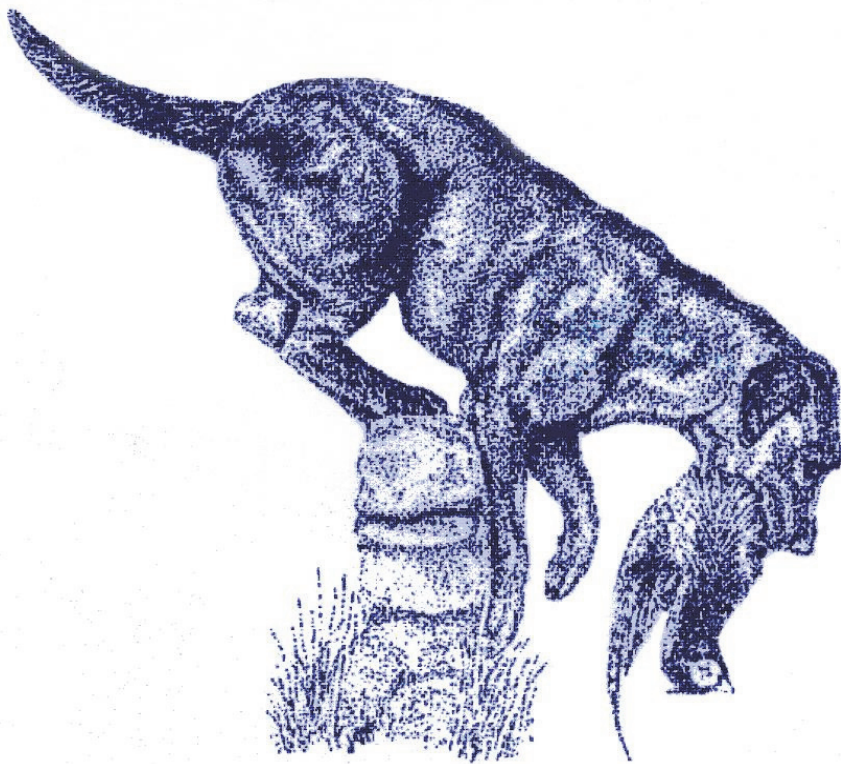


Guildford Working Gundog Club Yearbook 2023



Visit our website at www.guildfordworkinggundogclub.co.uk

Subscription Fees

Initial subscription: £15.00
(£12.00 subscription plus a £3.00 one-off joining fee)

Annual subscription for
UK & overseas members: £12.00

Subscription Payment

The Club's subscription fee has increased to £12.00, effective from this year, following a vote in favour at our 2022 Annual General Meeting.

All standing orders for subs payment should have been amended prior to our **1st February 2023 renewal date**. If you have not changed your standing order, please arrange to pay the balance by contacting our Membership Secretary, Jane Best, via her email: jane.gwgc@btinternet.com.

We spend time each year chasing members who do not pay the correct amount on time. Please note the new subs fee and help us to confirm your renewal.

Your name will be erased automatically from the members' register (in accordance with Club rule 8) if we don't receive your full subscription by the end of April.

Please consider setting up a standing order for your subscription if you have not yet done so. Our bank details are: Lloyds Bank; sort code 30-93-49; account number 00151140. The postal standing order form is available under downloads on our website: www.guildfordworkinggundogclub.co.uk.

If you are paying by cheque, please make it out to "Guildford Working Gundog Club" and post it to: Jane Best, 1 Aston Villas, Wonersh Common Road, Wonersh, Guildford, GU5 0PP.

Contents	Page
Club Subscription Information	2
Chairman's Message	3
Notice of AGM	4
Committee List	5
Club News: Team Events - New Working Test Secretary	6-9
Training: Organiser's Report - 2023 dates - Top Trainee 2022	10-13
Field Trials: Secretary's Report - Results - Trial Reports	14-18
Working Tests: 2022 reports - Results - 2023 dates	19-28
Club Rules	29-31

Chairman's Message

Dear Members,

Many of you may remember how optimistic I was for this year, free from major disruption and risks such as COVID. Well, as history has shown, we have indeed survived COVID threats but the game shooting world has seen serious impacts from H5N1 bird flu. Many shoots have closed or have been unable to obtain game until late in the season and in some cases no partridges at all. Luckily, Patti Money-Coutts secured this year's field trials but with serious stress and uncertainty.



Looking back to spring and summer, we ran our working tests successfully despite having no Working Test Secretary. I would like to thank the whole committee for making this happen, with special thanks to Lisa Murrell and Julia Reardon Smith for their support in getting the entries and schedules correct on FTMS and again to Lisa for running the days.

We have now secured Mandy Bloomfield as our new Working Test Secretary for 2023 onwards—she shadowed the team throughout the year to help prepare for next season.

I would like to congratulate Colin Pelham and his team for winning the 2022 Inter-Counties Team Event, a significant achievement and one of which we should all be proud. The win means it's our job to organise the next Inter-Counties Team Event in 2023 and I am sure it will be done as professionally as ever.

The Club's finances have been challenged this year, owing mainly to significant cost increases in transport and game bird supply. I am sure you will all understand the rationale for increasing the Club's membership fees going forward, as indicated in my message last year. The increase from 2023 is our first for at least 10 years.

Finally, many thanks to Belinda Bainbridge and her list of Club helpers. Our events would not be as successful without this support.

We're not sure what 2023 will bring but I'm confident our committee will meet all challenges with enthusiasm.

Chris Geal, Chairman

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Chris Geal'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

GWGC's Annual General Meeting



Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Guildford Working Gundog Club (GWGC) will take place at **Myrtle's Courtyard, Hampton Estate, GU10 1JH on Saturday 25th March 2023 at 12.00pm.**

A copy of the Agenda, Treasurer's Annual Report and Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting will be available on request in advance of the meeting. Items for the Agenda should reach the Secretary no later than Saturday 11th March 2023.

