



CHATTER

An occasional magazine for
devotees of the
Irish Red and White

SETTER



Issue No. 3

JANUARY 1984

At last the days are drawing out. I find December a ~~difficult~~ month. With its short daylight hours, there is little time for exercising and cleaning up, but now we can look forward to better weather. Down here in the soft folds of the Surrey Hills, we have had a mild winter unlike our poor friends in Scotland. But it has been very wet and if anyone asked me which of my possessions I could least do without I should reply immediately "my wellingtons!".

I have been wondering how people with dogs are managing in the North. Some cut-off from supplies, and without electricity, it must be a nightmare. Lets hope "Spring's not far behind".

Congratulations

I hear Becky Gilbert is Junior Handler of the Year. What a marvellous achievement. Well done Becky. I am sure you will go on to greater things.

And while we are in a congratulating mood, a certain recent arrival is very interesting. Judy Garland used to sing a song about Show Business that started "I was born in a trunk in ~~Saratoga~~ (was it Saratoga?). Well, little Marissa Sanford managed to get safely born inbetween dog shows. Her mum, Jill Sanford must be the keenest supporter of our fancy in the Country. Jill was showing her dogs at Coulsdon on January the 3rd. Marissa weighed in at 7 lb. on January the 9th, and believe it or not, both Jill and Marissa were at the South of England Irish Setter Show on the 22nd. Marissa slept happily all day and was much admired by all and sundry. Congratulations Jill.

Not so good news

Our sympathy goes to Mr. & Mrs. Goldsborough and to Rebecca Gilbert, both of whom have recently lost their adult dogs. It is always an awful blow to lose loved dogs, but so much worse when they are young.

Critiques

I am indebted to Mr. Flye and to Pauline Perriam for show critiques to publish. Any others will be gratefully received as they make interesting reading. Mr. Flye judged at Tralee in August 1983.

The numbers of copies of "Chatter" now required by avid readers is causing us some embarrassment. If anyone has access to a duplicator and could help, this would be much appreciated. Until that happens we cannot take on any new subscribers, so please pass your copy on to anyone new who is interested.

Cont.

New Puppies

Whose got a new puppy to show this season? Quite a lot of you I suspect. All these litter pups, carrying our hopes for the future, are now being fed, watched, trained and generally doted on.

There should be some really interesting puppy classes this Summer. I believe there will be litters out from Yvonne Davis, Paul and Lesley Conway, Sandy Williamson, Ellie White, Jill Sanford, Mary Knox, Isabel Somerfield and me! I am sorry if I missed anyone.

Anyway it looks as if we are all going to have to work hard to get the Crufts qualifier this Summer.

New Club

Maurice Webb informs me:-

"The Kennel Club have now approved the formation of the Irish Red and White Setter Club".

It is intended to hold an inaugural meeting on the ¹⁸th March at Binley Woods, near Coventry.

The meeting will commence with the election of a Chairman for that meeting. The members will then approve a set of rules based on the Kennel Club guidelines which will be available at the meeting.

An election of officers and committee will follow.

It is hoped that this part of the meeting will soon be over. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. Contributions for the buffet will be appreciated (i.e. sandwiches, cakes, sausage rolls etc.).

After lunch there will be a general, informal discussion on any topics of interest. Some of these:-

Hopes for the future
Views on Judging Lists
Future events i.e. possible Rally
Links with Irish Club

More details from Maurice Webb on Dethick 408.

Irish Red & White Setter Field & Show Society.

As most of you will be aware most of the Breed Associations and Clubs have been involved in re-writing, to a standardised form, their Breed Standards. The Irish Red & White Setter Field & Show Society has similarly been involved and much hard work has been put in by both the past Committee which served up until September, 1983 and the present Committee. The intention was to produce a standard which would have been accurate 50 years ago and hopefully will stand the test of time. There was no requirement to alter the ethos of the interim Breed Standard, and considerable attention was paid to those who had known this type of Irish Setter for decades and who until 1978 or so were almost solely responsible for the survival of the Irish Red & White Setter. Mr. Tom Creamer kindly attended the October Committee meeting and assisted in selection of internationally understandable and acceptable phraseology. On 22nd January, 1984, a final Committee Meeting was held and the following Standard was finally accepted after considerable very thoughtful discussion. This version of the Breed Standard has now been sent to the Irish Kennel Club and will appear in Mr. Tom Creamer's Book and will form part of the IKC's submission to the World Congress of Canine Institutes.

Breed Standard for the Irish Red & White Setter
Finalised 22nd January, 1984.

The Irish Red & White Setter is bred primarily for the field. The standard as set out hereunder must be interpreted chiefly from this point of view and all Judges at Bench Shows must be encouraged to judge the exhibits chiefly from the working standpoint.

