

BURGESS PREMIER SMALL ANIMAL SHOW, HARROGATE

29 January 2011

Judge: Sandra Mobbs

It was a pleasure to judge at the 'Bradford' show – one of my favourite events of the show calendar. The show had a particularly good atmosphere this year. To anyone who has never visited this show before, it is well worth making the trip to this multi-fancy event.

The administration of the rat section was very efficiently run by Lisa Clarke as show secretary and Julie Oliver as show manager. Having been show secretary for this show in the past, I know what a tough job it is, so I applaud your efforts. My grateful thanks also go to my stewards and scribes - Karl Woods, Lizzi McIntee and Christine Bowen.

There were some lovely rats being exhibited, many in excellent show condition. The only small criticism I would make about show preparation is that there were quite a few rats with very sharp nails. Congratulations to all the winners. BIS went to Ratoon's beautiful black doe, who literally shone – a fine example of a rat in tip-top show condition. RBIS was awarded to Lisa Clarke's gorgeous British blue agouti doe. John Day picked up both BOA and Best Juvenile Exhibitor with his very attractive platinum kitten doe. Well done!

NEW VARIETIES (2): 1 (01) Janine Taylor. B. Russian Burmese. Good condition. Fairly good head, eye and type. Good even colour. Points could be more distinctive. 2 (03) Bog Myrtle. D. Apricot agouti. Quite good head, eye and type. Attractive colour. A little nervous today.

Self section

PEW AD (1): 1 (101) Julie Botterill. B. Strong head. Fairly good eye. Good type. Coat a little uneven with some staining on neck and flanks.

BRITISH BLUE KIT (1): 1 (601) Lisa Gellert. D. Fairly good head, eye and type. I would prefer to see the colour a little darker. Quite heavily silvered.

BLACK AD (1): 1 (701) Ratoon. D. Lovely condition. Quite good head, eye and type. Good depth of colour.

IVORY AD (3): 1 (1102) Tenebrae. D. Lovely head, eye and type. Good condition. Good colour but some staining around the head spoils. 2 (1103) Tenebrae. D. Lovely head, eye and type. Good colour but staining spoils. Good condition. 3 (1101) Stillyrats. B. Good head, eye and type. Long coat. Colour to standard but some staining on the neck.

IVORY KIT (7): 1 (1206) Tenebrae. D. Good head, eye and type. Square edge to tail. Good coat colour but slightly patchy in places. 2 (1205) Stillyrats. D. Fairly good head and eye. Fair type. Slightly square tail. Colour to standard but patchy in places. Staining on neck. 3 (1203) Stillyrats. D. Good head, eye and type. Good colour but coat thin in places. Some staining spoils. 4 (1202) Stillyrats. B. Fair head, eye and type. Good colour but staining spoils.

SELF ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (701) Black – Ratoon. 2 (1102) Ivory – Tenebrae.

3 (101) PEW – Julie Botterill. 4 (1103) Ivory – Tenebrae.

SELF KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (601) British Blue – Lisa Gellert. 2 (1206) Ivory – Tenebrae. 3 (1205) Ivory – Stillyrats. 4 (1203) Ivory – Stillyrats.

SELF ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (701) Black adult – Ratoon. 2 (1102) Ivory adult – Tenebrae. 3 (601) British blue kitten – Lisa Gellert. 4 (1206) Ivory kitten – Tenebrae.

Marked section

BERKS/BADGER AD (4): 1 (1302) Kate & Kevin Ratray. D. Agouti. Lovely head and eye. Good colour and ticking but dark along the spine. Broad in the beam. Good condition. Good feet. Needs more white on belly. 2 (1301) Rachel Broughton. D. Agouti. Good condition.

Lovely head and eye. A little broad in the beam. Good colour and ticking. Slight chew marks on rump. Good feet. Needs more white on belly and tail. 3 (1303) Rachel Broughton. D.

Black. Good condition. Good head, eye and type. Good front feet. Needs more white on back feet. Fairly good colour but some silvering. Quite good belly marking. 4 (1304) Rachel Broughton. B. Black. Good head, eye and type. Good condition. Good depth of colour and fairly evenly silvered. Plenty of white on tail. Good feet apart from left back foot. Plenty of white under but strays onto sides. Zip under chin. Suspenders on legs.

