JUDGES REPORT FOR THE GUERNSEY KENNEL CLUB SPRING OPEN SHOW HELD ON SUNDAY, 19th MAY AT LES MAINGYS ACTIVITY CENTRE.

The Guernsey Kennel Club held their Spring Open Show on 19th May 2013 at the Les Maingys Activity Centre and once again my wife Loraine and I were invited as a husband and wife team to officiate and whilst this was our first visit to their new venue, it was quite apparent when arriving that the committee had made every effort to maintain their standards from previous occasions. On entering the venue it was most pleasing to see two spacious green carpeted rings that quite simply emphasised the importance of the occasion whilst also giving the exhibits every opportunity to express their quality posed and on the move.

The show was held on the group system and attracted an entry of 321 from 134 exhibits including many exhibitors from Jersey to ensure that the friendly rivalry between the clubs that prevailed over many years continues, although the inducement of the Crufts qualifying of all Group winners, BPIS, RBPIS, BJIS and BVIS must play a major part. At the conclusion of all breed and variety classes the placings for the major awards were announced in reverse order creating an atmosphere of anticipation and excitement, giving the final touch to a most pleasing day.

The final line up of the seven group winners was a pleasure to observe and a most pleasing testament to the quality that exists on the island and one that would certainly test the ability of the most discerning of judges. After much deliberation I finally chose Miss P Gaved's 4 year old red Chow Chow Traversains Ching Fu who at this stage of his career is certainly in his prime. He was on top form as soon as he entered the ring, he compares to the standard in all departments and was presented in tip top condition. His head is balanced and well proportioned and can only be described as handsome and quite obviously male. It was most pleasing to see an exhibit with limited angulations create such an impression aided by his confident persona, expressing attitude plus, with just a touch of arrogance, allowing him to present a typical strutting gait that had importance written all over it. To say I was impressed is such an understatement. He is a fabulous exhibit BIS.

I awarded RBIS to Miss B Lawrence's excellent 2 ½ year old German Shepherd Dog Surfstone Hot Salsa, who immediately impresses with excellent type. He has evident size and substance that is quite easily recognised as male without going over the top. His profile shows a balanced symmetry being a true representative of what is described in the breed standard, without the slightest suggestion of any roach in his top line, allowing his unified angulations front and rear in association with correct correlation to be used to their maximum when gaiting, to ensure the power generated by his strong quarters is used efficiently minimising wasted energy. A great example of being fit for function.

From a very competitive puppy line up it gave me great pleasure to award the final accolade BPIS to Miss D De Carteret's 9 month old Cocker Spaniel Bitcon Spy for Derrindee. Even at this early age he immediately gives the impression of being from the top draw. He showed great resilience throughout the whole day and never stopped showing for a moment. He maintained his concentration at all times, which speaks volumes for his future. His head is classical, balance, well proportioned and very clean. His profile is aesthetically pleasing to the eye showing no exaggerations and covered with conformation that is lean and firm. His front and forehand just cannot be faltered when viewed from any angle and is certainly a most outstanding feature. His movement is very sound and certainly confirmed his construction. If he gets a fair crack of the whip the world is his oyster.

RBPIS was Mr P Walker's 7 month old Lhasa Apso Petwalk Provocateur. Superbly presented in full puppy coat by an exhibitor who has certainly mastered the art of presentation ensuring that every advantage of the glamour associated with the breed is taken care of and

maximized, even at this age for an exhibit of his size he is certainly well named full naive confidence that speaks volumes for his future. His type and quality are quite evident showing lots of promise, having the foundation for a very bright future.

My other principle winners were:

Gundog Group

Irish Setter Mrs R.E Cox Jsy Ch Tiroen True Blue JW ShCM PdH at six years he still makes an immediate impact in profile. Being precisely handled to present a most pleasing outline balanced and well proportioned. His coverings are firm and defined with excellent angles front and rear, shows a very pleasing coordinated stride pattern in profile within line movement showing no exaggerations. BOB.

Golden Retriever, Mrs R Philippe Katesclan Montgomery Rant. A mature 4 year old with evident size and substance that can instantly be recognised as befitting his gender, typical head showing required muzzle to skull ratio excellent dentition and a complete scissor bite pleasing height to length showing just the right amount of day light, his angles front and rear are unified ensuring his movement is sound. BOB

Spanish Water Dog Open one of two exhibits from the same kennel Mrs L K Ozanne 2 year old black bitch Hollutrix Yemomi Del Lyntonridge. Excellent handling when posed ensures she presents a classic outline showing no exaggerations presenting a correct height to length ratio. Firm top line set between angles front and rear emphasising moderation, very well presented a sound mover in profile with evident convergence coming and going BOB

