

Wales Show West Midlands & Report , Calf Heath 13.11.2016

Judge :- Stephen Helmore.

Except for numerous road works and speed restrictions on the M5, I had a fairly uneventful trip up to Calf Heath arriving in plenty of time to get the lights set up and consume the customary egg and bacon sandwich prepared by Kerry's dad ,John, and Sian.

Once all of the standards had been colour phased we started with a class of 6 Medium dark young females. A reasonable group with a clear 1st and 2nd ribbons with the remaining 4 all receiving HC awards. 1st ribbon went to Kerry Bradburn/Jones chin that was 6 weeks younger than Paul Spooner's 2nd ribbon winner although both were the same size. Kerry's chin was sharper and clearer in colour to Paul's chin that had a stronger more mature fur type.

The 4 medium young females received a 2nd and 2HC ribbons with Kerry's female having good size and conformation that I would have liked to have been brighter in colour with an open courser fur type.

The 3 Darks produced the Best and Reserve Best young females. The 1st ribbon winner had good conformation , bright colour with good veiling coverage and a slightly open but silky fur type that put Denise Oaten's blocky chin into 2nd place that if it's veiling coverage had finished out over her hips may have reversed the placing. Kerry's young female became Reserve Best young standard.

4 medium dark young males had a 1st 3rd and HC awards. The 1st from Kerry was a real youngster just over 4months that showed all the potential to develop into a very good chin- more than OK and reasonable he wasn't showing any outstanding feature. There was a gap down to Paul's 3rd ribbon chin being the light end of the medium dark colour phase he had a plushy but open fur type with reasonable conformation.

We then had an AOC class of 1 medium , 2 Dark and 2 Extra dark chins . The 2 darks had 1st and 2nd placings both from Kerry. 1st a really good chin was blocky and good size with loads of silky strong fur with bright clear colour although by comparison the 2nd was fractionally sharper but he didn't have anywhere near the fur qualities or finish of the 1st that went on through all the groups to become our Show Champion

The 2 extra darks also had a 1st and 2nd from Kerry ,at 4months 1week the 1st received its ribbon for its exceptional intense dark standard colour going on to be Reserve Best young male with the 2nd chin at 51/2 months had much better conformation and fur type being a very good all round chin.

Kayleigh and Jay Pearson Novice dark standard male also had a 2nd ribbon with good veiling coverage and a silky but short fur type but a bit on the small side – a nice little chin.

A class of 4 medium dark adult standard females with 1,2,3 and HC awards 1st and 2nd were very similar chins with 1st from Denise being just the clearer and brighter having the better of Kerry's 2nd. A 1st for one of the 2 dark Adult females in an AOC class was brought by Kerry, a very good chin with blocky conformation, good size. Clear bright colour and a really strong silky fur type she went right through the ranks from Best adult female to Reserve Show Champion

Hannah Mitchell entered a medium Dark female that was awarded a 2nd place ribbon. A reasonably good chin that had slightly wedgy conformation with clear colour and a strong tight fur .

In the adult males we had an AOC class of 2 medium darks , 2 darks and 2 extra darks each colour phase receiving a 1st and 2nd. Kerry's 2 medium darks 1st a good all round chin blocky with a plushy fur type winning over the brighter coloured 2nd but down in all other departments to the 1st that was our reserve adult male. The 2 darks again were 2 good chins from Kerry with the 1st becoming our Best Adult standard male and Reserve Adult standard . The 2 extra darks were both a bit on the small side and lacking the conformation compared to the other 4 . the 1st from Kerry had the slightly brighter colour although 2nd from Denise had the better veiling coverage and tighter fur, he was smaller and with a narrow conformation.

Hannah's Novice medium colour adult male received a 3rd ribbon with clear colour and a plushy fur type he was quite small for an adult.

