

MIDLAND GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB OPEN SHOW - SUNDAY 17TH MAY 2026

JUDGE: LILLAH REA (OSREALIN)

I would like to thank the Committee of Midland Golden Retriever Club for inviting me to judge their 2026 Open Show. Despite threatening weather, only a few drops of rain fell and I was able to judge outside and the sun did come out for part of the day. The atmosphere was most friendly and really enjoyable. The surface of the ring was most uneven and the grass was quite long in places which sadly restricted some movements in the dogs. I must thank my stewards, Anita and Amanda for keeping me on track throughout the day and to the Committee for their delicious catering. Thanks of course, to all the exhibitors, who brought their beautiful dogs for me to go over and I thoroughly enjoyed every minute. It was lovely to see the full range of colours of our beautiful breed.

BABY PUPPIES:

BPD (4) What a lovely classes of baby puppies to start the day, I will watch their careers with interest.

1.BBPD, BBPIS Murray's Shebelta Jive Talkin. A pale boy of 4.1/2 months with a lovely head and gentle expression, he has excellent pigment and dark eye. Good length of neck flowing into a good front assembly. Short coupled with good stifles. Just right for age. Movement was very good.

2. Cooper's Amilone Don't Mind If I Do at Dikeadaze. Mid gold baby with a gentle head and dark points, lighter framed boy than 1. His neck is of good length, good layback and length of upper arm. Dead level top line with tail straight off and good stifles. Moved well around the ring.

BPB (4)

1.BBBP, RBBPIS Mell's Shebelta My Fair Lady at Meloak. Litter sister to BPD. So like her litter brother she has the sweetest head with dark points. Her neck is of good length with balanced front assembly and legs well under. Good top line with correct tail set, good stifles. Moved well.

2. Turner's Amilone You're Still the One. Litter sister to 2 in BPD but looking slightly more mature. Mid gold young lady with a gentle head and dark points. Good length of neck flowing into good layback and balanced upper arm, legs well under. Good stifles. Dead level top line with tail straight off. Moved very well.

DOGS:

MPD (4-1)

1. Wallington's Ambersun Christmas Cracker. Dark Golden fully coated boy of 7.1/2 months, well up to size. Lovely male head, dark eye and pigment. His strong clean neck is of adequate length leading into good layback of shoulder and upper arm, legs strong and straight. Deep through chest, good spring of rib forming, short coupled. Good stifles. Good topline and tailset. Moved well around the ring.

2. Sellick's Cwmtaff Navigator. Heavier built dog than 1. Another dark golden boy of 8 months. Good male head, dark pigment. Good length of neck flowing into good shoulder placement, adequate length of upper arm, deep through chest, slightly longer in back, good stifles, moved OK.

PD (4,2)

1.BDP, RBPIS Millington's Strettonhills Bring it Home to Jarabees. Well-made dog of 11 months. Strong male head and dark eye. Excellent length of strong neck into well laid-back shoulders and corresponding upper arm putting his straight well boned legs well under his body. Neat feet. Deep through chest, good spring of rib, short coupled. Good bend of stifle. Level topline, good tailset straight off his back which he kept on the move. Good mover on this uneven field.

2. Pietrykowski's It Takes Two Anarchia Box Wondertemple (Imp Pol). Blond dog of 11 months. Softer head than 1 with good pigment and dark eye. Good length of neck into adequate layback and upper arm. Finer boned. Good depth to chest, short coupled. Level topline, good tailset. Moved well.

JD (3)

1.RBD Norris' Fenpinque Royal Rascal by Molestream. A super blond dog presenting a lovely outline. He has a gentle head, dark pigment and eyes. He excels in length of neck which flows into a good layback of shoulder and balanced upper arm putting his straight strong legs well under his body. Neat feet. Deep through chest with plenty of heart room, good spring of rib, short coupled, good stifles. Level topline, correct tailset. Good positive movement. Maturing very nicely. Another one to watch.

2. Jackson-Haines' Leighsham Sweeny Todd. A blond boy of good size. Masculine head with dark points, strong neck of good length, balanced front assembly, deep through chest with good spring of rib, short coupled, good stifles. Good top line and tail set. Tail a little high when moving.

YD (1).

1. Knight & Cooke's Haydengold Backchat. Pale dog with a good head and dark eye. Good length of neck into adequate lay back and upper arm. Good depth of chest, short coupling, good stifles. Top line level with tail straight off. Moved really well.

ND (2,1)

1. Millington's Strettonhills Bring it Home to Jarabees.

GD (3,1)

1. Jackson-Haines' Leighsham Sweeny Todd.

2. Mears' Ambersun Winter Storm. Masculine head, good neck and front assembly. Deep through chest, good stifles, moved OK.

PGD (3)

1. Smith's Rocamoka Harbour Light. Mid gold dog with blond highlights. Masculine head with dark points and dark eye. Good length of neck flowing into good layback with good length of upper arm. Straight legs with neat feet. Good depth to chest, short coupled, good stifles, neat well down hocks. Level topline and good tail carriage. Moved very well.

