CRUFTS, 09/03/17 - Shetland Sheepdogs

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SHETLAND SHEEPDOG

DOGS: I would like to thank everyone for their entries and hope that you enjoyed your day. I was pleased to note that I did not have any exhibits that had teeth protruding in the wrong direction nor excessively small eyes, which is why our breed is on Breed Watch. I do believe that the standard should be looked at more carefully by some exhibitors, as quite a few exhibits were lacking bone, depth of chest and spring of rib, or have the best construction, but that said, I was really pleased with my line-up as they were worthy exhibits and could all have won the ticket on another day.

VD (14, 1) 1 Thornley & Withers' Stanydale Sheaffer. Lovely blue merle dog, flat skull with level planes, well placed and used ears, well placed eye of good shape all going together to give a pleasing expression, good length of neck, nice bone, excellent shoulder placement, good body length, correct hind angulation. Moved with drive and covered the ground with ease to take the top spot. Showed non stop for his handler. 2 Stafford's Ch Rannerdale Bugsy Malone. Very well presented shaded sable boy who has a beautiful, sweet, yet masculine expression, as is the general rule for dogs from this kennel, which comes from well placed ears, correct flat skull with correct slight, but definite stop, well placed dark almond eye, in excellent coat, which was well presented. Showed really well, being very attentive to the handler. 3 Hull's Ch Lizmark Look This Way JW ShCM. Lovely shaded sable dog, good head properties, with a pleasing expression, good sweep over loins, showed well and was well presented.

MPD (2) 1 Miles' Keycharm Heaven Knows Of Milesend. 8 months red sable puppy having a lovely expression and in excellent coat for one so young, lovely wedge head having level planes and correct stop, good underjaw, well placed almond eye and good earset all coming together to give a beautiful sweet expression, very good length of neck, good bone, well placed shoulders, good hind angulation, nice short hocks, moved well both ways with drive. Showed really well for one so young. Should have a really bright future which I will watch with interest. 2 Bray's Lianbray Lothario. 8 months sable boy who is a very promising puppy too, good wedge head with level planes, good length of neck, nice shapely youngster but just not as positive hind movement as first.

PD (9, 1) 1 Goodwin's Highbrook He's Got Style. Another promising youngster who I am sure will have a good show career. Lovely red sable puppy with a very sweet expression coming from good flat skull, level planes and clean lines, correct stop, well placed almond eye, well placed and used ears, good length of neck, good bone, lovely shape and size, moved and showed well. 2 Forster Parish's Milesend Blue Raider At Lowick. Good wedge head with well filled foreface, well used ears, nice eye placement all coming together to give a lovely expression, good overall shape, excellent coat, moved and showed well. 3 Robinson's Sheltysham Nut Box In Alnmac.

JD (15, 3) 1 Aaron's Lafitte De Moorstile Chez Shelridge (Imp Fra). A real charmer with lovely size and shape, a beautiful expression which comes from his lovely flat skull, with clean lines and correct stop, well filled foreface, lovely almond eye with lovely dark rim, well placed ears, very good length of neck, excellent shoulder placement, well sprung ribs, well bent stifle and well let down hocks, moved with drive and covered the ground with ease. Showed non stop. I am sure that this boy will be a Champion in the future as he pushed hard for the ticket. I was pleased to award the class and to award him the reserve ticket. 2 Robinson's Sheltysham Nut Box In Alnmac. Shaded sable boy with a good wedge head, nice expression from correct stop and level planes, good length to height ratio, moved well, showed all the time giving his all to his handler pulling out all the stops to get his placing. 3 Haensel's Sherkarl Uptown Funk. Very pleasing expression, lovely shapely boy up against strong competition.

YD (15, 2) 1 Jackson's Shellamoyed The Kingsman. Lovely red sable boy, having a nice wedge head with clean lines, well set ears, good almond eye, all giving that typical Sheltie expression, good length of neck, good body length, well bent stifles, lovely shape and size, not in the best of coat, moved and showed well. 2 Van Ulsen's Dandlewood Boom Boom Shake The Room. This dog fits his name as he would shake the room with his shape and looks, if only he could be scaled down he would definitely clean up, such a soundly constructed dog. It was hard to fault his construction, had he been smaller. He moved with such drive and style covering the ground with ease. 3 Dixon's Tachnamadra Toffee Apple.

GD (20, 2) 1 Aaron's Lafitte De Moorstile Chez Shelridge (Imp Fra). As previously reported. 2 Stafford's Rannerdale Lord Fawlty. Lovely sized sable boy with good head, well placed eye, good ear placement all making a sweet expression as with all the dogs from this kennel, good bone, good height to length ratio, well sprung ribs, moved well. In good coat which was well presented. Showed well. 3 French's Lirren Tri Wishing.

