



# Newsletter

## SOUTH COTSWOLD DOG TRAINING CLUB



**SUMMER 2012**  
Celebrating  
**50 years**  
of  
**'Obedience through  
firmness  
and kindness'**

### Yes! We've moved into the 21st Century!

Our website is now live.

Go to [www.southcotswolddtc.org.uk](http://www.southcotswolddtc.org.uk)

For all information on obedience and agility classes, trainer profiles and much more.

In future Newsletter items will be posted online 'as they happen', with a printed edition for those without computers twice a year.

## CONGRATULATIONS

to the **Starters' Winter League Agility team** and captain **Michèle Phillips** who finished 4th out of 8 teams. This is especially pleasing as many of last year's dogs and trainers have moved upwards and onward, and were not eligible for the League this year.

We can't let our  
**50th Anniversary**  
go unmarked, so we are  
organising a  
**SOCIAL EVENING  
&  
SKITTLES MATCH**  
(Agility v. Obedience,  
in the friendliest  
possible way).  
  
Full details will be  
announced by email  
and poster at Club  
as soon as possible.

### OPEN SHOW

Our annual Open Show was held on Saturday 12th May. We'd endured relentless rain during the previous week, the state of the ground was becoming a source for concern, but on the Friday the rain stopped and we were able to put up all the rings and tents in the dry. We had some wonderful volunteers who made light of the work and we were able to leave in good time. Back to the venue On Saturday morning at crack of dawn. Show day was bright, perfect conditions for dogs and owners alike. The show ran like clockwork and we had fantastic feedback from judges and competitors. From about 4pm onwards we started to dismantle everything and by 6pm we'd left the ground - a happy, busy day. So many thanks to our club members who gave up part or all of the day to help to run the show, quite literally we couldn't do it without your cheerful and capable contribution.

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**Agility equipment  
for sale**  
Because the Club has bought new weaves and tunnel sandbags, the following are available at reasonable prices!  
4 Tunnel Cradles  
£10 pair  
1 set of old distance weaves £40  
Please see **Janette** or **Jill** at Club

# Dorothy Blair — a tribute

Our AGM was held on March 21<sup>st</sup>. This is an extract from Chairman Susie's report:

As you all know, Dorothy died this January. Dorothy WAS the dog club, and even though she had recently retired from active participation, her influence on us all was ever present.

Hers was the calming voice of experience - not only in actual dog training, but also in club matters. She cared deeply about the success and integrity of the club at all levels, from puppy training to obedience, from small club competitions to public displays.

She espoused agility - a sport not invented in her early years of training - by sending Trymm up to have a go every week with Liz Steele. After talking to Dorothy you always came away realising that your worries were largely unfounded, that there was a way through any problem, and it would 'all turn out right in the end'. And it did, because Dorothy believed it would and that made us believe us too. She always made us feel we were sharing her experience, rather than being instructed. She was great company, genuinely interested in us all, our dogs, our families. She was amusing and ready to be amused.

In June 1962, the then Stroud Dog Training Club started a branch in Nailsworth.

Dorothy and her dog came to be trained on that first night, and as she told Pat, she thought she'd never get her dog to be as good as those she saw demonstrating their knowledge in front of her. One of the few times Dorothy was wrong!

I'm not sure quite when she became Chairman of the South Cotswold DTC, but it was a post she held for many, many years; her enthusiasm guiding the club from strength to strength, whilst never losing its easygoing approach. Committee meetings would go on for hours, business getting in the way of our get-togethers.

She retired in the spring of 1996, but continued on the committee and as an active club member right up to the end of last year. We feel her presence and her legacy, miss her smiling face and her wealth of experience.



# The Club's History: by Dorothy 1996

## **South Cotswold DTC originated as a branch of Stroud DTC**

and first met in the Town Hall, Nailsworth one Friday in June 1962. On that evening some members came from Stroud to show what Obedience was all about. At that time there were fewer dog training clubs and dog obedience was much less well known than it is today. I don't remember much about that first meeting except being very impressed by a line of dogs doing a "sit stay" and how quiet and well behaved the dogs were. (I had a very exuberant and out of control Goldie cross.)

The trainers that evening were Don & Beryl Ross with their very well behaved Goldies, Jane and Valda. Don & Beryl stayed with the Club until Don retired in 1986, and they moved north to Dalbeattie. During that time they set a high standard of training and also the way the club was organised. The emphasis was on "this is a club, not just a training class" and everyone coming to join must be welcomed and given as much help as possible. I hope we have maintained this aspect of the Club and that you are all happy to be members of the South Cotswold DTC.

