

NEWSLETTER 2014

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Chairperson's Report

Dear Members,

Welcome to our 'new look' Newsletter of 2013.

With the retirement of long standing Newsletter Editor Molly Simmons, it was going to be a hard act to follow to step into her shoes and produce a worthy publication for you – the members.

It is such a pleasure therefore to introduce you to this excellent new edition which we hope you will really enjoy. The Club are very fortunate to have Sue & Terry Evans of WheelBarrow Studios amongst us and they have been instrumental in organising this new venture. My grateful thanks go to them and all the current committee for their input. I'm sure you will agree it is a super addition to the Club.



The Club has enjoyed another very successful year with our two Open Shows, an excellent Championship Show plus an Assessment Test, all very well supported, to keep us busy. We did not hold a Summer Rally due to the bi-annual Welsh Springer Spaniel Club's Fun Week-end to celebrate their 90th Birthday being held in July in Derbyshire and WSSCSW members were encouraged to support this venture.

Our Assessment Test saw husband and wife team Sue & Allan Hender from West Berks Gundog Club judge and they were very encouraging in their comments and genuinely pleased with the standard of competition.

As you are all aware we have experienced major problems with our website this year, but hopefully we are on the road to recovery, it has been a huge headache but with grateful thanks once again to Terry Evans, we have built a completely new site, and hope you will all agree this updated version is another huge asset. Whilst on the subject of the website, we are always on the lookout for items, input and photographs of your dogs. If you want your dog's picture featured on the front page let us have your photographs. We want to change the photo's regularly with the seasons and feature photos to suit, so make this your project for the future.

I really hope you enjoy this Newsletter and it just leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Successful 2014 – enjoy your Welsh Springers and have fun.

Jan Rees (Chairperson)

email: Castle_typica@hotmail.com



The Post Grad Class lines up at our Open Show in February

Officers and Committee

Who's Who in the Club – 2013



Patron: Mr Graham Hill

President: Mrs Kath Morgan

Life Members:

Mr T. Davies, Mr & Mrs M. Young, Dr A. Christie, Mrs K. Morgan, Mr & Mrs J. Derrick, Mrs E.A Jones

Vice-Presidents:

Dr A Christie, Mr T Davies, Mrs A Davies, Mr M Green, Mrs C Green, Mr M Young, Mrs A Young, Mrs K. Morgan, Mr J Derrick, Mrs J Derrick, Mrs D Roberts, Mrs J Janes, Mr. B. Shears, Mrs E.A Jones.

Chairperson: Mrs Jan Rees

Vice Chairperson: Mrs Debbie Roberts

Secretary: Mrs Jan Janes,

• e-mail: coedybrain.jan@hotmail.com

Assistant Secretary / Newsletter Editor: Mrs Sue Evans

Treasurer: Ms Annie Glover

Joint Health Group:

Delegates: Jan Rees, Jan Janes • *Reserve Delegate:* Karen Lancett • *Trustee:* Annie Glover

Cup Steward: Mrs Lesley Breeze

United Spaniel Association Delegate: Mrs Anita Shears

Committee:

Mr R.Evans, Mrs A.Evans, Mrs M.Evans, Mrs C.Randles-Price, Mr K. Price, Miss H Johnston, Mrs Ann Lyon

Web Site: Mrs J. Rees, Mr Terry Evans (*Designer & Photographer*)

WSS Rescue and Re-homing Scheme

UK Co-ordinator: Mrs H. Riley • *North Wales Representative:* Mrs S. Bell

South Wales & Three counties Representative: Mrs K Bryant

Disclaimer: The views expressed by contributors and reproduced in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WSSCSW

www.wsscsw.co.uk



Secretary's Report

Yet another very busy year for the Club with well attended shows, working days and assessment test.

We have been buoyed by the many positive remarks that we have received from members and exhibitors regarding the new venues in Chepstow. They seem to be very popular and we hope we can continue to use them for many years to come.

The new look newsletter has been the result of very hard work by your committee and many thanks must go to Sue and Terry Evans for their excellent advice and input.



On the working side our Secretary Mary Evans has decided to retire but will be available in a supporting role to our new working Secretary. Many thanks to Mary for her huge contribution - she really has kept us on our toes.

Sadly we lost one of our Vice Presidents - Mrs Peggy Edwards of the Laspam Labradors, who together with her late husband Dick were great supporters of our Club in the early days of its formation.

Remember that this is your club and please participate to help make 2014 another super year. Your input and suggestions are always appreciated.

Jan Janes (Secretary)

coedybrain.jan@hotmail.com



The Junior Class lines up at our Open Show in February

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2014

Open Show – Sunday 9th February

Drill Hall, Chepstow. Judge: Christine Morgan (*Cwsscwn*)

Annual General Meeting – Sunday 16th March

Ponthir Hall, Ponthir, Gwent.

Championship Show – Sunday 30th March

Chepstow Leisure Centre, Chepstow. Judges: Dogs: Tom Graham (*Nyliram*).

Bitches: Gill Tully (*Highclare*). Referee: Debbie Roberts (*Cwrtafon*)

Assessment Test – Sunday 20th April

Pentyrch, Nr Cardiff.

Breed Promotion Day at Fonmon Charity Day – Monday 26th May

Fonmon Castle, Vale of Glamorgan. *Details will appear on the website nearer the time.*

Summer Rally – 20th July – Bridge Caravan Park, Dingestow, Monmouth.

Loads of fun with doggie games, demonstrations and BBQ – camping/caravan facilities will be available please watch the website for up-to-date information.

Open Show – 14th September

Drill Hall, Chepstow. Judge: Mike Lewin (*Vynesbrook*)

Breed Seminar – Autumn

Date and Venue to be advised



Stedigan

www.stedigan.co.uk



www.isfryn.co.uk

Isfryn



Treasurer's Report

Increase in Membership

For all Clubs throughout the dog world times have been hard, with memberships changing dramatically from one year to the next, show participation dropping right across the board and general interest falling, whilst on the other side the cost of everything from hire of venues to postage for newsletters has risen.

We have been no different apart from the fact that we maintain a very loyal following throughout the club on both the show and working sides, but unfortunately over the last few years we have been finding it harder and harder to keep the club's finances on an even keel. In fairness to the committee we have maintained a very tight control on the costs, indeed our total costs were £5 less in 2012 than they were in 2004 some eight years ago, and we have raised the prices for the shows but there is only so much that we can expect from the exhibitors and there comes a time where all the members must be called upon to help the club, not just some.

Therefore it was agreed at the last AGM to raise the annual subscription from £4 for joint membership and £3 for single membership to £6 and £4 respectively, from January 2014. This was a hard decision to make but one that had to be made if we wanted to maintain the high quality offering to our membership, not only for the Championship show and 2 Open shows, but the Working training and competitions, the newsletters and other events that we run during our year.

Membership Reminder

Can we please remind you that Annual Subscriptions are now due,

Single Member: **£4.00**

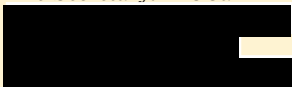
Joint Members: **£6.00**

Junior Members:

(under 18) **50p**

If you have not already renewed your membership can you please send it to:

The Secretary: Mrs Jan



Or complete the enclosed Direct Debit form, so that you never forget again! - if the form is not with this newsletter you can download it from the website or contact the Secretary.



We also felt that with this increase we would not have to make any further increases for some considerable time, indeed it is over ten years since we had our last increase. Therefore for all those who pay by standing order I would be grateful if you would please fill in the attached standing order mandate and forward it to your bank in time for the next due payment which is January 1st 2014.

Annie Glover (*Treasurer*)



Working Report

To round off 2012 nicely we held a lovely Training Day/Xmas Party at Manmoel thanks to the kind hospitality of Keith & Annie. We trained our dogs in the morning in the large field in bright sunshine which was a bonus. We then retired into the warmth of the cosy Village Hall for hot refreshments and some fun & 'doggie' games to music. Everyone and their dogs thoroughly enjoyed it and the day has now become a permanent fixture in our Working calendar.

