

Many thanks to the committee for the invitation to judge, to my stewards Mike Harris and Barry McCartney who kept the ring running smoothly and to the exhibitors for the quality entry I had to judge. I really did enjoy my day with the shelties and especially as things turned out later in the show

I would just like to draw attention to a few issues I noticed whilst judging today's entry. Firstly, the number of dogs that sidewind when moving away, mostly down to a mismatch in front and rear angulation but sometimes to handlers insisting on holding their sheltie on a tight lead. Shelties in my opinion are free spirits who move better when given a loose lead and the handler matches the dog's pace. Secondly, fronts!! Front movement in some cases left a lot to be desired with dogs lifting the front feet too high – shelties have a daisy cutting action -which spoils the shape and outline of the dog in motion. Thirdly, I had quite a few exhibits with cone shaped heads with pointed foreface and incorrect stop. The sheltie head is so important and the balance can only be achieved with correctly placed stop, moulded foreface with rounded muzzle and correct eye and ear placement. This breed is close to my heart so please take these comments as concern for something I love and not criticism

#### Veteran D 3

1<sup>st</sup> Goodwin's Ch Highbrook Hot Heir JW This 8yr old shaded sable is balanced throughout with nothing out of proportion. Ideal size, he has a lovely head with flat skull, dark obliquely placed eye, neat ears and sweet but masculine expression. Moved very well front and back with an easy ground covering stride. A worthy champion who was in full coat with excellent presentation who I found out later is the sire of my BOB winner today. Res CC and Best Veteran from me and Pastoral Veteran Group 4 from Steve Hall ..... congratulations.

2<sup>nd</sup> Hirst's Sundark Starlight Sh. CM 11yr old blue merle who is very well made with correct shoulder placement and good length of upper arm, good length of back and well bent stifle and let down of hock. Having only just made the class by a whisker, once settled he moved freely and with drive and later went on to win the Good Citizen D class.

3<sup>rd</sup> Tucker's Sandiacre Set In Ice

#### Minor Puppy D 3

Three dogs in this class .....the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> had the best conformation but were up to size and the 3<sup>rd</sup> had the best head.

1<sup>st</sup> Withers' Witchfields Dizee Rascal At Stanydale This blue merle is an excellent colour that is well broken. I loved his shape and outline with arched neck of good length, good angulation front and back with well bent stifle and good let down of hock. An easy mover covering the ground with minimum effort. Just needs time to clear in stop and for his head to balance.

2<sup>nd</sup> Redpath's Molson Miroquai This golden sable has excellent breed type with a dark almond eye obliquely placed and an expression that just screams "sheltie" and strong underjaw. Just needs to clean in stop to give the final balance to his head. Excellent shoulder angulation and length of upper arm and well bent stifle. Unwilling to move very far but when he did his movement was correct. In good coat that enhanced his bodylines.

3<sup>rd</sup> Lycett's Iliad Isle Of Ewe

### Puppy D 6 (2)

1<sup>st</sup> Stafford's Rannerdale Showmaster Glamourous sable and white in full coat of correct texture. Pleasing head with parallel planes, correctly placed stop, dark almond shaped eye, neat ears and strong underjaw. Good length of back with level topline and correct tailset, he moved very well with drive from the hock and extension in front. A top quality puppy who must have a bright future. Best Puppy In Breed and then Pastoral Puppy G3 under Mary Deates.....congratulations.

2<sup>nd</sup> Varnom's Milesend Blue Jeans Lovely 9mth old blue merle who was not quite as settled as the winner. He is a beautiful colour with an attractive head with dark almond shaped eye obliquely placed, neat ears and the sweetest of expressions. Stood on strong legs with good bone and well padded feet. When his handler eventually was persuaded to give him a loose lead he moved well. A very promising puppy.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Robson's Kyleburn Dream Lover

#### Junior D 6 (1)

1<sup>st</sup> Walker's Tooralie's Ocho Rios JW This shaded sable has an excellent shape and outline with arched neck, level topline, well laid shoulder with good length of upper arm, good width through the pelvis and well bent stifle and let down of hock. Moved as his conformation suggested with drive from behind and extension in front. He has a flat skull with strong underjaw, dark eye and well used ears. Would prefer a leaner skull.

