



**NEWSLETTER 2015**

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# Chairperson's Report

Dear Members,

Firstly I'd like to wish you all a very Happy and Successful New Year, it's hard to believe that 2015 is upon us. The past year has been very busy, almost hectic at times, but hopefully a very enjoyable one for the Club.



*Please go and  
"Like" us at:  
Welsh Springer  
Spaniel CSW*

As many of you are already aware, we have finally launched our very own facebook page which enables us to reach many more Welsh owners. It has already proved extremely popular and is keeping us far more in touch with everyone, progress indeed.

With all our events well supported, the two Open Shows at Chepstow Drill Hall have had many lovely comments from old and new exhibitors alike, which is always a pleasure to hear as so much work and effort go into the organising. Our main event – the Championship Show is now well established at Chepstow Leisure Centre and continues to grow in popularity. Assessment Test and Training Days had good attendance and the Breed Promotion Day at Fonmon Castle, something we attended for the very first time this year with our colourful, informative stand, made many new friends for the breed in Wales. In this day of 'doodledogs', we were certainly a hit when people realised the breed's 'pure and ancient origin' in the Principality. We have been invited back this year, something I think will become a very important fixture for the summer, promoting our beautiful breed in an equally beautiful setting.

I hope you all enjoyed our new look Newsletter last year, something we are very proud of, and once again we are indebted to Terry and Sue Evans at WheelBarrow Studios for all the hard work in preparing this top quality production.

As you will see from the articles inside, this year we held a fantastic Summer Rally at Dingestow, Monmouth, what a wonderful weekend we had at this stunning setting, everything you could wish for, especially the weather, a bit too hot really, but hey don't complain. We were all Happy Campers although some of us got more sleep than others, a few bleary eyes in the morning!

Remember if you have any photographs, articles, funny stories, titbits, whatever else of interest,

please send them into us to use in our publications and website which is for all members whether you enjoy showing, working, or our popular walks, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Finally, huge thanks to the Committee who again have worked tirelessly to provide a fabulous fun packed year for the Club, well done everyone.

Best Wishes and have fun with your dogs.

**Jan Rees** (Chairperson)

email: Castle\_typica@hotmail.com



*Tension mounts as the class winners line up for Best in Show at our Open Show in February*



# Officers and Committee

## Who's Who in the Club – 2014



WSSCSW Committee taken at WSSCSW Open Show held at Drill Hall, Chepstow on 14th September 2014.

*Left to right:* Mary Evans, Leslie Breeze, Annie Glover (Treasurer), Brian Shears, Jan Rees (Chair), Anita Shears, Alison Evans, Kath Morgan (President), Karen Lancett, Jan Janes (Secretary), Hayley Johnston, Debbie Roberts, Sue Evans, Rhun Evans, Keith Masson

*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 & Mrs J Derrick, Mrs D Roberts, Mrs J Janes, Mr B Shears,  
Mrs E A Jones, Ms M Simmons.

*Chairperson:* Mrs Jan Rees

*Vice Chairperson:* Mrs Debbie Roberts

*Secretary:* Mrs Jan Janes,

Willow Tree Cottage, Ivy Row, Brithdir, New Tredegar, Gwent NP24 6JU

Tel: 01443 838154 • e-mail: coedybrain.jan@hotmail.com

*Assistant Secretary / Newsletter Editor:* Mrs Sue Evans

*Treasurer:* Ms Annie Glover

*Joint Health Group:*

*Delegates:* Mrs J Rees, Mrs J Janes • *Reserve Delegate:* Mrs K Lancett • *Trustee:* Ms A Glover

*Cup Steward:* Mrs L Breeze (Tel: 01792 404235)

*United Spaniel Association Delegate:* Mrs A Shears

*Committee:*

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

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

**WSS Rescue and Re-homing Scheme**

*UK Co-ordinator:* Mrs H Riley 01325 718055

*South Wales & Three counties Representative:* Mrs K Lancett 01989 750077

*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

Hard to believe that it's a year since we launched our new look Newsletter, and I sincerely hope that this year's edition will prove just as popular.

The club continues to thrive, and we are pleased with our ever increasing membership and the support for our events throughout the year. Very successful shows, working events and social gatherings held this year, proved so popular with members new and old, people are already looking forward to events in 2015.

I would like to thank my fellow officers and committee members for their continued support and hard work in providing events which appeal to everyone.

May I wish everyone a very happy and successful 2015, and we look forward to your support during the coming year.



**Jan Janes** (Secretary)  
coedybrain.jan@hotmail.com



*The Limit Bitch Class lines up for Judge Gill Tully at our Championship Show in March*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2015

### Open Show – Sunday 8th February

Drill Hall, Chepstow. Judge: Mrs C. Schofield (*Cwsscwn*)

### Annual General Meeting – Sunday 15th February

Ponthir Hall, Ponthir, Gwent.

### Championship Show – Sunday 29th March

Chepstow Leisure Centre, Chepstow. Judges: Dogs: John Thirwell (*Ferndel*).

Bitches: Mrs B. Attwood (*Kylowen*). Referee: Mr A. Buchanan

### Assessment Test – Saturday 2nd May

Pentyrch, Nr Cardiff. (TBC)

### Breed Promotion Day at Fonmon Dog and Family Fun Day – Monday 25th May

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

### Summer Rally – 18/19th 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 – Sunday 20th September

Drill Hall, Chepstow. Judge: Mrs P. Blay (*Stablaheim*)

### Breed Seminar – Sunday 1st November

Venue to be advised

**NOTE:** Dates and details of events could change so please check our website nearer the date to confirm.



# Stedigan

[www.stedigan.co.uk](http://www.stedigan.co.uk)



[www.isfryn.co.uk](http://www.isfryn.co.uk)

Isfryn





## Treasurer's Report

### *Maintaining Membership*

As has been the norm for every club over the last few years maintaining a good financial state has become increasingly harder, with owners being very selective where they decide to not only show their dogs but also with which clubs they continue to be members of. We are no different to any other Canine Society in the country, but I feel that what has made us slightly different to many others, is that the Committee has realised that to maintain membership and participation at the various events that we run, that we must ensure that they are good value and professionally run, and judging from the feedback we have had from those at our shows and other events it appears that those participating have enjoyed themselves. This is gratifying as well attended events make

my job much easier. Also breeders from all over the country have encouraged new owners living in this area to join the club and become part of that mad Welshie owning fraternity, hopefully expanding our membership and so putting less strain on the pockets of the long standing members.

As a result we had a good year, membership which has been volatile over the past few years has held steady, which is I think a reflection of happy members, and costs have been held at roughly the same level as 2012. However, I am sure, as with all clubs, some of that is due to Committee Members absorbing some of the costs themselves, which whilst I am grateful for them doing this, going forward we have to make sure that the club does stand on its own two feet. The biggest difference is that the profit from our three shows has doubled this year over last. This has been for a number of reasons, firstly, whilst no doubt, owners have cut back the number of shows they compete at, they are still supporting their breed shows. The second, is that the feedback from those attending has been very positive about the warm welcome they receive, along with a fun atmosphere, and so we continue to get their support. All I can do is thank the rest of the committee for the time and effort that they put into the shows as well as to those who have attended.

#### 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 Janes,  
Willow Tree Cottage, Ivy Row,  
Brithdir, New Tredegar, Gwent,  
NP24 6JU**

Never forget again! Subs can be paid via Direct Debit. You can download a form from the website or contact the Secretary.

On the year we have made a profit of £533, but this is not being salted away for a rainy day, we have to invest in new items for the club, a new BBQ for the fun day and other events, a large tent like structure for our outdoor events and new showing matting. It is important that we continue to evolve and to provide our members and those attending events with a good value, fun event.

**Annie Glover** (*Treasurer*)





# Working Report

## Assessment Test

Our Assessment Test was once again held at Penttyrch Boarding Kennels which is easily located just 10 minutes north of M4 Junction 32. The Kennels has ample varying land for us to use, together with a large pond, thick woodland and open grassland. We set aside Test ground from that used for any of our training days and it has always proved popular with competitors, topped with a huge clean barn where we start the day with hot bacon baps before embarking on the Tests.

