



Darlington Championship Show 2011



● Group 1 chosen by Geoff Corish was the Skye Terrier Ch Salena Black Shadow, owned by Mrs Breeze pictured with David Mitchell presenting the trophy



● Group 1 in the Utility group was the Toy Poodle Ch Vanitonia You'll See, owned and bred by Lee Cox and Tom Isherwood, handled and pictured here Lee with Judge Ken Sinclair and assistant Treasurer Gillian Marley



● Group 1 was for the Bouvier des Flandres Ch I'm Special Inessence Movado At Kanix (imp), from L to r, judge Richard Kinsey, Mrs Fiona Lambert, handler David Killea and committee member Paul Singer



● Group 1 was for the Sheltie Ch Edglonin Singin The Blues picutred here with Judge Ferelith Somerfield, owned by Miss Pearson and committee member Cathy Moffat presents the trophy

Photos by
Lovall Design



● Group 1 was for the Pekinese Ch Yakee Ooh Aah Cantona, bred and handled by Bert Easdon for Philip Martin. In the photo Bert, Philip, Judge Val Blore and David Guy



● Show manager and his assistants from L to R: Ass. Showmanager Mason Thorne, President Alan Mather, Showmanager Robert Harrison and Safety Officer Mark Walshaw



● Group 2 Italian Greyhound Ch Florita Tipitina, owner Mrs Lsiter

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After walking up and down her shortlisted line up and moving them once again a loud cheer went up in the tent as Ferelith pointed at the Sheltie as her winner, Pyrenean Mountain dog 2nd, 3rd the Corgi Cardigan, and group 4 the Finnish Lapphund, a great day for the breed. Puppy group winner was the Bearded Collie Pipadene Ultimate Dream, owner Mrs Betts, veteran group the Shetland Sheepdog Ch Highbrook Harlequin owned by Mr & Mrs Goodwin and the breeders group was for the Australian Shepherds bred by Allan. Another day over and we were looking forward to the last two groups on day 3, the Gundog and Toy Groups. Although the day started with sunshine and it looked to be a nice day, it was not to last! Just before the groups were about to start we got a few showers, nothing too major, but as the group judging went underway the heavens opened once more with a torrential downpour! The showground must be very well drained as there were some muddy patches but nothing that stopped people from getting their cars of the showground. Something that was noticed though and we would like to mention is that after all the critique there was on the World show in Paris about people not cleaning up after their dogs, it surprised us to see how many people are doing the same thing at our shows. It does not make much difference to put your dogs 'business' in a plastic bag and then leave it standing around the ringsides for somebody else to dispose of! There were plenty of bins around all rings to put things away properly. Anyway, on to the show, the two last groups were to be judged first, after which the stakes finals were to take place, first group in the ring was the Toy Group, to be judged by Val Blore. We saw the following dogs go forward to the shortlist: Italian Greyhound Ch Florita Tipitina, owned by Miss Lister, 9 CC's Topdog in breed 2010, toy puppy group winner Birmingham National 2010, she is out of a litter of two, and both are Champions, the Pekinese Ch Yakee Ooh Aah Cantona, bred by Bert Easdon and owned by Philip Martin, this dog was RBIS at WKC this year has got 10CC's and several group placings, he is handled by Bert, the Japanese Chin Ch Vanistica Kazuki Sleepyollow JW, owners Mr Allcock MBE and Mr Young, 18 CC's and several group placings, the Pomeranian Ch Lireva's Sir Fin The Net, owner, breeder Mr Cawthera, 25 CC's, Ch Stakes qualifier, the Pug Estacostella Doris Day, owned by Mrs Storey. This is her first Show pug and she won her first CC today. The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Ch Keyingham Branwell, owned by Mrs Baker. They both had a good day as they also won the veteran group under Judge Graham Hill, this dog has got 42 CC's, 25 RCC's, BIS UK toy dog show and BOB at Crufts 2006 and is 9 years old. The English Toy Terrier Witchstone New Star At Tettoy, Mr & Mrs Newton, won her first CC today, her litter sister won her first CC at SKC last month, the Havanese Happyfriends What A Guy, owner Mrs Walker and the Maltese who just made it into the main ring Ch Benatone Gold Bow, owned by Mrs & Miss Jackson and as always handled by Sarah. It didn't take long before we saw the beautiful Pekinese with a very happy Bert going Group 1, Group2 was for the Italian Greyhound, Group 3 the Cavalier King Charles and Group 4 the Maltese. No time to waste and we went on to the puppy group, once again Brenda Banbury took centre stage and choose Tom Isherwood's Chinese Crested dog Vanitonia Wot's Occuring, as her puppy group winner. Breeders group under Albert Wight were Jo Davidson-Poston's Papillons. Next it was Pasty Hollings turn to sort her way through a large Gundog group, and after seeing some beautiful moving dogs we got to the stage that we saw a shortlist being brought into the centre in the ring.

