## MID WESTERN SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB, OPEN SHOW 05/03/17

Thank you to the committee for inviting me to judge Shetland Sheepdogs, at this very friendly & well organised club show. All exhibits were presented in a lovely clean & well-groomed condition which is a credit to the owners, particularly considering the almost monsoon like conditions outside the hall on the day. I found mouths to be correct, with full dentition in all but a couple of exhibits. The quality throughout both sexes was very high making it a pleasure to judge this breed.

MPD (5,2a) 1 Bray's Lianbray Lothario, a 7 month old shaded s/w, pleasing head & expression with dark eyes & well placed ears. Balanced all round with good angulation to the front & rear & moves well for one so young. Lovely coat & maturing along the right lines; 2 Wooley's Pepperhill In The Moment, 7 month old b/t who is also developing well. Has many of the attributes of the winner & I liked his head, expression & ear placement. Not quite as positive on the move as the first place, which was the deciding factor today, but another nice puppy with a promising future; 3 Bostock's Jaelis Mystique Clear Skies. PD (5) 1 Stafford's Rannerdale Rentaghost, another 7 month old although shown a class higher today. Lovely shaded s/w boy, with a pleasing head & expression. Good straight front, well balanced overall but not over-done in anyway. Coat in good condition. Excelled on the move & only beaten today for top puppy honours by his litter sister. BPD; 2 Robinson's Lavika Luminary. well presented 10 month old with a nice head & expression. Good coat & rear angulation but would have preferred slightly better front construction; 3 Goodwin's Highbrook He's Got Style. **JD** (3) 1 Edwards' Castlerose Star Turn, a lovely b/tri youngster. Nice head, good ears & reasonable reach of neck onto a well angulated front. Strong tan markings & a good fitting coat. A little apprehensive at first, but settled on the move to show off his good construction; 2 Botham's Balidorn Soloman, s/w approaching the top end of junior who was unfortunately between coats today. Reasonable head & expression, moved satisfactorily but was prone to fly his tail which affected his outline on the move. Would like to judge him again when more settled & in full coat as overall he is a promising youngster; 3 Dunn's Leanai Let Me Boogie. **YD** (3,1) 1 Officer's Castlerose A Shropshire Lad, really liked this s/w boy who is very glamorous & was in good coat & condition. Lovely head & eyes, well used ears. Good angulation to front & rear & moved around the ring so smoothly. I considered him for higher awards on the day, but he was just lacking some maturity when compared to the eventual winners; 2 Dixon's Tachnamadra Toffee Apple, s/w, reasonable head, ears OK. A fraction long in body, which showed in his topline on the move. **ND** (4,1) 1 Bray's Lianbray Lothario, winner of MPD; 2 Dunn's Leanai Let Me Boogie, a young s/w dog who was 3 in Junior. At that 'in-between' stage at present, head & ears are good but not in the best of coats, moved OK around the ring; 3 Bostock's Jaelis Mystique Clear Skies. GD (1) 1 Dixon's Tachnamadra Toffee Apple, 2 in yearling. **PGD** (3) 1 Mottram's Midday Sun at Lochkaren, lovely 2 year old s/w boy, with a classic head & expression, good eye shape & mobile ears. Good angulation to front & rear, well balanced overall & excelled on the move; 2 Goodwin's Sandwick Turn Back Time at Highbrook, b/tri male with a good head, but would prefer slightly better use of the ears. A touch smaller than the winner, but covered the ground well on the move; 3 Tinker's Hillhenry Winter Storm over Riggsbeck. LD (1) 1 Saunders' Chalmoor Shades Of Gold at Fernfrey, nearly 4 year old s/w with good head shape & well used ears, but I would prefer a slightly better eye shape. Good front angulation & overall shape, but he was a touch unsettled on the move today. **OD** (1) 1 Saunders' Dunbrae Bond's Wish of Gold at Fernfrey, a 6 year old s/w, his head is OK but a fraction long in the muzzle, well used ears. Reasonable angles to front & rear & presented in nice coat & condition. VD

