

er title on the day. Malcolm's  
th line-ups we do seem to have  
kes which has been missing for  
PHILPOTT, 01452 812179,  
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ta Patel, a specialist in veterinary  
allergies in the Golden Retriever  
Animal Health Trust Oncology  
on the common cancers found in  
soft/tissue sarcomas).  
to Horse Drive, Epsom, Surrey  
o on the night. The price includes  
pm start. For more information  
on 02087 631505 (home), 02086  
send an SAE to Charmaine with

arts (Sh Ch Lochytamor King  
der JW at the Midland GRC

Sh Cawdor (Amilone  
OB under Barry Macartney and  
nk Kane judged bitches. BCC, her  
o Let It Be (Sh Ch Goldenquest  
ans and Mrs Owen's Thornywait  
e Putjade ex T Magic Rose).  
ombe Cock A Doodle Doo (Ch  
Martin Greenwood's Telkaro First  
p was Mr Fowler's Glenrioch Jock  
osebumps).

ochrane (Rachenco). Her funeral  
rogate Crematorium. She was a  
supporter. She was president for  
go to her family.

seminar on Saturday March 14 at  
with Wendy Andrews, Sue Almye  
the breed seminar on breed points  
g refreshments and a buffet lunch.  
on's breed-specific and assessment  
g and afternoon refreshments and  
33 411239 as places are limited.  
830114, fenwood11@aol.com

ador  
e year, Amanda Deane (Tanronen)  
ries. BIS went to Desmond and  
Me Celebrair (Rocheby Statesman

now into its new home of the  
te. The judge was David Wilmsfurt  
before at Boston, had a very good  
economic downturn that we are  
s does not seem to be resulting in  
if the high entries are maintained  
ning of May.

shows deserve to be given excellent  
e all-breed and group championship  
ood value for money as well as being  
o know what the exhibitors want.  
ervice for the breed.

aret, Andrew and Mairi Brown's  
(Sh Ch Poolstead Pumpkin ex R  
Allen's homebred yellow yearling,  
chattie). It was her second RRC in

homebred yellow, Sh Ch Allenies  
a consistent day for them with the  
Harrow Happy Go Lucy to Sharouns  
e Horizon of H).

Black Majic (Ch Amberstope Blue

Kimvalley Star Attraction of Farfield,  
e Borzois) while Penelope Carpanini  
hen Hollings (Gunalt Weimarner).  
isin did at Manchester) let me know  
up award from this age bracket. One  
k dog, Sh Ch Blondella Balance, who  
n 1993. Also, from my early showing  
Williams awarding a third CC to Mr  
le Bianca, at the age of nine years.

Broadley awarded a second CC to  
ook Black Stormer. Having won the  
to the challenge since the judge had  
ge wanted all unbeaten animals into  
a great win indeed. Being able to win  
lasters Labrador can be.  
85, davidrcraig@btinternet.com

one for their kind thoughts, phone  
black bitch Purdy (B Belle De Jour).  
16th. She had been placed fourth at  
afternoon. She was a pleasure to own

g a dog at any time but particularly

d the Kennel Club's working gundog  
black bitch Ramalley Pippin (FT Ch  
Ch Carpeny Anchorman daughter.  
essor was Mrs E Barnes. Anne Stock's

them on. Then it's a matter of, "Oh well, where's that washing machine?" or maybe I'll  
just use these trousers for the dogs again tomorrow and, while I'm at it, the next few  
weeks as well as they will only get dirty again.

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Sh Ch Lindall Stawberry Cream with Farbrae was shortlisted in the gundog group at  
Boston, not as stated in Di Arrowsmith's report in DW, Jan 16

### Rhodesian Ridgebacks

MANCHESTER kicked off the show scene with Nix's Nyassa Caluaa at Kitoko taking  
her second CC and BOB. I understand that she was also shortlisted for the group.  
DCC was Webster's Ch Ngoma Uzuri of Umbari.

RDCC was Dickinson's Jesamuda Jakuru and RBCC Miles Veldtkammer Red Hot Chick  
at Jaloumi. BP was Reid and Meikle's Rejan Top Gun and BV Cairns' Rooinek Tintaglia.

