

Southern Cairn Terrier Championship Show 2026

My thanks to the committee for the invitation to judge their club show, a great honour for me and my 6th club show appointment completing the set.

It was not an easy time for the club with the extreme weather conditions at the original venue of Windsor in June, meaning the show was moved from the Thursday to the Saturday, and with no let up in conditions was then cancelled. An entry of 51 for a Thursday show was very respectable. City of Birmingham stepped in and the show went ahead on 5th September. Unfortunately, There were a few absentees. Thank you to my 2 stewards who were on the ball.

I have to be honest, I found the entry very challenging, especially the males. Heads were very varied, skull width, ear placement and size. Eyes too light or round and beady. Then there was the mouths. Our breed standard states "jaws strong with perfect regular and complete scissor bite". As a teenager at the CTC I was told by Peggy Wilson (Felshott) and Bet Campbell (Craiglyn) just how important the mouth is to a terrier and how difficult it can be to breed out of your line. It is here that I draw my line in the sand. No matter how exceptional a Cairn is, I cannot and will not give a Top Award to a Cairn with an incorrect bite.

Coats were at various stages, probably due to recent weather conditions. A few could have benefitted from having their ears trimmed a little. On a positive note, temperaments were excellent and all Cairns handled well on the table with no shyness.

Baby Puppy Dog or bitch (1)

1st – Saich's Lindcoly Hey Good Looking

Sweet Headed Youngster. Lovely eye. Moved ok behind but pinning a little in front. Good coat quality.

Minor Puppy Dog (2)

1st – Smith's Cloverbrook Pol Roger of Gethlee

Cream/Brindle. Lovely head. Decent Stop. Good mouth. Ears could be trimmed better. Nice neck. Moves a little close in front. Level topline. Developing well in body. A little long in the loin for complete balance. Good tailset, bend of stifle. Moves ok behind but impressive going around the ring in profile. Good coat quality. Outgoing and promising. Couldn't match his sister's movement for best puppy.

2nd – Rogers Copseleare Midnight

Brindle with nice type of head. Strong jaw, nice eye. Moves ok in front. Neck and shoulders ok. Level topline. Carrying his tail a little proud today. Decent coat. Very handy showman.

Puppy Dog (1)

1st – Parkertucker's Uniquecottage Silver bram

Cream. Typical head with nice eye and good mouth. Good neck and topline. Tail on top. Moving a little close in front. Moved well behind. Lovely coat and condition. Needs time to body up.

Junior Dog (1)

1st – Dennis & Waites Svendalen's Moon Stone

Red brindle. Lovely head. Good stop, eye and mouth. On his toes from the moment he entered the ring. Developing well in body. Good topline and tailset. Moved around the ring with purpose. With a new coat and luck, he could be a fun dog to have. Well Handled ,Pleased to award him the RCC.

Special Beginners Dog (2, 1 Abs)

1st – Morley's Kanawha Spy Man

5 year old male. Brindle. Nice head and expression. Neck and shoulder ok. Level topline. Good depth and spring of rib. Moved ok. Happy showman.

Graduate Dog (1)

1st – Svendalen's Moon Stone

Limit Dog (2, 1 Abs)

1st – Kanawha Spy Man

Open Dog (6, 2 Abs)

1st – Ballingers CH Cloverbrook Game Set n Match

Mature brindle who was shown in a full coat of good quality and well-presented. Lovely head and expression. In excellent body and condition. Moves with drive and purpose on good legs and feet. Good bone. Extrovert showman who thoroughly deserved his CC and B.O.S.

2nd – Parkins, CH Mossbur Into the Shadows

Red with a masculine head and expression. Good stop. Good neck. Slightly upright in shoulder and moving a little wide in front. Good depth and spring of rib. Level topline with good tailset. Certainly covers the ground and drives from the rear. Shown in lovely coat and condition and gave his all for his handler. Unfortunately, I couldn't give him any more awards.

3rd – Lucas and Tobutt's CH Carradine Sir Percival.

Special Veteran 7 – 9 years (4, 1 Abs)

1st – Goldfinches CH Tycadno Bright Star for Kanawha

Beautiful head and expression. For nine years old, her movement is a joy to watch. Lovely balance. Super bone, legs and feet. In great coat and condition. Best veteran in Show.

2nd – Kinton's CH Cloverbrook Unbreakable at Woodthorpe

Up to size girl but much to admire from a breeder who is sadly missed. Feminine head and expression. Well put-together. Moved well in lovely coat and expression.

