

Hastings & St Leonards Dog Training Club St Luke's Church Hall - Silverhill

www.hastingsandstleonardsdogtraining.weebly.com

This is the first Newsletter since December 2019, due to the suspension of training sessions and member gatherings because of the COVID pandemic restrictions.

Training sessions and other member events restarted in Autumn 2021.

This Newsletter covers the Club activities including training sessions, Bronze, Silver and Gold Test awards, the AGMs, social gatherings, member Awards and Obituaries.

This newsletter is divided into different years for ease of reporting.

Hastings & St Leonard DTC Officers and Committee

President	Mrs Heather Hardaway	
Vice President & Chairman	Mrs Lesley Thomas	(219415)
Secretary	Mrs Julia Norman-Brown	(422004)
Treasurer	Mrs Lesley Russell	(755713)
Committee	Mrs Janet Oxbury	(854839)
	Mrs Lesley Rudling	(444847)
	Mrs Melanie Reid	(756522)



DATES TO REMEMBER CLASSES & EVENTS 2023/2024

KC Test Evening	18 th October 2023
Next Puppy Course starts	25 th October 2023
KC Test Evening	6 th December 2023
Christmas Party	13 th December 2023
Christmas/New Year Break	20 th & 27 th December 2023 & 3 rd January 2024
Restart all classes & New Puppy Course	10 th January 2024



Summary of Year (Excerpts from the Chairman's Report)

Puppy/Beginner Pet Courses

During 2019 the club held seven puppy/beginner pet courses led by Julia Norman-Brown with the help of her assistants Lesley Rudling and Melanie Reid and, latterly, Maureen Cole. Fiona Norman-Brown also helped with the sessions when her work commitments permitted.

55 Puppies passed their Kennel Club Puppy Foundation Certificates, and eight older dogs were awarded our own Dog Club attendance certificates and Merit rosettes for their efforts. In total this represented a total of sixty-three dogs altogether, two more than the previous year. This is no small part due to the tireless efforts of Julia and all the helpers who kept the classes, large and small, ticking over smoothly. Their encouragement for all owners, some of whom were struggling, kept them motivated and helped them achieve what they were able to and, more importantly, be happy with their dogs.

Bronze, Silver and Gold Good Citizen Awards

Between February and December, we held 5 Bronze Kennel Club tests at Ore. 4 of these tests were examined by Lesley Thomas and one test examined by Sarah Jones. A total of seventeen dogs passed, and some continued to the Silver class successfully led by Lesley Russell.

2 Silver Tests were held at St Lukes and were examined by Sarah Jones. 8 dogs with their owners passed.

Lesley Thomas led the Gold class during 2019 with Lesley Russell standing in on occasion. 2 Gold tests were held at St Lukes where Sarah Jones passed eight again. Must be a lucky number!

This represents 88 Kennel Club passes plus the Club certificates awarded to the eight older puppies. 96 certificates in total which was 4 up on the previous year. A phenomenally successful 2019.

It was pleasing to have a few Gold successes continue to the GOLD+ class, which we gradually built up for handlers, and their dogs, who want to learn new exercises and successfully put them into practice! The nature of this course has encouraged variety and innovation.



Cup Awards for 2019

Lacey Pre-Beginner Shield	No Entries
Bridget Shield (Beginners)	No Entries
Bruna Cup (Novice)	No Entries
Bickey Cup (Class A)	Lesley Russell with Millie with forty-three points
Moss Cup (Class B)	Lesley Russell with Millie with eight points
Dickon Cup (Test C)	No Entries
Companion Shows (Obedience)	No Entries
Companion/Breed Shows (Breed/Novelty)	Roz Diamond with Spiro with fifty-six points Claire Jowitt with Ankaa with fifty-two points
Roy Greenhough Trophy - Best Senior Handler Veteran over sixty	Claire Jowitt with Ankaa.
McKenzie Cup - Progress with a difficult dog	Lydia Seager with Little Nell
Molly Cup - Progress with a Rescue Dog	Roz Diamond with Spiro

Agility Cup	Pamela Newman with Panda
Fred Jones Tankard for the Best Male Handler	Robert Owen with Tanya
The Betty Ellis Trophy for the Most Progress with a Terrier or a Border Collie	Maria Hodgson with Hatch
The Vera Jones Trophy for the Most Improved Handler	Roz Diamond with Spiro
Most Improved Beginner Rescue Dog	Not awarded this year
Most Improved Beginner Dog	Carly Edwards with Lupin
Nicola Parsons Trophy for The Best Companion Dog	Henry Barcroft with Honey

Life Member Nominations

There were three nominations for Life Members - Lesley Thomas, Lesley Russell, and Norma Simpkins.

