

Jill Gardner GRC Bio

I've been lucky enough to have been with Golden Retrievers all my life having grown up with them, the breed was my natural choice as an adult.

As my first golden, I homed a rescue show line dog in 1986 who lived a wonderfully happy family pet life. I was also closely connected to Joan Gill and Daphne Philpott and it was Daphne who introduced me to the working side of Goldens. I discovered you could be out in a field, with Golden Retrievers training them to achieve amazing things and I was hooked!

I got my first working line pup in 1989 and she won her first field trial award while still a puppy! She had many working test and field trial awards so it was a wonderful way to meet and get involved with the working golden community. I've been there ever since.

So far, I've had over 20 working goldens. They've all, at a minimum, regularly worked in the field and most have competed in working tests and field trials achieving wins and numerous awards. I've been on various Gundog committees over the years organising events and co-ordinating teams.

Since retiring from my work in nuclear decommissioning engineering, I spend a lot of time helping people train their gundogs. I've been able to learn so much from the wide range of people and training challenges they bring me! It's a most rewarding way to be able to help and gain experience.

Although I have judged tests and trials for many years, in 2022 I became a B panel Field trial judge. This has also opened up opportunities for me to judge abroad which has been most interesting and at times challenging!

I am passionate about the Golden Retriever breed and have been a member of the GRC since 1989. I have assisted with training and hosting for Golden 'Taster' days to encourage more owners, particularly with show lines to have a go at Gundog training.

I have managed the GRC Archives for the last 4 years and have been delivering a project to update and more securely manage and store the important club and breed history. I have won and been placed at Crufts in the Ft classes and the club Championship show going to ringcraft classes to learn but haven't quite got as far as being able to do a show trim! I leave that to the professionals.

I have also been a member of the Golden Retriever Gundog training demonstration team at the National Game Fair for 6 years so we can show off our breed.

I am a reliable team player and a good communicator and I would be pleased to be able to contribute to the GRC Committee.

Jill Gardner
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