This year's judges were Alison Evans (Nantlle) who judged Puppies/Special Beginners and Alan Willis (Keldeb Gundogs) judging Novice/Intermediate. Alison regularly competes her Welsh Springers and trains under Sue and Alan Hender (West Berks Gundog Club) our last year's judges. Alan Willis is no stranger to the WSSCSW and is always encouraging in his assessments of our breed. He competes at the highest level with his gundogs, mostly ESS but hopefully one day we just might persuade him to train a Welsh!



## Judges' reports

**JUDGE: Mrs Alison Evans**  
(Nantlle)

Special Beginners and Puppy

It was a pleasure to be asked to judge the Special Beginners and Puppies at the WSSCSW Working Assessment in April.

The Special Beginners were asked, following a short walk to heel on lead, to do a sit, stay and recall, a simple seen retrieve and then memory retrieve along a track, and finished with a little bit of hunting in a small wooded area. My winner did very well on the retrieves and hunting where the dog kept an eye on her handler demonstrating the ability to cover the ground without going off to do her own thing.

In the later puppy class on more open ground, it proved a different story! My second placed dog started well, but had other ideas for the memory retrieve and hunting. What was evident was that the dog had enthusiasm and knew to keep one eye on its handler, so this can be channelled and, with plenty of training, there is potential for a good working partnership. Both dogs in the later water test entered without hesitation to retrieve their dummies.

We moved to more open ground for the Puppies, an area of tussocky grass with lots of smells which distracted many dogs from their handlers commands in both the basic obedience and hunting. The



handlers were asked to walk their dog to heel off-lead, undertake a sit stay, a further walk to heel and then a recall. This was followed by a short section of hunting, a seen retrieve, a little further hunting, and then a short blind retrieve. What was possible at this venue, and which is not always the case, was the

opportunity to have a fresh, but similar, piece of ground for each puppy to cover.

My top three placed dogs did well because they demonstrated enthusiasm in their hunting but also listened to their handler. They all retrieved their seen dummy, and what was also a pleasure to see was the trust and/or use of nose for the blind retrieve. In the later water test, all dogs succeeded in their retrieve, some entering the water freely some needing a little further encouragement.

Overall, a very enjoyable day, and I would encourage all handlers to keep up the good work.

**Many thanks, Alison Evans**

**JUDGE: Mr. Alan Willis** (Keldeb Gundogs)  
Novice and Intermediate

Many thanks for inviting me to judge at your Assessment Test on Sunday April 20th 2014.

The Novice Test was run in the morning with the overall standard good, the dogs in the awards I think



*We took the group photo before the action started at the Assessment Test - hence all the clean dogs*

had a bit of polish and maybe more experience, this was evident with the winner who's dog sat to shot, was rock steady and did not take her eyes off the area where the dummy had fallen and when sent went out and back with no help from the handler, she also did the same on her blind retrieve, a very worthy winner. The Intermediate started in the afternoon and it was clear that these dogs (many of whom had worked in the shooting field during the season) were more experienced and hunted with more purpose and drive

and the overall standard was good with the top two dogs very close together.

I very much enjoyed my day with you all as I always do, I did notice some of you kept your dogs very close sometimes not more than a few feet from you then you were calling them back. Trust your dogs a little bit more, keep up with the basics and remember to enjoy it, the more you do it the better you will get, this sport is like any other, you only get out what you put in.

***Many thanks, Alan Willis***

## Demo at Usk Show

*(or when things don't go as planned)*

**Mary Evans, our Working Section Secretary for many years, supposedly retired last year – but you can't let sleeping dogs lie with our Mary – she was asked earlier in the year to give a demonstration at the Usk Show, this is her story of the day.**

I was given no guidelines when asked by Usk Valley Gundogs to do a demo at Usk Show but accepted the invitation happily. I took it seriously and went to Huw Jones to get some advice. Huw is an old hand at demos with his champion labradors and together we worked out a routine. No time spent training is a waste of time but this was as near as it gets.

I had no more guidance and no contact number and thought that maybe they'd forgotten they'd asked me but a ticket turned up in the post a few days before the event.

When I joined the Usk Valley gazebo I found out that we were to do two demo's in a large ring and I was the 'token' Welsh joining the cream of the Usk Valley Gundog team. Did Deri and I let the side down? Well, yes, I think so! Long, sit-stays were broken at least once and one ring-length retrieve wasn't marked and had to be hunted up to.

On the other hand, she hunted really well alongside the other spaniels and sat steady whilst the labradors were sent through the sitting spaniels.

The experienced commentator made the best of any mistakes and Deri was represented as being much younger than she really is! She earned a few "ah!"s when she pulled dummies from the bottom of a pile of sticks and brought them back very carefully!

Yes, I had a good time and I know what to expect if I'm asked again but, somehow, I think that's unlikely.

***Mary Evans - Working Section Secretary (Retired)***





# Presentations and Celebrations

President Kath Morgan had a busy but enjoyable time presenting the various annually awarded trophies at the club's AGM in February.

## Wyesider Trophy

A. There were joint winners of the Wyesider Trophy, awarded to the Top Dog/Bitch born in Wales this year. Brother and Sister pairing, Jane Graham with *Sh.Ch./Svk Ch. Pennylock Rhys over Nyllram JW Sh.CM* and Keith Masson with *Sh. Ch. Pennylock Rhian of Manmoel* shared the trophy this year.



## Typica Breeders Trophy

B. The *Glenbrows* kennel of Tim and Honor Harrison won the Typica Breeders Trophy.



## Silver Pheasant Working Trophy

C. The Silver Pheasant Working Trophy was presented to Ian Dixon and *Bodlon Star Attraction* by Bushwacker.

## Tregwilym Points Trophy

D. The Tregwilym Points Trophy is awarded annually to the Club member who has gained the most points with the same dog throughout the year. This year's winner is Colin Troth with *Cochmaid's Cartier Topaz*.







## Thanks for the encouragement

Ian Dixon wanted to present Mary Evans (Retired Working Secretary) with a gift to thank her for encouraging him when he chose the WSSCSW to start his endeavours in the working field and we are very proud that he has risen to such achievements with Stella (*inset photo*). Well Done both.



## A Special Big "0" Birthday...

...was celebrated by our Secretary Jan Janes and she was presented with a cake to mark the occasion by Chairperson Jan Rees which was shared with everyone after the AGM.



## The Trophy Table

This lovely photo was taken of our Trophy Table at our Championship Show in March, holding the fort, left to right, are Committee members Chris Randles-Price, Mary Evans, Lesley Breeze (Cup Steward) and Karen Lancett.



## Record Equalling Achievements

Many Congratulations to Janey and Craig Sutherland and *Sh.Ch. Julita Rezanella of Jacranella (Nell)* who gained her Show Gundog Working Certificate at the United Spaniel Association Test in November handled by Janey to make her up into a Full Champion, so she can drop the Sh. from her title and will now be known as *Ch. Julita Rezanella of Jacranella*.

Congratulations also go to her breeder Julie Revill (Julita) Nell makes the total of Full Champions that Julita have bred to 4 – these are *Ch. J.Jaunty Reveller*, *Ch. J. Ryvanda*, *Ch. J. Regal Request* and of course *Nell*, this tally now equals the breed record currently held by Christine McDonald's Northey kennel. A wonderful achievement, well done.

# MANMOEL



## Peakdale Iestyn ap Dafydd Manmoel

Sam at 9½ is now starting the second half of his show career, winning Best Veteran at WSSCSW Open Show in September and Best Dog, RBIS and BOS at Welsh Springer Spaniel Club's Open Show in November and we are looking forward to having some fun with him during 2015.

**Contact Keith Masson – Tel: 07730 309054  
or e-mail: [massonk@aol.com](mailto:massonk@aol.com)**



## Rhys (Coedybrain Geraint of Manmoel) 9/7/05 – 24/2/14

Unfortunately whilst we are looking forward to having fun with Sam we had to say goodbye to Rhys, Coedybrain Geraint of Manmoel, who died after a short illness in February and whose passing still leaves a painful hole in our hearts. A dog who loved being in the show ring but really just lived to please and to cuddle, he is sorely missed.

# Cwmbeili



## Meet the Cwmbeili girls

**Bronwyn 04/07/01 – Highmere Martha** – (centre) still going strong and getting into mischief aged 13 ½ years, soon to acquire the Cwmbeili affix.

**Nia 07/09/14 – Coedybrain Nia at Cwmbeili** – (left) enjoying both the show-ring and working scenes. Best Puppy Bitch at Southern Counties this year under Stephen Pick and a First in Special Beginners at the WSSCSW April Assessment Test at Pentyrch.

