

3.3 – *Collecting*

Many people gain a great deal of pleasure from collecting and dog enthusiasts are no exception. Many homes belonging to the Golden Retriever fraternity have paintings and statues adorning their sitting rooms. In the very early years of the Breed's development, famous artists such as Binks and Earl, were commissioned by members of the landed gentry to paint their beloved Golden Retrievers and a number of these paintings still survive today. Those fortunate enough to visit the Golden Retriever exhibition at the Kennel Club in London in 2009 were able to see a wonderful display of art, sculpture, figurines, badges and even some historical Guisachan tweed and the priceless Stud record book of the First Lord Tweedmouth. It was a privilege to view some of the early paintings first hand. Of particular interest was the original of the Hon Henry Graves RA painting of the 5th Earl of Ilchester with Ada. The foundation bitch of his kennel and from a repeat mating of the first litter by Nous and Belle. The whereabouts of the famous painting by Gourlay Steele of Mary Marjoribanks on Sunflower which contains one of Lord Tweedmouth's dogs from the first litter, is known by only a select few (including the Weeks family and photographer Lynn Kipps.) According to Anne Weeks, The Golden Retriever world's extremely talented photographer, Lynn Kipps, spent many many hours painstakingly piecing together hundreds of photographs in order to reconstruct this outstanding painting specifically for the exhibition. The final result can be seen in the photograph overleaf. Also exhibited were a number of paintings of Mrs Cottingham's Woolley Golden Retrievers by famous artist Reuben Ward Binks. Those who were in a position to visit the exhibition would have gained enormous pleasure from it.

These days the internet gives enthusiasts countless opportunities to collect all things Golden Retriever. Items range from very cheap stamps or swap cards right through to very expensive figures by well known names such as Lalique or Royal Doulton. New ideas are always coming onto the market. However there will always be a place for commissioned portraits of our beloved Goldens, just as the landed gentry had all those years ago.

Some collectibles may increase greatly in value over time. As a suggestion perhaps some of these items could be auctioned off in order to raise money in areas which enthusiasts feel would be of benefit to the Breed. Some years ago the author posed a question on the internet asking that if Breed Clubs had some sort of windfall where breeders would prefer to see the money spent. Below are a number of the suggestions put forward:

– The Guide Dogs for the Blind, Pets as Therapy, Canine Epilepsy Research, Rescue/Recovery Services, Education, Donations to Vet Hospitals, Premature Death in Goldens, DNA Research – Gene markers e.g. HD, Cataracts, Semen/embryo storage – to disseminate gene puddles around the world, Superior Sire and Dams records as in Dairy Cattle and Medical Research.

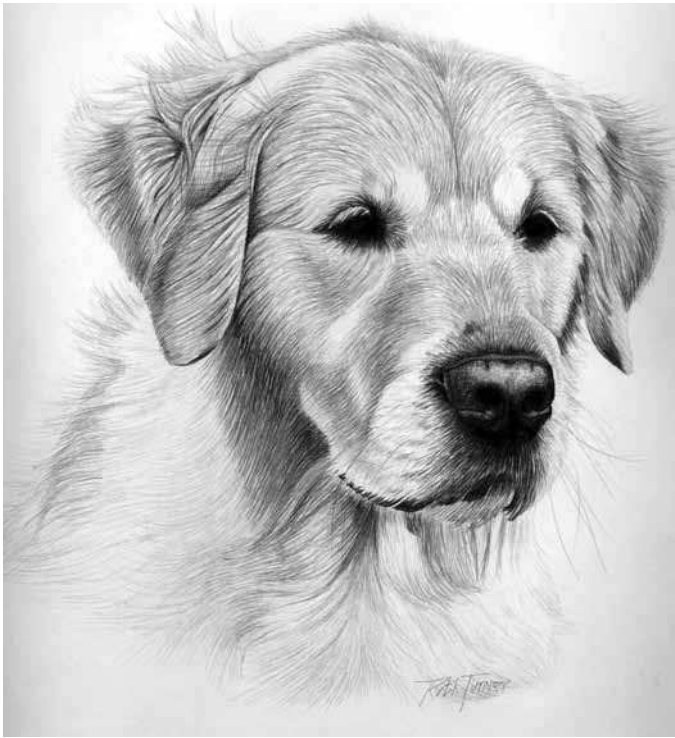
Other suggestions included perpetual trophies. Bringing out overseas judges (although a few negative responses were raised with spending money for such purposes as some thought this should be done at a Club level and it was even suggested that it may be a bit of a waste of money and in regard to perpetual trophies). And with regard to research, there were some concerns about the money being swallowed up too quickly and that we may not be totally sure that the money will be used for the purpose in which it was intended. I think we would have to be careful with research that we are not re-inventing the wheel, in that, if research is already being done in a particular country such as the US, Britain or Canada, it better use to put the money in some other worthwhile area. It was also suggested that we look after the Golden Retrievers which need looking after now, before we jump in and look at those in the future.

