

www.wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk Kennel Club No. 2045

Members Newsletter 2017

Wye Valley Retriever Club

Mr Luke Thompson-Coon, President	Tel: 01432 850528
Mr Terry Dukes, Vice President	Tel: 01568 797367
Mr John Jones, Vice President	Tel: 01386 700443
Mr Brian Lambert, Vice President	Tel: 01432 278331
Committee	
Mr Morton Redpath, Chairman	Tel: 01885 482211
Ms Sara Bowie, Secretary & Membership Secretary	Tel: 07971 479776
Miss Anna Yates, Treasurer	Tel: 07976 842245
Mrs Jean Tidmarsh, Training Secretary	Tel: 01432 274527
Mr Roger Wiggins, Field Trial Secretary	Tel: 01886 812653
Miss Kelly Stringfellow, Assistant Field Trial Secretary	Tel: 01886 812322
Mrs Ruth Thomas	Tel: 01886 880868
Mrs Margaret Owers	Tel: 01531 248694
Mr Tony Griffiths	Tel: 01432 350582
Mr Michael Gough	Tel: 07974 666835
Mrs Kerry Flamank	Tel: 01886 812268
Mrs Sally Worthing	Tel: 01432 851871

Dates for Your Diary 2017

Saturday 1 st April	WVRC Puppy, Novice, ND/NH, Open, Veteran Working Test
Saturday 22 nd April	Training Assessment Day at Westhide
2 nd May - 20 th June	WVRC Training - 8 week course
Thursday 25 th May	Annual General Meeting
Saturday 13 th May	WVRC Training at New House Farm
Saturday 27 th May	WVRC Training at New House Farm
Sunday 25 th June	WVRC Puppy, Novice, ND/NH, Open, Veteran Working Test
Sunday 6 th August	Herefordshire Country Fair
Saturday 22 nd July	WVRC end of term Test and Fun Day
Friday 11 th August	WVRC End of Term Annual Dinner
Sunday 11 th September	WVRC Field Trial Training Day
Friday 3 rd November	14 Dog Novice Field Trial, Dunclent

Training and Membership Fees 2017

	Adult	Couple	Junior	
Annual Membership	£10.00	£15.00	No fee	
Joining Fee	£10.00	£10.00	No fee	
Training Fee per Dog	£60.00 (Westhide/Lower Hope, 8 week course			
Training at New House Farm	£10.00 per session per dog			

Members may only handle one dog in a class. Please make sure that you attend your class with a lead, whistle (attached to a lanyard), dummy bag and poo bags. If you miss two lessons without notifying the trainer of a valid reason expect your place to be offered to someone else. There will be no refund of training fees. Please note, for our training purposes, dogs are considered to be puppies up to 18 months of age.

If you can commit to dummy throwing at a class for the whole 8 week training, your training fee will be waived - see training application form for further information.

Minimum requirement for dogs in training (at any age):

- 1. Walk to hell on a loose lead without pulling
- 2. Simple recall
- 3. Sit quietly/sit and say off the lead i.e. no noise, whining, barking or interfering with other dogs.

We recommend taking dogs to obedience classes to get the essentials.

Please also note our trainers are volunteers - any guidance or advice on gun dog training is based on their personal experiences and achievements.

WVRC Items for Sale

Please contact Mrs Jean Tidmarsh at jeantidmarsh@btinternet.com

Polo Shirt	£10.00	Sweat Shirt	£12.00
Baseball Cap	£7.50	Ties	£13.00
Ladies Scarves	£13.00		

Future Events

Dates and venues of the Wye Valley Retriever Club Working Tests are in this newsletter. The Field Trial Training Day and Field Trial(s) schedules and entry forms will be sent to members and posted on our website. Please do check the website and Facebook regularly for details of our events.

Please photocopy the entry form printed on the centre pages of this newsletter if you require more than one copy and cannot download further copies from the web site.

Membership

Another great year for the club. Thank you for all the support from our members, whether taking part in events or helping. The kind generosity from our hosts who allow us to use their land and the support from our sponsors in providing prizes allows us to run excellent training, working tests and field trials.

We welcomed lots of new members to the club last year and we now have over 300 members/joint-members, which is an amazing number, but it brings its own problems in terms of coping with the administration of those sorts of numbers. We can run an email communication to hundreds at the touch of a button, stuffing envelopes is a laborious task - and then there is the cost of postage...! If you can use email, and we do appreciate some can't, please let us have your email address.

