

RED & WHITE STANDARD

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

Issue 2011/2

Winter edition



**'So this is where they
have hidden my
present!'**

**SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AT
HOME AND ABROAD: ENJOY YOUR CELEBRATIONS AT
THIS FESTIVE TIME.**

**Wishing you:
'HAPPY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR.
Good luck to all in 2012'**

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT – UP LINE.

Well Hello folks its time for another of my ramblings with little snippets of information thrown in as well. As Temperatures begin to drop a bit with light fog and wet grass underfoot our morning dog walks bring home soggy dogs and wet floors, ah well we would have them, so its our own faults!!

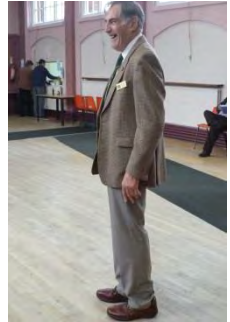
I was taken to task and rightly so after my last report for failing to mention that the Irish R/W Setter Club wish to start an outcross programme mixing Red Setters with Irish R/W Setters hoping to improve the genepool/stock. We have spent years trying to keep our stock pure and now they want to ruin it! With the best will in the world there would be no guarantee that mixed stock would not

get into the market with pet dogs; then being used at stud. The owners may think that this would be a good idea at the time, and would not know any difference.

The Red setter Association are up in arms about it and have written to the Kennel Club as we have, and if you read further on in this edition you will find a full report about this from our genetics secretary.

We held an open show at Hasland near Chesterfield during early October which co-encided with a visit from a Kennel Club Field Officer. I am pleased to announce that we only had a few minor infringements, but were given a clean bill of health.

Our newly re-vamped Irish Working Together section is going very well with more new members as we go to print. A successful training day was held on newly aquired M.O.D. ground with plenty of gorse & scrub land. More days are planned later on, contact Pauline Ryan via the Clubs website for more information, or to join this merry band. Kind regards Bob Knapton.



**Our dogs along with me
and my wife would like
to wish all our members
and their four legged
friends A HAPPY
CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

CROSSBREEDING: What does it mean to you?

Anne Millington has written an excellent summary of the proposed cross breeding planned to take place in Ireland and you may wonder why you should know about this and its potential for future problems.

There have been letters of protest from our breed club, from all principal breeders in Europe and a very strong letter from the US Club, also very many letters of protest from individuals. Never the less the Irish Kennel Club will be going ahead.

These crosses will be from Red and Whites to Red Setters in Ireland as well as to French dogs.

We know little of the health problems that may be present in these dogs.

There are several conditions present in Red Setters that we know about, and which do not arise in Red and Whites. Additionally the Irish Red working dogs are not generally hip scored. As for the French dogs we know nothing of their health status and those of us who have seen them would not want to see such crossings.

Our Kennel Club has a reciprocal agreement with The Irish Kennel Club (as well as most countries) that they will register imported dogs registered in their home country, and our dogs will also be accepted for registration in other countries.

Herein lays the future problem.

People in this country occasionally buy dogs from Ireland, and dogs resident in Ireland are sometimes registered with our Kennel Club as the owners wish to enter them in field trials held here. These dogs will be registered here. Thus in future years such dogs may be the result of cross breeding or are descended from cross bred dogs even though they look like normal Red and White Setters.

Why should we be concerned?

Well you could in all innocence breed a litter from on such dog and to your utter surprise the litter could contain some dogs that were wholly red, partly Red, or strangely marked. What would you do with these puppies? You could not sell them as proper Red and Whites and if bred from the problems would continue into the next generation. This is to say nothing of possible health problems such as Bloat for one. Say this litter was the last one you could breed from a beautiful bitch, or the last of your line, you would be bitterly disappointed!

Our Club will continue to ask our Kennel Club for help in this matter, but I am not optimistic. We do not yet know how much of this crossing will take place, so we cannot yet judge how dangerous to the purity of our breed it will be. So, my advice would be for future years, do not buy or use for breeding a dog from Ireland without getting advice from an informed source about the provenance of its pedigree.

Pat Brigden.

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THE LATEST EDITION

The latest edition is to hand of the Red and White Standard. We are pleased to see that beaming image of 'outgoing' club Secretary Jane Valentine and delighted to greet and congratulate 'outgoing' editor Susan Barry on her Health Administration Masters credential. Here's wishing a fruitful enjoyable reign to Suzanne and Fiona as secretary and editor. May any rain that falls be gentle?

Royally hosted by the Cohen's and their adorable grandchildren over 'Crufts Days' we thoroughly enjoyed your Club Show and the opportunity to break bread with breed health expert Anne Millington, the Sherratt's at their castle and with 'team Ballakinnsh.' To a host of UK 'Red and White' friends who shared with us mile maith agaibh araon – thousand thanks.

