

CRUFTS 2014

Sunday 9th March 2014

Four years ago I was delighted to receive an invitation to judge the Pointers at Crufts, the build up to the show was exciting, it seemed so far ahead but time soon passed & the big day dawned. It was a huge pleasure to judge so many lovely Pointers; the breed seems to go from strength to strength. Many thanks to my stewards for keeping things rolling along nicely which enabled me to finish in good time.

One thing to watch is the big, wide, blocky heads on some of the males, not typical for our breed as the Pointer is described in the Standard as 'elegant', which surely doesn't include a big ugly head. Many had very upright shoulders with a short forearm; this must be improved unless you want to see more Pointers with a short choppy 'terrier' movement. Another thing that stood out, some coats were rather soft but probably down to the product used to bath them, a Pointer coat should be hard & with sheen, not soft & furry.

VETERAN DOG (5)

1st Rose & Robinson's Sh Ch/NZ Ch Robwyn Dreams Are Free at Ridanflight, 8 years o/w dog, in lovely hard condition. Nicely chiselled head, soft eye & high set ear. Long neck into well laid shoulder & sloping topline. Good spring of rib & well turned stifle. Moved sound & true;

2nd Naden's Wychwood Love Over Gold, another o/w, again good head with dark eye & neat ear. Clean lines, well sprung ribs & deep chest. Good topline with arched loin & good turn of stifle. Hard muscle showed beautifully;

3rd Collins' Medogold Typhoon Ginger

PUPPY DOG (10)

1st Walkling's Aspyre Follow Your Dreams to Kiswahili, stylish b/w who I'm sure will go far. Lovely head with good chiselling, kindly dark eye & nicely dished face. Good length of neck flowing into an excellent front & sloping topline. Well sprung rib, strong loin & hard muscle. Moved straight & true using his tail. I'm sure this dog will leave his mark on the breed. Delighted to award him BPIB

2nd Hinton's Mursbrae Theodore by Fleurfield, o/w with lots to like. Head well proportioned with nice dark eye & high set ear. Long neck, deep chest & short coupled loin. Well muscled & moved well;

3rd McGilp's Kanix Irving at Forthbourne.

JUNIOR DOG (5)

1st Huxley's Aurichalcum Evan Knows It's Woodfleet, o/w with a refined head, good dark pigment, high set ear, clean neck, nice smooth lines & well ribbed. Nice sweep to stifle & well muscled. Very elegant dog moving well;

2nd Adams & Elrington's Ansona Albert Einstein, a very freckly b/w dog, slightly smaller than 1. Well chiselled head with well defined occiput & neat ear. Well laid shoulder & deep ribcage. Good turn of stifle & strong second thigh. Moved well;

3rd Weaver's Anniezu My Guy.

YEARLING DOG (7)

1st Blackburn-Bennett & Wilberg's Coralwood Mr T, a stylish o/w dog with a correctly proportioned chiselled head, kindly dark eye, high set thin leathered ear, open nostrils & good flews. Good length of neck & clean shoulder. Good straight front & deep chest. Correct oval bone & nice sloping pasterns. Well bodied, short couple loin, strong quarters with driving action on the move. Medium length tail which he used well on the move;

2nd Isherwood's Symitry Red Rascal, a more refined type with elegant lines. Typy head with dark pigment, deep body with strength through the loin. Good sweeping stifle & neat feet. Moved well with enthusiasm;

3rd Edmondson & Robertshaw's Crookrise Dom.

GRADUATE DOG (17, 2abs)

1st Anthony's Jilony Red Arrow, very freckly o/w with a lovely head. Good dish & kind eye. Nicely laid shoulder, deep brisket & good straight front. Well boned & correct oval feet. Well turned stifle, neat tail, moved well with lots of drive & action;

2nd Beesley's Ridanflight Rhodri at Birchleith, pale o/w, with lovely dark pigment. Good dish, stop & occiput, good length of neck flowing into clean shoulder & well ribbed body. Strong, well muscled quarter, moved sound & true;

3rd Smith's Lypal Deeply Dippy.