Our Training Day in March was at Pentyrch, near Cardiff where trainer Alan Willis (Keldeb Gundogs) put us through our paces with puppies/novices in the morning and the more experienced dogs after lunch. He brought cold game for us to train on which was very interesting and very much enjoyed by all. The weather was freezing and we were very grateful to be able to use the barn for some hot soup at lunchtime to warm us up a bit. Alan is always very encouraging and patient with his training and is always a popular choice with our members.

Our Assessment Test held at the end of May was again well supported and thanks to competitors who travelled long distances to attend. Our Judges this year were husband and wife team Sue & Allan Hender from West Berks Gundog Club.

We had very good ground again at Pentyrch but very different to our Training Day. Pentyrch has plenty of ground to choose from plus the bonus of a very large clean barn to gather in if the weather is bad and an accessible pond for the water tests.

Through all our working events, we have so many 'thank yous' to make: our judges, our catering team, our stewards and helpers; those who gave raffle prizes, those who bought tickets. These events take a lot of organising and without that dedicated band of helpers these fun-filled but meaningful days simply would not happen. We look forward to your support again in 2014.

Mary Evans - Working Section Secretary



Congratulations are in order

We were pleased to hear that at the United Spaniel Association Show Gundog Qualifying Day in November two club members gained their SGWC. Tina Smith and her bitch Hermione (*Isfryn Lickety Split*)^B; and Ian Dixon with Stella (*Bodlon Star Attraction by Bushwacker*)^A. Many congratulations to them both.

Ian and Stella were also awarded a Certificate of Merit (COM) at the Working Clumber Spaniel Field Trial in October. Stella has done very well in her short working career, which all started at a training day organised by the WSSCSW about 2 years ago.

At the SEWSSC Working Assessment on 19th of May, newly co-opted committee member, Ann Lyon, with Millie (*Bushwacker Hotspot*)^C came out of Novice forever, with a wonderful 1st in Open.





Assessment Test

Secretary's report

Our 'wonder' days continue. After beautiful weather for our 2011 and 2012 tests, for our Funday, for our Christmas parties and for our training days, we were blessed with another corker for our 2013 Assessment Test at Pentyrch on Sunday 26th May. The sun shone all day with 'ne'r a cloud in the sky'.

Despite the good weather we were grateful for the use of a large, clean barn to keep food cool and to sit out of the sun.

This was an unusual day in so many ways. Our judges, Allan and Sue Hender from West Berkshire Gundogs, set some different tests: those running in Intermediate worried as they saw the unprecedented length of the 'seen' retrieve. Frowns turned to smiles as dog after dog went straight out bringing every dummy in to hand. The judges had hoped that the water test would sort out the tight marks at the top but, when the top two dogs (*Menstonia Misty Dreams* and *Sycharth Catrin*) had finished every test, only a run-off would separate them. These two dogs only dropped 1 mark in the total (4 test elements worth 25 marks each) with the third place dropping only 3 marks. Here we had a very experienced judge wandering around muttering "Minor breeds, my a...." as the 'seens' were marked and the 'unseens' found. Dogs were steady; dogs listened; dogs didn't miss game.

Two good Clumber puppies (*Magiriaght Vindicator* and *Sedgehurst Paddy*) had very high marks in the Puppy test and congratulations to working committee member Alison Evans with Ryan (*Coedybrain Ryan ar Nantlle*) winning the run-off for Novice.

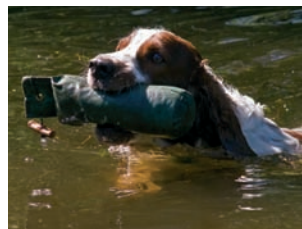
Judges' report

ALLAN HENDER WRITES: "It was a pleasure for Sue and myself to judge the dogs on Sunday and, as I said, I have been judging for a few years now and I have personally never given such high scores on any working test, but that is only a testament to the quality of work from the dogs and handlers.

It is easy to judge bad dogs but quality dogs like those on Sunday keep judges on their toes and every thing that I threw at the dogs they responded to; by the time we got to the water I had to be so picky with the retrievers to sort the dogs out otherwise we would have had all the competitors in a run off for 1st place rather than just two in Open.

The Novice dogs were not the usual delinquents that frequent this class in other gundog group tests and again were difficult to catch out; we had to have another run off for first place. In my judging I have only ever had to judge a run off once before, so to have two in one test again only reflects the quality of dogs.

SUE HENDER WRITES: The puppies were a joy to work with and, as Allan has said, with the Open and Novice dogs it was impossible not to give good marks. We would both like to thank the WSSC of South Wales for asking us to judge and to thank the dummy throwers, organisers and the people who organised the food for putting the finishing touches to a great day.



Presentations and Celebrations

Mary 'hangs up her wellies'

Although Mary 'officially' retired as Working Secretary at the end of last year, and had her presentation at our last Training Day/Christmas party, we didn't get to thank her properly in our Newsletter. Mary has worked tirelessly organising 'working' events and training days, and given up such a lot of her time to dedicate to the 'workers' we are eternally grateful. Fortunately we have managed to persuade Mary to remain on the Committee and be involved in events though.

Mary has competed successfully herself with her two wonderful bitches especially Sycharth Catrin and her daughter Sycharth Hob-y-Deri-Dando, enjoying many great days out in the field.

Thank you Mary we really appreciate your dedication.

Mary's dedication to the working side of the club has been inspirational, so we want to encourage more members to take part in working training events. We cater for all ages and abilities, it's a lot of fun and even if your dog doesn't really want to 'work' then at least you end up with a much better trained Welshie. Think about it and give us a call next time we advertise a training day, all events are published on our website. Come along – the breed needs you to keep the working ability alive in this wonderful breed.



Services Rendered

The Club were more than pleased to make a presentation to Terry Evans at our recent Training Day/Christmas Party, in appreciation of all his hard work not only as Club Photographer but his invaluable work creating our website. After many problems with our website this year Terry worked tirelessly to help sort it out. I'm sure you will agree our 'newlook' website is a major step up from the previous one – it still has a fair way to go but we are all very proud of the achievement.

Grateful thanks once again Terry.



Molly Retires

Molly Simmons our Newsletter Editor for the past 11 years has decided to 'put down her pen' as Editor this year.

The Club are eternally indebted to Molly for all the hard work she has done over the years.

We wanted to present her with 'something useful' in appreciation so, at the September Open Show Chairperson Jan Rees presented her with a unique show bag embroidered with her Affix - *Glynell* and a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the Club.

Thank You Molly



Happy Birthday President

President Kath Morgan was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a 'special' Birthday cake at the AGM this year to celebrate her 70th Birthday.

Many Happy Returns Kath
left to right - Chairperson Jan Rees, Treasurer Annie Glover, Kath and Secretary Jan Janes



The Wyesider Trophy

Awarded annually to the Top Dog or Bitch born in Wales.

There were 3 joint winners this year on equal points all gaining 1 C.C. each so therefore it was decided to award each owner a replica shield.



At the AGM, Kath Morgan presented the trophies to Ann Jones^A (Pennylock) - *Ch.Pennylock Quin* and Keith Masson^B (Manmoel) - *Pennylock Rhian of Manmoel*.

While Jan Rees presented the trophy at our Champ show to Joy Baguley^C with Baguley & Crowther's - (Tannamoer) - *Tannamoer Hallmark at Lligwy*.



Show Champion

Keith Masson was presented with a celebration cake following his bitch *Pennylock Rhian of Manmoel* gaining her 3rd C.C. at Midland Counties recently to make her up to Show Champion.

Well Done Keith and Rhian.



Cliff Payne Points Trophy

Awarded annually to the Club Member who has gained the most points from the Club's three shows with the same dog. Awarded above by Jan Rees to Julie Revill with *Julita Rinatasha JW*.

