

## **The British Gordon Setter Club Championship Show**

**08.10.11**

### **Special Awards**

My grateful thanks to the committee for their kind invitation to judge at this very well run show, and to those exhibitors who entered their bitches for me to judge, I was honoured. I was presented with a great variety of types, as is often seen in this breed just now. Handling in some instances could be improved to get the best from the dog in the ring, both standing and on the move. I was somewhat saddened at the number of Gordon setters which lacked the required body, bone and substance so as to be comparable to a weight carrying hunter required by the breed standard. This is an essential quality which a Gordon should possess to distinguish it as being the heaviest of the setter breeds.

**SpPB (6)** 1 Wrigley's Kattandale Tri Nations. Had the best body, bone and dept of forechest in this class. Sweet head with dark eyes and kind expression, good reach of neck from well laid shoulder. Plenty of depth to forechest which was encouraging to see. Well ribbed and strong through the topline leading to a well set on tail and hindquarters with good angulation. Animated and free in action on the move, sound up and back and moving on a good length of stride on the go around. 2 Upton-Lovett & Upton's Roydack Loves A Blazin. Not the body nor depth of 1. Sweet head of correct shape. Handled and moved out to advantage by her skilful handler. 3 Marsh's Kilnrae Scotch The Rumour.

**SpPGB (8)** 1 Macara's Cromasaig Little Star. Presents the most typical rugged Gordon outline and did not disappoint on the move. Nicely shaped skull with sufficient depth. Correct set and length of ear. Reachy neck to good lay of shoulder with a complimentary return of upper arm. Would prefer more development of forechest. Well ribbed back, strong over the loin and tail is correctly set on. Hindquarters well angled with good muscletone which was pleasing to see. Excels in side gait with correct reach and drive thus producing the desired length of stride. Pleasure to judge. 2 Sandiford & Dixon's Kejjake Sapphire. Much more glamorous in outline than 1. Pretty head and expression, reachy neck, balanced fore and aft. Did not use herself as I thought she would on the move and was very short striding. Presented superbly and handled to advantage. 3 Cuthbertson's Gaidheal Tosca of Lainnireach.

**SpOB (4)** 1 Donaldson's Skyes Rebel Princess of Knoxfirth. Headed a class of very differing types who will no doubt all change places on another day. Strong headed bitch, skull of correct proportions and expression kind. Well set ears. Powerful neck leading into good shoulder and upper arm. Sufficient development of forechest and well sprung ribcage. Balanced in hindquarter angulation producing a pleasing action on the move. Stands on good feet, presented and handled well. 2 Hall's Paradise Hollie Dayz by Melview. Preferred the head of this bitch, the remaining similar comments apply however she didn't use herself to advantage on the move today. Quality bitch all through and presented a balanced outline. 3 Smith's Roydack Charlie Sierra at Glenkinchie.

**David R. Alcorn (Judge).**