I hope you all have a successful 2017, whatever you are doing with your dogs! Sara Bowie - Membership Secretary

Chairman's Report

I met a fellow Chairman this season, after a pleasant chat it became apparent he was more than the Chairman. I looked at their web site when I returned home and to my surprise I discovered he was also the Secretary of the club and Retriever Field Trial Secretary. The other committee member is the Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Spaniel Field Trial Secretary and that got my thinking.... how lucky we are as a club.

This year there has been a number of changes within the club, what has not changed is the unique ability of the committee to continue to adapt to an environment that remains challenging and respond in a manner that reflects our enthusiasm and experience. Well done committee your doing a great job! It is impossible to emphasise our gratitude to our committee who give so much of their time to support us all.

Our very many thanks: To trainers who voluntarily gave up their time and wisdom Thank you also to those who threw dummies and helped the trainers during the classes. We rely on volunteers giving their time generously for the enjoyment of every one. On behalf of the members that attended training at the Wye Valley Retriever Club, great appreciation must go to Clive and Sylvia Richard's at Lower Hope and Mr Luke Thompson Coon at Westhide for allowing us to use their ground. I say this every year and I will say it again, 'we are very lucky to have this kind offer'

I would like to thank Roger and Claire Raymond for inviting the club to hold their end of term team test and training days on their ground again. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Ron Treverton Jones at Lulsley and Martyn Cook for inviting the Club to hold our working tests and field trial training day on their ground.

Our appreciation must also go to Mr. and Mrs. Michael & Jane Gough for their very generous offer of our Novice Field Trial. Equally our appreciation goes to Lord & Lady Dulverton for their very generous offer of a Novice Field Trial. Thank you to Mathew Farmer, the Keeper at Batsford who has also made us all feel so very welcome on more than one occasion.

This year after many years Roger Wiggins steps down as Working Test Secretary, an enormous amount of work and effort as some of you will know. On behalf of us all who enjoy a good working test, thank you Roger for all that you have done over the years. We now have a new Working Test Secretary some of you will know, Kerry Flamank has volunteered to take on this exiting role and as always we shall be looking for stewards, throwers and helpers, if you would like to help please telephone Kerry.

I'm assuming that those of who enjoy the shooting season as much as I do have had a good season and ready for training and working tests ahead? So there is only one thing to say which is that I look forward to seeing you and good luck. Morton Redpath - Chairman



The Club has had a good year financially and again we have managed to add to our reserves. If, however, we exclude the purchase of the defibrillator from last year's accounts, our excess of income over expenditure for regular items is significantly reduced by comparison to 2015/6.

Income from Membership and Joining remains fairly steady but our working tests have produced a smaller profit than last year (although still more than the year before that). In common with all clubs, getting people out to events is getting harder. We ran another successful day of scurries at the Hereford Country Fair (well done Jean and her team!). Our trainers now find it impossible to commit to the number of training sessions offered in previous years. This is quite understandable - there are so many pressures on people's time now. It has meant the income from training is very reduced, although the jumping training kindly put on by Claire and the extra practice sessions run after formal training had finished have helped to make up some of the shortfall. We have extremely generous landowners in Lord and Lady Dulverton and Michael & Jane Gough who donate our field trials, keeping the cost of running the two trials to a minimum. Thank you very much indeed to them.

Some things, like insurance, continue to go up. Wherever possible we have kept our expenditure to a minimum and continue to consider all costs carefully. The audited accounts will be presented at the AGM. Any member who wishes to see them prior to the AGM can send me an SAE and they will be sent a copy a couple of weeks prior.

I hope you all have a successful 2017, whatever you are doing with your dogs!



Anna Yates, Treasurer

Secretary's Report

Another busy year for us all, with successful training and well run, busy and well attended working tests and field trials. The club has an excellent reputation which is due to the hard work and commitment of the members, volunteers and committee. The end of term test and subsequent meal were great fun and a great opportunity to meet other club members, make new friends and catch up with old ones.

Helping at tests and field trials is also an excellent way to feel part of the club without the nerves of competing and it gives you a bird's eye view of how it all works. Game carrying is the best job at a field trial - you get to be up with the judges, listening to comments, watching amazing dogs do what they do best, without any stress, plus you get a great lunch and a bottle of wine to boot!! Why not come along and try it? We always need help and we're a friendly bunch!!

