



# Wiltshire Wet Leo's



## Newsletter

### Welcome to our first newsletter

Following feedback received this year it is clear that there is a gap with some of the communication between club members to help solve this we thought it might be a good idea to put together a Newsletter. So here is our first one! The Autumn 2011 issue 1, which we hope helps to let you know where we are as a group and what our plans are for next year.

The Heads of Group have already had their first planning session for the 2012 season, they have agreed to continue to support the running of the Group for another year and already have pulled together dates for submission to The Cotswold Sailing Club (CSC). Fingers cross they will allow us to use their beautiful lake next year.

At the moment we are looking to create a newsletter each quarter, so the next one we will be aiming to get out to you in December hopefully with the confirmed dates from CSC.

Contributions to the news letter is greatly welcome otherwise it is going to be a very one way communication. So please, please contribute items via email to

[Bonnie.Hopkins@Wiltshirewetleos.co.uk](mailto:Bonnie.Hopkins@Wiltshirewetleos.co.uk).

Pictures, articles, success stories, jokes (clean ones please) please send them in.

### We are so sad that you are leaving us!

Sadly Becki has decided to step down from WWL as Head of Group and for the time being will not be an active member.

We have and will greatly miss Becki, she has been the lynch pin that has kept the group going for the last four years.

It is surprising how much work and effort is involved in setting up a group such as WWL and continuing to run it. Becki took this feat pretty much on her own and did an amazing job.

In our appreciation for all the hard work Becki has put into the group, from its conception to what the group is today, the Heads of Group have decided to make Becki an honouree member.

See Becki we are not letting go of you that easily! I am sure you will all join us in wishing Becki and her family all the best for the future and we hope to see her at some of our sessions next year.



Becki with Ti WWL founder and Head of Group 2008 to 2011

A **BIG** Thank you from all At WWL's!

### Issue 1 Autumn 2011

#### Newsletter Spotlight

Though it seems a long time ago now, a belated thank you to everyone who participated in our test day back in June.

With everybody's help the day ran really smoothly, sadly we didn't see as many passes as we would like, but hopefully we can change that next year.

WWL Water Tests success 2011

#### A Test Passes:

Fiona and Hoshi  
Penny and Mocha

Rob and Jazzbo

#### B Test Passes:

Fiona with Hoshi  
Bonnie with Oakley

Congratulations everyone!



Hoshi practicing at home

### Taster Days 2011

We ran two very successful taster days this year, which helped raise £70 for the group. Feedback forms were sent out to the new people who attended a taster day. The feedback received was very positive. We received some good ideas, which we are reviewing and will take into consideration for next year taster day's. Most people are interested in joining the group and nearly all are keen to attend taster days next year.

We are hoping to have two taster day's next year in addition to our normal training sessions.



Tasting the water!

## Membership numbers for next year



To ensure that we have enough people to make the group successful but not in the position that we have to run too many dogs we have decided to try and cap the group to a maximum of 12 members, 14 existing members will be invited to join next year, but we will not start accepting new members into the group until the number of members drops below 12.

In addition to this we are capping the number of dogs by registering a maximum of 2 dogs per WWL member.

Mocha taken in 2010

The reason for putting the cap in place is to address the issue raised this year where members have felt that they have not had enough time in the water. Note the above cap will not necessarily reduce the number of dogs that attended next year, but should prevent the number of dogs being worked increasing therefore compounding a known issue.

In addition to this (with the exception of Taster Day's) training sessions will be open to registered WWL club members only. Friends and family are welcome to join us to help you work your dog, but unless they are a full member they will not be allowed to work their own dog(s).



Jazzbo

## Financing the Group

We have been looking at various ways to help with the funds for the group. As you know all the monies that are collected at the beginning of the year go to the Cotswold Sailing Club for the use of their facilities. Currently all the help we have from the trainers is done on a voluntary basis and this will remain so for the foreseeable future.

The funds raised to buy items for the group are currently taken from the taster days, the additional charge for extra dogs and donations.

Collecting monies each session can be quiet arduous and holding onto cash for the club is a responsibility that none of the Heads of Group are currently keen to support. We have therefore decided to implement the following:

1. Setting up a bank account for the group which the monies will be deposited into.
2. Implementing a registration fee per dog in addition to the funds required for CSC.
3. CSC monies are required by 15th Jan. Dog registration fee by the 15th March.

This will help in our fund raising to replenish damaged articles, maintenance of kit and to help in the purchase of additional items currently on our wish list. Some of the items on the wish list include:

1. Spare lifejackets (2 new lifejackets have been purchased)
2. First Aid Kit
3. New floor for the old boat
4. Rubber matting new boat
5. Rubber matting old boat
6. New battery for the old boat
7. Replenishment of retrieve articles
8. Fence netting and posts
9. Trailer for equipment
10. Gazebo
11. Petrol money for guest trainers

## Dates for Next Year



Fiona has very kindly taken on the role of key liaison with the CSC, and as such has sent off our request for dates next year. As soon as we have confirmation of the dates these will be emailed out to everyone and published in the next newsletter and on the web site.

We are trying to arrange to have more training days next year as we are aware everyone was disappointed in the number of training session available to us this year.

Fingers cross that CSC will continue to allow us to use their lake, if they do our plan is to have a couple of additional training session in April and one in October. As per all dates they are all dependant on the weather conditions. The April and October session may be half day and or land base training only. If these session are run the decision as to what type of session will be made on the day by the Heads of Group and will take into account the number of attendees and weather conditions.

## Competition

Newsletter logo, we have used an old picture of Oakley as the newsletter logo for our first few issues. If you have an image that you would like to be the logo, then send them to Bonnie via email and we will publish them in the next issue as part of a competition. The image with the most members votes will win. Only send in pictures/images that you have the rights to and are willing for us to use as the logo free of charge.

