



DOG BLOG

The blog of Mullenscote Dog Training Centre

Issue 4 - July 2012

I guess that anyone that was moaning about the wet weather back in March would not have really believed that things would go from bad to worse. Oh boy its been wet, as I write news has come through that the CLA Game Fair has been cancelled, yet another victim of the endless rain. One way or another our climate affects all of our lives but the dog owning set are a fairly robust lot and we have to get out there and face the wet stuff. Dogs need exercise and training so stop whinging, look on the bright side, its an excellent opportunity to pull on those new Hunter boots (Amazing prices to be had at Lains..unashamed plug for our sponsors) and Wet weather gear, get out there and enjoy the elements. Mullenscote club member Clare Bithrey regularly comes training with her newborn son, a team of dogs, a pushchair and enough baby gear to stock a small branch of Mothercare, now that's dedication.



Mullenscote has finally gone International with an email request for some training advice from a lady in Australia and our DVDs are selling to several countries in Europe. I am not sure how well the translation into Hungarian goes, maybe they just use the DVD to frighten the children!

Kennel Club Good Citizen

The KC Good Citizen Award scheme is soon to be available at Mullenscote aimed at owners of companion dogs from Puppy to Gold. The Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme is the largest dog training scheme in the UK. Its aim is to promote responsible dog ownership and in turn, enhance our relationship with our pets and to make the community aware of the benefits associated with dog ownership. Watch this space!

UKHFTA Open Air Rifle shoot

Sunday 5th August we will be running our very first UKHFTA Open Air Rifle shoot, with a course laid out by Steph Kirkwood the current Ladies World Champion. With some of the countries top HFTA shots coming to this competition it's one not to be missed. The shoot is open to all air rifle shooters, all you need is your sub 12ft/lb air rifle and to be here early for the sign in from 8-30am with a safety briefing at 9-45am. So come on put the date in your diary and come and have a shot amongst the worlds best.



The Boys are Still in Town

Once again James Thatcher has Won yet another working test, he entered Shalloakwest Sydnie of Mullenscote into the Hampshire Gundogs Novice Spaniel Test and won again , there's no stopping this young man, what a talent, I happened to be speaking to one of the highly respected judges, Lyn Randall, a fortnight later and she had this to say about James and young handlers "James showed a sportsmanship and professionalism that was great to see especially in someone so young. His dogs immediately responded to his barely noticeable commands resulting in resounding win with his Springer and a very creditable performance with his Cocker. The sport needs more young people like James to be given a chance to develop their skills with the dogs and on the shooting field. James is an inspiration to aspiring young dog handlers and I hope we will be seeing him on the Trialling circuit soon. Well done James, a well deserved win, you put the 'old hands' to shame!"

Not to be outdone Ian Brothers and Ollie his phenomenal Goldie continue to dominate the Scurry world, the partnership were last years winners of the BASC Scurry league and are going to be very difficult to catch this year. I first met Ian about three years ago when Ian brought Ollie into our arena at Bowood Game and Country Fair. I remember discussing with colleagues after the show, "did you see that Golden Retriever that just came into the arena, wow What a Dog, I want one like that." Ollie is one of those dogs that you really need to see in action, he has won the fastest dog in the West for the last two years, next time your at a Game fair make a point of going to watch the duo in action. You won't be disappointed.



Quote of the Month

During a Bronze Award Training Class Howard said "Anthony its just brilliant your dog had no interest at all in Retrieving you have transformed him please explain to the class how you achieved this." "Well I just went out in the garden every night and kept throwing a ball, night after night, one night he just ran and picked it up and has not looked back since."

You won't find this training tip in any of the training books but well done Anthony, only a bloke could come up with this genius idea.

Working Gundog Certificate

Our working gundog certificate day proved to be really exciting. Senior Assessor Paul Rawlings made the long trip down to Hampshire to oversee proceedings. His presence, knowledge, experience and the fact that he's really nice chap meant that handlers had a really good assessment. Handlers were asked to carry out a series of varied exercises all of which were designed to thoroughly test the dogs suitability to go on a days Shooting. All dogs were assessed for Mouth, Temperament, Noise, Steadiness both in the beating line and sat up in readiness for a Picking Up exercise. Hunting and retrieving from cover with the final exercise being a retrieve from water. With Paul, Lez Graham and myself watching every move that dogs and handlers made there was very little margin for error. Eleven dogs were entered and with only two dogs being declared 'not ready' there are now nine very happy handlers who are the proud owners of a KC Working Gundog Certificate.





It's Draw Time

This months lucky winners of our training DVDs are: Karen Hatherly, Wendy Allcock, Philip Beard, Tracey Timmins and Oliver Dunford.

Keep Training



Howard

Mullenscote Links and Information

Club Membership – free access to rabbit and bird pens, 10% discount on dog food and much much more for just £48 for the year. Call for details on 01264 889467

Course Dates - <http://www.mullenscote.co.uk/courses.html>

Shows and Events - http://www.mullenscote.co.uk/shows_and_events.html

Training DVDs, Hunter Wellies and more



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