

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

March 2013



Away match against UpAndOver Club



First impressions were very good – Upandover have found a lovely new venue, and when we arrived all the Wallingford members were most envious of the equipment being stored in an alcove off to the side of the arena, no mud in sight! As we found out later there was also a great view of the jumping ring from the raised seating area, some tasty soup, and other food – I think I lost count of the number of different types of cake!

The courses were great, very well pitched, and the judges smiled all afternoon. The new format of the nursery competition where an instructor was allowed into the first round on the course really helped give people a boost, and we saw some really nice clear rounds result from this, including two from our highest placed nursery entrant, Steffi Jones and Mali.

I am sure I speak for everyone by saying it was a very enjoyable afternoon, and everyone took something positive away from the match. I am already looking forward to next year!

Although we lost the match over all, Wallingford had the overall winners in Starters, Novice and Senior – congratulations to Gill Rhodes and Bertie, Carolyn Davies and Ollie, and Gill Kimber and Shade who all managed a very impressive 3 clear rounds out of 3. The full results are in a separate annexe.

Alison Pearce

Reminder: Thursday 18 to Sunday 21 April club agility show

The income from the show funds the equipment for the club, so we do expect ALL club members to help out where they can.

Thursday pm: marking out the 250 camping slots, the rings and the trade stands.

Friday set up each of the nine competition rings and direct the caravans as they arrive.

Saturday & Sunday - the show itself! **Lots of help is needed on the rings** and with all sorts of things in the marquee and around the showground.

No agility knowledge is necessary for many jobs, so family members are also welcome to help out. This is a busy weekend, but with lots of members helping out it is great fun, and we also make sure all the helpers get fed!

A word from the editor

Basil and I had great fun at Crufts at the beginning of the month – his second outing as part of the rescue dog agility display team following his debut at Discover Dogs last year, and the first time I have actually run in the main ring at Crufts (although I have held leads, toys, and pointed at things before!). Wow, what a privilege, I was able to enjoy it as there was really no pressure, provided Basil was happy to be there all we had to do was have fun.

I wondered how he would cope with the people, lights, cameras, carpet, tannoy, but none of that bothered him. He did sneak in a little woof at one of the ring party as he jumped off his contact though – more work needed on that so roll on UKA shows and some training in the ring.



He did have a slight mishap on Friday morning when he had a sneaky wee on one of the lights in the tunnel entrance – but from the size of the puddle he was only copying someone else! There was a slight panic as the ring party tried to dry it in case he caused a short circuit, and for a moment I did wonder if we were about to have a Basil-related power cut, but thankfully not.

Plenty of other things have happened since the last Watchdog apart from Crufts so thank you everyone for your articles and photos – enjoy reading!

Alison Pearce



Rory and the lovely Ammo had qualified for the U12 Large Agility Dog of the Year Semi Final at Crufts at the Kennel Club Festival last August. In the run up to Crufts Rory and Ammo were planning to do lots of training at club and with Lorna, plus a few competitions. However, at our club match Ammo went lame with groin strain, and took a very long time to heal. We had to scratch him from the return match and from OJAC, and he was only let off the lead a few days before Crufts.

Based on discussions with Lorna and vet physio Maria, we decided he could run at Crufts, but not before, and Rory understood that if Ammo wasn't managing the course, he would have to politely thank the Judge and withdraw. So with this added worry – off we went...

Rory was very excited to be there, especially when he met his little mate Jack Biddle. We decided to leave Ammo in Lorna's van for as long as possible, so he could chill out and relax while we watched the Team Heats in the Main Ring.

Rory had never been to Crufts before even as a spectator. When he walked into view the Main Arena he went white as a sheet and just said Wow! The Team event dragged on a bit and we had just enough time to collect Ammo and zoom across to the YKC ring about 20 miles away where we met all the lovely club members who had come to support Rory.

Now over to Rory...

When I walked the course I thought it wasn't too tricky but a little bit small for Ammo. This was the first time I walked a course without an adult and I wasn't scared. I treated it as a normal show and sat Ammo on the start line and off we went. I tried my best, Ammo stumbled on a tight turn, but he picked himself up and jumped nicely for me. He jumped off the see-saw and got 5 faults but had a really fast time. After the event we all went into the arena for the prize giving. I was very surprised when I found out I had won. Afterwards a man took our photo in a special area for winners.



In the afternoon we were in the final in the main arena. Mum and I went into the holding area that had big screens that showed us what was happening in the ring, Gio-Gio kept sneaking around the curtains to say hello. A man (Dave Jolly) gave me a copy of the course and we discussed how to run it. Then I went to walk the course without any help.

When I stepped out through the big white arches into the main arena I was a little bit nervous. The course was a little bit tricky for me. Before we ran we had to wait in the big arch all by ourselves but I wasn't scared even when we went to the start line.



