

## London & South East News

I thought I should start my first area news by thanking Estelle Winter for her 17 years of service for the Bulldog Magazine. Having followed Estelle's area news for the last 12 years I hope it comes as no surprise that I am her successor. I hope I manage to achieve the high benchmark of 17 years too! I will attempt to pick up where Estelle left off; below I've tried to recognise some of the achievements in the area since the last issue which means it's a bumper edition!

Ian and Michele Fridlington (Sussex) have had much success with numerous dogs including their veteran **Theoben Toffee Plum at Albertwood ShCM** winning veteran class at Richmond, JBC, East Midlands B/C, British B/C, Manchester and Inc champ shows, plus Crufts veteran class. Companion **Theoben Master Piece at Albertwood** has also been a regular winner at open shows awarded BD & BOS at Plymouth, Devon & Cornwall B/C plus BOB at Coulsdon, Worthing, Tunbridge Wells and Woolwich & Bexley in which he also took Group 3. He has also won RBOB at Southampton and Horley. I've been informed that sadly **Raljo License to Thrill at Albertwood** passed away in May having recently passed his Pets As Therapy assessment my thoughts are with Ian and Michele. Ian had his first judging appointment at Dover & Deal open show on 25<sup>th</sup> January, he awarded BOB to LaRoyal Anthem at Standproud, RBOB Lucabrazie Christine of Chiselwick and BP to Bexbull Burberry.

Ralph and Maria Taylors (Sussex) **Ch Hillplace Iron Lady** won Best Bitch and Best Opposite Sex in the BOY competition, she's also accumulated the BCC at Manchester, Inc and Bath plus the RBCC at Richmond, Birmingham National and SKC champ shows. They also now offer bulldog specific boarding, worth bearing in mind for any locals!

More Hillplace bred fame; Naomi Grady's **Hillplace Captain Scarlet at Purebully** won the RDCC at LBS Champ Show, a first for owner and dog, he had also previously won BOB at SWECA, Beckenham and UK Paper Leisure open shows along with a utility group win. The same dog has won RBOB at South of England Agricultural Society, Chelmsford & DCS open shows and won the Good Citizen Dog Scheme class at Crufts. Ann and Rob Waters (Sussex) **Hillplace Ironic for Cholto** was awarded BOB South of England Agricultural Society and Horley where she was also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Utility group respectively plus BOB at Dover & Deal and RBOB at Dartford & DCS and Beckenham open shows.

Jackie Lumbuse (London) won Limit class at WELKs with **Amaray Diamonds are Forever of Lumbuse** acquiring her studbook number. Gina Thorpe (London) won RBOB at UK Paper Leisure with **Robobull Moonson**. Kerry Ashdown (Sussex) co-owned bitch **Jaminic Specifically for Dannoble** has taken BP at Horsham, Crystal Palace and Ashford & Faversham open shows, plus her first BOB at Horsham & DCS.

Our own bitch **LaRoyal First Lady of Rock J.W** won BOB at Thames Estuary, Ashford & Faversham, Folkestone & Hythe and both Dartford DCS open shows. The Dartford show in January she gained her final required JW point and she also went on to win 1<sup>st</sup> Utility Group. She has also been awarded RBOB at Horsham, Crystal Palace and Woolwich & Bexley open shows. Along with her second RBIS award at LBS limit show.

Jenny and Simon Saunders (Sussex) **LaRoyal Anthem at Standproud** won BIS at JBC open show, BOB at East Kent, Woolwich & Bexley and Beckenham open shows. Latest recruit co-owned **Jaminic Justification at StandProud** took BP and Puppy Group 3 at his first open show, Woolwich Bexley & DCS, and BP & BOB at Crystal Palace under Maria Taylor (Hillplace) plus BP at UK Paper Leisure. Steve and Jane Williams (Hampshire) have been successful with their current show bitch **Jaminic Bootylicious for Bulltannia** winning BPIB at Richmond champ show in the very muddy conditions! She's also took BPIS at South of England Society champ show, BPB at JBC Champ show and BP at Coulsdon open show.

Tanya Wiltons (London) homebred bitch **Wilsav Sister Bliss** won BOB at Ashford & Faversham open show and obtained her studbook number at LBS champ show by winning Limit bitch. She also won BB, BOS & RBIS at South of England Breed open show. Tanya also judged Beckenham CA on 26th October

awarding BOB to LaRoyal Anthem at Standproud, RBOB and BP **Odinschild Thor Son of Odin**. Litter sister **Odinschild Viking Princess** won BOB and BP at East Kent open show in Feb '09.

