



Newsletter  
Spring 2023



## MIDLAND GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB



### • USEFUL CONTACTS •

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\*\*Compiled & printed\*\*  
By Caron French  
Tel: 01989 568176

With thanks to  
all  
contributors

### \*DATES FOR YOUR DIARY\*

#### • OPEN SHOW •

SUNDAY 21 May 2023  
Tomlinsons Kennels  
Markfield

**Judge: Ruth Byers (Balibeu)**

Fred Hathaway Classes

**Judge: Marie Grady (Glenrioch)**

#### • ALL ABOUT SHOWING •

“How to get the best out of your  
Dog.....And everything you wanted  
to know about showing”

*With Sharon Pinkerton  
(Bareve)*

30 July 2023

Baginton Village Hall

#### • CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW •

SUNDAY, 5th DECEMBER 2023

The KC Building, Stoneleigh

**Dog Judge: Mrs E A Pope**

**Bitch Judge: Ms R Turner**

**Referee: Mrs P Tuck**

### \*\*Disclaimer\*\*

*Views by  
contributions are not  
necessarily those of  
Midland  
Golden Retriever Club*

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



Good morning! I had a difficult start to the year with the sudden and unexpected death of my aunt, so all my canine activities have ground to a halt. I am now slowly getting back into doing things and look forward to getting out to our open show at the end of May. I can only apologise for not being on 'the ball', but do reassure you all that there has been a lot going on from the point of view of Club activity.

Our 2022 championship show was a great success - many thanks Lillah for all your hard work and dedication pulling everything together. Discover dogs at Crufts was organised by Chris, who spent a lot of time organising new posters which went down well. A real big opportunity to talk to a wide audience about the joy and challenges having a Golden Retriever can bring. Lucy has run the taster day for Gundog training and is now running out a series of training days and working tests, good to be back and making an impact in the inter club working test! If you are showing, please do try and come along and watch or participate at a working or training event, it is so important to do this and really see what fit for function is all about! Hazel is planning a great show day, which sounds like it will be very informative and great fun, so do come along. Caron, as well as doing our social media, has taken over the newsletter and has been doing a fantastic job, and know you will enjoy this edition! Lesley continues to be a superb secretary and keeps us all focused and up to speed with everything going on with the Club, she has also now taken back the membership.

We have a few changes to the committee after the AGM and I look forward with some excitement to see where this will take us with the Club, with some new ideas and skills. Please look on our website for a full list of new committee members and positions. David Godding has taken over as Hon Treasurer, and we welcome Gail Staniland who is now Rescue Officer, also Anneli Ives.

I want to thank all the committee for their hard work and dedication, for giving their time and expertise, for which we could not have the fun and entertainment without.

Socially we are jumping from one crisis to another but Spring is here and somehow our canine activities give us a focus away from the doom and gloom and worry about fuel bill and cost of living. Looking forward to the coronation of King Charles 111. Also the great accolade that the now Royal Kennel Club has been bestowed in their 150 anniversary year!

I will leave you with a quote from writer Louis Sabin. "No matter how little money you have, nor how few possessions, having a dog will make you rich." Every day I feel so lucky to have my beautiful family of dogs.

I look forward to seeing you all at some stage during the year.

Penny Gowland  
Chairman

# DISCOVER DOGS



## DISCOVER DOGS 2023

**By Chris Miskin**

*I have taken over the task of organising the Golden Retriever Discover Dogs stand from Ingrid Pinfield who has devoted her time to leading the team for many years. I've been assisting her for over 15 years so agreed to take over the role.*

*As we had a new team involved with running the stand this year, we thought that a new look would be a good idea too. With this in mind, we decided to have a few hanging banners designed for us. Lynn Kipps of Kipps Photography was approached to supply us with the photographs, but instead she offered to design the entire project, with fabulous results!*

*Filling the rota for volunteers to man the stand proved relatively easy, approaching a number of people at our Breed Championship Show in December. We also have a list of regular Golden Retriever owners, who represent several interests involving the dog world & who give their time so willingly year after year.*

*The whole four days at Crufts went very well. The public, as always, have a huge number of varied questions to ask and we are extremely lucky to have such a knowledgeable team of volunteers with a wealth of experience of the breed. The dogs on the stand each day, also enjoyed all the attention*







## MY EXPERIENCE OF TREATING A HAEMATOMA WITH LEECHES

By Tracey Kinchella

Instructions come with leeches but here is an overview of our method.

