

# THE LEADER

The Newsletter of the Banbury & District Dog Training Society

Autumn 2019

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Where has the time gone?! It seems like we were celebrating our 40th Anniversary only a few months ago and yet a year has passed. This year's AGM will take place on Thursday 24th October at Chacombe village hall and after the meeting we are looking forward to learning all about Reiki and what it can do for our dogs. Our speaker, Clare Fogarty, Animal Reiki Practitioner from Healing Umbrella, used to suffer from chronic ill health and whilst looking for alternative treatments to steroids and medication came across Reiki and she never looked back. Clare now teaches Reiki as she feels that if everybody had the tools, they could help heal themselves. In addition to working with humans, Clare now also works a lot with horses and dogs and she will be showing us how we can communicate with our own dogs through Reiki. For those of us competing with our dogs, we will learn how to mentally prepare our dogs and ourselves for competitions.

There will be a short talk and demonstration with a few of our dogs with time for questions at the end.

The AGM is always a very social event where, after the regular Kennel Club required items, we thank all our volunteers and present the club's Cups & Trophies. There is also an opportunity to win a prize in our annual Photo Competition. The winner gets a £25 M & S voucher and the runner up a £10 one. Teas and



*"First we bred a Labradoodle then we tried crossing a Remainer with a Leaver"*

coffees with tasty savoury snacks and cakes will be served after the meeting to give all the members from the different sections of the club a chance to have a chat and a gossip.

It promises to be another very interesting evening and friends and family, as always, are most welcome. Your dogs can enjoy a peaceful evening at home!

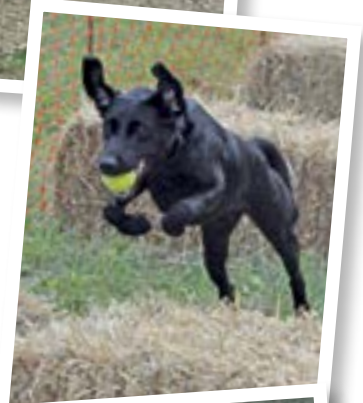
We hope to see you all there and don't forget to bring your dog's favourite photo with you!

**Carla**



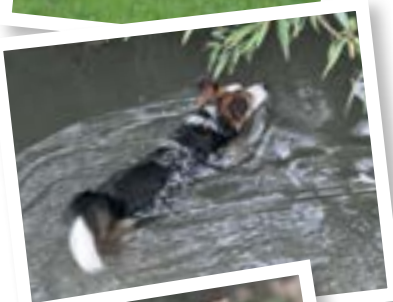
And the winners of the Wet Dog Summer Photo Competition were... 1st Ritchie (above left), 2nd Finn (above right).

# Summer Events



What a wonderful summer we have had. Lots of warm sunny days disrupted only by the odd wet day from June to September. Our **Hinton Fun Dog Show** which we run every year in conjunction with a Horse Dressage Show to raise money for Katharine House Hospice, was blessed with sunshine and fortunately not too hot for the dogs. We had a very good attendance again and lots of helpers who gave up their day to help raise funds for this wonderful charity. The nice thing about helping at this event is that you also get lots of time to run your own dogs and have fun with them, so they are not hanging around in the car all day. In addition to the Show and Novelty classes there are lots of fun competitions, e.g. fastest recall on the flat, or over the bales, obstacle race, temptation alley, fun toy retrieves and a gundog scurry. These are all timed events, but you can also have a go and train your dog at the same time. My Olive had never seen an agility tunnel before and went into 'Tunnel Avoidance' mode and decided to jump it instead, wanting to show willing! However, a tennis ball had her soon flying through it.

Thank you to all our helpers, too many to mention all by name, and we managed to raise £740 for Katharine House Hospice. We hope to see you all there again in August 2020.



