

## **W/P BREEDS A OF WALES CH SHOW, 15/04/17 - Shetland Sheepdogs**

Firstly I would like to thank all those who entered at this very cold venue, secondly many thanks to my 2 stewards who kept things rolling along. My biggest disappointment today was presentation. Why spend good money on entries & cost of travel & then expect to win with dirty ungroomed dogs. Even if your dog is out of coat it is no excuse for not presenting it to its best. Several of the best constructed dogs here today were quality of this & after all it is a beauty show & so I didn't feel I could put them any higher than I did. A tickle over the top coat does not mean you have groomed your dog.

**V** (5,1a) 1 Stafford's Ch Rannerdale Buggy Malone, well known 10 years dog that I have judged before & can't really add anything new about him that hasn't already been said. He has lost none of his many qualities with age. His classic head & expression is still to die for, no coarseness what so ever, just clean & well balanced. Super reach of neck carried proudly, good bone & still has his lovely neat feet, in super overall condition. Moved soundly & showed well, will always continue to catch the eye with his super presentation as were all exhibits from this kennel. Was pleased to award him BV over his kennelmate; 2 Hirst's Sundark Starlight, 8½ years b/m dog, another I have judged before & in better coat today. Another who has retained his clean well moulded head & expression, well constructed all through with good reach of neck, level topline & well set & carried tail, still moves soundly. Has darkened a little in colour but not unusual with a blue; 3 Pattinson's Kyleburn Acis.

**MPD** (1) 1 Mottram's Lavika Little Gem at Lochkaren, 6½ months s/w who as to be expected is very immature at the moment but who instantly appeals for his gorgeous head & expression Clean to handle with good underjaw, dark well placed eye with a hint of mischief in them. Well placed & used ears, ample reach of neck, level topline, stands on well boned legs & feet, moved soundly but his outgoing personality meant he wandered about a bit, so needs to settle. Hope he doesn't grow anymore. **PD** (3) 1 Bray's Lianbray Lothario, 9 months s/w who was presented to the minute, every hair gleamed. His head is refined & a pleasure to handle, eye is well shaped & set correctly, ears neat & well placed all combining to give a sweet but masculine expression. Ample reach of neck, carried proudly. Well constructed fore & aft with lovely bone for his ideal size. Well set & carried tail. Moved soundly here but was a little unsettled in the challenge for BP. When he sets himself up & shows off his shape he portrays an elegant overall picture. Pleased to award him BPD & foresee a bright future for him; 2 Goodwin's Highbrook He's Got Style, another quality pup who is slightly different in type to 1, being a little heavier set & not quite the elegant outline but his construction is A1, which was evident in his effortless movement. Very classically marked with his white collar & full white front so will always take the eye. Head handles well with nice eye & expression, good size & set ears which he knew how to use. Adequate reach of neck, good spring of rib & well set & carried tail; 3 Daniels & Taylor's Pepperhill Cruise Control. **JD** (5,1) 1 Aaron's Lafitte De Moorstile Chez Shelridge, 17 months s/w who is slowly maturing into a super young man. Ideal for size & is a pleasure to go over on the table having a good layback of shoulder & an equally well angulated upper arm. Straight front with strong but in no way cloddy bone. Chest is developing nicely with good spring of rib, level topline & nice sweep over the loin. Well set & carried tail. Head is well moulded with correctly placed stop & kind dark well set eye. Neat well placed & used ears which all combine to give that typical Sheltie expression we all strive for. Movement was powerful & ground covering. When stood he presented an elegant but masculine outline. Was pleased to award him RCC & feel sure with another year on his back he will easily make the upper house; 2 L Lothario; 3 Botham's

