauding the awards and dream stewards to keep us all up to the mark. The downside was that several were "spooked" by the slippery, shiny indoor ring surface that was both reflective and repeatedly being polished by mini mops of furry Charlie cushioned feet. It blew the chances of an outstanding b/t in LD who had taken my eye, stood. The contrasting smooth hare foot of light framed Italian Greyhounds earlier had coped much better. I will write to the secretary on your behalf to seek that there be at least one strip of matting diagonally across these rings in future.

Otherwise I found the breed in gd order as to happy, healthy, relatively sound stock. Breeders have made such unbelievable progress in this regard since my showing youth, in the early 70s, when it was usual to see the exhibits propped up by the handler's foot and judged as a row of heads, lifted up for inspection. Those heads remain really gd. today.

However I did note that the majority were veering away from the breed standard requirements of "toy spaniel"; "legs short"; "compact and cobby" and "driving from behind." The adult Charlie is not tall; not cumbersome or lethargic; not long loined; not curly coated.

Thanks to the numbers I was able to demonstrate in both Challenges my interpretation of these terms as the line-ups were even & lookalikes. That may be satisfying for me but it does also demonstrate that there are plenty out there that continue to conform to the standard and that is entirely down to the dedication & commitment to this special breed that so many of you have shown over the decades. The Charlie remains in safe hands.

MPD(4,1)

1st: Essex's Chacombe Royal Gift To Brendek

Gorgeous, cobby 7m tri to start the day; pleasing head & eye; big nose pad; gd bone; deep; sturdy & well coupled; well marked; kept his shape on the move; hugely promising as were all his siblings who share the same sire as does Ch Theo, no less.

2nd: Pennington & Ashburn's Chacombe Whats Wanted At Tudorhurst

Described as "6 months" but actually the tri litter brother; loved his character; actually more stunning in head that was fabulously expressive; also well marked and well made; just not as forward in his body development.

3rd: Stewart & Lloyd's Cwmhaf Peter Grimes With Marchog. Naf, Taf

PD(8,2)

1st: Schilizzi & Healy-Gates' Chacombe Retained Asset

Such a brave choice of name but Diana knew! All you could ask for at 7m and the most forward of the sibling tri trio; truly beautiful; super headed; deep, cobby body; great bone & feet; went so well & true; a future Champion, for sure, that I considered for more today. BPIB.

2nd: Chacombe R G To B.

3rd: House's Stonepit Bradley At Triciaville.

Another half-brother btw!

JD(6,1)

1st: Fry & Jackson's Amantra Treasury

Blended developing on quality lines; well marked; ex head & expression; gd conformation; long silky coat; sound & stylish; so typical of the consistency of his breeding and I am indebted to Di for my Charlie education & unwavering encouragement. RIP Di.

2nd: Johnson's Tomodachi Of Alambra (Imp. Ita)

Younger b/t with a lovely headpiece & healthily large open nostrils; well marked; level; gd size & type; his immaturity showed; can still firm in front.

3rd: Champion's Stonepit Buster Keeton

PGD(10,3)

1st: Pascoe's Cavella Cookie Of Cwmtirion

Tri of 2.5 yrs; v gd type overall & of gd size; gd balance of skull & muzzle; correct facial features; cobby; well boned; plenty of drive.

2nd: Dawson & Jones' Caspin's Calico For Pomelo

Engaging chap with his happy outlook; another scoring in head & eye; gd structure & bone; longer cast & not always keeping such a sharp outline.

3rd: House's Stonepit Earl Spencer At Triciaville

LD(13,1)

1st: Sidgwick's Paulian Patented

Another Teddie son! 4yrs tri & a true toy spaniel; glorious headpiece; perfect expression thanks to a correctly placed & sized eye & nosepad; well broken markings; combines refinement with compactness of form; short & level; can carry more condition to advantage and wasn't in full coat; came into his own on the move that was exceptionally true but also free & active with drive. Reserve Dog CC.

2nd: Mochrie's Downsbank Guthrie JW

Super type & style; tri of 2yrs; v. well constructed; quality head with well spaced features; prefer touch more finish of face; gd bone & depth; touch longer cast but there was no mistaking his intense breed type that raises a dog to CC quality.

3rd: Singleton's Silverholme Byron Celxo

OD(8,0) Here the completion went up a notch!

1st: Ryan's Ir/Int Ch Charnell Brando At Cavalli

Another Charlie that can move like Theo? Don't be ridiculous! Well this 3.5 yrs blen just did and made me smile as he powered round on the soundest of legs & feet, his muscled quarters giving such accuracy & drive; often that ability indicates length through loin but this d. was well coupled & compact with gd bone & feet & plenty of depth; attractive head, well carried, with ex eye and large nosepad; clean fronted on strong, straight bone; in full, well-broken coat, immaculately presented & with a handler in absolute harmony with his pace. I would expect the roar that went up as I awarded him the CC could be heard in Munster! Dog CC & BOB with many favourable comments around the Group ring.

