

**Usk Valley
Working Gundog Club**



ID 718

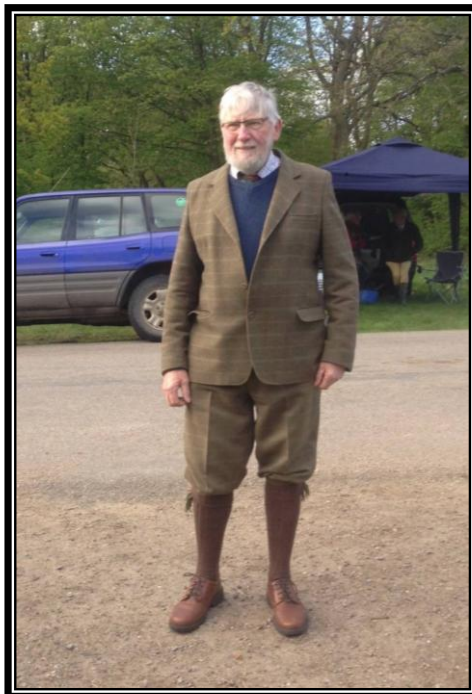
**Newsletter
2015**

Dr. Gareth John Charles Davies

08.07.1939 – 09.12.2014

As most of you know by now, Dr. Gareth Davies very sadly died on 9th December last year, leaving, in his friend Chris Brain's words, 'the gundog world a much poorer place for his passing.' He was to most of us a fellow competitor, both retriever tests and trials, he was a respected A panel judge, and for those of us who had the privilege of training with him, an outstanding trainer of handlers – his words, he set out to 'train the handlers, not the dogs'.

Gareth Davies was born in a small village in Kent, but always had very strong Welsh connections, actually lived in Wales in his younger years, before moving to Coventry with his mother. He had several jobs, from mining where he was a fireman (shot blasting faces and headings) to working abroad as a Civil Engineer. As a matter of fact he spent the majority of his working life abroad, in places like Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Tanzania. He was extremely passionate about academia, and whilst abroad studied for his O and A levels, which he passed. At the age of 46 he gave up work to follow his dream of gaining a degree, and he secured a place at King's College, Cambridge, where he gained both his degree and masters. On leaving Cambridge he got a job with the Forestry Commission, which is where he met Alan Rees and regained his passion for dogs, resulting in him buying his first Labrador. He also managed to obtain a PhD through Aberystwyth University, his subject being 'The effect on South Wales communities of the closure of the mines'.



Gareth always had been an outdoor person; before taking up trialling dogs his great love had been climbing, which he did with the same single-mindedness he showed in everything he did, always aiming to be the best. He climbed all the major peaks in the UK, as well as quite a few in Europe, for instance Mont Blanc. He also played rugby, until in his late forties.

It may be hard to imagine for those of us who knew him in his trialling days, as the serious, slight dour Dr. Gareth, that he once was a teddy boy, complete with a DA haircut! He met his future wife in Porthcawl and married her at the age of 21, on Christmas Eve 1960. They had three children together, a daughter, Angela, whom many of us have met accompanying her father to quite a few IGLs and various test and trials (and throwing dummies for him at his very popular training days), and two sons, and also eventually four grandchildren.

One of the highlights in his gundog career was undoubtedly when he made up his dog, Ropehall Star, to Field Trial Champion. Gareth, not prone to showing emotion, on that

occasion was moved to tears. He ran the dog in two IGL competitions, being awarded a CoM on both occasions. Another culminating achievement was the book that he, together with Graham Cox, wrote about the history of the IGL, which was published about a year before his death. Altogether he was one of the most knowledgeable people on everything gundog, whether it was Kennel Club rules or on how to read the wind when handling dogs, you could ask Gareth and he would be able to give you a considered answer.

As far as the Usk Valley are concerned, he served on our Committee for quite a few years, during which time he, together with Frank Wright, rewrote and clarified our rules; he acted as retriever test secretary and field trial secretary, and he ran some very popular training days. We owe him big time, and what is more, we will miss him enormously, both for his contribution to the success of the Club and as a friend.

Chairman's Report 2015

Dear Members,

During 2014 the Club hosted a number of successful events – four Retriever Working Tests, two Spaniel Working Tests, two AV Novice Retriever Field Trials, one Two-Day AV Open Retriever Trial, one Novice AV Spaniel Field Trial and one Open ESS Spaniel Field Trial. Thank you very much to the Field Trial and Working Test Secretaries Mr. Richard Price, Mr. Johnny Morris and Mr Tyrone (Sarge) Axford and the band of helpers for their commitment and hard work making these events successful and enjoyable for you, our members.

The Club was invited once again to put on a Gundog Display at the Usk Country Show. A very special thank-you to Johnny Morris who once again offered to put together and train the Display team. This year pictures were published in the local paper, and I am pleased to say the Usk Valley have been invited back for the 2015 Usk Country Show, and Johnny has offered again to train the team: thank you, Johnny. I would also like to thank Lindsay Prosser who did a fabulous job at commentating whilst the demonstration was going on.

During 2014 the Usk Valley competed in a number of Team Challenges: in May at the Sherborne Gundog Event our Retriever team came First and our Spaniel team Second; in August at the Cornish Gundog Event our Spaniel team came Third. Congratulations and well done to everyone who competed!