BERKS/BADGER KIT (1): 1 (1401) Bog Myrtle. D. Silver Fawn Badger. Slightly uneven blaze. Fairly good head, eye and type. Fairly good colour but patchy in places. Belly markings stray up sides and onto feet.

HOODED AD (2): 1 (1701) Lisa Akrigg. D. Black. Lovely head and eye. Slightly broad type. Good condition. Lovely deep black colour. Nice clean body colour. One patch of black on belly. Good hood and saddle but some brindling at the edges. Excellent temperament. 2

(1702) Julie Botterill. D. Black. Good head, eye and type. Quite good colour. Some staining on body. Good hood. Uneven saddle. Nice clean belly.
HOODED KIT (1): 1 (1801) Bog Myrtle. D. Black. Quite good head, eye and type. Good condition. Good colour. Good hood. Fairly good saddle but brindled at the edges. One groin spot and one patch of colour on belly.
CAPPED AD (1): 1 (2101) Valhalla. D. Black. Fair head and eye. Quite good type. Good colour. Some stray coloured hairs on rump. Unfortunately too mismarked to be a show quality capped.
ESSEX AD (1): 1 (2301) Valhalla. D. Cinnamon pearl. Lovely head, eye and type. Good condition. Fairly good head spot. Fairly good colour but patchy graduation. Patches of white on sides.
CHINCHILLA AD (1): 1 (2501) Julie Botterill. B. Fair head. Quite good eye. Fair type. Fairly good blaze. Quite a lot of brown on the rump. Very sharp nails. White strays up sides.
SQUIRREL AD (1): 1 (2701) Kate & Kevin Rattray. D. Good condition. Slightly short head. Good eye. Slightly broad type. Fairly good colour but patches of brown in places. Belly markings slightly uneven. Good feet.
ROAN/STRIPED ROAN KIT (1): 1 (3001) Julie Botterill. B. Mink. Sharp nails. Fair head, eye and type. Nice clean belly. Fairly good colour. Good blaze. Fair roaning.
MARKED ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (1701) Hooded – Lisa Akrigg. 2 (2301) Essex – Valhalla. 3 (1302) Berkshire – Kate & Kevin Rattray. 4 (2501) Chinchilla – Julie Botterill.
MARKET KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (1801) Hooded - Bog Myrtle. 2 (1401) Badger – Bog Myrtle. 3 (3001) Roan – Julie Botterill.
MARKED ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (1701) Hooded adult – Lisa Akrigg. 2 (1801) Hooded kitten – Bog Myrtle. 3 (2301) Essex adult – Valhalla. 4 (1302) Berkshire adult – Kate & Kevin Rattray.

Russian section

RUSSIAN BLUE AGOUTI AD (3): 1 (3502) Julie Botterill. D. Lovely head, eye and type. Very even colour and ticking. Good condition. 2 (3501) Stillyrats. B. Good head and eye. Good solid type. Fit and muscular. Good condition. Good colour with nice even ticking. Very nice buck. Perhaps a little too much brown on the flanks. 3 (3503) Janine Taylor. D. Slightly short head. Good eye and type. Good condition. Very attractive colour and ticking. Slightly too much brown on the flanks.
RUSSIAN ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (3502) Russian blue agouti adult – Julie Botterill. 2 (3501) Russian blue agouti adult – Stillyrats. 3 (3503) Russian blue agouti adult – Janine Taylor.

