



Puppy IS - Snowdrift's Keeper O't Fire

This group were backed up by the well travelled Australian all rounder, the "stately" Keith Cronchey, and South African locals Tony Williams from Durban and Fritz Wolmarans from Pretoria.

For the Kiwi contingent the trip was certainly an experience. Firstly, from the perspective of the Club's hospitality which was outstanding and secondly, the amazing and very different cultural environment South Africa provides compared to what we are accustomed to in New Zealand.

David and I travelled together while Bernard was returning to New Zealand after judging in the UK and Europe. For David and I, our flight travelled via Singapore and due to delays and aeroplane problems, the trip extended from a projected 26 hours to nearly 34 hours from point of departure. We arrived late Wednesday morning with David scheduled to judge a Dobermann Specialty on the Friday evening and the Capetown Championship Show scheduled for Sunday. Our accommodation was a guest house on Protea Way, Durbanville.

The trip from the airport was interesting with little public transport evident and security around homes being very different to the casual approach at home. I also found it interesting the way local South Africans pay to have their motor vehicles watched over by locals in public carparks. Capetown is clearly a complex community with significant social gaps still evident.

Most houses on the street in which we stayed had compounds, internal gates and then internal access to the sleeping quarters. Our host was great and we could not have received better treatment. Club secretary, Afghan Hound breeder Moira Serritslev, accompanied us on a range of visits that included Cape Peninsula. On the way there we saw a pod of whales playing a very short distance from the shore, went to a penguin reserve and were very conscious that we were in 'baboon' territory. Lunch at the Cape had us viewing the meeting of two oceans.

Friday was Table Mountain, the Lion's head and the new retail centre on Capetown's waterfront. Saturday brought a visit to the "wine farms"

THE CAPETOWN KENNEL CLUB'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY ALL BREEDS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

The Capetown Kennel Club invited Davida Brown, Bernard Fears and myself to judge at their 25th Anniversary Championship Show. As it was their Silver Anniversary show, the Club was keen to offer exhibitors some new faces which was effectively the New Zealand contingent, none of whom had judged in South Africa previously.

(vineyards) at Stellenbosch and Paarl. Davida does not drink wine but exhibits a good team ethic which saw me, in particular, benefiting during the wine trail.

Travelling with Davida, I rapidly learnt that I was travelling with downunder's 'ultimate' shopper. No day was complete without retail therapy and if it wasn't available she improvised by bartering with most roadside stores that we drove past. In fact, Bernard was so impressed with Davida's skill that he took her with him on Saturday to barter at the local market.

The Club drew straws for General Specials judging, Bernard pulling BIS, David Junior IS, I officiated for Puppy IS and Keith Cronchey judged Veteran. Clearly nature had determined an element of symmetry to the selection process.

Keith was touring with a party of Australians that included well known international judging "couple" David Strachan and John Rowles. I did see David casting his eye over my Group Specials line up on the Sunday before he departed to England.

While it rained overnight the morning dawned to great exhibiting conditions. Turning to the show and the dogs, I was told that the larger shows are north in Johannesburg, however I was very impressed with the quality and depth I saw in some breeds.

The group I judged was Working (our Utility) and I enjoyed the Siberian Huskies, in particular. BOB and RUBOB were 2 Foxfire dogs with BOB going to Deavall's Ch Foxfire High Voltage sired by an American import, Am Ch Sibex Stand N Deliver. The handling and presentation of this dog was excellent and I took him through to BIG.

South Africa's judging system is somewhat different to that in both New Zealand and Australia. You judge 1, 2, 3, 4 for each of the group categories. These are Puppy, Junior Veteran and Best.

Other exhibits to catch my eye in the Working Group line-up were Heggie's striking Great Dane bitch Ch Tretower R Lady Callandra sired by the Dutch import Ruffian VD Lingestreek, and an English imported Pyrenean Mountain Dog Buchanan-Lee's Ch Boramha Sanchese of Brigandorra (imp UK). Being a giant breed exponent it is always pleasing to find both type and soundness in the larger dogs. My BOB St Bernard was the Norwegian import Bernegarden's Gold Rush (imp Nor), a young dog, who had recently arrived in South Africa, of very good breed type.

I took my best puppy Siberian Husky, Van Der Merve's Snowdrift's Keeper O'T Fire through to Puppy IS and awarded 2nd in Junior IG to yet another Sibe, Foggitt's The Wild Card of Wolverine.

Boxers were mixed, with 3-4 stand outs. Overall type in both the Dobermanns and Rottweillers was different to what we are accustomed to seeing in New Zealand and Australia and, in my opinion, I ended up with 2 good representatives of their respective types.



RUBIS - Nomvuyo Talameiti

Watching General

Specials, several dogs caught my eye. The BIG winning Maltese Terrier sent through by Tony Williams, an American import, Rolfes' Am Ch 'Ta-Jon's American Made (imp USA), a Staffordshire Bull Terrier sent through by Keith Cronchey, Ch Sylon Bliksem of Niccyn and the black Labrador that Davida awarded Junior IS to, Tapeatom Great Guy of Dwarsberg. The Gundog group was judged by Davida and BIG was also a Labrador, the English import Ch Tapeatom L for Leather of Dennegeur (imp UK), both dogs were bred by Mrs E Howard, formerly of Jersey.

Bernard awarded BIS to Riley's Border Collie puppy Venron Dare to Dream, the Collie living up to her name, as I believe this was a first BIS for the breed in South Africa. RUBIS went to the McGillan's Rhodesian Ridgeback Nomvuyo Talameiti.

David and I flew back to NZ Monday morning with a 12 hour stopover in Singapore. While I headed for the Transit Hotel for rest, Davida still had a good 8 hours of hard footwork in the retail centres of Singapore. I believe the Singaporean economy inexplicably spiked that day.

Bernard and Vivienne stayed on for another week at a time share, enjoying the great hospitality and weather we experienced in the lead up to the show.

A memorable trip.

Clyde Rogers
Tai Yuan Pekingese and
St Bernards



BIS - Venron Dare To Dream



JIS - Tapeatom Great Guy of Dwarsberg.



**Veteran IS - (12 yrs)
Int/SA Ch Roaringwater Kismett CGC**