

Last Friday we should have been at Boston where Gail Griffin (Corriebran) was to have judged. Gail last judged at NGA in 2015 when she gave the Dog CC to Sh Ch Thendara Pot Noodle JW and the Reserve to Sh Ch Sutereseet Milky Way with Scarletti JW. Adrienne Callister judged the bitches and her CC winner was Sh Ch Bardonhill Please Don't Tease Quensha JW and Reserve Am. Ch Witchbrooke Clonageera Corot.

I believe her first ticket appointment was in 2001 when she judged both sexes at Manchester. The CC winners that day were Sh Ch Amberlight Firecracker, his 3rd, and Kirkavagh Khaydara, her 2nd. Reserves were Sh Ch Caspians Palmerston and Sh Ch Dunnygask Ginger Spice at Caskeys. In 2003 she judged the dogs at East of England and gave a second CC to Cedrus Solitaire and RCC to Sh Ch Kirkavagh Fidalgo.

Gail judged at EoE again in 2007 but this time the bitches and found her CC winner in Sh Ch Amberwave Spangle and Reserve was Sh Ch Kirkavagh Jumilla.

In 2010 she did dogs at ISAE; Sh Ch Scotslaw Detroit Spinner Bi Thendara was CC and Copper's Undercover at Lynwood was RCC. Joan Kniveton judged the bitches and gave the CC to Sh Ch Sametsuz A Taste of Honey and Reserve to Sh Ch Shenanagin Shooting Star.

In 1990 Gail won a RCC with Cokerford Galena of Corriebran who was a Sh Ch Corriecas Gideon daughter out of Corriebran Miss Havisham Of Cokerford. The show was ISAE and Mary Duncan (Tyndrum) was the judge who had awarded the CC to Sh Ch Clonageera Forget Me Not. Jim Smith judged the dogs and gave a 26th CC to Sh Ch Kerryfair Night Fever with the Reserve going to Barleydale Kalymnos.

C. Miss Haversham of C. was whelped in 1981 out of Corriebran Carisma by Sh Ch Jason Of Andana Of Clonageera. Carisma's dam was Caskeys Courvoisier and her sire was Tyndrum Brogue.

In 1973 Gail had had a dog from Mary, Tyndrum Napoleon who was by Norleigh Brandy out of Tyndrum Poppy. N. Brandy was owned by Gail's husband and he was by Mary's dog Redgame Brogue bred by Miss I L Edwards by Wistral Finnegan ex Joanna's Portia.

Mary Duncan took a bitch from the Jason/Carisma litter, C. Clara Barley At Tyndrum, with whom she won a RCC from Pat Rhodes at Windsor in 1987. Sh Ch Ryseford Lady Galadriel took the CC, her 14th. Brenda Levick was Pat's co-judge and she gave a second CC to Reddins Fintan of Riqitta and Reserve to Rishtte Tarango.

In 2011 Gail bought a bitch from Mary Gurney, Danaway Love Song For Corriebran, with whom she won her Junior Warrant and from whom she had a litter by Sh Ch Thendara Commitment JW. She was by Sh Ch Copper's Champagne On Ice At Aoiheanne (Imp Swe) J.W. ex Danaway Paloma. Mary Duncan was a great enthusiast and very much involved in the Irish Setter world. She was a founder member of the SEISC and instrumental in the creation of the Book of Champions. The foundations of her Tyndrum Irish were Joanma's and Sowerhill lines.

She first awarded CCs in the breed in 1977 where, at Welsh Kennel Club, she judged the bitches and gave the CC to Sh Ch Scotswood Fara, her 2nd, and the RCC to Sh Ch Joanma's Scampi. Patricia Gardiner-Swan was her co-judge and her CC winner was Sh Ch Sowerhill Storm with Sh Ch Wendover Colas Reserve.

The Caskeys Irish seem to have been particular favourites of Mary's with CCs going to Sh Ch C. Bo Jo, Sh Ch C. Blarney, Sh Ch Pollyanna of C., Sh Ch C. Pandora and Sh Ch C. Humming Bird.

She judged bitches at Crufts in 1998 and awarded the CC to Sh C Carnbargus Continuity and Reserve to Ruffetswood Ilona at Moriba. This was her only ever Green card; she was by Tyndrum Thaddeus out of Moriba Delphine Of Ruffetswood.

Her last appointments were in 2000. At WELKS she made up Caskeys Blarney and gave the RCC to Sandstream Rhodian Romeo and at Bournemouth she made up Sh Ch Barleydale Polyantha at Harreds and awarded an only ever RCC to Kirkavagh Valoris.

Biddy Evans judged the bitches at WELKS and she made up Sh Ch Wendover Rose of the Shires and gave a second RCC to Danaway Kentucky Rose. Andrew Begg judged the dogs at Bournemouth and he awarded a 74th CC to Sh Ch Caspians Intrepid and a first Green card, the RCC, to Kirkavagh Kalaglow.

Mary passed away on the 10th September 2014 and it is lovely to see that the SEISC schedules a class in her honour at their Championship Show; the Mary Duncan Memorial Open Stakes Dog or Bitch. I remember Pat Butler-Holley and Sh Ch Shandwick Golden Spray winning a RCC from Mary at the SEISC in 1986 and Pat being in total awe of her. Why? Because Pat thought a lady who lived in a castle had thought so highly of her girl. No Pat, Mary lived in the village of Corfe Castle in Dorset. In my last notes I told you about me and MLM going to lunch at the Kennel Club when she thought it was going to snow.

We had a great lunch and after leaving the Club house we went on to Shepherds Market to have yet more drinks. There was quite a crowd of us and we had great fun with the prizes that had come out of the Christmas crackers.

On the way home I remarked to MLM how good the prizes were.

MLM: Well mine wasn't because it wouldn't work

Me: Have you still got it?

MLM: Yes

Me: Let me look at it.

She hands it over

Me: What were you trying to do with it?

MLM: Well it's a whistle so what do you think I was doing with it?

Me: You'll never get a sound out of that love; it's a Sellotape dispenser

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