

# Critique from Day One of 2010 CKCS Specialty

I last judged at this show in 1993 so 17 years have passed. A long time between judging appointments! In all seriousness, to be asked by the CKCS Club of Victoria to return to your country to judge, was a privilege and a great opportunity to see what changes had occurred in the Australian Cavalier show scene in the intervening years. Melbourne in June hasn't got any warmer but the people are as warm as I remember them.

My thanks go out to those officials of the Club (and non-officials) who made our stay so pleasurable.

## **My impressions**

I was looking for a small, very attractive, well made, happy dog that oozed Breed Type and shouted "Cavalier" to me and had that indefinable quality of being something special. I think I did, and was pleased there was uniformity in my line up that fitted my interpretation of the Standard.

Coats are plusher now and anyone who says Australian dogs cannot grow coat, needs to look at some of the exhibits here today. Quite a number of coats were long and silky, even on some of the dogs living in hot climes.

Size is still variable.

Fronts and rears much the same.

The quality in the bitches ran deeper than the dogs which I suppose is no bad thing.

I think what I found too often and gave me concern the most were expressions. When looking into the face of a Cavalier, I want to almost swoon at what I see there. The liquid eyes, the gentle, generous features giving sometimes a soulful, pleading expression that can change in an instant to a cheeky, happy "isn't life fun" look. The look that makes you melt and that drew most of us to this breed. I cannot say I didn't find this over the 2 days, but they were in the minority. What I did find were a large number of expressions that were lack lustre and bland. Generic certainly, but unexciting. I hope this can be addressed.

## **MINOR PUPPY DOG**

1. CAVASHON BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM - 8 months old Blenheim who should be heard of many times as he shows promise. Liked his size, balanced outline, good substance, pretty head with soft eyes and good pigmentation. Needs to steady in front but a lovely puppy to start the day's judging.

2. LACELEE LOVES DISTANT BLISS - Preferred expression of winner, but this Blenheim has lots of breed basics. Great temperament and liked watching him moving in profile where he displayed a firm topline.

3. CABROOK BENJAMIN BUTTON - Another Blenheim making up this pleasing trio. Respectable boy who could not match outlook of winner and found him shortish in muzzle. Also longer in back than those above which clinched it. Not a bad puppy but did not tick enough boxes to go higher.

## **PUPPY DOG**

1. JADELYN DIRTY DANCING (Imp. USA) - Lavishly coated Blenheim boy of 11 months. Glam and eye-catching with sweet expression and who gave a good account of himself on the move. Short backed with good ribs and medium bone. Shoulders could be better laid but quibble on a smashing puppy.

2. MATMOR DUKE ELLINGTON - Was tempted by this black/tan who was the best mover in the class and it was a hair-splitting decision, marginally preferring the breed type of Blenheim.

Well schooled and looked a picture in his shiny black coat complimented by rich tan markings. The size I like. Soft face and appealing head.

3. LEISUREVIEW OMAR SHARIF - Only 6 months so looked babyish compared to others. However, the foundations and breed characteristics are good. Ideal markings. A naughty boy who showed only glimpses of his capabilities in moving. Lively. Needs time and he has lots.

4. COOLOORA ROCK THE BOAT - Fluffy puppy who was rangier than those above. Nevertheless, should develop into a handsome boy with his honest to goodness qualities. Has a certain style that appeals.

5. COATESVILLE GAMBLING MAN - Thought this boy might be higher in the placings. Sadly, on examination, his mouth finish disappointed and his expression was not as gentle as I sought. Loved his body shape and he has good substance with excellent bone. Profile on the move is lovely.

## **JUNIOR DOG.**

1. CABROOK BOSSANOVA - Scores for breed type in head, which is soft, generous and masculine with gorgeous eyes. Well-marked coat that is soft as silk but could be a deeper chestnut. Apart from his lovely head and expression, he won for balance, good angles front and rear and accurate movement. Lovely boy with a rosy future.

2. BRIMARVAN MIRROR IMAGE - Richer marked Blenheim only 12 and half months old. Masculine, refined head with gentle eyes. Ideal show temperament with no hang-ups. Preferred more balanced outline of winner.

3. DAPSEN THE JAZZ MAN - Liked this one a lot but at 16 months he looks as if he still needs time to mature. One of the best movers in the class and with his typical breed points in head and construction, this Blenheim could trouble the best next year. Lovely outline moving.

4. TRESCAVAL APRES MIDNITE - This tri boy was wicked. A handful and full of vitality but when schooled could do well. Not small but he has glamour and appeals for his eye-catching quality coat, not always achievable in this colour. Presented in lovely condition. Masculine head with hint of mischief in expression. Needs sympathetic, firm guidance to bring out his best.

5. DOPELL RISKY BUSINESS - Neatly made Blenheim. Appealed in head, body shape, and colourings with no blatant exaggerations.

### **INTERMEDIATE DOG** 1 and 2 appealed for different reasons.

1. CH. CAVASHON HALLMARK - Smart Blenheim teeming with quality. Generous head with good eyes and his lavish coat made him a pin up boy. Kept a level topline moving and he utilised his well-turned stifles. Unquestionable breed type and head properties clinched it.

2. CH. DAPSEN IN IT TO WIN IT - Super constructed Blenheim who was the soundest moving dog in the class. Well-broken markings, richly coloured and he catches the eye going around the ring. Big eyes set in a head I found generic but not WOW. Pushed hard for first place but paid the penalty of his nose being off colour and 1 scored in expression.