- GENERAL APPEARANCE : Strong and powerful, well balanced and proportioned without lumber - athletic rather than racy.
- CHARACTERISTICS : Aristocratic, keen and intelligent.
- TEMPERAMENT : Displays a kindly, friendly attitude behind which should be discernible determination, courage and high spirit.
- HEAD & SKULL : Broad in proportion to the body, with a good stop, muzzle square. Skull domed without showing occipital protuberance as in the Irish Red Setter.
- EYES : Dark hazel or dark brown; round with slight prominence and showing no haw.
- EARS : Set level with the eyes, and well back, lying close to the head.
- MOUTH : Jaws of equal or nearly equal length, scissors bite.
- NECK : Moderately long, very muscular, but not too thick, slightly arched, free from all tendency to throatiness.
- FOREQUARTERS : Shoulders well laid back; elbows free, turning neither in nor out; forelegs straight and sinewy, well boned.
- BODY : Strong and muscular, with deep chest and well rounded ribs. The back to be very muscular and powerful.

/ ...

Breed Standard (cont.)

- HINDQUARTERS** : Wide & powerful; the hind legs from hip to hock should be long and muscular; from hock to heel of moderate length; the stifle and hock joints angulated and not inclined either in or out.
- LEGS** : Strong bone, well muscled and sinewy.
- FEET** : Pastern should be sloping slightly into round, close-knit feet with plenty of feathering between the toes.
- TAIL** : Moderate length, strong at the root, tapering to a fine point. Well feathered, with no appearance of ropiness, and carried level with or below the back.
- GAIT** : At the trot gait long striding, very lively, graceful and efficient. Head held high, hindquarters drive smoothly and with great power. Forelegs reach well ahead and yet remain low. Seen from front or rear forelegs and hindlegs below the hock joint moving perpendicular to the ground with some tendency toward a single track as speed increases, crossing or weaving of legs, front or back, very objectionable.
- COAT** : On head, front of legs and tips of ears, short and fine; on other parts of the body and legs moderate length, flat and free from curl but slight wave permissible. Feather on upper portion of ears long and silky; on back of fore and hind legs long and fine; fair amount of hair on belly, forming fringe, which may extend onto chest and throat. All feathering straight and flat.
- COLOUR** : Base colour white with solid red patches (clear islands of colour) both colours should show the maximum of life and bloom; flecking permitted around the face and feet and up the foreleg as far as the elbow and up the hindleg as far as the hock. Roaning, flecking and mottling on any other part of the body is most objectionable and is to be heavily penalized.
- SIZE** : Desirable height at withers : DOGS 25½" - 27"
BITCHES 23½ - 25"
- FAULT** ANY DEPARTURE FROM THE FOREGOING STANDARD SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A FAULT AND THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE FAULT SHOULD BE IN EXACT PROPORTION TO ITS DEGREE.

NOTE: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

SIGNED: Brian Mac Diarmada
Honorary Secretary,
The Irish Red & White Setter Field & Show Society
Season Park, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow. Eire.
Telephone : 01 819 389
(01 should be preceded by 00 when calling from UK.)

IRISH RED AND WHITE SETTERS
COULSDON CANINE CLUB - 2ND JANUARY 1984
JUDGE: PAULINE PERRIAM

I thought it might be nice to extend the usual critique that a judge is able to write normally for the dog press and add my comments for the rest of the exhibits.

I feel it was a privilege to judge the Red and Whites. Thank you to the exhibitors for waiting in the cold. We did manage to finish just as the rain came down. How nice it was to judge in such a friendly sporting atmosphere.

NOVICE (5)

1st Simpsons SHANNONLEE STONECHAT

I have watched this dog develop with interest over the past few months and as I commented in the dog press, I will not elaborate. The owners know what I feel about his colour and have taken my comments very sportingly.

2nd Somerfields BAWNRHU PRINCE OF DUBLIN

This is another dog I was pleased to see today. When I saw him as a puppy I was not quite sure that he would make the grade even though his colour was good.

3rd Jettons ARROWEBROOK EAMON AT CLADAMA

I saw this young dog at Bellevue National Gundog and liked him. Well constructed and attractive with it. Since then he has quite a lot of red spotting coming through his very white coat. I just hope some of it will cover with his adult coat. Needs to settle on the move.

4th Peacocks CHARDINE CORA

Such a baby. Six months and one day. She did her best and very well. Nicely constructed. I hope the red on her ears darkens.

GRADUATE (6)

1st Repeat of Novice

2nd Peacocks SHANNONLEE MEADOW PIPIT

Litter sister to 1st. My comments in the dog press apply. Glad to see for her owner she will now be handled. Very pleasing bitch.

3rd Repeat PRINCE OF DUBLIN

4th Brooks JUDIES BOY OF FEEBROOK

This young dog has everything, just too much of it though. Hope he slims down and grows up a bit too. His owner is very sporting and we had a good laugh after judging about his efforts at moving today.