(2) 1 Tucker's Sandiacre Set In Ice, a 7 year old b/tri who barely looks his age. Good headpiece & well used ears. Good balance all-round & strong tan markings to compliment his profuse black coat. Moved well & delighted to award him BVD & subsequently BVIS; 2 Shaw's Nethercroft What Can I Say at Shatay, a 9 year old shaded s/w. Nice head & expression, reasonable angulation to front & rear but I would prefer a touch more length of tail. S/w D (2) 1 Rigby's Lythwood Secret Dealer, this 3 year old s/w was my star of the day. When he enters the ring you cannot take your eyes off him. Beautiful head, but still looks masculine with a lovely expression & well used ears. He is a delight to go over & his angulation is correct to both front & rear. His movement is smooth when viewed from all angles & he has a lovely side-gait which allows him to cover the ground with ease. Presented in a profuse coat, which just added to the completeness of the picture. I was delighted to award him BD & later on in the day BIS over a top quality bitch. Thank you for bringing him under me, he was a pleasure to judge; 2 Dixon's Tachnamadra Toffee Apple. Tri/B/w/B/t D (4,1) 1 Linford's Hillhenry Thunderstorm, 2 year old with a nice head & expression, reasonable front & rear angulation & moved well around the ring; 2 Goodwin's Sandwick Turn Back Time at Highbrook; 3 Walker's Marsula Shogun. Bl/m D (1) 1 Edwards' Castlerose Spiritmaster, a striking 5 year old bl/m male presented in lovely coat & condition. Nice head & ears, strong tan markings & a well-broken merle pattern on the body. Good angles to the front & rear & well balanced all round, which showed in his lovely movement around the ring. Pleased to award him RBD.

MPB (5,1) 1 Stafford's Rannerdale Queen O' The North, lovely shaded s/w girl, with an ultra feminine head & expression. Good angulation to front & rear & so well balanced all round. Presented in pristine coat & condition. Excelled on the move & looked stunning when competing against her litter brother for top puppy honours. I am sure she will have a successful future ahead of her. Congratulations on winning BPB & BPIS; 2 Walker's Marsullas Margaret Hope, a very sweet just 6 month old baby, making her first steps in the show ring. Sweet head & expression & lovely ear set. Very confident for her age & moved well in the ring, as you would expect from her lovely confirmation; 3 Barrowclough's Jaelis Mystique Topaz. **PB** (5,2) 1 Walker's Tooralie's Matilda, such a pretty 11 month old b/tri, with the sweetest of heads & expressions. Strong tan markings set off her well-presented black coat. Good angulation all round & moved smoothly around the ring; 2 Miles' Milesend Sea Pearl, a shaded s/w, who also has a lovely head, ears & eyes. Well balanced & correctly angulated, she was very close up to the winner, but today she was not quite as positive on the move; 3 Yeowart's Rowancrest Indigo at Farrhall. JB (8,1) 1 Fenton's Shannmies Tropical Blue, a lovely bl/m bitch only just out of puppy. Presented in lovely coat & condition with a feminine head & ears, good tan markings & a well-broken merle pattern on the body. Good angles to the front & rear & she showed a balanced picture when on the move; 2 Robinson's Erjon Happy Me at Lavika, a 14 month old shaded s/w with a very pretty head & well used ears. Good angulation & moved well in the ring. Just coming back into coat at present, which when complete will make her look more finished; 3 Bray's Lianbray Lorelei. YB (11,2) 1 Parkes' Milesend Sweet Whispers at Eljetia, nearly 2 year old s/w with a nice head & expression. Straight front & good shoulder placement. Presented in good coat & condition & moved well around the ring; 2 Robinson's Lavika Lucky Star, another s/w with many of the same attributes as the winner. A little taller than the first, but still very feminine. Good head & ears & was positive on the move. A close decision between the first two, which could change on another day; 3 Fenton's Shannmies Tropical Blue. **NB** (7,2) 1 Walker's Channerswick Penny Lane, a 9 month old bl/m puppy who is developing nicely. Pretty head & expression, good angulation all round & moved well. Competed against two other lovely bitch puppies in the puppy challenge & did not look out of place; 2 Miles' Milesend Sea Pearl; 3 Tucker's Letuck Lilly Mae. GB (7,3) 1 Durn's Leanai Little Boots, 2½ year old