POST GRADUATE DOG (8)

1st Hazeltine's Hookwood Will I Am, strong b/w with nice dish & high set ear. Clean lines, nice length of neck, well laid shoulder & straight front with good bone. Well bent stifles & medium length tail used well on the move;

2nd Westron's Tenshilling Makin Whoopee at Aurichalcum, o/w with typical head, ears a little low but nice thin leathers. Clean neck & shoulder, deep brisket & straight front. Strong through loin & quarters, well muscled. Moved with drive;

3rd Grantham & Moss' Kiswahili Quantum Of Solace at Kingspoint.

MID LIMIT DOG (19, 1abs)

1st Blackburn's Kanix Fredrik, b/w with the best head so far, good proportions of muzzle to skull. Nicely chiselled, good stop & occiput & open nostrils. Thin leathered, high set ear & kindly eye. Clean neck leading into well laid shoulder, straight front, deep chest & nice sloping topline. Strong quarters, well bent stifle & moved free & easy with drive;

2nd Golding's Sharnphilly Louis Vuitton, liver/w very similar to above just a little longer cast. Nice clean lines, well muscled & moved well using his tail;

3rd Eldridge's Sniperay Whisky Mac of Bradgate.

LIMIT DOG (11)

1st Coggins' Droveborough Born To Bound at Gemrose, liver/w with typical head with soft expression, nicely turned flews, long neck, good shoulders & spring of rib. Well muscled & moved well with drive & using his tail;

2nd Whitham's Moordale Maritime at Sedgekirk, b/w of slightly finer build than 1. Lovely head, lots of chiselling & pronounced occiput, deep stop & well set ears Nice deep brisket & arched loin, well muscled, in lovely condition & moved well;

3rd Harrison's Millpoint Heat Wave.

OPEN DOG (17, 2abs)

1st Blackburn-Bennett's Sh Ch Kiswahili Martin at Kanix, this is what I wrote about this dog when I judged him five years ago & awarded him his 1st CC. *"This fabulous dog has a great future ahead of him; he loved every minute of the show scene today & gave his all. A true Pointer, he has a beautiful well chiselled head with dark eyes, high set ears & deep stop with a kind expression. Good flews & open nostrils. Long, clean neck into sloping shoulders, good bone, nice straight front, good feet & deep brisket. Arched loin, strong well muscled quarters, neat tail which he really used on the move. Beautiful coat in superb condition. A stunning mover & never put a foot wrong. Handled to perfection. DCC & BOB. Thrilled that he went G3 at only 13 months old & I'm sure he will feature in many more group line ups."* That description still fits him now, the only difference since then is that he has matured & developed into the promise he showed at that tender age. I see no reason to change my mind, he showed just as enthusiastically, moved like a dream, light on his feet & with power & drive. Delighted to award him his 28th CC & BOB;

2nd Alcorn & Lynn's Sh Ch Afterglow Bare Face Lie at Kanix, a very stylish liver/w dog at his peak, he has a lovely head, good chiselling, dished face & well turned flews. A shade lighter build than 1. Long clean neck, good shoulders, good bone & sloping pasterns, well sprung ribs, good turn of stifle & neat tail. Moved beautifully with a long driving stride using his tail well. Well deserved RDCC;

3rd Evans & Pavey's Sh Ch Diamond Diamond In The Rough.

FIELD TRIAL DOG (0).**WORKING DUNDOG DOG (5)**

1st Edmondson & Robertshaw's Crookrise Forest, o/w dog typical of this kennel, good head with lovely gentle expression with dark pigment. Out of a smaller mould & has all the attributes of a good Pointer, powerful dog with a lovely easy reaching stride driving from behind using his tail;

2nd Westron's Aurichalcum Lord Beckett of Castlepoint, a most attractive o/w dog with lovely outline but he moved rather wide in front;

3rd Marsh's Ch Sharnphilly Redshank for Ratchda.

