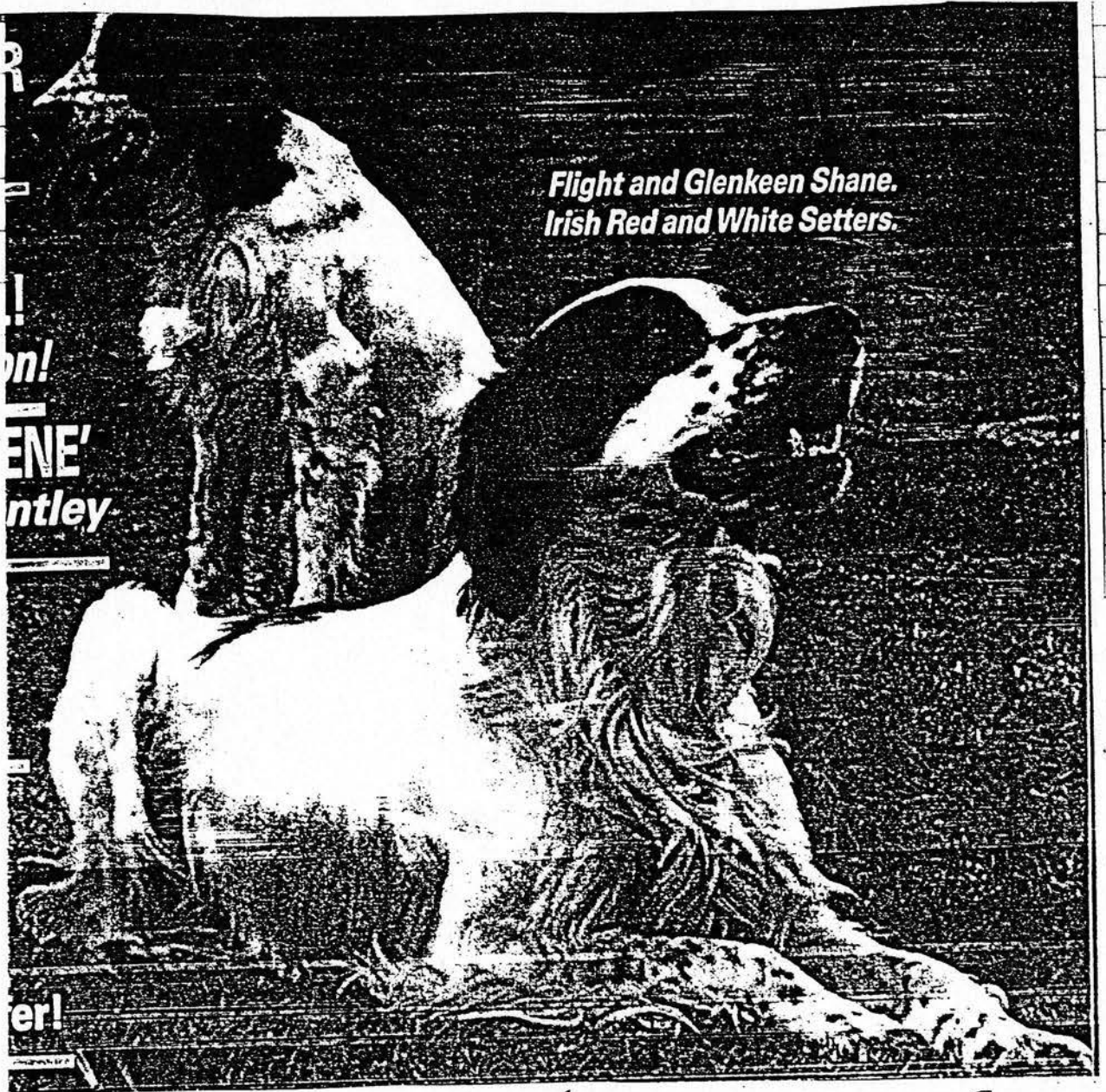


CHATTER



An Occasional Magazine for
devotees of the Irish Red and White Setter

Issue No: 10

January, 1986

As I write this ,I am looking out of the window at a miserable rain-swept wood, and wondering gloomily which is worst-wet winters, or cold ones. Endless wet days such as we have had mean its no fun exercising the dogs, and they get into a terrible mud-encrusted state. On the other hand, hard frosts make the walking easier, but the hose freezes up, and the runs become ice-rinks. In either case, the dogs don't care, so long as they get their walks. Dark evenings don't help either. Still we have only a few weeks left of winter, and then we enjoy not only the better weather, but all the nice things that go with the summer as well, such as the Show circuit.

The great news is tickets! I understand that the Kennel Club have announced that Challenge Certificates will be awarded in our breed in 1988.