Andrea McArthur's (London) **Bullepei Jessie Jay at Missibull** won BOB at Wealdstone open show for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running, and RBOB at Woolwich Bexley and Beckenham open shows. Mrs C Collingwood (Hampshire) was awarded the RBCC with **Lucabrazie Christine of Chiselwick** at South of England champ show; I believe a first for both dog and owner. She also won RBOB at Crystal Palace open show.

**Int. Ch. Black Hope Brando** has become the 2<sup>nd</sup> foreign (Finnish) bred dog to obtain UK champion title, of which he's the first male. After winning his first CC at Inc champ show and RCC at Crufts breeder Miss Jaarvinen entrusted Karina & Glynn of Wey farm (Surrey) to campaign him in the UK. While in their care his picked up 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> CC's, being 'crowned' at Bath & Western under Brenda Price, handled by Leah Wiltshire. I've herd he also won the Utility Champion stakes at SKC and has since taken DCC and BOB at Bath along with 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Group.

Hon Chin & Liwei Gao (Surrey) partnership obtained a studbook number with **Hung CH Sotakal Karl with Silentdragon** by being awarded 2nd in Open dog at South of England champ show. He also took BIS at Bulldog Inc open show, RBD at JBC open show and BOB at Horsham open show. Companion **Silentdragon Ai Miyuki** was awarded BPIS at LBS Limit show.

Linda Stutters (Surrey) puppy dog **Yours Truly from Linmist** won BP at Woolwich Bexley open show and also 1<sup>st</sup> Utility Puppy group; handled by her daughter Kelly Wells he also won BPIS at Manchester & Counties breed champ show in September, BPIB Manchester champ show and BPD at Crufts. He has also been awarded BPD at LBS Limit show, companion **Linmist X Factor JW** won RBD at South of England breed open show. Plymouth Devon and Cornwall was a very successful day for this kennel with 3 of their dogs in the challenge, new pup **Gorseheath Cesar** owned by Kelly Wells winning minor puppy, plus Yours Truly form Linmist winning Junior and Linmist X Factor JW taking Open dog.

Allie and Duncan Newton (Kent) won RBOB at Thames Estuary with **Pawsabull Saffron a Fortebello** her first such award. Enrika Walker (Sussex) won BOB at Crystal Palace and Southampton open shows also taking Group 3 at Sutton with **Lobis Nikita Medutis (IMP)**, meaning he has now obtained his Show Certificate of Merit.

Mr and Mrs Oorloff (Kent) won RBOB at Coulsdon open show with **Brandoux Chancer at Convica** and BP at Tunbridge Wells with companion **Brandoux Bobby Moore**. Mr Jobson and Ms Warren's **Clegsys Ruby Red** was awarded BP at SWECA. Mr Stead's **Pride of Britain** (Kent) won RBOB at Ashford & Faversham open show. Linda and Keith Mills (Kent) won BP with **Culverhay Sadie at Lindamole** at Dartford & DCS open show in January. Rhonda Comben's (Hampshire) **Beauxchiens Barney Bear at Rhobull** awarded BIS at LBS limit show in October.

Jo & Trevor Penfold (Kent) took BP with homebred **Karclosharos Amitola** at East Kent and Thames Estuary open shows, and RBOB and BOS at Tunbridge Wells. Their co-owned bitch **Jaminic Solution for Bulljozer** took BP and Puppy Group 4 at Sutton open show.

Karen Chamberlains (Kent) puppy **Nickleby's Shooting Star** took BP & RBOB at Folkestone & Hythe open show and the same awards at Wickford & Basildon, plus BP and 4<sup>th</sup> Utility Puppy group at South of England Agricultural Society.

I attended an all breed education day in February which was advertised in both canine press called 'Sex on Sunday' held in Addlestone, Surrey. It was good to see some breed people attending. In the morning was a talk by Lynne Hennessey (Ritzlyn goldens) about Stud work and the care of the stud dog which included video footage. The afternoon was hosted by Keith Shea (Fit and Fertile) based in Yorkshire who spread his knowledge on the biology of canine reproduction. I recently (Feb 09) read an article in Dogworld that suggested maybe attending seminars to further knowledge should become a compulsory

aspect of the Accredited Breeder Scheme due to some scepticism it has been greeted with in regards to suitability of meeting it's original objectives. Considering two attendees had travelled from Cornwall including an overnight stay and of course fuel, this can't have been a 'cheap' weekend showing their commitment of wanting to develop and further themselves in the world of dogs, I would be interested in how many people would be willing to do the same when there's no rosette to win?

