

Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Ireland

THE WHEATEN NEWS



Newsletter

Christmas 2020

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

"It's that time of year again when we look back on events past, whilst looking forward to the excitement and aspirations of the year to come!" That is usually a good opening sentence, but not in 2020, as none of that is possible in the strangest of years that any of us can remember. It has been weird to go through so many months with no shows, no walks or get togethers, no meetings or AGM. The Secretary has been busy, however, as the demand for puppies has been huge. Emails and phone calls continue unabated.

The Irish Kennel Club has facilitated the affiliated Clubs to "roll-over" the Officers and Committees to serve for 2021, without needing an AGM, as current restrictions don't allow for gatherings. We have decided that all Club members who were paid up for 2020 will not need to pay subscriptions this year, but will automatically be renewed for the coming year.

Huge thanks go to the Secretary, Officers and Committee for all they have done for the Club over the years. Also, thanks to Eileen, our Editor, for her work on the Newsletter, and Kaare Hegrum who compiles it and makes it all look so professional, and also the contributors who provide the content.

As I write this address to you we are facing into the full effects of Brexit. It will bring new challenges, not only in the commercial world for some, but also for us in the dog world. The close co-operation between Ireland and the United Kingdom, especially Northern Ireland, is threatened by a plethora of veterinary rules and regulations which may result in far fewer exhibitors making the trips to shows or even the Wheaten Walks.

Our exhibitors from mainland Europe and those of us who attend European shows will find the prospect of travel through the UK very daunting, with Customs checks and delays.

I hope we will return to the good days soon and get out and about, meeting up again, going back to serious grooming and early morning starts, to crisscross the country, showing our beloved Breed and having the "craic!"

Finally I wish all members at home and abroad a happy and safe year in 2021.

As Christmas is on our minds we are thinking of family and close friends. Many of these friends are associated with the Wheaten world, people we may never have met if it were not for being part of the Wheaten family. We should take a moment to celebrate that friendship, which reminds me of a little verse:

*"There is a miracle called Friendship that dwells within the Heart,
You don't know how it happens or when it gets its start,
But the happiness it brings you always gives a special lift,
And you realise that friendship is a most precious gift."*

Susan Kealy (Chairman).



Secretary's Corner



Season's Greetings to All,

I hope our Newsletter finds you all well.

The Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club would like to extend our sympathy to the family of the late Hannah Ryan. Hannah and her husband Dan had a life long association with our club. They showed Wheatens and Kerry Blue Terriers under the kennel name "Newgrange". Hannah died peacefully on the 13th Sept 2020 in hospital at the great age of 94. We would like to remember everyone who lost their lives this year.

Well what can I say? 2020 will be a year none of us will forget. Clearly a naive thing to say now given our current circumstances but remembering learning in school about the Black Death, Spanish flu and other pandemics but never thought it could happen in my life time. Good Hygiene was meant to have taken care of all that with all the modern facilities we have now. Hot water by turning a tap, flushing toilets and waste management.

I watched in disbelief in early March the news footage coming from Italy. What was happening there was literally unbelievable. The scenes of the Army being called in to help an overwhelmed and ill prepared medical team were devastating. Then as Covid-19 was rapidly invading the rest of the world, watching the 6pm and 9pm News became regular features in our house. We learnt a whole new vocab: R numbers, 14-day incidence rate and exponential curves. We were now hanging on the scientists' every word. In Ireland we had evening reports from our Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and the Chief Medical Officer Dr Tony Holohan on what to do from a health point of view. Mum and I had booked our usual trip to Crufts and we were looking forward to it but it became apparent that we should not travel. We chose not to go in the end as we didn't believe it was worth the risk. I think it's probably the first Crufts Mum has missed in 40 years.

Then we had Leo Varadkar's address from America saying we were going into Lockdown just before St. Patrick's Day. In early March Italy were due to play Ireland in the Six Nations Rugby in Dublin. The match was cancelled but some fans did still travel over. The country had mixed opinions on that and still do.

My job is considered essential so I was working like crazy. I have to admit I was a bit green with envy of friends' photos being posted on Facebook of long walks with their dogs or the freshly painted house and now near perfect gardens.

But if you want to look for the silver lining as I usually do, the compassion people showed for one another was incredible. At times, people were now queuing for more than two hours at the supermarket to get their essentials. For the vast majority they did this in good spirits. People were caring about their neighbours and calling in to see if they needed anything. One local teenager on our road put a note in to everyone's door offering any assistance from walking dogs to doing groceries to helping in the garden. Several friends had volunteered for the HSE to help in hospitals, contact tracing or any way they could. Within only three days more than 50,000 people signed up to be "On Call for Ireland" as this national campaign was called.

We got a reprieve during the summer. The numbers of daily new cases had dropped considerably and we were now wearing masks and we got very used to the social distancing. We were allowed to travel outside our county again so we took a couple of breaks diving on the west coast. We even got to a holiday consisting of "flying south to an island". Said island was Inish Mór of the Aran Islands, just off the Galway coast, and it took us about an 8 minute flight from take-off to landing. Not exactly the Mediterranean or even the southern hemisphere but it definitely added to our holiday experience. However the good times were not to last. As expected the numbers increased again. We are currently 5 weeks into a 6 week level 5 lockdown which means you cannot travel more than 5 km from your home unless for work or medical appointments. We do hope to be able to spend Christmas day with our families so we are again all pulling together and thankfully the case numbers are dropping.

We are really missing all our doggie friends, dog shows and our Wheaten walks which were always well attended. We look forward to hosting walks again once the restrictions are lifted and things are more certain.

