

is how I, personally, interpret the Standard.

It is important to have your own opinions and principles and stick to them. I try not to be swayed by derogatory things that are said. I am not saying that I am always right but can usually justify to myself what I do and think it is the best to my ability.

VF: Of what achievement are you especially proud?

AW: To name a few: to have bred the first and, to date, only bitch to become both a UK champion and a World Winner, Sh Ch Stanroph Solar Flame; to have been top breeder 11 times,

ten in succession; to have bred the country's top brood bitch five times, Stanroph Shere Fantasy; to have bred the youngest bitch to become a UK champion, Sh Ch Stanroph Spring Fantasy, aged 19 months; to have bred a dog who won the GRC Progeny Cup, Ch Stanroph Squadron Leader, and two dogs featuring in the top sire lists, Ch Stanroph Sailor Boy and Sh Ch Stanroph So It Had To Be – these are some of the achievements that spring to mind, of which I am immensely proud.

I have judged the breed in many countries all over the world but for me one of my greatest

appointments was when I was asked to judge at the World Show in Stockholm last year. I felt it was a great honour. I had such a quality entry and was also responsible for awarding BOB. This was one of the highlights in my judging career, which I thoroughly enjoyed.

VF: It must be especially pleasing when newcomers do well with your stock and when they breed on by using your dogs. Any that spring to mind?

AW: It is always pleasing to see newcomers to the breed do well with my breeding lines

and stock, many of whom go on to breed with my lines, both here and abroad. Some kennels have used my lines intensively to establish a line for themselves and successfully go on from there. Some examples are Alibren in the UK, Goldfleece in Australia, Terra di Siena in Spain and my very good friend Lena Widebeck, of the Combine Goldens in Sweden, who has many of my lines in her breeding programme. We work so closely on matings. She has been a tower of strength to me over the 27 years that we have been such close friends.

VF: What do you consider your greatest win or achievement?

AW: Some years ago, at a championship show in the South, winning the dog CC, bitch CC, RBCC, best puppy and best bitch puppy, quite a day. Also Sh Ch Stanroph So Be It being the dam of Sh Ch Stanroph So It Had To Be and Sh Ch Stanroph So Let It Be when mated to father and son Sh Ch Elswood The Highlander and Sh Ch Goldenquest Ambassador, this being a successful outcross mating but still retaining type.

The latest special moment was when So Let It Be gained her crown at Manchester and the icing on the cake was gaining group 3.

There are numerous Stanroph titleholders all over the world and this for me is very special, proving that other people have great success with my lines.

VF: You trim and present your dogs to perfection, any tips for newcomers?

AW: When it comes to trimming and presentation, I am fanatical

and always try to present my dogs in the best possible way to enhance their outline. Dog shows are also a beauty competition and so the dogs should be presented as well as possible.

I would never take, and never have taken, a dog to a show that has not been bathed and prepared. My advice to

newcomers is always to give your dog the very best possible chance of competing in the strong competition that is out there.

In the early days it is trial and error but ask questions and listen to advice of experienced people, but always remember that Golden Retrievers are a coated breed and should be presented accordingly.



Sh Ch Stanroph Solar Flame (Sh Ch Chilzer Casey Jones ex Stanroph Shere Fantasy), also a World Winner, winning the group at Bath under Peter Woolf.

photo David Dalton



Anne's late husband, Dave, taking Aus Ch Stanroph School Boy (Ch Stanroph Sailor Boy ex Stanroph Shere Nectar) out for a day on the local shoot. He won BOB at Crufts at 19 months the same day Soldier Boy won the RCC from veteran.