

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

October 2010

Wallingford had **THREE** teams in Team Dash Finals..



and one in the
UKA Finals!

UKA Agility Finals



Well Done
everyone.

Editorial Bit by Mick - the Editor!



First things first, a big apology for the late arrival of this Watchdog. I have loads of excuses ranging from pressure of work, via busy with some household rearrangements, and on through acute apathy to, well - whatever!

But, now that I'm here I don't think I can start on anything other than the highlights of the year for our club, agility wise. We had three teams in the Team Dash Final which was an amazing feat, but not only that, we had a team in a UKA Final too! Jo Tidmarsh was actually in both Finals.

Although for Chris and myself it was a long day travelling up to Chester for the Final I do now think it was worth it, I wasn't so sure of the sanity of it at first! Having a slightly older dog than most, I keep an eye open for other 'veterans', and there were a few in the Finals, and all got clear rounds, maybe not quick but clear. I enjoyed the commentary as each dog and handler ran their leg, and for me the cheer Bryn got as he cleared the last jump sent a tingle down my spine. As it turns out, that was Bryn's last competitive run this year as he was excused duty from Prestbury Park's show due to a sprained right wrist. Pain killers and anti inflammatory pills got him back on his paws again but too late for any competitions. Besides, trainers always say finish on a good one!

With Chris now away at University I got a chance to run my second dog, 7 years late, but, I have now run Fly in training. He is a bit quicker than Bryn, but then he is a young dog at 8 years old. I think I will enjoy a few sessions with Fly and shouldn't do any damage as Chris and I have similar handling styles, and not just the blind turns!

I'm not sure yet about next year's agility shows, Bryn will be 13 in March and so I'll be keeping an eye on him over winter and working on his health and fitness level more than trying to improve on his agility skills, it's me who needs the work. If he is to stop full height jumping I think we'll do mainly UKA shows where he can do two classes per day in the Casual class. Chris has, in theory, left home to go to University but he has returned home a couple of times now, always timing his arrival so he can take Fly training! Apparently he has built his course around leaving Friday free, this means he can get home on Thursdays to train Fly and play rugby on Saturday for Abingdon 2nd XV.

Returning to the subject of Finals, my little mate Lin Abbot has qualified two of her Shelties for Finals this year, well done Lin. I'm afraid I can't remember what finals they were or where they are at, but Good Luck Lin when you step into the ring.

I haven't done my trawl of the Wiki pages this month, partly because most of you have access to them yourselves, partly because it keeps chucking me out or saying it doesn't know me, and of course that apathy thing!

Well, I'm almost done here, the problem I have had is that every time I think I have finished I find something I have left out! I think it's all there now, see you soon, Mick.

Agility news

Agility Rep. News

I'm sure we'd all like to say a big thank-you to Anthony Clarke who has been training three classes since March. This has worked well as several of our trainers chose the same time to get new dogs, which limited their availability to train. Hopefully we can persuade him back next year.

A very successful summer season - those winning at KC shows include Wendy & Bambi (twice), Louise & Spangle, Jenny & Deke, Dinah & Cinders, Lin & Mozzie and Lee & Pip (lots!). Successes at UKA have been dominated by a large contingent from the small / medium group who, with support from Annette, have won too much to list.

Welcome to Tori & Ginger, Lee & Pip, Rosie & Kizzy and Tania & Worzel who have joined us in recent weeks. I'd also like to thank Lee, Jo and Aileen who will be helping with instructing (Aileen is attending the Agility Club's Instructor's course/exam in October - best of luck).

We held assessment sessions for new beginners in October at the Malthouse - many thanks to Wendy and all the trainers who volunteered to help. Some members have moved up from Foundation to make room for them. **Please note the new structure from 28th October.**

Xmas competition night (16 December) will be the same format as last year mixing members up into teams for the evening to take part in a couple of competitions - more info to follow. **The club is then closed for 23 & 30 December returning to classes on 6 January 2011**, when we will be moving the classes round again to share out the tasks of putting out and putting away equipment. It's only fair to everyone in the club that this tedious task is shared out.

Out & About

There were Gold and Silver Medals for Team GB at WC2010 and individual success for a couple of ex-members/trainers. Natasha Wise, the reigning Agility World Champion in the Medium dog height category, has claimed the Championship title for the second year running with her Border Collie, Dizzy (Ag. Ch. Raeannes Flipping Heck.).

