The Inter Counties Team Event for the Kelly Memorial Shield was held today. Organised by SEGS who were last year's winners there were 13 teams taking part. The venue was Isenhurst Estate by kind permission of Clive and Gilly Nickols and the judges were Kevin Doughty, Diana Harrison, Helena Sully and Gilly Nickols.

There were four tests in the morning:

Test 1

3 blind retrieves with no shot over fences on open heather heathland Test 2

1 mark and 2 blind retrieves over a small pond Test 3

3 marked retrieves all landing on the far bank of a steep gully Test 4

2 marks at difficult angles over a long lake and a blind between them During the morning each dog picked two marked retrieves and two blinds.

After lunch there were two further tests:

Test 5 "The Drive"

Dogs sat through a mini drive of clays with dummies being thrown. They then had to pick 3 blinds on the far side of a lake a long way back from the water's edge Test 6 "Walk Up"

Each dog had to pick two marked retrieves, one long and one short again on open heather heathland with a wooded area All together there were 7 retrieves to pick during the day.

Many congratulations to all those who were in the awards and a special mention to the top dog who is still a puppy!!

1st Kennet Valley ~ Mike Rollinson, Jo Rollinson and Rob Smallman 2nd Arun and Downland 3rd Dukeries (Notts) 4th Kent Surrey & Sussex Top Dog Lesley Compton with GRB Catcombe Cygnet A huge well done and thank you to all the competitors for their sportsmanship, to the judges for their time and expertise and to the helpers for their generosity. It was a lovely if rather long day!!

Gilly xx