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CHAIRMANS REPORT

Welcome to Wiltshire Working Gundog Society's 25th anniversary newsletter. It has been an, let's say, interesting year. We have had a few ups and downs but on the plus side all the field trials and working test have gone very well along with all the other events this club has put on for the members such as training evenings, eye testing clinics etc.

On the down side of things we sadly lost a valued member of our team, Committee member Chris Damon who passed away in August 2015. It came as a huge shock to all of us on the committee when we heard the news about Chris's passing. He had judged a Novice retriever trial in 2012 and not long after agreed to join us on the committee. As well as judging and helping set working tests for us he had put together the successful WWGS retriever team that has run at the Sherborne Castle Country Fair for the past few years and he has been greatly missed by all of us this last season.

Unfortunately Helen Cripps decided to step down from being the club's Hon general secretary and Field Trial secretary for the retrievers, which was a big blow to the WWGS as she was exceptionally good at both. I was really sorry to see Helen go as she has also been a great help to me as Chairman. I and the club will always be grateful for all the meticulously organised tests and trials she has put on for the Wiltshire over the few years.

As you know the WWGS always has been a very active club and we try to put on a lot of activities for you and your dogs. As you will see in the pages of this newsletter we have 16 training evenings 8 for AV spaniels and 8 for AV retrievers and for the first time this year we have some Field trial training days for both retrievers and spaniels. Keep an eye on our web site and Face book page for details. We are planning 6 working tests 2 AV spaniels 4 for AV retrievers along with all the field trials later on the year. This would not have been possible if we had not had a response to my email that I sent out over the New Year to all members asking for some help. If you did not see it then please make sure we have a correct up to date email address for you, please check with Isobel Whitford the membership secretary.

I am extremely grateful to David Holmes who has taken on the role as club secretary and Mike Moran who has agreed to be our Field Trial secretary for retrievers, as well as Jo Yates and Howard Felton who have also joined our Committee. We do already have a fantastic committee and we are now stronger plus more upbeat about the future but we do have room for one or two more on the Team Wiltshire. The most important requirement we need is has someone that has a bit of spare time to help out at events.

As this the Wiltshire's 25th anniversary year we are also planning a celebration, perhaps a Barn Dance towards the end of July. Details will be sent by email, on the website and on Facebook.

The Wiltshire Working gundog Society's AGM is being held again this year at the White Hart Inn Trudoxhill on the 19th of April at 8pm refreshments will be available after AGM please try and come if you can.

The Wiltshire is very lucky club we have some superb grounds that our training Tests and Trials are held on we are extremely grateful to all the land owners and game keepers that help us run all our events. I hope you have an enjoyable summer with your dogs.

Tom Sheppard

TREASURER'S REPORT

As ever the Treasurer's report is due before the actual end of the club's financial year. However we are in-between the Field Trial Season just having finished and the Working Tests and other activities of the year not yet started so the accounts give a good reflection of the current status.

The club remains in good financial health thanks to the ongoing support of all of our members. Nevertheless it is worth noting some significant areas where we spend our income.

The Field Trials remain and are one of the major cost factors every year. As Field Trials are widely popular it is increasingly difficult to gain grounds and judges for that matter. The high cost of birds and in particular judges expenses have been a major issue during the season just finished. The club is hoping to be able to keep these costs at a lower rate for the next FT season and it is looking promising at the moment.

The training sessions throughout the summer were as popular as ever and contributed well to the finances. But also here the costs are rising as the trainer's travel and fuel expenses have increased. We have good training grounds lined up for this year and all the trainers from 2015 will remain with us for 2016.

The club has decided to reduce the sale of training equipment such as dummies, whistles, etc. as income figures were falling due to the ever more popular sale of such training aids online. Martin Dennett who has maintained and taken the shop to almost every club event over the recent years wanted a break and his efforts deserve special thanks at this point for contributing so much to the financial health of the club.

The working tests were well attended and all dates and venues are sorted for the coming year. So all members can enjoy testing their dogs whilst supporting the club at the same time.

Whilst you are reading this I would like to raise your awareness that the newsletter is one of the biggest expense every year the club has to pay. But looking at your feedback and the popularity of the yearly book we carry on producing it and hope you will enjoy the content.

My biggest thank you goes to those members who managed to change their direct debit, standing order and general payment to the new membership fees in time for the beginning of this year. For all of you who missed out on paying the correct amount of £10 for single and £12 for joint there is still time to balance the shortfall.

Christine Collins

Notice is hereby given that the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Of
The Wiltshire Working Gundog Society
Will take place on

Tuesday 19th April 2016
At 8:00pm
The White Hart, Trudoxhill

A copy of the agenda and Treasurer's Annual Report will be available at the meeting. The minutes of the previous AGM are printed in this newsletter and a few copies will be available at the meeting for new members.

Items for the Agenda and nominations for the committee should reach the Secretary by 4th April 2015.

According to the rules of WWGS, committee members may only serve three years before re-election. The following members are therefore due for re-election: Helen Gray, Jill Selwood, John Prince and Julie Spencer.

A light supper will be provided.

Directions to The White Hart

Trudoxhill is situated off the A361 (Frome to Shepton Mallet). Take the turning off the A361 signposted Trudoxhill and continue into the village. The White Hart is situated on the left hand side just before a right hand bend in the road. Parking is limited at the pub but there is additional parking at the village hall

**MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting
held on Tuesday 21st April 2015
The White Hart, Trudoxhill**

PRESENT:

Chairman
Hon. Treasurer
Hon. Secretary/ Retriever FT Secretary

Tom Sheppard
Christine Collins
Helen Cripps

Retriever Working Test Secretary
Spaniel FT Secretary
Spaniel Working Test Secretary
Spaniel Training Co-ordinator
Membership secretary

Julie Spencer
Jill Selwood
Tom Sheppard
Kim Barnes / Joanne Barnes
Isobel Whitford

Committee Members

Jim Penaliggon
John Prince
Chris Damon
Helen Gray
Vicky Sheppard

Society members

Charles Fuller
Richard Cripps
Margaret Guest
Alan Guest

1 APOLOGIES

Judy Venables, , Martin Dennett, Jennie Dimmock, Colin Selwood, Peter Amor, Lucy Arnold

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM (April 17th 2014).

Jennie Dimmock had been omitted from the apologies.

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Chris Damon and seconded by John Prince. The chairman signed the minutes.

3 MATTERS ARISING

None

4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome all to the WWGS AGM and thank you for coming. Once again it has been a hectic year for WWGS. My thanks go to the test and field trial secretaries. I have not received any moans and groans but have received many praises. I would also thank all the other committee members who have helped throughout the year.

This coming year will see some changes in the committee with the WT secretary, Retriever training and merchandise co-ordinator all becoming vacant. This will also be my last year as spaniel working test secretary, so it is vital that people can be found to take on these responsibilities. Congratulations also must go to Christine Collins for her first year as treasurer and to Vicky Sheppard for her first newsletter. Christine has mastered a tricky job superbly and Vicky has carried on a tradition for an interesting newsletter, superbly edited.

