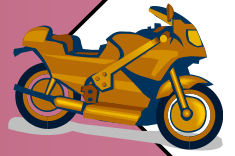




May - June 2010  
Newsletter

([www.ramseydtc.org](http://www.ramseydtc.org))



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### *President's Patter*

Crikey, where has the year gone! Already the shows are on the doorstep yet it doesn't seem five minutes since we were wondering if summer was ever going to come and could we dig our way out of the snow! Crufts has been and gone (see full report further down) and a number of club handlers are planning trips to the UK to compete in their various disciplines. We will also be looking for helpers for our own show weekends in July so please do take the opportunity to give a little back by helping out, no previous experience needed and you will also get a ringside seat and some credit towards your training fees in return! Seems a pretty fair deal!

We will be holding our annual sponsored walk on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June but with a change of route this year as we have opted for the Mooragh Prom - it is exactly 1 mile from the Grand Island end to the new swimming pool and offers both steady walking on the prom itself or the beach as the tide will be out that evening. There will be a staggered start (and probably a few staggering to the finish!!) from the car park below the Grand Island from 7-7.30 and everyone will be given the option of walking 2 or 4 miles, all welcome but please do ensure that dogs are under control and that you clean up any mishaps along the way.

This year money raised will be split between club funds and the Border Collie Trust GB ([www.bordercollietrustgb.homestead.com](http://www.bordercollietrustgb.homestead.com)) a charity very close to my own heart. Having four collies of my own and seeing many through training I find that they are so often misunderstood. The commonest fallacy being the idea that they come ready trained people having seen them on 'One Man and His Dog' and Crufts etc - I wish!! Collies are highly intelligent, very sensitive and extremely active mentally and physically and need an understanding owner who is prepared to work with sympathetic training and handling. Collies are certainly quick to learn but that can mean the wrong thing as often as the right! I love this breed dearly (despite having sworn for years never to have a 'black and white wind up'!!) and could not imagine having anything else yet I would advise a long hard think to anyone who may be contemplating their first collie. Be prepared for some hard work but also be prepared for some fabulous rewards for your effort!



The Border Collie Trust is based in Staffordshire and homes a phenomenal 400-500 collies and collie crosses every year! They are a registered charity and a full history of the Trust will be sent with the newsletter by email and made available to all club members. We have successfully raised money for Hospice, Palliative Care Nurses and many other local charities over recent years so I am hoping to see a similar level of support for a dog based one this time. Please support the club and of course the collies in this event - sponsor form attached to the newsletter so no excuses!

Debbie

## *Members Matter*

We received the sad news that **Pat** had lost her cavalier, Taffy, and her other cavalier, Cariad and collie Oddie had both suffered health problems too. Fingers crossed they are improving. Further sad news came in that **Sheila** lost her beloved greyhound, **Harvey**, at the venerable age of 14 years. Harvey was a retired racing greyhound although we suspect he may not have entered the racing circuit as we know it as his character was much more outgoing than usually encountered. One particular outstanding memory of him was on visiting Sheila after an op on her eye: Gail and I were sat in the lounge sympathising with her over the inevitable discomfort and of course inconvenience of not being able to see (albeit temporarily) when unknown to Sheila Harvey very niftily swiped a biscuit off the plate and scoffed it! Not knowing if this was allowed or not I was reluctant to say anything initially and it was done with such speed and dexterity that you could easily have seen this as an every day occurrence! However it transpired that Harvey, true to form, was taking full advantage of the situation while he could and loved as he was, that was one biscuit too far!! Sheila would like to thank everyone that sent cards and for the flowers that were sent from the club.

*Pup Quiz Question - how many teeth does the average adult dog have?*

## *Chairman's Chat*

Have you ever tried to pen a few lines when under pressure? That's exactly what I'm trying to do now and I can tell you my mind has gone completely blank. Some might say that's quite normal for me, but what I do know is that this year is positively flying by and as its May already, we're already well into the start of Summer! TT Week is approaching fast and your most favourite dog-show on the calendar, MAD, is also just around the corner! So don't forget to get your entries in!

