

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

February 2015



Dates for your diary

First Thursday of each month – Club Library

The club library contains books and DVDs relevant to dogs, dog training and agility and is brought to club on the first Thursday of each month. Items are free to loan. To borrow items at other times, there is a full list on the Wiki, or talk to Gill Rhodes for more information.

Saturday 21st February – Winter League match 4 at BCA

Competition between 5 local clubs. Talk to Aileen if you are interested in taking part.



Saturday 28th February – WDTC away match against UpAndover

The return match at Andover, who this time provide the food. There will also be a charity raffle – the proceeds will be going to MacMillan Cancer Trust, a charity that UpAndover support in honour of one of their club members Tim Marsh, who after receiving amazing support from this charity, sadly passed away last year. All donations of raffle prizes most welcome on the day.

March 2015 – AGM

The club AGM is held in March – date TBC. As well as the election of the committee and a review of the year, we vote on the charities for the next year and present the club awards. We also partake of nibbles & drinks so it's a good opportunity to meet and chat with other club members.

Thursday 16th April – Sunday 19th April 2015 – Wallingford DTC Agility Show at Newbury Showground

Your club needs YOU! Please see separate article for details of how you can help!



NEW CLUB RULES

To ensure that members' new dogs or puppies don't pass on infectious diseases (e.g. Kennel Cough), and in line with the Kennel Club guidelines, the committee has decided to ask all new dog/puppy owners not to bring their new family additions to club/club events for three weeks.

We all agree that socialisation is important, but think carefully whether a busy, noisy environment is right for your new dog.

Please ensure all vaccinations, worming and flea treatments are up to date; this applies to both new and old members.

If your dog has diarrhoea or is off-colour, please don't bring it to club/club events for forty-eight hours. If in any doubt - don't.



WDTC Committee



As a club, we decided to invest in our instructors, and everyone who instructs regularly at the club was offered the chance to undertake the Agility1st Instructor course. This involves six online modules which must all be passed, followed by a practical assessment.

We have so far held two assessment days at Churn – one in November and one in January. Many club members came along as willing participants in the classes, allowing us to demonstrate our training skills to the assessors. Thank you all for giving up your time and hopefully you and your dogs gained something from the experience.

Both of the assessment days were organised by Jenny Kimber who has also been a great source of advice and support to all those working through the course – thank you Jenny for all your time and effort, from us all!

Well done to all the successful instructors:

Pass – Commended

Jenny Kimber, Jacky Hutchinson, Jill Lowe

Pass

Aileen Watson, Gill Kimber, Tori Phillips, Jo Tidmarsh, Alison Pearce

Show Results

Adams (KC) 28th December

Aileen & Mickey 2nd G1-4 Agility
Aileen & Rockett CR CG1-7 Jumping

Rugby Christmas (KC) 13 December

Tori & Bowen 3rd G4-5 Agility (120)
Aileen & Rockett 5th G4-5 Agility (120)

Smart Chance (KC) 31st January

Aileen & Ozzie 4th CG4-5 Jumping (101)



Good luck to all the WDTC members competing in the agility at Crufts 2015

Jenny Kimber and Guv in the British Open (Guv is owned by Jenny Lovegrove)

Qualified at the KC Festival 2014. Jumping and agility rounds in the main ring.

Rory Tidmarsh and DJ in the YKC Agility and Jumping

Rory also qualified Peach and Pilot but is only allowed to take one dog – well done Rory! Thanks to Lorna Peachey for loan of dogs! YKC ring.



Jo Tidmarsh and Pip in the Novice Cup

Qualified at the KC Festival 2014. Jumping and agility rounds in the main ring.

Wallingford and Friends YKC Team

WDTC members Rory Tidmarsh and Pip, Gio-Gio Botto and Bambi, Lucy Maguire and Scooby are joined by Thomas Shaw and Katie Wallbank. YKC ring.

Editor's corner: Special request!

If you and your dog have won a rosette or a trophy at the winter league this season (any of the matches since October) please could you take a photo of your dog with their winnings and email to me or message it to me on facebook. I am planning a collage of all our successes for the next Watchdog and from Aileen's articles in this issue, I know there are a LOT of you who need to be included! Thanks, Alison

Club Points

Are you competing with your dog? Well I guess most of us are, judging by the numbers who have entered the Winter League and the Andover matches.

You get a clear round with your dog and want to tell everyone about it? I know I do!