Tom Sheppard

5 HON SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Field Trial Management System (FTMS) has kept me busy this last year. As promised the field trial schedules were e-mailed to members who had registered via the website in July with the posted versions being sent out later on in July. Generally the feedback was good although one batch of posted schedules (approximately 10) were lost in the post and had to be re-sent.

There were some problems. Noticeably some members complained either that schedules hadn't been received or they had been unable to access the website. Several of these complaints did not materialise until well in September/October. Some complaints about the e-mails, when investigated, showed that the e-mail addresses were wrong. Others had not opened their e-mail because it was not easily identified as being from WWGS. I have discussed this with Adrian Elmer who looks after the web site to see if it would be possible to make the sender more obvious. As far as e-mail addresses are concerned we can only use what we are given.

The majority of the other complaints received concerned access to the web site which requires username and password to download schedules. The nature of the complaints was that this was a cumbersome system that was felt to be unnecessary. Despite notices in the last few years' newsletter explaining that this system was in place in order for us to amass e-mail addresses some members expressed their dislike quite forcibly in spite of my trying to explain our reasons. In view of this it has been decided to remove the need for username and password to access to the schedules on the web site. Those already registered will continue to receive their schedule via e-mail. Anyone wishing to join this will need to contact me directly so that I can add their details to the list. Please do not leave messages on the answer phone or with family members as they are likely to be missed.

Sadly this year two members have passed away, Steve Taylor and David Andrews.

Helen Cripps

6. HON TREASURER'S REPORT

Taking over from Michael Ransom has been a steep learning curve for me this year. The accounts are in good shape, being much the same as last year. Membership numbers are down slightly from last year. Well done to the working tests that have had a good year. The Field trials are much the same as in previous years.

Training saw a slight decrease compared to last year but this could be accounted for in that there was one less session for the retrievers than previously. Revenue from the shop was down this year and there is still plenty of un-sold stock. Costs for the newsletter were much the same but spending on the web site was increased.

Overall there has been a slight increase in spending but there is still a good buffer of funds available.

General discussion followed Tom Shepard commented that trials are now more expensive and Julie Spencer reminded everyone that there would be a drop in revenue for the working tests this year because the novice walked working test was not being held resulting in a drop of £144 in entry fees.

Proposal to accept the accounts Helen Cripps

Seconded Julie Spencer

Accounts were accepted.

Christine Collins

7. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT

Club membership is looking very healthy; we have approximately 650 fully paid members for 2015. Around 120 members did not renew their membership from last year. There is usually a similar number each year that do not renew membership but it is slightly higher this year. This could be attributed to the fact that reminders were not sent out this year and over the next few months there may be some late payers. Isobel Whitford

8 SECTION SECRETARIES REPORTS

I Retriever Field Trial Secretary:

All reports and results are available on the website and in the newsletter.

Having enjoyed my first two years' as Field Trial secretary with glorious weather I suppose it was time for the weather to play a role. Both novice trials at Chitterne and Horningsham saw howling gales and torrential rain. In spite of this both trials were successful and places awarded. As always the Open trial at Chicklade was heavily oversubscribed and was very successful. This year saw the return of the spaniels in line, kindly organised by Geoff Shore. It was good to have them back.

I would like to thank judges, landowners and game keepers for their generosity. Special thanks to the unsung heroes, the helpers. Without you all these events would not happen. If anyone would like to get involved please contact any of us on the committee, you will be most welcome.

Finally thanks to Beth Payne and Skinners dog food for their sponsorship of all our events.

The committee is still discussing the possibility of applying for another open, although whether this would be a 2 day or another one day has yet to be decided.

Helen Cripps

li Retriever Working Test Secretary

All reports and results for 2013 are available on the website and in the newsletter. Another good year for the retriever working tests, good judges and helpers. Thanks to you all. This year the weather was good except for the last walked up which saw high winds which led to the death of the gazebo!

This year the open working test has been held at a new ground in Calne. The ground was superb and Thanks go to Kelvin Selway, Roger Ford and Paul Candy for their excellent work on the day. Entries for the open were down this year which could be due to the early date which was very close to the newsletter being sent out. Helen Cripps commented that she had attended two other open tests this year and entries for those were no better. Julie asked whether it was appropriate to cash cheques from two entrants in the open test as they had redrawn at very short notice – the previous night at 23:00 and on the morning of the test. Discussion followed about what constituted genuine reasons for redrawing from a test. It was felt that in these two cases the notice was so short and that replacements could not be found then the cheques should be cashed.

Julie reminded the meeting that this was her last year as WT secretary and suggested that notices should be placed on Facebook Trials, Tests and Tribulations and on the website. It was also suggested that a notice could be put in with the draws for the rest of the Summers' working tests.

Tom Sheppard thanked Julie for all her hard work as working test secretary.

Julie Spencer

lii Retriever Training Co-ordinator

As the Retriever training co-ordinator position is vacant there was no report available. The meeting discussed ways of attracting interest in the position.

Iv Spaniel Field Trial Secretary

Four trials were held this year; Open and Novice ESS, Novice AV and novice cocker. The Open was held on new ground at Upton Pine near Exeter. It was a good trial and the keepers and his helpers were very helpful. The novice AV was held again at Horningsham but is likely to be the last year here. The novice ESS was held at MInterne Abbas and again proved to be a fabulous venue, with the keeper this year also judging. Again we were looked after very well. The novice cocker trial at Witham Friary was difficult with the ground cover being almost too thick for the dogs to handle. The birds were not as plentiful. It is still to be decided if this ground continues to be suitable.

Thanks to hosts, keepers and guns' (who need to be experienced in shooting for spaniel trials), helpers and Skinners dog foods.

Jill Selwood.

V Spaniel Working Test Secretary

All results are available on the web site.

The Spring test has had to re-scheduled for a later date in April, and the cold game test has been set for September 6th.2015. As this is the 15th year I have organised the spaniel working tests I have decided that this will be my last, so please any volunteers to take over the role. Nutty Coppice farm will still be available as a venue. Tom Sheppard

Vi Spaniel Training Co-ordinator

It has been an enjoyable first year. For the coming sessions it has been difficult to find an intermediate trainer and some of the training dates have had to be changed. Details on Facebook. It has been useful to have a basic supply of equipment at the training sessions and we would be happy to continue to have a training box. It was suggested that Kim and Joanne contact Martin Dennett who would be happy to make a box.

Kim and Joanne Barnes

Vii Merchandise Co-ordinator

As Martin Dennett was unable to attend there was no report. This is Martin's last year as merchandise co-ordinator. Discussion took place about other ways of selling merchandise. It may be possible to sell items via the website but this generally did not meet with much enthusiasm. It may be possible to do a deal with Sporting Saint that they could offer a discount to the club and sell direct to members.

9. NOMINATION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

Officers: The chairman, treasurer and secretary were willing to stand for re-election.

Committee: Committee members due to stand down and willing to be re-elected are Helen Gray, Jill Selwood, John Prince and Julie Spencer

Proposed by Chris Damon and seconded by Vicky Sheppard. Carried unanimously.

10. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Helen Cripps proposed that the number of committee members be increased to 20. At the moment there is only 1 vacancy on the committee and there are several vacancies for roles within the committee. She felt that it would be unfortunate if club members were willing to take on these roles and there was no room on the committee for them. As it is there is no way of predicting if or how many resignations will occur over the next few years and so by increasing the number of committee members there would be sufficient places should they be needed.

