

The Eaglescrag Legacy **by Dagmar Kenis Pordham**

I have chosen to talk about the famous Eaglescrag hounds, a kennel which has had one of the strongest influences on United Kingdom and European Wolfhound breeding.

Ruth and Leslie Jenkins started their involvement with the breed in 1950 although Mrs. Jenkins and her sister Noreen Twyman had grown up with a bitch from the Felixstowe kennels as young girls. Their mother bred Sealyham Terriers.

They first bought a bitch called Develin Molly, in 1950, showed her a little and had two litters from her, both by Rory, and indeed bred one daughter back to him.

In 1957 they were offered an older bitch, Kilfenora of Ouborough, who had been given back to the Sanctuary kennels by Mr. Jackson from the Island of Jersey. Kilfenora had already been mated to Ch. Sanctuary Rory of Kihone. This dog had been imported from the US to broaden UK bloodlines. Kilfenora whelped her litter at Eaglescrag at just over eight years of age.

UK Ch. Sanctuary Rory of Kihone was bred in the United States and was given to the Wolfhound breeders of the United Kingdom to provide fresh blood to the depleted lines in this country. He was bred by Miss McGregor, in 1951. After he had gone through quarantine he came to live at the Sanctuary kennels of Miss Margaret Harrison and Miss May Atfield in Surrey, south of London.

His first litter arrived in 1953, the first of 15 litters, and the last litter was the very influential litter at Eaglescrag in 1957.

Rory sired 7 UK champions, Ch. Sulhamstead Freda and S. Fellus, Sulhamstead Melba and S. Manna. Ch. Rippingdon Brackenbury Rhythm and R. B. Topnote. From the last litter came Ch. Carol of Eaglescrag. Rory became a champion in 1957, at six years of age. He won his last two CCs as a near-veteran.

Kilfenora of Ouborough was previously owned by Mr. B. Jackson of Jersey who had one litter, by Rory, in his kennel name three years before the Eaglescrag litter was born. The only one we know of in this litter was Janvrins Gaela, who was sold to the Dornford kennels. I have chosen to

include her and her two daughters in this talk, as they later figure in line breeding but to no avail.

Both of Kilfenora's parents were bred at Mrs. Elsie James' Boroughbury kennels, Ch. Ouborough McCarthy of B. and Ch. Ouborough Tara of B. Kilfenora had two half siblings through her sire, Ch. Sulhamstead Monty and Ch. Sulhamstead Mary. A son of Monty's, Sean of Corfechase, lies behind many Ballykelly's, while Mary is the dam of Ch. Sulhamstead Majenta and Ch. S. Melba.

This was the real start of the Eaglescrag line. From her litter, born in Aug. 1957, three bitches were to be of big importance.

For the Eaglescrag and Nendrum kennels (of Mrs. Jenkins sister, a veterinarian in Ireland) **CH. CAROL OF EAGLESCRAG**
for the Sanctuary kennels, **SANCTUARY SONNET OF EAGLESCRAG**
for the Eaglescrag kennels: **SONG OF EAGLESCRAG**

and from Kilfenora's earlier litter to Rory: **JANVRINS GAELA.**

Early litter, foundation litter, slide 3-8

These four sisters bred on in several kennels in the UK.

CH. CAROL OF EAGLESCRAG lived in Ireland with Mrs. Jenkins' sister Noreen Twyman, Her two famous sons **CH. COLIN** of Nendrum (b.1960) (by Ch. McGilligan of Ballykelly) and Mrs Jenkins' own **CH. EAGLESCRAG CLONROE** of Nendrum (1963) between them sired many champions. Colin's most influential sons was probably Am. Ch. Ballykelly Colin , Am Ch. Irish Paddy of Ulaid and Am Ch. Quintus of Delorne. Colin's son Ballykelly Cavin stayed in Ireland, while Brabyns Gerland of Eaglescrag and Boroughbury Brenda of Petasmeade bred on in the UK.

I will talk more on Carol's son Clonroe in the section on Eaglescrag stud dogs.