Cont.

OPEN (6)

1st Peacocks SHANNONLEE MAJESTIC FLAME

Comments in the dog press apply.

2nd GLENKEEN SHANE

Comments in the dog press apply. This dog is in far better condition than when I first saw him 18 months ago. He looks far more relaxed and happy.

3rd Sanfords SANCRISS GOLDEN CASCADE OF ERRINIS

How very sporting of her owner to come today, her own baby being due shortly. This bitch recently had a litter so she was out of coat today. That litter has really done her some good. Sweet bitch, nicely put together. Would prefer her less spotty.

4th Brooks COOLFIN COUNTESS

A well made bitch, messed about on the move. Would like to see the red on her foreface broken with more white and a slightly better colour all through.

5th Jettons CHARNBOROUGH CHANTILLY AT CLADAMA

Same comments apply as to the previous bitch. I think her red is too dark and too much of it, giving her an untypical overall appearance.

I hope the exhibitors will take these comments in the way which they are given.

IRISH RED AND WHITE SETTERS

A grand entry of 29 in three classes with only three absent. Quite a difference from when I first awarded "Green Stars" in 1977 when the entry was only three, all shown by the doyenne and possibly the custodian of the breed, Mrs. Cuddy, who was at the ringside enjoying seeing the breed turn up in such numbers. I would like to thank the exhibitors who afforded me this lovely entry and accepted my placings with applause.

Novice Dog or Bitch (9)

1st and Reserve: Green Star - Knoxs COOLFIN COMMANCHIE

Strong upstanding dog who stood out in this class. Head of good proportion, eye of good colour. Expression was good, muscular neck running into well laid shoulders, body was strong and deep, quarters strong and muscular. Moved with style and drive. Colour was good and presentation was immaculate.

2nd: O'Donohues WINNOWER GUILLIMONT

A well conditioned dog shown in good bloom, not quite the presence of the above but for all that showing breed, type and quality. Moved freely and soundly.

3rd: Blackwells RUSHFIELD RYAN OF CHARNBOROUGH

A young dog who will, with ring training, make his presence felt in the future. Shown in first class condition, coat of good colour and bloom. Moved freely.

Reserve: Kaulbacks BROADSWORD OF ARDNAGASHEL

Graduate Dog or Bitch (10)

1st: Kaulbacks BENSON OF ARDNAGASHEL

Lovely head, eye and expression, excellent neck and shoulders. A shade more body weight would please, quarters quite good, moved freely.

2nd: Dohertys MONTEAGLE BELLE

This bitch made it hard for her handler. Teeming with quality and shown in immaculate condition. Excellent head, best of necks, lovely shoulders, strong deep body. Well developed quarters, moved soundly.

3rd: Blackwells CHARNBOROUGH CHERI

Another lovely bitch who showed of her many qualities whilst standing and whilst on the move. Shown in immaculate condition. To be critical I would just like to see a shade more of her. Came close to being 2nd.

Reserve: Kaulbacks BISHOP OF ARDNAGASHEL

Cont.

Open Dog or Bitch (10)

1st: Green Star - Best of Breed - Knoxs MEUDON MERRY BELLE

A truly good bitch shown in first class condition and bloom. Head of excellent proportion, lovely eye and expression, muscular neck running into lovely sloping shoulders, body deep and strong. Very good front and quarters were well developed. Moved freely, soundly and with style.

2nd: Dohertys MEUDON BLAZE

Best of heads, eye and expression were good. Good neck, strong deep body, excellent quarters, moved freely. Coat and colour were excellent.

3rd: Kaulbacks BRITIC OF ARDNAGASHEL

Excellent dog of lovely conformation, showed and moved well. Could carry a shade more weight to advantage.

Reserve: WINNOWING GUILLIMONT

RON FLYE (Judge)

SETTER AND POINTER 1983

It started as rather a foggy day but despite this there were few absentees. Everyone arrived in good time because the schedule stated that all breeds were being judged at 9.30 a.m. There was no ring available for us until after 2 pm.

Alan Gormley who had travelled from Dublin to judge the breed gave each dog a jolly good going over, even those who had decided on the day that "maybe they were not so keen after all". He showed enormous patience for which I for one was grateful!

It was nice to see Mary Tuite joining the ever growing "Red and White Supporters Club" with her young bitch bred by Isobel. There was also a young couple all the way from Portsmouth who have yet to decide on a puppy but who were very interested in seeing such a gathering of Red and White Setters.

Elli White also came up for the day. It is a while since she was on the circuit of shows and she was obviously interested to see all the up and coming youngsters.

Maurice had the delightful fortune of going on from "Best of Breed" to "Reserve Best in Show" and was consequently awarded the Setter Trophy to which the name "MEUDON AMBER GLOW" shall now be added. He has the honour of being the first Red and White Setter to have his name placed on this trophy alongside so many famous Setters who, I believe, have won the award since 1929.

