

RED AND WHITE STANDARD

Newsletter of the Irish Red and White Setter Club of Great Britain
For members at home and abroad

Issue 2015/2

Winter Edition



From the Chairman

After several years of editing many excellent publications of the Red and White Standard, Suzanne Humphries has decided to put away her pen and turn her attentions to her numerous other interests. The Club is indebted to Suzanne for all her hard work in producing so many good reads over the years. Alison, our hard working Secretary, has very kindly stepped into the breach and, with the help of the rest of the committee, produced this excellent edition of The Red and White Standard. I should like to thank both Suzanne for all her past work and Alison for making this copy possible. I don't think it is fair to expect Alison to continue producing this Newsletter on top of the many other duties she carries out so if there is anyone out there who would like to try their hand as Editor of the Newsletter we'd love to hear from you.

Throughout the past year the Club has put on a novice judging seminar which was well attended and enjoyed by all those that were there, together with three excellent shows and six informative training days. The working sub-committee worked very hard to ensure that their days were a success and we were lucky to have the services of some really experienced trainers. These days were held in different areas of the could and were well attended.

As you all know, in the past Susan Barry has produced our bi-annual year book and we are very fortunate that she has again agreed to produce the next book which is due for publication in early 2017. If anyone has any ideas for articles I am sure that she would be pleased to receive them. Also it might be an idea to get some really good photos taken of your dogs while in tiptop condition ready for your Kennel Review page.

Following the introduction last year of a Special Yearling class at Crufts we have been fortunate for this to be scheduled again for 2016. Would those that are planning on entering please make sure, where possible, that you support this class as it does rely on good support to enable it to be scheduled again in the future.

Finally, I should like to thank you for your support during the past year and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Shelagh Walton

Discover Dogs 2015



Julie & Mike Andrews took Linna & Cooper along to represent the breed at discover dogs. One of the most important "jobs" a dog can ever do is be a pet and a member of the family. This is their account of the day:

We have been to several country shows and popped in to visit some championship shows with our fabulous Irish Red and White Setters and they absolutely adore the fuss that people make of them, so when we were asked if we would like them to represent the breed at Discover Dogs we didn't take much persuading.

The whole experience was amazing. Our dogs were stroked, hugged, photographed, loved and tickled for four hours solid! They loved it. Being as they are professional pets and not show dogs this was a whole new experience for them, and like the troupers they are they rose to the occasion and not a grumble or whimper was heard.

The show is huge, with just about every dog breed being represented and loads of breeds I had never seen before. The atmosphere is full of laughter, woofs and the odd cheer as people enjoy the marvel-

lous shows of agility, dancing dogs and educational shows teaching children how to approach dogs safely.





There was even a dog show but with so much going on we completely missed it!

The police were there with loads of information about the life of a police dog and a whole bunch of the fluffiest, cutest pups ever. Quite a few rescue centres were well represented which was great to see as all dogs deserve a happy safe home.

Oh doggy retail therapy, there are loads and loads of stalls packed to the hilt with food, beds, leads, bags and all things doggy so be sure to take your wallet, as everything is just so tempting.

Over the course of the afternoon we were asked a few key questions, do they need lots of exercise? Do they shed? Are they good with children? This one was asked whilst their child was hanging off coopers neck! Do they eat a lot? Are they as thick as Red Setters? Which was a tad awkward as they were only next door! So nothing too taxing and a great chance to talk about our wonderful dogs with other dog lovers.

Would we do it again? Definitely!
Did we enjoy ourselves? Thoroughly!
Did the dogs have a ball? Most certainly!
Are we all kaput? Yep!

Well done to the kennel club for putting on such a people and dogs friendly event!

Most of all well done Cooper and Linna for being the most amazing ambassadors for their breed, they were both truly and utterly fantastic! Just as we knew they would be, as they are Irish Red and Whites after all.

Julie and Mike Andrews



Why not treat your four legged friends to some homemade treats this Christmas?

(many thanks to Diane Jones)

Polenta Biscuits with Liver Sausage (Makes about 40 biscuits)

- 250 ml (8 ½ fl oz) water
- 150g (5oz) polenta
- 150g (5oz) cornflower
- 100g (3 ½ oz) canned sweetcorn, drained
- 100g (3 ½ oz) coarse liver sausage
- 50g (2oz) lard
- 1 egg

Bring the water to the boil. Mix the polenta with the water and let it soak. When the polenta has cooled, mix with the remaining ingredients. Preheat the oven to 180 C (350F) Line a baking sheet with baking parchment. On a floured surface, roll out the dough to about 2cm (3/4 inch) thick and cut out circles With a biscuit cutter. Place these on the baking sheet and bake for 30 minutes. Turn off the heat and let the biscuits harden overnight in the oven. Store in a screw-topped glass jar or a biscuit tin.

