

CHARBONNEL

Established 1978.

Thank you to the officers & committee of the Cocker Club for asking me to write about my dogs & my last 34 years in their company. I would like to dedicate this piece to my Dad, Joe Lloyd, who from day one nurtured & encouraged my love of all animals, but in particular dogs. Thanks to him, I visited my first dog show when I was 12 & had the opportunity to handle a little black cocker bitch in the 'children's handling' class, & when we won, well, that was the start of 4 years of nagging for a cocker!! We already had a dog, so my Dad said I'd have to wait until I left home to buy a cocker pup, which I did.



As soon as I had a job with accommodation and I'd bought a GSD, I started my search locally for a cocker. I was lucky enough to be recommended to Eric and Nora Borman at Sonic. With their son, Trevor, they showed solids & particolours & after a 12 month wait I bought a 4 month old black Sonic Sandmark daughter, Ernedene Royal Regalia, from them. She was the first cocker to carry my kennel name 'Charbonnel' & even now she is only at the most 8 generations behind my current show dogs & the foundation of all the bitches (&some dogs...) who carry the suffix of 'ette' in their name.



Kizzy & I had much success for 2 novices, she won in good company at championship shows & won my first all breeds BIS at an Open show. When mated to Sh.Ch. Bobbinbraes Echo she produced my first homebred golden bitch Charbonnel Charlotte. Lottie had an exceptionally fluffy puppy coat & I have a lasting memory of showing under the late Gwen Broadley, at WELKS I think, who retorted

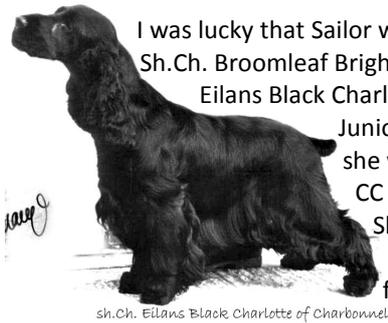
"This is a Cocker class, not an *Afghan* class you know!" Even then my shoulders had to be pretty broad! When mated to Beryl Jones Multiple RCC winning black dog Cordura Barbarloo (by Sonic Sandmark x Hightrees Daisy Chain) Lottie produced the cobby little black bitch Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Chandalier at Deewhy, owned by Jack & Billy Langford.

In 1979 I bought my first male, the little character Sonic Sailor of Charbonnel, one of the sweetest, but most active goldens I have ever owned. He & I had great fun, his 'big win' of his puppy career being Best Puppy in Show at the Cocker Club Championship show in 1980. He went on to win his Junior Warrant while in puppy & during the next 7 years won countless BIS's at breed club open





shows. CC's & RCC's always evaded him, although we were often in the line-up at champ shows, & he was called in a couple of times for the RCC. He was a dependable, busy little show dog, short-backed, sound-moving & I loved him to bits; he lived to 14½ & in his latter years spent a great deal of time with Hannah when she was a baby & toddler.



Sh.Ch. Eilans Black Charlotte of Charbonnel

I was lucky that Sailor was used by Mr & Mrs Medcalf in the Midlands on a Sh.Ch. Broomleaf Bright Memory daughter & I bought in a black daughter, Eilans Black Charlotte (of Charbonnel). Poppy had won more than 75 Junior Warrant points by the time she was 18 months & she was to become my first champion, winning her first CC at Manchester in 1985, & being made up that year. She won 4 CC's, & when mated to Sh.Ch. Helenwood Horizon she produced Charbonnel Bombardier, my first golden CC winning male. Bomber was exported

to Yugoslavia where he was shown & lived his life out as a pet. This mating also produced my first exports into Scandinavia. When Bomber was mated to Charbonnel Charlotte, they produced the golden bitch Charbonnel One & Only, who I kept, but didn't show as she didn't carry a great deal of feathering.



Charbonnel Bombardier

In 1987 I bought my first parti-colour, the blue bitch Helenwood Grotty Cottage, from Jackie Marris-Bray. Grotty earned her strange name by being born while Jackie was staying at Pony Club camp in a less-than-clean cottage... it was one name 'theme' I didn't continue through my parti line! Every parti-colour I've bred originates from Grotty, & I'm still only 8 generations on from her now.

Back to the solids... in 1988 Poppy was mated to Helenwood Sounds Familiar (at the time owned by Eric & Nora Borman) She produced my first 'big' winner, Sh.Ch.



Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Fair Cher

Charbonnel Fair Cher. Jill won her 1st RCC at 10 months & went on to win 21 CC's & many RCC's, was Top Cocker in 1990 & runner up Top Cocker in 1991, was BOB at Crufts in 1991 & shortlisted into the last 6 in the group. Together we also won BIS at the Merseyside Gundog Clubs' Championship show. As a brood Jill proved to be a wonderful mother. She was the dam of the classy male Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Mr. Sheen, who was exported to Spain at 4 years of age, where I

was lucky enough to show him occasionally. I kept a bitch line which has only just diminished. Jill also had a golden sister, Short Story, who proved to be a



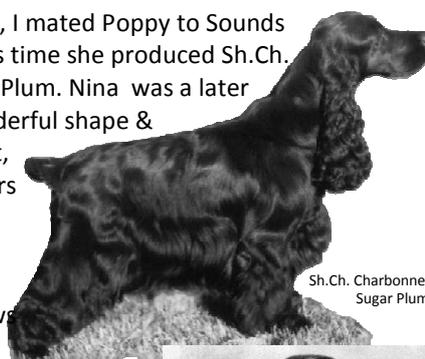
very useful brood bitch, with one of her black sons NZ Ch. Charbonnel Touching Wood winning more than 80 CC's in New Zealand.



Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Mr. Sheen

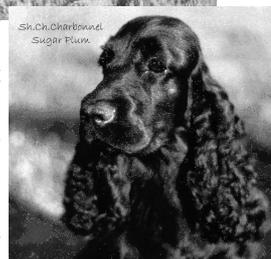
Later on in her life, I mated Poppy to Sounds Familiar again, this time she produced Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Sugar Plum. Nina was a later

developer than her full sister, she had a wonderful shape & proportions, but her rib took longer to fill out, but she won her title by the time she was 3 yrs old, being sparingly shown due to my having Hannah. Nina did share Hannah's pram quite frequently at the outdoor shows, & I have to say that I could not have got to as many shows



Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Sugar Plum

as I did at this time if it hadn't been for the help of my friend June Hill (Judena) who was invaluable in caring for Hannah when I was driving & in the ring. Just writing about those days brings a smile to my face!! At this time I became the proud owner of Sounds Familiar - Jack- & he played an important role in my breeding plans, being by the influential sire Sh.Ch. Quettedene Emblem. When mated to Charbonnel One & Only they produced the golden bitch Bizette, the first bitch to carry the 'ette' suffix & the eventual dam, when mated to the black Judena Joskey, of Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Amorette. Hannah named this outgoing little golden bombshell Noodle & she was one of my memorable show dogs, with her bustling movement & exceptional temperament. I think she won 8 CC's & numerous RCC's, including the RCC under



Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Sugar Plum



Daphne Darby at the Cocker Club, & we had a wonderful group win at the East of England Championship show under Phyllis Woolf. At the champions parade at the Cocker Club Centenary show Marion Sweeney handled her, & I well remember Marion telling me with a tear in her eye that Noodle could have performed on her own & that Marion just felt like she was on Noodle's lead!! I had many offers from

overseas for her, but she was the epitome of a merry cocker & she lived out her life with us at home, proving to be an invaluable brood bitch & an excellent representative of her much-maligned colour, making friends wherever she went... In early 2001 Noodle produced a litter to Sounds Familiar, & Sugar Plum was mated to Sh.Ch. Asquannes Gonzales. The 2 black males I kept from these 2 matings were to live together in harmony for more than 11 years & died within weeks of each



other. They were Charbonnel Roulette & Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Warlord, he 2 most dear souls I have ever had the pleasure to share my life with. Bryan & Frankie were probably total opposites as far as

show careers were concerned- Bryan didn't come out more than 5 times, as he didn't grow the length of coat required, whereas my beautiful Frankie had an illustrious career & won enough to earn the title of Top Winning Black Male of all Time. He won Best Puppy at Crufts & was made up in Junior. Frankie went on to win 29 CC's, numerous RCC's, Top Cocker