Typica Breeders Trophy

Awarded annually to the breeder whose dogs (not necessarily owned by them) have gained the most points from the Club's three shows. Also awarded to Julie Revill (*Julita*)



Silver Pheasant Trophy

This is our top award for the working section of the club and is awarded on an accumulation of points throughout the season – please see the description on the website. This year it was won by Julie Shawyer with her dog Willow, (*Menstonia Misty Dreams*) and her husband Paul awarded it to her on our working assessment day at Pentyrch in July.

KELDEB GUNDOG TRAINING

Do you need help with training your dog, one to one training or group training tailored to suit your dog from novice to competition level.

Also obedience training for all types of dogs.

For more information contact Alan Willis



Photo: Tracy Broadbent



Pentyrch Boarding Kennels

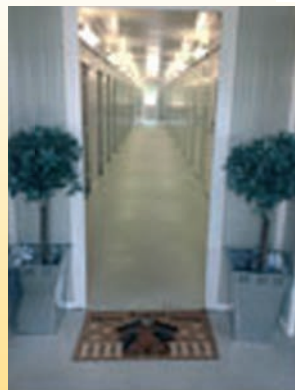
Pleased to support WSSCSW

Pentyrch Boarding Kennels is a family run business situated 10 minutes from the centre of Cardiff and 30 minutes from Cardiff Airport.

Our brand new, state-of-the-art dog kennels are situated on the outskirts of the quiet country village of Pentyrch, set in 200 acres of rolling countryside and woodland.

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*Come visit us and
give us a paws up
on our kennels!*





The Heart of the Valley Show

We Were Invited Back!

So we must have done something right last year on that lovely September Sunday in 2012 when I was invited to do a Gundog Demo at the first Heart of Valley Show in Pontardawe in aid of Heartbeat Wales. I had asked WSSCSW friends to come along to help and so started what we hope will be an ongoing event both for them and for us.

Last year's gazebo was a little out of the main hub of activity but loads of people came by to visit us after the demos. This year, we were promoted in terms of our gazebo's location. It was right next to an entrance and we were overwhelmed by the constant stream of visitors stopping to admire our dogs.

Catrin spent all day being led up and down the lane as I showed youngsters (from 2 years old onwards) how to 'walk' a dog properly - many parents took note as well! Owain, Lily and Meg enjoyed the company of their many admirers as did Jan's Teg making her first appearance at the event this year. New to the gazebo was Lesley Breeze's puppy, Howley, who, although he hadn't got a gun in his pocket, was obviously pleased to see you! It was also great to see Gwennie (*Coedybrain Gwenllian*) making a return.

Anyway, enough of name dropping, how did the demo go? I (hoping that Deri was in pup), had opted not to do the main ring demo which went so well last year and so we had a large piece of scrubland with footpaths crossing just behind our gazebo to show off our dogs' skills. Unfortunately we didn't hear the

announcements of our demo so were surprised when people turned up in their numbers as someone rushed up to 'mike' me up! Back to the main ring next year!

The combination of deep undergrowth (thankyou, Meg, for getting me out of trouble) and children crawling on the viewing path pretending to be dogs ("woof-woof") was enough to send me back!

Although neither Catrin and Deri nor Meg let us down on the demo, this has turned into a 'meet and greet' event where the only Welsh gundog breed meets its public in a relaxed and beautiful setting. Roll on next year!

Mary Evans (Sycharth)



COEDYBRAIN

Where breed type is paramount

A quiet but very successful year for our small kennel.

In March after several months out of the ring Morgan took reserve BIS at Tredegar CS.

In September, Coedybrain Rebecca of Manmoel owned by Keith Masson took BIS at our Club open show.

Our new babies will make their debut next spring. Good Luck to Hayley Johnston with Mali and Karen Lancett with Nia in the coming year.

We will hopefully have a litter from Coedybrain Menna early next year.



Coedybrain Morgan

Enquiries and visitors are always welcome.

• e-mail coedybrain.jan@hotmail.com



TYPICA

Typica Red Kite

Sire: Sh.Ch. Ferndel Aeron Magregor ~ Dam: Typica Country Maid
pictured at 15 months old winning the Gundog Group at Monmouth Agricultural Show August 2013

Puppies planned 2014

• email: Castle_typica@hotmail.com



A weekend in Derbyshire

WSSC 90th birthday celebration.

As newcomers to caravanning we decided to take the relatively short trip to Derby to the lovely home of Anne Morgan for the WSSC 90th birthday celebration.

Setting out in mid morning we had planned to arrive early afternoon to give us plenty of time to set up the caravan and newly acquired awning. A most uneventful trip until we got to within a few miles of Anne's home. Ignoring all sensible advice not to follow Sat-Nav we arrived via a main road to a small town just outside Ashbourne Mr Sat-Nav advised a left hand turn which we duly followed and ended up wedged in a very narrow lane with high kerbs and cobbles.

It seemed the only way out was to reverse into the main road. As anyone who has ever travelled with me will know reversing is not my strong point - but reversing with a twenty foot caravan behind well that's another thing. To cut a long story short with help from locals, the man from the bank and two very helpful ladies from the bakery and with Barrie holding up traffic I eventually managed to get the caravan and car some shape onto the main road. With a few further mishaps along the way we eventually arrived at Anne's at around 5 pm with a huge sigh of relief.

Jan and Alan Rees who were to stay with us arrived shortly after and we all set about getting everything sorted. Eventually the caravan and awning were set up and we were all very pleased with ourselves. A good cup of coffee was needed. Problem, we could not get the gas bottle connected. Help came in the form of Julie Revill who provided the coffee, her husband Peter and Ray Monday, both caravan experts, had the right tools and the gas supply was duly connected.

After a lovely outdoor supper in glorious weather and the dogs having been exercised it was drinks all round, a very pleasant if exhausting day had come to an end.

The site was well filled with many campers and caravaners some of whom had travelled enormous distances. Saturday morning arrived, again another glorious hot day. Activities included gundog training, agility and clay pigeon shooting and a lovely outdoor supper of fish and chips delivered by a local chippy. Bottles of wine on tables and a lovely cake provided by the committee were gratefully received. A few more drinks followed before we collapsed for some much needed rest.

Sunday morning Jan Rees produced another lovely full English breakfast and endless cups of coffee followed as we recovered from the previous evening. Sunday afternoon was fancy dress and an exemption style dog-show. It was good to see club president Anne Walton and daughter Gillian arrive to join in the celebrations. As the activities came to an end some visitors left for home but those who were staying until Monday enjoyed drinks and snacks on the terrace in Anne's garden before returning to our caravan where we enjoyed drinks into the early hours.

It was wonderful to see so many Welsh Springers - show dogs and pets alike - all gathered together. In testament to the breeds wonderful temperament not a cross word was heard.

A most enjoyable weekend, many thanks to Anne for allowing us to share her lovely home for a few days and to the committee of the WSSC for an excellent event. Unfortunately they hold this event every other year so a long time to wait for the next one. At least I have two years to practice my reversing.

Jan Janes





Champion Cwrtafon Cerian

Sire: Pennylock Owen

Dam: Sh. Ch. Cwrtafon Hafwen

Winning Best of Breed at The World Show Budapest 2013

Owner Jana Janek (Slovakia)

Bred by Mrs Kath Morgan and the late Mr Len Morgan,
and Mrs Debbie Roberts

*Congratulations to Jana and Cerian on such a superb
achievement, Kath Morgan*



Grandfather Clock with Welshie History

Since childhood I have loved noisy clocks and clocks with pendulums and moving parts. When I decided I would like a grandfather clock for my 50th birthday, a clock-repairer friend suggested I look on ebay to find out what age and type of long case clock I was drawn to. My research didn't take long. Within 2 weeks I found this one and just HAD to have it. It was the Welsh Springer that did it for me!

