



Max waiting to go to agility class . Photo: Elise Bonnar

## From the president

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The AGM has been and gone, the annual Ribbon Trials are now done and dusted too, and the show season is about to get into full swing. Between now and our big Championship Show in November there are a number of Obedience and Agility championship competitions. Worth mentioning are the National Dog Training Assembly (Agility, Jumpers and FlyAgility) held in Christchurch, and for the first time in many years a separate National Dog Obedience Assembly, which will be held in Porirua, both events are

during Labour weekend. The organisation and securing a venue for these shows starts four or more years in advance. Although Agility and Obedience have been under separate governance for at least that long, this is the first year they have held separate national competitions.

Unfortunately, and despite all the best intentions of competing members who travelled to the NDTA in Mosgiel (2008) to return for the Christchurch event,

there is no one from the Whangarei club who can make it to the South Island this year – and it has nothing to do with the earthquakes. We are all so very disappointed, but I think I can speak for all of us when I say that the recession is biting a bit deeper and it is a simple case of not being able to afford to go. Certainly, that is the case for us, and given a couple of extra pins, I would have been attending the fabulous event at which we always have so much fun. Elaine Taylor will be going to the NDOA in Porirua.

The results of our annual prize giving held at the AGM are published later in this newsletter. The club prize giving celebrates the achievements of our members at our own shows and throughout the year competing at other clubs around the North Island. You can also check out the results of the Agility and Obedience ribbon trials held in Mangawhai on 10th and 11th September. We had a great show, the weather gods weren't too mean to us with a glorious day on Saturday, and the forecast nasty weather for Sunday only really lasted for the morning.

Whangarei Dog Training Association is a club of people who have a common interest in training their dogs. Part of that interest is also in competing in their chosen codes. The club is affiliated to the New Zealand Kennel Club and like similar clubs up and down the country carries a certain amount of responsibility because of that.

Being part of the WDTA club is about being part of

a team. Our responsibilities to our dogs extend not just to the community at a grass roots level of training young puppies, but it also means that we take our turn at holding ribbon trials, championship events and official trials events (tests) in order to gain the various titles and certificates for our dogs. As in the breed world, the world of dog training offers a raft of titles gained by winning classes at competition or achieving a certain level of accuracy in tests. We will be running a series of articles describing some of these titles and what is involved in achieving them.

In order to hold our shows we need to have a team of committed people who can help to run the events. We also need volunteers to be available from the Friday afternoon setup right up until the last person has packed up their tent, car and dogs at the end of the Sunday, and the last piece of gear has been put back in the shed.

Our nationally assigned weekends are week 36 (about the 2nd weekend in September) for the Ribbon Trials, and week 42 (about the 1st weekend in November) for the Championship shows. Our shows will always fall on those numbered weekends, unless we apply to change them. Next year, we may look at doing other days for the new (to us) sports of RallyObedience and FlyAgility, when we can find mutually suitable dates.

I am particularly looking forward to being able to attend a RallyO event, having given it a go last weekend, and have been working towards securing a date for our inaugural FlyAgility Tournament, so watch this space!

Happy training everybody. There is lots of training time to be put in to be ready for the November Champ, and the displays for the various Christmas parades.

Regards, Ann K.

Rain or shine -

Good time to walk your dog



Dog walking group at West End in June 2011



## Dog training on facebook

Check out these examples of the many dog training resources available on facebook.



Sophia Yin <http://www.facebook.com/#!/SophiaYin.DVM>

Patricia McConnell, Ph.D. <http://www.facebook.com/#!/PatriciaMcConnellPhD>

Susan Garrett Dog Agility Training <http://www.facebook.com/SusanGarrettDogAgility?ref=ts&sk=wall>

Karen Pryor Clickertraining <http://www.facebook.com/clickertraining?ref=ts&sk=wall>

Victoria Stilwell <http://www.facebook.com/VictoriaStilwell?sk=wall>



# This year's WDTA committee

Position	Committee member	Contact
President	Ann Kenny	president@wdta.org.nz
Treasurer	Andrea Emmerson	treasurer@wdta.org.nz
Secretary	Vanessa Green	secretary@wdta.org.nz
Obedience Rep	Elaine Taylor	ObedienceShowSecretary@wdta.org.nz
Agility Rep	Ani van Sinten	agility@wdta.org.nz
Domestic/CGC Rep	Bev Binney	CGC@wdta.org.nz
Publicity Officer	Francine Shields	



## Meet the Club Member .....

We'd love to have this regular feature in our newsletter as a friendly and relaxed way of getting to know other members and their dogs in the club - from newbies with a puppy to long-term, competition winners.