Banbury Dog Club organises many social events and one of them is the **Summer Walk**. It's a great way to socialize your dogs and meet up with the members from other branches of the club. Steph & Nicky spend hours walking the countryside with their dogs to find suitable walks for the club. Suitable meaning: no difficult styles, or fences, no livestock to disturb etc. This summer we went to Daeda's Wood and the fields beyond, which are located just outside Deddington. We had been there before a few years ago and it's a really lovely walk where the dogs are well away from any road and they can have a really good run together. There is also a nice stream for the dogs to go into just before returning to the car, either to cool down or to get rid of excess mud.

After the walk we all went to the Duke of Cumberland pub in Clifton village and enjoyed some super Fish & Chips or other meal of our choice and it was an altogether wonderful way to spend a summer's evening with our dogs. Big thank you again to Nicky & Steph for organising it. Our next walk will be the Winter Walk in January. It will be a very different type of walk but just as social and enjoyable. Details will be posted on the website in December.



# Thursday Nighters

The classes on Thursday evenings continue to be busy with a steady stream of handlers and dogs coming through from the Puppy Class to continue their training in the Bronze Good Citizen class and beyond. The tests held in July produced great results in all levels. Only the Down Stay seemed to be the problem for any teams deemed to be 'not ready' this time. The next set of tests will take place in February. We encourage our members to take the Kennel Club Good Citizen Tests, but it is by no means compulsory. The aim of our classes is to help develop and enjoy good happy relationships with our dogs.

Alongside the Good Citizen training programme, we are always keen to introduce new ideas, especially on the 'Now For Something Different Nights', so if you have any suggestions for games, or particular things you would like to try to teach your dog, then please have a chat to one of the Instructors. Input from members is always welcomed.

Sadly, Kaz Sheppard will be leaving us at the AGM after many years instructing and running the Silver Class. She will be a very difficult act to follow. We are hoping to encourage some of our more experienced handlers to maybe have a go at teaching one exercise to a class one evening, and in the long term we can help train them to become instructors. Please let us know if you might be interested. We are hoping that there may be some hidden talents out there, just waiting to be discovered. So don't be shy, have a try!

## KC Good Citizen Test July 2019

Congratulations everyone and especially well done to Kate, Kathy and Terry for passing both Bronze and Silver on the same day. We are grateful to our Judges, Gill Culliford for judging the Bronze and Gold and Liz Noble for judging the Silver.

**Ann**



## KENNEL CLUB GOOD CITIZEN TESTS RESULTS JULY 2019



Congratulations to:

**BRONZE:** Terry Warren and Ruby, Kate Gray and Lucy, Kathy Godfrey and Luna

**SILVER:** Terry Warren and Ruby, Kathy Godfrey and Luna. Kate Gray and Lucy

**GOLD:** Marie Fitzgerald and Alfie, Philip French and Merci, Peter Ferens and Rosie



## StreetVet



The human-animal bond is immeasurable to many pet owners. But for people who have been made homeless, their dog is their best friend, their confidant and often the centre of their universe. To lose their companion through any circumstance would be truly heartbreaking. StreetVet is a charity that works tirelessly to protect that human-animal bond. The volunteer vets and vet nurses support homeless pet owners to keep their pets healthy and well cared for. StreetVet believes that through educating and promoting responsible pet ownership, not only do the dogs benefit, but the owners show reduced anxiety, increased confidence and an enhanced sense of purpose and self worth.

StreetVet vets and nurses, work with outreach organisations, and are out in multiple communities weekly. Since inception they have helped care for over 600 street dogs (some cats and rabbit!). They have vaccinated and microchipped; treated for fleas and protected against lungworm; prescribed pain relief and helped fight infections; performed surgeries; and sometimes just sat and listened.

***This year the Club have chosen to support StreetVet with a donation of £500. Donations of £250 have also been given to Dementia UK and Guide Dogs UK. If you would like to nominate a charity for the Club to support next year please email Colin Bricknell at colin.bricknell@btinternet.com***

"SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENT IS ALWAYS PRECEDED BY UNSPECTACULAR PREPARATION." - Robert H. Shuller

# The truth about dewclaws ... by M. Christine Zink DVM, PhD, DACVSMR

'I am a vet that works exclusively with performance dogs, developing rehabilitation programs for injured dogs or dogs that have had surgery as a result of performance-related injuries.

