

About Your Judge

I have always loved dogs, mainly German Shepherds, so when my husband promised my daughter Caren that she could have a Cairn Terrier for her birthday I was not what you would say pleased. The only Cairn I knew lived in the house at the end of our Avenue. It raced and snarled at the gate every time I passed. I thought they must all be yaps; not so, as I soon found out.

In 1977 we travelled to Slamannan to Nan Simpson's home where we met Penny. She was a wheaten puppy and if she had had one ear and three legs she would still have come home with us that day. We loved her; that started my love of the Cairn Terrier. She was not a show dog; after all we bought her as a pet but Caren trained her and one of our Shepherds Rocky in obedience and she went on to pass her outdoor advance test beating Rocky.

I mated her to Swed. CH Discovery of Pinetop owned by Sally Latto (Ogle) and from the litter we kept a dog and a bitch, Mork and Mona. Although Mona won at a few shows she was not happy showing but Mork, Rocasovale Regal Escort, was shown by my other daughter Angela and they had a lot of fun and success at Open and Championship shows. He was my first dog to get a Stud Book Number.

While at Sally Latto's for the mating I asked about buying a pup for showing. A short time later we bought Pinetop Playtime. She was Playboy's sister; she was a lovely bitch, deep red in colour and she became my foundation bitch. She was mated to CH Stanedykes Pete and produced four pups, 2 dogs and 2 bitches - all won at Championship shows, the main winners were Rocasovale Fiddlers Dram (Bret) and Rocasovale Delta Dawn (Purdy). She was my first Cairn to win a Reserve CC.

I am happy with the quality of Cairns I have shown over the years. I can be a little picky at times but I feel if I am not happy with what is at the end of the lead, how can I expect a judge to place it. The Cairn that I have had the most success with is CH Rocasovale Razzle Dazzle (Raz) I found him a joy to show and he gave me his all.

I started judging in 1983 and first awarded CC's in 2000 at Border Union. I have judged quite a few Championship shows since then and have judged in Norway and Sweden.

It is a great privilege and honour to be invited to judge any Cairn Breed Club Championship Show but even more so with it being my first Breed show appointment and it being The Cairn Terrier Club my first Cairn Club. I look forward to it.

Jeanette Smith