



Whittlesey Dog Training Society



Kennel Club registered since 1951

Important Upcoming Dates

2008

7th Jan 08 - Beginners Class Intake

25th Feb 08 - Beginners Class Exam

3rd March 08 - Beginners Class Intake

24th March 08 - NO TRAINING (Bank Holiday)

28th April 08 - Beginners Class Exam

5th May 08 - NO TRAINING (Bank Holiday)

12th May 08 - Beginners Class Intake

26th May 08 - NO TRAINING (Bank Holiday)

7th July 08 - Beginners Class Exam

All dates subject to change, please check our website
(www.wdts.org.uk) to confirm.

A Bit About Us

Whittlesey Dog Training Society was first registered as a training club with the Kennel Club in 1951. Mr Bill Bedford was the founder chairman a position he has held ever since as well as being one of the chief instructors. Mr Bedford now helps to ensure our classes are run to the high standards required to be within the guidelines of the Kennel Club.

Established in Whittlesey at the Old Drill Hall. As membership and popularity grew, a new hall was found in Peterborough. Our Club has had many changes of halls due to ever increasing numbers or, in some instances children's parties have taken priority, dogs (however well trained) were not always welcome. St Pauls was a venue for over 18 years, although our current home can be found at Stafford Hall (Westwood). Finding halls with enough room for our ever growing classes has become more and more difficult over the years.

Primarily we provide 'Dog Obedience' training in a 3 staged process but we also offer a 'Ringcraft' class.

Our classes are every Monday (except bank holidays) at the Stafford Hall (Westwood).

Membership is £3.50 (single) and £4.50 (joint), each handler must be registered for insurance purposes and no handler can take a class without becoming a member first.

Classes are £2.00 per class for the first dog and £1.50 per dog thereafter.

Training your Dog can be both enjoyable and interesting as long as you approach it with the right attitude.

Beginner Class

7:15pm – 8:00pm*

Instructor - Mrs Jenny Abbott

All new members receive a theory explanation and a demonstration on all the exercises taught on the eight week course. The first week is mostly taken up by instruction on suggested training equipment.

You will not be expected to do everything at once! Each exercise is spread over the other seven weeks with a small test on the eighth week. Dogs and handlers receive a certificate when they pass.

Elementary Beginners

8:00pm – 8:30pm*

Instructor – Mr Peter Smith

This class is a step up from the beginners class and continues with the training received on the beginner class.

Ringcraft

8:30pm – 9:00pm*

Instructor – Mrs Jenny Abbott

A class designed to help dogs get used to being handled in a show environment. Dogs are moved in various formations to replicate the show room.

Intermediate Obedience

9:00pm – 9:40pm*

Instructor – Mr Peter Smith

This class involves more or less the same exercises as you have already completed but at a higher standard and beginning to get your dog off the lead for some exercises. There will be continued monitoring throughout this class to help progress your dog to the Advanced Obedience class.

Advanced Obedience

9:40pm – 10:10pm*

Instructor – Mrs Jenny Abbott

The next step..... More exercises are introduced mainly off lead work. This class is for the dedicated dog handler who wants the best from their dog or to enter competitions and shows.

Training Tips

Perseverance is the key and we encourage our members to continue the training whilst at home, we advise 30 mins per day of exercises learned in the previous class. We aim to assist you with this training at home by providing you with some of the lessons we teach. Always end each exercise with plenty of praise.

In the first class beginners will be taught the correct way to put on a check chain (which we recommend but is not obligatory). If the chain is not fitted correctly the chain will not release when the dog is checked for pulling, it will remain tight therefore encouraging the dog to try and escape.

Walking to heel on a loose lead:

- The dog is trained on the handlers left side.
- Lead in the right hand, across the body, this leaves the left hand free to 'check' the dog when pulling.
- Handler gives the command 'HEEL' at the same time as striking off with the left leg.
- Keep the dogs attention (keep talking to your dog).
- If the dog pulls, the handler should give a check and release the check chain giving the 'HEEL' command.
- Handler must not keep the check chain tight around the dogs neck.
- It is more important for the handlers to use their voices and don't forget ... plenty of praise.