No details are yet available, but it seems a good bet that those championship shows which have regularly put classes on for us will be the first ones to get the tickets. My guess would be Crufts, Birmingham, Leicester, Manchester, National Gundog (One show) and Setter and Pointer. Time will tell, but I am sure we are all looking forward to the interest tickets will provide. One spin off will be junior warrant points of course. Three points for a win when tickets are on offer, as against one point at the moment. Talking of Junior Warrants, I wrote last month of the success of Sandra and Jim Williamson's Eriska Wood Mellick. Soon afterwards his litter sister, Cindy Brigham's Luig Blue Moor Grass, also obtained her Junior Warrant. This was a great achievement for Cindy to breed two such winners in her first litter.

I am very sorry indeed to report that Gilbert Leighton-Boyce, well-known to nearly all our readers was taken seriously ill two weeks ago, and was taken to the National Hospital in London.

I have been in touch with Mrs. Leighton Boyce, and am pleased to be able to say that he is now making progress, albeit slow, and is now off the danger list. It is a little early to write to Gilbert yet, but I am sure that as soon as he is a little more recovered he will be glad to hear from his many friends.

He was due to judge our breed at Dorking Show on March 23rd, but I understand it is unlikely that he will be able to keep this appointment. He was looking forward I know to coming to the club show, and autographing copies of his new book for anyone who wanted him to do this.

The book, incidentally, is absolutely fascinating. It represents years of research into old books, records, pictures and other material. I know he visited many museums and libraries and the result is a marvellous history of setters. He covers the period from earliest times until about 1850. Isabel and I are

hoping to arrange copies of the book for sale at the club show. In addition to this, Isabel will have a copy of the book available at Crufts for people to look at, and will take orders on Gilbert's behalf.

I know that everybody will join with us in wishing Gilbert a speedy and full recovery, and we all look forward to seeing him around the shows later this year. We also send our sympathy to his family, who have had a very worrying time.

The Club Show.

Our show this year has a new venue in the Coventry area. This seems an excellent idea, as it is perhaps a more central location and will therefore suit more people. Again we have an excellent classification, and our judge will be Sybil Lennox, who has taken a great interest in the development of our breed. An innovation this year will be a junior handling class.

Points, Points, Points.

I wrote last month about the exciting and close competition for points during 1985. Elsewhere in the magazine you will find the full results, and an excellent summary by Sandy Williamson. The final result hung on what happened at LKA, and in the end it was all decided on a single point. The 1986 competition has already started. Let's hope we have another good and sporting competition.

The next Chatter will be published in Mid-summer. Material is always welcome, particularly from our Irish readers.

Co-Editors:

Pat Brigden,
Autumnwood House,
Markfield Road,
Caterham, Surrey

SPOTLIGHT

HARLEQUIN OF KNOCKALLA

Registered as Harlequin of Knockalla, called "Blaze" by everyone, he was born to be at the forefront of the revival of the Irish Red and White Setter.

To Alan and Ann Gormley, his proud owners he was and is a character, an ambassador to the heart, always dependable to put on the performance on the day. He still does as most of you will see on the 9th of February when he will be shown by young Sharon Gormley, who is only two years older than this great dog, who still acts more like a puppy than he did eight years ago.

He was born on the 4th April, 1977, bred by Mr and Mrs Cuddy in County Cork. He was to win many A.V.N.S.C. classes in Ireland before separate classification was provided. After that he won 14 B.O.B.s before Crufts in 1980.

Enter the cuckoo in the Nest.

He was entered in Rare Breeds (Open Dog), but someone in the Crufts administration office felt that this Irishman should have been entered as a Red setter, and changed the entry. This meant that he was benched with the reds, and in the middle of the front row. Many people still maintain that there were more pictures taken of Blaze that day than of the Best in Show Winner. From early morning until late in the evening, his bench was surrounded by people. All the neighbouring exhibitors were helping with the enquiries, and this was to lead to firm friendships among the fans whom Blaze acquired. He was shown in the variety class and came second, being reserve to an Otterhound. It was one of the tensest moments ever experienced by his owners. The great Leslie James (Wendover) took twenty minutes to finally make up his mind, going over the dogs three times. It was a great moment, which Alan and Ann will never forget.

