The Lancashire Heeler Club Open Show, May 24.

Thank you to the LHC for inviting me to judge and to those who have encouraged me to do it over the years... It was a positive and enjoyable experience thanks to my efficient stewards Debra and Lynn and great hospitality from the committee.

After the showing the fun continued with activities for all and to wrap up the day I got to see Toby the dancing heeler do his heelwork to music routine, he was so comical and a perfect example of how versatile these fabulous little dogs are.

Well done to the two young handlers Walter and Matilda you are both superstars.

Special thanks to each exhibitor, it was my pleasure to meet you and your dogs in the ring.

Puppy Dog (0)

Junior Dog (2,1)

1st Cooper, SWANNDALE WALTER TYBOLT. A handsome youngster, head planes correct, the darkest eyes with such a gentle expression, perfectly marked with no exagerations. I liked him for type. He was unsettled on the move but i did note- strong topline and excellent tail carriage when settled RBJ

Graduate Dog (2)

1st Jordan. VITTADOR FERRAND. If there was an award for the happiest dog he'd win every time. Smaller and finer than I'd prefer for a matured 4yo dog but well ballanced and i liked him for type. A little pocket rocket with enough energy to power Middlewich Hall.

2nd Hugh's POOLHEYWOOD BARNEY. A really masculine dog in tip top condition with a short, neat hard topcoat which really shows off his muscles. Slightly long in loin and leg. Moves freely with good reach, stong topline and a clean outline in profile, very attentive to handler. Preferred colouring of 1.

Post Graduate dog (4)

1st POOLHEYWOOD BARNEY

2nd Thomas's, SKIPEST WINTER BLUES. So much to like here. A well boned dog of good size and proportions. The cutest head, with dark almond shaped eyes, parallel head planes and good width of skull, flat between his well used ears. Neck laid well into shoulders, good ribbing extending well back. Tail set a little low which shows in his topline but carried beautifully, straight up and over his back and complete with feathering. Lost out on top spot on the move, needs time to reach his potential.

## Limit Dog (2)

1st McBride, UTTHANSHAVAN WOLF MOON MAN. A smart dog, presented in the best condition. He has a shorter, hard, flat topcoat which compliments his sound, muscular confirmation, complete with the richest tan and thumb prints too. Head clean cut and perfectly marked. Good reach of neck. Deep forechest, elbows firm against ribs, good length of forearm, slight turn at pasterns. Moved freely, with good reach and drive RBD

2nd Hayes&Thwaite's, RIBBLESPRIDE ESCOBAR

A happy dog, enjoying his time in the ring. Of good size and proportions. Fore and hind quarters not as strong as 1st. Moved well, holding his topline, tail wagging all the way. Open Dog (4,1)

1st Hayes&Thwaites, CH RIBBLESPRIDE CRAKEMOOR A super showman. Great to view from all angles. A handsome, matured head, with a mischievous expression. Great to go over, composed at all times. Under his dense, weatherproof coat he is well put together. Deep forchest, excellent ribbing extending well back into close couplings. A steady mover, parralel coming and going, most impressive in profile with his top line never faltering, tail set high and carried up and over his back on the move and standing BD RBIS 2nd Whiteman, MADINCROWD EDRED A dog I have admired from the ringside. A handsome boy, smart and well ballanced all round. Front confirmation not as strong as 1. Perfectly marked with the richest tan. A natural, brisk mover with a well defined outline.

Veteran Dog (3,1)

1st Lord, CH FOXTHYME BRADLEY A smart, compact, sturdy dog with the strongest of fronts standing and on the move. Perfectly marked with no exagerations. Firm topline and the best tail carriage giving him a perfect outline in profile. A smart mover when he got going, tail wagging all the way RBV 2nd Fairest, CH HENSON FAIREST LAD A big boned lad. Head planes all correct but a little wide in muzzle. Enough length of neck, deep forechest and very well ribbed. Top line faltering on and off but streched out when he moved. Strong well muscled rear with good angulations giving him power on the move. In excellent condition and not showing his years.