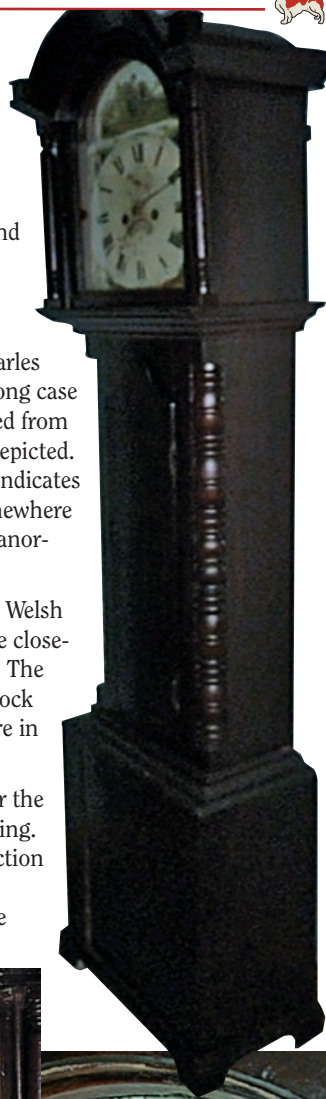
The clock dates back to about 1840 and was made in Truro by a Charles Levy – his name being on the dial (face) and on the mechanism. The long case would have been bought in and the dial would have been commissioned from a usually local artist, with the purchaser specifying the subjects to be depicted. The clock is of the 'Cottage' variety which my friend Alan informs me indicates it would have been originally owned by a person whose status was somewhere between manor-owner and cottage-owner – not grand enough for a manor-house and too expensive for a lowly cottage dweller.

On the dial we have depicted what I believe to be a Welsh lady and a Welsh Springer Spaniel. They are outside a riverside cottage where cows graze close-by. Faintly it is still possible to make out the heads of a stag and a boar. The long case is in typical Welsh style. This all seems to suggest that this clock was commissioned in Cornwall by someone whose roots and heart were in Wales.

Who the original owner was and where my clock has journeyed over the past 170 years is impossible to find out although I keep hoping and trying. At some point in its life it came to Wales to eventually be bought at auction in 2010 at The Welsh Country Auctions which I believe to be based in Llanelli. The identity of its last owner is protected in the auction house rules. Alan informs me that typically these items come to auction as a result of estate clearance. I bought my clock in February 2011 so I presumably am looking for a Welshie enthusiast who died shortly before then.

It is said that you do not own a grandfather clock – one is merely a custodian of it for a part of its life. I am hoping that one of my daughters will cherish it after me but if not I will bequeath it to the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of South Wales so that it may be auctioned with the proceeds shared between the club and Rescue. This will ensure that it will be a fellow Welshie enthusiast who will care for it next.

Karen Lancett



OPEN SHOW

The Drill Hall, Lower Church Street, Chepstow. NP16 5HJ

Sunday 10th February 2013

Judge Mrs Jennifer Murray (Priestbeck)

BEST IN SHOW & BEST VETERAN – Baguley & Crowther's: Tannamoor Hallmark at Lligwy Sh CM

RESERVE BIS & BOS – Thomas's: Sh.Ch. Bowdonia Sweet Dreams JW

BEST PUPPY IN SHOW – Thomas's: Bowdonia Moment to Shine

and not in the photograph below:

RESERVE BEST DOG – Barkley's: Cherryheath's Mr Mischief JW

RESERVE BEST BITCH – Sutherland's: Julita Rezanella of Jacranella

RESERVE BEST PUPPY – Harrison's: Glenbrows Rainman



Judge's Comments

I would like to thank the WSSCSW for the kind invitation to judge this show. I felt very honoured that they would consider me for this appointment and would also like to express special thanks to my stewards on the day and to all the exhibitors who turned up in severe bad weather conditions. I had a lovely entry of well presented dogs and found the overall quality good.

Full list of results and the Judge's critique can be seen on the club's website at www.wsscsw.co.uk



BEST DOG LINE-UP

Best Dog: Tannamoor Hallmark at Lligwy ShCM;

Res Best Dog: Cherryheath's Mr Mischief JW;

Best Puppy Dog: Glenbrows Rainman



BEST BITCH LINE-UP

Best Bitch: Sh Ch Bowdonia Sweet Dreams JW;

Res Best Bitch: Julita Rezanella of Jacranella;

Best Puppy Bitch: Bowdonia Moment to Shine



CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

Chepstow Leisure Centre, Chepstow, Gwent

Sunday 31st March 2013

JUDGES: Dogs - Jane Graham (Nyliram). Bitches - Martin Greenwood (Telkaro)

REFEREE: - Kath Morgan (Cwrt Afon)

BITCH CC AND BEST IN SHOW - Masson's: **Pennylock Rhian of Manmoel**
DOG CC, RESERVE BIS AND BOS - Barkley's: **Cherryheath's Mr Mischief JW**

BEST PUPPY - Harrison's: **Glenbrows Rainman**

and not in the photograph below:

BEST VETERAN - Baguley & Crowther's: **Tannamoor Hallmark at Lligwy Sh CM**

RESERVE BEST PUPPY - Blackford's: **Amblesight Sunglow**

RESERVE DOG CC - Douglas's: **Ferndel Justin Time**

RESERVE BITCH CC - Morgan & Schofield's: **Ferndel Butterkist Cwsswn JW**



Judges' Comments

I would like to thank the committee firstly for inviting me to judge at the Club Show and also for making the day so special. It is obvious everyone works hard to ensure the day goes smoothly and credit must be given for running such a great show.

I had a lovely selection of dogs to judge and was pleased to see there are some promising youngsters coming through and I do think temperaments are getting better. Presentation on the whole was good, just a few were over clipped around the neck for my taste !

I agreed with my co-judge Martin Greenwood that the bitch should be awarded BIS and the dog RBIS, the referee Kath Morgan chose the dog for BPIS, and we both agreed that the dog was BVIS.

Judge Jane Graham (Nyliram)

It was a great pleasure to judge Bitches at this well run show. I had an excellent entry with a lot of lovely bitches, all with good temperaments. Typical WSS bitches.

Judge - Martin Greenwood

Full list of results and the Judges' critiques can be seen on the club's website at www.wsscsw.co.uk

OPEN SHOW

Earlswood and Newchurch West Memorial Hall, Shirenewton. NP16 6AW

SUNDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2013

JUDGE: Mrs. Julie Williams (Trebettyn)

BEST IN SHOW - Masson's: **Coedybrain Rebecca Of Manmoel**

RESERVE BIS - Johnstone's: **Glenbrows Paper Money For Gilpeta**

BEST PUPPY IN SHOW - Johnstone's: **Glenbrows Paper Money For Gilpeta**

and not in the photograph below:

RESERVE BEST PUPPY IN SHOW - Steadman's: **Stedigan Boo To You Too**

BEST VETERAN – Worth's: **Sh.Ch. Shandwick Kristoffer At Sarabande Sh CM**



Judge's Comments

I would like to thank the Officer's and Committee for their hospitality and to congratulate them on the smooth running of the show after a very late unexpected move to a different venue. A venue which I think was a move for the better.

Thank you to the exhibitors that entered and travelled to award me the pleasure of judging their lovely Welsh Springers, I certainly enjoyed

my day. Temperaments throughout the day were very good, movement in some was not as it should be but some seemed to cope better with the springy floor than others. A couple of 'iffy' mouths, please check these regularly.

Julie Williams

Full list of results and the Judges' critiques can be seen on the club's website at www.wsscsw.co.uk



From Puppy to Show Champion

Bronwen (Pennylock Rhian of Manmoel) caught my eye right from the start when we first went to see the litter, mind you she also caught everyone else's eye and she was very much wanted by quite a few others, but we very fortunate that Ann Jones allowed us to have her.