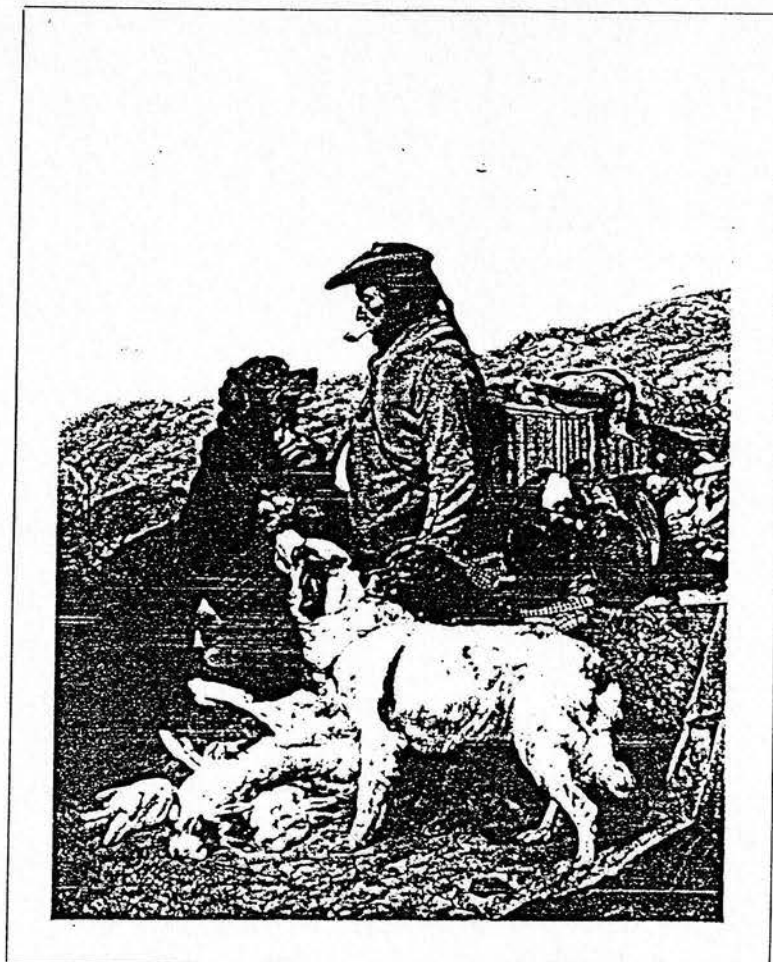
From being the rarest breed at Crufts in 1980 to this years show, where he is father, grandfather, and great grandfather to very many of the sixty dogs who will be there, Blaze has come from a lonely beginning to a happy ending—or is it? Blaze had been retired, only to come back and win his last two shows against much younger opposition. You are only as young as you feel, and Blaze thinks he is still a puppy, and CCs will be at Crufts in 1988.

Blaze has had his ups and downs. In 1979 he ran in a qualifier at Wilkenstown, and put up a creditable performance. Unfortunately the right papers were not completed at the time, and when the judges were asked to rectify this 14 months later, the judge could not remember the details, so Blaze was really unlucky not to have become the first full Irish Red and White Setter Champion. He will have a permanent memorial in his many progeny who have done so well, and he will appear in almost all our pedigrees long into the future.

As Ann says, he is to her, a dog in a million, a character, a much loved companion, and one to be proud of.

Editors Note: WE regret due to time, we have been unable to put Blaze's picture in this time. We will rectify this in the next issue.

A SURVEY OF EARLY SETTERS



GILBERT
LEIGHTON-BOYCE

This exceptional book, which must be the definitive work on the history of the setting dog, has many interesting references to pointers, retrievers and spaniels, and is not to be missed by anyone who enjoys books on gundogs. There are many fascinating plates, several in colour

The work is available from:
Mr. T. Leighton-Boyce
220, Leigham Court Road,
Streatham,
London, S W 20.

Price £14.50. post free.

Copies will be available at the Club Show
on March 2nd, 1986.

Calling All Juniors

IS ANYBODY OUT THERE????

Is Shelley Perriam the only one?

Come On!! Let's hear from you.

THE CLUB SHOW

We hope you will be at the Breed Open Show on March 2nd, because there will be TWO activities for you to join in. (That's besides holding dogs for MUM, or getting DAD a cup of tea)

1 A JUNIOR HANDLING CLASS

That's you handling any dog already entered in the show.

Entries taken on the day. Cost: 20 pence.

2 A JUNIOR CORNER

A quiet(?) spot for reading comics or books, or doing puzzles. A place where you can bring items of interest, or "Swaps" from your collection.

It needs you to bring anything you don't want, that somebody else might- but nothing expensive or precious!!

Then you can browse around and have a rest from dogs.

ALSO please bring some ideas in your head about the kind of thing you would like to see on your page of "CHATTER" We will have pencils, paper and a suggestion box.

See you at the show!! Here's mud on your wellies!
PINKIES Forever!!

(Red and White makes pink-"pinkies! get it?)
arf, arf, arf!

FRom; Ann Millington.

40 Elworth Road,
Sandbach,
Cheshire.
CW11 9HQ

Dear CHATTER,

At school recently we had to give a talk for our English lesson on a hobby, pets or a subject of our own choice. I chose to give my talk on my grandmother's dog. It is an Irish Red and White Setter bitch called "Fern" (Autumnwood Forget-Me-Not at Elaphill). The next day I had to take Fern to school.

As I entered the room everyone became silent. They did not know what type of dog she was. I started my talk by informing them that she was a Red and White Setter, a rare breed. She is two years old and has not long since had a litter of nine puppies.

