EASTERN COUNTIES SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB Championship Show 26th June 2021

Dogs

Many thanks to the club for the invitation to judge dogs at their rescheduled 2020 show. The weather was very hot but the rings were undercover at the Digswell Dobermann training ground with a brand new floor surface which had only apparently been completed the day before and which both dogs and handlers seemed to like. Thanks to my stewards Ian Isdale and Stuart Gruszka

The entry was very mixed in parts with quite a few compromises having to be made. My Co judge Marion Withers and I agreed on all the awards with BEST IN SHOW going to HILLHENRY THUNDERSTORM JW who whilst he hadn't quite got the lovely neck of the BCC winner had the better ear carriage and expression and in the final run off around the ring he moved with drive and purpose just asking for the award whilst the BCC winner BLUE PANDA AMONG CLEMWOOD decided she didn't really want to perform anymore, but she did enough to clinch RBIS. Best puppy in Show was decided upon solely by the referee, Michael Bray, as the bitch judge was the breeder of the best dog puppy. BPIS went to LAVIKA LUCID DREAMS. BVIS was awarded to CH KELGROVE JUST BLUE AT STORMHEAD JW ShCM.

VETERAN D (1)

1ST CH KELGROVE JUST BLUE AT STORMHEAD JW SH CM, 10 year old blue merle who I awarded his first rcc to as a junior. He has now darkened in colour but having said that, he was in sparkling form today. Super size, beautiful shape, super topline with a soft endearing expression and he never stopped showing his qualities off. He moved so well and accurately today. A well deserved BVIS

MINOR PUPPY DOG (3)

All were entire

1ST STANYDALE REWRITE THE STARS FOR MALAROC, a very charming 8.5 month old blue baby. Handled well on the table with self assurance. Correctly set eye with a well filled foreface and a sweet expression. I liked his size and he has a shapely neck and good bone. Lovely strong rear movement and presented the most balanced picture in this class and was presented to perfection. 2ND SHOUGIES SECRET AGENT FOR FERNHILL, slightly younger tri than the winner. He was a lovely black and he had a lovely bend of stifle but wasn't as assured as the winner on the move. Couldn't match his expression and one ear needs to settle. Just needs more time to come together. 3RD TORINSKA OVER THE MOON.

PUPPY DOG (3,1 abs)

1ST SABEMA PINA COLADA, almost 12 month old golden sable who has a super temperament. Well up to size and his ears need to settle. Good bone and depth of chest but movement a bit erratic. 2ND T OVER THE MOON, was 3rd in MPD and almost 9 months. In contrast to the winner this tri was the smaller end of the size scale and although his head was balanced for his size, it wasn't the blunt wedge the standard calls for. He was well presented and had a good topline.

JUNIOR DOG (4, 1 abs). A mixed class

1ST LAVIKA DEEP BLUE OCEAN, I liked the size and substance of this handsome looking blue. His blue is good but I would prefer less black markings. Good ears. Not very

happy either on the table or floor so his expression was a little worried. Well presented and he moved well enough. 2ND SHADOWESS LOCKDOWN HERO, 13 month old sable looking a little more on the leg than the winner and not carrying the coat. Scored over the shapely tri who was third on his better ear set and sweeter expression. Both need to tighten in front. 3RD SANDWICK SONGWRITER

YEARLING DOG (4, 1abs) Another mixed class.

