

IRISH SETTER BREED NOTES

W/C MONDAY 1ST MARCH 2021

I received this very sad email from Sue Clifford (Edwins):

Dear Christine, I just want to let you know that my husband Robert Clifford passed away yesterday in hospital in Exeter. He had been suffering for many years from chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL), compounded three times by Hodgkins Lymphoma, which caused his death. Having had CLL and survived for more than 30 years, he was considered to be something of a miracle! Robert and I had been married for just over 10 years. Although he didn't take an interest in the show scene, thinking it somewhat mad, he loved the dogs dearly. He would accompany me to shows, usually staying by the benches, hidden behind a newspaper! Nevertheless, I think he enjoyed the buzz, and was especially pleased if we came away with a card of some kind. I am especially grateful for the support I am receiving from so many friends, many of them from the dog show world.

Robert was always amused by terms like 'occipital protuberance' and 'return of upper arm', but I was expected to understand all the technicalities of steam engines! Kind regards, Sue.

The latest casualty on the show scene is Welsh Kennel Club where Jonathan Daltrey was to have given tickets for the second time. The Royal Welsh Showground is currently a Covid testing and vaccination centre and the current Welsh Government restrictions dictate that it is impossible to hold large events on the RWAS Showground this summer.

Those of you who have spoken to me over the past year will hear me shouting my mantra which I couldn't possibly put in print but hope springs eternal and there is now a big light at the end of this tunnel. I do so hope that I have shows to report on; I am scared of running out of MLM stories and with no shows to go to plus not seeing her anyway there are no new ones.

There is more good news from the Kennel Club:

"In its latest move designed to assist clubs and societies during the ongoing pandemic, The Kennel Club Board, following a recommendation from the Show Executive Committee, has agreed that any carry over of 2021 CCs by breed clubs to 2022 must be scheduled as a partnership show with the breed club either holding two championship shows on one day or one standalone championship show and the second championship show as a partnership event. In the case of the latter, the show must be held either with its own open show or preferably with a general or group championship show or another breed club."

I rarely write my own thoughts in my notes but I do hope Midlands Irish Setter Society and the clubs of Scotland and Wales take advantage of this.

In my notes of 15th February I mentioned Sh Ch Inisheer Flamingo being the sire of Sh Ch Laggan Uptown Girl.

The Laggan Irish Setters were owned and bred by Norma Marshall (now Wilson) who lived with her husband Bryan near West Linton in the Scottish Borders. She was by not a prolific breeder but her small kennel produced 5 Show Champions.

I believe her foundation bitch was Hallglen Celandine who was bred in May 1976 by Janice Sharp out of Russet of Hallglen by Sh Ch Allsquare Mickey Finn. In 1979 Celandine had her first litter to Sh Ch Wendover Colas and the Marshalls kept a dog and a bitch. The bitch was L. Star Shine who won one CC from Leslie Page at WKC in 1984. The RCC was won by Burfield Blue Bijou who went on to gain her title at Leicester two shows later.

The dog was Sh Ch L. Bryan's Boy the winner of 9 CCs and 13 RCCs. He picked up his first CC from Valerie Foss at Belfast ISC in 1984 when Wickensberry Clansman took the Reserve. Valerie also judged bitches and gave the ticket to Sh Ch Wickenberry Baroness and RCC to Rua's Golden Bough of Elessar.

The following year at Border Union he won his second CC from Cath McMurrish who awarded the RCC to Sh Ch Twoacres Gold Eagle. A second CC was also won by Myresden Gabrielle and Sh Ch Dunnygask Spirit of Spring took the Reserve.