As club secretary I have been inundated with puppy enquires upwards of 60 per week. I do worry what will happen when things return to normal and people will have to return to their places of work.

Life has been very different for us all but we as humans have an amazing way of adapting. When I was driving to work this morning, there was a beautiful sunrise and I had to stop to take a photo. I remembered the phrase "As you look at the sunrise the only shadows are behind you". Let's hope 2020 becomes a shadow, a moment in history we have lived through and that 2021 brings us better ways of treating Covid-19 along with a safe vaccine available to all. So looking forward to next year I wish you all a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. I hope everyone will stay safe and well.

Jennifer
Honorary Secretary



Editor's Notes



Hello Everyone,

Little did we know when celebrating last Christmas and the new year of 2020 what lay ahead. 2020 will certainly leave its mark in our history books but not for good reasons! The world has had to adapt and change and is continuing to do so into 2021. It has been a very sad year losing so many precious lives worldwide to this horrible virus...Covid -19. But at last, there is a little light at the end of the tunnel in a vaccine which may help to protect us.

In our dog world the World Show to be held in Madrid in May had to be cancelled due to escalating numbers of Covid and although Crufts still went ahead earlier, I did not attend. I am now classed as one of the “elderly and vulnerable” requiring extra vigilance when in more populated gatherings. It has also become the norm to see only half of peoples faces as wearing masks is now second nature. I am still cocooning, a word I always thought applied to caterpillars! I receive my groceries/foodstuffs from a delivery van having learnt how to master ordering online!

There have been no dog shows, training, organised walks or grooming sessions this year in Ireland. But the demand for puppies has reached an all-time high I think. More people, because of Covid, have found they can work from home and so for families it was an ideal time to add a new addition of a puppy. Children missed attending school for weeks although lessons were available online to those fortunate to have not only computers but a good internet signal. Spare time was in abundance so a puppy benefitted from all this attention. The demand for puppies led to the inevitable spate of dog theft. Many dogs were taken but many found also. I do have some concerns about socialising or lack of, as in my own experience, socialisation is extremely important in puppy development. In 2001 Ireland had very strict measures to prevent Foot and Mouth disease spreading resulting in beaches, dog walks, etc. closed. I had a young puppy at this time and although brought up in the same home environment as all my puppies of other years, she never got the full exposure of puppy groups, walks in town resulting in her being more nervous and apprehensive of new experiences.

In October we got the news that our beloved dolphin Fungie had not been seen for many days. He chose to make his home in Dingle Bay in 1983. He was a bottlenose dolphin and lived in very close contact with visitors and fishermen seeming to prefer the company of humans. In 2019 Guinness World records declared him to be the oldest solitary wild dolphin in the world. He played with swimmers, surfers, kayakers, canoeists and divers in the sea. In fact, one of my sons swam with him and my Wheaten at the time, Cuisle, almost touched noses with him over the edge of the boat! He will be very sadly missed and would have been well over 40 years when he disappeared.

As no meetings have been allowed, the IKC decided that if all in agreement the Committees and Officers of Clubs and Societies can remain the same in 2021 without the required voting at an AGM. At least we shall be ready in 2021 if things get back to some sort of normality.

No doubt, the restrictive levels imposed by government to try to combat the virus will be updated and changed again. It is somewhat confusing to keep up with all these changes particularly as some businesses seem able to interpret/bend these rules to suit their own needs. What is the logic in being able to buy a Christmas decorated sweater but the normal ones are not allowed to be sold?

This Christmas will be very different from those we know. No big family gatherings or get together unless already in a pod and even then numbers are defined. But we are humans who will look to the future with positive thoughts. So on that note I wish you all a very peaceful Christmas and hope that 2021 brings us happiness and an end to this pandemic.

Eileen.
Editor.



Editors Introduction.



It was about this time last year that I first became aware of this amazing story from Deb one of our dedicated committee members. I was immediately hooked wanting to know more and then I thought it would be a wonderful article for our Newsletter. What started out with tragic circumstances and the possibility of losing all the puppies became the most successful story due to Debs sheer determination and extreme hard work. She must love a challenge! Not a project you would take on lightly. Please read on and enjoy as much as I did and I cannot wait for part 2 in our next edition.



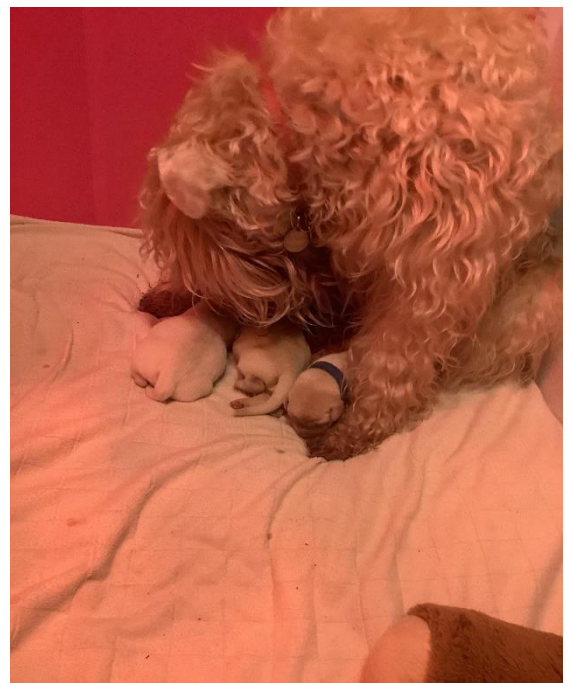
LabRets - Part 1

Or Labrador and Retriever. Which is what I raised in November 2019, 7 of them. How?