**Poppy – Coedybrain Lois** – (right) soon to officially become a Cwmbeili girl after coming to live with her litter sister this Autumn.

All proudly owned and loved by Mrs Karen Lancett.  
Holly Tree Cottage. Bailey Lane End. Ross-on-Wye. HR9 5TR Tel: 01989 750077





# Family and Dog Fun Day at Fonmon Castle

## *A Great Day for Our Breed Promotion*

CHAIRPERSON JAN REES was approached earlier in the year to see if the Club could put together a Breed Promotion Stand to interact with the general public at this Family Dog Fun Day. This had proved to be a very successful event the previous year and the organisers wanted to extend the range of information and activities. The day had every conceivable activity for dogs imaginable.

We were delighted to accept and set about organising our 'Stand' which we wanted to make as eye-catching as possible. The result, as you can see from the pictures was pretty good and with plenty of help on the day, turned out a huge success.

We had lots of information on the breed available, leaflets to hand out, grooming equipment to demonstrate and everything to do with the working side of the breed, which we are always keen to promote. Mary Evans gave a couple of Gundog displays with her trusted duo of Catrin and Deri, gathering a nice crowd and several grooming displays by the two Jan's proved popular having all sorts and sizes of dogs lining up for a haircut !!

The highlight of the day was being awarded the 'red rosette' by Event Organiser Caroline Cowen for the most Interactive Stand at the Show, we were all delighted and to top it off we were invited back again for next year. Can we top 2014 – well we will certainly give it a try. Look out for the date and come along and join us, you can be assured of a great day.

**Jan Rees**



*Top: The team manning the stand with a selection of our dogs - and below that we show off our Best Stand rosette.*

*Left and clockwise – One passing Welshie family gets a lesson in ear-trimming from Jan Rees; An adorable 12 week old puppy gets approval from the two Jan's; A strange human-sized dog drops by and confuses our dogs; Mary Evans draws quite a crowd for her working demonstration.*





# COEDYBRAIN

*Where breed type is paramount*



**Sh. Ch. Coedybrain Nelli at 8 years**



**Coedybrain Morgan winning Post Grad at recent WSSC show**



**Coedybrain Terfel of Diales winning Reserve BIS recently**

Not forgetting all other Coedybrains who have won well this year:

Coedybrain Menna ❖ Coedybrain Rebecca at Manmoel

Coedybrain Ryan ar Nantlle ❖ Coedybrain Nia at Cwmbeili

Coedybrain Mali at Nalydris

Also Coedybrain Gwenllian - Gwenny, owned by Keith and Chris Price, who continues to delight us all

*Enquiries and visitors are always welcome.*

Jan & Barrie Janes, Willow Tree Cottage, 6 Ivy Row, Brithdir, Gwent. NP24 6JU  
Phone 01443 838154 • e-mail [coedybrain.jan@hotmail.com](mailto:coedybrain.jan@hotmail.com)



ON A DULL AND DAMP November morning, there were the usual warm welcoming smiling faces of the WSSCSW members old and new all helping each other to set up our base for the day ahead. Tables and chairs set up, hot water for tea and coffee and we were ready to get started.

Now to get the dogs out of the cars. Like the owners they all greeted each other in a typical Welshie way, with a sniff, a bark, and excited anticipation.

It was time to get started. We were asked to form a circle, there was a great mix of ages from puppies through to older experienced dogs. In turn we walked the dogs to heel in and around the other dogs and owners getting the dogs to concentrate on us not the other dogs and the relief on the faces of owners when the dogs had done what was asked of them, then the signs on the faces of those where things hadn't gone so well. We've all been there and will go back to that feeling from time to time because we own Welshies and they have a mind of their own.

Circle work done, it was time to spilt up into two groups, puppies under the guidance of Jan Rees and Sue Evans and the more experienced dogs under the expert eye of Mary Evans.

Two new members and their puppies, Chappie and Ruby, continued with more circle work - sitting, staying and walking to heel - and they were introduced to some basic retrieving using the long-lead method to make sure they concentrated on the job in hand. The puppies performed very well for their first outing and the owners went away with plenty of tips on how to continue their training at home.

Myself and Taffy were asked to join the more experienced owners and dogs and went off into the woods. Amongst the trees, bushes and bramble four dummies were put down, two to the right and the left about five meters apart. Nearly all the dogs were missing the first dummy, as we'd all been doing long retrievers because we love seeing them fly off to retrieve the dummy but this was to get us to steady the dogs back down as if they were looking for felled game and working for us not them.



After a second run all the dogs and owners were happy with the work that had been done, positive ideas to go away with and work on. Down came the rain as we headed back to base for refreshments and Welsh cakes of course, and huddled under our shelter to chat about the morning's achievements and failures with tea and coffee in hand in our wonderful setting in the Welsh hills of the Rhymney Valley.

The rain eased off and the sun came out, so all refuelled we headed off for our afternoon walk. With everyone relaxed and the dogs' lessons finished they were allowed off their leads and it was a very excited Welshie free for all. They soon found the water and were all in there in a splash - which always brings out the smiles and trying to work out whose dog is whose when wet. The walk took us through the woods and alongside the lakes which beautifully reflected the autumn hillsides. After about an hour's walking it was back to base for more tea and coffee. It was then all hands on deck to pack up and bring an end to another great, exhausting day with the WSSCSW.

***Thanks to everyone - Colyn and Taffy***

# Typica



## Typica Red Kite

Sire: Sh.Ch. Ferndel Aeron Magregor ~ Dam: Typica Country Maid

2014 Highlights include:

**Best In Show** -  
Pontypridd C.S.

**C.C.** - Gundog Society  
of Wales  
(Judge: Julie Exall)

And together with his  
team mates won the  
**Breeders Class** at the  
WSSC Championship  
Show  
(Judge: Nigel Worth)



T.Red Kite (left), T.Country Maid (Centre), T.Kingfisher (Right)

## Puppies planned 2015

Jan and Alan Rees,  
Tel: 02920 891253 • email: [Castle\\_typica@hotmail.com](mailto:Castle_typica@hotmail.com)





# OPEN SHOW

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

**Sunday 9th February 2014**

Judge: Mrs. Christine Morgan (Cwsscwn)

BEST IN SHOW - Tew's **Pamicks Dazzling Boy JW** (*centre*)

RESERVE BEST IN SHOW - Barkley's **Cherryheath's Mr Mischief JW Sh CM** (*left centre*)

BEST PUPPY IN SHOW - Fairhall's **Ferndel Fairy Tale** (*right centre*)

BEST OPPOSITE SEX - Sutherland's **Julita Rezanella Of Jacranella** (*right*)

BEST VETERAN - Baguley's **Kylowen Gerrans Sh CM** (*left*)

## Best in Show Lineup



## Judge's Comments

It was an honour to be asked to judge this very well run show. A warm Welsh welcome awaited me along with some excellent exhibits. Huge thanks to the exhibitors for entering under me and for their sportsmanship and camaraderie.

*Christine Morgan*



## Best Dog Line-Up

BEST DOG (*Centre*) – Pamicks Dazzling Boy JW

RESERVE BEST DOG (*Left*) – Cherryheath's Mr Mischief JW Sh CM

BEST PUPPY DOG (*Right*) – Harrison's Glenbrows Magician



## Best Bitch Line-Up

BEST BITCH (*Centre*) – Julita Rezanella Of Jacranella

RESERVE BEST BITCH (*Left*) – Harrison's Int Ch Glenbrows Portrait

BEST PUPPY BITCH (*Right*) – Ferndel Fairy Tale

Full list of results and the Judge's critique can be seen on the club's website at [www.wsscsw.co.uk](http://www.wsscsw.co.uk)

# CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

Chepstow Leisure Centre, Chepstow, Gwent

**Sunday 30th March 2014**

JUDGES: DOGS: Tom Graham (Nyliram) BITCHES: Gill Tully (Highclare)

REFEREE: - Debbie Roberts (Cwrt Afon)