Fern was very well behaved throughout the talk and afterwards I was asked a lot of questions, for example:-

1. How long have these setters been in England?
2. How many dogs has my grandmother got?
3. What do we feed them on?
4. What purpose are they bred for?
5. Where did they originate from?

Luckily I managed to answer all of these questions.

When I had finished my talk and all the questions had stopped being asked, I took Fern to my next lesson which was French. I was dreading this as I thought she might misbehave but instead she sat and watched the French filmstrip as though she understood it. She was quite content with watching this film until the French teacher said "My goodness, this dog is very intelligent, she even watches my filmstrip!". At this remark Fern stood up and turned her back on us all.

At the end of the lesson I took Fern down a large flight of stairs, half way down there was a large bang which frightened her so much that she would not move for about five minutes and when she did move, she charged down the stairs pushing all the other children out of the way and headed straight for the open door. When I finally managed to get her to stop I gave her a treat for being so good in the classroom. I was very pleased with her.

Yours faithfully,

SHELLEY PERRIAM (Setter Lover)
Age 13

POINTS

POINTS

POINTS

1985 POINTS COMPETITION RESULTS

1st. Best Dog. Best 3 yrs & Over.		
Knox's Coolfin Commanchie	59	points
2nd. Peacock's Shannonlee Majestic Flame.	58	"
3rd. Best Bitch.		
Williamson's Shannonlee Amber Sheen of Hawklawn.	49	"
4th. Rankin's Shannonlee Amber Light	20	"
5th equal. Joint Best Puppy (12 points).		
Brigham's Luing Blue Moor Grass	16	"
5th equal. Baron's Meudon Gay Princess	16	"
7th. Joint Best Puppy (12 points).		
Williamson's Eriska Wood Melick at Hawklawn	14	"
8th. Best 12 - 24 Months.		
Blackwell's Charnborough Contender	12	"
9th. Blackwell's Colleen of Charnborough	11	"
10th equal. Best 2 - 3 yrs.		
Brigden's Autumnwood Fine Fella	9	"
10th equal. Davies' Shannonlee Amber Flame	9	"
Joint Best 6 - 12 Months		
Downham's Arrowebrook Winner Take All to Kerock	3	"
Joint Best 6 - 12 Months		
Gomez's Coolfin Taaffeti Star	3	"
Hawklawn Progeny Salver for Best Stud Dog.		
Webb's Meudon Amber Glow	157	"
Charnborough Sheild for Best Brood Bitch.		
Webb's Boreen of Ardnagashel	79	"
Junior Warrant Winners (Confirmed by K.C.)		
Williamson's Eriska Wood Melick at Hawklawn	Cert No.	991/85
Brigham's Luing Blue Moor Grass	" "	1114/85

POINTS

POINTS

POINTS

FACTS & FIGURES FROM 1985

This last years competition has proved to be quite exciting with both Mary Knox's Coolfin Commachie and Pat & Dave Peacock's Shannonlee Majestic Flame running neck and neck for most of the year ... first one taking the lead, then the other.

Over the year Flame had the advantage at championship shows with six Best of Breed and one Best of Sex awards to Commachie's five B.O.B. and two B.O.S., Commachie however had the edge at open shows gaining sixteen B.O.B's to Flame's twelve. The final result ending with Coolfin Commachie being the overall winner by just one point.

Congratulations must go to all concerned on a well fought competition. My own Shannonlee Amber Sheen of Hawklawn finished in third place making her the Best Bitch with four B.O.B. and three B.O.S. at championship shows plus three B.O.B's from the few open shows she attended. Allen & Kath Rankin's Shannonlee Amber Light in fourth place was the only other dog to gain a B.O.B. win at championship level, winning two during the year.

A total of 27 dogs and 29 bitches making 56 in all, recorded points during 1985. As a matter of interest these were by 18 different sires from 30 different dams.

1986 Crufts should see even more Irish Red & Whites than last year. A record number of 50 (24 dogs and 26 bitches) have qualified, this does not include any which have gained their qualification under IKC rules.

1985 was for many of us quite hectic with 17 Championship Shows giving classes but at open level there was an astounding 91 shows. The geographical spread being :- Scotland 4 : Sheffield & North 22 : Midlands & East 41 : Wales 2 : Luton & South 22.

A few of these open shows had drawn very poor entries, the two main reasons being a clash of show dates, especially on one occasion where three shows were held within relatively close distance to each other and poor classification, many shows do not give puppy classes so consequently we have a number of youngsters who are out of novice well before 12 months of age. The shows that have suffered worst are those giving only novice & open classes, as many exhibitors will not enter puppies against the older mature dogs. Remember however If you want the classes maintained it is up to all exhibitors to support these shows whenever possible.

This years points competition is now underway, commencing with Dukeries Gundog on 12th January. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone GOOD LUCK FOR A HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL 1986.

Sandy Williamson.