The following committee members will stand for re-election: Chris Geal, Julia Reardon Smith, Mary Adkins, Jane Best, Lisa Murrell, Colin Pelham, Lauren Wright, Belinda Bainbridge and Patti Money-Coutts. Mandy Bloomfield will stand for election to the committee as Working Test Secretary. Judith Curtis will stand down from the committee.

Nominations for officers and members of the committee should be submitted to the Secretary no later than Saturday 11th March 2023, using the slip below. We would welcome your nominations.

The AGM at Myrtle's Courtyard, Hampton Estate, will follow a Club training session. Whether or not you attend training, we urge you to support your Club by attending the AGM.

Proposal for the Guildford Working Gundog Club Committee	
Return to: Lauren Wright, Hon Secretary, Guildford Working Gundog Club, c/o Crabapple Cottage, Westwood Lane, Wanborough, GU3 2JR.	
Nominee and Post	_____
Nominee's Signature	_____
Proposer	_____
	(please print name and sign)
Secunder	_____
	(please print name and sign)

Guildford Working Gundog Club President: **Mr Bill Biddell**

Officers

Chairman

Mr Chris Geal
The Cottage
Fenns Lane
West End, Woking
Surrey
GU24 9QF
01483 473857
cgeal@btinternet.com

Field Trial Secretary

Mrs Patti Money-Coutts
Overbury Court
Old Odiham Road
Alton
Hants
GU34 4BX
07990 572645
fieldtrial.gwgc@gmail.com

Working Test Secretary Elect

Ms Mandy Bloomfield
7 Vine Cottages
Alfold Road
Cranleigh
GU6 8NB
07827 920064
mandy.gwgc@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mrs Julia Reardon Smith
Fontmell
Meadow Way
West Horsley
Surrey
KT24 6LL
01483 281264
julia.gwgc@gmail.com

Secretary

Miss Lauren Wright
c/o Crabapple Cottage
Wanborough
GU3 2JR
07810 870115
le-wright@hotmail.co.uk

Membership Secretary

Miss Jane Best
1 Aston Villas
Wonersh Common Road
Wonersh
Guildford
GU5 0PP
07721 855470
jane.gwgc@btinternet.com

Committee Members

Mrs Mary Adkins
Yearbook
01483 810671
mary@frayne.co.uk

Mrs Belinda Bainbridge
01932 862882
belinda.gwgc@gmail.com

Mrs Lisa Murrell
Training Organiser
01483 861340
lisa.gwgc@gmail.com

Mr Colin Pelham
Team Manager, Trainer,
A-Panel Judge
07798 787490
cpelham@hotmail.co.uk

Club News

We Won the 2022 Inter-Counties Team Event

The Inter-Counties Team Event is a prestigious working test for Clubs invited to put up teams of three open dogs and their handlers.

Our Team, Representing Guildford Working Gundog Club in 2022

Judith Curtis with FTCh Highwalk Galway “Costa”

Jim Collins with FTCh Brockaghs Forba “Gus”

Jacqui Crew with Maplegate Jackson “Jackson”

Our Hosts

The 2022 Inter-Counties Team Event was hosted by the United Retriever Club Hampshire and South West, the previous winners in 2019. The event was held at Bisterne Estate by kind permission of Mr Hallam and Mrs Lal Mills with the assistance of Mr Rupert Brewer.

The Judges

Nick Coates, Peter Castleman, Dave England, Ken Green and Matt Gould

Jacqui Crew writes: Wow! What a wonderful day. Jackie Davis and her committee put on the most fantastic event with so many helpers, a hog roast, and tea for all after the tests. The sponsors were so very generous with their gifts for the winning teams.

Dave England set the tests with an enormous amount of thought, allowing dogs to show their natural ability for marking, hunting and control.



Left to right: Judith Curtis, Jim Collins and Jacqui Crew

The ground at Bisterne is simply superb—a massive wood with dykes, bracken, long grass, ditches and much more, making it a paradise for gundog work.

Four of the tests involved a mark each and then a blind. These required the dogs to jump fences and make their way to the retrieve through many “bunkers”. The 5th test was a drive with a

spaniel hunting and retrieving in front, after which all three members of the team were sent to various places where the drive had been through.

There was a bonus of a blind out of a wood into a field for which our team member Jim Collins gained full marks.

It was a privilege to run at this estate and to win the event was a massive bonus for us and for GWGC.

Second place went to Dukeries (Notts) Gundog Club, whose Tarnedge Jaina, handled by Claire Carvis, received the Top Dog award.

Third place was taken by United Gundog Society, West Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire, and Fourth place by United Retriever Club Bucks

We believe all the competitors had nothing but praise for such a well thought-out day.



Colin Pelham, Team Coordinator

GWGC to host the 2023 Inter-Counties Team Event

The Club is honoured to be hosting the Inter-Counties Team Event in 2023 as the current winners.

The Event, for teams of three handlers with open dogs, will take place at Windsor Great Park on 22nd April by Gracious invitation of His Majesty King Charles III and with the support of Peter Clayton.

Fifteen clubs have accepted invitations to participate. The judges, all A-Panel, will be Heather Bradley, Jayne Coley, Barbara Kuen, John Stubbs and Barry Taylor.

