MALLOLM HORT UKGO 2004 SSCOF WA CLAMP

# Shetland Sheepdog of W.A. Championship Show.

Lovely country – great people –wonderful hostess – some impressive dogs – I enjoyed every moment – my sincere thanks for the honour of the invite and for making my time with you so very memorable.

I approach every appointment with an open mind, and was pleasantly surprised to see qualities we in UK have lost much of in our futile battle against CEA over the years.

Skulls – mostly flatter than we see – well laid shoulders mostly the norm – tails of correct length, with many easily passing the hock joint.

Disappointments - were some hocks longer than I prefer, some upper arms straighter than I hoped to find, and some disappointingly short necks (perhaps made more so by the abundance of coat and its presentation!) Some bitches had significantly heavier forefaces than I prefer, with slightly more width across the skull. Whilst this gives an undeniably sweet expression, the first words in the head portion of the standard asks for 'A refined.....'!!!!

I was told, erroneously, to place three dogs only – we normally place five – and those left out of the line up I really liked but some didn't match the refinement in head of my winners, and whilst all I think were within the height standard – appeared more 'substantial.

Movement was mostly universally good – despite the speed – and your handlers are quite exceptional: making the very best of their charges. Presentation was of a very high standard indeed.

## Baby Dog

Ist Atkins Kismet Rothen Pala 4mths and showing the promise of a big S/W coat.

Attractive outline and well constructed, confident on the move and particularly good coming to me. His ears are a little heavy at this stage and add to the impression of slight heaviness in head - hope this fines down as he develops more.

# Minor puppy dog

1st Leverington/Tonkin Levkin Let Em Talk Most attractively marked S/W in good coat for age. Good neck and topline with a pleasingly angled shoulder, although I would prefer a slightly better angled upper arm - has a sensible bend of stifle.

Obviously still needing to mature more in body, but I hope his head has done all the maturing early. Presented a most attractive picture posed and moved with panache.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Leveringtons Sharndah Black In Style Tri with a most appealing outline finished with a very long tail. Has a good shoulder but like 1<sup>st</sup>, I would wish for a slightly better upper arm at this stage. Has a very good bend of stifle and moved particularly well in profile, just needing to tighten a little in front coming to me. His head is at the 'long and lean stage' and I would expect maturity to give him the fill in foreface for perfect balance. An attractive puppy who I hope will not grow a great deal more.

3rd Harris Lurikeen I Am The Ice Man. Merle in heavy coat which I hope will improve in colour when he changes coat, and he is very immature and almost feminine in head at this stage. Not the shoulder angulation, nor the bend of stifle of the two above him and I hope his top line levels more with maturity.

# Puupy Dog

1st Van Dinters Sunland Shadow Chaser Attractive tri in quality jacket which was well presented. Head is well balanced and just needing a little more fill in foreface - and I would wish for a slightly more almond eye, but I appreciated his good ears which lightened his expression. Slightly more length of neck would be an advantage, although his shoulder is well laid, and again, slightly more upper arm would improve the length of stride on this very collected mover. Good bone for his size although I felt his feet were a little round (trimming?). Well angulated behind and this will be even more apparent as he lets down in hocks a little more - as he stands a little high behind at this stage.

2nd Seebers Tryme Take A look. A quality dog behind the ears. A lovely neck and topline and well angulated behind. Shoulder is well laid but I would again wish for a slightly better upper arm and he is very upright in front pastern at this age. I would hope his head has not finished its development as he recedes notably in skull at this age and needs a little more strength in underjaw, and would wish for a slightly more almond shaped eye. Junior Dog.

1st Tonkin Arajento Sin In The City (I never saw any?) Shaded sable who had left most of his clothes at home – but it allowed me to see his very good outline all the more. Head is refined from above but a shade deep through back skull and his eyes could be a little smaller to advantage, although his ears are well positioned and lighten his expression.

Has a well laid shoulder and a good return of upper arm and a sensible bend of suifle – all finished by a long tail. Very sound moving dog without being at all extravagant.

Intermediate Dog.

1st Van Dinters Ch Sunland Spice it Up. Rich shaded sable – well presented. Appreciated his refined head, although perhaps a little deep in stop and his eyes just a fraction large, his expression is most attractive. Has more neck than is initially apparent due to his heavy stand off coat. Good shoulder and adequate upper arm and I enjoyed his outline – particularly the sweep over croup and well angulated quarters and a long tail. Sound mover with minimal lift of feet – a fraction more length of stride would be the icing on the cake.

## State Bred Dog

1st Yearsleys Koniseur Karry The Flag. S/W. Loved this dogs head. Classically refined with perfect stop in the right position and lovely eye placement. Geed reach of neck, well laid shoulder and average angled upperarm. Good sweeping outline and tail and I would wish for just slightly more rear angulation. Moved very well.

2<sup>nd</sup> Ayres Jessenda Magic Beau. Heavily coated rich Shaded S/W and slightly heavier all through than winner. Little wide and deep in skull. I would prefer slightly more length of neck and he is slightly longer in body than is desirable. But is very well angulated both ends, and covered the ground well.