Spinach Biscuits (Makes about 40 biscuits)

- 125g (4 1/2oz) frozen spinach
- 2 tbs grated Parmesan cheese
- 100g (3 ½ oz) all-purpose flour
- 100g (3 ½ oz) fine rolled oats
- Water and flour as required

Cook the spinach in a little water, then drain it thoroughly and puree in a blender. Mix the spinach puree with the remaining ingredients to make an easily shaped dough. If necessary, add a little water or flour. Preheat the oven to 180 C (350F) Line a baking sheet with baking parchment. Shape little portions of the dough with a spoon and place them on the baking sheet. Bake in the oven for about 30 minutes. Let the spinach biscuits cool on a wire tray and store in a biscuit tin.

The biscuits will keep for about two weeks. (With any luck!!)

Antiques Roadshow



I was promoting the P.A.T. Organisation of course and Ray was a magnet to the huge numbers of people attending the Roadshow. Fiona Bruce spotted Ray and wanted to say hello and so we had a chat and she told me she was a dog lover and that she had an

Irish Terrier.



Later on I asked if she would allow a photo to be taken of herself with Ray and she had no hesitation in giving him a cuddle and a Roadshow photographer took a few photos. Fiona asked me to let her know where these might be published and I have mentioned the Club's Newsletter plus, of course, the Pets As Therapy Newsletter and Facebook.

Pat Haddrell

Canicross and a half



Saturday, 31 October 2015 is a day that I will remember for a very long time, it was the day of mine and Jasper's (Roanjora Castelao JW) first half marathon! It was also only our second race, our first being a gentle 5km.

In our journey of canicross, I was convinced, along with a few others to enter a half marathon. The chosen race is part of the Trailscape Rail to Trail series, they are canicross friendly, muddy, boggy and fun trails. Just how muddy and boggy I was not prepared for! Our training led to many evenings spent finding time for a run. Jasper's fitness was just as important as mine, so he also had to build up gradually.

Running Canicross takes a lot more than just running on your own, you are constantly having to check the dog, watch for signs and know how much they can take. Dogs are so eager to please, they will push on though pain. I find myself constantly watching the dog, followed by a huge smile, for I am out in the countryside, running, with my best friend. I am sure the dogs are just as smug when we overtake someone too! They hold their heads high, step up a gear and just go past the fellow runners.

At the end of the race, I went to collect my finishers medal and goody bag, and as a lovely surprise, they also had one for the dog too! His very own medal and goody bag! Such a lovely touch, I will be entering more from Trailscape for sure!

From the moment Jasper got out the car, he had a lot of interest in him, people commenting on his looks, asking what he was, and even one person has decided she wants one! It's great to be able to promote the breed out doing something different.

It's fair to say, we are now addicted to this sport! I love it, the dogs love it, and Irish Red and White Setters just seem to be built for it, apart from the long, white coat! Although, I will never understand why he was eager to get back out the following day, when I could barely walk!



Roxanne McDonald

Every dog lovers worst nightmare!

To lose a dog under any circumstance is heart breaking but to have one go missing and not know what has happened is devastating.

On 22nd March 2013 Eamonn and I took the dogs out for their evening walk. Mabel was determined to come too even though she had a litter of pups of just 20 days old.

We let the dogs off in the usual field and they all went charging around with great joy, dashing here and there, thoroughly enjoying themselves. It was beginning to get dusk so we headed for home then Mabel set up a brace of pheasants who squawked and flew off, hotly pursued by Mabel and her sister Winifred. We called, whistled and shouted but like many R&W's they became conveniently deaf. I wasn't unduly worried as I thought Mabel would not want to be away from her babies for too long. I left Eamonn to catch the reprobates and went home— in the past when they had done 'a bunk' they had made their own way home.

An hour later Eamonn returned to get the car as there wasn't a sign of them anywhere. At 11pm he returned only to resume the search at dawn. At 8am I contacted all the authorities to report them missing. I told them that they were wearing collars with tags and were micro chipped. 'Very commendable,' said the dog warden, 'but if they have been stolen they will just be re-micro chipped.'

