

## **Three Counties Championship Show 8/6/17 Shetland Sheepdogs**

Thank you to the society for the invitation to judge, to my two very able and friendly stewards who kept everything flowing so smoothly and to the exhibitors for such a lovely entry in quality and numbers. I had been looking forward to this appointment as I feel our breed is very high in quality at the moment and I wasn't disappointed. I felt construction on the whole was good but was struck by the number of different head types. The really lean one piece head was quite hard to find. The weather wasn't kind to us so we were inside in a noisy hall which so many of our sensitive breed found unsettling but I made allowances for this. Such a pity this show has such a basic classification as it meant, with the resulting big classes, that many really lovely dogs who could easily have won or been highly placed on another day went cardless. It was so frustrating to have to leave out dogs that I liked.

### **MPD (3, 1abs)**

1.Mottram's LAVIKA LITTLE GEM AT LOCHKAREN. 8 months S/S Racy shape with super reach of neck, well laid back shoulder, good bone for his ideal size, long tail and good legs and feet. Long straight, correct textured coat. He has good ear carriage, a sweet expression and lean well proportioned head. Just needs to clear a little in stop and was rather unsettled in the noisy hall. 2.Isdale's VIEWDALE CUDDLY DUDLEY. Another lovely puppy, also 8 months, and it was difficult to separate these two. Very attractive and glamorous G/S with a very well balanced head, good underjaw, correct stop, neat ears and the sweetest eye and expression. He was in good coat, beautifully presented, moved and showed well and was much more settled than 1, but I felt didn't have quite the front angulation and reach of neck of 1.

### **PD(4,1)**

1.Bray's LIANBRAY LOTHARIO. 11 months sable with the lovely lean one piece head I was looking for. Flat skull and just the right amount of stop. Neat well carried ears, dark almond eye giving such a sweet but masculine expression. Deep chest, really good shoulder and corresponding return of upper arm, long tail, nice legs and feet, straight coat which fits him perfectly, lovely sweep over the croup, long tail and moved well when he settled. Loved his overall breed type and think we will hear a lot more of him. BP and pleased to see him shortlisted in the group. 2.Woolley's PEPPERHILL IN THE MOMENT Very smart tri of 10 months . Abundant harsh textured coat which was a really good black and he was very well presented. His head is well proportioned although a shade narrow all through at present, but he has lovely neat ears and a nice expression. Scored in maturity over 3.3.Spencer & Edwards' CASTLEROSE NORTHERN SOUL

### **JD(9,2)**

1.Goodwin's Highbrook He's Got Style. Aptly named glamorous G/S with full collie markings including a very attractive white blaze. Absolutely lovely to go over on the table with everything in the right place, good body, deep chest and lovely bone for his ideal size. Very nice outline and bend of stifle. Maybe just a tad deep in stop for me but his head is beautifully balanced in skull and muzzle with a very sweet expression and well carried ears. Beautifully presented and a super mover. 2.P. IN THE MOMENT 3.Robinson's Sheltysham Nut Box in Alnmac

### **YD (7)**

1.Aaron's Laffite de Moorstile chez Shelridge JW Glamorous R/S with the lovely head, eye and expression so typical of this kennel. Flat skull, correct stop, good underjaw and well rounded muzzle. Perfectly placed almond eye and neat ears giving a lovely expression. Ideal for size and substance with super bone, deep chest, well sprung ribs, good shoulder and upper arm angulation and is an excellent mover. I would prefer a slightly longer tail and a little more reach of neck but he has an obvious air of quality and will surely easily reach the upper house. 2.Edwards' Castlerose Star Turn JW A close decision between these two lovely boys as I was also very impressed with this refined but masculine tri dog. He is so shapely and well constructed, has a lovely reach of neck, superb front angulation, correct body length, a long tail and is very well muscled. His head is very lean and well balanced but he didn't quite have the melting expression of 1. Very free mover. I feel his best is yet to come and another youngster I would expect to get made up in time. 3.Bywater's Tachnamadra He's Got the Look

**PG(17)**

1. Stow & Withers' STANYDALE SHOT IN THE DARK JW Elegant tri who won this class on his graceful outline. Beautifully constructed with an arched neck, level topline, long well carried tail and correctly sloping croup and sweep over the loin. He has plenty of substance, was in ideal body condition, and his coat is of harsh texture and a good dense black. His head is of good length with correctly proportioned skull to muzzle ratio and good underjaw and he has an attractive narrow white blaze which adds character. He has really good reach and drive in profile, although he had a funny sudden little wobble going away but I forgave him this as he recovered instantly to move correctly again. Another whose day will come I'm sure. 2. Attwood's TERRIWOOD MOONLIGHT ECHO. Another tri and so similar in type and markings to 1 with the same narrow blaze. He must be spot on for size, but no doubting his sex, and he is very neat and well balanced throughout. He has a fabulous outline with level topline, super reach of neck, good front angulation and bend of stifle and he moved well. His head is similar to 1 but I would maybe like a shade less stop. Nice neat ears and he showed very well and was well presented. Should also have a bright future. 3. Moody's JANETSTOWN JOSSES HILL