Anyone that knows me will know my saying 'Every day is a school day' I truly believe in this otherwise I'd be out of an occupation, I'm a 'trainer', not the fitness kind that goes without saying! You can never really stop learning, you can never know everything and even when you think you do, trends will change, new information will appear or old patterns evolve. I recommend that we all keep developing in this wonderful breed the choice is vast from genetics, to puppy rearing, general canine health and fitness, exhibiting to judging to name a few. It doesn't mean you have to book yourself on the next possible seminar either, or spend a load of money, there's always a book you could borrow to read, a website you can browse or a breed enthusiast to talk to which will help you keep developing. You can never know too much!

On attending this seminar we were asked by the organiser if we could bring along a bulldog for the 'confirmation and movement' seminar that would be running the same day 'next door'. Of course we were more than willing to show potentially local aspiring judges what a 'good mover' looks like, in a bid to help raise the breed profile. Though she was only needed for 10 minutes Roxi spent the day with us until needed. This meant the seminar was greeted with snoring partway through, and the occasional but very loud, and very long lapping of water, much to everyone's amusement.

It came to my attention that Coventry & DKA May show offered Puppy, Special yearling and Open classes. This goes against the 'norm' consisting of Junior, Graduate and Open, or Puppy, Junior and Open. I feel Coventry & DKA way is far fairer on puppies exhibited and also the judge; it can be extremely difficult to judge two dogs with 12 months maturity between when they are still growing at a significant rate, let alone considering the fact the classes are also mixed sex at this level. Consideration of offered classes can have a significant affect on entry numbers, as well as a hefty impact on dogs attempting to obtain Junior Warrant points. Junior and no puppy classes also means a puppy can easily out qualify Maiden, Novice & Undergraduate classes when winning at this level which isn't always a fair reflection. Offering special yearling instead of Junior, graduate or post graduate also gives more leeway and scope allowing exhibitors with dogs up to 2 years avoiding the 'big boys' class, open. I would love to know your thoughts on this? Would you prefer general open show societies to always offer puppy classes?

South of England breed open show judge Peter Davis (Kismond) clashed with Kent county open show judged by Debbie McCafferty (Beldoon) her first appointment on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. The venues approx 54 miles apart but both shows were well supported. Debbie awarded BP and BOB to **Hiising Sylvia** owned by Rob Harris, who has since won BPIB at SKC and RCC & BPIS at Northumberland & Durham B/C under Terry Davison (Brampton), RBOB was **Princess Tia of Maverick**. Peter Davis awarded BIS to **Icelandic I'm Rudie at Tandstun** who has also since won a RCC.

On the same day Gemma Austin (Loxstarz) and myself headed north, yes that's beyond Birmingham, to judge the Ashton-under-Lynne open show. I thought I should acknowledge Hon Sec. Ann Lunt (Louarne) for allowing 'then' two C list judges the opportunity to judge at this show with split sex classes that 'normally' would be filled with a B list judge. I'm sure this opportunity would be embraced by many aspiring judges if offered at other canine societies. I would be interested to know if regular exhibitors would prefer this choice of judges or not? We agreed that BOB should be awarded to **Bullisimo Sheeza Diamond for Englishglory (JW)** and BP **Shuckstun's Ozzie**.

On March 18<sup>th</sup> the Kennel club (KC) held a question time at a hotel near Gatwick airport. I hoped with all the recent amendments to the breed standard bulldoggers would attend in abundance, if anything to be

informed of the KC opinions and views. There was approx 55 people in attendance (more than previous I was told) including 10 bulldoggers. The KC started the session talking about 'recent events' mentioning Pedigree Exposed Programme and the RSPCA report, it was actually quiet enlightening to see they are as passionate about pedigree dogs as we are about the bulldog, something I feel that doesn't always come across often enough. They also talked about the 'accredited breeder scheme (ABS)' and how though we may do all the requirements it asks for, therefore some question it's purpose or relevance and why then pay for the privilege, the scheme needs our support so they can then go to DEFRA and say this is the benchmark that has been set for pedigree dogs, and that all dogs bred should be to this standard whether they are crossbreds, designer dogs etc. They also talked about their uphill struggle with the media and that as we all know bad news travels faster than good and confirmed that Caroline Kisko is not only the Secretary but the PR Manager/Spokesman for the KC, many did not seem aware of this and it seems that fact cascaded to the 'letters to the editor' section of both canine press!

