



Left: Alf 1<sup>st</sup>,  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
at SWAT



Right: new  
Tidmarsh  
puppy  
Sonic

# Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

August 2012



Left: Pip  
with her  
two 1<sup>st</sup>  
places won  
at the  
Agility Club  
show

Right: Rory  
and Pip win  
at KCI



## A word from the editor



Suddenly August Bank Holiday is just around the corner, and I have just been rained on! You can always rely on the British weather. I hope you have all enjoyed yourselves during the summer break.

The tradition of cakes at training from those who are lucky enough to win is something I have been able to take part in for the first time ever this month, as my amazing Alf finally won me out of grade 1. My first win in 8 years of competing!

I do have a request for those who bring cakes – please could people put a little note by them so we can see whose win we are celebrating, as not everyone reads the Wiki or puts their wins on there, and I do like to know who I am saluting as I eat. Wendy always puts a little sticker on hers, and I think it is a really nice touch that we should all adopt. I certainly wasn't brave enough to shout out at everyone that my cakes were for Alf, but I did appreciate those who said well done to me, and I wished I had put a note on the cake box.

Thank you to everyone for their contributions to Watchdog this month, and please do remember to send in any photos you would like included next month – particularly agility photos of shows, demos, or rosettes! Please keep the articles coming too – deadline for the next issue is 21<sup>st</sup> September.

*Alison Pearce*

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## Key points from WDTC Committee Meeting



The WDTC committee met on Wednesday 25th July 2012.

- 1) **Wallingford 2013 Open Agility Show** at Newbury Showground: **20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> April 2013**. **All club members put this in your diary now!** If you are not competing, this is an excellent opportunity to see how an agility show works. Please remember that the funds raised by the show pay for your training equipment and guest trainers through the year, so please help out and help the club make the show a great success.
- 2) Please keep Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October free. Club members are welcome to come along to help the committee **sort out the equipment container** and the demo trailer. We will also undertake some maintenance work followed by a get together at a pub afterwards.
- 3) **Club Entertainment** – We have 2 provisional dates for another Barn Dance: October 27<sup>th</sup> or November 17<sup>th</sup>. Keep watch for further details
- 4) The committee are working on a **Plan/Strategy for the club**. We need to have a plan for the future and vision for the club, not just what we are currently spending money on. So we will be looking at a training strategy, the number and type of workshops we should have, how we can give more back to club members and planning for the future i.e. looking for a more suitable venue etc. Watch this space for updates on this work.

5) **Club Kit** – not many people have signed up for the new kit (*pictured below*). Jo Tidmarsh will be ordering soon so please get your requests in ASAP.



6) The committee will be looking at resurrecting the **Bronze, Silver, Gold awards** for dogs in training - watch this space for details.

7) The committee are always looking to keep our equipment up to date and one item we plan to buy this year will be some **timing gates**.

8) **Next Demo:** Dizzy Dogs Day at Farmer Gows, Longcot Nr. Faringdon SN7 7PR.  
8<sup>th</sup> September – see Wiki/Facebook for details or speak to Wendy at training.

9) Some of our up and coming Juniors will be at **Newbury Show** this year and they need a Scrimmer and Timekeeper – if you can help at all please contact Jo Tidmarsh.

10) The committee are looking at **club awards** that are given out at the AGM. We are hoping to create a new award for a non-competing beginner. Details to follow.

If you would like a full copy of the minutes from the meeting please contact Karen Parker by email on ([karen.parker1@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:karen.parker1@environment-agency.gov.uk)).

Karen Parker

## Agility news

### Agility Boasts – up to 24<sup>th</sup> August



#### TAG Summer 21- 23 August

Jill & Cass CR C3-5 Jumping (98) - Wed  
Jill & Cass 6th C3-5 Jumping (80) - Thur



#### Teejay 18-19 August

Dinah & Cinders 2nd Mid Nov Stch 1 Q (6)  
Dinah & Cinders 2nd Mid Nov Stch 2 Q (6)  
Sarah & Foxy CR Max Nov Stch 1 Q (13)  
Sarah & Merlin CR Max Nov Stch 2 Q (13)