2<sup>nd</sup> Pattinson's Kyleburn Hidden Dream I preferred the head type of this dog but he couldn't match the movement of the winner. Has a flat skull with correct eye shape and placement and neat ears. When he gets his act together this is a very attractive sheltie but at the moment he stands with his legs tucked under him and sidewinds moving away from me. His profile movement when moved at speed was excellent.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Winfield's Adventurine Bohemia Classic Joins Oakcroft (Cze Imp)

#### Yearling D 3

1<sup>st</sup> Hull's Mohnesee's Dream Date Of Lizmark This sable and white has a pleasing head with dark almond shaped eye obliquely placed, neat ears and the sweetest of expressions. Good reach of neck and length of back and in good coat of the correct texture, he moved with drive from his well bent stifle and correct let down of hock. Excellent profile movement.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lee's Willowthorn's Trushka I really liked the type of this tricolour but he still needs time to settle in ear and fill in foreface. He is very well made with strong quarters and moved with drive from his parallel rear action. His front action was true, showing convergence at speed moving towards me. In good coat of the correct texture.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Highbrook Hobnob JW

#### Graduate D 4

1<sup>st</sup> Aaron's Shelridge Toastmaster Blue merle of excellent colour that is well broken. Stands well on good legs with rounded bone and well padded feet. At first glance I thought him strong in head but when on the table his head handles well with flat skull, almond shaped eye, the sweetest of expressions and no sign of coarseness. Good angulation front and rear with strong quarters and correct let down of hock meant he covered the ground easily on the move. Not back into full coat at the moment so appears shorter in body length than he actually is. Would like to see him in full coat.

2<sup>nd</sup> Mohnesee's Dream Date of Lizmark ....1<sup>st</sup> in previous class.

3<sup>rd</sup> Wynn's Malaroc Crafty Copper

Post Graduate D 7 (2)

1<sup>st</sup> Durant's Shougies Winter Wizard At Neraklee JW This blue merle is up to size but has the most stunning shape and outline together with excellent conformation and with his beautiful blue colour is very hard to overlook. Good reach of neck, level topline and correct sweep over the loin with correct tailset. Strong driving action means he can power round the ring. I find him strong enough in head but it is balanced and he has a kind expression.

2<sup>nd</sup> Isdale's Viewdale Cuddly Dudley I preferred the head of this dog with his flat skull, correct oblique eye placement, neat ears and sweet expression but he couldn't match the winner's driving rear action or more positive front foot placement. Standing he presents an attractive outline with level topline and good bend of stifle. I would prefer tighter pasterns.

3<sup>rd</sup> Pattinson's Kyleburn Everlasting Dream

Limit D 8 (3)

1<sup>st</sup> Robinson's Lavika Lush Life JW This sable and white has a lovely head with flat skull, strong underjaw, well filled foreface, dark almond shaped eye correctly placed and neat ears giving that elusive typical sheltie expression that melts your heart. He has a good bend of stifle and well let down hocks and stands on strong legs with rounded bone and well padded feet. He moves with drive but his shoulder angulation does not match his rear angulation and he sidewinds moving away. In full coat of the correct texture and beautifully presented.

2<sup>nd</sup> Durant's Neraklee Starblaze This dog had better conformation than the winner with excellent shoulder placement and length of upper arm and well bent stifle and let down of hock and moved with drive from the rear and extension in front but he could not match the head properties of the winner. His head is of good length with strong underjaw but lacks filling in foreface at the moment which spoils his expression. He is only 2yrs old so hopefully maturity will improve this.

3<sup>rd</sup> Jacobs & Johnson's Willowthorn Dream Gazer Sh.CM

Open D 5 (1)

I had to search my soul in this class as my first two placings went to dogs who I wouldn't want any stronger and my 3<sup>rd</sup> placed dog who is an ideal size with a typical sheltie head and outline really didn't want to know.