I have seen many dogs now, especially field trial/hunt test and agility dogs, that have had chronic carpal arthritis, frequently so severe that they have to be retired or at least carefully managed for the rest of their careers.

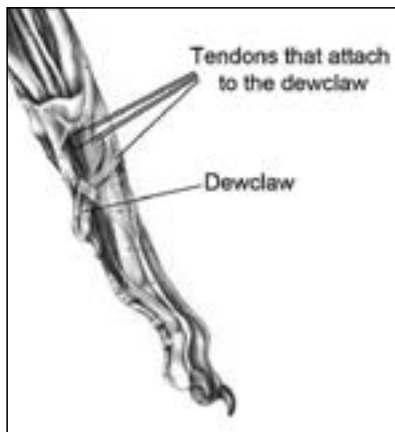
Of the over 30 dogs I have seen with carpal arthritis, only one has had dewclaws. The others have all had them removed.

If you look at an anatomy book (Miller's Guide to the Anatomy of Dogs is an excellent one – see figure opposite) you will see that there are 5 tendons attached to the dewclaw.

Of course, at the other end of a tendon is a muscle, and that means that if you cut off the dew claws, there are 5 muscle bundles that will become atrophied from disuse.

Those muscles indicate that the dewclaws have a function. That function is to prevent torque on the leg.

Each time the foot lands on the ground, particularly when the dog is cantering or galloping, the dewclaw is in touch with the ground. If the dog then needs to turn, the dewclaw digs into the ground to support the lower leg and prevent torque. If the dog doesn't have a dewclaw, the leg twists.



Anatomical diagram viewing the medial side of a dog's left front leg demonstrating the five tendons that attach to the dewclaw.

A lifetime of that and the result can be carpal arthritis.

Remember: the dog is doing the activity regardless, and the pressures on the leg have to go somewhere.

They can be absorbed by the dewclaw, or they will move up and down the leg to the toes, carpus, elbow, and shoulders.

Perhaps you are thinking, "I never have had one of my dogs have carpal pain or arthritis."

Well, we need to remember that dogs, by their very nature, do not tell us about mild to moderate pain.

If a dog was to be asked by an emergency room nurse to give the level of his pain on a scale from 0 to 10, with 10 being the worst, their scale would be 0, 0, 0, 0, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Most of our dogs, especially if they deal with pain that is of gradual onset, just deal with it and don't complain unless it is excruciating. But when

I palpate the carpal joints of older dogs without dewclaws, I almost always elicit pain with relatively minimal manipulation.

As to the possibility of injuries to dew claws. Most veterinarians will say that such injuries actually are not very common at all. And if they do occur, then they are dealt with like any other injury. In my opinion, it is far better to deal with an injury than to cut the dew claws off of all dogs "just in case".

## Alfie's first progress test by Marie FitzGerald

The 14th September 2019 was a beautiful warm day and set the scene for Alfie's first progress test. Alfie is a 2 year old English Springer Spaniel and is quite a headstrong and independent dog.

We started Working Trials training about 18 months ago, and I have had to overcome quite a few challenges during his training.

It took me a long time to get Alfie interested in playing with me and a ball, once I did get his attention, we seemed to turn a big corner.

I began to feel that after gaining our Gold in the Good Citizen Test in July that I might be winning with him.

My major concern with Alfie was whether he would be disruptive to other competitors, running off with search articles, dumb bells or generally running amok. Alfie loves to do search squares and will happily nab the articles on behalf of other dogs!

I needn't have had any concerns, all the handlers in the different stakes were very welcoming and friendly and I felt at ease.

The judges and stewards were relaxed and very helpful, explaining what was happening and when.

