
HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS

DOG TRAINING CLUB

NEWSLETTER JULY 2017

HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS DTC OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------|
| PRESIDENT: | Mrs. Heather Hardaway | |
| VICE PRESIDENT | | |
| & CHAIRMAN: | Mrs. Lesley Thomas | (219415) |
| SECRETARY: | Mrs. Julie Norman-Brown | (422004) |
| TREASURER: | Miss Lesley Honeysett | (755713) |
| COMMITTEE: | Mr. John Chittenden | (752549) |
| | Mrs. Carol Shaw | (225385) |
| | Mrs. Janet Oxbury | (854839) |
| | Mrs. Velma Sellens | (441238) |
| | Mrs. Sally Wheeler | (714369) |
| | Mrs. Lesley Rudling | (444847) |

SUMMER CLASS TIMETABLE

CHRIST CHURCH ORE (WED EVE) LAST CLASSES 26th July 2017

ST. LUKES SILVERHILL (WED EVE) LAST CLASSES 26th July 2017

CLASSES RESTART WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT ORE & SILVERHILL
***** 6TH SEPTEMBER 2017 *****
INCLUDING NEW COURSE AT ORE

DATES TO MAKE A NOTE OF FOR THE END OF 2017

SILVER TESTS **SUNDAY 30TH JULY** at Tennis Courts sharp 9.45 – 11.15 a.m.

GOLD TESTS (same venue & date) 11.15am – 1pm (approx)

PLEASE ARRIVE IN GOOD TIME AND REMEMBER ALL
THE THINGS YOU NEED FOR THE TESTS PLEASE
+ A CHAIR FOR YOU!

**DISCOVER DOGS AT THE EXCEL CENTRE IN LONDON – WEEKEND OF
SATURDAY/SUNDAY 21st/22nd OCTOBER 2017 - COACH TO BE ARRANGED IF
ENOUGH INTEREST for SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER
Details after August break – keep date free!**

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POSSIBLE SEMINAR WITH TREVOR COOPER ON DOG LAW
IN NOVEMBER 2017 OF WE GET MORE INTEREST THAN WE
DID IN 2016 WHEN WE HAD TO CANCEL AT THE LAST MINUTE
DATE AND VENUE TO BE ARRANGED

SPONSORED STAY PLANNED FOR DECEMBER 2017.

A repeat of the fund-raising effort which was so successful last year. Whilst we appreciate that sponsors of long-term members will not keep supporting the same dog annually, we would like to give new members a chance to take part and this year the money will go to our new Charity CINNAMON TRUST which may encourage a different source of support.

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NEW FUND RAISING EVENT PLANNED FOR 2018
POSSIBLY FEBRUARY WHEN WE ARE ALL LOOKING FOR SOMETHING
SPECIAL TO DO AFTER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR.

This would be a Fun Event with competitions (doggy oriented of course)
This is just an idea at the moment but we will give you plenty of notice
(and ask for help) when we have decided the format and venue.

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The 63rd Annual General Meeting of Hastings & St Leonards Dog Training Club by Julie Norman-Brown

The Club's AGM was again held at Christ Church, Ore on 29th March 2017. 41 members attended. The Chairman, Lesley Thomas, presented her report on the Club's activities during the past year and gave an overview of those planned for this year. The Treasurer, Lesley Honeysett, was pleased to report that the Club had again enjoyed an excellent year and made a healthy profit.

Lesley was pleased to announce that Lesley Rudling had been nominated to serve on the Committee and her appointment was duly approved. The remaining Committee and Officers were then re-elected en bloc, which meant that for the first time in many years, the Committee was operating at full strength.

Heather Hardaway, the Club's President, presented all the trophies for those members who had achieved success in the show ring with their dogs, as well as those winning awards for their progress at the Club.