English Springer Spaniel. Open Dog Miss D De Carteret Lyntonridge Loyalty Card At Derrindee at six and a half years of age this exhibit is a great example of the breed and beautifully constructed throughout, presented in tip top condition, his body shows harmonious proportions with the most pleasing symmetry standing on a typical length of leg and showing obvious daylight being covered by lean conformation, he uses his front and rear angles when gaiting showing no interference BOB

Labrador Retriever Open Mrs L Sharpe Carriegame New Beginnings of Kermouster. Even at the age of 2 years she gives the impression that there is a lot more to come with maturity very well schooled and handled to present a free standing static pose that is so clean cut. Typical feminine head with defined stop and pleasing proportions, strong jaw and an excellent scissor bite with the cleanest of incisors, good front and forehand, sound quarters, excellent conformation in the best of condition BOB.

Cocker Spaniel Miss D De Carteret Bitcon Spy For Derrindee BP BPIB BPIS.

American Cocker Spaniel Open. Ms D Houghton and Mrs E Le Gresley Fielgar Snow Alert. One of the hardest decisions of the day with so much quality on show I was really splitting hairs. At 4 years of age he certainly looks the part in profile comparing to the standard in all departments, so very well presented in excellent coat and condition. His construction is very compact and shows a typical head mounted on an excellent slightly long muscular neck that just cannot be missed, stands on a good length of foreleg that elevates his forehand ensuring a pleasing exaggeration to his top line and strong quarters. His movement is coordinated and efficient. BOB

AVNPC Open Mrs S Spurrier Woodavens Ziggy Flat Coat Retriever. At 7 years of age his presentation and condition was most outstanding as reflected in his gleaming black coat, very well constructed showing no exaggerations, typical head showing evident male characteristic expressing

strength and balanced proportions with a pleasing muzzle to skull ratio, with a slight but evident stop, beautiful front and forehand standing on parallel forelegs with neatly fitted elbows being well ribbed to a strong loin and a very sound mover BAVNPC.

Group 1 Ms Houghton and Mrs Le Gresley Fielgar Snow Alert American Cocker.

Group 2 Mrs Cox Jsy Ch Tiroen True Blue JW ShCM PdH Irish Setter

Group 3 Mrs Ozanne Hollutrix Yemomi Del Lyntonridge Spanish Water Dog

Group 4 Mrs Spurrier Woodavens Ziggy Flat Coat Retriever.

Puppy Miss De Carteret Bitcon Spy For Derrindee. Cocker Spaniel. Reserve Mrs and Miss Lickley Seowns Bronze Irish Setter

Hound Group

Beagle Open. Miss S Woodhouse Timamso Maestro Of Birybran PdH at the veteran stage of his career but still in excellent condition retaining his typical body shape that belies his age, his conformation is sound and firm showing no sign of coarseness, typical head with a pleasing muzzle to skull ratio and defined stop, good length of neck firm top line and complementary underline. Moves with purpose and drive BOB

Saluki Open. Mrs W Marshall Dafolke Alexandrite standing alone but with his outstanding breed type quality and presentation he can stand in any company, his profile expresses balanced symmetry with obvious dignity and gracefulness. I compromised his reserved nature when approaching from the front but he soon regained his composure when approached from the side to expose his many virtues fully posed and on the move, an excellent hound. BOB

Whippet Open Bitch Mr P Walker Pipijay Spirit In The Sky for Petwalk. At 3 ½ years of age this is certainly an exhibit in her prime, her femininity breed type and excellent quality makes an immediate impression as soon as she enters the ring, her presentation and conformation for a short coated breed is outstanding expressing power and elegance that can only be described as beautiful, she really does make an entrance.

Basenji Open Mrs B Allies Bubas Mariella At Alys. I found it extremely hard to accept that this exhibit has reached the age of 10 ½, being the protégée of champion parents she has certainly lost none of her virtues, very well constructed with angle front and rear showing required moderation, set between a correct height to length with a pleasing leg length ratio that stands her high on the leg, showing good daylight, her skin is pliant and so appropriate for her function, it was so pleasing to see a handler with the ability to present her well schooled exhibit when gaiting. BOB.

Dachshund Mini Long Haired Open Mrs A Le Page Rafthouse Iceman Amongst Thelepees. A very well presented male of almost 3 years looks the part when posed presenting a structure showing evident strength, typical head with a good bite and sound dentition so very well balanced and carried on a pleasing length of neck, his shoulders are well laid with an evident keel. Shows a pleasing height to length being low set in keeping with his function. A very sound mover. BOB

Dachshund Standard Long Haired Open Mrs A Le Page Resurgam Elise Thelepees 2 ½ year old bitch and quite mature for her age. Typical head well set eyes and pleasing expression, hands on revealed an excellent lay back of shoulder and a complimentary return to upper arm, shoulder well set to thorax exposing her pleasing keel. Her height to length is complementary and well balanced with short well boned fore legs presenting a low to the ground appearance, quarters show a good width of thigh standing on parallel hocks, whilst her conformation is sound just requires a little more strength to support her top line when posed, a good mover BOB.

