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CAROLE'S CHIT CHAT

Like any good British person I'm going to have a gripe about this diabolical weather and get it off my chest. We started with the frost before Christmas, that seems ages ago, then we had that beautiful snow but its beauty was short lived. After days of clambering through snow drifts over fallen trees morning and evening to feed horses, sheep, goats and a Jersey calf my gluteus maximus muscles ached and complained bitterly proclaiming how unfit I was. To clamber for just over a mile with dogs would take me almost 40 minutes, then about an hour and a half's work, then home again, by the time I got home I was dying for a cuppa. The dogs thought all this was for their benefit, great fun, slipping and sliding especially when I fell over (several times) into snow drifts. The car was parked on top of the drive for weeks as we have a steep slope down to the house, but like lots of you I'm sure our road was never cleared properly. The one time I saw the snow plough, it shovelled the snow back onto the drive that Roy had just cleared, so out again with the shovels we went, and in the end we ended up with 2 large mounds of snow either side of the drive, a nightmare to reverse into the drive or drive out as you had to cross onto the opposite side of the road. Did you find during that spell of bad weather people spoke to you, drivers

were polite ?

Now we have the RAIN, RAIN and more RAIN. Dogs are wet and muddy, dog blankets seem to be continually in the washing machine, kitchen floors are gritty, cars are wet and smelly, humans are bad tempered. Everywhere is such a mess. Oh for a bit of warmth and sun. The ground where Larry and I were picking-up this winter was so wet, loads of natural springs and with the rain as well it was a nightmare, the beaters had a worse job than the dogs picking-up, they had to work on very slippery wet slopes, climbing through the undergrowth.

Lambing time is upon us so please keep your dogs under control preferably on the lead around farming areas. Having had a dog attack on my own sheep a few years ago, it is very distressing for the farmer and the sheep and could result in your dog being shot.

Club nights are a social night out for some folk which is great, but even in this bad weather dog training can still go one as Gina Pink showed us on Thursday last week. Little exercises whilst in the armchair or even on the toilet, according to Gina, that I haven't tried I must admit. Talking of Gina brings me to CRUFTS, yes it's that time of year again. Gina is judging Heelwork to Music this year followed by a demon-

stration on the Sunday, so good luck my friend and enjoy your time at the NEC. To anyone else who is competing, either in breed or agility (we haven't anyone in obedience there this year) good luck.

The Kennel Club Training organisation award this year was won by Nuneaton DTC, 2nd was Solihull, and 3rd was Fair city. We entered a portfolio in this category for the 2nd time and I am awaiting the working party's comments and suggestions. Thank you to Richard Pen-drill and Patricia Bland for the loads of work putting this portfolio together.

I was reading Dog Training Weekly, bed time reading and came across the article headed "if not in obedience then my dog would have been" I can remember Barbara Sykes on a seminar making us laugh with some of the ideas of relating dogs to humans. For example my own dogs - Larry would be the local playboy, Jack-the-lad, Tosh would be the old gentleman sitting on the park bench in the village watching the world go by grumbling about the youth of today, Scully the BC she would be the bossy female but can sulk, party girl, and Tala he is definitely the awful 2 year old, thinks everyone is his friend and if they won't play or he isn't allowed to do something answers back, give him an inch and he

takes a mile. Try it with your dogs and see what you come up with, it will make you smile.

The heroic actions of War Dog Treo were recognized by the PDSA by giving him the equivalent of the human Victoria Cross. Treo is an 8 year old black Lab Arms and Explosive Search Dog and he received his medal for his work with his handler in Helmand Province, Afganistan in 2008 Well done to Treo. We've always known a dog's sense of smell is so much greater than a human's, just look at the work they can now do detecting cancer and epilepsy in humans, truly man's BEST FRIEND.

On that note, please read your club diary on the back page, don't just file it. We need help with your Companion Dog Show on the 25th April at Bordon, setting up on the evening of

CAROLE'S CHIT CHAT

the 24th, putting up rings, tents etc, the Club buys the beer afterwards. On the 25th there are numerous jobs before the show can start, and also during the day ie. is there someone who would be willing to help with the raffle, taking drinks to the judges, acting as score stewards and ring stewards (you can still work your dog so no excuses). Then at the end of the successful day dismantling everything. Let me know—the more the merrier please.

The Hants Rally is on the 3rd May at Basingstoke. This is a charity event with several clubs participating, I am looking for handlers for Pre-beginners (very easy exercises), Beginners and Novice. If you would like to be considered or are not

sure what it entails come and see me on a Thursday evening or telephone me DON'T be frightened we all have to start somewhere and I promise it will be fun . Your dog must be good at stays, come for a recall, able to do reasonable heelwork on a loose lead and for the higher classes off lead, and retrieve for the higher classes.