We entered in the Elementary stake, starting with heelwork, coming from a strong working line Alfie's nose was glued to

the ground taking in all the new scents in a new area, so it took some encouragement to get his nose up, this is something I really need to work on, however it wasn't as disastrous as I thought and judge Steph Gordon offered encouragement and advice for improving and progressing.

Recall was executed really well as Alfie remained in the sit position until called.

On to the retrieve and search square, now Alfie loves the search square and here I made the mistake of us watching another team complete their searches, this really got him interested and I could see he really wanted to join in, so much so, that when I set Alfie up for the retrieve he quickly turned and headed into our search square fortunately steward Sue Laurie hadn't placed any articles and we managed to get Alfie back under control.

He did a great retrieve and as I had expected he found the articles quite quickly and with great enthusiasm.

Successful sit and down stays completed our stake.

All in all it was an enjoyable experience especially as Alfie behaved himself and I look forward to progressing with the jumps and tracking.

Thank you to all those who organised, judged and were stewards on the day.

Thanks to Carla for her never ending patience and wisdom during the training sessions

And a special thanks to my training group for their encouragement and support especially when things don't go to plan!

Onwards and upwards!

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★ "IN ORDER TO SUCCEED, WE MUST ★  
★ FIRST BELIEVE THAT WE CAN." ★  
★ - Michael Korda ★  
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# Working Trials News



The Hinton Trial this year was run for the first time by Shirley and John Simpson and they, with the help of the fantastic Banbury team, did a superb job. If Shirley had been nervous, she did not show it and she calmly went about organising all the competitors, judges and helpers and the whole trial went off without a hitch. Well done and a big thank you, Shirley, for taking on the management and making such a good job of it. For me, it was great to experience the trial from the 'other' side, and to be able to relax and not to have to worry about making it all happen on time. I am now looking forward to next year's trial!

## TRAINING

Another nice hot summer after a wet Spring, saw some of us end up in the swimming pool again on the last Wednesday training session before the summer break. It was definitely too hot to be training the dogs! The Hinton sessions on the Saturdays carried on regardless again, thanks to our dedicated group of helpers: Steph, Nicky, Di, Jennifer, the 2 Anne's and of course John & Shirley. Big thank you to you all for your continued support and keeping these invaluable sessions going.

We have a new group of enthusiastic handlers who started with their young dogs on our Introduction to WT course a few weeks ago. Hopefully we shall be able to amalgamate them with our present beginner group next January. The beginner dogs meanwhile are doing very well. Their handlers are all very committed and turned up for training every Monday evening during the Summer, which resulted in 2 of them winning their level in the recent Progress Tests. If they carry on like this, they will hopefully all be able to enter our Trial next April.



## RETIREMENTS

I was very sad to hear that both Michelle & Myah and Pip & George have announced their retirements from Working Trials for different reasons. They both joined the Club more or less at the same time and progressed through the beginner stakes together, both dogs gaining CDX and UDX along the way. Retiring your dog from any sport is never an easy decision but as an owner you always know best when the time is right. We shall miss you both at the training sessions but hope you will still come and socialize your dogs at our social events. How about starting a training group for Veteran dogs, putting on fun but challenging exercises? This could maybe lead to us all starting a new sport!

## PROGRESS TESTS

I would like to thank Shirley again for taking over from me at the last minute to run the September Progress Tests, as I was overrun with overseas visitors for most of September and ended up having to go to London on the day. The entry was lower than usual, which meant that we only needed 2 judges,

freeing Shirley to do the managing on the day. From what I heard it was a great day, albeit very hot for the dogs, but much enjoyed by all. Thank you to Shirley, John, Steph, Colin & Lynn and Sue for doing the judging and helping and turning this twice-yearly event into another good learning day. Shirley's report can be found on our website on the WT Progress Tests page.

