



Wallingford Dog Training Club

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

December 2019

Hello and welcome to the December 2019 edition of Watchdog Magazine!

This is the quarterly magazine of WDTC and is intended to pass on club news, agility news, articles which may be of interest, etc. Primarily, it is **YOUR** magazine. Unfortunately it has not been published recently due to lack of time. I'm hoping to publish it on a regular basis, and would very much appreciate contributions please.

Articles from club members are always welcome at any time. Maybe you entered your first show? Maybe you achieved your first clear round? Have you qualified for a final? Have you gone up a grade? What are your experiences of agility? What made you get into it? Have you found an amazing product which you now can't do without? Or maybe there is a subject you would like to see covered? Do you have a question which needs answering? Any article of any length is welcome, as are photos.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this edition.

Jo Maisey, *Editor*

watchdog@wdtc.org.uk

Committee

The Committee was ratified by ballot at the Christmas Party on 12 December 2019 and is now as follows:

- Jo Maisey – *Chair (also Website, Lending Library, Demonstrations and Watchdog Magazine)*
- Kevin Pearce – *Treasurer*
- Dawn Graham – *Secretary*
- Joanna Tidmarsh – *Show Secretary*
- Jill Lowe – *Agility Rep, Training Groups*
- Lizi Bowerman
- Claire Jones
- Gill Rhodes – *Training Groups*
- Caroline Howes – *Course Running/Walking nights*
- Sue Cuddon – *Membership*
- Dave Bossom – *Trailer Maintenance*
- Vacancy



There is a vacancy on the Committee. If you are interested, please let one of the committee members know, or send an email. The only criterion is that you must have been a full member for a minimum of one year.

Show Committee

- Joanna Tidmarsh – *Show Secretary*
- Kevin Pearce
- Claire Jones
- Jill Lowe
- Alison Pearce
- Gill Rhodes
- Caroline Howes

Fees

Annual Subscription is due on 1 January 2020

Single Adult	£10
Single Senior (aged 65 and over on 1 January)	£5
Single Junior (aged 18 and under on 1 January, or in full-time education)	£5
Joint (two adults at the same address)	£15
Family (two adults plus juniors at the same address)	£20

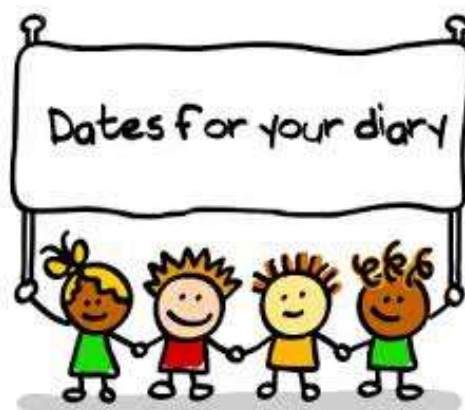
Monthly training fees from 1 January are £20 per month per dog.

Please ensure you amend your standing order and pay your annual subscription in plenty of time. Thank you.



Save the Date!

- Saturday 18 January - *Winter League*
- Monday 3 February - *Ring Party Training at the Malthouse*
- Monday 10 February - *next Committee Meeting. Please let us know if you have an item you would like the committee to discuss.*
- Saturday 15 February - *Winter League*
- Thursday 23 to Friday 24 April - *Show Set Up*
- Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 April - *Wallingford Show, Newbury. All hands on deck!*
- Sunday 3 May - *Vyne Show Ring Party, Newbury*
- Sunday 17 May - *Agility Demonstration at Abingdon Air and Country Show*
- Saturday 13 to Sunday 14 June - *Thames Show Ring Party, Newbury*
- Saturday 20 June - *Agility Demonstration at Grove and Wantage Extravaganza*



Christmas Party 12 December 2019

Caroline Howes

Wow! What an end to 2019 for Wallingford DTC. I do love our Christmas party. I love that we get to mix with people we wouldn't necessarily see/talk to. We all chip in every possible way making it a real team event and as always we have an amazing spread for all to enjoy.

Members were split into four teams. Each team ran a relay, with a baton change; and a 'Take Your Own Line' course where all the obstacles needed to be negotiated, but in any order. The courses were adjusted to take into account everyone's level of experience. Help was also given if needed, such as holding dogs on the start line.

Blue Team	Green Team
<i>Captain:</i> Sue and Mischief	<i>Captain:</i> Jill and Cass
Helena and Leo	Caroline and Tilly
Nicky and Maisie	Hanna and Pico
Maria and Molly	Brad and Libby
Pam and Magnus	Helen and Tessa
Martha and Maxi	Kathryn and Tia
Alison and Ciara	
Red Team	Yellow Team
<i>Captain:</i> Gill and Merlin	<i>Captain:</i> Claire and Honey
Emma/Josie and Oattie	Dave and Todd
Jenny and Pippa	Aline and Zuma
Vanessa and Missy	Jo and Sonic
Linda and Casper	Jo and Noodle
Dawn and Lexi	Ellie and Molly
Fran and Lucky	Kate and Baxter

Absolute huge well done to our new starters. Many of you who have just joined us and gave it your absolute all. You were incredible and I see some awesome partnerships.