In the meantime, hope you are all enjoying your dogs, whatever you are doing with them and look forward to seeing you out and about next year!

Sara Bowie, Secretary

Field Trial and Working Test Secretary's Report

During 2016 the Wye Valley Retriever Club held three working tests, one field trial training day, and two Field trials.

The first working test was held at Westhide, by kind permission of Mr Luke Thompson-Coon. Although entries were a slight down on the previous yearnever the less we had a very enjoyable day thanks to our band of helpers and the four judges who gave up their time to officiate.

The second working test was held at Lulsley by kind permission of Mr Ron Treverton Jones. Once again entries were down on but again the day was a great success.

Our Chairman, Morton Redpath and Julia Rudland ran the day in my absence with our band of helpers and the four judges, who gave up their time to make a success of the day.

For the Third working test we went back to Westhide with thanks again to Mr Luke Thompson-Coon, a busy, productive day, with a good time had by both judges and competitors.

Roger Wiggins - Field Trial & Working Test Secretary



How do you start Picking Up?

Most shoots have a regular team of people who attend all season long and may have been going to that shoot for a number of years. For a small shoot which has perhaps 8-12 days a year, this is an ideal situation for the shoot manager to deal with, but for someone looking to start picking-up, this is not necessarily the place to go looking. Pickers-up on smaller shoots can be fearfully protective of their "territory" and will guard it jealously.

On a large estate where there may be 30 - 40 days shooting, the situation is somewhat more complex. These shoots are likely to be more commercial with days sold to teams of guns from home and abroad. Such shoots will require a much larger pool of pickers-up in order to cope with the demands of that number of days. Not many people can commit to be out 3 days a week to any given shoot, so there may be an opportunity for a new picker-up to fill in.

A picker-up attends a shoot for one purpose and one purpose only – to cover the ground behind the guns to ensure that dead, and in particular wounded game birds, are collected and quickly dispatched humanely. Apart from the welfare perspective, there is also the financial aspect; guns pay for their day according to the number of birds shot, so every single one counts. If you go picking up, you have to give value for money. Find one bird that would otherwise have been missed and you've paid your way, but you've still got to find that one, and if the keeper goes round the next day and finds half a dozen dead pheasants where you were picking-up, he is not going to be impressed with your abilities!





Wye Valley Retriever Club Spring Test

Sunday May 14th saw our first working test of the season, held at Westhide, by kind permission of Mr Luke Thompson Coon. Our judges were Mike Larkin, Morton Redpath, Julia Redpath and Matthew Farmer.

Field Trial and Working Test Secretary Roger Wiggins was in charge of the day, our judges stewards were Jean Tidmarsh, Kelly Stringfellow (also in charge of catering), Margaret Owers, Shelley Basford, Chris Peers. Dummy throwers during the day were Sue Goring, Bernard Pound, Mick Downes, Paul Egginton, Terry Dukes, Ben Goring, Tony Griffiths and Liz Griffiths.

Test 1 was judged by Morton and was a hunting exercise, where dogs were asked to hunt an area of rising woodland and pick 2 out of 3 'birds'. Morton felt some handlers imposed too much control over their dogs - he was looking for dogs that will hunt an area with pace and natural ability, with minimal commands.

Test 2 was judged by Julia and was down a track alongside the lake. Dogs had to retrieve a 'wounded bird' over a small fence and then, as they returned, the 'gun' at the side of the lake shot a further 'bird' that dropped into the lake. This was to be retrieved after the first 'bird' had been safely delivered to hand. The main problem with this test was the significant number of dogs that put the 'bird' down after the water rather than delivering to hand. After the presentation at the end, Julia urged competitors to get to grips with problems like this and do something to sort them out!

Test 3 was a 2-dog walk-up with Matthew across a large field away from a wood. A 'bird' was shot up front, but the first dog was required to retrieve an unseen behind in the wood, over a small fence, before the second dog retrieved the marked bird. They then swapped over.

Test 4 was judged by Mike and was a mark followed by a blind in the same area across some newly cleared and replanted woodland for the novices and novice dog/novice handlers, and a single blind to shot for the open. Mike commented that this was not a hard exercise but a number of dogs lacked the pace that comes from confidence. He suggested that handlers practice this type of exercise more.