With many friends joining in the search for the dogs began. At 3.30pm I was returning home, when some friends came by and told me that the M42 had been closed due to: 'Animals on Carriageway.' I am sure you can appreciate how I felt, if it was my dogs, had there been an accident and if so how serious? It is bad enough to have your dogs run over but if there had been any human fatalities how would I live with that knowledge? When I got

home Eamonn was on the phone. A vet from Nuneaton had phoned to say that Mabel had been picked up off the M42 by the police & taken to their surgery. She had been scanned and her micro chip gave our details. The vet told us that Mabel had a broken leg but no other dog had been involved.



On arrival at the surgery we were met by a very distressed Mabel whose left front leg was swinging like a pendulum. The vet told us that it was severely broken in four places. She had been x-



rayed and thankfully had no internal injuries. However she had no hair on left hand side. The vet thought that she definitely not been hit by a car but had more than likely been thrown out of a vehicle moving at speed. By now Mabel was extremely distressed and as you can imagine full of milk. She was transferred to veterinary hospital in Coventry where on the Monday she underwent surgery to repair her broken

leg. Thank goodness for insurance!

Of Winifred we have never found a trace. We are convinced that someone took the dogs and got rid of Mabel— she would have been very vocal. Where Winifred is we do not know but just hope and pray who ever has her is kind to her but never a day goes by when we don't think of her.

Gaye O'Connor

BREAKING RECORDS?

Six training events in six months. Is that a record for the Club's working sub committee?

In all my years with the club and the breed I can't remember there being so much choice of training offered, both in terms of location and the levels of training. From beginners to well trained R&Ws quartering stubble fields, in the north and south of the country, we've seen it all.



Training this year was divided into two distinct types: working days for beginners and improvers and training days for owners and dogs with some experience of working or training. The former were informal sessions, introducing people to working and showing them exercises that could be practised at home; the latter covered

the more advanced exercises such as quartering and what to do when your dog finds birds.

Our aim was to attract five or six handlers and dogs to each session; more than that and everyone spends too much time waiting around. I'm glad to say that over the year we averaged that. Our final session in the Borders attracted seven handlers and nine dogs but luckily we had two trainers so everyone got their fair share of individual attention.

We started the year with a beginners' day in Gloucestershire with our own Fiona Chapman at the helm, followed by a day near Thirsk in North Yorkshire with Evie Johnstone as our trainer. August saw us at Ellenhall, Staffs, once again with Evie and our final working day was in October near Salisbury with Fiona.

Trevor Rigby was in charge of our first training session, in Suffolk, at the beginning of September. The day went well with six handlers and dogs put through their paces on land used for commercial shoots. Nick Ridley, a photographer and journalist, followed the group and made a photographic record of the day. We hope an article about our day will be published at some stage.

Our second training day was overseen by Colin and Julia Organ in Berwickshire with the dogs running up hill and down dale through huge stubble fields. The added challenge of running hares showed handlers and dogs one of the natural hazards encountered while working. I am pleased to say that all the R&Ws were well behaved! Colin is well versed in the ways of the R&W, having won a field trial last year handling Dalriach Neige.

We are very grateful to the kind landowners who trusted us to control our dogs while on their property. They weren't always sure what to expect - and neither were we! But we are proud to say that no dog or handler let us down. Our grateful thanks also go to all of our trainers who faced the challenges presented to them and worked hard to make sure everyone left the training in a positive frame of mind.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow WSC members for their hard work in pulling off such a challenging programme. How do we follow that?

Judi Whiting Secretary WSC

We all know that we put human traits on our dogs and most dogs are a damn sight nicer than people. This got me to thinking what my dogs would be like if they were human. Why not put your dog forward as a candidate. I know that if my dogs were human I would want them to be either a member of my family or one of my friends so go on submit your dog's profile.

Gaye O'Connor

If my dog were human!

'Caispern Polonius'



Name: William to his family & friends!

Siblings: 2nd of 5. 1 sister & 3 brothers

Religion: Church of England

Education: Repton followed Oxford University

Job: Financial Advisor working in the city of London

Marital status: definitely single

Car: Golf GTI

Hobbies: ski-ing, horse racing but only as a spectator and foreign travel.