Thank you again to all those who help me with everything to do with the party as I couldn't do it without you.

Thank you to:

Kevin & Wendy for setting the courses and judging us all.

Thank you to all my captains: Jill, Sue, Gill and Claire, also thank you Claire for the decoration and music which we love!

And a huge thank you to Kathryn who co-ordinates the food side of things which we all properly agree is the most important bit!



Blue Team



Jo Shipman-Toon and gorgeous baby Rosa



Sonic and Santa

Results

1st	Blue	294
2nd	Red	266
3rd	Green	259
4th	Yellow	248



Maxi



Green Team



Red Team



Yellow Team



Wooden Spoon – Yellow Team



Missy



Pixel



Winner – Blue Team

Our lovely judges



Wendy



Kevin

Welcome New Members

Sue Cuddon

A very warm welcome to our new members this year - an amazing 16 of you!

- Hanna & Pico who joined in June
- Sue & Zeph, September
- Gillian & Fleece, Martha & Maxi and Steph & Lola, October

And our Foundation/Beginners who joined us in September:

- Aline & Zuma
- Arran, Ellie & Merlin
- Fran & Lucky
- Helen & Tessa
- Helena & Leo
- Jenny & Pippa
- Josie & Ottie
- Kate & Baxter
- Liz & Angus
- Rachael & Lara
- Vanessa & Missy



We hope you are all enjoying your training, wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

Don't forget to join the Wallingford DTC Facebook group if you haven't already - it's where we post news, changes to training, events, boasts etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/292146624175318/>

Club Member Achievements

- Dawn Graham qualified as a judge for KC shows in November 2019. She is already a qualified judge for UKA. In December, Dawn passed her GJP2 and is now a GJP National Judge.
- Claire Jones with Honey has been picked for 2020 WAO Team Wales.
- Rory Tidmarsh has been picked for the YKC Agility Team GB Squad for 2020 with three dogs.
- Martha Preece has qualified for YKC Agility at Crufts in March 2020 in the pairs with Maxi.
- Sue Cuddon and Luna have qualified for Crufts 2020 in breed showing.
- Alison Pearce achieved a Post Graduate Diploma (PGDip) in Veterinary Physiotherapy from the University of Nottingham with distinction in July 2019. She is now a full member of the Institute of Registered Veterinary and Animal Physiotherapists (IRVAP) and the Canine Massage Guild. See her website for more information
<https://www.forwardfocusvetphysio.co.uk/> and
<https://www.facebook.com/alisonpearcevetphysio/>

UKA Grand Finals:

The following all qualified for the UKA Grand Finals, which were held in October 2019

SWAG Beginners Steeplechase

- Claire Jones with Honey
- Jill Lowe with Bex
- Dawn Graham with Lexi
- Debbie Hockley with Coda

Circular Knock Out

- Lizi Bowerman with Pebbles
- Katerina Liskova with Mia
- Jill Lowe with Bex
- Jo Maisey with Pixel
- Caroline Howes with Tia – *finished joint 3rd*

CSJ

- Gill Kimber with Shade

Guest Trainer News:

Lee Harfield and Belle qualified for the UKA Grand Finals in both the SWAG Beginners Steeplechase and the Dogeria Performance Challenge.

Both Debby Simons and Walter Dingemanse have been called up to be part of the Agility Team GB squad for 2020.



Well done to all!

New Club Equipment

Jo Tidmarsh

With the proceeds from the 2019 show the Committee has purchased some new equipment, so I thought I'd give you a quick run-down on our decisions:

Tunnels

We have two new 5m non-slip tunnels, one yellow and one blue/yellow. I know the colours are a bit light for our dirty floor, but dark colours (apart from boring grey or completely black) don't seem to be available. We were always short of tunnels, and some of our old ones are starting to wear (the spirals are coming away).

What's the difference between non-slip and normal tunnels?

The non-slip have little squares imprinted and the theory goes that the dogs can get a little bit of grip on this – a bit like you having grip on your trainers but not your dancing shoes!

Why non-slip? Isn't that loads more expensive?

Yes it is! But we decided on non-slip for safety/performance.

A couple of years ago Team GB worked out that the GB dogs were repeatedly much slower through the tunnels than the European dogs when they were the same speed or faster on other obstacles. The theory was that the UK tunnels were slippery and moved under the dogs, so that the dogs didn't have the confidence/acceleration through the tunnels. Since then there has been a huge campaign to secure the tunnels more appropriately – that's why Debby always wants a million sandbags on each tunnel. The rule of thumb is one sandbag per metre and one extra – so six bags on a 5m tunnel.

Guess what – we bought new sandbags too, and I managed to get some sand that was going spare in a local house (a mini Downton Abbey).



We could also have purchased tunnels where the non-slip component was only on 50% or 30% of the tunnels – cheaper and nicer colours! However these work well in a straight line. When you bend the tunnel, getting the non-slip bit to sit in the right place for both little tiny Honey, or the great Heffalumps of Sonic and Pablo is really difficult. To me it seemed worse that Sonic would have two feet not slipping and two feet potentially slipping!

