

Year of Induction 2018

Category – Prominent Persons



JOHN LAWTON – Victoria

Club Activities

In 1979 John purchased his first Golden Retriever - Tang . John joined the Golden Retriever Club that year and soon became an active member and competitor in the club and was keen to compete in Field and Retrieving trials. John instigated the GRCV Retrieving Training days at the monthly members comps. In 1980 John Managed the clubs first Retrieving Trial at McLardy's property in Seymour with family. In the same year John managed the clubs first Spaniel & Retriever Field Trial, obtaining a property in Kyneton that was used for many years to come. Over the following 40 years John, along with his wife Vicky, became active members of the Field and Retrieving Trialing community. During this period John and his dog Tang (RT CH Atawhai Tangaroa CM CD) competed and achieved his Retrieving Trail Champion Title. The first Golden to be awarded this title. Keen to give back to the wider Trialing community, John became an Open Field Trail judge in 1987, followed by Championship Judge in 1992. Since this date John has judged many Field trials both in Victoria and interstate including Championship Trials. He was a member of the Victorian RAFT Committee 1996-2001 representing Spaniel & Retrievers, and chaired RAFT lectures, judges training nights and Rule change submissions.

As Retrieving and Field Trials became more popular and seeking more assistance in running these events instigated the GRCV Working Dog Sub - committee in 1988. Still operating today this committee is a vital unit of the Club and responsible for running all types of trials applicable to working gundogs i.e. Retrieving, Field, Obedience, Tracking and now RATG trials including training days. Many prominent individuals in these sports will have at some point in time been inspired and supported through the activities of this sub-committee.

1991 John became Vice President of the GRCV. In 1993 awarded Life Membership of the GRCV.

Trial- Judging/Stewarding/Managing

Manager of the Golden Retriever Club Field Trials and Retrieving Trials from 1980/1994

1987 Novice and open field trial Judge, and then in 1992 Championship field trial judge.

Judged eleven Novice and thirteen Open Field trials, the 1992 S & R Championship Field trial and eight interstate trials.

Involved on the Labrador sub-committee from 2007 to 2014.

Managed the 2011 Labrador Club Retrieving Trial plus co-managed other Lab trials.

Stewarded at numerous Retrieving trials as well as the Tasmania National.

Member of the Victorian RAFT Committee. 1996-2001

Chaired the RAFT Lectures 1998-2000 (General discussion, judges Nights & Rule change submissions)

Owner/Breeding

Bred a working line of Golden Retrievers

1981 RT.CH. Atawhai Tangarowah CD, first Retrieving Trial champion Golden Retriever in Australia.

FT. CH. Ferntip Golden Spike NRD. CD. Sent to New Zealand to mate with English Holloway Eros to improve the working lines.

In 2001 John and Kane (NAT RT CH Kadnook Sports Extra) won the National Retrieving Trial Championship.

National RT.CH Kadnook sports Extra, Kane,

Progenies from his mating were: Adderslot Crackers Stamp which produced:

2004/2007 NTL & GR...RT CH. Adderslot Crackers Triga CM. & NTL RT.CH. Adderslot Carbo.

Dual GR.RT.CH. Kadnook Sporting Spirit, - Ben,

Progenies are now competing in the All Age Stakes

Elloesse Bold AS Brass RRD, Elloesse I Got You, Kuven Spirit of the Jewel NRD

Handling/Trial History

RT & FT CH. Atawhai Tangaroa CM. CD	Tang	Golden Retriever	1981
Dual CH Show & Field (FT) Tiptree Timothy CD.	Timmy	Golden Retriever	1990
FT. CH. Ferndarra Game seeker NRD	Maria	Golden Retriever	1991
FT. CH. Ferntip Golden Spike NRD. CD.	Jess	Golden Retriever	1993
NAT. RT. CH. Kadnook Sports Extra	Kane	Labrador	2001
RT.CH. Kadnook Sporting Chance	Jock	Labrador	2008
RT. CH. Kadnook Sporting Spirit.	Ben	Labrador	2012
Duel GR. RT. CH. Kadnook Sporting Spirit.	Ben	Labrador	2014

Other

Identifying a lack of availability of specific retriever training equipment in Australia, John opened a small business (Special Dog Accessories) manufacturing throwers (of which most clubs in Aust now use), importing dummies and whistles, and supplying merchandise as trophies to various clubs. More importantly, this connected John with hunting enthusiasts & other fellow competitors that John would encourage to participate in Trials by giving them assistance and training advice.

1995 Organize Gundog demonstrations and Gundog promotion at the Australian Game Fairs with Mr. Gordon Horgan.

2014 Sponsored the design and manufacture of the SA National Leather and Numbered Whistle Lanyards

Participated in various Gundog demonstrations for Field & Game Australia training days.

2012 – 2016 Instigator and donator of the National finisher framed certificates, for the non-placed dogs that finished the ANKC National Trials.

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