## TRACKING DAYS

We have been very lucky this year in that we were able to run a few beginner tracking sessions on some Sunday mornings in April and May at Dovecote Events in Adderbury, giving the beginners a chance to practise with their young dogs. This has made them all more confident to do their own tracking training which I hear is now progressing well. I am therefore looking forward to our next Beginner Tracking day, which is scheduled to take place on Sunday 3rd November, to see how these young dogs have progressed since our last tracking session.

The Competition Tracking day this year is also scheduled to take place on a Sunday (1st December), so it won't clash with the farmer's Shoot. Full details and entry forms for both events have now been posted on the website. Anybody available and willing to help as tracklayers or judges for the competition tracking day, please let me know.

The Trials Season has started again, so Happy Trialling to all our competing members and I look forward to hearing about your results.

**Carla**

## WORKING TRIALS ACHIEVEMENTS SPRING/SUMMER 2019

There are fewer trials available in the spring/summer months but our intrepid trialists were out there competing where they could.

**John Simpson** and **Foster** continued their good form from earlier in the year and kept us all hoping that the 2nd Ticket was just around the corner. They qualified TDX at Enfield, Surrey in 4th place, SATS with the reserve ticket – again – Wessex, Scarborough and Hampshire, both with 4th place.

Our own Banbury trial produced a few good results. **Julia Edwards** and **Jade** qualified another UD, **Marcella Stevens** and **Tia** won the CD stake, unfortunately not qualifying and **Anne Shepherd** and **Ben** qualified UD at their first attempt gaining 3rd place. Ben went on to qualify CDX at the New Forest trial in 1st place.

**Steph Gordon** and **Kessie** did well at Wessex where they gained their 2nd WDX and won the stake.

**Nicky Downes** and **Poppy** also qualified their 2nd WDX at Wessex.

**Jennifer Speake** and **Tariz** made the trip to Hampshire trial worthwhile by qualifying UDX in 2nd place.

Well done all and good luck in the coming season.

**Shirley Simpson**

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★  
★ "SUCCESS IS NOT FINAL, FAILURE IS  
★ NOT FATAL, ITS THE COURAGE TO  
★ CONTINUE THAT COUNTS."  
★  
★

- Anonymous

# Progress Tests

## JUDGES REPORTS

### LEVEL TWO TO FIVE - CONTROL & AGILITY

by John Simpson

It's always good to judge on these occasions and see the progress in the dogs that you know so well. The ground was good, the weather hot and I enjoyed the day. Thanks to Lynn for stewarding and keeping me in check, to Shirley & Carla for the organising and to Colin, who nobody notices as he beavers away quietly and then, as if by magic, produces the results and certificates.

**1st:** Lyndie Lothian & Pixel – Q (91) Well handled, stepped out well and gave Pixel confidence in the control, best of the day. Good square.

**2nd:** Nicky Downes & Poppy – Q (88) The only fault in the control was Poppy not stopping on the redirect (at a cone) until she hit the hedge 150 yds further on, not a bad fault to have at this stage. Nice speak. The heat was getting to her and she knocked the last element of the long jump and Nicky didn't ask her to try again – very wise.

**3rd:** Le Newman & Woody – Q (83) Le managed him well and was delighted that he did the scale after having so many problems with it. Good search.

**4th:** Sarah Robertson & Mustard NQ – Nerves, nerves, nerves!! Mustard started well with a great nosework section but the heat may have played a part when it came to the jumps.

Thanks for your company

**John**



### ELEMENTARY & LEVEL ONE - CONTROL & AGILITY by Steph Gordon

Thank you B&DDTS for allowing me to judge the Elementary & Level One

I would like to thank Shirley for organising us all so well. Colin for taking the scores, as always very efficient.

A very big thank you to Sue Lawrie for helping me and being her usual good company.

It was a lovely sunny day a bit to hot for some dogs.

The improvement with the handlers and their dogs was lovely to see. It was a pleasure to watch.