So there we go – we will try these tunnels and review again when we need more!

Wall

The wall is never out at club! Why? – it's heavy, awkward and it was purchased when the dogs were expected to jump much higher – that's the old rules of 10+ years ago – not the new rules about to hit us in January. So our wall is two rule changes out of date and we just couldn't fix it easily.

So we placed an order for a nice patterned fancy wall, but the supplier went bust! Luckily before we had actually parted with any money.

Then Walter gave his amazing talk at the AGM – so we went straight out and purchased a soft wall. Luckily a European supplier was offering 20% discount – so I jumped right on that offer and placed the order.

The wall has recently arrived and we will be able to jump heights of 20,30,40,50, 60 cm. A height for every dog!

Please let me know if you have any questions/suggestions.



Winter League

Jill Lowe

Five local agility clubs - us, Thames, Vyne, Cranbourne and Diamond Dogs compete over four matches each winter, each having 13 classes.

Oct 12th 2019 Winter League Places

Handler	Dog	Place 1st -6th	Class
Katerina Liskova	Mia	1	Grade 1-2 Agility
Katerina Liskova	Mia	1	Grade 1-3 Agility
Katerina Liskova	Mia	1	Grade 1-4 Jumping
Maria Davies	Molly	1	Grade 1-4 Jumping
Sue Cuddon	Luna	1	Grade 2-5 Agility
Jill Lowe	Bex	1	Grade 3-5 Jumping
Lizi Bowerman	Pebbles	1	Grade 3-6 Agility
Caroline Howes	Tia	1	Grade 4-7 Jumping
Jill Lowe	Cass	1	Grade 5-7 Agility
Caroline Howes	Tia	1	Grade 6-7 Jumping
Linda Morgan	Casper	2	Grade 1 Jumping
Caroline Howes	Pablo	2	Grade 1-3 Agility
Dawn Graham	Lexi	2	Grade 2-5 Agility
Jo Tidmarsh	Dude	2	Grade 3-6 Agility
Sue Cuddon	Mischief	2	Grade 3-7 Agility
Gill Rhodes	Mindy	2	Grade 3-7 Agility
Lizi Bowerman	Pebbles	2	Grade 4-7 Jumping
Sue Cuddon	Mischief	2	Grade 5-7 Agility
Claire Jones	Honey	2	Grade 5-7 Agility
Kathryn Brocklehurst	Shango	3	Grade 1-2 Agility
Maria Davies	Molly	3	Grade 1-3 Agility
Caroline Howes	Pablo	3	Grade 1-4 Jumping
Sue Cuddon	Luna	3	Grade 3-5 Jumping
Jill Lowe	Bex	3	Grade 5-7 Agility
Maria Davies	Molly	4	Grade 1-2 Agility
Jill Lowe	Bex	4	Grade 3-7 Agility
Pam Morgan	Martha	4	Grade 3-7 Agility
Alison Pearce	Herbie	4	Grade 4-7 Jumping
Gill Rhodes	Mindy	4	Grade 4-7 Jumping
Dawn Graham	Daisy	4	Grade 6-7 Jumping
Ellie Gilroy	Molly	5	Grade 1-2 Jumping
Maria Davies	Belle	5	Grade 1-3 Agility
Dawn Graham	Lexi	5	Grade 3-5 Jumping
Dawn Graham	Lexi	5	Grade 3-6 Agility
Pam Morgan	Magnus	5	Grade 6-7 Jumping
Jill Lowe	Cass	5	Grade 6-7 Jumping

Each club has a 100 runs to allocate across their members, with each dog having a maximum of four runs. The top three large, intermediate and small/medium (combined) dogs score points (15 to 1) for each club.

Runs are allocated by the club coordinator (currently Jill Lowe) to maximise the potential of scoring points, but also taking into account any special requests. Although it's great to win, Wallingford's main aim for taking part in the Winter League is to give our training members experience and practice at competitions. It's a great place to start competing as there always friendly faces to help and often video runs too.

Dogs can be entered once they are reasonably confident to do a course of 15 to 20 obstacles. Jumping classes

with just jumps and tunnels and agility classes with just A-frame and Dog Walk are available for grade 1 and 2 dogs (no weaves or see saw), and just for fun there is an Anysize class with just jumps and tunnels for those not able to jump at their normal heights.

Each club provides a judge and runs one of the rings in either the morning or afternoon. This year Wallingford runs Ring 3 in the afternoon.

Venue: Berkshire College of Agriculture, Burchetts Green, Nr Maidenhead, SL6 6QR

A few rules we all need to follow:

- No crates/cages to be left in the arena
- Only dogs in classes that are currently running to be in the arena
- Except when competing, dogs must be on lead anywhere on the site, even on the public footpaths, and kept away from any field with horses

There is a good walking area less than five minutes' drive away – the car park is on the left with a large field on the right at Pinkneys Drive on the way to Pinkneys Green.

