



www.wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk

Kennel Club No. 2045

Newsletter 2023



Kennel Club Reg 2045

Welcome to your 2023 edition of the Wye Valley Retriever Club Newsletter. Thank you once again to my husband, Robin Peers, without whose help with the newsletter I could not have put this newsletter together.

We do hope you find the Newsletter informative and interesting. We have aimed to give information about the Club, information about the events the Club is planning for 2023 and the events which took place in 2022.

I hope you have all had a good year training, working and trialling your dogs. Just when we thought things were returning to some sort of normality after Covid, Avian Flu has started to spread. This has been a huge blow to poultry farmers, smallholders and even people with a few hens in the garden. It has also affected Field Trials and shooting. Many shoots have been forced to close due to lack of birds or to reduce the risks of the spread of the disease. We hope that this situation will improve in 2023.

I hope you have still been able to get out with your dogs. I know many of us have missed out on working their dogs and I'm sure the dogs are missing it as much as their handlers.

The Newsletter is issued free to all our members registered for the year 2022 to 2023 - our membership year runs from 1st February each year – and to new members joining in 2023.

The Committee wishes our members, their families and their dogs a happy and healthy 2023.

Chris Peers – Secretary

Wye Valley Retriever Club Committee 2023

Mr Luke Thompson-Coon - President
Mr Terry Dukes - Vice President
Mr Michael Gough – Chairman
Mrs Veronica Harris – Vice Chairperson
Mrs Christine Peers - Secretary
Mrs Nicola Pointer – Treasurer/Membership Secretary
Mrs Anna Crampton - Field Trial/Working Test Secretary
Mr Sean McGrath- Training Secretary
Mrs Sarah Akehurst
Mrs Jean Tidmarsh
Mr Morton Redpath
Mr Steve Lax
Mr Tony Griffiths

Dates for Your Diary 2023

Saturday 1 April	Working Test at Monnington on Wye – Novice Dog/Novice Handler, Veteran and Novice
Thursday 4 May	Annual General Meeting to be held at the Plough Inn, Stoke Lacy at 7.30pm
Tuesday 2 May-20 June	Training at Westhidge – 8 week course
Sunday 18 June	Guest trainer Mel Brooks. For detail email info@wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk marked for the attention of Sean McGrath
Tuesday 27 June	End of Term Test & Fun Day. Westhidge
Saturday 1 July	Working Test at Weobley – Puppy, Special Puppy and Open
Friday 11 August	End of Term Annual Dinner

Tuesday 5th and
Tuesday 19th September

Walk-up Training days on dummies

Friday 10 November

Novice Field Trial at Dunclent. Details to be confirmed.

The dates and venues will be posted on our website so please look at our website for the latest information.

The Field Trial schedules and entry forms will be sent to members and posted on our website and Facebook.

Please do check the website and Facebook regularly for details of our events. There is an entry form for working tests printed on the centre pages of this newsletter. If you require further copies, please photocopy it or download it from our website.

Social Media and Website

Wye Valley Retriever Club are on Facebook. We regularly update our Facebook site with posts containing news, reports, photos and requests. Please visit us and like our posts and photos.

Wye Valley Retriever Club have a website

www.wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk

You will find on our website

- a brief history of the Club
- information on forthcoming working tests and field trials including entry forms and schedules
- Conditions of Entry for our working tests and field trials
- results of working tests and field trials
- our Data Protection and Privacy Notice
- membership application form and standing order form
- our Rules and Regulations
- our Health and Safety Policy and Risk Assessment

We hope you will take a few moments to visit our website and use it as a source of valuable information about the Club.

Contact Us

Wye Valley Retriever Club can be contacted by email at:

info@wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk

One of our Committee will be pleased to respond to your emails.

If you are unable to email us or unable to access information on our Facebook site and website, please phone our Secretary (01432 860584) and we can arrange to get you the information you require.