3. LACELEE LIASON OF LOVE - Huge ears framed this handsome Blenheim's head and his dark round eyes, quality coat and good pigmentation won him this place. Not so positive moving and he was longer backed but I appreciated his plus points.

4. MARCAVAN TOP ORDER - A cheery chap. Blenheim with a lozenge and rich colouring to coat but nose pigment pale. An honest dog who was sadly unable to match the more accomplished movers.

5. BLACKTREE TUSCAN TOUCH - Nice looking Blenheim uncoordinated on the move and bigger and rangier than my ideal. In good coat and despite squinting, his eyes were large and round.

### **LIMIT DOG**

1. ORONSAY HELL RAISER - Super Blenheim spot on for size, construction and coat colouring. Was squinting a little in one eye, but his obvious qualities far outweighed this drawback today as I found his expression soft with good ratio of skull to muzzle. Good ear set and long leathers. Liked his stance and going around he did not disappoint with an admirable tail carriage. An easy going dog and felt he might be a contender. I was pleased to award him the RESERVE DOG CHALLENGE, behind his sire who took the DOG CHALLENGE. With correct exposure under connoisseur judges, this boy could go all the way.

2. MELLOWAY STOPPING TRAFFIC - Exuberant showman who cannot be ignored for his flamboyant style and presentation. A dog who hangs on his owner's every word and presents a pleasing outline of sloping shoulders, firm topline and well turned stifles. In his enthusiasm, tends to races around the ring, pushing his neck and front assembly forward spoiling his outline. Up to size for me and not quite head and expression I was looking for.

3. PORTCON MON AMI - Smaller Blenheim who seemed dull today. Liked his eyes, neatness, textbook markings and substance. Rather skimpy ear leathers. Does just enough, but no more and if persuaded to make more of himself, could go higher.

4. LORANKAS SPELLBINDING HARANA (Imp. UK) - All male ruby whose owners deserve full credit for the way their dogs are turned out. This does not happen with just a quick shampoo the day before a show. It takes time, effort and dedication to achieve this kind of condition. Loved his gentle outlook with great eyes. Judged him in the UK when younger and liked him. More mature now and rangier than I remember but he still appeals.

5. DOPELL ROMANTIC DREAM - Mouth finish disappointed and pegged him back. Pity as otherwise he is an honest dog with good eyes and a nice mover with lots to appreciate. At this level, everything counts.

## **AUSTRALIAN BRED DOG**

1. CH. CABROOK FLASH DANCE - DOG CHALLENGE WINNER and BEST IN SHOW So good to see my top dog and bitch came from the Aussie bred class. This Blenheim filled my eye and was a deserving winner at the end of the day. Across the ring, he draws attention in repose, but also stands up to close scrutiny on the table and on the move. His head is dreamy with expressive eyes that are dark, round and large. Long ears. Black nose. Good depth of colour to his Blenheim coat and there was plenty of it, in great condition. Good outline coming from reachy neck, correctly placed shoulders, firm topline and well placed tail. At 4 years old, he is looking great, went through his routine willingly, and displayed great fluency of movement. A lovely boy with much to emulate and I hope he will contribute much to the Australian Cavalier.

2. CH. ELFKING SAM I AM - Another good Blenheim. Richly coloured, striking dog with good temperament. Can understand his appeal just lost out to winner whose expression and profile pleased me more.

3. CH. DAPSEN MAKN THE TRADE - Tricolour with black saddle body markings. Scores for neck, well laid shoulders, firm topline making an appealing outline. Mid brown eyes. Just asked to be picked and his great attitude appealed. Tidy sized dog who should be useful to have around.

4. CH. CAVASHON MONOGRAM - Bigger but stylish Blenheim. Longer in back than my ideal but he has much to like. Soft, yet masculine head with good eyes, dark and round. Moved well going away, less collected coming towards me.

5. CH. BARODALEY JOLLY SWAGMAN - Another tricolour. Handsome head and expression. Not outline of winner but a quality dog who was presented well.

**OPEN DOG** 12 in class. 5 creditable Champions took the placings.

1. GR. CH. DAPSEN MAKE MY DAY - Stylish tricolour with fabulous eyes and a delicious expression. Flashy well-broken markings make him stand out and he impresses on the move. Loved his size with good substance. Tends to race a little and he was not in his best coat. In my last four and can appreciate why he has such a successful show record. Looking at some of other winners here today, he is also passing on his quality to his children. My compliments to his breeder and owner on producing such a lovely boy. In my final four

2. GR. CH. CAVASHON ABRACADABRA - Another pin up. This one a glamorous 6 year old Blenheim, one size up from 1. Great showman. Big eyes and jet black nose. Long ears framed a handsome face full of expression. Good neck and shoulders. Bigger than my ideal. This exhibitor had a good day as her dogs appealed.

3. CH. CABROOK HIZ LORDSHIP - A lot to like about this one. Richly coloured Blenheim coat with pearly white markings catch the attention. Loved his eyes. Big, dark and soulful. Small and tidy body shape but not so collected on the move as 1 and 2. Seemed more relaxed after class placed. I liked him.

4. Ch. CHRISINDY KENNY CHESNEY - Classy ruby presented in tiptop condition. Delightful face with soft mellow eyes. Enjoying himself. Not quite the balance in body I wanted.

5. CH. EIREANNMADA TAKING OVER - 4 year old tricolour. Not a bad little dog who just needs to make more of his time in the ring. Insisted on putting his ears down and I would prefer richer tan tones. Happy go lucky and stepped out with style. Neatly made with satisfying construction.

