

IRISH SETTER BREED NOTES
W/C MONDAY 3RD AUGUST 2020

Last weekend should have given us the chance to show our Irish at Paignton, National Gundog and the Joint Irish Setter Clubs' Championship Show.

The Paignton judge for dogs should have been well known allrounder Keith Young (Pyngold). Keith's last appointment in Irish was at SKC in 2015 when he found his dog ticket winner in Sh Ch Gwendariff Whippersnapper JW, Reserve was Sh Ch Thendara Pot Noodle JW and in bitches the top awards went to Bardonhill Please Don't Tease Quensha JW and Corranroo Rainbow Kisses.

The bitch judge was to have been Fiona Heron-O'Brien (Caskeys) who last judged at Windsor in 2011. Her CC winners were Meadway Morrissey, Kerryfair Snow Fox JW, Reddins Esther of Blaysdel and Sh Ch Northamber Causin A Riot JW.

The JISC was to be held in conjunction with Paignton. The appointed judges were Sharon Littlechild (Ravensett) for dogs and Julie Humphreys (Henaleas) for bitches.

Sharon last judged Irish at Driffield in 2015 when her CC winners were Sh Ch Thendara Pot Noodle JW, Sh Ch & Ir Sh Ch Gwendariff Whippersnapper JW CW15, Avacet Snowbird and Sh Ch Bardonhill Please Don't Tease Quensha JW.

Julie last judged at ISCW in 2019 when she did the dogs only. Her CC winner was Riverbrue Altissimo At Aoibheanne JW and Reserve Lynwood Hocus Pocus at Settsoli.

National Gundog is a favourite show for many and is held in the beautiful setting of Three Counties Showground in the shadow of the Malvern Hills.

This show is special because the judges are chosen by ballot by the various Gundog Clubs that are affiliated with it. Each club/society nominates a judge for all of the gundog breeds, Varieties and BIS, and once collated, the voting papers go out to all of them. The club/societies' nominees have to be given six points. Their next choice is given five points and so on with sixth choice getting one point. Sometimes there are far more than six judges nominated for a breed and sometimes there might be only one or two.

The voting papers are sent back to the secretary for counting and the winners are usually notified at the beginning of March.

There is often criticism that the unsuccessful ones are not notified but it is the responsibility of the nominating Club/Societies to inform them, not the NGA secretary.

Jackie Willis (Jackwilins) was to do the dogs, her last appointment was at Driffield in 2017. On this occasion she awarded the Dog CC to Sh Ch & Ir Sh Ch Gwendariff Whippersnapper JW CW15 and the Reserve to Sh Ch Copper's War Of Roses; in bitches it was Sh Ch Gwendariff Coco Nut Cream and Riverbrue Gloriana.

The bitch judge was to have been Diane Cardwell (Casperosso) whose last appointment was at Belfast & District Irish Setter Club in 2016 when it was an all round Gwendariff day. Sh Ch & Ir Sh Ch Gwendariff Whippersnapper JW CW16 was the Dog CC winner, Gwendariff Nuts Aboutu Glenavna JW Reserve Dog CC, Bitch CC was Sh Ch/Ir Sh Ch Gwendariff Fizzy Pop JW and Reserve Gwendariff The Catz Whiskas JW.

The KC Journal for August is now available online. The judges listed are: Setter Pointer 2020, Katrina Hall, dogs (replacement); SKC May 2021, Eva Ciechonska; Border Union 2021, Michelle Kavanagh; SEISC 2021, Lynda Fauvrelle, Referee.

I am sorry that because of ill health Susan Loynd (Crimbledale) is unable to judge the dogs at Setter Pointer. Get well soon Sue.

It's also good to see that Eva's cancelled appointed for August SKC 2020 has been carried over.

In my notes for 20th July I mentioned Stella Baddeley (Cedrus) who, in partnership with Betty McMillan bred Sh Ch Cedrus Solitaire.

Stella, who sadly passed away in 2003, was the owner and exhibitor of several Irish Setters.

Her first ever Irish was bought as a pet from Eva Ciechonska. Aoibheanne's Hobsons Choice was out of Aoibheanne's Blossom by Hartsfell Don Giovanni and Stella showed him at local Open Shows. She had several BOBs with him and caught the 'showing bug'.

She bought Withersdale Simple Man in 1991 who was a Sh Ch Reddins Ferdinand son out of Withersdale Livia and bred by Chrissie Sones and Will Brown. He was mated to Copperswood Charlie Girl and so began the association with Betty McMillan.

Stella kept a dog from this mating, As You Like It at Cedrus, who won a CC from John Vant at Blackpool in 1998. The RDCC that day went to Intrepid and the BCC to Sh Ch Grayrigge Fionnuala and RBCC Sh Ch Delsanto Roxanne.

Eva remembers her excitedly ringing to tell her the great news.

Her second dog from Eva was in 1996 when she became the owner of Aoibheanne's Lovesong (Kirkavagh Volodyovski x Aoibheanne's Just The Ticket) who won a CC at Richmond in 1999 from Marion Sweeney, the RDCC went to Sh Ch Konakakela Zagar by Romarne. Jim McKenna was the bitch judge and he gave the CC to Sh Ch Fearnley Firesky at Glencarron and the RBCC to Sh Ch Romarne Rheanne.

Later that year he also won a RCC from Dinah Robertson at Midland Counties when Intrepid won his 65th CC.

Eva used him on A. Indiscreet and Stella had a dog from this litter, A. Mischief, who gained his Junior Warrant. When Eva had a litter from A. Lovesong's litter sister, A. Lovey Dovey, by Sh Ch Caspian's Intrepid, Stella took a dog, A. Personnage who also gained his JW. His littermates were Sh Ch A. Piaffe JW and Sh Ch A. Pappilon at Jacwilins JW.

Just before she passed away Stella had entered the dogs at Belfast Championship Show and it was her wish that the dogs should go.

Stella died before the show took place and so her daughter Fran and Eva went under Josie Baddeley (no relation) who had done very well for Mischief at Open Shows. It wasn't a very successful trip as Piaf showed like a slug and both dogs got VHC.

The girls went for walk to give the dogs some exercise before going back for the ferry but their car was stoned by some youths and in their hurry to get away, they ended up on the Falls Road.

They came to a standstill when the car in front of them stopped and the men inside got out and ran into a shop. No sooner had the men entered the shop than they came running back out chased by women with baseball bats!

They caught the last ferry home, slept in a layby on the M6 and Fran never went to a show again!

This reminded me of the time Liz Rose-Hay and I got lost in Belfast and we too ended up on the Falls Road where a British number plate sticks out like a sore thumb. We found our way out of the City and sped on our way.

Imagine my terror when a man leapt out from behind a bush and pointed a gun at us. As I screamed and screeched to a halt the man leaned in through the window and said 'Now, do you know what speed you were doing in this 30 mph zone?'

I cried with relief and the policeman let me off.....

Last week I asked you to 'bare' in mind my MLM story. Here's one from National Gundog.

We're at Three Counties Showground in the caravan where we're staying for NGA and where MLM is judging the Irish Red and White Setters.

The night before the show we've decided to stay in the judges' hotel and we have a lovely evening with her fellow judges.

The next morning, we get up bright an early and being the good friend that I am I make coffee and generally run round after her. After breakfast we go back to our room to get dressed to go. I make sure her shoes and clothes are all laid out ready to be put in whilst she goes in the bathroom.

Suddenly there's a scream and I run to the bathroom to see what's up.

MLM comes to the door with tears in her eyes

Me: OMG what's the matter?

MLM: I've put my Tena Lady in the wrong way round and given myself an instant Brazilian!

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