



NEWSLETTER

Christmas 2011



IMPORTANT NOTICE RE CLASSES FOR 2012

The prices of our obedience and agility classes have remained at £4 per class for over three years. Due to rising costs (repairs to agility equipment, new equipment, gas bottles for the barn etc), the committee has reluctantly agreed that the cost per class should rise to £5 with effect from 1st January 2012.

The club is extremely fortunate in that we do not have to pay anything for the hire of the barn or the field which Mary & Mervyn very generously allow the club to use for free. Nor do we pay trainers' salaries like other Dog Training establishments have to. The committee feels that by increasing the cost per class to £5, the club will still remain VERY price competitive with our neighbours and other dog training facilities and hopefully will not prove too expensive for our members to afford.

A six week obedience course will therefore cost £30

A ten week agility course will therefore cost £50

One to one agility sessions with Cliff will cost £15 per half hour

Obedience classes will recommence week beginning Monday 9th January 2012

Agility classes will recommence weekend of 7th/8th January 2012

NB Some of the agility groups will be swapping around, so please ensure you know which class you will be in and at what time your new class will be.

Annual membership remains the same, at £5, and is due in January 2012.

If you are receiving this newsletter as a printed copy and you have access to email, could you please let us have your email address so that future editions can be sent electronically, thus saving on paper and postage.

We are keen to hear of members' successes at shows and competitions. If you have any news to share, or items for sale or have anything you feel could be included on our new website, please contact Lynn on 01784 255719 or email lynn_gibney@talktalk.net so that they can be included in the next edition of the newsletter.

Thank you

KENNEL CLUB GOOD CITIZENS AWARDS

Congratulations to the following dogs and handlers that have passed the Kennel Club Good Citizens Awards since our last Newsletter.

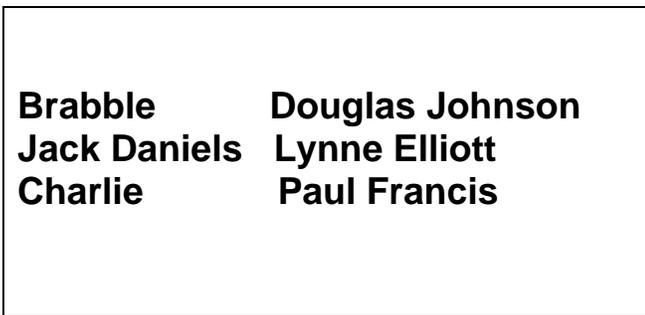
Puppy Foundation (October 2011)



**Troy
Arnie
Buddy
Flo
Maisie
Calvin**

**Scott Harries
Simon Whitney
John & Jeanette Fleming
Ryan Bentley
Annette Taylor
Suzanne Louis**

Bronze Award (October 2011)



**Brabble
Jack Daniels
Charlie**

**Douglas Johnson
Lynne Elliott
Paul Francis**



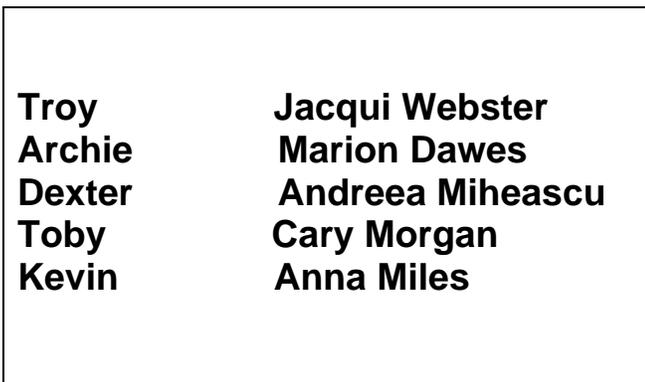
Bronze Award (October 2011)



**Bertie
Scout
Poppie
Suzie**

**Jill Britton
Russell Seekins
Phill Steptoe
Sally Steptoe**

Gold Award (November 2011)



**Troy
Archie
Dexter
Toby
Kevin**

**Jacqui Webster
Marion Dawes
Andreea Miheascu
Cary Morgan
Anna Miles**



Agility News

CHANGES TO KENNEL CLUB AGILITY REGULATIONS FOR 2012

A number of changes to the Agility Regulations have been approved to come into force from 1st January 2012.

The changes relate to the design and construction of the weave poles obstacle; the use of lower hurdles and A-frame and a reduced length long jump in special classes; and clarification that competitors should run as close as possible to their drawn running order.

From January, weave poles used at Kennel Club licensed shows must conform to the revised specifications (precise details of which are given in the 'Regulation Amendments' below). The main changes are that poles will have to be spaced exactly 600 mm apart; the minimum diameter of poles will be increased (from 19 mm to 32 mm); and there is a new requirement that weave bases must be supported by bars extending on alternate sides, so that a dog going through the weaves normally will not have to step on or over the bars.