Club News continues overleaf

Norlands Gundog Training

Novice/Open, Field Trial/Working test training

Novice dog-Novice handler/Basic gundog training

One-to-one tuition and group training sessions

Dogs taken in for training and boarding

Puppies, part trained and trained dogs sometimes available

Stud dog, black lab, throws yellow,

good looking, trial winner, clear eyes, 0-0 hips

Call COLIN PELHAM on 07798 787490/01932 563691

(Kennel Club A Panel Judge)

Club News continued

Support for the Club at the Retriever Challenge

Family, friends and GWGC committee members turned out to support Lauren Wright and Luke Nightingale who represented the Club in the Edenbridge and Oxted Retriever Challenge.

Lauren was in the run-off for second place with a score of 109 points, finishing in third place. Luke finished with 107 points and our competing couple's combined score of 216 was just two points off the winners.

The Retriever Challenge for teams of two open dogs is held annually in August at the Edenbridge and Oxted Show, marking the end of the working test season. It is organised by the South Eastern Gundog Society.



Lauren and Luke (centre) with family and friends at the show

Members Donate to Ukraine Appeal in Working Test Raffle

We decided in April 2022 to run our raffle at working tests in support of Ukraine. Thanks to the generosity of members, we raised a total of £533.38 which was donated to the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) Humanitarian Appeal.

Mandy Bloomfield is on Board as WT Secretary

Mandy Bloomfield (*pictured right*) joined the Club's committee in the summer as Working Test Secretary Elect. She immediately set about planning tests for 2023 as you will see from the schedule, published on pages 20 and 21.

Mandy is bringing on her youngest Labrador to enter more tests in the summer now that the shooting season is over—she has her own picking up team of three Labradors and two working cockers.

She has been training dogs since 2007 and founded Field and Fido in 2016 to specialise in training handlers to apply positive methods. She is an accredited instructor for the Gundog Training Academy (GTA) and a registered member of the Animal Behaviour and Training Council.

Commenting on her new role, Mandy said: "I am enjoying being part of the committee. I'm looking forward to the year ahead and to meeting many of the Club's members at our tests."



Retriever Gundog Training in Surrey
Field Trial/Working Test Training
Novice, Open, Novice dog-Novice Handler
Walked up, water, steadiness, roots training
Ground available to rent for training
Get ready for the Working Test Season
Liz & John Barnes, Deerbridge House,
Milford Road, Elstead, Surrey GU8 6LA.
Tel 01252 702493 Email deerbridgelabs100@gmail.com

Training Organiser's Report

Lisa Murrell writes: I was thrilled with the turnout for all the training sessions in 2022.

We began at Foxbridge Golf Course with Club training, followed by Working Test training which proved popular and immensely informative. Julia Reardon Smith produced a step-by-step handout explaining how to enter a test via the Field Trial Management System (FTMS) and what is expected from competitors and judges. This gave the 18 participants real insight and I was pleased to note that many of them have progressed on to working tests.



We had further training sessions at Hampton Estate, Knaphill Manor and Deerbridge where we saw high attendance and welcomed many new members. The evening sessions at Deerbridge took place during extremely hot weather so the dogs were happy, I'm sure, to work in the river.

I could never put on training without our knowledgeable and experienced trainers: Colin Pelham, John and Liz Barnes, Barry and Liz Taylor, Leigh Sutton, and at times Joy Venturi-Rose and Chris Rose. They turn out for us come rain or shine which is so appreciated. My thanks also to the committee and our helpers, who throw dummies, assist with admin and serve teas and coffees. Our sessions all went smoothly despite my angst beforehand, so thank you everyone.

We would not be able to engage in our sport without the landowners involved: Bill Biddell at Hampton Estate, John and Liz Barnes at Deerbridge and the Slocock family and keeper Paul Stevens at Knaphill Manor. We are going back to these venues this year and are also returning to Upper Birtley by kind permission of Sir Graham Wilkinson Bt. and his wife, Hilary. Upper Birtley has had problems with ash dieback but now, after extensive woodland clearing with safety in mind, there is still enough space to hold Club training there.

Please would anyone planning to attend a Club training session, email me in advance at lisa.gwgc@gmail.com so that I have some idea of numbers. I won't hold you to it but it helped last year to have an idea of how many trainers I would need. We work hard to keep our classes to a manageable size.

For more information about Club training, please email our Training Organiser, Lisa Murrell, at lisa.gwgc@gmail.com.

2023 TRAINING SCHEDULE		
Date	Time	Place
Saturday 4th March	10am	Upper Birtley
Saturday 25th March Followed by AGM	10am 12pm	Hampton Estate, Myrtle's Courtyard
Saturday 15th April	10am	Hampton Estate, Myrtle's Courtyard
Sunday 7th May	10am	Knaphill Manor, Chobham
Saturday 27th May	10am	Knaphill Manor, Chobham
Saturday 10th June	10am	Deerbridge , Elstead
Saturday 24th June	10am	Deerbridge , Elstead

Sue and Rumer Take the Top Trainee Prize

Each year the Jean Baveystock Most Improved Trainee Award is given to the handler who has progressed furthest at Club Training.

Sue Booker writes: I was both surprised and delighted to receive the award for "Most Improved Trainee" at the end of last summer's Club training season.

As a relative newbie to gundog training just as the pandemic hit, the foundation work with my dog, Rumer, took place largely via books, DVDs and YouTube. We made reasonable progress but of course overlooked some important steps in the



Sue Booker & Rumer

process. Joining GWGC put us on track; the Club and its trainers have provided Rumer and I with fantastic learning opportunities on which to build, plus support and top tips in the friendliest of environments.

Lending a hand at working tests was a particular highlight of last summer and reaffirmed that training and working with gundogs is indeed my happy place.

My shout-out goes to the working test team, who welcomed us so warmly. Special thanks to Barry and Liz Taylor who have guided us through the more challenging moments to date.

We still have lots to learn and master, but recognition through this award makes the hard work worthwhile.