By Debbie Evans-Barry

Taking a few moments from raising my 3 week old Wheaten pups I was looking on Facebook and saw a post asking for Foster Mums. I sent a message to the person who had written the appeal and she came back to me stating that she would pass on my details to the person who had asked for the help. Two days later I received a call from Guide Dogs Ireland. After a lengthy conversation it turned out that there were 14 puppies needing help. Their mother had had them by C-Section but for unknown reasons further veterinary intervention had taken place and sadly she had died. I explained I could take 3 pups as I already had 5 Wheaten pups and so it was arranged for them to be brought to me the next day. PANIC, as an extra nursery had to be set up just in case my girl Karrie would not accept the pups. Rushing about and working until the wee hours all was ready for the new borns.

Maeve, from Guide Dogs Ireland, duly arrived with the 3 pups Apple, Apollo and Arlo. And my girl Kasia (mother of Karrie) immediately went into the whelping box and looked at me saying "Well, give me my babies". And for the next 9 weeks Kasia was their mother, but...



Two days later a pleading call from Maeve; they were having no luck getting foster mums. A vet nurse with a greyhound had taken 3 and had agreed to take two more, so I acquiesced and said I would take two more as well. Heck what's sleep, I was bottle feeding the 3 pups day and night, what was 2 more and at least Kasia was doing all the mothering bit and letting the pups suckle. So 2 more arrived the next day, Adalyn and Andrex whom Kasia instantly adopted as her own, washing and cleaning them. We all settled into our new routine, me getting a couple of hours sleep between feeds during the night and then feeding, cleaning the Swheatie pups by day and looking after my own Sweaties, all 13 of them



A week after my new inmates had arrived Maeve called to enquire how things were going and said they had 4 pups with still no foster mum and the girl from work who was raising them was struggling. One of the biggest problems they were having was getting the pups to poop; new born pups rely on their mothers to stimulate them to go to the toilet with her constant licking of their bottoms. I asked how they were making up the formula and advised them to adjust it. So, in a moment of insanity I said that I would take 2 more if the other lady could take the other 2 pups. An hour later Maeve came back to me saying that the other lady had agreed to take 2. The next afternoon my two new additions Addie and Archie (the only black pup that I had) arrived, yet again Kasia instantly took 'her new babies' into her and started mothering them. Which was great as I had been advised that Addie and Archie had not pooped for 24 hours. Kasia soon had that sorted.



Bottle feeding became a job and a half but I soon got the knack of getting 2 pups angled into my lap with a bottle each, which certainly helped to speed up the feeding process. Normally it would be important for orphan pups to experience the feeling of being close whilst they are being fed but the fact that Kasia was mothering the pups meant I could feed the pups in the quickest way and then hand them to Kasia.

At two weeks old, I started the mucky job of introducing the pups to real food, yogurt as their first meal was a delightful mess. Followed by sloppy scrambled eggs which the LabRets (as I now called them) devoured.



The LabRets were growing at a great rate and soon five Swheatie pups were keen to meet their new playmates.



And one little boy, who is now my Keen, refused to leave them and would be with them at any opportunity he could get.

The LabRets were now being bottle fed every 3 to 4 hours and by now we had established the order of feeding. So long as Archie, the mighty black coloured pup, was fed first feeding could be done relatively peacefully. The other pups were so good waiting whilst he was fed, yet lining up around me ready for their turn. Addie would always crawl up onto my lap waiting to be next in line. I was amazed at how patient the LabRets were, compared to when I had bottle fed a litter of Wheatens who cried and pushed each other aside to be fed.

Wheaten and LabRets pups were sharing food bowls, toys and even cage training themselves. It was whilst I was relating this to Maeve at Guide Dogs Ireland that she told me that their dogs need to be cage trained and so I was able to tell her the pups were doing it all on their own. They also need their pups to experience as much as possible as I am sure you are aware they will haasked Maeve what happens to a dog that doesn't make the grade as a Guide Dog and she explained that they would go as therapy dogs mainly for children with Autism.

I felt very proud at that moment that these 7 pups, I had agreed to raise, could make a massive difference to 7 people's lives and their families. I want to add that with these 7 pups I have played a very small part, the biggest praise has to go to the 7 homes that are currently raising them preparing them for their training and hopefully working lives.

I had told Maeve that I would raise the pups on the proviso that they stayed with me until they were 9 weeks old, as Guide Dogs Ireland would normally take the pups at 7 weeks. I advised Maeve that I felt this was too young to be taken from their mother and other siblings and that my experience has shown that pups learn more if they are together until at least 9 weeks especially bite inhibition. I also told Maeve that there were laws for breeders that stated pups could not be sold before they were 8 weeks old. This she found interesting and said she would bring it to the management for further reference on future litters.



The toy box became the best bed in the house.

Many people think breeders are only about money and I hope as this story continues you can appreciate that good, experienced breeders will help others.

Part 2 in the next Newsletter



Club News



Club Officers and Committee members 2020-2021

Due to Covid-19 and government restrictions we were unable to hold our annual general meeting. We decided to avail of the rollover option offered by the Irish Kennel Club to allow outgoing officers to be returned for 2021. I would like to thank the officers and committee who agreed to go forward again and hope that come summer 2021 we will be returning to normality. Looking forward to working with you all again. Jennifer

Patron: Ann White

President: Eithne Brady

Vice Presidents: Michael Brady, Marion Finney, Evelyn & Jay Rutherford

Chairperson: Susan Kealy

Vice Chairperson: Nicky White

Secretary: Jennifer Kealy

Treasurer: Eileen Collins-Kennedy

Committee Members: Deborah Evans-Barry, Bernadette Moynihan, Fergus O'Sullivan, Tomás Rosengrave, Anne Finn, Brid Brophy

IKC Representative: Eileen Collins-Kennedy

Auditor: Nicky White



Everyone must be checked!





