

Jean Timmins, Cornovi, England, Breeder Irish Wolfhounds

I bought my first Irish Wolfhound called Downwares Enchantment in 1983 from Catherine Waring and Veronica Downs. Downwares based their breeding along Marumac lines and I had two further hounds from them. I bred my first litter in 1989.

I had my first taste of real success in the show ring with our beautiful Ballyphelan Loganberry from Pam and John Sumner. Then a friend offered me Ch. Mallanigh Liberty, and she became perhaps the best hound I have owned. By this time, I had moved to a rural property and took Cornovi as a new kennel name because of its attachments to the area. Liberty was mated to Tirliffin Donahue of Marumac and produced a quality litter of nine of which two puppies were retained. They became Ch. Cornovi Comfort and Ch. Cornovi Cassian.

From those hounds come the family of Wolfhounds we have today. Cassian bred to our Ballyphelan Blueberry produced a single puppy who became Ch. Cornovi Cato. He was bred to Ch. Milkwoods Me Myself I, I took a bitch puppy from the litter - Milkwood's Mustang Sally. From Sally I had a successful litter by Oakwoods Kalahari from which I retained CH Cornovi Keats and his sister Karisma. As I only ever keep between 3 and 5 hounds at any one time, and have working commitments, my breeding activities are limited. I am very interested in the concept of breeding for longevity, and this influences what direction my breeding decisions take.

I began to judge in the early 1990's and passed to award CC's in Irish Wolfhounds in the UK in 2011, since then I've also had the privilege of judging in the US and Europe. Some highlights include judging the Irish Wolfhound Association of the Garden State Specialty in 2014 and the Federation of Irish Wolfhound (FWIC) Congress in the Czech Republic in 2022. My particular interest in judging is with Sighthounds but have also enjoyed judging other hound breeds at our UK Open Shows. I have owned and exhibited Standard Wirehaired Dachshunds in the past and owned three Greyhounds.

Health issues within the breed interest me greatly and I am currently the Chair of the Irish Wolfhound Health Group in the UK. I have also served as Secretary of the Irish Wolfhound Rescue Trust and on retirement from that became a Trustee.