

Irish Setter Breed Notes  
W/C Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

How utterly devastating for us all that Bournemouth has been cancelled.

Gaye O'Connor was laid to rest last Friday and in these sad times we were not able to attend to say our goodbyes. Donations in her memory can be made to Nightingale Macmillan Unit general fund (fund 14001). Please make your cheque payable to: Derby Hospitals Charity (NMU 14001) and send to Janet Sanders, Charity Co-ordinator, Nightingale Macmillan Unit, Royal Derby Hospital, Uttoxeter Road, Derby, DE22 3NE.

Many of you will have seen my FB post from yesterday about the wonderful day I had attending a dog show; it felt so good. The Committee of Otley CS did a fantastic job organising the day and the force that is Tania Gardner made sure that everything was run in accordance with Covid guidelines. The day raised over £500 for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance Service. The entry had been capped at 90 and there were few absentees. Richard Bott did a grand job in judging them all and win or lose, everyone went home happy with their spirits lifted. A good example was set; with planning and forethought it can be done.

Back in July I was thrilled to receive the following email from Alister Watt. I found it very interesting and have saved it to publish after Darlington weekend.

"Hi Chris

I hope you, husband and dogs are all well.

Every week I look forward to your excellent online breed notes and reading today's, in particular the piece on Twoacres Triton, brought back memories of Darlington 1974 for a number of reasons.

Firstly, I was showing Sh Ch Cornevon Lovebird at the time in Open dog and the judge, Ernie Froggatt, pulled him out first. He then pulled out Twoacres Triton in second place. He looked at the heads of both dogs again and then stood back a few steps to weigh both boys up again. He then indicated to us to switch positions with Triton now in first spot. Again, Froggatt stood back a few paces and eventually asked for both dogs to move round the ring together. When they stopped, he then placed Lovebird back in top spot and Triton in second place. This is the only occasion in 50 years of exhibiting that I have experienced a double reversal by a judge. Lovebird won the CC that day with Triton winning the Res CC and as you know, he never did win that elusive 3rd. Had he done so, there would have been five Show Champions in the famous "T" litter. If my memory serves me correctly, Sh Ch Twoacres Wayward Caesar owned by Carolyn and Gordon Hogsflesh was placed third in a very strong Open Dog class.

Secondly, the bitch CC on the day was won by Lovebird's litter sister Sh Ch Cornevon Love Story, owned by Brian and Carol Clarkson from Essex. This was the only occasion that these litter mates did the double. Like me with my boy, Love Story was the Clarkson's first (and as far as I know only) show dog, so it was two beginners winning both CCs which is quite a rare occurrence

Thirdly, and really remarkably, this was the third time I had won under Ernie Froggatt with Lovebird although I had not entered under him. At all 3 of these shows (Galashiels Open Show, Blackpool Ch Show and Darlington Ch Show) he was the substitute judge, as the nominated judges were all unwell on the day of the show. Irish Setters at Darlington 1974 was due to be judged by none other than Jimmy James.

Chris, you may want to use this information when you are doing a bit about Darlington Championship show in September but only if you feel that it is appropriate. Darlington was always a favourite show of mine with the full show being staged on one day and we were all given a free copy of the local newspaper. Happy days indeed.

See you when the shows start again

Take Care

Alister”

Lovebird was the winner of 15 CCs and 10 RCCs. He was whelped in January 1971 by Janice Roberts out of her Sh Ch Cornevon Primrose by Sh Ch Cornevon Prince Charming. His first CC was from Elena Scott-Gentles at Dumfries in 1972, Reserve to him was Sh Ch Twoacres Troilus. The Bitch CC was his mother, her 17<sup>th</sup> and last CC, and Reserve was Trawicka Golden Ambition.

His second was at East of England in 1973 from M McGarry, Reserve, again, was Troilus. The Bitch CC went to Sh Ch Rickerscot Bridget Maguire (Sh Ch Scotswood Barabbas ex Rickerscot Clover) and RCC was Sh Ch Twoacres Teresa, brother to Troilus.

His crowning CC came shortly afterwards at Leicester from Brenda Howe, Reserve was Rifleman of Ronnetta. Greenglades Gaiety Girl took her only CC and R. Bridget Maguire was Reserve.

In 1974 Janice Roberts judged Crufts and made him her ticket winner and he went on to win another five during the year. He won 3 in 1975, 2 in 1976 and his 15<sup>th</sup> at Leeds 1977 from Bob Cleland.

C. Love Story won three CCs and three RCCs. Her first as mentioned above was from Ernie Froggatt, RCC was Wistavon Wanda. Her second was from Joan Anderson at Windsor in 1975 with Sh Ch Wendover Happy Go Lucky being Reserve. Esther Rickards judged the dogs and found her ticket winners in Sh Ch Barnsford Winston and Carnbargus Enterprise.

Barbara Birch gave her her third at East of England in 1975. Sh Ch Moval Bronze Model was Reserve. Wynjill Red Robin took his first of eight CCs that day and Sh Ch Wendover Colas won his first of 10 RCCs.

I can't see that she was ever bred from but Lovebird was the sire of 25 litters. Mated to Chetruda Chloe Of Coleraine he produced Sh Ch Chetruda Touch Of Class. Sh Ch Allsquare Mickey Finn was his son from Sh Ch Flame Of Allsquare. Linvid Gewdore Amber produced two Show Champions by him, Sh Ch Gewdore Morello and Sh Ch Gewdore Kala. Mated to Firemiss Of Fearnley he produced Sh Ch Firebracken Of Fearnley.

If you had been around in the 1970s you would never have forgotten the sight of Alister with his long hair, tank tops, flares and platform soles.

Our judge at Darlington was to have been Lynne Sketchley (Kerrimere) whose last appointment was at Border Union in 2015. Wynjill Well I Am JW was her CC winner with Forfarian I'm Sexy An I Know It JW taking the Reserve. Bitch CC was Sh Ch Sametsuz Call Girl JW and Sh Ch/Ir Sh Ch Gwendariff Fizzy Pop JW was Reserve.

Darlington is another show where an Irish Setter has never been Best in Show.

And finally a Little Mate story from 19 September 2016.

So, we get to Darlington champ show in plenty of time and collect our catalogue. We have a walk round, watch some breeds and go to the loo. Not long after I realise that our catalogue is missing and yes you've guessed it, MLM has left it in the loo. So we hurry back to look for it and because it is a warm sunny day she starts to take her coat off but it won't budge. I watch her struggling for a while until eventually she asks me to look at why it won't come off.

Me: You know this KC badge you're wearing?

MLM: Yes, I'm allowed to wear it at a show as long as I don't go in the ring with it on

ME: True but next time you wear it don't pin it through your blouse as well!

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