The tests were tacked by novice dogs and novice dog/novice handlers in the morning and then open dogs in the afternoon, distances appropriately adjusted for the various levels.

Luke Thompson Coon presented the awards, which gave us all the opportunity to thank him for his generosity in allowing us to use his estate for the competition. The club also presented bottles of wine to those who had helped stewarding or dummy throwing during the day as a thank you - committee excepting of course, we just do it for a smile!!

Thank you again to all the helpers - those that came early and put up the tents and helped set up, those that stewarded, threw dummies, helped with catering in all its forms and those that stayed afterwards to take down the tents and pack up. We can't put on competitions without you!

And thank you too to our sponsors, Skinners.

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 st	Glasvbont Greek God Athena	LR/B	Richard Price
2 nd	Lamazing Melba of Glasvbont	LR/B	Richard Price
3 rd	Kestrelwav Bertie	LR/D	Laurie Pittawav
4 th	Swiftlands Dora	LR/B	Ellena Nunnelev
СоМ	Pajanbeck Heaven Can Wait	FCR/B	Paul Egginton
СоМ	Hasycott Hero	LR/D	Ben Goring
СоМ	Wvenor Discoverv	LR/D	Laraine Goodwin
СоМ	Glasybont Wigeon's Wink	LR/D	Richard Price

RESULTS - NOVICE

RESULTS - NOVICE DOG / NOVE HANDLER

Sadly no awards could be made.

RESULTS - OPEN

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 ST	Stykes Boy Graig Ddu	LR/B	P Clark
2 nd	Vamp Pipsissewa	GR/D	Andv Fisher
3 rd	Kaliture Rooster	GR/D	Andv Fisher
4 th	Luisenga Highland Lad	LR/D	Paul Hobbs
СоМ	Kaliture Finn	GR/D	Lucv Mixture
CoM	Cassie of Meaburn by Trefoel	LR/B	Kevin Lewis
СоМ	Movenne Hermea	LR/D	Laraine Goodwin
CoM	Callowhill May of Glasybont	LR/B	Richard Price

Wye Valley Retriever Club June Test

Venue: - Ravenhill Court, Lulsley, Worcestershire By kind permission of Mr. Ron Treverton-Jones Judges: Glynis Caldwell, Sandra Onens, Killy Pennell, Tyrone Axford Venue: - Ravenhill Court, Lulsley, Worcestershire

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RESULTS - NOVICE

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 st	Movenne Simba	LR/D	Claire Ravmond
2 nd	Hassvcott Sea Spirit	LR/B	Jean Fisher
3 rd	Buffskin Zelda of Alvonoak	LR/B	Val Emms
4 th	Kestrelwav Bertie	LR/D	Laurie Pittawav
СоМ	The Granite King of Jenbull	LR/D	Carolyn Jenkins
СоМ	Wvenor Discoverv	LR/D	Laraine Goodwin
СоМ	Gooseberry Hill Gus	LR/D	T G Dowman
СоМ	Roxhart Menewa	LR/D	Val Emms

RESULTS - PUPPY

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 st	Castleman Soul Man	GR/D	Adrian Phillips
2 nd	Willowyck Harry	LR/D	Miss E Davis
3 rd	Hawkegarth Colorado of Wickmoor	LR/D	Mr G Lambert
4 th	Manormvnd Vision of Wickmoor	LR/B	Miss M Cox
СоМ	Fordbank Oaksev	LR/D	Paul Green
СоМ	Constanigree Shooting Star	LR/B	Nick Swan
СоМ	Highwalk Kildare of Elliias	LR/D	Simon Elliott
СоМ	Katsari Meadow Charm	LR/B	D. J. Morris

RESULTS - OPEN

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 ST	Wyenor Golden Delicious	LR/B	Nicky Waddington
2 nd	Frizelwood Emony	GR/B	Simon Pullen
CoM	Paid In Full	LR/D	Robert Fisher
CoM	Movenne Dark Knight	LR/D	Sallv Worthing







Wye Valley Retriever Club July Test

Venue: - Westhide Estate, Herefordshire By kind permission of Mr Luke Thompson-Coon Judges: Simon Elliott, Norman Onens, Laurie Pittaway, Richard Price