#### **VETERAN DOG**

1. GR. CH. MATMOR FAIRGRND ATTRACTN - 8 and a half years old black/tan groomed to perfection. If you want to see how to prepare a Cavalier for the ring, then look no further. Every hair on this boy gleamed with well being. Lovely mellow face with huge ear fringing (hope they do not grow any longer!) Bright tan markings set off his silky, shiny black coat. and ample bone complimented his size. Born showman whose effervescent personality shone through. He swaggered round the ring and demanded attention. Down to my last four and won Best Veteran Dog and to great applause Best Veteran in Show. High-ranking Cavalier deserving the accolade of Grand Champion.

2. CH. CABROOK LA CARTIER - No disgrace in coming 2<sup>nd</sup> to winner who was on great form. This 9-year-old Blenheim has a charming face and his friendly, show off temperament was endearing. Not coat quality of 1 and less fluent on the move. But he oozed breed type and character and makes a worthy Champion.

#### **MINOR PUPPY BITCH**

1. DUNSFOLD SWEET DREAMS - Despite her young age, 7 months, this little Blenheim never put a foot wrong. It is easy to be taken in by a polished performance but her actual qualities live up to her presentation and she must have a great future in the ring if she continues in this vein. Great size, delightful expression, neck, shoulders, topline and tail set, all as required. Sound as a bell on the move. Exciting prospect who impressed to take BEST PUPPY IN SHOW.

2. SHAHRAMI CHONTELLES DREAM - Super colour on this puppy. Being a bit naughty, but at 8 months ring training can go out the window and regimentation can bore a less than exuberant puppy. She will settle. Showed enough to convince me she was worthy of this placing. Gentle face with appealing eyes and good balanced head. Nicely constructed.

3. CARIBELLE INFINITY - At 7 months this youngster is starting to sprout and looked bum high today. Will look better in a few months. Has such a lot to like. Neat and tidy body shape. Pretty head. Big eyes. Even has a lozenge! Steady mover. Has lots of potential.

4. CAVASHON SHERRIE BABY - Another pretty baby of 7 months with good foundations to build on. Raw and skinny at moment so needs nurturing. Should finish nice. Loved her on the move where she combined confidence with accuracy. Coat coming in nicely.

5. DAPSEN ALL THAT JAZZ - Another promising baby. Correct head properties with feminine outlook. Lovely coat texture. Good outline with well-turned stifles. Happy showgirl. At 8 months, she has the essential breed traits to see her through.

#### **PUPPY BITCH** Class full of talent.

1. DOPELL TIGER LILY - Really liked this puppy. Coat a little on the pale side and hope she darkens up, but she still has fluff and will look the better for its removal. Has a great face

with all the components needed to make up a head of the best. Flat skull, high set ears, dark and round, gentle eyes. Enough cushioning. Spot on for size and substance. Small but not weedy. Could watch her effortless movement all day. Tail carried correctly. Definitely one to watch.

2. RYANZ GINGER ROGERZ - Bigger than 1 and needs coat to be able to compete more in earnest. The coat she had was shiny with rich, clearly defined markings. Stands presenting a lovely outline but could not match winner's effortless gait. Has good balance to her head and her typical Cavalier charm won me over.

3. ANANDA ECLIPSE OF THE HEART - Another feminine, sweet faced Blenheim. This one sported a lozenge. It was a nit picking decision between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place, but just found "Eclipse" uneven head markings less appealing. Purely cosmetic. Steady mover and shows willingly for her owner. Good substance with deep chest. Shown in lovely soft, silky coat.

4. CAVASHON EYE CANDY - Another nice exhibit from this kennel. Scores for depth of colouring. Her chestnut was rich and bright. Great make and shape with fluent outline. Every piece knitting well together. Size bigger than I wanted but still found her feminine and should finish a very respectable adult.

5. LAKEISHA SNEAK PEEK - Finished off a quintet of deserving puppies. Lightly marked bitch with attractive head and body shape that appeals. Adequate neck leading into well-placed shoulders, firm topline and croup that doesn't slope. Good bone for her size.

#### **JUNIOR BITCH**

1. LEISUREVIEW LITTL BIT OF HEAVEN - Liked this girl a lot. Super shape, shapely body, sweet head. Free mover who covered the ground accurately putting her good angles, front and rear, to work. Today she moved better than she stood! A wooden cavalier she certainly is not. Breed type galore.

2. INNESVEIL CLASSIC DREAM - Very pretty Blenheim who looked good on the move and gave 1 a run for her money. Not neck of winner but loved her size, small with medium bone. Delicious expression that will always pave the way for her.

3. DAPSEN BOLD N BEAUTIFUL - Attractive Blenheim who although only 12 months did well against the older exhibits. Needs to fill out in face and could not match eyes of those above, but she is a well made, classy bitch with an easy stride who presented no problems moving in both directions.

4. DAPSEN KNOW IT ALL - Lovely head type on this 14 month old who has glorious gentle eyes. When she coats up with furnishings she will look more girly as I found her a little "doggy" today. She enjoys her showing and gives 100%. Moved nicely.

5. ELFKING LITTLE MARIA - I wrote, "Unschoolled but has quality". Better this way than "well schooled with no quality"! Striking little bitch with rich tan markings on pearly white coat that makes her easy on the eye. 18 months old and could do some useful winning if she learns the ropes. Didn't do enough today to take her higher.