Right from the start she has been a character and also "daddy's little girl" when ever she has been told off she comes running to me, jumps on my knee, starts licking my ear and then stares at Annie as if to say - you can't touch me now.



Bronwen at six weeks old



Bronwen winning Post Graduate at the WSSCSW Open show 2010

We have had a wonderful time showing Bronwen, although she can have her days when she doesn't want to play. She won BPIS at the WSS of SW beating her litter brother to the win.

She continued to win throughout her Junior career and won her way out of Post Graduate, during which time she won her first RCC at Border Union. Won another RCC at the South Eastern Club's Champ Show before winning her first CC at South Wales Kennel in 2012 under Rita Cemis. Her 2nd CC was at the WSSCSW Champ Show in 2013 under Martin Greenwood, and her

3rd was at Midland Counties 2013 under Jan Rees who had previously awarded her her 2nd RCC.

Bronwen is taking life a little easier now and we will just show her now and again although we plan to breed from her when she next comes into season, so potentially look out for Bronwen II at the end of 2014.

Keith Masson

Pennylock Rhian of Manmoel (Bronwen) won her 2nd CC at the WSSCSW Championship Show 2013



A walk in Dylan Thomas country

Everyone knows of The Dylan Thomas connection with the village of Laugharne in West Wales, with the (newly refurbished & dog friendly) Browns Hotel being one of his favourite watering holes.

Dylan's parents lived in the house opposite, Pelican House, with its formidable black front door and big brass knocker, and it was here that Dylan's body was brought after his death in America in 1953. He was buried a short distance along the road in St Martin's Church. He lived here from 1949-1953, with his wife Caitlin, in The Boathouse, and where his writing shed along the headland still stands, attracting people from all over the world. You may not know however, of the walking opportunities. As a visitor with dogs, there are often summer restrictions in touristy places. Laugharne has no beach, it is on the Taf estuary, with mud flats and reed beds rich in wildlife, noisy with wading birds and jackdaws, teeming with fish, with the occasional seal waiting for the tide to turn. But there is a fascinating walk here - Dylan's Birthday walk, - approx 2.5 miles long, located at the southern end of the estuary below the castle.



A photo opportunity at the Stone Stile with Owain, Megan and Lili, looking back to the estuary.

Start the walk at the Grist car park, in the shadow of Laugharne castle. Follow the strand beside the tidal salt-marsh, signposted Dylan's Birthday Walk, and turn right, up into the woods taking in the views, seeing the very scenery that inspired this exceptional poem.

There are information boards to read at each viewpoint, and you'll find benches inscribed with suitable lines from the poem. There are a few steep sections along this route and the ground is uneven in places so please take your time.

The walk was created with the hope of making Laugharne the world's first birthday town, where visitors will walk the trail on their birthday every year and read Thomas' words "O may my heart's truth still be sung on this high hill in a year's turning". Whether you're into poetry or not, don't miss out on this section of the walk as the views a little further up are stunning, looking out over the castle opposite with the estuary and salt marshes below you.

It's a fascinating landscape, and some of this land has been reclaimed from the sea using a series of drainage ditches or 'reens' built in the 1600s and similar to the system used on the Gwent Levels. You can clearly see two distinct shades of green grass, one, salt encrusted and washed



View of Laugharne Castle from one of the many viewpoints on the walk



The walk takes you past the famous boathouse

out - covered daily by the high tide, and the other a luscious green colour, protected by a sea wall from the salt water, and home to grazing cattle and sheep.

Soon you'll arrive at a lovely wooden sign post carved with the words 'The Last Verse' and a bench with the words "summery on the hills shoulder" on it. Follow the path left, down the hill to the last information panel. If it happens to be your birthday say out loud 'The Last Verse' and sit and contemplate a years turning, enjoying the stunning, panoramic views towards Ginst Point, Gower and North Devon.

Retrace your footsteps back up the hill to the wooden 'Last Verse' sign and turn left. After a while you'll spot a waymarker signposted 'To Laugharne over Sir John's Hill' which guides you off to the right. Follow the wooden steps up the hillside towards the stile and make your way into the fields above. Take care along this stretch as the wooden steps and track can be a bit slippery under foot.

Sir John's Hill - You'll now be standing at the bottom left hand side of a large field. Head in a northerly direction towards the hedge at the top of the field and you'll find a stone stile to climb over if the gate is closed. Follow the track diagonally through the field in a north easterly direction to the far right hand side of the field where you'll pick up the path again. Climb over the stile and turn left when you reach the road. The last section is roughly half a mile in length. Walk down the hill along a quiet, wooded lane and just before you reach the A4066 turn right down Back Lane. Follow the lane back down to the estuary and Grist car park where you began the walk.

Sue Evans

For a more detailed route please refer to Derek Brockway's 'Weatherman Walking' series on BBC Wales which recently featured this walk:
www.bbc.co.uk/wales/nature/sites/walking/pages/sw_laugharne
 also: Map: O/S Explorer Map 177



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One of the great literary pubs... (and very dog friendly)

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'The Browns' was Dylan Thomas' favourite bar where he gathered much of the material for his iconic 'play for voices', Under Milk Wood.

'Cool Factor 9/10' – The Times

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My Year by Nell Sutherland

Looking back over the last year and a bit, with Christmas fast approaching and the shooting season in full swing, there has hardly been time to draw breath.....

Mum and I have been rushing all over the Country raising money for the excellent charity 'Hounds For Heroes', run by a handsome Labrador friend of mine, Endal Junior (EJ) and his particular person, Allen Parton, who was in the military – like my Dad – but was very badly injured and so now needs EJ's special type of assistance every day. The Charity raises money to train more dogs like EJ, and predecessor Endal, to help Service personnel whose injuries mean that they require assistance everyday with everything from dressing to doing laundry, getting cash out of that hole-in-the-wall thing, and shopping etc. I've worked hard training my Mum to do all those things for me, but fair's fair, I do chip in and help out sometimes; she never has to carry her knickers downstairs to the laundry whilst I'm on hand.

My Dad was away in Afghanistan for 7 months this year, but before he went away he set his Regiment the challenge of raising money for EJ's charity, so naturally I threw myself into the effort on behalf of such a worthy cause.

Mum made me a pair of panniers into which two collecting tins could be fixed, so fully kitted out I launched myself onto the unsuspecting public of Bexleyheath. Well all I can say is that they were putty in my paws. A wagging tail here, a pleading look there and they were queuing up to put money into the tins!



Me and my panniers



Mum's teas

I had joined Dad and some of his soldiers at a huge branch of Sainsbury's – I always prefer Mum to use Waitrose myself, but we were collecting for a good cause so there was no room for personal prejudice here – where they had staged a 24 hour static triathlon (running, cycling, rowing) in the foyer. I found the most susceptible to my charms were children – of which there were hoards – whose parents were compelled to provide coins for them to drop into my panniers in order to progress any further than the foyer! In fact, at one point my collecting tins got so full with pound coins that Mum mistook my 'loyal

hound lying at feet'

posture as extreme relaxation without realising that I could no longer stand up! By the end of the day I had collected over £2500 of the £5000 raised on the day.

By now the whole family had thrown themselves behind the cause. So when Nana and Poppa opened their beautiful gardens in Derbyshire for charity, they decided that all the takings from Mum's tea-table would go to Hounds For Heroes too, so naturally I took my panniers along.

Well suffice to say that people seem to be completely undone by the sight of a beautiful Welsh Springer with collecting tins and a winsome expression accompanied by a handsome man in Army uniform – my Daddy.



Daddy and me on collecting duty



Cars lined up on the road with people waving notes out of the windows to push into my tins. They didn't even seem to mind the scratches on the sides of the cars from my nails! Sad to say that precious little of Mum's extensive tea-table made it our way...although one or two elderly ladies did buy a bun or sausage roll for me to save me from actual starvation. By the end of two very busy weekends, Mum's teas and my panniers had raised nearly £2500. We had a total of over £5000 to add to Dad's overall annual total of £45,000 for the Charity. I'm now thinking of hiring my services out as a professional beggar, but in the meantime I'm honing my skills on anyone with a biscuit!