Natasha's Gold medal, along with David Munnings' Silver in the Individual Large height category with his Border Collie, Dobby (Ag.Ch. Gunran Misteree), crowned another highly successful competition for the Kennel Club's Agility Team GB at the FCI Agility World Championships in Germany at the beginning of October. Natasha and Dizzy were unbeaten, with first places in both the jumping and agility rounds on her way to the overall Individual Medium Champion title.

It is thought that Natasha's record of two consecutive Championship wins has only been matched twice before in the FCI Agility Championships. Previous holders were Christine Charpentier of France with Loch Mac Leod (1999 and 2000) and Anton Zürcher of Switzerland with Witch who won the Medium category in 2007 and 2008. Anton was beaten into 2nd place by Natasha in 2009. The only other previous double winner has been Slovenia's Silvia Trkman with her Pyrenean Sheepdog, La (Simply The Best de Loubajac).

Stop Press; Agility match v Andover. Home leg at Malthouse on Sat 27 Nov. Please keep this date free.

Ian Hutchinson - Agility Rep.



Wallingford Dog Training Club

Classes from Thursday 28th October to end of year.

Ant will be available to train until the end of November. He will be at kitchen end with the current class structure until the 21st, then at menage end from the 28th with this new structure to help with new members.

7.30 (to set up) for 8pm start

Foundation	Tanya & Jill & Jo	Grade
Aileen	Oz	1
Julie	Mango	2
Wendy	Fuzzy	2
Maria D	<u>new dog</u>	
Gill R?	<u>new dog?</u>	
	^	
	<i>new members</i>	
	v	

Group 3	Jacky & Kevin	Grade
Carol	<u>Tig</u>	6
Mick	Fly/Bryn	6/6
Gill K	Tess	4
Sue	<u>Gimli</u>	5
Carolyn	Jazz / Max	4
Lisa	Sky	6
Sophie	Jinx	6
Lin	Hattie/ <u>Mozzie</u> m	7/6
Lee	Pip s	7
Ian	<u>Stig</u>	7

8.40 – 9.20pm

Group 1	Carolyn & Aileen	Grade
Paula	Ben	3
Sophie	Chase	3
Jo	Pip	1
Julie	Bonnie	2
<u>Tori</u>	Ginger	1
Steve	Milo	1
Kath	Winston	1
Angela	Bailey	1
Maria T	Inca	1
Dave	<u>Clippy</u>	1

Small / Medium	Lee & Gill	Grade
Carol	Nell/Ellie s	3
Jose	<u>Pera</u> s	3
Pam	Ashley / Rowan (1) s	3
Ryan	Poppy s	5
Karen W	Merlin s??	1
<u>Tania</u>	<u>Worzel</u>	
Wendy	Bambi/ <u>Tatti</u> m	4/3
Dinah	Cinders m	1
Gill R	<u>Bertie</u> m	1
Pat	Leo m	2
Sue	Bea m	6

9.20 – 10pm (then put equipment away)

Improvers	Wendy & Lin	Grade
Caroline	Todd	1
Mary	Jig	1
John G	Lincoln	3
Maria T	Splash	1
Carolyn	Ollie	3
Gill K	Shade	3
Jill	Cass	3

Group 2	Ian & Sue	Grade
Jacky	Lazer	3
Jo	<u>Bronwen</u>	1
Rosie	<u>Kizzy</u>	4
Aileen	<u>Rockett</u>	1
Kevin	Fell	4
Tanya	Dollar	3
Paula	Blaze	3
Annette	Roxy	3

‘Holding’: Alison & Alf (G1L), Karen P & Sasha (G4L) and Rupert (G3M)

A Reminder of Safety Rules etc on training nights.

We will have a new group of beginners starting on 28 Oct and we need to set a good example regarding safety and rules that should be followed. There have been an increasing number of small incidents that we don't wish to become big incidents so please adhere to the following rules which are there to make it safe for you and your dog to train.