As a Club we have a Results page (was 'Boasts') on our own Wiki – this is different to facebook in that it is only open to Club members. As a part of the Wiki we also have a spreadsheet where everyone can have their successes recorded. Basically a clear round is worth 1 point (more points if you gain a place!) – and you would be surprised how these mount up over the year. At our AGM we have trophies and certificates for the dog/handler who have gained the most points between 1st January to 31st December each year. New dogs start in Starters – if you move up the grades you will then be entered into Novice and finally Senior. There is also a section for our younger members – Juniors.

What do you need to know/record

The date and name of show; place gained (or clear round); how many dogs were in your class. If you do not have access to the Wiki and would still like to record your results then please email me with this information and I will make sure it gets entered onto the results page and then onto the spreadsheet.

Which shows count?

Basically any competitive show – I have already entered the January Winter League results and will do the same for February and the Andover Match – then it is up to you. Let me know if you need help. UKA/Nedlo/Kelluki/KC to name just a few that you may have already participated in – they all count.

My email for queries watson676@btinternet.com

The spreadsheet on the Wiki gets quite big as the weeks go by, so I will try and update (say) the top 3 places in each section via Watchdog – just to keep your appetites whetted! Lol!

Aileen Watson

2015 results so far:

Juniors – no results so far

Starters:	1 st – 4 th all on 5 points Kit and Sky Suzie and Evie Caroline and Tia Sue and Ella	
Novice:	1 st Aileen (Jenny) and Ozzie 2 nd Pam and Martha 2 nd Robert and Glen 2 nd Debbie and Vibe	6 points 2 points 2 points 2 points
Senior:	1 st Debbie and Blix 2 nd Gill and Mindy	2 points 1 point

Kennel Club updates



The Kennel Club General Committee agreed that, with over 2,500 licensed events taking place each year, the Kennel Club no longer has the facility to retain either hard or electronic copies for every event. Therefore, with effect from 1st January 2015, the regulations will be amended to reflect the following changes:

For the disciplines of agility, bloodhound trials, heelwork to music, obedience, working trials and rally, societies and clubs will no longer be required to submit any schedules to the Kennel Club. Organisers will still need to retain their schedules for at least one year.

2015 Agility Regulation Changes

The following amendments to the agility 'H' regulations were approved by the General Committee and came into effect on 1 January 2015.

Regulation H(1)10.e. (Competing)

TO: ~~Food shall not~~ **Except for mobility aids, nothing shall be carried in the hand or while the dog is under test and food shall not be given to a dog whilst in the ring - elimination.**
(Deletions struck through. Amendments in bold)

Regulation H(1)(A)4.

TO: Standard classes may be scheduled for Agility Shows, as Agility classes or Jumping classes. ~~Agility classes to include contact obstacles and Jumping classes when there are no contact obstacles.~~ **All standard classes must contain the Weaving Poles obstacle. Standard Agility classes must contain the following elements: 'A Ramp', Dog Walk and See-Saw. In the event of mitigating circumstances (i.e. adverse weather conditions) at a show a Judge, with the full agreement of the Competition Manager, may omit an item of compulsory equipment as deemed appropriate at the time. Any omission from the equipment must be reported by the show management to the Kennel Club within 14 days of the date of the show. With this proviso classes are defined as follows:** (Deletions struck through. Amendments in bold)

Insertion of new Regulation H(1)(B)5a.(22)(Marking)

INSERT: **Handler traverses over, under or through any piece of equipment - elimination.**
(Insertion in bold)

Regulation H(1)(D)9.e. - for Limited Shows

TO: Silent toys may be used in the rings, at the discretion of the organisers, but must be used with consideration for other competitors. ~~Food may not be given to dogs or carried in the ring in any classes.~~ **Except for mobility aids or silent toys, nothing shall be carried in the hand while the dog is under test and food shall not be given to a dog whilst in the ring - elimination.** (Deletions struck through. Amendments in bold)

Source: The Kennel Club (20 November 2014)

Wallingford Show – 18th/19th April

Just a reminder that we have our own show coming up in April. This show is run by us as a Club and relies on everyone coming, participating and/or helping.

Have you/should you enter?

There are paper entry forms available on Thursday evenings if you are unable to enter on-line. If you are unsure about what to enter or how to enter trainers are willing to help. Remember that if your dog is not yet jumping their full height, there is an Anysize class which is just jumps and tunnels over lower height jumps.