1ST TOORALIES PIE IN THE SKY, striking looking very sound sable who at almost 2 years of age was an easy winner of this class. I liked his size and substance and he was presented very well indeed. A sweeter eye and a little less depth of back skull would make for a sweeter expression but his overall profile and the picture he creates is very nice. 2ND MARSULLA PROPOGANDA, smaller type of tri who was a little heavy in ear compared to the third who was taller and had the longer foreface. He had good bone and substance for his size. Well presented. 3RD BORDERPRIDE VIVA LAS VEGAS AT LODURR

NOVICE DOG (7,2 abs) A much better class

1ST KETIM FINAL EDITION, at just turned two this lovely sable was an easy winner of this class. He has the most lovely head and expression coming from his correct eye set and he used his ears to advantage. He presented a lovely balanced picture and moved easily. A little more time will see him do really well I feel. Superbly presented. 2ND LAVIKA LIFESTYLE, slightly shorter in proportions this sable held his own but couldn't match the winners cleaner head properties and his slightly wide ear set didn't give him the expression to challenge him. 3RD S SONGWRITER

GRADUATE DOG (6, 1abs)

A close decision between the first two

1ST MILESEND BLUE JEANS, 2.5 year old blue merle who was in excellent condition and presented very well indeed. His coat fitted him well and his blue is good but ideally less black markings would be preferable. He has lovely bone for his size, presenting a balanced picture. A very nice soft expression. 2ND AVENTURINE BOHEMIA CLASSIC JOINS OAKCROFT (IMP CZE), delightful sweet expression on this sable and he had the neater ears of the two. He too creates a balanced picture and just need a tad more time to get to his best. Moved well. 3RD ILIAD ISLE OF EWE

POST GRADUATE DOG (6) Good class

1ST SHELRIDGE TOASTMASTER, Striking blue merle who I admired for his size and substance. He moves really well with good drive. Smaller ears would be the ideal. He has a good tailset and topline was very well presented and handled. 2ND ILIAD ISLE DELIGHT, sable gaining his place here on eye and expression over the shapely tri who was third. Nice for size, a good topline and a good mover who was gently handled to get the best from him. One who needs more time to reach his best. 3RD ALNMAC MIDNIGHT FLYER.

LIMIT DOG (4, 1abs) mixed class

1ST SANSCOTT LIMITED EDITION, 4 year old golden sable who excels in eye set and expression but a flatter back skull would be ideal. Good bone for his size and in good coat. Moved well. 2ND CASTLEROSE STAR TURN JW ShCM, 5 year old tri who's coat was sparkling and excelled in profile shape. Unfortunately today one ear was erratic and I felt he

could've carried more weight to advantage and this pegged him back in challenging the winner. Moved well. 3rd SHELTYSHAM NUT BOX IN ALNMAC

OPEN DOG (2) 2 very nice dogs

1ST CH/AUST CH HARTLY HOW ABOUT ME FOR MOLSON (IMP AUS), 6 year old pale golden sable. He excels in eye set and expression which is just melting. Lovely neck flows into level topline giving a super profile shape. I have seen him in better coat and this hilighted his slightly short tail which hasn't got the benefit of tail hair to camouflage it which his competitors generally have. On the move he went really well and it was a pleasure to award him the rdcc as I felt his quality and movement fully deserved it.

2ND TOORALIES OCHO RIOS JW, shaded sable in super condition and he too moved really well. Like his younger brother who won yearling I would prefer less depth of back skull as the slightly larger ears and eye set mean he couldn't challenge the expression of the winner. Presented superbly.

SABLE AND WHITE DOG (4). Quality dogs but all different

1ST CH MALAROC MYSTERY WRITER JW, full coated 6 year old who is a lovely size and excels in head and expression having the sweetest of eye which is correctly placed and neatest of ears. Good bone and substance with depth of chest and topline to match. Drove well from behind. 2ND LAVIKA LUSH LIFE JW, shapely sable who was presented and handled to get the best out of him. Used his neck well which placed him over the limit winner who was third but not the eye or expression of the winner. Moved well enough 3RD S LIMITED EDITION.