Frank Kane's commentary was excellent, we got breed and some information on the way these dogs were used for working. Back to the shortlist, this was to be the last shortlist of Darlington 2011 and we saw the Pointer Sh Ch Kiswahili Martin At Kanix, owned by Miss Blackburn-Bennett, top pointer 201, winning his 22nd CC today, several group placings, group 1 at Windsor and was sired out of the owner's Multi Champion New Zealand import, the Welsh Springer Spaniel Sh Ch Ferndel Aeron Magregor, owned by John Thirwell, 8 CC's, Top Welsh Springer at the moment owner bred, the Cocker Spaniel Sh CH Helenwood Crystal Maze, owner Mrs Marris Bray, 8 CC's, 2 BOB, sired by a Spanish Import, the English Springer Spaniel Sh Ch Nord Barecho Hold Your Horses At Peasblossom, owned by Mr & Mrs Mitchell, Swedish import, 15 CC's Group 1 Birmingham, Group 2 Bournemouth, the Irish Waterspaniel which we have seen several times before at this level Sh Ch Am Ch Whistlestop's Elements Of Magic, owners Mrs Carruthers and Mrs McDaniel, 2 BIS (Bath & Bournemouth) 6 CC's, 5 BOB, Best in Show a the Clubshow and he is an American Import, English Setter Sh Ch Quensha Little Jeanie JW, owned by Mrs Morgan and Mr Bott, 20 CC's, 2 Group 2, BIS at the Setter and Pointer Show, owner bred, the Clumber Spaniel Sh Ch Tweedsmuir Beautiful Dream Among Suelynnda JW, owners Mr & Mrs Boden, no Cc on offer today but has won 19 CC's, 16 BOB East Anglia Top Dog, very naughty but the owner loves her! The Hungarian Visla Sh Ch Pitswarren Planet JW Sh.CM, owner Mr Harper, 22 CC's 22 RCC's and 2 Group 4, the Italian Spinone Cobbets Rock N Roll Party with Bessalone, owners Knowles and Glenn. For the final time this year the group boards were brought into the ring and Patsy choose as her winner the Irish Water spaniel, a popular win if the noise from the crowd was anything to go by, Group 2 the English Springer Spaniel, group 3 the Pointer and group 4 the English Setter. Whilst the stakes finals were taking place the group winners were assembled into the collecting ring, there was still a nice crowd assembled around the main ring which created a nice atmosphere, and Best in Show judge Stuart Plane, a fist appointment at this level for him, entered the ring and was greeted by applause. Frank Kane introduced the group winners as they entered the ring under the watchful eye of the judge. Every dog was judged and moved and the tension was rising in the tent, could it be the Water Spaniel? Could it be the Bouvier or the Skye terrier? We didn't have to wait long, Merlin, the Irish Water Spaniel did the hat trick this year by going Best in Show at Darlington 2011! Can we please note that his name is Merlin and NOT Wizard or Magic as previously reported? Merlin's owners and fan club were delighted and another roar from the crowd when the Bouvier des Flandres was directed to the Reserve Best in Show spot.

After a 'winners round' under loud applause, it was the turn for Brenda Banbury to step into the main ring for the last time at Darlington this year, to make her final choice for Best Puppy in Show at Darlington 2011, and she choose the Rottweiler Paloduro Gold Digga with the Chinese Crested Vanitonia Wot's Occuring as reserve Best Puppy in Show, again a lap of honour and the Rottweiler was very delighted with herself and jumped for joy. The only thing that was left to be judged was the Best Veteran in Show, it is a delight to see dogs at an advanced age go through the ring with such enthusiasm! Graham Hill choose as his Best veteran the English Springer Sh Ch Trimere Tigra.

Whilst the Bannerdown boys were already outside taking the benching down for the next show, the photographs were taken and Darlington was over for yet another year, we are already looking forward to next year!

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● Winner of the Eukanuba Champion stakes was Labrador Am Can Ch Salty Dog Of Tampa Bay, owner Mr Allen, here with Judge Meriel Hathaway and Erica Greenwood representing sponsor Eukanuba



● Reserve in this group was the Saluki Ch Caryna Meilishia Sh.CM owend by Mrs Garratt, Miss Oakey and Mrs Smith