The Sponsored walk for The Oldies is to be in the Frensham area led by Len Davis, on the 28th March, forms are available so start getting your sponsors now, don't leave it till the last minute. Remember the final total last year came to £800, well worth the effort.

If you are hoping to do some gardening, filling containers, mind your dogs as daffodil and hyacinth bulbs are poison, as are lots of shrubs all very tempting to the young dog watching Mum or Dad planting and then removing them as you silly people planted them in the wrong place, so PUP will just help you and take them to a different place.

I think I have waffled on for long enough so happy dogging,

Carole

The Christmas Party



per squares, chased after treats under cups, danced around the hall to music and froze on the spot when it stopped.

The dogs all won prizes and some ate too many, especially my two who couldn't stop stuffing their faces.

After all the games we piled into the small hall for a wonderful

ious quiz, quite tricky this year but I'll never forget that Reindeer beginning with a C – 'Cupid' of course!

Now girls, how about a 'Calendar Girls' style calendar for The Haslemere Dog Club next year?

I think the gun dogs would be a perfect foil don't you?

Debra Stroud

December the 17th turned out to be the best dog party ever. Wham, bang, crash and lots of wallop!

All our favourite trainers and helpers were there: Patricia, Carole, Gaye, Beryl, Helen, Sue, Judy, Pat, Norman, and Richard, along with Ray and the Band, organising and working hard to make everything a huge success.

The atmosphere was buzzing, full of laughter, smiles, funny hats and big bows and that was just the dogs. We played lots of games, all devised and put together by the marvellous group of trainers.

We all stood on ever decreasing newspa-

feast of Christmas goodies that everyone had brought for us.

True to form, Richard chose a particularly tasty Spanish Tempranillo called 'Marques De Carano'. They are still selling it in Waitrose if you want to try it again.

Pets win prizes and humans too with Pat and Norman's brilliant raffle – who won the dog lips ?

Next, came the ingen-



WANTED!

RAFFLE PRIZES FOR
COMPANION DOG SHOW
SUNDAY 25TH APRIL 2010

PLEASE BRING PRIZES
TO CLUB EVENINGS OR ON THE DAY

Agility With Amanda Rogers

Agility Section have been most fortunate to have Amanda Rogers instructing both the Improvers and the Competition classes this term. Amanda has been competing and instructing Agility for nearly thirty years (she must have started *very* young) and is now one of the top judges in the country. She is a member and regular instructor at North Downs DTC, so we are grateful that she has been able to give up one of her few remaining free evenings to come to us on a Monday.

Amanda currently has four dogs of her own (two Border Collies & two Shelties) not counting her son's competitions.

and husband's dogs. Her husband, Arthur, also competes and judges and they frequently vie for first place at Grade 6 is in their blood! Amanda says that her



Amanda with her dogs Jade, Case, Kodak & Denby

favourite memory is of walking out in front of thousands at Crufts last year to judge Agility. What a moment! And to keep things in the family she alternated mornings and afternoons with Arthur.

Amanda will take classes for the rest of this session, but will be unable to continue during the main competition season due to her judging and competing commitments. We are hoping to persuade her to return in September. Her terrific breadth of experience has given a welcome boost to the club's teaching, with many members delighted by their progress under her instruction.

*Did you hear about the cowboy who got himself a dachshund?
Everyone kept telling him to get a long, little doggie.*

Hampshire Rally

The Hampshire Rally obedience competition will be on Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May in the Basingstoke area. As we are members of this group we provide a Judge + Stewards as well as a team. Can you help with anything?

We know it's a Bank Holiday but if granny is coming to stay why not take her along too?

STEWARDING

We have Jane Wood acting as Judge - some of you know her as a kindly Examiner for the Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme as she has tested us on a number of occasions - without scaring anyone! She will need a Scoreboard Steward - you just need to be able to do some arithmetic - no pure and applied mathematics required. She will also need a Ring Steward and here you do need to know about Competition Obedience and how it works.

If you can help on this - please contact Carole West.

TEAM WORK

We would also like to put forward a Team comprising 3 of each of these levels: Pre-Beginners, Beginners and Novice. For details of what you have to do for these levels ask Carole West at Obedience classes. Some tidy heel work on and off lead, recalls, stays and that sort of thing that we regularly practice in all our obedience classes.

If you would like to be considered for the team, again please contact Carole on 01428 723572 or email carols.west@virgin.net

It's Snow Fun



Hey it's getting a bit deep!



What's down here?



I'm getting a bit old for this so I think I will have a rest!