All our events are very kindly sponsored by Skinners Dog Food, thank you very much to Skinners for their generosity and ongoing support. During the Working Test season Skinners also sponsor the 'Skinners Retriever Fleece Challenge', whereby the dog that has won the most points during the season wins an embroidered fleece for their handler. The winner of the 2014 Skinners Retriever Fleece Challenge was Slipside Danzy Jones, handled by Nigel Probert. Congratulations to you both.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Hosts and Gamekeepers who have generously allowed the Club to run events on their land. Thank you to the Judges, dummy throwers, stewards and all the helpers at our events. And a special thank-you to the hard-working Committee for their commitment, support, dedication and organization of the many events held: without them giving up their time the events would not be as successful as they are. I would also like to thank our Treasurer and Membership Secretary Sonja Forrest, who not only does a wonderful job of looking after the funds for the Club, she also puts together the yearly Newsletter, and is always there to listen and provide help, support and words of advice, thank you Sonja. A very warm welcome to Trudy Hillier who has taken on the role of Secretary and the shared role of updating our web-site alongside Jill Bowler. If there is anything that you would like to see on our web-site, please contact either Jill or Trudy.

Every year I ask you, our Members, for your feedback, so we can tailor events to suit as many as possible. We took on board the feedback from our Spaniel membership and organised an additional Working Test in 2014. If you have any suggestions on future events or on how we can improve those already in place, please contact either myself or one of the Committee.

We are looking forward to a busy 2015 with many events being organized, including our first HPR working test. Full details of the events will be published on our website www.uskvalleyworkinggundogclub.co.uk.

Wishing you and your dogs an enjoyable summer,

Debra Bird

Secretary's Report 2015

The Journey begins....

“What are you doing Saturday? Can you help me for a few hours?” asked Sarge, one Wednesday evening. How different my life would be 2 years on, had I not said ‘yes’ to his second question.

That Saturday on a reasonably cold February morning, the social aspect of my life changed. If you had asked me 2 years ago ‘what hobbies will you have in the next couple of years?’ owning a gundog, picking up on shoots, volunteering at working tests and field trials, train before joining the Committee and then becoming Secretary of the Usk Valley Working Gundog Club, those would not have been the answer. Do I have any regrets? Not at all!

Joining the Usk Valley family, I have had the pleasure of meeting some truly wonderful and knowledgeable people, who share the same passions, challenges and pleasures that their working dogs give them. Never afraid to offer advice, guidance and moral support, Committee, officers and members of the Club have welcomed me with open arms and given me support in all aspects of this sport – Thank you.

It's all about Confidence

There are a number of people that I would like to thank in my journey so far, those people know who they are.....Deb Bird, Abi Bird, Johnny Morris, Sarge, Glyn and Vicky Prichard, to name but a few. However, there is one person I would like to mention in a little more detail, for this kind and considerate gentleman has not just installed confidence in me once, but twice. His name? Mr. Brian Gregory.

At the Clytha test in June 2013 I attended as an observer, walking my husband's dogs around in the process. A number of puppies wouldn't go into the water to retrieve the dummies, but they, the dummies, were required for the next competitor. 'Excuse me', said Mr. Gregory, 'Will your dog retrieve in water?' I politely replied that these were my husband's dogs and I wouldn't know where to start. Mr. Gregory kindly took me under his wing. He asked me to sit the dog up, remain calm and when ready, I could take the dog off the lead and send him for the retrieve. I had to double check a couple of times, mainly to ensure I knew what I was doing. Mr. Gregory remained patient, he smiled, I breathed and I felt the world stop. A combination of nerves and adrenalin hit. I lined the dog up as per my instructions, I said 'Macca' and off he went, into the water, returning with the dummy to hand. I was gobsmacked and so pleased with myself. I couldn't wait to tell my husband and colleagues what I had done with his dog. Mr. Gregory said 'see, it's all about the confidence'.

The second occasion was at Big Pit, Blaenavon, in the summer of 2014. My then six year old son, Vaughan, was entering his first working test with Deb's dog, Jasper. As Vaughan entered the test, he was greeted by this tall man with a big smile. 'Good morning, young man' he said as he shook Vaughan's hand. He continued to give instruction to Vaughan as he did the other competitors. At the end of the test, he gave Vaughan some feedback and wished him all the best. My admiration was that this judge didn't see Vaughan as a child, but as another competitor who wanted to succeed. As we walked up to the next test, Vaughan looked at me and said 'See mum, it's all about confidence, do you think I did well?'

The Journey continues....

So as my journey into the world of working gundogs continues and I follow my path to confidence, I hope to enter my Labrador into a test this year, but in the meantime I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible, new and existing, sharing tales of fun, laughter, blood, sweat and tears.

I wish you all a very successful and enjoyable working test season,

Jrudy Hillier

Hon. Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Once again I am in the fortunate position to be able to report that the Club's finances are in robust shape, largely thanks to the success of the working tests, but also as a result of the efficiency of the various Secretaries in running our trials. Like everything else, they get more and more expensive each year, but with careful planning and organisation the costs can be kept within acceptable limits.

Our Chairman has already thanked everyone who was involved in running our events, so I think it is only fair that the spotlight is for once directed on her, she has been a very able and dedicated 'assistant' Field Trial Secretary, both Retrievers and Spaniels, helping Richard Price and Johnny Morris when work commitments and personal obligations made it difficult for them to get through all the paperwork associated with trials, and she also managed to be at every test, again assisting with all the jobs that required it. All this, and she was a formidable Chairman, too! Well done, Debs, we are privileged to have you!

As is the case every year, the final figures for the 2014 membership year will not be available until the time of our Annual General Meeting, so anyone who is interested in seeing them, please attend that meeting, or send a SAE to me for a copy once they are published.

