

ENGLISH SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB CH. SHOW 16.10.2021

I felt honoured to be voted by my peers to judge at this prestigious show for the 3rd time. Thank you to the exhibitors and of course my uber-competent stewards Afke and Stuart who kept things running smoothly. Some classes were somewhat mixed, but others were full of quality, making decisions difficult. I was very pleased with those in the challenge. It was unfortunate that in minor puppy only one was entire.

DOGS

VETERAN (1 entry)

1 Rutterford's Ch Kelgrove Just Blue at Stormhead

Well-known and worthy Champion, easy to see why he has impressed so many in his long and successful career. Ideal size and correct construction, a consummate showman and, rising 10 years old, he retains his correct head pattern and sweet expression. Moves very well and only showing age in slight darkening of colour.

MINOR PUPPY (6)

This was such a disappointing class as only one was entire!

1 Stafford's Rannerdale the Ladykiller

This sable chap was only just 6 months and needs to grow on, as I'm sure he will. Attractively marked being red sable with full white collar which enhanced his excellent reach of neck. Good bone for his size. Correct stop and well placed and carried ears. A little overawed and moved erratically; upper arm could be better, but he has a decent lay-back of shoulder and is balanced in outline. Sympathetically handled and showed well for such a baby.

2 Hateley's Valroy the Viceroy

7 month sable of much charm and more mature in most departments, in very good coat beautifully presented and expertly handled. Correct head type and sweet expression. Good forehead angulation but needs to let down behind. Moved freely though a tad puppyish in front and pleased with his tail, happy temperament. Will have many better days, I'm sure.

3 Sorockyj's Sheltisha Caught my Eye

PUPPY (6)

1 Hardy's Sandwick Road Runner

Outstanding blue merle in excellent silvery blue coat with full Collie markings, impeccably presented. This boy is an object lesson in construction; wonderful to feel his angle of upper arm and shoulder, super neck and topline and well bent stifles. As one would expect he moves with drive, effortlessly covering the ground in profile. His head is balanced with level planes and he has the sweetest of eyes. His ears need to come up a little but don't detract from his delightful expression. Plenty big enough for his age but if he doesn't grow on, I predict a very bright future. BPD and BPIS with my co-judge's agreement.

2 Sutherland's Shelcrest Winter Solstice

Balanced shaded sable of correct size, nearly 10 months, well put together but not the topline of 1 as needs to let down behind. In good, harsh fitting coat which was very well presented. His head handles well and he has well placed and used ears. Just a tad loose in front but good hind angulation.

3 Goldie's Blenmerrow Mazurka

JUNIOR (4/1)

1 Pearson's Edglonian Golden Graham

Exciting young golden sable with the Wow factor, oozing quality and charisma. Beautifully presented with every hair of his correctly textured coat gleaming. Under the coat he is well-made with decent angulation, level topline and well-arched neck. He excels in head which is moulded and handles so well. He has a sweet eye and delightful expression, a super showman with lithe, ground-covering action. RCC today and certainly will gain his title in no time at all.

2 Robinson's Lavika Deep Blue Ocean

This blue merle also impressed me greatly and another surely destined for the upper house. Correct for size and construction, his profuse harsh coat is clear silvery blue though to be hypercritical fewer black markings would improve. He moved with plenty of drive. Loved his moulded head and sweet expression. Presented and handled to perfection. He showed extremely well and was close up here, just preferred the neck and elegance of the first.

3 Officer's Balidorn Secret Gold

YEARLING (5) All tricolours in this class!

1 Hateley's Mohnesee Mr Bobbie Black JW

Tricolour probably ideal size, beautifully presented in gleaming coat which fits his frame. Excels in hind angulation with correct bone for his size. Another super-showman who knows how to make the best of himself, moves freely. Attractive head with sweet expression, good ears, well placed and held. The icing on the cake would be a tad longer neck, but a quality dog who impressed me.

2 Walley's Sandwick Songwriter

Another tri, a size larger than 1 but well within the Standard and close up here. Head handles well though just a little deeper through than 1. Correct angulation and super harsh coat. Moved well on well-boned legs and neat feet. Well-carried tail. A quality dog who will doubtless change places with 1 on occasion.