Some other suggestions for fundraising were: A donation of \$5-\$10 per puppy, \$20 per Stud Fee, Auctions, Canine Cake Walk, Self compiled Cookbook, Ebay Auctions for Canine Health, Fundraising Parties, in lieu of Birthday Presents, Judging Fees donated, Memorial Ads, Memorial Program, Raffles, Ringside seats at Specialty Shows, theme baskets, and even shave a head for Canine Health. (now that would be commitment!).

The Kennel Club Library, quite apart from the famous Guisachan Record Book, houses the largest collection of canine resources in Europe and each year welcomes visitors from all around the world. Anyone with an interest in the Dog World can busy themselves for hours or even days in this building. A museum next door often houses an exhibition on a specific breed and is certainly worth a visit. As previously mentioned, in 2009 The Kennel Club held an exhibition specific to Golden Retrievers.

Sincere appreciation is expressed to the Kennel Club for permission to include the picture on the next couple of pages, taken during the exhibition.

SECTION 3: TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS



Eng Ch Oystergold Pandorina of Vinecroft.



Copyright Ruth Turner. Eng Ch Noranby Campfire.

Copyright Marcia Schelr.



Ruth Turner's Puppies.

Copyright Ruth Turner.

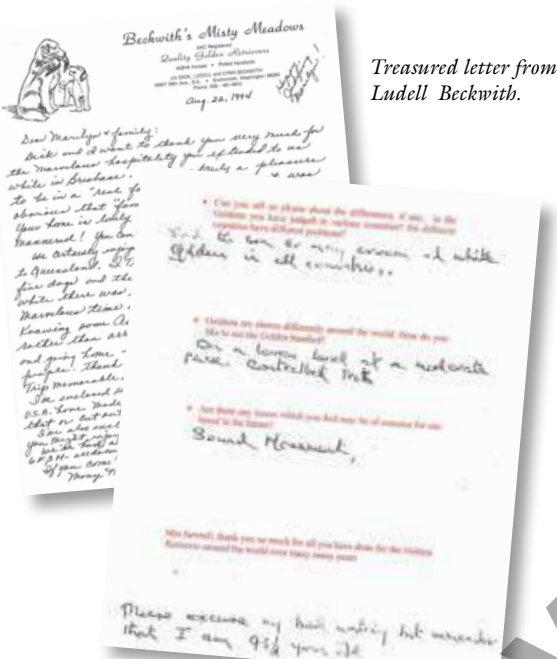




A collection of books relevant to Golden Retrievers.



A miscellaneous collection of Golden Retriever memorabilia.



Treasured letter from Ludell Beckwith.



Autographs of Miss Gill, Mrs Philpott, Mrs Sawtell and 2nd Lord Tweedsmouth.



Golden Retriever Journal articles from the 1960s

Interview from Mrs Sawtell at 93 and a half.



Collector cards and stamps.



Article about a history making AI litter by Eng Ch Camrose Cabus Christopher in Norway.



Article on the title of Christopher's son more than 30 years after his father's death.



Collector plates.



Cigarette Card - 1934.



Matted papers purchased on ebay.

One More Dog

One dog is no trouble and two are so funny
The third one is easy, the fourth one's a honey
The fifth is delightful, the sixth's one a breeze
You find you can live with a houseful with ease
So how about another? Would you really dare?
They're really quite easy, But Oh Lord the hair

With dogs on the sofa and dogs on the bed,
And crates in the kitchen, It's no bother you said
They're really no trouble, their manners are great
What's just one more dog and one more crate?

The sofa is hairy, The windows are crusty
The floor is all footprints the furniture's dusty
The housekeeping suffers but what do you care?
Who minds a few nose prints and a little more hair?
So let's keep a puppy, You can always find room
And a little more time for the dust cloth and broom

There's hardly a limit to the dogs you can add
The thought of a cutback sure makes you feel sad

Each one is special, so useful, so funny,
The food bill grows larger, you owe the vet money
Your folks never visit, few friends come to stay
Except other dog folks who live the same way

Your lawn has now died and our shrubs are dead too
Your weekends are busy, you're off with the crew
There's dog food and vitamins, training and shots
And entries and travel and motels that cost lots
Is it worth it you wonder? Are you caught in a trap?
Then that favourite comes up and climbs in your lap
His look says you're special and you know that you will

Keep all the critters in spite of the bill
Some just for showing and some just to breed
And some just for loving, They all fill a need

Winter is a hassle but the dogs love it true
And they must have their walks though you're numb
and you're blue

Late evening is awful, you scream and you shout
At the dogs on the sofa which refuse to go out
The dogs and the dogs shows, the travel, the thrills,
The work and the worry, The pressure the bills,
The whole thing seems worth it, the dogs are your life
They're charming and funny and offset the strife

Your lifestyle has changed, things just won't be the same
Yes those dogs are addictive and so's the dog game.

Author Unknown



Bianca Kramer (Riverstone NZ) and her pals.



Winterlea In My Fathers Eyes (AI) by Aust Ch Arangold Cambrian (Imp NZ) out of NZ Ch Winterlea Sheeza Breeze, bred by M Saunders owned by M Rennie. Photo courtesy of Pepper Rose Photography.

SECTION 4:

Breed Health

Property of Morphnet