When I joined the Club training methods were very different from today's; every dog had to wear a choke (check) collar which had to be fitted correctly or the dog really did choke. Corrections were made by a jerk on the lead which immediately tightened the chain - rather unpleasant for the dog. There were no titbits or toys used in training, nor was there playtime, but the dogs did get plenty of praise when they got the exercise right. Heelwork was taught by walking the dogs altogether in a large circle and being corrected by a quick jerk if they attempted to interfere with another dog. Strangely enough they did learn to walk to heel but not as closely as they are expected to do in competitions these days.

In 1967, it was decided to open a branch in Dursley, so now we had three branches run by a central committee consisting of members from each branch. During the ensuing years, competitions were held between the branches three times a year when there were rosettes and cups to be won and also a cup for the winning branch. The training in the branches was fairly even, so the cups passed round the branches.

During this time Don & Beryl presented a cup to be competed for by demonstration teams from each branch. The competition was held after the AGM, thus ensuring that most members attended the meeting. The teams were judged by outside judges who marked on the appearance of the team, the commentary and the content of the demonstration. This was always a popular event and the branches put in a lot of hard work to produce the best team. In those days obedience demonstrations were very popular at fêtes, garden parties etc. These days dog agility where there is more activity is more popular.

The Club continued with the three branches for some years. In 1973 members paid a training fee of 15p for the first dog and 10p for a second dog being trained on the same evening. Handlers who were under 15 or over 60 paid 5p! At the AGM in 1977 branches were given control of their own finances, just paying joining fees (£1 for each new member) and the insurance (25p per member) to the Central Committee who were responsible for paying the Kennel Club dues and the insurance.

Dursley stayed open until 1989 when they were forced to close as there wasn't a hall in the Dursley area that would accept dogs. Now Nailsworth became South Cotswold DTC. The monies from Dursley and the Central Fund (no longer needed) were banked in a separate account and held

## The Club's History (continued)

there for four years to be available if a Dursley member wished to re-open the branch. As this did not happen the money was transferred to our account.

In 1987, we celebrated our 25th anniversary and Don and Beryl were invited to come and cut the cake. We invited as many previous club members as we could remember and contact and had a very happy evening talking about old times and looking through the photo albums. Each class gave a short demonstration and I think some of the older members were quite surprised at the different training techniques.

For the last 10 years the Club has continued to flourish, the introduction of a puppy class which dogs may join when they are fully inoculated has proved most successful. Prior to this dogs were not accepted by the Club until they were 6 months old by which time they could have developed some undesirable habits. Because of the number of "rescue dogs" which are over 9 months old (too old for the puppy class) we have a 'Good Dog' class, both these classes teach basic obedience, the kind of thing every dog should learn so that it can become a happy member of society.

The Club holds various events during the year. We have two club competitions where there are classes for beginners up to advanced and at Christmas we have a party (with party games of course) where members are encouraged to bring their dogs and themselves in fancy dress. This is always popular and members are invited to bring their families with the children being well catered for. During the summer months a sponsored walk is organised with the proceeds going to a charity chosen by members. This is usually well supported as it includes a pub lunch.

There are three Fridays in the year when we have to vacate the hall; so in March we have our club dinner, just a social gathering and no dogs. In August, weather permitting, we do some training outside in the playing fields; and in November we hold a skittles evening, generally challenging the Cotswold Players to a match, always a hilarious occasion, we don't have many skittlers. The other big event of the year is the Open Show which we run in May. This year we held it in the playing fields in Nympsfield and had over 500 entries with dogs coming from a very wide area. For this event we need a lot of extra helpers and by next April I expect Pat will have asked most of you if you will be available to help.

Also in May we send a team to the annual Guide Dog Rally. This is a team event between 10 clubs, each club taking it in turn to be the host. This year and last year our team were the winners, so keep training your dogs, every year we are looking for new dogs to take part. There are classes from beginners to advanced. The object of the rally is to raise money for The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

During my years with the Club I have made so many good friends, several of whom have left the district but still keep in touch. There have been many happy times, lots of funny happenings and of course some sad times - our dogs are not everlasting, but I can truthfully say I have never regretted joining the Club that evening in June 1962.