Proposed Julie Spencer

Seconded Christine Collins

Carried

11. CHARITY DONATION

Helen Cripps informed the meeting that WWGS liked to donate £250 to a charity each year and this year the committee had suggested the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Proposed Margaret Guest
Seconded John Prince

9. AOB

Helen Cripps proposed that the membership fees should be increase to £10 single and £12 for joint membership.

Although club finances are very healthy, costs, especially for field trials, are increasing every year. The current membership fee has stood for several years and the proposed cost was in line with other clubs.

Proposed Helen Gray
Seconded Chris Damon

There being no more business the chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.00

Notice Board

Field Trial Training Days

The club is offering a new training opportunity for field trial standard dogs thanks to new FT Sec Mike Moran.

Mike is running training sessions though out the summer with guest trainers, which will hopefully culminate in a mock trial using clays and cold game.

There will be a maximum of 8 dogs/handlers in line so please contact Mike to book your place.

Cost: £20 for approx 2 hours training.

Dates: 6th April, 4th May, 1st June, 29th June, 13th July, 27th July 2016

Venue: first session @ Moorspark, Redlynch, Bruton

Contact: michaelmoran729@btinternet.com

Eye Testing Clinic

With Nick Burden BVSc CertVOphthal
MRCVS

Saturday 2nd July 2016

11am onwards

@ Witham Friary, Frome

Contact Vicky Sheppard to book or for
more information

07834370200

victoria.j.webster@googlemail.com

25 years!

It's our 25th Anniversary this year and we want to celebrate!

****BARN DANCE****

Keep an eye on the website
for details!



RETRIEVER SECTION

Retriever Field Trials 2015

Novice Retriever Trial

The Shaw Shoot, Wiltshire

Kind permission of Mr J Shutters

10th September 2015

Judges: Sally Jenkins, Dave England, Jill Gardiner and Jo Tomlinson

1st Never Disarray at Wylanbriar Owner/Handler Diana Stevens, Labrador Dog

2nd Llangunwood Certificate Oak Owner/Handler: Barney Williams, Labrador Dog

3rd Willowyck Tank front Streamcombe, Owner/Handler: Julie Kelvie, Labrador Dog

4th Suthcharic Evie Owner/Handler: Sue Berman, Labrador Bitch

COM Tayfordswood Rosebank Of Anningtonbay Owner/Handler: Mel Brooks
Labrador Bitch

A report from the winner....

It was initially just lovely to be back trialling, and being in the season, and I've always enjoyed Wiltshire trials, they are always at such lovely estates and grounds. A pleasure to get an armband regardless of what happened.

Sitting in the first drive in a sunny downland valley gave us an amazing view of some superb birds shot by the guns. Some challenging retrieves up the valley from varying distances took place, and I was looking forward to one, but when I was brought under the judges, a marker ran down and advised the judges that the keeper had just seen a live bird in the opposite direction that needed picking. This is obviously exactly the right thing to do, so I was sent on this live bird, and luckily, my dog, Ray, worked it, and found it and returned with it. Meantime the valley had been cleared so we went to a second drive.

A lively second drive, with four of us in line, ensued with many birds on the floor. The guns were shooting very well indeed. At 'all out' I completed my first round on a wounded partridge sat up that absolutely needed picking. Complete respect to the judges that without question, wounded game was picked first and as quickly as possible. A stubble field had many birds down on it, and the Wiltshire's great team of markers were making the competitors jobs just that bit easier with their accuracy. We had a partridge at around 150 yards in front which needed a fair bit of hunting, but was absolutely in the area given for our second round and two more from the

other side of the stubble for our third. Sadly we were losing a few dogs here and there for various reasons.... and we came to the fourth round with four of us left in.

A live bird was reported from a marker in a piece of woodland. Four dogs were tried, with us as the fourth, but nothing was found. The judges searched and agreed with our dogs, thankfully. We moved on to birds that were in a beautiful pine wood to the right of that hunt area. At this point we sadly lost two of the remaining four dogs. As last to go, I had an instruction that a bird was somewhere fairly near the edge of the wood in a given area. I let my young dog work a little in the wood, pulled him out and he explored the wood edgeline.... the wind was on his side.. then whipped round, shot into the wood, and picked. Everything you want, and my relief was HUGE! After a chat, the judges called trial over.

I was so proud to have won the trial. My boy had trialed the previous season and gained some awards, but lovely to come out to such a lovely club, at such a beautiful ground and win first trial of the season for us. My thanks go obviously to the landowners, but also to everyone else involved, the helpers, beaters, judges, and the Wiltshire committee team which gave us such a super trial in such lovely company and atmosphere!

Di Stevens



Novice Retriever Trial

Held at Sutton Veny

By kind permission of Mr K Beddall

Judges: Judy Rainey, Ken Green, Kim Jinks, Jane Mann

1st Quarnford Pochard of Rufriver, Owner/Handler: Allie Hogsbjerg, Labrador Dog

2nd Priesthill Straight Story Owner/Handler: Keith Broomfield, Labrador Dog

COM: Nevillmay's Dolly Drop Owner/Handler: Wendy Neville, Labrador Bitch

Guns Choice: Bellaroyal Lady Persephone Owner/Handler: Isobel Whitford
Labrador Bitch

1 day Open Retriever Qualifier

Chicklade, Fonthill Bishop

Kind permission of Lord Margadale

Judges: Mike Tallamy, Sara Gadd, Keith Broomfield, Mike Brown

1st Ragweeds Trigger Owner: Cherry Finland Handler: John Halstead
Labrador Dog

2nd & Guns Choice Hatchfield Lyon Owner/Handler: Diana Harrison Labrador Dog

COM Roundcopse Finch Owner/Handler: Jane Tydeman Labrador Bitch

COM Ftch Brockweir Fleurie, Owner/Handler Annie Wales, Labrador Bitch

Retriever Working Tests 2015

The 2015 Working Test season went well for the club with good entries for all the tests. The popularity of these events continue to increase each year not just for our club but across the country and it has been lovely to see so many members and non members enjoy running their dogs over the fabulous grounds we have had the privilege of using.

Our thanks must go to all our landowners for allowing us to share some fantastic venues, our judges for their expertise and kind advice and all the wonderful helpers who regularly give up their time to make these days possible to put on. Help in any way is always appreciated so if anyone would like to support the club please do contact any of the committee members, they will be delighted to hear from you!

This was my last year as Working Test Secretary before handing over to Vicky Sheppard who many of you will already know well. She will be an excellent new Secretary and we all wish her well.

My thanks to everyone for their support, hard work and sense of humour over the last three years and I look forward to catching up with you all again this coming season.

Julie Spencer

OPEN

The Open this year was held at Home Farm near Calne on March 22nd by kind permission of our host Mr. David Tyler. A new venue for the club and what wonderful grounds we were privileged to enjoy. Set high on a hill just outside the pretty village of Heddington and surrounded by glorious views Mike Brown and Kelvin Selway did a great job of judging some good dogs over 5 tests with the support of an invaluable team of helpers – Roger, Paul, Matt, Martin, Michael, Ian and Becks along with Peter and Marion they created a day which ran well with a good friendly atmosphere from start to finish. My thanks must go to all of them for making the day a success.