The Club's support for its nominated charity, Medical Detection Dogs was ending. During the five years that the Club had supported this charity, it had raised a total of £2,705.56. The Chairman had asked the membership to present nominations for a new charity for the next five years. Julie Norman-Brown gave a presentation describing the work of the Cinnamon Trust who support the elderly and terminally ill so they can continue to keep their pets with them for as long as possible. They then ensure that after their owner's death, they are cared for either in Foster Homes or at one of the charity's home-from-home sanctuaries for the rest of their lives. The Cinnamon Trust was adopted by the Club for the next five years.

The Club had a surplus of funds and the Treasurer suggested that we donate £500.00 each to four charities. The membership agreed that the following charities would benefit: RNLI and Canine Partners. It was also decided that the Club would give Medical Detection Dogs a "golden handshake" and would also give a "golden hello" to the Cinnamon Trust.

Lesley Rudling also appealed for Ann Cranske, who had recently retired after many years' re-homing dogs for the RSPCA, as she was now collecting food and equipment for local dogs who owners were struggling financially. Lesley asked that if anyone had any surplus dog food, dog beds, toys, collars or leads, that they bring them to Club and she would pass them on to Ann.

After the meeting ended, we all enjoyed refreshments provided by the Committee followed by a talk by Val Fillery of Canine Life on coping with stress and joint pain in dogs and caring for an older dog. She demonstrated massage techniques and pressure points to relieve discomfort in older dogs.

Everyone enjoyed the evening, so put it in your diary for next year as we always have a guest speaker after the general business is finished, the refreshments are always enjoyable and FREE, so please all try and come along.

Please remember, bring along any surplus dog food or equipment to Club.

List of Cup Awards for 2016

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| Pre-Beginner Cup | Sally Wheeler & Reuben | 58 Points |
| Bridget Shield (Beginners) | Sally Wheeler & Reuben | 44 Points |
| | Carol Shaw & Buddy | 22 Points |
| Lacey Shield Limit Beginners | Sally Wheeler | 11 Points |
| Bruna Cup (Novice) | Velma Sellens & Tansy | 43 Points |
| Bickey Cup (Class A) | Velma Sellens & Tansy | 3 Points |
| Moss Cup (Class B) | No Entries | |
| Dickon Cup (Test C) | No Entries | |
| Companion Shows (Obedience) | Carol Shaw & Buddy | 40 Points |
| | Sally Wheeler & Reuben | 6 Points |
| Companion Shows (Breed/Novelty) | No Entries | |
| Roy Greenhough Trophy Best Senior Handler Veteran over 60 | John Steadman with Jo and Jenny | |
| McKenzie Cup Progress with a difficult dog | Robert Owen & Tanya | |
| Molly Cup Progress with a Rescue Dog | Maureen Cole & Bessie | |
| Agility Cup | Sally Wheeler & Reuben | 29 Points |
| Fred Jones Tankard for The Best Male Handler | Kevin Moye with Chester | |
| The Betty Ellis Trophy for the Most Progress with a Terrier Or a Border Collie | Sarah Blanchard with Daisy | |
| The Vera Jones Trophy for The Most Improved Handler | Lesley Rudling with Woody | |
| Most Improved Beginner Rescue Dog | Not awarded this year. | |
| Most Improved Beginner Dog | Tony Hill with Dora | |

PUPPY COURSE SUCCESSES SINCE THE DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Puppy Course held at ST LUKES

Instructor Lesley Thomas

Up to Christmas 2016

DENISE HOBBS & LILY

JOHN & MAXINE HAGGIS & CODI

REMAINDER OF Puppy Courses held at Ore

4th Jan. -8th Feb.2017

Instructor Julia Norman-Brown

SHANI ADAMS & LUNA

PETER VINCENT & CHARLIE

LINDA HAYLER & BERTIE

JENNIFER PRINGLE & SCOOPY

SIAN HAMILTON & NOVA

PETER BUTCHERS & PRINCE

CAROLINE KEARNEY & JESSIE

PAMELA NEWMAN & PANDA

CHERYL CAREY & GRACIE

TERESA EVETT & NINA

15th Feb. -22nd March 2017.