Lesley Thomas: In recognition for her tireless work for the Club

Lesley became Chairman of the Club in February 1988 after taking over from our founder member, Vera Jones. This was like taking over from Sir Alex Fergusson when he retired from Manchester United. Lesley has filled this role admirably and made it her own. The fact that the Club was celebrating its 66th Annual General Meeting in 2020 is in no small part due to Lesley's hard work and diligence in keeping all the balls in the air! She discharges her role of Chairman diligently taking and making all the phone calls associated with the Beginner Course, something which can take a great deal of patience. She does this bit particularly well, as she rarely gets it wrong, and our courses are filled with lovely dogs. Lesley was mentored by the old guard, Vera and Fred Jones, Betty Ellis and Chick Field and she began taking beginner courses in 1989 and has taken classes ever since which have been enjoyed by all.

Lesley Russell: In recognition of her years of service to the Club

Lesley is probably the longest serving Club member as she began training when she was a teenager with her lovely Border Collie Pup. They achieved remarkable success in Obedience and so Lesley's attachment to the Club was secured. She competed in the Hastings Half Marathon to raise money for the Club's then charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind. At the time, our treasurer was Tom Taylor and when he retired Lesley took over. No one can quite remember when that was! Suffice it to say, she has done it for years! She runs the Club's finances effortlessly and we are so lucky to have such a competent and efficient Treasurer. Each year at the AGM she tries to give it up - never meaning it because we would not let her go! On top of this, she has taken the Competitive classes and now the Silver Classes, so that our members benefit from her skills and experience. She always says she does not like taking classes, but we know she does not mean it! She does not realise how good she is!

Norma Simpkins: In recognition for her contribution to the Club's success

Norma joined the Club in the 1990s with her Border Collie, Bonnie. They worked beautifully together and Norma's Skills as a trainer were recognised. She began taking classes after being mentored by Vera Jones. Norma was a kind and gentle trainer who had a lovely way with dogs and people. She also served on the Committee for many years. She pioneered the idea of running a Friday afternoon class for those that could not attend on a Wednesday evening. The class was timed so that it did not coincide with school pick up times so that those who had families could attend. These classes were extremely popular and lasted for several years. Norma worked hard for the Club supporting and organising events like the boot sales we ran at that time. She took classes for many years, and we have all missed her since she stopped coming to the Club due to health issues and the loss of her beautiful Border Collie, Eppie.

2020/2021

Summary of Year (Excerpts from the Chairman's Report)

It should be noted that, due to the COVID pandemic restrictions, the Club had been closed for much of this year since March 2020.

Puppy/Beginner Pet Courses

Puppy Classes

The last puppy course completed had begun on 8-1-2020 and was run by Julie Norman-Brown and her helpers, Lesley Rudling and Melanie Reid. Six passed their Puppy Foundation and three were not quite ready.

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation ending 12th February 2020:

Samantha Greenhalf with Doris her English Bulldog
Emma Webber with Hetty her Cavalier King Charles
Beth Kent with Buddy her Pug x Bichon
Carolyn Bromwich-Small with Basil her Cross Breed
Emma Dengate with Rigsby her Hungarian Vizsla x Pointer
Vincent Rockey with Rio his Staffie x

The next Puppy Course, commencing 26-2-2020, was abandoned after three weeks, due to the COVID lockdown. Participants had their remaining class fees refunded to them.

Life Member Nominations

There was one nomination for Life Member - **Carol Shaw** in recognition of her hard work and support for the Club.

Donations to Charity

Cinnamon Trust	£3,000
Ann Craske (local Dog Food Bank and Fund for those struggling to pay their vet bills).	£500

2021/2022

Summary of Year (excerpts from the Chairman's Report)

June 2021 to November 2021 was a hive of activity for the Club committee members preparing for the expected easing of COVID measures. Committee meetings were held and there was strict adherence to COVID rules. The focus was on producing a risk assessment for St Luke's Church Hall, which could be managed safely for trainers and handlers. Decisions had to be made about class sizes in terms of COVID safety. The decision was made to only use the one venue, St Luke's Church Hall, as the restrictions and cleaning regimes imposed by Christ Church Ore were considered too onerous for the Club to proceed with, given our limited active trainers and helpers.

We started accepting bookings for a puppy course in November 2021 after two weeks testing with current members as guinea pigs.

The first course was a success, and the Club has subsequently been building more courses, carry-on courses and Bronze classes.



Obituaries for Dog Club members & dogs 2020-2022

Something that was missed out on over the COVID months was the chance to recall and celebrate the lives of friends and members and their dogs who have sadly passed away.

Pauline Knight: we had not seen our retired Club Secretary for some time despite every effort to speak to her. Lesley Russell finally had a chance to have a word with her early in 2020 just before lockdown. She looked frail and was not very talkative but later that year, an old friend informed Lesley that she had died.

Tom Mellish, husband to our Val (with Barney) sadly passed away on 19th October 2020. He never came to club but was always very close to Val's two dogs (one passed away some time ago) and Barney was a very loyal friend to Tom as his health deteriorated. Barney attended the funeral on 6th November 2020. Tom's death left a huge hole in Val's life.

John Chittenden, one of our Committee members, sadly passed away on 11th September 2021 aged 76 after a period of deteriorating health. The funeral held in Westfield on 15th October 2021 was very well attended, including by several Club members, and you could see and feel the affection he was held in. His wife Vivien was also a member of the Club, and we wished her all our best.