Membership Fees 2023

	Single	Joint	Junior
Annual Membership	£10.00	£15.00	No fee
Joining Fee	£10.00	£10.00	No fee
Training Fee per Dog	£60.00	(8 week course)	

Membership application forms for new members and membership renewal application forms for existing members are available on our website www.wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk under the heading Forms.

Training Courses 2023

Wye Valley Retriever Club will be holding their usual training classes again in 2023 for handlers and their dogs. Our experienced trainers aim to give help, guidance and advice individually to dog handlers who want to improve the way they interact with their dogs, whether for picking up, competing in working tests and field trials or just for fun. Training takes place in small groups of up to eight arranged in accordance with ability – puppy (up to 18 months old at the end of the course), foundation, intermediate, novice, and open.

Our trainers are volunteers and the guidance and advice they give for gun dog training is based on their personal experiences and achievements.

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. We reserve the right to offer your training place to someone else if you miss two lessons without notifying your trainer of a valid reason. There will be no refund of training fees.

Please see the training application form for further information. Minimum requirement for dogs in training are as follows:

- Walk to heel on a loose lead without pulling
- Simple recall
- Sit quietly/sit and stay off the lead – i.e. no noise, whining, barking or interfering with other dogs.

We recommend taking dogs to obedience classes to attain this standard.

Training classes take place at Westhide Estate, about five miles north east of Hereford. Please contact us if you need directions.

The classes run for eight weeks on Tuesday evenings from 2 May to 20 June at Westhide – an eight week course. The classes will take place at 4.30 to 6.00pm and 6.30 to 8.00pm.

There will be an End of Term Test and Fun Day for those who have completed training on Tuesday 27 June.

Please let us know if you want to take part in our training classes. You can contact us by emailing our Training Secretary. You will be made most welcome and we are sure you will find the classes enjoyable and instructive.

Chairman's Report

The Club is fortunate to have a loyal and dedicated committee working to ensure our training, working tests and trials are well planned, well run and enjoyable for all. The Committee Members volunteer their time and expertise throughout the year and we are extremely grateful for all the help they give the Club.

The trainers for our training courses for handlers and their dogs work voluntarily and give us their time to impart their expertise. They help every dog handler who wants to improve the way they interact with their dogs, whether for picking up, competing in working tests and field trials or just for fun. Thank you to all our trainers and to the army of dummy throwers who have made our training courses such a success in 2022.

We look forward to our 2023 training courses. We are sure our 2023 trainers and their helpers will provide valuable help to improve your work with your dogs.

The Club is very privileged to have had access to some very beautiful estates and farmland for training and to host tests and trials in 2022 and I'm pleased to say that this will again be the case for 2023.

Our venue for training in the summer of 2022 was the Westhide Estate by kind invitation of our President - Luke Thompson Coon. I would like to thank Luke for generously allowing us to use his land and for his overall enthusiasm and support for the Club. I'm very pleased to say that Luke has kindly offered the use of Westhide Estate again for our training course in 2023.

In 2022 we held two Working Tests at Lulsley and Manor Farm as well as our Novice Field Trial on my ground at Dunclent. I thoroughly enjoyed hosting you. On 16 January 2023 we held a Field Trial at the Batsford Estate, Moreton-in-Marsh, by the kind invitation of Lord and Lady Dulverton and with the help of Matthew Farmer, the Keeper at the estate. We have thoroughly enjoyed our tests and trials on these beautiful estates. The Club offers its thanks to Lord and Lady Dulverton and Matthew for your generosity and enthusiasm for the Club.

A huge amount of thanks must go to Sarah Akehurst who organised and managed the Working Tests with her band of helpers and to Anna Crampton for organising the Field Trials with her band of helpers. Your hard work made the days at the tests and trials a complete joy for everyone.

Our Club requires a large number of volunteers to run it and to organise and help with its events - the working tests and field trials, training, social gatherings and meetings - so that it can continue to provide training and Kennel Club registered events for the gundog community. I hope that members and others who read this Newsletter may like to volunteer as committee members, trainers or helpers to take the Club forward into 2023. See the note on page 27 for details of how to help.