2nd: Askins, Kendall & Vallila's Int/Multi-titled Ch Headra's Chocolate D Lite (Re Imp)

Strikingly mature tri now rising 7yrs and hence has thickened through his body with some extra condition that cost him for top honours since he loses nothing for breed specific type; sound & stylish; well boned; ex feet; deep & compact; beautiful head & eye; well coated; one to be proud of as a breed ambassador and I predict capable of annexing CCs from veteran once fighting fit.

3rd: Pennington's Ch Tudorhurst Diamond.

MPB(6,0)

1st: Sidgwick's Corrinwood Chloe Of Paulian

Prettiest 6m tri; correct in head; expressive eye; lovely cobby shape; ample bone; carried herself well; short in back & leg; nothing worth changing. BPB

2nd:Lloyd,Dawson & Jones' Cwmhaf Te Kanawa Naf, Taf

7m tri; superb head & skull; gd eye; well broken markings; developed in rib; just a little longer cast but equally promising.

3rd: Byer's Simannie Sweet Anneka

PB(9,2)

1st:Singleton's Celxo Crème Brulee

Tri Theo daughter of 11m; everything to like about her; she has the desired head & body shape; well broken; short; level; moved out well on gd bone & feet; has an obvious future.

2nd: Byers' Simannie Sweet Antigone

V useful dual purpose type in that she already has the look of a producer; great structure behind a decent head; level; deep; well ribbed; gd bone & feet; combines substance with quality.

3rd: Dawson & Jones' Celxo Crème de la Crème For Pomelo

JB(9,0)

1st: Champion's Stonepit Lilian Gist

Tri b. barely out of puppy; gd head & eye; ex body shape; has depth; short,level back; sound & showy on the move.

2nd: Pennington's Tudorhurst Pearl

Attractive blen; typical in head and choc full of type as befits her breeding, being a repeat of the super Ch that stood 3rd in OD; well broken, quality coat; has the required depth & bone; just that bit longer cast.

3rd:Dix's Beewye Precious Perdita

PGB(10,2)

1st:Schilizzi & Healy-Gates' Baldragon Envy Me Of Chacombe

Tri of 2.5 yrs with an "enviable" look that befits her "in the purple" breeding of Ch Theo ex Ch Miss Dior; gd skull & facial features; prefer more width of muzzle; flowing neck & backline; level; super structure; gd bone; compact; well angulated; combines type with substance & femininity; sound moving; will surely advance through the ranks to challenge the best.

2nd: Essex's Tudorhurst Beatrice At Brendek

Gorgeous head with textbook eye & expression. gd bone & feet; has depth; level; so much to like about her & her structure; just that bit longer.

3rd: Dix's Beewye Penelope Pitstop

LB(6,1)

1st: Stone's Maynorth Love Song

Tri daughter of Ch Amantra Character of 3.5yrs; so typical of the consistently high standard this kennel has produced since the year dot! For those in doubt as to the meaning, then this b. defines the word "cobby"; correct size; expressive face; scores with her well knit frame from her deep, wide chest, to her short level back & her short thick loin; muscled quarters; well padded feet. In the final challenge she struggled to perform on this surface, whilst the OB retained her poise & balance, but she is so worth a title. Reserve Bitch CC.

2nd:Stewart's Marchog Mimi Bon Bon

3yrs b/t; such gd. conformation & sound structure; dead level & short; super face with well spaced, suitably sized, features; balanced angulation both ends;

absolutely true moving; could carry more condition, accentuated by being devoid of coat.

3rd: Mochrie's Downsbank Evensong

OB(3,0)

1st: Goodwin's Ch Maibee Clementine Of Lanola. Sh Cm

This tri is still looking the business at 5.5yrs; ideal size; loveliest of heads; correct skull & eye; flowing bodylines yet compact & cobby; has deep, wide chest; short loin; level; strong quarters; gd bone & feet; sound & showy to take Bitch Challenge Certificate but there was just that hint of flatness against the vitality of the younger Dog with a view to the Group.

2nd: Robinson's Ch Baldragon She Demands

Fabulously elegant & feminine with a super head; she is longer cast, accentuated by being out of coat; well broken; ex feet; plenty of drive & style though less clean in front; has an ex overall conformation to take the eye.

3rd: Mochrie's Downsbank Valentina

HOWARD OGDEN