Favourite book 'Catch 22'

Favourite film: Shawshank Redemption

Favourite group: The Smiths

Favourite record: White Christmas

Favourite food: a good steak accompanied by a really good bottle of red wine

Most amazing experience: scuba diving off the Barrier Reef

Best holiday: ski-ing in Colorado

Best night in: well chilled bottles of Chardonnay, nibbles & good company

Favourite time of the year: Winter but just as long as it snows

Hopes for the future: to travel more & be in 'The Times' Rich List

What others say: everyone's favourite person, very aware of his good looks but not conceited, kind & thoughtful, a good listener.

Junior Warrant Competition



The annual Junior Warrant competition began in 1998 and is specifically for Junior Warrant winners to compete against each other for the coveted title of 'The Kennel Club Junior Warrant Winner of the Year' award.

All dogs who are awarded their Junior Warrant in the qualifying period are eligible for the competition for that year. The competition starts with a series of qualifying heats across the country held at Open Shows. From these heats up to 5 dogs will progress through to the Semi Final to be held at Discover Dogs in London. The entry for the semi finals is then a first come, first served for 64 dogs who have qualified.

At Discover Dogs, the dogs are exhibited in the main ring in two groups simultaneously by two different judges and from this, the judges select 5 finalists each and these 10 go through to the finals at Crufts.

Jasper (Roanjora Castelao JW) was awarded his Junior Warrant in early 2015, making him eligible for this year's competition. As a local open show was hosting a qualifying heat, we thought it would be nice to see how he would do in competition against other Junior Warrant winners in the area. It became apparent quickly, that some people will travel great distance to attend these qualifiers to try to qualify. With this, I didn't expect anything, but was thrilled to find we were pulled out by judge, Mr P Carpenter! I feel honoured as Jasper was the only IRWS eligible for the competition this year and that he got pulled out in our first (and only) attempt. We believe Jasper is the first Irish Red and White Setter to qualify for the semi-finals.

They announce the judges on the day and draw which exhibit will go in which ring. The judges were Mr K Young and Mrs D A Kenis Pordham. We were drawn under Mrs Kenis Pordham.



All the dogs enter their ring together and then all but three leave the ring. At any one time, there are only three dogs in the ring and as one comes out, the next goes in. Rather different to your normal show!

There were some lovely dogs in the competition, and although Jasper did all we could ask, he wasn't in the top 5 for our judge. However, we came home with a goody bag, a lovely memory that we will treasure forever and, of course, we always take the best dog home! It was great to have lots of interest in the breed and comments on how lovely it is to see an Irish Red & White Setter in this type of competition. There were only a handful of vulnerable British & Irish Native breeds within the 64 entered dogs.

For the two IRWS who have gained their JWs this year, if you decide to try and qualify, we wish you all the luck.

Roxanne McDonald

From the Treasurer

I would like to thank everyone for their membership renewals earlier this year and also wish a warm welcome to the new members who have joined us.

If you can help me on three matters I would be really appreciative;

The first is that I have received a membership renewal from a Barclays Branch, sort code 20-34-60, but there is no name attached to the payment, if this could be you would you please get in touch with me – (01959 570669).

Secondly, I have received a standing order payment from initials S R on the 8th April. Again, this is all the information I have so if you think it is you please do let me know.

And lastly, I have received a standing order payment from O'Malley L W and I have no record of this name on our membership list, if anyone can help please let me know.

Unbelievably, the 1st of January is approaching quickly and it is time to send in your renewals again. Forms are available from the website and if you would like to pay by standing order this form is also available. Go to the website and click on THE CLUB, near the bottom of the page you will find boxes to click on for the forms.

Have a great Christmas and I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

Jim Cuddy

From the President

Firstly I would like to thank you for electing me as your President after the sad passing of Pauline Perriam who will be a very hard act to follow. I had the pleasure of working with Pauline for many years on various different committees for Irish Red and White Setters and also Stoke on Trent Gundog Club. She had a tremendous amount of knowledge on all things canine and the ability to deal with matters in her friendly down to earth manner. I will endeavour to do my very best for the Club and its Members and our wonderful breed.

As President I have been giving some thought to an event I could organise for the summer of 2016. The Club is over 30 years old and the dogs and breeders from the present revival go back a few years more. I would like us to capture that history with an event similar to 'An Audience With' question and answer format using a well know question master and inviting a panel of early breeders who laid the foundations for today. I am pleased to say Chris Bexon has agreed to work with me to facilitate the event as our question master. Most of you will know Chris, he is a well respected Gundog Group judge and a former Irish Red & White Club President who has followed our development and supported us over the past 35 years.