EST. 1688

SKINNER'S
 BORN TO BE OUTDOORS



PROUD TO SUPPORT
 THE GUILDFORD WORKING GUNDOG CLUB

Field & Trial combines decades of experience and understanding with specialised canine nutrition, helping generations of working dogs to perform at their peak.

BY YOUR SIDE, #BORNTOBEOUTDOORS



GET IN TOUCH: SKINNERS.CO.UK

Directions to Club Training Grounds

Club signs will be out



Upper Birtley, Brook, Near Haslemere GU8 5LB

Upper Birtley is off the A286 between Milford and Haslemere. Coming south, turn left at the Club sign soon after passing through Brook village. Going North, turn right at the Club sign soon after Grayswood village.

The Hampton Estate, Littleworth Road, Myrtle's Courtyard GU10 1JH



From the A31 Hog's Back: Take signs to Puttenham and turn left opposite the Good Intent Pub into Suffield Lane. At the crossroads, turn right into Littleworth Road. After about 200yds turn right where you see Club signs which will direct you from there.

Knaphill Manor, Carthouse Lane, Chobham, GU21 4XT



After you turn into Carthouse Lane, Club signs will indicate the entrance to the ground .

Deerbridge, Elstead, GU8 6LA

From the A3 Milford roundabout: take the B3001 towards Elstead. After about a mile, you will see two big Scots Pines on the right-hand side on either side of an entrance, painted with white rings around their trunks. Turn here and follow Club signs.

Some of our trainers. Pictured from the top: Liz Barnes, John Barnes and Joy Venturi Rose . Below left to right, Liz Taylor, Colin Pelham and Barry Taylor.



Field Trial Secretary's Report

Patti Money-Coutts writes: After the trauma of two seasons battling COVID we were looking for an easy ride in 2022-2023. Unfortunately, as avian influenza ripped through Europe and the UK, the supply of poults was decimated and many shoots hung up their guns or reduced their number of shoot days. This affected the price of birds and put more pressure on many clubs' finances.



Despite this, I am pleased to report that the Club provided three field trials for our members this season. The novice at Windsor Great Park was the first trial held by gracious invitation of His Majesty The King after the sad passing of The Queen. Thanks to Head Keeper Peter Clayton for a very enjoyable day.

Our open qualifier took place on the Ampton Estate in Suffolk. We had two cracking days and a worthy winner in Sharon Dingle's Bellspaddle Jock. Thank you Sharon for representing the Club at the championship. I would also like to give huge thanks to the Ampton Estate, the Rushbrook family and Head Keeper Alan Hammond. They did much to keep trialling going this season; without them there might not have been a championship.

Our final novice took place later in January on the Englefield Estate under the care of Head Keeper David Wiggins and by kind permission of Lord Benyon.

My heartfelt thanks go to all who make our trials successful—from landowners and keepers, to guns, judges, our sponsors and my wonderful helpers.

Field Trial Results for the 2022-2023 Season

Trial 1: 14 Dog Novice AV Retriever Stake

Wednesday 5th October 2022

Venue: Windsor Great Park
By gracious invitation of H M The King
and the Crown Commissioners

Judges: Di Harrison (A1870)
James Bailey (B3250)
Kelvin Nettleingham (NP2993)
Bill Gardiner (NP)

Awards: 1st Staalwijk's Otto Of Willowrise, Paul Wheeler
The Hydonsdown Bowl
Also Guns' Choice, The Jed Leonard Tankard
COM Flaxenfox Stormgoose Of Wallers Haven, Samantha Kirkham

Trial 2: 24 Dog Two Day Open AV Retriever Stake

Monday 31st October and Tuesday 1st November 2022

Venue: The Ampton Estate,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
By kind permission of Mr Peter Rushbrook
and at the invitation of the Guildford Guns

Judges: Jayne Coley (A1850)
Laura Hill (A3229)
Andrew Slingsby (A3575)
Louie Robertson (B3666)

Awards: 1st Bellspaddle Jock, Sharon Dingle
The Cornwood Salver & Deerbridge Alex Trophy
2nd Staverton Tarrogan, Julia Reed
The Curtis Trophy
3rd Roundcopse Flora, James Brindley
COM Jobeshill Ngorongoro with Hullabaloo, Fiona Joint
COM Sothebys Choice of Wedgnoock, Steve Richardson

Best Retrieve Highwalk Kerry, Sam Drysdale
The Norlands Trophy

Guns' Choice Breckmarsh Adalee, Tucker
Munday
The Foxhanger Tankard



Right: The Open trophies

Trial 3: 14 Dog Novice AV Retriever Stake

Tuesday 17th January 2023

Venue: Englefield Park, near Reading, Berkshire
By kind permission of Lord Benyon and the Englefield Estate

Judges: Barry Taylor (A1633)
Alan Buckland (B3426)
Julia Smith (B3634)
Karen Handley (NP)

Awards: COM Swiftlands River, Ellena Nunneley
Guns' Choice Avonstream Alara, Greig Paterson

Field Trial Reports: 2022-2023 Season

Trial 1: 14 Dog Novice AV Retriever Stake, Windsor Great Park, Wednesday 5th October 2022

The Club was fortunate to hold our first Novice Stake of the season at Windsor Great Park.

There was a smattering of rain and challenging scenting conditions but the competitors and their dogs gave it their best effort and the atmosphere throughout the trial was convivial.

Head Keeper and Steward of the Beat Peter Clayton provided a steady flow of pheasant and partridge with the help of his capable team.

Our Guns, all veterans of shooting at Windsor, was kindly organised by John Stubbs.

Paul Wheeler, who took first place and was nominated Guns' Choice, went on to continue a very successful trialling season, culminating in his award of 4th place in the 2022 Retriever Championship.