Dorothy Blair  
July 1996

*(The full report complete with photos can be viewed on our website—Ed.)*

## Liz Davis and Jago at The Ten Teams Rally



This competition took place the day after our Open Show and this year it was the Seven Teams Rally, hosted by Bristol DTC. Our nine-dog team was a strange mixture of 2 competition dogs, 1 pet dog, 2 retired dogs and 4 agility dogs! This comprised 3 Special Beginners, 3 Novices, 2 dogs working A and 1 dog working B. Everyone practised really hard and gave brilliant performances on the day.

**The Retrieve:** Points are lost for anticipation, mouthing the dumb-bell, crooked present and crooked finish.



We came an honourable 4th, with rosettes for several of our dogs. As every dog's score counts towards the final tally it would be unfair only to mention the dogs who were placed in the first six. A great team performance all round. The weather held, we had a dry day - and on the Monday the rain started again!



### Scent Discrimination

First Liz had to touch a cloth to put her scent on it. It was then hidden in a line of other cloths which had not been touched by her. Jago had to pick the correct cloth.

Points are lost for anticipation, picking the wrong cloth (even before picking up the right cloth), mouthing the cloth, crooked present and crooked finish.

## Julie Bearder and Tali at Bretford Agility

Last year at Bretford Easter show, the weather was fantastic. This year, was a real trial of endurance, but it was worth it. My little rescue baby did me proud. Waiting 'til the very last run of the 3 day show, Tali Wali Scali finally helped me achieve a 13 year agility goal - winning out of Grade 2, and doesn't she look proud!

We came 2nd in Agility 1st day (not quite good enough).

1st in jumping day 2 (no win out for jumping) but finally did it in the pouring rain and mud on day 3.

Many thanks to Ali E for the pep talk and to Caroline

Coventry who took a very poorly child home for me on the Saturday so I could stay and compete.

Apologies also to Jackie Doddington and Caroline Coventry who subsequently caught the dreaded lurgy off daughter!!!

Also congratulations to Jackie & Spice for winning out of Grade 1 and Alison Edgington for winning just about everything with an exceedingly noisy Elsie Jo.



**Julie Bearder**

## The Ups and Downs of Agility with Reina

For those of you who don't know me and my dog let me make some introductions. I am Titch Noad, real name Julian, and I am 'owned' by Reina, a Spanish Water Dog who joined us in the summer of 2010 at the age of 5. We knew she had done some agility with her previous owner and we were keen to find a reputable club to train at. Jackie (with Spice, another SWD) had been training with South Cotts for a while and introduced us to the club.

We started training in September 2010 and were immediately impressed by the open mindedness of the trainers towards this unusual breed and their little ways! Reina was very eager to do agility, albeit in her own rather peculiar way, often disappearing off to Planet Reina if she felt out of her depth or stressed.

Motivating her to do new things is easy with a toy; the problem comes when trying to get the toy off her! Enter Julie B with her 'magic' liver cake, if she wanted that she just had to open her mouth - for a dog that has been known to get 5 balls in her mouth even she couldn't find a way to eat liver cake AND keep a toy in her mouth!

We very soon discovered that what Reina likes best is tunnels, rigid or flat, it doesn't matter, she will do tunnels till the cows come home. This is all very well but it meant that no matter where the tunnel was it was a trap! The jumps were ok, as were the A frame and dog walk but the seesaw 'moved' and that took some getting used to. Then there are the weaves... the one piece of equipment that was particularly frustrating, for me anyway, Reina was happy to miss them out! Once again liver cake came to the rescue and so long as I didn't mind having my finger tips nibbled I could get her through a full set of weaves. Being told on numerous occasions by different people that 'when she gets her head round them, she'll be brilliant' was having a strange affect on my confidence. Most people would take it as a boost, but I was struggling with the concept of how to get her to enter the weaves reliably and stay in them! The months went by and her 'planet' moments became less and less and her speed increased leaving me wondering how I was going to keep up with her and more importantly make sure she did the right thing.

So 6 months after starting training, we decided (or were we persuaded?) to enter the Wye Valley competition! Well that was an eye opener, Reina decided that being outside without proper walls round the ring (like the training venue) was too much to deal with and felt the need to go and find Kylee. This seemed to be the story of that first competition (and summer) but at least we knew what we had to work on.