Sponsored by Skinners

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 st	The Granite King of Jembull	LR/D	Carolyn Jenkins
2 nd	Buffskin Zelda of Alvonoak	LR/B	Val Emms
3 rd	Mundyz Joker at Bardantop	LR/D	Chris Guest
4 th	Roxhart Minewa of Alvonoak	LR/D	Val Emms
СоМ	Dashbrook Nimrod	LR/D	Rufus Ulvet
СоМ	Dealminster Herald	LR/D	Sonia Skinner
СоМ	Kilpen Casanova	LR/D	Killy Pennell
СоМ	Shuttifield Hope	LR/B	Angela Judge

RESULTS - NOVICE

RESULTS - INTERMEDIATE

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 st	Killvrudden Mousa	LR/B	Miss E. Davis
2 nd	Tan-y-Rhallt Clorin	LR/D	Val Oakley
3 rd	Dallagill Bluebell with Overmarsh	LR/B	Wendy Manning
4 th	Hickorvwood Heart of Gold	GR/B	Annette Shearman
СоМ	Maderablanca Amarillo	LR/D	Stephen Le Voi
СоМ	Movenne Hermes	LR/D	Laraine Goodwin
СоМ	Cleodale Alyssa	FCR/B	Christine Robertson

RESULTS - PUPPY

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 st	Constanigree Shooting Star	LR/B	Nick Swan
2 nd	Katsari Meadow Charm	LR/B	Johny Morris
3 rd	Willowyck Harry	LR/D	Miss E. Davis
4 th	Ladvshot Sapphire of Thriftwood	GR/B	Sue Parkes

RESULTS - VETERAN

	Name of Dog	Breed/Sex	Handler
1 st	Chandkelan Lysander Luke	LR/D	Sacha Treadwell
2 nd	Chandkelan Fritha Rose	LR/B	Kelly Stringfellow



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End of Term Test and Fun Day

Thank you Claire and Roger for hosting us again, and to all the judges, dummy throwers, helpers who helped on the day or came in the previous days/early on the day/stayed on afterwards to help set up/take down, and everyone who brought a cake. Thank you to everyone for coming with your dogs and a good sense of humour so the day was indeed a fun day.

As in previous years the dogs were put into teams, each of which comprised of dogs from each of the class levels. Tests that one might expect to see at a normal working test were tackled in the morning and then, after a hog roast lunch, everyone set off again for fun tests - dummy throwing, teddy hunting and, of course, a sausage race! The judges were Terry Dukes, Frank Wright, Iris Wright, and Richard Price.

Team Competition



1st: Team "Purdey"

2nd: Team "Beretta"



3rd: Team "Remington"

4th: Team "Browning"

Individual Results

Foundation:	1 st Robert Hankins, Ash, 2 nd Nicola Pointer, Fleur.	
Puppy:	1st Nick Swan, Purdy, 2 nd Shelley Basford, Rosie, 3 rd Jean Tidmarsh,	
	Blizzard, 4 th Nick Eden, Megan, CofM David Coode, Warra.	
Novice:	1 st Ben Goring, Cooper, 2 nd Chris Peers, Flynn, 3 rd Helen Parker, Toby,	
	4 th Peter Drake, Panda, CofMs Jetta Hawkins, Rossi, Michael Gough,	
	Panda, Anna Yates, Thursday, Ruth Tomas, Tessa, Charlotte Drake,	
	Hubs, Honor Brinton, Skye.	
Open:	1 st Julia Redpath, Grace, 2 nd Morton Redpath, 3 rd Nick Swan, Marta,	
	4 th Laraine Goodman, Monty, CofM Shelley Basford, Perri.	
0	1st Julia Dadaath Graan 2nd Dan Caring Cooper 2rd Niels Swan Durdy	

Overall score: 1st Julia Redpath, Grace, 2nd Ben Goring, Cooper, 3rd Nick Swan, Purdy Best "Minority": 1st Chris Peers, Flynn, 2nd Peter Drake, Panda, 3rd Anna Yates, Thursday.





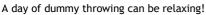


Anxiously waiting....

Here she comes...

And a safe delivery!







Team "Remington" at Richard's test



Team Beretta at Frank's test



Team "Browning" at Richard's test



Concentration...



A brief moment of pause!



A day of dummy throwing can be peaceful!



Rob taking time out from throwing (with Broden)



Cooper gets into the spirit of the teddy hunt!



Teddy mayhem!



"Anyone say there was a sausage on offer?"



Warra has her eyes on the prize



Nick trying to outrun Thursday to the sausage?!



Trust a "Chocolate" to put the F in Fun!!!



