

Watchdog!

WALLINGFORD DOG TRAINING CLUB

October 2013



**Finals successes! Above: Carolyn & Ollie 2nd in Camddwr Cup Final
Below: Annette & Maze 1st in the Drontal Challenge Final**



Editor's corner

It is difficult for me to reflect on the last few weeks in a balanced way, as the main event has been rather horrible. Two of our dogs were mysteriously poisoned and nearly died – we will probably never know the cause but are just very grateful to have them here now. We were both also grateful for the messages of support that came flooding in, totally overwhelming but it kept me sane during the long hours waiting to see if they would come round. Basil and Solo are both now home and doing ok.

Nearly losing a dog does put a lot of things into perspective – let's all remember agility is just a game, folks! I have promised Basil he is allowed to miss every contact for ever more, if his balance is good enough that he is allowed to attempt them again. At the moment both boys are still showing some residual effects, but hopefully in time they will make a full recovery.



Just a week later, Jacky and Ian sadly said a sudden and unexpected goodbye to Lazer. My first memory of meeting Jacky is with Lazer by her side at training, woofing in excitement, and I am sure many people would have the same mental image. Lazer was a very special boy who will be very much missed.

Looking forward, the first of the winter league matches has already taken place (full results to follow) and we also have our away match against UpAndover coming up – entries close soon so don't forget to get yours to Jenny Kimber by 24th October in order to be posted on time.

Alison Pearce



Puppy Corner

Please welcome little Piper, who joins Tori's other Labrador girls! Piper is destined to be a working gundog, but who knows, she may also try her paw at agility!

Photos from www.ruralshots.com



Adams (KC) 12-13 Oct

Aileen & Ozzie 1st G1-4 Agility (~40 G4) – into G5!
 Aileen & Rockett 1st G1-3 Agility (~70 G3) – into G4!
 Aileen & Ozzie 1st G1-4 Jumping (~40 G4)
 Gill & Shade 1st G5-7 Jumping (~60 G6)
 Jenny & Ozzie 2nd G4-7 Agility (~40 G4)
 Aileen & Rockett 2nd G1-4 Jump (~70 G3)
 Aileen & Rockett 3rd C1-3 Jumping (84)
 Aileen & Ozzie 3rd G4-5 Agility (~30 G4)



Above: Rockett and Oz – Adams winnings

AC Agility (Ind) 12th Oct

Annette & Maze 1st C5-7 Jumping (~10)

Chippenham (KC) 5-6 Oct

Gill & Bertie 1st G4-5 Jump (~30 G4)
 Gill & Mindy 1st G1-3 Jump (~40 G3)
 Gill & Mindy 1st G1-3 Agility (~40 G3)
 Ian & Dino 2nd G4-5 Jump (~100 G5)
 Pam & Martha 2nd G3 Agility (77)
 Aileen & Rockett 3rd G3 Jump (128)
 Gill & Shade 3rd C6-7 Steeplechase (98)
 Gill & Mindy 4th G1-3 Agility (~50 G3)
 Gill & Mindy 4th G1-3 Jump (~40 G3)
 Gio-Gio & Tatti 4th YKC Agility (8)
 Gio-Gio & Tatti 4th YKC Jumping (6)
 Pam & Martha 5th G3 Jumping (86)
 Gio-Gio & Bambi 5th YKC Agility (8)
 Sarah & Merlin 6th G3 Agility (135)
 Aileen & Rockett 6th C1-3 Jump (162)
 Sarah & Merlin 7th G3 Jump (135)
 Wendy & Bambi 7th C5-7 Jumping (75)
 Gill & Mindy 8th C1-4 Jump (78)

Gill & Shade 8th C4-7 Jumping (161)
 Pam & Martha 9th C1-4 Jumping (87)

Malvern Show (Ind) 29 Sep

Annette & Maze 1st C1-5 St (52)
 Annette & Maze 1st C1-5 Jump (54)
 Annette & Maze 1st Drontal Agility Challenge Final (~30)

Southdowns (KC) 29 Sep

Ian & Dino 1st G4-5 Jump (~50 G5)
 Gill & Bertie 1st G3-6 Jump (~20 G4)
 Gill & Mindy 2nd G3-6 Jump (~40 G3)
 Gill & Mindy 3rd Medium Pairs (28)
 Jose & Pera 3rd G4 Small Jump (26)
 Aileen & Ozzie 4th G4-5 Jump (~80 G4)
 Sarah & Merlin 5th G3 Jump (108)

