

CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2017. SWGRC.

Ladies & Gentlemen it is a pleasure and an honour to present to you my annual report on the club's activities during the past year.

As always we try to run activities that appeal to all members of the club. Hopefully all that attended enjoyed the events.

As is customary our thoughts and condolences are extended to the families of members and former members, who sadly have passed way over the last year. I would like to express my thoughts and thanks to two very kind and helpful ladies who sadly died last year. Firstly Margaret Balaam passed away last April she was very much a founder member of the club and our Vice President for many years. Margaret worked very hard with Rescue and always had time to help at many events, she loved her dogs, but her family were also very important to her. Margaret would always give her time and help if she could. I know her husband David and family must miss her very much. Secondly our thoughts go to Carole Hunt and her family, sadly Carole passed away suddenly last September, again Carole gave a great deal of time to the club as our main rescue co-ordinator. She had many contacts and friends who were always happy to help with rescue, again she is very much missed and I am sure her family feel the same.

Our membership remains steady in numbers, but more new members do seem to come from the working - side of the club.

Our Field Trial Secretary and new Working Test Secretary will make their own reports, but I would thank both Stuart Robson and Kim Clunie for their dedication and hard work organising the working events over the past year and making them a great success.

The Championship show as always was held at Hutton Moor Leisure Centre at Weston-Super-Mare. Once again we had a good entry, our two judges were Mrs Jean Griggs , judging Dogs and Mrs Anne Falconer judging the Bitches. The Special Puppy Class was judged by Kim Clunie and the Puppy walk judged by Meaylee Lewis. A lovely day was had by all I am sure, there always seems to be a friendly atmosphere throughout the day. Thank you to all the committee for their hard work put into running the show. Anthony Maidment and Denise Stanton took some lovely photos of all the winners, which are available to look at on the web-site. B.I.S was Mrs Jane Wild's Sh Ch. Fenwood Ell Masterpiece At Bluewaters.

Once again we ran two Open shows, one in April and one in September. Our April show was held in connection again with South Western Gundog, at the Matford Centre Exeter. Our judge was Mrs Lesley Richardson, we drew a good entry of 76 dogs. The weather stayed fine for us to hold the show at outside. Best in show was Mrs Cheryl Bawden's Goldleigh Macloud At Darthill. All the results are on the web-site.

Our September show held at Oake Village Hall was a gain well supported, making an entry of 82 dogs. Our judge was Mr Mike Masters. The show had a lovely atmosphere and again we were blessed with good weather. As always our ladies did us proud with the catering. Best in show was Goldleigh Macloud at Darthill, owned by Mrs Cheryl Bawden. All the results are on the web-site.

In October we held a seminar in connection with the Pupscan Project. Our speakers were Gordon Maclellan and his partner Pam Mckenzie-Hewitt. It was an interesting talk looking at a new way of using Ultrasound diagnostic techniques to assess Hip & elbow joints in very young puppies. In the future it is hoped we can use this method to ensure we selling our puppies to new owners completely sound with no problems. It was a very interesting an informative talk.

We followed the talk with a lovely lunch and short demonstration on trimming and handling. Thank you to all the committee who helped.

Rescue and re-homing has had a very busy year, sadly after Carole Hunt's passing, we had to find extra help with the many enquiries coming our way. Fortunately for us Sarah Hughes kindly volunteered to take on the role of our main Co-ordinator. Sarah has done a sterling job so far, having dealt with many difficult dogs for re-homing. We also have had lots of help from members of the committee and members who help with checking out potential new homes.

I would like to thank everyone for all their help. Re-homing our lovely breed can be quiet traumatic and upsetting.

The web-site continues to be maintained by Anthony Maidment, there are always plenty of excellent photos and pages of information for our members to look at. Thank you Anthony for all your hard work.

Our Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary all give a lot of time to help the club run smoothly, so do our other committee members, without whom we could not run our many events. All our committee members carry out the various duties required with efficiency and dedication. Thank you to you all for your support.

Finally I would like to thank the members of the club who regularly support our events.

Ladies & Gentlemen I would ask you please to accept this as my annual report.

Glennis Hewitson. (Chairman)