

## The Shetland Sheepdog Club of North Wales – Championship Show

on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018

I would like to thank the SSCNW for inviting me to judge at this special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary show where so many specials and gorgeous rosettes were presented to both exhibitors and dogs and to offer my congratulations on a wonderful show which is a tribute to the hard work of the committee and their helpers. It was made even more special when my stewards were two friends of long standing, Jane Edwards and Stuart Gruszka, who of course ensured everything went perfectly. Thank you also for a lovely lunch in such good company, the delicious birthday cake and the special gift.

With a super entry it was a pleasure to hear a gentle ripple of applause after each class that made it a very happy show. There were some lovely bitches here today with a number of very promising youngsters and my main winners pleased me enormously. Happily my co judge Mrs Joyce Miles and I were in full agreement over the top awards. As usual there is always a downside and it feels as if little bits of our very specific breed standard are gradually being eroded. Heads too broad and stops too deep giving straight set eyes have been increasing, and sadly the depth and taper of ribs to reach at least the elbow were the exception and not the rule. Presentation was excellent with most dogs showing well but for me, breed type, class and quality will always be more important than big coats and showmanship which was reflected in my decisions today.

### Bitches

MP. (7,1ab) 1. Walker's **Channerswick Pennywise**, lovely coloured B/m, a day under 7mths but a very confident young lady. Sweet head and expression enhanced by neat ears and so well used. Liked her shape with good shoulders and construction all through and although she was a bit keen to get there and back when moving she was sound fore and aft. Long tail well carried. 2. Hardman's **Seavall Taran**, Tri baby of just 6mths and so glamorous. She too was full of confidence both on the table and moving. Very well made and with super bend of stifle complimented by a long tail. Difficult to split these two who will no doubt change places in future meetings but the slightly more racy shape of 1<sup>st</sup> captured my eye today. 3. Rule's **Bleatarn Gee Wizz**, richly coloured S/w of 8mths with a rangier build and needing to fill out a bit but this will come with maturity. Refined head qualities but today lacking a bit of confidence to show off. Moved well and has a really crisp coat. When she relaxed could see she had a sweet expression.

P. (8) 1. Hateley's **Mohnesee Sweet Dreams**, 10mths S/w who is quite a show off and with plenty to admire. Stands and shows like a veteran giving a very pleasing outline with correct front and rear angulation and the movement to match. The most mature and finished in this class which gained her **BPB**, well done. Just a little over enthusiastic in the challenge for BP. 2. Thornley & Withers' **Mitchfields Fashion Girl**, B/m of 10mths with an elegant lean head although more stop would enhance. Well made with workmanlike structure but a bit unsettled today when moving. Well broken and marked with colour clearing as her coat develops. 3. Clubley's **Mossvale Blue Star**, another B/m of 11mths but not so forward in maturity. Coat is a really clear blue marbled with black and coming in well. Has a refined head with neat ears and sweet expression. Although she needs to body up and gain some confidence, I felt she was a most promising young lady.

J. (10, 1ab) 1. Elder's **Ellenyorn Evita**, 13mths S/w shown in good coat. Could have a flatter skull but her head is balanced, with well-placed eyes and ears, and carried on a good neck. Good shoulders and body with depth of chest and bend of stifle. Moved well although she tried to move faster than ideal but was presented and shown to advantage. 2. Withers' **Neraklee Naomi**, 17mths Tri with slightly shorter head and deeper stop but nevertheless presented a sweet expression using her ears well and showing non-stop. Good shoulders and stifle angulation so moved well but can stand a little wide in front. Shown and presented well with good body and coat. 3. Walker's **Tooralie's No Nanette**, 13mths B/w and a most attractive, neat little person so well balanced all over. Really sweet and merry expression with good ear set and well used too. Good construction both fore and aft with long tail completing the overall picture. Consequently moved out well; just loved the black splashes on her front feet like painted toenails.

Y. (9, 2ab) 1. Hardy's **Sandwick Silhouette**, 21mths S/w with a lovely head, well placed eyes and neat ears all carried on a good length of neck. Elegant shape with good outline showing off her construction and finished off with a long tail. She moved and showed really well. Just needs to coat up to complete the picture. 2. Thornley's **Shelbrook Pandora With Felthorn**, 19mths S/w just slightly stronger in head but with similar attributes being so well made and consequently moving soundly. Lovely outline and long tail that she happily showed me going around the ring but carried properly when individually moved. As with 1<sup>st</sup> maturity complete the picture and enhance her charm. 3. Winfield's **Carolelen Classic Star By Oakcroft**, at 18mths this pretty S/w was just out of junior but looked well. Slightly shorter in head, but balanced and with the neatest of ears, well used to show off her expression. Although perhaps a little deeper in stop, and a slightly more oblique eye placement would be ideal, she is well constructed and moved positively. Shown in lovely coat of crisp texture.

