

Logo at the IGL

Balbirnie Logo of Thornship put in a very good performance at this year's IGL 2-day. On day one he completed three retrieves and joined 10 of the 24 dogs in being taken through to day 2.

His first retrieve on day 2 was a blind, a partridge having been shot out of sight to the left, under trees in long white grass. With only one handle he reached the area and picked out of sight with a smart return and delivery.

His next effort was on a runner in a similar place, delayed while the gallery was moved. He reached the fall at speed and did an excellent job at hunting out the area without success. A second dog and the judges searched without success.

His second retrieve was more difficult, a partridge shot in front to the left into a hollow in white grass. He could not mark the bird but worked hard on the area with several handles to eventually pick out of sight.

Finally on day one he marked a bird shot on the hill left in sugar beet and retrieved at speed without handling.

Day two began with a partridge drive and we sat for three quarters of an hour in a stubble field while partridges were shot around and close to the dogs. A number of hares also emerged from the maize strip and tested the steadiness of dogs.

Logo had on retrieve on the open stubble and collected a bird at 80 metres without handling.

Moving back to the white grass Logo came back in line for the fourth round and immediately a bird was shot over a fence and a river, falling out of sight into ruts on a track.

Two dogs from the left were sent without success then we were taken across to try. Logo made the fence and crossed the water without difficulty and handled well to get to the area of the fall. He hunted hard but it was not possible to pin him on the fall which was out of sight. Eventually called up, he was followed by the fourth dog which also failed to pick.

Sadly the judge took the bridge and looked hard to eventually find the bird in a rut in the area indicated. While it is not unusual to be difficult to pick partridges in September it was disappointing not to be in the seven dogs who remained.

John Halsted was also lost and with another couple of retrieves Laura Hill was declared the winner. Just two COMs were given, to David Field and Keith Bedford.

It had been a long drive from Cumbria to Norfolk but worth it to see Logo in such good form.