1<sup>st</sup> Withers' Ch Stanydale Shot In The Dark JW Love the shape, outline and conformation of this tricolour dog. A good black with rich tan markings he instantly appeals for his overall balance. His head handles well with flat skull, well moulded foreface and strong underjaw. Dark almond shaped eye, obliquely placed, and neat ears combine to give a sweet yet masculine expression. Arched neck, level topline and correct sweep over the loin together with good depth and length of rib and with excellent shoulder placement and bend of stifle means he can hold his outline standing and moving. Once into his stride he covers the ground easily with drive from behind and extension in front. The more he moved the more effortless his action became and I was really pleased to award him the CC.

2<sup>nd</sup> Castillo & Pearson GB/Ir Ch Edglonian Blue Fortune. Blue merle of similar size and substance as the winner but he could not match the winner's length of upper arm. Good reach of neck, well carried head, level topline with sweep over the loin. Excellent bend of stifle and well let down of

hock gave him a strong driving rear action and he kept his outline at all times. His head is balanced with oblique eye placement but could not match the expression of the winner. Strong legs with round bone and tight well padded feet. He is an excellent colour and was in full coat of correct texture that was beautifully presented.

3<sup>rd</sup> Bray's Ch Lianbray Lothario

Good Citizen D 3

1<sup>st</sup> Hirst's Sundark Starlight Sh.CM Previously placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Veteran. He moved even better in this class.

2<sup>nd</sup> Dixon's Tachnamadra Toffee Apple. Golden sable and white with a typical sheltie head with dark eye correctly placed and neat well used ears. He has a good reach of neck but couldn't match the winner on the move.

3<sup>rd</sup> Wynn's Malaroc Crafty Copper

Veteran B 3 (1)

These 2 veteran shelties moved better than the majority of the males I had just judged AND they were the correct size.

1<sup>st</sup> Gatheral's Herds Hallucination JW This 9yr old tricolour is an ideal size with good reach of neck, level topline and the correct sweep over the loins. Excellent shoulder angulation with good length of upper arm, good depth and length of ribs, well bent stifle and let down of hock. She moved easily with drive from behind and extension in front. Her head handles well with flat skull, dark eye correctly placed and strong underjaw. She is a credit to her owner.

2<sup>nd</sup> Hirst's Sundark Tsarina. Another beautiful tricolour of 11yrs and my comments on the winner also apply to this lady. She has the same excellent conformation and a strong driving rear action and the sweetest of expressions. The winner just had the edge on front movement.

Minor Puppy B 2

Two lovely babies in this class

1<sup>st</sup> Rennison's Kayla Kiss Ze Shetlandu (CZE Imp) This bi blue is just 6 mths but was very confident standing and moving. She is an ideal size and stands on strong legs with round bone and tight well padded feet. She has a good shape and outline with good length of back and long well carried tail. She is well developed in body for her age with excellent bend of stifle and let down of hock and moved freely around the ring with drive from the rear. Pleasing head pattern with correct eye placement and well used ears. She is a beautiful colour that is well broken. Should have a good future.

2<sup>nd</sup> Burch's Myter Fire And Ice For Bordamour This 8mth old blue was better coated than the winner and whilst her blue is well broken she couldn't match the clarity of blue of the winner. She has a pretty head with flat skull and dark eye obliquely placed and the sweetest of expressions. Well angulated front and rear, she moved with drive but at present is just lifting her front feet a little high when moving.

#### Puppy B 13 (4)

A lovely class where all 5 were worthy of a red card

1<sup>st</sup> Sorocky's Mohnesee Share The Dream This sable and white won on her positive movement which was very free and easy with drive from the rear and extension in front. She is well developed in body with good depth and length of rib. Head handles well with flat skull, dark almond shaped eye obliquely placed and strong underjaw.

