



Westbury & District Canine Society

Autumn/Winter Newsletter

Kennel Club Good Citizens Puppy Foundation Course

On Wednesday 27th September the owners and dogs graduate from our Kennel Club Puppy Foundation Course run by Ann Swift and Jackie Sheppard. Well done to you all!



Kennel Club Good Citizens Bronze

This is now running from 6.30pm to 7.50pm (one class from 6.30pm to 7.10pm and the other from 7.10pm to 7.50pm.) On this I can speak from personal experience as I have Pippin (my hooligan puppy Italian Spinone on the first class), it is great fun and very educational. There is no pressure, you proceed at your own pace and we will have an assessment as and when have a number of dogs we consider ready as we know all dogs (and owners!) proceed at their own pace!

If you are interested in taking part in the Bronze Good Citizens Course, please contact our secretary Jackie on secretary@wanddcs.org.uk or phone 01225 753960. We will be running another Puppy Foundation Course at some point in the future, so let Jackie know if you are interested in that as well.

The "C" Word

On **13th December** we will be holding a Christmas Match, this is open to all members with KC Registered dogs that are 4 months or older. This year, as we have had a good turn out for the Matches we have split the Christmas Match and the Christmas Party, so please don't let us down and let's finish the year with a good turn out at the Christmas Match Night. After that Match, we close for Christmas.

Our first event in 2024 is **10th January 2024** which will be our Christmas Party. There is no charge, all members and all dogs are welcome, there will be party games for the dogs and a quiz for the owners! There will be Christmas food and we hope you will join us for a relaxing and fun time! More details nearer the time!

Training will then restart on **17th January 2024**

The next event we have lined up is a **Show Handling Workshop** that will take place at Chapmanslade on Saturday 13th April. There will be two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. This will be limited to 12 places per session. Prices, times and more details will follow. If you are interested, please drop me an e-mail (chair@wanddcs.org.uk)

Committee

I have a very hard working committee, but as ever, it would be nice to have more people on the committee. If you would like to get involved with this society, please feel free to have a chat with me at one of our training sessions, e-mail me on chair@wanddcs.org.uk or call me on 01225 753960. We appreciate that we are all busy people, but at the same time, “Many hands make light work” or “The more the merrier” either way, you would be welcome in any capacity.

Future Activities

The phrase “**Evolve or die!**” is quite trite and much overused, however the committee recognise that these days, a society that relies entirely on ringcraft is likely to be short lived, hence the Good Citizens and Puppy Foundations Course. The committee also recognise that we have to keep on looking at different offerings and what I would like from our members is feedback on the following three suggestions of future activities. Two of them will only be “taster” sessions, but we consider that it is important for our members (if they want) to try different activities with their dogs. The third could be run by the committee and will be an ongoing activity. So, I would like your feedback please. The activities are detailed below and on the following page there are a few words about them, if you are not familiar with them.

Please let me know if you would be interested in attending any or all of them, and if you have any experience with them and would be prepared to help out?

E-mail me at chair@wanddcs.org.uk with your views please.

Potential Activities (Details on the next page)

- * Taster Session—Mantrailing
- * Taster Session—Scentwork
- * Ongoing—Rally Obedience (known as Rally or Rally-O)

And Finally

Thank you to all the members for your attendance and support and to the committee and trainers for all their help in making this society a success. The club has more than doubled in members since March and it is a team effort!

Peter Sheppard
Chair

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Mantrailing

All humans have a unique smell made up of sweat, skin rafts and hormones. Using your dog's amazingly powerful nose, and your unique aroma, Mantrailing teaches your dog to identify the unique smell using a scent article and follow the trail to earn their reward.

Mantrailing is a scent-work sport that offers a brilliant way to have fun with your dog and build a great sense of unity and achievement together as a team. The dog will learn to find a specific missing person using your dogs amazing sense of smell. This addictive pet dog sport gives your dog an outlet for all their energy, and you'll both have a great time in the process.

For more details—<https://www.lucywarddogtraining.co.uk/mantrailing/>

Scentwork

Immerse yourself in the world of Scentwork UK, the hub of sniffing adventures for dogs in the United Kingdom.

At Scentwork UK, we bring the thrill of professional detection tasks into the realm of everyday dog training and competitions. Our training mirrors the exciting nose work undertaken by professional canine squads – from customs and excise dogs sniffing out concealed goods, to bomb detection dogs securing our public spaces.

Scentwork is delivered through an array of organised trials and an extensive network of experienced trainers.

For more details—<https://scentworkuk.com/>

Rally Obedience

Rally involves you and your dog working as a team to navigate a course with numbered signs indicating different exercises to perform; think of it as a sort of 'obedience exercise obstacle course' including simple exercises.

Rally (or 'Rally O' as it's known in the USA) is a canine activity derived from the heelwork elements of competitive obedience. However it differs from obedience, primarily in that competitors and dogs attempt a preset course with signs placed at up to 18 stations along the course, requiring them to perform one of around 80 different preset exercises. The selection of exercises and design of the course is at the judge's discretion. Each individual round is performed at a brisk pace and takes around three minutes.

Rally is fun – no matter what experience level you or your dog have, it's easy to get involved, start training and then, competing. Your dog does not have to be pedigree dog to take part, however it must be registered with The Kennel Club on either the Breed Register or the Activity Register.

For more details—<https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/events-and-activities/rally/>