Memory Lane is revisited on the Passing of Mrs Keats of Ruemadra. Some years ago at the behest of Cannon Doherty and directed by Maureen Daly we found her at her keep in a Kerry mountain fastness.

We were deeply touched by her invite to share her frugal evening repast and how solicitous she was for that lovely litter milling around her gate. Some of those pups were Rome bound and in jocund form we teased Kathy about having them specially blessed by Jan Pavel Drugi (The Pope.) Peace, which Yeats says comes 'dropping slowly', be with you and yours Kathy. Siochan Dhe!

It is hard to believe the Bayne of Jacqui's life is sixty! Leaves us all speechless, as from his photo (some tall dark and handsome type) he could last another three score.

What's his secret Mr Knapton sir? Chocolate cake and Irish Mist?

Cheers

Slainte – Lachaim. Pat and Albrecht Ua Siaghail.

OBEDIENCE GRAND CHAMPION

TINTOOKIE FINEGANS RAINBOW

Lee Parker writes: We are very proud that one of our I.R.W Setters has become an Obedience Grand Champion. The amazing thing is that he is now ten years old, and has been trained by Linda Bennet of Queensland Australia. To become an O.G.C. involves a lot of hard work; the dog has to have firstly the title of UD (Utility dog) plus five more passes with scores of 185 points or more under at least three different judges. After that he has to gain a UDX (Utility Dog Excellent) then for his O.G.C. a further five passes in UDX class With scores over 185points under three different judges. Finnegan passed under judges from Queensland, N.S.W. Victoria and SA. His top score in UDX was 193 points and he has 11 passes in the UDX class.

We worked long and hard but we have enjoyed every moment. Finnegan is a super dog and we are so to speak 'joined at the hip!' He works with a special joy that very few dogs have.

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CHRISTMAS LIVER TREATS (Doggies Delight)

Today, well show you how to make, a very simple Liver cake.
Take an egg and some liver too; add wholemeal flour to the brew.
Some garlic can be added here, for liquid water, never beer.
A food processor will help you make this very basic liver cake.

Decant into a loaf tin then pop into a hot oven,
Leave awhile; it will bake into a Christmas liver cake.
When it's done and cooled to eat, your dogs will love this special treat!

INGREDIENTS

About half a pound of liver (any kind and I can't do grams!)
One egg, and as much flour as you feel makes a firm mixture-
Add a little water if you've overdone it, and then a clove or two of garlic
Heat the oven to about 180/fan170. When its cooked leave to cool and cut
into doggy bite sized pieces.

Gloria Horrocks

GUNDOG TRAINING WEEKEND 15/16th OCTOBER 2011

The IRWSC GB met in Stafford for its second training weekend. This provided the opportunity for handlers to learn about the training of their dogs and to put this into practice in a moorland setting. Day one started fair and bright with seven handlers and their dogs practicing some basics in an enclosed area. Whether the dog and /or handler was a novice or more experienced a useful start to practice the skills that need to be used when working the dogs on moorland. The group then moved into an area of rough pasture to work their dogs at quartering the field. Lunch took advantage of the good weather, picnicking on the grass and discussing a picture board that illustrated the stages of training a setter and moorland management and habitat.

In the afternoon the group ventured out onto the moor. This is an area used by the MOD for military training and for which the IRWSC have been able to obtain a licence for access. The moorland here is not managed for shooting with the effect that large areas of the heather are very rank and old and both game and other wildlife is scarce. This makes for difficult walking in places however all of the handlers had opportunity to run their dogs and a couple of pairs of grouse were seen.

One of the handlers was not able to attend the second day, but everyone else congregated eager to build on the work from the previous day. Low cloud cover meant that it was not safe to start the day on the moor so more basic training including quartering practice was undertaken in a nearby field. With the cloud gradually lifting an early lunch was taken at the Winking Man pub and then with the slight drizzle over and sunshine appearing the group ventured out onto the moor. They saw grouse almost immediately and a number of pairs were seen during the afternoon. A number of handlers had the opportunity of learning to read the signs that their dogs gave when coming onto game scent. A thrill for one particular handler when their dog held its first point and they were able to get to and work their dog into produce a pair of grouse. In their excitement they forgot to make their dog drop to the 'wing' but a lesson learnt and they will remember that for next time. With a small amount of ground left to run and the day coming to an end, the trainer ran one of their dogs in brace with one of the trainees. The trainer's dog found and pointed. As the trainers dog 'sets' low none of the trainees' dogs were able to see the dog on point. This gave the rare opportunity for all of the handlers to quietly bring their dogs up behind the 'setting dog' to test the reaction to grouse scent. With dogs registering their interest and held steady by their handlers the trainer moved forward to work

their setters in and a pair of grouse flew. An opportunity then for the handlers to drop their dogs to wing.

