

South Wales & W.O.E CTC Breed Championship Show, 2021 – Judge Mr J Vernuccio

I was both humbled and elated by the invite to judge Cairns in the UK at a Breed Championship show. After Covid restrictions, it was like a mirage to see so many excited dogs and eager exhibitors back in the ring. I must comment on how wonderfully private and functional this show location was. We all must give kudos to the club for finding such a hidden gem. I also must thank my incredible and efficient stewards for keeping me on time and on point with the Kennel Cub judging procedures. They were the very best!

As in many other countries, bitches are usually stronger than dogs, most likely because that is what breeders are willing to keep in numbers and, in fact, at this show there were many more bitches entered than dogs.

One can see that the Scandinavian dogs have influenced the breed in the UK as well as in the states, however, I am happy to report that the whispers and rumors on the internet of 16-inch (40 cm) Cairns across the pond were completely unfounded. For the most part, the dogs shown fall within reasonable size and shape. Of course, there will always be variance in size, which is the case everywhere in the world, but I am of the belief that larger and smaller dogs have always existed and that they both can be valuable to a breeding program. I am also happy to report that presentation here was not overdone as it is in some parts of the world. Some dogs, however, were lacking in coat condition. I was mentored to appreciate dogs being shown in good length of coat which should be hand trimmed regularly and presented in layered condition. Coat conditioning gives both the functional and finished look we all admire when we spy Cairns from afar and even more so up-close when we hold them near. I was also encouraged that hindquarters here were generally not as close as in the states and in Scandinavia.

My general comments and impressions of the top placed dogs in each class are below.

Veteran Dog or Bitch—(6) 1 Absent

1 Dolan's CH Glenrood Scheherazade—A lovely balanced wheaten bitch with stunning head that oozes femininity. She's excited to be at the show! She's agile but with good bone and substance, lithe, and carries a very lovely coat and beautiful correct topline and has a very nice neck and shoulder.

2 Inett & Harrison's Ch Carradine George Flies with Harkinleigh JW—Lovely size dark male with good construction. He's alert and interested in his surroundings and moves efficiently and shows well for his handler. He is of a lovely type that screams Cairn, but he's entered against a bitch that steals the class on her poise and presence.

3 Asmyhr's Windlines Born to Run Wild

Minor Puppy Dog—(2) 0 Absent

1 Shannon, Storr, & Middlehurst's Brenndarcy It's Magic Ai—This is a real cracker of a puppy who stacks and shows extremely well for such a youngster. He carries a lovely correct outline and moves well around the ring with a very sound and efficient forequarters. Lovely head and overall very promising puppy.

2 Shopland's Cherrycrack Horatio Naf—Just six months and whistle on this day, this wheaten puppy has lovely bone and substance and very appealing expression. He needs to get acclimated to the ring and that will come with maturity. He moves with very nice reach and drive and I see a very bright future for him. The other puppy was more polished and poised on this day, but I suspect that they these 2 will have many fun times in the ring in the future!

Junior Dog—(1) 0 Absent

1 Thomas' Tom Trick's Jocan Ty Cadno—Junior wheaten male with an unforgettable head and expression. Beautifully balanced, with a correct topline, alert and wagging tail. He sports a punishing strong muzzle that filled my hand with a correct bite filled with large teeth. Correct width in his hindquarters going away from the judge which is a virtue to be appreciated today. Shows himself proudly with no handler fussing needed. (CC & BOS)

Novice Dog—(3) 2 Absent

1 Hiam's Carradine Podgy Paddie Taf—In his underwear today, short of coat and conditioning on his furnishings, this dog should and will be appreciated for his effortless reach and drive around the ring. He is alert and inquisitive, with a pleasing head and coveted dark points. When he is in a more mature and competitive coat, I can see him making his championship.

Graduate Dog—(4) 1 Absent

1 Byrne's Carradine Howzat Howard—Well balanced with a good outline and tail on top as it should be. Good head and expression. Moves with animation however a little over-excited on this day. More furnishings on the head and legs and body coat would complete the picture.

