



German Wirehaired Pointer Club



Annual General Meeting

In person and via Zoom: Sunday 23rd August 2020

Held at : Middlewich Community Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich, Cheshire. CW10 9BX

PRESENT IN PERSON : Robert Geary, Alice Turnbull, Peter McCullough, Barbara Stamp, Dave Donnelly, Bridgit Kearns, Debbie Lovatt

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Maxine McCullough, Angela Cooke, Barbara Rigby, Trevor Rigby, Kimberley Winstanley, Vanessa Tyler-Kime, Simon Luxmoore, Suzie Zarpanely

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE CHAIR

Barbara Rigby, our President, welcomed all those to the AGM at 11:10am. She proposed that the Chairman, Peter McCullough should Chair the meeting. All those in attendance agreed.

2. APOLOGIES: Christine Evans, Pauline Luxmoore-Ball, Penelope Pickering, Pam Blay, Colin Blay, Sara Jenkins, Jo Shepherd, Judith Knight, Julie Boyling, Maureen Johnson, Clare Wigfield, Tracey Moore, Paula Chilcott, Sandra Harries, Sandra Jones, Tony Manna, Libby Mellor, Karen Saynor, Carole Brown, Suzi Burton, Maura Gettings, Prof. David Brigden, Mandy Geary, Allan Tyler, Elaine Turnbull.

3. MINUTES OF 2019 AGM:

Peter advised that the 2019 AGM minutes were on the GWP website and on the GWP 2020 AGM invite so if anyone had any questions, queries or objections, they should be raised at this time. There was a unanimous agreement by all those in attendance that they were a true record and were signed accordingly.

4. MATTERS ARISING

No matters were raised.

5. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Good morning everyone. I have very little to report except to say that this, my final year, as your President has been such a disappointment to all of us as far as our dog activities are concerned. In the interest of safety your Committee had to take the hard decision to cancel all shows for this year - I so feel for all of you with puppies who were looking forward to "bringing them out" Likewise as far as the working side is concerned it was just not possible for people to meet. Hopefully this awful situation will improve and we can all get back to some sort of normal. It with regret we say goodbye - well as far as the committee is concerned - to Rob Geary who has been so dedicated to the Club and welfare of the breed over the years and Chris Evans who has kept the accounts on the straight and narrow. We shall miss you both. Welcome though to Alice Turnbull who has bravely taken over the role of secretary from Rob and Debs Lovatt who must be good at maths!! On a personal note I would like to thank everyone who made my day at our last Championship Show in July 2019. I had the most wonderful day with excellent dogs and good humoured handlers making for a great atmosphere. I shall remember this day with fondness as I leave as President next March. Stay safe everyone and enjoy every extra minute with your dogs!

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

This is my third year as Chairman of the Committee. This year has been particularly challenging

for our small, but dedicated Committee and would like to thank the entire Committee for giving up so much of their time in support of the Club.

Firstly, I would like to thank our two Club Officers who are standing down this year, our Secretary, Robert Geary and our Treasurer, Christine Evans. We all recognise the huge time commitment involved in these two key roles in the Club and we are all very grateful for their commitment and for supporting the extended handover period to their successors.

We have been fortunate that the adoption of new technology by the GWPC has enabled the Club to continue to reduce non-essential administrative costs and reduce the amount of travelling required for Committee functions, allowing us to focus our precious time and financial resources where they are most needed. That has been particularly invaluable during the Covid-19 lockdown period, where the Committee have had to constantly monitor and replan our 2020 activities, often at short notice.

The Club had started to expand its breed shows in 2019 and planned to continue in 2020, to support judge education and expand our geographical coverage for members. Unfortunately, like everyone else, our 2020 programme, has had to change, but the Committee have worked hard to secure a super programme for 2021, including 2 Breed Championship Shows.

I cannot thank Trevor Rigby enough for all he has done for the Club's working community, we have one of the best Field Trial programmes of any HPR Club. Trevor's experience has been an invaluable asset to the Club, but unfortunately Trevor is standing down at the end of this season.