Mick Diamond passed away after a long illness on 4th December 2021. He was Ros Diamond's husband and he regularly drove Ros to Club with their then dog Artie who achieved his Gold Test Pass. He brought Ros and Spiro their new dog until he had to give up driving. Spiro was Mick's constant companion and Ros has not found it easy with Spiro since, as he misses his master rather badly.

Lesley Thomas' dog Maizie passed away on 23 September 2020. She had cancer to the upper jaw and Lesley and her husband made the decision to let her go as it was apparent, she wasn't comfortable. She was coming up to 11 years old and still very fit. She was a rescue dog who taught Lesley much over the 9 years they were together. She was stylish, happy, and smart and passed on her good habits to Pickle before she went.

Carol and Peter Shaw's Buddy finally succumbed to old age on 22nd February 2022. He was 13 years old and was a holder of the Gold Award. Carol was presented with a lovely picture of Buddy's head when she was made a life member.

Julia Norman-Brown's Zeppo passed away on 2nd January 2020. Zeppo was a true showman, always full of fun, always happy and sociable. Most importantly, he was a brilliant companion who could be taken anywhere. He shared his life with 3 German Shepherds, another Bichon, numerous cats and rabbits and was a friend to all. He came to the Club as a demonstration dog on Julie's courses. He achieved his Bronze and Silver awards with Julie's daughter Fiona but sadly, narrowly missed their Gold. However, he did represent the Club in a Match against Uckfield Club. He enjoyed old age and, at 15 and a half, and having survived two serious health blips, his time came and he left behind in his family a gap that will never be filled.

Julia Norman-Brown's Zenda, Ardenburg Greta passed away at the age of 13 on 24th November 2021. She was a truly exceptional dog who was given to Julie by Wendy Stephens at the age of 2. She had been kennelled previously but adapted to home life with ease. She was an amazing ambassador for her breed with a wonderful temperament and represented German Shepherd Dogs at Discover Dogs and Crufts. She lived with other dogs, numerous cats and rabbits and welcomed any visitor with open paws. She was a true mother figure and even helped with hand-rearing kittens. She was loved by all who met her. She could be taken anywhere and would behave impeccably. Although she loved Dog Club Christmas parties, she found being a demonstration dog on a puppy course very boring. She did her Good Citizen tests passing Bronze, Silver and Gold. When Zenda's great niece, Lia, joined the family at the age of 11 weeks, she too fell under her Auntie's spell. Zenda enjoyed having her very own puppy and they had a joyous

two years together. When she became poorly, Lia never left her side. Zenda amazed vets by making a wonderful recovery from a serious stroke, only to cruelly suffer another one 7 weeks later, which eventually overwhelmed her. Zenda leaves a massive hole in her family's hearts.

Heather Hardaway's Shadowsquad Tessa Hardaway - April 2010 to June 2020. Heather took great care when she chose her German Shepherd puppy from the Shadowsquad Kennel, and she was rewarded with a devoted companion. Tessa was soon joined by Heather's husband Bill's new puppy, Brendon. The two lived together in perfect harmony but Tessa was most definitely the boss. Despite Brendon being the male and bigger dog, it was Tessa who was the guard dog. Brendon would follow her lead. Although Tessa was trained for Working Trials, excelling at the Search, clearing the 5-foot scale and 9-foot-long jump, they never got the chance to compete as, after Bill's death, Heather decided to fulfil Bill's wish and work Brendon. Tessa, however, loved going to Dog Club and was a regular in the Gold Plus class with her best friend Buddy, the Border Collie. She passed her Bronze, Silver and Gold Good Citizen tests and, whilst the other dogs did a Test A Scent, Tessa would do the search that she loved so much. Tessa was obedient and good at Club but could not contain herself when her beloved Bichons, Zeppo and Harpo, arrived unexpectedly one evening. She began to recognise them and, overcome with joy, covered them in kisses. Sadly, when Tessa was 10 and 2 months, she suddenly became ill, and Heather made the hardest decision for herself but the kindest one for Tessa. This was devastating for Heather and her greatest comfort was Brendon who assumed the roles of a wonderful companion and very friendly guard dog.

Elisabeth Lawrence and Harry. Harry joined the Club in 2009. He was purchased as a Jack Russell, but his beautiful looks and coat suggested he had some Poodle in him. Harry, however, favoured his terrier breeding to its full potential. To say he was a challenging puppy was an understatement! However, he met his match in Elisabeth! Harry's determination to be a delinquent, was matched by Elisabeth's to make him a good companion. They met somewhere in the middle, and Harry became the dog Elisabeth wanted. A lovely friendly fun dog who was wonderful with people and other dogs alike, but with just enough attitude to make him a character. As Harry approached middle age he became a therapy dog, a role at which he excelled. He went to work with Elisabeth at Bexhill College, proudly sporting his staff badge with his photo and name. He would attend meetings in person and on Zoom and became a firm favourite with staff and students alike. However, his greatest gift was the support he gave to struggling students. He would sit beside them in class, having instinctively found those who needed him. Teachers were amazed by the improvement in these students' work and behaviour - Harry had found his true niche. He became a firm favourite at the College and, when he became ill and died in July 2021, he was mourned by all. Elisabeth is now training Arthur, but there will never be another Harry!

