

SOUTHERN COUNTIES 2008
King Charles Spaniel

With a recession just lurking around the corner and spiralling petrol costs many might find it less easy to attend shows and therefore I genuinely appreciated the excellent entry. I noticed a definite improvement in movement and general soundness and there were hardly any true "shockers" one used to see so commonly in the past.

Unfortunately it appears that the stigma of unsoundness still sticks to the breed, in particular with people from outside and it is up to breeders and judges alike to prove them wrong. I could not help thinking that there were many mediocre heads and large heads with correct dome, plush gentle faces and curvy lines where rather in the minority. I also found quite a few exhibits in poor body condition, some far too thin and lacking muscle tone. Temperaments were in general satisfying and I rewarded showmanship.

PD (8,3) 1 Waters & Robins Maibee Teddie, truly impressive tricolour of classical type, large head with good dome, low-set years, softest of expression, strong neck, already well rounded rib-cage, firm hind-quarters, attractive markings, jolly attitude and strides out well, I see from the catalogue that his breeding cleverly combines two of the strongest lines in the breed, really exciting prospect, I will watch his future with interest, only wish he was mine BP & R.CC . 2 Gillhespy's Lorphil Copper Sunrise, smart Ruby with lovely head and expression, dark large eyes, beautiful shape and outline,

shows with confidence, just needs time to body up, genuinely unlucky to meet

1. 3 Askin's Headra's Chocolate D'Lite.

JD (3): 1 Leach Amantra Carte Blanche, shapely Blenheim with sufficiently large head, correct nose-placement and lustrous dark eyes, excellent size, shows with confidence, moved well but needs time to body up, scored in temperament over 2 Maddison's Alambra Rich Ruby, up to size mature Ruby, very good bone and sturdy frame, lovely coat and colour, needs to gain more confidence, 3 Rex-Parkes Rocquencourt Razzle Dazzle.

PGD (8,1): 1 Goodwin's Tucherish Stanley Diggle, mature tricolour with cobby body, large masculine head with good expression, low set ears, strong neck and firm top-line, well angulated hindquarters, scores on his excellent side-gait with good drive, well presented, excellent showmanship . 2 Sellen's Levicos George, pleasing Tricolour quite similar in type but preferred head of 1, scores on his excellent substance and very good bone, placed for his masculinity and better under-jaw over 3 Gillhespy's & Mallow's Tucherish Jolyon.

LD (10): 1 Stewart's Kasamanda Celtic Connexion to Marchog, glamorous attractively marked Tricolour with large masculine head, good dome, excellent filling under the eye and well cushioned jaw, sufficiently large, dark eyes, sufficient neck, firm top-line, strong hindquarters, shown in full coat and well presented . 2 Lloyd's CwmaF Forty

Second Street, medium sized sound Blenheim of honest type, scores on his cobby body and good bone, pleasing head with sufficient dome and sufficiently large eyes, strong hindquarters, moves well but preferred coat and presentation of 1 but scored in topline over 3 Moss Amantra Dickens with Sombur.

OD (6, 1) 1 Fry's Ch. Check Mate Amantra, tricolour of the highest quality, has got all the attributes which attracted me to the breed thirty odd years ago, textbook head with equally masculine and gentle expression, solid body with good bone, attractive markings and shown in full coat. I was in particular taken by his regal, blasE9 and slightly arrogant attitude which is so typical for the true temperament of the breed, showed well and moved in particular well in the Group ring. CC & BOB. 2 Waters & Robins Ch. Rythonian Out of the Blue, black and tan who scored on his cobby outline and excellent size, pleasing head with good dome, sufficiently big dark eyes, high nose-placement and good profile. Moved and showed well, presented in immaculate condition but just preferred slightly more substance of 1. 3 Stewart's Marchog MacFlannel.

V (1): Schilizzi's Chacombe Morgan, an old favourite of mine who has developed into a truly golden oldie, lovely for type with large head and masculine expression , strong neck, still firm topline and excellent top-line, strong hind-quarters, shown in full coat and moved well, very well handled, seriously considered for the R.CC, a credit to the owner.

PB (10): 1 Bailey's Maibee Margot, litter sister to BP, mature Blenheim, very good type, large head with good cushioning, scored in bone which was lacking by many in this class, a touch long in loin, confident mover, her solid body and outgoing temperament should make her an excellent dual purpose brood bitch. 2 Naylor's Maenan Moon Angel, shapely Tricolour with appealing head and excellent soft expression, straight front, sound hindquarters, another one with good bone and substance but not as outgoing as one. 3 Smith Justacharma Something Magic.

JB (6,1): 1 Anderson & Watts Maibee Lola, feminine lightly marked Tricolour, stands out in this class for her balance and classy head with soft expression, firm topline, well angulated hindquarters, well presented and showed well . 2 Austin's Cofton Bop to the Top, still a puppy but good overall type, sufficiently pleasing head, ok in body, scores in markings over 3 Scovell's Manaking Miss Kitty of Levicos.

PGB (7,1): 1 Stone's Maynorth Irresistible, lightly marked Tricolour with well balanced outline, pleasing head with sufficiently large eyes but truly feminine and soft expression, excellent bone, not in full coat yet, positive movement, lovely temperament. 2 Allcock's Amantra Christiana for Sleepyhollow, Tricolour of excellent type, appealing head and sound body, moved well, as expected extremely well handled, not quite as mature as 1, close decision. 3 Essex & Jackson's Amantra Chanel.

LB (7,1): 1 East Nastane Sweet Fanny Adams, smart Tricolour, truly feminine with large, well domed head, excellent nose-placement, large sufficiently dark eyes, classical profile, very good cushioning, lovely bone and size, outstanding bomb-proof temperament, showed well and with the help of a loyal fellow exhibitor moved with good drive. Coat on the blow but just enough to satisfy my appetite for glamour, scores on her personality and type CC, her 3rd. 2 Askins Amantra Choclate Divine with Headra, honest Blenheim, scores on her cobby, solid body with nicely rounded ribcage not at all bad in head but not as classy as 1, moved ok but could show better Her handler completely unselfishly handled the winner of the class on the move, a genuine gesture of sportsmanship which has to be applauded! 3 Harvey's Rivermoor Violet.

OB (7,2): 1 Waters & Robins Ch. Maibee Emily, well known mature Blenheim, truly impressive for her shape and cobby body. Large head with good dome, sufficiently large eye, and sufficient pigment, shown in full coat and moved well, worthy Champion, in the Challenge just preferred the touch more feminine expression of the winner of Limit R.CC. 2 Southam's Cavella Callula, this beautiful Black and tan scores on her classical head with high dome, dark large eyes and well cushioned muzzle, sufficiently straight front, good bone, deep body, not as short as 1 but scores in hind-movement over 3 Gurtner's Lux/Int Ch. Veryan D'Ahotep

Dr A.G Schemel