

Foreword

Ireland has produced more than its fair share of top-class motor racers in all disciplines from car-racing and bike-racing to rallying, and many have become household names on the international scene.

At Jordan, we would like to think that we had a hand in spreading that message across the motor-racing world, and it's a privilege to be part of John Kenny's book about Ireland's motor-sport legends.

To be included in first the radio series on RTÉ and now the follow-up book is indeed an honour. When you consider that I'm named with the likes of Derek Daly, Billy Coleman, John Watson, Eddie Irvine, the Dunlops and Paddy Hopkirk, it shows just how much this small island of ours has contributed to the world of international motor sport.

John Kenny was a regular visitor to the Jordan Grand Prix motor home during our halcyon days when our team was at the forefront of Formula 1. Indeed, I received a very excited call from him when we won the French Grand Prix in 1999, as he was at Magny Cours sitting in the stands with his daughter Danielle, cheering on what was only our second victory. John became part of our family at Jordan, and it was a pleasure to host him and his fellow journalists during their regular trips to our grand-prix races.

It is important that somebody gives an insight and documents the history of Irish motor-sport competitors, whether it's John Watson's and Eddie Irvine's grand-prix victories, Billy Coleman's double of Irish and British Rally championships, Jeremy McWilliams' success in grand-prix motorbikes or Rosemary Smith's World Rally win.

There are moments of heartbreak combined with moments of glory, and *The Dirty Dozen: Ireland's Motor-Sport Legends* encapsulates many of those.

John Kenny has a genuine passion for sport, and motor sport is just one of the many strings to his bow. I wish him every success with this, his first book.

Eddie Jordan