

Westbury & District Canine Society Newsletter

Winter 2009/2010



A Happy new Year to All our Readers!

Well I hope it is not too late to say that now as it will probably be February before this newsletter hits the "sign in" table at Chapmanslade. Can you also note that there is a new option on the membership forms for 2010 that allow you to receive the newsletter (3 per year) by post for the sum of £2. Alternatively you can collect them from Chapmanslade at Ringcraft or Match Nights, finally, if you put an e-mail address on your membership form, you will automatically receive a soft copy. This soft copy will be as a "pdf" and you will need Adobe Reader (available free off the web) to access it.

2010 is the WDCS Silver Anniversary and we are looking to have some special events to mark the occasions. What I would like to do is put together a "History of the Society", so can all you founder and long standing members please see what clips, picture and memories you have, so I can collate them into a special Newsletter.

Finally, the newsletter is about the society, which is YOU! If you have an article you wish to write, please feel free to send it to me, or if you have pictures to include, send them to the e-mail address below or if in hard copy, pass them to me at Chapmanslade and I will scan them in.

Peter Sheppard, Committee Member Press & PR (peter@westburycaninesociety.org)

Annual General Meeting

The Westbury & District Canine Society Annual General Meeting will take place at Chapmanslade Village Hall on February 24th 2010 starting at 8pm. At the conclusion of the AGM the cups for Show Points in 2009 will be presented.

Jackie Sheppard, Honorary Secretary

Your Committee Needs You!

Have you ever thought why the Westbury and District Society runs so smoothly? (Oh yes it does!) How, in the past twelve months we have organised Ringcraft, Matchnights, Puppy Training, a Supermatch with Chippenham, Companion Show and Open Show and you have the 2009 Christmas Match to come, together with food, games and its "Parade of Champions".

It's done by your committee, they are just a bunch of society members who get together and organise and manage these events. It's not an onerous job, we meet about every 6 weeks and we're involved in taking money, setting up and taking down after Ringcraft, stewarding or helping at Match Nights and at the Open Shows, managing the raffle and making tea!

Every year a few committee members step down and we look for replacements. You don't have to know huge amounts about showing, agility or obedience, just a willingness to help out and share the load. I promise that we won't give you anything you can't cope with and there is always help available.

Our AGM is in February and that is where we look to have new committee members appointed, all you need is a Proposer and Secunder and of course a willingness to help! If you want to find out more about it, please speak to one of the people below and they will be happy to help. Alternatively, button hole a committee member at either Ringcraft or at a Match Night.

Go on, it's fun and you will get a real buzz out of it! (Honest!)

Gary Gray (President)	01380 850483
Jackie Sheppard (Secretary)	01225 753960
Peter Sheppard (Press & PR)	01225 753960

2009 Open Show

This happened on September 20th 2009 and was held at West Wilts Equestrian centre near Holt. There were in excess of 400 entries in 167 classes, the **Best in Show** was won by Labrador Retriever "Lembas Blonde on Blonde to Fyldefair" and the **Best Puppy in Show** was won by Miniature Schnauzer "Risepark Marksman at Kopykats For details of the Group Winners have a look at the society website – www.westburycaninesociety.org

This year's Open Show will take place at the Leighton Leisure Centre at Westbury on Sunday September 19th 2009. Schedules will be available in hard copy and on the website from about May time.

Please note that this is a new venue.

Ch Stormfield Seiso at Charson - Top Briard 2009!



WELL ! what a year, after the sudden loss of our Ditto (2nd Top Briard 2007) at the start of the show season, we certainly didn't expect his son to become top winning Briard in 2009.

We are so pleased and proud to own such a lovely dog especially as he is not yet 2 years old. We received a nice letter from Dog World the other day confirming his Top Dog status which we have only waited 20 years to achieve. We love him to bits.....

Sonya Hillier

Roy Harding 1922- 2009



In Roy, Westbury and District Canine Society has lost a great friend, who served on the Committee for many years and whose advice and support started a many a newcomer to the world of show dogs on the road to success.

