

TRIP to WESTERN AUSTRALIA
TO JUDGE IRISH SETTER CLUB INC
By Mark Simpson



A view of Perth CBD area taken from King's Park

After a 21 hr. trip from my home in Napier, South Africa I arrived in Perth Western Australia to be greeted by Sandy Peter'ka and Myra Thomas Rhodes of the Irish Setter Club Inc . From the airport we headed to Hillside B & B, my weekend accommodation in York – the oldest inland town in Western Australia. Having checked in the journey continued to Sandy's' home where various participants in the weekend field trials to be held on Saturday 22nd and 23rd July were congregating. I was introduced to the Field Trial judge, Dave Coleman, who professionally grades farm animals in Eastern Australia.

Friday 21st July 2017 was Show day at Noble Falls Estate, Gidgegannup with a non-championship and Championship show being held, the former judged by Learner Judge Shamil Kurmaev. I was warned that it may rain, but as is the norm when I judge the rain miraculously disappeared

The quality of the show dogs overall was of an acceptable standard with a mixture of pure field trial strains competing with pure show strains... My top winners I would have gladly taken home if that had been possible.



Best Intermediate, Best of Breed and Best in Show Amhurst Hej Hej Juippee It's Me (b)
Sire Aust Ch Amhurst Mistoffeles Dam Amhurst Don't Forget to Rememba
Owners M Thomas & M Thomas Rhodes



Best State Bred, Res Best of Breed and Reserve Best in Show
Amhurst Without A Doubt (d)
Sire Copper's Prat Bubbla (Swed) Dam Copper's That's It That's Me (Swed)
Owners M & M Thomas



Best Baby Puppy Amhurst Alcontact Leavesatrace (b)

Sire Coppers A Twist in the Tale (imp Sweden)

Dam Amhurst Carrythestories Faraway

Owners M Thomas & M Thomas Rhodes



Best Puppy Eirean An Innocent Man (d)

Sire Sup Ch Shelomith Vice Regent Dam GD CH Eirean California By Design

Owner M S Patterson



Best Junior Quailbanders Sassafras (b)
Sire Orlando (Imp Italy) Dam Kamphogdas Elva (Imp Norway)
Owner E. Kneller



Best Open on Show Copper's Twist in the Tale (d) Imp Sweden
Sire Italswe Macho Beckham (Sweden) Dam Copper's Magical Twist (Sweden)
Owner M Thomas & M Thomas Rhodes

After the show everyone enjoyed lunch at the Wild Goose Restaurant on the Estate. I was fortunate enough to win the raffle but declined the prize as there was no possibility of carrying the metal sheet tree home in my luggage so I re-donated it with the lucky winner being David Beet after a redraw.

While the Field Trial fraternity competed with their Pointers and Setters for the next two days I explored the town of York and on Sunday 23rd July Myra and her friend Helen collected me for lunch at a small restaurant called Cherith Grove, somewhere near Noble Falls Estate. Afterwards we went back to Myra's home for a few hours and I was introduced to the majority of her Amhurst Irish and English Setters and Burberry Labrador Retrievers (29 dogs in all).before returning to my accommodation.



**A glimpse of Myra Thomas Rhodes Amhurst English & Irish Setters
with her Burberry Labrador Retrievers**

Monday was spent at Sandy's home talking to her husband Henre and trialler Bob. On Tuesday (24th) Sandy transported me to Midland to meet with David Beet. With him I travelled to Fremantle where I was booked into a small B & B named Port Mill -. just 4 rooms with excellent service

I spent the rest of Tuesday & Wednesday exploring Fremantle which I thoroughly enjoyed albeit I must have walked at least 10km.



Fremantle Railway Station



Fremantle Post Office



Possum Graffiti on wall opposite old Prison Warders Cottages in Fremantle

Thursday morning David transported me to Perth, and on route we went into one of the shopping malls. It was enormous bigger than any near my home. .All too soon it was time to head for the Airport, Had a flat white (the Aussie term for coffee with milk, not cappuccino) and bade David farewell. I finally arrived home via Singapore 27 hours later and spent the next couple of days recovering from my enjoyable travelling experience.

I would like to extend my appreciation and thanks to the Committee of the Irish Setter Club Inc for the honour of judging their show and for the hospitality shown to me by particularly Sandy and Henre , Debra , David and Myra during my stay..

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