The dates for the last two matches this season are:

Saturday January 18th 2020

Saturday February 15th 2020

Club Points Nov 2019	
Daisy	45
Mia	44
Bex	43
Maxi	36
Casper	35
Mindy	35
Molly (Maria)	35
Lexi	34
Herbie	33
Libby	28
Marco	27
Sonic	27
Mollie (Ellie)	25
Cass	24
Ciara	24
Mischief	23
Dude	22
Belle	20
Pablo	15
Pebbles	14
Pico	14
Luna	13
Honey	12
Shango	8
Magnus	7

Wallingford Points League Awards

Jill Lowe

Wallingford runs an annual points league for all competing members and the highest scoring dog / handler will be presented with an award at the AGM

Awards will be given for a dog/handler combination in the following categories. This will be based on the KC grade at the start of the year and will not change during the year:

- Grade 1
- Grade 2
- Novice - Grades 3 – 5
- Senior - Grades 6 – 7

To gain points you must achieve a clear round within the course time in any competition. This includes Kennel Club, UKA, FAB and independent shows, including the Winter League. More points are given for classes

containing contacts and the number of points allocated also depends on the number of dogs in the class. For example you will gain more points for a place in a competition against 200 dogs than against just 20.

All points claims to be entered on the Google form using this link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfymirStA6Xrgyqk2C6CM6KzdRHnu7sI_N7UTYkfZTsGg-AKq/viewform

Points from Winter League will be gathered directly from the League results, so no need to enter those.

You can check the Google submitted results so far on:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_ZoITPS7f0DHnzTYZbH09HulbHiw9DOGdnYF_HffnbE/edit#gid=31410960

If you are not able to use the google form please email details to the Points Secretary

league.points@wdtc.org.uk

2019 Wallingford points League Awards

		points
Best Starter 2019		
Luna	1st Trophy	60
Pablo	2nd	53
Mia	3rd	50
Best Novice 2019		
Bex	1st Trophy	75
Pebbles	2nd	63
Sonic	3rd	44
Best Senior 2019		
Mischief	1st Trophy	119
Tia	2nd	116
Honey	3rd	70
Most improved		
Nicky & Maisie	Trophy	

When sending points claims, all the following details must be supplied on each occasion.

- **Name of handler and dog**
- **Date and name of Show**
- **Class type** (Jumping including steeplechase, or Agility including games),
- **Placing or Clear** – All must be clear and within course time
- **Number of entries** in class /grade/ part awarded. Where not given by show assume awards are given to 10% so if only placed to 2, there were 20 in the class. Not needed for Unplaced Clear.

Full rules can be found in WDTC FB files see: [WDTC Points League Rules 2019-02.docx](#)

As well as our own Club League and the Winter League that we enter as a club, **there are a number of other leagues** you may be eligible to enter:

The Agility Club

<https://agilityclub.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/932407526791257/>



Membership of The Agility Club costs:

£29.00 for Single Membership

£35.00 for Family Membership (up to 4 members of the same household only)

Plus £5 joining fee

For this, you get a monthly magazine, entry to their league, and can apply for a certificate each time your dog wins up a grade.

Points for the league are gained at KC shows only, and can be claimed for any place for which you received a rosette, plus any unplaced clear rounds in the course time. The leagues are split by size and grade of dog.

A current member will get an extra two months' membership for recommending a new member, so please ask before joining.

Senior Agility League

<https://www.agilitynet.co.uk/senior%20agility%20league/intropage.html>



Free to join.

Open to handlers aged 55 and over on 1 January of the current year. All dogs must be registered with the KC.

Points for the league are gained from open classes at any shows (KC, UKA, Unaffiliated, etc) and can be claimed for any place for which you received a rosette, plus any unplaced clear rounds in the course time. The leagues are split by handler's age and size of dog.

Dog Agility Rescue League (DARL)

<https://agilityleagues.co.uk/darl/default.asp>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/172368337853/>

Minimum donation £5.00 per dog and £3.00 per additional dog.

Open to all dogs which are preloved/second-hand. Where they come from is not important, so they could be from a pound, a rescue centre or a private rehome, for instance.

Points for the league are gained from open classes at any shows (KC, UKA, Unaffiliated, etc) and can be claimed for any place for which you received a rosette, plus any unplaced clear rounds in the course time. The leagues are split by grade and size of dog. There are also leagues for some particular rescues along with a junior league.



