West of England Ladies Kennel Society (WELKS) CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW Sunday 29th April 2018

I was delighted with my entry and sorry we had to be in a cold hall, but rain on the previous days made the outside ring too slippery.

I was looking for pointers who screamed type, who had attitude, character, classic heads, good tails, soundness and everything in between! My winners came pretty close to the mark. On the downside, heads didn't always please me with too much back skull and a few down faced. Some otherwise smart and eye catching dogs went unrewarded because of loose and flippy front action. Tails and sets seem to have improved.

VETERAN DOG (6,1)

1st Welch's ShCh/Ir.ShCh Moolou Minstrel at Hookwood. Well made handsome 8yr old still in his prime, moved soundly with drive and a lashing tail.

2nd Bell's Crookrise the Medlar at Owlspoint JW SHCM. Pleasing head, nice expression, good body shape and in hard condition, one of the few muscled up today. Moved OK using his tail. 3rd Fox's Tenshilling I Get Around to Dappleline JW.

MINOR PUPPY DOG (4,1)

1st Preece & Gilding's Harvestslade Cullinan, 8 month o&w lovely shape to his body clean all through, deep chested correctly coupled. Good tail and set well. Movement a bit erratic but just a baby.

2nd Mason's Nosam Secret Agent. Liked this eye catching youngster, ticked B&W. Good head proportions, dark eye, deep chested, needs to fill his frame particularly in front to complete the picture. Another 'legs eleven' but time and exercise should sort this.

3rd Ingram & Pescud's Harvestslade Beau Sancy.

PUPPY DOG (3)

1st Gordon's Hawfield Audacity (AI). Very pleasing o&w mature for age. Delightful head and expression, clean all through. Moved OK but needs to tighten in front action. Hope he doesn't grow on any more. B.P. 2nd Burke's Alcazar Bohemian Rhapsody. 10 month old, b & w. Not helping his handler one bit today when stood or on the move. But, when he did behave he held a nice body shape, has good bone and pasterns. Liked his kind expression and dark eye. Has promise so hope his handler perseveres. 3rd Wilcox's Pipeaway Lightening Strike on Merynjen.

JUNIOR DOG (8)

1st Bowen-Brooks' Tenshilling Blowing Smoke. Medium sized b & w with appealing head in proportion with dark eye and correct jowl and good leathers. A balanced young dog who gave a true picture standing which he held on the move. In the challenge his lack of maturity showed so another year should finish the picture.

2nd Philo's Fydal Caprio at Salmonmist. Impressive o&w with good front, bone and couplings. Balanced in body, good tail and set. Movement a bit erratic as tends to pull, handler needs to slow down and run him on a looser lead.

3rd O'Neill's Tenshilling Biscuit

YEARLING DOG (10,1)

1st Bowen-Brooks' Tenshilling Blowing Smoke.

2nd Flint's Casilex Cognac. Upstanding o&w with a lovely shaped head, not overdone, good front, feet, pasterns and tail and set. Another fidget but when settled gave a good performance on the move. 3rd Gerrard & Galloway's Sharnphilly Santorelli with Carmandine.

NOVICE DOG (6,2)

1st O'Neill's Tenshilling Biscuit. Soundest mover today powerful for one so young. Clean in outline would prefer shorter couplings.

2nd Gerrard & Galloway's Sharnphilly Santorelli with Carmandine. Mature youngster, stood showing a good outline and proportions. Correct head giving kindly expression. Movement needs to tighten. 3rd Gerrard's Carmandine Count on Me.

POST GRADUATE DOG (6)

1st Hall's Gartarry You Shook Me. 2 Yr old b & w coming into his prime, masculine without a hint of coarseness. Best of heads in proportion with a dark eye, small thin leathers, clean flowing lines. Good front, bone, feet and pasterns, tight skin and correct coat, stylish lines. Moved with drive but needs to steady to show his paces correctly. Pushed hard for top awards.

2nd Lathwell's Tinchitamba A Waiting Game, 3 yr old b & w of medium size, good body shape, closer coupled. Super head and expression, straight front, nice sort, just lost out to 1 on hind action. 3rd Batchelor's Wilchrimane Clickety Click

LIMIT DOG (12,1)

1st Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Freebreeze Over the Top at Spinray, delighted to award this liver & w top honours today, he was on fine form commanding my attention with his high head carriage and balanced clean lines through to tail and tail set. Moved precisely, driving from the rear. His head is classic with correct skull shape, bright eye, correct jowl and occiput. In the challenge he scored on his smoothness over the shoulder, sloping pasterns, tight feet and his overall carriage. DCC & BOB.

2nd Timothy's Anniezu Magic Moments at Sousacroft, o & w of different stamp to 1. Balanced, mature dog of correct proportions throughout, he is sound and free from exaggeration and gave it his all today. 3rd Critchley, London & Heaton's Shadybrook J Hoover at Whipspan.

OPEN DOG (4)

1st O'Neill's ShCh Chesterhope Thrill of T'Chase (Imp N.Z.) young o & w put down in excellent order. Pleasing expression, kind eye, correct leathers. Deep in chest and balanced in body. Moved well as one with his handler RCC.