Clonroe's littermates, Ir. Ch's Corrie of Nendrum and Connel of Nendrum were to have a big influence as well. Corrie through the A litter of Nendrum, (1963) (by Brave Knight) which included the well-used stud dogs, Am.Ch. Ardmore, Irish Ch. Ard gour and Aron of N. as well as Mrs. Jenkins' bitch Eaglescrag Alice of Nendrum who was later to be the dam of 4 UK Eaglescrag champions and names that we are now starting to recognize in terms of timing. Ch. Baldeagle Fiana of Eaglescrag, Ch. Conchessa of E. and Ch. Fintan of E. and Ch. Caio of Eaglescrag.

SANCTUARY SONNET OF EAGLESCRAG lived at the Sanctuary kennels of Miss May Atfield and Miss Margaret Harrison of the famous musical family of sisters. Her sister Beatrice was famous for playing her cello with the nightingale.

Sonnet's first litter, sired by her half brother Sanctuary Sulhamstead Fellad, contained Ch. Sanctuary Brave Knight (b. 1961) who was to feature strongly in later generations, together with his sister S. Stately Sarah.

Ch. Sanctuary Brave Knight (61) was the sire in the UK of Ch. Sanctuary Monica and of Ch. Sulhamstead Mogul, but of more impact from a breeding standpoint was his A-litter at Nendrum, where Am.Ch. Ardmore of N went to the Eagle kennels in the US, Irish Ch. Ardgour was owned by Tim Finney in Ireland (sire of Italian Ch. Blackdale Murdoch who features in today's pedigrees as he is behind Ch. Quincy of Kilmara through Eschiele del Solengo, sire of Ch. Kane and Karla of the Good Heath). Ardgour is also the grandsire of the foundation bitch of the Gulliagh's, Gulliagh Ballykelly Cait. Her sister, Am.Ch. Ballykelly Carrickaneena is one of the foundation bitches for the kennel of this name in USA.

Brave Knight's daughters Sanctuary Mandy and Triena Girl are also often seen in pedigrees, with Triena Girl the dam of Sulhamstead Woodside Finn.

Another Brave Knight daughter, Am.Ch. Sulhamstead Minita, is the grand dam of the famous Multi Specialty winner Am.Ch. Wildisle Warlock. Am.Ch. Mapleton Breda, another daughter exported to the US, is the grand dam of Am.Ch. Gerdins Kerry of Heart-G.

Brave Knight's son, Nordic Ch. Boroughbury Paddy Boy of Brabyns, had one litter in the UK before leaving for Norway; this included the very successful stud dog Feccna of Brabyns, in turn sire of the Ch. Petasmeade Chieftain of Brabyns, while in Scandinavia Paddy Boy had an influence on almost all later Scandinavian breeding through the Krooden and Ljunas kennels, where Rovaleco, Innsettias, Bang P, Ulvsholm, Faxbo Wolfhouse can trace to him in pedigrees.

Sonnet's influence on the UK hounds is possibly even stronger through Brave Knight's sister, Sanctuary Stately Sarah. Her son Sanctuary Knight of Kerry was the sire of such cornerstones of breeding as Jason of Sunningdale, a pivotal sire for the Erindale kennels, of Sanctuary Casbah, the foundation bitch of the Witchesbroom kennels, of Sanctuary Monagh of Marumac, foundation bitch of the Marumac kennels. Knight of Kerry had a champion son, Ch. Sanctuary Revog. Revog's daughter Ch. Erindale Bernice was in turn dam of Ch. Erindale Phelan and Ch. Erindale Saragh.

SONG OF EAGLESCRAG who remained at the home kennel, when mated to Ch. Sulhamstead Sedlestan Rebel, had Saragh (59) and Sailor, who was sold to the Buckhurst kennel.

A later litter, by Ch. Sulhamstead Remus. included Ch. Moira of Eaglescrag (63), dam of Ch. Red Wully of E. (1966)

Song's daughter Saragh, when mated to Ch. Sulhamstead Max, had several champion offspring, Ch. Clindhu, Ch. Sulhamstead Morna of Eaglescrag and Swedish Ch. Driella of Eaglescrag and Swed.Ch. Grimnea of E.