First placed Paul Wheeler (left) and Samantha Kirkham (centre) who gained a COM, are pictured with the judges and Peter Clayton

Trial 2: 24 Dog 2-Day Open AV Retriever Stake, Ampton, Monday 31st October and Tuesday 1st November 2022

Sharon Dingle writes: I was very pleased to get a run in the Guildford two-day Open Stake; Ampton is only half an hour from home and one of my favourite grounds. I am lucky to live in rural Norfolk, close to the Brecks and the forest, with lovely grounds in which to train my dogs and pick up.

I currently have seven Labradors, all home bred. Jock, the dog I was lucky to win with at the Guildford Open, has been an easy, kind boy. One of thirteen pups, he



Award winners and the judges and Head Keeper Alan Hammond.

was partly hand reared and always a favourite with me and the family.

I did not trial Jock in open stakes until the previous season; since then he has had several open awards. I have also enjoyed running him in teams and open tests.

All my dogs must pick up, which both they and I love. I think is a very important part of their education. Taking young dogs into the field, on game, training, picking up or competing is always very exciting for me. Seeing youngsters learn their trade gives me the greatest pleasure.



Sharon Dingle with Ampton Head Keeper Alan Hammond.

Jock had a clean run at the two day, everything seemed to go our way for once and he made some potentially difficult retrieves look easy.

On day two, he eye-wiped two dogs on his last retrieve on a partridge, working an old fall into very dense cover. Although it was not a spectacular distance and was mostly out of sight, for me it will be a retrieve I will always remember.

People often say, "trust your dog". I knew when I saw him work the fall and shoot into the cover I could do just that. He reappeared promptly with a very live partridge. I am a lucky lady.

Continued overleaf

Continued from previous page

The days when it all comes together make the disappointments worthwhile. Thank you, Guildford committee, helpers, guns and judges for a fabulously run trial and my ticket to the Championship.

Sadly, at the Championship, we were lost on day two on a very strong runner across the line, but we had an enjoyable three days and will try our best to be back next year.

Trial 3: 14 Dog Novice AV Retriever Stake, Englefield Park, Tuesday 17th January 2023



Award winners and judges

Our final trial of the season was at a new ground to the Club, a 14-dog novice on the Englefield Estate by kind permission of Lord Benyon. Both our Club team of helpers and the competitors were made very welcome by Head Keeper David Wiggins and his team of guns, beaters and pickers up.

The trial consisted of three drives in woodland with varied cover and undulating ground. There was a steady flow of challenging birds shot, providing plenty of opportunity for the dogs to shine.

The temperature had dropped dramatically overnight which meant challenging scenting conditions but the competitors and their dogs all gave it their best effort. The atmosphere throughout the trial was very convivial.

Congratulations to Ellena Nunneley and Greig Paterson and thanks to our judges and all those from the estate and the Club who made the trial a success.

Working Tests in 2022

The Club's committee pooled our resources to organise and run working tests in 2022 after retiring Working Test Secretary, Sue Jordan, had kindly arranged dates, grounds and judges.

Chairman Chris, Lisa and Julia got to grips with FTMS in an administrator role, sorting out entries and the running order, and undertaking advance communication with competitors.

Lisa ran the working test days, backed up by Jane, and Belinda, who generated a list of helpers and looked after them on each test day. Colin set all the tests, judged the novice and open, and was on hand as "chief steward". Other committee members helped out at tests as required.

Thanks are due to all our judges and landowners for their generous support.

With everyone pulling together, the Club ran four successful tests. That said, we are delighted to have a new Working Test Secretary for the 2023 season and beyond. We are confident Mandy Bloomfield will be a huge benefit to the Club and committee members will be on hand to support her.

Mandy Takes the Reins for Working Tests in 2023

Our Working Test Secretary Elect, Mandy Bloomfield, has been planning our working tests for 2023, agreeing dates with fellow working test secretaries and securing grounds and judges. There is a lot more admin to come to ensure smooth running of our tests.



Mandy (pictured) writes: I am delighted to be taking on the position of Working Test Secretary.

I'd like to introduce myself: I have my own picking up team of three Labradors and two working cockers. I've taken part in working tests and I'm bringing on my youngest lab to enter more tests this year.

I gained much of my skill under the guidance of trainers such as our own committee member Colin Pelham. I began as dog trainer myself in 2007 and founded Field and Fido in 2016 to specialise in positive training methods.

I am enjoying being part of the committee. We will be running four classes of test on three dates during the spring and summer (*see pages 20 and 21*). I am looking forward to the year ahead and to meeting many of you at our tests.

Working Test Schedule for 2023

Working tests for AV Retrievers will be run under the Kennel Club J-regs to include withdrawing from a test. All enquiries to Mandy Bloomfield, Working Test Secretary, at: 7 Vine Cottages, Alfold Road, Cranleigh, GU6 8NB, tel 07827 920064; email mandy.gwgc@gmail.com.

Entry fee (all tests): Members £10; Non-members £15; Late Entries £15. No refunds after closing dates.

Novice Dog-Novice Handler & Special Puppy Working Tests

Saturday 1st April 2023

Venue: Parklands, Farnham, Surrey
By kind permission of Susette Watts

Judges: Peter Castleman
Sue Berman
Karen Handley
Liz Barnes

Trophies: NDNH 1st The Foxhanger Trophy
Special Puppy 1st The Copsey Bracken Salver
2nd The Rayleas Trophy
Highest placed puppy under 18 months,
The Roderick Award

Closing date for entries: Saturday 25th March 2023

Novice Working Test

Sunday 4th June 2023

Venue: Knaphill Manor, Chobham, Surrey
By kind permission of Mr Tom Slocock

Judges: Dave England
Lisa Murrell
Roger Wade
Diana Stevens
Alan Buckland

Trophies 1st The Entonlee Trophy
2nd The Hoopwick Trophy

Closing Date for entries: Saturday 27th May 2023

Open Working Test

Saturday 15th July 2023

Venue: *To be announced*

Judges: *To be announced*

Trophies: 1st The Challenge Cup
2nd The Rollin Shield

Closing Date for entries: Saturday 8th July 2023

Will You Lend a Hand at a Working Test?

