

BORDER UNION 18th JUNE 2017 - SHETLAND SHEEPDOGS

I felt extremely privileged and proud to be invited to judge at one of my favourite shows and I was delighted to have such a quality entry of dogs to judge. Interesting to see that the DCC, RCC and BPD were all by the same sire, who has obviously passed on his many virtues. Thank you to all exhibitors and also to my two excellent stewards - it was a wonderful day, albeit a touch on the warm side. Presentation overall was excellent, although there were some teeth that could have been cleaner. When it came to the major awards I really wished I had had more to hand out and there were some hard decisions to make. The puppy classes (especially in the bitches) were full of quality, which augurs well for the future of our lovely breed.

MPD (1) 1 Smith's Orean Rich Tone. Promising well made but raw baby of just six months. Only just made his class and therefore not that settled on his first outing, but lots to like about him. He has a refined head with an attractive white blaze and has a flat skull, but stop still needs to clear a touch. Well rounded muzzle and well placed ears, which he still needs to grow into. Good body and depth of chest for such a baby. Level topline and long, correctly set tail. Not a lot of coat at present, but what he has is of correct texture and, as his name suggests, is a glorious colour of rich mahogany, not seen so much these days. Moved more steadily in the challenge for his very capable young handler.

PD (1) 1 Daniels & Taylor's Pepperhill Cruise Control. More mature-looking 11 month old b/m dog of attractive make and shape. His head is refined with a correctly placed stop, correct eye shape and placement and neat ears which gives him a really sweet, yet masculine expression. Excellent reach of neck and level topline, straight forelegs and good bone, but still a shade narrow all through. Profuse coat of such a lovely clear silvery blue, particularly so on his show side, enhanced by a glamorous white collar. Beautifully presented, moved steadily, stood and showed very well. BPD.

JD (3) 1 Goodwin's Highbrook He's Got Style. Brightly coloured and well presented s/w dog of 13 months who certainly has got style. Ideal for size and lovely breed type. Very well constructed and well balanced all through. Pleasing head with correct stop, dark expressive eye, well rounded muzzle and good underjaw. Super bone for size with good legs and feet. Excellent turn of stifle and well defined hock joint. Tail of good length, set and carriage. Moved very well. 2

Blythe & Fotheringham's Shenachie Inkspot. Very attractive and glamorous shapely b/m dog who was a size larger and a touch stronger all through than first. Happy character who was well made with balanced head with flat skull, correct stop and neat ears. Very masculine in outlook, with strong bone, good legs and feet. His colour is excellent and he was well presented and handled.

3 Drysdale's Donallin Shadow Magic.

JD (3) 1 Blythe & Fotheringham's Shenachie Inkspot. 2 Sangster's Amethrickeh Storm Wizzard. B/m dog of ideal shape and size who, unfortunately, is his own worst enemy, but with a bit more confidence could have won this class. Super construction, good body, well balanced head, rounded muzzle and good underjaw. Neat ears, but uses them sparingly. Such a sweet eye and melting expression when he relaxes. Level topline, good croup and very long tail. Had a different handler to move him, but this is where he really came into his own and covered the ground effortlessly. 3 Redpath's Aardan Hail Caledonia.

GD (3) 1 Purves' Donallin Magical Moments. Well constructed tricolour of ideal size and substance, presenting a well-balanced and masculine picture. Stands four square and shows well on good legs and feet with strong bone. Pleasing head with flat skull, rounded muzzle and good stop. Good reach of neck, level topline, tailset and length. Super turn of stifle and well let down hocks. Shapely with well fitting coat and rich tan markings, though black just starting to show the effects of the recent heatwave. Moved very well and with drive to win his class, but unfortunately decided to pace in the challenge. 2 Sangster's Amethrickeh Storm Wizzard. 3 Dixon's Tachnamadra Toffee Apple.