Junior European Cup 28-29 Sep

Gio-Gio & Bambi 1st Med Ind U12 Jumping
 Gio-Gio & Bambi 1st Med Ind U12 Agility
 Gio-Gio & Bambi 1st Med Ind U12 Overall
 Gio-Gio and Bambi 3rd Team Agility
 Gio-Gio and Bambi 3rd Team Overall



Camddwr Cup Final (Ind) 28 Sep

Carolyn & Ollie 2nd in the Final

Nedlo (KC) 28 Sep

Gill & Mindy 1st C3-4 Ag (12 G3) - into G4!
 Gill & Bertie 1st G4-7 Ag (6 G4) - into G5!
 Gill & Mindy 1st G1-4 Jumping (9 G3)
 Jenny & Guv 1st C5-6 Agility (~60)
 Gill & Mindy 2nd G1-4 Jumping (11 G3)
 Aileen & Rockett 4th G3 jumping (85)
 Aileen & Rockett 9th C1-3 jumping (148)



Above: Mindy and Bertie both win at Nedlo

Cheltenham Charity (UKA) 21-22 Sep

Jill & Cass 1st Senior Jumping (9) - *into Champ Performance!*

Annette & Maze 1st Beg St (27)

Annette & Maze 1st Beg Jump (47)

Annette & Maze 1st Beg St (20)

Jill & Cass 1st Champ St (14)

Jill & Cass 1st Champ St (12)

Jill & Cass 2nd Champ Sn & Lads (10)

Gill & Mindy 2nd Nov Sn & Lads (6)

Gill & Bertie 2nd Champ Agility (8)

Bromsgrove (KC) 21-22 Sep

Gill & Shade 1st G6 Agility (79) - *into G7!*



Dogmanics (Ind) 21 Sep

Gill & Shade 1st C4-7 Jumping (40)

Gill & Shade 1st C1-7 Tunnel Fun (80)

Jenny & Guv 1st C4-7 Agility (40)

Aileen & Rockett 2nd C1-3 Jumping (40)

Jenny & Guv 2nd C4-7 Jumping (40)

Jenny & Guv 3rd C1-7 Tunnel Fun (80)

Jenny & Tess 5th C4-7 Jumping (40)

Aileen & Ozzie 5th C1-7 Tunnel Fun (80)

Aileen & Ozzie 6th C4-7 Jumping (40)

Blackdown (KC) 14-15 Sep

Jill & Cass 3rd G4-5 Agility (~70 G5)

Jill & Cass 5th G4-5 Agility (~70 G5)

Trent Park (KC) 15 Sep

Aileen & Rockett 3rd G3 Jump (103)

Aileen & Rockett 6th C1-3 Jump (174)

Southam (KC) 14-15 Sep

Annette & Maze 1st G3-5 Ag (40 G4)

Annette & Maze 2nd G1-5 Jump (43 G4)

AJAX (UKA) 14-15 Sep

Gill & Mindy 1st Novice Agility (12)

Gill & Mindy 1st Tug-E-Nuff overall – *qualified for grand finals!*

Aileen & Ozzie 1st Nov Agility (~30) - *into Senior Performance!*

Dinah & Cinders 1st Sen Snooker (4)

Dinah & Cinders 2nd Sen Agility (9)

Gill & Mindy 2nd Sen St (7)

Gill & Mindy 3rd Nov Jump (9)

Burnham (KC) 7-8 Sep

Aileen & Rockett 10th G3 Jump (148)

Agility Nuts (KC) 7 Sep

Annette & Maze 2nd C3-5 Agility (123)

Gillingham (KC) 7-8 Sep

Sarah & Merlin 3rd G3 Jump (127)

HADS (UKA) 30-31 Aug

Wendy & Foxie 1st Nov St (10) - *qualified for grand finals!*

Wendy & Bambi 1st Champ St (11)

Wendy & Foxie 2nd Nov St (10)

Wendy & Tatti 2nd Sen St (7)

Wendy & Tatti 2nd Nov Agility (15)

Wendy & Tatti 4th Nov Jump (15)

Wendy & Tatti 4th Tug-E-Nuff overall (~40) - *qualified for grand finals*

Letchworth 30 Aug-1 Sep

Ian & Dino 1st C3-4 H/S (136)

Ian & Dino 2nd G4-5 Jump (90)

Aileen & Rockett 3rd G3 Jump (109)

Aileen & Rockett 9th C3-5 Ag (173)

Ian & Dino 10th G4-5 Ag (100)

Wallingford Juniors Successful Season 2013

As the agility season comes to a close Alison has asked me to reflect on the achievements of our Juniors this season. And what a successful season!

