

Finally there seems some light at the end of the tunnel and our lives are starting to feel more normal.

The GSDL Council would like to extend our deepest sympathy to all members who have lost family and friends during the pandemic.

Your Council has been focussed on how we can reach out to more fans of the GSD and facilitate more interest groups to enjoy activities with their dogs.

Our thanks in particular go to Ang Walden who has been working tirelessly to get new initiatives off the ground, Natalie Bainbridge and Susan Cuthbert who have produced amazing magazines full of excellent articles, Gill Ward who has produced some really informative articles on many aspects of owning a GSD and Chris Hazell who continues to support GSD owners who encounter health problems - with help and advice as well as collating data to help us and the KC to identify trends and areas that requires research.

We now have a Facebook Group called GSD League Companion Dog Group where you can “meet” and share your love of your GSD with fellow fans. Our website has many guidance sheets on issues which you may face as a new GSD Owner.

The GSDL Council has been very concerned about the huge escalation in puppy buying scams and bad breeding practices in the race to supply the unprecedented demand for puppies which arose during the pandemic. GSDL members sign up to our code of conduct and we do monitor activity and work with the KC when we become aware of bad breeding activity. We support breeders with a stud dog register, litter health test verification service and free membership of our organisation for their new puppy owners to help them along the exciting path of owning a GSD pup.

We have launched an annual competition for members who participate in agility and support the Great Britain team who enter the WUSV World Agility Championship and hope that we can support more GSD owners to get involved in this really rewarding activity.

Of course, this is alongside our long standing breed shows and IGP trials. Now that restrictions are beginning to lift, events are being organised. There are now three Regional shows being organised in July and others being planned for later in the year. Several club IGP trials have taken place and are planned for the future. The GSDL Working Dog Group GSD and All Breed National IGP Championship will be held in July and qualifying trial for the WUSV World Championship and Universal Sieger will take place in September.

We are very proud to recently have received an email from the WUSV administration congratulating the club on the growth in our membership at a time when most clubs are declining in numbers. The GSDL now has more than 700 members - up from less than 600 pre-pandemic. We hope that our efforts to welcome newcomers into our organisation will help us to continue to grow and we encourage you to let us now what we can do to help you and your dogs.

We are currently working on the arrangements for the forthcoming AGM - please keep the date free - 15th August 2021. This AGM is especially important - we need all members to come along and help decide the future direction of the organisation. Have your say!

For more information please visit our organisation websites and social media.

[GSD League of GB](#)

[GSDL British Regional Groups](#)

[GSDL Working Dog Branches](#)

[GSD League Facebook Page](#)

[GSDL BRG Facebook Page](#)

[GSDL Companion Dog Facebook Group](#)

[GSDL Agility Facebook Group](#)

[GSDL Working Branches Facebook Group](#)

Best wishes to you all,

Shirley Hutchinson

GSDL Chair / GSDL WUSV Co-ordinator / WUSV/GSDL - BRG Secretary