2 Peers' Tweedisle Charismatic Guy—Wheaten with dark points moving soundly coming and going. Good topline and tail but he is a little thin on this day. Just needs a little more experience and a confidence to move into the next phase of competition.

3 Saich's Lindcoly Marvelous Trevour

Post Graduate Dog—(4) 1 Absent

1 Hogarty's Cadagio's Super Trouper—Red brindle who is up to size with a lovely head and expression, correct bite with big teeth. Moves with reach and drive and can clearly get where he wants to go in record time. Showing his socks off today.

2 Peers' Tweedisle Jaunty Lad—True to his name he is one jaunty chap not always moving in step with his handler. Otherwise, sound moving and balanced with pleasing outline, good topline and tail. He would benefit with bit longer and conditioned coat.

3 Keeves' Seveek Carry on the Dream

Limit Dog—(5) 2 Absent

1 Dennis, Waites and Goddard's Good Times Ahead with Oudenarde—Striking balanced red brindle dog who shows himself off well. He also is very balanced in his movement. Masculine and pleasing head and expression. Appreciated his coat condition and his head and leg furnishings. Tail always wagging happily.

2 Inett & Harrison's Carradine In N' Out Mr Sprout—Dark brindle moving quite fleetly from the side. Good level back with good forechest. Typey head and expression with excellent bite.

3 Saich's Stoutheart Einstein for Lindcoly

Open Dog—(4) 1 Absent

1 Firth's Ch Cairngold Chico JW—Moderate and self-assured red with a magnificent coat. Excellent topline and tailset sporting the perfect carrot tail. In good weight and good muscle. Moves quite soundly and is

poised and commands attention. He has the show qualities and ring presence that one cannot teach. (Reserve CC)

2 Felters and Rumens' Landbuck Kingsman—Eye catching dark dog with gorgeous head and expression and makes quite a picture in outline. Lovely neck and shoulder. Quite different than the dog placed before him but just as useful for a breeding program. Did not always cooperate on the move today but makes a positive impression.

3 Saich's Lindcoly Holwing Mad Murdoc

Special Beginners Dog—(1) 0 Absent

1 Hiam's Carradine Podgy Paddie Taf (see Novice Dog)

Minor Puppy Bitch—(5) 1 Absent

1 Bubb's Wandris Strike a Light—Silver brindle bitch that floats around the ring with ease—her side gait is really something to behold. Right now up on leg more than the others in her class. She will need time to develop and mature, especially in head. Shows much promise.

2 Saich's Lindcoly Put a Ring on It Naf—Clearly one of her first times out and about, she showed with cautious glee. Looking good coming and going and carrying her topline and tail when it's important.

3 Inett & Harrison's Carradine Minnie Maisie

Puppy Bitch—(3) 0 Absent

1 Waugh's Glory Daze at Tribannon—Not a small puppy but a cream bitch with a head to die for. The kind of "cat" head the old timers talked about. Naughty as they come, however, when she uses herself correctly, she is a vision. Outline is all there, moves well and has presence. With maturity a bright future awaits her for sure.

2 Goldfinch's Kanawha Never Say Never—Cream bitch of good proportions and balance giving her handler all she could handle today and made it hard to assess movement. Lovely head and expression.

3 Saich's Lindcoly Turning Back time

Junior Bitch—(7) 0 Absent

1 Hogarty's Cadagio Your One of Us—Smart classy youngster that is constructed right and does everything well for one so young. Excellent topline and tailset, typey dark head, I think enough bone and substance for her age. The one to watch for the future CCs.

2 Lund's Lentrica Hocus Pocus by Jorvikairn—Red brindle in perfect body coat condition, needs leg furnishings to complete the package. Good bone and substance, pleasing head and expression, moves especially well from the side but is not cooperating perfectly on the move today.