Saragh's son, Clindhu, is now behind many Wolfhounds; I will talk more about him in the section on Stud dogs.

Saragh's daughter Morna, when mated to Ch. S. Match, had the influential Sulhamstead Major, regarded by many as one of the finest Wolfhounds males ever. Morna, when mated to Sulhamstead Branwen Myles, had Sulhamstead Moppet, the dam of Ch. S. Motto, while S. Motley from the same litter was the sire of Ch. Edeyrn Mogul, in turn the sire of such important sires as Ch. Witchesbroom Wizard and Solstrand San Antonio of Edeyrn.

Saragh's daughter, Swed.Ch. Driella of Eaglescrag, when mated to Ch. Branwen Luath, again a cousin mating, (Luath' dam went back to Song' sister from the earlier mating, Janvrins Gaela), produced the wonderful brother and sister from the Mountebanks kennels, Ch. Barrabas and Sagan.

Saragh's son, Swed. Ch. Grimnea , in Sweden, gave several Krooden champion offspring, as well as several for the Ljunas kennels, and this line lives on in Swedish kennels.

Strictly speaking **JANVRINS GAELA**, the three years older sister, should not be included in this talk on the Eaglescrag hounds, as she was bred and owned in the island of Jersey. But this bitch, in her only litter, to Sandorleigh Silver, was the dam of Dornford Beryl , the dam of INT. CH. Branwen Luath, and of Sanctuary Dornford Boreen, the dam of Sanctuary Mandy, S. Cu-Finn, S. Domenick and Sanctuary Triena Girl. Sanctuary Triena Girl figures strongly in later Sulhamstead pedigrees, as the dam of Sulhamstead Woodside Finn. The other three siblings (all by Ch. S. Brave Knight) figure strongly in all pedigrees that trace back to the later Sanctuary pedigrees; indeed Mary McBryde's foundation bitch, Sanctuary Monagh of Marumac has two grand sires that were Boreen sons. When you add to that three lines to Brave Knight and one line to his sister Stately Sarah to the pedigree it makes for a quite an intense line breeding on this first Eaglescrag litter, through Gaela and Sanctuary Sonnet of Eaglescrag

EAGLESCRAG Champions in the UK.

Carol of Eaglescrag (57)	Rory x Kilfenora
Moira of E. (63)	S.Remus x Song of Eaglescrag
Clindhu (63)	S. Max x Saragh of Eaglescrag
S. Morna of E. (63)	S. Max x Saragh of Eaglescrag
E. Clonroe of N.(63)	S. Max x Carol of Eaglescrag
E. Coleen of Boroughbury (65)	Clindhu x Moragh of Boroughbury
Red Wully of E.(66)	E. Clonroe of N x Moira of Eaglescrag
B. Fiana of E. (67)	Clindhu x E.Alice of Nendrum
Caio of E. (69)	Clindhu x E. Alice of Nendrum
Conchessa of E. (68)	E.Clonroe of N. x E.Alice of N.
Fintan of E. (71)	Red Wully of Ex. E. Alice of N.
Clodagh of E. (71)	S. Woodside Finn x E. Conchessa
E. Toby (72)	Caio of x Thornwick Rossan of E.
E. Kelt (75)	Caio of E. x Amber of Eaglescrag
E. Lysander (75)	E. Kestrel x Clodagh of Eaglescrag
E. Celeste (81)	Fitzarran Yankee of E x E.Jessica
E. Harvester (85)	Marumac Cedric x E. Cariad
E. Iceflo (85)	S. Kaspar x Eaglescrag Celeste
E. Jake (87)	Clonara Nizam x Eaglescrag Cariad
E. Justin (87)	Clonara Nizam x Eaglescrag Cariad
E. Kapitan (89)	Telgar Hadlee x Eaglescrag Iceflo

STUD DOGS

Eaglescrag Impact – UK

Stud dogs, born in Sixties

Ch. Clindhu of Eaglescrag (b.1963)
 Ch. Eaglescrag Clonroe of Nendrum (1963)
 Ch. Red Wully of Eaglescrag (1966)
 Ch. Caio of Eaglescrag (1969)