Jay Boden has continued provide a superb lifeline for owners and dogs in need help, fully supported by the Committee. Our expansion of the electronic reach of the Club on Facebook and other social media has been invaluable, as has the ongoing fundraising efforts through our Calendar and the continued support from individuals such as Nicola Spinks and Lloyd Birch.

In the remaining half of 2020, two topics will undoubtedly dominate Committee discussions:

(1) Current trends in GWP ownership which may impact GWPC Rescue.

Right now, there are currently 11 litters of GWP's on Pets4Homes, 10 of which have prices ranging from £1,500 to £2,500 (including a GWP x Weimaraner litter and a GWP x Spaniel litter).

(2) The challenge the Club faces to organise and run Field Trials in the current Covid environment and lack of direct organisational assistance from the working side of the membership.

I look forward to working with the new GWPC Officers and Committee as we continue to adapt the Club to meet the overall needs of the breed.

7. SECRETARY REPORT

Robert Geary, firstly thanked the committee for the previous years work with special thanks to Peter McCullough and Trevor Rigby for the hard work and dedication, as without them this Club would not function as well. 2019 consisted of one (1) Championship Show and two (2) Open Shows.

The Results from Sunday 12 May 2019- Open Show- Judge: Miss Alice Turnbull- are as follows:

BIS: McCullough, Mr P F & Mrs M Sh Ch/ Deu Ch (VDH) KIMMAX KURIOUS GEORGE

RBIS/BOS: McCullough, Mr P F & Mrs M Sh Ch KIMMAX KOZ I KAN

BPIS: O'Connor, Mr K W KARLEJAY GUMP THEY LIVE IN YU (AI)

BVIS: Hewins, Mr D & Mrs M KIMMAX KATCH UP

The results from Saturday 6 July 2019- Championship Show- Judge: Mrs Barbara Rigby- are as follows:

BIS: Donnelly, Mr D & Mrs K KIMMAX KNOCK YOURSELF OUT JW ShCM

RBIS: Morris & Evans, Miss S & Mr BAREVE BRYNDERI

BOS: Jenkins & Warner, Mrs S L & Mr T E CH KIMMAX KOMING HOME AT GERSTENFELD ShCM

BPIS: Johnston, Mr P, Mrs L & Miss N GLENQUIN ATHENA

BVIS: McCullough, Mr P F & Mrs M PIA VOM FUCHSBERG AT KIMMAX (IMP DEU)

The results from Sunday 22 September 2019- Open Show- Judge: Mrs Kimberley Winstanley

BIS: Donnelly, Mr D & Mrs K Sh Ch KIMMAX KNOCK YOURSELF OUT JW ShCM

RBIS/BOS: Gettings, Mr S & Mrs M, Ir Sh Ch/ CIE BEECHILLAWN WIRED FOR SOUND JNR CH JD CW

BPIS: Cornall- Howe, MUSTWORK VALAR

BVIS: Turnbull, Mr G, Mrs E & Miss A KIMMAX KAYENTA AT ELAGRAM

8. FIELD TRAIL SECRETARY'S REPORT

This report covers the season 2019/20.

The GP Club promoted 6 trials during the previous shooting season:

1 Open Grouse trial

4 All Age trials one on partridge, one on grouse and 2 general stakes on pheasants

1 Novice trial.

The reason for more All Age stakes is that preference is given to members with GWPs. The sole difference between All Age and Novice is the water retrieve . In Novice it is into water with shot offered whilst All Age is a blind retrieve across water without shot.

Novice stakes give preference to members irrespective of the breed The scenario could be that in a Novice stake all runners in the trial may be other breeds. It would appear to me that Novice stakes should have the preference for members with GWPs not All Age stakes Currently without a change in the rules matters will remain as they are.

The trials last season yielded 1 first,1 second,2 thirds,1 fourth and 2 CoMs. This would appear scant reward for this number of trials but I selected Judges whom i believe would be firm but fair and not hand out awards like confetti!!! The trials i stewarded (5) that was exactly what happened and the results reflected the standard of dog work.

As per usual some 90 handlers approx enters the trials and the trials were warmly received for their organisation, management and safety.

I place on record my gratitude to all the people who make up the fabric of the trials in whatever capacity they helped. Without such people along with super hosts whom I now see as friends also our trials would be much the poorer.