If your dog can jump full height jumps, but not weave yet, there is a Steeplechase class which is just jumps and tunnels. Prior to competing, however, you will need to have registered your dog with the Kennel Club and you will also need to get your dog measured. (Ask any of the committee/trainers or those who have competed at a KC show before if you are unsure what to do or how to do it.)

How does the show work?

On Thursday 16th April, lunchtime, we get access to Newbury Showground. We set up our own caravans and then start on the job of preparing for everyone to arrive. The biggest job, by far, on Thursday and Friday is marking out all the camping spaces, ready for competitors to start arriving on the Friday. If you are able to come Thursday afternoon we will be forming lines of members with spray cans creating 'L' shapes on the ground – the more the merrier. We will provide tea, coffee and cakes.

Based on how many trainers are staying at Newbury Showground in their caravans we will make a decision regarding training that Thursday (someone remind us nearer the date to make a decision!).

Friday 17th April – as early as possible – we will continue to mark out camping spaces. We also need to mark out space for trade stands and of course the ring spaces. Our hired competition agility equipment will arrive so help is needed unloading the lorries, putting the jumps together, etc., ready for each ring.

We need to erect tents for scoring on each ring, and get tables and chairs to the right places. Some people will be already be working in the marquee getting boxes of supplies and paperwork sorted out for the rings the following day. Lunch and of course teas and coffees will be available throughout the day for club members and we usually get a takeaway in the evening for those who have worked all day on the Friday.



On Friday afternoon we need a rota of helpers to start manning the entrance gate and directing people to their camping spaces. It is quite good to do this in pairs – a great way to get to know people. At various times on the Friday things will arrive like waste skips, mobile

toilets, etc. By 4pm Friday the area should be looking something like an agility show with a stream of people arriving to set up their camping spaces.

Saturday/Sunday – show days. We will be allocating everyone who can come, a job – most probably on a ring. Of course, if you are running a dog, you will be given plenty of time to walk courses and run your dogs. If you don't know how to do something, there is a ring manager allocated to each ring and they can help you out with how to undertake your allocated job. The show cannot run efficiently without your help – so thank you in advance. Show days realistically start at 7 or 7.30am for us and finish after all the rings have stopped running. We provide refreshments and lunch for everyone on these days.

Never been ring party before?

There are jobs for everyone whether experienced or not. Pole picking is a great way to watch dog and handlers complete the course.

Leads - moving leads from start line to finish also gives the chance to watch how competitors handle the course (if young children want a job, please make sure they are supervised doing this as dogs can be hyper before/after running!).

Caller – ticking people off a list as they arrive to run.

Pads – finding the correct ticket, checking with the competitor and handing it to the Scrimer.

Scorer and Scrimer – both jobs that need a bit more experience, but you could take the opportunity to do it alongside someone who has done it before.



The Ring Manager will talk you through any job if you are unsure. And if you have a member of the family who wants to come and help – then they too can participate and we will be grateful for all extra pairs of hands.

Nearer the time we will be making a list of who is available to help on each day. You will not be expected to work without breaks – an hour on an hour off is quite a fun way to work. If you come along to help you may also want to bring some money, as there will be several trade stands selling all sorts of things including dog toys, dog beds, leads and harnesses, running shoes, etc.

I have detailed how the days work, to give those of you who have not been to a show before an overview of the different jobs associated with running an event like this. Some of you have joined us at Winter League and Andover matches – our show in April is just a much larger version of these (lol!).

If you want clarity on anything – please ask.

*Aileen Watson
Show Secretary*

Winter League Match 2

29th November 2014

A very big thank you to all who took part in the Winter League in November. As a Club we won the November match and are now sitting 2nd overall after the two matches. This is a massive achievement and I can only say thank you to all who turned up, ran their dogs, stepped in at the last minute as necessary, and also ring partied. Not everyone manages to win rosettes (I know I don't!) However, your runs count. To show you how much, I have detailed below the points that were accumulated from the November match.