shaded s/w. Slightly more compact than some of the other class winners, but still nicely built. Good coat & moved reasonably in the ring; 2 Bostock's Jaelis Mystique Mistress, 17 month old s/w & very much at the 'in between' stage of development. Reasonable head but would prefer a touch less muzzle length. Did not seem to settle when moving around the ring today; 3 Dawson's Mohnesee's Pandemonium. **PGB** (4) 1 Mottram's Mistyisle Simoncelli's Star, 3 year old b/tri presented in lovely coat & condition. Nice head with well used ears. Lovely front & rear angulation, which really showed on the move as she floated around the ring; 2 Rigby's Lythwood Sweetheart, this well built bitch was presented in lovely coat & condition. Beautiful head & expression, but on the move I preferred the smoother attributes of the winner; 3 Durn's Ivepresse D'Un Soir Fae Des Romarins De Mayerling at Leanai. LB (5,1) 1 Ritchie's Jaelis Mystique Reflection, 2 year old s/w who was one of my favourite exhibits on the day. Such a beautiful head with lovely eye shape & well used ears. Coat & condition were first class. Correct angulation to front & rear, which showed in her smooth flowing movement. Very close decision between her & the Open Bitch winner for top spot amongst the girls, but on this occasion I decided to award her a well earned RBB; 2 Durn's Leanai Little Boots; 3 Deveson's Lucky Liaison at Lianbray. **OB** (4,1) 1 Deveson's Janetstown Je Suis, another 2 year old s/w girl, with a most feminine head & expression. Correct angulation to front & rear & totally balanced all round. Presented in absolutely sparkling coat & condition. On the move, she floated around the ring presenting a complete picture at all times. She was pushed very hard by the previous class winner for top honours, but she just edged it on the last move round in the challenge. I was delighted to award her BB & later on RBIS behind a superb male exhibit; 2 Saunders' Chalmoor I'm A Peach at Fernfrey, a 2 year old shaded s/w who has a well shaped head & nice ears. Good angles all round & presented with a good coat. Moved well but not quite as balanced as the winner of this class; 3 Hayhurst's Keycharm Blue Seranade. **VB** (7,2) This was a special class with so many top class bitches covering the full age range of 7 up to 13 years old. So full of quality it was difficult to know where to look. 1 Stafford's Ch Rannerdale Star O' The North, an 8 year old shaded s/w whose qualities scream 'Champion'. Lovely head & expression, correctly built & an absolute showgirl. Still precise on the move & she complimented so well the younger bitches that I had in my final line up; 2 Goodwin's Ch Rannerdale Some Like It Hot at Highbrook, litter sister to the class winner & has the exact same attributes. A beautifully balanced Champion who moved around the ring with ease & is a credit to her owner & the breeder. My notes say 'very close decision' & it was; 3 Edward's Castlerose Blithe Spirit, special mention for the oldest exhibit here, who did not for one moment look her 13 years of age. An absolute credit to her owners & she competed so well against the very strong younger champion bitches in this class. S/w B (5) 1 Stafford's Ch Rannerdale Queen Of Hearts, having had two stunning litter sisters in the veteran class along comes another full sister from a repeat mating! Yet another champion s/w bitch with a classic head & expression. Correctly built like her older sisters, lovely coat & condition & moves around the ring like a much younger bitch. A pleasure to judge & honoured to award her BVB in very stiff competition; 2 Deveson's Lucky Liaison at Lianbray, a 6 year old s/w who was 3 in Limit. Good head, nicely presented & moved around the ring well; 3 Durn's Ivepresse D'Un Soir Fae Des Romarins De Mayerling at Leanai. Tri/B/w/B/t B (5) 1 Mottram's Mistyisle Simoncelli's Star, winner of PG; 2 Ambler's Chalmoor I'm Indi, 2½ year old b/tri with a nice head & well used ears. Reasonable angulation & moved well, but just lacking the drive of the class winner; 3 Jackson's Gordil Good Time Girl. Bl/m B (4) 1 Rowan's Rowancrest Blue Champagne at Shellamoyed, a 2 year old bl/m with good tan markings in a well broken merle coat. Nice head & ears, well built & moved around the ring positively; 2 Fenton's Shannmies Tropical Blue, winner of junior; 3 Jackson's Keycharm Artic Queen with Gordil. Brace (2) 1 Durn's Leanai Little Boots/Ivepresse D'Un Soir Fae Des Romarins De Mayerling at Leanai; 2

Robinson's Erjon Happy Me at Lavika/Lavika Lucky Star. **JUN HANDLING** – I had two excellent young handlers to judge today, both are a credit to the breed. Katya Robinson, who was smartly turned out & presented a lovely picture in the ring with her dog, won the 6-11 (or under) class. She executed the required handling patterns with skill & was mindful of the judge's position at all times. Her handling of the dog was calm & re-assuring at all times. Dylan Barrowclough was the winner of the 11-16 class & again a handler presenting a very professional look in the ring. Smooth patterns, good ring awareness & complete empathy with his dog. In the final challenge both handlers dealt with the complex patterns that I set them with a high degree of skill. Dylan handled the last test with a touch more accuracy, which made him the overall winner & BJH, but it was a close decision with two very talented handlers in the ring.

## **GARY CLARKE**