Another notable date for your calendar that I want to tell you about is the 8<sup>th</sup> October, which is of course when Mary Ray will be performing one of her World Famous Cabaret Nights at the Villa Marina. Mary will be showing how she trains the brilliant musical routines with her dogs and you will be able to see for yourself just how clever her dogs are. During the evening Mary will perform her latest Crufts musical routine with two of her star dogs. If you own dogs or just love them this is an evening not to be missed, Mary is one of the worlds leading dog trainers and has trained dog handlers in all parts of the world from Moscow to San Francisco. Club members will be entitled to preferential seating so stay glued to our website for further details.

For those competing in shows this summer I'd like to wish you all the very best of luck. And indeed, a special well done to all of our Agility handlers that recently won back the trophy for the InterClub Agility Match, and also for doing so well at the Isle of Man Open Agility Show. I'm sure you'll join me in sending my thanks to the Isle of Man club for their efforts in bringing this show to us, and special thanks must go to Frank for having the lovely weather 'on order' as he put it. Despite my best efforts, he wouldn't reveal to me who his supplier was!

Nick Dermott

nickderm@gmail.com



**Time is ticking on and the deadline for MAD entries is now looming – please get them in to Debbie (obedience) or Ruth (agility) BEFORE 31<sup>st</sup> May!**

### ***Douglas DTC Companion Dog Show***

Our Companion Show will be held on Onchan Park on Sunday 13th June 2010. This year we are going to start the Agility Classes earlier so sign up for the Agility Demonstration will be at 10.30, judging to start at 11.00. The judge this year will be Mary Sims. The rest of the show we will open at 12 noon, so sign up for Breed, Novelty and Obedience will commence at 12. Judging for these classes will begin at 1pm.

As well as the flyball demonstration, this year we are introducing the DDTC 60 Weave Challenge! There's a trophy in it for the winner!

Obedience and agility Classes will be £1 per class, Breed Classes £2 per class and Novelty £3 for as many classes as you are able to enter. Kirstie Rowson is our Breed and Novelty judge.

Trudy Rodman

### ***Obedience on the Go!***

Our last test night was the turn of the pet dogs and handlers to shine and show their skills by taking our Bronze and Silver tests - the successful ones who passed were:

#### **Bronze Pet Obedience Awards**

John & Carol Ainley & Riley  
Taig Corkill & Patch  
Hannah Cowin & Bud  
Dawn Robertson & Monte  
Jean Young & Arthur

David Bermingham & Ernie  
Pat Corris & Lucy  
Paul Pressley & Poppy  
Lisa Walker & Benji

#### **Silver Pet Obedience Awards**

Jocelyn Peck & Monty

Jean Vernon & Kirree

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May will see the competition dogs once again put through their paces so no training that night and also for the following two weeks (2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June) owing to the TT.

### ***Agility Action***

In case you missed the news agility is now on Thursdays as well as Tuesdays just for the summer months. Tuesday will continue to be our training night, usual format, and will continue as such when we return to Kenaa in the autumn as they were block booked for Thursdays for several months ahead. However to allow handlers who don't have any of their own equipment the

opportunity to practice and perfect their work there will be a practice session every Thursday evening at 7pm (£1.50 each).

Many congratulations to all club handlers who were successful at the IOM Open Show at the beginning of May - too numerous to mention every place but those with wins were:

Debbie and Bea (one more win needed to get to Grade 7!)

Danielle and Lola (moving up!!)

Nick and Clio (beating his missus to Grade 2 - oops!)

Dawn and Holly (that was some agility debut - loads of diamonds to take home!)

Alison and Loki (this was the first time they had completed a course and they won it!)

Voirrey and Muffin (holding up the spaniel successes)

Pauline and Gypsy (showing that size doesn't matter!!)

Just about everyone was placed somewhere and those that didn't quite manage that certainly did not disgrace themselves.

Even more congratulations to those who attended the interclub match and WON!! We probably had the fewest there but good steady results secured a great win over the other two clubs! Hurrah!!

### ***Top Tip***

If you love dogs and reading about them then invest in 'Your dogs' monthly magazine - it's full of great articles, interesting features on every aspect of dog ownership and lots of training and behaviour tips. It's readily available from newsagents and supermarkets or you can subscribe and save some money in the process!