Balidorn Soloman. **ND** (3) 1 Pepperhill Cruise Control, this young man is the most gorgeous colour & was presented to perfection & in profile presents the best of pictures but for me at the moment needs to mature in depth of chest which could come with age, moved soundly behind, good set & carried tail; 2 Laversuch's Pacarane Polar Stormtime, tri boy who is at the bottom of the size scale, has a super personality which shines through. Attractively marked. Adequate bone for his size & moved soundly; 3 Sargent's Stanydale Puttin On The Ritz. **GD** (8,1) 1 L De Moorstile Chez S; 2 Stow & Wither's Stanydale Shot In The Dark, who I've admired from the ringside, jet black harsh coat with good tan markings. Head is appealing when handled, flat skull, well filled muzzle & good depth of underjaw. Nice eye, neat ears all combining to give a masculine but kind expression. Very good construction all through which enabled him to move with drive behind & reach in front. Stood foursquare & showed well but today just preferred the more level topline of 1 as he appeared to dip a little behind the shoulders, nonetheless liked him a lot; 3 Atkin's Willowgarth Harvest Sunset over Jontygray. **PGD** (8,1) 1 Haensel's Sherkarl Uptown Funk, s/w dog who was my biggest surprise of the day. Have never particularly been a fan of this young man, especially when he first came out but this just goes to show you should never ringside judge as completely changed my mind having handled him. Took my eye on my first look round & didn't find any reason to change my mind. Ideal size, in good but not excessive coat which was well presented & fitted him perfectly enhancing his outline. On the table he is good to handle with good layback of shoulder & decent upper arm. His head is maturing nicely, not quite the finished thing but with promise to be so with a bit more maturity. Skull is flat, cheeks clean, eye well set & expressive, neat ears well used. Well arched & muscled neck, carried proudly. Well set tail carried correctly although could be a tad longer. Moves so soundly with the minimum of effort. Stands foursquare on well boned legs & feet. Showed well & really took my eye on the day & in the challenge kept finding my eye drawn back to him so was pleased to give him the CC & later BOB; 2 Mottram's Midday Sun at Lochkaren, s/w who has instant appeal for his super well balanced outline, Sets himself up so well & makes the most of his many attributes. His expression is typically Sheltie achieved from his clean well moulded head & well placed expressive eyes, neat ears used constantly. Doesn't carry a huge coat but what he has fits him well & was well presented. Not the front construction of 1 but still moved soundly; 3 Harries' Mistmere Gold Dust. **LD** (8) 1 Sonvico's Willowgarth Baileys Gold, well known rich s/w in good well fitting coat, beautifully presented. Good front construction & stands on nicely boned legs & neat feet, would prefer slightly more bend of stifle but still moves soundly. Head is well moulded & balanced with correctly placed stop, dark eye, neat ears, giving him a sweet but masculine expression Stood foursquare & responded well to his owner, presents an impressive overall picture; 2 Lambert's Blenmerrow Music Maker, shapely shaded s/w, different type to 1 being a little more 'on the leg' & feel he still needs a bit more time on his back, is the type who will last forever. Doesn't carry a huge coat but what he has is clean & well presented & fits his frame. Liked his head & expression & his super reach of neck. Well constructed which showed in his free flowing movement. Again stood foursquare & responded well to his handler; 3 Paterson's Lorainian Campbell Clan. **OD** (3) 1 Edwards' Castlerose Spiritmaster, b/m dog I've judged before, in fact I gave him a RCC. In super coat & condition, well presented as always. His construction is second to none which shows in his effortless movement, with well set & carried tail. Super bone for his size. Head still handles well. Today I just preferred the ebullience of youth but he is still a quality dog who will always be there or thereabouts; 2 Main's Shenachie Night Jar, attractively marked tri who is different type to 1 being shorter coupled & a size smaller but another whose construction is textbook. In full dense coat, pleasant well placed eye for a tri, good depth of underjaw but slightly deeper in stop than some. Ears well placed but would prefer them a size smaller. Particularly liked his short well let down hocks. Moved so well as his

construction would suggest. Think he would have been happier outside as didn't always make the most of himself; 3 Jordan's Gylmar Dreamaker.

**MPB** (4,1) 1 Jones' Gowdenin Tristar Serenade, glamorous tri in good coat for her age & therefore looked the most mature here. Very attractively marked & very pretty in outlook. Has a feminine head & expression, well constructed fore & aft with nice short well let down hocks. Moved soundly, showed nicely, responding well to her handler; 2 Lambert's Blenmerrow Night Music, shapely tri who is still very immature but that is no bad thing. Much lighter framed than 1 but still has adequate bone for her size. Head is lean but still needs to fill in foreface which should come with age. Very nice to go over & has a good reach of neck & level topline. Just not as settled overall as 1 today; 3 Simpson's Clemwood Foxy Lady. **PB** (7) 1 Stafford's Rannerdale Queen O'The North, glamorous beautifully presented golden s/w who instantly appeals for her precocious attitude, she dares you to look past her & she certainly had me hooked. Loved everything about her at this stage of her career. Beautifully constructed fore & aft with super bone but not too much to take away her femininity. Her head is so classic, clean, well moulded, with dark well set expressive eye, neat well used ears all combining to give that elusive sheltie charm. Neck well arched & carried proudly, level topline, well set & carried tail, moved effortlessly. Stood foursquare & showed off her attributes to advantage which gave her BPB & then later BP & was so pleased to hear that she went PG3. Well done; 2 G Tristar Serenade; 3 Deveson's Milesend Sea Pearl. **JB** (6) 1 Walker's Tooralie's Matilda, well known tri girl (although first time I've seen her in the flesh) who appealed for her elegant profile when I first looked around the ring. Has a pleasant head to handle & a nice expression so much harder to achieve on a tri. Well placed neat ears. Stands on well boned legs & feet. Liked her level topline & reach of neck, moved soundly as her construction would suggest. Not in her best party dress today & at times would insist on standing overstretched at the rear; 2 Mottram's Lanteague Stage Whisper at Lochkaren, feminine s/w who is shorter coupled than 1, ideal for size, again not in full coat but was well presented. Loved her head & expression. Well angulated shoulder & upper arm, level topline & nice sweep over the loins. Moved with drive in rear but tended to turn a foot slightly in front today but she was unhappy with the venue & this could have been the reason; 3 Bray's Lianbray Lorelei. **NB** (5,1) 1 M Sea Pearl, shaded s/w who was 3rd in Puppy, in lovely coat which was beautifully presented. Ideal size & very feminine in outlook, well schooled to respond well to her handler & show off her shape to advantage. Stands on good legs & feet, level topline & nice sweep over the loins, moved soundly; 2 Haensel's Sherkarl Look At Me Now, s/w who has a lovely head & expression & a super reach of neck, level topline which she holds on the move. Is the ultimate showgirl. Lacks coat at the moment so appears 'on the leg' & would personally like her a size smaller; 3 Barrowclough's Jaelis Mystique Topaz. **GB** (9,1) 1 Parke's Milesend Sweet Whispers at Eljetia, have admired this pretty s/w young lady since seeing her at an Open show at 6 months, is maturing into a very feminine example of the breed. Carries enough coat to enhance but not obscure her outline & was beautifully presented. Head is refined & so well balanced with flat skull, clean well moulded cheeks & good fill of muzzle. Sweet eye, well set & almond shaped. Ears well placed & she knew how to use them. Good shoulder & upper arm, straight front & graceful sweep over the loins, short well let down hocks enabling her to move with drive. Showed so well, close call for the CC but was pleased to award her the RCC & have no doubt she will get her title with no trouble; 2 Stockdon's Willowgarth Gentle Breeze, another quality rich s/w almost back in full coat which was in pristine condition. Although ideal size is just a little heavier in bone & stature than 1. Owns the most gorgeous of expressions attained from her well placed dark eye, correct amount of stop, well moulded muzzle & beautifully set ears. Straight front, level topline which she held on the move. Short well let down hocks & moved

