Show Critique Championship Show 18th October 2025

Dogs

Judge Mrs Mary Cunningham - (Verheyen)

I would like to extend my gratitude to the committee for the invitation to judge, their warm hospitality, and for the lovely gifts. I also thank my capable steward, John Gaskell for his outstanding work.

The entry was fairly representative, presenting me with many excellent examples to consider; all exhibited kind, relaxed, and friendly temperaments. Many dogs had suitably large, rounded eyes, well-formed flat top skulls, high set ears and soft, silky coats, few possessed short forefaces. One dog was, in my opinion, excessively trimmed on hocks and feet.

I shortlisted what I deemed the best of the male entries before me. Having been absent from the ring for most of the year, I hope I brought a fresh perspective to judging the dogs on the day

Class 1 Baby puppy dog (1,0 absent)

1st Deamers Jamesbonny Daytime Lover

A charming, small and prettily marked Blenheim baby who stood alone. Full of confidence and swagger. Well marked and of a lovely size. Raw but promising.

Class 2 Veteran Dog (8,2)

Ist. Baillie's. **Marisk Greatest Showman at Cavallino** A Ruby dog of quality, impressing with his youthful vigour and balanced movement, showcasing a strong topline and well-carried tail. His handsome head added to his overall appeal.

2nd. Rhodes and Rhodes's **Calonian Cafe Noir** A nice example of a toy-sized Black and Tan, this dog narrowly missed top honours, but shone with his fluid movement with a happy tail action. His attractive head and good breed type evident. In very good condition.

3rd. Hamilton's. Kilbarchan's Moonwalker at Hamhoggs VW

Class 3 Special Vintage Dog (3,1)

1st **Bell's. Christabella Picasso ShCM.** An impressive veteran, this 11.5-year-old dog defied his age with his active, vigorous gait and has retained a lovely

head and expressive eyes. His free, impressive movement was a testament to his sound conformation.

2nd Caldwell's. Kathysgirls Jaguar at Xety Despite his age and somewhat portly build, this 10-year-old dog retained a handsome head and moved soundly.

Class 4 Minor puppy dog (3,0)

Ist Spier's **Kinvaar Imperial Flame** A delightful young tri-colour with classic, well-defined markings. At 9 months, he's likely reached his size and now needs to mature into his frame. He exhibits all the hallmarks of a promising puppy but still immature, with scope for development. His topline, tailset, and head conformation are all excellent, with large, expressive eyes and perfectly set ears with flattish skull. His temperament shines, willing and playfully cheeky. His silky coat texture is a bonus. With his many attributes, he has considerable promise for the future. **Best Puppy Dog**

2nd Hamilton's. Mariposa Cavaliers Pico Bello at Hamhoggs (Imp Pol) A charming, raw Blenheim boy with a sweet disposition. He's still filling out his frame and needs to mature, but shows promise. His coat's texture and markings are lovely and his typy head will benefit from further development. 'Potential' is indeed the word which describes this endearing youngster. 3rd . Gibb Stuart's Narayden Presley at Tanglewood

Class 5 Puppy dog (2,0)

Ist Chapman, Ireland and Gibson's **Toraylac Conrad** A quality Blenheim dog with an excellent height-to-length ratio, balanced angles, and a secure topline in motion. His moderate head features a gentle stop, round eyes, and well-set ears. A coal black nose adds to his attractive face. He moved steadily, showing his sound conformation. A nicely balanced, rather mature young dog.

2nd Price and Price's **Toraylac Cosmopolitan**. A lovely rich coloured pretty boy, but perhaps a bit unsettled in this class. I preferred the winner's leg length and movement who's overall type had an edge over this charming dog, still lots to like.

Class 6 Junior Dog (2,0)

Ist Levy and Sedgwick's. Pascavale Banksy A real showstopper! This toy spaniel has got all the right ingredients - a textbook shape, topline, and a head that's just delightful. His coat was like silk and well presented. His enthusiasm in the class was a handful for his owner and he narrowly took the win in this class but seemed to boil over in the challenge... I admire him and know he will make up soon. Maturity will suit him.

