

Linda Peirson

## Kiltondale Bearded Collies

I was introduced to the beardie when I was 14 years old, at a local zoo, where one of the keepers owned a beautiful brown bitch. From then my aim in life was to own my own beardie.

A male puppy was purchased in 1980 and from him I learned so much in 'how to let a beardie own you', I would start as I meant to go on in the future and this I did. In 1994 we were granted our affix and Kiltondale Bearded Collies were official, since then we have gone on to breed 19 litters, breeding 3 British Champions, 3 Irish Champions, 1 International Champion, showing and adding the British title to Multi Champion Firstprizebears Enfield and numerous studbook numbers for dogs we have sold to other people.

I started judging in 1995 and worked my way slowly through the criteria, learning by attending seminars, watching judging and taking advice from people in the breed, Pat Jones and Kevin Young being 2 influential people in my learning curve. Understanding construction, nutrition, mental stability and how to keep the coat in good order are very important to me and growing up with ponies and keeping and showing Welsh Mountain ponies gave me a great insight into construction of animals and to the world of judging dogs.

In 1995 I began my judging career and in 2006 I was approved to award CC'S at Blackpool Championship Show, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> appointment at the Working and Pastoral Breeds of Wales in 2008. Also in 2008, I was invited to judge the Swedish and Norwegian Bearded Collie Clubs Speciality shows, in 2010, I travelled to Madrid to judge the Spanish Collie Club show, where my BOB Beardie went on to RBIS, I was very proud indeed. In 2011 the Ladies Kennel Club chose me to judge their prestige show, a show I always said would be a special appointment for me, this being my favourite show.

I look forward to coming to the USA to judge your beardies and meeting new friends.

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