Sonja Forrest
Treasurer

In this year's edition:

- Officers and Committee
- Upcoming Events
- Annual General Meeting
- Field Trial Judges Seminar
- Working Test Information and Dates
- Training Classes
- Training Equipment
- Working Test Results
- Field Trial Results

Officers and Committee



Officers

Patron	The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke		
President	Mrs G. Wright		
Vice President	Mrs. P. Williams		
Chairman	Mrs D. Bird	07989 926925	debra.bird@hotmail.com
Vice Chairman	Mr. M. Shukman	01291 671145	mikeshukman@btconnect.com
Hon. Secretary	Mrs T. Hillier	07763 888177	maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com
Treasurer/Membership Secretary	Mrs. S. Forrest	01291 641383	sonja.lowho@yahoo.co.uk
Act. Retriever Field Trial Secretary	Mr. C. Perry	07724 312547	perrygolf@btinternet.com
Act. Spaniel Field Trial Secretary	Mrs. D. Bird	07989 926925	debra.bird@hotmail.com
Act. Spaniel Working Test Secretary	Mr. G. Hillier	07523 523770	maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com
Retriever Test Secretary	Mr. T. Axford (Sarge)	07890 751733	donargegundogs@hotmail.co.uk
Act. HPR Working Test Secretary	Ms. E. Davies (Sid)	07810 567417	peggywoo@talk21.com
Official Trainer	Mr. G. Hillier	07523 723770	maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com
Official Webmasters	Mrs. T. Hillier	07763 888177	maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com
	Mrs. J. Bowler	01291 650206	jillbowler@hotmail.com

Committee

Alan Willis	07932 633148	peter@peterwillis4.wanadoo.co.uk
Don Elson	01873 840541	quadray6@btinternet.com
Joy Elson	01873 840541	quadray6@btinternet.com
Jane Stenner	01291 689860	janestenner@btconnect.com
Julian Price	01495 233560	merylprice60@googlemail.com
Aileen Jones	01453 750377	royd@uwclub.net
Haydn Morgan	01656 646151	morganhaydn@aol.com
Dr. Richard Price	01531 631229	Richard.price@qiagen.com
Johnny Morris	01633 485283	cwmbbranlabrador@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events

March 2015

Sunday 8th

Retriever Training commences. Contact Glyn Hillier on 07523 523770 or email maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com for further information

Saturday 21st

Day 1 of the 2015 Wales International Retriever Team Selection

A selection test will take place at Rhydlewys Trout Fisheries, Rhydlewys, Nr. Newcastle Emlyn SA44 5QS, on Saturday 21st March and Saturday 4th April; dogs must complete both days to qualify. The selected Wales team will compete at the Anglesey Country Show and the Irish Game Fair.

If you are interested in attending the selection tests, please contact Huw Jones for an entry form as NO entries will be taken on the day! Huw Jones tel. 07891 175858 / e-mail huwh@aol.com

Sunday 29th

Retriever Working Test 1 – Big Pit, Blaenavon

April 2015

Friday 3rd

Spaniel Training commences. Contact Alan Willis on 07932 633148 or email peter@peterwillis4.wanadoo.co.uk

Saturday 4th

Day 2 of 2015 Wales International Retriever Team Selection – see above for details

Sunday 12th

Spaniel Working Test 1, Big Pit, Blaenavon

Sunday 26th

New for 2015

HPR Working Test 1 – Big Pit, Blaenavon

May 2015

Monday 11th

AGM – 8pm, Travellers Rest, Manmoel.

Members welcome

Sunday 17th

Usk Valley are holding a Retriever KC Field Trial Judges Seminar at Little Mill Hall, Nr. Usk, NP4 0HE. The presenter is Mr. Graham Cox. Pre-registration is required as places are limited, £25 for members, £35 for non-members. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Please contact Mrs. Jill Bowler if you are interested in attending – e-mail jillbowler@hotmail.com, Tel 01291 650206

June 2015

Sunday 14th June

Retriever Working Test 2 – The Dr. Gareth Memorial Day, Clytha

August 2015

Sunday 16th

Retriever Working Test 3 – venue to be confirmed

Sunday 23rd

Spaniel Working Test 2 - Big Pit, Blaenavon

Thursday 27th

Usk Valley Gundog team demonstrations at Monmouth Show

September 2015

Tuesday 8th

Retriever Field Trial Stake 1 – Novice
Riverside Shoot, Sedbury

Saturday 12th

Gundog Demonstrations at Usk Show, Monmouth

October 2015

Saturday 10th

Retriever Field Trial Stake 2 – Novice
Riverside Shoot, Sedbury

Wednesday 14th

Spaniel Field Trial – AV Novice
Riverside Shoot, Sedbury

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th

Retriever Field Trial 2-day Open
New Farm, Nr. Norton, Evesham

Wednesday 28th

Spaniel Field Trial – ESS Open
Riverside Shoot, Sedbury

***For all the latest updates on news and events within the club,
please visit our website, www.uskvalleyworkinggundogclub.co.uk***



Notice is hereby given that the
Annual General Meeting
of the Usk Valley Working Gundog Club
will be held on
Monday, 11th May 2015 at 8.00 pm
at The Travellers Rest, Manmoel, Blackwood NP12 0HY

Election of Officers:

Members may submit nominations for the appointment of Officers.

Mr Johnny Morris, has retired from his role as Spaniel Field Trial Secretary and Spaniel Working Test Secretary, and has been replaced by Mrs Debra Bird as Acting Spaniel Field Trial Secretary and Mr Glyn Hillier as Acting Spaniel Working Test Secretary.

Mr Richard Price has retired from his role as Retriever Field Trial Secretary, and been replaced by Mr Craig Perry as Acting Retriever Field Trial Secretary.