If you're keen or like to recommend someone who'd be happy to feature, send us the details! Here's what we'd love to find out about you and your dog(s). Oh –and a photo would be fantastic if possible:

- What's your name?
- What are your dog(s) name(s), breed(s) and age(s)?
- How long have you been a club member?
- What classes do you attend?
- What do you like to do with your dog(s) outside the club?
- Time to brag about your dog(s) – major achievements, from learning the 'Sit' to winning gold medals...
- Is there anything else you'd like to mention?



Soekie at the dog park.  
Photo: Karen Lee-Johnson



# Canine Good Citizen assessment

**By Jo Nicholson**

On August 14, the hills around the Blue Goose Sports Reserve echoed with the sounds of slamming doors, clapping and laughter. No it wasn't a practice for the RWC, these were simulated situations designed to test our dogs at the CGC assessment.

So, with the help of her many volunteers, our new assessor Bev Binney put us through our paces. She even managed to organise a few chilly showers to test us further.

First up were those sitting Foundation CGC with most passing with flying colours, even with Heather doing

her best to impersonate an overactive junior. Next came the Bronze assessment, which seemed to focus on more following of commands and obedience work. Once again, there was a good pass rate for this level. Well done to those who were successful on the day.



For those who would like to give this a go or are keen to re-sit these tests I believe there may be another opportunity later this year. (I hope Heather is there again!)

A special thanks to those WDTA members who gave up their Sunday afternoon to make this possible and to Bev and Sandy for their dedication and enthusiasm.

## **CGC** gained 14 August 2011

### **Foundation**

Sue Culham and Samson  
Bronwyn Davies and Billy  
Hannelise Le Langadec and Kambi  
Barbara Goodwin and Cara  
Jo Nicholson and Kobi

### **Bronze**

Barbara Goodwin and Cara  
Jo Nicholson and Kobi  
Michelle Potter and Kobi

### **Silver**

Francine Shields and Boss



# X-I-Ted

**By Rebecca Roper**

In August 2009 I took Ted and Zito for our first ever flygility event at Tauranga. Sadly, we had very dismal results. The rules were unclear and frustrating and I nearly gave up on the sport then and there.

But, I knew Ted had the talent so we persevered and at the next tournament we entered (two months later) he won elementary and made it to the semi-finals in the Beginners event.

Ted had it sussed and was on his way to stardom! He went on to make it to the semi-finals at the NDTA 2009 in Mosgiel and the points started accumulating quickly thereafter.

In March 2010 he got his FD title (20 pts) and later that year achieved FDX (50 pts).

On 2 October 2011 Ted became Flygility Champion when he reached 100 pts (note: there are less than 30 FDCh in NZ).



Rebecca Roper with Ted



Ted at Flyball

Not being happy with just getting his 100th point he went on to win Senior and Advanced that same day.

Needless to say, I am extremely proud of my little "X-I-Ted." Just over two years from zero to hero.

I was also gob-smacked when I received a NALA ribbon with Ted's name emblazoned on it a few weeks ago – he was 15th in the country for FlyLink.

Thank you Ted! You're awesome.