BEST IN SHOW - Ritchie's **Sh Ch Hillrobin Galaxy At Slapestones JW**

RESERVE BEST IN SHOW - McGrath's **Taimeres Tomfoolery**

BEST PUPPY IN SHOW - Fairhall's **Ferndel Fairy Tale**

*Not in photo below:*

BEST VETERAN IN SHOW - Ritchie's **Sh Ch Hillrobin Galaxy At Slapestones JW**

RESERVE BEST PUPPY - Bott's **Ferndel Fools Gold**

RESERVE BEST VETERAN - Worth's **Sh Ch Shandwick Kristoffer At Sarabande Sh CM**

## Best in Show Lineup



**Judges' Comments** – Many thanks to the committee for the invitation to judge this well organised and friendly show.



## Best Dog Line-Up

BEST DOG – Taimeres Tomfoolery (*centre*)

RESERVE BEST DOG – Howarth's Menstonia Men  
Only At Arkview JW (*left*)

BEST PUPPY DOG – Ferndel Fools Gold (*right*)



## Best Bitch Line-Up

BEST BITCH – Sh Ch Hillrobin Galaxy At  
Slapestones JW (*centre*)

RESERVE BEST BITCH – Harrison's Glenbrows  
Future Romance JW (*left*)

BEST PUPPY BITCH – Ferndel Fairy Tale (*right*)





**IT WAS A SUNNY SPRING day when some 150 Welsh Springer Spaniels and their owners descended on Chepstow Leisure Centre for the South Wales Club's Championship show.**

Tom Graham judged the Dog section in the morning session. He had 82 dogs across 16 classes to appear before him. While Gill Tully judged the Bitch section, in the afternoon, with 81 entries across 16 categories.

This all added up to a hard but enjoyable day's work and the club is very grateful to all those who helped make it a successful day. A special thanks goes out to the judges for their expertise and hard work. The photos here by photographer Terry Evans show what a busy day it was.



Full list of results, the Judges' critiques and many more photos can be seen on the club's website.

# OPEN SHOW

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

**Sunday 14th September 2014**

JUDGE: Mike Lewin (Vynesbrook)

**BEST IN SHOW – Tew's Pamicks Dazzling Boy JW**

**RESERVE BEST IN SHOW – Leary's Menstonia Minty Of Haslemount JW**

**BEST PUPPY – Hankins' Haltonian Romeo With Woodelrond**

**RESERVE BEST PUPPY – Charles' Stagarth A Kind Of Magic (not in photo)**

**BEST VETERAN – Masson's Peakdale Iestyn Ap Dafydd Manmoel (right)**

## Best in Show Lineup



## Judge's Comments

It was a pleasure to judge at this friendly and well run show and I would like to thank the hard working committee for a very enjoyable day.

*Mike Lewin*



## Best Dog Line-Up

**BEST DOG – Pamicks Dazzling Boy JW (centre)**

**RESERVE BEST DOG – Evans' Typica Kingfisher (left)**

**BEST PUPPY DOG – Haltonian Romeo With Woodelrond (right)**



## Best Bitch Line-Up

**BEST BITCH – Menstonia Minty Of Haslemount JW**

**RESERVE BEST BITCH – Fairhall's Ferndel Fairy Tale At Rubylea (left)**

**BEST PUPPY BITCH – Charles' Stagarth A Kind Of Magic (right)**

Full list of results and the Judges' critiques can be seen on the club's website at [www.wsscsu.co.uk](http://www.wsscsu.co.uk)





# SPECIAL AWARDS

The WSSCSW schedule special classes at our shows to encourage and help develop up and coming judges. If you have already judged the breed and are already on a club C list and would like to be considered to judge these classes at a future show can you please contact the Secretary.



AT OUR OPEN SHOW IN FEBRUARY, Miss Hayley Johnston (*Diales*) judged three Special Award classes in which there were 15 entries. Sue Evans acted as steward for these classes for the first time. The photo above shows the class winners: (*Left to Right*).  
SPECIAL JUNIOR: Revill's Julita Rokahula JW;  
SPECIAL POST GRADUATE: Frost's Cochnaid's Cartier Diamond;  
LEN MORGAN MEMORIAL OPEN STAKES: Sutherland's Julita Rezanella of Jacranella



AT OUR OPEN SHOW IN SEPTEMBER, Mrs Jane Sutherland (*Jacranella*) judged three Special Award classes in which there were 16 entries. The photo above shows the class winners: (*Left to Right*).  
LEN MORGAN MEMORIAL OPEN STAKES: Worth's Sh.Ch. Shandwick Premier Rose at Saraband JW Sh CM;  
SPECIAL JUNIOR: Fairhall and Millard's Ferndel Fairy Tale at Rubylea;  
SPECIAL POST GRADUATE: Leary's Menstonia Minty of Haselmount.



## WSSCSW Merchandise



*Kath tries out her sales technique on Sue Evans (it worked!)*

Another feature to look out for at our shows is the Club Shop which has been organised by our President Mrs Kath Morgan for many years. She always has many desirable products for sale bearing the club logo or other Welsh Springer images - products include:

- Sweatshirts   ■ Polo & T-Shirts   ■ Jackets
- Bags   ■ Hats   ■ Gilets   ■ Mugs   ■ Pens
- Coasters   ■ Cards   ■ Badges   ■ Books

At every show Kath has some new items available and very often if she has not got the item in your size or colour she is able to order it. Just ask her at any of our shows.

# From Puppy to Champion

*Ch Julita Rezanella  
of Jacranella*

*(a.k.a. Nell)*

Owned by Jane and Craig  
Sutherland

Bred by Julie Revill

Born 4th January 2009

Nell at 6 ½ weeks



Photo: Julie Revill

NELL received her first RCC from  
Tom Graham at Windsor  
Championship Show in 2012.

Followed by 4 CCs to date:

...the first from Joy Hartley at  
Midland Counties in 2012,

...the second from Finuala Barnes  
at South Wales Kennel  
Association in 2013,

...and then gaining her title of  
Show Champion after being  
awarded the CC by Jane Howarth  
at the National Gundog  
Association Show in 2014.

Nell has gone on to gain a further  
CC from Graham Tain at The  
Welsh Kennel Club Show in 2014.

Nell is a true dual purpose Welsh  
Springer, not only gaining titles in  
the show ring but also enjoying a  
full and active career in the  
shooting field. She achieved her  
Show Gundog Working Certificate  
in November 2014 under judges  
John Carter and Will Taylor at a  
United Spaniel Association trial,  
and thus gained the title of Full  
Champion (*see photo on page 9*).

Nell at 15 months



Photo: Craig Sutherland

Nell at 5 years



Photo: Craig Sutherland





Tom at 8 weeks



## From Puppy to Champion

*Sh Ch Glenbrows  
Rainman JW*

*(a.k.a. Tom)*

Owned and Bred by Tim and  
Honor Harrison

Born 7th June 2011

Tom at 8 months



CC and BOB at Manchester 2014  
under Dr R James

CC and BOB at WELKS 2014  
under Mr G Griffiths

CC and BOB at SKC in May 2014  
under Mrs J Gill-Davis

Tom entered the show ring at 6 months of age, winning best of breed and best puppy in breed at his first show – he was handled by our eldest son, Daniel, who was then just 10 years of age.

His first CC came when he was just 19 months old, his title being gained before his 2nd birthday. All Tom's CCs have been won with best of breed.

Tom at 21 months



It is very gratifying to us that his tickets have been awarded by judges whom we have shown under since we were teenagers, indeed, Ginty Gill-Davis who gave Tom his crowning CC gave Tim his first class win at a championship show many years ago with a home bred cocker.

# Glenbrows

## Welsh Springer Spaniels

take great pride in presenting the two youngest members of our team.



### **Glenbrows Trademark**

Handled by our 12 year old son Daniel  
BPIS SEWSSC Champ Show  
BPIB Midland Counties  
BPIB GBAS



Photos: Joy Hartley

### **Glenbrows Truth about Aindrea**

Owned and shown by Mrs S Backhouse  
BPIS North of England WSSC

Both the wonderful photographs above were captured ring-side by Joy Hartley, although in her capacity as Aunt Joy, she did confess to shedding a tear or two watching Dan, not so many years since she was playing Power Rangers and Spiderman with the boys. Thank you Joy for capturing these special moments!

These two youngsters are sired by Sh Ch Glenbrows Rainman JW ex Sh Ch Glenbrows Tribute to Weslave JW. We look forward to their future careers with great anticipation. Interestingly they follow in their mother's footsteps as she too was awarded all the above and more in her puppy career.

