DRIFFIELD CH SHOW, 29/09/16 -

Shetland Sheepdogs

Thank you to the officers & committee of Driffield for inviting me to judge today & for their wonderful hospitality, & to the exhibitors for the second highest entry in the two groups. My especial thanks go to my stewards Rose & Mick Dale whose quiet & efficient stewarding kept everything running smoothly, despite a wayward judging table that we eventually got level, & a hatchling of baby spiders who certainly made their presence know to us all!

The bitch classes were a treat with many promising youngsters who will be changing places regularly as they mature & some hair splitting decisions were needed.

MPD (1) 1 Whitchurch's Emmaview Winter Blues, a dear baby b/m of such a good well broken blue. He has a neat head with dark eyes that so enhance a merle's expression, good ears & body with super long tail. Moved well but today not helped by the creaking of the tenting. With a little more show experience & maturity feel sure he will do well. **PD** (1) 1 Bywater's Tachnamadra He's Got The Look, tri, 11 months, who looked so much more grown up than the MP & knew how to show off. Good head & eye giving a gentle expression, balanced construction, needing to mature & drop in body but he is getting to that teenager stage so has time on his side. He moved ok & has the promise of a good coat to come. BPD. **JD** (5) 1 Sangster's Amethrickeh Stormi Wizard, 13 months b/m, such a lovely silvery blue with rich tan, & quite well broken apart one patch maddeningly on the show side but he really caught my eye. He must be spot on for size & has a lovely head with eyes & ears perfectly placed & he did just manage to lift them enough to show me his true sheltie expression. Beautifully made with a long tail & complemented by a crisp full coat. Despite a change of handler, once he got going he moved with the reach & drive his construction promised. Hated the tent & noise but hope he can gain ring confidence as he should not be overlooked; 2 Edward's Castlerose Star Turn, tri, just out of puppy who also caught my eye with such a lovely shape that was confirmed on handling, & another with a very long tail. Good, lean head with nice eye & expression although a little immature in body & coat against 1 today, but everything is in the right place & maturity will bring its rewards. He moved very well but he too was a little unsettled by the unexpected noises; 3 Greenwood's Omebrid Gives Warm Hugs. YD (10,1a) 1 A Stormi Wizard; 2 Walker's Marsula Shogun, tri, 20 months & a most attractive young man. He is lovely for size although slightly shorter & a tad stronger in head with a deeper stop but still has a lovely expression. Good shoulder/upper arm & excellent bend of stifle, well made body, in full coat with flowing outline finished off with a long tail. He moves well & really shows his heart out. Just occasionally can stand a bit overstretched in his eagerness to please; 3 Forster-Cooper's Sheltysham Burnished Gold. **PGD** (10,1) 1 Savage's Punchknowle Star Gazer at Savataurus, b/m & a most attractive clear silvery blue that was well broken. For me, rather stronger in head than my ideal although the overall balance & eye & ear placement gave a kind expression. He has a good sweep of stifle & moved out well both fore & aft. Just a tad stocky in build not helped by sinking his neck when showing, but won this place on his more mature appearance today; 2 Goodwin's Sandwick Turn Back Time, tri who is such a good shape & has a much more refined head. Maturing slowly (feel sure I judged him as a puppy) & still needs time to develop. Lots to like as he is well made & did move well. Felt he was unhappy with today's conditions & that affected his performance; 3 Slater's Milesend Night Encounter with Amoureye. LD (11) 1 Winfield's Oakcroft Star Force, s/w just 2 years & recently crowned – well done. I fell for

this young man as a puppy & he has certainly fulfilled his early promise. Lovely make & shape with a long, lean head, super eyes & ears giving such a merry expression. Moves as his construction suggests with an easy action. As usual shown & presented in smashing coat & condition. Despite my admiration for him, I think his best is still to come & he will continue to mature & become very hard to beat. RCC; 2 Ewing's Sommerville Tri Mac Cool, tri who I have also judged before & like enormously. What a pleasure to have two such correctly made dogs in one class. Lovely head with eyes & ears well placed to give such a good expression so hard to achieve on tris. Also in very good coat that enhanced his shape & finished off with a long tail. Today he was not cooperating & gave his owner a hard time being very unsettled, but his quality could not be overlooked; 3 Smith's Orean The Bootlegger. **OD** (11,1) 1 Pierce's Philhope Star Struck, s/w who completely filled my eye. Most lovely long, lean & refined head with perfectly placed eyes & the neatest of ears that he used to show off a true Sheltie expression. Head so well carried on an arched neck leading into well laidback shoulders meeting the upper arm at just the right angle to enable his front legs to stand under his withers. Lovely body with the depth of chest & taper required for freedom of movement in front, complemented by well bent, sweeping stifles & so moved like a dream. He moved with an easy, ground covering action that was effortless. Presented in crisp coat that fitted his shape so well. Such class & quality just made my day. CC & BOB; 2 Smith's Orean Top Gun, s/w who at 8 years has not coarsened in any way retaining a lovely lean head proudly carried on a good neck. Super construction that enabled him to move correctly with good forward reach & drive from the rear. He is a gorgeous rich sable colour & was in very good coat & showed quite well but was a little unsettled by the noisy conditions; 3 Goodwin's Ch Highbrook Hot Heir. GCD (1) 1 Whitchurch's Sheltisha Light My Fire at Emmaview, tri, alone but a good type with nicely balanced head & well placed eyes & ears. Well made with the desired shoulder/upper arm construction & the depth of chest & hind angulation needed to move correctly. Shown in good coat & although a bit unsettled it was good to see brains & beauty combined.