TRICOLOUR DOG (3, 1 abs)

1ST HILLHENRY THUNDERSTORM JW, the star of the day. At 6 years old this boy must be looking his best. He is a good size, good depth of chest and bone. All creating a balanced picture. His head is balanced with the neatest of ears, rich tan markings and a good eye all combine to present the full picture. He was indeed presented in excellent form and moved with an assurance today that clinched him the DCC his third and with it BEST IN SHOW which was fully agreed upon. 2ND M PROPOGANDA, 2nd in yearling dog

BLUE MERLE DOG (4) a good class

1ST CH K JUST BLUE AT S, veteran winner. 2nd PEPPERHILL CRUISE CONTROL, 5 year old blue who has the clearer than the winner but couldn't match him on the day when comparing ears and expression. He moved out really well with a freedom that was good to see. Presented so well. 3RD M BLUE JEANS, graduate winner unlucky to meet the two mature boys on the day

Judge Kay Hateley

Bitches

I would like to express my grateful appreciation to the committee who worked so hard to run this first breed club show after lockdown. We were blessed with perfect weather, the venue was ideal and there was a very happy and relaxed atmosphere. I thoroughly enjoyed my day and was delighted with the entry, with quality right along the line up in most classes. I had eagerly anticipated seeing some new exhibits after so long without shows, and was not disappointed. There were some beautiful bitches in the challenge, and more than one could have gone home with a CC as I was spoilt for choice. Thank you all for bringing them. My co-judge and I agreed on the final decisions, with the referee only having to officiate for the puppies because I had bred the Best Puppy Dog.

Veteran (9 entries, 2 absent)

A lovely class, Shelties just get better with age! 1st Gruszkas' Samphrey Shades Of Blue ShCM VW Shapely b/m with dark almond shaped eye, nicely tipped ears, flat skull, well filled foreface, all combining to give a sweet expression. Good reach of neck, balanced angulation at both ends, straight front with strong flexible pasterns, level topline, long tail. Shown in good coat which is nicely marked, though it has darkened with age. 2nd Mitchell's Sendora One For The Road Another b/m with a lovely outline. Pleasing head with well carried ears, rounded muzzle, flat skull, dark eye. Long well arched neck, good depth of chest, level topline, good bend of stifle, well let down hocks, long tail. Very sound on the move from all angles. A close decision but just felt 1st had the slightly sweeter eye. 3rd Main's Shenachie Flakey Dove

Minor Puppy (2,1)

1st Edwards' Castlerose True Colours B/m of nice make and shape and beautiful colour. She still needs to fill in foreface but she has very dark eyes, well carried ears, and parallel planes of skull to muzzle. Long neck, good layback of shoulder and length of upper arm, level topline and graceful sweep over croup, good bend of stifle and well let down hocks. Being a lockdown baby she was not very settled on the table but went well when asked to move, and showed well on the floor. 2nd Holmes' Alnmac Total Eclipse Tricolour, of nice size with plenty of substance. She has a sweet expression with small well carried ears and a nicely rounded foreface, but is slightly deep in stop and her eye could be more almond shaped. Not the reach of neck of 1st, but her angulation is balanced, and she has a level topline, good bend of stifle, and long enough tail. She too was a little anxious on the table, but moved OK once she had a chance to settle on the floor.

Puppy (6,1)

1st Robinson's Lavika Lucid Dreams **Res CC**, **BPIS** Charming b/m of perfect size and substance. Pretty head with small well carried ears, very dark almond shaped obliquely set eyes, balanced head with parallel planes though still needs to clear in stop, nicely rounded muzzle. Well arched neck enhanced by a white collar. Correctly angulated forequarters and stood foursquare with front feet under the withers, straight front with strong bone and flexible pasterns, level topline and graceful sweep over loins, good bend of stifle, well let down hocks, moved with drive and good reach in profile. 2nd Mitchell's Valdosta Enable Shaded sable of correct size. Dark well shaped eye, neatly tipped ears, flat skull and rounded muzzle give her a sweet expression. Straight front, level topline, good bend of stifle and well let down hocks. Not the forehand angulation of 1st and I would prefer more reach of neck, but she is balanced at both ends so moved well. 3rd Raaff's Molson Miss Congeniality for Stormraven

