

# WHY SEALYHAM TERRIER?

by Špela Pintar

Well, why not? If you would ask me few years ago what is my favorite breed my answer will be totally different like today. As majority people that will read this, even I love dog's science I know for myself. I grew up with a long coated mix breed, a rescued dog. He was the best teacher for life I had or will ever have.

Years ago my good friend one day said to me that he will get Sealyham Terrier puppy girl from Denmark. Ok, I thought what is that, what breed? I never put any attention on this breed, not even in the books. Well in that moment I even couldn't imagine how this breed looks. I was ashamed that I didn't know what he is talking about.

Few weeks later I meet his Fly, a Sealyham Terrier puppy girl with so much character, energy and that typical keen terrier expression. With a temperament like that she is the Queen of the universe. It was the love at the first sight. From the very first moment I saw this wonderful dog I knew that this breed is something to put attention on.

At that time it was hard or mostly impossible to meet any other Sealyham Terrier or their breeder on dog shows. It was the end of the year 2009 and just a year before, in 2008 British Kennel Club declared Sealyham Terrier for the most endangered breed. So I knew it will be hard to get a puppy, but because the

breed was so vulnerable, I was even more convinced that I have to do something for this breed too and that I want any information about them that I could find.

After months of searching and studying I was even more impressed by this wonderful breed. About the origin of the breed we don't know much because Captain John Edwards didn't leave any record about the roots of the breed. We just know that breed originated from South Wales rather from Sealyham Mansion. From that place breed got its name. Breeding of Sealyham Terrier was started around 1850. Breeds which were used at the start were certainly chosen deliberately because Edwards wanted to breed the perfect dog. Sooner he was breeding Otterhounds which they appeared to him being too clumsy and with not much hunting instinct. Thus he was able to create a bold and powerful dog which is still enough small to work underground.

After 1920 was breeding of Sealyham Terriers in full swing and the first representatives of the breed have crossed the borders of Great Britain, most of them went to the USA. For breed the golden ages began and Sealyham Terriers were present in large amount, not only as working hunting dogs but increasingly as companions and associates. The breed was seducing into the heart of the biggest stars of the time as those from Hollywood (Alfred Hitchcock, Elisabeth Taylor, etc.) as those with blue blood (Princess Margaret).

After that gold era this breed was totally forgotten. It came so far that the British Kennel Club in 2008 declared Sealyham Terrier for the most endangered



CAC Stapar 2014.



Gatekeeper Joseph Staff.

breed. In October 2011, the British magazine *Country Life* highlighted the breed and put it on the cover with the title: "SOS: Save Our Sealyham". Their small population was the same as the number of some animal species that are considered to be one of the most endangered species on the world.

After all in Slovenia we have some representatives of this gorgeous breed but for majority of them we could say thanks to Kennel Gregorjanski and the breeder Gorazd Gregor Namestnik.



*Inuus Gregorjanski.*

For my first Sealyham Terrier I had to wait a few months and I got him from Slovakia. His breeder was Katarina Pilatova and Keep (Gatekeeper Joseph Staff; 2010) came into my life in September 2011. He was my first terrier and I have to say that he put me and my authority to the test several times.

He is the real terrier, full of energy and with lot of self-esteem, a hunter by the hart but the most loyal dog on the earth. When he has to choose between running after rabbits or squirrels or be in my

closeness, he will always choose the last. That really surprised me; well we all know how it is when terrier just sees something moving. And after I got the second Sealyham Terrier, and talk with other »Sealy« owners I noticed that they are all extremely loyal. These dogs are almost obsessed with their owners.

When Kennel Gregorjanski had a first litter of Sealyham Terrier puppies I was just on the visit at them, with no intentions to get new dog in my life. Puppies were two months old and I fall in love in one puppy boy with blue markings and natural short tail. This tail is something that made this dog really special and this tail took attention at »Sealy« breeders over the world.

Well Inuus (Inuus Gregorjanski; 2011) stepped into my life in February 2012. And after that time I'm part of dog shows too. Both dogs are very successful on dog shows and until now Keep is a sir of one litter (damm: Sojus Highflyer, Kennel Gregorjanski, litter M). This litter was very successful and puppies went into new homes over the Europe (from Italy to Ireland).

Therefore lovers of this breed with reason call them clown dogs, because with their pranks and ideas they make us laugh daily.

**Contact:**

Špela Pintar, Praše 58, SI-4211 Mavčiče, Slovenia  
 spelapintar@gmail.com  
 +386(0)40285613



*CAC Trbovlje 2013: Sealyham Terrier Breeding Group.*