Rules:

- Your dog **must** be on lead while waiting it's turn and immediately on completion - you can play with / reward it on lead.
- Pay attention to what your dog is doing while on lead while you are chatting.
- A long lead is not a safe way of controlling your dog so please use a lead of sensible length.
- Do **not** congregate near the end of an exercise - this is dangerous. Please queue away from a dog's exercise path.
- Take extra care going through the narrow passageway between the kitchen area and the school. We will have to reinstate the one-way system if people are not being careful.

Also:

- We expect people in the early classes to be there at **7.30** to help set up the equipment and people in the late classes to help put away.
- Do **not** use the equipment without a trainer attending - you and your dog will not be insured.

Trainers:

- Please ensure that your class follows the rules.
- We expect the odd excursion across/under the netting especially with young dogs (and the new beginners) so please be vigilant and, if necessary, position yourself in an intercept position.

Remember:

The above rules are in place to ensure that you and your dog trains safely and is neither hurt nor frightened by actions that could easily have been prevented. Please be a responsible member and remember to follow them. Thank You. Ian Hutchinson.

Dear Editor.

What a nice sunny day we had for our last Demo held at Upton Sports Field on the 4th September 2010 .We raised £ 82 for RSPCA .The Agility Demo was poorly attended due to competitions at Presbury Park, but we still managed to give a good performance thanks to Wendy, Karen, Pam, Gill Lowe, Gill Rhodes and Marie . Our Flyball was attended by a few of us but we all enjoyed it .

A big thank you to Tony for bringing the trailer Wendy Pete and Maureen for setting the Agility up .

Jose

Flyball news

Our main activity in the second half of the season has been introducing our newer dogs to tournaments, initially at the Starter level, with the lanes lined with netting, and then at Open, without netting and under strict rules.

The more advanced dogs have competed at 5 tournaments. The Knightmares were at Frimley in July on a day that was far too hot for most of the dogs. We managed to lose all our races, though with a fastest time of 21.78. Lucy was rather slow in the morning, which sometimes led to the following dog starting too early. In the afternoon, Bertie gave up altogether, running off to get under a

hosepipe to cool off!

Then the Knightmares ran 2 consecutive weekends in August at Stockbridge with 2 dogs who had not competed in Open before, Megan and Elly, handled by Jack and Carol. Elly is a small Cairn terrier who brings our jumps down to the minimum, 7". Initially, both new dogs ran out some of the time, but we managed to solve this problem so that all dogs were running well by the end. Our fastest time was 22.88 and we won one race. The next weekend the Knightmares had only one large dog, Lucy, and 3 small ones, Pera, Elly and Flicker, so we were never going to be really competitive. But the dogs did their best and won one race, but our fastest time was only 24.28.

In September 3 good large dogs were available so I entered our top team, The



The 'Knights' flyball team at Acremead.

Knights, which has not run since Jan 2009, at Acremead, near Abingdon. But the unpredictable Lucy came into season so we were able to run only 2 large dogs, Megan and Jade, with the smaller Bertie and Elly. Inevitably they couldn't run our seed time, but managed a best time of 22.38, but with little success.

Our newer dogs, the large ones Marmite with Paul, Hamish with Geri and Alfie with Vonda, and JRT Belle with Maria ran in a Starters tournament, with netting, at Wootton Bassett in July. They won 1 race out of 4 with minimal mistakes, ending 4th out of 5, with a best time of 28.72. This was to be their last training tournament as most of the dogs and handlers (Lily with Denise, Marmite, Hamish and Belle) were entered as the Knightmares, with Flicker to help them, in the Open tournament at Acremead in September. It is a big step up to run with the flyball lane entirely open and the handlers not permitted in or beside the lane, so inevitably some dogs made mistakes, especially running out. However, they managed to run 5 races fairly well

and avoid going NFC. They won 2 legs, in a best time of 25.70, which encouraged them. Many thanks to Cate box loading for almost all the tournaments this year. After another winter of training all of them should be competent to run in open tournaments next year, which will help our shortage of large dogs for competition.

We also participated with the Agility section in a demo at Upton. There was quite a lot of interest in flyball there, which may lead to new recruits. Many thanks to the flyball members who helped, the dogs certainly enjoyed themselves. Even Belle enjoyed herself, Belle ran despite having a swollen face and being on medication for an allergic reaction that morning. Many thanks also to Liam for box loading at the demo.

