**DOGS MRS NORMA VANN**

**BITCHES MR ALAN HEDGES**

**Although the day started off on a sad note with Society LVP Mr David Levy reading out obituaries for  Mrs Mary Pringle, Mr Alec Waters, Mr Vic Pounds & Mr George Downs the show soon got into its stride and the**

**Committee would like to congratulate all of the winners and to extend their grateful thanks to our Judges,  Mrs Norma Vann and Mr Alan Hedges and to the Referee Dr Sarah Hemstock for their splendid efforts.**

**Thanks to everyone who came along to support this Show and we look forward to seeing plenty of you again in**

**February for our next Limited show.**

***BEST IN SHOW***

***"CH. STORMBULL SOLO"***

***RESERVE BEST IN SHOW***

***"CH. TILLCARR RING OF FIRE ScCM"***

***BEST PUPPY IN SHOW***

***"BRIGANAH BLACK ORCHID"***

***BEST VETERAN IN SHOW***

***"ARAIDH SWEETEST TABOO"***

**DCC "CH. STORMBULL SOLO"**

**DRCC "CH. HARKLINE ROBBIE THE BRUCE"**

**BPD "ASHBULL O'SHEA"**

**BCC "CH. TILLCARR RING OF FIRE"**

**BRCC "GREEK GODDESS IN RED"**

**BPB "BRIGANAH BLACK ORCHID"**

**DOGS**

It was both an honour and a privilege to be invited to award my first CCs at the Southern Counties Championship Show where I thoroughly enjoyed my day. Many thanks to the Committee for making Richard and I so welcome and for taking care of us so well, and a special thank you to my lady stewards who kept all running smoothly throughout the day

I was generally pleased with the overall quality of the exhibits but there were some concerns. I was surprised to find ‘particularly in the younger classes’ a good number of exhibits with crowded under jaw’s, some displaying more than one tooth out of line, despite having what appears to be the standard length and width of muzzle. Movement also, still leaves much to be desired.

Having read my Co Judges report, I must say that I agree entirely with his remarks concerning the split in type from one extreme to another, but was very pleased to find that the majority of my entry were a reasonably good, well balanced blend of bull and terrier, displaying the desired amount of substance along with athleticism, and for the best part, in pretty good overall condition. There is nothing worse than to go over an otherwise sound exhibit that is let down entirely by lack of exercise, which is so important to the overall appearance and well being of the breed.

**VETERAN DOG**

 1ST  "JAVAWOLF RED BULL". Very fit red in tip top condition for his 8 yrs, well shaped head with round dark eye, straight front, tight feet, and good bend of stifle, moved out well and seemed to really enjoy his day out.

**MINOR PUPPY DOG**

1ST "AYMSTAFF DEVIL IN DISGUISE". Nice head shape on this B/B puppy, complimented by a neat ear and dark round eye, well boned front and neat feet, good spring of rib, short in back with well angulated rear quarters, shown in nice condition he moved and handled very well.

2ND "DENAGAR LORD ACHILLES". Brindle with super head shape, dark round eye with keen expression, good mouth, fit, compact body, clean straight front, plenty of rib for age and strong rear end, moved out really well, just needs to settle a little.

3RD "CHINASTAFF SOLDIER BOY PENNSMITH".

RES "CHARMONICS COCKNEY REBEL"

VHC "CHINASTAFF BOXER BOY PENNSMITH"

**PUPPY DOG**

1ST "ASHBULL O'SHEA". Classic head shape on this B/B puppy with well defined stop and good depth of under jaw, neat ear and expressive dark eye, clean off the front down to lovely neat feet, good amount of rib and well angulated quarters, he handled extremely well for a youngster and moved out with drive. **BEST PUPPY DOG & BOSPIS..**

2ND  "CLYDES PRIDE". B/B & white with well shaped head, neat ear and dark round eye, well boned, straight front down to good tight feet, short in body with well barrelled rib and decent back end, he handled and moved out well. RBPD

3RD  "RICSTAC BULLET TOOTH TONY"

RES "HERODOTUS LIGHT MY FIRE AT BLAZINSTAFF"

VHC "MISHDAR IM STILL WAITING"

**JUNIOR DOG**

1ST " FINSONS DARK DIVIL". Beautifully balanced B/B with deep through skull, good ear placement and dark round eye, strong neck flowing into straight front with plenty of bone, good depth of brisket and spring of rib into tuck up, well muscled rear quarters, shown in super fit condition and positive on the move.

