

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

April 2015

Crufts®

Congratulations to all the WDTC members on their Crufts 2015 achievements



Jenny Kimber and Guv 4th in the British Open (Guv is owned by Jenny Lovegrove)

Wallingford and Friends 3rd in the YKC Team event (above left)

L-R: Lucy Maguire, Katie Wallbank, Gio-Gio Botto, Rory Tidmarsh, Thomas Shaw

Gio-Gio Botto and Bambi 5th in YKC Jumping U18

Gio-Gio Botto and Tatti CR in YKC Medium ABC and CR YKC Agility Dog of the Year

Rory Tidmarsh and DJ 2nd in YKC Jumping (above right)

Jo Tidmarsh and Pip 10 faults in the Novice Cup

Information for club members at our show

Many members will be familiar with the format of the show, but we have many new members for whom this show will be their first.

Thursday – marking out camping pitches. The marquee arrives at 3pm(ish)

Noon: we are allowed on site from noon. The first thing we need to do is mark out camping pitches for our club members, most of whom will be arriving during the afternoon. If you are not camping, please come along to the showground as soon after noon as you can and help mark out these pitches so that members can get their caravans and gardens set up.

2.30pm: Everyone meet in Ian's caravan - we'll explain the process of marking out the pitches (marking the 4 corners of each pitch with marker paint). We will then work through the afternoon marking out 250 pitches. Judges & helpers will get camping nearer the rings and their pitches will be marked in yellow. All other pitches are marked in white. Refreshments for everyone will be provided during the afternoon.

Friday – setting up the rings, booking in caravans

10am: meet in the marquee. Rings need to be marked out and equipment set up for Saturday and the ring tents need to be erected. Trade stands will be arriving, caravans need to be booked in and equipment needs to be set up in the marquee. There will be lots for everyone to do.

Lunch will be provided for all helpers and in the evening we usually get a take-away (club pays).

Saturday & Sunday – running the show

Everyone will have been allocated to a ring or a job in the marquee. You should report to your ring manager before 8.30am when the first class starts at the beginning of the day. If you haven't worked on a ring before, please let your ring manager know and ask if you can shadow someone to learn the job.

Much as we'd love to give our members a nice sit-down buffet, this is not possible. So to be fair to everyone, members will not have the sit-down lunch provided for judges, scrimers and ring managers, even if you are doing these jobs 😊. Also, please note that the gifts for helpers are for non-members who help at our show and are not for club members 😊.

On **Saturday evening**, club members traditionally eat together - paid for by the club.

At the end of the day on Sunday, everything needs to be packed away. We are always interested to hear from members who have room to store 'stuff' until the next show - especially as this year neither Aileen nor the Hutchinsons will be able to take anything.

Running a show is hard work - but very satisfying; our show is known for its friendly members and good organisation. Any profit is used to pay for new equipment and, with agreement from the committee, to subsidise training for instructors, etc. A percentage is usually given to our charities.

We know you will all enjoy the experience.

Show Results

Lydiard Park (UKA) 28-29 March

Mickey with Kate **1st Beg Steeplechase** (50) - *qualifying for final in Nov*
Annette & Maze 2nd Nov Jumping (30)
Annette & Maze 3rd Nov Gamblers (50)

Adams (KC) 28 March

Aileen & Mickey 4th G1-4 Agility (50)
Aileen & Rockett CR CG1-7 Jumping
Paula & Rossi CR G1-4 Agility
Paula & Rossi CR C1-7 Jumping

Wye Valley (KC) 28 March

Claire and Indy **1st C1-2 Jumping** (21)
Gill & Bertie 2nd G6-7 Agility (22)
Gill & Bertie CR G6-7 Jumping
Gill & Bertie CR G5-6 Jumping
Gill & Mindy CR G6-7 Jumping
Gill & Mindy CR Champ Agility

Thames (KC Ltd) 21 March

Aileen & Mickey **1st C1-7 Helter Skelter pt 2** (61)
Alison & Basil 4th C5-7 Jumping (17)
Aileen & Mickey 5th C3-4 Agility (51)
Aileen & Rockett 7th C2-4 Jumping (51)

AJAX (UKA) 13-15 March

Caroline & Tia **1st Beg Gamblers** (10)
Aileen & Ozzie **1st Nov Stch** (15)
Gill & Mindy **1st Novice Gamblers** (10) - *and into Senior Performance*
Wendy & Foxie-Botts **1st Sen Stch** (9)
Paula & Rossi **1st Senior Jumping**
Jenny & Shade **1st Sen Gamblers** (7)
Gill & Shade **1st Sen Agility** (10)
Gill & Bertie **1st Champ Jumping** (10)
Richard & Shade **1st Champ Stch** (17)