3rd – Osbourne's Tweslam Chasing Rainbows

Special Veteran 10 years and over (1)

1st – Smith's Cannwood Misty Dawn at Gethlee

Lovely headed cream girl just like her sire. Nice Shape, shown in good coat and condition. I liked her good bone, legs and feet. Gives her all for her handler and clearly enjoys her day out.

Minor Puppy Bitch (2)

1st – Smith's Cloverbrook Moet N'Chandon of Gethlee

Lovely-headed youngster. Good stop and mouth. Nice neck and shoulders. Good front. Level topline with good tailset. Good bend of stifle. Balanced and moved well fore and aft which won her Best Puppy. Promising.

2nd – Gardners – Lentricia Look to the Future with Aberforth

Brindle. Feminine head. Similar size to class winner. New coat coming in of good quality. Took time to settle but looked fine in profile. Needs time as pretty raw-looking at present. Nice temperament.

Puppy Bitch (3)

1st – Parker Tuckers Uniquecottage Red Ayla

Lovely red bitch. Nice head and expression. Super mouth. Nice front. Neck and shoulders. Level topline. Tail on top. Moves well front and drives from behind. Happy showgirl. Promising youngster.

2nd – Gardners Lentricia New beginnings for Aberforth

Up to size young lady who has a new coat coming in of good quality. Feminine in head but needs furnishings. Neck and shoulders ok, as is her topline and tailset. Moved steadily around the ring. Just lacked a bit of animation. Needs time.

3rd – Saich's Lindcoly Nessa Shanessa

Junior Bitch (3, 2 Abs)

1st – Saich's Lindcoly Esmeralda

Brindle. Old-fashioned type of head with nice eye. Super mouth. Happy-go-lucky temperament. Ok in body and condition. Moved soundly when she settled. Good coat.

Maiden Bitch (2, 1 Abs)

1st – Saich's Lindcoly This is the One.

Cream girl with a sweet head and expression. Good mouth. Nice to go over on the table. Just wish she would hold herself together going round the ring. Moves nice in front and steady behind. Good quality coat and a happy showgirl.

Under Graduate Bitch (1)

1st – Parker-Tuckers Uniquecottage Sorrel

Red with lots to like. Nice head. Dark eye. Lovely mouth, neck and shoulders. Good front. Balanced. Holds her topline and tail on top whilst moving round in a nice profile. Showed well but not using her ears to her advantage today.

Graduate Bitch (1)

1st – Shannon and Storr's Brenndarcy Supertramp

Red/brindle. Stunning head with a real varminty expression. Lovely eye. stop and good mouth. Super neck and shoulders. Lovely front. Ample depth and spring of rib. Level topline. In full coat of excellent quality. Good bend of stifle. Moves soundly on good legs and feet. Nice size. Liked her a lot. Never let up showing. CC + BIS.

Postgrad bitch (3, 2 Abs)

1st – Shannon and Storrs Brenndarcy Dreamer

Red. Litter sister to Supertramp and has so much to like. Most of my remarks on her sister apply here. However, she wouldn't settle when moving in any direction, which is frustrating as she has so much potential.

Limit Bitch (5, 2 Abs)

1st – Firth Glenrood Silent Whisper at Cairngold

Comes from a kennel who consistently produce lovely bitches. 2 year old red. Still maturing as you would expect. Feminine head. Good stop. Lovely well-placed ears. Good neck and shoulders. Moves well in front and drives from the rear. Good topline and tailset. Shown in lovely coat and condition. Liked her a lot. RCC.

2ND – Waugh's Tribannon Nancy Lou

Cream, who has a sweet head although I would like more width across the skull. Ample neck and clean shoulders. Level topline and good tailset. I would prefer more spring of rib and felt she was narrow in front although ok behind. Has a lovely coat and was in good condition. Showed well.

3rd – Osbourne's Tweslam Begin the Magic

Open Bitch (11, 4 Abs)

1st – Felters & Rumens CH Landbuck Amethyst

This girl makes me smile. She is full of personality. Super head and expression. Shown in full coat of good quality. Moves ok when she settles. I would just like a little more of her all round but worthy of her title.

2nd – Waugh's Tribannon Angel's Kiss

Lots to like. Lovely head and expression. Good mouth. Nice eye. Clean neck and shoulders. Moved well in front. Deep well-sprung ribs. Good topline and tailset. Good bend of stifle. Moved effortlessly and all round the ring when settled. I would just prefer a size smaller.

3rd – Osbourne's Begin Again at Tweslam

Iain Shaw

Judge