Shaded section

ARGENTE CRÈME AD (2): 1 (3703) Lisa Clarke. B. Good head, eye and type. Good colour but some sootiness along the spine. Nice clean belly. 2 (3701) Julie Botterill. B. Strong head. Good eye and type. Coat a little patchy. Very attractive colour. Nice clean belly.
ARGENTE CRÈME KIT (2): 1 (3801) Bog Myrtle. D. Good condition. Fairly good head, eye and type. Slight square edge to tail. Fairly even colour. 2 (3802) Bog Myrtle. D. Feels a little lightweight. Narrow head and type. Good eye. Matchstick tail. Good colour. Nice clean belly.
SIAMESE AD (1): 1 (4101) Janine Taylor. B. Good head and eye. Fairly good type. Plenty of shading but patchy in places. Good nose point but pale feet.
SIAMESE KIT (1): 1 (4201) Christine Bowen. B. Feels a little lightweight. Narrow head and type. Good eye. Moulting mark around the neck. Shading needs to be darker.
BURMESE AD (1): 1 (4501) Stillyrats. D. Fairly short head. Nice eye. Slightly broad type. Good condition. Good colour but uneven in places. Good points.
BURMESE KIT (1): 1 (4601) Christine Bowen. D. Feels a little lightweight. Narrow head and type. Good eye. Matchstick tail. In moult at the moment. Colour quite patchy.
SHADED ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (3703) Argente crème – Lisa Clarke. 2 (4501) Burmese – Stillyrats. 3 (4101) Siamese – Janine Taylor. 4 (3701) Argente crème – Julie Botterill.
SHADED KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (3801) Argente crème – Bog Myrtle. 2 (4601) Burmese – Christine Bowen. 3 (4201) Siamese – Christine Bowen. 4 (3802) Argente crème – Bog Myrtle.
SHADED ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (3703) Argente crème adult – Lisa Clarke. 2 (3801) Argente crème kitten – Bog Myrtle. 3 (4501) Burmese adult – Stillyrats. 4 (4101) Siamese adult – Janine Taylor.

AOV section

TOPAZ AD (2): 1 (4702) Sherwood Forest. D. Lovely head, eye and type. Good colour but slightly patchy in places. Good demarcation. 2 (4701) Ratoon. B. Good head, eye and type. Good colour but slightly sooty along the back. Good belly.

TOPAZ KIT (1): 1 (4801) Sherwood Forest. D. A little lightweight. Narrow head and type. Good eye. Slightly square tail. Quite good colour. Good demarcation.

SILVER FAWN AD (2): 1 (4901) Julie Botterill. B. Good head, eye and type. Nice bright colour. Slightly patchy. Good belly. 2 (4902) Trinovantum. D. Quite good head, eye and type. Good colour but sooty along the spine. Good belly. Nice condition.

SILVER FAWN KIT (1): 1 (5001) Sherwood Forest. D. Quite good head, eye and type. Fairly good colour but chew marks spoil. Good belly.

SILVER AD (1): 1 (5101) Tenebrae. B. Black. Fair head, eye and type. Feels a little bit baggy and slightly out of condition. Good depth of colour. Fairly even silvering but a better coat condition would show it off better.

SILVER KIT (5): 1 (5201) Tenebrae. D. Lovely condition. Slightly short head. Fairly good eye and type. Lovely deep black colour. Even silvering. Some white toes. 2 (5202) Tenebrae. D. Slightly short head. Fairly good eye and type. Lovely condition. Good deep black colour but just a little too much silvering on the flanks. 3 (5203) Tenebrae. B. Fair head. Good eye and type. Slightly square tail. Good deep black colour. Fairly good silvering. Some white toes on front feet. Lovely condition. Slight nick in one ear. 4 (5204) Tenebrae. B. Fairly good head, eye and type. Good deep black colour. Lovely condition. Plenty of silvering. In moult at the moment. Some white toes.

AGOUTI AD (3): 1 (5303) Sherwood Forest. D. Sharp nails. Lovely head, eye and type. Good condition. Good colour. Slightly patchy ticking. Nice doe. 2 (5301) Stillyrats. B. Fairly good head, eye and type. Moult mark around the neck. Fair colour and ticking. Dark along the spine. 3 (5302) Ratoon. B. Good head, eye and type. Sharp nails. Fair colour. Too much ticking, making the overall colour too dark.

CINNAMON AD (3): 1 (5503) Sherwood Forest. D. Good head and eye. Fairly good type. Quite good colour but in moult and patchy on the rump. 2 (5502) Janine Taylor. D. Slightly short head. Good eye and type. Not very happy today. Good colour but patchy ticking. Good demarcation. 3 (5501) Julie Botterill. B. Feels slightly out of condition. Scurfy coat. Good head, eye and type. Nice bright colour but needs more chocolate ticking. Slight injury to right ear.