2ND  "JEWELSTAFF GREAT EBONY IDOL". Powerful B/B with good depth of skull, nice ear carriage and eye placement, well boned straight front, plenty of rib and sound in quarters, handler and dog worked well together.

3RD "VALGLO VOO DOO".

RES "INKASTAFF SCORPION KING"

VHC  "JAJCA PHEONIX FROM THE FLAME"

**YEARLING DOG**

1ST "TERACOTA HELLS ANGEL". Strong headed Brindle with neat ear and round eye, plenty of space between legs and good bone down to neat feet, well ribbed and good bend of stifle, handled well..

2ND "JONAJANE HEZA SOLO". Similar in type to 1st with good depth to skull with neat ear and eye of good position, strong front, good spring of rib and well angulated quarters, shown in lovely fit condition.

3RD "STAR OF KIA"

RES  "JANASTAFF PRETTY BOY"

VHC "IZUMIS MAYJA LOOK MAYJA STARE AT DARDANIANS"

**MAIDEN DOG**

1ST "PARGOVSTAFF BLITZEN BY SOLO". B/B with white front, strong head with well placed ear, plenty of bone to front and good depth to brisket, well ribbed with strong rear quarters, he handled well and moved with drive.

2ND  "MISHDAR IM STILL WAITING". Another B/B and white, with good head shape, dark round eye, well barrelled rib into tuck and decent rear quarters, moved out ok.

3RD "SMYLINATYA ARTFUL AVENGER".

RES "BULLYHORN MIGHTY JOE".

VHC "VEKLORRA FLAMING ARROW"

**NOVICE DOG**

1ST "MISHDAR IM STILL WAITING"

2ND "STAR OF KIA". Strong fronted brindle with good depth to brisket, well defined head with neat ear and well placed eye, nice body shape, decent rib and backend.

3RD "MOONSTAFF STAR WARRIOR"

RES "COOL BOSS"

VHC "SMYLINATYA ARTFUL AVENGER"

**GRADUATE DOG**

1ST "CROSSGUNS SAFE HARBOUR AT JAYJADES". Lovely headed B/B, strong deep through muzzle of correct proportions, neat ear and dark eye with keen expression, well boned straight front down to neat feet, plenty of rib and well angulated rear quarters, moved and handled well

2ND "MISHDAR IM STILL WAITING".

3RD "JANASTAFF PRETTY BOY"

RES "BULLYHORN MIGHTY JOE".

VHC "GNOSALL ARCHIE".

**POST GRADUATE DOG**

1ST "VALGLO MERIDIAN AT SAMTAN". B/B and white with super head shape, clean in muzzle, good ear and eye placement, lovely straight front with plenty of bone, good spring of rib into tuck up and sound, well muscled quarters, shown in lovely condition.

2ND "MERIMNA RADICAL CHANGE". Strong headed B/B with neat ear and dark round eye, strong, straight front, decent amount of rib and good angulation to rear end, moved and handled very well..

3RD "TRUFFLESTAFF KID GLOVES"

RES "CARIANJO THE BRAVE"

VHC "BUDDASTAFF THE BRAVE"

**LIMIT DOG**

1ST "NIATONA THE BOY WONDER". Powerful headed brindle with strong muzzle, good ear and eye placement which enhanced expression, short strong neck down to clean front and neat feet, well sprung rib and good bend of stifle, he went well for his handler.

2ND "BULLHAWK BANKSY". Compact B/B with nice head shape, neat ear and dark eye, good depth to chest, lovely neat feet, good amount of rib into tuck and strong, well muscled rear, moved out well.

3RD "HALLASTAFF CELT AT TIGERBULL"

RES "NETHERTONIAN BEAUWEST OF WYREFARE".

VHC "TORNADOSTORM AREA FIFTY ONE".