**Show potential puppies of similar breeding may be available Jan 2015, the first litter sired by G Manifesto JW (shares the same dam as Rainman) from the lovely G Temptation; litter sister to Sh Chs Tribute and Timelord.**



*Continuing the family theme, although Dan takes the lead in showing, we have Callum to thank for his support in puppy socialisation*

**Tim and Honor Harrison**

**glenbrows@live.co.uk • [www.glenbrows.co.uk](http://www.glenbrows.co.uk) • 01332 701559**





# It's Not a WSSCSW Show without our Welsh Cakes ... and here's why...



THE ANCIENT BAKESTONE (or baking-stone) is an everyday survivor in the Wales of today. In many homes cooks proudly admit to its regular use – what they mean is a heavy, black cast-iron one which perhaps has been in the family for generations, and not one of the specially coated griddles that can be bought nowadays. *Gradell* is the North and mid Wales term and means ‘an iron plate to make cakes upon’. *Planc* is the Welsh synonym for plank – ‘an iron plank for the baking of bread’ and is the term used in west Wales. The County of Glamorgan use the term *maen* (stone) for an actual stone bakestone, and *llechfaen* for what was literally a slate stone, common to some parts of the south and south west.

My Dad worked in the coal mines and actually made my bakestone and gave it to me for a wedding present. However, it was something that sat in a cupboard for many years and only in the past 10 years have I started to use it on a regular basis. It is one of my treasured possessions, being a link to my Dad.

Historically, the ‘bakestone’ was placed over smouldering coals to cook cakes, biscuits and if an upturned iron pot was placed over the bakestone, it could be used to cook bread (*Bara Planc*).

A Welsh cake can be enjoyed both hot or cold; usually they are sprinkled with caster sugar for serving. Most people choose not to accompany Welsh cakes with anything but on some occasions they may be served in a similar way to a scone with jam or butter.

There are many local variations of Welsh cakes and even secret family recipes, for instance: A “*Llech Cymraeg*” is the most common variation, baked with wholemeal flour as opposed to self raising flour, resulting in a much flatter cake with a crispier texture. A “*Jam Split*” is made by slicing a Welsh cake in half and filling with jam or butter - most popular in south Wales. An “*Apple Dragon*” includes grated apple to help keep them moister for longer. The “*Newport Lovely*” is a variant that is rarely found outside the area of Newport. Traditionally they are made by the men of Newport for their women, usually as a wedding gift or potentially an engagement present.

Following a discussion in the kitchen at a recent show, we decided to share our recipes, but when collated they were roughly all the same, but for some reason they vary in taste. Mine and Annie’s were identical, Mary’s had less butter. Clearly the healthy option! From Mary’s description you can also work out what part of the world she originates from.

**Debbie Roberts**

## Annie and Deb's Welsh Cakes

8oz self raising flour  
1/4 tsp mixed spice  
Pinch of salt  
4oz butter  
3oz sugar  
3oz sultanas  
1 beaten egg  
A little milk  
A little amount oil.

### METHOD:

Sieve flour, spice and salt in to a bowl. Rub in the fat. Add all the other dry ingredients. Mix in to a stiff paste with the egg and a little milk (as stiff as short crust pastry). Roll out to 1.5 cm thick and cut in to rounds with a 5.5 to 6.5cm cutter. Lightly grease a bake-stone or heavy bottomed frying pan. Cook on medium heat until each side is brown (about 3-4 minutes each side). Put them on a wire rack to cool. Keith and I struggle to wait and usually eat them when they are piping hot.



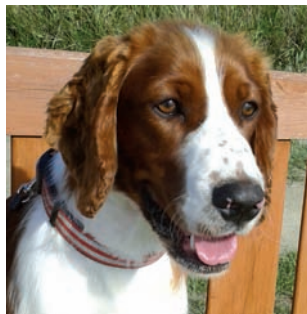
## Mary Evans' Welsh Cakes

My first memories of Welsh cakes (Pice ar y maen) weren't brilliant. I was very young and I didn't like currants much but apart from apple pie and custard there was nothing sweet to be had at my aunt's farm - oh, I'm wrong there were rock cakes! Rock cakes were a bit like Welsh Cakes but they had less moisture and they were baked in the range rather than fried on a bakestone. The difference between the recipe I use today and that of long ago is that butter is used rather than lard or a mixture of cooking fat and marg.

8 oz self-raising flour	3 oz butter
pinch salt	good pinch mixed spice
3 oz currants	3 oz caster sugar
1 egg	milk to mix
a little extra caster to sprinkle	

METHOD: Rub butter into the flour. Add dry ingredients. Add egg and mix into a stiff paste (pastry consistency) adding a little milk if necessary. Roll out into a sheet just under quarter inch thick (10mm approx) and cut into rounds. Place on lightly oiled bakestone or heavy-based frying pan for 2-3 minutes on both sides. Dust with sugar and eat at least one before they cool!

# Day in the life of a Dairy Dog



Hello fellow Welshies, my name is Jip George and I am a Dairy Dog, I am a working dog, but not as you would think. I don't flush game, I don't pick-up dummies on field trials either, but I do have a very important job and that is working alongside my humans on a daily basis on a dairy farm in Pembrokeshire. I work long hours, in all kinds of weather and some of you Welshies out there might feel a little sorry for me, but believe me, I have the best life any dog could ever want and I am going to tell you all about one of my working winter days on the farm.

**6.00am** – While my humans have a cup of tea, I have my breakfast, fresh mince and biscuits, a working girl needs plenty of energy for a day on the farm.

**6.15** – Off to the milking parlour, one of my humans Llywelyn, has to bring the cows in for milking, this is where the odd bark comes in handy as some cows can be a bit on the lazy side.

**6.30** – Time to feed the young stock, they are between three and twelve months old and this morning, my human mummy has over sixty to feed. They are fed barley straw and plenty of young stock feed. I then have to guard the gate and stop them coming out, while mummy puts clean straw down as bedding. I then help spread the straw, by running around as fast as I can and lifting the straw with my nose. Mummy tells me that I am such a clever girl and a lovely pat on my head makes me feel so special.



**7.30** – Calf feeding time. Mummy has a large contraption called a Milk Taxi, which holds up to 130 litres of milk, all calves from new born to three months of age are given milk as the main part of their diet. We have around fifty calves to feed today, mummy says it's lucky that the milk taxi is self-propelled and that she only has to steer it, otherwise we would take twice as long.

**9.00** – Breakfast for the humans and a well-deserved snooze for me, while mummy catches up with some house work.

**11.00** – Mummy hoses down the yard, so that it's nice and clean, ready for the milk tanker to collect the milk, chasing the hose and splashing through the water is so much fun.

**11.30** – Although most of the cows are now housed for the winter, there are still some heavily in-calf cows living out in the fields. It is very important that I take mummy over to check them twice daily, for any up dates on when they are going to give birth.

**1.00pm** – While the humans have their lunch I like to practice my football skills, I've been told by many that I would make an excellent addition to the Welsh team alongside Gareth Bale, being a dog, I can only dream







**2.00** – Mummy puts on her wellies and off we go again, we're going to be checking for any holes in the black plastic sheets that cover the whole of the silage pit, this is the cows food for the winter and mummy says that if there is damage to the plastic, water could penetrate the silage, which could lead to contamination, the cows could become ill and stop producing milk.



**3.00** – Help my human dad move some heifers, I have to watch that they stay together, while dad cleans out the shed and puts fresh bedding down, a few barks later and they're all back in, jumping around and playing in the straw.

**4.00** – A cow needs help to deliver her calf, so while Llywelyn helps her, I am ready to run and fetch mummy if needed, sometimes mummy has to ring the vet if the birth is difficult.



**4.30** – Cup of tea for the humans and supper time for me.

**5.00** – I help Llywelyn bring in the cows for milking again and then go and help mummy to feed all the calves and youngstock once again.

**7.30** – A nice walk in the dark over to check the in-calf cows, it's so much fun in the dark, jumping in and out of hedges, weaving my way through brambles and leaping over branches, picking up all kinds of interesting scent, one of the perks of living on a farm.

**8.00** – End of my working day and time for mummy to help write my diary page.

Believe it or not, but I do have the odd day away from the farm, sometimes to the beach, Llys-Y-Fran Country Park, to the agricultural shows and this year I went with mummy to the WSSCSW's Summer Rally in Monmouth where I gained my Bronze KC Good Citizen's Award, mummy was so proud of me.