Elisha & Boo **2nd Beg Gamblers**
Claire & Indy **2nd Nov Stch** (7)
Claire & Indy **2nd Nov Stch** (12)
Gill & Mindy **2nd Nov Agility** (20)
Wendy & Tatti **2nd Senior Agility** (9)
Paula & Rossi **2nd Champ Stch**

Gill & Mindy **2nd Champ Stch II** (12)

Wendy & Arthur **3rd Nov Stch** (18)
Claire & Indy **3rd Novice Steeplechase** (9)
Paula & Rossi **3rd Champ Stch I**
Sarah & Merlin **3rd Champ Stch** (15)
Pam & Martha **3rd Champ Agility** (12)

Sarah & Merlin **4th Beg Jumping** (30)
Claire & Indy **4th Nov Jumping** (11)
Claire & Indy **4th Nov Jumping** (6)
Aileen & Rockett **4th Nov Jumping** (20)
Paula & Rossi **4th Sen Jumping**
Pam & Martha **4th Champ Jumping** (12)

Elisha & Boo **5th Beg Stch I**
Elisha & Boo **5th Beg Stch II**
Elisha & Boo **6th Beg Stch I**

Pauline & Cassie **CR Beg Steeplechase**
Pauline & Cassie **CR Beg Jumping**
Wendy & Arthur **CR Nov Steeplechase**
Claire & Indy **CR Nov Steeplechase**

Adams (KC) 28 February

Paula and Rossi **1st G3 Agility – winning into G4 (below)**





Wallingford Dog Training Club
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25th March 2015

Present: Carolyn Davies – Club Chairman
 Joanna Tidmarsh – Club Secretary
 Kevin Pearce – Club Treasurer
 And 30 Club Members

1. **Apologies for absence.** Gillian Johnson, Kathryn Brocklehurst, Claire Jones, , Debbie Chapman, Leigh Wilkinson, Rosie Dains, Jenny Lovegrove, Anthony Aldridge., Sue Rogers

2. **Minutes of the last AGM**
 Copies were available for all members and were accepted as being a true record of the last AGM held on Wednesday 12th March 2014. Proposed – Aileen Watson, Seconded – Jenny Kimber
Matters Arising – Thanks to Jo for collating the rules

3. **New Rules** – Accepted and voted by a show of hands

4. **Chairmans Report** – **Carolyn Davies** - Copies available to all members

5. **Treasurers' Report** – **Kevin Pearce**
 Copies of the income and expenditure accounts (for 1st Jan – 31st Dec 2014) were available for all members. Accounts will be prepared and sent for auditing. Acceptance proposed – Sue Cuddon, Seconded – Robert Tappin

6. **Section Report**
 The representatives from all sections presented a report on their discipline. Copies of the reports were available to all members.
 - i. *Agility - Ian Hutchinson,*
 - ii. *Winter League – Aileen Watson*

7. **Appointment of Officers and Committee**
 The following nominations were received for the election to the committee. All nominations were accepted on block.

Committee Post	Nominee	Proposed By	Seconded By
Chairman	Carolyn Davies	Proposed on block Sue Cuddon 2015	Seconded on block Gill Kimber 2015
Secretary	Jo Tidmarsh		
Treasurer	Kevin Pearce		
Agility Rep	Ian Hutchinson		
Member	Debbie Hockley		
Member	Jenny Kimber		
Member	Dawn Graham		
Member	Jacky Hutchinson		
Member	Gill Rhodes		
Member			
Member			
Member			

8. Appointment of Accounts Reviewer

Kevin Pearce proposed that Annette Parker a chartered Accountant was asked to audit the WDTC Accounts. Aileen Watson seconded this nomination.

9. 2015 Show – Plans going ahead full steam for 18-19 April 2015 with Aileen as Show Sec. 12 rings on Saturday, 9 rings on Sunday. Need lots of help from Thursday to Sunday.

10. 2015-16 Charities/Good Causes –Water Aid and Pets as Therapy with Water Aid to be awarded in advance, proposed by Jacky and seconded by Aileen Watson. Support for Charities proposed by Pam and seconded by Josie.

11. AOB – Dinah – thanks to committee

Meeting closed at 20:46hrs

12. Post AGM Activities

Talk by Caroline Hill, CS Hydrotherapy.
Refreshments were kindly provided by Carolyn.
Club Points Trophies were presented.