CINNAMON KIT (5): 1 (5605) Sherwood Forest. D. Good head. Lovely eye and type. Slightly square tail. Good condition. Fairly good colour and ticking but dark along the spine. 2 (5602) Lisa Clarke. D. Good head. Lovely eye. Good type. Up to age. Good colour but dark along the spine. 3 (5601) Christine Bowen. D. Up to age. Nice condition. Good head, eye and type. Colour very sooty at the moment. 4 (5604) Lisa Clarke. B. Good condition. Good head, eye and type. Nice fit kitten. Colour and ticking quite even but some silvering.

BRITISH BLUE AGOUTI AD (1): 1 (5701) Lisa Clarke. D. Good head. Lovely eye. Nice type. Good condition. A very attractive mix of blue and fawn. Nice even coat.

PEARL/CINNAMON PEARL AD (4): 1 (6102) Stillyrats. D. Good head, eye and type. Quite good colour but a little dull along the spine. 2 (6103) Janine Taylor. D. Very nice head and eye. Good type. Good colour but sooty along the spine. Stained belly. 3 (6101) Stillyrats. B. Good head, eye and type. Long guard hairs. Quite good colour. 4 (6104) Bog Myrtle. D. Good head. Lovely eye. Good type. Good colour but with patchy sootiness.

AOV ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (5701) British blue agouti – Lisa Clarke. 2 (5303) Agouti – Sherwood Forest. 3 (4702) Topaz – Sherwood Forest. 4 (5503) Cinnamon – Sherwood Forest.

AOV KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (5201) Silver – Tenebrae. 2 (5001) Silver fawn – Sherwood Forest. 3 (5605) Cinnamon – Sherwood Forest. 4 (4801) Topaz – Sherwood Forest.

AOV ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (5701) British blue agouti adult – Lisa Clarke. 2 (5201) Silver kitten – Tenebrae. 3 (5303) Agouti adult – Sherwood Forest. 4 (4702) Topaz adult – Sherwood Forest.

Rex section

RUSSIAN REX AD (1): 1 (6901) Kate & Kevin Rattray. D. Russian blue agouti. Fairly good head and eye. Good type. Good colour. Fairly good rexing.

SHADED REX AD (1): 1 (7101) Trinovantum. B. Black-eyed Siamese. Good head, eye and type. Feels a little baggy. Good shading and points but pale feet. Fairly good curl.

AOV REX AD (2): 1 (7301) Julie Botterill. B. Topaz. Good strong head. Fairly good eye. Good type. Good colour. Good curl. 2 (7302) Ratoon. B. Topaz. Good head and eye. Fairly good type. Good colour. Fairly good curl but needs to be stronger on the rump.

AOX REX KIT (2): 1 (7401) Sherwood Forest. B. Cinnamon. Fair head, eye and type. Slightly square tail. Good bright colour. Curl still to develop. 2 (7402) Sherwood Forest. B. Agouti.

Slightly narrow head and type. Good eye. Square tail. Rexing not strong enough yet. Good colour.

REX ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (7101) Siamese – Trinovantum. 2 (6901) Russian blue agouti – Kate & Kevin Rattray. 3 (7301) Topaz – Julie Botterill. 4 (7302) Topaz – Ratoon.

REX KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (7401) Cinnamon – Sherwood Forest. 2 (7402) Agouti – Sherwood Forest.

REX ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (7101) Siamese adult – Trinovantum. 2 (7401) Cinnamon kitten – Sherwood Forest. 3 (6901) Russian blue agouti adult – Kate & Kevin Rattray. 4 (7301) Topaz – Julie Botterill.

Dumbo section

SELF DUMBO AD (2): 1 (7502) Rachel Broughton. B. Black. Excellent condition. Fairly good head, eye and type. Good deep black colour. Some silvering. Nicely shaped ears – slight crease in one. 2 (7501) Julie Botterill. B. PEW. Good head and type. Fairly good eye. Unruly coat and long guard hairs. Good clean body colour. Slight nick in one ear, otherwise good shape.

MARKED DUMBO KIT (1): 1 (7801) Julie Botterill. D. Black hooded. Fairly good head, eye and type. Good condition. Good colour. Nice clean body colour, although some staining. Good hood and saddle – slightly broken at the tail root. Nicely shaped ears – slight crease in one.

RUSSIAN DUMBO AD (1): 1 (7901) Janine Taylor. D. Russian blue. Slightly masculine head. Good eye and type. Good colour but some rusting on rump. Good condition. Nicely shaped ears.