After all the excitement quite a number of us drove down to Mary and John Blackwell's where we had been invited to a party. They had performed miracles between them and had put on a marvellous spread, both hot and cold, to which we all gratefully "tucked in" along with the liquid refreshments which warmed everybody's spirits. We all I am sure had a super evening. I for one had aching sides from so much laughing; we were made so very welcome by John and Mary. A big thankyou to them both for everything. Can we do it again next year?

All in all it was a very enjoyable Setter and Pointer day.

ELAINE ROBERTS

RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS

15.10.83 Mid-Western Gundog Judge Mrs. L. Hurder

Novice D/B

1. Shannonlee Stonechat
2. Meudon Judies Boy
3. Coppermoor Catkin

Open D/B

1. Brousna Grousa of Autumwood
2. Coolfin Countess

Best Puppy and Best of Breed Shannonlee Stonechat

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16.10.83 Coventry Gundog Club Judge Mrs. J. Taylor

Graduate D/B

1. Coolfin Commachie
2. Charnborough Cheri

Open D/B

1. Meudon Amber Glow
2. Coolfin Commachie
3. Charnborough Cortege

Best of Breed Meudon Amber Glow

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5.11.83 Setter & Pointer Club Judge Mr. A. Gormley (Meudon)

Puppy Dog

1. Shannonlee Whinchat

Puppy Bitch

1. Shannonlee Meadow Pipit
2. Pawnsru Marinda of Rua

Junior Dog

1. Coolfin Commachie
2. Coolfin Cherokee at Torrweaving
3. Coppermoor Caboodle
4. Sula Sea Venturer

Junior Bitch

1. Charnborough Cheri
2. Coppermoor Catkin
3. Coppermoor Clover

Novice Dog

1. Shannonlee Whinchat
2. Coppermoor Caboodle
3. Sula Sea Venturer

Novice Bitch

1. Coppermoor Catkin
2. Coppermoor Clover

Post Grad Dog

1. Coolfin Commachie
2. Shannonlee Majestic Flame
3. Coolfin Cherokee at Torrweaving
4. Meiklered Hi-Waymen

Post Grad Bitch

1. Shannonlee Amberflame
2. Mountain Queen

Open Dog

1. Meudon Amber Glow
2. Coolfin Commachie

Open Bitch

1. Shannonlee Amberflame
2. Meudon Merry Belle

Best Bitch - Shannonlee Amberflame

Best Puppy - Shannonlee Meadow Pipit

Res Dog - Coolfin Commachie

Res. Bitch - Charnborough Cheri

Best Dog & Best of Breed - Meudon Amber Glow

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12.11.83 Gundog Breeds of Scotland Judge Fl. Lt. G.H. Snape

1. Shannonlee Whinchat
2. Shannonlee Tree Pipit at Gleno'Shea
3. Meudon Brandy Snap
4. Meudon Junies Boy

1. Meudon Amber Glow
2. Meudon Merry Belle
3. Coolfin Commachie
4. Coolfin Cherekee at Torrweaving

1. Coolfin Commachie
2. Coolfin Cherokee at Torrweaving
3. Shannonlee Whinchat
4. Coolfin Countess

Res Dog - Coolfin Commanchie
Res Bitch - Coolfin Countess

Best Bitch - Meudon Merry Belle

Best Dog & Best of Breed - Meudon Amber Glow

L.12.83 National Gundog Assoc. Judge Mr. G.F. Farrand

1. Arrowebrook Finn
2. Shannonlee Stonechat
3. Shannonlee Whinchat
4. Arrowebrook Deridre
5. Shannonlee Meadow Pipit

1. Meudon Amber Glow
2. Meudon Merry Belle
3. Shannonlee Amber Flame
4. Meudon Gay Princess

Best Puppy - Arrowebrook Finn

1. Shannonlee Stonechat
2. Shannonlee Whinchat
3. Shannonlee Tree Pipit at Gleno'Shea
4. Sula Sea Venturer
5. Sula Corafin

Res Dog - Arrowbrook Finn

Res Bitch - Meudon Merry Belle

Best Bitch - Shannonlee Amber Sheen of
Hawklawn

1. Shannonlee Amber Sheen of Hawklaun
2. Shannonlee Amber Flame
3. Meiklered Hi-Wayman
4. Coolfin Commachie
5. Brosna Grouse of Autumnwood