Junior (5,0)

1st Riding's Achor's Surprise Orisa for Torinska (Imp Che) Pretty s/w of correct size, short of body coat which showed off her graceful outline. Her head is balanced with parallel planes though her stop still needs to clear a shade, flat skull, nicely tipped ears and obliquely set eye, giving a sweet expression. Enough reach of neck, level topline, lovely sweep over croup into low set tail. Moved very well. 2nd Walker's Tooralie Ragpicker's Dream Nicely made b/m, still a puppy and well up to size for her age. She has a dark almond shaped eye, well carried ears, flat skull, parallel planes, good underjaw and a nicely rounded muzzle. Good reach of neck, level topline, nice sweep over croup, good depth of chest, straight front, well let down hocks. Her colour is not her fortune as the blue is heavily tinged with tan, and for me she lacked femininity, but she is very sound on the move. 3rd Moore's Natara Sparkling Lady

Yearling (5,1)

1st Twine's Shelleary Dreamer Eye catching shaded s/w with a wide white blaze. Her head is beautifully moulded with smooth cheeks, rounded muzzle, flat skull, perfectly tipped ears carried alertly, and obliquely set dark almond shaped eyes, giving a sweet expression. Long well arched neck, correct layback of shoulder and length of upper arm, straight front with strong bone and flexible pasterns, level topline, good bend of stifle, well let down hocks and long tail. On the move her sound construction is evident. 2nd Achor's Surprise Orisa for Torinska. 3rd Hounsell's Myter Made Of Magic

Novice (13,1)

1st Simpson & Hardman's Blue Panda among Clemwood, **CC**, **BOS**, **RBIS**. Beautifully coloured b/m with instant appeal. Her head proportions are correct with parallel planes and the desired slight but definite stop, flat skull, nicely rounded foreface with good underjaw, neat ears which she used all the time, and obliquely set dark eyes, all combining to give the sweetest of expressions. She is of ideal size and substance, with a muscular well arched neck giving her a proud head carriage, textbook shoulder and hind angulation, straight front, flexible pasterns, level topline, pretty sweep over croup, long tail. Presented in lovely coat and condition and a pleasure to watch on the move. I would gladly have taken her home! 2nd Morrison's Ketim Future Edition Shaded s/w, nice for size with a pleasing outline. Her head is balanced with a rounded muzzle, good underjaw, correct stop, flat skull, neat well carried ears, and good eye shape and placement, giving a sweet expression. She has a good reach of neck, balanced front and hind angulation, good depth of chest, level topline, long low set tail. She moved very well from all angles. 3rd Walley's Sandwick Showgirl

Graduate (12,2)

1st Bray's Lianbray Laced With Gold. G/s with a charming expression. Her head handles well with parallel planes, flat skull and a slight but definite stop, very dark almond shaped eye, and neatly tipped ears, used all the time. Nicely arched neck enhanced by a white collar, good shoulder angulation, enough substance for her ideal size, level topline, graceful sweep over loins, long tail, good bend of stifle, and well let down hocks. Moved very well from all angles. Shown in profuse coat of good texture. 2nd Mettan-Ure's Valdosta Dare To Dream of Savendie Good coloured b/m, who has matured well during the lockdown break. Correct balance of skull to muzzle with parallel planes, enough stop, good underjaw, well filled foreface, obliquely set almond shaped eye, her ears could be carried a little tighter, but she has an appealing expression. I liked her shape with a super reach of neck, good shoulder

angulation, level topline, good bend of stifle, long tail. Moved with good reach and drive. 3rd Hill's Molson Movie Star

Postgraduate (8,0)