MPB (9) 1 Mottram's Lanteague Stage Whisper at Lochkaren, s/w who headed this class of promising babies on her more finished appearance. Good head with well placed eyes & neat ears that she used well giving a sweet expression. Needing to mature & drop in body but moved soundly despite the noisy conditions. Today was the most finished in coat so presented a good outline & showed off to advantage. Should have a bright future; 2 Bray's Lianbray Lorelei, also s/w with a lovely head & expression. Like 1, needs to mature & drop in body but a most promising youngster who was also a good mover despite the noisy distractions. Her coat is coming in well & she is another to watch for the future; 3 Thomas' Myter Bees Knees. PB (8,2) 1 Bray's Shelridge Shantilly Lace at Lianbray, really lovely s/w who, I believe, completed her JW today. She is so well balanced with the sweetest of heads, & super eye placement that just made her expression, & all topped off with the neatest of ears. Good neck, level topline, well angulated front & rear so she moved correctly, good length of tail & beginning to look quite the grown up young lady with a lovely coat that completed the picture. Could not resist her today & wish her well for the future. RCC & BP; 2 Sorockyj & Haine's Padawan All Too Easy, s/w slightly younger but also very promising. Like 1, spot on for size & with the same excellent build that enabled her to move out freely & well. Lovely head for balance with good eye & earset all combining to give such a kind expression. Just a shade less mature in body & coat but I really liked her & she was unlucky to meet 1 today; 3 Gamble's Balidorn Solitude. JB (9,2) 1 Hayhurst's Milesend Sweet Melody at Keycharm, another lovely s/w of great charm & perfect for size. Her head was a dream, so well balanced with eyes & ears just right that gives a gentle expression. She is very well made & so sound on the move. Lacking a little in coat today to finish the picture but that

was the only thing holding her back; 2 Clegram & Berry's Smiddyshaw I'll Be There For You, s/w & similar to 1 but a tad younger although a little more mature in body & coat at present. Lovely expression from good eyes & earset although just needs to flatten a touch in skull to complete the look. She is well made with a super sweep of stifle & moved out well although I feel a slower pace would suit her better; 3 Bladon's Shellamoyed She's The One. YB (6) 1 Daniels & Taylor's Pepperhill Kicks 'N Flicks, b/m of super colour & construction with a delightful expression from well placed eyes, merle ears but so well used they are a major contributor to her expression. So much to like about this young lady who has a good neck & well made body with depth to her chest & correct front & rear build. Feel sure she can move well but today was full of herself & being a typical, mischievous merle giving her owner a really hard time but I could not deny her this place for her type & quality; 2 Fisher's Shellamoyed Babycham, s/w who is most attractive also with such a good expression coming from well placed eyes & ears. Shown in full coat, almost too much as it tends to hide her shape giving the illusion of a shorter body & neck. She is just a fraction shorter in head & body than 1, but in keeping with her size. Despite that, she moved well & showed her heart out. Beautifully presented & handled; 3 Main's Shenachie Lyric Of Light. PGB (10,1) 1 Deveson's Janetstown Je Suis, gorgeous s/w who simply captivated me. She has such a well balanced head with perfectly placed eyes giving a melting expression all topped off with the neatest of ears that she uses so well. Good neck, level topline with super construction finished off with a long tail & she just flowed around the ring with style. Shown in lovely coat that so enhanced her shape & gave a super outline. Every time I turned around she was looking at me & in the challenge dared me to ignore her. After judging discovered she was the daughter of DCC. So pleased to award her a 1st CC & feel sure she will gain her crown; 2 Lycett's Herds Hallicia at Illiad, yet another good s/w with refined head combining the eye & earset that gives the sweet expression we strive for. Not quite the finish of 1 but built very much on the same lines with a slightly more racy structure that was obvious as she moved so easily around the ring. Another who's best is yet to come; 3 Smith's Orean Bootleg Babe. LB (7,1) 1 Thomas' Myter Guilty Pleasure, b/m whose colour could be a bit more silvery but it was well broken up & fitted her racy shape showing off her good construction. She has a lean head with well placed eyes & that elusive slight stop to balance the head. Good arch of neck & correct shoulder/upper arm with the depth of chest & matching rear angulation so necessary for a working dog. Moved well & covered the ground with ease; 2 Latimer's Sonymer Summers Dream, s/w of such a rich colour & another lovely girl shown in profuse coat. She has the sweetest of heads with excellent eye placement giving a merry expression. Also well made with balanced front & rear angulation that enabled her to move out well despite a change of handler. She took this all in her stride. Had to split hairs here & today the racier shape of 1 won the day; 3 Hateley's Willowgarth Tangerine Lace at Mohnesee. **OB** (10,1) 1 Lycett's Shebaville Saucy Secret at Illiad, another b/m of racy build & good colour, well broken. She has a neat, well balanced head with good eye placement & gentle expression. On handling she is very well made & that became obvious when circling the ring as her profile movement was free & ground covering. Shown in good coat & handled well to present an elegant picture; 2 Elder's Ellenyorn Endless Love, s/w of lovely size just a bit shorter in head & deeper in stop but super earset which all combined to give a very pleasing expression. She was not in full coat but, as usual, was immaculately presented & this showed off her rather nice shape. Good arched neck & well balanced front & rear with lovely sweep of stifle; 3 Forbes' Wellneuk Dancing Waters. GCB (2,1) 1 Deveson's Lucky Liaison at Lianbray, sweet shaded s/w with a refined head & lovely dark eye producing a kind expression. Another who was not in full coat but with a good build enabling her to move out well both fore & aft. A tad proud of her tail but having waited so long to be shown was clearly happy to be out showing off which she did so well. **PAM EAST**