Sadly my summer was not all fun – Dad went away to war and then my Great Uncle Tommy died; a wonderful gentleman who had spent his life hunting with beagles as both Huntsman and Master, so he was always to be relied upon for a kind word and a stroke. This meant Mum and I had to go up to Derbyshire for his funeral and I sat and listened to all the kind words and hymns in the church, and stood to attention with chest out and tail up when all the gathered packs blew the 'Gone-Away' at the end of the service. Afterwards, at Tom's 'going-away party' I did my modest best to provide comfort to all those present by circulating, leaning on legs and resting my head on as many knees as possible. As most of those present were huntsmen, followers and farmers, my efforts seemed to be taken in good part with a general raising of spirits – not to mention many kind people being moved to share the occasional sandwich or piece of chicken which I naturally accepted in the spirit of solicitude.

So, time to take stock now that Christmas and the Season are upon us... I wonder what I'll get for Christmas this year?



Allen, Mum, EJ (on Allen's knee), a trainee assistance dog and Me working on the stand at Crufts 2013.

Typed on behalf of Nell by Jane Sutherland

You're 'aving a Larff

- | | |
|---|--|
| Q: What do you get if you cross a gun dog with a telephone? | Q: What do you get if you cross a sheepdog with a jelly? |
| A: A golden receiver! | A: The collie wobbles! |
| Q: What do you get if you cross a Beagle and an Australian dog? | Q: What dog wears contact lenses? |
| A: Dingo Starr! | A: A cock-eyed spaniel! |
| Q: What do you call a dog magician? | Q: Why do dogs bury bones in the ground? |
| A: A labracadabrador. | A: Because you can't bury them in trees! |



Livercake

Dogs love liver but it can be too rich for them and play havoc with their stomach. Liver cake is the choice of many obedience and show handlers. It's inexpensive, not as rich as raw liver and can be frozen.

Ingredients

1lb (450g) lamb or ox liver.
1lb (450g) self raising flour.
3 eggs.
2 cloves of garlic - optional.
milk or water

Method

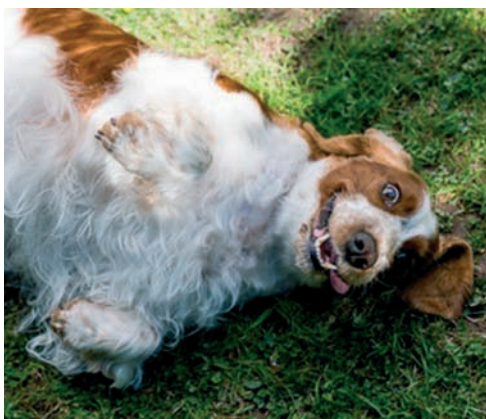
Crack the eggs into a measuring jug, adding an equal volume of milk or water to the measuring jug and whisk. Blend the liver and garlic in a food processor. Sift the flour into a large mixing bowl, add the egg and liver mixture to the flour, and blend to a sponge mixture consistency. Empty contents into a baking tray, line with baking paper to aid removal. Bake at 180 degrees for 35 - 45 minutes. Allow to cool. Divide into 12 or more pieces and freeze.



GWENNY LOVES DUCKS

Gwenmy loves ducks; nothing unusual in that you would have thought being the gun dog that she was bred to be. Gwenmy was eighteen months old when I decided that she needed 'proper' gun dog training because her selective hearing became a real battle of wits, her idea of the command 'Come' was to either wag her tail and if that didn't work she would stare blankly, lie down or take off in the opposite direction!

Out of desperation and on the advice of Mary Evans I took Gwenmy to meet Huw Jones a brilliant dog trainer (and now a friend) from St Clears who agreed to take on Gwenmy and me!



Gwenmy's typical response to the command "Come!"

It was at Huw's that Gwen had her first close encounter with ducks and she has had a compelling fascination for them ever since. Gwen behaves like a 'normal' gun dog when out hunting for other game but when it comes to ducks she changes from the well behaved girl that she has become into an emotional wreck! Gwenmy has formed the view that ducks were designed purely for her pleasure.

If I happen to drive past a stretch of water that she has sighted ducks on her usually placid demeanour gives way to indignation which quickly develops into squealing hysteria by the time we have driven a short way down the road! Gwenmy's idea of hunting ducks is to spring, catch and bring back the bird (still alive in her soft mouth) all on her own!

One day before the start of a training session, I decided to take her for a short stroll along the river, she quickly became very interested in the undergrowth on the opposite side of the bank which resulted in a lot of rustling and chattering yaps of delight, I was horrified when she emerged holding a live duck in her mouth with wings flapping wildly!

My training long forgotten I frantically shouted every command that I could possibly think of to make her drop the bird but her single-minded mission was to dutifully present me with her prize, it was to my relief that the bird flew off unharmed when she dropped it. Huw is protective towards his ducks so it was a good while later before I could bring myself to tell him, when I did he rolled about laughing!

We frequently take Gwenmy to a local country park where she loves to explore the woods and river but to get to that area we firstly have to pass a large duck pond! This is no mean feat as her excitement has usually reached fever pitch by the time we have successfully managed to negotiate our way past the danger zone. On one occasion after frog-marching her around the pond to the safety of the woods and river she quickly settled into her usual



*A WSSCSW training day at Huw Jones' - that's him on the left
Gwenmy is the second dog from the left*



busy eternal quest for smells methodically pushing her snout into one clump of undergrowth after another.

We were strolling along enjoying the Summer sunshine when we realised that Gwenny had abandoned her 'sniffing' and had sprinted in the most spectacular fashion into the river after a pair of rogue ducks who decided the river was a better option than the pond and were happily swimming in the middle of it, Gwenny went after them swimming at the speed of an Olympian!

Panic stricken we ran alongside the river bank trying to keep up with her, at which point the two ducks realised she was in pursuit and took flight, she wasn't too happy with that and loudly chattered non-stop to herself in frustration while swimming towards us and safety. We swear that if the ducks had not taken flight when they did she would have followed them all the way to Swansea Bay!

Her numerous duck adventures have made us laugh, cry and on occasions left us absolutely dumfounded and speechless.

The discipline of good gun dogs is awe-inspiring and to be greatly admired. Gwenny may never be in their gang because of her excitement around ducks but when her highly sensitive nose (thanks to Huw) instinctively locks onto a scent her focused enthusiasm is a tonic to watch, she is a good natured, well mannered girl and her love of life inspiring.

Chris and Keith Price



Where are those darn ducks?

FFYNONGAIN

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We are always pleased to see your “Welshies” on our Training grounds.

Contact Huw for more information: Telephone: 01994 231229
Mobile: 07891 175858 • Email: huwh@aol.com



Huw captained the Wales International Team for the second time in 2013 for both the Irish Game Fair and the Home International in Anglesey

Bookings are now being taken from puppies to adult dogs for our kennel club good citizen scheme classes

From Wales to Georgia

Visit to WSSCA National Specialty Show 2013

The Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America held its 2013 'Specialty' in Atlanta, Georgia, so Jan Janes and myself decided to make the trip as we had both always wanted to attend one of these events.

The Specialty is a cluster of breed Championship Shows run by separate societies held within another cluster of General Championship Shows, so every day has different judges but pretty much the same dogs, with exhibitors travelling huge distances usually in their R.V's (motorhomes to us) to attend. Dogs are exhibited each day for the four days plus extra 'Invitational' and 'Sweepstakes' events held after the breed judging in the evening. There were in excess of 100 Welsh Springers attending.