2<sup>nd</sup> Hirst's Sundark Spirit Mistress This tricolour has excellent conformation with good shoulder placement and length of upper arm and well bent stifle and let down of hock. She is spot on for size. She stands wide at times which is a puzzle as on the table her conformation is faultless! She is a happy lady with the cheekiest of expressions and a stunning outline but is her own worst enemy.

3<sup>rd</sup> Dunn's Brilyn Baccarat Crystal To Beechmere

#### Junior B 9 (2)

1<sup>st</sup> Brilyn Baccarat Crystal To Beechmere This pretty golden sable was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the previous class. She has a super shape and outline with good reach of neck and length of back. Love her head, with flat skull, dark almond shaped eye obliquely placed and the most stunning expression. In full coat that was beautifully presented. She moved better in this class than the puppy class where she was closer behind than the 2 placed over her. She is a quality bitch. Best Junior.

2<sup>nd</sup> Dick's Picture Perfect This 15mth old blue merle is a good colour and it is well broken. She is still immature in body and head. She has a good length of body but couldn't match the winner for length of stride. Her rear action is parallel but lacks power at the moment – maturity will help I'm sure.

3<sup>rd</sup> Creamer's Clanavon Touch Of Blue Of Lyngarso

#### Yearling B 10 (3)

1<sup>st</sup> Thornley & Withers' Mitchfields Fashion Girl At Felthorn This blue merle has a stunning shape and outline with good reach of neck, level topline, correct sweep over the loin and well carried tail. Excellent shoulder placement with good length of upper arm, good length depth and spring of rib and well bent stifle and let down of hock. She has a lean head with flat skull and well used ears. On the move she covered the ground effortlessly. She reminded me of the first Felthorn I judged at ch show level at Midland Counties 1981 .....Felthorn Lady won my Junior class. Hope this lady can do as well as she did.

2<sup>nd</sup> Mitchell's Valdosta Tri Ya Luck. Love the shape and outline of this quality tricolour who has a proud head carriage. She is a little shorter than the winner but with the same well bent stifle and let down of hock. Pleasing head pattern with well used ears – just a shade larger in eye shape than the ideal and still needs to finish in foreface. Stands on strong legs with round bone and well padded feet. Has a strong driving action from the rear but a busier front action than the winner.

3<sup>rd</sup> Walker's Tooralie's No No Nanette

### Graduate B 13 (1)

1<sup>st</sup> Aaron's Kyleburn Sibylla At Shelridge. Very pretty sable and white. Lovely head with flat skull, dark almond shaped eyes obliquely placed, well filled foreface and strong underjaw, correct ear placement and the sweetest of expressions that so typifies a quality sheltie. Good length of back with strong quarters, well bent stifle and strong hocks. She had the best rear movement in this class. Her profile movement was excellent and I had to look carefully as she came towards me as she seemed to turn her elbows out slightly. She is just coming back into coat so I think it was an optical illusion as her featherings grow back as on the table there wasn't a problem. A quality bitch.

2<sup>nd</sup> Hickling's Sheltisha Bell Of The Ball At Natara Taf This blue merle is a lovely colour and well broken. At almost 12 mths she is big enough but so feminine with no sign of coarseness. Pretty head with flat skull and dark almond shaped eye correctly placed, neat well used ears and the sweetest of expressions. Lovely outline with arched neck and good angulation front and rear. In good coat that enhanced her bodyshape. So much to like about this quality bitch -just needs maturity. Best Puppy Bitch.

3<sup>rd</sup> Whittington's Esterbon Three Kisses For Tighness JW

### Post Graduate B 15 (3)

This was a lovely class headed by 2 quality bitches. I really needed 2 red cards here.

1<sup>st</sup> Roberts' Malaroc Rainfall. Such a pretty sable and white. Just 2yrs old, she has a lean head with flat skull, dark almond eye obliquely placed, neat well used ears and the sweetest of expressions. Good length of body and arched neck with level topline and correct sweep over the loin. She is well angulated with good shoulder placement and length of upper arm, good length of rib and strong quarters with good bend of stifle and let down of hock. She moved effortlessly round the ring. In full coat that was beautifully presented the big green card must surely await this young lady – only maturity went against her today.