so soundly, just not as settled in showmanship today but another that I feel should 'make up' with no trouble; 3 Mackie's Iliad Illusive Gold at Shebaville. **PGB** (11,1) 1 Atkin's Jontygray To Find A Dream, another s/w that I have admired from the ringside, in good dense coat that looked as if it might be about to start shedding. Head is refined & well balanced & she has a sweet feminine expression. Neat well placed ears, good reach of neck, straight front with good bone. Level topline & nice sweep over the loins. Adequate front construction & lovely well let down hocks enabling her to move soundly. Just needs to relax a little more when it comes to showing off her many virtues as although she stood foursquare most of the time she didn't really project herself & looked as if she'd rather be elsewhere. Like her a lot & thing she will prefer the outdoor season (if we ever get outdoors); 2 Hirst's Sundark Simply A Star, glamorous tri who I have judged before. Has an elegant outline in profile as she is a super balanced shape with good reach of neck. Nice head to handle with well placed eye & sweet expression for a tri. Very well constructed & this showed on the move where she had drive in rear & reach in front. In decent coat well presented; 3 Main's Shenachie Flakey Dove. **LB** (9) 1 Bray's Lianbray Locked In Love, s/w who was my BP when I judged Crufts & I haven't changed my opinion of her. Just coming back into coat after a litter, or so I thought but as girls are want to do she is just about to drop it again but even so every hair gleamed & fitted her delightful feminine frame to a tee. Has the most gorgeous head & expression attained from her dark obliquely set eyes, correctly placed stop & neat well set & used ears. Stands on well boned legs & neat feet. Good reach of neck, level topline & nice sweep over the loins. Well let down hocks, well set & carried tail, to nitpick would just like a tiny bit more length of back, but overall to me she presents a picture, as the Standard requires, of a dog of beauty & moves with a lithe & graceful action. So well handled to bring out the best in her. Pleased to award her the CC, close for BOB but just felt the dog had the edge in quantity of coat on the day. Wish her well on the hunt for her next 2 'big green' cards; 2 Deveson's Janetstown Je Suis, another ultra feminine golden s/w girl I've always admired. Always so well presented & handled. Lovely bone for her size, well balanced head with sweet expression. Adequate reach of neck, level topline which she held on the move. Good textured coat which again enhanced rather than obscured her outline. Will always take the eye with her sound movement; 3 Lambert's Blenmerrow Infinity for Kevdon. **OB** (6) 1 Daniels & Taylor's Ch Pepperhill Kicks And Flicks, beautifully coloured & broken b/m in super coat & condition. Well constructed both fore & aft & has a super reach of neck. Head handles well & her blue eyes sparkle with personality, would prefer slightly smaller ears. Level topline which she retains on the move & has nice sweep over the loins, well set & carried tail. Although she moved soundly she sometimes becomes a little over enthusiastic but this is all part of her character, a quality bitch who I would be pleased to own; 2 Stafford's Ch Rannerdale Star O' The North, another quality laster from this kennel, 9½ years young & in super coat & condition, full of feminine allure, even at her age. Head is super clean & well balanced, beautiful eye & expression. Straight front, neat feet, moved with drive in rear & reach in front & showed well, only lost out by a whisper to her kennelmate for BV; 3 Main's Shenachie Snowberry.

**L J ROBERTS**