My contact was Adrienne Bancker of the Briarbanc Kennel, who was a great help to us throughout our stay. I was really looking forward to meeting her again together with her well known dog CH. Benton Ivy League, 'Eero' whose titles are too numerous to list, from the ring, field and agility, plus still competing very successfully in Veterans. He is such a wonderful character and at 13 years of age showed his head off, his movement was a joy to behold and what a huge contribution he has made to the breed. He had a fantastic show winning the Southern Invitational on his Birthday plus the Veteran Sweepstakes, plus all his Veteran classes on each of the days, a super achievement and a credit to his delighted owner.

The Georgia National Fairground was an excellent venue for shows and our hotel was only a few minutes away. We did have a scare however on our first night in Perry, a close encounter with the local Sheriff, due to my accidentally driving onto the wrong side of the road it was a bit too close for comfort, also the fact that we were followed by a truck all the way back to the hotel was a bit unnerving. We had actually been reported to the Sheriff who told us 'on suspicion of being druggies' (his words not mine) I was most apologetic and assured him we were just two Welsh ladies who had taken a wrong turn and thankfully he was reassured. We needed a stiff drink after that.

Thankfully we didn't have any more driving issues. We met up with Adrienne the next day who introduced us to many of the exhibitors. Everyone was extremely busy bathing and preparing their dogs for the day's competition, very different to the UK where we do all the bathing and trimming at home, and only the final touches at the show. Adrienne let me groom & trim her young dog, Benton Famous Last Words 'Chappy' to his friends and as he won Winners Dog that day said 'it must have been the grooming' and was really pleased and very trusting to let me loose on him. UK Judge Thelma Ritchie (Slapestones) judged the first day's show. Thelma and daughter Dawn were staying for the duration with Meghen Bassel of the Statesman's Kennel.



Adrienne with Eero



Lisa Wentzel with Micky



The only way to travel those long distances.

Meghen had a great 'Specialty' with Tystyn Statesman Cactus Blue 'Maddux' who not only won just about everything in the breed rings also won a RBIS on the Friday and one better BIS in the Cluster Championship Shows as well. Of course Meghen didn't compete the day that Thelma was judging.

Another addition was an 'Educational Seminar' superbly arranged and given by Adrienne, who explained the breed standard in great detail, with complete knowledge and understanding. The delegates were mostly judges from other breeds who wished to judge Welsh in the



Dawn & Thelma Ritchie, myself and Jan pictured with our superb host for our stay Adrienne Bancker of the Briarbank Kennel.

contenders, keeping the ringside guessing right to the very end, it was a pleasure to witness. Jan and I spoke to him afterwards to say how much we had enjoyed it and agreed with a lot of his choices, and at the Banquet in the evening which was a lovely affair, Michael spoke of the quality of dogs he had judged, also making a mention to Jan and myself calling us the 'Travelling Jan's' which was very amusing. A Silent Auction was held with a wonderful array of Welshie items to bid for, raising a lot of money for its chosen charity of Breast Cancer.

Chairperson Susan Riese and her team worked tirelessly on the raffles each day with a huge array of Welshie items on offer. Also class and main winners prizes ranging from beautiful embroidered towels, to bronze dog silhouette wall plaques and mirror frames, which were really unusual. Jan really liked the show leads which were among the main prizes as well, 'bling' leads we called them, and I know she really wanted to bring one home, not sure Morgan would appreciate one though! We were really both pleasantly surprised with many of the dogs we saw, I don't think we expected to like so many, but type, size in particular and soundness were prevalent throughout.



Briarbank B & B as Adrienne likes to call her home where we were made most welcome and sat up till the small hours comparing dogs, differences between our countries, reading books, and admiring her amazing trophy cabinets. We had such a lovely time but it all went by far too quickly.

To sum up we had a great week, saw some really impressive dogs and met some really friendly people who share our common interest, what could be better. A huge thank you to Adrienne for being such a great host, we certainly want to go back again.

Jan Rees (Typica) and Jan Janes (Coedybrain) the Travelling Jan's

future as well as breeders/exhibitors. The Standard differs slightly from the UK and is much more comprehensive but both Jan and I found the explanations excellent and couldn't have put it better ourselves, particularly liking Adrienne's animated demonstration of the unique way a Welsh uses its ears whilst hunting! Following on from that Jan and I were asked to do some mentoring with the judges during the other days, answering questions and giving opinions, which we did with enthusiasm.

The main event 'Specialty' on the Saturday judged by American judge Michael Faulkner, made compelling viewing with his total command of the ring, moving and placing the main



Grooming Chappy (Benton Famous Last Words)

One evening we had a lovely invitation from Lisa Wentzel and her parents who Jan had met on a previous visit to America. Lisa had imported a puppy several years earlier bred by Sandra Bell, Glanhafon Gethin 'Micky' (Cwrtafon Elgan von Trannon x Glanhafon Lleucu) had won the 9-11 years Veteran Class that day. We went back to their huge R.V. where we were treated to an excellent BBQ cooked by Lisa's dad, who had driven all the way from Illinois.

We did manage to do some sightseeing on one of the other days and drove to Savannah for an overnight stop enjoying the city tour on an authentic old trolley bus, and strolling by the river with its iconic paddle steamers, but the final day of our stay was at the



Photo: Tim Jennings

JULITA ROKAHLUA JW

Born 22.8.2012 – Eyes tested Unaffected for Goniodysggenesis October 2013

Julita Rokahlua aka Skittles, has had a wonderful start to her showing career, winning her Junior Warrant at just one year old. She has won very well at Championship Shows with two Best Puppy in Breed awards and also Open Shows where she has been awarded many BPs, BOB and Res BOB plus an Adult Group 3.

Her co-owners Julie Revill and Jacquie Taylor are so proud of our little girl

Email – julita@furzelands.demon.co.uk

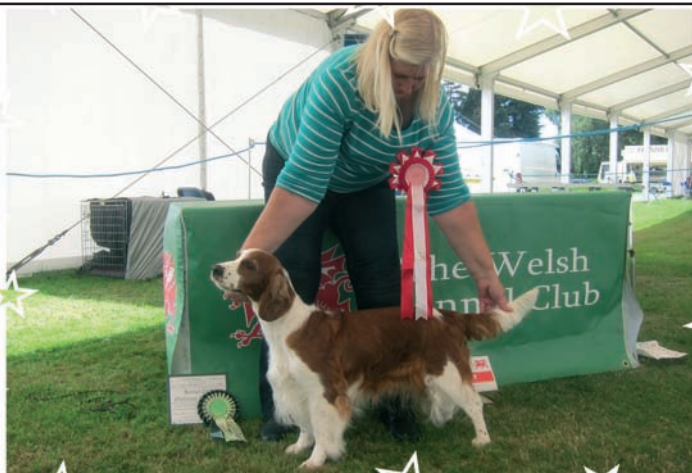


Photo: Julie Revill

Sh.Ch. Hillrobin Brockanfield among Ambika

On gaining her title at Welsh Kennel Club - Judge Thelma Ritchie

19th August 2013

Owner Diane Monday

Email – diane.ambika@talktalk.net



The Joint Health Group is made up of two delegates from each of the four Welsh Springer Spaniel Clubs: The Welsh Springer Spaniel Club, Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of South Wales, South Eastern Welsh Springer Spaniel Club and the North of England Welsh Springer Spaniel Club and has an independant Chairman in Dr.Ron James MRCVS. It meets 2 – 3 times annually to discuss and monitor any health matters within the breed and delegates report back to their respective committees. Health Reports and updates are published in Newsletters, Year Books and on respective websites.

JOINT HEALTH GROUP REPORT

The JHG held three meetings during the year in February, June and November.

GLAUCOMA

- 25 Welsh Springers were tested for Goniodysgenesis at the WSSC Open Show in November 2012, they were all tested 'UNAFFECTED'
- One dog has been reported as developing Primary Glaucoma who had been tested twice in her life and both times 'Unaffected'.
- The Group felt that owners/breeders should be made aware that Glaucoma has been reported in a few dogs who have been tested 'Unaffected' in early life, and have developed the condition despite that fact. However testing is still required to ensure we are all aware of the current situation with regard to our dogs' eyes.
- Costs for testing for Goniodysgenesis have been increased and now stands at £51 per dog.