2nd Kerr's. **Caramoone Canadian Club at Kinvaar.** A fairly close call in this class. A handsome Blenheim dog with superb angles and a firm topline, giving a smooth, more controlled effortless gait. His attractive head, high-set ears, and large, dark eyes make him a strong contender. The winner's neater lip line, softer expression, coat texture and clarity ultimately gave him the edge, but this dog scored highly on many points.

Class 7 Yearling Dog (1,0)

Ist Lovel's. **Ch Lovetrac Banksy** Stood alone. A lovely young male, absolutely in his prime. His head is so appealing with a well-filled muzzle, neat lip line, and those big, round, dark eyes giving him a wonderfully soft expression. His firm topline and well carried tail on the move are textbook. His movement is powerful for a toy dog, a bit close behind but covering the ground well, with an exemplary side gait. He has the mark of an influential stud dog. My class notes said "Contender" and he was **RCC and with the agreement of my Co judge RBIS**. Well done.

Class 9 Novice Dog (3,0)

1st Spall's. **Llapsttam Luther Vandross** So easy to be seduced by this glamorous young Ruby dog with his 'look at me' attitude.

He's an accurate, if a little flamboyant mover with a well held topline and tailset and draped in a profuse coat of good texture. His head is mild and sweet with more definition to come, so typical of a young Ruby. He was in my preferred final selection and will no doubt go on to many wins. Very well handled today.

2nd McKeracher's. **Brymarden Cool Breeze** a larger type Blenheim with a sweet head and lovely eyes. He moved out well holding his shape. 3rd Caldwell, McCue and McCue's **Xety River of Dreams**

Class 10 Graduate dog (8,1)

Ist Rathbone and Pal's. **Brymarden Flawless Blush**. A quality young dog with a sweet head, high-set ears, and well-filled muzzle. A darker eye would indeed enhance his expression, but overall, he's got a typical silhouette, standing and moving with a lot to like about him, from his silky coat of good colours to his correct angles. He might have been a bit unsettled on the move, but his overall type made my final cut.

2nd Rhodes and Rhodes. **Calonian Zeus**. A smart young tricolour with a pretty face, large dark eyes, and a firm topline that he holds well on the move. He's got a confident carriage, with a good tailset, and is well presented overall. Nice type.

3rd Kynaston's. Granasil Ovaltine JW

Class 11 Post Graduate Dog (3,0)

Ist Searle's **Stonepit Into the Blue** a very smart blen with a compact frame, firm topline and well let down hocks giving drive on the move. His head is

handsome with lovely eyes and good fill under. I'd prefer a neater lip finish but a quality dog through and through.

2nd. **Granasil Ovaltine JW** a Ruby boy with a sweet temperament and a nice compact shape standing and on the move. He has good dark round eyes but his head is rather strong with his shorter than ideal muzzle.

3rd. **Xety River of Dreams**

Class 12 Special Post grad Wholecolour dog (4,2)

1st. Baillie's. **Marisk Groban at Cavallino**. A Ruby boy with a correctly tapered muzzle, big dark eyes, giving a sweet head type. The nose pigment could have been better, but his firm topline and free-moving gait really impressed - he's a joy to watch on the move.

2nd. Lewis's **Leonardo at Fraskye** a Black and Tan with a lovely face, a nice size but a rather fluffy coat stage at the moment. He went well.

Class 13 Special Post grad Parti colour dog (3,0)

Ist. Willis's. **Dinitros Rock Steady Eddie JW** A lot to like about this Blenheim dog. He's generous in size but very well constructed with lovely neck and shoulders and firm topline. His head is handsome with good eyes, well placed and carried ears which he uses to advantage and is so attentive to his handler. His silhouette is typical for the breed and he moved strongly to show it to advantage, a good exhibit.