Annual Champion for 2019



Photo: Dajana Wroblewska

Bran (Ch, CIB MacFinn Víctor Creed, An Ch 19; CW'19, Jun Ch) in addition to claiming the annual championship title for 2019 amongst the Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers also claimed two additional titles.

At his very first show in 2019, Bran won the Celtic Winner title, CACIB, as well as Best of Breed. At his final two shows of 2019, (the IKC back-to-back shows in October) he claimed his final two CACIBs, and has since been confirmed as an international champion by the FCI.

Throughout the year, Bran had a number of wins all over the country under Irish and International Judges. However, the highlight of 2019 was always the great comradery at the Wheaten ring. Hopefully we will do it all again in 2021!



Wheaten walk, December 8th 2019, at Castletown



In the lead in to the Christmas 2019 season, the Wheaten Club organized another “Wheaten Walk” at spectacular Castletown House in Celbridge, Co. Kildare. The weather forecast was not good for the afternoon of the walk, however a good number of Club members and friends turned up and were looking forward to having a good ole catch-up and wishing each other every happiness for the holidays.

Upon my arrival at Castletown, the weather was worse than expected. No one minded though. The rain was bucketing down, but the spirits of those in attendance were high. It was a case of jackets on for us and coat-up for the owners. I just wanted to be off on the walk and gallop along the trails, but a few photos at the steps of the great house were wanted by the owners. While I appreciate great eighteenth century Palladianism as much as the next terrier, give me a great eighteenth century parkland any day, even on a freezing cold wet and miserable one! Eventually I was off trotting on the main trail around the great park in front of the house with the rest of the other wheatens.

When I think of the many Wheaten Walks we have had, I often think that there must be no finer sight than a pack of wheatens together on walk. Regarding this one, I must say that a walk around Castletown is indeed a great pleasure, and I am sure that everyone else, both human and terrier would say the same. Along the trails it has a river which one can jump into if a terrier is so inclined, and acres of high grass to run though. All of the owners did not stop talking for the duration of the walk, so they must have enjoyed themselves, although I think that we terriers had more fun.

When we all arrived back at the big house, there was a Christmas market in the courtyard behind the house where there was stand after stand selling hot food of every type and Christmas decorations of every description. I was not however interested in standing around in the cold, so I went back to the car for a snooze in the warmth while the owners had some food and did a little shopping, before joining me back at the car.

On the return journey home, the talk in the car was about the day’s event and how everyone agreed that despite the weather, a very enjoyable day out was had by all. I must concur. I cannot wait for the next Wheaten Walk, but this serious COVID thing unfortunately scuppered that happening in 2020. Roll on 2021 and the often spoken about vaccine I say.

Bran the Wheaten



Bran



Photos by John Kenna and Sonia Ferris



© JK Photography



Santa and his helpers!

My dog is NOT spoiled
I'm just WELL TRAINED



WHEATEN LIFE DURING LOCKDOWN



By Sonia Ferris

Just when we had it all worked out for 2020, holiday plans, wedding plans, concerts, new semester at school and dog shows.....BOOM, our world came crashing down. All of a sudden widespread pandemonium – COVID-19, our pandemic changed our whole meaning of existence, pace of life, priorities and the sense of not being in total control. This was chaotic enough for us humans, but just as equally as strange for our pets.

They were used to a routine – awoken from a lovely slumber, toilet, second snooze, whizzies in the garden, breakfast, chill out, everyone out of the house to work or school, music in the background, Nanna arrives, more whizzies, sneaky treats and fun. More excitement on our return home and we all chill out. We were blessed to have such wonderful Wheatens, regardless if life was busy or not.

But this time was very different – Self-isolations, restrictions, lockdowns, face masks, smelly sanitisers, social distancing and no physical contact outside your normal ‘Bubble’. Such adaptations were very difficult to comprehend – change was super immense. We had to look at a different ‘normal’ on so many levels and our Wheatens had to follow suit to a different routine. Changes were made within the household, routines reorganised and an evaluation on what was important, just came naturally.

We were very blessed to have our Wheatens to cuddle and kiss. They became our support unit as we were for them, but we really relied on their presence. Their new routine meant that they became our ‘shadows’. Wherever we went, they were at our heels. It took a little training to break that total dependent cycle to something more manageable and luckily it all worked out – no separation issues.

But, while we were able to have our connections with our Wheatens, there were so many of our family and friends that did not have that luxury of company. We became a source of entertainment through ZOOM or WhatsApp and when it was safe and socially viable to meet up, our Chandeson Wheatens were a great source of comfort and enjoyment. Just simply walking with them helped other people’s moods. They didn’t mind being walked by a different handler, in fact, a change of pace for them was just as good.

So, while the Chandeson household really benefited from the lockdown, helping with the garden, (they loved looking like trees!), wash day was a hoot (even when clothes didn’t need washed!), all rooms were accessible (whose bed shall we toss and turn in?) and learning how to open doors with handles (the pull doors are a bit tricky)..... walking in the Mournes was welcomed and on the many walks, people to who do not have animals, loved to stop at a safe distance for a look and chat. Smiles all round then – Result – another person’s day brightened.

They say a Picture tells a thousand words..... here are some of ours.....



A wonderful support at a difficult time



Through the door to Narnia and sitting on the Thrones waiting on Aslan



The correct way to chill after a hard day of **ANYTHING!!**



Wheaten in cup.