As there is such a lot of work on a dairy farm, mummy thought it would be a good idea for me to have an apprentice, so if any of you thought I looked a little on the porky side in some of my pictures, that's the reason why, by the time you read my diary, I will have given birth to my very own apprentice and I will fill you in with his/her progress in my Summer diary page. In the meantime I hope you all find plenty of hedges and open fields to explore and until the next time, it's a couple of wags from me to you fellow Welshies.

*by Jip George (Typica Skylark)*



# The Traveling Americans

OUR BAGS ARE unpacked and we have returned to our work and personal demands but not without much reminiscing about our recent trip to Wales. Originally scheduling our trip around Crufts 2014, we knew we wanted to see more than just London Heathrow and the dog show. But we realized when planning our trip, we had limited time to see as much as possible during our time there. This required making decisions of what to see, where to visit, and whom to visit. Crufts 2014 was a given, but considering we all own and breed Welsh Springer Spaniels, a trip to Wales was also in order. The question then became: "Who do we know in Wales that we could visit?"



That was one of the easiest questions to answer in planning the trip: We knew the "Traveling Jans!"

We met Jan Rees and Jan Janes at the 2013 Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America National Specialty show held in Perry, Georgia in May 2013. Termed 'the Traveling Jans' by Michael Faulkner, Jan and Jan extended an offer to visit Wales if we ever travelled there. So, it was without question that a trip to Wales and a visit with the 'traveling Jans' were in order. We traveled to Wales from Birmingham the morning after Crufts finished and arrived in the early afternoon to meet up with Jan Rees.

Over a quick cup of coffee, we began talking about our dogs. You know when WSS people get together, the topic will always come around to the dogs. We then met up with Jan Janes, talked with both Jans about the Crufts experience, of the dogs we saw at the show, and met the dogs of the Typica and Coedybrain kennels. The topics of conversation included the vulnerable state of the Welsh Springer Spaniel in both the UK and the US and of the limited numbers of dogs being bred. We shared concerns about health issues and the tracking of test results, of limited stud dog availability, and the challenges of being breeders.

Then, we became tourists. We traveled the narrow roads between Pentryrch and Caerphilly to visit the Castle. We traveled through the Taff and Rhondda Valleys. We drove over hills and mountain with fabulous views of the valleys. Jan and Barry cooked us a wonderful dinner that was followed by looking at old yearbooks of dogs that have formed the foundations of many of the U.S. kennels. The next day brought about a visit to Castle Coch (castles were as high on our list as Welsh Springer Spaniels!) for tea and bread and then some marvelous shopping. A little more than 24 hours after we arrived, we were again on the road back to







London. While we finished up the last of our shopping and touring, we spoke of the Wales experiences.

We certainly enjoyed Crufts and had the pleasure of seeing what it was all about, knowing though that several trips are needed so as not to be as overwhelmed with it as we were. But we collectively agreed that the highlight of the trip was the time we spent in Wales. To be certain, Crufts was stunning and it was a pleasure to see such a show (and to actually talk about and note the differences in show style, dog classes, handling, winning, and the formal pictures) and to have met up with so many old friends as well as new ones. Without a doubt, we gained from the kindness and warmth extended to us during our short time in Wales. And we promise: we will be back to see more Welsh Springer Spaniels, castles, daffodils, and conversations!

Our most sincere thanks and appreciation for the kindnesses extended to Jan and Alan for opening up their home to relative strangers; to Jan and Barry Janes for a fabulous dinner complete with Irish beer, and again to the traveling Jans who took us to wonderful sites to which we will certainly return.

*Shelley Traylor and Cindy Ford (Rolyarts)  
Brenda Trofenenko (Longlanes Welsh Springers)*



### *Cochnaid's Cartier Topaz J.W. Sc. CM*

Hips 4:8. Eyes unaffected Glaucoma

Josh is doing extremely well in the show ring, gaining his Junior Warrant, Sh. Certificate of Merit, a R.C.C. and WSSCSW Tregwilym Points Trophy. He is now working towards the title of record holder for how many ASBO's he can gain, and he isn't far off it!

His partner in crime, his litter sister **Cochnaid's Carter Diamond** continues to do well, always in the cards, and second in line for the ASBO record.

*Josh will be welcoming his offspring into the ring next year.*

Josh is jointly owned by  
Brenda Frost and Colin Troth  
Bred by Brenda Frost

Maggie is  
owned and bred by  
Brenda Frost

## *Bridge Caravan Park & Camping Site*



**A beautiful Caravan Park set in the heart of the Vale of Usk and Wye Valley, in the small village of Dingestow (midway between Monmouth and Raglan).**

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[info@bridgecaravanpark.co.uk](mailto:info@bridgecaravanpark.co.uk)

# Summer Rally and Dog Fun Day

*The WSSCSW social get together and Dog Fun Day this year was held at:*

*The Bridge Caravan Park and Camping Site, Dingestow, Monmouth on Saturday 19th to Sunday 20th July 2014*

**EARLY IN 2014 THERE** was talk within the club of holding a Club Rally in the summer. Many of our members had previously attended weekend events held by the other clubs, and they had a fabulous time, so we decided it was our turn to hold our own Fun Weekend.

I was very fortunate to find a lovely caravan and campsite which welcomed dogs, (even when I told them how many there may be), in the heart of the Vale of Usk and Wye Valley, set in the small village of Dingestow which is only 4 miles from Monmouth and 3 miles from Raglan.

This is a very popular area for tourism, a gateway to South Wales, and with the famous Wye Valley section of the river from Monmouth down to Tintern Abbey and Chepstow. The village has a beautiful Village Hall which we booked for the Saturday night meal and quiz, not trusting the Welsh weather even in July, and we had the use of the village green too, for our scurries and events on the Sunday.

Well, as you may remember, July turned out to be one of the hottest months, and with the exception of a monster thunderstorm late on Friday night, we all welcomed the sunny weather.

Several of our committee arrived at the site on Friday, both to welcome the early arrivals and prepare the hall and rally field. Tents were erected, caravans pitched, and as we settled down under our Coleman event shelter our farmer friend arrived with a trailer full of hay bales which we had to unload before we could sit down with a glass or two, catching up with the



news from friends old and new.

Saturday dawned and we set about laying out the various rings for the following day's events, even working through a heavy thunderstorm to layout the run for the scurry. During the day several more helpers arrived and set up camp. That evening we held a welcome meal in the village hall, and battled a fiendish chocolate themed quiz, before retiring to the campsite for an early night.

A beautiful Sunday morning saw us putting the finishing touches to the display areas and stands, while the gentle breeze held promise of bacon rolls all round. Soon the first customers were streaming through the gate, and the grooming exhibit had a queue straight away, but no

time to do them all, just give a few pointers, and trim some nails!

We organised Good Citizens award testing with the assistance of judge Kate Morgan-Lloyd, several dogs gained their Bronze Award, and she was so patient



*Best other breed, not WSS, at the Show lineup*



*Best WSS at the Show lineup with Judge Anita Shears*





*Left to right: Winners of the Best Six Legs; Person most like his dog; Alan Willis holds a puppy training session; Secret Judge, Kath Morgan with Dog of the Day - Stella.*

and helpful with the younger puppies, showing the owners the basic tasks and commands to be learnt.

There was a downside to the heat though, we had several dog games events including a Scurry, an Agility Course, and 'Find the biscuit Game', all great fun when a bit cooler, but it was too hot to encourage the dogs to exert themselves too much – indeed at one stage some kind local dog owner loaned us a paddling pool for the dogs to cool off.

However, the heat did not deter competitors from the main ring for the Fun Dog Show. There was a Puppy Class for the newest members to try out showing, a fine parade of Veterans (dogs, not handlers) and a class for any breed of dog. Then came an hilarious 'Best 6 Legs competition', I may rewrite the rules next year to say this event must include a dog in the team, as it was won by Messrs Masson, Lancett and Glover showing a fine set of 6 legs, although their 'movement' was magnificent to see.

Finally, a highlight of the day – the dog that looked most like its owner, now this would normally be a difficult one, as not many of us have red and white hair, maybe just a red and white face, but it was won in great style by Terry Evans sporting his WSS shirt - worn over his head.