Further frustration came at our second competition at Golden Valley where everything fell apart for me when



*Showing she can do it*

I tripped in the ring (as you do), and damaged my right knee, and up to that point Reina had been doing so well. A referral to a consultant resulted in surgery (Thank goodness for company health insurance!). This put me out of action from Easter to summer - not the best way to improve the working relationship between man and beast.

Thankfully Kylee took on training and running Reina during this time and she (Reina that is) coped well - I didn't cope very well though, seeing some one else running your dog well isn't a good recipe for improving your own confidence!

It's possible that at shows, you may have seen this brown and white curly coated critter standing atop the A frame surveying her kingdom (after all Reina does mean 'Queen') or sitting nonchalantly at the start gate totally ignoring my request for her to 'go'!



*Reina vacating the ring!*

## The Ups and Downs of Agility with Reina (contd)

Maybe, if you have been a scrimmer at a competition you have had the pleasure of her company in your tent when she has decided to say hello to you rather than follow the numbered course!

Now, you may think that she is being disobedient but I can assure you she is anything but! Strong willed maybe, stubborn probably, playing to the crowd - most definitely!! Spanish Water Dogs have a phenomenal sense of humour and the more the audience laugh the more they play to it! There were times when this caused me much frustration (not the audience laughing, honest) - we were meant to be competing, not running out of the ring to mum or making up her own route around the course!

With my knee sorted we went off to Dashin Dogs for a week of fun. My objective by the end of the competition was to keep Reina in the ring. We tried various methods to achieve this; Kylee and Teasel running before us, running after us, Kylee hiding behind the scrimmers tent etc. I even tried taking Reina for a walk all round the rings leaving Kylee and the other dogs in the caravan. The plan being that we would spend the time strolling around and join the queue for her run. She was happy as Larry through all this and then we were on the start line - well, I think she managed a couple of jumps and then she shot off directly towards the caravan (her sense of direction is fantastic). Thankfully Julie B had carefully positioned herself on that side of the ring and with a bellowed 'get back in there!' Reina came back and did some more of the course. We achieved our goal on our last run of the week - what a relief, she could and would stay with me.

With the summer over it was back to training at the new venue. And what a super new venue, so little dust flying around, big enough for two training areas and most importantly Reina loves it, she seems so much happier in there! With our first season under our belts a season of Starters competitions beckoned and Reina achieved her first clear round rosette at Golden Valley! What I must mention is the transformation in Reina over the last few months; all of a sudden she has started to pick up the weave entry, on BOTH sides! What has occurred to me whilst writing this is the fact that I worry less about the weaves and her ability to do them. Perhaps this is why she is getting the hang of them, although I wish she would learn to count to 12, being Spanish by birth she only knows the decimal system and insists on leaving the weaves at the tenth pole! Time to put in a couple of extra poles to fool her, perhaps! She is also gaining confidence on all the equipment, working away from me and layering.

This year we returned to the scene of our first outdoor competition at Wye Valley and Reina was an absolute star, staying in the ring, enjoying herself and getting her first clear round Rosette!!! Our second visit to Bretford Easter Eggility brought another Clear round rosette and a FUD. A FUD? What's that then? Well apparently it means First Unplaced Dog. She was third! She also managed to be one of only 7 dogs out of 25 in a combined run to not get faults - alright she had time faults but no refusals or missed weaves or contacts etc!!

I really cannot believe how far she has come in eighteen months and I cannot thank the trainers, especially Julie Bearder for believing in us so much, and members of South Cotts for all their help, understanding and encouragement.

Above all I am so proud of my wonderful Spanish baggage, and I can't wait for the next competition - hmmm me, not the competitive type? Maybe things are changing. Those other Spanish had better watch out - Reina has landed and it's not on her planet!!

*Titch Noad*



*A winning team? Watch this space!*

# Eatables!

## Some of the things my dogs have found and eaten



*Do you really think an innocent looking dog like me would eat anything bad? - Berry*

Labradors seem to have a highly developed sense of smell, especially when it comes to finding things to eat, things that to us would be revolting. Over the years my dogs have found a variety of things in different places, here are some of them:

A dead fish (nice and smelly),

a rubber glove (swallowed and regurgitated a couple of days later), the pair to that one (same thing happened),

a large solid rubber cork (that reappeared too),

a bit of old lobster on the beach that had been out to sea and back again (result - salmonella poisoning),

a third of a Christmas cake lying in the road (no supper that night),

a whole burnt cauliflower still warm in the field (how did it get there?),

frozen cowpats (just like an ice lollies), banana skins (the older the better),

half a badger's backbone (yum), the odd deer's leg (much running and shouting by owner),

sandwich still wrapped in clingfilm (very very ill, very expensive at vets),

raw potatoes, pick your own blackberries on the common,

various bones of various sizes, a rabbit's head (didn't really know what to do with that one and dropped it),

a dead eel (fun to carry but not tasty),

half a bucket of pony nuts which swelled and swelled and swelled in the tum

and a lot more I can't remember at the moment.