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FIELD TRIALS - SPRING 1986

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The Field Trials for Setters & Pointers this year commence, as usual, in April, in East Anglia, dates and organising Clubs as below:-

Southern & Western	19th
English Setter Club	21st & 22nd
Southern Pointer Club	23rd & 24th
Kennel Club	25th & 26th

I do hope there will be a better representation of Red & Whites than has hitherto been the case. If you cannot run your own dogs then please do come to watch. It must be impossible to select breeding stock for this, a working breed if one remains unfamiliar with the physique and requirements of the working Setter. It is only by real attention to the points of good going working setters and breeding for same that will prevent our lovely type of Setter from going the way of all other native gundog breeds.

ICS January, 1986.

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE FOR THE DOG!

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE FOR THE DOG! It sounds daft, but nowadays with much increased interest in alternative forms of medicine, from Her Majesty the Queen, down, it is no surprise that there is a resurgence in alternative forms of treatment for animals.

There are still, of course, a good number in the Medical & Veterinary professions who 'pooh-pooh' the whole idea (in terms of pure science they may have a valid point) and who would have us believe that the success of any non-medical form of treatment is dependant in large measure upon one's belief in its eventual success rather than on its actual efficacy. In the matter of human treatment a given patient's mental attitude towards his sickness and treatment has proven to be a vital element. With dogs, however, mental attitude plays no discernible rôle in the treatment of either chronic or short-term ailments. There are many forms of alternative treatments being practised today but I propose to deal with my experience of just two - Osteopathy and Homeopathy. Homeopathy was developed in Germany some 200 years' ago and roughly depends upon administering miniscule quantities of naturally occurring substances, orally. As for Osteopathy, I should imagine it has existed in various forms since Man first dislocated a bone! For both forms of medicine it is important that one locates a good practitioner, the results of an unskilled 'bone-man' need little amplification. As for Homeopathy, although it is possible to obtain Homeopathic remedies from Health Food Stores I think it better, especially for novices such as ourselves, to work in conjunction with somebody qualified in this field - preferably with Medical or Veterinary qualifications too.

My first experience with the 'Bone-man' was some few months' after I'd purchased a mature dog, having seen him working on a number of occasions previously. Almost as soon as I took him over he succeeded in jumping out of the car window whilst still attached to stout collar and chain. Fortunately I was standing nearby so he was suspended for a tiny fraction of time. On top of this he was wantonly attacked by a Red Setter twice his size who clung like a limpet to my fellow's face. It took considerable effort to part them, though the Red & White was very much the innocent party. Since there was no serious damage evident I forgot about the two incidents. Gradually it dawned on me something was not right, the dog was slow when working, and his foot print pattern on the wet sand was certainly 'odd', as was his movement. I'm afraid I thought I'd just bought another 'dud' Red & White, though I was mystified since I had seen the dog working in Ireland, where he was certainly fast. Fortunately our 'Judge' for the week carefully examined the dog, and ordered a visit to the Bone-man, double Pronto!! The damage was one broken neck, 9 displaced vertebrae and a displaced pelvis - the cost? £2.00!! I think it says a lot for this dog's fortitude that over the weeks when he must have been feeling some discomfort he'd never, ever, snapped at a dog wishing to play, had done his damndest when out hunting, he'd withstood being bathed, groomed, and 'gone-over' by people with no consideration for his injuries; on this occasion and all other visits to Mr. Longford stood motionless and unquestioning for his treatment. (Perhaps that gives a clue to those who wonder why I'm so idiotic about this grand lad!) Am I convinced because I saw a kind, clever, man twiddling a few vertebrae? No! The dog was better, and the proof was in effortless speed at work and beautifully placed footprints along the beach. Since then a number of casualties have visited Mr. Longford, generally back injuries, but also post-whelping bitches with pelvic problems, as well as a seven week old Tristar that got squashed when a large slab of chip-board fell on him!

As really worthwhile alternatives to conventional Veterinary practise osteopathy goes, for me, hand in hand with my other 'life saver' - Homeopathy!

My first introduction to Homeopathy was Tridex. I tried this on a two year old dog which had suddenly discovered 'SEX' and at the same time become thoroughly nasty. In a panic I was going to put him down but the Vet.'s sense prevailed reminding me that he'd never given a moment's trouble previously, wherever he'd been. She suggested Tridex, within two weeks' he was a changed animal. His whole attitude toward his companions and even strangers met on his daily rampage on the dunes was altered. And he seemed a happier fellow as he trotted about the farm. Since then he's gone as an 'only dog' to a marvellous couple. They stopped his treatment long ago, and thus far there's been no back-sliding; although I'm sure a change of environment and a home of his own was the major factor in his improvement I'm equally sure that the Tridex did play its part

*** at Ringcraft

too.