# Australian bred Dog

1st Tonkin Lurikeen Look Whoz Talkn Dark shaded S/W not in his best coat but well presented. Good head, just a fraction long in foreface and I would prefer slightly more almond shaped eyes. Good neck and topline and tail, and a well bent stifle but fractionally long in hock. Well laid shoulder and adequate upper arm angulation and he moved well.

2<sup>nd</sup> Stantons Tooneybank Fly To Thmoon. Attractively marked tri whose coat was very much on the blow. Not quite the head properties of first, and I would prefer a slightly longer tail. Lovely neck and outline and the best front construction so far> Moved very well in front but not quite as strongly behind today.

## Open Dog

A lovely class with quality dogs not placed in the first three.

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1st CC and Best In Show Van Dinters Ch Sunland Millennium Man Very well balanced, rich sable in heavy coat of correct texture. Loved his refined head and expression – really lovely eye placement on this dog – would wish his ears were a little better placed. Has a reachy neck but coat on his topline doesn't make this initially apparent. Shapely dog with the ideal height to length ratio and he has a good shoulder angulation and return of upper arm. Loved his topline with correct sweep over croup and his sensible hind angulation. Moving, he catches the eye for his lengthy stride with minimal lift of feet and balanced drive – makes moving the easy practise it should be. Certainly not a showing fool, and his handler worked well and sympathetically with him to emphasise all of his other attributes.

2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas' Gr Ch Brashehelle Back Chat – and very close up to winner. Handsome tri in glearning black coat outstandingly presented in an entry which all were immaculate. Similar head properties to the winner but perhaps his expression is not quite so sweet – but he is such an unremitting showman, his expression is one of keenness rather than sweetness. Matched the winner in length of neck, but his was more immediately apparent because his coat lays flatter. The same good shoulder as 1<sup>st</sup> but not quite as good in upper arm angulation, but has good rear angulation. Loved his outline posed and moved with same easy grace as winner – but perhaps not quite the outstanding length of stride,.

Carries his tail higher than 1<sup>st</sup> but not above the level of his back. Would prefer his feet a little more oval in shape (trimming?) I awarded him res CC and this really was one of those occasions I wished I had 2 CC's.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Innis Harradei Xpress Delivery. Another glearning tri who I was surprised to see from the catalogue, doesn't YET carry a title! So similar to Back Chat in shape and I loved his size, and substance. Again very well balanced with a reachy neck and good shoulder—slightly better upper arm angulation would bring perfection, and he drove well behind from well angulated quarters. His head is balanced and has a sweet expression—not always immediately apparent in his colour.

### Baby Bitch

1<sup>st</sup> Watson Tiakina Thdream Came Blue. My first words on the tape say "I am putting this one in my case"!! Merle of outstanding quality for her age – different colour, but reminded me of a 'Dream' I have at home at this age. Has the advantage of perfect

markings and a rich tan and her merling is well broken and distributed. Has the promise of a lovely colour on maturity. Lovely reach of neck and excellent front and rear construction.. I simply wouldn't change her in any way at present.

## Minor Bitch.

1<sup>st</sup>. Seebers Tryne The Lady Whispers Very feminine dark shade sable who is attractive marked. Head is good and expression sweet although she still needs to fill slightly in foreface and develop a little more underjaw. Her neck and outline are text book – so level and with a graceful sweep over croup. Very good shoulder and upper arm and sensibly angulated behind. She moved with ease.

2<sup>nd</sup> Levirington/Tonkin Levkin Lotsa Small Talk – A golden glamour girl who has the most lovely head for her age; balanced and refined. Not quite the excellent neck, shoulder and upper arm of the winner, but extremely well angulated behind and her topline needs to settle a fraction more. A very attractive puppy.

## Puppy Bitch.

1\* Wylies Hillswick Sweet Music. Very attractively marked bright S/W whose head is so feminine and refined. I just loved her expression topped by excellent ear placement.

Lovely reach of neck and sweeping topline finished with a long tail. Excellent front and rear angulation and moved with grace and ease, showing good forward reach in profile.

Was not as settled as I would have liked, but learned later she had made a long journey.

2nd Tonkin Arajento Foreign Affair. Another golden glamour girl, whose head has not quite the outstanding refinement of the first. A little more solidly built all through than winner. Sound mover with the promise of a profuse coat.

#### Junior Bitch

1st Tiakina Thersblueskyahead. Totally balanced blue merle who really is blue. So well broken except for a slightly heavier patch on one quarter, which I found easy to forgive. Such a lovely head – sweet refined feminine and topped by neat ears. Glorious reach of neck sweeping topline and quite excellent shoulder and upper arm. Free easy and oh so graceful on the move – I seriously considered her for the res. CC in excellent company.