Stud dogs, born in the Seventies

Ch. Fintan of Eaglescrag (1971)
 Ch. Eaglescrag Toby (1972)
 Ch. Eaglescrag Lysander (1975)

Stud dogs, born in the Eighties

Ch. Eaglescrag Harvester (1985)
 Ch. Eaglescrag Jake (1987)
 Ch. Eaglescrag Justin (1987)
 Ch. Eaglescrag Kapitan (1989)

Stud dogs born in the Sixties

Ch. Clindhu of Eaglescrag (1963) sired four UK champions. The two sisters Ch. Boroughbury Colleen of Eaglescrag and Ch. Boroughbury Clodagh of Outhwaite, bred by Mrs Elsie James, Ch. Baldeagle Fiana of Eaglescrag owned by Mrs Lydia Pringle and the justly famous Ch. Caio of Eaglescrag who not only won Groups at the highest level but proved to be a most influential stud dog.

Ch. Eaglescrag Clonroe of Nendrum (1963) sired three UK champions, UK and Am. Ch. Boroughbury Brona, who was later exported to the Eagle Kennels of Sam Ewing in the US. She was the dam of the famous Am/Can Ch. Broughshane of Eagle. The two other UK champions were Ch. Conchessa of Eaglescrag (later dam of Ch. Clodagh of Eaglescrag) and Ch. Red Wully of Eaglescrag

Another notable son of Clonroe was Din Jo of Boroughbury, the sire of Ch. Outhwaite Hamish. A daughter, Asoka Banshee became the foundation bitch of the Franshaw kennels. He was also sire of the Thornwick litter sisters, T. Rossan of Eaglescrag (dam of Ch. E.Toby)

and Boroughbury T. Aran, dam of Ir. Ch's Boroughbury Jolly and of Ir. Ch. Boroughbury Justice, a major stud force in Ireland.

Clonroe's son **Ch. Red Wully of Eaglescrag** (1966) was the sire of Ch. Fintan of Eaglescrag. Another notable son was the CC- winner Ard Choille of Rannochlea whose daughter Drakesleat Musyk was the dam of the record winning Ch. Drakesleat Kyak.

Ch. Caio of Eaglescrag (1969) a son of Clindhu, followed his kennel mates in becoming a well used sire. In the UK he was the sire of Ch. Eaglescrag Kelt (dam of E. Craigie, in turn sire of Ch. Marumac Charlock; E. Jessica, dam of Ch. Eaglescrag Celeste and of Am.Ch. E. Janine, dam of USA Ch. Fitzarran Shadowfax).

Ch. Eaglescrag Toby was the sire of Ch. Decree of Bokra and of the last litter at Nendrum, which included Carrokeel Moonbeam of N, and Fin. Ch. Marion of Nendrum.

Ch. Mochras Banrion was another Caio champion daughter, her daughter Mochras Gaeltara is the dam of Swed Ch. Mochras Valentinian.

In Ireland Caio's son Ir. Ch. Boroughbury Justice was a major stud force. Another Caio daughter, Marumac Atalandi, became the dam of Ch. Marumac Bahbarella

Stud dogs born in the Seventies.

Ch. Fintan of Eaglescrag(1971) had a lovely daughter in Sue Rathbone Scott's dual Ch. Tullygirvan Betsy Caolan but it was abroad that he proved of the most breeding value. Bitches such as German Ch. Eaglescrag Corinna and Ger. Ch. Quethiok Sceptre in Germany, Ch. Eaglescrag Hannah and Hawk, along with Ch. Buckhurst Guinevere in Sweden, Am.Ch. Brabyns Gog ma Gog in the US and Gwentyfed Lleigus of Carrokeel in Ireland, these all made a strong mark in their counties.

Ch. Eaglescrag Toby (1972) as noted above had one champion daughter in the UK, Ch. Decree of Bokra. Another stud dog who had his most influence abroad, with the last litter at Miss Twyman's, the M litter of Nendrum. Maeve and Matchless in the United States. Finnish Ch. Marion of N. while Carrokeel Moonbeam of N. and Minerva of N. stayed in Ireland.