Club Points Trophies



Juniors

- 1st Gio-Gio & Tatti
- 2nd Gio-Gio & Bambi
- 3rd Rory & DJ

Starters

- 1st Dawn & Daisy
- 2nd Kath & Tilly
- 3rd Lizi & Timmy

Novice

- 1st Annette & Maze
- 2nd Pam & Martha
- 3rd Ian & Dino

Senior

- 1st Jenny & Guv
- 2nd Wendy & Tatti
- 3rd Wendy & Bambi

Best Small

Pam & Martha

Best Improver

Caroline & Tia

Highly Commended Improvers

- Laura & Alfie
- Debbie & Flo
- Leigh & Molly

Winter League 2014/2015

Dawn & Daisy



2015 CLUB POINTS

The agility season has truly begun and there have been some good results at recent UKA shows. Don't forget to add your boasts to the Wiki!

Current standings to 30th March

Junior

1 st	Rory & Mint	11pts
2 nd	Rory & Peach	5 pts
3 rd	Rory & DJ	2 pts
4 th	Gio-Gio & Bambi	1 pt
	Gio-Gio & Tatti	1 pt

Starters

1 st	Claire & Indy	23 pts
2 nd	Kit & Sky	15 pts
3 rd	Caroline & Tia	10 pts
	Suzie & Evie	10 pts

Novice

1 st	Aileen & Mickey	19 pts
2 nd	Aileen & Ozzie	18 pts
3 rd	Paula & Rossi	10 pts

Senior

1 st	Gill K & Shade	17 pts
2 nd	Gill R & Mindy	14 pts
3 rd	Gill R & Berti	9 pts

Do remember if you go to a KC show, gain a clear round or place and are a member of Agility Club to register your points on the website there. Wallingford are in Division 2 and currently in 5th place.

Aileen Watson

Jenny & Guv – British Open at Crufts



I remember last year watching the agility at Crufts on Youtube and desperately wanting to qualify for this year. I am so lucky that it actually happened!

For those that don't know, all the agility events at Crufts have qualifiers throughout the year. These vary from consistency over the season, to consistency over three runs at the same show. The British Open qualifier is held at the KC International Festival in August. There are two qualifying runs; an agility and a jumping. The top 30 qualify for a place in the semi-final on the Sunday of the KCI. I managed a clear in each and placed 12th out of the 30 that qualified for the semi-final.

This also meant I qualified for one of the three England teams in the Nations Cup (made up of three handlers). This competition is run on the same day as the semi-final and involves a team relay jumping and a team relay agility. There are a lot of international handlers competing at the KC International Festival and the Nations Cup is a chance for the countries to compete against each other.

My team members were Lee Gibson (who was one of the judges at Crufts this year, is a top competitor and also previously coach of the England squad on for the World Agility Open) and Stuart Parish who was relatively new to agility but had just gone grade 7 with his first agility dog.



Lee's management skills definitely helped in our approach to the competition. Three steady clears in both and we managed to win the Nations Cup for England! (*right: the winning team*)

Alongside this we were all in the British Open Semi Final. The weather was awful, so windy and rainy they were considering call the show off but luckily it never quite got to that point. The top 10 qualified for the British Open Final at Crufts. I did a nice clear with Guv but wasted time and it cost me. I came 11th out of the 30 so no Crufts for me!

Then I was on a plane in November and when I landed I had a voicemail from Jenny Lovegrove saying that someone had dropped out of the British Open and would we like to take their place?! Of course the answer was yes, a dream come true!

I competed at Crufts as a junior but had not been in the main ring for years so was very strange to be back as an adult! We were given the course on paper in the morning so had a good amount of time to study it and decide how best to handle it. I looked at the course and saw a lot of opportunity for European turns and places where I could save time. We had been to a carpet training facility the week before and Guv handled it really well so that wasn't a worry.



Whilst studying the course, I was also trying to watch the other agility in the main ring and make sure I could watch Jo's run with Pip on the screen in the collecting ring.

When they finally set the course up, I walked it and none of the handling I thought would work on paper actually suited the course for real at all! I had to think of the alternate and best way to handle it and walked the course until we were told to get out of the ring.

After that it was just waiting for my turn, I was running last which is usually an advantage because you know what you

have to do to win, but I'd already seen a couple of clears and then wanted to concentrate on Guv in the queue.