# Prize-giving

## Agility

Top Mini or Micro	Elise Bonnar & Max
Top Midi	Rebecca Roper & Zito ADXG
Top Maxi	Glenys Brown & Lace
Timmy Tong AD & ADX	Ann Kenny & Ash JD, AD
Mr Hudson Jumpers Cup	Ani van Sinten and Fitz, JD (2 wins) Ann Kenny & Ash AD, JD (25crs)
ADX Advanced Cup	Nigel Kenny & Benji ADX (Silver) Christine Fifield & Meg ADX (Bronze)
Mother's Milestones Cup	Rebecca Roper & Zito ADXG (300crs) Ann Kenny & Taragh ADX (50crs) Rebecca Roper & Ted JD, FDX (30crs)
Cyril Black Memorial Starters Trophy	Glenys Brown & Lace
Top Flygility Dog & FD Cup	Rebecca Roper & Ted FDX Ann Kenny & Cameron FD
N.A.L.A Cup	Chris Fifield & Meg ADXB
Fifield Achiever's Trophy	not awarded



Whangarei Dog Training Association

Interclub Obedience Team 2005

# Obedience

Elementary Cup (Shared)	Michelle Potter and Kobi Glenys Brown and Tanna
Special Beginners	Vanda Knowles and Eva
Novice	Don Ross and Tess
Special Beginners & Novice	Vanda Knowles and Eva
Test A	Gwen Toddun and Brock
Test B	Not awarded
Test C	Ed Knynenburg and ObGrCh Guymark von Rama CDX (Tui)
Pip Memorial	Ed Knynenburg and ObGrCh Guymark von Rama CDX (Tui)
Merit Cup	Sue Cullen and Samson
CDX Silver	Gwen Toddun and Brock



## Ribbon trials: results

***Whangarei & Mangawhai Agility & Jumpers Ribbon Trials and AD & ADX Advanced Trials held on 10 and 11 September 2011 at the Mangawhai Domain***

A lot of organisation goes into these shows. On the day, the organisers, having done all the organising, cannot sit back and watch everything going on the way they once used to.

Agility as a sport has grown such a lot and there is so much more on offer that we find we're running from Friday afternoon to Sunday night and don't get to notice much of what is happening – even when you're the MC for the prize giving! So, I have had to wait until the results were sent to me to see who placed where from our club at our own show.

The following are the ribbon winners:

# Agility

<b>Novice 1</b>	Nigel Kenny & Relko Raven King (Bran) – 4th place Elise Bonnar & Max – 5th place
<b>Intermediate 1</b>	Rebecca Roper & Rim Rockin' Zito ADXG JD – 4th place
<b>Starters 2</b>	Nigel Kenny & Relko Raven King (Bran) – 5th place Elise Bonnar & Max – 6th place
<b>Intermediate 2</b>	Rebecca Roper & Rim Rockin' Zito ADXG JD – 3rd place
<b>Jumpers B2 (split)</b>	Ani van Sinten & Temair Fitz-Roy JD – 1st place (Maxi) Ani van Sinten & Sky – 3rd place (Maxi)
<b>Jumpers C2</b>	Ann Kenny & Temair Lights Cameron Action FD – 2nd place (handled by Rebecca Roper) Bev Win & Average Joe – 5th place

# Obedience

	<b>Saturday 10 September 2011</b>	<b>Sunday 11 September 2011</b>
<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Judge: Sue Howe, Steward: Bryan Irving</b>	<b>Judge: Pam Reid, Steward: Helen McDonald</b>
<b>1st</b>	Jo Nicholson & Kobi – Bel Shep (Terv)	Vanessa Green & Mika – Sib H
<b>2nd</b>	Vanessa Green & Mika – Sib H	Cathy Jarman (Handler Loraine Swanepoel) & Shaka – Whipp X Foxie
<b>3rd</b>	Faye Sherwan & Phoebe - BC	Ellisia Cleave & Jeffrey - Lab X
<b>4th</b>	Michelle Potter & Kobi – GSD X	Melissa Craft & Luna - Boxer
<b>5th</b>	Ellisia Cleave & Jeffrey - Lab X	Loraine Swanepoel & Shan – Tib Span
<b>Special Beginners</b>	<b>Judge: Pam Reid, Steward: Helen McDonald</b>	<b>Judge: Karen Magorian, Steward: Sue Howe</b>
<b>1st</b>	Mike Knowles (Handler Vanda) & Kenya - GSD	Carolyn Bassett & Keisha - Boxer
<b>2nd</b>	Jo Nicholson & Kobi – Bel Shep (Terv)	Jo Nicholson & Kobi – Bel Shep (Terv)
<b>3rd</b>	Cathy Jarman (Handler Loraine Swanepoel) & Shaka – Whipp X Foxie	Mike Knowles (Handler Vanda) & Kenya - GSD
<b>4th</b>	Sue Callander & Harley - BC	Not awarded
<b>5th</b>	Vanda Knowles & Eva - GSD	Not awarded