PGD (6) 1 Stow & Withers' Stanydale Shot In The Dark JW. This tricolour boy could certainly do a day's work with his excellent construction. Jet black, well-fitting coat with rich tan markings. Very masculine with a well balanced head, flat skull, neat ears and dark correctly placed and shaped eye, which gives him such a gentle expression. Well rounded muzzle and good underjaw. Strong bone, legs and feet. Forelegs straight and placed well under his body. Super turn of stifle. Short well let down hocks enabled him to move efficiently with drive. Lovely shape with gradual slope over croup. Well set and carried tail. Not quite the finish of the CC winner on the day and therefore awarded the RCC, but I'm sure his day will come soon. 2 Clubley's Mossvale Frosty Moon. B/m dog who was not quite so confident but was handled with empathy. Lots to like about him. Colour could be a clearer blue and merling better defined, but could not deny his super construction. Quite similar in type to 1, being capable of doing a day's work. Excellent tailset and very long tail. His head is refined and well balanced with correct eye shape and placement giving a pleasing expression. Neat ears. Well rounded muzzle. Straight forelegs with strong bone. His movement was free and effortless. 3 McCourt & Hayes' Conorvean Tonkin.

LD (9, 2) 1 Stock's Shemist Black Wizard. Absolutely stunning tricolour in top notch coat and condition. We last met a couple of years ago - he impressed me then, but I feel he really has reached his prime now and has matured into a really beautiful dog with such a graceful outline. Well balanced head with flat skull and correct stop. Dark almond shaped eye with super pigmentation. Rich tan and excellent black coat which gleamed in the sunlight. Excellent quality and type. Superbly constructed with level topline, good tail carriage, strong bone with good legs and feet with flexible pasterns. Excellent turn of stifle with well let down hocks which enabled him to move with drive. CC & BOB. Delighted to see this was his crowning CC - congratulations! 2 Gatheral's Herds Humphrey JW. Smart, upstanding richly coloured r/s/w dog who excels in head properties. Such a sweet expression from his dark well placed and shaped eye, correct stop and neat, well used ears. Head carried proudly on neck of good length, level topline and good tailset. Excellent hindquarters and so well muscled, which enabled him to move with drive. Well presented in excellent coat and condition. Looked a real picture standing foursquare and showing so well for his owner and certainly no disgrace to stand behind first today. A quality dog who deserves to reach the upper house. 3 Sonvico's Willowgarth Baileys Gold ShCM.

OD (6, 2) 1 Proctor's Our Little Drummer Boy. Very attractive tricolour boy who was of ideal size and super shape and looked lovely standing in profile. Well balanced all through with an excellent reach of neck enhanced by his full white collar, pleasing head and expression with well placed dark eye and neat ears, which he used sufficiently. Excellent forehand construction and strong hindquarters with well let down hocks enabled him to cover the ground easily and freely with good reach and drive. Well presented in a jet black coat with rich tan markings, but would benefit from a touch more length of coat underneath him to complete the picture. 2 Smith's

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Orean The Bootlegger. Glamorous sw dog of super type and quality. He has a beautiful head with a correctly placed and shaped dark eye, flat skull, neat ears and such a sweet expression. Carries his head well on a neck of good length, he has a level topline and a correctly set tail of good length. Excellent turn of stifle but not the forehand of first. Stands and shows well. In excellent coat and condition, well presented. 3 Hogg's Chalmoor The Astronaut.

VD (4) 1 Smith's Orean Top Gun. A real favourite of mine, to whom I awarded a RCC a few years ago. Time flies and it's hard to believe he's now almost 9 years old. Still a beautiful dog of quality. Super reach of neck and so well made with strong bone, good legs and feet. Correct harsh textured to his full, richly coloured mahogany coat which was very well presented. Could still do a day's work easily. Excellent hindquarters with strong hocks which enabled him to move with drive. Unfortunately he wasn't able to stay for BV challenge. 2 Main's Shenachie Night Jar. Tri dog of 7 years. Another I have met before, but I feel he has actually improved with age. Very shapely boy in a well-fitting jet black coat. A size smaller than first and shorter head pattern, but he is all in proportion. His super construction enabled him to move freely and effortlessly. Good body and excellent depth of chest. Level topline with gentle slope to croup, leading to correctly set tail of good length. Very attentive to handler. 3 Brady's Ch Francehill Two Tone.