List of Local(ish) Shows in 2020

Date	KC / UKA	Name	Address	Closing Date
04-Jan	UKA	GT	Cotswold RDA, Cheltenham Racecourse, Cheltenham, Glos, GL50 4SH	06-Dec
26-Jan	KC	New Year Hurdles	Moreton Morrell College Equestrian Centre, Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire, CV35 9BL	01-Jan
26-Jan	KC	Dog Vegas	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	30-Dec
08-Feb	Unaf	British Agility Cup	Inside Football, Brimscombe Industrial Estate, Brimscombe, Stroud, Glos, GL5 2QQ	20-Jan FULL
15-Feb	Unaf	British Agility Cup	Inside Football, Brimscombe Industrial Estate, Brimscombe, Stroud, Glos, GL5 2QQ	20-Jan
15-16 Feb	UKA	Valentines	Cotswold RDA, Cheltenham Racecourse, Cheltenham, Glos, GL50 4SH	17-Jan
29 Feb	KC	Dog Vegas	Moreton Morrell College Equestrian Centre, Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire, CV35 9BL	03-Feb
15-Mar	FCI	IMCA Tryouts	Willow Farm Equestrian Centre, Hansletts Lane, Faversham, Kent, ME13 0RS	01-Mar
20-Mar	KC	Team GB Perf Weekend	Vale View Equestrian, Nottingham Ln, Old Dalby, Melton Mowbray LE14 3LX	02-Mar
3-5 Apr	UKA	GT	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
10-13 Apr	UKA	Easter	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
10-13 Apr	KC	Kelluki	Hawbridge Farm, Clays Lane, Binstead, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 4NS	
17-19 Apr	UKA	Lydiard	Lydiard Park, Hook Street, Lydiard Tregoze, Swindon, SN5 3NY	
25-26 Apr	KC	Wallingford	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
1-3 May	UKA	GT	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
03-May	KC	Vyne	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
03-May	KC	Severnside	Bathing Pond Fields, N Somerset Agricultural Society, Wraxall, Bristol, BS48 1NE	
9-10 May	UKA	LADS	Chosen Hill RFC, Gloucester, GL3 2PJ	
15-17 May	FAB	Dorset One	Motcombe	
16-May	KC	Worcester	Top Barn Farm, Holt Heath, Herefordshire, WR6 6NH	

Date	KC / UKA	Name	Address	Closing Date
22-26 May	KC	Dog Vegas	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
23-31 May	UKA	Quad Paws	Mapledurham Estate, Mapledurham, Reading, RG4 7TR	
13-14 Jun	KC	Thames	Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berks, RG18 9QZ	
18-21 Jun	Unaf	CSJ Open	Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, Addington, Buckinghamshire, MK18 2JR	
19-21 Jun	FAB	Witls One	Warminster	
26-28 Jun	UKA	GT	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
27-28 Jun	KC	Wraxall	Bathing Pond Fields, N Somerset Agricultural Society, Wraxall, Bristol, BS48 1NE	
3-5 Jul	KC	Tuffley	Haw Bridge GL19 4HJ	
4-5 Jul	KC	Wellingborough		
4-5 Jul	UKA	Just Sox	The Turnpike Showground, Dorset SP7 9PN	
9-12 Jul	FAB/ KC	Dorset Two	Motcombe	
11-12 Jul	UKA	RUFFS	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
17-19 Jul	UKA	GT	Newlands Park, Southam Lane, Cheltenham, GL52 3PE	
18-19 Jul	KC	Rugby	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
18-19 Jul	KC	Nedlo	Birchwood House Farm, Sherfield English, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 6FF	
24 Jul-2 Aug	UKA	Nationals	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
6-9 Aug	KC	KCI	Rutland Showground, Burley Park Way, Oakham, LE15 7TW (LE15 6US)	
8-9 Aug	UKA	Teejay	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
12-17 Aug	KC	Dog Vegas	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
14-16 Aug	UKA	Agilit y4England	Dowtys, Down Hatherley Lane, Cheltenham, Glos. GL2 9QH	
22-31 Aug	UKA	Hawbridge	Tirley, Glos, GL19 4HJ	
29-30 Aug	KC	Prestbury Park	Cirencester Park, Bathurst Estate, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6JT	
29-30 Aug	KC	Bromsgrove	Dodderhill Court Equestrian Centre, off Crutch Lane, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, WR9 0BE	

Date	KC / UKA	Name	Address	Closing Date
11-13 Sep	UKA	Lechlade	Lechlade K9 Centre, Willow Tree Farm GL7 3DL	
11-13 Sep	FAB	Wilts Two	Warminster	
18-20 Sep	UKA	GT	Lydiard Park, Hook Street, Lydiard Tregoze, Swindon, SN5 3NY	
18-20 Sep	FAB	Surrey One	Cranleigh	
18-20 Sep	KC	Southam	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	
19-20 Sep	KC	WBSDS	Thame Showground, Thame, Oxfordshire, OX9 3BH	
26-Sep	KC	Nedlo	Birchwood House Farm, Sherfield English, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 6FF	
27-Sep	KC	Southdowns	Hampshire Constabulary Training HQ, Hamble Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO31 4TS	
3-4 Oct	KC	Chippenham	Bath Racecourse, Lansdown, Bath, Bristol, BA1 9BU	
24-25 Oct	UKA	Grand Finals	Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, Addington, Buckinghamshire, MK18 2JR	
28-Nov	KC	Dog Vegas	Onley Grounds Equestrian Complex, Onley Grounds Farm, Willoughby, Rugby, CV23 8AJ	

Shows we attend as a club

23 – 26 April: Our show, including set up

3 May: Reciprocal ring party for Vyne

13 – 14 June: Reciprocal ring party for Thames



Agility Demonstrations

Jo Maisey

The club is asked by various organisations to put on agility demonstrations for them. Either as a standalone, or as part of a wider day of entertainment.