PGD (15, 2) 1 Mottram's Midday Sun At Lochkaren JW. A lovely golden sable of good size who has matured well. He has a pleasing head and expression from a good wedge head with clean lines, well placed ears, almond eyes and correct stop, good length of neck, well placed shoulders, well sprung ribs, well bent stifles, good body length. Moved well covering the ground well. Showed and handled well. 2 Aaron's Mastermind At Shelridge JW. Lovely shapely tricolour, not a lot of glamour as he is quite plain but a very handsome dog with a lot going for him. He has a very clean wedge head with a well placed almond eye, well placed and used ears, a long neck, good bone, good angulation both front and rear, moved well both ways. He was well presented and well handled. Moved well both ways. 3 Moody's Janetstown Josses Hill.

MLD (17, 3) 1 Trillou-Wilson's Shelridge Sangiovese JW. Another very nice dog being shown by this handler. Lovely wedge head with level planes and correct stop, good underjaw, well placed ears, pleasing sweet but masculine expression, good length of neck to well placed shoulders, good spring of rib, well bent stifles, in excellent coat which was well presented and showed non stop. Moved with drive covering the ground with ease earning him his first place in a strong class. 2 Miles' Sommerville Tri Macool. Lovely tricolour dog in full coat which was well presented. Good wedge head with level planes albeit a little deep through, good length of neck to well placed shoulders, in excellent coat of good colour, moved and showed well. 3 Linford's Hillhenry Thunderstorm JW.

LD (12, 3) 1 Smith's Orean The Bootlegger. Rich sable dog in excellent coat having a lovely sweet but masculine expression from a good flat skull with level planes, good underjaw, well placed almond eye, good length of neck, good bone, good shoulder angulation, good spring of rib, good length of body, well bent stifles, showed well, moving with ease both ways. Well handled. 2 Paterson's Lorainian Campbell Clan. Golden sable dog with a good wedge head, level planes and correct stop, well placed almond eye all giving a sweet expression, good length of neck to well placed shoulders, good length of body with well sprung ribs, well bent stifles and a good, well presented coat. Lovely shape. Moved well both ways. 3 Sonvico's Willowgarth Baileys Gold ShCM.

OD (20, 1) 1 Kesson's Cib/Se/Fi/No/Dk Ch Windcrest Stylish Move. A beautiful rich sable dog who is very close to perfect and fits his name as he does move stylishly. He has a lovely clean wedge head with level planes and correct stop, good underjaw, well placed dark almond eye and good ear carriage with just the right amount of ear tipped over all going to make a super sweet but masculine expression, leading to a well arched neck, very well placed shoulders, good bone, well sprung ribs and excellent rear angulation, in excellent coat of correct texture. He stood and showed his beautiful shape off to perfection. He moved with drive and covered the ground with ease making my decision to award him first in the class and then to take the dog ticket in the challenge an easier decision. I was also pleased to award him Best of Breed in agreement with my co-judge Roger Bathurst. 2 Goodwin's Ch Highbrook Hot Heir JW. Lovely sound shaded sable dog of good size and a lovely shape, very pleasing expression from his wedge head with correct amount of stop, well placed almond eye leading to good length of neck, good angulation both front and rear, good bone. He showed non stop and moved well both ways in a strong class. 3 Pearson's Dancing To The Blues At Edglonian. A lovely shapely blue merle dog of good size, in excellent coat and showed really well. Well presented as usual by this handler.

Heather Bendelow

BITCHES – Thank you to the Crufts committee for this invitation & to my two stewards, George & Sharon Rose, for their indispensable help in keeping me organised through the day. I was disappointed to find that in addition to the too common poor fronts there are problems now developing with rear construction. A too long second thigh is leading to some dogs having sickle hocks which gives a weak back end unable to do a day's work. However I was pleased with my winners & I had many that I liked but which were unable to make my class places.

V (21,6a) 1 Barnett's Ch Rainway Crystal Star, 8 years b/m, good colour, well broken. Balanced outline, neat, well used ears, nicely shaped eyes all giving sweet expression, good body & bone; 2 Reider's Cib/Dk/Uch/Fi Uch/Se Uch Shellrick's Just A Wish, just under 8 years, again good outline, nice angulation, good balanced head, dark eyes, neat ears, sweet expression, good body; 3 Miles' Ch Shellthorn Summer Blues, $8\frac{1}{2}$ years b/m, good reach of neck & sweep over croup for good outline, good well broken merle colour, good body & angulation, nice bone. **MP** (2) 1 Stafford's Rannerdale Queen O'the North, very promising 8 months, correct size & good angulation giving a good balanced outline, well set ears & dark eye for good expression, nice body; 2 Atkin's Esstremere Look I'm Dancin, 9 months on the day, b/m, dark, well shaped eye, obliquely set, rather large ears but still a sweet expression, rather unsettled by all the noise. **P** (9) 1 Hateley's Mohnesee Petticoat Lane, nearly a year, good head shape, dark eyes, neatly tipped ears, nice body & bone with good outline & angulation, in good coat. Another rather unsettled by noise but did enough to show off her quality; 2 Jackson's Rowancrest Moonlight Dream, just over 9 months, tri, good black & distinct tan marking, nice head shape, dark