Flyball training has now been changed to Sunday mornings through the winter. As always, we are happy to hear from anyone who would like to have a go. Please contact Gill Rhodes (Flyball rep)



The 'Knightmares' flyball team at Acremead.

Ernie's holiday.

Thanks to everyone for recommending the Gower for my holiday. I had a great time and was able to join in with a lot of the fun, despite being nearly 16, with back legs that are giving me jip!

The accommodation was great as it was very dog friendly they even had a special basket that I could snuggle in without having to jump on the chair. I could go out easily without any steps. My only problem was that I wanted to lie on mums bed but the floor was wooden and a bit higher than I am used to but I was determined despite a few falls!!!!

Horton was my favourite beach as I could plod about without many people around, but it was also fun at Oxwich Bay as we parked right on the beach so I could have lots of rests in the car! It was a long walk to the sea when the tide was out, but I loved it! Tatti was chasing seagulls around but I was happy to just have a plodge and roll in the sand and did venture out to sea to greet Gio-Gio on her surfboard. Tony had a BBQ on the beach but that didn't go down too well with my tummy!!

I had a few rests in the car when Gio-Gio went swimming on our site but they could see me from the pool so that was fine! They could also see us in the car from the big pool with slides in Swansea. Most of the pubs allowed dogs in but we preferred to have snacks and rest in the car. I walked all round the Heritage Centre and even sniffed a bunny which brought back memories but Tatti was naughty and a goat tried to head butt her through the fence plus she wanted to join in



with the children playing volleyball, so the man let her do some doggy commentary (lucky I can't hear her very well as it was highly embarrassing!)

There were lots other beaches and walks that I couldn't manage (Three Cliffs Bay was a bit too far for me but I walked a fair distance so we could at least see it in the distance). I didn't enjoy Rossilli, despite the easy access from the far car park simply because it was a yukky day and the wind was blowing through my teeth, but loved it in the Sand Dunes and Tatti raced all over the place regardless of the wind and rain!

I have enclosed some pictures to show you what a great time I had.

Thanks everyone, big licks,

Ernie x



Mindy - Gill's Latest Foster

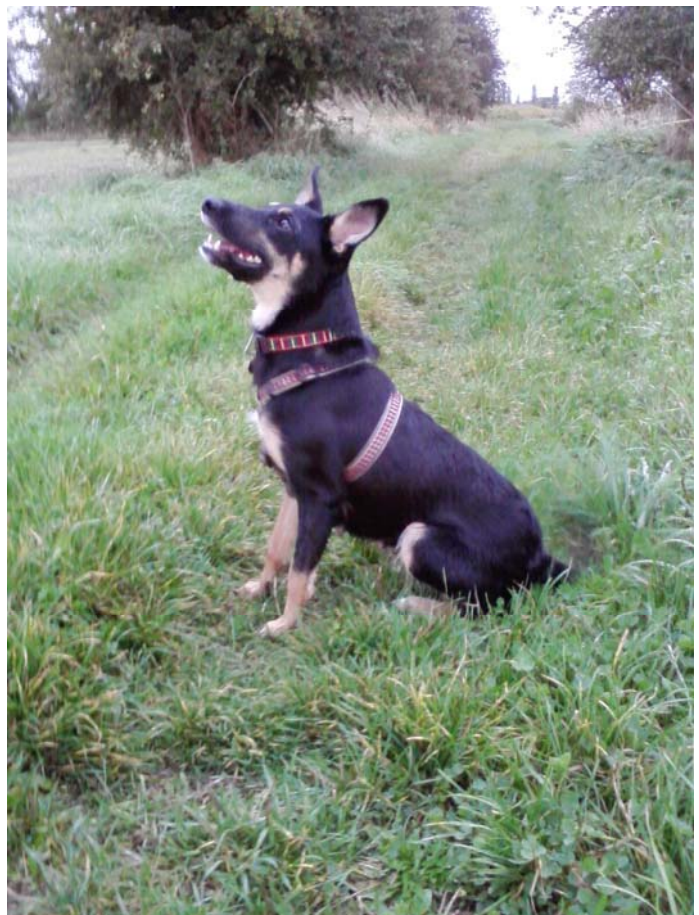
Mindy is about 18 months old and was found and taken to a pound in South Wales, She was expecting pups which were born at the pound and were then weaned at 8 weeks, so Mindy has been at the pound for some time. On her pound vaccination certificate it says 'whippet cross'. I'm not sure why they thought that, if you compare her looks with a Kelpie you will have no doubt she is at least half Kelpie and something else. She does have finer bone structure and longer fur than a Kelpie so maybe some extra collie genes there too? She is in the right size range for a small Kelpie too, 11 kg and about 43 cm high, might be a bit shorter (medium) if she stood differently?