2001 & 2002 & Best in Show at the Cocker Club 2 years in succession. He also won 2 group 3's & a group 4, and competed at the World Show in Amsterdam, where he



was 2nd in a huge champion class . At the Cocker Club Centenary show his progeny group won the special class & he was in the winning group when Gonzales won the stud dog class. Once in Veteran he was only shown sparingly as he suffered with arthritis in his back, & I decided that it was not fair on him to travel long distances. Always a gentleman, he never had a cross word for man or beast, & the delight in his eyes when we waited our turn to be seen on the judging table would always make me smile- he would stand wagging his tail, watching all the other dogs in his class take their turn & when we reached the table he just wanted to be up there, standing so proudly, his strong neck arched and tail still wagging. Everyone should have the opportunity to handle a Frankie & to feel that



pride which I felt, for having created such beauty & to be able to feel his enthusiasm. How I miss him..... As a sire, Frankie proved his worth to me more than anyone. He was not widely used as his well-known sire

was still alive & being used & once I discovered he was an FN carrier I withdrew him from stud. He produced 3 champions for me, all from Amorette, & one for the Kettle sisters' in the black bitch Sh.Ch. Lujesa Soul to Soul. He only produced black or black & tan, my 3 were all black, namely Sh.Ch. C Lynette, Frankette & Silhouette. Lynette won Best Puppy at Crufts & was top bitch in 2002. Frankette won the bitch CC at the Cocker Club, with Lynette winning the RCC behind her.

That was a very proud moment for me.

While I was doing well with the 'ette' girls I was also showing the latest of the partis, Charbonnel Girls'n'Pearls to her Junior Warrant & Hannah showed her quite successfully in Junior Handling too. She was mated to Sh.Ch. Terriles Tonuelo to produce my next blue Pinny'n'Pearls, who was later to prove herself by bringing into the world my first own-bred champion blue dog Charbonnel Life'n'Times



& a first champion for Tina Beswick in Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Hide'n'Chic at Cachel.

Over the years I have exported numerous dogs to both show & pet homes around the world, and I have also been very lucky to have imported some very typical cockers from dedicated breeders in Europe in order to open up my own kennel's gene pool. When I exported a golden male, Charbonnel

Set Sail to the Kordens kennel in the Netherlands in 1990 I couldn't have imagined that 12 years later I would be approached by Lea Bogers Dam (Tripols kennel in the Netherlands) who offered me the opportunity to have a daughter of Set Sail, Tripols Pivit, to have a litter from her to a dog of my choice. Kindness of this magnitude is rarely seen & I would have been foolish not to take up her offer.

Following a visit to a show in the Netherlands, where I didn't see a dog I liked, Lea took me to see some friends of hers, the Hansons of the Domaine d'Haisha kennel in Belgium. This was where I met the wonderful ZBilly Boy du Domaine d'Haisha, a cobby, square, happy dog, & the decision was made-Pivit was mated to him & she came over to the UK to whelp. She produced 4 pups, I kept 3 of them. The black



bitch Chabonnel Goes Dutch, when mated to Warlord, (one of my 'dream matings') produced my Charbonnel War Hero (2 RCC's) & one of the dogs, the gold Carbonnel Double Dutch,(1 CC) is still with us now, being the sire of the Flowers' first show champion Sh.Ch. Kelbonny Go Dutch to Topenkopf, Lux Ch. Charbonnel Suzette & Charbonnel Starlette(2RCC's).



This liaison not only opened up my pedigrees, it also was the beginning of friendships



which I treasure to this day-Lea is very knowledgeable & the Hansons are honest, kind breeders & have had a number of dogs from me & I hope to visit them again with bitches to bring in new genes & tap into old ones.

More recently I have been lucky to bring in blood from Scandinavia, from the Manaca's kennel. I was judging in Norway in 2006 & gave BOB to a beautiful black bitch, the Swedish Ch. Manaca's Undesigned Dream -Sonja..... Later I discovered that on a previous judging assignment I had made up Sonja's granny, so I obviously liked the type! Between us Monica &

I made a decision to mate Sonja to War Hero, one of my so called 'dream matings', & this was a turning point for both our kennels. Sonja reared 8 puppies & I kept the brother & sister Sh.Ch. C.Swedish Design & Sh.Ch.C. Dream Design- young Sonja who was shown in Hannah's name as she cared for her & showed her. Both of them are a pleasure to show & live with, & it was Desi's 3rd CC which was also our landmark 100th CC. I am proud to hear that Desi's first champion son Sh.Ch. Dillonpark Pellegrino has become Top Cocker 2012 -there is no better thrill as a stud dog owner & breeder !