2. Phillips' Shebelta Sweet Soul Music JW. Similar comments to 1 but slightly longer in the back. Good bone. Moved with drive around the ring.

LD (3)

1. Haydengold Just a Rumour at Sunandair JW. Presenting a balanced picture, this well matured mid gold dog has a lovely masculine head, with good pigment and gentle expression. His strong long neck flows into well laid-back shoulders and balanced upper arm putting his well boned legs well under. Neat feet. Well defined chest with heart room, good spring of rib, short coupled, well bent stifles. His top line is level with correct tail placement. He moved very well keeping his tail straight off his back.

2. Liggins & Hodges' Swanavly Popsy's Legacy at Nunsbrook JW (Imp Deu). Mid blond boy with lovely head and dark points. His neck is of good length into well angulated front assembly putting legs well under body. Neat feet. Good depth to chest, short coupled, good bend to stifles. Level topline and good tailset. Moved well but was a little happy with his tail.

OD (5,1) Such a close decision between these two lovely specimens of our breed.

1. BD, RBIS Kipps' Wheatcroft Rainbow. This pale cream coated dog has matured so well giving a pleasing balanced outline and oozing quality. He has a lovely male head with soft expression and dark pigment and eyes. His super length of strong neck flows into well laid-back shoulders and corresponding upper arm putting his straight strong legs well under his body. Plenty of heart room in his deep chest, with good spring of rib, short coupled, well bent stifles. Dead level topline and correct tail placement. He moved straight and true with his tail straight off his back.

2. Loverock & Waldron-Smith's Thornywait Save My Space at Lovissa. This well-presented darker gold coated boy is quality. He has such a lovely masculine head with dark eyes and good pigment. Good length of strong neck into balanced front assembly putting his well boned legs well under his body, neat feet. Good depth to chest, good spring of rib, short coupled, good bend of stifles. Tail well set on. Moved well around the ring.

VD (3) Three lovely veterans who all moved so well and were enjoying their day out.

1. BVIS Turner's Amilone Royal Scott. This lovely 10 years (in a few days) dark gold boy really caught my eye. He was so full of life and presenting a very happy picture. He has a gentle head and the darkest pigment, good length of neck into balanced front assembly. Good depth to chest, short coupled, well bent stifles. Good top line and tail set. He flowed around the ring just like a youngster.

2. Clarke's Haydengold One More Knight JW. Almost 10 years this larger framed gold boy presented a lovely outline. Good strong neck into correct layback of shoulder and upper arm. Good straight legs tucked well under body. Deep through chest, short coupled, well bent stifles. Level topline and correct tail set. Moved very well around the ring with his tail straight off his back.

SWD (1)

1. Williams' Berrymeade Kilternan of Busheyhall SGWC. This 5 year old dog shown in hard condition. He has a masculine head with dark pigment and dark eye. Strong neck into well balanced front assembly. Strong legs. Deep chested, short coupled, good stifles, level top line. Moved with drive around the ring with his tail straight off his back.

BITCHES:

MPB (7) A lovely class of puppies, again with the full colour range. Very close decision between the first two, quite opposite in colour and build.

1. Falconer's Siatham Esmerelda. This 7 month puppy presents a lovely balanced outline. She is feminine throughout. She has a gentle head with good pigment, correct dark eyes. Good length of neck flowing into a balanced front assembly. Her legs are straight with good bone. Her top line is level with good tail position. Very good stifles. Moved very well.

2. Crookes & Jenkinson's At Quakerhall Trinity Du Bois De La Rayere (Imp Fra). This 6.1/2 month golden lady is beautifully made, lighter in frame than 1. Her head is feminine with super pigment and dark eye. Good length of neck into a good layback and corresponding upper arm. Legs well boned and straight, neat catlike feet. Well bent stifles. Good topline and tailset. She appeared a little unsettled when going over her, but after moving very well around the ring a happy young lady moved straight back to me.

PB (7) Another super class, splitting hairs again

1. BPB, BPIS Weeks & Brown's Sylahra You are My Sunshine. The sun did shine on her today. A really lovely blond girl of 11.1/2 months. She presents a lovely balanced outline. Feminine head with excellent pigment, lovely dark eye and gentle expression. Her neck is of good length, excellent layback of shoulder and correct length of upper arm putting her good straight strong legs well under her body. Good depth to chest with good spring of rib, short coupling. Good topline and tailset. Very good mover on the uneven ground. Lovely young lady.

2. Falconer's Siatham Esmerelda.

JB (2, 2) Two lovely young ladies in this class.

1. RBB Champion's Fenpinque Royal Glow. The name says it all. This ultra feminine blond young lady oozes quality from the tip of her dark nose to the tip of her tail. She is so well balanced. The sweetest of heads with super pigment and dark eyes. Excellent length of neck flows into a correct front assembly keeping her well boned legs well under her body, her feet are catlike. Good depth to her chest with good spring of rib, short coupled, good bend of stifle. Top line dead level with correct tail set. Moved with drive keeping a dead level top line. Pushed hard for top honours. One to watch. I understand this win gave her the final point for her Junior Warrant. Many congratulations.