I cannot let this one pass though without a special thank you to Kelvin, Roger and Paul for all the hard work they put in with the preparations before. Setting the tests, putting out signs, 'please do not drive over the edge of the hill' safety fencing and organising the loan of not one but TWO porta loos (very kindly provided by Paul's son Matthew) – I am afraid we just could not resist using the steps as our 'awards podium'. Paul even cooked breakfast for us !! Such luxuries we are not used to but they were very much appreciated by everyone. Finally to Martin, for making the journey to kindly bring the shop but who loved the scenery so much is now thinking of moving to the area – I may need to send an apology to his wife Marilyn for this potential bombshell !

Test 1: A double seen at distance.

Test 2: Double blind. The first on the side of a ridged valley with the second further back.

Test 3: A seen with distraction.

Test 4: Blind. Dogs were asked to go up through a valley, stop and take direction to the right where the dummy was placed on the side of the hill in light cover.

Test 5: Seen to shot from the top of a hill into the valley but a blind was required first at an angle on the opposite side of the valley.

With some good scores at the end of the competition we had a run off for 2nd and 3rd place as well as 4th and a COM. For this test dogs needed to negotiate a gully to a blind retrieve further up the hill.

The WWGS would like to thank our sponsors Skinners Pet Foods for their continued support of all our events this year.

1st Lubbecke Queen of Hearts of Abney Dave England

2nd Lenyam Mayfly Keith Manley

3rd Tayfordwoods Rosebank of Annington Bay Mell Brooks

4th Lubbecke Royal Sapphire Gillian Yates

Com FTCh Lamldodge Matador Keith Broomfield



NOVICE

The Novice Retriever Working Test on May 24th was held at Bake Barn, Fonthill by kind permission of Lord Margadale and Mick and Sharon Lewis to whom we are once indebted for their continued support.

Your club always try their best to make our events an enjoyable day for everyone whether they are taking part or have just come to watch and I would like to think we managed to put on a successful one. As Working Test Secretary my 'wish list' was certainly granted.

Venue: Beautiful secluded grounds where bluebells tumble from perfectly thinned woodland into a rolling green valley. TICK.

Judges: Knowledgeable, fun to be with and understanding to competitors who find they have had a 'hiccup'. Dave England, Chris Damon, Roger Ford, Mike Anderson - Perfect! TICK.

Helpers: A 'can't possibly manage without them' fabulous team of stewards, dummy throwers and helpers. Lucy, Helen, Annabel, Michelle, Jo, Anne, Martin, Roland, John, Michael, Angus, Rory, Mark, Spencer and Kim. TICK.

Tests: Interesting to take part in, challenging but fair. TICK.

Weather: Cool with no rain! TICK.

A good entry of 44 dogs kept us busy all day and with thanks to our sponsors Skinners Pet Foods we ran 5 tests.

1. A short seen into the woods. Not as straight forward as it appears! When the dummy had landed a 'rabbit' distraction slowly crept across a track to the side and disappeared into the grass. Some dogs appeared to grow a full 2" whilst still trying to keep their bottoms on the ground! A number simply could not contain themselves but hopefully we have now been forgiven by their handlers.

2. A seen up a sloping grass track, the retrieve falling just over the horizon, followed by a blind in a similar place.

3. Two dogs sat up each individually having a double seen. The first to the right with a slightly obscured view and the second to the left which fell just out of sight on the ridge top.

4. A double blind. One to be found at a distance straight up a steep track into the woods, the other through cover to the left by a fallen tree. Handler to nominate which retrieve they would take first.

5. Something a little different and a great way to finish the day. Four dogs were sat in line and treated to a simulated drive. A number of dummies were thrown to shot and courtesy of Lucy we had beaters in full cry with flags and her team of four

Cockers to pick up completed quite a scene. Each dog was then sent for a blind which had been previously placed. A really good test that was enjoyed by everyone.

With huge thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the day go well and to our competitors whose company was a pleasure.

Results:

1st	Rob Smallman	Helnoral Magnum
2nd	Sue Foote	Endacott Snipe
3rd	Jackie Davis	Fordcopse Baillie
CoM	Nick Jordan	Hollowbrook Saker
CoM	J. Tomlinson	Chishillhyde Rumble
CoM	Jane Manley	Lenyam Justintime
CoM	Patricia Rogers	Stouroak Shadow of Mullenscotte

PUPPY 1&2, NOVICE DOG/NOVICE HANDLER

Our Puppy and ND/NH tests were held at Stourhead on July 12th courtesy of Mr. Nick Hoare. We have been very fortunate this year to enjoy parts of this estate for some of our club training evenings and it was a pleasure to be able to return to one of the most beautiful areas for this day.

For the first time this year the weather unfortunately misbehaved with grey skies and rain to start but thankfully this cleared as the morning went on and we were able to enjoy a great day in the most enjoyable company. We were spoilt to have three fantastic judges Sharon Lewis, Jane Mann and Isobel Whitford who saw a total of 25 dogs run over three classes, each completing six tests. Our thanks must go to them for all their hard work and encouraging advice to our competitors. As always our team of helpers were fantastic, juggling three classes which were all running at the same time whilst trying to read the running order which quickly became was so soggy it looked as though it had been left in a pocket and had gone through the washing machine! Huge thanks must go to Lucy, Carol, Christine, Ann, Tom, Martin, Ron, Chris, Kelvin, Roger and Adrian for everything they did to make the day a success and for their much appreciated support.

All dogs started the day with a seen retrieve for confidence but the tests varied slightly in distance and difficulty to suit each class. Our sponsors Skinners Pet Foods kindly continue to support our events and generously supplied the prizes for each group.

1.A seen on to a bank but the dogs needed to negotiate a heavily reeded dip on the way out and were at risk of losing their mark. For older on the water for Puppy 1 and a seen on the far edge of the pond bank for Puppy 2 and ND/NH.

2. A mark up a short but steep bank through fallen tree trunks and branches to a fall just out of sight on the top of the hill.
 3. Dogs were sat at a distance from the edge of the pond for a seen on the water for Puppy 1 and a seen on the far edge of the pond bank for Puppy 2 and ND/NH.
 4. Dogs were sat up and a seen was thrown at an angle into light cover. They were then required to walk to heel in a slightly different direction, sat up and the handler returned to the start point. The dog was then recalled to the handler and sent for the retrieve.
 5. A hunt up in a reeded area where two dummies from three out were required.
 6. A steadiness test with two dogs sat together each given a seen retrieve to shot.
- Our judges remarked that they had seen some lovely dogs during the day but poor scenting conditions had caused difficulties for some. Congratulations to all our award winners.

Results:

Puppy 1

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1st Hemingtons Noggin | Ken Spratling |
| 2nd Somerset Barney | Roland Stacey |
| 3rd Hardingtons Bracken | Steward McCallum |

It should be noted that this was a rather special day for the Puppy 1 award winners, all of them are litter brothers and were bred by Ken. A quite outstanding and memorable achievement for 'The Band of Brothers'.