She was passed on to me from Hope rescue at the Waverunners show and was much admired by everyone. She is very friendly and just wants to make friends with everyone! Her recall is brilliant but no 'wait' yet! This is one foster I might not be able to pass on but I'll have to see how she gets on with Bertie first. Bertie is a bit nervous of her at the moment, and they have had a couple of fights but they are getting better. Unfortunately she has just gone down with kennel cough so it will be a while before I can bring her along to meet everyone. At the moment she has no interest in toys but would welcome suggestions of how to get her interested. She likes to chasing after apples but only sometimes picks them up so not suitable for flyball yet! She is super, this morning got her to retrieve an apple.... She learns so quickly ..on her way to learning Flyball! She can jump too but not pushing that until her cough is cleared up... What can you do with a very active dog that's supposed to be taking it easy so she doesn't cough !!! Gill.

That's a question asked by many owners of active dogs Gill, let us know if you find the answer to that one - Mick.



Gill Rhodes latest foster dog Mindy.



Bits 'n' Pieces Page

Below is a 2-year-old male BC named "Rocky" who is free to a good home. Currently living on a farm in north Shropshire. He's a non-starter on sheep so the farmer would like him to go to a home where he'll be a pet. My herding instructor had him for a few weeks to see if she could get him working sheep, and she said he's a gangly sweetie. He's all legs and heart. He wasn't that used to playing with other dogs but picked it up quickly. He's good with cats and is a laid-back collie - good at holding down the sofa. He isn't neutered but as he's a goofy easygoing boy, it's not been a problem. I asked my herding instructor (who also dabbles in agility) if he had prospects as an agility dog - her answer was "He could make a fun agility dog but lacking great speed and drive. Ok for a beginner or novice I would think." So I'm not guaranteeing a World Team contender, but he seems a really sweet dog, a good family dog.



Sue Cuddon's fearless Bea caught practising her Tom Daley impression as she dives into a canal, no thought about how to get out again! Also a couple of boasts - Bea had 2 1st's at UKA Thatcham - Beginners Jumping (only one not to get eliminated and only 1 pole down!) and Beginners Steeplechase taking her out into Novice. Below is a photo of Sue's pack cooling off in the sea off Holy Island, looks like fun.

Rocky's story comes from Mary Leneis who is currently into herding but not doing agility yet. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in giving Rocky a home contact Mary by email at :- maryt@mac.com



JESS - JES'T IN TIME - November 1996 to August 2010

Jess was a rescue dog of about a year old who I first met at Thames Show in 1997. Her previous owner had been sent to prison and a friend from agility had been tasked with rehoming her. I met her for the first time that weekend and was attracted by her markings and personality. My other dogs and I bonded with her straight away, so Jess became a member of the household. Jess got on well with other dogs and acted like a mum to both Solo and Fell when they joined the clan. I would often find her curled up with one or other of the dogs.

One of her funniest, but also most annoying habits, was that if I sneezed she would turn around and attempt to bite one of my other dogs, normally Solo. Solo soon got wise and would get out of the way if I sneezed. This was all done by Jess in fun and she never actually hurt another dog, but if they were not used to it they could find it a bit alarming and Alison's dogs got caught out a few times when we first met. Alison remembers one of her first impressions of Jess was her going wild in the back of the car following a sneeze, and she still looks around now when I sneeze to see who Jess could be after.

Her Kennel Club name of J'est in Time came about when a group of agility friends were sitting in a pub after training having a play on words and using Jess as a starting point. I was told that J'est means "I am" in French so it seemed a good name for agility purposes.

Jess started training fairly soon after arriving and showed promise from day one. She was eager to learn and we were soon being trained by Natasha Wise at Wallingford. Jess came to shows with my other dogs and it was whilst watching that she developed her favourite game of playing with stones. She would pick one up and drop it at your feet and if nothing happened do it again and



again. This often led to a stone being dropped on your foot. Unfortunately she could choose anyone to play the game with and complete strangers sometimes had a stone on their foot. Jess also loved to play with balls and these were generally played with in the same way as the stones and she could train almost anyone to throw a ball for her.