2nd. Hamilton's. **Kringleholme Continental** A fairly close call in this class - this dog has a lot going for him, with lovely eyes, great pigmentation, and a great coat colour and texture. He's really appealing in stance, but his tail does detract from his overall shape when he's moving. A quality dog none the less. 3rd Gow's **Legolas Aldaha Gold at Lyncraeg**

Class 14 Limit Dog (4,1)

Ist. Walker's. **Carson Richie Rich JW** a very glamorous tricolour male with bright and attractively placed tans. His coat gleamed with well being . A pretty boy this one with lovely round dark eyes,well placed giving a sweet warm expression. His head is mild which gives an open friendly expression and his temperament is lovely. On the move a little exaggerated in front with high leg lift. Rear movement is good and he covers ground. A lot to commend him.

2nd. Searles **Midori's Flowers Pegasus at Stonepit** a strong moving dog with a particularly good rear. I preferred the more open expression of the winner.

3rd. Hood and Hood's. Rabymar New York

Class 15 Special open dog w/colour (3,0)

1st. Baillie's Marisk Greatest Showman at Cavallino . See veteran

2nd. Linton's **TheKops Si Senor** This boy holds a lovely topline on the move, has a very pretty face with large dark eyes and good pigment. Lacks coat at the moment.

3rd. Fraser's. Bracken Gold at Fraskye

Class 16 Special Open dog (Resident in Scotland) (4,2)

Ist. McMurray's. **Chadwick Perfect Tonight at Merryoth JW** (Imp USA) A quality Blenheim boy with immediate impact. His markings and coat texture are spot on, showcasing a typical breed silhouette. He's well made, with well-positioned shoulders and pelvis, and a strong topline - all of a piece. His head is a highlight, reminiscent of his father's, with those big dark eyes and full muzzle. He's got a warm, appealing expression, and despite being a rather unsettled on the move, his type and quality earned him a spot in my shortlist. 2nd. Byers **Braemarra Taylor at Linetive VW** a biggish lad with a sweet head with large pretty eyes. He went well on the move but the wooly coat detracts from his shape.

Class 17 Open Dog (4,0)

This was a quality class with so much to admire in all of them. Like a box of chocolates.

Ist Conlon and Kotani's. **Rathbrist Rewrite the Stars.** Ultimately my Star of the day with so many good things on show. I loved his size, shape, solid topline and easy fluid movement with his tail "carried happily but never much above the level of the back".

On the table he won me over with his sweet, gentle head. It's a fine balance to get the "Moderate" head just right. The eyes need to be big, round, dark and forward facing - not too bold - but giving a warm and kind look. The face must be well filled, rounded and gentle with a tapered muzzle with neat well fitting lips and moderate in stop. He had all of these features. His shoulders are well laid back, forelegs well under his body, topline firm and well fitted into a strong rear ensuring he would move with an elastic gait. His coat texture was the required soft and silky and it was well draped on his body. Exemplary preparation was on show. Congratulations.

I moved the dogs a lot and his gait was economical and ground covering with no foot flapping. **DCC and BIS on the referees decision**

2nd. Chapman and Ireland's. **Ch Notorious du Chateau Noblesse at Ellemich** Another which ticked a lot of boxes for me. A smart outline and not overly coated to hide that fact and of a rich and attractive colouring and coat pattern. A good neck and shoulders with well turned stifles. On examination he had lovely eyes and expression with high set ears and neat lip line but perhaps overall a little strong in head for me. Good rib and strong quarters which propelled him around impressively. A smart and typy dog.

3rd Levy and Sedgwick's. **Ch Roi de Coeur of Sevijeans at Pascavale**4th Lovel's **Juzandia Keverne at Lovetrac**

Bitches

Judge Mr Klaus Arrowsmith-Vorderstrasse (Arrowbien)

Critique to follow