Puppy 2

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1st Forest Fable Flitwick | J. Potterton |
|---------------------------|--------------|

Novice Dog/Novice Handler

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1st Northaw Dash | Mark Witham |
| 2nd Avonstream Ator | Nikki Urquhart |
| 3rd Tibeas The Winning Streak | Nikki Urquhart |
| 4th Abbeystead Templar | Alan Keenan |



OPEN WALK UP TEST

Our Open Walk Up Test was held at Bake Barn by kind permission of our hosts Lord Margadale and Mick and Sharon Lewis. Their long standing gift of supporting so many of our events is always appreciated by the club and all who enjoy sharing for a few hours parts of the glorious 9,000 acres that make up Fonthill Estate.

This year the cover over our usual haunts had grown too high for both dogs and competitors but with their renowned generosity Mick and Sharon found a stunning valley at the back of the woods for us to use with fantastic views for those of us who during the day needed an excuse to stop a while and 'admire the scenery'. Quite a mystery tour through the long tree lined tracks to get there but what a prize to be found at the end.

With thanks to our four wonderful judges Nick Coates, Keith Broomfield, Ken Green and Vicky Sheppard they created a great day for the 19 entries forward. Despite rather warm weather and a lack of scent in the morning there was some excellent dog work and after a break for lunch 12 were taken through to the fourth round. With improved scent in the afternoon and on different ground all the dogs continued to go well over a series of long retrieves into white grass and none were dropped. The final round, a testing drive, produced our well deserved awards.

It is an indisputable fact that no working test is possible without the support of a great team of stewards and dummy throwers and we were fortunate to have one of the best. Lucy, Carol, Martin, Chris, Ron, Roland, Ken, Rob and Michael thank you for all your hard work and help which made this, our last test of the year, a pleasure to be part of.

1st	Gillian Yates	Lubbecke Simone
2nd	Frank Fitheridge	Hanrebor Blackberry
3rd	Mell Brooks	Tayfordwoods Rosebank of Anningtonbay
CoM	Frank Wright	Levenghyl Dancing Teasel
CoM	Isobel Whitford	Bellaroyal Chillie Pepper
CoM	Karen Lester	Willowcreek Swift



Retriever Working Test Schedule 2016

Open

Date: 3rd April 2016

Home Farm, Heddington, Calne, Wilts. By kind permission of Mr. David Tyler

Judges: Steve Cullis (B2759), Paula Cullis, Kelvin Selway

Entries Close 25th March, 2016

Novice

Date: 22nd May, 2016

Roundhill Farm, Horningsham by kind permission of Messrs Peter & David Green.

Judges: Dave England (B2946), Nick Jordan, Mell Brooks

Entries Close 13th May, 2016

Puppy 1 Puppy 2 Novice Dog/Novice Handler

Date: 17th July 2015

Quarry Hill Farm, Witham Friary By kind permission of Mr G Sheppard

Judges: Isobel Whitford, Roger Ford

Entries Close 8th July, 2016

Open and Novice Walk Up

Date: 14th August 2016

Bake Barn, Chicklade, Fonthill Bishop by kind permission of Lord Margadale and

Mick and Sharon Lewis

Judges: Heather Bradley (A2431), Peter Castleman (B1846), TBC

Entries Close 5th August, 2016

Would competitors please remember to enclose either a SAE or clear e-mail address with their forms and that the entry fee for each Working Test is £10.00 per dog.

RAFFLE PRIZES ALWAYS NEEDED – PLEASE CAN YOU HELP?

WWGS need prizes for raffles at Working Tests in order to keep costs down. Any contributions for prizes, edible or not, will be gratefully received by any Committee Member or Trainer and much appreciated.

SPANIEL SECTION

Field Trials 2015/2016

I plagiarize myself by repeating my annual report that becomes a narrative trying desperately to say a well deserved thank you in a different way; maybe Diolch, Danke, Merci or even gratias ago tibi to everyone involved. Actually managing to complete all of the trials without getting soaked must be down to luck, no skills or merit attributable here

The results were published on the society's website for the I.T. savvy and at the end of this report for those who have just mastered the 'phone!

Grateful thanks to our hosts and keepers without whose continued support the trials cannot be run, Nick Avery-Wright and Paul Bowyer at The Upton Pyne Shoot, The Rt. Hon. Mr & Mrs Henry Digby and Paul Marsh at The Minterne Estate and Sean Jefferies at The Horningsham Shoot

At each trial the team of guns were "wonderful" shooting for the dogs and ensuring we finished before dusk, even before lunch in one case.

The judges Ben Randall and Jeff Ayres at the Open; Dave Anderson and Martin Hook at the Novice Cocker Simon Allison and Steve Smith at the A.V. Novice and Mike Shefford and Richard Preest at the Novice English Springer gave excellent assessments of the dog work, were impartial and all did so with good humour and tolerance.

Finally thanks to the regular helpers Martin Dennett, John Prince, Lucy Arnold and Helen Cripps also Jim Penaliggon and Christine Wilkins for stewarding, picking up, game carrying, and helping with the running of the days and to Chairman Tom for trophy chasing and replacing. Also thanks to my husband Colin chief "multitasker" before, during and after each trial!

Reflections from this seasons trials....

At the Open trial a "long haired black lab" escaped from a vehicle and joined the stops, flushed a couple of birds and settled down with the stops to watch the approaching line; my thanks to Jim P for taking over the red flag while a red faced field trial secretary returned her flatcoat "Alice" to the truck.

At the Novice Cocker I was totally smitten with the most adorable young Newfoundland dog who had come along for the ride with Graham West who was competing with his cocker "Coco" just wish we had a bigger house!

At the A. V. Novice a spectacular retrieve on a pricked cock bird, the judges both awarded the dog A+ but, no trophy or rosette, it was Lucy and her Cocker Nel picking up!

At the Novice Springer one of the guns concentrating so hard on the dog working stepped into a "bog" up to his **** and required rescuing by a fellow gun, no prizes for guessing it was Colin

As the trial expenses seem to increase thank you to Chairman Tom and Treasurer Christine for allowing me the flexibility when organising and running the spaniel trials; one less thing to harass a F/T sec when negotiating

Thank you to everyone who entered and ran their dogs contributing to the camaraderie at each trial and making it all worthwhile.

Results

Open English Springer Stake

Monday 26th October 2015 at Upton Pynes Shoot
Judges Jeff Ayres and Ben Randall

Results

1st. Brockfern Breeze	O/H	P. Williams
2nd. Bucklawren Krusoe	O/H	S. Jones
3rd. Caegarw Wizzard	O/H	N. Davies
4th. Nederscot Spinner	O/H	E. Smith
CoM's		
FTCh Brynfedi Adel of Countryways	O/H	D. Templar
Whiznic Witch	O/H	P. Thomas
FTCh Springervill Rosie Girl	O/H	C. Thurston-Woolnough
Bryngwrhyd Bruno	O/H	D. Dugay

Guns Choice:

Whiznic Witch O/H P. Thomas

Novice Cocker Spaniel Stake

Monday 30th November at Minterne Magna
By kind invitation Of The Rt Hon Mr & Mrs Henry Digby
Judges Dave Anderson and Martin Hook

1st Nettlebridge Aquarius	O/H	M. Burr
2nd Centrewalk Topaz	O/H	R. Preest
3rd. Byrbwll Dotty	O/H	D. Ormond
4th. Tip Top Jack Moet	O/H	J. Griffiths
CoM's		
Centrewalk Cedar	O/H	E. Cope