As a club, we ask for a donation of £100 from the organisers, which goes towards the upkeep of the trailer. Members at all levels of experience are welcome to join in the fun. We showcase the wide variety of breeds and size dogs that can take part in agility, the competing partnerships, and demonstrate how we train.

Demonstrations are a fabulous stepping stone between training and competing. The environment is more challenging than training, but not as high octane as a competition. It's a chance to train over the equipment outside of normal training classes. Members also have free time to enjoy the rest of the show, and of course get free entry to the event!

During 2019 we gave three demonstrations:

5 May 2019 – Abingdon Air and County Show



15 June 2019 - Grove and Wantage Extravaganza



19th June

Grove and Wantage Extravaganza a hit despite rainy weather



By Harrison Jones | [@OxMailHarrisonJ](#)
Reporter



9 July 2019 – Rush Court Nursing Home



So far in 2020, we have been booked as follows:

Sunday 17 May 2020

Abingdon Air and Country Show

Abingdon Airfield (Dalton Barracks),
Honeybottom Lane



Saturday 20 June 2020

Grove and Wantage Extravaganza

Grove RFC



Please pencil the dates in your diary! If you'd like to join us, please either talk to me or send an email or message.

Contact for demos: events@wdtc.org.uk

Skills Directory

Currently empty, but if any club member has a skill/business which may be useful for other members, eg:

- Plumber
- Electrician
- Accountant
- Photographer
- Dog Trainer/Behaviourist
- Physiotherapist
- Financial Adviser



Please email watchdog@wdtc.org.uk with details of what services you provide, areas covered and contact details such as telephone numbers, email and website.

Thank you

WDTC Charity Support

Kevin Pearce

Every year at the AGM, WDTC members choose charities to support throughout the year. The charity donations are historically taken as a percentage of show profits (10%), plus anything collected for specific events during the year. The committee have also regularly rounded up the amounts.



The amounts outstanding and due to be paid shortly are:

2016

The Miscarriage Association - £200
TRAIN - Youth work on Didcot's streets - £200
Search & Rescue Dogs - £400

Additionally, at our show in 2019, we ran a raffle in aid of Forever Agility. We raised just under £2,000! The Committee rounded it up to £2,000.

2017

Abingdon RDA - £200
Sobell House Hospice - £200
Hope Rescue - £400

Would the people who nominated Miscarriage Association, and Search & Rescue Dogs please contact me. I need to find out where to send the donations.

2018

Motor Neurone Disease Association - £400
Medical Detection Dogs - £400

Thank you

Kevin, Treasurer

Show News!

Jo Tidmarsh



Wallingford Show will be held at Newbury Showground on April 25-6 2020. For those of you who have never been before, we have over 2,000 dogs, competing in 6,000+ runs and 250 caravans.

The Show Committee is busy working on getting the schedule together and hope to open entries early in the New Year. Entries will close just before Crufts in March. Don't worry; we will let everyone know how to enter!

This year is particularly exciting as we will be hosting a qualifier for the Kennel Club Olympia Stakes for Large ABC dogs (Anything But Collies) and this is a prestigious qualifier

that attracts some of the best dogs. We are also very proud to be hosting one of the early qualifiers for the International Tour. This is a special class for those who want to be considered for Team GB in 2021. This event is being judged by Dave Munnings and our own guest trainer Walter. We hope to see some amazing dogs on some fantastic courses. It will be worth making sure you stop by to have a watch.

Other qualifiers we are hosting included – Young Kennel Club Crufts Qualifiers, First Place Processing & Dog Vegas Qualifiers, and new for this year – Veteran Jumping – for humans over 60!.

Please put the date in your diary – we really do need all the help we can get over the weekend and the Thursday/Friday before. Don't worry if you don't know what to do – if you can wield a hammer, spray paint on grass, hold tent poles, smile at judges, pick up leads, lay out jumps, tick names off lists, keep me sane with coffee/chocolate – then we would really appreciate any help you can offer.

In the meantime – go ahead and follow <https://www.facebook.com/WallingfordAgilityShow/> on FaceBook where you can see photos from last year.



Competition Time !!!

Claire Jones

We are relaunching this as we have so many new members and would like everyone to have the opportunity to be involved. Previous entries will be re-entered or you can re-enter if you have new ideas.

Our current WDTC logo designed by Wendy has stood us well over the last 21 years! However the current design does not stand up well to being used on rosettes and smaller merchandise, due to this and the fact that we feel we are long overdue an update to our overall image, the committee has decided that we would like to run a competition to design a new club logo.



We are looking for something that expresses the main avenue the club now takes ie Agility in a design that will be both eye-catching and suitable for use on all WDTC merchandise, rosettes, internet publishing and headed paper etc.

It does need to contain either the letters WDTC or Wallingford Dog Training Club.

If you look at other clubs' newly designed logos - simplicity seems to be the key. Simple and striking images catch the eye and translate well to small applications.