23 dogs scored points for the club in November (remember that Anysize does not count towards Club points). What fantastic results all round. Just to show you the difference you make, below is a summary of the points scored for the November match (individual times and places and how the points work can be seen in more detail on Facebook):

Debbie Hockley	Blix	24	Leigh Wilkinson	Molly	13
Rory Tidmarsh	Sonic	24	Debbie Hockley	Vibe	12
Dawn Graham	Daisy	23	Helen Page	Mylo	9
Jill Lowe	Cass	22	Kevin Pearce	Fell	9
Kath Ede	Tilly	18	Kathryn Brocklehurst	Bacchus	8
Linda Palmer	Milo	17	Sue Cuddon	Mischief	8
Sue Rodger	Ella	17	Dave Bossom	Tod	7
Robert Tappin	Glen	16	Maria Davies	Belle	7
Anthony Aldridge	Cookie	14	Suzie Davies	Evie	6
Tori Phillips	Bowen	14	Jose Rostagni	Pera	2
Aileen Watson	Rockett	13	Paula Routledge	Rossi	1
Caroline Howes	Tia	13			

A big thank you to our November judge, Jacky. A lot goes into preparing for a match – the course planning; setting up and then standing in a dark and fairly draughty environment whilst we all get to run our dogs. It is much appreciated Jacky – thank you.

Whilst our judge is judging, we provide ring party. Again, many thanks to all those who took part and kept the dogs flowing through. You don't get to hear the comments from others, but Wallingford has a reputation for providing the best ring parties. Big pat on the back to everyone! If you are a newer member and want to learn more about how to do a job, please come and get some instruction – this is a great environment in which to hone your skills.

Apologies for the fact there was no 'chuck wagon' this time – apparently they got caught up in an accident on the motorway and decided to give up the struggle to get to the venue through a build up of traffic.

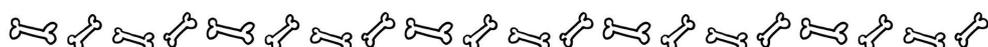
I thought you might like to see the running points total for both the October and November matches as follows:

Kath Ede	Tilly	42	Leigh Wilkinson	Molly	13
Debbie Hockley	Blix	36	Ian Hutchinson	Dino	13
Dawn Graham	Daisy	36	Debbie Hockley	Vibe	12
Kevin Pearce	Fell	31	Rosemary Tappin	Fizz	11
Maria Davies	Belle	30	Wendy Botto	Tatti	10
Sue Rodger	Ella	29	Helen Page	Mylo	9
Linda Palmer	Milo	28	Suzie Davies	Evie	9
Jill Lowe	Cass	25	Wendy Botto	Bambi	9
Rory Tidmarsh	Sonic	24	Kathryn Brocklehurst	Bacchus	8
Aileen Watson	Rockett	23	Paula Routledge	Rossi	8
Robert Tappin	Glen	22	Gill Rhodes	Berti	7
Steve Brocklehurst	Loki	21	Wendy Botto	Foxie-Botts	7
Sue Cuddon	Mischief	19	Aileen Watson	Mickey	6
Dave Bossom	Tod	17	Dinah Paine	Cinders	6
Anthony Aldridge	Cookie	14	Elisha Clarke	Boo	5
Tori Phillips	Bowen	14	Aileen Watson	Ozzie	3
Caroline Howes	Tia	13	Jose Rostagni	Pera	2

It was fabulous to see so many of our newer members participating in the November match. I hope you found the experience enjoyable and were able to participate in the ring party jobs as well. Well done everyone, I am sure you have all come back with things you want to work on before the next match which is January 17th – don't forget to put it in your diaries.

Here is to the next match when we look forward to being joined again by all those who were participating at the UKA finals this time – and a big well done for all your successes there.

Aileen Watson



Wallingford Vs. UpAndover Match Sunday 7th December 2014

Sunday 7th December saw us hold the first of our annual matches against UpAndover. The weather was pretty amazing for December with it being pretty warm for the time of year and only some 'slight' drizzle in the morning! The catering was a sight to see for the day, huge thank you to Jacky for co-ordinating this and for everyone who made something for the day and those that looked after the kitchen. The feast was thoroughly enjoyed by both clubs!

The amount raised for the raffle was £150 to be split between our two charities: Medical Detection Dogs and the Phillipa Armstrong Wheelchair Appeal. Thank you to Wendy for organising the raffle and everyone who helped, particularly all the kids who helped sell the raffle tickets! Thank you also for everyone's donations. This was again a great success!

But the reason we were all there of course was for the agility! We finished off with a score of 307 points, winning the match against UpAndover's 241 points. Well done to everyone for some brilliant runs! Thank you to Gill Rhodes for filming and uploading these for everyone to enjoy!

So starting with the Nursery, we certainly got the most top places in each class! In the Agility 2nd place went to Caroline & Tia, 3rd to Leigh & Molly and 4th to Elisha & Boo. The jumping saw Debbie and Flo winning for Wallingford, and 2nd place to Caroline & Tia. Caroline & Tia also achieved 2nd place in the Steeplechase making them the overall Nursery winner!