Following our success with this dog I was not unreceptive the next time the Vet. suggested we try an homeopathic remedy rather than conventional, in this case hormone, treatment. This time the 'victim' was a bitch flowing with milk due to a false pregnancy. My first line of defence in these cases is to ignore it for a while, then try halving the feed and doubling the exercise, finally call in the vet.! By the time I called in the vet. the bitch had had milk for at least six weeks' and was beginning to look decidedly 'off'. The vet. gave me five tablets, and told me to check the bitch daily, ceasing treatment immediately she was dry. After two tablets not a drop of milk could be extracted! There were no side-effects bar one happy, healthy bitch!

Perhaps the most outstanding success I've had with homeopathic treatment is one that can be corroborated by Mrs. Sanford as she, too, has had a persistent non-eater, in both cases we resorted to homeopathy, and Hey presto!, one eating Setter. By non-eater I'm not talking about a dog which eats once or twice a week, in my case the wretched animal stopped eating at five and half months' of age, at the end of May, and did not resume eating on a regular basis until November. How she kept alive nobody knows - fresh air and water I suppose. By the time November came she was as thin as a rake and on two occasions the vet. suspected she was about to give up living. She had also been bitten by a snake - luckily there was no evident effect. In the end Cancer was suspected, but mercifully the X-rays showed nothing. We decided Pippy was a 'head-case' and, all other ideas having drawn a blank decided to administer an homeopathic remedy for the Snake bite (even though she had been bitten months' ago) in case there was some internal malfunction due to the venom, and also a sort of 'constitutional' specifically for Setter type dogs. It worked! Within twenty-four hours she took food, ate it, and where in the past months' one mouthful, if one was lucky, was her idea of a meal a day, finally she took a saucer of food. Gradually things built up till now she is putting on weight and eats well, every day!

Whilst I could perhaps be bludgeoned into admitting that Tindex and the dog's improved demeanour and Pippy's suddenly beginning to eat may both have been co-incidences, surely there cannot be a likewise cynical explanation for my bitch in milk? I'm convinced Homeopathic remedies can and do work. Properly administered at least they can do no harm. The remedies are generally cheaper than conventional medicines, and I find easier to administer - one just crushes the tiny tablets and place every last particle in the mouth, preferably under the tongue. Prohibit access to food and water for at least 30 mins. before and after giving the remedy. So that you can benefit from both conventional and homeopathic treatment I recommend that you find a Veterinary Surgeon qualified in both fields of treatment - or a good pharmacist, rather than picking up odds and ends from the local Health Food Store. There is a long established College of Homeopathic Medicine in Bristol and a number of books available to help and give a clear guide to the scope of ailments which can be aided by the use of these remedies. Obviously there are times when only the surgeons knife, modern drugs or that dreaded 'final resort' can help an ailing animal but I am certain that good stockmanship relying as it does essentially on good breeding and good management of stock with occasional resort to conventional Veterinary practice will increasingly include a clearer understanding and use of alternative forms of treatment, amongst which will be found Homeopathy and some form of Osteopathy.

ICS January, 1986.

CHANGE OF NAME

Due to my stupidity in contravening well known IKC rules the imported bitch PATRICIA IKC no. N 92139 and subsequently registered by me with the EKC as BOANRHU'S PATRICIA J0095196J06 has been re-registered with the EKC as PATRICIA with the same Registration no.

The bitch run in Trials as BAWNRHU'S IMPOSTER araf. has, owing to KC requirements had her name altered to SUPER SPOOF, I think! Anyhow, it's the same bitch, just as ugly, just as clever as ever before!

Both bitches are owned by me, I. Somerfield.

BRINGING UP BABY

I can hear you all saying to yourselves "Oh Lord, not another one trying to teach Grandmother how to suck eggs!" No, I do not intend to do that, other than to say again that you can only reap what you sow - in other words if you do not put good food with all the vitamins, calcium, oil etc. into your puppies (and their mother before their arrival), you cannot hope to get first class, strong and healthy puppies.

This, in fact, is a tale about Angel, the most misnamed puppy there ever was. Mind you, she looks like an angel and would convince anyone who did not know her, that indeed she was an absolute angel who could do no wrong. That is where her angelic qualities finish.

Angel and her brother arrived at Chez Boardman one sunny June afternoon. Both had been beautifully behaved all the way home in the car, in fact Angel had been asleep or it may have been a different story! However, they were safely installed in our newly scrubbed out puppy house with all mod cons en suite. The rest of our Horde (six Irish and two Gordons) were bristling from their heads to all 128 toes at this intrusion into their sanctuary and straining to get at the two pups. Various doors and windows had to be hastily shut and the neighbours must have thought that they had suddenly been moved next to the dog pound from all the din that they kicked up. (We were not helpful by adding to the din by yelling to try and quieten the Horde down.) By the way, the Horde all live indoors so there was no easy way of shutting them into their own kennels.