9. TREASURE'S REPORT

This report covers the 2019 Accounts

The final accounts for the year ended December 2019 are presented for your information. The audit of the accounts took place on 29th February 2020. It was undertaken by Michelle Phillips who has audited the accounts for a number of years. Unfortunately Nicola Maddox was unavailable due to illness. Although we attempted to arrange an alternative date for Nicola to review the accounts this was not possible before lockdown.

Auditors still need to be appointed for the 2020 audit. Michelle Phillips tendered her resignation at the audit.

The figures show that the club made a loss of £22.35 on the main accounts compared to a profit of £1084 in the previous year. Subscriptions have increased by £688 from £2318 in 2018 to £3006 in 2019. However there have been a number of areas where costs increased in the year contributing to the overall loss. Overall field trials made a loss of £809 in the year compared to a loss of £43 in the previous year. A breakdown of the figures is available to the meeting. Overall the Champ and Open showed a loss of £251 compared to the loss of £2.21 in the previous year. Again a breakdown of costs is provided to the meeting. The Club published and distributed a Year Book during 2019 at a cost of £1096 which was offset by income of £947.

Rescue is showing a profit of £5034 compared to the profit of £3718 in the previous year. The sale of calendars raised £1810 giving a profit of £712 after costs. General donations in year were significantly more than the previous year and were received from those adopting or giving up dogs for adoption and also by various fund raising events initiatives. These included donations from Lottie Long Legs of £592, and sale of totally GWP Tee Shirts £407. The club also received a £2000 bequest from the estate of Ms J Brewer.

There were costs in year of £2138 associated with costs of boarding and the rescue of Jonus from Hungary. This was an exceptional case and some specific donations were made to fund this.

During the audit the Auditor identified no issues. This concludes the financial report.

GERMAN WIREHAIRD POINTER CLUB

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2019

2018 £	INCOME	2019 £
2317.92	Subscriptions	3006.03
3411.88	All Field Trial / Test and SPT Entries	2500.36
1759.34	Champ and Open Show Income	1792.33
0.00	Year Book	947.40
123.00	Regalia Sales - Profit	0.00
60.00	Adverts/ Puppy List / Breeders List	0.00
3.28	Nat West Deposit Account interest - net	7.54
295.00	Judges Seminar	0.00
4673.54	Rescue	7194.91
12643.96		15448.57

	EXPENDITURE	
302.00	Insurance	302.00
45.00	K. C. Registration Fee	45.00
0.00	Kennel Gazette	210.00
441.27	Officers Postage / Stationery	482.39
0.00	Newsletters	0.00
1761.55	Show Expenses	2042.78
145.60	Committee Meetings, AGM and SGM	233.60
3454.75	Field Trial / Working Test and SPT costs	3309.01
169.25	Judges / Competance framework Seminars	0.00
0.00	Internet Costs (hosting etc)	156.23
350.00	Honararia	350.00
15.00	Donations/Sponsorship	0.00
173.18	Stock Adjustments	0.00

0.00	Year Book Publication & Distribution	1096.00
28.00	Misc	49.00
955.24	Rescue	2138.00
7840.84		10414.01

4,803.12	Income less Expenditure Profit/ (Loss)	5,034.56
1084.82	Club	(22.35)
£3,718.30	Rescue	£5,056.91

GERMAN WIREHAired POINTER CLUB
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2018

2018 £		2019 £
13257.52	Barclays Bank and cash/ stamps in hand	13719.00
3761.73	Nat West Reserve Account Club	3769.27
12958.63	Nat West Current Account Rescue	18005.45
5039.63	Nat West Reserve Account Rescue	5049.72
0	Income paid in advance	(361.37)
130.00	Prepayments	0.00
35147.51		40182.07
	Represented by	
30344.39	Accumulated Fund as at 1st January 2017	35147.51
4803.12	Add profit / (loss) for Year	5034.56
35147.51		40182.07

Income in Advance

Membership payments 2020 £361.37

AUDITORS REPORT

Basis of Opinion

We perform our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we consider
necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that
the financial statements are free from material mis-statement, whether caused by fraud, by
other irregularity or by error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall presentation
of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the financial
affairs of the Club as at 31st December 2019 and have been properly prepared.