I first met Roy and Mary in the days when Westbury Dog Club met at the football ground – I was newly returned to the area after eighteen years as an Air Force wife, and had just begun to show my young Samoyed, Danny. Roy, along with founder Betty Ivin, did much of the training, and his enthusiasm and support did much to help me on my way. Their kindness and friendship meant a great deal. I was a complete coward at driving myself to new venues, but Roy would go through the route with me – sometimes even let me follow him (he did rather enjoy losing me on the way!).

When the club had to leave the football ground, and was re-started at Chapmanslade as Westbury and District Canine Society, Mary and Roy were the most loyal and hard-working of Committee members, Mary being our secretary for many years. Roy's love and understanding of dogs meant his introduction to Ringcraft was fun for puppies and owners alike. He will always be remembered for his annual turn as Father Xmas at the annual party!

When I first met them, Mary and Roy were showing Saint Bernards – I especially remember the wonderful Snorbitz., later on, they had great success with their Bernese Mountain Dogs – a love which never left them. In later years they showed Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, again with some success. Roy was also often called upon to judge, and his experience again was passed on to many of us who went on to judge. His proudest moment, he told me, was being asked to judge Saint Bernards at Paignton Championship Show.

Sadly in later years, Roy found it increasingly hard to get around, and was unable to come to shows or club nights, but he did not allow this to slow him down. He got himself a motorised scooter and could be seen around Trowbridge greeting his many friends – he was well known in all the local shops, and was greeted by name in them all. Indeed, when I visited him in hospital he asked me to let the girls in Asda know why he hadn't been to see them – I asked him which girls, to which he replied "All of them"! This was Roy – friend to so many, missed by all – that rare thing in this day and age, a truly Gentle Man.

Daphne Fielding

KC Puppy Foundation Course

This is for pedigree/non-pedigree puppies aged 12 weeks to 1 year and covers; Care, Legal Responsibilities, Puppy Socialisation and Basic Obedience.

The next course will start on March 31st 2010 at 19:00 at Chapmanslade Village Hall and will run for 8 weeks. The cost is £25 and includes an annual membership of the Society. Places are limited. For more details or to enrol, please contact Rob Harrison on 01373 830280 or Jackie Sheppard on 01225 753960.

Final Match Points for 2009

Veteran Top Match Points

		Pts
Lodway Dreamer	Mr & Mrs T Bray	9
Hareswith Canterbury Tails	Mr T Ball	4
Sambushed Bobby Sox	Daphne Fielding	4
Guestwick Lindy Loo of Bradpole	B & M Highfield	2
Amilone Livin Easy @ Charamese	Mr & Mrs Mcdougal	1
Kathverena Mister Loverman	Lisa Rendall	1

Puppy Top Match Points

Wylevalley One Step Beyond	Miss S Woodward	10
Stanegate Secret Thoughts	Mr & Mrs P Bradley	10
Tweslam Dawn Chorus @ Cranae	Jenny Oldale	7
Fighledean Little Warrior	Bev Waite	7
Thistlestone Blue Weasel	Miss J May	6
Acara Saskia Moonbear	Mrs C Bodman	6
Vadaska Speyburn of Aranyhaz	David Halls	6
Kuantan Kwest	Kate Kemp	5
Rapadaich Lovin It	Carla Beckett	5
Mor Coch	Mrs S Ayres	5
Milly Crystal@ Kathverena	Lisa Rendall	5

Adult Top Match Points

Brackenacre Vivacious	Mr & Mrs T Bray	14
Zenzaris Show Must Go On	Hazel Miller	10
Bradpole Bakewell Tart	Brian Highfield	9
Molvina Thomasina	Pat Molyneux	8
Stro Chip & Pin	Ray Boobyer	8
Magwyr Jack In The Box	Mrs Almond	7
Purland Widgeon Whissgig	P & J Sheppard	7
Zushkan Oselot	Mr & Mrs P Bradley	6
Acara Saskia Moonbear	Mrs C Bodman	5
Ravensbeech Cincinatti	Sonia Hillier	5
Whissgig Silver Link	Mr & Mrs P Sheppard	5

Derek Smith

...and Finally

"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion"

-- Unknown