Puppy/Beginner Pet Courses

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation in December 2021. Course Instructor, Lesley Thomas.

Karen Hilder with Tilly her Border Terrier
Sarah Givertz with Rupert her Cockerpoo
Elisabeth Lawrence with Arthur her Lakeland Terrier
Teresa Evett with Silvie her Whippet
Alison Holmes with Sherlock her Maltese x Poodle
Peter Bauschard with Polly his Jack Russell Terrier
Clare Burford with Rosie her Border Terrier x Toy Poodle

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation in February 2022. Course Instructor, Lesley Rudling.

Beryl Holmes with Misty her Cocker Spaniel
Gloria Whittaker with Ted her Wired Haired Fox Terrier
Steven Larkin with Molly his Red Labrador
Lucy Davies with Luca her Goldie x Labrador
Peter Duncan with Hattie his Collie x Poodle

Angie Jakeman with Murray her Cavapoo

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation in April 2022. Course Instructor, Julia Norman-Brown

Christine Giles with Peggy her West Highland Terrier
Tony Lewis with Pepper his Golden Retriever
Sylvia Foster with Buddy her Shih tzu
Louise Thomas with Loki her Cockerpoo
Marc Smith with Willow his Parsons Jack Russell
Stephen Scogines with Luna his Cavapoo x Cockerpoo

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation in May 2022. Course Instructor, Lesley Rudling

Malcolm Brain with Bella his Sprocker
Lauren Mason with Lilly her Bernese
Katie Reed-Green with Casper her West Highland Terrier x Poodle x Jack Russell Terrier
Jen Donegan with Molly her Labrador
Lesley Dear with Syrus her Rottweiler
Alicia Miles with Fergus her Cocker Spaniel

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation in July 2022. Course Instructor Julia Norman-Brown.

Laura Ridler with Ozzie her Rottweiler
Judy Merch with Hera her Keeshond
Janet Kates with Minnie her Miniature Yorkshire Terrier
Tracie Richards with Pixie her Cockerpoo
Natasha Chappell with Ziggy her Poodle x Jack Russell Terrier
Cherylin Turk with Teddy her Cockerpoo
Sonia Henman with Libby her Goldendoodle

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation in October 2022. Course Instructor, Lesley Rudling.

Jansie Van Rensburg with Zazu her German Shepherd
Claire Braiden with Monty her Cockerpoo
Dave Weeks with Dusty his Labradoodle
Carla Parnell-Leach with Cooper her Cocker Spaniel
Carmen Light with Dusty her Miniature Poodle
Esme Crang with Rafferty her Irish Terrier
Claire Kennedy with Tink her Cockerpoo

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation in November 2022. Course Instructor, Julia Norman-Brown.

Steven White with Rolo his Cocker Spaniel
Michael Stewart with Mo his German Shepherd
Victoria Ferguson with Sonny her Cavapoo x
Hanah Tabib with Blue her Labradoodle x
Karren Bowles with Ellie her Cocker Spaniel
Millie Wright with Ozzy her French Bulldog
Kirsty Leonard with Willow her Golden Retriever

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 13th April 2022. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Peter Bauschard with Polly his Jack Russell Terrier
Silvia Ramsden with Peggy her Schnauzer

Silver Good Citizen Award

Elaine Ellis with Bella her Schnauzer

Gold Good Citizen Award

Claire Jowitt with Ankaa her Saluki
Melanie Reid with Poppy her Maltese x Poodle

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 1st June 2022. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Tony Lewis with Pepper his Golden Retriever
Lucy Davies with Luca her Goldie x Labrador
Beryl Holmes with Misty her Cocker Spaniel

Silver Good Citizen Award

Peter Bauschard with Polly his Jack Russell Terrier

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 20th July 2022. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Angie Jakeman with Murray her Cavapoo
Louise Thomas with Loki her Cockerpoo
Simon McCullough with Bruce his Cockerpoo
Peter Duncan with Hattie his Collie x Poodle
Elisabeth Lawrence with Arthur her Lakeland Terrier
Karen Dawes with Dottie her Cockerpoo x Jackapoo
Lesley Dear with Syrus her Rottweiler

Silver Good Citizen Award

Takako Hunter with Lua her Labrador
Silvia Ramsden with Peggy her Schnauzer

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 19th October 2022. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Sonia Henman with Libby her Goldendoodle
Cherylin Turk with Teddy her Cockerpoo
Laura Ridler with Ozzie her Rottweiler
Esme Crang with Ruby her Irish Terrier

Silver Good Citizen Award

Richard Summers with Roma his Rottweiler
Simon Peaty with Monk his Border Terrier
Louise Thomas with Loki her Cavapoo
Lesley Dear with Syrus her Rottweiler