A good weekend had by all even the one handler who unfortunately had to seek a change of clothing after falling in a boggy patch! The weekend ended with each handler identifying the key points for them and their dogs and what areas of training they would focus on in the next month. A common theme was the work needed to improve the drop both close at hand and at a distance.

Contact Pauline Ryan for more information.



A group photo; and two shots showing handlers enjoyment of the weekend

THE IRISH RED AND WHITE SETTER CLUB OPEN SHOW October 2011

The third show of the year Held on Sunday 9th October 2011 at Hasland Village Hall Chesterfield, which drew a good entry of 64 for the judge: Mrs Mary Davies Although a rather chilly start to the day and a brisk wind, the sun shone at times to welcome members, exhibitors and all their dogs. It is also another chance to meet up with friends and other likeminded people to catch up on recent news and views since they last met.

Once again committee members had arrived early to 'set up' the hall and organise the day's proceedings, the cafeteria was again open for business and the kettle on for the early arrivals.

It's another good venue for dog shows, and parking is straight outside the hall with plenty of room for all vehicles, and the great thing about this place is the lovely park which adjoins the hall. All the crates for dogs were on 'centre stage' actually on the stage and it was a good place for them to be, out of the way but in view of the owners and exhibitors.

Judging started around 10am for the first part of Special Awards of two classes: Special Junior Award (6 entries) and Special Open Award (8 entries) judged by Mr Alan Bamford.

There were two stewards for the day who were Mrs Gaye O'Connor and Mr Charles Henderson. Charles said that both his bitches were in season and decided to offer his services to the show for the day, what a gentleman he is!?



From Left to Right: Judges Mrs Mary Davies and Mr Alan Bamford. Both ready and waiting for judging to commence.

The two stewards: Gaye O'Connor and Charles Henderson working together as a team, maybe they should try it on another occasion! The show was well organised, with a visit from the Kennel Club Field Officer for show management.

PRINCIPAL WINNERS
BREED OPEN SHOW OCTOBER 2011
BEST DOG& BEST IN SHOW

Walker's Sh. Ch. Vanders Va Voom Avec Wroxham

BEST BITCH & RESERVE BEST IN SHOW

Barcroft's SH. CH. Ballakinnish Mistinguette

BEST VETERAN

Tong's Kellizlot Star Attraction Sh.CM

BEST PUPPY

Bayne's Corranroo Cachet

RESERVE BEST DOG

Sierakowski's Tullamore Troubadour

RESERVE BEST BITCH

Joan's Roanjora Malvesia of Berryessa

RESERVE BEST PUPPY

Wade's Ballakinnish Malachi at Oldstone

Full results can be seen on the I.R.W.S.C.G.B. website.

Again at this show more new members with their young puppies were welcomed by the committee and other members; we hope you enjoyed your day and will come again! (Photo below: Left.) New members & Bob Knaptton. Valerie Wade (photo right) made her appearance in her new 'designer outfit' and gave me permission to use this photograph of her in it. Notice the gaily patterned plastic apron, and note the plastic glove, for her dog (just in case!)

Suzanne Humphries



Fran Griffen's dogs on a 'Photo shoot'



Photo: Parker Animal photographer

The dogs in this photograph belong to Fran Griffen and Tracey Greenhill who run Acorn Dog Training located in Milton Keynes. From L to R -Tallulah: Sea Tamarisk Moon Gazer, DaisyMae: Countdown Shall We Dance, and Barkley: Dargle Garson. Bottom –Mia (Havanese) Alfie (Bichon x Jack Russell) and Finlay (Border collie.) They all compete in agility, attend displays, and are involved in a lot of professional photo-shoots. Recently DaisyMae appeared in an episode of Pets for Life which was aired on Sky TV, and also took part in a photo-shoot in London for Pedigree. DaisyMae is my first IRWS, and hopefully will not be my last. She is proving to be such a good all round dog, and has just passed her Good Citizen Dog Gold Award. She is now in full training for competition obedience, in which she excels way beyond all my wildest dreams! Daisy will have her first venture into the obedience ring next year, and she is expected to 'breeze' her way through the lower ranks to working 'A' for which she has just started training for. Our instructor told me that 'she works just like a Collie, but without all the manic!

Fran Griffen

FROM THE PRESIDENT I.R.W.S.C.G.B.

I recently had the pleasure of going to the clubs open show at Chesterfield where as usual there was a very warm welcome. What a great effort our committee makes to try to get it right. The lunches are always excellent and very reasonably priced. Although the hall is the right size for our entries at the open show the other facilities with regards to the kitchen are lacking. How does our committee cope with getting it all ready and produce the lunches for us? It is through dedication and hard work. Sitting quietly watching the process I saw them coping with the kitchen arrangements, and showing their dogs, they all looked as calm and happy as did their dogs! It takes a lot of effort and I would like to applaud them all. Thanks you for your super efforts on our behalf.