Best Dog & Best of Breed - Meudon Amber Glow

1. Shannonlee Whinchat
2. Shannonlee Stonechat
3. Bawnrhu Tristar
4. Arrowebrook Brennan
5. Arrowebrook Eamon

1. Shannonlee Meadow Fipit BEST PUPPY
2. Arrowebrook Deirdre
3. Bawnrhu Maranda of Rua
4. Arrowebrook Colleen at Kerock

1. Shannonlee Whinchat
2. Shannonlee Stonechat
3. Coolfin Goldfinch

1. Bawnrhu Maranda of Rua
2. Arrowebrook Colleen at Kerock

1. Meiklered Hi-Wayman
2. Gameshot of Autumwood

1. Shannonlee Amber Flame
2. Coolfin Cassandra
3. Charnborough Chantilly

BEST OF BREED

1. Shannonlee Majestic Flame BEST DOG
2. Neudon Amber Glow RES BEST DOG

1. Shannonlee Amber Sheen of Hawklawn BEST BITCH
2. Meudon Gay Princess RES BEST BITCH
3. Sanceris Golden Cascade of Erinna

From Mr. Terence O'Leary - Field Trial Secretary of the Irish Red & White Setter Field & Show Society.

"When I first said I would do this (writing a 'few words' for CHATTER) I thought it would be very easy. The problem is where to start, so I suppose the answer is to start at the beginning.

I purchased a Red & White setter from Mrs. Cuddy, who is well known for her Knockalla prefix. the name of the dog was Hickory of Knockalla and he is practically an all white dog except for some red under his ears. However did he pass as an Irish Red & White Setter !! I showed Blanco (as I call him) at the IKC Show which was the first Show to give Green Star classification to the breed. Blanco won Best of Breed under Mr. Twist. The judge said, in his opinion, that when one is reviving a breed, conformation and good movement is essential and this was the deciding factor which won Blanco his Best of Breed and Green Star.

After this there was a meeting at Port Laoise which was chaired by the Irish Red Setter Club and was attended by all the people who at the time were interested in the breed. Among the things discussed was a revised Standard for the breed, at which it was decided that a "Red & White", although basically a white dog must have an island of red - this effectively put an end to Blanco's Show Career!

Having studied Blanco's pedigree I noticed that there were quite a few Field Trial Champions in it. Although having no field trial experience I decided this is what I would try next.

I bought a few books to see how a dog was trained for Field Trials, and I also got some from Tommy Flatterty's in Swords on how to train a dog to the whistle. To cut a long story short, I won a Pointers and Setters Trial with Blanco! He was the first Red & White Setter to win a Trial since 1922. The last Champion I believe was the dog - FT Ch. Lord Decider in England. Since then I've become more interested in Field Trials and could recommend them to anybody.

As it gives me a personal satisfaction, having put the work into the dog, to see the end result one of the highlights for me was our own confined Stake. This was won by one of Mr. Sean Walsh's dogs - HAWK OF KNOCKALLA - I have seen this dog setting Grouse in the Dublin mountains and consider him to be one of the most stylish dogs I have seen in the last few years. It is a great pity the dog was never regularly trialled. However more Members of the Club are taking an active interest in the Trials and hopefully we will see more Red & Whites out in the future.

PS. I hope to go to Scotland for the Trials this year. If anyone has any Red & Whites working in that area please let me know as I should love to see

them working & compare them to the dogs in Ireland.

October 1983.

A 'Show' Person's Guide to Field Trials!

To a seasoned 'Show goer' one's first Field Trial will seem rather a haphazard affair and will almost certainly appear impossible to follow with any degree of understanding. I hope these few notes will help the 'fog' and encourage people to take the effort to attend a few Trials and thus discover for themselves another of the very enjoyable facets of dog owning.

The purpose of a Field Trial for Pointers and Setters is to assess the working ability of the dogs placed before the Judges. Except on rare occasions (usually the Championship Stake in the Grouse season) no game is actually shot, although some dogs will be shot over. Field Trials are not a 'Closed Shop' and are open for all to attend. Unlike Trials for Retrievers and Spaniels where I understand there a number of professional dog trainers to be found Trials for Pointers and Setters have in the main been kept alive by the amateurs who are quite often not shooting people but who maintain their dogs as pets and train and trial them for the good of the breed, the dogs and for their own personal enjoyment. As a newcomer there will be people willing to point one in the right direction and to explain what is happening, and why! It is also true that one will be judged by one's dog and his performance and most particularly by your attitude to that performance - equally it seems that it is those people who have achieved most who are the most generous in terms of time and practical help and advice. Although Field Trials are obviously a competitive test they are not really viewed as a contest between dogs or even handlers. The handlers must work with each other - as must the dogs. In a way each Stake is really a series of 'knockout' rounds with those dogs which run without eliminating faults and having had the fortune to find a bird and handle it properly being eligible for an award.

