

Judges Report, Southern & West Midlands and Wales Joint Show
Hornton 12/10/25, Judge Stephen Helmore

A very small group of us gathered together at Horton for the Show. Unfortunately, Andrew Lee car broke down not far from us but despite his best endeavours couldn't get going again and RAC recovery took most of the day to get him back home to Bath. We missed you Andrew.

Fortunately, Sian had brought some cage cards and set up a manual registration system and it did not take us long to get the show underway with the Standard Chins colour phasing.

Sian brought the 3 main show young females. I soon decided in my own mind with so few entries and the overall quality of the chins being good that I would be generous with 1st awards. Being early in the season and the weather up until then being quite mild not many were well finished. Sian's Medium Dark received a 1st, she was a good bright coloured chin with strong silky fur and good veiling, slightly small for 6mths. However, she was the Best of the Young Standards. The 2 Mediums had 1st and 3rd. 1st was a good size and blocky chin for 5 months was priming over hips and flanks but had a strong plushy fur in the middle of the back. 3rd was small for 6 months with a weaker fur lying flat. Denise Oaten's grandson Thomas having a joint membership had 2 of his chins in the Novice class under his own name. One was medium and the other a medium dark so both received a 1st ribbon. The medium was a good chin with silky fur and bright colour and had Reserve young standard female. The Medium dark had good veiling coverage. Both chins were a bit small for 6months with the latter more so. 1 Medium Dark young male from Sian had a 1st award with good clear colour at 5months size was ok with conformation a bit narrow across the shoulders he had a longer fur and priming over the hips and was our Reserve young Standard.

The Adult females had 2 Medium Darks both from Denise. 1st was a good blocky large chin, she had strong fur, clear colour and reasonably finished she became our Reserve Adult Standard and reserve Best in Show. 2nd was much smaller at 14mths, a little narrow across the shoulders. She was a shade brighter than the 1st with a silkier fur type.

Some good adult males. Starting with a medium from Denise 1st ribbon a good blocky chin that was priming over hips he had good strong plushy fur clear white belly and all-round ok chin became Reserve adult male. Denise Medium Dark also had a 1st a bit on the small side for 9 mths and little narrow across the shoulders. He had good veiling, clear colour and a strong silky fur. A Novice Medium Dark from Holly Wooliscott had a 1st ribbon Although having blocky conformation he was a bit small for his age, had good veiling coverage and reasonable good colour and a courser fur type. 2 Darks with a 1st from Denise a really good chin, well finished silky strong fur, excellent coverage, clear bright colour with reasonably good size and conformation. He went all the way to become our Show Champion. 3rd ribbon went to Sian whose chin was smaller with narrow shoulders, fur was not as strong and courser and priming over hips.

Heather Boney brought a young Wilson White that received a 2nd ribbon at 5 1/2 mths had a Mosaic appearance with clear colour. Size was Ok, slightly narrow across the shoulders. Showed a strong plushy fur type but had an unusual swirl to the fur in the middle of the back. 2 young Biege from Denise had 1st and 2nd. 1st at 6 1/2 mths was a good-sized blocky chin with strong plushy fur. A good chin. However, when it came back after the adults had been judged it had a chew mark down one side and couldn't progress. 2nd was just over 4mths and quite small, it was nice and clear and bright with baby fur still down the flanks. It should grow into a good chin.

The Adult mutations had 2 Pink Whites Heather's Good blocky chin with loads of strong plushy fur and slightly lemony in colour was our Best Adult and Best Mutation had the better of Sian's chin with clearer colour but down in every other aspect with narrow conformation but Ok size that was just

over 2years of age. Denise showed a homo-beige with 1st ribbon with good size and conformation for 8 mths., clear in colour with a soft open fur and a clear white belly. Sian's Black Velvet was just over 3 years !! had a very intense black colour with good veiling coverage and clean white belly had slightly narrow conformation across the shoulders also had a 1st ribbon and Reserve Best Mutation.

Congratulations to Denise for Best and Reserve Show champions with her Standards and to Heather for bringing the Best Mutation. My thanks to all who attended and to Sian for preparing and bringing lunch for us all. Although only a small gang I think we all had a good day with the exception of Andrew who hopefully has now got everything fixed and look forward to seeing him at the next show.

Stephen Helmore