2. Cruttwell's Ashbyglen To Honour You. Another really well-made young lady unlucky to meet 1. Larger in build but everything in the right place and presenting a balanced outline. She has a lovely head with dark points and correct eye. Her long neck leads into a balanced front assembly, her legs are well under and she has neat feet. Good depth to chest, short coupled with good stifles. Level top line and tail straight off. Move very well.

YB (2).

1. Lists' Haydengold Latest Gossip. Another lovely bitch from this kennel. Pale girl with feminine head and lovely dark points, correct ear placement. Good length of strong neck into good layback of shoulder and balanced upper arm, putting her strong straight legs well under her body, neat feet. Good depth to chest, short coupling, good bend of stifle, correct tail set. Dead level top line kept on the move. Moved very well.

2. Cruttwell's Ashbyglen To Honour You.

NB (2,1) 1. Champion's Fenpinque Royal Glow.

GB (5,3).

1. BB, BIS Loverock & Waldron-Smith's Lovissa Seeing Stars JW. My star of the day. What a well presented, beautifully balanced mid gold lady. She has a super head, excellent dark pigmentation, dark eyes, correct ear placement, super length of strong neck flowing into good layback of shoulder and correct upper arm. Her strong straight legs are placed well under her body; she has neat catlike feet. Her chest is deep, short coupling, good bend of stifle. Top line dead straight with tail coming straight off. She moved around the ring with drive keeping her top line. I feel top honours can't be far off.

2. Nelson's Cadwst Song of Spring JW. Another lovely blond bitch with a little colour coming through. Sweet head, good pigmentation, dark eye. Good length of neck, good layback and upper arm. Good legs and neat feet. Good depth to chest, short coupled, good tailset. Good topline. Moved very well around the ring.

PGB (3) Again I was spoilt for choice from these three lovely bitches.

1. Falconer's Cheek to Cheek Unbridled Dreams for Siatham (Imp Fra) JW. I had given this lovely girl Best Puppy and she has developed into a really lovely specimen. Blond coated with lovely head and soft expression. Her neck is long leading into a balanced front assembly putting her legs well under, neat feet. Good chest depth, short coupled, level topline with tail straight off. Good stifles. Moved with purpose around the ring.

2. Loverock & Waldron-Smith's Lovissa Cosmic Girl. Beautifully presented mid gold girl very attentive to handler, slightly heavier boned. Gentle head with dark points, dark eye, excellent reach of neck into balanced front assembly putting her good legs well under her body, lovely neat feet. She has good depth to her chest, short coupling and correct tail set. Good bend to stifles, hocks well let down. Level topline which she kept as she moved with drive around the ring.

L (6,1) Two super bitches headed this lovely class. Very close decision between these two lovely ladies.

1. List's Haydengold Gossip Girl JW. Mother to my Yearling bitch. Another I have done well for. Super blond girl presenting a lovely balanced outline, with sweetest head and dark pigmentation and dark eye. Good length of strong neck into balanced front assembly. Her legs are strong, well under, and she has neat feet. Chest is deep with good spring. Short coupled, good bend of stifles, hocks well let down. Level topline and tail straight off her back which she kept level as she moved well around the ring.

2. Crookes & Jenkinson's Thornywait Royal Story for Quakerhall JW. Very attentive to owner. Mid gold bitch of quality with gentle head and soft expression. Excels in dark pigmentation, dark eye. Super length to neck flowing into good layback of shoulder and correct length of upper arm putting her good straight legs well under, neat feet. Good depth to chest, good spring of rib, short coupling, good bend of stifle. Level topline, moved with drive around the ring.

OB (1,1)

1. Bufton & Riley's Phoslas Polly Flinders. Standing alone but could not be denied first place. This lovely mature pale bitch presented a lovely outline. Feminine head with adequate pigment and dark eye. Good length to her strong neck into balanced front assembly. She stands on good straight legs and neat feet, which were well under her body. Chest is deep and well sprung, short coupling, good stifles. Good topline and tail set. Moved well.

VB (4,1) .A lovely class of veteran ladies

1. Nelson's Willowlawn Devon Belle at Cadwst. I have written down 'Pale Bombshell' belies being a veteran. 8.1/2 years. Another full of life. Pale coated with super gentle head and expression. Dark points and correct ear placement. Good length to neck flowing into good layback and corresponding upper arm. Good straight legs well under body. Chest deep, short coupled, good stifles. Dead level top line, tail straight off back which she kept when moving so well and enthusiastically around the ring.

2. Hush's Benrowan Esprit VW. 9 year old mid gold compact lady looking lovely and nicely balanced. Feminine head with dark points and a lovely expression. Her neck is long and she has a balanced front assembly. Good legs and neat feet. Deep through chest with good spring of rib. Short coupled, good bend of stifle. Good topline. Moved well.

LILLAH REA – JUDGE