3 Bussey's Hamblerose Black Diamond

NOVICE (11)

1 Sutherland's Shougies Starmaker

A quality tricolour, another spot-on for size, excellent harsh coat of deep black with few white markings to catch the eye but should definitely not be overlooked. Really good to go over with everything in the right place, correct angulation both ends, strong bone and well-set tail. Excels in head properties; it is moulded with flat skull and rounded foreface, good underjaw. Very well handled. I was surprised to find him in novice. Should have a bright future.

2 Sandwick Road Runner

3 Miles' Milesend Kingfisher

TYRO (3/1)

1 Shelcrest Winter Solstice

2 Sorockyj & Haine's Padawan Mandalorian

Golden sable, sympathetically handled, but obviously not enjoying his day and would not make the best of himself. A tad steep in upper arm, but decent layback of shoulder and correct hind angulation. Moved OK. Head of correct pattern but expression somewhat marred by aftermath of a weeping eye and he

really didn't want to use his ears. Not his best day but I'm sure he will have better.

GRADUATE (7/1)

1 Withers' & Thornley's Felthorn Cover Story

Tri with personality-plus, another of probably ideal size, really coming into his own as he matures. Absolutely correct shoulder and upper arm, well-bent stifles and well-let down hocks. As one would expect he moved really well. His profuse, harsh coat can hide his neck somewhat. He has a most attractive head and sweet, merry expression. Was considered in the challenge and will trouble the best before too long.

2 Bastiani & John's Auberswell Ghost Story

Golden sable, a size larger than 1, in profuse coat beautifully presented, full of Sheltie charm. Excels in head which is as the Standard dictates with well placed eye and ear with resultant sweet expression. Effortless movement with long tail. A new face to me and close up here.

3 Lycett's Iliad Isle of Ewe

POSTGRADUATE (7)

1 Varnom's Milesend Blue Jeans

I have long admired this charming blue merle of correct size who excels in construction, with strong bone, lovely straight front and neat feet. His well-broken coat is correct for texture and an object-lesson in presentation. His head handles well and his expression is delightful, not always easy in a merle. Very well-handled by his sporting owner and never stopped showing his many charms. Makes a very attractive picture and another who I considered in the challenge.

2 Robinson's Alnmac Midnight Flyer

Tricolour, larger and of rather different type to 1, but not without his virtues. His coat is profuse, dense black with white collar. Absolutely correct construction and movement, with excellent reach in profile. Slightly long in back for perfection. Decent head pattern with level planes and slight stop, just a shade long in foreface for complete balance. Not a showing fool but did enough for his sporting handler.

3. Morrison's Ketim Final Edition

MID-LIMIT (5)

1 Lycett's Iliad Isle Delight

This golden sable is blossoming into a really classy adult. Correct for size, his construction is excellent with resultant sound movement. His correct, well-fitting coat is beautifully presented and he is expertly and sympathetically handled by his owner, arguably one of our top handlers. His head is absolutely correct, lean and moulded with correct stop, well shaped and placed eye and neat ears, all Sheltie in outlook. Another who impressed me greatly and with another year on his back will be a force to be reckoned with.

2 Pattinson's Kyleburn Everlasting Dream

Rather plain workmanlike sable, lacking coat but excelling in construction and one of the best movers of the day. A little strong in head at nearly 7 he didn't seem very happy and was flying an ear today

3 Woodward's Sanscott Admiral Blue at Glenthistle

LIMIT (5/1)

1 Stafford's Rannerdale Showmaster JW

I have watched this outstanding dog's progress since awarding him BPIB at WELKS 2 ½ years ago. He certainly has not disappointed and has developed into a superb adult, carrying his title with ease. His full, red-gold coat with full white collar fits him perfectly and presentation is faultless. He has a decent upper arm and good layback of shoulder; hind angulation is correct and he has a long tail well-carried. His movement is effortless and correct. His head is as the Standard and his expression delightful. Super showman, so well handled. Standing he typifies a charismatic Sheltie of much quality. I was pleased to award him the CC in excellent company.

