

## Show Report – Southern Show, Bugbrooke, 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2010

Judge: - Richard Crutchley

JUI:- Fiona Garnett

A fine weekend at the start of brought the first Southern of the season, and on my arrival Judge Under Instruction met me park. Fiona was undertaking her appointment and it was a have her with me whilst judging This show, as with the first show of the season is pretty

there were lots of very young chins only just making the minimum age limit of 4 months. Many of the chins were also priming roughly between the shoulders and hips, which is more to do with the weather than anything else!

The entry was small with 56 chins in all, but this was at least up on the same time last year, and some of the chins on show were good quality animals! The new rules regarding colour phasing of Standards went smoothly and we ended up with Standards ranging from Medium right through to Extra-Dark.

The first class of the day were the Medium-Dark Young Standard Females, which brought both Best & Reserve Females. The first was from Sandy King and had good size and conformation, was clear and bright with a blueness to it, and although not in top condition and not so tightly furred, was a deserving winner. Second went to Heather Boncey for a female with plenty of eye appeal, good veiling coverage and fair size, but slightly dull compared to the winner.

In the Medium colour phase, Sandy again took first place with a big, blocky, finely furred chin which was clear but not so blue.

The Young Standard Males had one complete colour phase of Dark animals, and an AOC representing all other phases... The Darks yielded a 1<sup>st</sup> again for Sandy King's good all-round chin which had fine fur, good veiling, was clear in colour and had fairly good density. This male went on to become Best Young Standard and Reserve Best Standard. No second, but a third for Heather Boncey's chin which was a good animal, not in top show condition and not as clear as the first ribbon winner.

The AOC Standard class yielded just a couple of HC's for mainly very young entries not quite ready for exhibition, but which will improve with age.

Two novice entries yielded a second for Sian Allcoat for her well veiled, strongly furred chin with good eye appeal, but not in top show condition on the day. Also a HC for Julie Rose for her clear animal with good eye appeal, spoilt with a salt-and-pepper prime...

No Adult Standard Females in the main show classes, but two in the novice group from Andrew Lee brought third and HC ribbons. The former was a big, blocky chin needing a little more flash and clarity, and the latter also needing a little more through the shoulders. After the show it emerged they were Sullivan Violet Carriers, so definitely useful if paired to a nice bright Sullivan Violet or Ultra...



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Just one Adult Standard Male (I said this show was early in the year!) but clearly a good animal. My first comment to Fiona was “this is the best chin we’ve seen so far”, and that is how it turned out, resulting in becoming Best Standard and Reserve Best in Show for Sandy King. This was a well furred, evenly veiled, well prepared chin of good size and conformation and fair clarity. Well done Sandy!

We had six novice entries which brought a second for Lisa Proctor for a large, blocky chin with fine dense fur, which perhaps needed a little more grooming (this will get easier the more you practice – promise!) and a third for Andrew Lee for another good sized, blocky, even veiled chin which looked a little dull and was not in top show prime on the day.

As usual, an excellent lunch followed and we got started with the mutations.

Eleven main show entries brought a class of three Wilson White’s, the best of which achieved a second for Stephen Helmore. This chin had good fur quality, well presented, with good conformation and fair size, but the patch of fur without Standard veiling looked a little creamy, costing it the top ribbon.

In the AOC class, a third for Georgie’s Sullivan Ultra Violet which had good even strong stand up fur quality, was well presented and in fairly good condition, but was dull and not as clear and blue as I would have liked.

Also a third for Stephen Helmore’s young Black Velvet which had a silky strong fur type, good density, nice blocky conformation, but not the required intensity and veiling as yet – time and tide may well be kind to this chin though!

The novice classes yielded three chins, which gave another second for Lisa Proctor’s Wilson White. This chin was a nice animal, being brighter than the main show exhibit, but not in top condition, with it’s tail pushing into the fur at the point of the priming line, and showing softer baby fur around the hips (which will improve).

Unfortunately no first ribbons in the Young Mutations, but time will help a great deal with many of these youngsters priming out their soft baby fur in time!

Onto the Adult Mutations... Five entries in the main show gave a second and third for Ron & Lyn Gardner’s Deutsch Violets. The former was of fair size, good conformation, lovely silky fine fur quality of very good veiling coverage, but just slightly dull compared to the third ribbon winner, which was a much brighter, sharper clarity and colour, again with lovely fine dense fur quality, but priming markedly and not so blocky as the second ribbon winner. If only we could have had the clarity of the third winner on the blockier, better primed second winner...

Also a second for Stephen Helmore’s large, blocky Black Velvet with good fur quality, fairly good veiling and strong intensity, but a little dull on the day. Also a second for Georgie Busher’s Beige which although had just made the adult classes, was a fairly good size and conformation. It had good fur quality and even veiling, but again was a little down in clarity of colour.

The Novice entries yielded a second for a Self Black from Julie Rose. This chin was intense and well veiled, just a smidge short of the “every-hair-shiny-black” intensity and veiling we strive for... It was of good size and conformation, but not quite in top prime and looking a touch dull on the day. Another significant entry in this Novice Adult Mutation class was a Black Velvet exhibited by Lisa Proctor. Again, my first statement on seeing this chin was “well, that gets a first ribbon!”. This chin was dark, intense, well veiled, of good size and

conformation, and prepared very well. It had very nice eye appeal and really stood out, taking all honours in the mutation part of the show and achieving Best In Show for Lisa – many congratulations!!! Lisa is relatively new to exhibiting, with this show amongst her first few attempts, so very well done on getting this quality Black Velvet in lovely presentable condition and well prepared...

Congratulations must go to all who attended and brought along chins, plus to all the Southern Region (and other) helpers for making the show a success. Final congratulations for Sandy King who achieved a clean sweep, winning all Standard colour phases and groups in which she had an entry, plus the 1<sup>st</sup> Standard Breeders award AND the new Exhibitors award. Also congratulations to Lisa Proctor for her tremendous success with her Black, and also consistent ribbons for her other entries too!

Thanks to the Southern Region for inviting me to judge this show, and many thanks to my Judge Under Instruction on the day, Fiona Garnett, who for her first appointment made a really positive impression and a good contribution – well done Fiona – I hope the experience hasn't put you off Judging (I'm sure it hasn't!!!)

**Richard Crutchley**

