

Scottish Terriers in Sweden – the last 25 years

by Dan Ericsson

Scottish Terriers have been bred with success in Sweden for many decades and it is interesting to note that a small country in the north of Europe has managed to produce dogs that have indeed achieved worldwide fame thanks to a comparatively small number of dedicated enthusiasts.

The Scottish Terrier Club of Sweden was founded in 1972 and it is probably true to say that this was the starting point for a new era for the breed in this country. Club shows attracted good entries under acclaimed judges and breeders literally flocked around the club. This led to healthy rivalry in the ring and the overall quality began to improve steadily.

Around 1980, several breeders had firmly established themselves as top producers of Scotties. Monika Knutson-Hall's Floreo dogs had been bred with success since the end of the 50's and she continued and continues to breed top dogs of lovely type including the brindle BIS-winning bitch Ch Floreo Gloriosa(Ch Gillson Grand Monarch – Ch Floreo Klöver) and the black Ch Floreo Musseron(Ch Raglan Royal Commander – Ch Raglan Rebecca), also a BIS-winner and full brother to Chs Floreo Mistletoe and Mirabell. Many more champions were bred at Floreo, and most of them have been valuable for future generations of Scotties.

My own Raglan dogs had by now also been firmly established as a strong force in the breed and a constant flow of winners emerged around this time, many of them descending from Floreo lines and this blend has resulted in some excellent Scottish Terriers. One of the best producers at Raglan ever is the lovely brindle bitch Ch Floreo Althaea(Ch Raglan Red Rarity – Ch Floreo Gloriosa), and conversely, the black bitch Ch Raglan Rebecca (Ch Floreo Indigo – Ch Raglan Regatta) proved to be a valuable bitch at Floreo. Both these bitches were mated to Ch Raglan Royal Commander (Ch Noonsun New Generation – Ch Raglan Rich and Rare), Sweden's Top Terrier in 1984 and 1985, resulting in several big winning dogs including the abovementioned Ch Floreo Musseron, possibly Commander's best son. Ch Raglan Royal Commander left behind many winners and his name can be found behind most Scandinavian Scotties of note today. At the world show in Denmark in 1988, the Swedish-bred Ch Terracotta Zabasios (Ch Floreo Musseron – Ch Raglan Raffia), Raglan and Floreo-bred for generations, won the terrier group and he was one of many good dogs descending from these bloodlines.

Another progeny of Commander's deserve a special mention, the black bitch Ch Raglan Raffle Ticket(ex Raglan Rambling Rose) who self whelped 16 champions in her litters making her top brood bitch ever in Sweden. Her last litter was sired by a dog who came to play an important part in the history of the Swedish Scotties, namely my own import Ch Gaywyn Venturesome (Ch Gaywyn Adventure Story – Gaywn Vogue), bred in the UK by Muriel Owen. He sired well over 20 champions and made a valuable contribution to the breed.

Monika and Thomas Rosendahl's Roskot dogs also enjoyed great success during the 1980's and they imported many dogs from the UK including the valuable brood bitch Ch Robina of Reanda(Ch Kennelgarth King of Diamonds – Reanda Jessica Rose) who mated to another

British import, Ch Gaywyn Crime Story(Ch Brio West Side Story – Ch Gaywn Leila), produced the kennel's biggest winner ever, the brindle bitch Ch Roskots Krimskrams, twice Top Scottie in Sweden. Mated to Ch Glenecker Ganger (Ch Glenecker All in One – Glenecker Gemma) she became the dam of several champions. The kennel has since produced winning dogs descending mainly from several UK imports of which Ch Stuane Copper Contessa(Ch Stuane Chieftain –Stuane Duchess)deserve a special mention.

By this time several breeders developed an interest in wheatens and Vivi-Ann Lövstedt, well-known for her Löwi-Scot dogs, imported Ch Glenecker Going for Gold(Reanda Rarity – Glencker Rye)from the UK. His breeding was mainly based on Binfield lines and he became the foundation for renewed interest in this colour. He was a dark, reddish wheaten with very good pigmentation which he also left to his progeny. The Löwi-Scots were also very active with stock descending from Ch Raglan Rolls Royce (Ch Gaywyn Macalister – Ch Raglan Rio Rita), the kennel's biggest winning dog so far and he is another dog whose name appears in many pedigrees even today.

Cindy Pettersson's So What dogs were now beginning to make their presence felt and after success with several other dogs she appeared with the brindle bitch Ch Cameron Play Misty for Me(Ch Raglan Rio Grande – Raglan Rififi), a group winner from the junior class and a very good producer. In her litter sired by Ch Gaywyn Venturesome, all four puppies became champions, but the brightest star was the outstanding brindle dog Ch So What Thawn who was a multiple all-breeds BIS-winner and he won well under allrounders and breed specialists alike – a sign of true stardom in dogs! Cindy Petterson later imported Ch Macprain Miranda (sired by US born Ch Sandgreg Karate Kid ex Killisport Nutmeg) from Australia. She had a big career in Sweden and founded a new dynasty at So What and most of today's So What dogs trace back to her. Her son Ch So What Moriarty, sired by Thawn, was exported to the US where he had an outstanding career.

