ROBERT & ELAINE NEWSHAM, UK (WINDSPIEL)

So we both got involved with Showdogs 50yrs ago when I bought a big white and blue parti Male Greyhound (Falconcrag Marcus) with intention of racing him, we soon realised he was far to big for racing and in the meantime we received his papers / pedigree etc and discovered he was in fact a show dog, well we knew absolutely nothing about showing dogs but said we would give it a go anyway. We had some success with Marcus and very soon got the showing bug, and as they say "The rest is History".

We later aquired a male and a female from the famous Shalfleet Kennel, and the Bitch was to be our foundation and the start of our Windspiel kennel, our first litter was by CH Starbolt Cetus put to Shalfleet Springtime in 1978, this mating produced Windspiel Nothern Lass, and in 1984 we mated W N Lass to AM CH Aroi Sea Hawk and this combination produced our first Champion Greyhound, CH Windspiel Northern Style.

Since 1984 and up to the present time, the Windspiel Kennel have made up 16 UK Champions winning a total of 128 Challenge Certificates (CC's).

Whippets came into our kennel in the late 70's, at the time greyhound classes were confined to general Championship Shows and the UK Greyhound Club Shows, so we wanted a breed we could show at our local open shows, and Whippets were always scheduled at these Shows, we had lots of friends in Whippets and soon found a local breeder who just happened to have a litter, we picked out a male "Blue of Longacres", he was all Oakbark breeding on both sides and we had quite a bit of success with him in those early day, we eventually made him a Champion at about 7yrs old, other Whippets came into our lives over the coming years, "Bankwillow Over the Moon" another male with Oakbark breeding behind him, he had a lovely show career but never really made top honours. In the 90's a bitch was introduced to the kennel "CH Rathglass Summer Rose" a fawn girl, she was Nimrodel breeding and we considerable success with her in the showring.

In 2005 another bitch came to us "Gaysyde Peggy Sue" a Fullerton / Barnesmore combination, but by far our most successful Whippet was "IT UK CH Whiprose Irish Coffee at Sobers" a male who was just a joy to show, he gave 100% everytime he entered the showring, we picked him up at Crufts in 2011 as a 4yr old and campaigned him here in the UK and in Europe, he was already an Italian Champion when he arrived but we very soon made him a UK Champion, winning a total of 7CC's with 4 Best of Breeds, he won Whippet of the year here in the UK in 2010, and in Europe he won best of breed and Group 10 at the European Dog Show at Kortrijk in Belgium in 2011, "Rudi "finished his show career winning best Veteran male at Crufts in 2016 as a 9yr old from an entry of 19 Exhibits.

We are currently showing a 6yr old male and a young bitch both with "Railfield" breeding behind them.

We have both judged Greyhounds and Whippets at Championship level many times here in the UK and we both have had the honour of judging Greyhounds at Crufts, Elaine in 2004 and I had the pleasure in 2018, I also have a future appointment at Crufts in 2024 to judge the Whippet males, so really looking forward to that appointment.

Both myself and Elaine have judged Greyhounds and Whippets oversea's, my appointments include in Greyhounds twice judging the European Dog Show, Paris in 2002 and Brussels in 2016, I also had the honour of judging the Greyhounds at the very first World Greyhound Congress in Norway in 2017. In Whippets my oversea's judging includes Finger Lakes, New York State, USA, in 2009 and I also judged a club show in Southern Ireland in 2009 and a lovely appointment in Sweden in 2011.

Elaines oversea's appointments include Belgium Sighthound Show, French Greyhound Club Show in 1995, Western Sighthound Speciality Show in Lompoc, Califonia, USA and also in Sweden at the Skokloster Sighthound Show in 2012.

We are both looking forward to this appointment and would like to thank you and your Committee in advance for trusting us to officiate at your forthcoming show.

Bob and Elaine