**OPEN DOG**

1ST "CH STORMBULL SOLO". This well balanced B/B made my day, he was just what I was looking for, being sound in all departments, lovely classic head shape, with good depth to skull and under jaw, the neatest of ears and well placed dark eye, good scissor bite, strong muscular neck flowing into shoulders, clean, well boned front with good depth to brisket, well sprung rib and hard, well muscled rear quarters he moved just as I had hoped, with drive and purpose and did all his handler asked of him, shown in tip top condition. **CC & BIS.**

2ND "CH. HARKLINE ROBBIE THE BRUCE" JW. Another compact B/B of similar ilk to 1st, deep through skull, well pronounced cheek muscles, good eye and ear placement which enhanced expression, correct bite, well muscled strong neck, plenty of rib, good tuck up and strong well angulated quarters, shown in super fit condition, he moved with confidence and never let his handler down. **RCC.**

3RD "STORMPIKE DARK LORD"

RES "CH. PENNSMITH MASTER BILLY BOY"

VHC "AUST. GRAND CH. KOENDIDDA LIMRUM".

**BITCHES**

Thanks to the club and committee for the hospitality afforded to myself and Yvonne, also to my stewards and everybody else who made the day go well.

To the dogs.

This was an interesting day for me. Most weeks of the year I am competing against you all and this week I get to make the decisions so I get to have a winner in every class.

In my view we do not have the depth of quality we had in bitches only a couple of years ago.

One or two of the years’ leading lights were not in attendance but two or three swallows don’t make a summer.

The best ones are pretty near the mark, but there isn’t the quality of previous years. Having said that, there were plenty who looked to me like they could produce well if suitable stud dogs are found.

That’s the good news.

When I judged last time out at Crufts I had a good moan about the condition of the bitches.

This wasn’t Crufts, but the Southern Counties is a major event and there was an obvious lack of effort in terms of turnout on way too many of these.

You can only show what you have got and that applies to everyone but to not to turn it out in the best condition you can is in my view fairly unforgivable.

A number of nice ones bit the dust because I could sink my fingers into both their waist and their thighs.

The Stafford is a sporty type of dog and its condition should reflect that. As an aside, it is a Staffordshire BULL TERRIER.

Not a Staffordshire terrier, with great long legs and no chest, brisket or substance, nor a Staffordshire bull dog with 50 bob cabbage heads and lips that you can sole and heel your shoes with and no length of leg at all.

The breed is not one to be exaggerated and it seems to me that we are developing two sides to the breed and either side is getting to be a bit like that.

In the middle is where we should be.

The Stafford is a compact and athletic dog. Not a compact dog and not an athletic dog, it is a combination of the two.

Even portly types like myself have the facility to take the dogs out every day and when all else fails a ball can be thrown.

Long nails, missing waists and extra poundage all contribute to you not winning.

Part of the art of winning is removing the reasons for your dog getting beat.

You cannot shorten a back, or bend a stifle but you can have the dog in top condition, and lots of these were not.

There is always a case to be made for puppies, but once they get into junior you shouldn’t be losing out on condition.

BIS was Ch Stormbull Solo JW. Norma and I amicably disagreed on this decision and although I preferred the bitch I can live with Solo going BIS all day long.

He is a well worthy champion of the breed and a credit to his owner and breeder.

**VETERAN BITCH**

1ST "ARAIDH SWEETEST TABOO".  This is a proper Staffordshire Bull Terrier in my view. She is slap bang in the middle of what’s wanted. Superb head, terrific bone, shapely body and excellent condition. Age is taking away some of the bloom but cannot dull the picture in my mind. Wonderful colour, with a touch of grey, which is something I am growing to appreciate, and I have to say if I could take one home she would be the one. One of my contemporaries said if they could breed a bitch like Ch Eastaff Noire Fille they would retire happy, well if I could breed, or even own one  like this, I would retire a happy man. I love her. **BVIS**

2ND  "CH TIKURILAN POISON IVY".  Another classy bitch. I think I gave her a CC many moons ago and the reasons why are still apparent. First class head, straight front and level topline. She was in very good order, moved well and was very unlucky to meet the winner.

3RD  "ARAIDH KISS OF LIFE".

RES  "KERNOSTAFF LADY OF THE LAKE".

VHC  "DOUSHAL OPTIMISTIC GIRL AT MOSSTAFF".