A second amendment sanctions the use of lowered A-frames and shortened long jumps as well as lower hurdles in 'All Sorts', 'Veterans' and similar special classes intended for older or inexperienced dogs. The actual heights (and length of the long jump) to be used must be specified in advance in the show schedule. It should be noted that only the specified obstacles may be changed; obstacles such as the tyre, the dog walk or the wishing well are not included, although the wall is defined in the regulations as a hurdle and may be lowered.

The final amendment clarifies that competitors are required to run as close to their drawn running order as possible, and that shows may report deliberate or persistent failure to comply to the Kennel Club.

Revised *Agility and Flyball Regulations 2012* booklets will be published in early January and will be available from the Kennel Club online via the website shop priced £1.50

The precise wording of the amendments to the Kennel Club Agility and Flyball Regulations ('H') is available upon request from Lynn Gibney.

News From Around the Shows:

Reading Show 17th September

Beginners Steeplechase - 1st Place Mackie handled by Jackie Bulmer – **WELL DONE JACKIE!!!**



CHRISTMAS STARS!!!!



Two Stars For Christmas.

Applause and praise go to the two youngest members of the agility classes -

Faith Rowe with her Beagle Roxy &

Emily Stevenson with her Schnauzer Maddie.

Both breeds are very hard to work when off lead particularly in a field with so much of interest to them. Both Faith and Emily have worked very hard with their dogs in all weathers, week after week and are now able to get around full courses consistently with a smile on their faces and a tail wagging dog which is lovely to see.



Well Done Girls from all at Laleham Dog Training Club.
Keep It Up.



**HAVE YOU BEEN INSPIRED BY THE AGILITY RESULTS IN
PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS? OR WONDERED WHAT IT WOULD BE
LIKE TO TAKE PART IN THE AGILITY DEMONSTRATIONS AT
THE EGHAM SHOW?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY A FUN WAY TO KEEP BOTH YOUR
DOG, AND YOU, FIT?
THEN WHY NOT TRY AGILITY WITH YOUR DOG??**

Agility is fun and mentally stimulating (for both dog and handler!). Any dog, of any breed and any age (must be a minimum of 12 months old, but no upper age limit), can show an aptitude for agility. In the highest class at the club we have border collies (obviously!!), but also a rough collie, a boxer and a miniature poodle! We also have Cavalier Spaniels, a beagle, a schnauzer, labradors, a Lagotto, golden retrievers, Staffordshire bull terriers and even a Bouvier de Flandres all at varying levels in the different classes that we run. So whatever breed of dog you have, so long as it is over 12 months of age, has a good “wait” and a good “recall” it can have a go at agility.

We are offering a 5 week Beginners’ Taster course in January 2012, costing £25. The classes will be held on Saturday mornings from 10.00 am till 11.00 am. Space is limited (maximum of 5-6 dogs in the class) so if you are interested in a fun way to exercise both your dog – and you – please contact Lynn Gibney for more details.

CHRISTMAS PARTY!!

As there are so many club members, we will be holding TWO Christmas parties – one will be on Tuesday 13th December from 7pm to 9pm for anyone who does obedience classes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays – the second will be on Friday 16th December from 7pm to 9pm for anyone who does obedience on Thursdays and for all agility class members – if you are not currently in a class at the moment then please contact Lynn Gibney to check which night to come.

As usual there will be fun and games for the dogs, prizes for the best fancy dress and for the best trick, plus festive food and drink.

Come and join in the fun!



NEWS RELEASE

Forget spending hours asking probing questions and checking Facebook profiles to find out what a potential partner is really like – a new study has shown that you need look no further than a person's choice of dog breed to reveal their true personality.

The Bath Spa University study, carried out in association with the Kennel Club's Discover Dogs event that took place on 12-13 November, found that a person's choice of dog breed is likely to indicate how they rank in the five common personality traits – conscientiousness, intelligence and creativity, emotional stability, extroversion and agreeableness.

The study found that extroverted owners are more likely to opt for pastoral and utility breeds (such as the Bulldog, owned by Winston Churchill and the Pembroke Welsh Corgi, owned by the Queen), and the most creative and intelligent are likely to opt for toy breeds, such as the Pug, owned by fashion designer Valentino, or the Pomeranian, owned by Sir Isaac Newton.

The most agreeable are owners of Gundogs such as the Cocker Spaniel owned by Oprah Winfrey and the Labrador, owned by Gwyneth Paltrow.

The study split the 210 pedigree dog breeds recognised by the Kennel Club into their seven official groups (utility, toy, pastoral, gundog, hound, working and terrier) and found that when it came to dog ownership:

- **Pastoral and Utility breed owners score highest on Extroversion**
- **Gundogs and Toy owners are highest on Agreeableness**
- **Utility dog owners top score on Conscientiousness**
- **Hound dog owners have the highest Emotional Stability**
- **Toy dog owners come out highest on Intelligence and Creativity**

The dog owners were measured against a control group of non dog owners. No dog owners, within any of the groups, were found to have personality problems when measured for the five major character traits, against the general population.