Jess competed successfully for a number of years progressing from the old Novice up to the new Grade 6. In 2007 at Tunbridge Wells Show whilst struggling to get round a team course it was noticed that her left eye was very cloudy. After a visit to the vet she was referred to a specialist who confirmed a detached lens. Jess was operated on soon after and at first it seemed to work, but after only a couple of months it failed and she lost her sight in that eye. Jess didn't appear to notice and continued to do all of the things she did before, including agility Any Size and Veteran classes over the lower jumps, enjoying herself immensely and regularly going clear.

Over a period of time she gradually lost some sight in her right eye but continued to compete and enjoy herself. At Severnside in July 2009 Jess lined up in an Any Size class that went jump, jump, tunnel in a straight line and knocked down both jumps and totally missed the tunnel. At this point I

JESS - JES'T IN TIME -

November 1996 to August 2010 cont.
stopped and retired her from agility.

At first Jess coped well with limited sight but as she went completely blind she started to struggle. She found it hard to find her way around even at home, and then she began reacting to noises and other dogs in a way that wasn't normal for her. We were unable to walk her with the other dogs or even let her off the lead. In early August I came to the opinion that Jess had no quality of life and was very unhappy, and with great sadness decided to let her go and enjoy herself with no pain.

Run free Jess, we all miss you.

Kevin, Solo and Fell and of course Alison, Alf, Toby, Bob and Prin.

CAUGHT ON CAMERA-1

Thanks to a show photographer I have a memorable photo of Tiggy - Grandad's Challenge - and myself completing a successful round last year which sadly turned out to be our last run together in competition - 'too many miles on the clock playing sport' is how my doctor once best described my ailments! so a memorable partnership at Agility with Tig - which has been a wonderful experience for me has come to an end.

Tiggy is my granddaughter's collie bitch and having enjoyed many hours training at club we were soon to collect our first Clear Round rosette - the ultimate for every beginner - our next challenge was to get to - walk the walk - with Tig at a presentation and to shake hands with the Judge to receive a much treasured placed rosette. I was very proud for Tig that day. Despite our partnership coming in the 'Great dog - pity about the handler' category- the sense of achievement and satisfaction to have trained a canine friend to compete at Agility has been an absolute pleasure.

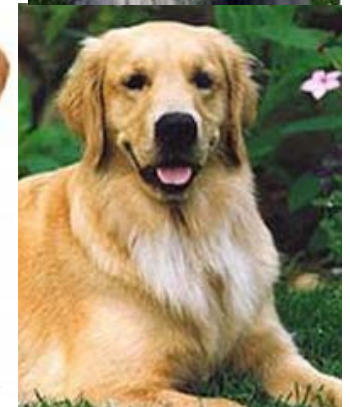
Many thanks to you Tig little girl -- Pete



OK, I know I'm going to be in trouble for this one, but it made me smile and I hope it does the same for you.

Why some men have dogs instead of wives.

1. The later you are, the more excited your dogs are to see you.
 2. Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dog's name.
 3. Dogs like it if you leave a lot of things on the floor.
 4. A dog's parents never visit.
 5. Dogs agree that you have to raise your voice to get your point across.
 6. You never have to wait for a dog; they're ready to go 24 hours a day.
 7. Dogs find you amusing when you're drunk..
 8. Dogs like to go hunting and fishing.
 9. A dog will not wake you up at night to ask, "If I died, would you get another dog?"
 10. If a dog has babies, you can put an ad in the paper and give them away.
 11. A dog will let you put a studded collar on it without calling you a pervert.
 12. If a dog smells another dog on you, they don't get mad. They just think it's interesting.
 13. Dogs like to ride in the back of a pickup truck.
- And last, but not least:*
14. If a dog leaves, it won't take half of your stuff.
- To test this theory: Lock your wife and your dog in the garage for an hour. Then open it and see who's happy to see you.



A cautionary tale from our very own 'Shirley Valentine', aka Paula Knall.