**LD (12,2)**

1. Stock's SHEMIST BLACK WIZARD every time I looked round the class I was drawn to this elegant tri dog's super outline. He is a fabulous shape with lovely long arched neck, correct body length, level topline, ideal shoulder and upper arm angulation (with elbows right underneath his withers!), deep chest, superb bend of stifle with short well let down hocks, and long tail. I could certainly imagine him doing a day's work. His head is of good length with flat skull and cheeks, slight but definite stop and rounded muzzle. When he moves he just takes your breath away with his long reachy stride and good drive from behind. CC 2. Sonvico's WILLOWGARTH BAILEY'S GOLD. ShCM Sable very different in type to 1 being shorter coupled but of really lovely breed type. His head is so clean and well moulded and his expression was for me the most captivating of the day with such a merry twinkle in his beautiful almond eye. He is ideal for size and substance with nice bone and adequate front angulation but I would have liked a little more bend of stifle. He was in super well presented coat, moved and showed very well and was expertly handled. Another lovely dog. 3. Fransham's JONTYGRAY GILT EDGED FOR FRANMEAD JW

**OD(16,2)**

1. Rutterford's CH KELGROVE JUST BLUE AT STORMHEAD JW ShCM I admired this gorgeous blue 6 year old as a puppy but this is the first time I have judged him. I found him so correct in all departments, ideal for size and substance and looking absolutely in his prime with no sign of coarsening. He has ideal head properties with a flat skull, clean cheeks and gently rounded muzzle and a very sweet expression from his two dark brown eyes. So correct in conformation with very nice legs and feet and he was beautifully presented and a lovely colour. He moved very well in all directions and showed his socks off. I loved him. Res CC 2. Jackson's IR CH FEARNACH BLUE RHAPSODY AT CLUAINULTAIGH another B/M of very similar type to 1 and had a lot of appeal. Loved his well proportioned head with flat skull, rounded muzzle, correct stop and well placed eye. Correct size and substance, excellent conformation, level topline. He moved well in profile but couldn't quite match the rear movement of 1. Another dog I really liked. 3. Rigby's LYTHWOOD SECRET DEALER

**MPB (6,2)**

Robinson's LAVIKA BLACK BEAUTY Very neat little tri of 8 months with a lovely outline and excellent bend of stifle, although I would prefer a slightly better upper arm. Her head is nicely balanced but still needs to fill a little, as I would expect at her age. Good ears which she used and a nice dark eye and she was very well schooled and showed well. In excellent coat for her age and moved well for her expert young handler. 2. Norris' CLANAVON LOVE IN A MIST Very promising G/S of similar age to 1 but not so forward at the moment. Has a lovely head with really good level planes and lovely eye and ear carriage and is of excellent breed type. Excellent front angulation but not quite the bend of stifle or coat of 1. Was a shade "bum high" today so probably having a growth spurt but when she matures I think she will be really nice. 3. Stock's SHEMIST DARK ANGEL

**PB (12,5)**

1. Stafford's RANNERDALE QUEEN OF THE NORTH very glamorous S/W with full collie markings, of obvious quality and super breed type. Her head is a lovely clean wedge with the neatest of well carried ears and dark almond eye giving the gorgeous expression so typical of this kennel Well off for bone with good legs and feet, level topline well arched neck and good bend of stifle. Moved and

showed well and was absolutely pristine in presentation. BPB 2.Walker's CHANNERSWICK PENNY LANE. Really loved everything about this B/M bitch except her colour which, although rather pretty in its own way, is not quite the "silvery blue marbled with black" that the standard calls for. She is a superb shape with excellent angulation, arched neck, particularly good hindquarters, long swirly tail and sweep over the croup and she moved well. Her head is perfectly proportioned with level planes and the correct amount of stop. I do so hope her colour clears as she is such a nice bitch. 3.L BLACK BEAUTY

**JB(10,1)**

1.Tinker's RUSCOMBE MOSAIC. This graceful and beautifully coloured blue stood out in this class. So shapely and well constructed with super reach of neck, level topline and elegant outline. In excellent body condition and with lovely legs and feet. She moved well and is correct for size. Not in huge coat, as to be expected in a Junior bitch class, but what she had was beautifully presented and her other virtues far outweighed this. Quietly handled to get the best out of her and one I am sure we will hear more of. 2.Deveson's MILESEND SEED PEARL. Feminine dark S/S who was good to go over on the table, although I would perhaps like a shade better upper arm. She has a nice outline, well proportioned head with dark eye but would like her ears a shade less heavy. In good well presented coat and she moved well and was well handled. A nice honest little bitch. 3.Pierce's PHILHOPE JUST SO

