

Show Report – West Midlands and Wales Region Show, Calf Heath, 27th January 2013

Judge:- Sandy King

Woke up on Saturday to find another 7 inches of snow had fallen on top of the other snow already on the ground. However, following some very heavy rain it had nearly all cleared away by Sunday morning and as I travelled South on the motorway I experienced sun in my eyes, which was a first for many weeks. With regards to the snow, well done to the Shows committee who didn't panic but decided to go ahead with the show regardless of the weather! 74 chins were exhibited and we had a good turnout of people including some new visitors and some of the newer exhibitors. As always, it was a happy show in an ideal hall with (for a change), comfy padded chairs for the exhibitors.

We started late so I decided to start off colour phasing on my own to save time. This year I have shown a lot more chins than usual and have come to appreciate how difficult it is to get your chins groomed and be ready to start stewarding. I don't know how some people manage it.

The quality of the chins was overall very high. I commented on the day that I was being generous with some of the Novice ribbons, but I feel we all need encouragement especially when everyone turned out regardless of the weather that day. Congratulations to Kerry Bradburn who had a very good day taking most of the awards, including Best & Reserve in Show. It was also good to see one or two novices doing well, competing for the higher awards.

Young Female Standard - Medium Dark

1st Bradburn – a lovely big blocky chinchilla. Strong, sharp blue fur but with a slight bend on tips. Good fur density.

2nd Galt - Reasonable colour and confirmation in the neck. Strong guard hair & fur.

Young Female Standard - Medium

1st Bradburn - Very good confirmation in the neck, good veiling, reasonable colour, dense fur but slightly weak on sides

3rd Galt - Priming on hips, reasonable confirmation, nice fur type but slightly down in colour. It was breaking in the shoulders and slightly narrow but could improve as it gets older.

HC Helmore - Reasonable confirmation but down in colour and open furred.

Young Standard Female - Dark

A good class. 1st and Reserve Best Young STD Female went to Bradburn for a blue and sharp chinchilla with reasonable confirmation which was in good condition and had strong dense upright fur.

2nd Bradburn. Big and blocky with excellent confirmation. Reasonable fur strength. Slightly woolly on hips with fur breaking.

Young Standard Female - Extra Dark

1st Bradburn. This one went on to win Best Young STD Female. A lovely chin with strong silky fur. Good veiling, reasonable confirmation and in condition.

Novice Standard Young Female - Medium Dark

2nd Oaten. Good veiling and colour. Reasonable confirmation and very well presented.

3rd Oaten. Narrow in neck and confirmation needs to improve which may happen with age. Fur open but a reasonable colour.

Novice Standard Young Female – Light

HC Donkersley. Down in colour but tight silky fur although breaking since out of condition on the day. Narrow in the neck.

Young Standard Males - Medium

1st Bradburn. Very big and blocky. Good veiling, fur slightly open and breaking. Good sharp colour.

HC Galt - Reasonable size and veiling. Down in colour with open fur. Out of condition on the day.

Young Standard Males - Medium Dark

A lovely class of promising males.

1st Galt - Big and blocky. Strong dense fur with lots of guard hairs. Good veiling. Fur slightly open on hips. Excellent condition

2nd – Bradburn. Close to the winner of the class but not in the same condition. Good confirmation and fur type. Reasonable veiling, colour and sharp.

3rd Bradburn - Good size. Long neck when stretched out. Reasonable confirmation. Good veiling. Fur slightly open as not in top condition.

HC Bradburn – Lots of potential but young. Nice blue fur for age but still baby fur and breaking on sides. Fair veiling.

Young Standard Males – Dark

1st and Reserve Best Standard Young Male –Bradburn. Big and blocky. Very good sharp colour. Even short guard hairs. In the best condition of the class. Strong fur, fractionally woolly baby fur on sides.

2nd Bradburn – Ran close to the 1st ribbon winner but very young and needs time. Not as bright as the winner. Strong silky fur. Has potential.

Young Standard Males - Extra Dark

1st / Reserve show champion Bradburn. Real eye appeal and in excellent condition. Good confirmation and size for age. Excellent veiling. Strong silky fur, sharp blue colour

2nd Bradburn. Very good colour but a bit hippy. Fractionally woolly baby fur on hips, strong silky fur but has time to develop

Novice Young Male - Medium

HC Potterton The slightly better of the 2 in the class. Reasonable confirmation, strong but coarse fur. Confirmation could be better. A bit small and out of condition on the day but well presented.

HC Lee. Down in colour and a little small for age. Narrow in the neck. Fur breaking on the sides and not in top condition on the day , but well presented.

Adult Standard Females - Medium

1st Bradburn. Big and blocky. Good confirmation but slight dip in the neck. Strong fur, fair colour and in good condition.

Adult Standard Females - Medium Dark

1st Bradburn. This chinchilla went on to become Reserve Adult Female. Strong up right fur, good sharp colour and in excellent condition.