MPB (3) 1 Purves' Donallin Dream Girl. What a delightful baby to start off the bitch classes! Just six months and at her first show, yet so steady and confident. Super make and shape with an excellent reach of neck enhanced by a glamorous full white collar. At such a tender age she still has to grow her coat, but what she had was a lovely jet black colour and was well presented. She has a refined head with flat skull, correct stop and a very sweet eye and expression. Stands absolutely foursquare on good legs and feet with strong bone. Good body, level topline and moved very well. One to watch for the future. 2 Stock's Shemist Dark Angel. Another nice tri baby, who had the benefit of two more months' maturity and therefore in fuller coat than first. Well made with a balanced and refined head, but still needs to clear a touch in stop. Well arched neck of good length, level topline, good body and tailset. Moved with good reach and drive. Showed well, but persisted in standing overstretched at the rear. 3 Simpson's Clemwood Foxylady.

PB (10, 1) 1 Stafford's Rannerdale Queen O'The North. Stunning r/s/w puppy of 11 months in full coat and finish. Refined, feminine head with dark, expressive well shaped and placed eye. Ears on top, which she used all the time. Well-rounded muzzle and good underjaw. Excellent reach of neck, body and depth of chest, with strong bone, good legs and feet. Lovely turn of stifle and well let down hocks enabled her to move with drive. Correct tailset and carriage and such a long tail. Beautifully presented and with such ring presence, she dares you not to look at her! RCC and BP. I'm sure it won't be long before this queen gains her crown. 2 Forbes' Wellneuk Dancing Flame. Another beautiful s/w bitch who was unlucky to meet first in this class. So well constructed and elegant with refined head and such a lovely melting expression. Dark well placed and shaped eye. Neat ears. Good foreface with well rounded muzzle. Excellent forehand. Super legs and feet with good bone. Level topline which she held on the move. Very shapely with gently sloping croup leading to well set and carried tail. Well let down hocks. Super richly coloured coat of correct harsh texture and in excellent condition. Well presented and handled. I'm sure this girl also has a bright future. 3 Moir & Ritchie's Murieston Makes A Wish.

JB (6, 1) 1 Forbes' Wellneuk Dancing Flame. 2 Hateley's Mohnesee Petticoat Lace. Very attractive g/s/w of lovely breed type, ultra feminine and so typical of this kennel. She has a

refined head, with a correctly placed and shaped dark eye and neat, well used ears on top of her skull. Beautifully presented and so well handled to get the best out of her. Well made with good body and depth to chest, good sweep over loin leading to long, well set and carried tail. Well angulated and moved with good reach and drive, but needs to tighten in front coming towards. Still at the junior stage and will improve with maturity. 3 Fisher's Shellamoyed Heavenly Charm. YB (10) 1 Hateley's Mohnesee Petticoat Lace. 2 Clegram & Berry's Smiddyshaw I'll Be There For U JW. Very pleasing, shapely bright s/w who was of ideal size and well balanced. Excellent reach of neck, enhanced by her full white collar. Proudly carried head, with dark eye and well used ears, nicely rounded muzzle. Super straight forelegs and good bone for size. Level topline and correctly set and carried tail. Expertly handled and presented with great ring presence, but had taken heed of the weather and decided to leave most of her coat at home. Another one who will benefit from time and maturity. 3 Walker's Tooralie's Matilda.

GB (5) 1 Main's Shenachie Lyric Of Light. S/w bitch who had a very graceful and elegant flowing outline with her super reach of neck and level topline, which she held so well on the move. Lean, refined head with dark eye and well rounded muzzle, but needs a touch more definition in stop for ideal. Excellent turn of stifle and strong hocks enabled her to move really well with drive. Well set and carried tail. Stood and showed well. 2 Purves' Sommerville Magic In Black. Tricolour, who was of different type to first, being shorter in the back but still well proportioned for her size. Excellent reach of neck, refined head with sweet eye and neat ears. Strong bone and moved well on good legs and feet. Good turn of stifle and well defined hock joint. Dam of first in MPB and just back in the ring wearing a well presented fresh jet black coat which will benefit from a tad more length to it in a couple of months' time. 3 Fenton's Shannmie's Tropical Blue.