**MINOR PUPPY BITCH**

1ST "ASHBULL TIZ YOU". It certainly is. This is a very good minor puppy. She has a very good head and a beautiful expression. Dark eyes, neat ears and a good mouth, deep stop and a clean head. She has good bone, a good topline and a shapely body. She moved Ok for her age and in my view, unless a wheel falls off, she will certainly become a champion. There is some room for improvement in presentation but even this handler couldn’t hide her star quality. **RBPB**

2ND "ARAIDH ONCE UPON A TIME".  Another very high class puppy. She also has a very good, albeit different, head, she has dark eyes, neat ears and a good mouth. She has a straight front, a level topline, short back and shapely body and hindquarters. Moves well enough for her age. Expression was all that separated these two, Thyme’s was just not quite as melting. Another champion in the making.

3RD  "TILLCARR BLACK BETTY". Another very nice puppy. She was a bit outgunned by the first two as most will be, but she has all the essentials and maturity will undoubtedly help her.

RES  "SEBSONIC DEMARKO'S PEARL"

VHC  "TRUFFLESTAFF TOFFEE CRUNCH"

**PUPPY BITCH**

1ST  "BRIGANAH BLACK ORCHID". One of the stars of the day. This is a very high class puppy.   She has a beautiful head which has all the right bits, of dark eyes, neat ears, good stop and good mouth. She is very well put together, she has a level topline and a shapely body. Good hindquarters and sound movement help the picture, but what she has most of all is class. Once her handler gets a bit more ooomph in his presentation of her she will take some stopping. Nailed on champion. **BPB & BPIS**

2ND  "SANSPARIELS EBONY". Up to size black brindle. She also has a very good head with dark eyes and good ears. She has a well boned front that should tighten a bit with time, a good topline, and is shapely and moved well. She will surely improve with time and some condition.

3RD  "TORNADOSTORM DANCING QUEEN".

RES "DENAGAR LADY HERA"

VHC "VALGLO VALENTE".

**JUNIOR BITCH**

This was very hard class to judge as most of the points I made in my preamble applied here. The first two were a good bit ahead of the rest for various reasons. Some of the other potential candidates were fat, and or soft, or presented in such a fashion that prevented full assessment. It is easy to see why one and two have had such terrific starts to their careers.

1ST "CROSSGUNS MEMPHIS BELLE" Very well presented and conditioned brindle. She already has two CC’s to her name and it’s not hard to see why. She has a strong head, short back, shapely body and hindquarters. She has good bone and is in gleaming condition, she moved well enough and I feel sure CC number three is not so far away.

2ND  "ARNHAM TWICE AS NICE". Superbly conditioned red bitch. She has a good head, with a dark eye and decent ears. She has a level topline but is not as short in the back as Memphis Belle. She has a good hindquarter and moved pretty well.

3RD "ARAIDH SOMETHING ABOUT MARY AT KILVARA".

RES "WHO DA THOUGHT IT OF ACUTESTAFF".

VHC "WILDSTAFF JO BLACK".

**YEARLING BITCH**

1ST "SUNNYSTONE STEEL MAGNOLIA". This is a big strong girl with a bit about her. She has an attractive head, good bone, a level topline, short enough back and she moved well enough. She is in fairly good order, but there is room for improvement there, and she was shown pretty well.

2ND "IZUMIS WE KNOW YA LOOKING". Very attractive white bitch who is in super condition. She has a very nice head and expression, good bone, decent topline and moves pretty well. She is very well handled. I just preferred the shoulder on the winner, but this is a good bitch.

3RD "VEKLORRA SAFFRON JEWEL"

RES "EMPERORSTAFF ROUGE ROYAL".

VHC "BOYDSLASS BARRACOUDA".

**MAIDEN BITCH**

1ST  "WHO DA THOUGHT IT OF ACUTESTAFF". This very typy brindle bitch might just be the sleeper in the show. She is untrained and not in condition but she caught my eye in Junior and got a fortuitous 4th, but had settled ever so slightly by now, and it just might be that when she gets straightened out there could be something very nice underneath. She has all the essentials, but there is only so far you can go making allowances.

2ND "STAXOFUN DELPHIC DANCER AT KERRISDALE". Sound and fairly typy bitch this, but needs a good bit of work

3RD "WARDWELLSTAFF MY FAIR LADY".

RES "TRUFFLESTAFF TOFFEE CRUNCH".

VHC "FOXSTAFF GYPSIE PRINCESS".

**NOVICE BITCH**

1ST "WHO DA THOUGHT IT OF ACUTESTAFF".