A vacancy for HPR Working Test Secretary has become available and is currently being held by Ms Elizabeth Davies, Acting HPR Working Test Secretary.

Election of Committee Members:

Members may submit nominations for election to the Committee or for any vacancies that may exist.

Current vacancies we have are:

- Spaniel Field Trial Secretary
- Retriever Field Trial Secretary
- Spaniel Working Test Secretary
- HPR Working Test Secretary
- 3 committee members

One Officer and two Committee members retire by rotation, but are willing to offer themselves for immediate re-election; they are Tyrone Axford, Aileen Jones and Jill Bowler.

Miss Carolyn Stanley and Mr Simon Hagain and have both resigned from their positions and it is with great sadness that we lost Dr Gareth at the end of 2014.

Nominations:

Members nominated for any of the appointments above must be proposed and seconded by fully paid-up members of the Club. Nominations must also be accompanied by written consent from the Nominee which must include a brief summary of themselves and an overview detailing their skills or areas of expertise they would you like to share.

Please submit either by email or letter to our Chairman by **21st April 2015.**

FAO Mrs Debra Bird, Chairman of Usk Valley Working Gundog Club, 7 Heol Isaf, New Inn, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 0QD or alternatively email; Debra.Bird@hotmail.com

Agenda:

Items for inclusion in the Agenda must reach the Honorary Secretary by **21st April 2015,** correctly proposed and seconded. Email: FAO Trudy Hillier, maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com

Directions to the The Travellers Rest, Manmoel, Blackwood NP12 0HY

FROM M4:

Leave Junction 28. Take the A467 and follow the signs from Brynmawr to traffic lights at Crumlin. Turn left, next set of lights turn right, follow the signs for Pen-y-fan pond to roundabout, follow Pen-y-fan Caravan and Leisure Park signs. **Junction 28 to Crumlin - 11 miles.**

FROM A465 (Heads of the Valleys Road):

Turn off at Brynmawr and take the A467. Follow the signs for Abertillery/Newport to the traffic lights at Crumlin. Turn right, follow the signs for Pen-y-fan pond to roundabout, follow Pen-y-fan Caravan and Leisure Park signs. **Brynmawr to Crumlin - 9 miles.**



FIELD TRIAL JUDGES SEMINAR & EXAM FOR RETRIEVERS

**Presented by Mr Graham Cox
Accredited Kennel Club Presenter**

**On
Sunday 17th May 2015**

**Venue: Little Mill Village Hall, Berthon Road, Little Mill, Pontypool NP4 0HE
Arrive at 10.30am for an 11am start**

**£25.00 for members
£35.00 for non-members**

Price includes refreshments, a light lunch, Kennel Club J Regulation Booklet and briefing notes (Exam is optional)

**Pre-registration is required for this event due to limited spaces available
Please contact Jill Bowler on Tel 01291 650206 or email jillbowler@hotmail.com**

**Payment will be required in advance to secure your placement
Please complete the registration form, which can be found at www.uskvalleyworkinggundogclub.co.uk
and send along with your payment to Mrs Jill Bowler, Ty Bach, Llangwm, Usk, Monmouthshire, NP15 1HG**

Please make cheques payable to Usk Valley Working Gundog Club



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs



USK VALLEY WORKING GUNDOG CLUB
(ID No 718)

Retriever Working Test (1)

(To be held under Kennel Club Rules and Gundog Working Test Regulations)

To be held at Big Pit, Blaenavon, Torfaen
(Nearest postcode NP4 9XP)

By kind permission of Mr Alan Llewellyn

On Sunday 29th March 2015

Judges: Mr Brian Gregory, Mr Paul Hobbs, Mr Haydn Willmott &
Mr Paul Clark

Classes: (AM) Junior Handler, Puppy & Novice **(9am for 9.30am start)**
(PM) Open **(not before 1pm)**

Entry Fees: Members: £6.00 per entry, Non-Members: £10.00 per entry *(please make cheques payable to Usk Valley Working Gundog Club)*

Entries To: Mr Tyrone Axford (Sarge), 95 Gifford Close, Two Locks, Cwmbran, Torfaen NP44 7NY

Closing date Sunday 22nd March 2015

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE NO LONGER ACCEPT ENTRIES ON THE DAY

Directions - M4 follow the brown Tourism signs from J25a (westbound) or J26 (eastbound), which are also signposted off the A465 at Brynmawr and Abergavenny. On arrival at the visitor car park you will see a road to your right hand side with a white gate, please open the gate (please close it after you) and make your way down the road to the end.

Club signs will be put out from 08.30 on the day.

Directions on the day please call Tyrone (Sarge) on 07890 751733

Puppy – Confined to dogs or bitches less than 18 months of age on the date of the test

Novice - For dogs or bitches which have not gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial, been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or first in a Novice working test held in accordance with KC Rules and Field Trial Regulations.

Open - Open to all dogs or bitches although preference may be given to dogs/bitches which have gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial or been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or won a Novice working test.

Unclassified – We also run unclassified tests such as Special Puppy and Novice Dog Novice Handler.