I hope you all have a good season and that you are ready for training and working tests and field trials ahead. I look forward to seeing you all. Good luck.

Michael Gough – Chairman

Treasurer's Report

The Club's accounting year runs from 1 February 2022 to 31 January 2023 in order to cover the shooting season. The Club currently has a healthy reserve of funds which are considered adequate to cover any foreseeable expenses. Details of the accounts to 31 January 2023 will be published at the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Plough Inn, Stoke Lacy at 7.30pm on Thursday 4 May.

Our thanks go to the land owners who generously allow us access to their land to hold our events, enabling us to keep our costs to a minimum.

The Club has continued to support charities approved by the Committee. During 2022, the Club made donations to The Blue Cross, IFAW and Woofstock who have done a wonderful job in helping the animals in the Ukraine, and also to The Gamekeepers' Welfare Trust,

The Club has once again increased its membership during the year. We have approximately 340 members during 2022. We hope that everyone has enjoyed the events that have been put on by members of the Committee and the Club.

Membership application forms for new members and membership renewal application forms for existing members are available on our website www.wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk under the heading Forms. We would prefer membership payments to be made by Standing Order and therefore a Standing Order Mandate Form is included on the membership forms.

We have started to receive new applications which is promising for the coming year, and it is always lovely to see new faces at the tests and trials.

Wishing you all a prosperous 2023.

Nicola Pointer – Treasurer



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Working Test Secretary's Report

Wye Valley Retriever Club's first working test of 2022 was for A.V. Retriever - Special Puppy, Veteran & Novice at Ravenhill Court, Lulsley, Worcestershire. Held on Saturday 30th April, a cool, damp, slightly icy morning gave way to lovely spring sunshine showing off Mr Ron Treverton-Jones's lovely grounds at their best.

Our competitors always say how much they enjoy the venue. Thank you, Ron for hosting us again. We really loved having you with us on the day too.

Our judges Karen McCarthy, Debbie Polley, Dave Godding and Julian Price set great tests and were very supportive of the competitors. I greatly appreciated all their help and advice on the day.

Results – Special Puppy

	Name of Dog	Handler
1 st	Lucky Lupin	Shane Price
2 nd	Constangree Seren Star	Nick Swan
3 rd	Flomoor Foxglove	Rachael Pugh-Lewis
4 th	Llangunwood Cascade	Barney Williams

Results - Veteran

	Name of Dog	Handler
1 st	Frizelwood Emony	Simon Pullin
2 nd	Stykes Boy Llangynidr	Hayden Willmott
3 rd	Chandenkelian Bullitt Star	Nick Swan



Special Puppy and Veteran Winners with the Judges – Working Test at Lulsley on 30 April

Results - Novice

	Name of Dog	Handler
1 st	Kensteen Soft Whispers of Flomoor	Rachael Pugh-Lewis
2 nd	Zandawn Tresady	Carolyn Jenkins
3 rd	Flomoor Foxglove	Rachael Pugh-Lewis
4 th	Lucky Lupin	Shayne Price



Novice Winners with the Judges – Working Test at Lulsley on 30 April

Saturday 23rd July 2022 saw the WVRC. holding its AV Retriever - Puppy, Junior Handler, Novice Dog/Novice Handler & Open Working Test at Manor Farm in the beautiful Cotswolds. The Club would like to say a huge thank you to Charlotte and Tim Earnshaw for the privilege of holding the event on their wonderful grounds. We really appreciated the opportunity to compete at a new venue.

After a period of searingly hot weather causing the cancellation of a few working tests, it was a huge relief that the day dawned on a cooler note. By the afternoon a few were asking for jackets as the wind on the higher pieces of ground was making them chilly!