#### ELEMENTARY

**1st:** - Marie Fitzgerald & Alfie Q (74<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>) - Well done Marie a lovely round. He so loves his search square. All your hard work is paying off.

**2nd:** Kaye Littlehailes & Richie Q (68<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>) - Well done Kaye another lovely round. Hardly any points lost apart from sit stay I think the heat got to Richie

Kaye Littlehailes & Dora - Dora was NFC and only lost 5 1/4

#### LEVEL ONE

**1st:** Kate Wilton & Finn Q (90) & Best Nosework Cup. - Well done Kate. Full marks search square, and not many points lost on other exercises.

**2nd:** Ann Ferens & Rosie NQ (89) - Rosie just didn't want to do the jumps today. Hardly any marks lost on the other exercises so well done.

**3rd:** Angela Howe & Sabre NQ (78<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>) - Angela, it was lovely to see how you & Sabre have progressed, another good search square. Well done.

Thank you to all the handlers for entering and accepting my marks. I hope you enjoyed your day.

**Steph**



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★ "SUCCESS IS A STATE OF MIND. IF YOU WANT SUCCESS START THINKING OF YOURSELF AS A SUCCESS."  
★  
★ - Joyce Brothers  
★  
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# Ticks and Lyme disease – what you should know

by Dr Sandra Pearson

**Dr Sandra Pearson, Medical Director of Lyme Disease Action looks at what people should do to prevent Lyme disease.**

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection transmitted by ticks. It can be serious but can be prevented by awareness and vigilance. Know what a tick looks like, check your skin, remove ticks quickly and go to your GP promptly if you feel ill.

## When and where are we at risk?

Ticks are most active from March to October and may remain active during mild winters. They are found in woodland areas, moorland, rough pasture and urban parks and gardens.

## How common is Lyme disease?

Lyme disease is increasing and is endemic throughout the UK particularly in the Highlands of Scotland and southern England. Around 10 per cent of cases are thought to be contracted abroad. Surveys indicate that only about six per cent of UK ticks carry Lyme. However, one bite from an infected tick can transmit the bacteria.

## Where do ticks bite?

On adults, most ticks attach below the waist, but small children tend to be bitten on the upper body, mainly on the head and neck. You might not notice – tick bites are usually not painful or itchy. When the tick attaches it takes some hours preparing a feeding pit before taking in blood. So, the risk of developing Lyme increases with the time an infected tick remains attached and hence they should be removed as quickly as possible. There are various tools designed to remove the tick without squashing the body (which could release bacteria into the host). In an emergency, a cotton thread may be looped around the tick's mouthparts, and the tick pulled out.

The nymph stage which attaches to humans is much smaller than the adult stage commonly seen on dogs and cats. So use hands to check places such as behind the knee and carefully inspect anything that feels like a small scab.

## How to prevent a tick bite?

Ticks can be deterred by using insect repellents such as DEET or permethrin. Essential oils, such as citronella, lavender or geranium can help repel them too.

Ticks use hooks on their legs to transfer from foliage to skin or clothing, and spend some time searching for a suitable place to bite. Brushing clothes (and pets) before going inside can help reduce the risk.

## Lyme disease symptoms and treatment

Once you have removed a tick, wash the site and then check occasionally for signs of a rash. Sometimes a red rash, called erythema migrans, spreads out from the bite. It might clear in the middle, giving a typical 'bullseye' pattern, but can also be a solid red. Don't ignore it! The rash and symptoms occur about 10-14 days after the bite. Early symptoms of Lyme include headache, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, joint and muscle pain, and fever.

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★ " THE ART AND SCIENCE OF ASKING ★  
★ QUESTIONS IS THE SOURCE OF ALL ★  
★ KNOWLEDGE." - Thomas Berger ★  
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If a rash develops, take a photograph and go to your GP who should prescribe antibiotics immediately. If Lyme disease is not treated promptly the bacteria may spread to the nervous system, joints, skin, heart and eyes. The full range of symptoms may be incredibly debilitating and include profound fatigue, headache, dizziness, hearing loss, tinnitus, visual disturbances, insomnia, sound and light sensitivity, gastrointestinal disturbances, muscle weakness and problems with mood and cognition. Young children may have non-specific symptoms such as irritability and loss of appetite.