Nerves grew whilst in the collecting ring but once you say the word 'Go' everything disappears and instinct takes over. We had a lovely clear and finished in 4th place! Only beaten by two of the handlers on the GB team (1st and 3rd were the same person).

All in all, an amazing experience I hope to repeat! Thank you everyone who came to support me and Jo. It does make a difference knowing you have people there cheering you on!

Jenny Kimber

Jo & Pip – Novice Cup at Crufts



Like Jenny, I qualified for Crufts at the KC Festival in August where Pip and I ran in the Novice Cup qualifier and semi-final. For Pip to get three clear rounds in a season, let alone 3 in a weekend, is absolutely unheard of, but she did it, and with a 4th place we were off to Crufts.

I patiently waited all winter for the paperwork to arrive, and several forms came and went, but it was amazing that it wasn't until the running orders were published on ISS in late January that I actually had formal notification of what date and time I was competing. This seemed a little late in the day to me!

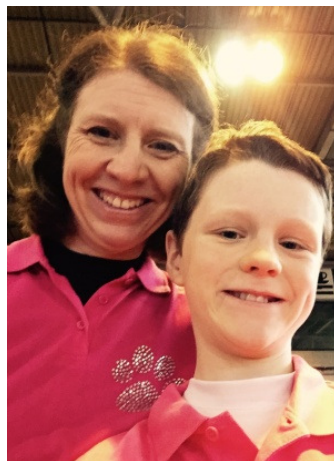
We planned our training for Crufts to get Pip (and me) as familiar with the surface as possible. We travelled all the way to Shrewsbury to train with Ant Clarke and Lee Gibson, we travelled all the way to Benson – where Pip's 'Granny' Rosemary Tappin let me train on her astro-turf garden; and the Jennys and I went up to Deena Freeman's indoor centre for some extra training too.

In the week before Crufts everyone seemed to be trying my nerves! Jolyon decamped to a conference in Scotland, leaving me home alone with the kids and getting them ready to go to Crufts and then the Highways Agency decided to play with all the junctions. So, it was decided that we would set off stupidly early, just to keep me calm.

I picked Lorna (groom to Rory and I for the day) and DJ up at just before 6am, and left Sonic with his relations for the day. When we arrived at Crufts we found our benches and set ourselves up directly behind Team Guv, so we could have a good chat. Lorna disappeared to register us, and came back with the course plan. It was very tempting to compare courses with

Jenny, but we agreed to compare notes later since we were in different events and didn't want to confuse each other.

Lorna then re-appeared from her secret shopping trip, and declared my hair needed sorting, and fixed me up with a blingy hair clip. As Lorna and I were discussing the intricacies of a front-cross pivot or Ketcher after the A-frame, my Mum decided she really had to give me an empty water bottle that I left at her house 1 month earlier, and it couldn't possibly be returned later in the day. At this point Lorna took charge – “Rory I think it is time you took Granny and Grandad to the stands to make sure they get some good seats”. Pip, Lorna and I headed for “The Collecting Ring”.



So – what goes on behind those black doors that we all walk past on our way to the stands? I was lucky enough to have been in there supporting Rory for 2 years, otherwise I think I would have bricked myself at that point. The collecting ring has a lot of chairs gathered around a big screen so you can watch what is going on, but you can still hear the commentary. There is a practise jump on one side, and the photo podium on the other side. For the Novice Cup, it was great as there were a lot of agility folk, trying to chill, chatting and generally being friendly. For the Juniors in the evening it is much more tense as all the ‘Best in Group’ dogs are in there being pimped for their final showing.



You have time to review the course plan and then walk the course. You can then chill or wind yourself up until it is about 2 or 3 dogs before you. You are then called over to the entrance. When the dog before you goes – you are invited to stand in the “tanning booth” – the white archway that you can see from the spectators’ side. It was at this point that Pip realised there was agility out there and the nerves hit me.

As we walked onto the course I tried to bribe Pip with promises of “I won't nag you, and you can go long, if you please keep your feet up” and then – we were off! A couple of wide turns (but that was my side of the bargain) meant no poles were knocked down, but Pip's trademark spin caused her to knock the long jump, and she skidded on the outer carpet which meant she fell off the seesaw.

I really enjoyed my run, but it was over too soon and I wanted to try again. Thank you to Rosemary for letting me have my special girl, and thanks to everyone who came to support me and Jenny.

Jo Tidmarsh

Don't forget to send items for the next issue to alisononline@yahoo.co.uk. Puppy photos, non-agility achievements, and anything else vaguely interesting always welcome!