The Setter & Pointer Club Open Show – Saturday 29th Nov 2025
Mark Yates (Gailiech) - Gordon Setter critiques

I would like to thank the officers and committee for the invitation at this show, my stewards for their assistance and help in keeping things moving which they did brilliantly as classes were judged alongside the Championship show and of the course the exhibitors for entering and attending the show. I thoroughly enjoyed this appointment and had some tough decisions to make.

Gordon Setter Veteran (4/7)

1. Tong's Benbuie Rose Quartz with Kellizlot, 9 year old bitch, really liked this ladies head, feminine with good proportions with well set, dark eyes with a soft and intelligent expression and correct ear set. Correct dentition. Nice length of neck onto well back shoulders, good depth of chest and spring of rib. Nice rear angulation and moved well on strong pasterns and drive with a slashing tail. Presented in good coat. **Best Veteran**
2. Halliday's Ch Yennadon Barra JW SGWC, 7 year old dog, just missed out on 1st so much to like with this boy, presented in good coat, head of good proportions with a lovely dark eye and low set eyes close to head. Correct dentition. Long and lean in neck leading to well laid-back shoulders and nice front and rear angulation with strong well-developed muscle, moved with ease, balanced and showing good reach and drive.

Gordon Setter Puppy (3/3), difficult class as all 3 had attributes I really liked.

1. Hall's Rhiwgerrig Caractacus by Melview, 10 month old dog, Loved this boys head, masculine with good depth, slight rounding and broadest between ears with nice low ear set, nose to stop and stop to occiput proportions correct, bright dark brown in eye and taking in everything. Correct dentition. Good depth of chest and rib, strong loin to well bent stifles and good tail set. Good topline that was maintained when moving. Moved well today, a little loose at the front at times, I put it down to the fact that he was enjoying himself and his age and stage of development as he has all the right attributes and feel as he matures, he will only improve. **Best Puppy**
2. Crowther's Ronaldsbill Mystical Fire, 11 month old bitch, finer all round but what a mover. Correct dentition. Head longer, leaner and finer than 1. Good front and rear angulation, nice topline, movement seemed effortless, balanced free moving with plenty of front reach and rear drive. Shown in good condition and colour, would just like a little more of her.

Gordon Setter Junior (1/1)

1. Sweryda's Wasley Hazy Dayz, 1 year old bitch, stood alone but thoroughly deserving of a 1st place. Overall outline is so pleasing. Correct dentition. Beautiful feminine head of correct proportions with a lovely expression from her dark eyes. Good colour and appeared to glide around the ring with ease still with plenty drive.

Gordon Setter Post Graduate (8/10) Tough decisions in this class, some lovely exhibits.

1. Marsh's Kilnrae Back to the Future JW, 15 month old, bitch. Correct dentition. Beautiful feminine head, well defined stop with nose to stop slightly shorter than stop to occiput, eye set well under brows, bright yet dark eye giving a lovely expression. Good length of neck leading to a nice front end with good depth of chest and elbows in close to body, good bone.

Nice spring and depth of rib to good loin and well angulated rear. Moved effortlessly today, with good reach and drive and slashing tail. **Reserve Best in Breed**

2. Halliday's Hero Majestic Manon Lescaut Yennadon (Imp CZE), 19 month old dog. Correct dentition. A good looking boy of good substance not overdone in any way, masculine head, good angulation front and rear and strength evident throughout, initially moved with a sloping topline, this changed on subsequent movements, and he did come straight from the Championship show ring as well, has good reach at the front and real drive from behind on movement.

Gordon Setter Limit (4/6)

1. Michalak's Forrester's Northern Hunter of Darkmoor with Gadieburn JW, 3 year old dog. Really liked this boy. Correct dentition. Loved his head, strong, masculine without coarseness, lovely expression form his dark eyes, strong neck onto a good front assembly with nice depth of chest and brisket, good spring and depth of rib with elbows let down and in close to his body. Strong couple leading to good tail which he put to good use on the move. Nice bend of stifle to strong upright hocks, all of which he used very well on the move, balanced with drive and purpose of the move. Pleased to award him my **Best of Breed**
2. Miller's Liric Just the Ticket, 6 year old dog. Took this place ahead of 3rd on movement but could have gone either way today. Correct dentition. Masculine head of correct proportion, nice eyes and ear set, good neck leading to well put together front and rear with good bone and tight feet. Moved well with good rear drive, was more settled and balanced in movement today which gained him 2nd in class.

Gordon Setter Open (3/7), tight between the top two exhibits in this class.

1. O'Kelly & Hancock's Caradilis Sparks Will Fly JW, 4 year old bitch. Correct dentition. Another lovely strong yet feminine head, good proportions and plenty of work without being overdone or coarse, she reminded me of my girl. Good front and rear angulation, moved with purpose, ease and balance, slashing tail carried near vertically to body and plenty of drive, at lot to like.
2. Upton-Lovett & Upton's Roydack Portrait of a Lady, 6 year old bitch. Correct dentition. Slightly longer in muzzle than 1 with a softer expression. Good front and rear angulation, nice bone. Presented in good condition and good coat. Good colour with cleaner tan, again a lot to like, preferred 1's head and that tipped the balance for me.

Mark Yates
(Gailiech)