

End of Term Test and Fun Day

WHAT A WONDERFUL DAY writes Anna Jones.

This was certainly an event with a difference. Instead of individual tests for the end of term fun day we were divided up into 6 teams, a mixture of Advanced, Intermediate, Novice, Beginners and Puppies. People took part as a teams, helping and supporting each other. The tests were set in accordance to the ability of each dog but all the tests were set in the same general manner.

Test 1 was a mark in the water for puppy and beginner, novice dogs had a seen thrown by the handler, who had walked around the lake. The others had a mark and a blind with the blind having to be retrieved first.

Test 2 was a hunting exercise with the dogs having to find dummies hidden in a small plantation and scored on how many they found within 2 minutes.

Test 3 was a mark over a fence for all the dogs but with a blind for the more experienced dogs.

Test 4 was a heel work exercise with a mark thrown for all dogs, further away for the more experienced, the advanced dogs having to go through a gate.

Test 5 was a mark for the more inexperienced dogs, a blind through a gate for novices and a blind for the others over a fence into a plantation. For the advanced, dogs went out of sight.

Test 6 was a walk-up, puppies and beginners went first and they could keep their leads on if wished. The rest went in groups. The novice had seens, while the others had the distractions of the previous seens, but had blinds in the opposite direction.

The more formal tests were followed by a super hog roast lunch.

We then went on to do a dummy throwing competition, a hunting exercise with dummies and soft toys. This proved that most dogs preferred dummies than soft toys! The dogs scored more if they picked a toy. Then the dogs had a go at apple bobbing - a lot of dogs really got the hang of this and thought it great fun. The teams had to split for who did the hunting exercise or apple bobbing.

After tea and cakes Morton thanked all the judges (Terry Dukes, Veronica Harris, Roger Wiggins, Felicity Stevens, Mick Downes and John Jones) for their time and all the dummy throwers and helpers and special thanks to Anna Yates who was in charge of the scoring. Most important a very special thanks to Claire and Roger Raymond for the use of their land and facilities.

RESULTS

Team Competition

1st Pheasant team
2nd Woodcock Team
3rd Duck team

4th Pigeon team
5th Partridge team
6th Grouse team

Individual Dogs

BEGINNERS

1st Rob Pierce
2nd Kerry Flamank
3rd John Allen
4th Steven Braithwaite

PUPPIES

1st Angela Judge
2nd Haydn Ebrey
3rd Anna Jones
4th Nick Swan

NOVICE

1st Steve Prosser
2nd Ken Harris
3rd John Stannard
4th Penny Witcombe

INTERMEDIATE

1st Sonia Skinner
2nd John Gough
3rd Rachel Birch
4th Alison Kieran

ADVANCED

1st Angela Judge
2nd Anna Yates
3rd Julia Redpath
4th Anna Jones.