[https://www.biopharm-leeches.com/.../AURAL\\_HAEMATOMA\\_KIT](https://www.biopharm-leeches.com/.../AURAL_HAEMATOMA_KIT)

We ordered 3 leeches and used them 1 week apart.

Bottled water is needed for leech arrival and after leeches have fed plus change water every 10 days.

I think this is probably a 2 person job.

1. Once you are ready then make sure the leeches are at room temperature. This was about 1 hour for us.

2. We laid our dog on her side. Make sure you have enough room around you and you are sitting in a comfortable position as it took about 20 mins.

I washed the inside of the ear thoroughly with warm water and a flannel.

3. I used a new razor and shaved the hair from the inside of the ear just on the haematoma.

Note: The leech will not attach if the inside of the ear is not smooth, for our second attempt I did not shave the inside of the ear as I thought the hair was short enough but the leech would not attach.

4. For our first leech attachment I managed to prick the inside of the ear, the second time I scratched the ear with a pin and the third time we didn't do anything. With each method the leech attached however if you want the leech to attach to a specific area I suggest pricking the area and drawing some blood.

5. Phil used the gloves provided for the first time but for the second and third time he used marigolds.

Note: We did try surgical gloves for the second time but this didn't work as the leech kept trying to attach to the surgical glove on several attempts.

6. It can be difficult grabbing the leech with the tweezers but once you grab it firmly, place on the inside of the ear. Phil cupped his hand around the leech / haematoma area and used the tweezers / finger to keep the leech in the right area.

Note: It can be difficult to know which is the sucker foot and the head so Phil positioned both ends on the haematoma in a u shape.

We did try covering the leech with a new plastic medicine cup but the leech would not attached to the ear and kept trying to go up the sides of the cup.

6a. At this point I was feeding soft treats to keep our dogs attention.

Note: Watch out for head shaking. At one point the leech had not attached and flew off our dog's ear only to land on my leg.

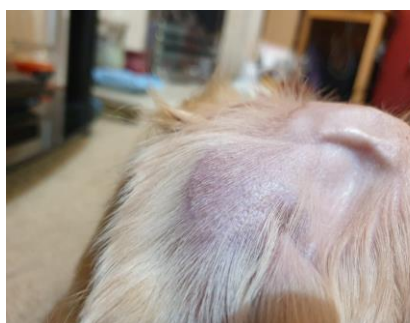
Just monitor the leech, minimise dog head shaking, keep your dog as relaxed as possible by feeding soft treats, use a calm soothing voice and stroking.

The process took about 20 minutes. Leave the ear to bleed.

Note: On our first attempt I dabbed the blood but this stopped the bleeding so on the second and third attempt I let it bleed and washed the blood off later.

7. Put the fed leech into clean bottled water and a new container and followed as instructions on leech maintenance.

8. One week later we started with a new leech. It took 2 weeks to completely drain



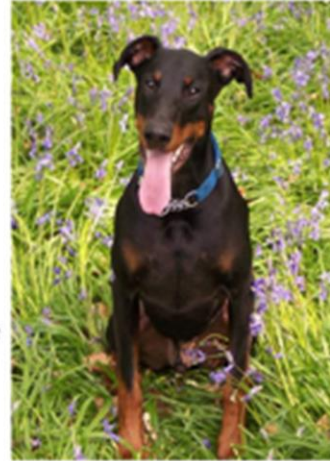


## RAISING AWARENESS OF A CONDITION WHICH CAN AFFECT ALL DOGS

# **BLOAT**

# **The Killer**

***This beautiful dog, Beau, would have died if his owners hadn't recognised that he had bloat and rushed him to the vet immediately.***



