**Society Business**

**Notes to the Annual Meeting**

Unfortunately, a number of errors crept into the listings in the last issue. Here is some corrected information. Most importantly, the Annual Meeting of which Directors will discuss the motions presented in the previous issue, is on Saturday, 1st February 2014.

**OFFICER POSITIONS AND ELECTIONS AT NATIONAL SECTION MEETINGS**

**CHAIRMAN** (elected 28 January 2013): Mr J W Easton MBE

**COUNCIL DIRECTORS** (at 4 November 2013)

**IRELAND**

- **National President (retired)**
  - **England**
    - A R Jackson
  - **Scotland**
    - E Blackstock
  - **Wales**
    - C Roberts
  - **Chairman**
    - M Blackstock
  - **Secretary**
    - B Kelly
  - **Treasurer**
    - D McCulloch

**NEW DIRECTORS**

- **England**
  - A R Jackson
  - D McCulloch
  - J Ralph
  - W J Ralph

**NEW VICE-PRESIDENTS**

- **England**
  - Senior: A R Jackson
  - Junior: W J Ralph

**SCOTTISH PRESIDENT**

- M Blackstock

**NEW VICE-PRESIDENTS**

- **Scotland**
  - Senior: M Blackstock
  - Junior: W J Ralph

**WALESIAN PRESIDENT**

- **Wales**
  - Senior: C Roberts
  - Junior: W J Ralph

**ISRS DIRECTORS**

To RETIRE in 2015

- T Doris: 136 Batterly Road, Glauchau, Crookston, Co Tyrone, BT6 0HS
- M Field: 3 Baybyleen Lane, Ayrshire, Co Ayr, KA24 5BN
- M Gallagher 11 Sufray Road, Newmelloncon, Ballymena, BT43 6DZ
- J Hopkinson: Skerries, Co Dublin, A95 AVN
- M Hopkins: Sheeannu, Burton Castle, Co Mayo, Eire
- T Lambe: Kilmore, Carrickn, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford, Eire
- P Munro: 28 Orchard Ave, Limavady, Co Derry, BT47 3XF
- F McCulloch: 120 Drummoregate Road, Ballymena, Co Antrim, BT44 8AN
- C McNaughton 61 Barryland Road, Ballymena, Co Antrim, BHS 8JX
- M Morrissey: Claren, Co Limerick, Eire

**New! DNA testing for CEA arrangements**

**ISDS / Animal DNA Diagnostics Ltd / Optigen**

The Society is pleased to announce arrangements for members to obtain DNA testing for CEA. Arrangements have been made with a laboratory in Cambridge (Animal DNA Diagnostics Ltd) to test DNA from blood samples and send them direct to Optigen. This process removes the difficulties experienced with the Royal Mail and sending blood through the post overseas, which then allows members to continue to use the Society discount with Optigen.

Optigen have agreed to cover the costs of the DNA extraction, therefore Animal DNA Diagnostics Ltd will charge members only £10 (including VAT) to cover storing half of the DNA sample, archiving the remaining blood sample, admin and postal charges. Please note this £10 fee covers either multiple samples sent together or just one sample.

It is recommended that half of the DNA sample is stored by the laboratory to cover occasional loss in the post, damaged samples and should analysis of DNA be required for any other reason. The archived blood can also be tested for other issues.

To use this process:
- **Access the online Optigen form** - complete the form http://animaldna.co.uk/society and enter your credit/debit card details for payment.
- This will give you an immediate 25% discount (ISDS code for 2014 is SISDS4)
- Print off the form and take it with you to the vet together with your ISDS card
- The vet should check that the dog presented is the dog on the entry (failing the microchip) before taking the blood sample.

- The name and the vet date and sign the form; the vet takes a photo copy of the form for the owner.
- The vet practice packages the blood as appropriate and includes the printed test form. Post to Animal DNA Diagnostics Ltd, William James House, Covley Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB4 0XN along with a cheque for £10 made payable to Animal DNA Diagnostics Ltd, or direct bank transfer to Sort Code: 40-34-38 Account Number 91444719, quoting your name as the reference.

Animal DNA Diagnostics Ltd will confirm to the owner when samples are received and then shipped to Optigen. Optigen will email the test results direct to the owner, and then to the Society on a quarterly basis.

The costs to members using this system will be around £55.00 for the Optigen fee (dependent upon currency exchange rates), £10 Laboratory fee plus the vet fee for the blood draw.

Animal DNA Diagnostics Ltd also offers Society members a DNA profiling and paternity test service. The fee is £35 + VAT, anyone submitting 10 or more samples together would get an additional 10% off, and 20 or more off. Orders can be placed on the phone, and details can be found at www.animaldna.co.uk. For further information about this service please visit the website or contact Tel: 01223 507757 or 07870 456808 or email info@animaldna.co.uk

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**Letter from the Falklands**

In October, Paul Perk wrote from the Falklands to tell me that spring had arrived on that southern land and that the grass was starting to grow. "Lambs were popping out everywhere!" His imported bighorn Astra Pull had produced lambs but it was bad luck that she only had two with one of them born dead. He had several people interested in these pups but ended up with just one dog. His new young bighorn Pull/Falkland pair only arrived in June after waiting ten months. She comes from Kevin’s old Astra Pull and her mother is from Kevin’s Mork. With these breeding ingredients Paul has high hopes for this bighorn. Together with his imported dog, Ken, he says he has all the bloodlines he needs now.

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**Caroline Woolley**

He followed the International on the Internet and wished he’d been there with his dogs and reported that a big trial creates, he wonders if the time allowed for the single is sufficient.

He then went on to report that the Falkland Championships were won by Susan Hirtle with Toto and Paul was second with his new young bighorn Pull/Falkland pair only arrived in June after waiting ten months. She comes from Kevin’s old Astra Pull and her mother is from Kevin’s Mork. With these breeding ingredients Paul has high hopes for this bighorn. Together with his imported dog, Ken, he says he has all the bloodlines he needs now.

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**Caroline Woolley**

The following year (2015) the Falkland Championships were won by Susan Hirtle with her bighorn Pull/Falkland pair only arrived in June after waiting ten months. She comes from Kevin’s old Astra Pull and her mother is from Kevin’s Mork. With these breeding ingredients Paul has high hopes for this bighorn. Together with his imported dog, Ken, he says he has all the bloodlines he needs now.

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**Society News**

**Homecoming Scotland**

2014 has arrived! A momentous year for Scotland where not only will we welcome the final for the 40th Ryder Cup and the Commonwealth Games, but we will celebrate all that is great about our country as part of the second ‘Year of Homecoming Scotland’. Quite clearly an opportunity for locals to celebrate their ‘home’; for those with links to Scotland to return home, and for those outside to discover the country. Scotland has to offer, from the wild rugged, natural landscapes of the Highlands to the historic urban beauty of cities such as Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow. Set against a fabulous backdrop of stunning scenery and a warm Scottish welcome.