Monica took Charbonnel Manaca's Design back to Sweden, he is now a champion & is proving his worth as a sire. When I mated Warlord to his grand-daughter Starlette there was a very promising black & tan male in the litter, Charbonnel Warpaint & he joined the Manacas kennel too & is now a champion. Paddy is hopefully another

male who I can use in the future to bring back some treasured genes to tie in a few generations on.....

My next import was the blue puppy dog Manaca's Learn Life's Ropes at Charbonnel. Tony is a real sweetie, he has strength but he is not overdone in any way, & his input into my parti line has proved invaluable. By mating him to Pinny'n'Pearls he produced Life'n'Times who is stamping his type on lots of differently bred bitches, Charbonnel Ermine'n'Pearls & my latest youngster Charbonnel Poise'n'Ivy .

My story would not be complete without mentioning some of the dogs who have created other long-standing friendships both here in the UK & around the world. Apologies here if I have omitted any, these are purely from memory.....

The black male Charbonnel Chase the Ace at Mikifil won Mike Wildman's first CC, & Charbonnel Roger'n'Out won the first Cocker Club Puppy Challenge for Mike under Liz Cartledge. Another first for Mike was his



first champion; the light blue Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Shake'n'Stevens (Terriles Toyoyama x Mikifil Kiss n Tell at Charbonnel). Pat Meaker won her first CC with Charbonnel Wait'n'See at Meakwood & has shown numerous blue bitches from our kennel & Tina Beswick's first champion was Sh.Ch. Charbonnel Hide'n'Chic at Cachel. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to help new people in the breed too; Lee & Patsy Robertson have won their first Junior Warrant with Charbonnel

Law'n'Order at Darvieux, Teresa Walker has had much fun & success with her two blacks Charbonnel First Design at Brackenjack & Charbonnel Etiquette at Brackenjack & Graham & Barbara Turner have had most of their success with Charbonnel Baronette with Jalankiu. Being instrumental in peoples' enjoyment of their dogs makes me very proud. Some of our dogs who have either enjoyed a successful show career or



been useful in other peoples breeding programmes abroad (as well as those already mentioned) include Swedish Champions Charbonnel A Ones Macho & Charbonnel A



Multi Champion Charbonnel Blue'n'Yellow



Lux Ch. Charbonnel Carolette

Ones Tonka & Multi champion Charbonnel Blue'n'Yellow, Charbonnel Crackerjack & Charbonnel Glenlarry in Spain, Charbonnel Glenmartin in Yugoslavia, Charbonnel Star Wars in Serbia, Charbonnel High'n'Dry, Hugs'n'Kisses, Jim'n'Tonic, & the black War Games in the USA, Lux Ch. Charbonnel Carolette & Charbonnel Rob'n'Hood in Belgium, Swiss Ch. Charbonnel Fair Trade, Italian Ch. Charbonnel Storm 'n' Norman, Charbonnel Warplay in Brazil, Charbonnel Cute 'n' Cuddly in Spain, Charbonnel Swedish Model in Denmark, to name a few.



Charbonnel Rob'n'Hood

If I was to sum up my breeding strategy over the years I would say that I look for the type I'm striving for before pedigree (& would avoid a dog/bitch no matter how beautiful he/she was if he/she was known to produce hereditary problems)& I would never compromise on temperament & health. If I have been unlucky enough to have a problem with either, then I have ceased to breed from those lines & learnt a lesson from it. I have never been one to use 'the dog of the moment'; I would prefer to wait to see his progeny, & I NEVER 'dabble'!! I would prefer to use the same dog 3 or 4 times to keep type than use different dogs on the same bitch just for the sake of doing something different. I believe that only by watching dogs in the ring does one develop an eye, & I don't mean just watching how dogs are placed by the judge elect on the day, but looking at how they are made, how their musculature enables them to move. Its very important to know how the skeleton & muscles work together to create a living creature that appeals and 'fills the eye'. To aspiring judges & breeders I would say, spend as much time as your life allows studying your chosen breed/s, don't let colour affect your judgement, & always take health & temperament into account. Be honest with yourself & others, & more than anything remember that showing is YOUR hobby, not your dogs', so try to make their life enjoyable & remember it should be fun!! Our cockers return our love one hundred-fold & we owe them a great deal.

Kindest regards, Sandy Platt . December 2012