### **INTERMEDIATE BITCH**

1. SMICAV SWAY WITH ME - Love the stance this bitch sets herself up into. It is natural. Neck, shoulders, topline and tailset were all agreeable. A lightly marked Blenheim with a delightful, soft expression coming from mellow eyes. Happy disposition and she did all that was asked of her. Typical Cavalier with lots of appeal.

2. CH LOOKINGGLASS GEORGIANA - Blanketed tricolour I liked immensely. Very sound on the move and her ring performance and condition could not be faulted. In lovely coat that gleamed with well being. I appreciate the work that goes into presenting a bitch in this sparkling form. Similar body shape to 1 whose more feminine head I preferred. But a lovely bitch in this the hardest of colours to breed true.

3. CLARELLY RING A RING A ROSIE - 2 year old, immature looking ruby who lacked body. Thin but in her favour, she has a lovely, gentle face and good body construction. With weight on, she would look so much better. Good outline and impressive mover. Correct face features. Attractive with no unpleasant extremes in stop or skull.

4. CH. BRADES DESIGNER LABEL - This bitch showed better when class was over! Admired her clear markings and attractive expression with good depth of pigment to nose and eyes. Drove off from well-turned stifles. Has what it takes but just needs channelled in the right direction.

5. STAROMAH KARA MIA MI - Some pretty bitches in this class and this one was no exception. Heavier marked Blenheim who appealed for head and eye. Size was good with good shoulder placement and adequate neck. Pegged back today by weak nose pigment.

**LIMIT BITCH** Found this class hard to separate as all had different strengths and weaknesses.

1. BRIMARVAN BLUE VELVET - Blenheim with lots of appeal. Admired her expression with large eyes. Body length and height complimented each other. Splendid coat, attractively marked with silky texture. Shows willingly and easy to assess. Added to this she steps out precisely putting her front and rear angulation to good use. To top it all has good tail set. Nice bitch.

2. DAPSEN MISS TAKE IT ALL - Another well constructed Blenheim. Not head properties of winner but her make and shape appealed enormously and she sailed around the ring in an elegant, accurate action. Pleasing coat markings added to her appeal. Nice eyes and presented in lovely order.

3. LAKEISHA MOONLITE MAGIC - Happy Blenheim who appealed for her rich chestnut markings and pretty face. Has a look of quality and her personality appealed. Lost out on neck and shoulders.

4. ELZMERE SHOW ME THE MONEY - Much of same remarks as previous. Much to like in appearance and performance. Needs coat.

5. MARCAVAN COOL SKY - Full bodied Blenheim with lozenge. Not in her best bib and tucker and will look better when back in coat. On the big side.

### **AUSTRALIAN BRED BITCH**

1. GR. CH. EIREANNMADA DISTANT STAR – BITCH CHALLENGE. Those connected in producing this Australian bred Blenheim should be proud, as she could be a winner anywhere. Exquisite breed type coming from her serene expression, textbook markings and her close adherence to the Breed Standard. Ideal size with neck, shoulders and topline combining to produce fluid outline. Good tail carriage. Not putting so much into showing as “Passion Ov the Heart” and I did consider this. In the end, could not resist the appeal of her expression. Now 6 years old but she can still see off stiff competitors and will look great in the Veteran classes.

2. CH. BARAKAH SLEEK SAMIA - Smart ruby with correct head features. Sometimes whole colours can have deep stops and high foreheads. Not this girl. Her head would be correct, no matter the colour and that is how it should be. Super ears framed a gentle face. Longer backed than winner but she swept elegantly around the ring in style. Liked her a lot.

3. CH. DAPSEN COMIN AT YA - This Blenheim scores for glamour and will always command a second look. Sweetest of expressions and definitely one for breed type connoisseurs. Shown in magnificent coat and stands showing an elegant outline with gently wagging tail. Preferred side profile on the move of those above but a bitch to be proud of.

4. CH. EMILYSPRINGS WINTER ROSE - Clean sweeping outline on this Blenheim who appealed for her breed type. Dense pigmentation. A size smaller would have suited me more but she has much to admire.

5. DENSURY MISCONCEPTION - Agreeable Blenheim girl. No disgrace to come 5<sup>th</sup> in this competition. Was just looking for something smaller and pigmentation could be stronger.

### **OPEN BITCH**

1. CH. CAVASHON PASSION OV THE HEART - RESERVE BITCH CHALLENGE. This girl sparkles and puts on a great display. Sound moving with a sweet face. Another with good eyes that play such an important part in the make up of expression. Attractively marked and is pleasing on the eye as she circles the ring showing correct angulation front and rear. Pushed “Star” all the way and at this level, there was only a whisker in it!

2. CH. JESSICAV WISH UPON A STAR - Loved the face on this tricolour. It is hard to juggle the three colours on the face to get everything in the right place but this one succeeds. Body markings of white collar, black saddle and white rump emphasised her crisp outline. Went around the ring proudly with head up. Bigger than 1 but a worthy second.

3. COLOORA SUMMER LIAISON - Lots of straight, silky coat but he short ears on this Blenheim unbalanced her head. Ears that frame the face add so much to the expression. A smart moving bitch with a lot going for her. Good for breed type.

4. CH. MELLOWAY DESIGNER GIRL - I regard this as a very useful bitch and looking at her breeding can see why. A tad doggy for me and lacks a bit of glamour not helped by her lack of blaze but she looked good going around. Well bodied with good ribcage. Presentation could not be faulted.

5. CH. DAPSEN ME N MY SHADO - Loved the profile movement on this girl. Sadly, out of condition with pale, wispy coat and off pigmentation. Looking better would have improved her chances but today she paid the price.