Puppy Bitch (2,1)

1st Manifold&Jones, LANKEELA TENNESSE FIRE A little rangey but at just 8 months she has lots of growing to do. Liked her outline in profile, good depth of chest, plenty of body. Lovely rich tan colouring. Needs time to find her confidence in a show environment BP Junior Bitch (4,2)

1st Lanford&Nichols, ARENITE VERSU Maturing beautifully at just over 12months. Such a pretty head, parralel planes, good length of skull to muzzle tapering neatly towards her nose. The darkest eye with neat well placed tan spots above her eyes. Neat, pricked well used ears. Good length of neck, well laid into shoulder. Elbows firm against ribs, good length of forearm, a little weak at pasterns but i expect this will improve as her chest develops. Love her neat tail carraige and feathering. Moved out well, with confidence and great attention to handler BJ

2nd Jordan, SWANNDALE JULIAS TREASURE Another youngster with lots to like. Pleasing head and dark eye. Well marked complete with thumb prints. Good size, with bone. Parrelel coming and going but a little long in hind angulations which knocks her topline off on the move. Well presented with great attention to handler.

Graduate Bitch (3,1)

1st Wiseman, FOXTHYME TILLY A petite bitch but not lacking bone. The prettiest of heads, proportions all correct and well defined. Perfect markings with the richest tan. Well balanced throughout. A smart mover with attitude. Parralel coming and going. Stands 4 square, so smart in profile, firm level topline, short neat tail carried over when standing and

moving. Would just like a little more of her.

2nd Manifold&Jones, LANKEELA COCO SHH NELL. Shiny liver coat with rich tan and good pigmentation. Pleasing front confirmation, with good ribbing. Hind angulations not the strongest. A sweet girl with a pretty head and expression. Post Graduate Bitch (1,1)

Limit Bitch (5,1)

1st Fairest, SKIPEST SUMMER BREEZE The most attractive, feminine head. Neat, alert ears set wide apart and used at all times. Dark eye, jet black shiny coat with rich tan colouring and perfectly placed tan spots. The best of forequarters, shoulders well laid, substantial forechest and ribbing, elbows firm against ribs, legs straight down into small tight feet- far reaching and perfectly parrelel coming. Firm, level top line held always. Short coupled into muscular rear quarters. Excellent turn of stifle and hocks well let down. Shes near perfect in profile when she relaxes her tail. A confident mover, loved her attitude.

2nd Davies, TAIGWYNION FREYA SADIE IN RONLEYDON Another bitch of good proportions. L&T short, flat topcoat of deep couloring, not showing any undercoat. Balanced head proportions with the most gentle expression and dark eye. Great to go over, so relaxed and in tune with her handler. A natural free mover, would perhaps benifit from a little less body to neaten her outline.

Open Bitch(3,1)

1st Jones, CH MADINCROWD MERCY CHANT
A substantial bitch presented in the best condition. Well
balanced throughout. She has a neat flat topcoat which
shows off her clean cut outline and the richest tan showing

no sign of fading at 6 years. A natural, free mover, at her best in profile on the move, head held high, tail well set and carried with good reach and drive.

2nd Thwait&Hayes, CH RIBBLESPRIDE LADYTRON A sturdy bitch of good size and proportions. She really stood out in her class for her smart brisk movement, not putting a foot wrong. The best of tail sets and carriage. Pref her low to ground movement and height in stance to 1 but her coat condition wasnt at its best today.

Veteran Bitch (3)

1st Lord, CH FOXTHYME TRUE COLOUR Gorgeous head of correct angulations, tapering neatly towards her nose. Wide, flat skull with well used ears, so feminine and defined, with a cheeky smile too. Perfectly marked with no exagerations in tan colouring. Good length of neck, correct forequarters with a substantial forechest, slight turn at pasterns but not too much. Ribs well sprung and extending back, perhaps a smidge long in loin... rear angulations perfect and tail carried up and over her back with a slight curve. A natural, free mover. Parrelel coming and going. Moved effortlessly around the ring giving her handler a job to keep up. It was her sparky attitude and effortless movement that got her BB BV & BIS 2nd Whiteman, CH MADINCROWD BATHSHEBA Another quality bitch with the most beautiful tapering head and that heeler typical expression that runs consistantly through the Madincrowd exhibits. On the larger scale of the bitches today, preferred hight of 1 but well balanced throughout and in excellent condition.