I would also like to thank Suzanne Humphries for editing the GB Newsletter and Gail Lamb our I.R.W.S.C.G.B. Web Master. Neither of these ladies are members of the committee, but they are helping the club members in other ways. Thank you for your efforts.

As the President of our club I am very concerned re the proposed outcrossing of the breed. I would like to impress on each and every one of you the importance of how you will have to be very vigilant in future breeding plans if you do not want this breed to change considerably in the future. Please if you are not in favour of these changes make it known to the Kennel Clubs concerned. Please do not think you are not important enough to do anything about it. You obviously love the breed to own it, so that makes you very important enough in this particular instance. So voice your opinion please, don't say the club should deal with it. **YOU ARE THE CLUB.**

Pauline Perriam

President I.R.W.S.C.G.B.

RESCUE CALENDARS 2012

Calendars still available at a very reasonable price
£6 each plus postage: UK 1st class 75p 2nd class 52p.

Europe postage £1.49, Rest of world £2. 07p.

Cotton shopping bags with dog pictures price £4.50 plus 50p
postage.

Christmas cards price £1 each plus postage

Contact Anne Jefferey

RESCUE NEWS- BARNEY

In this Christmas edition of our newsletter I thought for a change I would share a very happy story about a wonderful dog that is definitely not a rescue dog although he very well could have been if his family had not stepped in! Barney was inherited very happily by his late master's son and daughter-in-law when he was 8 years old, and has just kept on going. He has been very lively although he has had a few health problems, but they feel that the 'breeding routes' must have been pretty good anyway!

He just adores fresh fruit such as carrots, apples and in fact any fruit that he can get his teeth into. He also loves (as most IRWS do) cleaning out the yogurt pots that may be left it is felt this must be the secret to his long and happy life! He has lived life to the full, as a much loved family dog, going everywhere with them. He was even 'Best Man' at their wedding when he was 11 years young!



Things had gone rather quiet on a recent visit to mother-in-Laws place, and checking out where he was the above photo (right) made it quite clear!!

On the bed fast asleep upon her new trimmed, Egyptian cotton sheets – only the best of course will do!

He just loves Christmas time because of all the unwrapping; even now you can't wrap up any presents without him trying to get in on the act.

I am told that he has been a dream now in his retirement years; he just likes to sniff around the local footpaths, still being quite upbeat even though he is blind and very wobbly on his back legs. Very sadly he has taken a bit of a dive recently and the vet has not given him long, but they do not plan to let him go until he tells them so. Let's hope that Barney gets another happy Christmas, we wish him well...

I am very pleased to report that we have no dogs waiting for homes at the time of writing. Grace and Oscar are now happily in their new homes and the owner of the two 11 year olds has found a lovely home to take them both.

Saving one dog will not change the world, but surely for that one dog, the world will change forever.

Anne Jeffery Rescue Secretary

OUR FIRST CHAMPION

SH. CH. Kellizlot River Legend (Shannon)

Shannon was born on May 19th 2006, bred by Susan & Jeff Tong (From Sh. Ch. Vanders Venatic Ledge at Oldestone X Kellizlot Star Attraction.)

He came to us at 9 weeks old and had already been christened 'Cardigan' by Charles Henderson because of his red markings. We began by training him for the show ring firstly at home and then at our local ring craft classes.

His first show at 6 months was L.K.A where he was awarded a 2nd place in the puppy class. From then on he showed promise and his first major win came at the I.R.W.S.C.G.B. 25th Anniversary show in June 2009, the judge was Anne Gormley. It was his first time in the Limit Dog class and he won it, of course we were absolutely thrilled when he was also awarded the Reserve Dog CC! –We were on our way!!

In April 2010 he achieved his first CC & BOB awarded by Meriel Hathaway at WELKS championship show. In the same year at Bournemouth show under Martyn Ford he was awarded his second CC. We had to wait exactly a year for his third CC & BOB this came again at Bournemouth under Rob McMaster (our lucky show.) What a wonderful day for us and for Sue & Jeff Tong, who were there at the ringside to see it all happen! At last I had my very own Champion.

He is a wonderful pet and such a character, brings such joy to our daily lives at home away from the ring. The hard work we'd put in, training and showing has at last paid off, but he remains essentially our pet and one of the family.

Mary Lipscombe.

Sh. Ch. Kellizlot River Legend (Shannon)

It is that special moment, when the 'Big green card' comes your way, a thrill that excites you on the day and one you will never ever forget. It's like being handed a 'gold medal'!

You walk around with a stupid grin on your face, and it lasts for weeks! You're on 'cloud nine' and this is what you have been working for, all the practice, listening learning competing: Now the special award has at last come to your dog.