RUSSIAN DUMBO KIT (1): 1 (8001) John Day. B. Russian blue. Good condition. Fair head, eye and type. Feels a little lightweight. Colour needs to be darker. Nicely shaped ears.

SHADED DUMBO AD (2): 1 (8102) Janine Taylor. B. Black-eyed Siamese. Good head, eye and type. Slightly square tail. Good points but pale feet. Fairly good shading. Nicely shaped ears but a little small. 2 (8101) Christine Bowen. B. Black-eyed Siamese. Good coat condition. Fair head, eye and type. Good points but patchy shading. Good ears.

SHADED DUMBO KIT (3): 1 (8201) John Day. B. Russian blue point Siamese. Fair head, eye and type. Matchstick tail. Feels lightweight. Good coat condition but too long. Very attractive points but pale feet. Needs more shading. Good ears. 2 (8202) John Day. D. Russian blue point Siamese. Fair head, eye and type. Matchstick tail. Lightweight. Good points on nose and tail root but not on feet and ears. Very little shading. Quite nice ears. 3 (8203) John Day. D. Russian blue point Siamese. Fair head, eye and type. Matchstick tail. Lightweight. Good coat condition. Fairly good points but pale feet. No colour on ears. Needs a lot more shading. Nicely shaped ears but crease in one.

REX DUMBO AD (1): 1 (8501) Stillyrats. B. Agouti. Good head and eye. Slightly overweight. Good colour. Very good rexing. Good ears.

REX DUMBO KIT (1): 1 (8601) Valhalla. D. Agouti hooded. Slightly short head. Fairly good eye and type. Good colour. Good hood but broken saddle. Nice clean body colour. Needs more rexing. Creased ears.

DUMBO ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (7502) Black – Rachel Broughton. 2 (7901) Russian blue – Janine Taylor. 3 (8501) Agouti rex – Stillyrats. 4 (8102) Black-eyed Siamese – Janine Taylor.

DUMBO KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (7801) Hooded – Julie Botterill. 2 (8001) Russian blue – John Day. 3 (8201) Russian blue point Siamese – John Day. 4 (8601) Hooded rex – Valhalla.

DUMBO ALL AGES CHALLENGE: 1 (7502) Black adult – Rachel Broughton. 2 (7801) Hooded kitten – Julie Botterill. 3 (7901) Russian blue adult – Janine Taylor. 4 (8501) Agouti rex adult – Stillyrats.

GUIDE STANDARD AD (1): 1 (8701) John Day. D. Platinum Berkshire dumbo. Fairly good head, eye and type. Good colour but slightly patchy in places. Good feet. Plenty of white under but drags up sides slightly. Good condition. Nicely shaped ears but crease in one.

GUIDE STANDARD KIT (1): 1 (8802) John Day. D. Platinum. Good head, eye and type. Good condition. Good colour. Fit kitten. Good eye colour. 2 (8801) John Day. B. Platinum. Slightly narrow head and type. Good eye. Good colour. Slightly long coat.

ADULT CHALLENGE: 1 (701) Black – Ratoon. 2 (5701) British blue agouti – Lisa Clarke. 3 (7502) Black dumbo – Rachel Broughton. 4 (3703) Argente crème – Lisa Clarke.
KITTEN CHALLENGE: 1 (8802) Platinum – John Day. 2 (5201) Silver black – Tenebrae. 3 (3801) Argente crème – Bog Myrtle. 4 (8801) Platinum – John Day.
SUPREME CHALLENGE: 1 (701) Black adult – Ratoon. 2 (5701) British blue agouti adult – Lisa Clarke. 3 (8802) Platinum kitten – John Day. 4 (5201) Silver black kitten – Tenebrae.
STUD BUCK: 1 (3501) Russian blue agouti – Stillyrats. 2 (7101) Siamese rex – Trinovantum. 3 (4701) Topaz – Ratoon. 4 (4101) Siamese – Janine Taylor.
NOVICE: 1 (1701) Hooded adult – Lisa Akrigg. 2 (7801) Hooded dumbo kitten – Julie Botterill.
JUVENILE: 1 (8802) Platinum kitten – John Day. 2 (8801) Platinum kitten – John Day. 3 (8001) Russian blue dumbo kitten – John Day. 4 (8201) Russian blue point Siamese kitten – John Day.