2nd Van Dinters Sunland Shes All That. GSW whose head I loved, although her ears could have fallen forward a little more. Elegant outline, but not quite the outstanding reach of neck of winner and a well laid shoulder but upper arm just a fraction straighter.

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I would have preferred a slightly more apparent bend of stifle – but this didn't impede her movement, which was eye catching.

# Intermediate Bitch

1st Simpsons Lurikeen Hot In Th City. Total glamour girl this sable and so well presented — dripping with coat. Very pleasing head, sweetest of expressions with particularly pleasing eye — difficult to fault but perhaps just a fraction more refinement would bring perfection. Confident extrovert who really showed her delightful reach of neck standing. Lovely shape and very well angulated both front and rear and this really showed on the move

2<sup>nd</sup> Wylies Hillswick Sweet Symphony. Older full sister to puppy winner – she clearly loves her food and this just pushed her elbows out slightly. Slightly more refined than winner and again a well constructed bitch with a super outline and a very correct mover. like her younger sister, not as confident in her surroundings today – and I would love to see her when she is more relaxed.

3<sup>rd</sup> Atkins Kismet Mercedes. Lots to like about this girl especially her angulation both ends. A little heavier in head than the two above her and just fractionally long for complete balance. So well handled and moved with ease and freedom.

#### State Bred Bitch

I\* Levington/Stanton Ch Lurikeen Torn Up Th Heat Super sable girl with star quality written all over her. Most attractive head and expression and it is but carping criticism to mention that her foreface is slightly fuller than I am accustomed to seeing. On first impressions she appeared a little long cast – but this was proved to be just her abundance of beautifully presented coat. Has a lovely reach of neck, excellent outline and is well angulated in front and rear – she moved so well covering lots of ground with ease and grace

2<sup>nd</sup> Atkins Kismet Serendipity. Liked this bitch enormously. Refined head when viewed from above and she has a sweet expression, although is slightly deeper through back skull than winner. Again a good reach of neck and topline and whilst not quite the really excellent construction of winner, she has a good shoulder and bend of stifle, and like the winner she has a lovely long tail.

### Australian bred bitch



1<sup>st</sup> Van Dinters Ch Sunland Saving Grace Almost orange sable and white bitch who has a truly lovely quality head, eye and expression and so refined. Good reach of neck and sweeping topline finished with a long tail well set on and carried. Very good lay of shoulder and equal return of upper arm – and complimented behind. Covered the ground with long daisy cutting strides. A top quality bitch who I awarded res CC and was very close to winning the 'big one'.

2<sup>nd</sup> Russel Austway Pure delight UD AD JD ET A very dark shaded bitch and a little 'old fashioned' in type – that is a compliment not an insult! She is very well angulated although her elbows are a little loose and she is extremely fit and active on the move.

Open Bitch

I<sup>st</sup> Watsons Tiakina To Remember Me By. And I certainly will! I just simply lost my heart to this stunning blue merle. This talented breeder must have a secret formula for producing such outstanding quality. She is quite simply the best of her colour I have ever judged – and I have judged a lot of good ones over the years. Well broken and this is THE colour a blue should be and so well broken and marbled – slightly better one side than the other.

The loveliest of refined, clean heads and an expression to melt the heart of the hardest. For perfection, I would like her ears to be set just a shade higher. Simply breathtaking outline, from her long crested neck to the pretty droop over her croup. Excellent lay of shoulder with corresponding return of upper arm and a balanced bend of stifle, When she entered the ring I wondered if the fur standing out a little on her flanks was significant—it was! I discovered her to be in whelp when I went over her, and wondered how she would move. No worries—she simply floated around the ring, defying me to make concessions for her 'condition' I awarded her the CC from in all honesty—the best line up of unbeaten bitches I have ever judged.

For best of breed, she decided enough was enough and moved, understandably, a little close behind. A pity!

2<sup>nd</sup> Leveringtons Sharndah Charmed Im Sure. A tri with personality plus! Very attractive head and expression and well presented in good coat which actually makes her a little stuffy in neck, but she has a good topline. A little more compact than winner and not quite the excellent upper arm she has. Well angulated behind and she moved with verve.

3<sup>rd</sup> Tonkins Ch Arajento Affair Tremeber (love the choice of names from this breeder!)
Completed a trio of lovely bitches. Slightly heavier all through than those above her, but bags of quality. I especially enjoyed her reach neck, good topline and extremely well laid shoulder and she moved with style.

### Veterans

1\* Mullers Ch Hillacre Handsome Heir – and he is! Still at 9 years in full coat really well presented, and has retained much of the refinement in head he would have shown as a youngster. Reachy neck and outline well constructed both ends. Not a glamour boy but I loved his rich colouring, and he was immaculately presented. He really strode out round the ring with purpose and style.

2<sup>nd</sup> Van Dinters Ch Sunland Salute to Patsy. 11 years and I confess he brought a lump to my throat – I lost my old boy at Christmas. Not the coat of winner but he wears his years honourably – a privilege to see the 'old brigade' at shows.

Malcolm Hart Judge