Many congratulations Mary and John Lipscombe & 'Shannon.'



Members no longer with us

Sadly, one of our members has recently had a beavement: I am sorry to report that Pat Haddrell's husband Bob has recently died after a long period of disability and illness. Pat and her husband had been together for nearly forty years. Pat owns one I.R.W.S. 'Ray' who has had much success in the working side of the breed.

Sadly we loose another well known breeder of I.R.W.S:

Phyllis Ralston (Rodoghvit) : She had been unwell for sometime. Phyllis will be remembered for her well bred working lines, being very knowledgeable and a wealth of information for many owners of the breed. She was a well respected breeder, and would give help and sound advice to anyone who wanted it. Phyllis will be sadly missed by many.

Suzanne Humphries

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Sharing

*So it's to school, a working day...
To heel, sit, down or stay.
To take the leash, to fetch to come.
I'll learn them all thy will be done.
But in return for freedom lost
I must request this tiny cost.
Be gently patient with this heart of mine
When I do well to me be kind.
As dog and human we thus shall blend
To well-trained master and faithful friend.*

Anon.

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*A man may smile and bid you hail
But when a good dog wags his tail
You know he's on the level.*

Anon.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

Rally Obedience (Rally-O) was introduced in the USA in 2000 by Charles Kramer and is now a very popular dog sport with a fast growing popularity in the UK.

A team, consisting of the handler and dog, complete a group of exercise combined to form a course with the heart of Rally-O being the relationship between the dog and handler. Rewards are allowed and praise and feedbacks are encouraged between handler and dog, while corrections and harsh handling are penalised. Starting with a perfect score of 200, the team performed the exercise as required on the exercise sign in front of them. Unprompted by the judge or steward and then proceed at a normal pace until the course is completed. All this in timed and should be under a time, decided by the judge.

Rally Obedience is a great sport for dog owners who do not have the time that other formal sports require for training to exacting standards. For example, the position for heel in Rally-O is that the dog is on the left hand side of the handler, facing in the same direction and that the handler could reach out and touch the dog's head. Positions such as sit or down do not have to be exactly parallel and level one is all completed on the lead.

After hearing about Rally-O, the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club of GB held a training day. As a member of this club and that they are kind enough to open most their training days to all breeds I booked a place on the course for myself with Giles (Roanjora Pinotage) and my friend with her Labrador retriever.

It was a fantastic day, being able to learn and practise all the signs in a course set up, Giles impressed the instructors as well as his fans from the Troller world. Being the biggest dog there, he did knock over some signs as we were practising in small space indoors!!

After practice at home, I still don't feel Giles is ready to compete with the distractions around him without food under his nose. But, we are working on it and hope to enter some competitions later on in the year with him.

Rally-O is an extremely fun sport to learn with you dog and if anyone wants to learn more feel free to contact me.

Roxanne McDonald.

MANS BEST FRIEND

If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you: that is the principal difference between a dog and a man.

If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven and very, very few persons!

Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like, never washed a dog before!

RAINBOW BRIDGE

**A poem written by Lynn Collins in memory of her boy Shea.
(Casafelice Elliotdale Of Forestpoint)**

You ran and ran and would not hear
we called your name in vain.
You wagged your tail and looked around
For you it was a game.
Our breath was short we tried to run
our hearts were pounding fast.
You turned and seemed to smile at us
we thought you'd stopped at last.
You would not know what happened next
as I heard you softly cry.
Your beautiful face was peaceful and calm
As you lay upon the ground.
Our beautiful Shea was gone from us
your life so tragically taken.
You were a special gift to us
Our hearts are truly broken...

For **Shea** and also baby **Connor**.

Lynn Collins puppy Ballakinnish Micky Finn at Forestpoint.

Chris Godsmith's Taniswood Dancers Dream.

Sh. Ch. Taniswood Pipers Dawn

Lipscombe's Kellizlot Master Merchant

Nicky Faulconbridge's 'Flynn'

Spelmer's Canadian Champion Shannonlee Snow Dove CD.F.D

(Bred by Kim Spelmer, and adopted by Gail and Leslie Harrison in later life.)

Man's Best Friend

The reason why a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue.

The Average dog is a nicer person than the average person.

A dog is the only thing on Earth who loves you more than he loves himself.

We give dogs the time we can spare, space we can spare, and love we can spare.

In return dogs give us their all. It is the best deal man has ever made.

My goal in life is to be as good a person as my dog thinks I am.

Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.

SMALL BRAGS

Sh.Ch. Corranroo Connection owned by Kath Griffen won the 3rd place in the Gundog group at the Welsh Kennel Club on Sunday 21st August: Breed Judge Diane Ritchie, Group judge Chris Aitkinson.

