

FLATCOATED RETRIEVER SOCIETY OPEN FIELD TRIAL 29-01-2013. Whatton Hall Shoot, Nr. Kegworth, Leics.

We had a brilliant day yesterday. The weather managed to stay dry and even though we had two entries withdraw a couple of days earlier and a competitor pull out at the last minute we had stalwart reserves to stand in and bring the card up to 11 dogs.

The Judges, Phil Garton, Richard Beckerleg, Jennifer and Gordon Hay worked hard during the day and said how much they had enjoyed their time with the Flatcoats and were very well impressed by the standard shown today.

For the first time in several years, we had a winner in Mr Steve Ashby with his dog Houndwood Cedar at Tunnelwood bred by Dr. Diane Heywood. dob 16.07.08 (Gowran Indigo Extra x Trioaks Mouse at Houndwood) who took home the beautiful Winch Challenge Cup for the winner of the Stake and the Birch Challenge Cup for the Highest placed retriever handled by its owner (who must be an amateur). Two very lovely historic cups which are a pleasure to sit and inspect.

2nd place and the Creton Trophy to the runner up went to Mr Andy Snow with his dog, Necessares Raffle. Bred by Mr G. Clelland. Dob 09.04.08. (Rondix Woodcock at Hawksthorn x Parsifal Parade of Necessares)

3rd and the Oliver Trophy for the highest placed retriever handled by a lady to Hilary Rosser with her home bred dog Mahinda Dudley. 22.02.09. (Mahinda Spud Muffin x Tegwyn Red Spirit).

Certificate of Merit and Best dog on a runner, the H. Hardy Memorial Trophy was awarded to Mrs Liz Widdows with a bitch bred by Hilary Rosser; Mahinda Artichoke. d.o.b. 18.02.08. (Frivolous Fritter x Mata Hari Moonbeam).

C.O.M. to Ms Ingela Karlsoon who had made the journey from Sweden to run in our Trial for the first time with her bitch Nord. J. Ch. Coatfloats Marimekko. Dob 20.06.03. Bred by Tina Weberg. (Nord J. Ch. Reltub Black Velvet x S.J. Ch. Coatfloats Enyo).

Finally, Guns Choice, the Olaf Trophy was awarded to Mrs Caroline Hewison with her dog Maddistream Indigo Jack at Casblaid. Dob 06.04.09 Bred by Mrs G. Awty. (Vortex Tornado at Mistickmaker x Rainbow Queen of Maddistream).

Lord Crawshaw attended in the afternoon and presented the prizes to the winners. Thanks were expressed by all to Lord Crawshaw, the Judges and especially to Mr Brian Twigger the Keeper who provided an excellent steady supply of birds throughout the day. Mr Ashley Sherwood's team of Guns, who kindly bought the day for us were also thanked most sincerely as were the Chief Steward Mrs Anne Sparkes, Judges Stewards, Mrs Elaine Whittaker and Mr Malcolm Peacock and all the helpers, markers and game carriers without whom these days are impossible to stage.

A very pleasing end to the season.

David Bellamy