Gold Good Citizen Award

Peter Bauschard with Polly his Jack Russell Terrier
Elaine Ellis with Bella her Schnauzer
Janet Oxbury with Arazona her American Cocker
Silvia Ramsden with Peggy her Schnauzer

***The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 7th December 2022.
Examiner Sarah Jones.***

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Natasha Chappell with Ziggy her Poodle x Jack Russell Terrier
Jansie Van Rensburg with Zazu his German Shepherd
Gloria Whittaker with Ted her Wire-Haired Fox Terrier
Esme Crang with Rafferty her Irish Terrier

Silver Good Citizen Award

Sonia Henman with Libby her Goldendoodle

Gold Good Citizen Award

Simon Peaty with Monk his Border Terrier

Fun Night for Cinnamon Trust 27th July 2022

This was well attended, and the Dog Show was judged by Heather Hardaway. £109 was raised during the evening for the Cinnamon Trust.

2022/2023

Summary of Year (Excerpt from the Chairman's Report)

The Chairman commented that it was lovely to be Chairing a meeting after a full year of Puppy Courses, Kennel Club Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards and the Gold Plus classes.

Since the last AGM, the classes have been extended into 6 sections over 3 hours (6pm to 9pm) to make efficient use of the space and avoid overcrowding. The Club continues to tweak the classes as they fluctuate in size.

The policy of 'one person and one dog' is still in force largely to keep down the noise.

Kennel Club Award testing has been trialled throughout the year in terms of testing every 7 weeks. This has afforded the dogs and their handlers the chance to move up to the next level if they are ready, however it is acknowledged that not all dogs may be ready and therefore will not pass first time. The Kennel Club tests are very much aimed at pet dogs and are not competitive. There is no pressure to take the test if the handler or the instructor does not feel the dog is ready. The main aim is to have dogs with good temperament and behaviour to meet the Kennel Club criteria and for the owners to show that they know how to handle their dogs to get the best out of them. Things go wrong and the handler should be able to get the dog back on track quickly with the minimum of fuss. There is no pressure to pass the tests quickly.

Christmas Party 14th December 2022

This was the first Christmas Party for several years. Numbers were a little down on our usual rowdy affairs and there were limitations on the catering. The snow and ice did not help attendance as the conditions were difficult for members travelling in both on foot and driving.

Those who attended enjoyed themselves and we raised £72 for the Cinnamon Trust. Although we chose a charity for a 5-year period and then re-elect another one at the end of that period, we extended the current period by 2 years to take into account our lack of fundraising efforts due to COVID.



Cup Awards for 2023

The Competition Trophies were once again withheld as there were few shows to attend either Open or Championship Obedience Shows or Companion Dog Shows.

Roy Greenhill Trophy - Best Senior Handler Veteran over sixty	Ros Diamond and Spiro
McKenzie Cup - Progress with a difficult dog	Sylvia Ramsden and Peggy
Molly Cup - Progress with a Rescue Dog	Millie Wright and Ozzie
Fred Jones Tankard for the Best Male Handler	Peter Bauschard and Polly
The Betty Ellis Trophy for the Most Progress with a Terrier or a Border Collie	Esme Crang and Ruby and Rafferty
The Vera Jones Trophy for the Most Improved Handler	Gloria Whittaker and Ted
Most Improved Beginner Dog	Claire Braiden
Nicola Parsons Trophy for The Best Companion Dog	Elisabeth Lawrence
Best Beginner Handler	Emily Jarret and Bailey

Puppy/Beginner Pet Courses

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation on 15th February 2023. Course Instructor, Lesley Rudling.

Ian Roberts with Rumpole his Old English Sheepdog
Jenny Stewart with Tex her Cocker Spaniel
Abby Petro with Ozzy her Cockerpoo
Natasha Stolle with Puka her Sealyham x Norfolk Terrier
Lindsay Turk with Willow her Cockerpoo
Emily Jarret with Bailey her Beagle x Cocker
Tom Andrews with Sasha his Malinois

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation on 5th April 2023. Course Instructor, Julia Norman-Brown.

Lin Webb with Stanley her Cockerpoo
Francesca Diethelm with Annabelle her Standard Poodle

Casey Ralph with Moby his English Bulldog
Louise Norman-Brown with Nico her Bichon Frise
Laura Atkins and Lily her Greek Rescue

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation on 24th May 2023. Course Instructor, Lesley Rudling.