I do actually feed my dogs properly with dog food but they like to enhance their diet with extras and manage to consume the countryside along the way.

# Julia Maclean and Ali Edgington

Julia has got in touch to tell us about her website, following our request for sites that members have tried. It's really interesting to know what our trainers and members get up to outside classes! (Please note, though, that our Club cannot be held responsible for external website content).

Hi all. Some of you may know me from training and around the shows.

I currently run two Border Collies, Maybe (Grade 6) and Hoody (tries his best at Grade 3).

[www.pets4u.biz](http://www.pets4u.biz)

Your online shop for all your pet care needs.  
Check out the great prices on an extensive range of goods.



Julia

Earlier this year – with the threat of job insecurity – I started to look at what business options were out there. I came across a website for sale and thought I would give it a go. [www.pets4u.biz](http://www.pets4u.biz) is a bridge site to Amazon, so basically if you buy anything from Amazon through this site (whether it is pet related or not) I get commission. The beauty is that I don't need to maintain any supplies or post out any goods. Amazon, or their suppliers do all that.

It is also giving me a good insight into the workings of internet marketing. I now know about Google Adwords, affiliated sites, SEO and the like. Bearing in mind I attended school pre-

computers I thought a spot of updating was in order. I am also a new convert to Facebook and even have my own Pets4u Facebook advert. This is a way of attracting people to my website and generating activity.

So if you have a minute spare please take a look at [www.pets4u.biz](http://www.pets4u.biz) as you never know what goodies you might find. Have fun!

*And there's more.....*

## A & J's Massage Cushion .....For Humans

Need to be at your best to maximize your next agility run?

There has been a lot of information supplied recently about warming up your dogs properly but  
WHAT ABOUT YOU!!

How many of you warm up those leg muscles before you set off on your winning agility run ?!?!

A & J's Massage Cushion provides you with a relaxing and convenient way to warm up, release tension and free up those knotted muscles.

Please speak to Alison or Julia at Agility if you want to know more or make a booking.

Early this year we asked members to tell us of **websites they found helpful, reliable or good value.**

Suggestions included Jump for Joy Agility, (<http://www.jump4joyagility.co.uk/index.php>) 'especially good for people who are new to agility and want affordable, light weight and non-bulky jumps to mess around with in the garden'. .....

Pet Planet ([www.petplanet.co.uk](http://www.petplanet.co.uk)) for good value dog food,

and Zooplus ([www.zooplus.co.uk](http://www.zooplus.co.uk)) for finger toothbrushes for dogs.

**Please just be aware that SCDTC can't be held in any way responsible for content of these websites.**

The above are just helpful suggestions. Keep them coming!

# JJ's first holiday

And so it was that, on Maundy Thursday, I loaded the car and top box (Thank you Janette and Steve) with enough dog paraphernalia and wet weather gear for 5 days away and, with three dogs on board drove to Wadebridge for a three day agility show. The drive down was uneventful and we arrived at the Royal Cornwall showground to meet all those who were putting up their temporary homes. After a cuppa and a walk for the dogs, we set off to find our B&B. I don't do camping or caravanning!!

The B&B was at St Mawgan, between Padstow and Newquay, and if you want a holiday in Cornwall with your dogs I whole-heartedly recommend Dalswinton ([www.dalswinton.com](http://www.dalswinton.com)) run by Stu and Sal Hope. Dog-friendly does not describe it well enough. Go to the website to see what is on offer.

After a very friendly welcome, another walk, this time on the beach at Mawgan Porth, about 2 miles from the house. JJ and Sheila have never been on a beach and they lit out up the sand, rushing the waves and generally getting very wet and sandy. Max had a sedate stroll. This was followed by a superb evening meal prepared by Stu, and an early night.