M. (10, 4ab) 1. Thornley & Withers' **Michfields Cover Girl**, 9mths Tri and a very neat little person who is most attractive. She has a balanced head with good eye and ear placement giving a sweet expression. Really well made which was obvious when she moved out around the ring so positively. In promising coat and showing with great confidence for one so young. I hope she continues to do well. 2. **Channerswick Pennywise** 3. Robinson's **Lavika Spring Queen**, another Tri of just 7mths and such a lovely baby. A little unsure of herself at first but did well and with nothing to hide showed off a delightful outline. Promising head qualities with good expression and ears she used well. Moved with style and with time feel sure she will trouble the best. Very well handled which gave her the confidence to show off.

N. (6) 1. **Mossvale Blue Star** 2. **Lavika Spring Queen** 3. Bladon's **Kiemont Angel's Delight**, 16mths S/w with a sweet expression but her ears are a little heavily tipped. Ideal for size and shown in good coat but persisted in pacing when moving although her hind action was sound.

G. (8, 2ab) 1. Bray's **Lianbray Lorelei – CC and RBIS**, 2 yrs S/w who appealed instantly and was just what I was looking for. Refined head qualities showing the desired long blunt wedge, slight stop and obliquely set eyes. Perfect ear set and carriage completed my ideal Sheltie head and expression. She has a good length of neck leading to super body construction with the depth of chest and tapering required to allow freedom of forelegs when moving and the bend of stifle providing drive from the rear. Add to that a lovely outline from head to gentle slope over the loins. Shown in fresh coat, still maturing and whilst not the most enthusiastic show girl, I wish her every success for the future. 2. Lee's **Ontoco Lunar Eclipse At Chalynwood**, 3 yrs Tri and of a slightly heavier build but so well made. Correct front and rear construction meant she could and did move really well. In good coat and showed well but annoyingly would stand wide in front. Despite meeting 1<sup>st</sup> I felt she was a really sound and honest type. 3. Gamble's **Balidorn Solitude At Solyric JW**, another 3 yr old but S/w and a lovely elegant shape. She has a refined head with sweet expression and showed non-stop. Well made and showed this in her good movement but today not in her best dress but was beautifully presented and handled making an attractive picture.

PG. (9, 2ab) 1. Hateley's **Mohnesee Petticoat Lace JW**, S/w of 2 yrs with a lean head and good eye and ear set but a little plain in expression. She has a good neck and is well made so could move soundly. Shown in lovely coat and showed herself off well. 2. Pierce's **Philhope Just So**, 2 yrs S/w who was not enjoying her day. I thought she was lovely with refined head qualities, obliquely set eyes giving that desired sweetness of expression and despite all, using her ears well when standing. Particularly well made and it showed when moving with ease around the ring. Not in her best dress today but when she gets her act together could easily win this class. 3. Gruszka's **Samphrey Sea Breeze**, 5 yrs old and a mahogany sable, such a lovely colour and so rarely seen these days. She has the correct length of head and good eye placement giving a gentle expression. Liked her shape and make both fore and aft and positive movement. Not a glamour girl but presented a well-balanced picture.

L. (8) 1. Bywater's **Lundecock's Cover Girl With Tachnamadra**, 3 yrs S/w and a new face for me. She is such an attractive lady with a good head, eye and especially neat ears. Really well constructed although she tried to hide her good neck at times, but when relaxed showed off a lovely outline. Another who by virtue of her correct build could move well. Presented in lovely coat and shown and

handled well. 2. Dunn's **Neraklee Chardonnay At Shelleary**, another rather good 3 yr old Shaded S/w who made me split hairs over these placings. Perhaps a tad stronger all over or was it an optical illusion due to her richer colour? Point for point they were so similar with both being well made and such sound movers. Again showmanship, presentation and handling were excellent but in the end I felt 1<sup>st</sup> just had the edge in expression. 3. Lycett's **Herds Hallicia At Iliad**, 5 yrs pretty S/w with the correct head shape and eye set giving a charming expression. Lovely shape and make with good outline showing off her construction. Moved and showed well and in good coat. 3 super girls.

O. (9, 1ab) 1. Elder's **Ellenyorn Gem Of Cara**, at 5 yrs old I must have seen this S/w before but until handled have not appreciated her virtues. Lovely lean head with neat ears and good eye set giving a sweet expression. She is well made and moved well looking very good in profile. Today however was not co-operating and really giving her Mum a hard time. When relaxed she looked super and I could not deny her type and quality 1<sup>st</sup> place. She decided it wasn't her day in the challenge too.