If you experience a combination of the following:

- Your dog retches from the throat but nothing is produced, other than a small amount of frothy mucus
- Your dog tries to defaecate unsuccessfully
- Your dog adopts the 'Sphinx' position
- Your dog's tummy goes hard and / or swells up like a balloon and is as taut as drumskin
- Your dog is trying to bite, or worry, the abdomen
- Your dog is very unsettled

**CONTACT YOUR VET IMMEDIATELY.** Bloat is a true emergency - be prepared to drive to the surgery straightaway. The chance of survival decreases alarmingly if you delay getting the dog to the surgery more than 60-90 minutes after the first signs.

So whether you're about to catch a plane, serve a meal or go to bed - **DON'T.**

Take your dog to the vet.

## ***It could save your dog's life.***

*If you'd like a copy of this poster emailed to you please send an email to [info@safedog.co.uk](mailto:info@safedog.co.uk) with BLOAT as the subject*

*Join our Canine Bloat Awareness group on Facebook*

*With thanks to  
Derek & Gill Hamilton  
For The Poster*

# RESCUE



Taking on the mantle of the temporary Rescue officer was an interesting task and certainly not for the faint hearted.

We have a number of potential adoptees waiting in the wings for any dogs needing homes, of which we've had a few. The issues we have at the moment are the adoptees far outweigh the Dogs we have waiting for homes.

I've managed to find loving homes for 3 dogs who needed rehoming due to family issues, divorce, death and illness. By leaving the dogs in their homes and putting them in touch with the potential new owners it gives them the opportunity to get to know each other first and to ask any relevant questions they need answers to.

This has been very successful and the transition of the dog to their new homes has gone smoothly and all the dogs now have loving new homes and have settled really well. The dogs have not been placed in kennels at great expense, so the club will not be held responsible if things go wrong as the contract is between the two parties. I've offered home checks in all instances but none have been taken up.

I suspect the number of dogs not coming available is because of Covid and panic buying from people desperate for a dog during lockdown, and now that reality has hit it's becoming more expensive to go away on holiday because of kennelling, vets fees have soared, back to work where the dog is being left alone. These owners have paid out ridiculous amounts at lockdown prices for puppies and are desperate to recoup their money so instead of using rescue they are selling them on the various dubious websites. This is all too common I'm afraid and perfectly legal and a sad fact of our times.

My role as Rescue officer has now come to an end and Gail Staniland has now kindly stepped into the role, I shall of course offer assistance and advice going forward where I can.

Freda Morriss-Garget



## MGRC “Taster Day” Laurence's Wood Warwickshire 15th April 2023

The sun was shining over a dew covered field and slowly cars appeared on to the ground full of eager handlers and excited dogs. The day started with a nice cup of tea because some of the handlers had travelled a long distance, then everyone sat in a semi-circle and the day start with a relaxed atmosphere.

First we chatted about shoot days and the role of Golden Retrievers as part of a picking up team, their job was to retrieve dead and wounded game. Then we moved on to discuss field trials and working tests which encouraged a lot of questions and answers, which then got people chatting. We had a short break and I was encouraged to her people chatting about what we had talked about.

Then the handlers were split into groups of abilities. David Godding took the more advanced group, Lucy Mixture and Chris Marchant took the less experienced group and my group was novices. We then split into different areas of the venue and the learning started.

We began right from the start, everything from the “hold it” command to the stop whistle and everything in between. Everyone had a chance to practice different training techniques and advice was given on how to put right what had gone wrong....with light hearted banter!

Then we stopped for lunch and afterwards the groups continued with their learning.

Around 3pm we then stopped the learning and the group watched a demonstration by fully trained Goldens, who beautiful showed off their skills and after the demonstration finished the group clapped with admiration.

From listening to the chatter we had enthused the group to continue with their training and those who were novice, to start their training journey. At this point I was very pleased that we had achieved what we set out to do, and that was to encourage people to work their Goldens.