It was great to have a Junior Handler present. Alfie Neale with Rybrae Royal Redman put in a valiant effort and I feel sure will have learnt loads from the experience.

Our 50 competitors and 66 dogs enjoyed their day, our stewards did brilliantly, keeping everyone moving efficiently.

Our judges were Barry Taylor, Reuben Mort, Helen Goodwin & Julia Redpath. Thank you so much for your hard work and great tests.

Results - Puppy

	Name of Dog	Handler
1 st	Penpadrig Kate of Llangynidr	Nigel Probert
2 nd	Tannbow Kieta of Llangynidr	Nigel Probert
3 rd	Withyrose Islay of Llangynidr	Nigel Probert
4 th	Laborie Mashai	Cherry Smith
C of M	Greyhill Velvet at Bucksbrow	Sid Davis
C of M	Greyhill Vanilla	Julian Morgan
C of M	Swiftlands Avenger	Tony Orchard



Puppy winners – Working Test Manor Farm 23 July

Results – Novice Dog / Novice Handler

	Name of Dog	Handler
1 st	Sintonsand Slingsby	Izzy Riley
2 nd	Thalia Aphrodite	James McKenzie
3 rd	Pollgina Editoo Spook	Annabelle Dodd
C of M	Maperton Poetic License	Robert Philpott



Novice Dog Novice Handler winners – Working Test Manor Farm 23 July

Results - Open

	Name of Dog	Handler
1 st	Hawksthorn Explorer	Lisa Harris
2 nd	FTCH Stauntonvale Lemon Posset	Laura Hill
3 rd	Constanigree Shooting Sta	Nick Swan
C of M	Etomanni Ludo of Corsemalzie	Carol Probert
C of M	Fletchingly Glencoe	Nessa Gilham
C of M	OFTW Omachie Jock Scott	David Thomas



Open winners – Working Test Manor Farm 23 July



Junior Handler Alfie Neale with Rybrae Royal Redman - Working Test Manor Farm 23 July

Working Tests cannot take place without all the people who volunteer to help with the tasks needed to make the day a success. Thank you to all of those who helped me with both days. I do appreciate it very much. I am so fortunate to be a part of a great team in the form of the Club Committee. I must also thank our cake makers for keeping up the Club's excellent reputation for great cakes.

Thank you to our sponsors Skinners and JTAC-K9 for their prizes this year.

I am retiring as Working Test Secretary this year and am grateful to Anna Crampton for taking over the role. Thank you to all of those who have supported me during my tenure by volunteering to help and to Julia Redpath for doing all the heavy lifting of finding judges & setting tests.

Sarah Akehurst - Working Test Secretary

Field Trial Secretary's Report

This is my second season being a field trial secretary and if I thought perhaps people were only so brilliant with their help last year because I was new, I need not have worried. Our club is just amazing. My very grateful thanks again to everyone who has stepped forward to help at our trials, often without having to be asked. And the atmosphere at Dunclent in November showed that trialling and helping at a trial can be a really enjoyable day!

We are very fortunate indeed to have two very supportive landowners, Michael and Jane Gough at Dunclent, and Lord and Lady Dulverton at Batsford. This year has been particularly difficult for shoots so we are even more grateful to them for allowing us to have trials on their ground this season. Our grateful thanks go to them, and their keepers who work so hard for us.

Thank you too to our judges and guns, and to Skinners for their continuing support.

Well done to the winners of all our trophies. We added a new trophy to both the novice and open trials this year; each now has a John Jones Memorial Trophy for the best retrieve of the trial (whether in the awards or not). John was such a mentor to so many. These trophies help us to remember him every time we run a trial and these trophies are awarded.

Last year I was keeping my fingers crossed we would not be having to deal with Covid issues this year. This year I am keeping my fingers crossed we are not still having to deal with Avian Flu issues next season. I look forward to a normal year...