#### Dogs In Need 14-18 August

Aileen & Rockett 14th G3 Jump (132)  
Aileen & Rockett 15th G3 Jump (126)



#### Adams 10-12 August

Carolyn & Ollie **1st G1-4 Ag (50 G3)** - Fri  
Carolyn & Ollie **1st G1-3 Ag (80 G3)** - Sat  
Carolyn & Ollie **1st G1-3 Ag (80 G3)** - Sun  
Carolyn & Ollie **1st G1-4 Jump (80 G3)**  
Carolyn & Ollie 2nd Adams Jumping Cup  
C1-3 (111) - **Qualified for Final in 2012**  
Carolyn & Ollie - 3rd Adams Derby C3-5  
(111) - **Qualified for Final in 2013**  
Carolyn & Max - 3rd G6-7 Ag (40 G6)  
Carolyn & Max - CR G6-7 Ag (50 G6)







THE KENNEL CLUB

### Kennel Club Festival 10-12 August

Rory & Pip **1st International Young Handler – Ag (22) Qualified for the final**

Rory & Ammo **1st International Young Handler – Jump (22)**

Rory & Ammo **2nd YKC Crufts Ag (24) Qualified for Crufts**

Jill & Cass **2nd G5 Ag (87)**

Jill & Cass **3rd G5 Ag (95)**

Jill & Cass **3rd G5 Jump (95)**

Rory & Ammo **3rd YKC Crufts Jump (24)**

Gill & Shade **6th C4-5 Jump (229) Jill &**

**Cass 10th C4-5 Jump (229)**

Aileen & Rockett **12th G3 Jump (179)**

Jenny & Tess **CR C4-5 Jump (229)**

Aileen & Rockett **CR C1-3 Jump (239)**



THE KENNEL CLUB

### SWAT 5-8 August

Gill & Shade **1st G5 Jump (20-30?)**

Alison & Alf **1st G1,2 Ag (G1) (87 tot)**

Alison & Alf **2nd G1,2 Ag (G1) (72 tot)**

Alison & Alf **3rd G1,2 Jump (G1) (91 tot)**

Jill & Cass **3rd C1-7 Jump (172)**

Gill & Shade **3rd C1-7 Jump (174)**

Aileen & Rockett **7th G3 Ag (124)**

Jill & Cass **8th C1-7 Jump pt1 (104)**

Aileen & Rockett **11th CG1-7 Jump (172)**

Kevin & Fell **12th C1-7 Jump (174)**

Jill & Cass **17th C1-7 Jump (174)**

Jenny & Tess **CR C1-7 Jump**

Jenny & Tess **CR G5 Jump**

Jill & Cass **CR C4-7 Jump (120)**

Jill & Cass **CR G4,5 Ag (30ish G5)**

Jenny & Tess **CR G5 Jump**

Aileen & Ozzie **CR C1-7 Jump (174)**

Aileen & Rockett **CR C1-7 Jump (174)**

Aileen & Rockett **CR G3 Jump (138)**

Aileen & Rockett **CR C3-5 Jump (156)**



THE KENNEL CLUB

### Agility Club 28-29 July

Jo & Pip **1st G3 Jump (163) - Sat**

Jo & Pip **1st G3 Jump (166) - Sun**

Carolyn & Ollie **2nd G3 Jump (163)**

Gill & Shade **2nd G4/5 Jump (77)**

Gill & Shade **3rd C3-5 G3-5 Nov Olympia**

**Pt2 (241) Qualified for Olympia Semi-finals**



### UKA Nationals 28 July – 5 August

Gio-Gio & Bambi **1st Midi Jun Jump (3)**

Gio-Gio & Tatti **1st Midi Jun Ag (3)**

Gio-Gio & Tatti **1st Jun Midi Agility (6)**

Gio-Gio & Bambi **1st Jun Midi Jump (6)**

Sarah & Merlin **1st Nov Stch (18)**

Wendy & Bambi **1st Midi Ch Stch Q (9)**

Wendy & Bambi **1st Midi Masters Ag (8)**

Pam & Martha **1st Sen Ag Q (15)**

Pam & Martha **1st Sen Jump Q (9) - Sun**

Pam & Martha **1st Sen Jump Q (9) - Wed**

Gio-Gio & Bambi **2nd Midi Jun Ag (3)**

Wendy & Bambi **2nd Midi Ch Jump Q (5)**

Gill & Bertie **2nd Midi Sen Gamb (?8/9)**

Jose & Pera **2nd Toy Ch Stch (19)**

Jose & Pera **2nd Toy Ch Stch (16)**

Pam & Martha **2nd Nov Ag Q (22)**

Pam & Martha **2nd Sen Jump Q (9)**

Pam & Martha **2nd Ch Stch 2 Q (8)**

Wendy & Fuzzy **3rd St Beg Tug-e-Nuff Jump Q (10+)**

Pam & Martha **3rd Ch Stch 1 Q (14)**

Pam & Rowan **3rd Nov Stch 2 Q**

Pam & Martha **3rd Ch Stch 2 Q (8)**

Poppy & Jose **3rd Toy Sen Ag (16)**

Pam & Martha **3rd Sen Power & Speed (9)**

Jose & Pera **3rd Toy Ch Stch (19)**