USK VALLEY WORKING GUNDOG CLUB
(ID No 718)

Retriever Working Test (2)

"The Dr Gareth Memorial Day"

(To be held under Kennel Club Rules and Gundog Working Test Regulations)

To be held at Clytha Park, Abergavenny
(Nearest postcode NP7 9BW)

By kind permission of Mr Jack Hanbury-Tennison

On Sunday 14th June 2015

Judges: Mr Chris Brain, Mr Huw Jones, Mr Mike Jones & Mr Roy Morris

Classes: (AM) Puppy & Novice (**9am for 9.30am start**)
(PM) Novice Dog Novice Handler & Open (**not before 1pm**)

Entry Fees: Members: £6.00 per entry, Non-Members: £10.00 per entry *(please make cheques payable to Usk Valley Working Gundog Club)*

(For this test only) Entries To: Mrs D Bird, 7 Heol Isaf, New Inn, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 0QD

Closing date Sunday 7th June 2015

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE NO LONGER ACCEPT ENTRIES ON THE DAY

Please respect Mr Hanbury-Tennison wishes do not drive or park on the grass at this venue and please do not enter via the main entrance. Entrance to the Working Test will be sign posted off the main road.

Club signs will be put out from 08.30 on the day.

Directions on the day please call Debra Bird on 07989 926925

Puppy – Confined to dogs or bitches less than 18 months of age on the date of the test

Novice - For dogs or bitches which have not gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial, been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or first in a Novice working test held in accordance with KC Rules and Field Trial Regulations.

Open - Open to all dogs or bitches although preference may be given to dogs/bitches which have gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial or been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or won a Novice working test.

Unclassified – We also run unclassified tests such as Special Puppy and Novice Dog Novice Handler.



USK VALLEY WORKING GUNDOG CLUB
(ID No 718)

Retriever Working Test (3)

(To be held under Kennel Club Rules and Gundog Working Test Regulations)

**To be held at venue tbc
By kind permission of tbc**

On Sunday 16th August 2015

Judges: Mr Roger Phillips, Mr Johnny Morris, Mr Craig Perry & Mr Julian Price

**Classes: (AM) Novice (9am for 9.30am start)
(PM) Open (not before 1pm)**

Entry Fees: Members: £6.00 per entry, Non-Members: £10.00 per entry *(please make cheques payable to Usk Valley Working Gundog Club)*

Entries To: Mr Tyrone Axford (Sarge), 95 Gifford Close, Two Locks, Cwmbran,
Torfaen NP44 7NY

Closing date Sunday 9th August 2015

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE NO LONGER ACCEPT ENTRIES ON THE DAY

Directions tbc

***Club signs will be put out from 08.30 on the day.
Directions on the day please call Tyrone (Sarge) on 07890 751733***

Novice - For dogs or bitches which have not gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial, been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or first in a Novice working test held in accordance with KC Rules and Field Trial Regulations.

Open - Open to all dogs or bitches although preference may be given to dogs/bitches which have gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial or been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or won a Novice working test.



USK VALLEY WORKING GUNDOG CLUB
(ID No 718)

Spaniel Working Test (1)

(To be held under Kennel Club Rules and Gundog Working Test Regulations)

To be held at Wentwood Forest, Monmouthshire
(Nearest postcode NP26 3AZ)

By kind permission of The Woodland Trust

On Sunday 12th April 2015

Judges: Mr Dave Rayner & Mr Aled Jones

Classes: (AM) Puppy & Novice **(9am for 9.30am start)**
(PM) Open **(not before 1pm)**

Entry Fees: Members: £6.00 per entry, Non-Members: £10.00 per entry *(please make cheques payable to Usk Valley Working Gundog Club)*

Entries To: Mr Glyn Hillier, 23 Ty Coch Lane, Ty Coch, Cwmbran, Torfaen NP44 7AD

Closing date Sunday 5th April 2015

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE NO LONGER ACCEPT ENTRIES ON THE DAY

Directions - The nearest postcode to Foresters Oak Car Park is NP26 3AZ, which will take you onto Millbrook Lane by Wentwood Reservoir. If you continue along this road, passing the reservoir on your right, you will then come to the car park also on the right.

***Club signs will be put out from 08.30 on the day.
Directions on the day please call Glyn on 07523 523770***

Puppy – Confined to dogs or bitches less than 18 months of age on the date of the test

Novice - For dogs or bitches which have not gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial, been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or first in a Novice working test held in accordance with KC Rules and Field Trial Regulations.

Open - Open to all dogs or bitches although preference may be given to dogs/bitches which have gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial or been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or won a Novice working test.



USK VALLEY WORKING GUNDOG CLUB
(ID No 718)

Spaniel Working Test (2)

(To be held under Kennel Club Rules and Gundog Working Test Regulations)

*To be held at Big Pit, Blaenavon, Torfaen
(Nearest postcode NP4 9XP)*

By kind permission of Mr Alan Llewellyn

On Sunday 23rd August 2015

Judges: Mr Elvin Thomas & Mr Ron James

Classes: (AM) Novice (**9am for 9.30am start**)
(PM) Open (**not before 1pm**)

Entry Fees: Members: £6.00 per entry, Non-Members: £10.00 per entry (*please make cheques payable to Usk Valley Working Gundog Club*)

Entries To: Mr Glyn Hillier, 23 Ty Coch Lane, Ty Coch, Cwmbran, Torfaen NP44 7AD

Closing date Sunday 16th August 2015

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE NO LONGER ACCEPT ENTRIES ON THE DAY

Directions - M4 follow the brown Tourism signs from J25a (westbound) or J26 (eastbound), which are also signposted off the A465 at Brynmawr and Abergavenny. On arrival at the visitor car park you will see a road to your right hand side with a white gate, please open the gate (please close it after you) and make your way down the road to the end.

***Club signs will be put out from 08.30 on the day.
Directions on the day please call Glyn on 07523 523770***

Novice - For dogs or bitches which have not gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial, been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or first in a Novice working test held in accordance with KC Rules and Field Trial Regulations.