Because of the fundamental difference in judging - at a Trial the judging is on an objective basis with everybody being able to see what is happening, whereas at a Show the judging is necessarily based on the judge's subjective assessment of the dog and understanding of the Breed Standard - the atmosphere at a Field Trial is very different from that at a Dog Show. Obviously everyone there hopes that their dog will, in the end, come out with an award, but each person understands that the dog can only run to the best of his ability whatever that might be and accepts that a considerable amount of luck will also have its part to play - no Game - no awards. There is also the element of chance with the dogs themselves, the dogs are animals, not clockwork mice, and there is therefore the possibility that the dog will take things into his own feet AND with his ears stuffed full of cotton wool have an absolutely marvellous time!

Firstly everyone attending the Trial will gather at the 'meet' and, having armed themselves with a catalogue and pencil, will assemble round the Secretary's motor car for the 'draw'. As the 'draw' takes place they will make a note of how the dogs will be run in Round 1 of the Stake about to be run. Finally all will be ready and each handler will have attached his dog's number to his arm and then following the Secretary's instructions an oddly assorted group of dogs, Officials, handlers and on-lookers will walk or drive to the Trial ground. The dogs are run in Brace and there are therefore two Judges - one for each dog. There is also a Gun whose job is to shoot over a dog if so required by the Judges. The 1st Brace, Judges and Handlers, followed by the Gun and Secretary and quite possibly by the next brace or two of dogs/handlers will work their way up the field into the wind, whilst the other handlers, dogs and on-lookers will quietly group themselves well behind the action.

Each handler will have spent much time preparing his dog to run at the Trial without disgrace to himself or to his handler..... but things, even for a Field Trial Champion, do not always go according to plan!

The Plan, in fact, is for the dogs to quarter, in brace, the ground ahead of them. The purpose whilst they are quartering is to scent, off the air, the game, in other words, to Hunt. The dogs must be under control and not hunt for themselves. They must keep their minds on the job in hand and ignore all temptation, most notably, the Hare. Once they have scented the presence of a bird the dog must stop i.e., Point. Each type of Setting dog has its own distinctive style of pointing and the Irish Setter tends to crouch very low or sit low whilst on Point. The brace mate must stop also, either by backing the other dog's Point which he should do on sight of the dog, and not necessarily by the scent of the bird, and failing 'backing' the handler will order his dog to 'drop'. The brace mate will remain inactive until ordered by the Judge to do otherwise. The handlers do not touch their dogs until they have completed their run and are required by the Judges to be 'hooked up' or put on the lead. The dog on point will be required by the Judge to slowly creep forward and to flush the bird. The gun will fire immediately and the dog will drop, thus proving that he is steady to both wing and shot. Once the shot has been fired the dogs will be hooked up and another brace will be called forward. Provided all has gone well with the dog which had to 'back' that dog will be given another chance to run and hopefully to find a bird for himself.

The Plan, however, does not always run true. There may not be any game, which is not the dog's fault, in which case, if he has shown good hunting ability he may well be called forward to run in the second round when he may hope to run as well and to find some game. Perhaps the brace-mate committed an eliminating fault, again, provided he has demonstrated no fault himself he may be called upon to run in the second round. Finally the dog may commit an eliminating fault i.e., playing, hunting for himself or chasing the other dog, chasing hare, flushing, running into game, hunting sparrows/larks (called 'larking') slowly muddling along or hunting with lack of zest and purpose (called pottering), run in on another dog's point, or steal a point, be unsteady to shot, and/or generally prove that he is not in hand and not about what he is supposed to be. Any one of, or combination of, these faults will eliminate the dog and he will not be called upon to run in the second round.

The first round, therefore, will weed out many, quite possibly the majority, of the dogs. The Judges will then decide which dogs are eligible for the second round and the Secretary will announce the order of running. The second round will then be run and if necessary a third round will also be run. By this stage it will have been established to which dogs, if any, awards are to be made. Unlike Shows where it is very rare for a Judge to withhold 'cards', Judges at a Field Trial work differently and if the dogs have not shown sufficient merit, even though they may have found a bird, there will be no awards. No Game means 'no awards' irrespective of hunting ability.

The Trials for Pointers and Setters are run by various breed and Gundog Clubs - as are Shows although there are very few Trials in comparison with the vast number of Dog Shows which are held throughout the year. Each Club will usually hold its Trial over a two day period and the Trial generally consists of two or three Stakes, these will often be a Puppy Stake for dogs born not before the 1st of January the preceding year, a Novice or non Winner Stakes, and, on the second day, an Open, or All Aged Stake, or possibly a Stake limited in some way to a particular breed or group of dogs. Trials on Partridge and Pheasant are held over an eight day period (excluding Sundays - no Shooting on Sundays) in April and September in East Anglia. These are possibly the most convenient for novice spectators to attend since there is little in the way of walking involved (the only Trial I have attended in Ireland was on the top of a cold, wet, windy and very steep mountain and being dragged up and along the ridge at the top by a FT Ch. Irish Setter was NO consolation!) and also they are fairly accessible from the rest of the country. Trials are also

over in July and August in the North of England and Scotland and in these trials the dogs will be hunting Grouse.