Personally, I would like to thank the land owner, Laurence Dewis and my amazing trainers.

If there is enough interest, Midland Golden Retriever Club are planning more training through the Summer...and hopefully work towards the Goldens and handlers achieving their Working Gundog Certificate, and if achieved we will then look to put on a Show Working Gundog Certificate.

***For more Working information please either ring me on***

***tel: 07880 984180 or email me:***

***lucyjenkins07@gmail.com,***

***Cheers***

**Lucy Jenkins**







# PARSNIP - GOING FOR GOLD

*By Ann Rees*



## KENNEL CLUB GOOD CITIZEN SCHEME

I suddenly lost my beautiful Grace in November 2020. Her daughter Rosie was grieving and depressed. Parsnip arrived to help both Rosie & I recover - she was 12 weeks old. As with so many pups born in Covid 2020 she was shy & lacked confidence, nervous of other dogs. Rosie became her Mum and taught her how to play and have fun. Over the next few months Parsnip became a new happy dog. Keen to please, basic training was easy - she walked to heel off lead and her recall was excellent - she didn't want to go far.

Rosie had puppies at the end of April 2021 and Parsnip was keen to help - perhaps a little too keen! It was time to start formal training. In May she joined the class attended by my friend's golden Bertie, at the Golden Valley Dog Training Club. The other dogs had already taken the Bronze test, but the trainer was happy that Parsnip would soon be able to keep up. Training with dogs who were preparing for their Silver award meant she really had to focus. In July 2021 Parsnip passed her Bronze test.

And then there was Timmy!

I kept Timmy from Rosie's litter and he became Parsnip's partner in crime. Parsnip relived her puppy days with Timmy and they haven't stopped playing. Her confidence grew and grew - training became more of a challenge!

Training for the Silver award began. The 2 minute down and stay was practised at the end of our daily walk when Parsnip was tired. Some of the dogs in her class were now preparing for their Gold award so she was always pushed. In May 2022 she passed her Silver test and incredibly so did Timmy!! It involved a lot of hard work from all of us, and a lot of tit bits.

The exercises for the Gold award were demanding. The Golden retrievers mastered the 'relaxed settle' exercise quite quickly – they naturally spent the 2 minutes relaxing rather than stressing. The 'stop the dog' and 'send the dog to bed' exercises took time to learn. It involved calling the dog towards you and shouting Stop or Wait when they were half way to you. Again it was learnt by throwing a reward at the same time as shouting Stop. Having her bed in the kitchen helped with the 'send the dog to bed' so we could practice whenever I wanted. 'STOP' was added to our walk! Usually at the end when they weren't off chasing pheasants.

The Gold test scheduled for Autumn was postponed as the examiner was unwell. It was then cancelled in November due to poor weather and again in December. The delays gave Parsnip more time to practice. We went back to basics with the off lead heel and leaving a treat. On the day of the test I was still worried about the 'send the dog to bed'. It was difficult to get her to settle down and stay.

*Continued....*



# PARSNIP - GOING FOR GOLD

(CONTINUED.....)

By Ann Rees



She finally took the test in March 2023 & passed. I was thrilled and so proud of her. She'd been mated 9 days before the test and had only just finished her season so I wasn't sure whether she would be able to concentrate - she didn't let me down.

We're lucky to have found the GVDTC & Sue the trainer. I don't think Parsnip considers her obedience classes to be training. All the dogs are excited when they arrive at the training ground. They play in the field before each class - the lessons are just fun for them. Although Parsnip has passed all the Kennel Club Good Citizens awards you wouldn't sometimes know - especially when she's playing with Timmy! So we'll continue going to training - the trainer is already devising new challenges for the class.