The club's colours were traditionally royal blue and yellow; however they have evolved over the years to navy and gold. Do though keep in mind that the clothing that the logos go on is generally navy.

You do not need to be Da Vinci! Ideas and concepts are the most important. We can have those adapted to work if need be so get involved, have fun - do a few!

The winning design will be chosen by the club committee and the winner will receive the first polo shirt with the new design – and of course years of 'I did that' glory.

Any images/clip art/design used in the logo must be copyright free, free to use, or have the permission of the designer to be used for this purpose.

Re format we require the entries in, I have spoken to our current supplier and JPEG is the preferred format however they can convert from virtually any format – so the world is your oyster.

ENTER TO WIN



You can enter as many times as you like, and the competition is open to anyone, including friends, relatives etc.

We would like to try and have our new logo in place in time for our April show so all entries must be received by **January 5th 2020**.

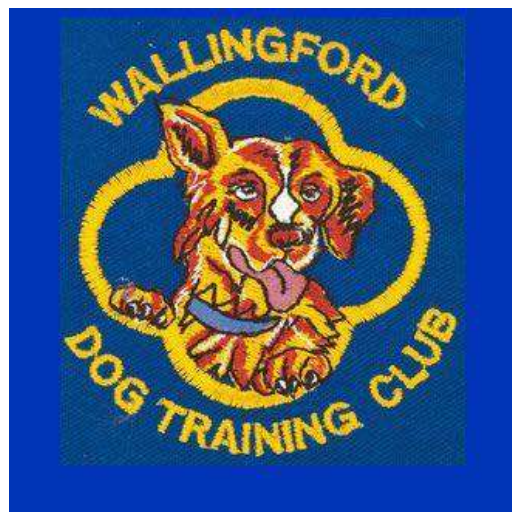
Good luck, have fun creating and we look forward to seeing your entries☐.

Entries: please either email them to me at runestonedogs@gmail.com or hand hard copies to me at club.

Please do not hesitate to message or chat to me at club if you need any more info or help.



Original Logo



Current Logo

Examples of logos that work well:



Product Review

Jo Maisey

For this edition, I'm going to review the Perus Pomppa dog coat, as modelled by Pixel. Pomppa is a Finnish company.

Only ever having larger dogs before – mainly collies – the concept of a dog being cold was rather a novel one! The collies may have had a coat for extreme snow or rain, and maybe a fleece drying coat for when very wet, but that was it. They just didn't need one.



It took me a little while to understand that tiny dog (Pixel is around 220mm to the shoulder and weighs 3kgs at best) can very easily feel cold, even when I thought he couldn't possibly be. While he may have a long coat, it's rubbish at keeping him warm. Apparently he has a Yorkie coat, which is hair rather than fur and so it doesn't keep him warm at all. It just gets wet and stays wet. Being so close to the ground, his whole underside gets wet.

It's not easy to find a coat which fits him well. Apart from being tiny, his tail curls up over his back, so any coat could not be longer than his back length. He is quite skinny, so needed one which wouldn't gap and let the cold and wet in. I wanted one which covered his underside as much as possible, yet didn't require him being manhandled into one with legs.

The Perus Pomppa fulfils both of our requirements. It goes on over his head, then a wide centre piece threads through his front legs, covers most of his tummy, and clips up over his back like a belt. There are no fiddly leg straps. It is well tailored and does not move, even when running. There are reflective strips on the collar and on the back seam. The shoulders are cut out so movement is not restricted. The collar can be folded back if required and there is a hole to clip a lead to a collar. I put his harness over the top as I find it easier. It is waterproof and lined, so he is kept warm and dry. It can be washed in the washing machine.

The Perus Pomppa is available from:

<https://www.camddwrcanine.co.uk/>

<https://www.agilityworld.co.uk/>

It's not cheap – around £40 to £76 – but worth it in my opinion.

The Perus is the mid-range of these Pomppa coats. The Toppa is thicker and warmer. The Kevyt is a lightweight waterproof and windproof version, with a thin lining.



This will be a regular feature, so if you have a product you would like to review, please email your article to: watchdog@wdtc.org.uk

It can be anything we may find useful, eg:

- Collars
- Leads
- Harnesses
- Dog coats, drying coats, jumpers, pyjamas
- Coats, boots, running shoes, trousers for people

Otherwise you will just end up with my recommendations!

Thank you

My experience of November Winter League

Alison Brown

I stood at the start of the agility course with heart thumping and legs like jelly. Why had I come when I was sure to forget the course? And I was certain Ciara, my dog, would set off for the A frame or dog walk (contacts are her favourite) instead of watching me. I was bound to be eliminated and I didn't want to let ourselves and the club down.



We had been with the club for over a year, and attended two other winter league meetings, but were still novices at agility. I am in my late 60's, always nervous at events, and never been any good at sport. So why start agility? It was to do something fun with my dog and help with her obedience training. But – waiting for the 'go' at winter league – it didn't feel much like fun.

Off we went, as fast as we could round the course – and got eliminated. The A frame was too much of a distraction for Ciara when she should have been going over a jump. A little later we ran another agility course – and got eliminated again. This time I forgot the course.