Chilly of the Mountain O/H R. Wilmott
 Breckmarsh Coco of Leeglen O/H G. West

Guns Choice
 Breckmarsh Coco of Leeglen O/H G. West

Novice A.V. Spaniel Stake

Thursday 3rd. December at The Horningsham Shoot
 By kind invitation of Sean Jefferies
 Judges Simon Allison and Steve Smith

1st Tailors Drift Shadowland + Best Hunting Spaniel ESS O/H C. Morgan
 2nd Awridian Islay ESS O/H J. Tucker
 3rd Plasy Waun Geraint ESS O/H A. Gill
 4th Neuadd Lwyd Seren ESS O/H M. Soroka

COM's

Killhope Moss Bedevilled of Halwin Royston ESS O/H M. Hoskins
 Huckleswood Pimpernel ESS O/H M. Ings
 Centrewalk Cedar Cocker E. Cope
 Adniel Isabella ESS M. Lydford

Guns Choice
 Centrewalk Cedar Cocker O/H E. Cope

Novice English Springer Stake

Tuesday 8th. December 2015 at The Minterne Estate
 By kind invitation of Rt. Hon. Mr & Mrs Henry Digby

Judges Mike Shefford and Richard Preest

1st. Shells Lady O/H A. Lawlor
 2nd. Lawsanna Flighty Flo O/H P. Blakely
 3rd. Palmarrion Lesharo O/H M. Emery
 4th. Nordmannaina Gracie O/H E. Cope

COM'S

Pitfield Alexandra at Talyclun O/H K. John
 Bryngwrhyd Shona of Carkees O/H M. Cox
 Dovesflight Arizona O/H R. Wildsmith
 Avon Harrier Trigger O/H P. Young

Gun's Choice: Shells Lady O/H A. Lawlor



Spaniel Working Tests 2015

Spring Open and Novice AV Test

This was held on Sunday the 26th of April at Trudoxhill nr Frome Somerset
Judges Alice Wise, Colin Kemp and Tom Sheppard

This year's test was held on a slightly overcast and chilly spring Sunday but thankfully the rain stayed away and all three of us judging agreed that all the dogs in both the novice and open test were of very high standard and are a credit to the trainers well done to you all.

Novice

- 1st Mr. K Drinkwaters ESS Burtle Moor Onyx
 - 2nd V Kidner ESS Rambling Ivy
 - 3rd J Bearman ESS Balisla Bucklberry of Briffoaks
 - 4th N Turner ESS Peacock Girl
- Com
- D Turner ESS Yildum Queen
 - J Yates ESS Tuscaloosa Tansy

Open

1st P Williams ESS Beach Bliss

2nd P Williams ESS Brockfern Breeze

3rd J Thomson CS Nunney Cadwalandr

4th M Stanbury ESS Alkindia Clover of Stokingford

CoM

J Yates ESS Beanhill Ladybird

D Turner ESS Yilldum Queen

N Turner ESS Peacock Girl

N Harris CS Nicaris Moody Minx

Grateful thanks to all of the WWGS Team and the Judges that gave up their day to run this Test.

AV Novice Cold Game Test

It was a glorious sunny day, you probably couldn't have had better for this year's cold game test. 26 dogs had entered and 24 ran, with one or two that ran at the end of the test but just for fun, not for competition

My thanks go to all my helpers Julie, Jill, Annette, Peter, John, Martin D, Kim and Joanne Barnes Most of all was the four smashing judges that gave up there day to judge the test Geoff Rayner,, Peter Moruzzi Helen Cripps and but last but not least Martin Johnson.

The test was held in woodland with plenty of cover for the dogs to hunt under Geoff and Peter with a shot and a seen partridge. Also then all the dogs had a retrieve across the pond to collect a retrieve under the watchful eye of Helen Cripps the Wiltshire's retriever field trial secretary. All the dogs had another part to the test where they were sent to collect a retrieve over a fence and bring it back to hand. Martin Johnson kindly agreed to judge this for me

I am glad that it was this was an enjoyable and successful Test as it was the last as after being the Wiltshire's spaniel Test secretary for the last 15 years I have decided to step down from the role. I am proud that over the years this has been many peoples first gundog competition as well as it also has given an opportunity to a number of our A and B panel spaniel Judges to start on the road to judging, but the time has come for some new faces on the wwgs committee

1st PHORTAIGH DAIR OF COUNTRYWAYS handler A Perrett owner D Templar

2nd WHIZNIC WALTZ OF COUNTRYWAYS handler A Perrett owner D Templar

3rd SUREFLYWACEY GIRL OF SWALLOAKWEST H/O Julie Thatcher

4th NETTLERIDGE AQUARIUS h/o Mark Burr

CoMs

POPPLIGHT BASILCA KUPID h/o Nigel Afford

RAMBLING IVY h/o V Kidner

SHELLS LAOY h/o A Lawlor

PITTGRNHILL CALIA h/o Nicola Johnson

Spaniel Working Tests for 2016

AV Spaniel Novice and Open Spring Test

Date: 3rd April 2016

To held at Nutty Coppice Farm, Trudoxhill

Judges Ian Flint Andy Falkner Andy Fisher and Helen Clark

9am meet for 9.30 start for the Novice and 12.30 meet 1pm start for the open

Novice Cold Game Test

To be held on the 4th September, check the website for further details.

Any willing volunteers to help for either test would be very much appreciated!

Tom Sheppard

DEFINITIONS OF WORKING TESTS

Definition of Puppy 1: Dogs over 6 months of age and under 16 months of age on the day before the Test is held

Definition of Puppy 2: Dogs over 16 months of age and under 24 months of age on the day before the Test is held.

Definition of Novice: Any dog or bitch of any age not having won: a Field Trial award including a certificate of merit or 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open Test or 1st in any other Test (Puppy 1 & 2 and Novice Dog/Novice Handler are discounted for this purpose)

Definition of Novice Dog/Novice Handler: Neither dog nor handler to have won any award including a certificate of merit at a field trial, or 1st, 2nd, 3rd, in any Open working test, or 1st in ANY working test. This includes a Puppy test but not Junior Handler.

Definition of Open: Open to all dogs of a specified breed or breeds, although preference may be given to dogs that have gained an award or Certificate of Merit at a Field Trial, been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open GWT, or won a Novice GWT.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

RETRIEVER TRAINING

The training throughout 2015 was very well supported. Running the training was a team effort because the club didn't have a training co-ordinator. Several members of the committee made sure training ran as usual, but a special thank you must go to Corinne Leonard for her help.

Thanks as always go to our hosts, without their generosity the WWGS couldn't run these training classes. Thanks to Lord Margadale, Mick and Sharon Lewis, Fonthill Estate and Nick Hoare, Stourhead Estate for the use of their ground.

Our trainers last summer were brilliant as always. Thank you Nick Coates, Kelvin Selway and Roger Ford, please forgive me if I have missed anyone who stood in for them.

Lucy Arnold

April 13th and 27th	-Fonthill
May 11th and 25th	-Horningsham
June 8th and 22nd	-Fonthill
July 6th and 20th	-Stourhead

HANDLERS MUST CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR DOGS!!!!