Anna Crampton – Field Trials Secretary

Dunclent Novice Field Trial 4th November 2022

Winner & Best Retrieve: Shadowed Rose Of Hintonbreeze, owned and handled by Lee Burdett
(Labrador Retriever bitch, born 26/09/2016, by Kilve Roamer ex Bess Pool, bred by S Frampton)

2nd Place & Guns' Choice: Castletioram Caledonia At Quingrave, owned and handled by Stephen Newitt
(Labrador Retriever bitch, born 04/10/2018, by FtCh. Kestrelway Freddie ex Castletioram Bonnie, bed by I Macdonald)

3rd Place: LLangunwood Cascade, bred, owned and handled by Barney Williams
(Labrador Retriever bitch, born 12/10/2020, by Drakeshead Drew Of Llangynidr ex Llangunwood Storm)



Our prize winners and the judges, with our host Michael Gough

We held our sixteen dog novice field trial on Friday 4th November 2022 at Dunclent Farm, Kidderminster, by the kind invitation of Michael and Jane Gough. We are extremely grateful to them and their family for their very generous hospitality and support, and for all the hard work that they, and their daughter Helen and son in law Mark, contributed to the successful running of the trial.

Our judges were Mr Phil Highfield [A], Miss Laura Marsh [B], Mr Leigh Jackson [NP] & Mr Reuben Mort [NP].

Chief Steward was Iris Wright. Judges' stewards were Julia Redpath and Sean McGrath.

Game carriers were Steve Lax and Paul Egginton. Dale Pointer carried the red flag. Marking birds down were Terry Dukes and Tony Griffiths. Official pickers up were Nicola Pointer and Veronica Harris.

Catering was provided by Sarah Akehurst. She did an amazing job with her “field kitchen” again, with competitors and helpers all grateful for the refreshments she provided.

The guns were Michael Gough, Stan Howes, Patrick Kennedy, Guy Needham, Martin Needham, Morton Redpath and Mark Stinton.

Steward of the Beat was Mark Nicholls. His team presented birds excellently over the guns and were very patient between the drives while the trial progressed – helped by, I understand, more than one bottle of Port!!

We were extremely lucky to have a beautiful sunny day after several extremely wet ones. There were three drives. Coppice Piece came first, with the dogs on the left in a flat stubble and grass field and those on the right in an orchard alongside a field of young rape.

Tin Hut was next, a big flat open field of emerging winter wheat, but some birds fell into the adjacent cover crop of maize alongside more young rape. Some duck were shot here, in addition to the pheasants.

We then had a break for refreshments - the camaraderie of the field trail community was much in evidence with everyone enjoying chatting so much it was almost hard to get the trial going again!

Seventeen Acres, which finished the trial, was a banked field of young winter wheat. After the drive had finished, another apparently dead pheasant (they breed them tough at Dunclent Farm!) got up and scuttled into the wood at the edge of the field. Spotted by eagle-eyed Terry, the judges brought our eventual winner over for the successful retrieve. The judges then took the dogs up to the adjacent field of rape where some birds had fallen and there our winner achieved a three dog eye-wipe, finding a bird tucked deep into the crop. The judges took the three remaining dogs back down into Seventeen Acres for some long retrieves and a lovely retrieve by Stephen Newitt’s bitch demonstrated further why she was the Gun’s Choice.

The trial then over, we headed back for the presentations.

Our winner, Lee Burdett, tells me that this was only his second trial! “Bracken” and he have apparently forged their trusting relationship over several seasons of picking up. He’d wanted to try his hand at trialling for a while but Covid delayed things.

A very big thank you to everyone who contributed to the day and to our sponsors Skinners for their support. Many congratulations again to Lee, Stephen and Barney.

We will be holding a Twelve Dog Open Field Trial at the Batsford Estate, Moreton in Marsh on Monday 16 January 2023.



The left side of the field at Tin Hut



Chief Steward Iris Wright checks her book



The gallery in the care of red flag Dale Pointer



Another bird safely in!



Refreshments time!