**YB (9,1)**

1.Bray's SHELDRIDGE SHANTILLY LACE. Very feminine S/S bitch of ideal size and very shapely with textbook shoulder and upper arm placement, level topline and gently sloping croup. Loved her head which is very refined with level planes, lovely flat skull, just the right amount of correctly placed stop, well placed and used ears and a beautiful dark almond eye. Has very neat oval feet and she moved well and showed very well. Considered her for the Res CC but not quite the coat and maturity of the Rec CC winner today. Another whose day will surely come. 2.Stow & Withers STANYDALE LUCK BE A LADY. Glamorous S/S, so superbly constructed – an object lesson in correct angulation with her super shoulder and upper arm and curvy bend of stifle with well let down hocks. Lovely reach of neck and long tail and moves with such a long easy stride. Has a lovely dark eye but not quite the head properties of 1 and unfortunately was extremely unsettled in the noisy hall. I so hope she gets over this as she is a super bitch quite capable of gaining her title. 3.Walker's TOORALIE MATILDA

**PGB (18,3)**

1.Hayhurst's MILESEND SWEET MELODY AT KEYCHARM Very refined and feminine s/w of excellent breed type. Her head is lovely with a very flat skull, well rounded muzzle, perfectly positioned stop and super dark almond eye giving a gentle expression. Looking across the ring I loved her outline with her level topline and super reach of neck. She has a long tail and really good legs and feet and moved and showed well. Litter sister to the CC winner and so similar in many respects but not in quite the coat of her sister today. 2.Stockden's WILLOWGARTH GENTLE BREEZE. Another super G/S whose lovely wedge head is absolutely what the standard calls for. So well moulded and clean to handle with a good underjaw and completed by a lovely eye and neat well carried ears giving the sweetest expression. Nice bone for her size and has good legs and feet. She moved well and was very skilfully presented and handled to get the best out of her. Sister to the 2<sup>nd</sup> in Limit Dog and has the same lovely breed type. Not quite the tail length, neck or outline of 1. 3.Fox's RUSCOMBE WORK OF ART WITH FOLLYFOX

**LB(11,1)**

Very strong class where all were deserving of a card. Such a shame some had to go without a place.

1.Parkes MILESEND SWEET WHISPERS AT ELJETIA Loved this bitch for her really correct breed type and super graceful outline. So feminine and of such obvious quality. Really lean and refined head with super level planes and perfectly positioned stop, and correct ratio of skull to muzzle. Lovely dark almond eye and well placed ears giving such a sweet melting expression. Super reach of neck, level topline, long sweeping tail and gently sloping croup giving her such an air of elegance. Just the right amount of bone and substance for her ideal size with nice legs and feet and just coming back into well presented coat. She moved well in all directions with super reach and drive. CC (her 3<sup>rd</sup>) and BOB. So pleased to see her shortlisted in the group. 2.Rowan's ROWANCREST BLUE CHAMPAIGNE AT ROWANCREST AT SHELLAMOYED. Superb coloured blue with full white collar and a really elegant outline. Excellent reach of neck and is really shapely throughout with good body and leg length. Excellent shoulder and upper arm and a long tail. Her head is lean and well balanced but I would just prefer her ears a little less heavy. Moved well 3.Jackson's BLUE MOONLIGHT SHADOW

**OB(11,3)**

1.Parker's TOIAROCK ICE ICE BABE JW Have judged this shapely blue bitch before and did her well then. Now almost 7 and in superb body condition and groomed right down to the skin (as was this exhibitor's other dog) Still love her for her ideal size and super outline. She has the excellent bend of stifle and short very well let down hocks, so rare nowadays, combined with a sloping croup, level topline and long well carried tail. Her head is a very clean wedge with slight but definite stop and the most melting expression, especially for a blue. Moved very well and was in good coat. Res CC 2.Thomas' MYTER GUILTY PLEASURE Also blue and another with a very sweet well moulded head with very flat skull and lovely expression but I so wish her ears were a little less heavy as it does detract a little. Super body and well constructed with a lovely bend of stifle and excellent bone, reachy neck and good topline. She has very good rear drive and a long stride but just tends to lift her front feet a fraction on the move. Another very nice bitch who showed well. 3. French's SONYMER SNOWFALL OVER LINDFERN

**Linda Whittington (Judge)**