In actual fact a few days of peace and quiet reigned after the initial impact. The two pups were content to be together, snug and warm in their house and hardly ventured into their run. The Horde contented themselves with a lot of sniffing around; the two boys showed their utter contempt of the whole affair on the doorpost of the puppy house.

Then "She" started. Yap, yap, yap - yap, yap, yap!! I rushed out of the kitchen just in time to see brother Robin tearing the newspaper on the floor into confetti, it did not occur to me then to wonder how he could have made so much mess so quickly. So clear it up girl and do not make a fuss - pups will be pups. "You naughty boy" - tickle tum - lick, lick - "There's a love, be a good boy, look at your sister sitting on the bench being such a good girl!" Not 10 minutes later, a repeat performance! Clear it up again? Not so likely, if he wants newspapers ripped to shreds he can have it that way, think I!

So things progressed. Pups growing nicely but Angel starting to be difficult to get to eat her meals. Robin shovelled everything down the hatch, his and hers! I produced a bit of cold chicken that was left over from our dinner - please mark my words here - that was the biggest mistake of all! Madam loved the chicken, and had so much sense at 10 weeks old, that she then would not eat any ordinary meal at all after that unless some chicken had been produced and liberally spread on top of the other food.

Cont.

The "flood" was then a daily occurrence. Angel would yap, yap, yap again, and there would be water all over the puppy house floor, the torn up newspaper swinging gaily on the tide, and Robin with the emptied water bowl in his mouth; Angel again sitting on the bench in the dry saying "Look what he has done now!".

By now, of course, these two babes were getting much bigger and stronger so the day came when we thought we might try introducing them to the Horde. We started off with Honey, my young Irish bitch as she badly wanted babies herself and we thought that these two might just fit the bill. Ha, Ha!! So we thought!! Robin came waddling out of the puppy house all of a wiggle and promptly surrendered, all four legs in the air, and was duly inspected by Honey and passed as harmless. Not so, Angel. She had been watching this performance, looking her usual angelic self, but when her turn for inspection came, would she submit? Not so likely! She leapt to her feet, jumped round Honey's head, over her back, between her legs and grabbed her tail. Poor Honey, she was slightly annoyed at this ruffling of her dignity and promptly dealt with the upstart which necessitated quick action on our part to prevent murder. End of experiment No. 1.

Now it was only a day or so after this that the pups were in their run enjoying the sunshine (if you remember it was mostly raining this last summer) and I was "grotting" the main run, when I stood and just watched what was going on. They did not know that I was there - I could hardly believe my eyes! Angel was busily trying to reduce their bed blanket into shreds and Robin was doing a spot of sunbathing. She started to yap, which woke Robin up and he, silly little fool, immediately went to join in this game of ripping things up while she, still yapping, jumped up on to the bench and sat there looking innocent! Of course, I realised then, that this is what had been happening all the time, she would do something naughty, get him involved and then would tell the world what a bad boy Robin was! After that I caught her scratching all the water out of the water bowl, chewing the box, tearing anything and everything that would tear and all the time looking so beautiful that she defied you to be cross with her. At least Robin did not get all the blame any more.

At this stage we decided to try introduction experiment No. 2 and thought to try Donna, our Gordon lady, who had had her own pups the previous year. We hoped that she might remember that pups were not dinner on four feet! To our delight all went well, with Robin on his back again and this time Angel thought that she had better not try it on again so she copied him.

Success going to our heads, we brought Rufus, our Irish boy, to be introduced. Now Rufus does a very good imitation of a croquet hoop when he meets puppies, he really does not like them getting personal. Robin, now getting too bold for words, comes bounding up to Rufus's face and very promptly gets put down, not nastily but quite firmly. All the time Angel is watching, just sitting with her head slightly turned on one side, as much as

Cont.