It was the first show where the breeders stakes took place & it was won by the  
Veldtkammer kennel which also took G3 later in the day.

The Irish Club has announced that it will be holding a special show in conjunction  
with the European Winner Show on Friday May 29. The judge is Peter Nicholson  
(subject to IKC approval).

In the next notes I will report on the outcome of the RRC of GB's conference at  
Stoneleigh which I will have attended on Jan 25. In the meantime the Kennel Club has  
initiated its revised Standard which deletes the sentence 'the ridge must be regarded  
as the escutcheon of the breed.' It also states that any evidence of dermoid sinus  
should be severely penalised. Quite how an all-rounder would be able to detect a  
dermoid sinus I have no idea. It is due to the vigilance of breeders that I am not aware  
of any dog with dermoid sinus having ever been shown in the UK.

I had news yesterday that a bitch we bred died on the Jan 19. Her name was  
Diamondridge African Rose and she was 15 years 8 months old. She was by Ch Elack  
Chiku ex D Taabisha. Her mother also lived until she was over 14 years old. I don't  
suppose many breeds of our size and substance live for such a long time. In fact all  
the dogs that we have owned with the exception of one have made at least 12 years  
and most make 13 years plus - not bad for a breed that is deemed by the BBC to be  
at risk.

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lindsey@petresort.co.uk

### Rottweilers

BOSTON was quickly followed by Manchester and yet again it was a very low entry.  
These are no reflection on the judges, just a sign of the times. The advantage of this  
was that with two judges everything was finished by lunchtime making an early finish  
for everyone.

Judging males was Violet Slade (Potterspride) and bitches Andy Dunn (Meonia).  
DCC, his second, and BOB was Ruth Hill's German import Imor von der Blockhutte  
mit Juffther (German Ch Orlando vom hause Neubrand ex Ambra von der B).  
RDCC and hopefully following in his father's footsteps was Trevor and Teresa Killick's  
homebred Travillions Black Knight (Ch T Rant And Rave ex T Mazzaras Simply Chic).

BCC, her first and her owners' first in the breed, was Martin and Claire Peppers'  
homebred Roxella What A Star (Kassmax Pure Burberry ex Hanbar Urma at  
R). RBCC was Becky Watt's homebred Zezeve Obsession (Ch Pendley Jordan ex Ch  
Danjamar Emerald Beauty at J).

BP, and finishing a wonderful day for Ruth, was her homebred J Dream Lover (Imor  
vd B mit J ex Ch J Nutty Tart). Ruth must have been thrilled as the real worth of  
importing a male is the success of his progeny. The show results are really just a bonus.  
It is no good going to all the expense and effort of bringing in a dog if he does lots of  
winning but doesn't click with your own bloodlines. We are fortunate in our breed to  
have had some really influential dogs imported into our country. Imor has had a good  
start and with some quality bitches either in whelp or with pups on the ground this  
year will be very interesting for Ruth.

I am sure that many of you have heard of the tragic death of Joan Blackmore's  
daughter Terri. I spoke to Joan after the funeral and she seems to be bearing up well  
under the circumstances. She thanks everyone for their cards and kind words and also  
for respecting her privacy at this difficult time.

Joan was overcome by the attendance at Terri's funeral. There were between 400  
and 500 people present. It would appear that Terri's village in Great Dunmow shut  
down for the day which shows how much Terri was thought of. I am sure that we all  
wish Joan strength to cope in this difficult time and we all look forward to seeing her  
at some shows this year.

Several people have asked me for an update on young Connor, who I spoke about last  
year, and his progression in obedience. In fact he is now leading the life of Riley in a pet  
home. As a breeder you have to make hard decisions when assessing stock that you have  
bred. I am not naive enough to know that I would have probably won successfully with  
him as he was a quality youngster but as a future stud dog was he good enough?

It is even more important that the males we keep are top class. I mentioned last  
week that Jordie would be a hard act to follow and I had to decide if his grandson had  
anything to offer the breed. When the opportunity of an excellent home came along it  
made the decision a bit easier. I just wish more people could be realistic about animals  
that they have bred and really consider if they have much to offer.