After a filling lunch we started with a very good class of 3 Pink White young mutations. With Denise 1st and 2nd having the decision over Kerry's 3rd. 1st had a strong dense plushy fur type a little narrow in the neck became our Reserve Best young mutation. 2nd was only a baby at 4months 1week had blocky conformation attractive clear colour but had lots of open baby fur. Kerry's good large blocky chin didn't appear quite as bright as the Denise's 2.

We also had a good class of 6 Sullivan violets the 1st and 2nd ribbon awards went to Sandy Kings chins both with bright clear colour with strong plushy fur type with 2nd having soft fur down the sides and flanks.

A class of 3 Black velvets had 2nd and 2 HC awards. The 2nd from Lorraine Prince had good coverage and clear bright colour but was quite small with a narrow conformation.

We then had a class of AOC consisting of 2 Wilson Whites – A 3rd ribbon for Kerry's chin that was a good type but the colour was very creamy . A Lowe's Recessive white also had a 3rd ribbon from Denise that was clear to look at with a clean white belly strip but had a very soft open fur and was quite small. A Homo Tan from Lorraine at 4mths 1week with immature baby fur was clear with lots of eye appeal received a 1st ribbon. A Homo Brown from Kerry had a 2nd ribbon again 4months and 1week was a good size with a blocky conformation had a light colour and even coverage. 2 Beiges both from Kerry – the 1st was a really good chin, good conformation and size, bright clear colour and a very strong dense plushy fur ,this chin went on to be our Best Young Mutation and Best Mutation in Show. The 3rd had oxidised and was a bit wedgy . 2 Brown Velvets had 3rd and HC ribbons - 3rd 4months 3weeks from Kerry had good size and conformation for its age with reasonable coverage but down in colour. 2 Self Black Ebonies had 1st and 3rd awards both from Denise were both clear in colour with the 1st having good all round coverage and 3rd having greying flanks conformation and size were just OK .

The class of 5 Novice young mutations were all different in colour, Hannah had a 1st ribbon for a Wilson White, a good chin – good size and conformation reasonably strong fur type and an attractive silver tipping above the white. She also had a 2nd ribbon for her Beige that was only 4 months reasonably clear colour but slightly wedgy in conformation. Kayleigh and Jay had a 2nd for a small Self Black Ebony. It had a good wrap around coverage and colour .Its what you want but only ¼ size .

Kayleigh and Jay also had a 3rd ribbon for an Ultra Violet also quite small with narrow conformation but with reasonable colour, fur type and strength. Cameron Holmes had a 2nd ribbon award for a nicely presented Black Velvet that had good size a silky fur type but lacked coverage and down in colour.

An AOC class of 4 Adult Mutations with a 1st for Kerry's Pink White with very good size and conformation, lovely plushy fur type in top condition that had a slightly 'Peachy' colour which was our Best Adult Mutation and Reserve Best Mutation in Show. Kerry had a 2nd ribbon for a Wilson White - good size and reasonably strong fur that had a 'steely' grey appearance. Denise entered 2 Homo Beige chins that were very similar, both big and blocky with strong plushy fur and reasonable colour that received 1st and 2nd ribbons. 1st was our Reserve Adult mutation.

We then had a class of 3 Novice Adult Mutations – Hannah's 2 self black ebonies received a 1st and HC ribbons. 1st was a nice type with a clear and intense black wrap around colour, reasonable size but narrow conformation. This chin received my judges choice Novice Award. Kayleigh and Jay had a 3rd for a Sullivan Violet that was reasonable although a bit small and dull in colour but had a clear white belly.

Congratulations to Kerry for bringing both our Show champion and Reserve with her 2 standards as well as having Best and Reserve Best mutations with her beige and Pink white chins although Denise ran her very close on the Mutation Breeders award, Kerry totalling 271/2 points with Denise close behind on 26 points.

As usual my thanks to all who came and to all the hard workers in the kitchen and stewards and to Hannah who not only registered all the chins and recorded the results but wrote all the ribbons awarded.

Stephen Helmore