**VETERAN BITCH** 2 Champion girls, both Blenheims.

1. CH. CABROOK MON AMIE - Feminine, almost 9, with such a pretty head and expression. Her eyes are lovely and exactly what needs to be passed on from generation to generation. Has an elegant outline with good construction and her condition and muscle tone allowed her freedom of movement. Breed type like this should be bottled!

2. CH BRIMARVAN VELVET RIBBONS - Another Blenheim, slightly younger at 7 but looking more matronly. Short backed with well-sprung ribs. Looked at me appealingly with large soulful eyes. Hard to resist. Enjoying her time in the ring again and her Cavalier typical temperament was evident. Went through her paces admirably.

### **BABY PUPPY CLASSES MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

#### **DOGS**

##### **1. MERSEYPORT ABBEY ROAD**

Chunky, hairy Blenheim boy with good bone and substance. Well marked coat. "Baby" means just that and his naughtiness appealed. Saw enough and he had the ability to move well. Lovely eyes and attractive head. 4 months old and just right for age. BEST BABY PUPPY IN SHOW.

##### **2. DAPSEN A MINUTE TO WIN IT**

Another nice Blenheim boy, the same age but less fluffy and sleeker. Great pigment in eyes, nose and coat. Appealed in head with pretty expression. Went well in both directions and his showy, happy go lucky nature made him easy to assess.

##### **3. JENAWYN I LIKE THAT**

Smart tricolour with attractive coat markings. Liked his expression, which was soft and gentle with dark eyes and good clear-cut colour distribution on face. Short back. Ample bone. Should finish nice. A little younger than those ahead of him.

##### **4 DAPSEN ACCIDENTAL TOURIST**

5 months tricolour who was starting to stretch, so looked rangier than others. Most accomplished mover in class. Topline not so firm and was dipping from time to time but these are babies after all, and we should not expect too much! Handsome head with lovely tricolour body markings. Should mature into something nice.

##### **5. MARCAVAN STORM CHASER**

Looked a real baby. Especially liked his head and substance. Front needs tightening but he has plenty of breed essentials to make up into a very respectable adult.

#### **BITCHES**

##### **1. DAPSEN BLAH BLAH BLAH**

Accomplished moving tri girl with level topline. At 5 months one of the oldest in the class and had the edge on coat and body firmness. Face tan could be darker but this seemed

insignificant when weighing up all her virtues. Good construction, well marked coat, ideal size, and pretty head will assure her of a bright future in the show ring. RESERVE BABY PUPPY IN SHOW

#### 2. LOOKINGGLASS LUMINESCENCE

This Blenheim had a sweet expression and from experience, I know her eyes will get bigger in time. Nice for size and not weedy. Very feminine and went well, enjoying her time in the ring.

#### 3. CARIBELLE VIVA LA DIVA

Great eyes on this baby Blenheim. She was enjoying it and that is half the battle in showing. Nice head shape and sporting a lozenge. Coat needing to come through. Has lots of promise.

#### 4. DAPSEN GENIUS OF THE NIGHT

Very pretty tri girl with all three colours on face placed to advantage. Flapping a little in front movement but kept a level topline on move. Loved her expression.

#### 5. MARCAVAN TEA CUP ROSE

Another tri with textbook face markings and appealing expression. Short body with good ribs and nice medium bone. White collar and black saddle backed.

**JUDGE : NORMA INGLIS (CRAIGOWL CAVALIERS. UK)**

## **Critique from Day Two of 2010 CKCS Specialty**

My thanks to the Officers and Committee of the Club for the opportunity to judge your show and for the hospitality afforded us to make our return visit to Australia after so many years such a memorable one. I'd forgotten how cold it gets in Melbourne in winter.

The show venue was ideally proportioned with plenty of room to accommodate the dogs in the ring. It's just a pity that the door at the end of the hall had to stay open all day, letting the cold seep in to my old bones, particularly by the late afternoon when the sun had gone.

My impression was that the Bitches were overall of higher quality and more typical than the dogs. A fair proportion of the bitches met my requirements for size, balance and type, with a large number of attractive exhibits with the appealing expressions that so define Cavaliers. On the other hand I found this not to be the case in the Dogs. While there are many that are well constructed and move well, I was disappointed to find so few with the heads and expressions that screamed Cavalier. Too many were rather bland and lacking the Wow-factor that separates a good dog from a great one. I particularly enjoyed judging the Baby Puppies and found what I believe to be a fair number of promising prospects, but only time will tell. I wish some of my adults were as well schooled and responsive as some of these babies.

## **BABY PUPPY DOG 21 (2 absent)**

### **1. Petersen's Dapsen The Winning Look**

Well marked Blenheim with a very appealing head and expression. Good bone and conformation. Stylish outline with correct topline and tailset.

### **2. Petersen's Dapsen A Minute To Win It**

Blenheim, very similar to winner. Again pleasing head type and expression. Well made and a true and accurate mover keeping his outline.

### **3. Silvester's Marcavan Storm Chaser**

Heavily marked Blenheim with a very sweet face and expression. Good in neck and shoulders with a solidly made body. Moving accurately.

### **4. Petersen's Dapsen Accidental Tourist**

Tricolour with picture perfect markings on a well made body. Slightly older than the others and very self-assured. Tan could be darker.

### **5. Madigan's Merseyport Abbey Road**

Most appealing head on this Blenheim. Nicely developed in body with attractive markings. Good angles and standing presents a peasant outline. Just needs to master the walking bit, but plenty of time.

