

David Bell

I purchased my first Irish in 1974 from a local kennels and proudly entered her at the ISAE Championship Show in 1975, which incidentally was held at Stoneleigh, the venue for this years Championship Shows. It was here I first met the greats of the breed, Mr Rasbridge, Mr James and Miss Lennox.

Quickly realizing that my prized bitch was really a pet, I purchased a son of Hartsbourne Trident from Miss Lennox and later a bitch from Valerie Page, Orichalc Elgena who when mated to Orichalc Quadrille in 1977 produced Sh Ch Chugerra Christmas Cracker and his lovely sister Christmas Carol. Bardonhill Calender Girl followed in 1984 gaining a CC before her premature death in 1889. Christmas Cracker was owned by Mr & Mrs Kelley of the "Bradking" labradors and it was here that I developed a love of Labradors, eventually purchasing Cambremer Joanna who considers herself an Honorary Irish Setter.

I started Judging in 1978 giving CC's in Irish Setters in 1988 and had the honour of Judging Crufts in 2006.

I have been involved in the administration and running of shows almost since my introduction to the world of show dogs, being a member of the ISBC West Midlands Social Section committee in the late 1970's and founding the Midlands Irish Setter Society in 1982

I have also served on the committee of Walsall & DKA becoming Chairman, and am Currently Show Manager of The City of Birmingham Championship Dog Show. I have served on the committee of the ISAE since 1994 , and am very proud to be it's Chairman.

The real thrill of course is in breeding and exhibiting our lovely breed under the "Balintyne" affix together with Gillian, and have now owned 3 Show Champions, several CC and JW winners.

I take the stewardship of the Association very seriously and will strive to represent all aspects of the Irish Setter, be it on the show bench, in the field or just at home, without fear or favour.