The Starters Agility was won by our rivals but Suzie and Evie got Wallingford a very close 2nd place. In the Jumping, Dawn & Daisy achieved a 2nd place, closely followed by Suzie & Evie in 3rd, Kit & Sky also got a 4th place for Wallingford in this class! We achieved another three good places in the steeplechase with 2nd place being awarded to Wendy & Arthur, 3rd to Suzie & Evie and 4th to Dawn & Daisy! Suzie's success in all three classes showed a deserved win of the overall starters certificate!

Moving on to the Novice, the Agility was won for Wallingford by Linda & Milo, and Pam & Martha achieved a 3rd place in this class! In the Jumping, Wendy got a great result of 2nd with Foxie Botts. And Aileen took nearly all the certificates in the Steeplechase coming 1st with Ozzie, 2nd with Mickey and 4th with Rockett! 3rd place in this class went to Linda & Milo meaning that Linda & Milo were awarded the overall Novice certificate!

Finally the senior class was a clean sweep with Wallingford achieving 1st in all 3 classes. In the agility Annette & Maze achieved the 1st place, closely followed by myself (Jenny) & Guv getting the 2nd place. Then the jumping saw Gill & Shade winning the class, followed by myself & Guv in 2nd. And the winner of the steeplechase was again Gill & Shade and a 3rd place achieved by me meaning that I was awarded the overall for the Senior classes.

The match was a fantastic day both with competing and helpers involved! Wallingford achieved the overall win in all the class levels so a great result! Thank you to everyone who helped on the rings – hopefully those that haven't done anything like this before were able to learn something and enjoy it.

Special thanks to the ring managers, Jo for organising the scoring and Gill and Jill for helping to input results. Thank you again to Jacky for co-ordinating food and Wendy for co-ordinating the raffle. And big thank you to Dawn for arranging the lovely venue at Churn!

Hope everyone has the date of the next return match in their diary – Saturday 28th February 2015 at Cholderton Equestrian Centre in Wiltshire. It's sure to be another great match! Well done everyone for another successful match!

Jenny Kimber



Winter League Match 3 17th January 2015

We were second on the day and still lying first overall – well done everyone. Once again everyone continued to do amazingly and as a result we actually achieved the same number of points as we had in November – beaten this time by Diamond Dogz with just 4 points more.

Over the three matches so far, we are now sitting at the top of the League – how fabulous is that? At the risk of repeating myself – this is a massive achievement and I can only say thank you to all who turned up, ran their dogs (no need for any last minute step-ins, although I did get a bit worried when two people arrived at the very last minute to walk their courses!), and also ring partied. Thanks also to Tim Stanbrook who judged for us – it was his first judging appointment and he is to be congratulated on his fun to run courses.

The last match of the 2014/2015 Winter League series will be on 21st February. I have had most responses for this already, so thank you – and good luck everyone – it is going to be very close at the end – any one of four clubs could take the overall trophy this year – certainly it wasn't this close last year!

The results per dog/handler for January – well done everyone.

Dawn Graham	Daisy	33	Gill Rhodes	Mindy	10
Claire Jones	Indy	29	Aileen Watson	Mickey	9
Robert Tappin	Glen	28	Lizi Bowerman	Timmy	8
Jenny Kimber	Ozzie	26	Laura Millard	Alfie	7
Debbie Hockley	Blix	22	Pam Hancock	Martha	7
Kit Taplin	Sky	19	Dave Bossom	Tod	6
Maria Davies	Belle	16	Tori Phillips	Bowen	4
Sue Rodger	Ella	16	Leigh Wilkinson	Molly	2
Caroline Howes	Tia	15	Carolyn Davies	Ollie	2
Sue Cuddon	Mischief	12	Kevin Pearce	Fell	1
Debbie Hockley	Vibe	12	Linda Palmer	Milo	1
Suzie Davies	Evie	11			

42 dogs/handlers have contributed to our total score for the 3 matches so far – how amazing is that? I will wait until after our final match to publish these results, but it is fair to say that nearly all the dogs that have competed have achieved one or more points towards our total – now that is AMAZING!

Whatever the final result as a Club we should be proud of the willingness of everyone to contribute to great achievements.

Aileen Watson

Don't forget to send your successes, stories, photos, judging reports, demo dates and anything else you think might entertain us for the next issue to alisononline@yahoo.co.uk. Puppy photos, non-agility achievements, and anything else vaguely interesting always welcome!