Sit Stay On Lead

- The dog should be sitting on handlers left side.
- Handler gives command 'STAY' with hand signal.
- Handler leaves dog, leaving on the right foot to the end of the lead.
- Handler faces the dog.
- If the dog moves,. The handler should bring his/her hand up the lead drawing the dog back to the previous sit position using the 'SIT' or 'STAY' command.
- Handler returns to the dogs left side via the back of the dog.

Down Stay On Lead (two methods)

Method 1

- Dog is sitting by handlers left side.
- Handlers left hand goes on to dogs shoulders.
- The right hand holds the lead where it joins in to the check chain.
- With a slight press with the left hand and a pull down with the right, the handler gives the command 'DOWN'.
- Leave your dog following the steps from the Sit Stay section.

Method 2

- Dog is sitting by handlers left side.
- The handlers left hand goes on the dogs shoulders.
- Right hand under and behind the front two feet.
- A slight press with the left hand, at the same time the right hand sweeps the front two feet out from beneath the dog giving the command 'DOWN' .
- Leave your dog following the steps from the Sit Stay section.

Recall On Lead

Step 1

- Ensure your dog is sitting by handlers left side.
- Command the dog to 'STAY'
- Leave your dog (right foot first), at the end of the lead and face your dog.

Step 2

- Call your dog with the command 'COME' and give plenty of encouragement.
- Back pace while winding the lead in your hands encouraging the dog to 'SIT' in front of you.

Step 3

- Finish the dog at the heel position with a short check at the same time giving the command 'HEEL'.

7 helpful tips for puppy owners

1. Puppies should be wormed before leaving their mother and again every six months after.
2. Try to get your puppy used to everyday household noises i.e washing machine, vacuum cleaner and hair dryers.
3. Always comfort your puppy when he/she gets afraid.
4. Make sure your puppy gets all the correct inoculations.
5. Familiarise the puppy with heavy traffic and pedestrian crossings.
6. Try not to 'baby' your puppy. Get him or her over its fears.
7. Try to take your puppy to crowded and noisy places.

Officers & Committee

Chairman

Mr Bill Bedford

About me: I am a registered Kennel Club trainer since 1951, I have trained champion show dogs and am a German Shepherd Dog Breeder and Championship show judge.

Vice Chairman

Mr Peter Smith

About me: I have been a registered Kennel Club trainer for over 30 years, during this time I have trained many dogs to the Advanced Standard, I have judged shows hosted by other Kennel Club training societies.

Secretary/Treasurer

Mrs Jenny Abbott

About me: I have been a registered Kennel Club trainer for over 30 years, during this time I have trained many dogs to the Advanced Standard, I have judged German Shepherd Dog & Obedience shows and am a K9 beautician with over 30 years experience of teaching Ringcraft.

Committee:

Mrs Sandra Deportier

Mr Keith Frost

Mrs Michelle Lee

Mrs Jane Nottingham

* All our times published are subject to change, please check our website or call us on the numbers below for dates of our latest beginners class and up to date class times.

Mrs Jenny Abbott - 07852436231

Mrs Jane Nottingham - 07999422156

Goods For Sale

LEADS (various colours and designs)

Leather - Start from £4
Nylon - Start from £2.50
Cord - Start from £2.50

COLLARS (various colours, sizes and designs)

Leather - Start from £3.50
Nylon - Start from £2.75
Cord - Start from £2.75

CHECK CHAINS (sizes 12-24)

Available in light, medium or heavy
Prices start at 90p

HALF CHECKS (various colours)

Small - £3.50
Medium - £3.75
Large - £4.00

DOOR KNCOCKERS (dog shaped) - £1.50

DOG BRASS (various breeds) - £3.00

SELECTION OF TOYS - Start from £2.00

WWW.WDTS.ORG.UK