Competition was particularly strong in the Swedish Scottie show rings around the first half of the 1990's. The So What dogs were shown extensively, and so were the Roskot and Raglan dogs but also the Floreos. One of the best Scotties bred around this time was the gorgeous black bitch Ch Floreo Tistron(ex Ch Floreo Belladonna) sired by Ch Gaywn Venturesome. She won BOB in a record entry at the European Winner Show in Copenhagen beating another famous Swedish dog, Ch Kantorn's Johnny Walker, one of this country's top producers ever. He was sired by Ch Balgownie Brilliance ex Ch Raglan Rather Posh thus incorporating some of the best Swedish and UK bloodlines. Johnny Walker was a top winner in every kind of competition and left behind a great legacy and it is no exaggeration to say that he is one of the key stud dogs in the history of the breed. My own UK import Ch Paddington Bear of Kennelgarth (sired by Ch Kennelgarth Toyboy) had by then also established himself as a force to be reckoned and he became a top dog in his own right but, more importantly, a very valuable stud dog producing record numbers of champions including six different group winning bitches including Ch Raglan Royal Serenade(ex Ch Floreo Mistletoe), Top Terrier in 1996 and one of the loveliest bitches that I have had the fortune to own and breed. Paddington Bear's son Ch Raglan Referee (ex the top producing Ch Raglan Raffle Ticket)was Muriel Owen's choice for BIS at The Swedish Scottish Terrier Club's 25th Anniversary Show from a record entry in 1997, where my own new UK import Tamzin Toy Soldier(Ch Wildermist Clifford – Tamzin Total Era) made his debut by winning Best Puppy. He was a full brother to the big winning bitch UK Ch

Tamzin Black Cherry, who had a spectacular career all over Europe. Toy Soldier later came to prove his worth at stud

Several new breeders made their presence felt in the 1990's and this was the decade when Christina Huttner's Dundee dogs started to appear in full force on the show scene. From her foundation bitch Ch Raglan Regal Design(Ch Raglan Rio Grande - Ch Raglan Raffle Ticket) she has produced some excellent dogs which include the lovely Ch Dundee Apricot Jam (another top winner sired by Ch Balgownie Brilliance), the dam of another top winner, Ch Dundee Cool Trooper, sired by Ch Gaywn Venturesome. **Cool Trooper is the sire of last year's top Scottie, the group-winning black bitch Ch Raglan Royal Lady (ex Ch Raglan Royal Prospect)** In recent years, the black Ch Dundee Obedient Watcher has been notching up some top wins but the kennel's present top dog is the brindle male Ch Dundee Sparkling Ruby(ex Ch Dundee Morning Felicity), sired by Ch Raglan Roslin Williams. Several other title holders have been campaigned and the kennel is now one of the country's top producers of Scottish Terriers.

Ch Raglan Roslin Williams is one of Sweden's latest all breeds BIS-winning dogs and has had a good career in Sweden despite the fact that he is owned in Italy by Marina Guidetti. His sire is the now world famous Ch Raglan Rory (Ch Kantorns Johnny Walker ex UK import Ch Brueik Spellbinder), top winning terrier of all times in Sweden and Sweden's Top Dog All Breeds in 2001. For me he has been a dog of a lifetime and a wonderful dog in every way since his first introduction to the show ring. He has sired a large number of top dogs and most Swedish Scottish Terriers of note now trace back to him. His daughter Ch Raglan Rose Maiden at Brio (ex Ch Raglan Rose Carnival, so a full sister to Roslin Williams) is a present top winner in the UK and his big winning son Ch So What Excalibur (ex Ch So What Brangwain) has had an almost equally illustrious career in Scandinavia and the UK. Amazingly, these two dogs were Britain's number one and number two top terriers in 2003 with the top spot going to Rose Maiden. In 2004 Rose Maiden won the Terrier group and reserve BIS at Cruft's in England - a wonderful win at the world's most acclaimed show.

Around the turn of the century, Swedish Scotties had however already begun to receive world wide recognition and Ch Kantorns Johnny Walker won BOB at the world show in Vienna in 1997 and Ch Raglan Robin Hood (Ch So What Thawn - Ch Raglan Romantic Journey) repeated this win in Helsinki in 1998. In Amsterdam in 2002 it was a double victory for my own Ch Raglan Rory and his daughter Ch Raglan Royal Prospect (ex Ch Raglan Royal Serenede) . In 2003 BOB at the world show in Germany was awarded Ch Raglan Roslin Williams from the junior class.

There is no doubt that Sweden has produced some outstanding Scotties whose descendants are now winning well worldwide, and the real challenge for Swedish breeders is to maintain this quality. We live in a time where there is a lot of interchange between kennels and subsequently different countries. This has led to a healthy widening of the gene pool, but also a risk of dilution of the existing successful bloodlines. One can only hope that skilled breeders are aware of this risk and continue to steer the breed in the right direction in years to come.