

Judges Report – Northern Region Show

Birdwell, 30 November 2025

Judge: Kerry Bradburn

The last show in 2025 was the regular show at Birdwell in Barnsley.

I was delighted to arrive and see a hall with quite a few people buzzing about and a good turnout of exhibits 60/70.

After not too long I was able to get cracking with the young standards.

A very good quality group of young females were headed by Andrew Lee and Sian, with Andrew winning the medium and dark class and Sian taking the m/d class.

Sian's m/d won the group with her good size, blocky conformation and clear bright blue colour, Andrews medium getting the reserve for another blocky baby, sharp clear colour but not quite the density of the winner.

A good group overall.

On to the young males and again Andrew and Sian taking the awards but this time Sian's 2 darks taking the best and reserve in group awards, the 1st and eventual best young std, reserve standard and reserve grand show champion was a lovely chin, excellent size, conformation, silky plushy fur, good veiling coverage and clear sharp colour, with a white belly. Well done, Sian, the reserve young male was also a good chin with clear colour good veiling, but just slightly down in all departments to the winner.

We then moved on to the adult females. This group provided ribbons for Denise, Sian and Andrew but was very much dominated by Denise with her taking the 2 top awards. Her dark female 1st ribbon winner and best adult female and was a cracking chin of great size, long fur, extremely blocky with good density and colour, sadly just lacking in top show condition.

Denise also got the reserves adult female for a solid medium dark that had silky strong fur, good colour, fair conformation and reasonable show condition, probably just past her best but still a worthy runner up.

The adult male awards were won by Denise, Andrew and Heather A, with Denise's extra dark being of exceptional note!

A very flashy, plushy dense male with bright clear colour, eye appeal, excellent veiling that really stood out, with size acceptable, he couldn't be denied and strolled his way to the grand show champion award, a very worthy winner, well done Denise. Andrew lee took the reserve group award with his m/d which had good size, fine fur and a clear colour.

After a brilliant lunch of two of my favourite things, chicken tikka and chocolate cake lol provided by Heather A and mum Jane, we pushed on with the mutations, again like the stds, the quality was high and the ribbons were well spread amongst the exhibitors.

Pink whites were first up and were a quality group.

Andrew cleaned up here taking the 1st, 2nd and h.c.

The 1st and best young mutation was a lovely chin, in tip top shape with clear sharp colour and correct conformation and a fine fur to boot, the 2nd also good colour and slightly bigger but not quite as sharp on the day.

Next were the beiges and again it saw Andrew winning the group, with a nice clear baby, blocky fine fur getting the better of Denise 's 2nd, with a blue beige, good density but very out of condition.

Black velvets were a good group and provided a quality 1st for Heather A for a clear blocky fine furred baby of good coverage. Sian's 2nd was a blocky clear baby that just needs to colour up but has lots of potential.

9 chins made up the AOC group with the main entries of note were Denise's Wilson white which had good density and a very strong fur with guard hair and reasonable colour and Andrew Lees sullivan violet with a good lustrous colour and a fine but strong fur in good condition.

A mention also for Denise's Lowe recessive white that achieved a 1st and was very a good example, good colour, shape and size and pretty good density, well done Denise persevering with this rare and difficult mutation.

Gemma Haliday received a 2nd and 3rd in the novice group for 2 Angora's that were both useful and worth using, the 2nd ribbon having the better colour and volume of fur.

Andrew pw and beige couldn't be denied and took the young mutation group honours, well done Andrew.

Finally, onto the adult mutations with again some very good chins amongst them.

Beiges we're won by Denise with a blue blocky dense beige sadly lacking a bit in condition, Andrew 2nd was a tighter furred blocky chin that had sadly started to oxidised.

Sullivan violets were a nice class and it was won by Joanne Rycroft for a blocky fine furred violet that had a lovely blueness about it, a quality violet.

Heather A took 2nd and was nice too, large and blocky with strong fur but had oxidised.

The rest were a AOC group and contained some good chins.

Andrew's quality large teddy brown velvet, well covered with nice white belly but oxidised over the tips.

Denise's homo beige caught the eye with good density, reasonable colour and was a plushy furred example, as was Joanne's blue diamond that received a 2nd for fine tight fur and true blue colour but with a little fur missing/choppy so had to be awarded a 2nd.

The best of the group was Heather's black velvet that was sharp, large well covered with good density but perhaps past its overall best, as was Joanne's 2nd bv, excellent coverage and good density but just oxidised a touch.

Heather's bv still couldn't be denied in taking the best mutation award and Andrew lovely young pw taking reserve.

When awarding the GSC and reserve awards, as was often is the case the 2 standard group winners could not be denied, so huge congratulations to both Denise and Sian.

The show was a lovely show, good animals, a good spread of ribbons with plenty of banter.

Congratulations to all the breeders' awards winners, you should be proud to produce such a good crop of home bred animals.

Thank you to North Region for the splendid lunch and hospitality, and inviting me to judge.

I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Kerry (NCS senior judge)