PGB (7) 1 Parker's Tolarock Such A Treat. Tricolour who certainly was such a treat to go over. Not a flashy girl by any means, but she has real quality and is very elegant in shape and profile. Presented in full and gleaming jet black coat which was groomed to perfection. Her head is well balanced and refined with a dark almond shaped eye, flat skull with ears on top and a pleasing expression. Her construction is excellent, with strong bone, good legs and feet. Level topline, correct tailset and very long tail. Very well-muscled hindquarters which enabled her to move very efficiently indeed. 2 Hayhurst's Milesend Sweet Melody At Keycharm. Very pretty and well made golden sable/white who is so feminine in outlook with such a sweet expression. One that I've previously admired from the ringside and she certainly didn't disappoint me on handling. Litter sister to winner of LB and shares many of her attributes; just a touch behind her in maturity at present, but I'm sure she will blossom in the fullness of time. Good tailset and level topline held on the move. Just wish her handler had made a bit more use of the ring when moving her. 3 East's Jacquard Unexpected Gift.

LB (8) 1 Parkes' Milesend Sweet Whispers At Eljetia. Golden s/w of super quality. Excellent reach of neck with such a beautifully moulded classic headpiece with dark almond shaped eye, correct stop and earset. Very well angulated front and rear, which enabled her to move very well. Straight forelegs well underneath her body and good bone. I felt she was just losing some of her undercoat to be considered for top honours on the day in such strong competition, but she's still a youngster and I'm sure she will continue her winning ways when she's back in full bloom. 2 Ritchie's Jaelis Mystique Reflection JW. Richly coloured r/s/w I judged as a minor puppy a couple of years ago and so pleased to see she has developed into a beautiful adult of excellent type and quality. She has a well moulded head with a sweet expression and neat ears. Very shapely with

good topline and a long correctly set tail. In profuse coat which was so well groomed. Not quite the angulations of first, but very well balanced all through, standing foursquare and showing so well for her excellent handler. Difficult decision between first and second and I wish them both well for the future. 3 Latimer's Sonymer Liquid Gold.

OB (9, 1) Another wonderful class full of quality and I was spoiled for choice! 1 Latimer's Sonymer Summers Dream. Gorgeous richly coloured r/s/w of super type and excellent construction and fits the Standard so well. Beautifully presented in first class coat and condition. Excellent reach of neck, refined well balanced head with good muzzle and underjaw, dark expressive eye and such a sweet expression, all giving her such an air of quality. Well muscled and so sound on the move, covering the ground with efficiency and ease. Stood four square with forelegs well under her chest. Showed very well in her class and in the bitch challenge to win a hotly contested CC. In the BOB challenge the afternoon heat was starting to tell and she had to concede to the DCC winner, who came back into the ring fresh and on his toes to take the top spot. 2 Stockden's Willowgarth Gentle Breeze JW. Another beautiful s/w bitch of super quality and type who I'm sure has a bright future. Well balanced all through. She excels in head and expression with a beautiful dark, almond shaped eye and neat ears on top of her flat skull. Strong bone and super legs and feet. Level topline, good tailset and carriage. Presented in sparkling coat and condition, and with an almost mischievous and cheeky personality she stood and showed so well. Moved well and expertly handled to get the best out of her and pushed hard for the RCC. 3 Daniels & Taylor's Ch Pepperhill Kicks 'N Flicks JW.

VB (3) 1 Brady's Bordercot Blue Weave. Heading a class of three lovely veterans, an eight year old b/m whose colour is now darkening a little with age, but she is so soundly constructed and moved so freely and effortlessly with excellent reach and drive. She has a refined and balanced head with sweet eye and expression, ears on the larger side but on top of her flat skull and well used. Would prefer a touch more underjaw, but overall a very nice bitch who stands and shows well on good legs and feet with strong bone. Level topline and slope over croup, leading to a well set long tail. Very well presented and handled. BV. 2 Stock's Shemist Golden Sun. Such a charming and pretty s/w girl whose looks belied her 11 years. A touch smaller and slightly shorter coupled than first, but of lovely breed type and very feminine in outlook with a sweet expression. Well balanced head with correct stop, and neat well used ears on top of her skull. Dark, well placed and shaped eye with such attractive long blonde eyelashes which I loved! Very attentive and a credit to her owner. 3 Lewis' Donmarvic The Quest.

Mrs Jane Edwards