Fran Candy and Toffee her Spoodle
Leanne Cooper and Dolce her American Bulldog
Marina Biaudet and Maude her Dachshund
Geri Beyer and Kuma her Poodle x Labrador x German Shepherd Dog
Ruth Templeton and Quinn her Golden Retriever x Poodle x Lab/Poodle

The following handlers and their dogs passed the Puppy Foundation on 12th July 2023. Course Instructor, Julia Norman Brown

Rebecca Wigmore and Lenny her Border x Jack Russell Terrier
Rebecca Barnes and Jazz her Cockerpoo
Alison Lonergan and Dora her Staffordshire Terrier
Felicity Bennett and Lukka her Kokoki x
Ed Mathis and Chester his German Shorthaired Pointer
Anna Lambert-Knott and Sammy her Golden Retriever
Leo Lawson and Nelson his French Bulldog
Sean Melvin and Maze his German Shepherd Dog

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 22nd February 2023. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Victoria Fergusson with Sonny her Cavapoo x
Amy Stewart and Mo her German Shepherd Dog
Steven White and Rolo his Cocker Spaniel
Claire Braiden with Monty her Cockerpoo

Silver Good Citizen Award

Tony Lewis with Pepper his Golden Retriever
Esme Crang with Ruby her Irish Terrier

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 12th April 2023. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Emily Jarrett with Bailey her Beagle x Cocker
Kirsty Leonard with Willow her Golden Retriever
Millie Wright with Ozzy her French Bulldog
Luke Bolton with Jessie his Greek Rescue

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 31st May 2023. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Karen Bowles with Ellie her Cocker Spaniel

Silver Good Citizen Award

Elisabeth Lawrence with Arthur her Lakeland Terrier
Gloria Whittaker with Ted her Wirehaired Fox Terrier

Millie Wright with Ozzy her French Bulldog
Beryl Holmes with Misty her Working Cocker

The following handlers and their dogs passed Good Citizen Awards on 19th July 2023. Examiner Sarah Jones.

Bronze Good Citizen Award

Louise Norman-Brown with Nico her Bichon Frise
Jill Thornton with Ruby her Working Cocker Spaniel
Ian Roberts with Rumpole his Old English Sheepdog
Natascha Stolle with Puka her Sealyham x Norfolk Terrier
Felicity Bennett with Lukka her Kokoki Cross

Silver Good Citizen Award

Emily Jarrett with Bailey her Beagle x Cocker
Kirsty Leonard with Willow her Golden Retriever
Natasha Chappell with Ziggy her Jack Russell Terrier x Poodle
Laura Ridler with Ozzy her Rottweiler
Karen Bowles with Ellie her Cocker Spaniel

Gold Good Citizen Award

Esme Crang with Ruby her Irish Terrier



Obituaries for Dog Club members/dogs 2022-2023

Lesley Russell's dog Faye 2008 - 2022. Faye joined Lesley's household aged approximately 10 months from a Border Collie rescue centre to join their other Collie, Fern. After a few teething problems, they become firm friends. Lesley thought that having always done obedience training with her Collies, Faye would soon be entering competitions. How wrong could she be! Although she became an obedient dog, she couldn't think of anything worse than entering a competition - even to please her mum who had rescued her from her miserable time in a kennel. Lesley told everyone that she would take her to Agility - all collies love that. Not at all she couldn't be bothered to jump any jumps even when they had been lowered so she could walk over them! On the other hand, Faye enjoyed chasing squirrels in the woods or going for lovely walks. She found all car journeys so exciting that at times her vocal cords drowned out any music being played. She loved her chickens and would rush straight into their run where, given the opportunity, she would spend hours watching them, her eyes fixed and her teeth chattering in excitement - her idea of heaven! She so loved life and her walks even in her old age. She never won any competition by seeing her so happy made her family happy.

Val Mellish's Barney. When Val Mellish lost her chocolate dog, Buster, many years ago, she was not planning to get another, but her husband Tom missed him so much that they got Barney a black labradoodle around 2010. Tom was not a fit man near the end and Barney gave him so much companionship until Tom's death in October 2020. Barney missed Tom a lot and kept Val company until his joints finally gave out and was given sleep in August 2022. Barney was a real character. He was very large and did his exercises at his pace. Retrieve was his favourite - not very elegant but not lacking in enthusiasm, coming back in his own time. Barney was well-known for his tendency for flatulence - Val always carried a fresh air spray to clear the air for those sitting near him. RIP Barney.

Heather Hardaway, the Club's President, said goodbye to her perfect companion Brendon. His back legs went very suddenly, and Heather made the hardest decision for her but the best one for Brendon. Brendon was acquired by the Club's former President, Bill Hardaway, Heather's husband, to compete in Working Trials. He came from a German line noted for their drive and working ability. Brendon came to club to do his puppy foundation. He was very enthusiastic and lively and embraced puppy training to the full. During walking amongst other dogs and people, he jumped up and caught a handler's scarf - forever known as his Isadora Duncan moment! Bill felt that Brendon was better suited to outside training! Bill

Trained Brendon for working trials and this was not without its risks! While training him to hold an article, Brendon thought the best way of avoiding giving it up was to swallow it! The article was a bar towel which was retrieved after some very expensive surgery. Despite this, Bill went on to achieve success with Brendon qualifying UD Open. Sadly, before Bill could achieve more success with Brendon, he was diagnosed with cancer. Bill's dearest wish was granted, and Heather continued to train and compete with Brendon. She did this with some success and achieved UDX and WD Open with him. However, Heather decided to retire him as he continued to believe that the best thing to do with some articles used in competition was to swallow them! Brendon then blossomed into the most wonderful companion to Heather and her German Shepherd Tessa. After Tessa died, Brendon took up the task of looking after his mum and was devoted to Heather. Brendon always loved people and greeted them with his lifelong enthusiasm. He was the sweetest dog, and his loud bark did mean that people could think he was a guard dog, although they were more likely to be knocked over by him in his rush to cover them in kisses. He was a very special dog and will be greatly missed by not only Heather but all who knew him.

