

IRISH SETTER BREED NOTES
W/C/ MONDAY 24TH MAY 2021

Colin Waddell has posted a lovely video on his web site. It is Crufts Irish Setter Photographic Memories and shows photos & a video of the last 20 Years of Crufts, BOB & CC Winners plus all BIS, RBIS & Group Winners from 1981. It can be found at www.irishsetter.org.uk.

The opening is like the cover of the Beatles' Sgt Pepper album cover! You'll spend hours spotting Irish Setter people; very cleverly done Colin.

Sh Ch Stephenshill Gamebird was owned and bred by Norman Morrish in March 1971 out of Duchess Of Bickenhall by Lenwyn Gamecock who was a Sh Ch Scotswood Barabbas son and a daughter of Marrona Marianne. He won 3 CCs, all in 1974, and 5 RCCs.

Peg Stokes (Marrona) started him on his winning ways by awarding him the RCC at Bournemouth in 1973 when Sh Ch Wendover Highlander took his 6th CC.

The following year Pat Rhodes was the judge at SCCA and gave him his first CC; Reserve was Timadon Kendel. At NGA Owen Jenkins judged the breed and gave him his second with Ballywestow Kelso taking the RCC. He was titled at LKA by Vi Banks who awarded the RCC to Sh Ch Cornevon Lovebird.

Of his 5 RCCs June Coates gave him 2; the first being at Paignton 1974 behind Timadon Kendel (his 2nd) and in 1976 at ISBC behind Joanma's Ranter (his 1st).

Gamebird was the sire of 13 litters including 3 Show Champions.

His mating to Sh Ch Sowerhill Red Colleen Of Kitewood in 1974 produced Sh Ch Sowerhill Storm bred by Olwen Hunt and owned by Mr J Baglow. Storm was the winner of 18 CCs and 9 RCCs between the years 1976 to 1980.

Storm's first CC was from Janice Roberts at SWKA with Wendover Colas winning the RCC. Norman Morrish gave him his second when Cornevon Westerhuy's Dream took his first RCC and Sybil Lennox made him up at ISAE with Barnsforde Windward at Simmerforde being awarded the RCC.

The mating was repeated in 1975 and Olwen kept a dog, S. Valentine, who won 1 RCC from Rita Bryden at Windsor in 1978. Sh Ch Brandy Royale of Wendover won his 4th CC.

Joan Anderson used him on Bridie Of Andana and a bitch from this mating, Purple Clover Of Andana, went on to produce Sh Ch Sorrel Of Andana Of Reddins and Sh Ch Spruce Of Andana.

Gamebird's place in Irish Setter history is secured by his mating to Sowerhill Samantha the dam of Sh Ch Sowerhill Sarah, who in turn was the dam of Sh Ch Sowerhill Sahib the father of Sh Ch Kerryfair Night Fever.

Norman mated Gamebird to Belle Star of Andana (who was Gamebird's daughter out of Deavilin Dreda Of Andana) and the result was Sally Foster's Sh Ch Stephenshill Shining Star. She won 5 CCs and 4 RCCs.

Pat Rhodes awarded her her first RCC at Leicester in 1985 behind Caskeys Pandora (her 2nd). At Pat's next appointment in 1986 at Border Union she gave Star her first CC with Sh Ch Disco Dancer of Danaway picking up the Reserve.

At WKC later that year Mary Tuite judged and gave her her 2nd in front of Delsanto Cassandra and then Barbara Birch made her up at ISCW when Moyna April at Bardonhill won her 2nd RCC.

She took a year off in 1987 to have a litter by Sh Ch Sowerhill Satyr Of Fearnley and came back in 1988 to win 2 more CCs from Val Wade and Barry Lincoln at Blackpool and ISAE respectively.

Barleydale Azuree and Ballywestow Dunette won the RCCs on these occasions.

From her mating to Satyr Sally kept a dog, Shanoah the Druid, who won 1 CC from Pat Rhodes in 1994 at SEISC; Sh Ch Loskeran Oleander was Reserve.

Breeding on from him, Sally's next Show Champion was his great grandson, S. Highly Delighted, who was by Sh Ch Autumnwood Prince Of Tides J.W. He won 3 CCs and 3 RCCs.

In 2003 at City of Birmingham Jeremy Bott gave him his first CC and a 2nd RCC to Dunnygask Juniper. Chrissie Sones awarded him his second at Darlington in 2004 with Sh Ch Shandwick Amethyst at

Ferndel taking the Reserve and Pat Rhodes made him up at NEEISC in 2004. Sh Ch Amberlight Firecracker won the RCC.

He won RCCs from Bidy Evans and Enid Hinslea and in 2009 at the age of 10 years old he was awarded the RCC by Richard Bott at Belfast ISC.

There were a number of Stud Book Number winners bred at Stephenshill not only in Irish but Gordon Setters too. Norman also bred and exhibited Pointers.

Now that we are coming out of lock down and have more freedom to visit people, I went to see MLM to trim the dogs and to synchronise our diaries.

Now you would think it a simple task to write things down under the day and date of planned events but the conversation went something like this:

Me: That date is a Monday

MLM: No it's not it's a Thursday

Me: It's Monday!

MLM: It's Thursday

Me (as I snatch it out of her hand): Let me look at your diary!

I examine it and it's a perfectly lovely hard backed week per view diary except that, according to it, every week begins on a Thursday, has Saturday and Sunday in the middle and ends on a Wednesday!!!

God give me strength but oh how I've missed her.

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