At the later meeting the following dogs had been reported to the JHG as developing Glaucoma and the owners had given permission to publish.

Phentina Blue Americano (developed at 9 years of age)

Highmere Tangwyn (developed at 10 years of age)

A further 3 new cases had been reported at the November meeting.

GLAUCOMA PROJECT

Cathryn Mellersh and James Oliver (Senior Opthamologist & BVA panelist) are undertaking a study investigating the genetic basis of glaucoma in dogs. This research is being carried out with geneticists from the Kennel Club at the Animal Health Trust, led by Cathryn Mellersh. The Joint Health Group has been requested to assist in this study, and with this in mind DNA samples were taken by Beverley Cottrell from dogs tested at the SEWSSC Ch. Show in October 2013 (with agreement from owners) James Oliver is now planning to attend the SEWSSC January Open Show to be held at Bletchingley on 26th January 2014. He will test dogs that day FREE as long as the owner agrees to a DNA sample being taken for this project. The result of this test will be confidential. Further details of this day will be forthcoming and flyers will be circulated. Hopefully these will appear on Club's Websites to ensure that as many as possible are aware of this Project.

HEALTH REPORTS

The JHG recommends that each of the constituent Clubs publishes the Health Report on its websites.

EPILEPSY SURVEY

The JHG is consulting with the Animal Health Trust regarding survey design, it has been noted that the Italian Spinone's are collaborating with the AHT and the Group are looking into a similar survey for Welsh Springer Spaniels.

SEMINAR FOR 2014

A Seminar on Fitting is planned for Sunday 7th December 2014. The Joint Health Group has secured an eminent Speaker for the Day, Dr. Laurent S. Garosi DVM, Dip ECVN, MRCVS, RCVS & European Specialist in Veterinary Neurology & President European College of Veterinary Neurology. Final arrangements will follow after the Group's January 2014 meeting.

FITTING

There have been three dogs reported to the JHG this year, & owner's permission has been given to publish.

Simpson Bloodstone (Roxdale Deio x Mariemead Wythcraft)

Toftwood Mr Wonderful (Sh.Ch.Glenbrows Timelord x Cwsscwn Northern Soul of Toftwood)

Taimeres Tell Tale (Sh.Ch.Nyliram Blazing Star x Sh.Ch.Ingsman Acer at Taimere)

DNA SAMPLES FOR STORING AT THE AHT

The Group was very disappointed to note that five DNA swabs sent out earlier in the year had yet to be returned. The Group stresses the importance of providing these for future research at the AHT.

KENNEL WEBSITES

The JHG noted with concern, that it has been reported that there are websites providing the public with misleading information about the general health of the Welsh Springer Spaniel breed. This matter has been referred back to the constituent Clubs for investigation.

HEALTH SURVEY

Having looked into a Health Survey for the breed, a decision has been made that at the present time we do not have the resources to carry this out.

OTHER REPORTED HEALTH CONDITIONS

The Group received a report of a young WSS who is suffering from Congenital Portosystemic Shunt. This is the first report of this condition the Group has received.

STUD DOGS

The Group discussed the issue of early, extensive and frequent use of stud dogs. The Group did not feel there was a case to amend the Code of Ethics.

JOHN PHILLIPS

John Phillips (Topmast) has kindly given a number of dog books and pictures to be sold in aid of the Welsh Springer JHG, contact the Secretary if interested. The amount raised to date is £337.

Secretary WSS Joint Health Group.

WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL CLUBS' CODE OF ETHICS

Club members:

- 1) Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2) Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
- 3) Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
- 4) Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
- 5) Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
- 6) Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any way harmful to the dog or to the breed.
- 7) Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
- 8) Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
- 9) Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
- 10) Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
- 11) Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
- 12) Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
- 13) Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club



registration certificates as stand alone items (not accompanying a dog).

- 14) Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.

Welsh Springer Spaniel Breeders' Code of Ethics

- 15) Before breeding a litter serious and equal consideration should be given to type, temperament, health and soundness. In the choice of breeding stock it should always be borne in mind that aggression and nervousness form no part of the Welsh Springer Spaniel's temperament and character.
- 16) No bitch should be required to have more than four litters and no bitch should be bred from at successive seasons, unless a period of time of more than twelve months has elapsed between each season or a period of 12 months has elapsed between each litter. No bitch should be mated before the age of two years (preferably three), nor if the bitch will have reached the age of eight years at the date of whelping, unless permission has been given by the Kennel Club. Before a bitch is mated due regard should be given to her general condition and fitness and, in the case of second or subsequent litters, her previous breeding history (including ease of whelping).
- 17) All breeding should be aimed at the improvement of the breed. Members should do everything in their power to discourage breeding from clearly inferior specimens and those members who own stud dogs should refuse stud services to such specimens. It is recommended that all animals, particularly those to be bred from, should be tested for all current health issues.
- 18) The Club and the Joint Health Group maintain that a breeder/stud dog owner, having bred a litter that has produced a fitting animal, where the condition, after tests, is deemed to be idiopathic (primary) epilepsy, should not breed from the sire/dam again. The failure of the breeder/stud dog owner to adhere to this rule shall be considered a breach of the Clubs' Code of Ethics and will be dealt with accordingly and may result in membership being withdrawn. This rule may be rescinded should a test for carrier animals become available.
- 19) No member should breed a litter unless they have the time and facilities to devote proper care and attention to the rearing of the puppies and to the well being of the dam, and no member should provide stud services unless they are fully satisfied that the owner of the bitch has such time and facilities.
- 20) No member should breed a litter unless they are reasonably sure of finding good homes for the puppies. No puppies should leave the breeder before the age of seven weeks (preferably eight).
- 21) No puppies should be exported before they are fully inoculated or before the age of three months unless they are travelling in the personal care of the purchaser or his known representatives. Puppies should never be sold to countries where they are not protected by anti-cruelty laws. (If in doubt consult DEFRA or the Kennel Club).
- 22) Prospective buyers of puppies should be carefully screened for suitability and should be fully advised of the characteristics of the Welsh Springer Spaniel as a breed, stressing the necessity for care, grooming and ample exercise. Puppies should not be sold to homes where they will be left on their own all day.
- 23) No puppy which has any known physical defect should be sold without the buyer being made fully aware of such defect and its possible consequences. Members should only sell puppies which, to the best of their knowledge and belief, are in good health at the time of sale.
- 24) Each purchaser of a Welsh Springer Spaniel puppy should be provided at the time of sale with a pedigree, information about training, worming, inoculations and details of the Welsh Springer Spaniel Clubs. No puppy that is of unregistered or partly unregistered parentage should be sold without the buyer being made aware that they will be unable to register it on the Kennel Club register.
- 25) Breeders should also be prepared, if the home proves unsuitable and the buyer wishes to return the dog, that they must share the responsibility for this occurrence, albeit an infrequent one, and allow such an animal to be returned or provide assistance with rehoming if necessary.
- 26) Officers and Committee Members of the Club are always ready and willing to do their best to help members with any queries or problems
- 27) From time to time it may become necessary for the Club Committees or the Joint Health Group, supported by professional advice, to seek the assistance and co-operation of breeders in eradicating hereditary complaints/illnesses. It is expected that in such an event breeders will co-operate fully with the Committees/Joint Health Group by providing such support and/or information as may be requested.

Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

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MANMOEL



Photo: Terry Evans

It's been a wonderful 2013 for Manmoel,
Pennylock Rhian of Manmoel winning her 2nd and 3rd CCs and
winning BIS at WSSCSW Championship show,
and **Coedybrain Rebecca of Manmoel** winning BIS at
WSSCSW Open Show in September.

Contact Keith Masson – [REDACTED]



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