How often have you holidayed in Spain, Greece, Portugal? Have you been tempted to feed the strays? Have you seen or heard about people doing the very same thing? Have you ever wondered why, although there are always plenty of strays the resorts are never completely over run?

The truth of the matter is, the reason there are so many strays is that many dog owners in these countries don't neuter their pets and although cats are rarely kept as pets, the tourists feed them so they are able to produce more litters and larger ones! But what happens when the season ends and the tourists depart? Well, in respect of the Greek Islands, maybe I can give you a bit of an insight, though not a pleasant one!

Some of those animals will starve without the food the tourists provide, and because of the lack of pickings from restaurant bins, but by far the commonest cause of their demise is that the owners of hotels, restaurants and apartments order a batch of poison near the end of the season, and once the tourists have gone they will put out poisoned food to get rid of the 'pests' that continue to plague them once the tourists depart.



As Chris speaks Greek - he read the labels on the huge tubs of poison being delivered around the resort and told me what happens! As a worker in Greece, he was asked to carry out the task... and refused! So, if you are ever tempted to 'help' the strays when you holiday abroad, you are better off contributing to one of the charities that neuters and relocates these animals, rather than feeding them and encouraging them to frequent the resort areas.

This year I met a lovely stray dog called Buddy, a typical mongrel, he was being cared for by a British friend with a bar in the village of Lindos, Rhodes. A friend, Nat, has been feeding, worming and Frontlining this gorgeous boy, and is determined that he will not be a victim of indiscriminate poisoning at the end of the season!

Buddy has a phenomenal temperament and despite my better half dictating that 2 dogs is more than enough... he was so taken by Buddy, he has agreed I can bring him home! Now at the moment it isn't a 'done deal' as Nat has a Swiss and a Belgian tourist both interested in offering him a home. But it isn't a simple process so there is no knowing if it will happen. If it doesn't Buddy will have a home here!



At the moment I have some plans in place, Nat will do all the running around, taking him to the vet in Rhodes Town for his jabs, testing, castration and anything else required to get him Passported. Nikos a Greek friend of ours will keep him through the winter until the season starts for him and he will be too busy to cope with another dog (he has 2 of his own) and if Buddy's not ready to collect his passport, I will have to bring him to the UK for the last few weeks where he will be quarantined until his 6 months waiting for his passport is over.

At the moment I just have to wait! At this stage I don't have the faintest idea of costs... but it won't be cheap, I shall do anything and everything in my power to bring him home if one of the other tourists doesn't!

I may look to you all to help me with fundraising... but in the mean time watch this space!

Paula - aka Shirley Valentine.

So, if you go on holiday to sunny climes ladies, just don't get involved with the locals, they will steal your heart and land you with all sorts of problems! Ed.