*The Welshie on the left won the Best Talent competition with his footballing skills while the puppy below could not stand the heat or the pace. Right: With all the burgers a happy crowd start to drift away.*



All attendees had been told that a Secret Judge had been appointed and was tasked with watching all the dogs during the day, to make a special award of 'Dog of the Day' - this could be for waggiest tail, cutest smile, or best ice cream cone demolisher, - the judge was revealed as Kath Morgan and in the end her choice was Stella (Bodlon Star Attraction by Bushwacker) with owner Sandra Dixon for all of the above.



All too soon we'd run out of burgers, hot dogs, cold drinks and cakes, and it was time to pack up. I don't know how many came to enjoy our day, as we had many passers-by, campsite users and villagers drop in, all who thought it was a great sight to see so many 'Welshies' together.

*It was a great weekend and if they will have us back next year, we will definitely do it all again!*

**by Sue Evans**



# THE CORNISH **WELSH** WAY TO AN IDYLIC DOG WALK



On your idyllic walk you should look good and feel great - not be burdened by carrying an awkward smelly bag in search of an elusive bin! Mumpreneur Mandy Davies thought so and invented the Dicky Bag, a little bag for dog mess. "I would've happily paid £1 for someone to take that dreadful bag away, but that would've become expensive if I did it on every walk - The Dicky Bag costs from as little as £21 and instantly removes my nasty knotted poop bag problem and has done on at least 1500 walks! Handmade in Cornwall from light robust neoprene it's leak-proof, odour proof and machine washable.

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# Informal Dog Walks

This year we organised a few informal dog walks, we simply announce on the website that we are going to meet up at a suitable location and off we go for an easy walk with our 'pack' of Welshies.

We often let the dogs off their leads and just let them race around enjoying themselves free from the constraints of the showing or working training ground. It's a great opportunity for both the dogs and their owners to socialise and it's a more relaxed atmosphere for new members to join us.

If you are interested in joining us, watch the website for announcements - or "Like" our page on Facebook to receive automatic updates on your Facebook timeline (*search for Welsh Springer Spaniel CSW*).

## Twmbarlwm >

Every Good Friday it's the tradition for people of the Risca, Newport and Cwmbran area to walk to the top of Twmbarlwm Mountain, the location of an iron-age hill fort. WSSCSW member Terry Evans who chairs a society to protect the mountain invited Welshie owners to take part and half a dozen members turned up and had an enjoyable, spring-time hike to the top.



## < Llanmadoc

One of our members is a Gower girl living in Herefordshire, and to get her Gower fix keeps a base in Llanmadoc, on the northern tip of the peninsular.

This area is 'dog friendly' all year round, so club members, helped with her local knowledge, met up for a beach walk - the beautiful, long beach has had a few invasions of Welshies this summer.

There is a caravan and campsite at Llanmadoc which welcomes dogs and just around the head-land, the more famous Llangennith and Rhossili beaches. There's none of the tourist facilities which are available on the more fashionable south Gower beaches, only miles of beach and sand dunes to let your Welshies run and run.

## Christmas Gathering and Beach Walk >

In previous years our Christmas get togethers consisted of a Training Session followed by a buffet and dog games in a village hall. After the success of the summer dog walks it was decided to have a beach walk for the dogs at Oxwich on the Gower.

The large group of dogs and owners turned up on a sunny winter's day and set off for a 2 mile walk with a fabulous time racing on the beach and chasing balls through the waves.

With the dogs suitably worn out the humans were invited back to Mary Evans' home where a warming Cawl, crusty bread, tea and cakes were served up by Swansea based members.

*It was a great day and may well be repeated next year.*





# *Benoveor*

## *Welsh Springer Spaniels*



*Proudly Present*  
*Benoveor Crime Wave*  
*Des Vauriennes (Imp Nld)*  
*aka 'Locksley'*

*Best Puppy in Show*  
*South Western Gundog Club*

*Reserve Best Puppy in Show*  
*Okehampton & D.C.S*

*Available at stud*  
*to approved bitches*

*Eyes Tested Clear for G*  
*Hips Score 5:7*

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*Mobile ~ 07733 236012*  
*Website ~ [www.benoveor.co.uk](http://www.benoveor.co.uk)*







**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 independent Chairman.

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 WSS Joint Health Group (JHG) held three meetings over the past year, the dominating feature being the Glaucoma Study undertaken by James Oliver and Cathryn Mellersh from the Animal Health Trust (AHT). Free testing was available at all the Welsh Springer Clubs' shows as long as the owner agreed to a DNA sample (cheek swab) being taken for this project. The results of the tests were confidential and also it did not matter whether the dog had been tested previously, or, if they had been tested Affected or Unaffected. James particularly wanted dogs over the age of 5 years as well.

Cathryn also asked if the Group would be prepared to support their application for a Grant for the Glaucoma Study from the USA, these are called ACORNS and could allow them to receive up to a value of \$12,000 + 8% overheads. The JHG agreed that the Secretary should send a letter of support to Cathryn for use with their claim and contact each of the 4 Breed Clubs for financial support as well.

The Group felt that maybe Members may wish to donate to this very worthwhile project individually and the JHG is happy to collate any donations that you may wish to make in the hope that the WSS ownership around the country may make a donation to this research. Cheques should be made out to the 'WSS Joint Health Group' (noting the funds are for the Glaucoma Study) and sent to Anne Morgan, (Treasurer) Park House Farm, Bradbourne, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1PD. Names will of course be listed when the final cheque is sent to the AHT.

Naturally, you may prefer to make your donation personally to the Animal Health Trust but do ensure you make it clear it is for the WSS Glaucoma Study.

## Glaucoma Research in the Welsh Springer Spaniel: Update from the Animal Health Trust

### Background

Inherited glaucoma is a painful and blinding disease. In the Welsh Springer Spaniel, it is caused by an abnormality in fluid drainage from the eye — a condition called goniodysgenesis. Treatment options for glaucoma are limited and nearly all affected dogs need to have their eyes removed, and some are even put to sleep. The Welsh Springer Spaniel is on Schedule A of the BVA/KC/ISDS Eye Scheme for goniodysgenesis and all dogs should be examined for this condition before breeding.

In January of this year, research into the prevalence, progression and genetics of primary glaucoma in various breeds, including the Welsh Springer Spaniel, was started at the Animal Health Trust. The study is being carried out by James Oliver, one of the Senior Ophthalmologists at the AHT, and the genetics team at the AHT, which is led by Dr Cathryn Mellersh. We have been examining dogs for evidence of goniodysgenesis (the abnormality that predisposes to primary glaucoma) and collecting DNA from them. These examinations have been performed at a combination of shows and also at a 'Welsh Springer Spaniel Day' at the AHT which was both well attended and received. Thanks to the Welsh Springer Spaniel community, sample collection has progressed this year at a rapid pace surpassing that of all the other breeds being studied. To date we have collected DNA from almost 300 Welsh Springer Spaniels. These samples are mainly from UK dogs but samples have also been received from the USA, Australia, Germany and Sweden.

Our main aims are to identify gene mutations causative of goniodysgenesis and glaucoma in the Welsh Springer Spaniel and to develop DNA tests that breeders can use when making decisions on suitable matings.

### Preliminary Findings

Our research has shown a surprisingly high prevalence of goniodysgenesis in the Welsh Springer Spaniel - of around 40%. This high prevalence is most likely explained by progression of disease with age. There are several examples of dogs being certified as unaffected for goniodysgenesis (under the BVA eye scheme) at a young age which have gone on to become affected and some of these have even developed glaucoma and had to have eyes removed. This finding

will lead to a change in the advice with regard to frequency of eye testing for goniodysgenesis which used to be regarded as a 'one off' test. This finding also highlights the need for a DNA test for the disease as eye testing at a young age does not guarantee a dog will not develop glaucoma.

Our examinations have also revealed the relative frequency of a few other potentially inherited eye diseases including distichiasis, corneal dystrophy, multifocal retinal dysplasia, cataract and retinal degeneration. These findings stress the importance of performing a full ophthalmic examination under the BVA Eye Scheme, and not just gonioscopy, before breeding..

Laboratory investigations into the genetics of goniodysgenesis and glaucoma is progressing at a rapid rate. We have already performed a candidate gene study and identified one gene of particular interest. The results of this work were presented at the conference of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists in Texas in October. The presentation was attended by around 400 veterinary ophthalmologists from around the world and was well received.