I had a nice time running but we went wrong after the third tunnel. Ammo often runs around the back of a jump straight after the tunnel, so I called him to stop him doing that and he came too far in and ran inside the jump and onto the seesaw and got eliminated. I was sad but we had fun finishing it and Ammo was happy.

Thank you to everybody who watched me.

Jo and Rory Tidmarsh

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Agility news

UK Agility AJAX 15-17 March

Friday

Sarah & Merlin **1st Sen Stch 1 (11)**
 Sarah & Merlin **1st Sen Stch 3 (9)**
 Jose & Pera **1st Sen Jump (5)**
 Aileen & Ozzie **1st Beg Jump (33)**
 Jose & Pera 2nd Champ Stch (4)
 Jose & Pera 2nd Champ Stch (3)
 Sarah & Merlin 2nd Beg Jump (33)
 Aileen & Ozzie 3rd Beg Ag (33)
 Sarah & Merlin 4th Beg Ag (33)

Saturday

Sarah & Merlin **1st Beg Jump (67)**
 Dinah & Cinders **1st Sen Ag (8) NQ**
 Aileen & Ozzie 2nd Beg Ag (67)
 Aileen & Ozzie 2nd Beg Snake&Lads (27)
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd Nov Snake&Lads (16)
 Dinah & Cinders 2nd Nov Stch 1 (7)
 Dinah & Cinders CR Nov Stch 2 (7)

Scrambles 10 March (Ind)

Aileen & Ozzie **1st CG1-4 Jumping (20)**
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd CG1-4 Jumping (20)
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd CG1-4 Agility 1 (200)
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd CG1-4 Agility 2 (20)
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd CG1-4 Stchase (20)

THE KENNEL CLUB Crufts 7-10 March

Rory & Ammo **1st U12 Large YKC Agility - qualified for the final in the main ring.**
 Lee & Pip CR Champ Jumping
 Lee & Pip CR Champ Agility

THE KENNEL CLUB Mid Downs 2 March

Gill & Shade 4th Grade 6 Agility (116)

UK Agility Kelluki 3 March

Jose & Pera 2nd Sen TFO (6)
 Jose & Pera 2nd Sen Jump (5)
 Jose & Pera CR Champ Stchase (8)

THE KENNEL CLUB

Adams 23rd February - (KC)

Ian & Dino **1st CG1-3 jumping (135) (below)**
 Aileen & Ozzie 7th G1-4 Ag (~100 G3)
 Aileen & Ozzie 8th CG1-7 Jumping (106)
 Aileen & Rockett 14th CG1-3 Jump (135)
 Aileen & Rockett CR CG1-7 Jump (106)



Dog Barn Show 17 Feb (Ind)

Jill & Cass 2nd std+large 4-7 Agility (15)

Malmesbury 17 Feb (Ind)

Jose & Pera 3rd Stch 4-7 (25)
 Dinah & Cinders CR 1-3 Ag (18)
 Dinah & Cinders CR 1-3 Stch (18)
 Jose & Poppy CR Agility 4-7 (8)
 Rosie & Poppy CR Stch 4-7 (8)

Scrambles 17 Feb (Ind)

Aileen & Rockett **1st Ag (~40)**
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd Jump (~40)
 Aileen & Rockett CR Stchase (40)
 Aileen & Ozzie CR Stchase (40)

Scrambles 3 Feb (Ind)

Aileen & Ozzie **1st Ag 2 (~30)**
 Aileen & Ozzie **1st Jump (~30)**
 Gill & Bertie **1st Stchase (~15)**
 Aileen & Rockett **1st Stchase** (running medium height after injury) (~15)
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd Jump (running medium) (~15)
 Gill & Bertie 2nd Ag 1 (~15)
 Gill & Mindy 2nd Stchase (~30)
 Gill & Mindy 3rd Ag 2 (~30)
 Gill & Mindy 3rd Jump (~30)
 Aileen & Ozzie 4th Ag 1 (~30)
 Gill & Bertie CR Jump (~15)

A.G.M.



The Club's Annual General Meeting took place on Wednesday 6th March at the Aston Tirrold & Uptonthorpe Village Hall.

The committee who runs the club on your behalf was elected at the AGM. Most of the existing committee was re-elected. Pete Sanderson stood down after many years on the committee, leaving two vacancies in total. Dawn Graham and Jenny Kimber were elected to fill these posts.

Chairman: Carolyn Davies
Secretary: Karen Parker
Treasurer: Kevin Pearce
Agility rep: Ian Hutchinson
Member: Wendy Botto
Member: Kathryn Brocklehurst

Member: Dawn Graham
Member: Jacky Hutchinson
Member: Jenny Kimber
Member: Gill Rhodes
Member: Jo Tidmarsh
Member: Aileen Watson

The club supports 2 charities each year and these are also selected at the AGM. Several charities for 2013 were put forward, and these were then voted on by the members while we all tucked into the food. The Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust and Many Tears Animal Rescue were chosen.