### ***Crufts International Agility 2010***



This was our third venture into the big ring at Crufts and it was even more nerve wracking this time, the standard of competition is daunting to say the least. The first round was jumping (no a frame, seesaw or dog walk) and it was a very difficult round with an absurd course time of just 38 seconds! We had a pole down and time faults but 6 dogs were eliminated and only 3 got round within the time and these are all world class competitors. The second course was agility and again a tricky course with lots of traps; Bea ran a fantastic round but I couldn't get to where I needed to be for one particularly difficult part and sadly we were eliminated but were in good company as there were 6 eliminations in this class too. I was very disappointed not to make the final but only 14 dogs out of the 23 taking part did and when you consider they are the best from countries as far away as South Africa, USA and all across Europe then we didn't do too badly from little old IOM!!

### ***Ruth's Flyball Fanatics***

Well the show season is upon us all now and flyball is no exception. We have entered three teams in the tournament hosted by Live Wires at Sutton Fields over the weekend of 15/16 May. There are quite a few first time competitors in the teams but we are hoping with the training we have put in and a dress rehearsal this weekend that they will all be ready for action in good time.

The open team (Ramsey Raiders) have been seeded second in the 7th division out of 14 divisions, it's always difficult being seeded high in the division as a bit of pressure can creep in but hopefully we are all a little more experienced now and will be better at performing under that kind of pressure. The open team is made up of Nick Dermott & Archie, Sarah Paull & Eddie, Emma Jenkinson & Dash, Sharon Jenkinson & Benji, Danielle Mather & Lola and last but not least Anita Rice & Boots. This will be Vicky Guest's first time as a box loader and I will be looking after them all as team captain.

We have two starter teams competing at Sutton Fields and have split the dogs so that each team has a good chance of success. Starter teams get to race in a much more informal manner as handlers/teams are allowed to give their dogs as much help as they need and the racing lanes are netted to prevent dogs straying into the other team's lane. It is almost like a training session before making the leap into open tournament where no assistance past the start line is allowed, and there is no netting between teams. We always run new dogs in starters before open to make sure they are not put off by the atmosphere, if a dog runs successfully in starters then we look to include them in an open team for subsequent tournaments although this depends on who is going and how many dogs we have to make the teams up - its often a juggling act at the beginning of the season.

The Ramsey Rebels are made up of Danielle Mather & Charlie, Vicky Guest & Clifford, Linda Qualtrough & Lass, Sharon Jenkinson & Maisie, Josh Whitaker & Clio and Mandy Quayle with Connor. Emma Jenkinson will be Box Loading and Sarah Paull is keeping them all in line as Team Captain. The Ramsey Rookies are made up of Bernice Corkill & Patch, Aileen Rampton & Rachel, Danielle Mather & Misty, Nick Dermott & Stan, Mandy Quayle & Poppie and Jordan Guest with Taz. Linda Qualtrough will be box loading and Sharon Jenkinson will be their captain.

The next newsletter will have the results and we'll also be announcing the teams for the Rotherham Rockets Tournament in July.

Ruth

### ***Soapbox Sound Off!***

In the absence of anyone offering their rant this time round I'm going to climb on the Soapbox with yet another of my pet hates - the misuse of extending leads!! Why, oh why do people use these on their dogs on pavements next to busy roads and allow their dog to wander several feet away on it? Why bother with a lead at all?!! These leads are a great aid for areas where your dog is normally safe to go off lead but for various reasons (recall or lack thereof, restricted exercise etc) you need to maintain control. For walking your dog near roads please use a standard dog lead! The brake on an extending lead should not be considered 100% reliable and you run serious risk of your dog running out into the road - and you will be considered responsible for any accidents. Rant over!!

***Pup Quiz Answer - 42, although with the average puppy it probably feels like a lot more!!***



## *Forthcoming Events*

<u>May</u>	22	IOM Club Fun Day at the Glebe, St Marks
	23	MSPCA Open Day 1pm at Ard Jerkyll
	26	Competition obedience test night (no training)
	31	Deadline for MAD entries
<u>June</u>	2 & 9	(Wed) no training due to TT
	13	Douglas DTC Companion Dog Show - fun, obedience, breed & agility classes
	19/20	IOM Club Open Obedience Show
	30	<b>Sponsored walk on Mooragh Prom</b>
<u>July</u>	17/18	Ramsey DTC Open Obedience Show
	24/25	Ramsey DTC Open Agility Show
<u>August</u>	13	Royal Manx Agricultural Show - Open Obedience and Agility Show
<u>October</u>	8	Mary Ray Cabaret Evening at the Villa Marina