But perhaps lunch energized us, because in the afternoon we ran two jump courses, and both, if ungainly, were clear rounds! I don't know about Ciara, but I felt a rush of excitement. We'd got round!! The thrill got even better when we were later awarded 3rd and 5th place rosettes!

What kept me going with competing when I wanted to give up? First, there was the encouragement of fellow club members, who sympathized when we got it wrong and cheered when we made it round. Telling me I wasn't letting the side down, it was all experience. Second, there was the helpfulness of the highly experienced club members who were happy to walk the courses with me, and help me see the best way round them. Thank you all. You made the difference to my experience of that winter league meeting.

And, of course, the biggest incentive was the fun that Ciara had. She wasn't bothered whether we had a bad round or a good round; she just enjoyed it. That's how I should treat it too.

Will I be back at the next winter league? Keep encouraging me, and likely I will.

New Jump Heights and Introduction of Intermediate Height at KC Shows

From 1 January 2020, the jump heights at KC shows are changing. There will no longer be a Lower Height Option (LHO) for any height. There will also be a new Intermediate height.

Height	Dog Height (at the withers)	Jump Height from 1 January 2020	Previous Jump Height
Large	Over 500mm	600mm	650mm
Intermediate	Over 430mm to 500mm	500mm	New height
Medium	Over 350mm to 430mm	400mm	450mm
Small	350mm and under	300mm	350mm

New Intermediate Height at KC Shows and Measuring

If your dog is currently Large, but you think your dog may measure into the new Intermediate height, you only have until 31 December 2019 to have them measured. If you do not, then you will stay in Large and jump at 60cm for life. You cannot wait until 2020.

This applies to all Large dogs which have competed (or even entered but not competed) in a KC show. It makes no difference if they have competed/entered at full height, lower height or Anysize.

This applies whether:

- Your dog has been competing without ever being measured (obviously Large)
- Your dog has been measured into Large and you are now outside of the 12 to 24 month period to get a 2nd measure.
- Your dog has been measured into Large twice and completed the measuring process.

If you have already had a first measure, you still have the 12 to 24 months to get the 2nd measure completed.

Forever in Our Hearts

Bella (Bee Boppa Bella) 20/5/2009 - 29/4/2019

Jo Maisey



Bella came to me on 31 March 2011, having been booked for a one-way trip to the vet for biting. Luckily for me she was saved. She was just the best. Always happy, smiley, waggy. She found great joy in everything she did. Loved by everyone who met her. Perfect in that she was always up for a walk, play, training or a cuddle at any time, but would also be found asleep upside down when I needed to get on with something else.

She taught scaredy-boy Taffy that people and other dogs were not so scary. She welcomed many fosters into our home and taught them too.

I never intended to compete in agility with her, but I had to choose a dog sport for my Advanced Dog Training module for my FdSc in Dog Training and Behaviour. Needless to say I got the bug and we went on to compete. She got to G5 at KC and Senior at UKA.

In February 2017 it became obvious from an indoor agility run that something wasn't right with her. She was measuring badly. Happily it was nothing that caused her pain, but she was diagnosed with PRA. I retired her from agility, although she took part in the occasional Anysize class. No-one but me could really tell she was losing her eyesight and she continued to have a happy and fulfilled life.





In February 2019 a lump was found in her throat while being groomed. Sadly it turned out to be a tumour. Histology showed it to be an unusual form of cancer in that it was two different types. Very nasty and aggressive. Although she was operated on and about 99% of the tumour was removed, it would undoubtedly come back. She was given just a few months. Options were discussed, but we decided against it as it would only extend her life by

maybe six months, and the treatments would not be kind to her. We decided instead to make the little time we had left together as joyful as possible and made happy memories together.

Her very last run was in the Rescue League Finals. I'm pleased she was well enough to run and enjoyed herself scampering around. We didn't exactly cover ourselves in glory, but that didn't matter.

The time came though when she was tired. She spent the day before we said our final goodbyes wandering around at Wallingford Show where she had competed so many times before and met up with many old friends. On her last day, she had more cuddles, a short bimbles along one of her favourite walks, where she sniffed and peed on things. She got to eat whatever she wanted, including special treats from special friends.



I miss her goofy grin. I miss her wiggle butt. I miss her dancing happy feet. I miss her cuddles. I miss seeing her run for the sheer pleasure of it. I miss her paw on my arm to give her ear scratches. But I am at peace with the decision. If there can ever be a 'good' end of life, this was it IMHO. Before she became too ill to have any enjoyment left in life. No crisis. No stress to her. Time to plan. Time to do all her favourite things. Time to let her go with the best

food in her mouth. She was a good girl, right to the very end. We are heartbroken without her, but our lives have been greatly enriched by her presence.

Bye bye my sweet darling girl.

Contacts

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Next edition of Watchdog due end of March 2020

Please send any articles or suggestions through to watchdog@wdtc.org.uk at any time. The more the merrier, or it will end up being very repetitive and very boring as I fill the magazine with articles about me and my dogs!

Jo Maisey, *Editor*