Adult Standard Females - Dark

Bradburn 1st . Very similar to medium dark animal but of outstanding confirmation. Excellent veiling. Dense quality fur but breaking at neck. Good colour.

Adult Standard Females –Extra Dark

1st Bradburn - Best Adult female. Again, big and blocky with strong dense silky fur although loose fur on sides. Good colour.

Adult Standard Males - Medium Dark

1st Bradburn. Fair size, good neck, reasonable veiling. Course but dense fur. Slight salt and pepper appearance. Blue.

Adult Standard Males - Dark

1st Bradburn. Good confirmation, neck and veiling. Strong silky fur although very slightly course down sides.

Adult Standard Males - Extra Dark

1st Bradburn. Best Adult Male. Lovely big blocky chin. Excellent veiling and good colour. Strong silky fur and in the best condition.

2nd - Bradburn Reserve Adult Male. Out of condition on sides. Big and blocky. Sharp blue colour and good strong fur.

Young Mutations

Wilson Whites

1st Bradburn. Good confirmation and size. Blue white. Woolly on sides.

2nd Galt. Clear white colour but not blue. Good confirmation, slightly soft fur.

3rd Proctor. A silver chin of good size and confirmation. Fur woolly and dull in colour.

Beige

This was a good class of animals.

1st Bradburn. Excellent veiling and coverage of mutation fur. Good confirmation in neck. Blue course fur. In good condition and well presented.

2nd Galt. Good size, reasonable mutation coverage. Blue fur but a little course on sides

3rd Thornton. Odd colour but I found out later it had some interesting breeding which reflected in its coat. However, every chinchilla is judged against the same criteria so it was judge as a show chinchilla, regardless of colour variation. Good confirmation and neck. Good strong silky fur but long on sides.

HC Galt. Would have gone higher but out of condition. Good colour and confirmation.

Violet

1st Bradburn . Big and blocky. Good colour with a very slight sheen - although it is good to see a sheen on a violet, it does not affect the placing as it is not a specific requirement. Dense fur but slightly coarse and priming on sides.

AOC Class

1st Brown Velvet Bradburn. Best Young mutation. Large and blocky with good confirmation. Fair mutation coverage but it is still a youngster. Strong silky fur.

3rd Brown Velvet Galt. Out of condition and fur long on sides. Acceptable colour and mutation coverage. Silky but weak fur which may be due to its condition.

HC Deutsch Violet Galt. Small and immature. Good confirmation. Reasonable colour. Good silky fur on the back but out of condition, so should look better when primed.

2nd Self Back Thornton. Reasonable confirmation and neck. Very good mutation coverage. Tight strong silky fur.

1st Pink White Bradburn. Lovely colour, good confirmation and size. Dense fur but slightly woolly on sides.

AOC Young Mutation Novice

2 x HC's White Potterton . My apologies but I don't know the number of each animal and commented on both as one because they were similar. Both small with poor confirmation. One was bluer than the other but unfortunately suffered from being off colour.

2nd Violet Lee. Good colour & satin sheen. Reasonable confirmation and good fur type

HC Violet Donkersley. Narrow neck which dips. Sadly out of condition. Excellent blue colour

1st Brown Velvet Allcoat. This chin went on to be Reserve Young Mutation and therefore means Sian is now promoted to the main show bench. However, Sian has been knocking on the door for some time and I am sure will continue to do well. Congratulations. Blue, good confirmation and size, good strong fur and excellent mutation coverage.

1st Self Black Oaten. Good size and clarity of colour. Confirmation excellent. Wrap around mutation fur the best fur in the class.

2nd Self Back Oaten. Similar to the animal above. Slightly bluer fur but rough on sides. Both good examples of Self Blacks.

1st Black Velvet Allcoat. Good confirmation and reasonable coverage on neck. Strong, silky fur on back.

2nd Black Velvet Lee. Small and immature. Necky and priming at the moment. Lacking mutation coverage. Silky but not dense fur.

Adult Mutations

1st Pink White Bradburn. This chin went on to win the Best Adult Mutation. Good confirmation and size. Dense fur but slightly woolly on sides. Colour fractionally creamy

1st Wilson White Galt. Just crept into a 1st as it had excellent size and confirmation. Reasonable colour but fur open on the day.

HC Sullivan Violet Helmore . Down in colour and poor confirmation. Tight silky fur with satin sheen.

Novice Adult Mutations

1st Pink White Bingham. Good size and confirmation. Reasonable colour. Fur long but dense.

2nd Pink White Bingham. Good confirmation but down in colour. Fur soft and could be more upright.

HC Wilson White Bingham . Off colour and small. Poor confirmation but in good condition.

1st Sullivan Violet Lee . Congratulations made Reserve Best Adult Mutation which means Andrew is also promoted to the main show bench. Big and blocky with a lovely sheen. Good colour and confirmation in the neck. Strong silky fur.

2nd Violet Lee. Slightly small for age. Narrow in the shoulders. Fair confirmation but out of condition.

I really did enjoy my day and the excellent lunch.

Thank you for taking care of me .

Sandy King