Open - Open to all dogs or bitches although preference may be given to dogs/bitches which have gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial or been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or won a Novice working test.



USK VALLEY WORKING GUNDOG CLUB
(ID No 718)

HPR Working Test (1)

(To be held under Kennel Club Rules and Gundog Working Test Regulations)

To be held at Big Pit, Blaenavon, Torfaen
(Nearest postcode NP4 9XP)

By kind permission of Mr Alan Llewellyn

On Sunday 26th April 2015

Judges: Mr Ray Davies, Mrs Fiona Wensley, Mr Simon Kirby, Mr Richard Price and Mr Johnny Morris

Classes: Novice and Open.

Classes restricted to 25 entries in each class. A draw may be necessary.

Entry Fees: Members: £6.00 per entry, Non-Members: £10.00 per entry *(please make cheques payable to Usk Valley Working Gundog Club)*

Entries To: Miss Elizabeth Davis. 7 Edenwall Road, Milkwall, Gloucestershire, GL16 7LA

Closing date 19th April 2015

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE NO LONGER ACCEPT ENTRIES ON THE DAY

Directions - M4 follow the brown Tourism signs from J25a (westbound) or J26 (eastbound), which are also signposted off the A465 at Brynmawr and Abergavenny. On arrival at the visitor car park you will see a road to your right hand side with a white gate, please open the gate (please close it after you) and make your way down the road to the end.

Club signs will be put out from 08.30 on the day.

Directions on the day please call Elizabeth Davis (Sid) on 07810 567417

Novice - For dogs or bitches which have not gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial, been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or first in a Novice working test held in accordance with KC Rules and Field Trial Regulations.

Open - Open to all dogs although preference may be given to dogs which have gained a place or certificate of merit at a Field Trial or been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Open working test or won a Novice working test.

Training 2015

Spaniels: For spaniel training please contact Alan Willis on 07932 633148 or peter@peterwillis4.wanadoo.co.uk. Training will commence on Fridays from 6pm, starting 3rd April 2015.

Retrievers: For initial enquiries regarding training, please contact Glyn Hillier, Training Officer, on 07523 523770 or maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com

Training for Retrievers will commence on Sunday 8th March, and run for 6 weeks*, subject to weather conditions.

*8th, 15th March, 5th, 19th April and 3rd, 10th May

- **Novice/Intermediate PROGRESSION 9 am – 10.30 am**
 - Session 1-6 paid in advance at £48.00, various locations, which will be confirmed on booking
 - Maximum 8 per class
 - Booking is required in advance.
 - Please email maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com for further information.

- **Novice/Intermediate Progression 10.30am – 12.00pm**
 - Session 1-6 paid in advance at £48.00, various locations, which will be confirmed on booking.
 - Maximum 8 per class
 - Booking is required in advance.
 - Please email maccadaizegundogs@outlook.com for further information.

Training Equipment:

Are you in need of any gundog training equipment? Please contact Jill Bowler on 01291 650206 or email jillbowler@hotmail.com. Jill attends many of our working test events and has a wide variety of items for sale. If you cannot find what you are looking for, please ask.

We can also recommend Sporting Saint and Quest for all your training needs; www.sportingsaint.co.uk or www.questgundogs.co.uk.



Working Test Results 2014



2014 Skinners Fleece Challenge Winner: Mr. Nigel Probert and his Labrador Slipside Danzy Jones
 Congratulations to both owner and dog who have bagged themselves a Skinners Fleece and a sack of food.

The results were as follows:-

Spaniel Working Test at Wentwood, Monmouthshire – 23rd March.

PUPPY			NOVICE DOG NOVICE HANDLER	
Edgegrove Opal	Mr A Faulkner	1 st	Swallow Stream Susie	G. Welch
Brockfern Breeze	P. Williams	2 nd		
Cwmcellog Brackfen	P. Sayce	3 rd		
Kentredecim Backbone	D. Smith	4 th		
Countryways Rihanna	A. Reason	CoM		
Avegaton Cornish Piskie	M. McNally	CoM		

NOVICE			OPEN	
Marsay eden Apollo of Nederscot	E Smith	1 st	Gatekeeper Joy	P Hulin
Nederscot Spinner	E Smith	2 nd	CoedCare Cadwen	H Morgan
Sixcimmies Kiki	L.J Allen	3 rd	Gatekeeper Ice of Nederscot	J Smith
Gatekeeper Reggies	J Stenner	4 th	Shalloakwest Stag	A Ross
Kirsto Paperbackwriter	P Sayce	CoM	Creccamarsh Ricochet	R Biggs
Hartshott Sugar Ray	G Hillier	CoM	Gola Storm	R Wooldridge
		CoM	Nederscot Eirwen	E Smith
		CoM	Beach Buss	P Williams

Retriever Working Test at Blaenavon - 30th March.

PUPPY			NOVICE	
Artistryn Ufin	Mr. R. Colver	1 st	Killyrudden Mousa	Miss E Davies
Kaliture Rooster	Mr. A. Fisher	2 nd	Blackthorn Button	Mrs. J. Beach
Frizelwood Emony	Mr. S. Pullen	3 rd	Skeviot Starlite	Ms. C. Jenkins
Artistryn Uri	Mrs. J. Beach	4 th	Trefoel Betsan	Mr. K. Lewis
Mektowers Amber	Mrs. M. Owers	CoM	Ffynongain Utter Magic	Dr. G. Davies

OPEN		
Slipside Danzy Jones	Nigel Probert	1 st
Stukes Boy Graig	Paul Clark	2 nd
Tayfordwoods Dujardin	Mrs. H. Patterson	3 rd
FTCh Waterford Ganton	Mrs. J. Coley	4 th
Luisenga Highland Lad	Paul Hobbs	CoM

Retriever Working Test at Bwlch – 18th May.