Audited M Phillips 29.2.20

FIELD TRIAL BREAKDOWN 2019

<u>2018/19 Trials</u>	£		£
Income			276.52
Expenditure			280.25
Profit / (Loss)			(3.73)
Season 2019			
<u>Income</u>			
Field Trials	1803.84		
Tuition Day	420.00		
			2223.84
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Field Trials direct costs	2410.39		
Tuition Day	200.00		
Other Associated costs	418.37		
			3028.76
Profit / (Loss)			(804.92)
Total Cost in Year			<u>(808.65)</u>

BREAKDOWN OF SHOW EXPENDITURE 2019

Championship Show				
		£	£	£
Income				
Income			1120.50	
				1120.50
Expenditure				
Fosse Data costs			331.51	
Including schedules and catalogues				
Licence		60.00		
Venue Costs		365.11		
Judges Gifts		23.35		
Rosette Costs		206.01		
Raffle Prize		24.92		
KC re surcharge		13.20		
Misc		0.00		
			692.59	1024.10
Net Profit / (Loss)				96.40
Open Shows				
		£	£	£
Income				
Income			671.83	
Expenditure				
Fosse Data costs		320.38		
Including schedules and catalogues				
Licences		70.00		
Venue Costs		161.25		
Judges Lunches		30.00		
Judges Gifts		28.76		

Rosette Costs incl u/pd invoice 2018	273.91		
Catering etc incl Judges Hospitality	88.47		
Supported Entry Shows	45.91		
		1018.68	
Net Profit / (Loss)			(346.85)
Total Show Profit			(250.45)
2018 Invoice totals £146.63			
Adjusted Loss in year excluding this = £103.82			

Proposed by Barbara Stamp and seconded by Dave Donnelly, these records were accepted as a true record and signed for accordingly.

10. HONORARIA

Barbara Stamp proposed that the Honoraria remain the same for 2020-2021, this was seconded by Dave Donnelly and was unanimously agreed by all those in attendance.

11. ELECTIONS

Secretary Robert Geary and Treasurer Christine Evans had asked to stand down from their positions within the committee. As no more than one nomination was received for a new Secretary and Treasurer, it was agreed by all to elect those nominated to the relevant positions. All required paperwork was received. Peter McCullough asked if any of the current committee would like to stand down, the committee unanimously agreed that they would all like to be re-elected. No new nominations for committee were received.

12. BEC REPORT

In the last 18 months we have worked hard in getting future judges assessed for the A2 list. We, the Club attempted to run a BAD appreciation date in 2019, however there were only two responses and thus had to cancel. This might have been in parallel to the KC'S JCF guidelines and when it would be effective from. Continued to support our B and C list judges in regards to A2 assessments. There were two (2) judges which had reached their three (3) assessments. One unfortunately no longer wishes to pursue a judging career and the other, we are just waiting on confirming application to the A2 list. It was at this time that Barbara Stamp advised that she would like to stand down as BEC due to work commitments and thanked the sub-committee for all their help in aiding and educating future judges.

13. HEALTH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Report dated: May 2020

Registration figures for 2019 were 489, slightly lower than the previous year.

The clubs online health survey on the website is still active and ongoing however it is very rarely used, people seem to access FB groups more so for advice these days. However if people don't report problems or conditions to us then we have no way of collecting data to know if we have any emerging problem in any numbers.

Sadly it seems that the AHT is closing due to lack of funding, I find it very disappointing that the appeal they launched back in 2015 inviting breed clubs to support their "Give a dog a Gnome" project seemed to concentrate on breeds with larger numbers and any problems within the GWP it seems, were not significant enough to be looked at. The project was portrayed as research into various health issues in the breeds that "signed up" to be part. As a breed club we were led to believe that it would be beneficial to be part of the research so therefore we donated £1,000 to be involved, obviously this will now not be ongoing if the AHT does close.