The Juniors agility year kicked off in late February with OJAC. We entered three U12 teams and came away with podium places for agility and jumping. Our Overs did really well too and were robbed of a place as they ran out of order due to missing keys. However, the great success of the weekend was Gio-Gio winning the agility and the Overall competition and securing herself a place in Team GB for the European champs just a few weeks ago. (I don't want to steal anyone's thunder so watch out for another article on that event alone!).

Just one week later - Rory and Ammo were heading out into the ring at Crufts. A lovely round saw Rory win the U12 Large semi-final and head into the main ring (*right*). Nerves ran high and an unfortunate bit of overhandling led to an elimination in the final. But what an experience – supported by all his friends at home via You-Tube and Gio-Gio sneaking into the Green Room.



The next Team outing was the YKC Teams at Golden Valley led by captain Jenny Kimber (yes she is still a Junior for that event only by virtue of being under 24). Jenny, Rory and Gio-Gio were joined by Jack and Gemma Biddle from Kidderminster, and got the job done well and early – 4 clears and one E, booked their place at Crufts 2014.

Below: Wallingford Junior Crufts Team 2014



So Shade, Ammo, Pip, Bambi and Jose's Poppy need to be booked in with Pam for grooming before Crufts. Go the Juniors and thank you for saving me the stress of the Junior Team ring at other shows during the year – our early win meant we weren't allowed to enter any more YKC Team Events.

The Juniors had a busy KC Festival. Gio-Gio had some lovely runs and came 3rd overall in the International Young Handler, having come 3rd in both jumping and agility heats. Gio-Gio may also have

qualified for Crufts – such is the complexity of the qualification system it depends on which dog another child chooses to take before we know whether Gio-Gio takes a slot. Additionally Gio-Gio has collected an impressive number of points in the ABC event - that should allocate her a place in that event. We wait patiently for those letters in December for confirmation.

The Juniors had a great time at Dogs In Need. Rory + Ammo and Gio-Gio + Bambi + Tatti had a successful few rounds in the Junior Classic – qualifying them for the final. An unfortunate E on the next to last jump saw Gio-Gio out of the running with Bambi and another E with Tatti. However Rory and that old professional Ammo stormed to a lucky clear (ooh that dog walk was hit by a toe nail) and won the DINAS Junior Classic.

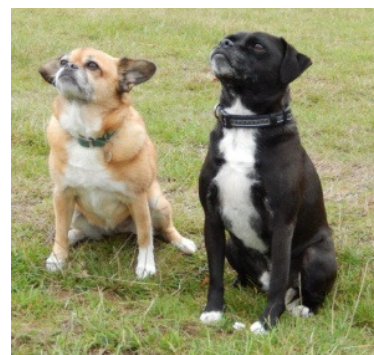
The season drew towards its close at Chippenham with Crufts qualifiers. Rory booked his places at Crufts in the Jumping with Ammo, and the agility with Mint with two 2nd places. There is one more Junior event to come which unfortunately clashes with our Andover Match – the Agility for Juniors Grand Prix. This year, for the first time, the event includes adult/Junior pairs – so a lot of pressure on the grown-ups given the success of our kids!

The Juniors would like to thank everyone from whom they have begged, borrowed or stolen a dog in 2013.

Jo Tidmarsh



Congratulations to Jose's dogs - Poppy and Pera have both qualified to take part in the agility at Crufts 2014! Poppy will run in the junior team with Gemma Biddle and Pera will compete in the individual juniors with Jack Biddle.



Agility Club League Tables



The Agility Club points year finished on 30th September. Wallingford finished 4th in Division 2. Well done everyone, this was a fantastic result and so close to promotion as the three clubs above us have all gone up to Division 1 for the next points year.

Eighteen dog/handler partnerships contributed points for Wallingford gained at KC shows, for the year 1st Oct 2012 – 30th September 2013. Our top 3 scoring members were Gill Rhodes and Mindy (283 points), Ian Hutchinson and Dino (251 points), and Sarah Rogers and Merlin (240 points).