**Saturday 10 September 2011****Sunday 11 September 2011****Novice****Judge: Karen Magorian, Steward: Don Ross****Judge: Win Henwood, Steward: Ed Knynenburg**

- 1st** Wendy Paterson & Mika - BC
- 2nd** Laurel Greaves & Cooper - BC
- 3rd** Val Saunders & Lexie - Lab
- 4th** Paula Phillips & Max - Huntaway
- 5th** Vanda Knowles & Eva - GSD

- Jo Nicholson & Kobi – Bel Shep (Terv)
- Nicole Beaumont & Robbie – Head Dog
- Shannon Cleave & Launch Pad – Swiss Mountain X
- Mike Knowles (Handler Vanda) & Kenya - GSD
- Ruth Knight & Tindy - BC

**Test A****Judge: Sue Howe, Steward: Bryan Irving****Judge: Pam Reid, Steward: Bryan Irving**

- 1st** Sue Dainty & Maia - Goldie
- 2nd** Nicole Beaumont & Todd – Head Dog
- 3rd** Lee Gladwell & Dawn – Rhod RB

- Yvonne van Gemeren & Josh - F C Ret
- Shannon Cleave & Launch Pad – Swiss Mountain X
- Lise & Roy Davis (Handler Lise) & Bessie BC

**Test B****Judge: Win Henwood, Steward: Ed Knynenburg****Judge: Karen Magorian, Steward: Sue Howe**

- 1st** Rosalind Dick & Jason - BC
- 2nd** Yvonne van Gemeren & Josh – F C Ret
- 3rd** Bryan Irving & Ziggy - BC

- Rosalind Dick & Jason - BC
- Bryan Irving & Ziggy - BC
- Yvonne van Gemeren & Josh - F C Ret

**Test C****Judge: Karen Magorian, Steward: Don Ross****No competitors**

- 1st** Maree Green & Ted – BC
- 2nd** Not awarded
- 3rd** Not awarded



Max. Photo: Elise Bonnar



## Upcoming events

**Saturday 5 and  
Sunday 6 November  
2011**

### **WDTA Championship Shows**

Come along to watch. We could also use some helpers throughout the day. If you can give us a hand, please email [agility@wdta.org.nz](mailto:agility@wdta.org.nz) and [obedience@wdta.org.nz](mailto:obedience@wdta.org.nz)

**Wednesday 23  
November 2011**

### **Canine First Aid Course**

Otaika Clubrooms at 7.00pm  
Run by Francine Shields, Manager Whangarei SPCA  
Cost: \$10 for Club members, \$15 non members  
Proceeds to include a donation to Whangarei SPCA  
RSVP to: [bevbinney@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bevbinney@xtra.co.nz)

**Saturday 3 and Sun-  
day 4 December**

### **Whangarei A & P Show**

**Monday 12  
December 2011**

### **WDTA Twilight end of the year fun and games evening**

6.00pm Otaika Sports Park, SH 1. Otaika, Whangarei  
(Entrance next to The Paper Mill and Opposite Lockwood Homes)  
Please bring along a plate of finger food for a shared meal  
Tea, coffee, milk, sugar, soft drink and juice provided

**Friday 17 - Sunday 19  
February 2012**

### **Training workshop: Exceed your Training expectations**

With Steve and Jennifer White, held in Auckland  
Find out more about the workshop:  
[http://www.learningaboutdogs.co.nz/Events/Steve\\_-\\_Jen\\_White/steve\\_-\\_jen\\_white.html](http://www.learningaboutdogs.co.nz/Events/Steve_-_Jen_White/steve_-_jen_white.html)