Eileen Walkers young dog Vanders Va Voom Avec Wroxham has now won his 3rd CC & BOB at the Belfast show on 24th September 2011. Breed Judge Liz Rose-Hay. Carole and Leanne (Pipe) are thrilled that their Japanese Chin has now won its 3rd CC, plus one Reserve CC in four consecutive shows.

Gloria Horrocks junior bitch Spiralwood Secret Love for Itchenwyth has won her final points for the award of a Junior Warrant at the City of Birmingham show, breed Judge Keith Lewis.

Suzanne Humphries youngster Spyefire May Spring Flora won her Good Citizen Bronze award at the same show.

Carmen & Livia Lorenzi's boy Spyefire May Spring Rainbow won his final points for his Junior Championship Title: He is now A Swiss & Austrian Junior Champion, & World winner 2011.

Jackie Howatson's young Irish Red Setter Riverman Royal Rosa won her Junior Warrant recently, and a R.CC to go along with it!

Yvonne Housbey's Tullamore Tiggywinkle has won her Gold Good Citizen Award. Also Fran Griffen's CourtDown Shall We Dance - DaisyMae has achieved her G.C. Gold Award.

Gill Heart's young Irish Red Setter has also won her G.C. Silver Award.

Mrs Vass Dutch Ch. /German Sh.Ch. Exclusives Gypsy Boy is now an International Champion.

33 REASONS WHY WE DID'NT WIN

~ Just for amusement ~

We had the sun in our eyes. The grass was too long. The grass was too slippery. It rained. The other dog growled at us. The dog was sick in the car. The lead was too long. The lead was too short. We didn't know the judge. My dog wasn't in the mood. The judge didn't look at us. The judge was blind. We came late so were stressed. I wore the wrong clothes. My dog was too young. The ring was too big. The ring was too small. It was windy. The loudspeaker was too loud. I trod on my dog by mistake. The judge hadn't read the standard. It was too early in the morning. My dog hadn't eaten. My dog had just eaten. I had the wrong lead. The dog behind came too close. The dog in front of me moved too slowly. My dog was not in coat. My dog has missing teeth. The ring was dirty. There were too many smells in the ring. The judge didn't look when my dog showed. There was a bitch in season.

Otherwise we would have won!

TYLERS STORY

Police Dog: Dalriach Lord of the Iles for Laoirebay

It does not seem possible that a year has passed by since Tyler's new lifestyle started to proceed. As I work at the Defence Animal Centre in Melton Mowbray I decided to ask the powers that be if they took Setters to train as they were looking for dogs for the forces at that time. The reply came back I was told they would be interested to see Tyler and give him a small test in my garden. This consisted of hiding a tennis ball in several places, and he was sent to find it.

He did this without any problems, as he loved a ball game at any time of the day (or night!) I watched the proceedings from inside the house so as not to distract him in any way, and noticed that they kept looking at their watches. It seems they were timing him to see how long his concentration levels were in finding the ball, the longer the better. Tyler did all this easily, and they decided to give him a chance. He was to go on a three week training course! I was of course upset when he went off, but he came back again in only a week, (apparently not suitable) which I was amazed at!

The M.O.D. Police then contacted me a week later and a similar test was done, Tyler passed this with flying colours and off he went again! The M.O.D. Policeman said that they would give him a fair chance. Two weeks passed, and I received no word from them, although I did see the trainer from time to time. Four weeks later I was told by the trainer that Tyler had passed his tests and I was given a copy of his First Stage Certificate> He was on his way to becoming an M.O.D. Vehicle Search Dog. I was so proud of that boy, and deep down I knew that he would pass, being such a busy dog who was dominated by a ball! The good thing was that a ball was used for a reward after a find.

At the beginning of September I was informed that Tyler had made his first arrest whilst searching a vehicle, indicating a bag which contained a gun! The owner of the car and bag were then arrested. Later on a few more arrests were made in connection with Tyler's work.

I am as proud of him as is his breeder Margaret Sierakowski; I know that this was the right way for Tyler to use his very active mind and body. This is the first Irish Red and White Setter to become an M.O.D Police Dog.

I hope I can give more updates on this successful Police Dog story, and look forward to hearing more of this clever boys 'life in the force.

(Below left)**Tyler:** Waiting patiently for his harness to be placed upon him.
Tyler: (Below right) Working on his next assignment!



The breeds first Police Dog
M.O.D VEHICLE SEARCH DOG
'TYLER'



Sent in by Ve Callaghan.

THE OUTCROSS.....AND THE FUTURE FOR THE IRWS IS...?

IRWS owners/breeders and Irish Setter owners/breeders are greatly concerned by the proposal of the IRWS Club of Ireland to cross breed their dogs with French working Irish Red Setters.

What is the reason for an outcross to another breed?