PUPPY		
Hickorywood Heart of Gold	Ms. A Sheaman	1 st

NOVICE			OPEN	
Waspac Major of Llanover	Don James	1 st	Cypher Black Mamba of Sullington	Mrs. S. Carew
Kestrelway Inca	Mrs. J. Masters	2 nd	Shuttifield Gracon	Julia Redpath
The Windbreak Whisperer	Clare Baker	3 rd	Stykes Boy Llangynidr	Haydn Willmott
Chishillhyde Lewis	Mary Jarrod	4 th	Hassycott Whistlefish Fin	Morton Redpath
Ffynongain Utter Magic	Dr. Gareth Davies	CoM	Luisenga Highland Lad	Paul Hobbs

Retriever Working Test at Clytha Park - 22nd June.

PUPPY			NOVICE	
Kaliture Rooster	Andy Fisher	1 st	Nordenlights Yucatan	Sue Parkes
Kestrelway Django	Sacha Treadwell	2 nd	Jealous Noir	Lee Howells
Blackhatch Ripple of Skeviot	Simon Hagain	3 rd	Chicslittle Little Boy of Oncote	Bob Clay
Shang Arryn Monty of Oncote	Bob Clay	4 th	Gillhays Thyme	Alley Murray
Artistryn Usain	Roger Colver	CoM	Crescentwood Breana	Mike Jones

OPEN		
Slipside Danzy Jones	Nigel Probert	1 st
Luisenga Highland Lad	Paul Hobbs	2 nd
Copperbirch Gunner	Nigel Probert	3 rd
Meadlane Zin Zan Boy of Llanover	Don James	4 th
Dealminster Twig	Aileen Jones	CoM

Spaniel Working Test at Blaenavon - 10th August.

PUPPY			NOVICE DOG NOVICE HANDLER	
Kestrels Moon	Andrew Sipson	1 st	Moorhall Daisy	Rachel Parkin
Brockfern Breeze	P. Williams	2 nd	Taylor's Teasing	Richard Price
Kendredelim Backbone	Darren Smith	3 rd	Axtion Jaxson	Chrissie Thomas
Severn Sally	Rachel Parkin	4 th	Spinnchetti Orecchiette at Copsehill	Michelle Oseman
Bucleuch Kismet	Ian Angel	CoM		

NOVICE			OPEN	
Kristo Paper Back Writh	Phil Sayce	1 st	Nederscot Lassie of Fife	Eric Smith
Edgegrove Opal	Andy Faulkner	2 nd	Dancing Freddie	Andy Faulkner

Brockfern Breeze	P. Williams	3 rd	Golden Caramel Kestrel	Tony Pascoe
Hartshott Sugar Ray of Maccadaize	Glyn Hillier	4 th	Gola Storm Star	Roger Woolderidge
Nederscot Spinner	Eric Smith	CoM	Gatekeeper Outlaw of Keldeb	Alan Willis
Centrewalk Larch of Turbury	Juliet Turrell	CoM	Festival Heather	Phil Smith

JUNIOR HANDLER		
Kallie	J Williams	CoM

Retriever Working Test at Trippen Kennett, Three Ashes - 17th August.

NOVICE			OPEN	
Frizlewood Emony	Simon Pullin	1 st	Shuttlefield Gracon	Julia Redpath
Blackthorn Button	Jane Beach	2 nd	Callowhill Lilly	Penni Gregory
The Windbreaker Whisperer of Arcklebear	Clare Baker	3 rd	Stykesboy Graig DDU	Paul Clark
Kennine Cant Go Back	Chrissie Thomas	4 th	Lenyam Jay Bee	John Read
Kilpen Pekan	Mrs K Pennell	CoM	Slipside Danzy Jones	Nigel Probert





THE KENNEL CLUB

Making a difference for dogs

Results of the Spaniel Trials 2014



AV Novice Trial held at Riverside Shoot, Sedbury, on 22nd October, 2014 by kind permission of Mr. Colin Markey

AV NOVICE		
1st	Woodash Akiki of Halaze	Mr. C. Thruston-Woodnough
2nd	Glanhowy Lark of Greenbrush	Mr. A. Ross
3rd	Draigoch Brooke	Mr. D. Gregory
4th	Beach Bliss	Mr. P. Williams
CoM	Edwardiana Beat	Mr. B. Fryer
CoM	Cornermarsh Invincible of Copperspring	Mr. R. Sims
CoM	Woodabudge Kervern	Miss M. McNally
CoM	Caegarw Wizzard	Mr. N. Davies
Guns Choice	Merovigian Mistletoe	Mr. P. De Challans

ESS Open Trial held at Riverside Shoot, Sedbury, on 29th October, 2014 by kind permission of Mr. Colin Markey

ESS OPEN		
1st	Tyn-Y-Waun Pearl	Mr. J. McAndrew
2nd	Rosebay Hailey	Mr. W. Thomas
3rd	Stockhamarsh Phoebe	Mr. K. Vines
4th	Mileka Starlight of Miskinfern	Mr. K. Jones
CoM	Bryngwrhyd Beatrix	Mr. D. Lloyd
CoM	Synycerus Sinbad	Mr. G. Devine-Jones
Guns Choice	Mileka Starlight of Miskinfern	Mr. K. Jones



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs

Results of the Retriever Trials 2014



14 Dog AV Novice Stake 1 Trial

Report provided by Mr Richard Price, Acting Retriever Field Trial Secretary.