Alison Pearce

Annual Awards

The club's annual awards were also given out at the AGM. The results for 2012:

Juniors

1st Gio-Gio and Tatti
2nd Rory and Ammo
3rd Gio-Gio and Bambi

Starters

1st Gill and Mindy
2nd Tori and Bowen
3rd Gill and Bertie

Novice

1st Carolyn and Ollie
2nd Gill and Shade
3rd Jill and Cass

Best Small (and 4th Novice) - Pam and Martha

Senior

1st Wendy and Bambi
2nd Gill and Chi
3rd Kevin and Fell

Best Improver – Dawn and Daisy

Highly recommended
Sue and Ella
Sarah and Merlin
Alison and Basil

2013 results are now up and running and in spite of the weather, we have already had some great results at Independent, UKA and KC shows. If you cannot access the Wiki, or do not know how to put your results onto boasts – then please feel free to email your results to me. You need to let me know the show, which dog!, where you came, and how many were in the class. For those who would like to know what is going on – Jacky posts the latest boasts about every two weeks at club – and if there are cakes on offer, then this means that someone has had a first place somewhere – look for the note to say who and where – and then help celebrate their success. Good luck everyone!

Aileen Watson



I just wanted to write a few words for Watchdog to say how much it meant to me to receive the trophy for best small dog and handler at the club AGM. Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive. I am grateful to all of the trainers who give up their time every week and for their patience with me!

Martha is a great little dog to own and train, although I suspect it is really her who is training me! It has been a steep learning curve as I really can't think quickly enough. I'm sure its keeping my brain as well as my body active though.

Agility in general, and the club members in particular, have become such a big part of my life that I wonder what I did before I became so involved? Here I would like to make a special mention to my friend Jose, without her encouragement I would never have had the courage to enter a competition in the first place. Here's to 2013!

Pam Hancock



Thank you to Dinah & Sarah for providing very welcome refreshments for the instructors on Thursday evenings.

Treasurer's Corner



Reminder: if you have still not paid your 2013 membership fees these are now well overdue, please collect a membership form at training and return with money to Kevin or Jacky ASAP.

If you are not paying your training fees by monthly standing order please email me to ask for a form.

Kevin Pearce



Open Junior Agility Championships 2013

We entered four Under 12 teams – 4 kids (Rory, Gio-Gio, Jack and Belle) with 16 dogs plus reserves. Plus one Over 12 team with Anthony and 3 others from all over the country.

Wallingford K9 B – 3rd in Team Agility (DJ, Amber/Pera, Leia (Rockett pup), Bambi) (*right*) and oh so close to winning but a sneaky 5 from Pera being handled by Jack who only met him an hour earlier, and a loss of direction from Gio-Gio and Rory.

Wallingford K9 C – 3rd in Team Jumping (Pip, Mint, Poppy and Fudge) - again Jack handling a dog he only met once before – Mint.

Rory was 2nd in Individual Jumping with DJ and Anthony had some lovely clears in teams and individuals with Gimli. Gio-Gio and Bambi had two stonking clears – well what can we say: 2nd Individual Jumping, 1st Individual Agility resulting in OJAC U12 Medium Champion for 2013!

Thank you to everyone who has given time and effort to train the Juniors: Jill Lowe, Lorna Peachey, Wendy Botto and thanks in advance to Lee Harfield who has agreed to do some kids and puppies training – mad!!!! Thank you to Jose and Lorna for the loan of their dogs. Roll on this year.

Jo Tidmarsh



As a result of becoming OJAC Under 12 medium winner 2013 earlier this year, Gio-Gio and Bambi have been given an automatic place on the Junior Team GB and are off to compete for Great Britain in Holland in September. A fantastic opportunity for Gio-Gio. Good luck to all other junior members who are trying out in April!

Wendy Botto

Certificates

Back in the long hot summer of last year.... Oh no, hang on. Well, sometime in the mud last summer Alf gained enough points for his bronze agility warrant.

However, all our agility record books got put in a "safe place" when we moved house in August. It was only at Christmas that I rediscovered the books and was able to send off for his certificate. When the certificate arrived, Alf seemed quite excited... no Alf, it's not for eating!

The Agility Warrant is offered on three levels - Bronze, Silver and Gold - and is based on a points system, whereby points are gained for clear rounds at KC shows. Agility Warrant application forms can be downloaded from the Kennel Club website www.thekennelclub.org.uk



Another type of certificate is the winning out certificate offered free by the Agilitynet website – just fill out the form with your details at the end of the year and the certificates arrive in the post in March. As both Alf and Basil won out of grades in 2012, I decided to send off for their certificates, which also arrived recently. Alf won out of G1, and Basil out of G2, so they got one each, what clever boys!

Alison Pearce



*Don't forget to send your articles, pictures, questions and reports
before the 23rd April for the next issue
– pictures from Wallingford Show particularly welcome!*