Margaret Reese. We are very sad to report that Margaret, a founder member of the Club died on 31st January 2023. She was a very close friend of Vera Jones, owning a German Shepherd Dog together in partnership. Margaret was a member of the dog demonstration team that would perform in August in Alexandra Park during the fifties. Margaret and Vera, together with other founder members, raised enough money to form Hastings & St Leonards Dog Training Club in 1954. Margaret acquired her first Border Collie from Vera one Christmas, breaking all Vera's rules in selling a puppy at Christmas and to someone with young children. She had no worries as she could not have found a better home, Margaret trained Holly to the highest standard and together they competed in Open and Championship Obedience shows. Margaret was a wonderful trainer with a quiet, kind way which motivated her dogs to do their very best to please her. At her funeral, her son rightly said that her success in competitive Obedience, was equivalent to competing in the Premier League. Margaret could not drive and her wonderful husband, John, would dutifully take her to dog shows throughout the show season and sit patiently in the car while Margaret competed. Margaret went on to compete with two more Border Collies, Ceri and Carly. Margaret looked after her dogs so well that Holly lived to be 18. She bred one litter of puppies, with just two puppies. Both went to Club Members, Floss to Lesley Russell and Quincy to Dinah Miles. As Margaret got older, she changed from Collies to Shelties and began competing with Johnny in Companion Dog Shows where she always came away with lots of rosettes. She and John then moved to Dover to be nearer their daughter and, after Johnny died, Margaret acquired a rescued Sheltie called Sassy who also went on to win many rosettes. After Sassy died, Margaret's health began to decline, and she sadly died at the age of 91. Margaret was a lovely, kind, warm person who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.



Firework Season

The season of Fireworks will be soon upon us and many dog owners will be dreading the stressful effects that they have on their dogs. Here is some advice from the Kennel Club website: www.thekennelclub.org.uk

80 per cent of owners notice a change in their dogs' behaviour during fireworks season and nearly half (48 per cent) say that their dogs are scared by them. If you know your dog is frightened by fireworks then you can help by planning ahead and taking steps to make your dog feel calm, safe and secure.

Before the fireworks begin - helping your dog cope

- ✓ Top up your dog's water bowl. Anxious dogs pant more and become thirsty.
- ✓ Feed your dog a while before you expect any disturbances. Once the fireworks start, your dog may be too anxious to eat.
- ✓ Walk your dog before dusk. It may be some time before it's safe for your dog to venture outside and relieve themselves.
- ✓ Always make sure that your garden is escape proof just in case a firework goes off when you take them into the garden to go to the toilet.

- ✓ Make sure you shut all doors and windows in your home and don't forget to draw the curtains. This will block out any scary flashes of light and reduce the noise level of fireworks. Don't forget to block off cat flaps to stop dogs (and cats) escaping.
- ✓ Make a safe den for your dog to retreat to if they feel scared. You could drape a thick duvet over the top of it to make it more soundproof, but make sure that the duvet is secure and can't fall on to your dog. Fill the den with their favourite blankets, toys, or an item of unwashed clothing to help them feel more secure.
- ✓ If your dog has been very scared of fireworks before then talk to your vet about possible medications or products that can help reduce your dog's anxiety.

How do I calm my dogs down during fireworks?

- ✓ Distract your dog from the noise by having the TV or the radio switched on. If you're going to play music loudly, then make sure it's music that your dog is familiar with and has heard you play before. You don't want your dog to link their fear of fireworks with a new type of music.
- ✓ Try to act and behave as normal, as your dog will pick up on any odd behaviour. Remain calm, happy, and cheerful as this will send positive signals to your dog.
- ✓ Your dog might choose to hide under the bed or behind furniture; if they come to you for comfort, make sure that you give it to them. Ignoring your dog would only make things worse as they wouldn't understand your withdrawal from them.
- ✓ Always reward calm behaviour with dog treats or playing.
- ✓ Never try to force your dog to face their fears - they'll just become more frightened.
- ✓ Never try and tempt them out if they do retreat, as this may cause more stress.
- ✓ Never tell your dog off. This will only make your pet more distressed. It is important to remember that it is natural for a dog to fear loud noises and unfamiliar sights and sounds.
- ✓ If you need to open the front door, shut your dog safely inside a room first.
- ✓ Can dogs go to fireworks displays?
- ✓ Never take your dog to a firework display, even if your dog does not bark or whimper, don't assume they're happy. Excessive yawning and panting can indicate that your dog is stressed.
- ✓ Also, never tie your dog up outside while fireworks are being let off.

What can I give to calm my dog for fireworks anxiety?