Judge stewards Julia Redpath & Sean McGrath



Lee Burdett and Shadowed Rose Of Hintonbreeze achieve their three dog eye-wipe in the rape



Llangunwood Cascade hiding behind Barney Williams, receiving their certificate for third place



Stephen Newitt receives his certificate for second place and the Warringah Trophy for Gun's Choice.



Lee Burdett receives the Flamank Cup and his certificate for first place. He also received our new trophy, the John Jones Memorial Trophy for the Best Retrieve.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY FOR FIELD TRIALS

PLEASE NOTE: Any existing member whose subscription has not been paid in full by 31st March in the current season will be treated as a non-member in the draw (currently 31st March 2023). It is up to members to check carefully that their subscription has been paid. No exceptions to this rule will be made. The Committee **RECOMMEND** payment by standing order. Your subscription must be paid by 31st March 2023 to compete in the 2023/24 field trial season.

Social Events 2022

Training

Our training classes started at Westhide at the end of April. For eight Tuesday evenings, we had two sessions each with several groups training at various locations within the Westhide estate including on the lake, in the woods, in the fields and on the more open woodland at the top of the hill.

We hope that the knowledge and experience passed on by our volunteer trainers to our trainees and their dogs have been of immense help.

Many thanks to the trainers and dummy throwers for giving up their time on Tuesday evenings.

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Picnic and Test Day

On Tuesday 9th August the Wye Valley Retriever Club held its End of Training working test for everyone who had taken part in the 2022 training. The event took place at the lovely Westhide estate with kind permission of Luke

Thompson-Coon. It was a warm evening but we were all able to stay in the shade of the trees for the first three tests and the final test was on the lake.

This was a great opportunity for people to see the progress they had made with their dogs and, for those who hadn't done working tests before, to get an idea of what to expect.

Thanks go to our judges for the evening, Morton and Julia Redpath, Terry Dukes and Sean McGrath, and to Jean Tidmarsh for all her hard work organising the training. Thanks also to everyone who helped with the event.

We rounded off the evening with a picnic of hotdogs and cakes whilst chatting and watching a spectacular sunset.

The winners in each group were as follows:

Puppy - Charlotte Drake

Novice 1 - Sue Hallett

Novice 2 - Jean Tidmarsh

Advanced - Sue Goring



Relaxing with our picnics after the Test Day at Westhide

Annual Dinner

On Thursday 11th August the Annual Dinner took place at Burghill Valley Golf Club where the trophies were presented to the End of Term test winners.



End of Term test winners receive their trophies at the Annual Dinner

Jean Tidmarsh is standing down from her role as Training Secretary after many years and Sarah Akehurst is standing down as Working Test Secretary. The Chairman thanked them for all their hard work and presented them with flowers.

Christmas Gathering

On 4th December we held a Christmas Gathering. We all gathered at Fownhope Recreation field for mince pies and mulled wine before a walk around the fields where the dogs had a chance to have a good run. This was followed by a sausage scurry organised by Veronica Harris. This sorted out the best noses and the best behaved!! The scurry was won by Nick Swan with Charlie. The best Christmas outfit was won by Steve and Penny Prosser's lab Dotty.

We finished with a lovely buffet lunch in the pavilion. Thanks go to all the helpers and to those who contributed some lovely food and cakes. It certainly got us into the Christmas spirit.



Countrytastic at Three Counties Showground, Malvern

The Wye Valley Retriever Club was invited to give a gundog demonstration for the Countrytastic countryside family show at the Three Counties Showground in April. This was a big family event with lots of displays and demonstrations of many aspects of rural living and farming.

Wye Valley Retriever Club team did two demonstrations of gundog work and at the end we invited children into the arena to throw some dummies and even work some of the dogs. The children loved it, and during the second demonstration we were joined in the arena by BBC Countryfile's Adam Henson who chatted with some of the team and the children and was given the opportunity to send one of the dogs for a retrieve. The children and the dogs

really enjoyed their time in the ring together. It was great fun, very well attended.