The revival of the Irish Red & White Setter starting in the 1970s, unlike previous attempts, has been a real success story and it would be good to celebrate it. I hope you think this would be both enjoyable and of interest to many and important for the breed to capture its history in Great Britain.

Please let me have your thoughts and ideas as I go into the planning stage. My Email address is mary@charnborough.co.uk. I would love to receive your comments in general and most importantly the questions will be down to you, so let me know what you want our question master to ask.

Mary Sherratt

Competing in Ireland



It's wonderful to see a confined stake for Irish Red & White Setters and it was a privilege to enter and run in this stake on 13th September, at the Wicklow Mountains National Park, by kind permission of Duchas Land Owners and run by the Irish Red & White Setter Club in Ireland. Judges were Mr C Davitt and Mr J O'Sullivan, both went about their task in a professional but friendly manner. We had arranged to meet Jim Sheridan and followed him to the meet; it was overcast but looked like we could start on time. What a sight it was as we waited for the draw, Irish Red & White Setter after Irish Red & White Setter turning up, 14 in total all fit and raring to go.

The much awaited draw was made and Tony and Connie were pulled out first, our brace mate was Des Linton's Craigrua Eoghan. We couldn't believe it having never run on the Irish terrain we were not to get a chance to see how any other dogs ran first! The long walk to the running ground began and having been at many a Field Trail in England and Scotland we can definitely say the going is challenging for humans and dogs in Ireland. The ground is wet, boggy and undulating; the dogs range a tremendous distance and run hard for much longer periods of time here.

We gathered for a photograph and then they were off, Connie did us proud, she didn't let the side down she quartered well and kept

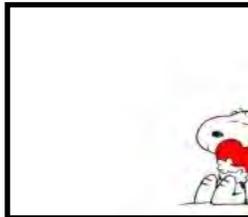
going, but alas there were no birds and eventually the next brace were called. Not long after the rain set in, real driving rain but it didn't deter either dog or handler. Only one dog was shot over as birds are quite scarce in Ireland but a good day was had by all.

It was a pleasure to see all their trialling dogs, some of which are shown as well, they are all certainly very fit to meet the demands of the ground.

The company was good and everyone was friendly and welcoming the trial was won by Raymond Monroe's, Rosie Jim who has done well in a number of Field Trials against all five Setter and Pointer breeds. Raymond was presented with 'The Irish Red and White Setter Silver Tray' and 'The Kastberg Silver Plate' for the best young dog was presented to Jim Sheridan's Craigrua Devin.

Mary & Tony Sherratt (Charnborough)

Can you name these dog characters?



Answers: From top left, clockwise: Dogtanian, Snoopy, Toto, Dougal, Gnasher, Wellard.

How the Dog got its name

When God made the Earth and Sky,
The Flowers and the Trees,
He then made all the animals
And all the birds and bees.

And when his work was finished
Not one was quite the same
He said " I'll walk this earth of mine
And give each a name".

And so he travelled land and sea
And everywhere he went
A little creature followed him
Until its strength was spent.

When all were named upon the Earth
And in the sky and sea,
The little creature said "Dear Lord,
There is not one left for me".

The father smiled and softly said,
"I've left you till the end,
I've turned my own name back to front
and called you Dog, my friend

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
OUR TWO AND FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS
with thanks to Diane Jones



Christmas Wishes

*Suzanne & Richard Humphries and all our
Spyefire kennelmates wish you a happy and peaceful
Christmas.*

May 2016 be a successful and happy time for all.

*Helen and Harvey Cohen and the Shushana Boys,
With all our very best wishes for Christmas and a
healthy
and successful New Year.*

*John and Mary Lipscombe would like to wish all their
friends in Irish Red & Whites a very Happy Christmas
and a successful New Year"*

*"Catherine & John Pettifer and Rupert would like to
wish all our friends a very Merry Christmas and a
happy, healthy and successful New Year"*

*Happy Christmas from Spain
To all our friends and fellow exhibitors
We will be home in time for the Club Show and Crufts
See you all then
Mary and Tony and the Charnborough Girls*

*Happy Christmas Greetings to all IRWS friends
Ann Millington*