eye & neat ears, good body & balanced outline, with nice angulation; 3 Jackson's Caronlea Merle Streep, 10 months b/m, clear, silvery blue, nice wedge head, rather reluctant to use her ears, but nice expression, good bone & feet, nice outline. J (12,3) 1 BP Miles' Amoureve Blue Mist of Milesend, 9¹/₂ months b/m, good silvery blue, nice head, good eyes & neat ears, combining to give sweet expression, good body & bone, good angulation front & rear, nice for size & balance. Showed steadily & moved well; 2 M Petticoat Lane; 3 Gamble's Balidorn Solitude at Solyric, not as mature as first two but her lack of coat allowed her good outline with good reach of neck & good rear angulation to be appreciated. Good, dark eyes & neat, well used ears giving nice expression. Y (20,3) 1 Doyle's Little Barbie Girl Des Romarins De Mayerling for Sevenoaks, dark, nicely shaped & set eyes & neat, well used ears, lovely expression, nicely balanced & good outline, moved well; 2 Ambler's Watchwood Sweetheart of Chalmoor, b/m, good colour, body & rear angulation, nice for size, good eye shape & neat ears, sweet expression; 3 Mackie's Iliad Illusive Gold at Shebaville, neat head & expression, steady showgirl, nice balance, good bone & feet. G (15,3) 1 Main's Shenachie Lyric Of Light, good head, dark eye, neat ears, good reach of neck & balanced outline, nice bone & feet, nice rear angulation; 2 Stockden's Willowgarth Gentle Breeze, good dark eyes & although slightly unsettled did enough for me to see her sweet expression, neat ears, good balance & outline & good bone: 3 Straw's Dukeson I'm A Believer, nice wedge head with good dark eve. nicely shaped & set, ears neat & used well giving sweet expression, good reach of neck completed balanced outline. PG (19,3) 1 Hirst's Sundark Simply A Star, very striking tri, good eye & expression, nice angulation & outline, good reach of neck, nice size, moving well; 2 Rigby's Lythwood Sweetheart, typical head with neat ears, slightly smaller eye detracts from expression, good coat tends to makes neck look shorter, good body & graceful sweep over loin, good bone; 3 Paterson's Lorainian Celtic Star, nice head & expression, ears used well, good body shape & angulation front & rear, nice outline. ML (18,2) 1 Fisher's Shellamoved My Blue Heaven, b/m, good colour & well broken, nice head & eye, neat ears, good overall shape & angulation, good bone & feet, moving well; 2 Brady's Bordercot Blue Weave, b/m, very similar to 1, not as well broken colour, lovely eye & expression, ears used well, stood well & showed steadily; 3 Deveson's Lucky Liaison at Lianbray, ears well set, good rear angulation. Left ring before I could complete her critique. L (15.1) 1 RCC Lambert's Blenmerrow Infinity for Kevdon, eyecatching sable, good reach of neck & sweep over loin giving lovely balanced outline, good head shape, nicely set dark eyes, neat ears used well, good bone & angulation, moving well. Just a little less coat than Open winner lost her a very close challenge, I hope her 3rd ticket comes soon; 2 Thornley's Felthorn Lindy Hop, very similar to 1, very good shape & balance, nice head & eye, good bone & feet, moving well; 3 Thomas' Myter Guilty Pleasure, b/m, nice reach of neck, good outline, well balanced overall, ears rather wider set but head good wedge shape & nice eye, good bone & angulation. O (14,1) 1 CC Akesson's Cib/Se/Fi/No Ch Windcrest On The Move, good head shape with dark eyes, well shaped & set, ears neat, well set & tipped, nice reach of neck & good outline, good sweep over loin, in good coat without being too much, good angulation front & rear, moving with drive. In the BOB challenge with her son the change of handler unsettled her; 2 Finnan's Karshanty Star Inka, b/m, nicely sized, well balanced, good outline, good head & eyes, neat ears used well, good angulation, showed well & stood foursquare, moving well; 3 Thomas' Ch Myter Eye To Eye, tri, nice reach of neck & balanced outline, good head & eye set, ears neat & used well, nice rear angulation, steady showgirl. GC (13,1) 1 French's Lindfern Bee Enchanted, nice size & balance, good head & eye shape & set, good rear angulation, good bone & feet; 2 Gruszka's Samphrey Bitta Sweet, b/m, super colour, nice head & eye, good expression, balanced overall shape, good legs & feet; 3 Diment's Peerieglen Pillow Talk, tri, very smart, good overall shape, good dark eyes, ears neat & used well, good angulation.

ROGER BATHURST