Ch. Eaglescrag Lysander (1975) had five UK champion children. His son Ch. Laird of Solstrand lives on in the Solstrands. Dual Ch. Gulliaigh Galleon, (sire of Ch. Culvercroft Benjamin of B.; Ch. Hydebeck Reginald Snuffson and Ir.Ch. Guinevere of Bearnabui.

Lysander's daughters included Mary McBryde's Ch. Marumac Bahbarella (herself the dam of six UK champions, including Charlock, Canrith, Crystal, Cedric, Charlotte and Cinderella) Ch. Clonara Cassnu, dam of Ch. C. Niagh and of the influential stud dog Clonara Nizam) and my own Ch. Kellybourne Ice Rocket, dam of Ch. Solstrand Kaspar and Kail, and of Nordic Ch. Kellybourne Minuteman of Solstrand.

Other Lysander daughters that bred on well include Brooksborne Carina in the UK, who lives on through her daughter Ballyphelan Celtic Charm (dam of Ch. Ballyphelan Tiger Lily, Ch.B. Tarlach Dubh and Ch.B. Cascade Caredig) Edeyrn Troika(dam of Ger. Ch. Edeyrn Galahad, and also Edeyrn Flame of W. and E. Firefly) Ritashi Rae of Solstrand, whose son Germ.Ch. Solstrand Pieter gave several champions in Germany and Belgium, notably Ch. Miss Marple of the Good Heath , Germ Ch.

Longleg's Brid and Int. Ch. Jinne Jann of the Green Farm.

In the US two Lysander sons were very influential, US Ch. Erindale Don Eagle of Flora and US Ch. Solstrand Fenton of Bailebrae.

Stud dogs of the Eighties

Ch. Eaglescrag Harvester (b.1985) was the sire of Norwegian Ch. Ainsea Limelight, and of Ainsea Rifleman, who went on to sire Ch. Ballyphelan Tiger Lily and Ch. B. Tarlach Dubh. Another sister, Ainsea Fascination is the dam of Ch. Ainsea Harmony. Yet another sister, A. Harvest Moon, is the dam of Ch. Ainsea Dusty Sim (dam of Ch. Ainsea Diplomat and Ch. A. Dusty Gem) NZ Ainsea Guardsman and Finnish Ch. Ainsea Saara Tinwhistle.

Ch. Eaglescrag Jake was never used at stud, but his brother **Ch.**

Eaglescrag Justin was to have tremendous importance. His champion son Ch. Edelmar Zach had no offspring but his daughters Ch. Uella Lexie is behind some Uella lines today Justin's daughter Ch. Bearnabui Jacinta is a dual champion. He is also the sire of Australian Ch. Solstrand Beau Brummel (sire of several Tirowen champions) Am. Ch. Nellwyn's Barnabus (sire of Ch. Lilliput Fitzarran Khronos and other Lilliput, Pern and Cnoccarne champions) and Ch. Nellwyn's Miss Calamity Jane (dam of Ch. Tenderfoot of Kilmara, Germ. Ch. Sundance of Kilmara and Velvet of Beltine)

Other daughters include Baronglen Dilys of Telgar, dam of Ch.

Baronglen Miss Fiona and Miss Florence (dam of Ch. Fearnhead Apollo of Baronglen) Mochas Juxtalia ,dam of dual Ch.Juxtalia McMathuna of Knocknarea and of Int. Ch. Juxtalia Maeve Cudama. Another daughter,

Solstrand Babuschka is the dam of Ch. Solstrand Ex Gratia Mochras and of Ch.Solstrand Karita Hunacres.

Eaglescrag Brood Bitches

From 1957 only a few bitches were brought into the Eaglescrag breeding programme. all others homebred. Of these **Eaglescrag Cariad** was one of the most successful, as dam of Ch. Eaglescrag Harvester (85), Ch. Eaglescrag Jake (87) and Ch. Eaglescrag Justin (87) while her sister **Ch. Eaglescrag Celeste** was the dam of one champion, Ch. Eaglescrag Iceflo.