## **BABY PUPPY BITCH 24 (4)**

### **1. Petersen's Dapsen Blah Blah Blah**

Perfectly marked tricolour with the most attractive head and expression. Lovely in outline and already a most accomplished mover. She keeps her outline so well and covers the ground so easily. A very bright prospect and the Best Baby Puppy here today.

### **2. Wyness' Oronsay Forget Me Not**

A more heavily marked tricolour, but her outline matched the winner's and she too has a lovely head-type and soft expression. Another steady and fluent mover. Another with a future.

### **3. Caribelle Kennels' Caribelle Viv La Diva**

Heavier markings on this blenheim, but a large white collar enhances her outline. Very short in coat at the moment. Shows her self well both standing and on the move. A very pretty head with the bonus of a lozenge.

### **4. Humphries' Lookingglass Luminescence**

This Blenheim had a well shaped face and a pleasing expression. Well made in body. Just getting the hang of the showing bit.

### **5. Silvester's Marcavan Tea Cup Rose**

Very pretty face on this heavily marked young tricolour. Steady enough on the move, but still very much a baby.

## **MINOR PUPPY DOG 4(1)**

All three were Blenheims

### **1. Brooksby's Cavashon Bend It Like Beckham**

Very pretty head and expression. Good for size and balance. Dark eyes and pigment. A steady and accurate mover.

### **2. Gray's Lacelee Loves Distant Bliss**

A pleasant type of head, a shade longer in muzzle. Well constructed in body and very stylish on the move.

### **3. Paterson's Cabrook Benjamin Button**

Good angulation front and rear, but longer cast in the body. Head shape correct but a bit messy in the muzzle. Coat of good length and of a lovely texture.

## **PUPPY DOG 5 (2)**

### **1. Brooksby's Jadelyn Dirty Dancing (Imp USA)**

Lovely for size and perfectly balanced in outline, this Blenheim also had a very appealing head. Well marked coat of lovely texture. Very satisfying in body construction, he moved well.

### **2. Morse & Henderson's Matmor Duke Ellington**

Close decision with winner for this attractive headed Black and Tan, with the loveliest eyes and soft outlook. A coat of good length and finish that gleamed with condition. Good body construction that was apparent both standing and when he moved.

### **3. Morris' Colooro Rock The Boat**

Heavier markings on this Blenheim and his coat was at an in-between stage. Lovely eyes with good earset and pleasing expression. Taller and longer than I prefer. Finally got the hang of moving.

## **JUNIOR DOG 17 (1)**

### **1. Paterson's Cabrook Bossanova RESERVE DOG CHALLENGE**

A lovely headpiece on this Blenheim with great eyes, large and dark and full of expression. His body is so well made with neck, shoulders, topline and tailset complementarily combined. Coat is well marked, if a shade paler than I would prefer. He is enthusiastic in his showing both standing and on the move. He appealed greatly for overall size, balance and type. Reserve Challenge today, to his kennelmate, but he is one to watch, his day will come.

### **2. Taylor's Dopell Risky Business**

Richly coloured Blenheim of good size and substance. Pleasing in head with good eyes. Had the neck, shoulders and topline I was seeking and useful on the move.

### **3. Nichols' Miletree Royalist**

Blenheim of good colouring with pleasing type of head and expression. A size bigger, but good in outline which he held on the move.

### **4. Madigan's Ch Merseyport Poppycock**

Tricolour. Good for size and balance. Pleasant head. Plenty of coat, but lacked any sheen and feet a bit stained. Accurate steady mover.

### **5. Humphries' Lookingglass King's Rhapsody**

Blenheim with large dark eyes and pleasing expression. Steady enough on the move keeping his outline.

## **INTERMEDIATE DOG 17**

This class was disappointing in overall quality. There were a number whose eyes I found smaller than I would prefer and the expressions were lacking in softness.

### **1. Brooksby's Cavashon Hallmark**

This well marked Blenheim was excellent in size and balance. He has a most attractive head and a soft gentle expression. Presentation was first class and he moved with elegance.

### **2. McInnes' Lacelee Liason Of Love**

Another well marked blenheim. Pleasing head type and typical expression. Nose slightly off-colour. Moved adequately holding his outline.

### **3. Wynn's Jenawyn Drum Roll**

Rich coloring on this well marked Blenheim. His eyes could be darker, but a pleasant head. Steady on the move.

### **4. Kleinitz's Blacktree Tuscan Touch**

Lightly marked blenheim with a long silky coat. Broad in skull with a lozenge. I would like bigger eyes. Moved OK.

### **5. Weston's Densbury Illusion**

Similar remarks apply to this richly coloured and well marked Blenheim with a spot. Head type acceptable, but lacking the eyes and expression I was seeking.

## **LIMIT DOG 12**

### **1. Wyness' Oronsay Hell Raiser**

This Blenheim was correct for size and balance, with a firm well made body. Plenty of soft textured coat. Very appealing head and a soft gentle expression. Moved steadily.

### **2. Taylor's Dopell Romantic Dream**

Lightly marked Blenheim, paler in colour. Compact in body and a good size. Most attractive head and expression, although teeth not perfect. Moved adequately.

### **3. Egan & Weekes' Melloway Stopping Traffic**

Perfectly marked Blenheim. Pleasing head and a good outline, if a shade long in body. Moved rather quickly with feet barely touching the ground.

#### **4. Chapman's Elzmere Time And Place**

Blenheim, Ok for size with a pleasant type of head. Could do with a bit more weight as he felt rather flat-sided.