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME DOG (8)

1st Edmondson & Robertshaw's Crookrise Forest, 1st in WGD;

2nd Stokes' Hawkfield Mischief for Guanabara, b/w, nice stamp of a Pointer. Elegant throughout with clean neck & shoulder. Straight front, well boned & deep chest. Moved well with drive;

3rd Tregaskis' Moenfair Choirboy.

VETERAN BITCH (11, 1abs)

1st Rose's Sh Ch Ridanflight Rangiora, o/w with a beautiful head, good dish & stop. Nicely set ears, long muscular neck, good deep body, sweeping stifles & in excellent hard condition. Moved & showed well;

2nd Blackburn-Bennett's Sh Ch Chesterhope North 'N' Breeze at Kanix, lovely o/w with typical head, strong muscular neck, well laid shoulder, good straight front & deep brisket. Good bend of stifle, second thigh & well muscled quarters. Moved well using her tail;

3rd Naden's Wychwood Midsomer Dream.

PUPPY BITCH (14, 1abs)

1st Wilkinson's Hurwyn Rock On Ruby, o/w with lovely typical head with lots of chiselling & kind expression. Nice long arched neck into well laid shoulders. Good bone, nice oval feet, depth of brisket & spring of rib. Nice bend of stifle & used her tail well on the move;

2nd Ruell's Kanix Herlia at Stonewardine, very typy o/w bitch with beautiful head. Lovely dished face, kind expression & good stop. Long arched neck set into sloping shoulders, good bone & feet. Nice straight front, good depth of brisket & excellent bend of stifle, well muscled. Moved with drive using her tail;

3rd Dyer's Sharnphilly Legally Blonde.

JUNIOR BITCH (9, 3abs)

1st Lenaerts' Weimpoint Loch Glow, striking b/w bitch with a lovely head, good chiselling, dished face & well turned flews. Big dark eyes & high set ears. Well laid shoulder, sloping pasterns & topline. Short strong loin, lovely bend of stifle & used her medium length tail well on the move;

2nd Barker's Braithwaite Ever Thus at Flinthill, b/w with a good head, plenty of chiselling, nice dark eyes with a soft expression & nicely set ears, long arched neck set into good sloping shoulders, good bone & feet. Well ribbed, short loin & well muscled quarters;

3rd Fleetwood's Tyremy Southseaspice.

YEARLING BITCH (20, 3abs)

1st Guy & Hinton's Carmandine Cookie Crumble by Fleurfield, o/w, beautiful head with dark pigment & good stop & occiput. Long neck flowing into lovely sloping topline & tailset. Good bone & nice oval feet. Well ribbed & muscled, moved well;

2nd Lowe's Lowsmoor Little Karoo, b/w in a slightly smaller mould. Good head with open nostril, kind eye & well set ear. Well laid shoulder, deep ribbing & short coupling. Well muscled & moved well;

3rd Rankine's Tenshilling Rumour Has It Fyldefair.

GRADUATE BITCH (16, 2abs)

1st Rose's Ridanflight Rhonwen, very elegant o/w with typical head, long neck & straight front, sloping pasterns, good bone & neat oval feet. Well ribbed, hard muscle & moved free & easy;

2nd Stangroom's Pipeaway Laura Louisa at Lappakia, attractive freckly o/w with lovely dark pigment, good stop & occiput. Rather more compact than 1 & not quite as free in movement;

3rd Bell's Ridanfleet Runedd with Balintyne.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (7, 1abs)

1st MacManus' Luneville Strawberry Moon, very typy o/w bitch with beautiful head. Lovely dished face, kind expression & deep stop. Clean muscular neck, well ribbed & nicely arched loin. Well bent stifle, neat tail used well on the move;

2nd Backler's Kanix Find The Dream, lovely head with kind expression & good conformation all round. Good deep body, sweeping stifles & in excellent hard condition. Moved well with enthusiasm using her neat tail;

3rd Womersley's Wilchrimane Fame N'Fashion.