Bitches that were brought in from other kennels were:

Eaglescrag Alice of Nendrum (b. 1963)

Ch. Sanctuary Brave Knight

Ir. Ch. Corrie of Nendrum (as Clonroe)

A fantastic brood bitch, dam of four UK champions.

Ch. Baldeagle Fiana of Eaglescrag, by Clindhu

Ch.Caio of Eaglescrag, by Clindhu

Ch. Conchessa of Eaglescrag, by Clonroe

Ch. Fintan of Eaglescrag, by Red Wully

Ch. Eaglescrag Cooleen of Boroughbury (b. 1965)

Ch. Clindhu of Eaglescrag (1963)

Moragh of Boroughbury

She produced German Ch. Eaglescrag Corinna and Eaglescrag Amber, who stayed at Eaglescrag and was the dam of Ch. Eaglescrag Kelt

Camlet Denise of Eaglescrag (1970)

Ch. Eaglescrag Clonroe of Nendrum

Sulhamstead Mavis of Camlet

She produced German Ch. Eaglescrag Fingal and Am.Ch. E. Miss Timmy.

Eaglescrag Jess is one of the foundation bitches for the very successful Caredig kennels in the UK.

Thornwick Rossan of Eaglescrag (b. 1969)

Din Jo of Boroughbury (by E. Clonroe of N.)

Edgecroft Siobhan

To Ch. Eaglescrag Caio she produced Ch. E. Toby, and Aust. Ch. E. Marinda, while to Ch. E. Finton she produced Swed. Ch. E. Hannah who came to Wolf Tone kennels, Swd.Ch. E. Hawk (Mountebanks kennel) and Eaglescrag Kestrel. Kestrel died young, having only sired one litter, which included Ch. Eaglescrag Lysander, E.Linnet and Port.Ch. Eaglescrag Liam.

Eaglescrag's impact rest of the world

EAGLESCRAG Champions abroad of special breeding importance.

Several Eaglescrag hounds in Germany have been of particular importance for the breeding.

Germ.Ch. Eaglescrag Fingal and ***Eaglescrag Corinna*** came to the Oelmuhle kennels. Fingal (76) was by Ch.E.Toby ex Camlet Denise of E. and he sired many champions not only for the home kennel. Corinna's (72) by Ch.E.Fintan ex Ch. E.Coleen of Boroughbury) son by Fingal, Haughty Hudson v.d Oelmuhle was an important stud dog.

The littermates ***Eaglescrag Count*** and ***E. Morvagh***(74) by Ch.Petasmade Chieftain of Brabyns ex Ch.Clodagh of E. , live on through Creac'h, Oelmuhle, Shamrock and Geasa.

Eaglescrag Bryn Mar (78) (Seplecur Red Knight ex E. Linnet) is behind Creac'h, Oelmuhle, Longlegs, Forodwaith.

Ch. Eaglescrag Barley (77) (Toby x Kelt) went to Germany and lives on in Shamrock, Beddgelert, Haus Gero, Funny Hill and Eichenwiesen.

Ch Eaglescrag Kate (77) a littermate, went to the Fitzarran Kennels in Kentucky, USA; her offspring chs. F. Kinsman, Dauntless, Kelt and Yankee were full brother/sisters by the famous Am.Ch. Wildisle Warlock.

Ch. Eaglescrag Liam (75) (Kestrel x Clodagh) went to Portugal but sired the litter than contained E.Craigie and E. Janine before going abroad, Craigie being the sire of Ch.Marumac Charlock and Am.Ch. Eaglescrag Janine the dam for the Fitzarran Kennels of the famous F. Shadowfax.

Ch.Eaglescrag Cromlech (71) (Toby x Camlet Denise) went to the USA and many Powerscourt and Falcarragh stem from her.

Scandinavia has seen a strong influence from the Eaglescrag starting with

Ch. Grimnea of Eaglescrag (63) who is behind Kroodden and Ljunas and thus behind many of later hounds.

Frona of Eaglescrag(67) is behind many Faxbo's while ***Ch. Driella of E.***(63) (Max x Saragh) of course is the dam of the influential Ch. Mountebanks Barrabas.