A friend of mine is a barista in a coffee shop in my home town. I go there often to have a cup of Cappuccino. One day I challenged him, and said: «Why don't you try something new in the foam on top, instead of flowers and leaves», and gave him a picture of my wheaten Murphy. The picture below is the result! Kaare Hegrum, Norway



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New Dog Breeds



The following new combinations of dog breeds are now recognized by the IKC

Collie + Lhasa Apso



Collapso, a dog that folds up for easy transport

Spitz + Chow Chow



Spitz-Chow, a dog that throws up a lot

Pointer + Setter



Poinsetter, a traditional Christmas pet

Great Pyrenees + Dachshund



Pyradachs, a puzzling breed

Pekingnese + Lhasa Apso



Peekaso, an abstract dog

Irish Water Spaniel + English Springer Spaniel



Irish Springer, a dog fresh and clean as a whistle

Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever



Lab Coat Retriever, the choice of research scientists

Newfoundland + Basset Hound



Newfound Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisors

Terrier + Bulldog



Terribull, a dog that makes awful mistakes

Bloodhound + Labrador



Blabador, a dog that barks incessantly

Collie + Malamute



Commute, a dog that travels to work

Deerhound + Terrier



Derriere, a dog that's true to the end

Bull Terrier + Shi Tzu



Bull..... Oh, never mind





Dog Facts That You Probably Didn't Know

Shelter dogs served as 'Ball Boys' at Brazil Tennis Open to bring awareness to Brazil's street animals and promote their adoption

FBI tracks animal abusers

There is an island on the coast of Australia where dogs guard a colony of tiny penguins

A dog once accidentally finished a half-marathon and finished in 7th place

In Welsh folklore, Corgis were the preferred method of transportation for fairies

When police dogs retire in some countries, they may have the chance to receive a pension plan for their contribution

Dogs who have negative experiences tend to lie awake at night worrying

Dogs have the biggest heart relative to their body

Dog brains link the smell of their owners with pleasure

The dogs react to humans crying the same way they do to a dog whining

Dogs that are elderly, small or short-haired actually need sweater for cold temperatures

Dogs can and will use deception to get a tasty treat

There have been numerous cases of dogs shooting their owners in America

According to Facebook data, dog people have more friends, while cat people get invited to more events

In 2014, an estimated 2.8 million dogs in America were on an antidepressant drug like Prozac





SCENT WORK

WRITTEN BY: JUDY PILLINGER

It is so exciting to report this month that we have selected five Victorian applicants for our Foundation Judges Training Program – Sonja Needs, Angela Hervey-Tennyson, Talia Duell, (all three are scent work subcommittee members) Tammy Beattie and Jo Bates. For those people who have been doing regular scent work training, you will know most of these people very well and appreciate the depth of experience they bring to our new discipline of scent work. Necia Lynch will also commence the next trainee judge program in 2021.

Foundation judges are currently undertaking their online training program and workshops will be conducted by Zoom meetings, hosted by Jennifer Alleyne and Peta Clarke. Their written assessment will take place in November however COVID restrictions will delay their practical training sessions and practical assessments. Despite these delays, we would like to think that judges will be licenced and scent work trials will begin around April-May 2021. Previous articles in the Gazette have introduced Talia and Sonja – this month we would like to introduce Angela Hervey-Tennyson.

Angela's association with Dogs Victoria began when she showed her family's Bedlington Terriers in conformation as a junior many years ago. Remaining in group two, she fell in love with Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, and has been a member of Dogs Victoria since the purchase of her first Wheaten nearly thirty years ago. She has shown three of her dogs to their conformation title; one achieved highest placed bitch in a RTG obedience trial; another gained a herding instinct pass. She was a founding member of the SCWTC of Victoria, has served on the committee of the Sporting Terrier Club, and is a member of TCV.

She was employed by the government as a detector dog handler for ten years, working at airports, seaports and mail centres. While in that role, she heard about a great new dog activity in the USA - nose work (scent work). She did some research, and was hooked, saying "I love that the activity is suitable for just about all dogs, including shy and reactive ones. Dogs love to sniff, so it's not surprising that nearly all dogs love to play the game". She ran her first nose work course ten years ago at the dog club at which she still instructs.

Always a keen traveller, Angela travelled to NZ and USA to gain her Certified Nose Work Instructor accreditation from the National Association of Canine Scent Work, graduating in 2016. She has returned to USA a number of times since then to learn more about nose work, attending training camps, trials and scent detection related conferences.

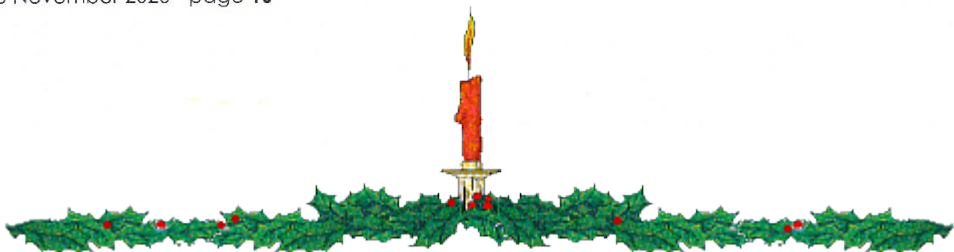


Believing that the more people learn about the benefits of nose work, the better it will be for all of our beloved dogs, Angela runs classes whenever, and wherever she can. As well as suburban Melbourne, she has held classes in regional Victoria, SA and WA, and online for those stuck in COVID-19 lockdown. She has introduced nose work to some affiliates, as well as to shelters, and rescue groups. Angela estimates that she has brought the joys of nose work to well over 500 lucky dogs and their humans. The youngest were six week old pups belonging to her breeder, and her oldest was a 17 year old retired TS Gr Ch.