According to the IKC website, 'The Outcross Programme is important in increasing the genetic diversity of the breed and preventing the emergence of further health and genetic problems resulting from inbreeding....The lack of unrelated working lines and high inbreeding co-efficients have been well flagged as major concerns.

This has always been a concern for the breed – a concern tackled and published by UK breeders for the last 30 years – without any input from Ireland. Why is it a pressing matter now?

Why French Irish Setters?

As we learned at the IRWS Festival 25 International Conference, all four Setter breeds are genetically very close, not just French working Irish Setters, but it appears that the Irish breeders are attracted to French Irish Setters for their working ability alone – with no experience of their health or genetic problems. Is it wise to concentrate on one aspect of any breed when there are so many other factors to be considered?

Why not outcross within the breed?

The worldwide IRWS has expanded greatly over 30 years and the dogs in many countries are excellent workers or Field Trialers – so the working heritage is being preserved. Additionally, for 30 years the GB Club has monitored breed health, corrected the genetic problems that have shown up and continue to maintain a numerically small breed with an exemplary health programme.

Make no mistake: Inbreeding co-efficient are higher than desirable across the IRWS world. This is to be expected coming from the 7 'pure' IRWS of the 1970's. The breed was lucky that the original dogs were genetically healthy and that UK breeders bred for health, rather than for single issues like field trial performance or winning in the show ring. Some research into the existing IRWS population for outcross purposes would have been beneficial before introducing unknown genetic conditions from another breed.

Inbreeding can have advantages

It can fix the desirable points of a dog – appearance, temperament, colour, performance etc. So that each generation is instantly recognisable as ‘the breed’ and any dogs that do not conform to the breed standard are excluded. Close breeding was necessary in the early days of the Revival to produce a consistent type of dog. Breeding with related dogs was also inevitable because there were so few dogs to choose from.

Inbreeding has a downside.

It can also fix undesirable things as well – but worse, taken to the extreme, the immune system can be seriously compromised, as the concentrated population is ill equipped to fight challenges from ‘outside’ the breed and diseases can develop from the stress on the immune system.

Outcross to another breed

This is only contemplated as the last resort in a serious, breed-threatened situation.

The Irish Kennel Club states that ‘It has primary responsibility for the wellbeing, health and future of its native breeds; Why then, we wonder, did they not inform the worldwide IRWS community of their serious concern and the intent and discuss the problem with all interested parties? Is the problem only in Ireland and is that the reason why they ignored any help that would have been willingly given?

Many questions.....

Have been directed to the IKC from International Kennel Clubs, Breed Clubs and individuals and in a revised Outcross Programme, and it is stated that, **‘It is envisaged that any Irish Red Setter and Irish Red & White Setter from an FCI affiliated country or a National Kennel Club with whom the Irish Kennel Club has a reciprocal agreement could be used in this programme.’**

Thus giving the go-ahead to anyone to crossbreed and thereby alter the type, appearance, temperament, colour and performance that breeders have worked hard to establish for three decades. With reciprocal agreements between Kennel Clubs, the crossbred dogs will have to be accepted and

although their registration numbers will show that they are crossbred, how long will people know, understand or remember

The Outcross Programme as published.....

Falls short of the accepted scientific methods used in outcrossing to another breed with a breed-back policy for three or four generations, monitoring, documenting, publishing results etc - for the puppies produced, although IKC registered as IRWS in the first generation, will not be 'IRWS.' They will mainly be 'mismarked Irish Setters'.....Which poses another question.

What happens to those puppies that are NOT acceptable to either the IRWS or the Irish Setter?

Does anyone have the answer to that one?

...

Anne Millington.

INFORMATION & DISCLAIMER

The Red & White Standard will now be published twice yearly, a summer and winter edition. The new Editor is Suzanne Humphries; Deadlines for the magazine will be announced via IRWSCGB website, the weekly dog papers and any other relevant sites. Articles to be sent to Suzanne: spyefire@sky.com or Tel: 01249 654217.

It is the policy of the Red & White Standard to make its pages available to members of the IR&WSCGB and others interested in the breed. Articles are photographs are welcomed but the magazine can accept no responsibility for the safety of the material submitted. The views and opinions expressed by contributors are those of the individual concerned and do not necessarily reflect those of the I.R.W.S.C.G.B.

Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure accuracy, the publishers cannot be held responsible for errors and omissions.

Advertisements are accepted in good faith and the publishers cannot be held accountable for any claims made.

Our President Pauline Perriam has a new home address:

9, Abbey Road
Elsworth
Sandbach
Cheshire. GW11 9HA

I.R.W.S.C.G.B. Notice of Annual General Meeting

On Sunday 25th March 2011 held at
Newton Regis Village Hall, Austrey Lane, Newton Regis, Tamworth Staffs B79 0NL
Commencing at 1.00pm

Soup & roll luncheon available from 12.15pm
Points Competition Awards presented at 12.45pm.