In later times *Ch. Eaglescrag Hannah* (75) (Fintan x T.Rossan of E) and *Ch. Eaglescrag Viking* (77) (Toby x Clodagh) went to Sweden to the Wolfe Tone kennels.

Ch. Eaglescrag Tara Tirowen (76) (Fintan x Tansie) and *Ch. Eaglescrag Kester Tirowen* (77) a littermate to Viking, went to the Tirowen kennels in Australia but had great influence over other kennels there as well. A later import was *Ch. Eaglescrag Ruari Tirowen*, a Fitzarran Yankee son.

Contribution to the breed

The Eaglescrag Kennels contribution to the breed.

Of course the Eaglescrag kennel has not been the only kennel to make a huge contribution to the breed. Mrs. Florence Nagle's Sulhamstead kennel is much older, having started in the early 1920ties, and produced even more UK champions, over 40 Uk champions.

I think that where the Ruth and Leslie were outstanding was in encouraging new breeders and letting both UK and overseas breeder have valuable breeding stock. Advice was always freely given and the stud dogs available to honourable breeders.

Being very carefully and reasonably tightly line-bred, the Eaglescrag hounds were of a very recognizable family type and bred very true to this type. When you used an Eaglescrag stud dog you could be as sure as is possible that your puppies would show their genetic inheritance.

Today's breeders cannot be quite so sure of a stud dog's pre-potency. Few breeders of Wolfhounds have had the eye and the sense of stockmanship that the Jenkins had; they dared to breed fairly close but when problems either health-wise or temperament wise came up -- as they always will, simply by the law of averages -- they learnt from this. They kept in touch with puppy buyers, not only the show dogs but they had many pet buyers who always came back when the hound died.

They also let their brood bitches have several litters, and from their different stud dogs, something that we breeders of today seldom have the opportunity to do. Nowadays a bitch rarely has more than two litters in her lifetime?

Their hounds were kept in healthy country surroundings, most of them in kennels and with huge fields for exercise. Sadly, Wolfhounds, although wonderful pets and companions, do best for breeders when they are kept in the rather harsher climate of kennels.

Through this talk I would like to thank two very steadfast and forward looking people, Ruth and Leslie Jenkins, for their huge contribution to the breed.

I would like to mention two couples that are here today, Dave and Jean Malley who were close friends of the Jenkins' and indeed Ruth two last Wolfhounds came from them,. Peter and Pat Pask who are also here stayed very close friends with the Jenkins' for many years; they were probably the closest to Ruth throughout her last years.

I know that I will see tears flowing as I say this, but my main aim for this talk is to always remember the Eaglescrag Hounds and the two lovely human beings who bred them.

What does this teach us ?

It has been a most interesting effort for me to look into the formation of the Eaglescrag Hounds; and little did I realize how fundamentally important this what I have chosen to call “ the foundation” litter, born in 1957, so fifty years ago, proved to be.

The Eaglescrag Hounds have become a very recognizable type appreciated all over the world.

Looking at the pedigrees has pointed out to me how very INTERRELATED and possibly inbred all our hounds are.

We have to realize that **the whole future of the breed is in our hands**, as breeders, and to a certain extent judges and club members. We have to follow our Club's code of ethics whether they are compulsory such as in some countries on the Continent or voluntary, as in the British Isles or the United States.

Certain very good points in our hounds come in cycles, more often bad points or qualities. In breeding we must try never to forget that most qualities are not dominant but recessive and that they cannot simply be bred out but will most likely come back in later generations.

So it is most important that we are OPEN with our fellow breeders and not to be secretive with the faults that you come up with in your breeding. Forewarned is fore armed.

Finally I would like to thank the many friends, too many to name individually, who have lent me pictures, but I have used the photos from my own records wherever possible. The Irish Wolfhound Club has kindly allowed me to borrow pictures from the Yearbooks where I did not have them of some dogs.

I would also like to thank Martha Ryan, who started the IWPedigrees website, what a wonderful research tool. The untold hours she has spent has made it possible for us all to unravel the mysteries of pedigrees and breeding records from the past.

And to my patient husband Nick, who helped me pull together my many thoughts and pictures, into what I hope will have been an interesting talk, my most heart felt thanks !