2. Stafford's **Rannerdale Queen O' The North JW**, most attractive 2 yr old S/w who has had a spectacular career to date. There is so much to like about her and contrary to 1<sup>st</sup>, she just loved showing off her attributes. Shown in particularly good coat and as always handled and presented to perfection. Today just preferred the more reachy movement of 1<sup>st</sup>. 3. Robinson's **Lavika Lucky Star JW**, another lovely S/w of 3yrs and in super coat. She has a very good neck and uses it well to show off her head qualities. Not quite as good in front assembly but certainly moved well around the ring. Such a glamour girl who showed her heart out.

V. (9, 1ab) 1. Bywater's **Ch Tachnamadra Evisu Res CC, BVB and BVIS**, rising 9yrs Shaded S/w whose overall shape and make just catch the eye for balance and harmony. Love her head and expression with eyes and ears so correctly set. Add to this the construction so desired in shoulder/upper arm, depth of chest and sweep of stifle ensuring she moved freely and easily around the ring. As always shown in good coat and handled and presented to advantage. Felt with CC winner they made a matching pair with Evisu being the fully matured version. 2. Venton's **Tri'N Stop Me At Mistyisle**, 7yrs Tri who was most attractive having the long lean head so lacking these days. Well placed eye and neat ears combined to give a charming expression. She too is well made with good shoulder and stifle that enabled to move well. Presented in lovely coat and handled well. 3. Lycett's **Ch Shebaville Saucy Secret at Iliad JW**, 8yrs B/m and a slightly more compact lady but equally well made and balanced. Neat ears and a good eye set gave her a sweet expression. Her coat colour is darkening a little but was as usual so well presented. Not quite as positive in rear movement today but shows off well.

S/W. (9, 1ab) 1. Robinson's **Lavika Good Luck JW**, 3yrs S/w absolute glamour puss with terrific ring presence. Litter sister to 3<sup>rd</sup> in Open – what a litter! Most lovely outline with a good length of neck and she carried her head so proudly. Such a good head too, with correctly placed eyes and ears giving a wonderful expression and she kept looking straight at me! Being really critical could perhaps have a better upper arm angle but it did not stop her as she had great forward reach and drive on the move. She was shown in full bloom with immaculate presentation and handling and really showed non-stop. 2. Barnett & Hardman's **Rainway Returning To Seavall JW**, 8yrs S/w and a great favourite who has retained her lovely lean head with sweet eye and expression and correct ear set. So well made that she moves like a dream covering the ground with ease. Today shown with a bit less coat than when I last saw her that shows off her elegant shape so much better. I had to be brutal and split hairs as she and 3<sup>rd</sup> were so attentive to their handlers they just compromised their neck/top lines today. 3. Ritchie's Jaelis **Mystique Reflection JW**, 4 yrs S/w and such a charmer too. She is so similar in virtues to 2<sup>nd</sup> with a lovely head pattern giving the desired expression. Very well made and it showed on the move with easy action covering plenty of ground. Shown and presented well but I just had to split them and on the day it was **Good Luck** who won.

Tri. (6) 1. Bywater's **Tachnamadra New Look**, 3yrs Tri of a very elegant shape. Liked her lean head with well-placed eyes and ears. Good construction and overall well made so on the move went easily with good reach and drive. Although not in full coat what she had was fresh and enhanced her lovely shape. Not a flashy sort but my eye was always drawn back to her. 2. Hardy's **Dippersmoor Joie De Vivre At Sandwich**, 4yrs Tri who appeared slightly heavier all over although I think her very dense coat quality created that impression. The two were quite similar in shape but on the move she was going

with purpose and not quite the easy action of 1<sup>st</sup>. Having said that she is very much a show girl and despite not being in full coat showed herself off well. 3. Wither's **Neraklee Naomi**

B/M. (4, 1ab) 1. Barnett's **Ch Rainway Crystal Star JW**, at 9yrs old in fact rising 10 yrs she looked wonderful. So well known and such a lovely lady there is much to admire here. She is beautifully made and balanced throughout with a gentle expression. Her coat is ever so slightly darkening but still silvery blue and so well broken and of crisp texture and there was plenty of it too. Crystal is an easy mover who covered the ground with style and as always was shown and handled to perfection.

2. Rowan's **Ch Rowancrest Blue Champagne At Shellamoyed JW**, 3yrs old and another gloriously coloured B/m. A younger version of 1<sup>st</sup> with all the same attributes but today felt she was not at ease whilst moving. She seemed rather unsettled on the mat but was better when standing. Shown in lovely coat but not enjoying herself today. 3. Clubleys' **Mossvale Blue Star**

O. (Owner resident in Wales) (2) 1. **Tri'N Stop Me At Mistyisle**

2. Robert's **Foxstones Lil Bit Dreamy**, 20mths S/w who has a merry expression and was shown in good coat. She was a bit happy with her tail on the move that meant her front action was better than the rear but she stood and showed well for her handler. Well done.

Judge Pam East  
November 2018.