



NEWSLETTER

February 2012

CHARITY DONATIONS

At the last committee meeting in 2011, on behalf of ALL the club members, the committee voted to continue with the Club's VIP Sponsorship of 5 of the Sanctuary Hounds at **Wimbledon Greyhound Trust** for a second year at a cost of £500.

We are therefore proud to let you know that we are continuing to sponsor: NALA, MAGGIE, TOPSY & TEDDY; and for the first time we are sponsoring MAX. Details of all these dogs, their life histories (including how they came to be at the Trust) and their photos can be found on the notice board in the barn.

In memory of Joan Petipher who sadly and unexpectedly died last year in June, the committee decided to donate £750 to a fairly new charity that has been set up to train and provide dogs to assist disabled servicemen and women.

The charity is called **HOUNDS FOR HEROES** and they are in the process of training five puppies called Monty, Juno, Colonel, Flanders & Yomper so that once fully trained they will be able to assist by opening doors, emptying washing machines, getting money out of a cash point as well as providing companionship and support for young soldiers seriously hurt in Afghanistan and other conflicts.

Joan loved all animals, but especially dogs, so the committee felt that this charity was worthy of receiving a donation in her memory.

Details can be found on the notice board in the barn.

Having raised funds in the past for **Hearing Dogs for Deaf People**, the committee also agreed to sponsor EDEN and COCO, two of the puppies being trained to provide invaluable assistance to people who are deaf or hearing impaired. Our sponsorship will total £240 throughout 2012. Photos of the two puppies and details of their progress can be found on the notice board in the barn.

We also have two fabulous cuddly toys to be won in our competition. See back page.

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

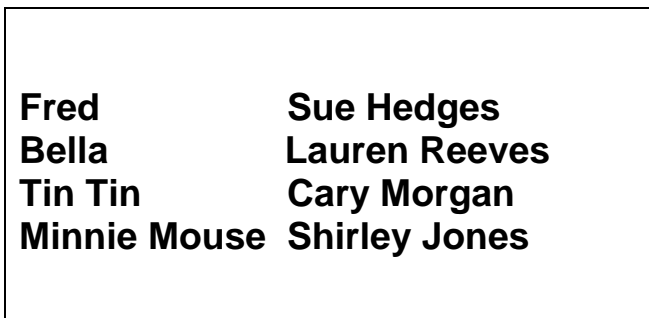
Congratulations to the following dogs and handlers that have passed the Kennel Club Good Citizens Awards since our last Newsletter.

Bronze Award (December 2011)



Molly	John Emmens
Minnie Mouse	Shirley Jones
Fred	Sue Hedges
Bella	Lauren Reeves

Silver Award (December 2011)



Fred	Sue Hedges
Bella	Lauren Reeves
Tin Tin	Cary Morgan
Minnie Mouse	Shirley Jones



Silver Award (December 2011)



Brabble	Douglas Johnson
Poppie	Phill Steptoe
Bertie	Jill Britton
Suzie	Sally Steptoe
Scout	Russell Seekins

Agility News

In House Results:

Carol's Level 4 Class had their end of course competition before Christmas. As usual, it was a very tricky course. Congratulations to the following:

- 1st Place - Jack handled by Debs Fawcus
- 2nd Place - Oscar handled by Lynn Gibney
- 3rd Place - Bella handled by Jackie Candlin
- 4th Place - Archie handled by Clare Pitts

NB – One to One agility sessions with Cliff will be at £12.50 per half hour – NOT £15 as previously advised. Please book directly with Cliff.



TROPHY PRESENTATION

Following on from the Christmas Newsletter, wherein Emily Stevenson and Faith Rowe were announced as the Club's Christmas Stars for 2011, at a presentation at the Christmas Party, both girls were presented with trophies in recognition of their hard work and effort in agility.

Well done to both of them.

COULD YOU BE AN ASSISTANT TRAINER?

The Club is proving so popular at the moment that we will soon be running 8 obedience classes, plus 6 agility classes!! For those of you who do obedience, you will know that when there are more than 5 or 6 in a class, we have an assistant helping the main trainer so that the dogs are kept occupied and don't get bored waiting for their turn.

Currently, the three obedience trainers are Jill Ambridge, myself and Cliff Mott. And we currently have Suzanne Louis, Barbara Endersby and Becky Beauchamp learning to be assistant trainers. We never throw anybody in at the deep end and certainly don't expect assistants to suddenly have the depth of knowledge and experience to answer people's problems with their dogs. Instead, as trainers, Jill, Cliff and I show the assistants what to do, and how to do it and start off by getting them to assist with the simpler tasks – like helping get equipment out, by watching the owners do the handling and inspection of their own dogs, by timing half of the dogs for their stays etc.

The Club is happy to pay for appropriate training courses for the trainers and assistants and we have an internal policy of each assistant working with the different trainers to see our different training methods (we all have different ways of doing things!). The club does offer a small monetary recompense to cover expenses – and that can help to pay for your own dog's courses.

If anyone has passed at least the bronze award i.e. has experience with their own dog, and would like to become an assistant trainer, then the club has a need for someone to assist me on a Wednesday evening with a bronze class from 7pm to 8pm starting in a couple of weeks time.

If you think you might be interested and can commit to assisting with at least a six week course, then please let me know and we can have a chat.

Many thanks, Lynn Gibney

COMPETITION

“SPOT THE DOG”

We have some lovely prizes to give away to the winners of this competition:

Two soft toy dogs from Hearing Dogs for Deaf People
Notepads and pens, a puzzle and a mirror from Wimbledon Greyhound Welfare
& some yummy dog treats

All you have to do is mark with an X the spot where you think the dog’s nose is in the picture below.

Only one entry per club member.

The centre of the X nearest to the centre of the dog’s nose will be the winner.

Please cut off the bottom half of the page and return it to me – or send it back electronically once you have marked your X on it.



Entry submitted by: -.....