2<sup>nd</sup> Moody's Janetstown Jenerous. This shaded sable bitch is a classic sheltie. Nothing is out of proportion and at 6yrs of age there is no sign of coarseness. Faultless conformation and it shows in her effortless movement, covering the ground with minimal effort. She has a flat skull, good underjaw and the sweetest of expressions. Hard to believe she doesn't have CH before her name and only showing slight sign of her age in her teeth – although her dentition is still correct.

3<sup>rd</sup> Weller's Carolen Cascading Stars For Evad

### Limit B 9 (1)

This was a quality class.

1<sup>st</sup> Edglonian Rhythm N Rhyme This tricolour bitch with her jet black coat and rich tan markings enhanced by a large snow white collar really takes the eye. Her shape and outline with arched neck and level topline are constant whether standing or moving. Good bodylines with well developed ribs, good bend of stifle and strong let down hock complete the picture. Her head is balanced with strong underjaw, dark eye of correct size shape and placement, neat ears correctly placed and when she uses them she has the sweetest of expressions – not always easy in a tricolour. On the move she has a strong driving action. She was a very strong contender for the big green card today – the maturity of the Open Bitch winner just giving her the edge. This young lady must have a big future. Res CC in some very good company.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bray's Shelridge Shantilly Lace At Lianbray JW This sable and white has a beautiful head with flat skull, good underjaw, dark eye obliquely placed, moulded foreface and rounded muzzle. Her well used ears combined with all this to give the sweetest of expressions that just shout "sheltie". She is an ideal size with well developed ribs of good length, well bent stifle and let down of hock and moved freely and easily round the ring. A quality bitch.

3<sup>rd</sup> Hirst's Sundark Simply A Star

## Open B 5

This class provided the Star of the day!!

1<sup>st</sup> Stafford's Ch Rannerdale Queen O' The North JW I last judged this beautiful sable and white 2yrs ago at Bath where she was my Best Puppy Bitch. She has matured well and kept all the early promise and more. She has a balanced head with dark almond eye obliquely placed, well filled foreface and strong underjaw. When she uses her ears she has that beautiful sheltie expression. Good reach of neck with proud head carriage, level topline that she holds both standing and moving, correct sweep over the loin and correct tailset and carriage. On the move she comes into her own, powering round the ring like she owns it with drive from her well bent stifle and let down of hock and an easy reach in front. Nothing could touch her today .....she won the CC and then took on the lovely tricolour male to win Best of Breed. She is a beautiful bitch and I was thrilled to have the opportunity to judge her. BUT the story doesn't end there ..... she took on the big winners in the Pastoral Group under Barry Croft and took Group 1 ..... so glad he loved her as much as I did. AND then she came back on Sunday and took on all the Group winners to win Reserve Best In Show from Mike Gadsby. What a superstar. Many many congratulations to her owner - Queenie looked fabulous in that big ring .

2<sup>nd</sup> Lycett's Herds Hallicia At Iliad Pretty sable and white with a lean head, flat skull, dark almond eye obliquely placed and the sweetest of expressions. Good length in back with strong quarters and good width through the loin. She has a well bent stifle and strong hocks giving a powerful driving action with a good length of stride in front. In good coat of correct texture that fitted her bodylines and was beautifully presented.

3<sup>rd</sup> Freeman's Willowgarth Crimson Dawn Over Lanteague

Good Citizen B 4

1<sup>st</sup> Sheltisha Bell Of The Ball At Natara Taf

2<sup>nd</sup> Weller's Evad Halloween Queen This 10mth old sable and white has a lovely shape with good reach of neck and length of back. She has well developed ribs and a good bend of stifle. She moved with drive. Pleasing head with dark almond shaped eye and obliquely placed. Just need to fill in foreface and settle in front action.

3<sup>rd</sup> Whittington's Tighness The Tide Is High