



Axstane Agility Club

Members' Newsletter February 2011

www.axstane.co.uk

A note from the Editor

What joy! The first newsletter I have edited where I had too much to put in. Thank you if you contributed...it makes it so much easier when you do! With not much space to write (and I really did have so many ideas this time), I find I would like to just express my thanks to all those members that were at Hadlow at the weekend. There was lots of hanging around between classes and it was lovely to see so many faces to chat with. Of course having now mentioned the show, I feel I can let you all know that Bramble got her first clear round. Team McCarthy celebrated with a takeaway and a bottle of fizz.....we are all hoping for many more (not just for the curry!). Well done to everyone as I know many of you did well.

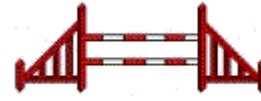
Happy training, Nicky



This year the Christmas get-together was held at the Hilltop Hotel, Wrotham. The evening was a very enjoyable one, the food was great and we were made to feel very welcome. As there were too many for a round table, we sat at an oblong one and moved around so we could converse with different people – a good idea.

Hopefully more members will join us next January for this meal and I think it has been decided we will hold it again at the Hilltop.

Edna



Reciprocal Ring Partying 2011

MID DOWNS at Ardingly on Saturday 5th March

Tunbridge Wells at Ardingly on Saturday, 7th May

Keston at Orsett on Sunday, 5th June

Billingshurst at Cranley on Sunday 10th July

Trent Park in Essex on Sunday, 25th September

DON'T FORGET OUR OWN SHOW AT ORSETT
We need help Friday, Saturday & Sunday 17th -19th June

Voluntary Ring Parties

We will provide an Axstane ring party at Dogs in Need (Ipswich) 16th-20th August in order to retain our camping location

We will be ring partying at Letchworth Show (Huntingdon Racecourse) 9th-11th September to support Melanie in exchange for excellent camping location on top of the rings

We will be supporting Melanie at Stour Valley Show on Saturday, 24 September – this may become a formal reciprocal ring party!

Please return your ring party form to Gina as soon as possible.

Burnham have asked if Axstane can offer a reciprocal ring party at their show in Latchingdon, Essex on 10 & 11th September – can you participate?



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Update on Jake from Andrew Bird: I

wish I could say that Jake was finally on the mend, but unfortunately that is not the case. After 6 weeks of complete rest he is no different. He was referred this week to see a specialist who immediately suspected a back problem, maybe disc. He suggested an MRI scan and as there has been no change for so long we agreed to it and luckily they were able to do it there and then. The good news is that they have been able to rule out any hip, knee and ankle problem and there is no evidence of a slipped disc either.

Unfortunately that means we are none the wiser as to what is causing his limp. The specialist vet thinks that it is probably just a severe muscle strain either in his back - Jake nearly took his arm off whilst he was prodding it - or in his groin as a result of the quite comical Bambi impression he did before Christmas. Not so funny now! We return with him in 2wks for physio and a check-up with the specialist and in the meantime hope that the stronger nerve pain tablets that he is now on do the trick - fingers very tightly crossed.

I will keep you posted.



The Club welcomes Roy Seal to the committee

From Roy: I am looking forward to becoming a member of the Axstane Committee and hoping to be able to give more input to the Club. I have been a member for about three years now - time really does go quickly - and feel I might be of some use to the committee.



Sadly, Tom Martin steps down from the committee after many years service. A big thank you from the whole Club to Tom who has willingly given up so much of his time to help. He has not only been our Show Manager for ever (which he will be again this year), but has maintained all the equipment and the container for us. Oh yes - he trains his dogs with us too!

IN 2011 AXSTANE IS CLOSED

ON THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

10 March

21 & 28 April

16 June

11, 18 & 25 August and 1 September

3 November

22 & 29 December

10 WEEKLY PAYMENT DATES FOR 2011 ARE:

3 FEBRUARY

5 MAY

21 JULY

27 OCTOBER

If you know you will be away on one of these payment dates, please pay beforehand (£30 per dog for members, £35 per dog for non members)



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Congratulations to Kim and Where's Wally (Wallace) who were the small Grade 3 Winners of the Burgess Supadog Agility Rescue League

A bit from Kim

History: Wallace was taken into Battersea as a stray. His beautiful curly locks were in a state and Battersea staff had to clip his matted hair off. He was suffering from several nasty stomach bugs which had left him very thin. They managed to find a little history which was that the family that had owned him could not cope with his high energy so they had given him to a family in the same road. They could not cope either so he spent most of the time living on the street between the two houses chasing cars in the road for entertainment. Whilst ownership was sorted it meant that Wallace spent a month at Battersea - a long time for a young pup. He was spotted by the working dog section at Battersea who knew that Wallace needed an active home to stimulate his high energy and need to be busy. Wallace came to live with myself, my husband, our 3 dogs and cat. He has needed lots of time and training to make up for the poor start to his life and teach him that life is fun and good. He is the happiest of dogs, always wanting to please and be with you. He is a cheeky mischievous little chap who I feel privileged to own.

Achievements: Wallace is a complete star. His first agility show was in May this year. He achieved a clear round at this show which resulted in a 5th place which was amazing. During his first season he has achieved many rosettes and trophies at Kennel Club shows including 7 1st places! He was invited to do an agility demonstration at Battersea Park for The Dogs Home's 150th annual reunion. He will be joining the Battersea team at Discover Dogs in an agility display and also at Crufts next year.

The league is fantastic because it shows that dogs that have come from poor starts and unknown backgrounds can not only be great pets but also be superstars in agility.





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Its goodbye for now but hoping to see you soon, from the Rotherhithe Terrors

Sadly Amanda has decided to stop training at Axstane due to ill health (as many of you know, Amanda is undergoing treatment for a cyst on her spine). Whilst surviving on drugs and drink (she informs me), she is not yet able to run her dogs, or take an active role within the club. Roger is taking to his increased dog walking duties well. The whole club wishes Amanda and Meg, Boris, Jake and Sprout well. She will be greatly missed within the individual classes and by the club.



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Please give generously to continue the Axstane sponsorship of our Dog's Trust Dog!

Name: Spot

Breed: Collie

Colour: Black & White

Date of Birth: 09/09/2004

I live at Dogs Trust Ballymena

Distinguishing features: One blue eye and one brown eye!

Also known as: Spot Dot

Gender: I'm a boy!

Weight: 18.5 kg

I arrived at Dogs Trust: 01/10/2005

From Spot himself:

Likes and dislikes: I don't like going in the car; I'd rather be running free outside with my kennel-mate and best doggy friend, Madge!

More about me: I've got a taste for treats and trouble - I'll do tricks for a reward but when I feel like mischief I can be a real handful! I love to run free with the wind in my fur and the sun on my back. It's the greatest feeling in the world!