

WELKS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 27.4.2019

SHETLAND SHEEPDOGS

I appreciated the decent entry (second highest in the group) although it was marred somewhat by several absentees. Thanks to my stewards who were efficient, helpful and unfailingly pleasant. I am afraid I must join my peers in voicing concern for our beautiful breed which really is in dire straits, particularly as regards the males. Fronts show no improvement, with correct forehands being in the minority. There is much diversity in head type and that elusive air of quality is rare. I was happy with my main winners and try to remain optimistic for a future where we breed with the Standard foremost in our minds.

DOGS

VETERAN (2, 1 abs)

- 1 Pattinson's Kyleburn Acis. Alone but worthy of his first place. An old favourite of mine, now rising 11 years and looking well. Shaded sable, perfect size with correct bone and well-constructed all through. He excels in head type with flat skull and moulded foreface, sweet eye and expression. Not in his best jacket, but nothing to hide.

MINOR PUPPY (5, 2)

- 1 Stafford's Rannerdale Showmaster. Glamorous golden sable, almost 8 months and obviously one with a future. In good coat for his age and it was beautifully presented as expected from this kennel. He has an excellent reach of neck, enhanced by a snowy white collar, and well laid shoulder, with correct hind angulation and well-set tail which he carried well. His head is classically correct, with well placed and used ears and a very sweet expression where he scored over 2. He moves with ease covering plenty of ground. BPIB.
- 2 Eaves' Kyleburn Orpheus. 7month sable with attractive white blaze, a size larger than 1 but with plenty of promise. Superb construction with well bent stifles, low-set hocks and moving freely. His profuse coat is of correct texture, not quite the presentation of 1 and slightly fuller in eye, but close up here. Two very nice puppies.
- 3 Cummings' Milwyr Make you a Star

PUPPY (3,2)

- 1 Woodhouse' Shellamoyed Soldier Blue. Stood alone as sadly his competitor became lame and was withdrawn. This chap has a happy temperament but is well up to size and rather straight in shoulder and upper-arm. His coat is of good coloured blue and well broken on the whole. I would prefer more definition of stop but his ears are neat and well placed. Nicely presented by his sporting owner.

JUNIOR (4)

- 1 Goodwin's Highbrook Hobnob JW. I have watched this stylish sable from his puppyhood and he is developing into an eye-catching adult. His head handles well, with the correct amount of stop, rounded foreface and good underjaw. He is correct for size, shapely with good layback of shoulder though more angulation of upper-arm would improve. Strong bone with good hind angulation, and neat feet. Beautifully presented and

sympathetically handled. He moves soundly and was considered in the challenge. His day will come.

- 2 Moore's Jacanshe Be Our Guest at Santiara. This tricolour was not in his best jacket but excels in outline with very good neck and good forehand. Slightly better hind angulation would improve. His head is lean with correct stop, neat ears and well-shaped and placed eye giving a sweet expression for a tri.
- 3 Spencer's Balidorn Rock Star

YEARLING (3)

- 1 Bendelow's Guxel Golden Ringer from Amethrickeh. This glamorous golden sable with full Collie markings was another contender in the challenge. All male in outlook, his profuse coat is an object lesson in presentation and fits a well-constructed frame. His head is balanced if a shade strong, but the eye is correctly placed and when he does use his ears the expression is just what the Standard requires. He is a lithe, effortless mover. Not a showing fool, but when he does come to attention he is difficult to overlook. I am sure his title will not elude him for long.
- 2 Robinson's Alnmac Midnight Flyer. Well-presented tricolour in jet black coat, up to size and a tad long in body, but excellent angulation both ends and moves as a working dog should, scoring in front over 3 whose head type I preferred. Excellent showman and very attentive to his handler.
- 3 Hull's Mohnesee's Dream Date of Lizmark

NOVICE (2)

- 1 Jacanshe Be Our Guest at Santiara
- 2 Woodhouse' Shellamoyed Soldier Blue

GRADUATE (2)

- 1 Officer's Castlerose A Shropshire Lad JW ShCM. Glamorous sable with good neck and topline. Excels in construction with strong bone, absolutely straight forelegs and well bent stifles. Attractive head piece with flat skull, correct foreface and underjaw. Not in his best coat today, but an honest dog who moved well. Very well presented and handled.
- 2 Jacanshe Be Our Guest at Santiara

POSTGRAD (3,1)

- 1 Goodwin's Highbrook He's Got Style JW. Small golden sable, impeccably presented and full of Sheltie charm. Lovely to go over, he is very well constructed with super outline and in good coat of correct texture, attentive showman. He moves with ease, covering plenty of ground particularly in profile. Charming head pattern and delightful expression, only slightly marred by a couple of 'war wounds'.
- 2 Pattinson's Kyleburn Everlasting Dream. Rather rangy shaded sable, not in his best coat and showing some daylight underneath. However, his correct construction is easy to see and he moves freely. He has a flat skull but more refinement in head would improve. Good ears well used.