The Club has been asked to return to Countrytastic in 2023 and give another demonstration on 6th April. We look forward to it. We would love to see WVRC members there with their families to support our demonstration team. Contact us and let us know if you would like to take part or help.



The Wye Valley Retriever Club Demonstration Team at Countrytastic April 2022 with their dogs.

Countrytastic is an education event for families and children and there are opportunities to learn about the countryside, food and farming with plenty of indoor and outdoor activities.



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Rules and Regulations

All Working Tests and Field Trials run by the Club are conducted in accordance with the Kennel Club Field Trial Regulations (Section J) together with the Rules of the Wye Valley Retriever Club. All participants in Working Tests and Field Trials should be fully conversant with the Kennel Club Field Trial Regulations.

The Club's Rules and Regulations can be downloaded from our website. There is also a link to the Kennel Club Field Trial Regulations (Section J) on our website.



We are a family-run local pet store established for over 25 years. We are Hereford's largest independent pet store and pride ourselves on being friendly, knowledgeable and always willing to give advice on all your pet concerns. We aim to offer the best value for money on everything we sell and we have regular offers on top brands.

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Can You Help?

PLEASE COME AND JOIN OUR MERRY BAND OF HELPERS

Help is always needed at our events and you could join us in making them 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. We also need photographers to record our events.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact the Club by email at info@wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk

Helping at our events is a good way of getting to know everyone and making friends in the Club and we are sure you will be able to learn a lot by watching the dogs and handlers work.

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Data Protection and Privacy

The Committee of the Wye Valley Retriever Club is committed to ensuring that personal information is handled in a secure and confidential manner in accordance with its obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018. The Club's Data Protection and Privacy Policy can be found on their website.

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Health and Safety

The safety of participants, helpers, spectators and members of the public is a priority for the Wye Valley Retriever Club at its events. The Club has a Health and Safety Policy and has carried out a risk assessment for its training, working tests and field trials.

A copy of the Club's Health and Safety Policy and risk assessments can be found on our website: www.wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk

We encourage you to take time to read this information. If you are unable to access these documents on our website, please email our secretary (info@wyevalleyretrieverclub.co.uk marked for the attention of Chris Peers) and we can arrange to get you the information you require.



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Crufts Winner

Congratulations to Club member Carolyn Jenkins on winning the Labrador Field Trial Class at Crufts 2022 for the second year in a row with Sarnesfield Trooper owned by Tony Griffiths. This dog was bred by retired Club member Stan Tippins. Well done all!



Carolyn and Sarnesfield Trooper with their Crufts 2022 trophies

More Crufts Achievements

Ali Leake's bitch Maderaelanca Lecha of Autumnsoak was selected in the top seven in Working Gundog Class Bitches at Crufts 2022.



Ali's three bitches, Maderaelanca Lecha of Autumnsoak, Jenamins Red Fern of Autumnsoak and Autumnsoak Bramble

In addition, Ali's three bitches, Maderaelanca Lecha of Autumnsoak, Jenamins Red Fern of Autumnsoak and Autumnsoak Bramble took part in the team event.

Field Trial Achievement

Nobsquinton Nettle, handled by Claire Raymond, has become a Field Trial Champion, a rare achievement for a bitch. She won the Usk Valley two-day open retriever trial (qualifying her for the IGL Retriever Championships) and the West of England one day open in 2022 to make her up to FTC status. In 2022 she also came 3rd in the URC two day open, 3rd in the North West Labrador Retriever Club two day open and 4th in the Herts Beds Bucks Berks two day open.



Claire at the Usk Valley two-day open retriever trial

Wye Valley Retriever Club would like to congratulate all other members who have qualified for the IGL Championships or have achieved other awards worthy of a mention. We are sorry if you haven't had a mention in this newsletter. Please let us know of any achievements or successes you would like us to include in the next newsletter. We would love to hear from you.



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