Notable individual results were:

- Sarah Rogers 5th out of 133 in Large Grade 1
- Gill R and Mindy 4th out of 32 in Medium Grade 1
- Ian & Dino 27th out of 322 in Large Grade 3
- Jill & Cass 30th out of 95 in Large Grade 5
- Gill K & Shade 32nd out of 176 in Large Grade 6

The Agility Club are now accepting results for the new points year. Please remember to update your dogs' grades when you log in for those who have won out this year. You can submit results from all KC shows, for most classes – the full rules are on the website if you are not sure.

Alison Pearce

Club Competition Night on 10th October

Well done to everyone who took part... here are the results!

Nursery Agility

1st Marie and Bailey
2nd Sue and Mischief

1 - 3 Agility

Large

1st Sarah and Merlin
2nd Aileen and Micky

Smalls/Mediums

1st Wendy and Foxy
2nd Maria and Belle
3rd Helen and Milo

4 - 7 Agility

Large

1st Jill and Cass
2nd Kevin and Fell
3rd Carolyn and Ollie

Smalls/Mediums

1st Wendy and Bambi
2nd Carolyn and Max



Nursery Steeplechase

(Split into Beginners and Improvers)

Beginners

1st Liz and Monty

Improvers

1st Sue and Mischief
2nd Denma and Bella

1 - 3 Steeplechase

Large

1st Dawn and Daisy
2nd Kath and Tilly

Smalls/Mediums

1st Susie and Evie
2nd Pam and Martha
3rd Helen and Milo

4 - 7 Steeplechase

Large

1st Carolyn and Ollie
2nd Tanya and Dollar

Smalls/Mediums

1st Gill Mindy
2nd Jose and Poppy



Reminder: new Wiki address
<http://wdtc.wikifoundry.com/>

**Don't forget to update your bookmarks,
as the old link will stop working soon!**

New members who would like access to the Wiki please ask Ian Hutchinson to register you.



Puppy Training with Dave Munnings

On a slightly soggy Friday morning in September I set off with Herbie to drive all of 10 minutes from my house to Dave Munnings' training venue just north of Newbury. There were five puppies on the workshop, ranging in age from 4 months to 9 months – all collies. The youngest was just a ball of fluff and so cute everyone wanted to take her home. The oldest was Taz, half brother to Jo's Sonic, and owned by her brother James – it is a small world!

By strange coincidence, Dave had trained Herbie's much hairier brother Ernie earlier in the week, down in Somerset. I meant to ask at the end of the lesson if he found them similar in character, but I forgot.

Dave started with a discussion on play, and got each of us in turn to bring our pups out and play with them. They all played, which was a great start! We were told to work on three things with toys – grabbing a toy, running to a dead toy, and tugging. It became clear later on that most of us also needed to work on retrieve, as several pups started to play "keep away" with their toys, or just laid down to shred!



For each exercise that we did, Dave would talk through why we did it, and suggest ways to progress it on from the point we were at. We swapped pups and did some collar grabs. This is a real life skill – is your puppy happy for other people to handle him, and even grab him in an emergency?

A lot of the time was spent on recalls e.g. restrained recalls where the handler is moving away with a toy, racing to a dead toy, recalls rewarded with food, etc – as far as the pups were concerned this was all just a game, but for the handlers we had to remember who was supposed to win the toy (you or the pup), where are you running, what do you say, when to feed, and oh dear my brain hurts.

As this was about agility foundations it was important to get the pups running to the "reinforcement zones" either side of you to play, not flanking round wide or cutting in front of you. They all did pretty well, but one of the pups had a truly stunning recall, only 4 months old and her owner could call her off sausages first time! Wow!

Dave talked us through flatwork, tricks, teaching left and right, hand touches, targeting, etc. We did some shaping, where small approximations of a behaviour are rewarded, to build up to a full behaviour. Some of the pups worked on stepping onto a flat board, and we all had a go at shaping to go around a cone. Dave explained how to progress the cone work, and showed us the body language our pups would need to understand for different agility crosses – front cross, ketschker, pivot.

The two hours went very quickly, and all the pups had enough breaks that they were still keen at the end. It was good to have a reminder on some of the things I had forgotten to teach, and a good confidence boost to see that most of the things I have taught held up well in a new place. Dave also reminded us to watch his DVDs – cheeky advertising!

Alison Pearce

Don't forget to send your pictures, successes, stories, show reports, judging reports, demo reports and anything else you think might entertain us for the next issue