

Profile

Mrs. Elsie James (*Boroughbury Irish Wolfhounds*)

It was with great sadness that we heard news of the death of Mrs. Elsie James whose Boroughbury Hounds were renowned worldwide.

A native of Tralee, Co. Kerry, Mrs. James lived most of her life in England. She started breeding in the war years with Clonboy of Ouborough. Mrs. Nagle, in Alma Starbuck's "The Complete Irish Wolfhound", tells us that Clonboy, son of Ch. Chulainn Casey, sired the best hounds during the last war. He sired Int. Ch. Artel Ballykelly Sandy, Int. Ch. Mulligan of Boroughbury, Eng. Ch. Ouborough McCarthy of Boroughbury, all bred by Mrs. James herself.

Tara of Bradfield was dam of the first Ouborough litter. Within the next few years Mrs. James added a Clonboy daughter, Casbah of Ouborough to her breeding stock and then another bitch Kevin of Ouborough arrived. Kevin is well known to pedigree enthusiasts because of her masculine name. Both Tara and Kevin bred very well with Clonboy producing many champions in the first and following generations.

The Boroughbury Champions around the world would be too numerous to mention. The most notable of the English and Irish Champions were: Ch. Mulligan of Boroughbury — sired Eng. Ch. Kerrymand of Boroughbury — sire of Eng. Ch. Rippington Rath Gelert; Ch. Ouborough MacCarthy of Boroughbury was grand sire of Int. Ch. Carol of Eaglescrag, dam and grand dam of many Nendrum champions; Eng. Ch. Eaglescrag Cooleen of Boroughbury is grand dam of some of the present day Eaglescrag hounds; Eng. Ch. Outhwaite Clodagh of Boroughbury helped form Outhwaite line and Int. Ch. Artel Ballykelly and grand sire of Int. Ch. Magilligan of Ballykelly. Ch. Ouborough Tara of Boroughbury.

Mrs. Hilary Jupp writing in "Dog World" states "Clonboy proved not only a potent sire but his progeny were good breeders too and the Boroughbury affix was soon to be seen in the pedigrees of champions of many of the top kennels in England, Ireland and the States. All the English champions born in 1944-1946 were by Clonboy or his sons or grandsons..... and in several cases ex his daughters or granddaughters. The same can be said for all but one of the English champions born in 1946-1951."

The Boroughbury line had a strong influence on many of the Irish and English top kennels of the 1950's and 1960's, especially in Ballykelly and Nendrum in Ireland and Eaglescrag, Outhwaite and many others in England.

More recently, English and U.S. Ch. Brona of Boroughbury still holds the record of top winning Irish Wolfhound Bitch of all time and her son U.S. Ch. Broughshane of Eagle is top winning Irish Wolfhound of all time with 15 Best in Shows.



Informal shot of Justice & Jolly helping themselves to apples when still youngsters.



Irish Ch. Boroughbury Justice, three times Annual Champion, and his litter sister, Irish Ch. Boroughbury Jolly, Annual Champion 1974, were from the last litter bred by Elsie James. Like Clonboy, Justice was a potent sire and his progeny were also good breeders. He sired: Int. Ch. Carrokeel Coillte Merlin, Int. Ch. Mary of Nutstown (dam of Ch. Brigid of Bearnabui), Ch. Nutstown Queen (dam of Int. Ch. Nutstown King), Ch. Carrigeen of Tolkavalley, Ch. Athcarne Shiofa (dam of Ch. Coolbreagh Athcarne Clodagh), Ch. Tolkavalley Sceoling and Eng. Ch. Sinead of Cu Uisneach and numerous overseas champions. Ch. Boroughbury Jolly was dam. of Ch. Carrokeel Slainte and two overseas champions.

Ch. Boroughbury Justice, both 1971, was the great, great, great, great, great grandson of Clonboy of Ouborough. Seven generations spanning nearly forty years of breeding Irish Wolfhounds of superb type and quality — this is the measure of the success of Elsie James' renowned Boroughbury Irish Wolfhounds.

E.C. MURPHY