They opened the floor to questions and also covered numerous bulldogger questions, Bill Lambert talked positively of the meeting the Breed Council had with the KC sub committee that had happened the day before and they he felt 'we are nearly there'. Ronnie Irving confirmed that 'we can not defend the indefensible' he felt that though the bulldog has been improving, it needs to happen at a faster rate, hence the breed standard changes.

Horsham's typical midweek open show tends to attract good numbers and the show on 9<sup>th</sup> March wasn't any different, 17 dogs were present to Jo Belsham (Admireabull). She awarded BOB, her first, to Jaminic Specifically for DanNoble and BP **Dajomi Dylan Elibah**, I believe a first for this puppy too.

The JBC open show was judged by Jill Peak of Bayard Beagles she awarded BIS, first for owner and dog, to LaRoyal Anthem at StandProud, RBIS, BOS, BPIS & BB to **Testwood Welsh Lady**. RBD to Hun. Ch. Sotakal Karl with Silentdragon, and RBB to **Testwood Earth Angel of Jumano**. Best veteran to **Kismond Buttons N Bows JW ShCM**.

Surrey resident Jackie Gee made the trip to Sheffield & Leodenisan breed open show to judge on Easter Monday (13<sup>th</sup> April) she awarded BIS to **Bullpei William Butler**. Jackie was also busy on 26<sup>th</sup> April judging locally at Beckenham CA she awarded BOB to Hillplace Captain Scarlet at Purebully RBOB Bullpei Jessie Jay at Missibull and BP **Britishicon It Girl**. I had to unfortunately miss this show because I attended the London Marathon to support my mum Jackie, who has taken a noticeable absence from the show ring to ensure she was fully prepared for the event. This involved lots and lots, and lots of running many months previous to the event itself. I have even left for a dog show the same time she had left for a 'run', the show venue being over 1 hour journey each way, plus showed 2 breeds and of course the normal chit chat to still return home before her! She completed the marathon in 5:27 hours and thanks everyone for their support and sponsorship for charity 'Get Kids Going', who funds sports activities and equipment for disabled children.

On 4th May Chelmsford open show was Linda Mills (Lindamole) first judging appointment; she awarded BOB to **Bullisimo Beaujolais**, RBOB Hillplace Captain Scarlet at Purebully and BP to **Mystyle the Olympian Oakpride**.

I just wanted to recognise the following for qualifying their dogs for Crufts 2010, it's either a first for dog or owner. Crufts is always a milestone for any exhibitor;

- Ashdown, Burchell & Gee's **Jaminic Specifically for DanNoble**
- Austin's **Rattlenhum Dirty Day For Loxstarz**
- Jobson & Warren's **Clegs Ruby Red**
- Saunder's **Jaminic Justification at StandProud**
- Stone's **Dajomi Dylan Elibah**
- Mill's **Robobull My Spirit at Lindamole**

- Mill's **Culverhay Sadie at Lindamole**
- Wells' **Gorseheath Cesar**
- Freeman's **Testwood Welsh Lady**

I feel this edition should not go without mentioning the significant losses in Kent of Linda & Keith Mills Mylove, **Eynsbrooke Floosie at Lindamole JW ShCM** and Ewa Larrson's Poppy, **Glyndee Sea Breeze at Britisher** . Both sadly died in whelp and approaching the end of their gestation period. I do not fully know the details, but situations like these only highlights the importance of having a good relationship and understanding with your vet should you require their services. They should be in no doubt of your concerns and always acting in the dogs' best interest. It's a reminder to us all how much risk we are taking when we decide to breed from our dogs, a risk that is always there, but not always initially recognised.

Allie and Duncan Newton also experienced complications with Xena, **Rokoluck Kirstens Delight at Foretbello** while delivering her pups which resulted in weeks of rehabilitation and a surrogate bitch being drafted in from Melissa Weller (Saintgeorges). To everyone's amazement Xena made a full recovery and surrogate bitch Ruby reared a healthy litter.

Melissa also celebrates the success of breeding **Saintgeorges Bittersweet at Davembull** who picked up her first, along with her owners, RCC at Bath champ show. This is Melissa's 3<sup>rd</sup> homebred dog to pick up a RCC.

I'm sorry if I've missed anyone in my first area news, please take the time to email me any results from when you've judged or exhibited, not forgetting any canine related news that you may have or opinions on topics I have mentioned or new ones that you wish to raise. South east and London news covers the following counties; Hampshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Surrey, Isle of Wight, West and East Sussex, Kent, Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire that's a very large area which has quite a few regular showground's in the vicinity, so I should be getting some regular news from you! This feature is only as good as you make it, I will always endeavour to collate and represent the information you send me.

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