What an Exciting Time Ahead

Sunday 28th March - Sponsored Walk

This Sponsored walk is in aid of our Charity of the Year, The Oldies Club, and will start and end at a convenient place - a pub! The walk will start at 10am at the Holly Bush pub, Shortfield Common Road in Frensham and is being organised by Len Davis so please contact him if you need any more information 01252 793489 or email lendavis@talk21.com. Sponsorship forms are readily available at both Agility and Obedience but see Len or Judy Steel if you can't lay your hands on one. Now if you can't do the walk, which will be approximately 6 miles, why not sponsor someone who can. Only fit dogs should come along and certainly no dogs under a year old - we don't want any damage done to young joints. Sandwiches and snacks will be available at the pub but please let Len know if you will be ordering these so that he can let the landlord know approximate numbers. And, there's always an AND - the first drink back at the pub is on the Club. What an incentive to come along and raise money. If you have a blue club shirt, do wear it and (yet another AND) if you don't have one and would like to buy one, please contact Patricia Bland on 01428 685154 or email p.bland@btconnect.com.

Thursday 15th April - Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme

We will be running both Bronze and Sil-

ver on this Thursday evening so the numbers must be limited or the poor Examiner, Graham Everitt, will be exhausted! We will start promptly at 7pm with the Bronze test for a maximum of 8 handlers and try to aim for an 8pm start for the Silver test for a maximum of 6 handlers. Please see Beryl Greenslade if you would like to enter for these and ensure you have the right paperwork so you know what to expect. Don't forget you must have a poo-bag with you, work without

we've moved from May to April - mark Sunday 25th April down in your diaries and do come along. We have lots of classes to suit everyone - Pedigree for all sorts of breeds, Novelty for the Waggiest Tail, Best Crossbreed and other classes including, new for this year, an Irish Brace class for two dogs of different breeds or types as well as the usual Brace for two dogs of the same breed. Naturally, we have the Obedience Classes but you have to look at the schedule for details - these are an ideal way to start your Competition Obedience career! We will also be running a Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bronze test session. These schedules are again available at both Agility and Obedience and if you can't find one lying around, just ask any of the Committee. We will be setting up rings and tents on the Saturday evening so if you can help with this do let Carole West know on 01428 723572 or email carols.west@virgin.net. If you can give a helping hand on the Sunday at the Show, when you're not busy in your class then we can easily find you a job. If you don't fancy entering but want to be there, then do join us and you can watch how it's all done to encourage you to try another time - and help out with anything - you don't need to be an expert Competition Obedience person to give a judge a cuppa now do you?

Oldies Club

titbits and have the correct ID tag - this must have your name and address, including post code, although you can abbreviate your address to show your house name or number and postcode. Putting your telephone number or mobile number on it is a good idea but not obligatory. Do you know there can be a fine of £5,000 if your ID is wrong!

Sunday 25th April - Companion Dog Show

This Show is always well supported by the Club and others and we want to make sure this year is no exception. This year it will be at the same venue, Bordon & Oakhanger Sports Club, Bolley Avenue, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 9HG but

Book Sales

Hands off! No - this is not an admonishment to you but the title of a small book that we have for sale. Although aimed at our Puppy, Junior and Bronze Obedience classes it will be of interest to all of you as it covers simple, gentle ways to train your dog at home and is by a brilliant obedience trainer - Sarah Whitehead. At only £3 a copy, this little red book will keep you on the straight and narrow if you are new to training and remind you oldies of the things you have forgotten and therefore slipped into bad habits! These books are for sale at both Agility and Obedience.

What we did

Portfolio for the Kennel Club Carole mentioned our entry to the Kennel for the Good Citizen Dog Scheme award for Clubs and this is available for you to browse through at Club - just let Carole or Patricia know and they will make sure it is there for you. It makes interesting reading and you may be amazed at just what we pack into a year - just a shame we didn't a prize for it.

Notice Boards

Notice Boards Please take a look at the boards at both Agility and Obedience to see what we are up to. The Obedience board is now placed in the outer hallway so you can check it out whilst waiting to come in to your class. Also check out the paperwork on the desk - there are details of events which you won't want to miss. Also in the Obedience hallway you will sometimes find details of Pets As Therapy - see Patricia Bland if you are interested in becoming a volunteer as some of our members already are and check out their website on www.petsastherapy.org.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

Monday 1st	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 4th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 8th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 11th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 15th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 18th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 22nd	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 25th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Sunday 28th	Charity Walk Start 10 am Holly Bush Frensham Sponsorship form enclosed
Monday 29th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre

APRIL

Thursday 1st	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 5th	No Classes Easter
Thursday 8th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 12th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 15th	Kennel Club Good Citizen Bronze & Silver tests Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 19th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 22nd	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Sunday 25th	Companion Dog Show at Bordon & Oakhanger Sports Club
Monday 26th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 29th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall

MAY

Monday 3rd	No classes Bank Holiday - Hampshire Rally see page 4
Thursday 6th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 10th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 13th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 17th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 20th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 24th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 27th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 31st	No classes Bank Holiday

JUNE

Thursday 3rd	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall
Monday 7th	Agility Training Priory Equestrian Centre
Thursday 10th	Obedience Training Grayshott Village Hall