On the whole I think it is fair to say that as far as a "spectator sport" is concerned Field Trials must have the edge over dog Shows. There is very definitely a lot more to see at a Trial and also once one has understood what the dogs are doing and why it is easy to see what the Judges are doing as well. I have already mentioned that on the whole Pointer and Setter Field Triallers are amateurs, their enthusiasm is infectious, and they are pleased to see and encourage spectators from the 'great outside world'. In addition to the fact that there is more to see and think about at a Field Trial the Trials are generally held in lovely country side and the local Pubs. offer far better facilities than can be found at any Dog Show despite the very best endeavours of the Show Committees!

Finally Field Trials offer the chance to see, as I did in September, sights which for most of us are rare indeed. The ISAE held the last Trial of the year on a glorious sunny day with the shadow of a well tree'd hedge etched in black upon the golden yellow stubble of a recently harvested field of barley. Two mature Irish Setters, in lovely condition and both in full coat, hunted their ground, showing their skill they hunted together until finally Mr. McCabe's FT Ch. Red Fergus came on Point to a small covey of Partridge whilst Mr. Heard's FT Ch. Jelmar of Dunroon 'dropped' some distance away. All was very quiet, Fergus crouched on point with the sun full on his back, highlighting his colour, and with the breeze gently ruffling his feathers. He was gently encouraged forward by his handler - whoosh - away went the birds and there was the dog, still crouched where he had dropped, and with a great big GRIN on his face!

Who dares say "It's not worth the effort" !!

NB. Mr. P. McCabe's Irish Setter Dog FT Ch. Red Fergus won the Irish Setter Association of England's 75th Anniversary Trophy at the Trial run by the Irish Setter Association of England and the Setter & Pointer Club. Second was Mr. K. Erlandson's Pointer Bitch Clonbray Glove.

WANTED the services of a good ~~STUD DOG!!~~

After 15 months' searching I still cannot find a suitable outcross for my young Irish bred and registered bitch!! Her breeding is W. Grouse ex Quail of Ludford and therefore on the dam's side shows close breeding back to FTW GLENKEEN SANDY; She has a good conformation, absolutely sound in movement, ideally marked and very fleet of foot, with a good nose. Good mouth, smooth coated, long feathers and ideally marked on both sides, lovely colour and clear white coat. On the minus side, although a reasonable height, she is very slight.

I am seeking therefore an absolute outcross, either white or red with white or even a red setter which is known to throw whites. The dog must be sound, well built and of bomb proof personality. He must be manageable and capable of work and with plenty of stamina.

Any information will be of the utmost help!!

Many thanks.

Isobel Somerfield (049376) 821

THOUGHTS ON BREEDING

Who could serve a first rate formula for success? We wish we all could. Inspiration, we all need it for success in the art of good breeding. Dedication is in my view a major pre-requisite for the breeder of any live stock. Anyone who embarks on such a project is bound to meet with countless disappointments and will require much dedication to continue in the face of such set-backs. To breed correctly is both a challenge and an art; the satisfaction stems from consistently reproducing a correct likeness. This is a rich reward and more than sufficient payment for the heartbreak sustained along the way.

There will be swings of fashion, great popularity, then the possibility of dwindling numbers once again. I am aware of the great responsibility placed upon breeders to ensure the continuance of correct type for future generations. There is no doubt the breed will go through crazes e.g. over long head which seem to lose rational brain power, which often leads to narrow forefaces and cramped underjaws which result in mouth problems. I also feel that confusion arises on the subject of bone; whilst I appreciate bone and substance are essentials it is, in my eye, the quality of bone that counts. Overboned dogs are often accompanied by thick coarse skulls with too strong a cheekbone; head length and bone are just two instances where exaggerations lead to problems. Let us all breed the correct type of dogs that are capable of work.

The successful breeder will be able to perceive type, recognise quality, understand conformation, appreciate the importance of temperament and possess a fundamental knowledge of genetics. So, select for type first and foremost, for type plus symmetry equals beauty.

All of you have in your minds the perfect specimen, breed to it. A brood bitch with the ability to consistently transmit desirable factors to her progeny is a gem beyond belief. Likewise the dominant stud dog, one who can improve progeny almost everytime he is used, so record dominant transmitting features of all breeding stock, dogs and bitches alike.

The dog we are looking for will be in 1st class physical condition; the coat of correct texture showing life and lustre, eyes bright, ears and tail spelling out animation and character.

We have one problem which we ourselves cannot control, the judges are the custodians of our standards and their interpretations heavily influence the breed. Their responsibilities are great and should be understood to be so but, let as many points as possible conform as closely as possible to the standard, but above all let the sound, typical, well balanced animal without exaggerations come to their own.