#### **5. Morgan's Portcon Mon Ami**

Good for size and with a pleasing gentle expression and good eyes. Short in body and moved adequately. Teeth less than perfect.

### **AUSTRALIAN BRED DOG 15 (1)**

#### **1. Paterson's Ch Cabrook Flash Dance DOG CHALLENGE, BEST IN SHOW**

This Blenheim was perfect for size and presented a very balanced picture. I liked the combination of neck, shoulders, topline and tailset giving him a striking profile, both standing and in motion. Lovely head type with dark expressive eyes and a gentle outlook. Body was well covered and firm and his coat was richly coloured and soft to the touch and shining with condition. A fluent mover doing all asked of him today. Pleased to award him the Challenge and Best in Show.

#### **2. Petersen's Ch Dapsen Makn The Trade**

I liked the size of this Tricolour. His very heavy markings served only to emphasise his good outline. Pleasant in head with a satisfying expression. He moved steadily and accurately.

#### **3. Micklem, Morse & Henderson's Ch Elfking Sam I Am**

Appealing type of Blenheim of good size with a firm well made body, if a bit longer cast. Richly coloured and well marked. Attractive in head and expression. Moving adequately.

#### **4. Brooksby's Ch Cavashon Monogram**

A lovely exhibit in many ways, but just too much of him for my taste. Taller and longer than I would prefer, but construction is good and he moved so well. Shown in lovely coat and condition.

#### **5. Silvester's Ch Marcavan Ryderothastorm**

Another heavily marked Tricolour. Good in outline and balance. Pleasing in head and a delightful attitude. Moved adequately.

### **OPEN DOG 12 (3)**

#### **1 Caribelle Kennels' Ch Dapsen Make My Day**

Small well marked Tricolour of ideal proportions and balance. Very pleasing type of head. Coat of a soft texture. Moved with verve and enthusiasm.

#### **2. Micklem & Chapman's Ch Chrisindy Kenny Chesney**

Ruby. A size bigger than I would prefer, but overall much to appreciate. Pleasant enough in head. Longer in body, but good angulation front and rear. Well coated and rich in colour.

#### **3. Morris's Ch Eireannmada Taking Over**

Another Tricolour. Good for size. Head appealing with a well shaped foreface. Nice tan markings on the face. Compact in body and well coated. Moved adequately.

#### **4. Schmidt's GrCh Bardolay Flamenco Dancer**

Bigger Blenheim. Very well marked. Head appealing with soft expression. Reachy neck and good shoulders complimented by his markings. Good attitude and free moving.

#### **5. Brooksby's GrCh Cavashon Abracadabra**

Blenheim. Richly coloured with large white collar enhancing his outline. Head type acceptable with dark pigmentation. Compact in body. Moved adequately.

### **VETERAN DOG 2**

#### **1. Morse & Henderson's GrCh Matmor Fairgrnd Attractn**

Black and Tan. Very pleasing in size and presented in first class condition with a long flowing straight coat that positively gleamed. I would prefer slightly more angulation in his front assembly, but he moved effortlessly with fluency and panache.

#### **2. Wood & Elliot's Ch Cabrook La Cartier**

Blenheim. Just a shade bigger with a great neck, shoulders and topline. Very pleasing head type. Coat a bit woolly and showing signs of age. Moved OK.

### **MINOR PUPPY BITCH 13 (5)**

#### **1. Nichols' Dunsfold Sweet Dreams RESERVE BITCH CHALLENGE**

Delightful Blenheim. Perfect for size and balance with the sweetest expression. Shapely in head with good eyes and correctly balance of skull to muzzle. Well made in body with enough substance. Enthusiastic and willing to please she moved with style and grace, holding her outline. I was captivated and awarded her the Reserve Challenge and Best Puppy in Show. One with a starry future, I'm sure.

#### **2 Caribelle Kennels' Caribelle Infinity**

Very feminine Blenheim with a soft and gentle outlook. I liked her body construction. Good front and rear angulation. She moved steadily and her coat is coming.

#### **3. Brooksby's Cavashon Sherrie Baby**

Pretty head and dark eyes on this well marked Blenheim of pleasing shape and outline, although she lacks a little in body as yet. Moved steadily keeping a pleasing outline.

#### **4. Petersen's Dapsen All That Jazz**

Blenheim with a good skull and earset with dark eyes and pigmentation. Dark in colouring. Still unfinished, but a very good framework to build on.

#### **5. Jack's Shahrami Chontelles Dream**

Blenheim with an attractive head and appealing eyes. Good for size and body shape. Dark richly coloured markings. A bit high-stepping in front.

### **PUPPY BITCH 15 (4)**

#### **1. Taylor's Dopell Tiger Lily**

A well marked blenheim, although paler in colour than is preferable. So well made and compact with a lovely head and expressive eyes. Moved very fluently, but reluctant to cooperate when it came to standing.

## **2. Brooksby's Cavashon Eye Candy**

Richer colouring on this Blenheim who is well made with a sweet head, dark eyes and a gentle expression. Holds her outline well both standing and on the move.

## **3. McInnes' Innesveil Classic Design**

Pretty headed Blenheim with good body construction. Good reach of neck and a firm frame. Moved adequately. Nose pigment could be darker.

## **4. Armstrong's Ryzanz Ginger Rogerz**

Lighter markings on this Blenheim with good eyes and dark pigmentation. Good neck and shoulders. A waggy attitude, she moved OK.

## **5. Lay's Ananda Eclipse Of The Heart**

Pretty headed with a pleasing outline enhanced by well broken markings. Moved adequately.