Until recently, she was an Australian Canine Scent Work Certifying Official and judge, and had the privilege to judge a number of odour tests and trials in Victoria and Tasmania. She was honoured to judge at the mock scent work trial at the Dogs ACT Dogs Extravaganza in 2018.

She has organised nose work demonstrations at local Pet Expos and at the Royal Melbourne Show in 2014, and helped organise the scent work demonstration at Big Day Out For Dogs last year. She has hosted or co-hosted odour tests, trials, and scent work related guest speakers. She runs regular sniffing fun days where all proceeds are donated to charity. She organised her first Sniff Camp last year, and is looking forward to holding more as soon as we are COVID-safe.

Angela is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer, with a Certificate IV in Companion Animal Services from the Delta Institute. Her education continues with attendance at many conferences and seminars. We look forward to seeing Angela judging our scent work trials in 2021.



Wheaten terriers are all over the Globe! We have got this story from Liz Brodie in Australia.



Millie – the snake killer.

Across the world in the Land of Oz we are renowned for our strange wildlife and insects! We have many Aussies of Irish descent and also a number of dogs of Irish descent.-The wonderful Soft coated Wheaten amongst them. We are lucky enough to own one - Millie.

We have a beach house north of Sydney where much of my dog's misbehaving seems to occur -being a terrier, she will not leave any intruders in the garden alone- except for humans of course!!

She has shredded lizards, a blue tongue lizard (with 15 babies inside- 8 survived!), various birds but the most recent was the worst.

We came home from being out with the dog one afternoon. After a short time home, I looked down stairs and saw "something" in the sunlight on the floor- the door there was locked open. No!! She's done it again -I thought -poor lizard. Not so simple- there lying unmoving was the remains of a snake or parts there of!! I didn't scream- didn't yell at the dog- who looked pretty pleased with herself!! I got out the ruler measured the remains and tried to identify the snake. I thought it was a red-bellied black - so I rang the vet - by now after hours of course! But they said keep an eye on the dog and bring her in if her condition changed! I thought- what symptoms please?? My first snake encounter and knowing her litter sibling had killed one and died after such an encounter I got on Facebook to get the snake ID'd and posted to Wheaten club!

The power of public media - within 2 mins a fellow SCWT club member rang and said -"Don't wait! Go straight to the vet - she may not have been bitten, or she may have no symptoms as they can be masked for up to 24 hours. Some snakes are instant death within 15minutes".

Fortunately the ending was good- no evident bite marks , gums good, kidney markers OK, NO treatment needed - and a large out of hours bill!? Well worth it -even if my passive pup is happier to face a snake than a vet!

When I got home from the vet I did scream!! Across the room- hidden under a chair was a writhing part snake coming out to meet us head raised ready to strike!! They don't die until it is dark apparently- even minus body!

Thankfully, a husband and a shovel finished off the job. Amazingly, a snake is a protected species in Australia but Millie didn't read that rule!!

PS I always wear slippers now in the dark!!

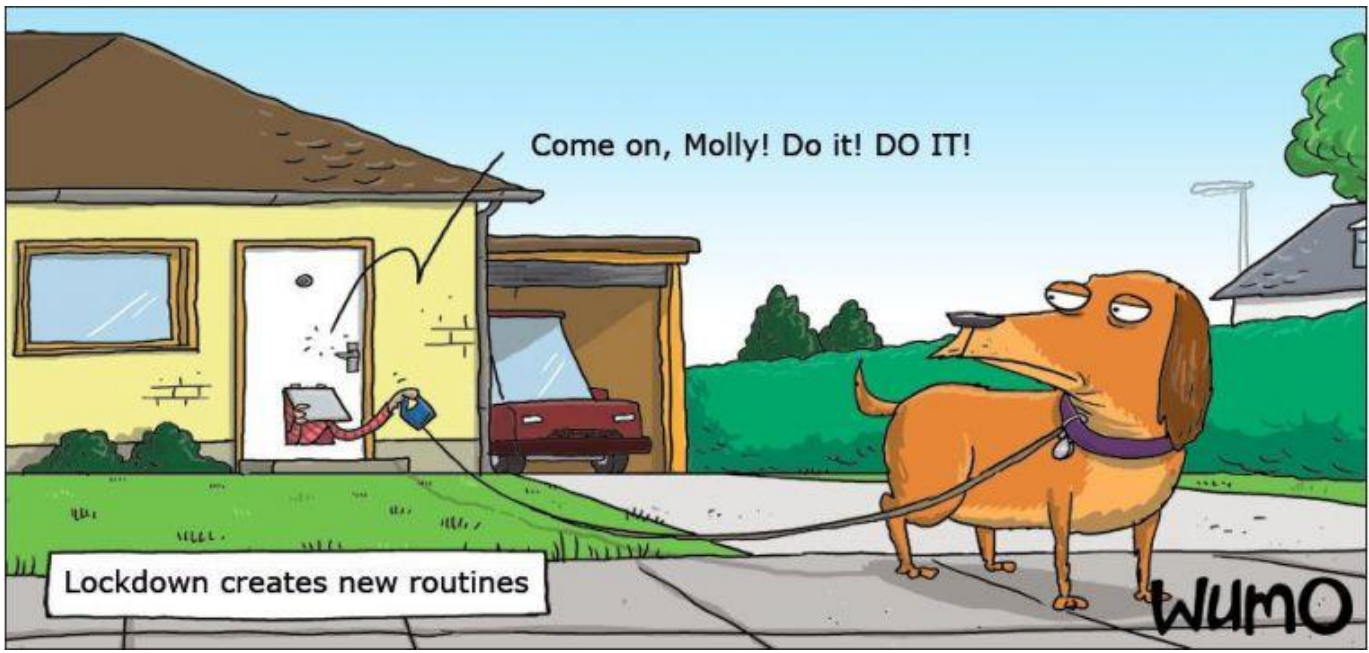




Debbie Neill sent us these funny pictures of her wheaten Sophie. Thank you very much!