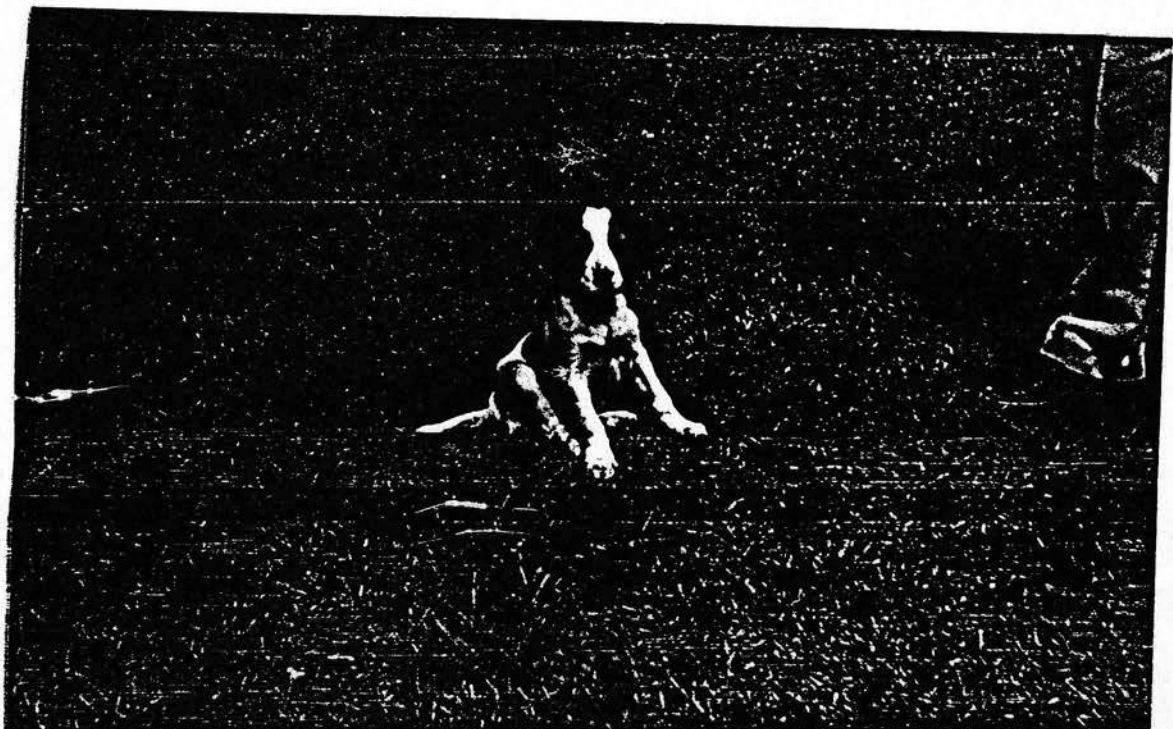
to say, "I am a girl, big boy, come and say hello!" Well, Rufus can never resist a female - size, colour or shape does not matter! He pads over to Angel and forgets that she is a puppy - he thinks she is wonderful! She could do anything to him, lick his nose, pull his ears, jump all over him, if only she would let him lick her. I was not sure how long he would be content with just licking, so we ended experiment No. 2.

At 4 months old lead training started seriously and surprisingly, successfully. We also had a look at ringcraft - that was a little more hilarious. However, most of the mischief had now stopped. It was almost as though that once we had rumbled her little game and she was getting her share of the scoldings that it was not amusing any more. Angel was a very intelligent little girl. Of course, the two pups were also allowed out with the Horde a bit now and that made them nice and tired, so perhaps it was just a combination of circumstances that made life take a quieter turn.

The one big thing to the pups credit was that they "house trained" almost without any conscious effort on our part. Whether they are more intelligent than a lot of breeds, or whether they were just copying what the Horde did, I do not know, but whatever it was they grew up and integrated more easily than any other pups we have had.

At 5 months the day dawned and Angel had to return home to her Mum, her tour of duty as companion to Robin was finished, but we shall always remember her with amusement and great affection.

Margaret Boardman



PROPOSED NEW CLUB

U NITED

S ETTER

A SSOCIATION.

It is proposed to hold an OPEN MEETING on Thursday, February 13th, 1986 at the Moat House Hotel, Southern Way, Harlow, Essex, commencing at 8.00 pm to discuss the viability of starting a club for the Setter Breeds - English, Irish, Gordon and Irish Red and White, and to ascertain support for such a club.

A group of experienced Setter people have been having informal discussions with a view to considering forming a club, now may well be the time for this venture to start as there is a great generation of interest in the four Setter Breeds in the area.

The proposed New Club would aim to hold shows, making every effort to avoid clashes with Breeds Club's dates and General Canine Societies in our area of operation, who put on classes for the Setter Breeds.

We wish to encourage and promote joint interest in the four varieties whilst seeking to safeguard the interests of the Setter Breeds.

Please Come and Support Us.

Directions

The Moat House is situated on the A414 Hatfield to Chelmsford Road, It is one mile from Junction 7 of the M11. (M11 - M25 links with dual carriageway to M1-North, M11 - M25 via Dartford Tunnel - south.)

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FOUNDER MEMBER?

Founder Membership will be available from now until the end of February, 1986.

FOUNDER MEMBERSHIP FEE.....£4.00. per person.

Founder Membership Fees and/or requests for further information to:-

Acting Secretary :- Mrs M Hurl. 87 Galleywood Road, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 8DN.

Tel (0245) 72229

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PUPPIES

PUPPIES due 10th March, 1986.

Fingers are crossed, Mr. P. J. Keenan's bitch, Danusa, (dam of Glenkeen Shane) has been mated to Mr. Sean Walsh's FT dog, Ben of Sugarloaf, who, I think has also been exhibited. As usual FT/Show puppies are hoped for, though it's too early to tell whether the bitch is pregnant. Danusa is a double grand-daughter of Int. FT Ch Patricia of Killone, and this is her final litter.