Mary Gurney made Bryan's Boy up at Windsor later in the year and he went on to win a further five during the year. Mary's RCC went to Wickenberry Knight at Arms. Her co-judge was Bob Heron

who gave an only ever CC to Collorne Flamingo who had previously won a RCC from his wife Christine at Blackpool in 1983. Bob's RCC winner was Sh Ch Ryseford Lady Galadriel. Norma had a second litter from Celandine this time to Fetteresk Winter Legend (Sh Ch Twoacres Wayward Caesar X Fetteresk Tessar) in March 1982 and kept a bitch L. Janek's Jem. In 1984 Jem was put to Night Fever and Norma kept a bitch who was to become Sh Ch Laggan Macbie Lady. She won her first CC from Peter Edwards at SKC in 1989 and Caskey's Jezamy took the Reserve. Peter judged the dogs as well and made up Sh Ch Brayville Dynamic Diplomat; Sh Ch Reddins Justin of Stylersetts was Reserve. Pat Rhodes awarded Macbie Lady her second CC when she judged LKA at the end of the year. Sh Ch Shandwick Golden Spray took her 13th RCC. Gordon Williams was the judge for dogs and he made it a Reddins double with Sh Ch Reddins Ferdinand taking his 10th ticket and Sh Ch Reddins Fintan of Riqitta won his sixth RCC. Cath McMurrish made her up at East of England in 1990 and gave the RCC to Carnbargus Caleche. She won a further CC that year from Bob Heron at SEISC and her fifth and final CC from Aidine Howes at Belfast in 1992. Before winning her first CC Macbie Lady had had a litter to Bryan's Boy from which Norma kept a dog. Sh Ch Laggan Glen Ettrick won 3 CCs and 10 RCCs. His first was at Belfast ISC in 1989 from John Lambley who gave the RCC to Sh Ch Brayville Dynamic Delegate. In bitches John made up Sh Ch Ma Biche of Danaway and gave the Reserve to Brayville Demure Debutante. After this he won an astonishing 10 Reserve CCs before getting his second CC from Peter Edwards at City of Birmingham in 1993. Kirkavagh Fireboy of Fearnley won his second of two RCCs. Val Foss was Peter's co-judge and she a third CC to Sh Ch Kirkavagh Musidora and the RCC to Shenanagin Sugar and Spice. He had to wait until the following year to gain his crown which came from Linda Richardson at August SKC. Linda's RCC went to Sh Ch Shenanagin Stockbroker. Linda awarded the bitch CC to Sh Ch Reddins Myrna and a fourth RCC to Laggan Uptown Girl. Glen Ettrick's 10 RCCs were behind different dogs except for Sh Ch Barnaby of Wesbere at Cressway (3) and Sh Ch Marksway Marquis (2). In 1991 Norma had another litter from Macbie Lady, this time to Sh Ch Inisheer Flamingo. Sh Ch Laggan Uptown Girl was the winner of 4 CCs and 11 RCCs. Before picking up her first ticket in 1995 she had won 6 RCCs. Peter Edwards gave her her first at Paignton and the Reserve to Delsanto Roxanne. A year later at Paignton 1996 Marjorie Jarosz gave her her second and at Belfast in 1997 Jim McKenna made her up. Reserves to her on these occasions were Sh Ch Kirkavagh Zabara and Clachnahar Cocoa. Uptown Girl was put to Fetteresk Fair Legend who was a Glen Ettrick son and produced Sh Ch Laggan Shoshoni Maiden. Shona was owned and campaigned by Mona Hunter who is Norma's sister. She won her first ticket in 2000 at Blackpool from Brian Gurney; her second in 2001 from Terry Thorn at Driffield and he third in 2002 at Belfast ISC from Joan Northend. Reserves to her were Henaleas Flirting Around, Zymore Ruby Tuesday and Thendera Miss Selfridge. Brian judged the dogs as well at Blackpool and gave a second ticket to Bonhommie Vaguely Noble and the RCC to Sh Ch Clonageera Flamboyant at Starchelle. At Driffield Terry also judged the dogs and gave a first CC to Kirkavagh Fidalgo and a first Reserve CC to Cataluna Gee Whizz. Joan also did both sexes and gave the dog CC to Sh Ch Amberlight Firecracker and Reserve to Sh Ch Caspians Palmerston. Of course, Shona's place in history is secured through her daughter by Sh Ch Konakakela Zagar by Romarne, Sh Ch Braidmount Geisha Girl, who is the current bitch breed record holder with 31 CCs and 16 RCCs.

An MLM story from January 2018

MLM goes into the Puppy Group collecting ring and gets marked off as being present. She then sees someone she knows and moves chairs much to the annoyance of the steward who tries to mark her off again. Once again she moves; and again; and again.

Steward: Will you sit down and stay put!!

MLM does as she's told

but misses the chair.....

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