Instructor Velma Sellens

CHLOE MURRAY & BUSTER

JANE STEVENS & BERTIE

MAREE BOYLE & POPPY

CAROL & CLIVE DAVIDSON & REGGIE

NICKY MILLS & MARTHA

JULIE HARRIS & LEROY

KIM KEIR & MAC

REBECCA McCAIG & LUNA

KAREN DEAN & ROLY

NIGEL & JUNE KENNEY-ROB & DOUGALL

5th April – 10th May 2017.

Instructor Julia Norman-Brown

ANDREW LARKIN & DAVE

GARETH PASK & AKIRA

DAVID GAIN & TILLY

SOPHIE LEVETT & JENSEN

AMANDA MOORE & ZOLA

ROBERT HYLAND & VICKI

17th May – 21st June 2017.

Instructor Velma Sellens

ANN BEVAN & SUNNY

SORAYA SHAH & SADIE

JOSIE NORCOTT & HEIDI

NICK FIGGINS & FLOYD

EMMA CATT & BLUEY

PAT HORNE & BUDDY

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE AND IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT THERE ARE OTHER DOGS (NOT CLASSED AS 'PUPPIES' FOR KC PURPOSES) WHO COMPLETED THE 6 WEEK COURSES AND WERE AWARDED ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES FOR THEIR SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS WITH THEIR DOGS. I am sure some of those will continue training to do their Bronze Tests and will have their 'name in print' in a later newsletter.

3 Bronze Tests have been held at ORE since the SPRING 2017 and the successful teams were:

WEDNESDAY 1st MARCH 2017 – EXAMINER LESLEY THOMAS

JO WHIFFIN & NELLIE
JANE GIBBS & POPPY
ROBERT OWEN & TANYA
DUNCAN EDWARDS & JASPER
KATIE LEONARD & DAVE
HELEN REDMOND & MONTY
MELANIE REID & MILLIE

WEDNESDAY 10th MAY 2017 – EXAMINER LESLEY THOMAS

PETER VINCENT & CHARLIE
NIGEL SAVAGE & DOUGALL
CAROL DAVIDSON & REGGIE

WEDNESDAY 21st JUNE 2017 – EXAMINER LESLEY THOMAS

LINDA HAYLER & BERTIE
LLOYD CAREY & GRACIE
SOPHIE LEVETT & JENSEN

SATURDAY 27th MAY 2017 AT THE TENNIS COURTS – EXAMINER VELMA SELLENS

We had a good number of dogs having their first try in 2017 to achieve their SILVER & GOLD.
Hard luck stories abounded but those successful were:

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|--------|---|
| SILVER | CLAIRE JOWITT & ANKAA KATIE LEONARD & DAVE |
| GOLD | PAT SMITH & LILY PAT THOMAS & PHOEBE |

Both the Silver and Gold Classes are really full at the moment so we hope for some successes on Sunday 30th July 2017 before we break for the holidays.

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO PASSED ANY OF THE KC TESTS SO FAR THIS YEAR – AND GOOD LUCK TO THE REST IN THE UPCOMING TESTS. BUT REMEMBER: DOGS ONLY NEED YOUR LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING, THE CARD AND ROSETTE MEAN NOTHING TO THEM – THEY CAN'T EVEN EAT THEM!! ENJOY.

I had decided to find myself a puppy with the intention of doing Competitive Obedience, so went off looking for a Collie, I saw a couple of litters & just didn't seem to be able to find one that appealed to me. I happened to see an advert in a local paper for a litter of GSDxCollie puppies quite close to where I lived so I rang up to enquire about them & was told there were no bitches amongst the two litters they had so thought that was that.