Sophie loves talking to the cows, but doesn't understand why they don't want to play with her!



QUIZ



In these times it can be good to take your mind elsewhere for a moment!

Here is a little quiz to test your general knowledge of dogs! There is one dog from each of the 10 FCI groups. All the descriptions are from the official standard of each dog, taken from the FCI web side.

The first prize, a wooden mobile of all the Irish native breeds, accompanied with text (see pictures at the end), is donated by Mrs. Eileen Collins-Kennedy. You could send your answers to the Secretary. The winner, and the answers will come in the next Newsletter.

Group 1

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Small, long-haired working dog of great beauty, free from cloddiness and coarseness, action lithe and graceful. Outline symmetrical so that no part appears out of proportion to whole. Abundant coat, mane and frill, shapeliness of head and sweetness of expression combine to present the ideal.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: Skull and muzzle of equal length, dividing point inner corner of eye. Slightly longer from point of shoulder to bottom of croup than height at withers.

BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT: Alert, gentle, intelligent, strong and active. Affectionate and responsive to his owner, reserved towards strangers, never nervous



Group 2

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Smooth-coated, fairly thick set, rather low in stature, broad, powerful and compact. Head fairly large in proportion to size, but no point so much in excess of others as to destroy the general symmetry, or make the dog appear deformed, or interfere with its powers of motion. Face relatively short, muzzle broad, blunt and inclined slightly upwards, although not excessively so. Dogs showing respiratory distress highly undesirable. Body fairly short, well knit, limbs stout, well muscled and in hard condition with no tendency towards obesity. Hindquarters high and strong. Bitches not so grand or well-developed as dogs.

BEHAVIOUR AND TEMPERAMENT: Conveys impression of determination, strength and activity. Alert, bold, loyal, dependable, courageous, fierce in appearance, but possessed of affectionate nature.



Group 3

GENERAL APPEARANCE: A hardy, active, short coupled dog, well built, giving the idea of strength. Not too leggy nor too low to the ground.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT: Spirited and game. Good tempered. Most affectionate and loyal to his owners. Most intelligent. A trusty, faithful friend, defensive without aggression.



Group 4

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Low, short legged, elongated but compact build, very muscular with cheeky, challenging head carriage and alert facial expression. His general appearance is typical of his sex. In spite of his legs being short in relation to the long body, he is very mobile and lithe.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: With the distance above ground level of about one third of the height at withers, the body length should be in harmonious relation to height at withers, about 1 to 1,7 - 1,8.

BEHAVIOUR /TEMPERAMENT: Friendly by nature, neither nervous nor aggressive, with even temperament. Passionate, persevering and fast hunting dog with an excellent nose.



Group 5

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Active, compact, short-coupled and essentially well balanced, leonine in appearance, proud, dignified bearing; well-knit frame; tail carried well over back. Should always be able to move freely and must not have so much coat as to impede activity or cause distress in hot weather. A bluish-black tongue is characteristic.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: The distance from withers to elbow is equal to the distance from elbow to ground.

BEHAVIOUR AND TEMPERAMENT: Quiet dog, good guard. Independent, loyal, yet aloof

Group 6



GENERAL APPEARANCE: A sturdy, compactly-built hound, conveying the impression of quality without coarseness.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: Length of head, between occiput and tip of nose, divided by stop, as equally as possible. Height to elbow about half height at withers.

BEHAVIOUR AND TEMPERAMENT: A merry hound whose essential function is to hunt, primarily hare, by following a scent. Bold, with great activity, stamina and determination. Alert, intelligent and of even temperament. Amiable and alert, showing no aggression or timidity.



Group 7

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Racy and athletic full of quality, kindly in expression. Balanced and in proportion.

BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT: Keen, intelligent, energetic, affectionate and loyal



Group 8

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Smart, upstanding, strongly built, compact or cobby.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT: Proud, combining great intelligence and endurance with a bold and dashing eagerness of temperament, immense stamina and loyalty. A good family dog with a sense of humour but discerning with strangers.



Group 9

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Decidedly square and cobby, it is “multum in parvo” shown in compactness of form, well knit proportions and hardness of muscle, but never to appear low on legs, nor lean and leggy.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: Decidedly square and cobby.

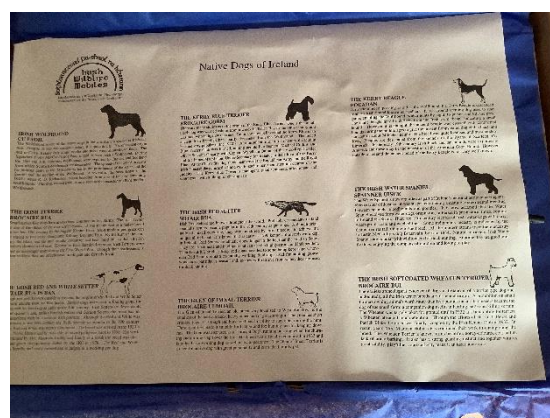
BEHAVIOUR AND TEMPERAMENT: Great charm, dignity and intelligence. Even-tempered, happy and lively disposition.