It takes a lot of effort and a large band of helpers to put on a working test. From registering competitors, stewarding, throwing or putting out dummies and counting up scores, to selling raffle tickets, serving food and drink and helping to pack up at the end of the day.

Volunteering to help is a great way to learn about how working tests operate, or if you're an old hand, it's much appreciated if you give back to our sport by pitching in at tests where you aren't competing.



Our Event Helpers' Organiser, Belinda Bainbridge (*pictured above right*) is compiling a list of people willing to help at a working test, if YOU are, please contact her: tel. 01932 862882; email belinda.gwgc@gmail.com.

Working Test Definitions

SPECIAL PUPPY: Any dog or bitch less than 2 years old on the day of the test.

NOVICE: Any dog or bitch which has not gained a Field Trial award or 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open Working Test or 1st in a Novice Test held in accordance with Kennel Club regulations.

NOVICE DOG-NOVICE HANDLER: Neither dog nor handler to have won 1st place in any working test (affiliated or unclassified) or had any award in a Field Trial.

OPEN: Open to all.

Results for the 2022 Working Test Season

Novice Test

Saturday 9th April 2022

Venue: Knaphill Manor, Chobham, Surrey
By kind permission of Mr Tom Slocock

Judges: Colin Pelham
Barry Taylor
Liz Taylor
Paula Graystone

Awards: 1st Elkshead Skye Of Heatherbound, Lanesie Gould
The Challenge Cup
2nd Lyebreach Golden Eagle Of Riverlily, Abbie Reid
The Rollin Shield
3rd Troddenmills Incognito, Natalie Roy
COM Troddenmills If Only, Robert Small
COM Abbotsann Firefly, John Scott
COM Willowyck Brigadier Of Longcopse, Ian Hamilton

Novice Dog-Novice Handler and Special Puppy Working Tests

Sunday 8th May 2022

Venue: Prestwick Manor Farm, Chiddingfold, Surrey
By kind permission of Mr Neville Cherriman

Judges: Robert Worrall
Joy Venturi-Rose
Jean Baveystock
Beth Rayner

Novice Dog-Novice Handler Working Test

Awards: 1st Jumbi Parker, Louise Harber
The Foxhanger Trophy
2nd Troddenmills Incognito, Natalie Roy
3rd Mitforton Muir, Henny Brown
4th Wildspirit Nilla, Sam Davis
COM Berryshot Peter Pan, Robyn Buchanan

Special Puppy Working Test

Awards: 1st Braltontwist Lou Lou, Chrissie Walton
 Also, Highest Scoring Puppy under 18 Months
 2nd Gwidigada Tarapunga, Jennifer Thomas
 3rd Bill's Hazel Of Cacklebury, Bill Gardiner
 4th Wauniago Fabinio, Jason Mayhew
 COM Welige Lady Sybil Of Wight, Bryony Hamilton

Open Working Test

Saturday 23rd July 2022

Venue: Windsor Great Park
 By gracious invitation of Her Majesty the Queen
 and the Crown Commissioners

Judges: James Bailey
 Alan Buckland
 Alistair House
 Kim Jinks
 Barbara Kuen

Awards: 1st Abney Affinity, Beth Rayner
 2nd Tulleysedge My Belle Nell, Sue Jordan,
 3rd Tulleysedge Incas Gold, Sue Jordan
 4th Beetle of Buckmotts, Penny Morris
 COM Lyebreach Golden Eagle of Riverlily, Abbie Reid
 COM Valleyend Kamalane, Liz Taylor

Entering GWGC Working Tests

It is our strong preference for all working test entries to be submitted on the Field Trial Management System (FTMS) at www.fieldtrial.info and for payment to be made via PayPal.

Entries must be completed the day before the closing date because FTMS closes at midnight before the closing date.

We will accept paper entries if you cannot access FTMS in which case, to receive your running order and directions to the test, please write your email address clearly on the entry form, or if necessary enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.

2022 Working Test Reports

Lisa Murrell, Acting Working Test Secretary in 2022 writes: The word that would most accurately describe the 2022 working test season for Guildford would be “teamwork”.

Although I was acting Working Test Secretary in name, the entire committee were incredible in rallying around to make sure GWGC events went as smoothly as they had done previously.

Leading us and setting every test at all the venues was Colin. An outstanding effort from him, while goodwill of the landowners meant we were able to meet in advance at each venue, sometimes several times, to plan both the tests and organisation on the day. Teamwork on an epic scale!

At our Novice Test at Knaphill Manor, supported by Keeper Paul Stevens and Peter Buckle, we were able to put on tests to stretch the novices.



Lisa (centre) at the Open with some of the team.

Our season culminated in a magnificent Open Test at Bagshot Park, Windsor, the home of the Earl and Countess of Wessex. It was a stifling day and keeping everyone fed and watered was tricky. I had persuaded some of my South African family to make and serve the food. They happily mingled with our team of helpers to make the tests run smoothly.

The positive spirit was everything that is wonderful about our sport despite all the setbacks over the past few years.

We are so happy that Mandy has agreed to be our new Working Test Secretary and I know she will be fully supported by the committee and Club members .

Novice Test, Knaphill Manor, 9th April

Lanesie Gould writes: Guildford has a little piece of my heart because it's the first club where I had the pleasure of helping, at the novice in 2021. I'll never forget the warmth and hospitality from then WT Secretary Sue Jordan, and the kindness of Lisa Murrell at both tests and training.

I entered the 2022 novice with 43 other handlers in bleak anticipation on a day blessed by good weather. Perks included a swift and warm registration, on-site toilet, an abundance of cakes and ample parking.

Flo and I began our first test with a long mark and blind without shot at a fairly



Award winners : a first, a second and four COMs with just two points between them pictured with their judges.

tight angle. A tricky one, and a great test of marking and lining up tightly at an angle. Flo had a lovely run and we were later told she was the only dog to score 20. The second test was a two-dog walk up in long reeds and marshy cover with two marks for each dog. Flo did a lovely job and we came away with 20.

The third test, judged by Liz Taylor, was a long mark into the grass followed by a blind at around a 60 degree angle about 30 yards into the wood coppice to the right. A nice challenge to see if our dogs would take a good line through trees. Again, Flo came away with another 20.

The fourth and final test proved the most challenging for us. It turned out we weren't the only ones. A mark in woodland and bracken below a large laurel tree, and another to the right at 90 degrees falling out of sight. The first mark was a good test to see if dogs would take a nice line through bracken and fallen trunks, the second tested marking depth and nose. Flo took a little handling on both and we were docked 5 points but thankfully didn't take too long overall.



Lanesie with Flo

I thought our last performance might have put us out of the awards, so it was an amazing surprise to win. I was thrilled to bits. It was lovely to win out of novice with a club that has been so welcoming. I will never forget such a special moment for me and my first retriever.

Congratulations to my fellow award winners. A huge thank you to Tom and Paul at Knaphill Manor, the judges, the wonderful Guildford team, my superb and patient trainers Pip Williams and Louie Robertson and to Flo for being my best friend and team mate.

reports continued overleaf

Novice Dog-Novice Handler and Special Puppy Tests, Prestwick Manor Farm, 8th May



Special Puppy award winners and judges

Chrissie Walton, winner of the Special Puppy Test, writes: I left home at 7.00am with my usual trepidation. Arriving in good time, I relaxed and enjoyed the company of fellow competitors. The Club had a good number of helpers and all was well organised.

My group had test 4 first which was a two-dog walk up. We set off to a very big field. We had two retrieves, one to the right and one to the left. The grass was a little long so the dogs had to be pretty good at marking.

Test 3 was next door in the woods. It was carefully thought out to make sure the dogs had a stop whistle. A mark first, down a small track with a fallen tree trunk across it and the dummy landing the other side. We were supposed to stop our dogs but Cassie knew exactly where it was and picked. The second part was a blind down another track with the dummy placed to the left before the track curled round into a bend. Obviously, we couldn't allow our dogs to go careering off around the corner, so whistle at the ready, Cassie stopped at the marker, was directed left and picked. A good test.

The second half of the day was in a different location down a path. Test 2 was a short and a long mark in an open field. Finding the long retrieve had been proving difficult as it was against a dark background of woods and in longish grass (again well thought out). There was very little wind to help so I was delighted with Cassie who was the only dog to score full marks. I was actually grinning from ear to ear.



Chrissie and Cassie

My last was test 1, water. I knew we had done well and was extremely nervous not to mess up on our last test, which of course we did. It was a mark over water into a small opening above the far bank where the dogs could get out. Cassie did mark but she lost it getting there and ran off towards the right—I don't know why. I panicked and whistled like mad to get her back to hunt her on to the dummy. There was then a blind in the same area but

further back. Again I had to handle like mad to get her there. I was so determined not to get a zero. We achieved and got 13 (not happy). Beth Rayner, our judge for this test, did say there was very little scent and of course there had been a lot of dogs running in that area which made the ground very muddy. No excuse, I know.

Anyway, to my surprise, we had done enough to win and also to gain top scores for a puppy under 18 months. Of course I was over the moon.

It was so lovely, also the amazing comments and support I received from my fellow competitors. What special people they all were.

Louise Harber, Novice Dog-Novice Handler winner, writes: Winning this test was extra special. Guildford is my local club and the landowners Jan and Neville Cherriman are my friends.

The day started well (not) with me arriving late even though I was 10 minutes down the road. The weather was perfect: bright and sunny with a light breeze.



Novice Dog-Novice Handler award winners

My first test was quite tricky. There were two retrieves, the first dummy out was a long memory on a slight uphill slope in a field of long meadow grass. The second, at shorter distance to be retrieved first, went well. For the memory, Parker went a little off track but I soon

straightened him up. He got to the area, held it well and picked.

The second test was Parker's favourite part of the day—water. We stood a few yards from the side of a small, shallow pond. On the far side was a well-used exit point. The first retrieve landed on the far bank slightly out of sight. As usual, Parker took the most direct route which involved rejecting the exit and climbing through some bracken instead. A second retrieve was put out as a blind in the same place. At this point, Parker would have benefited from a new handler. I didn't make my directions clear and he went right-handed on our bank for a short distance. I called him back, whistle stopped and sent him across with no problem. This time he used the correct exit.

The third test was a mark and a blind. There was a mark along a narrow wooden track. The dogs had to jump or duck under a small fallen branch. Much to the

amusement of the judge and me, the first thrown dummy ended up hanging in a tree. Once thrown again, Parker retrieved it nicely with no hesitation. The blind was off to the left down a track. Parker went out, stopped on the whistle, took a left cast and made a neat job of it.

Then came my last and dreaded test, the two-dog walk-up. He didn't run in and I uncrossed my fingers. After a short walk, a left and right were thrown at long distance in long grass. The ground undulated so the handler had to mark well. We went second to retrieve on the right without a problem.