A day later I received a call from the person advertising to tell me that in fact there was a little bitch amongst the puppies. (Very strange they hadn't noticed it before). I decided to go and have a look & ended up in a farm where in barns were two litters of puppies 11 in one & 10 in the other, It stank in the barn but the puppies all came running up to greet us & seemed well, search as I could I couldn't find a bitch amongst them until it was pointed out to me in a dark corner was little puppy crouched up trying to hide, I went & picked her up, she was thin, smelly & dull. I did the one thing I always tell prospective owners not to do, felt sorry for her, the farmer wanted silly money for the puppy so I got out £150. & said take it or leave it, well of course he snatched my hand off.

I came home & put her in the sink for a bath, it was only then I saw how thin she was just skin & bone, she had a really bad tummy with the runs for a few days & was so hungry, I phoned up the farmer to see what they had been feeding the puppy & was horrified to hear, bread & milk poor puppy, After a visit to the vet I had to carefully start to introduce some good quality food, I must admit I was quite ashamed of her for a while as she was growing fast but stayed very thin for a long time as she just couldn't put on weight & grow at the same time. She had a lovely introduction to other dogs as Julie came up to visit with Zeppo & gave me some good advice on the GSD breed.

Purdie gradually put on weight but was painfully shy, so I spent her first year travelling to dog shows & getting everyone to talk to her & give her treats, gradually she came round & started to train & enjoy being around people & other dogs.

We started to enter shows & she proved to be a good steady dog in the ring, she had the odd blip when something reminded her of her past, (big men in long coats were very scary) my aim was to get her to Novice but she did me proud winning out of Beginners, Novice & A then getting places in B, by the time she was 8 I decided to get another puppy to train, Purdie was thrilled she thought the puppy was just for her, she loved her right from the start & they became great pals.

Purdie proved to be a perfect stooge dog for the club & was very kind with the new puppies in class & a great demonstration dog, she also helped the club win inter club competitions when they were held.

I took Purdie to club a fortnight before she died to let some of the handlers get a feel of how a competitive dog felt doing heel work & she duly went with all the handlers & did what was asked of her but I noticed a she was uncomfortable lying down on the floor.

A week later Purdie seemed to develop a harsh throat & I wondered if she was going down with Kennel Cough, I had also noticed that she was having difficulty getting out of bed so went to the vet who gave me medication for her. This was on a Monday, throughout the following week she was wobbly when she walked & had started to be sick after every feed so on the Friday morning I took her back to the vet for further investigations & x-rays, luckily Fiona Norman Brown was on duty so Purdie was happy to go with her, I received the shattering news later in the day that x-rays had shown that Purdie has spondylosis of the spine but worse than that she had megaesophagus, this combination & the treatment would not have suited Purdie's lifestyle so whilst she was still sedated I had her PTS. Thankfully Fiona was there at the end with kind words to help her for which I will always be grateful.

Purdie is back home in her favourite place in the garden, with her special ball, where she spent many hours happily chewing her bones. It was an honour & a privilege to have owned such a special girl.

Farewells

The Club has said a final farewell to two of our longest standing members, Muriel Paris and Kathleen Honeysett, know to all as Honey.

Muriel was known to many of the Club's members past and present. She worked with one of the Club's most influential founder members, Vera Jones, at DER. They became firm friends and Muriel would come to the Club with Vera and Fred. She became the Club's tea lady, making and serving teas and coffees to the members during the break between the end of the first three classes (all run at the same time) and the second three classes. The tea break was quite a social time as most members participated. The sale of the teas and coffees also raised funds for the Club.

Not only did Muriel make the tea, she also set up the Club's shop, which in the days before the internet, was able to stock specialist equipment which was unavailable from high street retailers. Muriel would display the stock each week and most of us would buy and replace our collars and leads exclusively from the Club Shop.

Muriel loved babies and as members increased their human families, Muriel would knit for the new babies who she also loved to see. She also helped Vera nurse her Mother through her final illness.