Jose & Pera **3rd Toy Ch Stch (16)**

Sarah & Foxy **3rd Nov Stch 1 (18)**

Sarah & Merlin **3rd Nov Stch 2 (17)**

Pam & Martha **3rd Ch Stch 2 Q (8)**

Gill & Bertie **4th Midi Sen Stch (14) (Bertie up to Champ in Steeplechase)**

Pam & Martha **4th Nov Jump Q (15)**

**(Qualified for Tug-e-Nuff final and up to Senior in Performance)**

Wendy & Bambi **13th overall Games Semi Final (Gamblers & Snooker combined) (48**

**all heights) Qualified for final**

Pam & Rowan **CR Nov Stch 2 Q**



At the 11th hour the KC Festival was moved to a new venue at Rockingham Castle.

Most folks seem to prefer the new venue, and I certainly had a very scenic pitch overlooking a lovely valley (*left*), very handy for the lively exercise area and night time sheep noises. Just a long way from the rings...

I had a disaster of a weekend with straight E's, but we had fun.

However Rory had a very successful weekend. On Friday he competed in the International Young Handler event with a jumping and agility round. He won the U12 jumping with Ammo and the Agility with Pip (*below right*).

He picked up an E with Ammo in the agility and 20f with Pip in the jumping. This qualified Pip for Saturday's final and left Ammo as the first dog not to qualify.

Rory was very nervous before the final but both he and Pip were up for it. Off they went and successfully negotiated a tricky start, but unfortunately a miss-timed rear cross on the A frame picked up 5f. Then a pole and pinging out of the weaves a further 10f. Pip even managed to go up the seesaw backwards and turn half way.

On Sunday it was the Juniors Crufts Qualifiers. The Judge set some very very tricky courses (about g4-5) which saw only about 2 clears, considering they need 6 non eliminations for the results of the event to count, they need to rethink these courses.

In the Agility Rory and Ammo had a lovely clear and came 2nd to a very fast Dutch collie. Pip picked up 5f as she stumbled and ran under a jump.



The Jumping class was stupidly difficult, with an offset jump, snake and run across the whole ring to the weaves as a start sequence. You either had to have a slow dog or very independent weaves as only Usain Bolt could cover that distance with a collie. Ammo came 3rd with 5 faults and Pip collected about 10 Es but had fun.

Subject to official confirmation, Rory and Ammo should be heading to Crufts for the Agility dog of the year.

*Jo Tidmarsh*



(Above: Ammo, Rory, Pip)

### Royal Berkshire Show 2012



Wallingford Juniors have been invited to send a team to a demo and an exhibition competition at the Royal Berkshire show at Newbury Showground on September 15th-16<sup>th</sup> 2012



If you are planning to go to the show please be sure to support the Juniors in the main ring (please check your programmes for timings on the day cos we don't know either).

We have also been asked to supply a timekeeper and scime so any volunteers of help gratefully received!

**Jo Tidmarsh**



# SWAT

At the beginning of August a small (select?) group of Wallingford members trekked off down to deepest Devon for the 4-day SWAT show at Westpoint Showground. The venue has some lovely facilities, the showers were hot, clean, and I never had to queue. The judges' lunch was in a proper cafe, far too much food, and very reasonably priced.