## Notices

### **Agility training**

**As of 20 October, Wednesday night agility training has changed location from the rugby pitch to the soccer pitch (same time - 6pm).**



# Acronyms and buzzwords - 1

Throughout the next few issues of our club newsletter we will be slipping in some explanations of some of the terms you have read or will be hearing in your training. There are so many that they would fill up an entire newsletter! A full list will be coming to our website soon ([www.wdta.org.nz](http://www.wdta.org.nz)). If you have heard or read a term or bit of jargon that is not there email me at [agility@wdta.org.nz](mailto:agility@wdta.org.nz) and I will endeavour to get it up on the site and into the next newsletter.

**Ann K.**

So, here are the first ones:

## **Acronyms:**

**NZKC:** New Zealand Kennel Club – the body to which the Whangarei Dog Training Association belongs. If you want to compete at Championship Events, as well as being a member of an NZKC affiliated club (i.e. WDTA), you must be a member of the NZKC.

**CGC:** Canine Good Citizen. This is a domestic training title recognized by the NZKC, the levels are Foundation, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Our club may offer the opportunity for you to “sit” your tests at various intervals throughout the year, or you may be able to go to another club in Auckland to take your test. Your instructor may know if and when these are being offered.

**AD:** Agility Dog. You must have attained two clear rounds over a prescribed course (of 12 the judge may choose from) to be awarded this title. There are only 6 AD tests offered per zone per year.

**ADX:** Agility Dog Excellent. You must have four clear rounds over the same set of courses as above.

**ADX Adv:** The name of the class. As for Agility Dog, there is a choice of 12 more difficult courses. The levels are Bronze (B), Silver (S) and Gold (G). You must attain two clear rounds for each of the levels. As with AD, there are only 6 ADX Advanced tests on offer per zone per year.

**JD & JDX:** Jumpers Dog and Jumpers Dog Excellent. Two wins or 25 clear rounds in Jumpers C at Championship events will get you the JD title. A further 25 clear rounds in Jumpers B or winning into Jumpers A will get you the Jumpers Dog Excellent title.

## **Buzzwords:**

**Recall:** Get your dog to come to you by calling it.

**Present:** A term more often used in competitive obedience. After doing the recall, the dog comes to the “present” position – sitting neatly and straight in front of the handler; that is, not rolling over onto one hip or at an angle. This position will also include the presentation of the dumbbell in Novice and above classes for the Retrieve element of the test.

**Finish:** Another competitive obedience term. Once the judge has released the handler from the “present” position, you will be asked to get your dog to finish. In Europe the dog would swing its butt anti-clockwise and end up in the heel position sitting straight by your left side. In New Zealand, the finish means the dog moves forward in a clockwise direction around your right and behind you to end up in the heel position at your left hand side.

**Contact:** An agility term. It is the 1000mm area at the bottom of all the ramps – i.e. on the dogwalk, A-frame, cross-over and see-saw. “Getting your contacts” is the bane of most of us. The dog must touch the contact area on the way up and on the way down. Each miss earns a 5-fault penalty.

**Right weave:** An agility term. Most of us start teaching our dogs to weave starting with the dog on our left and moving up the weave poles with them on our left. If handling sides are not mixed up enough during the initial phases of training you will hear things like “my dog can’t weave on the right”. This actually means that the dog has difficulty negotiating the obstacle with the handler on its left or when being sent from the handler’s right hand side.

**Blind cross:** An agility term. It’s a big no-no, although you will often see handlers blind crossing whilst their dog is in the tunnel. It is the action of switching handling sides by taking your eyes off the dog, or by turning your back on your dog.

As opposed to a...

**Rear cross:** The action of switching handling sides by passing behind the dog as it negotiates an obstacle so that you can change direction.

Or a...

**Front cross:** The action of switching handling sides or turning the dog by stepping towards the dog and then back again at a different angle. It is a three-step pirouette-type movement, which quite often is best practiced initially using a “virtual” or imaginary dog!