If you've previously tried everything and your dog is still stressed, then speak to your vet. They may be able to suggest a medication that helps keep your dog calmer. If you're considering giving your dog any remedies or medications to help them cope with stress, then always speak to your vet first, especially if they have any health problems, or are taking any medication, and always follow the manufacturers' instructions.



Tasty Homemade Dog Treat Recipe: Liver Biscuits

The perfect dog training treat! Your dog will love them!

Ingredients

2 cups of Oats
 450g Liver (chicken, lamb or pig)
 2 Eggs
 Tablespoon of oil

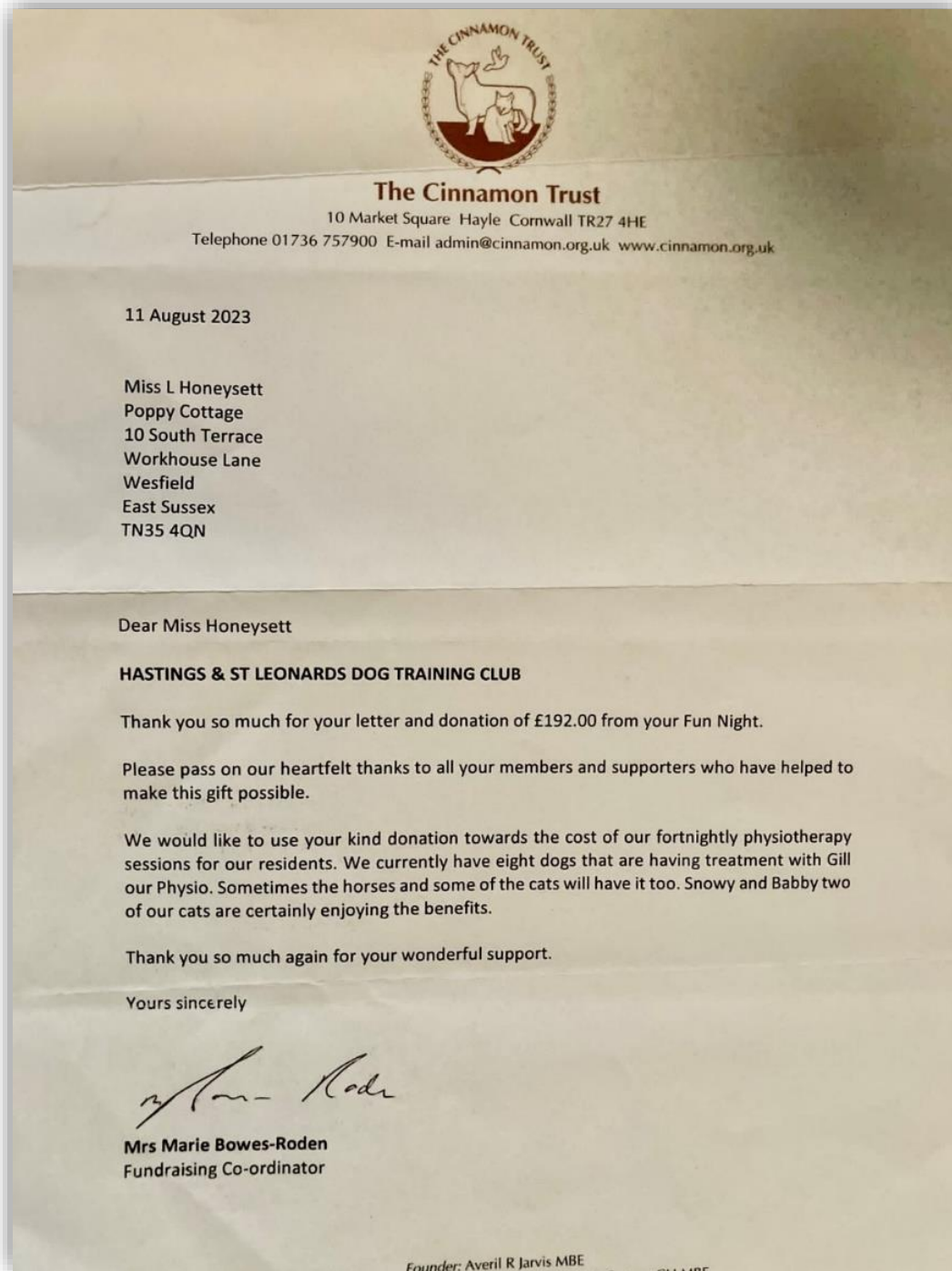
1. Pulse the oats in a blender to grind them into flour.
2. Add the liver, eggs and oil and blend until well combined.
3. Spread the mixture in a shallow tray and bake for 30 minutes at 180c
4. Cut into small squares while still warm.

Thanks

To the highly dedicated trainers who turn up every week, rain, or shine and give their time for free.

To all members who help with the preparation of the hall (putting out chairs, mats etc) at the beginning of classes and who stay behind at the end to put it all away again.

We were very pleased to receive this letter from The Cinnamon Trust thanking us for our donation to their charity:



And finally:

