

DRAFT MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 20th March 2019

The Southern Golden Retriever Society held its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 20th March 2019 at St Georges Hall, Wrotham, Kent, TN15 7AB.

The President, Mrs Pounds-Longhurst.welcomed members.

“Ladies and gentlemen welcome to our 2019 AGM. Thank you for your attendance.

As you know the Society celebrated its 40th Anniversary in 2018. I am sure founder members involved with the Society’s formation are or would be very proud to see how the Society has evolved with the times, the level of membership being maintained, the range of events and healthy finances in particular the magnificent annual charitable fund raising. I see the amount accrued in 2018 was the largest for any one year for Medical Detection Dogs. Long may all of the good work, continue.

I will reiterate what I said last year which is that none of this would be possible without so much dedication by Officers, Committee members, helpers and members including those prepared to represent the Society at team events. Will you please take this opportunity to show your appreciation for all those involved in 2018”

The Chairman, Mrs Ashley then opened the meeting.

1] Present.

Mrs S Ashley	Mr & Mrs Menter	Mrs A Stephenson	M & Mrs Farmer
Mrs S Pounds-Longhurst	Mrs A Henderson	Miss V Hogg	Mrs H Porter
Mr D Wimsett	Mrs P Byrn	Mr & Mrs M Pett	Mrs W Penfold
Mrs C Hill	Mr & Mrs Elsey	Mr R Gait	Mr N Webb
Mr & Mrs P Mills	Mrs C Jenner	Mr R Fitchett	Mrs J Allen
Mrs C Carter	Mr & Mrs Hutchison	Mrs A Codling	Mrs R Clark
Mr & Mrs S Hunson	Mr D Wilmshurst	Mr & Mrs Wilton	Mrs G Robinson
Mr & Mrs B Farnham	Mr M Sage	Mr & Mrs Richardson	Mr P Blount
Mrs J Sheppard	Mrs C Larkin	Mr S Sear	Mr M Leach
Mrs S Fowler	Mr K Mitchell	Mr J Debnam	Mrs M Jarrett
Mrs B Hayden	Mrs A Gladwin	Mrs F Yarwood	Mrs K Menter

Apologies for Absence.

Mrs J Barrow	Mrs J Cook	Mr M Pounds-Longhurst	Mr N Clark
Mrs A Gait	Mr & Mrs Male	Mrs A Fitchett	Mr H Robinson
Mr & Mrs C Cooper	Mrs L Cooke	Mr R Ashley	Mr D Robinson
Mrs I Bird	Mrs L Sage	Mrs A Benefield	Mrs E Allan-Rossiter
Mrs G Clark	Mrs R Smith	Mrs C Allsop	Mrs M McGookin
Ms A Libby	Mrs J Jankelow	Mr S Weller	Mr & Mrs A Howes

2] Approval of the 2017 AGM Minutes

There were no amendments raised and approval of the minutes from the March 2018 AGM was proposed by Mr R Gait, seconded by Mrs J Elsey, unanimous from those previously present.

3] Matters Arising from the 2018 AGM Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4] Chairman’s Report

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

“Ladies and Gentlemen, I am pleased to present my Annual Report and review of 2018 - with some information relating to 2019.

I am very sad to announce that two long standing members of the Society, Derek Price-Harding and Margaret Poile, have recently died and ask that we take a few moments to remember them.

Thank You

At the end of April we held a Gundog Training Morning followed by a Special Beginner Gundog Test in the afternoon. It was a well-attended, fun event; our Trainers/Judges for the day were Ann Gladwin and James Reavil. Hopefully we will again welcome them as trainers on Sunday 28th April this year.

In May The Fun Day was at a new venue at Horton Kirby for our 40th Anniversary, which gave a bigger area for activities. The Event was run by David Wimsett together with his band of helpers. Congratulations to you all - it was a great day and a superb chance to see the rescue owners and dogs. Once again the surplus was over £2,000, and proceeds were split between Medical Detection Dogs and Southern Golden Retriever Rescue. We hope you will join us at the same venue for this year's Funday on Sunday 26th May

Direct Charity Fund Raising activities this coming year will once again support Medical Detection Dogs. The Society has now raised just under £42,000, since 2012, and David Wimsett, our Committee Member in charge of Fund Raising, has set a target of £50,000.

A rolling raffle this year is being organized by Rachel Clark and will be raising funds for Southern Golden Retriever Rescue. In addition our raffles at the gundog working events will be in aid of Hounds for Heroes.

The Interclub Team who travelled to Scotland on our behalf in 2018 was captained by Andrew Ward Smith together with Kim Jinks, Ian Baker and Nick Coates. On 1st July Sue Jordan with her open dog captained the team who represented us at the Southern Interclub; Steve Bancroft handled the Novice dog and Jan McIlwraith made up the team as the Novice Handler. They came 9th out of 17 teams so they did very well.

Jon Debnam and Philip Blount will be organizing two teams to represent the Society in 2019

2018 we were invited by The Flatcoat Club to join them at Penshurst Place in May for Novice dog Novice handler and Novice Tests. We have invited them to join us at Parklands at Ewshot, Surrey on May 12th, which is a new date to avoid clashes with other Flatcoat and Golden Societies' Open Tests.

We are running a second Novice test this year together with the Puppy, Veteran and Open Working Tests, which will take place at Liz and John Barnes lovely ground at Elstead on the 28th July.

We returned to Ad Astra, at Crowhurst, Surrey, in August last year for the Limited Obedience and Agility Show. Unfortunately that was the last time that we were able to use this venue for this event. We have been very lucky for many years and thank Hazel and Mike Evans for the use of their lovely home.

In 2019 the Obedience Show will be at a different time of year, Sunday 7th April, to try and avoid clashing with the Open Obedience shows. It will be held at Farningham Cricket Club, . We are unable to hold an Agility Show this year as over the last couple of years the entry has dwindled and the costs of hiring the equipment and suitable venue are no longer viable.

The Sponsored Walk at Lullingstone in Kent was postponed for a couple of weeks because of torrential rain. But the weather was glorious for the revised date, and £2,863 was raised for MDD.

The following week we once again returned to Hazelwood School for the Open Show. Mr. R Grimmett had a small but quality entry. Our thanks to Hazel Evans and her team for all their catering over the years. They retired after this event.

Discover Dogs, at the Excel, in October 2018, was very busy. Trevor Hartley and Claire Hill set up an impressive stand, on behalf of the Society and the breed for the KC. Thank you to the experienced owners, breeders and their dogs for their help on the Stand dealing with the sometimes very naive public.

Unfortunately the KC suddenly moved their date for Discover Dogs 2019 to the 12th and 13th of October. We have however managed to alter the Open Show date from the 13th to the 20th October and the venue will be Bletchingley Village Hall.

The 2018 Field Trial was held in November at the Randolph's Farm Shoot, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex. It had a good level of entries and was well attended. Gary Souster was Guns Choice but the Judges felt that no dog was ready to advance to Open, so no other awards were given. Thank you to our new Field Trial Secretary, Philip Blount, for arranging and running the Day.

Pat Taylor and Pauline Wilson had a quality entry at our Championship Show earlier this month. Show Manager, Robert Fitchett, has asked me to thank all who came at 7.00 in the morning to set up the show and for the assistance he had on Saturday getting all the equipment to Guildford. The non-Committee catering team were wonderful, producing teas, coffees, savories and cakes all day.

Thank you also to Committee for their hard work and to the non-Committee Helpers, without whom we would have been unable to manage the Event. Please if you are able to help at the shows add your name to the helpers lists held by Ann Stephenson. It is quite possible that we will have to go back to relying on the Spectrum caterers if we cannot get volunteers. This will be especially relevant in 2020 as we have two Championship Shows scheduled - one in March and one in October

The Southern Golden Retriever Society Display Team was in the Main Arena at Crufts on Saturday and Sunday. Thanks to Karen Menter for managing the Team and to all within the Team who spend so much time helping to make it run so efficiently.

I would like to thank all the Wrotham trainers and helpers for their commitment. Once again SGRS Wrotham training has been extremely busy this year. During the winter months there have been so many people wanting to train their dogs that we have met on both Tuesday (senior) and Wednesday (bronze, silver and gold) evenings.

Thanks go to Pat Brown, Hilary Male and Barbara Mills who have, once again, run eye testing sessions with Mr. Mason in Kent and Sussex.

I hope you have all received your email Bulletin - please see Ann Stephenson afterwards if not. Some members have found their servers are sending it to the junk or spam folders. The Bulletin will keep you updated on what is going on. Also the Southern Golden Retriever Facebook page has lots of News about events and some lovely photos.

We need more Members to come onto sub committees. Your Society is running too many events for the Executive Committee members to be able to attend every event. If we cannot get enough people to run an event without too much of a struggle it might end up being taken out of next year's diary.

My thanks go to the hardworking Committee and to all those who have helped at events.

I am sure you will agree that the SGRS is one of the more active breed societies – with a real breadth and depth of events, bringing benefits both to members and to our wonderful breed. We can be proud of what the society has achieved this year, and I am sure that with your and the Executive Committee's support we will be able to build on this success next year. I look forward in particular to welcoming our new Committee members and to seeing as many of you - and indeed all our members - at our events in the coming year.

Ladies and Gentlemen I thank you and other members for your support and submit my annual report for your acceptance.”

5] Treasurer's Report

Annual Accounts

“Ladies & Gentlemen, I am pleased to present to you the Society's accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018 and am delighted to report another good year. For those of you saw the draft accounts at the Committee Meeting or looked at them on the website, the final version as reviewed by the independent accountant is unchanged except for one adjustment of the same amount to both total income and total expenditure to eliminate some double counting but which has no impact on the overall position. There were also their usual rounding adjustments in a couple of places.

Total income for 2018 was up on the previous year and the position after deducting expenditure was a surplus of £10,457, an increase of £2,263 on the surplus in 2017. Once again, the year's outturn was helped by the large sum, of £7,216 raised for our supported charity - Medical Detection Dogs, which is the largest amount raised in any year and takes the total raised over the past seven years to nearly £42,000. The summary of the Society's Income and Expenditure for the year can be found on the page headed Statement of Financial Activities which shows the totals broken down across different funds. The column headed General Fund shows the income and expenditure for the general activities of the Society and the net result shows a surplus for the year of £2,962, very similar to the 2017 surplus of £2,937. Within the income on General Fund activities, membership subscriptions of £5,456 is up £104 on 2017 and reflects 779 members for 2018. Income from events has increased from £20,167 in 2017 to £21,083 and included two Field Trials but just one Working Test, as the Test held in May was organised by the Flatcoat Retriever Society. The details of income and expenditure for each of the various events are shown on the landscape schedule headed Analysis of Income and Expenditure by Activity. This schedule shows, at the bottom of the left hand column, the net surplus on events run during 2018 is £5,062 compared with £5,054 during 2017, with all activities producing a surplus (albeit only just for the Open Show and the Agility Show). The Fun Day generated a surplus of £2,453 which was split between Rescue and Medical Detection Dogs. A number of the other activities also show donations to other charities from the amounts raised at the raffles held at those events.

Turning back to the Statement of Financial Activities (about half way down the page) under the heading Other Expenditure you will see that management and administration expenses totalled £7,731, up £212 on 2017. Whilst most headings show the same cost or reductions on 2017, the 2018 total includes an increase for Inter Club Working Test expenses as the event was held in Scotland. Although we didn't have the one-off outlay for the members anniversary gift that was incurred in 2017, the Society reimbursed both the cost of overnight accommodation for two members attending Academy breed filming last September of £130 shown under Educational Expenses and also the repair costs for damage to the hire van used for the Championship Show (of £340 included under Other Miscellaneous). So overall, as I mentioned earlier, we ended the year with a surplus of £2,962 on the General Fund which has increased the balance carried forward to £30,659.

The next column along headed MDD Charity Fund shows the amount raised for Medical Detection Dogs, a grand total of £7,216 (on top of which a further £300 was paid directly to MDD). As well as the share of the Fun Day proceeds there has been a steady stream of other fundraising activities and donations throughout the year which have added to the total, including over £3,000 from the Sponsored Dog Walk at Lullingstone Country Park in October and around £1,000 raised at an entertainment evening arranged by Stewart Weller. From the amounts raised in 2018 and the balance carried forward from 2017 we paid a total of £7,600 over to Medical Detection Dogs during the year and the accounts show a balance of £1,028 at 31 December, which has since been paid to MDD.

The next column shows the position on the Health Fund and the contribution of £220 from the 100 Club (compared with £268 in 2017) to give a balance of £10,119 available on the Health Fund. The penultimate column shows the Education Fund to which a further £58 has been added in 2018 to give a total of £226 which will be used for expenditure involved with progressing the Judges Competency Framework.

The other statement headed Balance Sheet shows the Society's assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2018 and a healthy overall financial position. The addition of £1,216 under Fixed Assets includes £241 for replacing the display boards used at Discover Dogs together with £975 for Gazebos purchased by the Display Team which is being charged against the Display Team's activities over three years through the depreciation charge. Debtors includes income of £1,040 relating to the 2018 Financial Year but banked after 31st December. Prepayments amount to £1,120 and cover amounts paid in advance for Kennel Club event licences, first aid courses, web-hosting fees and the 2019 Championship Show schedules which will be charged in subsequent years. Sundry Creditors includes £56 for membership subscriptions received after 1 October and carried forward to 2019 plus the accrual of costs relating to activities in 2018 but not invoiced and paid by the year end.

This completes my report on the Society's accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018 and I would be more than happy to answer any questions. Otherwise, ladies and gentlemen, I should like to ask for your approval of the Annual Accounts for 2018."

Acceptance of the Final Accounts was proposed by Mrs M Pett, seconded Mr P Mills, unanimously approved.

Approval of Auditors

The Society's regulations require its annual accounts to be subject to an independent examination and I would like to recommend continued use of Lindeyer Francis Ferguson, Chartered Accountants of Tonbridge.

Acceptance of the recommended Auditors was proposed by Ms P Byrn, seconded Mr R Gait, unanimously approved.

Annual Review of Subscriptions

With respect to the annual subscription rates, we believe that with continued careful control of expenditure we can manage without raising subscription rates for 2020. I am therefore proposing no change to the current rates (last increased at the 2009 AGM) of £8 for a single membership and £12 for joint membership.

6] SOUTHERN GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE (Registered Charity No. 1098769)

Mr Elsey, as Chairman of the SGR Rescue Trust gave his report:

“Good Evening. 2018 has presented many difficult challenges.

During the year we said goodbye to a further co-ordinator. Myra Corpes had covered the north west Surrey area for several years and we thank her for all her hard work during that time.

We now have 6 co-ordinators, Adrian Chapman, Joan Coppin, Bronwen Martin, Wendy Mercer, Pam Murphy and Wendy Penfold. As Trustee Co-ordinator, Rachel Clark operates as both lead co-ordinator and administrator. In addition, we have a further four active volunteers who operate under the guidance of the co-ordinators. This is a small group of dedicated individuals who give their time freely as volunteers, they cover a huge area of Southern England. Hampshire in the west, west and south London, to Kent in the east. These individuals are the heart of the Charity and have fused into an amazing team. On behalf of my fellow Trustees we can only express our sincere thanks to this teams dedicated service.

The world the Charity operates in today is vastly different to that which existed when the Charity was established in 2003. As a dog rehoming Charity, we offer a service and provide advice to the General Public. Therefore, the Charity assumes huge responsibilities and obligations in its day to day running.

In 2018 the Charity faced a huge challenge. New data protection regulations came into force on the 25th May in the form of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This had significant impact for the Charity as we hold personal data on many of the general public. It is impossible for me to summarise this here as I would be speaking all night! However, for the Charity to conform we firstly had to determine what data we hold both electronically and in hard copy, secondly where this was stored and thirdly what we use it for. It became evident that this was a very difficult task as records were held in different forms in many locations.

The second phase involved communicating with existing contacts to explicitly receive permission to store their data and their rights to access, correct and under certain circumstances delete data. For new contacts modifying the forms we use to collect data, spelling out how that data will be used and giving their permission for us to store it.

The third phase was to develop a SGRR Data Protection Policy and a Complaints Procedure and load these to our Rescue website.

The work involved to get this has been huge. The burden of this work was undertaken by our Trustees David Farnham and Rachel Clark. The other Trustees and the Charity owe these two individuals a huge debt of gratitude. However, this is still a work in progress with two big areas, 'How we store the data' and 'Security of data' under review. This exercise has subsequently provided major benefits with respect to the records we hold on the dogs we have rehomed.

I stated earlier in this address of the responsibilities and obligations of the Charity. It is vital that we provide the highest level of protection for the Charity, Trustees and co-ordinators. It is imperative that we purchase the highest level of insurance protection available. In the early part of 2018, we undertook a major exercise to determine what insurance was in place, what coverages we required and what was available in the insurance market. It was evident that the arrangements in place were insufficient for our requirements. However, to seek upgraded coverage and pricing options we had to provide significant information with respect our 'Working Practices', the Forms we utilise and even provide a 'Health and Safety Policy' and 'Risk Assessments'.

A major benefit of our new insurance arrangements is access to a legal advice helpline. This became invaluable with a difficult rehoming issue later in 2018. The matter is confidential, but I believe for the first time in the Charity's history the Trustees unanimously agreed we should seek legal advice. The advice we received was very helpful to enable the Charity to set out our position.

I have spent this time on these admin matters to demonstrate the amount of time the Trustees, co-ordinators and volunteers have and must devote to ensure the correct administration of the Charity. I now turn my attention to the rehoming of the dogs.

In 2018 we rehomed 44 dogs into new homes (43 in 2017). The age range was 4 months to 14 years. 12 were pups aged under a year old. Perhaps this reflects the ease of obtaining a pup. One of the boys we fostered was spotted in an advert, purchased and taken home all on one day, neither buyer or seller knowing anything at all about each other or the origins and welfare of the pup. We were asked to rehome 9 dogs because the owners could not cope with their behaviour.

Sadly, three of those rehomed dogs had such difficult and unacceptable behaviour that co-ordinators had to have them put to sleep. None of us take this critical decision lightly and we explore every possible avenue of support for each dog before euthanasia. Fortunately, Wendy Penfold has developed a very useful link with both Raystede, East Sussex and Battersea, London. Wendy works closely with them to assess and rehabilitate some Golden Retrievers with difficult behaviour issues.

18 dogs were rehomed with existing medical conditions which the Charity will underwrite for the life of the dog adding to our ongoing financial commitments.

In addition to the 44 dogs fully rehomed there were a further 10 dogs that co-ordinators helped considerably. One dog was able to remain in her original home thanks to our good advice. Another dog was eventually withdrawn when the ownership and origins could not be adequately substantiated. A young dog with epilepsy was homed through another organisation but the owner and the dog benefitted significantly from our sensible advice given over many days. In addition, we were able to provide help to an SGR Society member with fostering care for her dogs during an illness. We are highlighting these additional cases because they all take a considerable amount of time, travel costs and most importantly good judgement by our team and we are particularly keen that this work is recognised.

We are receiving far fewer quality homes needed to adopt our dogs. There has been a dramatic increase in other Golden Retriever rescue charities importing hundreds of dogs, presumably using some of these homes.

The SGR Society Fun Day this year was held in a new venue – the Horton Kirby and South Darenth Village Hall. It seemed a popular choice, there was plenty of room and parking was much easier. It was a scorching hot day but there was a good turnout of Rescue dogs and their owners, with a total of 35 dogs parading round the ring. The 'Holly Trophy' for the oldest dog present was awarded to Toby, owned by Lucy Komoneski. As always, the Charity is very grateful for receiving part of the proceeds from the Kent day.

Finally, here are some of the financial highlights of 2018. These are provisional numbers only pending the release of our audited Financial Statement later in the year.

- Income decreased from £ 52,200 to £ 22,000 (due to less bequests)
- Expenditure increased from £ 27,600 to £ 40,700
- Total Reserves decreased from £203,570 to £184,850
- Medical Support Fund (MSF) * increased from £ 57,070 to £ 62,500

* Provision in the balance sheet for future veterinary expenditure for those dogs we rehome with existing conditions which the Charity underwrite. (our Treasurer is awaiting final numbers)

- Maximum Available Funds decreased from £146,510 to £122,350 (-16.5%)

I am unable to officially comment on the above numbers due to the fact the Trustees will be discussing them at our next meeting on 30th March 2019. However, it is a fact that our expenditure on veterinary expenses increased to £30,500 from £23,000 in 2017, an eye watering circa. 33% rise. Over the past five years we have out laid over £100,000 on vet expenses.

In the short and medium term our position remains stable, the long term needs constant review. Thank-you”.