This coming year will be a most exciting one for many of us who have had litters from our bitches or used our stud dogs. To see their progeny going to the shows or onto the moors, lets wish everyone success and work together for our greatest passion the Irish Red and White Setter.

KAYTE WILSON-SMITH

NEWS

OCTOBER 1983

I have myself exported two of my own Irish Red and White bitch puppies to the U.S.A. and also a dog puppy from Mr. Vincent Brennan of Enniskellan, Northern Ireland. Anyone who is interested should contact the following:-

Bob & Curtis Humphrey,
2350 Cherokee Drive,
Choctaw Lake,
London,
Ohio 43140.

They hold the official stud books and run the Irish Red and White Setter Club in the U.S.A.

The Humphreys will be campaigning these puppies at the Rare Breed Shows this summer. They have drummed up a lot of interest already and I have had many enquiries for information on our breed. I have sent photocopies of "Our Dogs" supplement to them all. If there are any enquiries please give as much information as you can and keep the interest in our breed going at home and abroad.

I have also exported two English Pointer puppies to Cyprus this month for work and I have been asked for Irish Red and White Setters details too.

K. J. WILSON SMITH

RESULTS OF 1983 POINTS COMPETITION

	<u>Points</u>
1st Knox's COOLFIN COMMANCHIE	221
2nd Blackwells CHARNBOROUGH CHERI	137
3rd McLellan & Pattersons COOLFIN CHEROKEE AT TORWEAVING	136
4th SHANNONLEE MAJESTIC FLAME	123
5th (Joint) Webb's MEUDON AMBER GLOW Gilbert's SHANNONLEE FIRE FLASH	119
7th Williamson's SHANNONLEE AMBER SHEEN OF HAWKLAWN	118
8th Knox's MEUDON MERRY BELLE	-
9th Baron's MEUDON GAY PRINCESS	-
10th Perriam and Roberts BROSNA GROUSE OF AUTUMNWOOD	-
11th Perriam and Roberts COPPERMOOR CATKIN	-
Best Puppy (gaining most as a puppy) CHARNBOROUGH CHERI	90

BEST OF AGES

6 to 12 months

Howatson's SHANNONLEE WHINCHAT

12 to 24 months

Knox's COOLFIN COMMANCHIE

2 to 3 years

Peacock's SHANNONLEE MAJESTIC FLAME

3 years and over

Gilbert's SHANNONLEE FIRE FLASH and Webb's MEUDON AMBERGLOW

Best Stud Dog

MEKLERED HI-WAYMAN

Best Brood Bitch

Knox's MEUDON LADY OF COOLFIN

IRISH RED AND WHITE SETTER POINTS COMPETITION

(1st December - 30th November 1984)

AIM:-

To improve entries at shows giving classes to the Breed.

Open Shows

1st	5 pts
2nd	4
3rd	3
4th	2
VHC	1
BOB	2
Res. BOB/BOS	1
Best Puppy	1
(where there is no puppy class only)	

In AV classes at CH Shows

)

Championship Shows

1st	10 pts
2nd	8
3rd	6
4th	4
VHC	2
BOB	4
Res. BOB/BOS	2
Res. Best of Sex	1
Best Puppy	2
(where there is no puppy class or is more than one puppy class only)	

1st AV or NSC	10
Best AV or NSC	3

There are no points for wins in AV classes at Open Shows

Please sent your points to:-

Sandy Williamson,
8 Henshaw Place,
Cotmanhay,
Ilkeston,
Derbyshire.
DE7 8RL

BREEDERS NOTES

PUPPIES AVAILABLE

HAWKLAWN Puppies born 17.9.83. by SHANNONLEE MAJESTIC FLAME ex.
SHANNONLEE AMBER SHEEN OF HAWKLAWN
Sandra Williamson Phone: 0602 327239

BILBRO Paul and Leslie Conway. One dog puppy 5 months.
Phone: 0924 825336 (West Yorks.)

One dog puppy ready now. Peter and Eleanor White, Hurn Farm, Ashmoor Drove,
Wookey, Nr. Wells, Somerset. Phone: 0749 76953

Also note change of address.

STUD DOGS

SHANNONLEE MAJESTIC FLAME Consistent winner.
Mrs. P. E. Peacock Phone: 0252 548453

GAMESHOT OF AUTUMNWOOD Good outcross.
Mrs. P. Brigden Phone: 0883 42274

BROSNA GROUSE OF AUTUMNWOOD Lovely temperament.
Elaine Roberts Phone: 09367 4982

GLENKEEN SHANE Pure Irish lines.
Isabel Somerfield Phone: 049376 821

All advertisements are free. Send your copy to the Editor.

Change of Telephone Number Mary Blackwell 08893 5542 (same address)

NEXT ISSUE Due out mid May. All copy to the Editor by 20th April please.

"CHATTER" is published free of charge. A contribution of £1.00 will ensure
issues posted to your home address.

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