### **The Next Step**

We have now collected enough samples to progress to the next phase of the study — to perform a genome wide association study, where we will compare the DNA from Welsh Springer Spaniels with glaucoma and/or goniodysgenesis with DNA from unaffected dogs. It is our hope that this will confirm the results of our initial candidate gene study and reveal other important genes which are associated with this complicated disease. We have been extremely fortunate so far to have secured funding from several sources to enable our research to date. So far, this research has truly been a collaborative effort with funding and support coming from the following organisations:

- Dog's Trust
- Kennel Club
- Animal Health Trust
- American Kennel Club

The next phase of our research will cost £14,000. This will allow us to examine all of the DNA for possible gene mutations that may cause goniodysgenesis and/or glaucoma in 100 dogs. So far, we have raised £8000 and thus require another £6000 to proceed. We would like to take this opportunity to invite the Welsh Springer Spaniel Clubs of the United Kingdom to contribute funding to this research and help combat this painful and blinding disease.

## **WSS DAY AT THE AHT**

At the WSS Day held at the Animal Health Trust on 28th March 2014 we were informed that in the last few screening sessions (which included around 100 dogs) some other conditions were being found in WSS eyes:

4 dogs with MRD, 3 with Corneal Dystrophy and 2 with Retinal Degeneration.

## **ASSURED BREEDERS**

The JHG Secretary had been approached by a couple of Members of the ABS recently regarding anomalies in the requirements for the Eye Testing by the KC Assessors.

A consultation with Bill Lambert from the Assured Breeders Scheme at the Kennel Club made things a little clearer as follows;

One of these queries was from a kennel which was at the time having an inspection and the Assessor insisted that she had to have her dogs tested for Hereditary Cataract. She had rung the JHG Secretary who had told the Assessor that the KC had downgraded HC to 'Recommended' from 'Required', but he still insisted that meant that all dogs should be tested for HC, even though she told him that the breed had not had a case reported in the UK for well over 30 years. Bill Lambert did appear to believe that 'Recommended' still suggested that dogs should be tested for HC, BUT said that as we had not had a reported case for such a long time they should accept it.

The second matter was regarding testing for Glaucoma. A Breeder had informed the Secretary at the WSSC Ch. Show testing session that she had to have her bitch tested again as this was required 'annually' and despite being told that this was definitely not the case at present she went ahead and had it done at further cost to herself, as it appeared it was the ABS Assessor who had told her to do so, stating it was an annual test. This was totally incorrect – confirmed by Bill Lambert.

The Secretary did request that the KC explain these queries to their Assessors so that these situations did not arise again.

**Please note that as yet there has been no announcement of the Goniodysgenesis test being changed, it remains a one-off test at present.**





## USE OF OVERSEAS SIREs

Discussion took place with regard to the use of overseas dogs. The JHG does have an official reciprocating agreement with the Dutch Club through Marianne Van Dommelan – marianvd@hetnet.nl who would be able to give health information on Dutch bred dogs. It was also suggested that Breeders should consider contacting the Breed Club(s) in the Countries from which they are importing dogs or semen, to ensure they are fully aware of the health status in that Country.

## FITTING SEMINAR

The WSS Joint Health Group hosted a seminar on 7th December 2014 at Leamington Hastings Village Hall. Speaker for the day was the eminent Dr. Laurent S. Garosi DVM, Dip ECVN, MRCVS,RCVS, European Specialist in Veterinary Neurology and President of the European College of Veterinary Neurology.

Dr. Garosi's speech over two sessions covered 'Fitting' and 'Neurological Conditions Common to Dogs and Humans', followed by question and answer sessions. The very interesting day was reasonably well attended but the JHG had hoped it would attract many more as this is such an important subject. The day ended with a two course hot lunch and a great deal of discussion about what we had learnt from one of the world's leading experts in this field.

There have been two further Fitting dogs reported, completed questionnaires have been received from the Owners:

RAMAVIEWS PERDY PRIDE (Coedendal Maillo x Glanffwrdd Iar Ddw)

ROXDALE NEFYN (Kylowen Quin of Benoveor x Navashambell Mountain Mist of Roxdale)

## HIP DYSPLASIA

Hip Scores: The latest information received from the BVA by the Group is that the breed's 5 year mean is 17 and the median score is 13.

## RETIREMENT

Mary Eade reported that she would be retiring from the Committee of the WSSC therefore no longer being involved with the WSS Joint Health Group. The Group much appreciate the extensive contribution made by her including holding the position of Secretary for many years and wish her well.

*Joint Health Group.*



### **Pamicks Dazzling Boy JW**

1 x CC – 3 x RC

RBIS Dukries Gundog Open show – 9/7/2013

CC & RBIS NEWSSC – 14/4/2013

RBIS SEWSSC Jan Open show – 26/1/2014

BIS WSSCSW Open show – 9/2/2014

BIS WSSCSW Open show – 14/9/2014

*Thank you to all the judges who have thought so highly of Charlie.*

**Mick & Pam Tew**

**[www.pamicks.co.uk](http://www.pamicks.co.uk)**

## A CAUTIONARY TALE

### *Be aware of the danger of Lungworm*

"It looks like Lungworm" said Geraint, my Vet, "Lungworm? what is that?" I asked. When he explained what Lungworm was I was horrified! That was just over 4 years ago. Gwennie who is now 5 years old is one of the fortunate ones to have survived as it is potentially a killer disease in dogs.

Lungworm used to be a problem in the South of England, South Wales (Swansea being particularly bad) and Birmingham but since Gwennie was diagnosed the disease has spread nationwide. Dogs become infected with Lungworm through eating slugs and snails, frogs and fox faeces are also known to carry the larvae of the parasite. Not all dogs eat slugs and snails but the parasite can also be present in slug and snail slime so if toys or water bowls are left in the garden overnight there is a good chance that a slugs or snails have been perched there.

The symptoms are mainly respiratory and generally feeling out of sorts which is exactly what happened in Gwennie's case. Gwennie was feeling lethargic and under the weather for a few days but then went on to develop a chronic cough; I acted quickly and saved her life. I have spoken to others since Gwennie was diagnosed and some have never heard of the disease but a few have connections to someone who tragically lost a much loved pet and in one case a much loved show dog.

Prevention of the disease is simple by just adding lungworm treatment to the normal worming routine – ask your local vet for details.

Research into Lungworm and the connection to GME Meningitis in animals is still ongoing but Gwennie did go on to develop GME Meningitis two years ago at the age of 3.

*Chris Randles-Price*



## CHERRYHEATH

WELSH SPRINGER SPANIELS

Sh Ch Cherryheath's  
Mr Mischief JW ShCM  
(Brynn) - 3 CC and 6 RCC

Available at stud to approved bitches

Cherryheath's  
Miss Chief JW  
(Ceri)

### **FIT FOR FUNCTION**

What an end to 2014 – Brynn - my first homebred Sh Ch

I was also delighted when Ceri won the WSSC's Autumn Working Assessment Novice Class together with being awarded Best Hunter.

Like mother, like son, Brynn also did well at his first ever working event with the 4th best hunting mark for the class.

*Bred, owned, shown and worked by Sharon Barkley*

**Cherryheath1@aol.com**

**01233 712 661**





# Jacranella

4 CCs and 1 RCC SGWC



## Ch JULITA REZANELLA of JACRANELLA (NELL)

DOB 4.1.2009,  
Eyes clear for  
Goniodysgenesis,  
Hips 7:7

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to those judges who thought so highly of our beautiful Nell. We're hoping to hear the patter of tiny paws in the near future.

Owned and Much loved by:

Janey and Craig  
Sutherland

**0208 950 1832**

### Our special girl became a Full Champion in 2014:

RCC Windsor Championship Dog Show 2012 – Tom Graham  
CC Midland Counties Canine Society 2012 – Joy Hartley  
CC South Wales Kennel Association 2013 – Finuala Barnes  
CC National Gundog Association 2014 – Jane Howarth  
CC Welsh Kennel Club 2014 – Graham Tain  
SGWC 2014 – John Carter and Will Taylor



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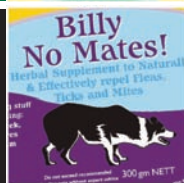
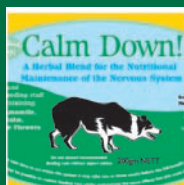
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