I.R.W.S.C.G.B. Spring Open Show Sunday 4th March 2012

Held at Steventon Village Hall, The Green, Steventon, Oxon OX13 6RR
Judge Mr Keith Young (Pyngold) Special Awards Paul Collins (Forestpoint)
Postal Entries close Saturday 4th Feb 2012 Online midnight Sat 11th February.
Buffet Luncheon: £3.50 per head: Bookings/help: John Barcroft Tel: 01782 396195

FROM THE JUDGES SUB-COMMITTEE

The JSC are planning to hold a Module 1 Seminar on March 18th 2012

The venue and all other details are still to be finalised but as places will be limited interested parties are advised to reserve their place as soon as possible.

Judges are reminded that the criteria requires a Module 1 Seminar pass be achieved within 3 years of first being on the B List.

Contact Jackie Howatson Tel: 01952 840275 or email at Jackie@vanders.fsbusiness.co.uk to book a place.

A3 list judges are reminded that they must attend a Kennel Club Field Trial at Open Stake level or an Open Gundog Working Test before being considered by the Kennel Club to award Challenge Certificates for the first time

Jackie Howatson (secretary to JSC)

I.R.W.S.C.G.B. MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Reminder that membership renewals are due on the 1st January 2012.

Single membership £10.50p

Joint: £12.50

Overseas: £17.50

All cheques made payable to

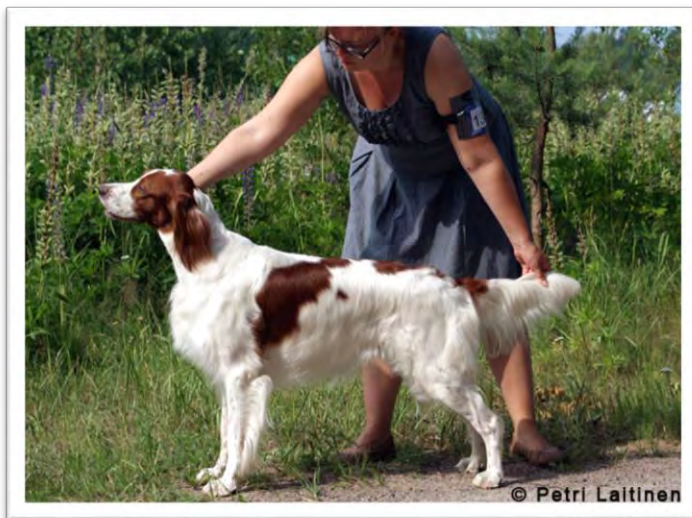
I.R.W.S.C.G.B. & Sent to:

The Treasurer,

Mr John Barcroft,

**The Copse, Lightwood Road,
Rough Close, Stoke-On-Trent,
Staffs ST37PW**

NEWS FROM FINLAND



Courtdown Dancing Queen 'Amanda' has been making a name for herself in Finland. Her owner Kati

**KATH & JOHN BARCROFT
And the 'Ballakinnish Girls'
Send
Seasons greeting and best wishes to all
& Good luck for 2012**

**SEASONS GREETINGS
FROM US ALL AT VANDERS
JACKIE HOWATSON**

**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS & PEACEFUL NEW YEAR
TO ALL WITH LOVE FROM PETE & ANNE & LICKS &
WOOFs FROM THE LLANELWY DUO
'A house is not a home without a Red & White Setter'**

**Merry Christmas to all our friends and fellow exhibitors
We hope you all have a happy new year
EILEEN, STUART and the
WROXHAM gang**

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*Funds from all messages go to
I.R.W.S.C.GB RESCUE*

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES 2011

From members of I.R.W.S.C.G.B.

~'Were not wearing this over Christmas'

Anne Millington: Wishes all IRWS friends a very happy & peaceful Christmas, and a successful 2012.

Pauline Perriam: Hopes all members have a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2012

Happy Christmas and a successful 2012 from Brian & Sue Barry and all here at Rustasha

**Health happiness and a good year ahead to all.
Love & best wishes
Kath & Dave Griffen:
Murdock, Louie. & Callum**

Tony & Ve Callaghan sends their best wishes to all members for a very happy Christmas & good luck in 2012

Pat Haddrell sends greetings to all her friends at home and abroad wishing them good luck & every success in 2012

Suzanne & Richard Humphries along with our 'Spyfire Companions' send Seasons Greetings to you all. Good Luck for 2012

**A very happy Christmas & peaceful New Year to all: From everyone in Rescue & especially to all our rescue dogs & their families
Anne Jeffery**

Gloria, Caoifhionn & Ginny wish all I.R.W.S.enthusiasts a very happy Christmas and a successful & peaceful 2012