His young replacement from this year's litter, Goldie, has already been to her first  
classes at 14 weeks and like Connor she is proving a little star and the best behaved in  
the class - shame she wasn't more like that at home. I actually think she will be easier  
to train than Connor as she is a natural retriever which Connor never was. This is the  
one area that Rottweilers can prove hard work.

It was interesting to compare tails on this most recent litter and in fact they were  
very different. They were a bit longer and thinner but I had none that curled over  
an early age. Connor really wagged his tail but I am finding that Goldie lashes hers like  
a Pointer - it is really endearing. My pet people probably think I am mad because all I  
ever ask for is pictures of the puppies' tails as they grow.

JOANNE JOHNSON, 01234 772542, joanne.johnson17@btinternet.com

The email address for Daniel Mooney is dannladyrrottweilers@google.com and the  
website is www.dannladyrrottweilers.com and not as printed on page 56 of the DOG  
WORLD ANNUAL 2009.

### Russian Black Terriers

DON'T YOU just love technology? My computer recently decided to crash and I lost  
quite a lot of things that I had spent a long time collecting. In addition I was not able  
to send in the breed notes for Jan 23. Thankfully I am back online and all appears to  
be working well again.

Manchester saw a change of judge as Jan Favell had a rather nasty bout of that awful  
flu that was making the rounds. The judge was Captain K Hogg who had judged the  
hound group on the previous day. Pat Moncur must be delighted that her new import,  
founder of the breed in Cheshire at Balleray took BB at her first UK show.

Northern Ireland Working and Pastoral Showdog of the year 2008 which was held at  
the Balmoral Hotel, Belfast on Saturday Jan 17 where the judge was Robin Newhouse.  
Runner-up was Duffus and Morrell's Ch Ir/Int Ch Cabarka's Fighter Man of Yacker. Joan  
Duffus was rightly thrilled with Fighter who will be four years old in February.

There is sad news that two golden oldie girls have died. Brenda Middlehurst lost  
Hemshire Miss Jessica Bear (Sophie) who was almost 14 years old and Peter and  
Melonie Matfin lost Saratoga Stella with Ashlantie (Ashere) who was almost 15 years  
old - what a wonderful age both bitches reached. They will be deeply missed by both  
sets of owners.

Some good news comes at last - Samoyed classes are to be returned at LKA this  
year (no CCs).  
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### Schipperkes

MANDY Rollinson writes: "I have received an article from Minna Virta, research  
assistant at Helsinki University, who is working with Schipperke DNA for epilepsy  
research. She has forwarded this article with approval for inclusion in your paper. Your  
breed notes of Oct 31, 2008 state that 'There is a large study currently underway,  
sponsored by the University of Missouri, on epilepsy in dogs and the Schipperke is  
one of the breeds they have agreed to study.'

"This statement is incorrect as Schipperkes have been dropped from this study due  
to lack of samples. Those willing to submit more samples should go directly to the  
university's website which also contains my details for buccal swabs that have been left  
for breeders/pet owners' use, although blood samples are preferred."

Minna Virta writes: "The Schipperke epilepsy research originally began in the  
University of Missouri by Gary Johnson around 1999 see www.canine-epilepsy.  
com/Research.html#anchor5885532. However, the amount of Schipperke samples  
remained quite modest. There were only 39 samples in September '06 - www.canine-  
epilepsy.net/cerc.html - causing them to drop Schipperkes out of the active research.

"The young Finnish researcher Hannes Lohi worked at that time in Toronto at the  
Sick Children's Hospital where he discovered the first genetic defect causing epilepsy  
in dogs in the Min W/h Dachshund. In humans this disease is called the Lafora disease  
which is a lethal form of epilepsy. Hannes Lohi still wanted to continue the epilepsy  
research on other breeds including Schipperke and since his return to his home  
country 350 Schipperke samples have been collected, most of them blood samples.

"Today many Schipperke samples have been genotyped with the work continuing.  
Therefore, additional samples are extremely welcome. Instructions for blood sample  
collection can be found at www.koirangeenit.fi/index.php?option=com\_content&task  
=blogcategory&id=18&Itemid=44. Meanwhile Lohi's group has found several genetic  
defects, for example the gene that causes recessively inherited benign juvenile epilepsy  
in Lagotti Romagnoli. Lagotto breeders can now use the genetic test to distinct  
healthy, carrier and affected dogs when they are planning new litters.