Three day of agility followed. Sheila was lame so no activity for her, but JJ had more Kennel Club runs than he had had in his whole life up to now and was a really good boy. Three places on Friday, two with clear rounds and one with 5 faults! In that class there were 300 dogs and 14 clear rounds!! Showing it was a bit of a tricky course. One place out of 3 runs on Saturday, the other two were fairly disastrous!! and one place and a 10 faults on Sunday. On Sunday night, the Gloucestershire contingent met for a meal at the Quarryman at Edmonton, near the show-ground and very good it was too. Here is the website. ([www.thequarryman.co.uk](http://www.thequarryman.co.uk)) It was very busy so you might need to book!



The weather had been kind up to then, but Monday dawned wet and windy. Julia, Jill and I decided we needed to walk on the beach!! So we met at Mawgan Porth, Jill and Julia did a round-about route to get there, but seemed unperturbed (note to self to give clearer directions). It was wet and windy and got worse as you got down to the water's edge because of the spray. The tide was out, so there was a good expanse of sand. The only other beings out were the local surf school! The old dogs, Max (15<sup>1/2</sup>) and Yarna (16<sup>1/2</sup>) did once about the beach, but the others spent a couple of hours charging about. We retired to a cafe on the seafront for lunch, cream of asparagus soup and a cream tea, excellent!! ([www.firecafe.co.uk](http://www.firecafe.co.uk)) Back to the B&B, via Newquay for fuel, for a cup of tea and a couple of chapters of my whodunnit with the dogs asleep on my feet in the conservatory. Bliss!

Tuesday morning came, the weather was much better and we repacked (slung the stuff in the top box) (thanks again, Janette and Steve) and set off for home. We met a stationary motorway at Junction 30 of the M5 because of an accident but were not held up for long. I stopped at Taunton Deane to let the dogs out and have a coffee. It's not bad for a short stop for the dogs. Coffee (mediocre), carrot cake (excellent). I had a chat with a chap in an Austin 7, over the weekend, he had driven from Nottingham to John O'Groats, to Lands End and was on his way back to Nottingham when it ceased to proceed. He seemed very laid back whilst he waited for a low loader!! I was glad it wasn't me.

Home safely, dogs not bothered, and would like to do it all again!!

# Introducing Duke

Now here's a thing – I've been hearing a lot of talk about getting articles for the SCDTC newsletter, but I just can't see why there's such a problem. Everyone is going to want to know a bit more about me ... for sure!

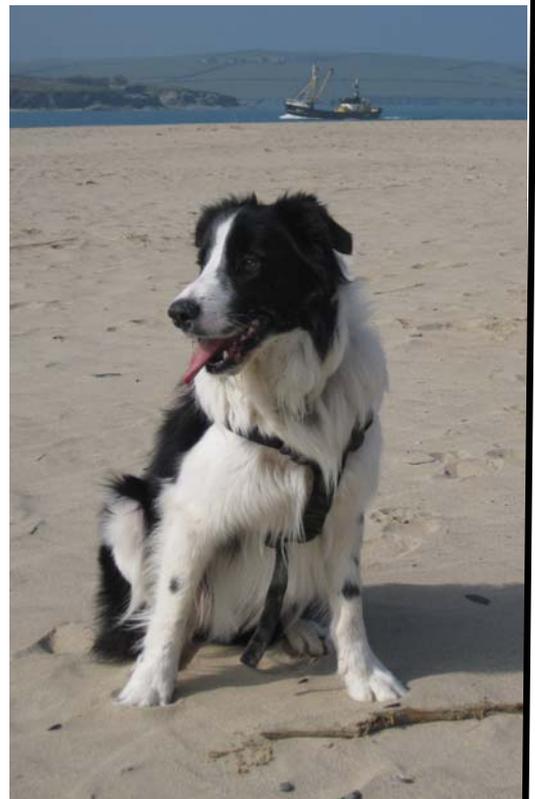
My name is Duke and I'm a working sheep dog. I've been called Duke since I can't remember when. I've heard my new humans (David and Lesley) talking about how it doesn't really suit me because I'm more of a Jester ... but I'm still Duke. I made the move to Nailsworth about 18 months ago, when I was about 18 months old, so that must make me about 3 years old now. I had a bit of a shaky start in life as I lived in a couple of places and didn't seem to get the attention I deserved. Then I got uprooted from the city to the country. I like the country better!

