



Ch Stanroph Steal A Glance (Ch Moorcrest Mugwump ex Clevarly Claire of Stanroph), aged nine years, won the CC, BOB and best veteran in show at the United Retriever Club. Judge here is Pat Chapman. She was Anne's first titleholder from her first litter.



Clevarly Claire of Stanroph (Sh Ch Janville Tempestuous at Linchael ex Lynfran Penny Lee), Anne's first Golden, a RCC winner and foundation bitch of the kennel.

VF: How did you start in Golden Retrievers?

AW: In 1979, I decided that my two boys should grow up with a dog as a family pet. As one of my neighbours had a lovely Golden, and Val, my best friend from school, also had this breed, I decided that this was the type of dog it had to be.

I looked in the local paper and found a litter of six bitches. On making further enquiries; I was told that I could choose which ever one I wanted. I chose the naughtiest one, who was intent on pulling the rose bush out of the garden – this bitch turned out to be Clevarly Claire, the eventual foundation bitch of the Stanroph Kennel.

Every Stanroph dog that has

been bred to date goes back to this very special little puppy

VF: Your first litter contained Ch Stanroph Steal A Glance. Why did you keep her and how did you start showing?

AW: When this puppy was ten months old, my neighbour asked me if I was going to show her. I said that she was just a pet, so he said he would take her to the local limited show and see what she did. He got a third with her and I was so impressed that I decided to have a go myself.

At my first attempt I ended up coming out of the ring in tears, as the person standing behind me had some liver and my bitch just turned round to face him for his liver – I could do nothing with her.



Above: Stanroph Silent Tears (Gaineda Chica Beau of Stanroph ex Clevarly Claire of Stanroph).

Left: Stanroph Shere Fantasy (Rossbourne Trooper ex Stanroph Silent Tears), CC winner and like her dam a great brood bitch. She is pictured aged 11 winning the veteran class at Crufts.

An interview with Anne Woodcock

by Valerie Foss Anne's Stanroph kennel is one of the most consistently successful of recent times

So at my next attempt, I went armed with a pocket full of liver and guess what? I won. The judge was Val Birkin (Sansue). She obtained 13 first places in succession and the rest is history, I was well and truly hooked!

I decided to have a litter from her when she was three years old and from that litter kept a bitch who was to become Ch Stanroph Steal A Glance, Sadie. I really did not know what to look for but Sadie reminded me so much in the head of a bitch that I had long admired in the ring, namely Sh Ch Muskan Miss Dior.

VF: Did you decide with your first litters which lines you would follow? Which of the kennels at the time produced the Golden Retrievers you admired, the sort you wished to produce?

AW: When I started to show at championship level, I spent

a lot of time at the ringside, watching the dogs. As time went on, I realised that I was drawn to certain dogs time and time again and on closer examination and research I found that there were certain lines that produced these dogs, namely Moorquest, Rossbourne and Yeo.

The Moorquest lines were profoundly Deerflite and a very certain type came from both this breeding and also from the Yeo breeding. The Rossbourne was a slightly different type but I greatly admired the substance and balance of this breeding.

I studied the pedigree of my bitch, Clevarly Claire, and found that her sire was by Deerflight Tradition of Janville and her dam was by Rossbourne Arun – so I already had both types in my bitch's line. I could not believe my luck!

Having looked at the breeding of my favourite bitch at that time,

I discovered that she was by Ch Moorquest Mugwump, so there was no hesitation when deciding on my first stud dog – it had to be this dog and hopefully I would get something like Muskan Miss Dior!

So off I trotted to the depths of Devon, to use a dog I had never even seen. Needless to say I was not disappointed at all, either with him or with what he produced to my Tessa.

VF: Clevarly Clare of Stanroph seems to have been an important bitch in your early breeding – why? Her daughter Stanroph Silent Tears was the dam of Sh Ch Stanroph Soldier Boy and Sh Ch Stanroph Shoe Shine Boy at Lindjan and granddam of Sh Ch Stanroph Sierra Solitaire, Sh Ch Stanroph Spring Fantasy and Ch Stanroph Sailor Boy. All the Stanrophs trace back to them – what have they given your lines?

AW: Claire was my foundation bitch and her daughter Silent Tears also paid a very important

part in my formative years as a breeder. To different sires, she produced two champions for myself and also for other people, and when I mated her into the Rossbourne lines, she produced my once-in-a-lifetime top brood bitch, Stanroph Shere Fantasy.

She was an outstanding brood bitch, top in the country on five occasions, and passed on to her progeny her many virtues, no matter which stud dog she was mated to.

When I mated her back into the Moorquest lines, she produced my Ch Stanroph Sailor Boy, who was my late husband's favourite picking-up dog, and his litter sister Stanroph Sally Ann for Ritzilyn, who was a contributory factor in some of the Ritzilyn breeding lines.

Even when she was outcrossed, her virtues came through, the sign of a quality brood bitch. This combination cemented my breeding line and I owe most of the successes to these bitches. I have a great strength in my bitch line, due to the above factors, and it is my



Sh Ch Stanroph So It Had To Be, winning best veteran at the United Retriever Club championship show. Bernard Hall presented the prize.

photo Lynn Kipps



Sh Ch Stanroph So It Had To Be (Sh Ch Elswood The Highlander ex Sh Ch Stanroph So Be It) and the most recent titleholder Sh Ch Stanroph So Let It Be (Sh Ch Goldenquest Ambassador ex Sh Ch Stanroph So Be It) as youngsters.

photo Lynn Kipps



Ch Stanroph Sailor Boy (Ch Meant To Be at Moorquest ex Stanroph Shere Fantasy).

photo Lynn Kipps