Dr Lance Workman, head of psychology at Bath Spa University, who supervised the study, said: "This study indicates that you can tell a lot about somebody's personality by the breed of dog that they choose to own. It seems that certain personality types are subconsciously drawn to certain breeds.

"The choice could arguably be down to the lifestyle that people lead and how their chosen dog fits their lifestyle. It is easy to imagine a creative type, who is open to new experiences, owning a toy dog, who was bred for companionship and who can easily move around with the owner."

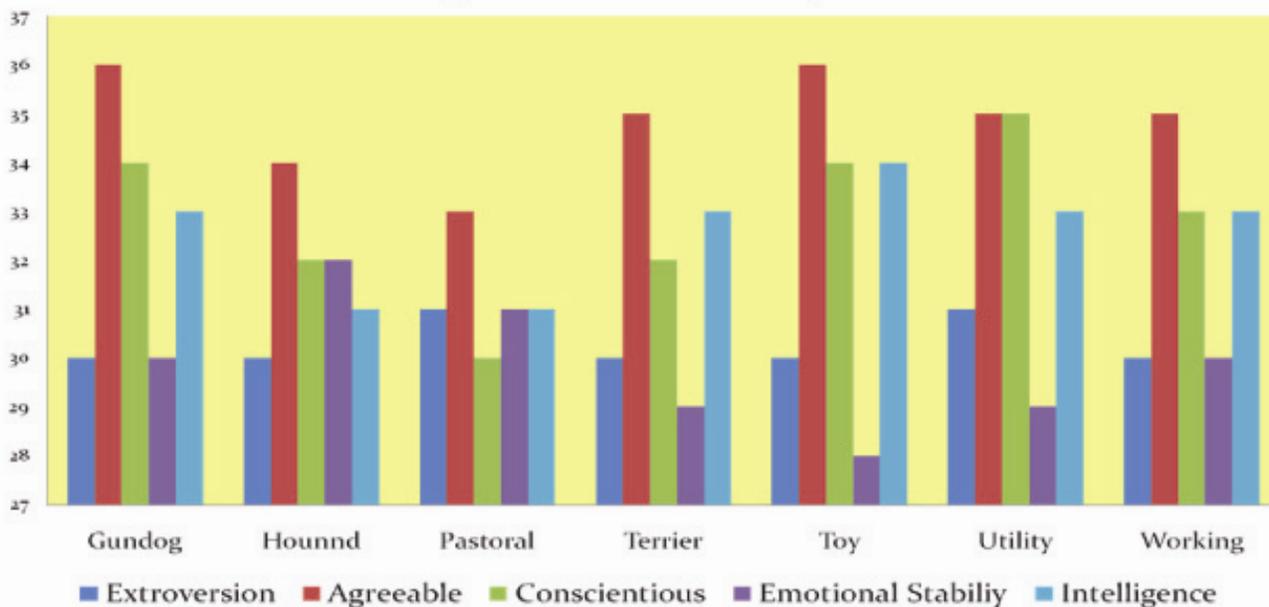
A study by Bath Spa University last year found that dog owners were nicer or 'more agreeable' than the general population and that people were able to correctly match dogs with their owners, based on the way that they looked. But this study shows that the similarities between dogs and their owners may be more than skin deep.

Dr Workman added: "It would be interesting to look at the individual breeds of dog, within each group and to analyse the personalities of their owners. It is possible to surmise that people are being drawn to dogs with similar personalities to their own. For example, hound dog owners are the most emotionally stable and this might be reflected in their dogs being quite stable of character."

Caroline Kisko, Secretary of the Kennel Club which organises the Discover Dogs event taking place at Earls Court, London this weekend, said: "Our Discover Dogs event introduces dog lovers and the dog owners of the future to almost 200 different breeds of dog. Choosing a dog is like choosing a partner - you have to get one that is the perfect fit for you and will suit your lifestyle and personality."

“This study provides a really helpful insight into which dog breeds might suit which owners. We are forever saying that people should base their dog choice on more than what breed a celebrity owns, or which one they have seen on TV, and this study may be very helpful in ensuring that dogs find the right homes.”

The Big Five Personality factors



LDTc 2012 CALENDAR

The 2012 Calendar is now ready to order. A sample calendar is on the notice board in the barn so you can have a look before you order.

Calendars are only printed to order. There are NO spare copies, so if you don't order one, you won't be able to buy one.

Please complete the form below and return to Lynn Gibney, together with your payment (cash or cheque payable to LDTc).

Handler Name.....

Dog's Name.....

No of calendars required.....

Payment enclosed @ £7 per calendar.....