2ND "WARDWELLSTAFF MY FAIR LADY".

3RD "QUAYSTAFF JOLENE".

RES "MILLSTAFF PRECIOUS ONE AT WILSTAFF".

 VHC "BLAZINSTAFF BLAZIN DESTINY".

GRADUATE BITCH

1ST "IZUMIS WE KNOW YA LOOKING".

2ND "CORTIJO RED EMBER AT BLAZINSTAFF". This is a very sound, typy, if slightly old fashioned, good red bitch. She has a decent head, she is very sound, and is in good condition. She is presented well, showing a good topline and movement. She has good feet and I could see her winning well under a number of judges

3RD "TRUFFLESTAFF NARCISSUS".

RES "PRINCESSA NATALA KAJA"

VHC "BUDDASTAFF BEDAZZLED".

**POST GRADUATE BITCH**

1ST "GREEK GODDESS IN RED". If there was a goddess that was as pretty as this bitch I wish I had known her. This has to be the most attractive red and white pied I have ever set eyes on. She is just so classy and easy on the eye. She has a very good head with the blackest of eyes generating a superb expression, very clean lips, neat ears, good bone, shapely body, level topline, good hindquarters and she moved very well. I would prefer a smidge more all over, but others won’t and her well deserved RCC will surely have some friends soon. **RBCC**

2ND "JOJALANE PRECIOUS PETAL". She may well be precious, but get her sorted. If she had been in better nick, who knows. This bitch grew on me throughout the class. She is smaller than the winner and a very different style. Good head, front , topline and hindquarters, she moved well enough, but when push came to shove condition got her beat. She wasn’t fat or hanging or anything like that, but we were getting to the sharp end now and she paid the penalty. Good bitch.

3RD "MOSSTAFF DORY AT CARIANJO". Not so far away at the death, another decent bitch.

RES "CROSSGUNS GIRL FRIDAY AT ADVOCATES".

VHC "SUNNYSTONE STEEL MAGNOLIA".

**LIMIT BITCH**

1ST "SUBARON SHARRANN JW". This is a bitch I like a lot and she was in pole position for a while but I    went elsewhere at the end. Very well conditioned, sound and compact bitch. She has a good head, straight front, short back and level topline , good hindquarters and she moves well. She has loads of breed type which is what I think makes her so attractive to me. If we had more like her we would be doing well. Very good bitch.

2ND "FOXSTAFF MYSTIC MAGIC JW SHCM". Good bitch that is made the very most of. She is well conditioned and presented and has a lot of quality to go with it. She has a decent head, a straight front, level topline and good hindquarters, her coat, like that of the winner, gleams with condition. She also moved well, the winner was just a tad more positive.

3RD "STORMPIKE DARK ANGEL". Making up a trio of good bitches, this one has a lovely head, short back, good backend and a bit of class. I think all three will be in the firing line fairly regularly.

RES "ZANTIASTAFF THE ODYSSEY".

VHC "EBONY BREEZE AT ROWELSTAFF JW".

**OPEN BITCH**

1ST "CH TILLCARR RING OF FIRE ShCM". High class brindle who headed a very good class. She has a first class head, straight enough front and a good neck. Good shoulders and a short back. She is well ribbed up and has a dead level topline when standing. She has good hindquarters and moves as well as any. Her topline does tend to go a bit on the move but I think this is in no small part due to the fact that there is a bit of fire burning inside and she is rather keen to exchange views with the opposition. I don’t quite know how to quantify sparkle in the eyes, but this girl has it. She is presented in tip top condition and handled very well. I have enjoyed watching the journey of this team from wide eyes through to champion. She is a lovely bitch and a credit to her owners and breeders, and to the breed. **BCC & RBIS**

2ND "NEVER FORGOTTEN". Another very good bitch who is knocking on the door. She is up to size and has a lovely head, straight front, good topline, shapely body and a good backend. In this class the devil in the winners eye was pretty much the deciding factor, there is so very little between them, and in the challenge for the RCC  I had got my eye in on the Post Grad bitch. Well worthy champion who will get there soon enough.

3RD

"VALGLO ANGELIQUE". Great favourite of mine who was in there right up until the end, another who is a great credit to the breed.

RES "TIKKURILAN TICKA TEBOO".

VHC "ASHSTOCK EASTER ROSE JW".