The arena used for the rings was flat, and the camping fields were flat-ish. The only snag was the flight of steps between the arena and the camping (*right*)!

A huge thank you to Aileen and her ring party for holding her jumping class on Sunday morning for me while I ran all the way from the caravan to run Alf, as "not even calling to the end yet" went to "final final call" within 10 mins - I only went to change my shoes! Unfortunately we got E'd, but at least that meant it didn't matter that I forgot the end of the course!



And still it rained.

At about 12 o'clock a very sad show secretary came on the tannoy to say that the show was abandoned for the rest of the day. With 3 more days to think of, the rings were going to get too damaged if they carried on running. The judges and ring parties were all soaked and freezing, and with bucketing rain set in it was the only sensible thing to do.



Kevin judged on Monday (*left*), and thankfully the weather for the rest of the week was not so bad.

For Alf's agility on Tuesday morning my main aim was to get his weaves, which for some reason had been an issue on the Sunday. I remember particularly two points I told Kevin about the course, 1. that I must tell Alf to turn before he took the jump before the A frame (so I didn't lose him up the A frame when he should be in a tunnel), and 2. that there was no way I would cross behind the dogwalk as it would slow him down.

Well, I think Alf had landed before I told him he wasn't going up the A frame, and he had a big wide turn to the tunnel, but he somehow posted himself in it. He got his weaves, target achieved, then I proceeded to get in his way by forgetting where the seesaw was and the judge heard me say "oh you poor dog". I told myself off as I crossed behind the dog walk, and only about the last 4 obstacles were actually handled as I intended. The judge clapped for a clear, but I wasn't very happy with the round!

I went to the presentation purely to be polite to the judge, and as I was passing the marquee on my way to the ring to run Basil. I was more worried about Basil being spooked than listening to the names, and I thought I might perhaps have got a low place. I didn't twig at all that it was a bit of a coincidence that so many people I knew just "happened" to be outside the tent on their way to or from the rings. It was all a big conspiracy to keep it from me, and I

honestly nearly cried when I heard my name and Alf's name for 1st place, you horrible mean lot!! Later on we got 3rd place in the jumping too (*below*). What a good day!



On Wednesday we started the day off with another clear in agility, and ended up with 2nd place, giving Alf the full set of trophies. Out of 6 runs at the show he had 3 E's and 3 trophies. SWAT trophies are photo frames together with a token to have a picture taken, and I'm really looking forward to getting the photos to go in the trophy frames.

I had some visitors on Wednesday too - one of my mum's distant cousins and her family came up to the show to see what dog agility was all about. They didn't get to see me run, but they were lucky enough to see Shade at her best when Gill ran in the jumping, and won the class - well done Gill and Shade!

Before the show, I had been a little apprehensive about the breed show that was taking place in the big exhibition halls at the same time, but in the main they left us well alone - I think they found us a little strange, happily running around in the mud and letting our dogs get all dirty. I did speak to a few of them who were watching over the fence, and hopefully converted a couple of them to giving agility a go.

On Thursday most of our camping group was off to the KCI, but Kevin and I were planning a day trip to Cornwall. We got all packed up, dogs in, humans in, turned the key... \*cough\* \*cough\* \*clunk\*. Oh dear, battery dead. I think my excitement at Alf's win was to blame, as I did charge my phone so I could text people! But the agility community never fails in these situations, concerned faces popped out of awnings all around, and huge thanks to Graham for his jump start, especially as it was very tricky to get his car close enough between our van and caravan.



We had a gloriously sunny day in Cornwall (*right*), followed by take away for dinner, which rounded our week off nicely.

*Alison Pearce*



I'm sure all the participants would like to thank Wendy for inviting us to train at Alden Farm on the two Thursday evenings when there was no club training at Blewbury. The weather cooperated so that we had two valuable and very enjoyable sessions.

*Dinah Payne*

*Don't forget to send your articles, pictures, questions and reports to [alisonisonline@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alisonisonline@yahoo.co.uk) before the 21st September for the next issue!*