Sara announces the prize winners at the end of the day





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End of Term Dinner

The dinner was held earlier than usual in July rather than August. The venue was the same at The Grove Golf Course. About sixty members and their guests sat down to a delicious meal. The committee produced a few tasks including anagrams of pub names to keep the occupants of each table focused between courses.

After the meal the awards were handed out. This included winners of the club puppy, novice and open tests. Finally the progress awards were given to a handler from each of the classes by the class trainer.





Hereford Country Fair 2016

The fair was held on the first Sunday in August at Caradoc by kind permission of Patrick Darling.

The club was involved in the two scurries which is always very competitive. A number of club members man the scurries and the booking desk. The weather was perfect which encouraged a large number of dogs and handlers at each scurry.

The club also helped to organise the Fun Dog Show. This show encouraged a number of children to show their pets in a variety of classes.

Can You Help?

COME AND JOIN OUR BAND OF MERRY HELPERS - help is always needed at our events and you could join us in making these enjoyable for all. We offer a free lunch and a bottle of wine at most events if you volunteer as a steward, dummy thrower, tea maker etc. Do please contact any of the committee members, whose details are on page 1 of the newsletter. It's a good way of getting to know everyone and make friends in the club, plus the chance to watch the dogs work and maybe pick up some hints. PLEASE get in touch soon and let us know when you can help.



I first joined the club in 2011 with my Labrador, Acer. I had owned Labradors in the past but Acer was my first dog to take me into the world of gundogs.

We took part in Roger's Foundation class, which we both enjoyed and learned lots together. Since then we've enjoyed the competition of Working Tests and Acer's favourite, picking up.

I joined the Committee in 2016 and, following Roger's retirement from the role of Working Test Secretary, I have offered to take on this position. I would like to thank Roger for all that he has done, providing us with a great variety of Tests in his many, many years as Working Test Secretary. I shall endeavour to carry on Roger's good work and look forward to seeing you and your dogs at our future Tests.

In addition, I will also be looking into updating our website and keeping you informed of news and events.

Kerry Flamank - Committee Member

Wye Valley Retriever Club Novice Field Trial

On the 3rd November 2016 we held our Novice Trial at Dunclent, near Kidderminster by kind permission of Mr Mrs Michael Gough. Once again thanks to a few loyal helpers and the Judges, we had a very successful day. At this point I must thank Kelly Stringfellow for all her help and assistance with the administration and many other tasks, she undertook so willingly.



Happy helpers!



Judges discussion

Wye Valley Retriever Club All Aged Field Trial

On the 15th December 2016 the Wye Valley Retriever Club held an All Aged Field Trial, it was held at Batsford near Moreton in Marsh by kind permission of Lord and Lady Dulverton and their Game Keeper Matthew Farmer who was instrumental in getting Lord Dulverton to allow us to have a Field Trial and to donate the game. The day started early, I picked up Steve Prosser at 6.30am as we had to get all of the signs in position by 7.45am, so we could meet the 4 Judges and Matt and Nick (Keepers) for breakfast at the Lygon Arms Chipping Campden. We met at Boram Farm. Once all the procedures were complete we moved off to Rook Hill. All the dogs were divided between the two pairs of Judges. Matthew, the Keeper, produced some very testing birds for the guns, who shot very well. The second drive was the Populars which produced Patridge and Pheasants, once again the guns shot very well with enough game to complete the trial. Prior to the awards being presented, gifts for the host and Game Keeper were presented. Matthew replied on behalf of himself and Lord and Lady Dulverton followed by a bottle of wine presented to the helpers and a big thank you for their help. Once the awards were presented in reverse order it was time to clear up, collect signs and make our way home not before we called at the Beaters hut for a very welcoming hot lunch provided by Mrs Jean Tidmarsh. Last but not least thanks again to Kelly Stringfellow for all her help before and on the day.



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Field Trial Training Day

The training day was held at Lulsley by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Cook. Due to the very wet spell on the Thursday and Friday, Mr Ron Treverton Jones kindly allowed the club to pitch our tents and park the vehicles on his land. The day was a busy one with training on walking up in the morning and a mock test in the afternoon which gave everyone a good insight into a Field Trial and it was obvious to all that all the dogs benefitted from the morning training. Love to see happy dogs doing what they do best! Thanks, as always, to the two judges/instructors and all our loyal helpers.