Please contact training co-ordinator Lucy Arnold on 01985 840112 or [t-arnold@btconnect.com](mailto:arnold@btconnect.com) if you have any questions, please read the following points.

1. We meet at **6.45pm for a 7pm start**. Please do not arrive more than 15mins early. Please do not hang around at the end of training as the co-ordinator will need to shut gates etc. Cost is £5 per session.
2. If your dog fouls please pick it up and take it home, anyone not doing this will be asked not to attend training.
3. When you arrive at training please pay and ask where you can exercise your dog if you need to.
4. No bitches in season.
5. No dogs that are aggressive or likely to fight.
6. Gundogs are required to be quiet whilst working and training.
7. Please only bring the dog you are training (no group walkies before or after training).
8. Please respect our hosts generosity and comply with the above. Thank you.

Directions to Fonthill:-

Bake Barn is on the A303 1 mile East of Chicklade, if travelling from Taunton direction it will be on your left. Signed Bake Barn/Penning, also WWGS signs. Once

off the A303 follow signs to training ground. Please be very careful turning off A303 and when leaving training.

Directions to Horningsham:-

signs will be put out from the Bath Arms pub in Horningsham, you may come across signs before you get to the pub.

Directions for Stourhead:-

The post code for The Spreadeagle Hotel in Stouhead is BA12 6QE go past The Spreadeagle, with it on your left, go under Rock arch and follow the WWGS signs..

SPANIEL TRAINING 2015

We would like to start by saying a massive thank you to Neil Varney, Paddy Williams and Sharon Lewis for giving up their valuable time to come along and train for us last year, also Mr & Mrs Drinkall for allowing us to use their grounds. We had 7 sessions last year all well attended and we were really pleased to welcome lots of new members keen to train for the working field and the test/trial worlds. We really do enjoy watching new handlers develop their handling skills and seeing the dogs improve. The training ended with an inter club fun test with the Dorset working spaniel club, which saw a very close run test and Wiltshire were pipped at the post by just a couple of points. It was a good introduction to tests for the novice handlers and dogs. This led to the WWGS novice cold game test held at Nutty Coppice farm, many of the handlers entered and did very well, congratulations to everyone who won prizes, a very big congratulations to Nicky Johnson who won the highest placed person who had attended training also winning a CoM.

Once again thank you to trainers, landowners and all who attended training, we look forward to seeing you again in 2016
Joanne and Kim

Before we talk about any training I must say a huge thank you, well we all should to Kim and Joanne for all their hard work not just on training nights but all the rest of the time they give to the Club. Thank you !!!!! Now looking forward to 2016 training it's going to be great to see some of the dogs after a season in the field and some new one's too! We may have to do a bit of tweaking ready for next season and of course prepare some, but that's what training is. Never look at issues/problems as a negative but as a positive to train to and overcome . We can't explain to the dogs what we require, we have to show them and hopefully with the help of Paddy Williams we can address all the things that may happen to you and your dog in the test/ trial and shooting field! Last year everyone that came to training worked hard, listened, did the homework set, which is all you can ask for as a trainer. So now the thanks goes to the trainee's!!!!

See you all in April !!!!

Neil Varney

Training dates 2016

All to be at Moorwood Farm, Redlynch, nr Bruton BA10 0NJ
6.45 for 7pm start

Monday 11th April

Monday 25th April

Monday 9th May

Monday 23rd May

Monday 6th June

Monday 20th June

Monday 4th July

Tuesday 19th July

Please contact us on 079509345658

Email: kj@mooncourt.co.uk

WILTSHIRE WORKING GUNDOG SOCIETY WORKING TEST RULEs
Retrievers and Irish Water Spaniels
Sporting Spaniels other than Irish Water Spaniels

1. The code of conduct expected at Gundog Working Tests is the same as that for Field Trials
2. The meet for all Tests will be at 9 am for 9.30 am start unless otherwise specified
3. Competing dogs and their handlers must be present at the start of the Test
4. Handlers must ensure that the number of the dog being handled at the time is displayed appropriately
5. Dogs should be on the lead when not 'under the control of the judge'
6. No competitor may withdraw their dog and leave the Gundog Working Test ground without informing the Chief Steward
7. Dogs should not wear a collar when competing
8. Replacement dummies must be paid for by the owner if his/her dog has damaged it
9. No bitch in season may be brought to the test ground
10. Entries should be on WWGS entry forms and completed fully and signed by the owners.
11. The name and details of the dog as recorded with The Kennel Club Ltd must be given on the entry form (KC Reg. No/Stud No/ATC No)
12. A SEPARATE cheque payable to the Wiltshire Working Gundog Society is required for EACH dog entered and must accompany the entry form
13. No entry fees will be refunded for dogs withdrawn from a Test after the close of entries, except in the case of a dog qualifying out of novice, in season bitches or unfit dogs, when a full refund will be given. A veterinary certificate may be asked for at the discretion of the Society's Officers. Also on production of a medical certificate that the applicant or the applicants' nominated handler is unable to compete a full refund will be given.

14. If a ballot is necessary all monies will be refunded or dealt with as specified in the schedule.
15. Engraving of trophies is the responsibility of the winner
16. The winner must also ensure the trophy received is returned to the appropriate WWGS Working Test Secretary in good time for the following year's award, and in accordance with the undertaking signed.
17. Any queries should be referred to the Retriever Working Test Secretary

MEMBERSHIP FEES:	JOINING FEE	£5.00
	INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL	£10.00
	JOINT ANNUAL	£12.00
	JUNIOR ANNUAL	£2.50
	(UNDER 16 YEARS)	

MEMBERS FAILING TO RENEW BEFORE 1ST MARCH WILL INCUR A REJOINING FEE OF £5.00 IN ADDITION TO THEIR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

..... POSTCODE.....

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

AMOUNT ENCLOSED £.....

(CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO THE WILTSHIRE WORKING GUNDOG SOCIETY)

RETURN TO THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

MRS ISOBEL WHITFORD
221 WAIN-A-LONG ROAD
SALISBURY
WILTSHIRE
SP1 1LJ.....

.....TEL: 01722 411459

(PLEASE ENCLOSE A S.A.E. IF YOU REQUIRE A RECEIPT)

In accordance with the Data Protection Act 1984, members are advised that they are entitled to object to their details being kept on computer. The details will then be removed and processed manually. The Membership record comprises only: Name, Address, Telephone number, Breed and Subscription information. The record will remain within the Society or that of the Kennel Club and will not be given to an outside body for any reason whatever.

In order to retain our Registration with The Kennel Club, we are required to include the Society's Membership List as part of our Annual Return. **It is a condition of membership that you accept this.**

WILTSHIRE WORKING GUNDOG SOCIETY

BANKER'S ORDER FORM

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

Bank Name and Full Postal Address: Sort Code:

.....
.....
.....

Please Pay to National Westminster Bank Plc, Trowbridge, Wiltshire

(Sort Code: 60 - 21 - 36)

for the credit of THE WILTSHIRE WORKING GUNDOG SOCIETY

(Account No. 74112767) the sum of £10.00 (Single) OR £12.00 (Joint) OR £2.50 (Junior)

£ And please quote my/our Name and Membership Number
as reference:

NameMembership No.

