



# SPRINGER SPANIEL



The breeders' choice: Sh Ch Hawkhill Connaught, Top Dog 1973, the first year of the DOG WORLD competition  
Photo Anne Fashin-Williams

NEW BREED RECORD HOLDER • NEW BREED RECORD HOLDER • NEW BREED RECORD HOLDER • NEW BREED RECORD HOLDER

## SH CH WADESON INSPECTOR WEXFORD

Sinbad

**NEW BREED RECORD HOLDER**  
**56 CCS**

Many thanks to all the judges for making this possible and to friends and fellow exhibitors for their continued support and encouragement along the way

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### Ann Corbett (Trinere ESS)

1. I choose two bitches bred at the same kennel. The first is the current breed CC record holder, Ch Mompesson Remember Me, who had every thing I strive for in both type and conformation. She had a classic Springer head and when moving she covered the ground effortlessly.

The second is Sh Ch Mompesson Mixed Emotions, an ultra feminine bitch who had the most exquisite shape and oozed quality and style. My perfect Springer would be a combination of these two.

2. I would like to have seen Ch Moorcliff Dougal of Truethdale as he had a lot of influence in my pedigrees and sired the famous Sh Ch Hawkhill Connaught who was also very influential.

3. I can only comment on the dogs I have owned in both breeds and I speak only of the show bred English Springer. The English seem to be more laid-back and quieter than the Welsh. When you walk with English they stay closer to you whereas the Welsh want to go off hunting regardless of where you are. I also feel that the Welsh are more aloof and do things only on their terms.

The main difference in looks is the head and ears. The Welsh is shorter in flow and ear with a less defined stop. In body the make and shape are similar although the English is larger.

4. A docking ban will impair working dogs as full tails can be torn when working in cover. There are those in the breed who are strongly against the undocked Springer and may in fact give up the breed. I have judged abroad several times and then the tail carriage on the undocked dog has not been a problem.

5. The time has gone when all English Springers could be classed as dual-purpose. Only a small number of exhibitors train and work their show dogs and no dogs bred from working stock are shown.

The divide between the show and working Springer is vast. Many show-bred English could be trained to work as most retain some degree of natural ability but unfortunately the working English Springers could not be shown, as they simply do not fit the Standard laid down by the Kennel Club, many being hardly recognisable as the breed they are registered as.

This makes the mixing of the working and show very difficult. I know of only one kennel which has done this with any success.

Welsh Springers don't have this massive divide which makes it easier for them to mix brains and beauty.

6. The breed has changed since I bought my first Springer in 1976. As in all breeds there have been peaks and troughs. Standards are either improved or compromised by the influence of fashion or top winning dogs. I decline from stating that they are better or worse, but they have changed.

### Ellen Dobson (Teesview ESS)

1. This is a very difficult question to answer. Over the many years that I have been involved in the breed, I can think of several who came very near to the ideal in conformation.

Those who stand out include Mrs Howard's Ch Chastleton Wing, a grand dog; Mrs Gwen Broadley's Ch Sandylands Susannah, a lovely type of bitch, a real true Springer in every way; Mr W Dixon's Sh Ch Carwinley Comiter, another lovely typical bitch, super size, not overdone in any way; and Mrs Hancock and Mr Cudworth's Sh Ch Slayleigh



Truly dual-purpose - Ch Mompesson Remember Me, the bitch CC record holder in English Springers, combines beauty and brain

## FORUM QUESTIONS

DOG WORLD asked some experienced ESS and WSS breeders and exhibitors the following questions:

1. Which English or Welsh Springer, not owned or bred by you, is the best you have seen and why?
2. Which ESS or WSS whom you have never seen in the flesh would you most like to have seen and why?
3. What main differences are there in both character and looks between (except colour) English and Welsh?
4. What effect do you think a docking ban will have on the two breeds? Judging by the dogs abroad, do you think it will be easy to breed an acceptable tail carriage?
5. Could more be done to keep the two breeds dual-purpose? How come that the Welsh seem to be more successful in that respect?
6. Has the breed improved or not since you came into English or Welsh Springers?

Paulina.

If I was truly pushed I would give my vote to Paulina. She was born in December 1963, bred by Major A W G Scott by Sh Ch Whaddon Chase Drake ex Quaker Girl of Stubbham. She was a gorgeous, most typical bitch, correct in every way, of such quality and she won lots of CCS. I remember awarding her the CC and BOB at WELKS in 1967.

Not only a great show bitch, she turned out to be a great brood bitch too, producing Sh Ch Hawkhill Connaught, still the top sire in the breed and former breed record holder. She was also the dam of Sh Ch Hawkhill Derby Daydream who proved such a wonderful beginning for Mr Jackson's Mompessons and therefore lies behind so many of the top winners ever today.



'Oliver' aged 9 weeks unbroken line

**COLIN and CAROLYN MUIRHEAD**

Tel 01263 761319  
Fax 01263 768792  
Email  
scepdelene@hotmail.com

## SHIPPEN ENGLISH SPRINGERS

Current strain established 1953

## SH CH EASTRIDING KOUROS



photo Kipps

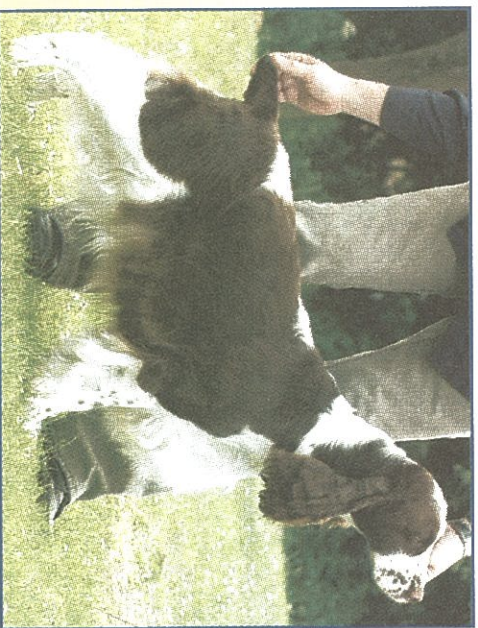
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