2nd Watkins & Davies' Sh Ch Hurwyn Law 'N Order JW. Shown in pristine condition in excellent coat. Nothing not to like about this dog but just had to give way to 1. on movement going away. 3rd Martin's Sunhouse Anything Goes JW SHCM.

SPECIAL BEGINNERS DOG (5,1)

1st Batchelor's Wilchrimane Clickety Click to Keilderpoint Smart o & w placed in earlier class. Lovely shape and clean lines, good reach of neck and moved OK. BSB

2nd Razzell's The Artful Archer of Hookwood. Eye catching stood, clean all through, bit of a happy tail and movement not as true as 1.

3rd Saunders' Teisgol Double Trigger

SPECIAL BEGINNERS BITCH (2)

1st Brooke's Pennystone Shamrock o & w placed in earlier class. Pleasing overall with correct head, clean lines and held a good shape on the move. Needs to body up to reach full potential.

2nd Phillips' Walanpay Artemis Huntress. Bigger than 1 but well put together, could do with more drive on the move. A bit of a fidget.

VETERAN BITCH (13,5)

1st Smith's Sh Ch Fydal Ava not a big one but all pointer, full of character and one of the few who used her lashing tail on the move. One I have done well for before and dam of my CC & RCC bitch winners. 2nd Young's Gundioy Argentine Tango. Such a classic Pointer, never seen her look better belying her 9 yrs. Tight skin, correct coat clean in lines.

3rd Isherwood's Pipeaway Satin Fire with Symitry.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (6)

1st Phillips' Waterton Remember Me. My notes say 'naughty but nice' not a big one but full of Pointer virtues. Clean lines, good front correct bone sloping pasterns, nice tail and set on correctly. Moved OK but some ringcraft would help, unfortunately she couldn't keep the excitement together in the next class. 2nd Guy's Carofel On Silent Wings. Med sized b & w heavily flecked. Pleasing head proportions and a kindly expression. Good front pasterns and feet. Movement needs to tighten but a promising pup. 3rd Mason's Nosam Kwattle.

PUPPY BITCH (12,2)

1st Rankin's Fyldefair Centrefold. This young b & w gave a faultless performance and commanded my attention. Classic head, dark eye, thin leathers balanced in body. Very smart pup who moved and was handled well.

2nd Norbury's Medogold Bamalam, mature liver & w pup balanced in head and body, clean lines and correct bone. Moved well.

3rd Phillips' Waterton Remember Me.

JUNIOR BITCH (10,2)

1st Rayner, Spinks, & Pringle's Gartarry High Society at Spinray. b & w with aristocratic expression, very dark eye good foreface, fine leathers and correct jowl. Balanced in body and held herself well on the move covering the ground effortlessly. Just needs another year to complete the picture.

2nd Siddle & Crocker's Wilchrimane Pirouette. Beautiful youngster with so much to admire. Her body flows and she is well muscled for one so young, powered around the ring. Just preferred the carriage of 1. 3rd Perkins' Brent Hothouse Flower.

Three cracking bitches for the future.

YEARLING BITCH (7,1)

1st Siddle & Crocker's Sh Ch Wilchrimane Frankel (AI) o & w from the top drawer. Lovely expression and dark eye, beautifully put together and very curvaceous moved powerfully.

2nd Martin's Sunhouse Cheerio, nicely made o& w correct head shape neat ears appealing expression. Good front and rear well sprung ribs deep chested. Just felt 1 more balanced.

3rd Rayner, Spinks & Pringle's Gartarry All that Jazz.

NOVICE BITCH (4)

1st Anthony's Jilony Ola. Upstanding b& w with solid head clean outline and well bodied. Good in profile but not held on the move.

2nd O'Neill & Timothy's Tenshilling Silver Lining. Not so happy today but has time on her side to settle. Head set and eye pleasing and balanced fore and aft.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (17,5)

1st Blowers' Fydal Blown Away to Deadaway Such a classic bitch, beautifully turned out and shown. Melting expression, dark eye, clean lines, good top line and underline, tail set correct and a cracking beesting tail. Moved well. Ideally would like another inch. RCC

2nd Grime's Ansona Linnet a very sound and stylish youngster well put together nice outline, which she held on the move. Close decision.

3rd Huxley's Woodfleet Wild is the Wind.

LIMIT BITCH (12,3)

1st Smith's Fydal Bedazzle. Same classic lines as my PG winner, clean all through, good head shape and kind expression. Top line held on the move where she used her bee sting tail well. Correct bone, pasterns and feet. Her demeanour and head carriage sealed the picture. BCC.

2nd Wheldon & Earl's Caithpoint Here and Now. Very curvy and correct sort and many of the remarks of 1 apply. She is balanced and well bodied up and has a lovely head and expression. Covers the ground effortlessly, just out of coat today.

3rd Udale's Dowbiggin Olympic Gold.

OPEN BITCH (5,2)

1st Evans & Pavey's Sh Ch Joneva Mrs Bridges JW. Nothing exaggerated about this pretty b & w, put down in A1 order and in hard condition. She showed and moved well, just prefer a bit more refinement.

2nd Brooksmith & Adam's Sh Ch Medogold Kiss N'Tell. Liver & w stylish with good top line and balanced in body. Moved well using her tail.

3rd Cooper's Carmandine Cover Girl by Fleurfield.

GERALDINE O'DRISCOLL - judge