Louise and Parker

After a break, the judges announced a run-off with four dogs called up in two groups. We had a simple, long-distance mark in long grass. Parker handled this well and didn't let my nerves affect him.

My thanks go to the judges, helpers and organisers and also a big thank you to Jan and Neville Cherriman for allowing us on their ground. Congratulations to everyone in the awards.

Open Test, Windsor Great Park , 23rd July

The Open Test took place on a stifling hot day at the height of a very hot summer. When the tests were set, one of our judges, James Bailey, assessed a swim across the lake for an unseen retrieve, however, by the time the day came in our hot summer, it was a small swim and a journey across mudflats. That became the decider for a lot of competitors.



Award winners and judges

Club Rules

1. NAMES & OBJECTS

The Club shall be called Guildford Working Gundog Club. Its objects shall be to promote and encourage the training of gundogs for work in the field and to organise training classes, working tests and field trials.

2. OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

The Club shall consist of a President, Chairman, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and Field Trial Secretary, a Committee of 12 and an unlimited number of members.

3. COMMITTEE

The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the Officers of the Club and a Committee consisting of 12 members, all of whom shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election.

Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as deemed necessary and a quorum for Committee meetings shall be 5.

The Committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees as it deems necessary. The Chairman of each sub-committee shall be on the general Committee and report the sub-committee's recommendations to the general Committee.

4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Candidates for membership shall be proposed by two existing fully paid up members and approved by the Committee.

5. MEMBERSHIP LIST

The Club must maintain an up to date list of members' names and their addresses, and make the list of names available for inspection if so requested by the members of the Society or by the Kennel Club.

6. CLUB PROPERTY

The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee. In the event of the Club ceasing to exist a General Meeting shall be called to decide the disposal of the Club's assets and the outcome of the meeting notified to the Kennel Club.

The Club will obtain written acknowledgements from donors of Cups and Trophies that they are given as outright gifts to the Club.

7. CLUB ACCOUNTS

A Bank Account shall be opened in the name of Guildford Working Gundog Club into which revenue of the Club shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall be made on the Chairman, Hon Secretary and the Hon Treasurer's signatures (any two). The accounts shall be kept by the Hon Treasurer and Auditors shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting who shall audit the Club Accounts for the Annual General Meeting.

NOTE: Certification of Accounts must be carried out by one qualified accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience unconnected to the committee. The certified accounts shall be made available to members 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual Subscription and a one-off membership fee shall be such an amount as agreed by members in the General Meeting and notified to the Kennel Club. No member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions by the end of April, his or her name shall be automatically erased from the register. If a membership lapses then a new membership fee shall be required on re-joining.

9. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

Any member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Society (Club).

If the conduct of any member shall in the opinion of the Committee of the Club be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Club, the Committee of the Club 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 Club shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.

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 Club 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 condition as the Kennel Club may impose.

10. FINANCIAL YEAR/ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The financial year of the Club shall be from 1st February to 31st January. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in March.

11. GENERAL MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting shall be held for the following purposes:

- To receive and approve the report of the Chairman on the activities of the past year.
- To receive and approve the Accounts for the past year.
- To elect the officers and Committee for the ensuing year.
- To transact any other business on the Agenda.

No other business shall be transacted at the 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. Any member wishing to have any other matter placed on the Agenda must inform the Hon Secretary in writing 14 days before the date of the Meeting. Notice convening such a Meeting will be forwarded to every member not less than 28 days prior to the date of the holding of the Meeting.

A quorum for General Meetings shall be 10 (*subject to the 2023 AGM*)

12. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

A special General Meeting shall be summoned by the Hon Secretary if six members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so.

No business other than that detailed on the Agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting. The Committee is empowered to call a Special General Meeting at its discretion. The following method of notifying members of a special General meeting will apply. In writing with 14 days notice of the Meeting.

A quorum for General Meetings shall be 10 (*subject to the 2023 AGM*)

13. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Rules of the Club may not be altered except at a General Meeting, the notice for which contains specific proposals to amend the Rules.

Any proposed alteration to the Rules may not be brought into effect until the Kennel Club has been advised and approved the alteration.

14. ANNUAL RETURNS TO THE KENNEL CLUB

The officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, maintenance of Title Fee will be forwarded to the Kennel Club by the Secretary for continuance of Registration and that by 31st July each year, other returns, as stipulated in 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.

The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform the Kennel Club of any changes of Secretary of the Club which may occur during the course of the year.

15. KENNEL CLUB FINAL COURT OF APPEAL

The Kennel Club shall be the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of the Society in all cases relative to canine or Society matters.

16. The Society shall not join any Federation or Societies or Clubs.

17. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club Registered Society.

Programme of Events for Spring and Summer 2023

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Place</i>
Saturday 4th March	10am	Training	Upper Birtley, Brook, near Haslemere
Saturday 25th March	10am 12pm	Training Annual General Meeting	Hampton Estate, Myrtle's Courtyard
Saturday 1st April	9am	ND-NH and Special Puppy Tests	Parklands, Farnham
Saturday 15th April	10am	Training	Hampton Estate, Myrtle's Courtyard
Saturday 22nd April	9am	Inter-Counties Team Event	Windsor Great Park
Sunday 7th May	10am	Training	Knaphill Manor
Saturday 27th May	10am	Training	Knaphill Manor
Sunday 4th June	9am	Novice Test	Knaphill Manor
Saturday 10th June	10am	Training	Deerbridge, Elstead
Saturday 24th June	10am	Training	Deerbridge, Elstead
Friday 15th July	9am	Open Test	<i>To be announced</i>