LIMIT (8,1)

- 1 Roberts' Malaroc Mystery Writer JW. I liked this chap as a youngster and he has grown into an imposing adult who fits the Standard very well in my opinion. His head is balanced and smooth, with flat skull, moulded foreface, tight lips and beautiful eye and ear placement giving the true Sheltie expression that cannot be ignored. In profuse but fitting coat, impeccably presented he has the elusive air of quality for which we strive. He is correctly constructed with strong bone, correct oval feet and moves with plenty of drive. CC and BOB.
- 2 Robinson's Sheltysam Nut Box in Alnmac. This shaded sable has textbook construction and was probably the best mover on the day. His coat was well presented and he was sympathetically handled if rather uncooperative. He can stand carelessly behind, but when he did stand to attention and use his ears his expression is delightful. An honest dog who should always be there or thereabouts.
- 3 Stafford's Rannerdale the Entertainer

OPEN (6,1)

- 1 Haensel's Ch Sherkarl Uptown Funk JW ShCM. I was impressed with this boy as on going over him everything fits. He is correct for size, carrying a huge coat and this, with his tendency to gaze lovingly at his handler and shrink into his shoulders, conceals his good neck. In fact, on examination his forehand and hind angulation are absolutely correct and he moves very well. His head is attractive with good stop, just a shade stronger than CC winner though he was very close up and hairs had to be split. RCC. A worthy Champion.
- 2 Goodwin's Ch Highbrook Hot Heir JW. An old favourite of mine, shaded sable of correct size and well worthy of his title. Beautifully presented as expected from this exhibitor. I love his head pattern and he has much Sheltie charm and real breed type. Moving freely with plenty of drive, he hasn't quite the upper arm of 1, but very close up here. Thank you for bringing him.
- 3 Jordan's Gylmar Dreamaker

SPECIAL BEGINNERS (2)

- 1 Gamble's Solytic Inaugural Gold JW. This young man is developing into a very handsome adult and thrilled his owner by being awarded Best Special Beginner in the Pastoral Group. An excellent win to keep Shelties to the fore. He is good for size, his well-fitting coat is faultlessly presented and he is capably handled. Moved freely. Most attractive head and expression and much ring presence. Moved very well.
- 2 Shellamoyed Soldier Blue

BITCHES

SPECIAL BEGINNERS (8,3)

- 1 Redfern's Fernfarm Tisbutadream. Charming and very feminine shaded sable with plenty of Sheltie charm. She is very well put together with consequent effortless, reachy movement. Head pattern is as the Standard and when she uses her ears her expression is delightful. Her coat fits her frame and she was well presented and sympathetically handled. A very nice little bitch.

- 2 Walley's Sandwick Prima Donna. Pretty tricolour, a tad overweight which shows in her movement. She was beautifully presented with a profuse coat which tends to make her look rather stuffy. She has an attractive headpiece with particularly sweet eye and expression for a tricolour.
- 3 Lee's Ontoco Lunar Eclipse at Chalynwood

VETERAN (8,2)

- 1 Lycett's Ch Shebaville Saucy Secret at Iliad. What a super little bitch this is and seems to improve year by year. An absolute picture showing perfectly for her quiet, expert handler. Perfect for size she was faultlessly presented. Her blue is really blue and the black splashes don't detract. She has the most delightful head and feminine expression, always stands absolutely true on correct legs and feet and moves effortlessly. I was sad there was no award for Best Veteran.
- 2 Gatheral's Herds Hallucination JW. Another beautiful veteran, tricolour in good coat well presented and capably handled. Her construction is correct and as expected she moves very well. Her head handles well if a tad stronger than 1, and she uses her ears to advantage. Very close up here.
- 3 Sweeney's Peartbrook Sky Blue

MINOR PUPPY (11,2)

- 1 Bendelow's Shelegian Ring O'Bells at Amethrickeh. Eyecatching golden sable in excellent coat, beautifully presented and well-handled. She has a most attractive outline with arched neck, level topline and correct sweep over the loin. Her layback of shoulder and upper arm are correct and stifles well bent. Her head is correct with level plains and eye and ear placement produce a charming expression. Not a showing fool but will trouble the best on maturity.
- 2 Hirst's Sundark Spirit Mistress. Tricolour in dense jet black coat, just 6 months and another promising baby, well constructed with good bone for her size. Head of correct pattern, slightly heavier ears than 1. Can stand carelessly at times but moved very well.
- 3 Crosbie's Fenstyle Angels Gift

PUPPY (6,1)

- 1 Bray's Lianbray Laced with Gold. Very well-schooled light golden sable with glamorous markings who just oozes quality and femininity. Shown in excellent, harsh coat, with every hair in place. Good angulation fore and aft with graceful outline. Profile movement is a joy, with plenty of forward reach and drive. Her head is refined with correct stop and flat skull. Neat ears very well used. Has much promise. Best bitch puppy.
- 2 Dicks' Picture Perfect. Correctly coloured blue merle in well presented-coat that fits her frame, good for size. Not quite the neck of 1, but she has excellent bone and decent angulation enabling her to move freely. Most attractive head pattern with correct eye placement and carries her rather large ears very well to give the desired expression.
- 3 Creamer's Clanavon Touch of Blue at Lyngarso