Muriel continued her work for the Club despite suffering from severe arthritis and eventually stopped coming when her mobility became severely impaired. Muriel was also very good with dogs and was paid the greatest compliment of all by being allowed to look after Vera and Fred's dogs. They would go to shows and happily leave the older members of their canine family with Muriel when it became too much for them to go.

Muriel was fiercely independent and despite the limitations that her arthritis caused, was able to continue to live in her own home until she was admitted to hospital and died after a short illness.

Kathleen Honeysett, Honey, began coming to the Club in its very early days at Falaise Road. She, at that time, had a German Shepherd and despite Vera and Fred's training, it escaped from the Club and ran all the way back home to Silverhill, pursued by Honey! Due to the lack of traffic in those days, both survived the adventure uninjured.

She returned to the Club some years later with her daughter Lesley (now our lovely Treasurer and Silver Class instructor) and their Border Collie, Pup. Pup did very well in the Obedience ring and Lesley became a keen member of the Club. Honey would come to Club events and began to edit the Club's newsletter. Honey and Lesley fell in love with Border Collies and Pup became the first, followed by Twix, Floss, Fern, Fay and Millie. The dogs would go to Honey's whilst Lesley was at work. Honey was a keen walker and joined Battle Ramblers where Twix became a firm favourite.

Honey not only edited the Dog Club's newsletter but also volunteered with Battle Ramblers and the Seagulls Swimming Club. She gave of her time and skills freely to all three societies which made a huge difference to their success.

Honey continued to come to Club events and was always at the Christmas Party. She had a great love of dogs but the Border Collie was her favourite. Sadly, the last eighteen months of her life were dominated by failing health and in June 2016 she went into a nursing home. She was supported throughout this difficult time by Lesley who was able to take Fay and Millie to see her regularly.

Sadly, Honey lost her fight with life and passed away peacefully on 24th June 2017. She will be greatly missed as she was one of the world's characters. Our sympathy goes to Lesley and Tim at this sad and difficult time.

It is people like Muriel and Honey, who were happy to give up their time to support our Club with no self interest, that have ensured our Club has survived for 63 years. Both Muriel and Honey were great volunteers for the Club and we were so lucky to benefit from their help and support for so many years. They will be sorely missed.

Julie Norman-Brown

Annual Trip to Crufts – March 2017.

The Club went on its annual trip to Crufts in March. Lesley Thomas puts a great deal of time and effort into organising these visits and always gets the members a fantastic deal on the coach and entry tickets. This year was different as Lesley was not coming on the trip as she had already been stewarding at Crufts. Sally was given responsibility for collecting the ticket money and the books balanced - a big thank you to Sally.

We had our usual driver who returned to 247247 just for our trip. We had an excellent journey both ways making the necessary pit stops for comfort and food breaks. Everyone had a marvellous day and the coach returned with a full boot of shopping! You can buy everything dog related at Crufts from grooming products, equipment, toys and the ever more bizarre novelties.

There is an opportunity to see some of your favourite breeds being judged in the breed ring together with demonstrations and competitions in all the canine activities. Fiona and I were destined for Discover Dogs with Zenda, our GSD. All breeds are represented and it gives existing and prospective owners an opportunity to ask questions about any breed of dog. Zenda was an absolute star both at Crufts and on the coach.

We arrange this trip every year and it is often filled by non-members but I would urge you all to put it in the diary for next year as it is a must for any dog person. So next time let's have a go at filling the coach with our members and their families!

Julie Norman-Brown

REMINDER

MICRO CHIPPING IS REQUIRED BY LAW AND WE CHECK ALL DOGS ENROLLED ON OUR COURSES BY THE END OF THE COURSE. THEY ALSO GET CHECKED EACH TIME OF TESTING FOR BRONZE, SILVER AND GOLD TESTS.

BUT.....THEY MUST STILL HAVE A CORRECTLY WORDED TAG ON THEIR COLLAR.....AS WELL! REQUIRED BY LAW.