We held our first novice trial at Sedbury near Chepstow on the 4th October, by kind permission of Colin Markey. The trial was judged by Roger Tozer, Mike Larkin, Julian Price and Kevin Lewis.

We started with a walk-up through root crop which after the heavy rain was holding the game well. The first rounds were completed in various strips of cover and some of the dogs were able to demonstrate excellent marking with very clean retrieving. Unfortunately, we lost several dogs for unsteadiness and for not being able to hold the area of the drop and thus pushing forward into the cover disturbing game.

After the early round were completed, the dogs were stretched and were sent over a distance of approximately 80-100 yards to pick the birds from a short drive in marsh lang. There were multiple birds available but some of the dogs struggled to make the drop in a clean line. One dog was again lost at the later stage during the drive.

3 Dogs were taken into the final round and were asked to pick nominated birds. Again the judges let the dogs sort themselves out for the placing and the trial was declared over.

AV NOVICE – Stake 1		
1 st	Not awarded	
2 nd	Not awarded	
3 rd	Luisenga Highland Lad	Mr Paul Hobbs

14 Dog AV Novice Stake 2 Trial

Report provided by Mr Richard Price, Acting Retriever Field Trial Secretary.

We held our second novice trial again at Sedbury near Chepstow, on 11th October, by kind permission of Colin Markey. The trial was judged by Chris Brain, Keith Broomfield, Claire Raymond and Leigh Jackson.

It was noted that we were honoured to have not one but two former IGL champions plus the current IGL retriever champion present at the stake today.

We started with a walk-up through root crop which after the heavy rain was holding the game well. The first rounds were completed in various strips of cover and some of the dogs were able to demonstrate excellent marking with very clean retrieving. During the first 10 minutes, Skeviot Starlight had a tow-dog eye-wipe. Several dogs were eliminated for unsteadiness and for not being able to hold the area of the drop during the second strip of cover and thus pushing forward into the cover disturbing game.

After the early rounds were completed, four remaining dogs were stretched and were

sent over a distance of approximately 100 yard to pick the birds from a short drive in marsh land; one dog was again lost during the drive. The final bird down presented a challenge to two of the remaining dogs, allowing Willowyk Avenger, handled by Mrs. Tess Lawrence, to achieve her second eye-wipe of the day, eliminating the remaining two dogs.

AV NOVICE – Stake 2		
1st	Willowyk Avenger	Mrs Tess Lawrence
Guns Choice	The Windbreak Whisperer of Arklebear	Miss C Baker

24 dog Open Qualifier (AV Retriever) Trial

Report provided by Mr Richard Price, Acting Retriever Field Trial Secretary.

The Usk Valley Working Gundog Club was invited to hold their 24 dog Open Qualifier for AV retriever at New Farm, Norton, on Friday and Saturday 17th and 18th October by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. N. Onens. The card consisted of 14 Labrador dogs, 9 Labrador bitches and 1 Golden Retriever dog, with a mixture of talent that was to produce a good two days of trialling. Our judges were (A) Mrs Heather Bradley and (B) Mrs. Kate Smith on the left and (A) Mr. David Field and (B) Miss C. Wood on the right.

The weather on the first day was bright and the trial started in a field of beet with subsequent fields bordered and split up by long strips of maize. The guns shot very well, with Mr. Keith Randall shooting some memorable partridges and providing the competitors with some retrieves suited to their ability. Scenting conditions at times proved difficult and some competitors had to work hard to keep their dogs in the area. The abundance of live game added to the challenge and this was to be the downfall of some dogs. Kevin Lewis's bitch Cassie of Meaburn had a memorable eye wipe and caught the judges' attention sending two very strong dogs home early. Day one ended at 2.30 pm and seven dogs were taken through.

On the second day, we moved to different ground which was a new plantation of hardwoods interspersed with white grass; it consisted of a large area which will eventually become part of the National Forest. This was challenging cover and provided a different environment to the first day with a strong wind blowing in open ground; however, it was mainly bright all day. The dogs had to mark well to succeed on this ground. The first retrieve was an eye wipe for Craig Perry's dog Cynhinf John who made a very proficient retrieve of a bird down in white grass 80 yards out.

The judges eye-wiped two dogs where a partridge had fallen 5 yards over a very thick hedge and Roger Colver's bitch Artistryn Quail had an eye-wipe on a very tricky bird which ran 50 yards up a hedge line. The eventual winner had a notable retrieve from a gun's perspective when sent for a bird that had been shot down the line out of sight of the handler; it picked with some gusto and required minimal handling.

The judges spent time deliberating the awards, but eventually decided that the winner was Mr. Roger Colver's Labrador bitch Artistryn Quail. The awards followed and Roger was

congratulated by all on winning his first ever 2-day open field trial and qualifying for the IGL retriever championships to be held at Windsor in December.

AV OPEN		
1 st	Artistryn Quail	Roger Colver
2 nd	Stauntonvale Story	Laura Hill
Guns Choice	Cynhinfa John	Craig Perry

Winner of the Brockweir Trophy for highest placed Breeder/Handler		
	Stauntonvale Story	Laura Hill



Mr J McAndrew



Mr C Thruston-Woodnough



Mrs T Lawrence, Ms C Baker



(L-R) Winners, Craig Perry, Laura Hill and Roger Colver.

The Usk Valley Working Gundog Club would once again like to thank



Skinner's Dog Foods

for their continued sponsorship of our events!

For further information and entry forms for the 2015 working tests and field trials, please visit www.uskvalleyworkinggundogclub.co.uk