

Archives of Sheila Monckton as compiled by Frank Rogers

### The Development of a Breed called the “Norwich Terrier”

During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century some of the sporting Undergraduates at Cambridge used to buy from a dog dealer named Mr. Lawrence some small red or black and tan terriers which they used for ratting or rabbiting and were known as Trumpington terriers. Their origin is not known for certain, but there is a suggestion that a small Irish Terrier had been used in their breeding. Living at Cambridge was a Mr. Hopkins of Trumpington Street, who seemed to have a hand in the breeding in the early days of the Norwich Terrier. It was during the South African War that he bought a small brindled bitch from a Reservist who had been called up. He mated this bitch to the little red dog belonging to Mr. Lawrence. He unfortunately had a long silky coat, though otherwise he was a smart little fellow and very game. A dog puppy from this litter was given to Mr. Jack Cooke, the Master of the Norwich Staghounds, who called it “[Rags](#)” He was a small red terrier with a harsh red coat and prick ears. This little terrier seems to have made a name for himself as a wonderful worker and an excellent sire of puppies, all of which were red like himself, no matter what color the puppy's mother was.

Mr. Low, a local Veterinary Surgeon, had a son named Lewis, nicknamed Podge, who was keen on a good terrier. He owned a smooth-haired white prick-eared terrier, called “[Ninety](#)”, and he had several litters from her by “Rags”. All the puppies were red in color. Ninety was out of a Hunt terrier and by a Dandie Dinmont. Some of the puppies from these litters were bought by Frank Jones who was then First Whip to the Norwich Staghounds. He was so keen on these small little terriers that he started to breed them as soon as he found a great demand from the sporting fraternity, in fact they were in such demand that he had no trouble selling them for 25 pounds each (*in 1932 that was a few hundred dollars*).

When Mr. Jones left Mr. Cooke's employment he went as a roughrider to a Mr. Stokes, a horse dealer, and is why he came to be known as “Roughrider Jones”. Many a breeder obtained his first dog from Roughrider Jones and he sold them far and wide, one going to the King of Spain and many others to America where they became known as “Jones Terriers”

Frank Jones, in trying to establish the type of terriers that he wanted which was a small very game red terrier, tried various experiments by crossing any game small Hunt terriers, with those he brought with him. He also used some small Irish Terriers and Glen of Imall, Cairn and Yorkshire Terriers. The resultant litters were usually prick-eared, and if they were not he would crop them. In 1860, there was a Colonel Vaughan, M.F.H. of Ballybrick, Ireland, who was using Irish terriers as his hunt terriers, but as they were losing a great many of their foxes going to ground in drains where the terriers were too big to follow, he started to try to breed a smaller size Irish terrier. After thirteen generations he managed to get a small Irish terrier with short bowed front legs, a broad chest and weighing about 8 to 12 pounds, and game enough to go to ground to the foxes in the drains.

He never allowed a bitch to leave his kennels. His wife was killed in a hunting accident, and after he died, it wasn't known what happened to his dogs but some thought they were brought to England by his son and two daughters who went to live with a lady who was a friend of their parents. Mrs. Monica Taylor, a granddaughter of the woman who took in the children arrived in London with one of her drop-eared Norwich terriers and was surprised when a porter, who was an Irishman, remarked that her terrier "looked just like one of them Ballybrick terriers". Mrs. Taylor's father was certain that Mr. Lawrence whom he knew when he was at Cambridge, was the same as "Doggy Lawrence" and he thought probably had started his Trumpington terriers with one of these Ballybrick terriers. Mr. Lawrence seems to have been another who if his terriers did not have prick ears he'd crop them.

Another of the early breeders who had a great influence on the breed was Mr. R.J. Read, of Hampton Hall, Norwich, and who, when the Norwich terrier was recognized by the Kennel Club became the Breed's first President. It was in 1909 that Mr. Read bought a puppy from a litter by "Rags" out of Ninety and when it was old enough started experimenting. First, he mated it to a Bedlington terrier, but found the resultant litter had too soft a coat. The next time he mated her to a brown Staffordshire Bull terrier belonging to the Countess of Kimberly of which she had a very good strain. From this litter he bred back to Mr. Jack Cooke's strain, and it is from this experiment and selection that Mr. Read eventually bred in 1929 the famous "Horstead Mick", who appears in so many present-day pedigrees.