7] Election of Officers and Committee:

The Chairman confirmed “All the Committee Officers standing for re-election are returned unopposed, Mrs Sue Pounds- Longhurst, Mrs Carole Carter, Mrs Barbara Mills, Sus Ashley, Ann Stephenson, Valerie Hogg and Jan Wilton.

The Two nominations for the Committee vacancies have been elected both Mr. Jon Debnam and Mr David Wilmshurst were co-opted during 2018 and have been working with the Committee most of this year. Would you please come forward and collect your Committee Badges.

We were sorry to lose David Hutchison who stood down during 2018. He was Field Trial Secretary and helped with a great variety of tasks having attended most of the Society events, would you please accept your gift ”

8] Proposals:

As there are no proposals submitted for this AGM the Chairman handed over to Mandy Pett for the Annual Award of Trophies

9] Annual Award of Trophies:

Marresa Salver Presented by Mrs McKenna and the Late Mr McKenna	For dog/bitch winning most Challenge Certificates in 2018 <i>Mesdames Zubair and Loach's SH CH Billy Elliot De Ria Vela JW</i>
Hare of the Dog Trophy Presented by Miss R Wilcock	Best opposite sex to the Marresa Trophy <i>Mrs Morss's CH Xanthos Givency JW</i>
Eng.Berm & Can Ch Camrose Evenpatrol Trophy Presented by Mr. & Mrs R.A. Johnson	Presented by Mr & Mrs Johnson to be awarded for the dog/bitch achieving most points in 2018 gained in the show ring and any one of the three remaining disciplines of obedience, working tests or field trials. <i>NO CLAIMS</i>
Ch Scotangus of Mossburn Trophy Presented by Mr & Mrs Pounds-Longhurst	For dog/bitch and owner/handler living in the SGRS area with highest number of points won at shows in breed classes only in 2018 <i>1st – Mrs Pounds- Longhurst's Rosgar Dolly O'Dare amoung Mossburn 2nd – Mesdames Smith & Hill's Serendipity Dog Principe James con Rosgar JW 3rd – Mr & Mrs Pett's Stormerick High Hopes at Rumwood ShCM 4th – Mr & Mrs Pett's Lady in Red de Ambersclan of Rumwood 5th – Mrs S Pounds-Longhurst's– Brodene Tempestivity to Mossburn</i>
Mossburn Sandpiper Trophy Presented by Mr & Mrs Pounds-Longhurst	For the highest placed dog/bitch competing for the Ch Scotangus of Mossburn Trophy which has also gained a Show Gundog Working Certificate <i>Mrs S Pounds-Longhurst's Brodene Tempestivity to Mossburn</i>

Mossburn Trophy Presented by Mr & Mrs Pounds-Longhurst	For dog/bitch winning the most Best of Breeds at Open Shows only in 2018 <i>Mr & Mrs I Pett's Stormerick High Hopes At Rumwood</i>
Treena Trophy Presented by Mrs G Green	For dog/bitch gaining the most points in SGRS Obedience Classes in 2018 <i>Mrs Larking's Kensteen Summer Son</i> <i>Mrs Menter's Varches Summertime</i>
The Sheena Trophy Presented by Mrs P Clarke	For dog/bitch gaining the most points in Obedience at Open and CH Obedience Shows. <i>NO CLAIMS</i>
The Sheena Cup Presented by Mrs C West	For the Runner-up to the Sheena Trophy <i>NO CLAIMS</i>
The Peredhil Annual Trophy Presented by the SGRS in memory of the late Miss J Lavender	For dog/bitch belonging to a member gaining the most points in SGRS working events in 2018 <i>Mrs Lidinson's Evergolden Wizards Majic</i> <i>Mrs Menter's Varches Summertime</i>

10] Any Other Business.

The Chairman asked the meeting if there was any other business.

Mrs Hutchison asked what the filming expenses detailed in the accounts were for. The President explained that this was for a Kennel Club educational breed film to be uploaded on to the Academy website later in the year,

Mrs Farmer queried that there should have been a reference to the work done by Karen Menter for the Display Team. The Chairman confirmed her thanks to her were included in the Chairman's report.

The Chairman then thanked all those present for attending, the members of Committee and those who had helped with the catering and closed the meeting at 8.50pm. The meeting was invited to partake of the refreshments after a short presentation about the work of Medical Detection Dogs by their Ambassador, Doug Brown.