2 Hull's Mohnesee's Dream Date of Lizmark JW

Another beautiful golden sable of correct size, groomed to the minute. Slightly long in back for complete balance, but reasonable forehand and excellent hind angulation. Hind action good, just toeing in slightly in front. Attractive head properties, just a shade broader in skull than 1 with less defined stop. Still a quality dog with much charm, handled perfectly.

2 Goodwin's Highbrook He's Got Style JW

OPEN (6)

1 Bray's Ch Lianbray Lothario JW

Well-known correct sized shaded sable of quality in profuse harsh coat, well presented. Slightly steep upper arm but good layback of shoulder; slightly longer neck would improve. Moves freely with drive from well-let down hocks and correct hind angulation. His head retains its charm and his expression is appealing. A worthy Champion.

2 Goodwin's Highbrook Hobnob

Lightly shaded sable, son of 1 and similar in make and shape, faultlessly presented. He moves soundly, just lacking a little reach in front today. A tad broad in skull and stop could be more defined for perfection, but his expression is pleasing. Quietly and competently handled.

3 Shougies Starmaker

SP OPEN S/W (3)

1 Robson's Kyleburn Dream Lover at Saxonoak

Sable, OK for size in good coat of correct texture. Rather steep in forehead but OK behind. Moved OK. Longer neck and more level topline would improve. Attractive head with sweet expression. Ears well placed and used, attentive to his handler. Happy temperament.

2 Moore's Sanscott Limited Edition

Light golden sable of correct size, not carrying his usual profuse coat. Stronger bone would improve. Very pretty head which handles well and sweet expression from correct placement of eye and ear. Lacking angulation in front and not moving so well today.

3 Steady's Alnmac Moon River

SP OPEN TRI (4)

1 Withers' Ch Stanydale Shot in the Dark JW

Well-known tricolour presented in sparkling form and co-operating well with his handler. Workmanlike construction with good angulation and reachy neck where he scored over 2. Head handles well with good ears, well used, correctly

placed and shaped eye and resultant sweet, intelligent expression. A very worthy champion, just not putting all in on the move today.

2 Linford's Ch Hillhenry Thunderstorm JW

Another worthy champion of correct size and profuse, beautifully presented coat of correct texture. Reasonable angulation but would prefer better reach of neck; he moved well but feet could be tighter. Head of correct pattern, though a firmer chin would improve. An attractive dog with much Sheltie charm.

3 Hardy's Sandwick Style Council

SP OPEN B/M (3/1)

1 Ch Kelgrove Just Blue at Stormhead JW

2 Sanscott Admiral Blue at Glenthistle

Very well marked merle of clear silvery blue dappled with black. Correct for size. His head handles well though slightly more definition of stop would improve. Particularly sweet eye and delightful merry expression. A real character. Reasonable angulation and he moved well but would insist on hunching himself up in stance, spoiling what should be a pleasing outline.

BREEDERS (4)

1 Stock's Shemist Sea Dragon

Blue merle with excellent construction and free, flowing movement. Looks as though he could do a day's work. Harsh, well-fitting coat of well-broken blue very well presented. Head of correct pattern with neat stop, sweet eye, ears a tad large but well placed and used. Excels in neck and outline. Capably handled; another who should go on to higher things.

2 Gamble's Solyric Inaugural Gold JW

Correct sized sable. Excels in head properties with flat skull, moulded foreface and delightful expression. Longer tail would complete the picture. Not the front movement of 1, but an absolute picture in stance, a charming little dog very well handled and presented.

3 Auberswell Ghost Rider

SP OPEN WORKING (2)

1 Forster-Cooper's Sheltysham Burnished Gold

Shaded sable, OK for size, excelling in construction as expected from this exhibitor and consequently sound on the move. Another who looks like a worker. Head is typical with correct stop, neat ears, just a tad full in eye. Not the happiest showman. Well presented and handled.

2 Alnmac Moon River

Shaded sable with happy temperament. Attractive head with sweet eye. Ears a shade heavy and wide-set for perfection. Good bone for size and decent hind angulation. Rather lacking neck and overlong in body but typical outlook, moved OK and really enjoyed his day out.

CHRISTINE AARON (Judge)