DISH ((Diffuse Idiopathic Skeletal Hyperostosis) as mentioned in my last health report I now know of 3 GWP's that have been diagnosed with this condition. The owner of one of the dogs is Mick McCabe, Mick sadly lost his dog with a severe case of DISH age just 2 years old. Mick contacted Adam Gow who is head of Small Animal Medicine at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and Roslin Institute in Edinburgh in an attempt to get further research going and hopefully a DNA test for GWP's in the future. Much credit must go to Mick for his perseverance in collecting of samples from dogs that were either closely related to his own dog or related to other dogs diagnosed with DISH. Once he had collected as many samples as he could Mick personally drove them up to Edinburgh to hand them over to Adam Gow. My thanks must go to Mick for his perseverance in collecting samples for this research.

I have been made aware of several reports of SRMA (steroid-responsive meningitis arteritis) appearing in our breed, so much so that Liverpool Small Animal Teaching Hospital are conducting research into the condition. If anyone has a GWP that has had or still has SRMA would you please contact Mr Emili Alcoverro he would really appreciate any help and swabs that anyone can provide.

Emili Alcoverro i Balart DVM MRCVS
Resident in Veterinary Neurology

Small Animal Teaching Hospital
University of Liverpool
Chester High Road
CH64 7TE
E.mail E.Alcoverro-Balart@liverpool.ac.uk

A 4 year old GWP has been reported to me who has sadly died of Lymphoma and there has been another case of osteosarcoma in a 7 year old GWP who also has sadly died despite his owners best efforts of chemotherapy and amputation to try to stop the spread.

Robert Geary stated that SRMA is an emerging problem within all breeds and there is a facebook support group which highlights these reported cases. A great deal of breeds are thought to be contracting this disease and having long term problems.

14. RESCUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

2019 was a difficult year for rehoming rescues mainly due to having more complex dogs coming up and the sheer number, especially at the end of the year. I had several owners approach me for rehoming who then backed out for various reasons. Too many youngsters coming up again and an increasing number of people hoping they could pass off their problems to rescue. Some of these I had to advise the only course of action was euthanasia as the dogs had become aggressive with their owners and they had either already sought veterinary advice or didn't want to/couldn't afford to, with one actually telling me the vet wouldn't touch the dog unless it was absolutely necessary!

The total amount I actually dealt with was 18. Of those, 11 were dogs ranging from 12wks to 6yrs, and 7 bitches ranging from 12wks to 11 yrs. There are currently 2 awaiting new homes both aged 6, Ziggy and Alice (formerly Diva, renamed in the hope she would be given a fair chance rather than be tainted by past homing failures). I have no idea why Ziggy is still waiting, he doesn't seem to have any flaws but nobody is interested in him.

Several dogs have bounced back over the past 12 months mainly due to the aforementioned complexities around them, one of those I'm still trying to rehome (Alice/Diva) but her dog aggression issues and newly acquired fear of being put back on lead after free exercise, is proving difficult. In hindsight, she was a breeder rehome and I should have insisted she, the breeder, deal with the rehoming process herself, but things were quiet at the time, so I volunteered my services, that won't happen again in a hurry. However, any breeder that has one of their pups/adults come back to them are more than welcome to approach me with details and pics and I will happily put them up on the page with said breeders contact details.

The most worrying issue this year has been the need to rehome 3 youngsters from the same breeder, two of which were litter brother and sister. I say breeder lightly as they don't give a flying fig where the puppies they breed end up. Having approached them when the second dog came along, he told me he was aware and hoped I found nice homes for them. Only one of the three had any major issues and it appears he actually had/has meningitis which is now in hand and he has made/is making a fantastic recovery. Thankfully he is in a terrific home who were willing to pull out all the stops for him even at their lowest ebb when they thought they may lose him. I was there for them day and night while things were bad, which in my opinion is as big a part of rescue as the actual rehoming of dogs.

The end of 2019 was manic to say the least, I not only had four dogs of my own, I was also assisting with the rehoming of two directed from GSP rescue (who by the way are an absolute pleasure to work with), one from an independent rescue and one at Dogs Trust. I don't think I've ever been that busy since I started with the rescue in 2014.