### **JUNIOR BITCH 16 (1)**

#### **1. Paul & Fox's Leisureview Littl Bit Of Heaven**

Perfectly marked Blenheim with a pleasing head type and good eyes. Good front construction and a very efficient mover.

#### **2. Retrac Kennels' Retrac Pure Innocence**

Pretty headed Blenheim, well marked and richly coloured. Of good size and substance, if a shade short in leg. Overall a pleasing type. Moved steadily.

#### **3. Kelly's Innesveil Classic Dream**

Heavy markings on this richly coloured Blenheim. Very appealing with a sweet face and attractive eyes, if a bit short in muzzle. Compact body carried well in profile.

#### **4. Caribelle Kennels' Dapsen Bold N Beautiful**

Well marked Blenheim with amore refined type of head. Still room to develop. Good neck and shoulders. Soft coat texture. Moved well when settled.

#### **5. Armstrong's Dapsen Know It All**

Pretty head on this Blenheim. Pleasing markings of good colouring. Attractive eyes. Good in neck and keeping her outline on the move.

### **INTERMEDIATE BITCH 19 (3)**

#### **1. Humphries' Ch Lookingglass Georgiana**

Heavily marked Tricolour with excellent body proportions. Well made and mature. Attractive head and appealing expression. Steady and accurate on the move.

#### **2. Schmidt's Ch Brades Designer Label**

Nice size and well marked Blenheim. Good for neck and standing presents a pleasing outline. Moved OK.

### **3. Silvesters Smicav Sway With Me**

Very lightly marked Blenheim with most appealing head and expression. Striking in outline. Well bodied and firm with good tailset. Pleasing on the move.

### **4. Morgan's Staromah Kara Mia Mi**

Heavily marked and richly coloured Blenheim. Sweet head and expression. Nice for size and balance. Moved OK. Nose off-colour.

### **5. Kelly's Clarelly Ring A Ring A Rosie**

Ruby whose head type I found appealing. Great in outline but lacking in body. Moved with style keeping a striking profile.

## **LIMIT BITCH 16**

### **1. Van Den Elzen & Chapman's Elzmere Show Me The Money**

Well marked Blenheim of good size and balance. Rather short of coat, but enough to get by. Head type acceptable and very steady on the move.

### **2. Brimarvan Kennels' Brimarvan Blue Velvet**

Good sized Blenheim of attractive type. Head OK. Pale colouring on ears. Good body and sound on the move. Plenty of coat.

### **3. Madigan's Oronsay Hells Bells**

Blenheim. Small and compact with a wealth of coat. Nice head with huge ears. Steady on the move.

### **4. Petersen's Dapsen Miss Take It All**

Bigger framed Blenheim. Lovely dark eyes and soft outlook. Pleasing profile standing and moving.

### **5. Silvester's Marcavan Cool Sky**

Sweet faced Blenheim with a spot. Good in outline, but short of coat. Firm body and accurate on the move.

## **AUSTRALIAN BRED BITCH 11 (4)**

### **1. Martin's Ch Dapsen Comin At Ya BITCH CHALLENGE**

Blenheim with the most appealing head and soft gentle expression. Perfect for size and well developed in body. Moved better as the class went on and she stands with a good outline showing non-stop. Her efforts were rewarded with the Bitch Challenge.

### **2. Brooksby's Ch Emilysprings Winter Rose**

Full-headed Blenheim. Overall a most satisfying shape and a steady mover, particularly in profile.

### **3. McCullough & Browne's GrCh Eireannmada Distant Star**

Lovely for size and balance with a pretty head. Attractive markings and well presented. Moved well but lacking in enthusiasm.

#### **4. Browne's Eireannmada Halo**

Excellent for type with a pleasing outline. Well coated. Felt she was just a shade heavy, but much to appreciate.

#### **5. Barras & Clegg's Ch Barakah Sleek Samia**

Ruby with a great outline and a very appealing head. Coat dark coloured and in excellent condition. Moved well keeping her outline.

### **OPEN BITCH 17 (6)**

#### **1. Brooksby's Ch Cavashon Passion Ov The Heart**

Lovely size and perfect markings on this Blenheim. Good eyes and a gentle expression. Well balanced and satisfying in outline. Steady and accurate on the move.

#### **2. Kleinitz' Ch Blacktree Catchme Kissme**

Very attractive Blenheim that I liked a lot. Heavy markings and rich colouring on a full coat of quality. Just a shade longer than the winner and not as firm in topline. Loved her face.

#### **3. Egan & Weekes' Ch Melloway Designer Girl**

Ideally proportioned and so well made. Even without a blaze this Tricolour had such an attractive head and expression emphasised by her dark round eyes. Accurate and fluent on the move.

#### **4. Brooksby's Ch Cavashon Just Divine**

Good sized Blenheim with a sweet expression and an attractive head type. Well proportioned and a fluent mover.

#### **5. Morris's Coloora Summer Liaison**

Very sweet face on this full-coated Blenheim who just lacked ear feathering. Longer in body but undoubted quality.

### **VETERAN BITCH 3 (1)**

#### **1. Paterson's Ch Cabrook Mon Amie**

Blenheim 8 and a half years old with the sweetest face and dark round eyes. A bit longish in body. In lovely coat and condition she moved gracefully.

#### **2. Brimarvan Kennels' Ch Brimarvan Velvet Ribbons**

A more compact Blenheim. Large round eyes on a full head. Richly coloured well marked coat. Moved adequately.

**Judge: Gordon Inglis (Craigowl Cavaliers UK)**