In the UK, around 15-25 per cent people who don't get proper treatment develop more serious symptoms which can include facial palsy, meningitis and burning or stabbing pains.

If there's no rash the GP may perform a blood test. But a negative result does not necessarily exclude Lyme disease. There is currently no test for active infection and no test of cure.

## MEET ZEFFY

Hi, my name is Zeffy. I am a six year old black Labrador. I started life as a guide dog puppy and went on to be trained as a guide dog. However that didn't go according to plan, they said I was too noseey (high scent drive) and too friendly (I love people) but when you are guiding a blind person, you can't say hello and have a cuddle with everyone you meet (shame).

However about two years ago the guide dog people found me a temporary home and I decided I would like to stay. So I was extremely well behaved and looked lovingly into the eyes of my new carers and ha ho it worked, I'm still here.

When I say we, I mean me and she who absolutely adores me joined B&DDTS. We started with the puppy class, so embarrassing seeing as I was four years old. We then went on to work our way through KCGC bronze, silver and gold. Then we wanted more to do, so we joined the Monday night Rally training group.

We really look forward to our Monday night training, I have made lots of new friends and we work at our own pace. We have even entered a few rally competitions and we have done okay, when she who adores me doesn't cock up.

So bye for now. Happy Training.





# Rally News



## MATE-TRICKS ALLBREEDIENCE TEAM by Gill Cooke

We had a great time at the Allbreedience Team Show at Nuneaton. Rally Obreedience for the uninitiated is where a team of four compete together, it starts with heelwork which should be a bit like formation dancing, or soldiers marching in time. As I said it should be! Anyway, after the heelwork each team member does an individual exercise, based on Rally bonus exercises.

Teams at most shows consist of 4 dogs of the same breed and there are teams of all sorts of breeds of dogs, from collies to Sky Terriers. The Nuneaton show was for teams of any combination of breeds. Ours were all small dogs. The exception was Rough Collie Teddy who was our reserve. Megz our team leader had organised weekly practice sessions in advance of the big day and Linda and Teddy came along to each session, Teddy, is a true gentleman among dogs and would have stepped in with ease to do any of our individual exercises. My Sheltie, Violet's exercise was a retrieve with distractions which on the day meant she had to retrieve an article of my choice (her dumbbell) from a pile of soft toys. Luckily Violet isn't a fan of soft toys. She carefully retrieved the dumbbell from the middle of the pile but it was too tempting for some dogs who grabbed a toy and ran! (Hilarious for the spectators but not great if it's your dog!) After Violet, Norman, Kim's Jackapoo did a perfect send away to his bed then Megz' Chihuahua Norman did a send away around a cone and finally Karen's "Oxfordshire Terrier" Charlie did a distance control exercise and we left the ring with another bit of heelwork, happy that we had completed it all without disaster!

Obreedience events are all about having a good time, funny team names, dressing up (naturally the Mate-tricks were all in black) and chatting to people in the other teams. No one seemed to take it too seriously, but we've all got a bit of a competitive streak so although the result didn't really matter 4th place and coming away with a Rosette was the perfect end to a lovely day!

## RALLY FOR 'A BIT OF FUN' by Megz Turnham

I joined the Banbury Rally club in March 2019 with my little chihuahua Norman. We attended the Monday night class with the intention of just having fun and a bit of extra training. Well we defiantly have fun in these classes every week and the extra training has now turned into competing at every chance we get, which is wonderful as you get to meet so many amazing people who are all so helpful and friendly. You also get to bump into fellow Banbury Rally classmates and they are the most supportive and lovely ladies I have ever met. We all cheer each other on. With just 6 months in we have left level 1 with an 'excellent' title and our highest score to date of 201 and can now concentrate on level 2 and if we feel brave even level 3.