MID LIMIT BITCH (18, 5abs)

1st Jones & Hinton's Pippalee Georgia by Fleurfield, stylish lemon/w bitch, beautiful head, again, nice dish & true Pointer expression, soft & kind. High set ears, long elegant neck leading to well laid shoulders & deep brisket. Good hard muscle & superb mover;

2nd Barford & Booth's Kiswahili You Live In Me for Protanto, more compact & slightly smaller than 1. Typy head with dark pigment & kind eye. Strong well muscled body, good bend of stifle, low hocks & lovely driving action;

3rd Rose's Ridanflight Rhianna.

LIMIT BITCH (17, 5abs)

1st Edmondson & Robertshaw's Crookrise Trinity, top class lemon/with classic head, eyes toning in colour, deep stop & good occiput. Good straight front, neat feet & deep brisket. Good bend of stifle, second thigh & well muscled quarters. Moved well;

2nd Barford & Booth's Kanix Calypso by Kiswahili, o/w of medium size with a soft expression, dark pigment & high set ear. Good length of neck, sloping shoulder, good bone, well turned stifle, low hocks. Moved well;

3rd Blowers' Bonnygate Karriage Queen of Deadaway.

OPEN DOG (12)

1st Dyer's Sh Ch Sharnphilly Juici Cuture, stunning liver/w with a classic head, lovely toning eye colour, high set ear & kind soft expression. Long neck flowing into well laid shoulder & sloping topline. Lovely straight front, well boned & neat oval feet. Deep brisket, well ribbed, short strong loin & lovely turn of stifle. Medium length tail used well on the move. Beautiful outline. A lovely mover with a long easy stride driven from powerful quarters. A beautiful scopy bitch that fit's the Standard to a T. Delighted to award her the BCC & RBOB;

2nd Siddle's Sh Ch Wilchrimane Ice Maiden, another lovely clean cut o/w bitch, slightly smaller & more compact than 1. Beautiful head with high set ears & kind expression, well laid shoulder, straight front, good bone & neat feet. Good topline & tailset. Medium length tail used well on the move. Moved well with enthusiasm. RBCC;

3rd Blackburn-Bennett's Sh Ch Kanix Chilli.

FIELD TRIAL BITCH (3)

1st Blowers' Bonnygate Just A Madam for Deadaway, smaller built o/w with well chiselled head, good stop & kind eye. Nice deep brisket, good bone, well ribbed & nice bend to stifle. Moved well using her tail;

2nd Blowers' Bonnygate Karriage Queen of Deadaway), b/w with a beautiful head, good dish & stop. Nicely set ears, long muscular neck, good deep body, well sprung rib, sweeping stifles & in excellent hard condition.

Moved & showed well;

3rd Huxley's Ch Woodfleet Siennarain.

WORKING GUNDOG BITCH (5, 2abs)

1st MacManus' Crookrise Moondance at Luneville, slightly larger o/w with dished face, dark eye & kindly expression. Strong well muscled body, good bend of stifle, low hocks & lovely driving action;

2nd Cazzaniga's It Ch Franzini Foresta, very interesting to see this visitor from Italy. O/w with a head rather too exaggerated to fit our KC Standard. Small & compact with good bone & well sprung rib. Short coupled, hard & muscular, neat tail used well on the move.

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME BITCH (12, 5abs)

1st Stangroom's Pipeaway Laura Louisa at Lappakia, 2nd in GB;

2nd Mason's Freebreeze As You Like It, lemon/w with good head, eye colour toning with coat, good straight front, good bone, nice oval feet, well laid shoulder. Good topline & tailset. Moved well;

3rd Walton's Pointmoor Lily Of The West.

YVONNE KENT - judge