So what's so great about the country? Well – where to start? Everyone loves me ... that's a given since I am, after all, very handsome and charming. The walks round here are pretty good – commons, woods, streams and fields. The strange thing is that the humans who come with me on the walks don't always think to let me have a ball, so I have to find a stick. I'm very good at finding sticks!

My new house is pretty good too, although the humans haven't carpeted throughout, and when I'm muddy and need somewhere to dry off, they do insist I stay in the un-carpeted bit! The other mixed blessing is Tilly. Now Tilly is another working sheepdog, but she's getting on a bit (about 14 now, apparently). She's the boss of the house and I think I love her, but she can get very antsy about letting me have the toys when I want to play. She's a bit of a princess and won't let me share her bed ... but she will sometimes let me share mine!



*Tilly and me*



*Me at the seaside*

I hear a lot about training ... but I don't think I need any! The humans don't generally agree, but I don't mind going to the obedience classes as I get to see my friends and eat lots of treats. Apparently I need to calm down a bit and behave in other places, not just the town hall. I really loved it when we went to agility classes. There were lots of dogs and jumps and tunnels and stuff. But I haven't been lately ... the humans said something about the classes being a bit of a 'wrestle-a-Duke hour'. I think they will let me have another go when I'm a bit older since I did do quite well when I could see through the 'red mist' of excitement.

I know about interviews and you probably want to know about my favourite things. I love games and children ... and especially games with children. I can be very gentle when I want. I love my Aunty Lizzie and Aunty Debs who we see often, especially when my humans are working. I love Helen and the farm where I sometimes stay ... even though she insisted I learnt some manners with her cows. I love the seaside and jumping waves too. But I think that after 18 months my most favourite things are those of us that live at Badger Cottage - Tilly and the humans ... I could even think about calling them Mum and Dad!

So that's me ... Duke ... I hope you'll excuse any bad manners I might still have when I meet you. I'm working on them ... and most people seem to forgive me when I sit to accept a fuss.

***Duke was helped to write this by Leslie Crowe***

# Club Clothing

is now available from [www.sew-what-uk.com](http://www.sew-what-uk.com)

You are no longer restricted to the Club colours of burgundy and blue.

Instead, choose whatever style and colour you fancy! Your choice will come complete with the updated blue and beige Club logo on the front - at no extra cost.

'South Cotswold' lettering for the back of fleeces, hoodies, etc. is available at an extra cost of £7.50.

## How to Place an Order

1. On the Homepage select 'Items' from the list on the left hand side, then click on Men's or Ladies' wear, etc.
2. Make your choice, add your items to the Shopping Basket, and progress to the payment stage.
3. When the Comments box appears in the final stage of payment, request a South Cotswold Dog Training Club front logo.

The rear logo (the words 'South Cotswold' in a curve across the back of the garment) is available as a separate item on our Club page, accessed from the main menu. This page also shows a selection of suitable garments, but your choice is not limited to these.

Post and Packing is additional, but if you are going to a Dog Show that 'Sew What' is attending (details on their website) you can pick up your goods from their trade stand free of charge.

Paul is always happy to talk to customers. Phone him on 01635 43831.

Happy browsing!

*We value your contributions: Remember, this is your newsletter.*

*Please feel free to submit doggie stories, photos, news & views.*

*These can be emailed to the editor Liz, at : [liz.steele@btinternet.com](mailto:liz.steele@btinternet.com)*

## Club Contacts for The Good Citizen Dog Scheme:

**Obedience** —Please contact Pat Jones for more details — Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

**Agility** —Please contact Julie Bearder, [julie@bearder.co.uk](mailto:julie@bearder.co.uk) who is happy to liaise with Pat to set up Bronze classes for agility dogs .

## CLUB OFFICIALS

### *Chairman*

Susie Thomson (01453 835045)

### *Secretary*

Pat Jones (01453 860696)

### *Treasurer*

Tracey Meadows

### *Newsletter*

Liz Steele (01453 833235)

### *Obedience Trainers*

Susie Thomson

Pat Jones

Liz Davis

Helen Oakes

Dinah Martin

Angela Morton

### *Agility Information*

Jill Sims (01453 834903)

### *Agility Trainers*

Julie Bearder

Caroline Coventry

Simon Coventry

Kevin Cross

Alison Edgington

Caroline James

Julia Maclean

Jill Sims

Janette Smith

Steve Smith

Steve Swankie