In August 2019 I attended the Kennel Club Rally Regulations and Judging Procedure seminar, mainly to find out what judges look for and how I could improve Norman and my scores. It was held over two days and on the second day I walked out of the seminar with two certificates which allow me to now judge Rally. So not only do I know what judges look for, but I can also do the judging myself, much to Normans disgust as he now has to work twice as hard. It was a great weekend and the presentation was fabulous with so much information to take in, we were able to create and judge our own course with dogs and handlers we had never met before, there was also the chance to do some scribing and get lots of feed back from the handlers regarding all aspects.

Since completing the seminar and returning to the club, I was given the opportunity to run my own class of beginners on a Monday evening teaching them what I had been taught by the wonderful Karen Kendall and some new tricks I had picked up from the course. These lessons are a lot of fun and watching the new dogs settle down and put all their focus on their owners is a joy.

I joined Rally for 'a bit of fun' but have ended up getting so much more out of it, yes its fun but I never knew it could be this much fun as well as rewarding for both Norman and myself.



**Footnote: Megz was asked to join the Rally Demonstration team at Discover dogs on Saturday 12th of October. We hope it went well - look forward to hearing all about it.**

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★ "SUCCESS IS OFTEN ACHIEVED BY ★  
★ THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW THAT FAILURE ★  
★ IS INEVITABLE." - Coco Chanel ★  
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**Noticeboard**



**IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR 2019/2020 DIARY**

- Sunday 3rd November: Beginner Tracking Day
- Sunday 1st December: Competition Tracking Day**
- Monday 16th December: Rally Christmas Party
- Thursday 12th December: KC Good Citizen Christmas Party**
- Saturday 14th December: Working Trials Christmas Party
- Saturday 4th January: New Year Walk**
- Wednesday 8th January: New Term starts Working Trials Training
- Thursday 9th January: New Term starts KC Training**
- Saturday 11th January: First Working Trials Training session at Hinton
- Saturday 22nd February: KC Test Day**
- Saturday 14th March: WT Progress Test
- Thursday 5th March: Crufts Dog Show, no training**
- Friday 10th to Sunday 12th April: Open Working Trial at Hinton

Visit [www.banburyanddistrictdogtrainingsociety.org](http://www.banburyanddistrictdogtrainingsociety.org) for up-to-date information



★★  
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★ "THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT."  
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★ - Dennis Gabor  
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★★

**FOR SALE**

**"Fit Fur Life" dog treadmill. Small (suitable for spaniel/collie size). Very good condition. £150 (£637 new). N.Oxon - 2miles from Carla's.**

Diana  
01869 346692 [diana@ploughley.plus.com](mailto:diana@ploughley.plus.com)



**BANBURY & DISTRICT DOG TRAINING SOCIETY**

**Kennel Club Rally 'S' Regulations and judging procedure Seminar with Julia Bodsworth (KC Accredited Rally Judges Trainer)**  
**Date: Sunday 17 November**  
**Venue: Chacombe Village Hall, Thorpe Road, Banbury OX17 2JW**

Times: Start 10am, finish 4pm  
Fee: £20 (Club members discount applies)  
Refreshments: Tea and coffee available, bring own lunch

If you would like more information or to book a place please contact: Karen on email – [karenkendall15@gmail.com](mailto:karenkendall15@gmail.com) phone: 07966 847153  
Cheques should be made out to B&DDTS please and sent to 5 Elizabeth Rise, Banbury OX16 9LZ.



**Your Committee**

- Carla Nieuwenhuizen 01869 810646
- Ann Ferens 01869 277398
- John & Shirley Simpson 01869 346942
- Stephanie Gordon 01869 346881
- Colin Bricknell 01295 712180
- Nicky Downes 01869 346788
- Gill Cooke 01295 720055