Afghan Hound Open Mr S Mottershaw and Mrs F Officer. Schumakayas a Perfect Match for Elangeni (Imp Deu) and extremely well bred 3 year old and whilst pedigrees do not ensure quality he has certainly acquired the virtues of his champion parents. When posed an obvious feature is his size and substance, presented in balanced proportions showing no exaggerations, typical head showing a pleasing length to skull, excellent dentition and a complete scissor bite, shows a pronounced proud head carriage from a good length of neck and very well constructed throughout with unified angles front and rear. His movement completes the picture being smooth and stylish BOB.

AVNPC Open Bitch. Mrs B E Sebire Shardagang Quality Street At Bouvee Mini Smooth Dach when posed, this 6 year old bitch certainly fills the eye completely presenting a classic profile being presented in the best of coat and condition, she compares to the standard emphatically showing no deviations, her head is feminine and balanced with a pleasing muzzle to skull ratio, dark well set eyes and a most charming expression, her correct height to length is complemented by a most pleasing head carriage set on a crested neck leading to a top line you can set a rule too. Angles front and rear are unified and correlated ensuring she is low set expressing one of the most important prerequisites for her function. Moves with determination expressing a most efficient gait. BAVNP Classified Hound.

Group 1 Mr Walker Pipijay Spirit in The Sky For Petwalk Whippet

Group 2 Mr Mottershaw and Mrs Officer Schumakayas A Perfect Match For Elangeni (Imp Deu)

Afghan Hound,

Group 3 Mrs Sebire Shardagang Quality Street At Bouvee Mini Smooth Dach,

Group 4 Mrs Marshall Dacfolke Alexandrite Saluki.

Terrier Group

Fox Terrier Smooth Open Mr P Walker Ch Dobelands Silent Danger, At three and a half years of age you don't have to be a breed specialist to instantly recognise this exhibits quality, good schooling and a typical terrier temperament ensuring that he is keen and alert and on his toes at all times is a most pleasing feature, in excellent condition are some of the features that just cannot be missed, certainly confirmed with hands on, beautiful head very typical and balanced, his body proportions are sound and well constructed throughout, covered with firm conformation, an excellent mover showing determination and purpose, BOB

Cesky Terrier Open Mrs C Marett Lastarean Grace and Favour For Gayteckels, A very well presented three year old, her excellent silky coat quality presents just a touch of glamour not very often associated with the terrier breeds, hands on reveal that she is certain of performing her function, typical head well furnished showing the obligatory slightly arched skull and carried on a medium length of neck, excellent angles front and rear with a pleasing balanced height to length , showing a slight rise over the loins, an excellent mover being precisely handled at all times BOB

Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Open Dog, Mr M Fletcher and Miss A Seedhouse, Jsy Ch Granitangel Zircon A mature five year old whose quality and outstanding conformation make an immediate impact for a short coated breed. His coat condition and definition to muscle tone give the impression of a highly tuned athlete emphasising power and strength without the slightest indication of any coarseness and so appropriate for his gender, when posed he stands his ground with confidence, typical head, broad skull with a defined stop and very pronounced cheek muscles, well constructed close coupled body, wide chest presenting a typical wide stance, a very sound mover with a temperament to match. BOB

AVNPC Open, Miss L Smith Romainville Bodhran Glen of Imaal Terrier. A very mature six and a half year old, excellent size and substance, showing body properties balanced and well proportioned,

his height to length covers plenty of ground with a well constructed forehand which is standing on a pleasing short leg length ratio, hands on show a pleasing spring to ribs, with a firm topline showing a typical rise over the loins, strong quarters and a very impressive mover. BAVNPC

Group 1 Mr Fletcher and Miss Seedhouse Jsy Ch Granitangel Zircon, Staffordshire Bull Terrier,

Group 2 Mr Walker Ch Dobelands Silent Danger, Smooth Fox Terrier,

Group 3 Mrs Marett Lastarean Grace and Favour For Gayteckels, Cesky Terrier,

Group 4 Miss Smith Romainville Bodhran, Glen Of Imaal Terrier,

Best Veteran In Show, Mr A and Mrs D Le Page Salabah Sorceress Cocker Spaniel Best Brace in Show. Mrs R Cox Irish Setters.

Judge Brian Maurice Webb