3 Inett & Harrison's Carradine Wilma

Novice Bitch—(7) 3 Absent

1 Inett & Harrison's Carradine Mary—Typey dark bitch that screams Cairn. Alert expression, excellent topline and moved well in all directions.

2 Metcalf-Sault's Cannwood Quiet Reflections—Wheaten silver brindle with dark points of very similar type to the first except with a tad more bone and substance. Very competitive in this class and moved and showed well.

3 Saich's Lindcoly Know Who You Are

Graduate Bitch—(9) 4 Absent

1 Thompson's Castleline Maitree—Wheaten bitch with pleasing proportions and freedom of movement. Good bone and substance with good forechest with good substance. Went around the ring in a carefree manner showing off her many positive attributes. A slight variation in grooming and presentation could surely ascend her to winning CCs

2 Bubb's Lindcoly Strike a Pose—Wheaten bitch with dark points, lovely head and expression. Presented in correct coat length with proper furnishings. The best of fronts. Hesitated on the move occasionally which may have hurt her on this day.

3 Shannon & Storr's Doonrae Rebel Rebel Among Brenndarcy

Post Graduate Bitch—(10) 5 Absent

1 Felters & Rumens' Landbuck La Voix—This precocious bitch is special, and she knows it! If you are patient, she may even show you her lovely head and expression punctuated by small correct ears and a black mask face, the mask being rare and coveted in our breed. She moves with good reach and drive and is all Cairn in attitude, playfulness, inquisitiveness and naughtiness. She is the handful that one would love to have. (Reserve CC & Reserve BIS)

2 Hogarty's Rottriver's Moet Chandon—Dark statuesque bitch that stacks with the best of them. Lovely outline punctuated by an excellent topline and tail set. Good bone and substance. I think a great asset to a breeding program. Would not behave on the move today.

3 Dolan's Glenrood Dance Til Dusk

Limit Bitch—(9) 3 Absent

Quite a difficult class to judge and on another day the placements could easily be different.

1 Firth's Cairngold Chiquitita—Stunning red reminiscent of her sire shown earlier in the day. She has a lovely head, clean neck and shoulder, perfect topline and tailset. She's very feminine and carries herself with poise. Amazing consistency and quality that we strive for from this kennel.

2 Hooton & Hughes' Penticharm It's My Party—A workman type Cairn who is sound and moves with precision and efficiency and quite freely around the ring. Good coat, head, and balance. She is very responsive to her handler and will be a real threat as soon as realizes how pretty she is!

3 Inett, Harrison, & Clayton's Carradine Jo

Open Bitch—(10) 1 Absent

1 Hogarty's IR CH Cadagio Let's Get the Party Started—It may be her party that she is starting, but I was celebrating as well with the opportunity to go over this stunning bitch. She has a typey and attractive head with lovely ears and an appealing keen dark eye. She's balanced in outline and sports a perfect double coat of good length and texture. She moves swiftly and stylishly across the ring without wasting effort. No matter how many times I tried to catch her she just never puts a foot in the wrong place. I'm convinced that she would win anywhere in the world. (CC & BOB/BIS)

2 Kinton's Ch Cloverbrook Unbreakable at Woodthorpe—What a showy, solid, well-constructed bitch with typey head. Topline is level and tailset is a picture. She stands and moves with confidence and poise and is hard to miss in any lineup.

3 Dolan's Whispers at Dawn at Glenrood JW

I regret not being able to place more of the quality bitches in this fabulous and competitive Open class.

Special Beginners Bitch—(3) 0 Absent

1 Hiam's Carradine Dottie—Dark brindle bitch who is alert and eyes always on her handler. She moves with good reach and drive around the ring. Excellent muzzle and strong bite with large teeth. She needs time to mature and the confidence to show herself better on the ground and free stack.

2 Metcalf-Sault's Cannwood Quiet Reflections (see Novice Bitch)

3 Asmyhr's Motoppen's Pinot Noir

Thank you all for this great honor. I am still pinching myself to be sure it was not all a dream.

Judge: Joe Vernuccio