

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

December 2007



From the Chair

The last time I saw Wendy she was sitting in the middle of the floor surrounded by piles of hand-written notes, press cuttings, photographs and large yellow sheets of card. She has been working frantically, tracking down contacts for past members, chatting them up, begging and borrowing photographs and press cuttings, and scribbling down all the information she has gleaned. She has become the Club Historian!

The culmination of all this work will be on show at the Club's anniversary party on Saturday 15th December. Along with Wendy, other people have been busy too. I hear that Kevin has dusted off his cake-making skills, Karen is trying to find time to process a huge number of photos and videos so that they can be presented, and Louise has been keeping an eye on everything, and trying to keep track on those who are coming. The disco's been booked, and Maureen Sanderson will be putting on her chef's hat to supervise the production of food (members volunteering their own culinary specialities should let Louise know).

It'll be a 'good do' with lots of familiar faces from the past.

Ian Hutchinson

30th Anniversary Party

Preparations for the Club's 30th anniversary party on **Saturday 15th December** at **East Hagbourne Village Hall** from **7.30 - 11pm** (entry from 6pm for those helping to set up) are well underway.

If you haven't said you'd come, it's not too late to accept - just let Louise Crone have the number of people you'll be bringing.

Wendy has been preparing information from the early days, and we have photographs going back a long way. Want to see what some of our current, more established members looked like in their hey-day?

Despite all the work, there are sure to be gaps, and a book will be available for members to add their own memories. And the plan is to produce some type of book with the key events from the past 30 years, to have available at the AGM, when we hope to have the display on show again for those who can't make the party.

Excellent company, a disco for those with energy, a quiet room to chat and reminisce, and scrummy food. What more can you ask for?

No agility training on 27th December

Competition night 13th and Fun night 20th December

Resume 3rd January



Agility News

The last agility training will be on **Thursday 20th December**, when there will be a festive flavour. We'd like everyone there for the whole evening, so **please turn up at 7.30** to help set up the courses. You will work in teams, completing both courses. Although there won't be any formal training, you will be working together as a team - helping each other (for example, when walking the course). There may even be the odd prize or two!

This is an opportunity to meet with and natter to members of the club you don't normally have a chance to see.

The club will provide soft drinks, and we'd like some volunteers to bring along nibbles to share. And we'll need some help running the rings. Please, don't be shy, let someone know that you'd like to help.

We need a rough idea of how many are coming, so please add your name to the list on the noticeboard if you'd like to join us.

Jacky Hutchinson



Agility Boasts

Rugby: Sat 8th December

Gill & Chi - 8th Open Agility (180 dogs)

GT Agility (Cheltenham): Sat 1st December:

Gill & Chi - 1st Championship Agility (8 dogs)

Gill & Chi - 2nd Championship Jumping (8 dogs)

Gill & Tess - CR Novice Jumping (50 dogs)

Agility news

Kennel Club Agility Liaison Council

Kennel Club agility in the UK is governed by the Kennel Club Agility Liaison Council, with representatives covering regions throughout the country. The council has a meeting on 17th January 2008 and the agenda for this meeting can be seen on the Kennel Club website.

Recommendations include

- the dimensions for the wishing well,
- changes to eliminate an anomaly wrt grading,
- the gap between weaving poles is a fixed length,
- dogs being kept on the lead when not competing or exercising
- softer material for tyres
- a shorter time from winning out to competing at next grade
- minimum time to walk courses

discussion topics include:

- points from limited shows where class sizes are reasonable size
- should helter skelter be a special class?
- half-day licences work to allow judges to work their dogs in the other half day?

If anyone has any strong feelings about any of these, let me know. We have the ability to feed comments into the meeting via our region rep.

Checkout the Kennel Club web, or see the noticeboard for the details.

And don't forget that the fees are increasing in the new year. The monthly standing order will rise to £12 and other fees accordingly.

Jacky Hutchinson

Dates for your diary

Thursday 13th December - Competition night at Agility

Saturday 15th December - Wallingford's 30th anniversary party at East Hagbourne Village Hall.

Sunday 16th December - last flyball training this year, with fun and games.

Monday 17th to Saturday 22nd December - Olympia Horse Show, with various agility finals.

Thursday 20th December - Last agility training session - with fun and games..

2008

Thursday 3rd January - 1st agility training class for the year.

Sunday 6th January - 1st flyball training.

Thursday 6th - Sunday 9th March - Crufts at the NEC, Birmingham.

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th April 2008 - Wallingford's Open *Agility* Show at Newbury Showground.



Members corner

Honey, that star of the stage, has landed herself another starring role! This time she is sharing the key canine role with 2 other small dogs in the The Wizard of Oz at The Haymarket in Basingstoke. So far, Honey hasn't put a paw wrong! Jose has details of productions, and will be able to tell you which performances will star Honey.

