

The latest GCM was held on 12/09/15 with a 10:30 am start at Polesworth Memorial Hall. In attendance were the Chairman, the Secretary and all 12 Committee Members.

With the Minutes of the last meeting and the matters arising thereof quickly dealt with, we moved on to working through yet another full and busy agenda.

There was very little correspondence to deal with and since the Treasurer had unfortunately been unable to attend this meeting, his report was simply read out to give an overview of the Club's present financial position. The Clubs finances remain healthy and are being well looked after.

The sub-committee reports were next. The JSC have a Breed Points Seminar – Module 1 with 9 attendees booked on Sunday 4th October. The WSC had held the first of their Training days, this one with Trevor Rigby. The day had been excellent and Trevor's input had forced a rethink of the activities to be worked on during their Working days which is good as it shows progress. The Working Assessments that have been devised will need tweaking and the GC will be in touch with the WSC in this regard. The BH&GSC gave figures for the number of registrations in the first half of the year, 4 litters with 33 pups of which 12 were part of the Outcross program. The BH&GSC, in tandem with the GC, are still working towards getting the KC to open a Development register for crossbred dogs and this register would be for all breeds that need fresh blood for genetic health reasons. Our breed hasn't reached that stage yet but the BH&GSC have put together a discussion document outlining how a possible Crossbreeding Programme might work should our breed need to consider introducing such a programme in the future.

The Puppy Register has been revamped and the website will soon be updated to include a full description of the rules for advertising your puppies and a full explanation of the asterisk system for dogs from the Outcross program.

The sponsored walk in aid of Rescue funds will be held in early spring and is likely to be at Clumber Park, a National Trust venue just off the A1 in Nottinghamshire. Further details will be posted on the website and Facebook page as they become available.

We have been considering some form of reward for those who make outstanding contributions to the Club and or the breed for quite a while and have decided that the granting of Honorary Life Membership would be the perfect accolade. The finer details of who and how have still to be finalised but the process will be written into the rules and this change will be included with the others that are to be presented to the membership at the 2016 AGM on the 24th April.

The duties for the upcoming Open show were delegated. We are looking forward to a good day with a good entry for breed specialist Ian Lamb. This was followed by the setting of the show dates for 2016 and 2017. These are 06/03/16 at Steventon, 12/06/16 at Stoneleigh, 16/10/16 at Hasland, 05/03/17 at Steventon, 11/06/17 at Stoneleigh and 15/10/17 at Hasland. We have tried very hard to maintain continuity of both date and venue as we think this is best for our members and exhibitors.

The President will be organising an event to capture the early years of the revival of the breed in GB. The plan is that this will take place in the summer of 2016. A firm date and more details will follow when it is discussed more fully at the next GCM in January.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 2:05pm.

Hopefully these notes will give a brief overview of the work the General Committee does on your behalf. The General Committee are always open to discussing your ideas and pleased to hear your point of view so please feel free to let me know what these might be and I will make sure that they are taken back to the General Committee. You can contact me by phone, by email or around the ringside at shows.

Brian Pilmer
Membership Liaison Officer