I have taken it upon myself to raise adoption fees which I believe to be more in line with other breed rescues. £300 under 2yrs old, £200 aged 2 to 5yrs, £150 for ages 6 to 9 and absolute discretion for dogs over this age but around £100 depending on age, health and the person agreeing to take on an oldie. Raising the price for younger dogs not only provides more funds for the dogs who need to be kennelled or emergency veterinary fees but is not unreasonable when you consider the price of buying a dog/puppy in that age bracket. I also hope that the lower fee (and possibly no fee at all, depending on how much I know about the potential adopter) will help the older dogs find homes to spend whatever time they have left.

In summary, things appear to be getting worse as each year passes, with more and more dogs in need of new homes, as I said, some owners backed out or rehomed dogs themselves and some (three I think) were advised to euthanise, add those to the mix and the total I was asked to help goes up to around 25! The KC don't help at all with their willingness to assign temporary affixes, allowing morons and money-makers to sell their puppies at inflated prices as KC registered, without a care where they end up. Sadly, I have no answer to that problem and assuming the 'breeder' churns out more litters this year, I will expect to handle a few more from them as well as the steady flow from other sources.

Peter McCullough stated that we, as a Club are incredibly grateful for the work and time that Jay puts into rescue. Robert Geary proposed to send her a gift for her work. Alice Turnbull and Barbara Stamp seconded this motion.

15. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

Taking into account the Treasurer's Report, Nicola Maddox will continue as auditor. Debbie Lovatt proposed a second auditor as Carly Webb who audits another breed club. All those in attendance agreed and will be formally accepted once contact has been made. Robert Geary proposed that the committee should deal with the auditors if there were any issues. All those in attendance agreed.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS- AT CHAIRS DISCRETION

Vanessa Tyler had a question regarding health issues, in particular the committee speaking to breeders and discouraging repeat breedings for those which have health problems. Maxine McCullough, stated that this is out of the jurisdiction of the club, unless they are club members. The KC will not let a Club intervene with any matings. There are mandatory testings in place for Assured Breeders, for VWD and hip scores. Peter McCullough stated if the Club can make a strong enough case to the KC, it would be possible to ensure a test is made mandatory, as was the case of VWD. The question was then raised about how many cases would deem necessary for a mandatory test to be put in place. Peter McCullough advised that as we are a numerically small breed in the UK, we look to Europe and USA for advice, cases and disorders and will make educated decisions based on that. The Club's roll in this is to educate prospective owners of these health issues rather than the breeders, as we have little say over matings and cross breed matings. We can only recommend breeders to health test, as is the case of heart testing, but cannot force them unless it is mandatory. Simon Luxmoore spoke about Animal Health Trust and how the money donated by the KC was used, stating it was for particular specific research projects and conditions within particular breeds. He spoke about supporting Maxine McCullough in talks with Charlotte McNamara, Health Coordinator of the KC, to try and understand what the KC expect from the Club.

Dave Donnelly asked the question about puppies advertised on Pets4Home, asking the Club if they aware of the breeders and to perhaps educate them on the breed and health tests. Peter McCullough responded saying there were two types of breeders at the moment. One who might want financial gain during this difficult time and the other game keepers who need other income. He did mention that the majority of the puppies were KC registered, but not breeders of the GWP Club. It was further discussed about the spike in prices for puppies and the demand. Peter McCullough discussed that impact of these new litters and the impact that will have on rescue.

Suzie Zarpanely asked the question about the heredity of VWD and how it had to be repeated after several generations. Maxine McCullough confirmed it was two generations and that any future breedings will have to be tested. The committee stated that it was a mouth DNA swab, however Maxine McCullough suggested a blood test was more suitable as more often than not, there is not enough DNA on the swab.

Vanessa Tyler- Kime stated that Zoom was a great option for AGMs for those who were not geographically close and asked if it would be used in the future. Peter McCullough discussed that this was voted on a couple of years ago and it was decided now, however with new technology and other circumstances it would be looked at again, with the possibility to have a formal rule change. It was discussed that the committee works entirely on facebook chat and zoom, meaning meetings can be held frequently and quickly without the strain of travel and the use of club funds. Vanessa then discussed the option about combining AGMs with events, ie. educational talks and trainings or as stand alone items to help educate new, old and those who want re-fresher courses.

As there were no further business to be discussed, the meeting was brought to a close by the Chair at 12:15pm.