JUNIOR (9,2)

- 1 Haensel's Sherkarl Copper Highlights. This golden sable, not long out of puppy, appealed greatly for sheer breed type and quality. Balanced in outline she has the best of legs and feet with correct forehand and hind angulation. As one would expect she moves very well indeed. Her head and expression could illustrate the Standard and I predict an exciting future for her. Would happily take her home.
- 2 Robinson's Lavika Spring Queen. This stylish tricolour was close up here and two red cards would have been useful. Impeccably presented in harsh, well-fitting coat of dense black, completely at one with her young handler. Sensibly constructed she moves very well indeed and is the perfect showgirl. She has a refined head with flat skull and moulded foreface. Ears just a tad light today but her expression is delightful. Another who should hit the high spots.
- 3 Forster-Cooper's Sheltysam Midnight Lady.

YEARLING (5,1)

- 1 Fernfarm Tisbutadream
- 2 Waldron's Shellamoyed Made in Heaven at Frechia. Beautifully coloured blue merle, size larger than 1 but still within the Standard and not in her best coat though well presented. Well-constructed with good bone and neat oval feet, moved freely. Correct head pattern and sweet eye, ears rather light today and needing attention.
- 3 Eldridge's Keltihope Wispa's Girl at Petara

NOVICE (10,1)

- 1 Lianbray Laced with Gold
- 2 Lavika Spring Queen
- 3 Picture Perfect

GRADUATE (6,2)

- 1 Sherkarl Copper Highlights
- 2 Lambert's Blenmerrow Night Music. Appealing tricolour in excellent coat, well presented and correct for size. Workmanlike construction and effortless movement, not quite the topline or expression of 1 and not a showing fool, but a very useful type of bitch who will have better days I'm sure.
- 3 Hardy's Sandwick Silhouette

POSTGRAD (15,6)

- 1 Hayhurst's Milesend Sweet Melody at Keycharm. Feminine sable of great charm and quality. Very well presented and quietly handled, she filled my eye and for me is correct for type as dictated by the Standard. Completely balanced, her construction is excellent and her movement effortless. Her head handles beautifully, flat skull, correct stop and moulded foreface with correct underjaw. Her expression is irresistible. Coming up to 4 years she is in full bloom. In the hotly contested challenge my gaze kept returning to her and she epitomized the breed type and quality I sought. I was delighted to award her the CC in excellent company. I hope she can be campaigned to her title.
- 2 Roberts' Malaroc Covert Love. Another lovely sable, litter sister to BOB and similar in type. Many similar virtues to 1 but slightly longer cast. Very attentive to her handler she

has a pleasing outline and well-fitting, harsh coat perfectly presented as expected from this kennel. Quality head-piece with correct eye and sweet expression, one ear a tad light today.

3 Stock's Shemist Dark Angel

LIMIT (6,2)

1 Pearson's Edglonian Rhythm N Rhyme. Uber-glamorous tricolour with full white collar, superb coat with every jet black hair gleaming. Text-book angulation, arched neck and level topline. Strong bone, flexible pasterns and neat feet. As one would expect she moves very well, covering plenty of ground. Her head is moulded and with perfect ear carriage she has an alert, intelligent expression. She showed very well for her expert handler with whom she has an obvious rapport. Certainly destined for the upper house, I just preferred the more feminine outlook of my winners, though all three I feel are worthy of their titles.

2 Lavika Time of my Life JW. Attractive 2 year old sable, close up and another with a bright future I'm sure. This clever breeder has established a very definite type and quality which cannot be overlooked. Well put together this bitch moves very well and shows non-stop. Construction is correct with particularly reach neck and pretty outline. Head of correct plains with sweet eye and good ears, just a tad stronger underjaw would improve.

3 Lycett's Herds Hallicia at Iliad

OPEN (9)

1 Lambert's Blenmerrow Infinity for Kevdon. I have long admired this beautiful golden sable with full Collie markings and attractive white blaze. So balanced with correct layback of shoulder and upper-arm and excellent hind angulation, she is a joy to watch on the move from all angles. Her head and expression are a delight and she shows non-stop for her handler. Now 8 years old she is just showing her age in one area but I do hope she will have a better day and achieve her title which she so deserves. Reserve CC.

2 Robinson's Ch Lavika Good Luck JW. Another gorgeous Lavika 'clone'! Easy to see why she is a champion. Nicely put together she moves freely though could be firmer in topline. Very appealing head and expression with good ears, well used. Consummate showgirl.

3 Stafford's Ch Rannerdale Queen o' the North JW

CHRISTINE AARON (Judge)