

TRIBUTE TO SA CHAMPION CORNEVON DREAMER OF OAKDALE

By Bridget Simpson



**Breeder Janice Roberts (UK) with Ch. Cornevon Dreamer of Oakdale
when she visited SA in 1981**

Having experienced great disappointment with an imported Anglo-American bred Irish Setter male we imported from Zimbabwe, Mark and I decided to import from UK. Having scoured the UK show results we took a leap of faith and contacted Janice Roberts in mid 1974 in the hope of purchasing a male puppy. Much correspondence followed and on 21st July 1975 we received the welcome news that Sh. Ch. Cornevon Primrose (holder of the top brood bitch record at the time) had whelped 6 dogs and 3 bitches on 17th July, sired by Sh. Ch. Cornevon Prince Charming. This litter was the result of a repeat mating which had produced two UK Show Champions four years previously, namely the male Sh. Ch. Cornevon Lovebird and the bitch Sh. Ch. Cornevon Lovestory.

We were delighted and Cornevon Dreamer of Oakdale whom we called "Hannigan" at home was purchased. After a lengthy 21 hour transit flight (no direct air flights to Cape Town in those days) he arrived in South Africa, weary and hungry, but just fine. He soon settled into the family and favoured his father in appearance. He also inherited one of those wonderful obliging dispositions which seemed to carry him through life in a gentler fashion than most. "Patrick" his buddy taught him to hunt guinea fowl on the farm where we lived and on one occasion Hannigan carried home a live guinea fowl which I dispatched to the next world and became the boys tea. He would have made a good gundog had he been trained, but his destiny was in the showring and as a stud dog.

PEDIGREE OF SA CH.CORNEVON DREAMER OF OAKDALE

THE KENNEL CLUB

EXPORT PEDIGREE CERTIFICATE

Cornevon Dreamer
1063966/75

<p>1 SIRE</p>	<p>Cornevon Prince Charming (SH.CH) 10166/66 2137BA</p>	<p>3 Wendover Game 674AV</p>	<p>7 Watendlath Joao O'Pandy 1131AH Wendover Kelly (SH.CH) 1418AS</p>
<p>2 DAM</p>	<p>Cornevon Primrose (SH.CH) 42593/68 1636BD</p>	<p>4 Cornevon Snowbunting 27785/63</p>	<p>9 Cornevon Coppernob 51990/58 Brackenfield Iris 1316AV</p>
		<p>5 Scotswood Barabbas (SH.CH) 2047BA</p>	<p>11 Wendover Game 674AV Scotswood Hot Sensation 58841/63</p>
		<p>6 Cornevon Snowbunting 27785/63</p>	<p>13 Cornevon Coppernob 51990/58 Brackenfield Iris 1316AV</p>

Kennel Club Registration Certificate No. ~~SA 1063966/75~~ 1063966/75

Breed Irish Setter

Date of Birth 17th July 1975 Sex Dog

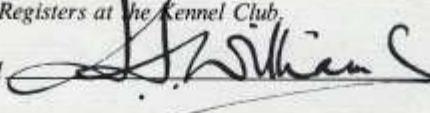
Colour Red

Breeder Mrs J M Roberts

Registered by Mrs J M Roberts

Consignee Mrs B M Simpson


I certify that the above is a true copy of the Pedigree of
Cornevon Dreamer
as recorded on the Registers at the Kennel Club.

Signed  Secretary

Date 21st November 1975 IS

1 CLARGES ST., LONDON, W1Y 8AB

This Pedigree Certificate is not valid without the Seal of the Kennel Club



G 24076

G 24076 S. AFRICA

Slow to mature, "Hannigan" took an eternity to grow out of the "legs and wings" stage, but gained his Championship. Only in late 1978 having already sired his first four litters did he reach his prime years. On 30th September 1978 at Hottentots Holland Kennel Club our cup overflowed, not only did Dreamer win Best in Show All Breeds under John Rademan (Zambia) but his son Oakdales Dungarvan won Best Puppy on Show All Breeds under a different Judge. Moments of pure joy are few in a lifetime this was surely one of ours.

In 1979 "Hannigan" won the Gundog Group again finishing 4th Best in Show All Breeds and ended the year 4th Best Gundog of Year on the Cape Gundog rankings.



**Judge Harry Glover (UK) awards Ch. Cornevon Dreamer of Oakdale
Best in Show All Breeds**

To prove Dreamer's top win was no fluke, he repeated his Best in Show All Breeds success at the Kennel Association Championship Show in 1980 under the late Harry Glover from UK whose critique read as follows:

'Irish Setters looked good, and there were a number of really good ones for me to look at. There were plenty of juniors and they were looking well, with good colour, soundness and typical heads. It made a change not to find masses of Wendover breeding when I looked at the catalogue, but though it happens all over the world, here it was absent. It did not seem to matter however, as the effect of the best of breed dog, the one that finally finished Best in Show All Breeds is there for all to see. He sired the winner of every class and finally capped everything by beating every other dog present at the show.'

Albeit that there were no Wendover bred Irish Setters in the ring in Western Cape, Dreamer's Grandsire was Wendover Game bred by Jimmy and Jay James in UK.

Meanwhile in UK Sh. Ch. Cornevon Westerhuys Dream "Hannigan's brother gained his UK Championship, while litter sister Cornevon Dreamgirl was unlucky not to gain her crown with one Challenge Certificate and 7 Reserve Challenge Certificates

By December 1977 the first generation progeny from Dreamer's out-crossing to SA Ch. Satana of Ruamadre and her daughter SA Ch. Oakdales Autumn Harvest was completed and although some of these matings were repeated at a later date, in 1979 we were able to breed the first double 'H' litters with him as double Grandsire. He was to wait for the importation of Westerhuys Swinging Belle of Oakdale imported from UK to produce his top winning son SA Ch. Oakdales Scallywag – also a Best in Show All Breeds winner.



(L) Bridget Simpson with bitches Ch. Westerhuys Swinging Belle of Oakdale (Imp UK) & Oakdales Sonatina both bred to "Hannigan"(R) "Hannigan's son Ch. Oakdales Dungarvan and Ch. Cornevon Dreamer of Oakdale. All four won or were awarded group placing in 1981

In 1984, aged 10 he proudly showed he had what it took to stay at the top being awarded Best Veteran on Show at Cape Gundog Club's Championship. He was brought out of retirement on just one last occasion for the Western Province Setter Association Championship Show on 28th September 1986 when he scooped the Challenge Certificate away from his younger rivals.

Sadly his life was ebbing and after a brief battle, his kidneys failed completely and he floated away to play in the green hills of heaven We will have to wait for the pearly gates before we meet again old friend.

Ch. Cornevon Dreamer of Oakdale's heritage lives on in the background of Irish Setter pedigrees stretching across southern Africa and as far north as Kenya. His contribution to the breed is irrefutable – he sired five SA Oakdale Champions and eleven other ticket winners. Of his double 'H' grandchildren there were eleven Oakdale ticket winners, two of which were SA Champions. His great Grandson Ch. Oakdale's Topbrass of Ulvenhout also becoming a multi Best in Show All breeds winner.

OAKDALES BEST IN SHOW ALL BREED WINNING PROGENY



**Mark Simpson with
Ch. Oakdales Scallywag**



**Sue Faes with Oakdales Toptrump
as a puppy**