Bank Account No.

The first payment to be made on receipt/1st January next* and to continue annually

On 1st January until further notice (*delete whichever is not applicable).

**THIS CANCELS ANY PREVIOUS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP STANDING ORDER TO THE
WILTSHIRE WORKING GUNDOG SOCIETY**

Signed.....Date

Name.....

Address

.....

..... Postcode

Please send completed form to your Bank

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The name of the Society shall be the WILTSHIRE WORKING GUNDOG SOCIETY

1. OBJECTS

The objects of the Society being:

- 1.1 To promote and encourage the training of gundogs for work in the field by holding gundog training classes and seminars
- 1.2 To organise Field Trials and Working Tests
- 1.3 To encourage high standards in breeding sound, pure bred gundogs, free from hereditary faults

2. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The Society shall consist of a Patron, President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, up to fifteen Committee Members and an unlimited number of Members.
- 2.2 The management of the Society shall be in the hands of the Officers and a Committee consisting of up to fifteen members. All Officers (other than the Patron and President) to retire annually. No member may serve on the Committee for more than three years without standing for re-election.
- 2.3 All retiring Officers and Committee Members may offer themselves for re-election
- 2.4 The Patron and President will be ex-officio members of the Committee, but shall not have voting rights
- 2.5 The Officers and the Committee shall have full voting rights and in the event of a split decision, the Chairman shall have the casting vote
- 2.6 Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as is deemed necessary, but at least three times a year
- 2.7 A quorum of Committee Members shall be seven members, including any one of the following: the Chairman, the Hon. Secretary or the Hon. Treasurer
- 2.8 The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members onto the Committee in the event of positions becoming vacant between General Meetings, but those co-opted shall only hold office until the next General Meeting of the Society at which an election of Officers and Committee takes place
- 2.9 Any fully paid-up member, who has been a member of the Society for twelve months, is eligible for election to the Committee or to serve as an Officer of that Committee
- 2.10 Any Committee member who fails to attend three Committee meetings, including the Annual General Meeting, on separate dates in any one year will be asked to resign unless his/her reason for such non-attendance is agreed by majority vote in the Committee as unavoidable.

3. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

- 3.1 Candidates for membership of the Society must be proposed and seconded by fully paid up members of the Society. The applications will be presented to a subsequent Committee Meeting for approval. The vote to accept or reject the application shall be as decided by the majority of the Committee
- 3.2 Members shall be accepted on payment of a Joining Fee and a Subscription following approval by the Committee
- 3.3 The Society must provide the Kennel Club with a List of Members and their addresses as part of the Society's Annual Returns and also make the list available for inspection if so requested by the Members of the Society

4. VOTING RIGHTS

- 4.1 Each member (including those with Joint Memberships) shall be entitled to one vote three months after acceptance of membership. Postal/proxy votes are not allowed. Voting shall be as decided by the majority of the Meeting
- 4.2 Junior Memberships shall be accepted within the age limits of six and sixteen years. There will be no voting rights for Junior Members

5. SOCIETY PROPERTY

- 5.1 The property of the Society shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Society ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Society's assets and the outcome of the Meeting notified to the Kennel Club. Cups and trophies which are given as outright gifts to the Society will become the property of the Society
- 5.2 A final statement of accounts with a record of the disposal of the property of the Society shall be forwarded to the Kennel Club within six months, and the persons named as Officers and Committee of the Society on the last return furnished to the Kennel Club will be held responsible by the Kennel Club for the proper winding up of the Society

6. ACCOUNTS

- 6.1 Accounts shall be held in the name of the Society into which all revenue of the Society shall be paid, and from which withdrawal shall only be made on the signatures of two of the following: Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Assistant Secretary
- 6.2 A qualified Accountant or two lay-people with accounting experience, will be appointed to verify the accounts annually
- 6.3 The balance sheet will be presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 7.1 The annual subscription shall be £10.00 for Adults, £2.50 for Juniors and £12.00 for Joint Adult Memberships, together with a Joining/Rejoining Fee as appropriate of £5.00.
- 7.2 These figures may necessarily be subject to review following agreement by Members at a General Meeting, the outcome of which shall be notified to the Kennel Club
- 7.3 No Member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the Member shall fail to pay his/her/their outstanding subscription by 1st March, then his/her/their name shall be automatically erased from the register. Acceptance back onto the register will be dependent upon a new application and re-joining fee.

8. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

- 8.1 These will be awarded at the discretion of the Committee

9. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

- 9.1 Any Member who shall be suspended under Kennel Club rule A42j(4) and/or any member whose dog(s) is/are disqualified under Kennel Club rule A42j(8) shall ipso facto cease to be a Member of the Society for the duration of the suspension and/or disqualification
- 9.2 If the conduct of any Member shall, in the opinion of the Committee of the Society be injurious, or likely to be injurious, to the character or interest of the Society, the Committee of the Society may, at a Meeting, the notice convening which includes, as an object, the consideration of the conduct of the Member, determine that a Special

General Meeting of the Society shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her

- 9.3 Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused Member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the Meeting that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the Meeting, a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of Members and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a Member of the Society except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such a Meeting, appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as the Kennel Club may impose
- 9.4 No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of the Society or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society
- 9.5 If the Society expels any member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, Dog Shows, Trials or Competitions, the Society must report the matter in writing within seven days and supply any particulars required

10. **FINANCIAL YEAR – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 10.1 The financial year of the Society shall be from 1st March until the end of February in the year following
- 10.2 The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the end of April

11. **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 11.1 The Meeting will receive the report of the Committee and Balance Sheet
- 11.2 Officers and Committee Members will be elected as decided by the majority of the Meeting
- 11.3 Resolutions will be discussed which are on the Agenda, prior notice of which will have been given to the Honorary Secretary
- 11.4 No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the Agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the Chairman of the Meeting are urgent
- 11.5 Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given in writing at least one month prior to the Meeting
- 11.6 Any item to be included on the Agenda must be presented to the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days prior to the Meeting. The Agenda will be circulated at the Meeting
- 11.7 A Special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Honorary Secretary if twenty-five fully paid-up Members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so. The Committee of the Society is also empowered to call a Special General Meeting
- 11.8 Members will be notified in writing of a Special General Meeting fourteen days prior to the Meeting. The Meeting will be convened within twenty-eight days and held within forty-two days from the receipt of the request for such a Meeting

12. **AMENDMENTS OF THE RULES**

- 12.1 The Rules of the Society may not be altered except at a General Meeting, the Agenda of which contains specific proposals to amend the Rules
- 12.2 Any proposed alteration to the Rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration
- 12.3 New Rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the Society's constitution with effect from the Society's Annual Meeting

13. **ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB**

- 13.1 The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, Maintenance of Title Fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Honorary Secretary for continuance of Registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns as stipulated in the Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, be forwarded to the Kennel Club
- 13.2 The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Society which may occur during the course of the year
14. **KENNEL CLUB – FINAL COURT OF APPEAL**
- 14.1 The Kennel Club shall be the final Court of Appeal in all matters of dispute
15. **FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES OR CLUBS**
- 15.1 The Society shall not join any Federation of Societies or Clubs