1st Robinson's Lavika Spring Queen JW. Tri of perfect size and substance. Her head is balanced with a flat skull, correctly placed stop, rounded muzzle, good eye shape and placement and well carried ears. Nicely arched neck, well angulated forequarters, good depth of chest, straight front with strong bone, level topline, good bend of stifle, well let down hocks. Immaculately presented and shown as always from this kennel, moved very well. 2nd Shelleary Dreamer. 3rd Norris' Clanavon Love In A Mist

Limit (10,1)

1st Hill's Molson Moneypenny. Shapely s/w with a lovely outline and enough substance for her ideal size. Pleasing head properties with perfect balance of skull to muzzle, well filled foreface, good underjaw, correct stop, neat well carried ears, and dark almond shaped eye giving a melting expression. A white collar enhances her good reach of neck, balanced angulation, level topline, sloping croup into low set tail. She moved as soundly as her construction would suggest. Her litter sister was 3rd in a good graduate class, and similar remarks apply to both bitches, but Moneypenny had the coat to complete the picture.

2nd Hardman's Seavall Taran. Tri in gleaming coat and condition, looks as though she could do a day's work. Very sweet head with smooth cheeks, well placed stop, flat skull, dark eye and good ear carriage. Super shape, long well arched neck, very good layback of shoulder and length of upper arm, straight front with strong bone, flexible pasterns, level topline, graceful sweep over loins, good bend of stifle, well let down hocks. Moved very well and I was really splitting hairs when making my placings, I just felt 1st had the slightly sweeter eye. 3rd Dunne's Japaro I Have A Dream.

Open (4,1)

1st Dunne's Longrange Ciao Bella Bleu Ir Jun Ch CJW B/m with great ring presence, perfect for size and substance, very shapely and beautifully presented. Pleasing head with parallel planes, smooth cheeks, correct stop, rounded muzzle, well placed eye and nicely tipped ears. She has a muscular well arched neck enhanced by a white collar, good layback of shoulder and length of upper arm, complemented by well angulated hindquarters which enabled her to move with good reach and drive. 2nd Bray's Shelridge Shantilly Lace at Lianbray JW. Pretty shaded s/w, lovely for size. Very pleasing head with typical Sheltie expression, showing so attentively for her handler. Her angulation is balanced, she has a good depth of chest, level topline, and low set tail. Looked a picture standing, however she let herself down by moving very wide in front. 3rd Walker's ZAF Ch Wylwind Glamour Girl

Special Open S/W (5,1)

1st Shelleary Dreamer. 2nd Main's Shenachie Lyric Of Light. Shaded s/w built on racy lines. Her head is refined with parallel planes and flat skull, dark well shaped eye and neat ears carried alertly at all times, she perhaps could do with a slightly better defined stop, but this did not detract from her kind expression. She has a super reach of neck, and excellent construction throughout which enabled her to cover the ground with ease. Rather short of coat on the day, but nonetheless a quality bitch. 3rd Gruzskas' Samphrey Sea Breeze Pretty shaded s/w, who is well made, she has a nicely moulded head with well filled foreface, dark well placed eye and perfectly tipped ears. She outmoved her kennelmate and showed her socks off to take BVB.

Special Open Tricolour, B/W (4,3)

1st Fransham's Sheltysham Bedazzle at Franmead JW. Alone but worthy of her placing. Her head is balanced with parallel planes, flat skull, well filled foreface, dark almond shaped eye, neat well carried ears, good underjaw, a shade deep in stop, but has a sweet expression. Nice make and shape with strong bone, and her angulation is balanced at both ends so she moved well. Not in her best jacket but what she had was jet black and of good texture, and she was an attentive showgirl.

Special Open B/M (2,1)

1st Myter Made Of Magic. Well-constructed girl with plenty of substance. Harsh coat of good colour though rather heavily marked with black. Pretty head with a dark well placed eye, neatly tipped ears, flat skull, smooth cheeks and rounded muzzle. Needs more depth of chest as she tends to stand close in front, but she looks good in profile and she moved very soundly.

Marion Withers (Judge)