CAUGHT ON CAMERA-2



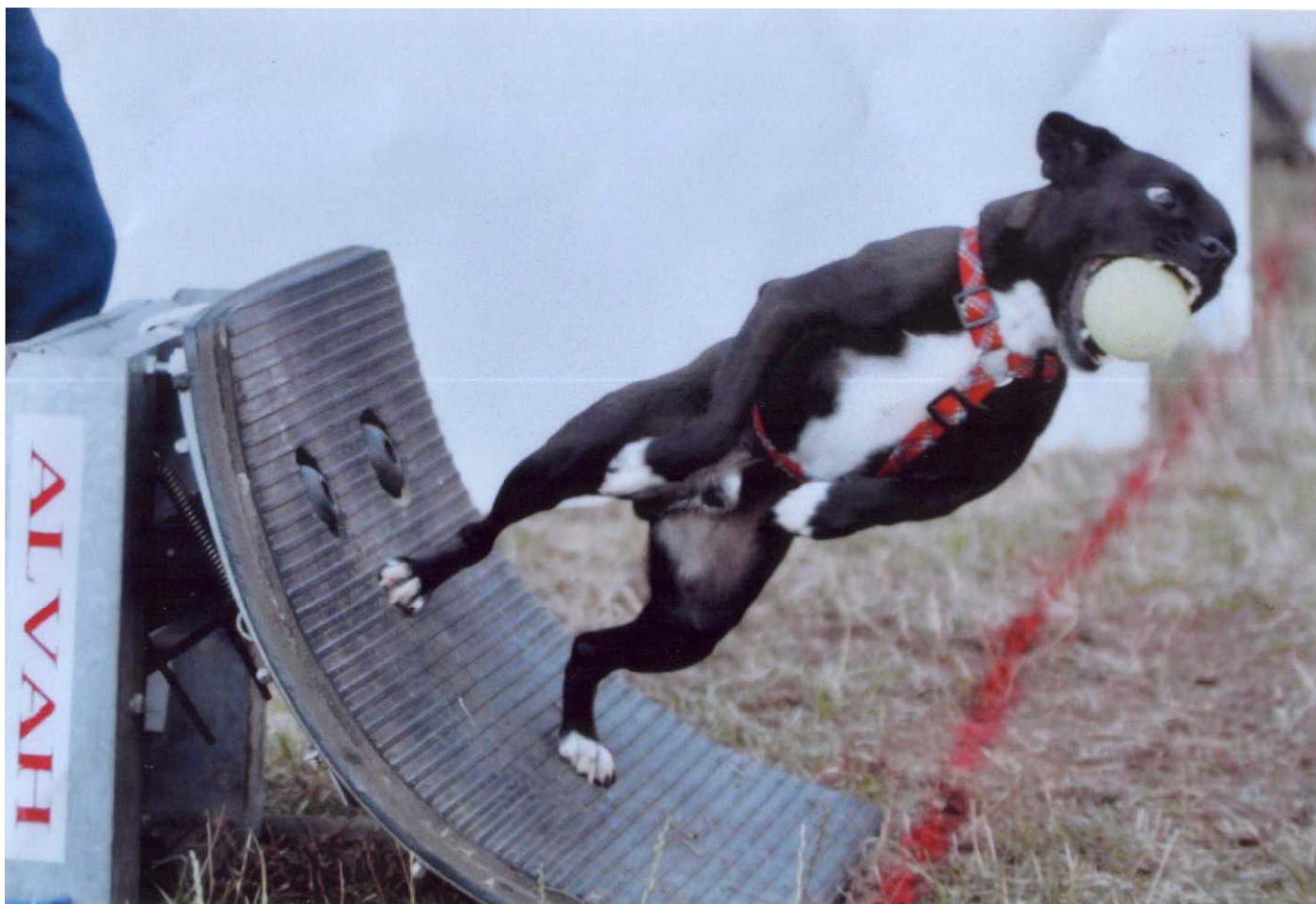
On the day of the UKA Team Final at Waverunners, Wallingford had a team (Jo, Gill and Wendy) in the final. Jill Lowe turned up in the afternoon to support them and decided to enter her young collie, Cass, in the 'Pay on the Day' Beginners Standard Steeple-chase. Cass did a super clear round and somebody told her she was second - Jill was delighted.

When prize-giving time arrived she was all ready to collect her second place rosette and they called out somebody else's name only to follow with '1st Place - Jill Lowe and Cass'. Well I was lucky enough to catch the expression on her face - absolutely beaming she was, so I thought I would send in photos for the Watchdog.

Maureen Sanderson.



The Watchdog's Tail.



Every now and then you see a photo that makes you smile, and I reckon this one is the photo of the year for me. This is Jose's Pera in flyball action, perfect timing by the photographer as Pera launches himself off the box for his return run, brilliant!

I'm always happy to receive photos like this from you, and words to go with the photos. Remember this is a dog club so anything canine is more than welcome.

Parish Notice Board.

One point I have been asked to make several times is the subject of putting out and putting away the equipment. Those on the 8:00pm start should arrive as close as possible to 7:30 to put the equipment out, let's face it the quicker it is set up the earlier you can start. But do remember to check with your trainer before dashing off to get your dog. At the other end of the scale we all want to get away and home to bed so the quicker it is put away the quicker you can snuggle down in your bed with your preferred end of day cuppa. Yes I know this has been mentioned before, and is repeated in the Safety Rules page, but it is a bone of contention within the club.

I am planning to kick off the 2011 agility season with a Watchdog towards the end of March, unless I find a good reason to produce one before. This could be because I have been inundated with articles and pictures by you, the members. One request is that you submit a photo of yourself with your article, it's nice to see who the author is, that's my excuse anyway! If you would like to contribute or offer suggestions I will be happy to receive them from you. Photos as separate attachments please. Thanks.