Group 10

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Balanced combination of muscular power and strength with elegance and grace of outline. Built for speed and work. All forms of exaggeration should be avoided.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT: An ideal companion. Highly adaptable in domestic and sporting surroundings. Gentle, affectionate, even disposition.



Something to make you smile!



Pee on the electric fence they said...
It will be fun they said...





A little story from Cork.

This happened during the first lockdown. My family in Cork, my son, daughter in law and my 2 granddaughters have a dog named Robbie. When everything was locked down and they all had to stay home, this caused some confusion for Robbie. Normally everyone left in the morning working or attending school and Robbie was content to have the house to himself snoozing in peace and quiet. Now he suddenly had to share his house having company all the time. Not only that but when anyone felt like getting a little fresh air they took Robbie with them! It was allowed to walk your dog and for Robbie it happened a number of times for him during the day! My son told me that many times when Robbie was to have his normal evening walk, he just lay in his bed and looked at you. The expression in his eyes clearly said, "I am exhausted! Do I really have to go out AGAIN!!!"



Kaare Hegrum, Norway

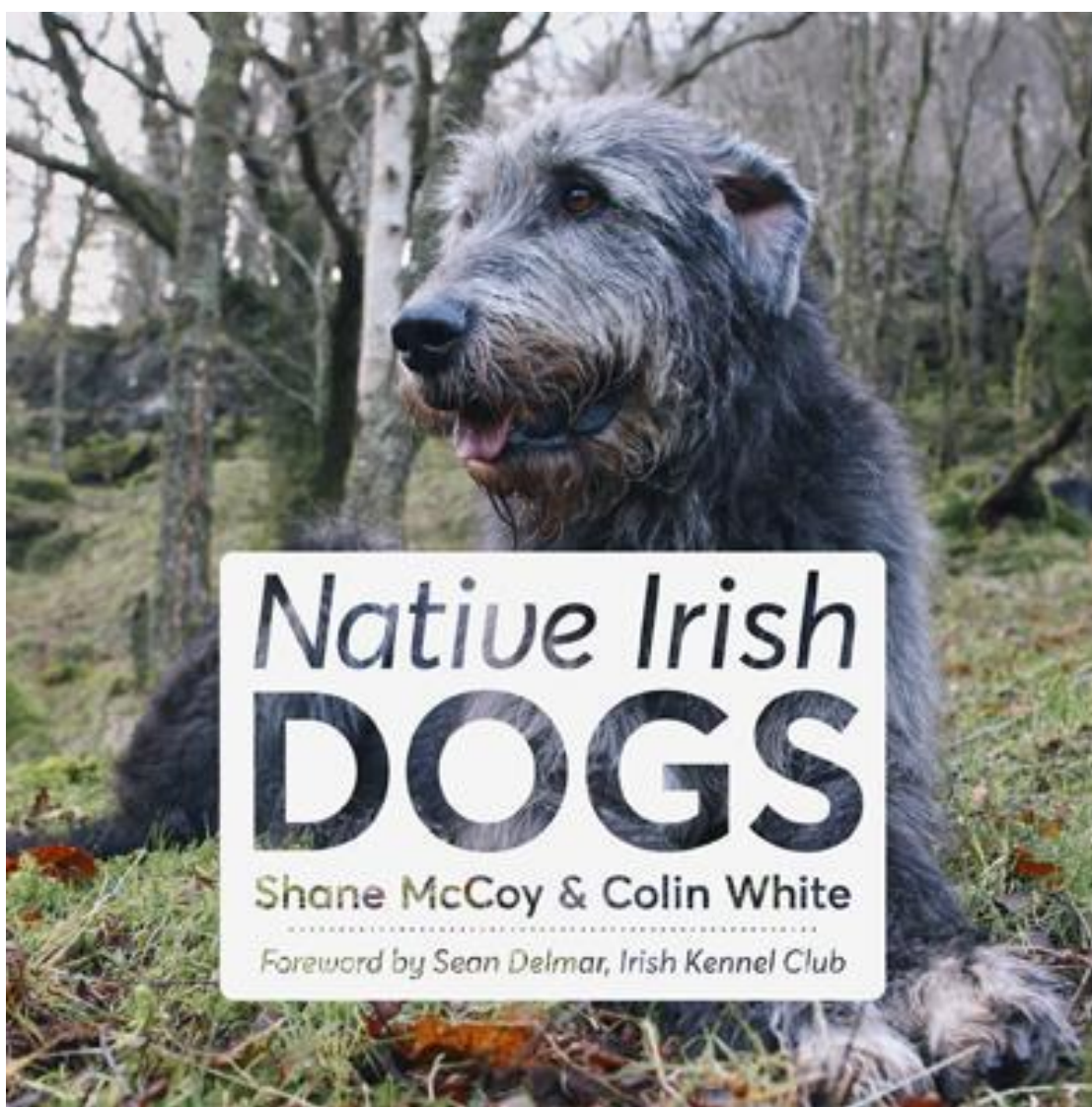


Tail Ends

Native Irish dogs

We have some copies of the paperback version of this great book available normal price €16.99. Club members can enjoy a special price of €15.00.

Please email me at wheatenclubofireland@gmail.com



Club's Web Site: www.iscwtclubireland.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/558587157604743/>

Secretary: Jennifer Kealy – wheatenclubofireland@gmail.com

Application forms for Club Membership, National and Overseas, are available from the web site or contact Hon. Sec. Jennifer Kealy at above.

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