"The aim of the canine epilepsy research is to find the genetic defects that cause  
epilepsy in different breeds and to develop genetic tests. The epilepsy in Schipperkes as  
well as in many other breeds is probably polygenic which means that there are several  
genes that each increases the risk for epilepsy. It is impossible to predict the exact risk  
for developing epilepsy until all the risk genes have been characterised.

"However, after identifying even one major risk gene, the genetic information  
can be used in breeding programmes. This way the breeders can avoid combining  
two high risk individuals. It is also important to keep the individuals with higher risk  
for passing down epilepsy in breeding programmes by mating them with low risk  
individuals. This again will help in preserving the gene pool of our old, small breed as  
wide as possible.

"As the Kennel Club also pointed out in a report - the Kennel Club/British  
Small Animal Veterinary Association Scientific Committee summary results of the  
purebred dog health survey for the Schipperke breed '06 which can be found at www.  
thekennelclub.org.uk/download/1621/hsscshipperke.pdf - about 20 per cent of the  
British Schipperkes suffer from neurologic problems such as epileptic seizures. This  
number is similar to the results calculated by the Finnish Schipperke Club in '05 based  
on its own survey. Therefore, we believe it will be as great a help for British breeders  
as for the Finnish ones when the commercial gene test one day will be available for  
common use.

"Can we remind those who kindly supported the research by giving a sample  
from their dogs that it is of great importance to inform the research group about all  
changes in the dogs' health status. Inaccurate basic data will not help but will harm the  
research. So if you have some new information to share email me at minna.s.virta@  
helsinki.fi or the group generally at tgl-kyselyt@helsinki.fi.

"You can tell us about the dog in your own words but the best way would be to fill  
in the same form as when giving the sample available at the web address given above.  
If you have no computer available you can write to me at Lohen tutkimusryhma,  
Biomedicum I Helsinki, huone B332a, PL 63, 00014 Helsingin Yliopisto, Finland.  
Remember to mention the dog's full registered name and to give your personal  
contact details in case the researchers need to contact you.

"As mentioned above, all new samples from Schipperkes are welcome. Blood  
samples (3ml EDTA-blood which is about the same amount as a tick would suck) are  
the most useful ones but also buccal swab samples will do. Contact Mandy Rollinson  
for swabs that we have left for future collections. If your dog's pedigree is available  
for at www.bonchien.com/search.html no copy of the pedigree is needed. If the  
database is not correct or the information is not available enclose your dog's pedigree  
for as many generations as possible. All the information given to the group is highly  
confidential and will be used for research purposes only."

I think a lot of other people would be interested in the information that about 60  
different Schipperkes were swabbed for the epilepsy survey at our club championship  
show in October. Jeff Sampson was there as well to see it so breeders are trying to  
work on this.

In regards to the 20 per cent incidence rate that is cited in the attached article what  
would be of greater relevance is the actual number of dogs from our breed that were  
submitted for that KC survey - not very many at all.

MARY DEATS, 01842 828226, schiptoaradet@yahoo.com

### Schnauzers, Miniature

I WAS PLEASED to get away from the sub-zero temperatures here for a week  
of winter sun in the Gambia. On my return I found a message from Lesley Myers  
informing me that after a recount Ritzbeech Slap And Tickle is the breed's latest JW  
winner. Interestingly, Kaizer won both his first and last points at Reading open show.  
He was bred by Geoff Marsden with whom he is co-owned with Lesley and is the first  
JW winner for Geoff and the second for Lesley.

Peter Newman writes: "While circumstances have led to me to have to retire from  
being a regular breed note writer having written the notes for something more than  
40 years I would still like to make the occasional contribution.

"Following on from Barry's notes in regard to the Accredited Breeder Scheme  
(ABS) and working together with the Kennel Club to save the future of our pastime  
(ABS) and working together with the Kennel Club to save the future of our pastime  
is to work with the KC.