Online link to the scheme: [Good Citizen Dog Training scheme | The Kennel Club](#)



# SHOWING/HANDLING EVENT



*We hope you can join us for an enjoyable get together,  
learning more about the Show World. It will be an  
educational day with plenty of fun along the way & our  
thanks go to  
Sharon Pinkerton (Bareve)  
for the afternoon session*



## **MIDLAND GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB**

Presents

**“Everything you wanted to know about showing”  
(am)**

**“How to get the best out of your Dog in the ring”  
With Sharon Pinkerton (Bareve)  
(pm)**

Date: Sunday 30th July 2023

Venue: Baginton Village Hall  
Frances Rd, Baginton, Coventry  
CV8 3AB

***£25 for the full day including lunch for the Seminar***

*Please contact Hazel Gripton for a booking form & payment details*

***Email: [j.gripton@ntlworld.com](mailto:j.gripton@ntlworld.com)***

***Tel: 01623 487283***

# MEMBERSHIP



Could members wishing to receive information by email,  
please advise our Membership Secretary of their current email address.

Some which we hold may well be out of date

## MIDLAND GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB

**Patron:** Mr Keith A W Young  
**President:** Mrs S Birkin-Green

**Chairman:** Miss P. Gowland

**Vice Chairman:** Mrs F Morriss-Garget

**Hon. Treasurer :**  
Mr D Godding  
Highfield  
Middle Hill  
Charlford Hill  
Stroud  
Gloucestershire  
Tel: 07990519490

**Hon Secretary :**  
Miss L Layland  
112 Top Street  
Appleby Magna  
Swadlincote  
DE12 7AH  
Tel: 01530 272 479

### Application For Renewal of Membership

<b>Applicant Name</b>	
<b>Second Applicant Name ( Joint Applications Only)</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>	
<b>Phone Number</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

I/We wish to renew My / Our Membership and enclose a Cheque / Postal Order to the value of £10 single or £12 joint, made payable to the Midland Golden Retriever Club, being the Annual Subscription from 1<sup>st</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> October.

1<sup>st</sup> Applicant Signature

2<sup>nd</sup> Applicant Signature

Date

Working info Yes / No

**When completed please send to the Membership Secretary :**  
**Miss L Layland, 112 Top Street, Appleby Magna, Swadlincote, DE12 7AH**  
**Email: [leslevlayland@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:leslevlayland@yahoo.co.uk)**

**\*\*If you would like to pay future payments by Bankers Order,  
please download the form on the Memberships Page\*\***

**Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/MidlandGoldenRetrieverClub/>**  
**Website: [midlandgrc.wixsite.com/midlandgolden](http://midlandgrc.wixsite.com/midlandgolden)**

**Website Link Below**

[Membership | MidlandGoldenRetClub \(midlandgrc.wixsite.com\)](http://Membership | MidlandGoldenRetClub (midlandgrc.wixsite.com))

# AND FINALLY



## INTRODUCING OUR NEW RESCUE OFFICER

Hi Everyone,

I have been asked to write a small introductory note, well here goes,

My name is Gail, I live in the Nottinghamshire area, I have been involved with Goldies for over 40 years, I have 2 at the moment and a 3rd will be here in about 5weeks. I show both of my girls and they are also Pets As Therapy Dogs.

I love everything about Goldens, especially their sunny disposition, even down to a fox poo bath (ugh) ☺

I decided to take on this role as a new challenge, and also to help the unfortunate Goldies whose owners find they can't give them all that they need.

At the moment there are quite a few people who are waiting to adopt and last week I did my first rehoming, which has been a success.

**GAIL STANILAND**

## ONLINE LINKS TO USEFUL WEBSITES & PAGES

### **Midland Golden Retriever Club**

[midlandgoldenretrieverclub \(midlandgrc.wixsite.com\)](http://midlandgoldenretrieverclub.com)

### **The UK Kennel Club**

[The Kennel Club | Welcome to The Kennel Club website](http://www.kennelclub.org.uk)

### **British Veterinary Association**

[BVA - British Veterinary Association](http://www.bva.co.uk)

### **Source for Reputable Golden Retriever Breeders in the UK**

[2 Golden Retrievers - Sourcing Reputable Breeders UK | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/2GoldenRetrievers)