



Karma Dog Training



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NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2008.

Hello and welcome to our very overdue newsletter. I have just been so busy with tombola's, car boot bounty and my own decorating that I had to put the newsletter down my list of priorities. But, better late than never! I am wondering if we will have a summer this year and if global warming is happening it does not appear to be in this area. The wind on the beach this morning was very cold.

First of all welcome to all in the new puppy class and congratulations on the last two courses who completed their courses. We always hope to see you at the other classes. Could I remind everyone to give us your email address, that way we can keep in touch through our newsletters. Even if you no longer come to classes, we love to hear about your achievements with your dog/dogs. Thank you.

Karma continues to be very busy which is encouraging and hopefully will soon gain national recognition.

Remember that Jane and Claudine are away on holiday the first week in July, sheepdog training in Scotland. We all wish them a great time and expect to see them on One Man and his Dog very soon. So make a note that there are no classes on Tues 1/7, Wed 2/7 and Thurs 3/7. Remember you can always try sheepdog training, the training is held in Thetford by one of the top trainers in the country and it only costs £15.00p for the day. I have had a go and although, at first it is very daunting, eventually it becomes very addictive and great fun too. The trainer Sarah reckons she can train any dog except perhaps a Yorkie, which is a shame as I am sure Magic would have a go!

FLYBALL

We had a disappointment with our Flyball arrangements made for 14th June. The group giving the demonstration and training let us down at the last minute and although we could have gone to them in Corringham it was too late to make the arrangements. A big thank you to Karen, who has spend hours organising it and to Sue who was giving us the use of some of her land. Sue had even cut the field in preparation of the event. We are so sorry Sue that all your hard work was in vain. However, we are not giving up and have decided to do some training ourselves. We think we can borrow a flyball box that needs some repair. So watch this space all you flyball enthusiasts.

DOG WALKING.

There is a local lady who has set up a new business called 'The Dog Walking Company' She offers a range of services from special outings for puppies to individual walks and trips to the vets. Her phone number is 01255 251 013 and her web address is:- thedogwalkingcompany.co.uk

GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING.

Gill and Gary Boot who come to the Thursday evening class have given up their greengrocers shop in the Triangle and now do gardening and landscaping. Gary has all the qualifications and his work is first class, I know he did a lot for me. They do allsorts from clearing to lawn maintenance and fencing. Make a note of their number; you never know you may need them one day. Gill and Gary also take dogs in, for a fee obviously, if you need a break away. 01255 677028. Mob 07712 760339.

BLUE AND MASH.

I have always loved dogs but I did not get interested in dog training until I got a boxer bitch in 1999. We went to one of the local clubs and I got hooked. Ellie was never easy to train and did her own thing a lot of the time but we enjoyed ourselves. She particularly enjoyed hacking and agility.

I noticed that my friends with a border collie seemed to have an easier time training their dogs which always seemed keen to learn. So when a friend's collie had puppies I got Blue. We went to the local club and Blue excelled in everything, so much so, that I wanted to do more with him.

I had heard of Karma Dog Training and their training methods plus I knew Claudine, so I decided to take Blue along to classes. In the meantime Ellie sadly died. Eventually I got another boxer, Mash. We all come to the classes at Karma now.

Both Blue and Mash are doing really well with the training methods. The exercises are broken down into fun to learn stages, for example the 'send away' the dogs are rewarded for doing well with either food or play (I would not work without being paid either!). We also work one to one with either Jane or Claudine, in this way the dogs can progress at their own rate.

I am getting such a thrill out of training Blue; he is a fantastic dog and loves training. It is so rewarding watching Blue and Mash do tasks such as 'the retrieve' and 'scent work'. There is only one problem! Jane and Claudine have to train me, which is no easy task. So well done and thank you Claudine and Jane.

Gill Boot.

Thank you Gill for taking the time and trouble to tell us about your dogs and the fun you get out of training with them at Karma.

We love to have these stories so if any of you wish to write a little bit about your dog/dogs and your experience at Karma we will include it in our newsletter.

A VERY SAD POEM
NOBODYS DOG.

Today is the death of nobody's dog
Nothing will mark it but a note in the log
I'm faceless and nameless and no tears will fall
For I understand now I have no worth at all

To you, my sweet someone, I'm a friend #, and a dear
We ran the wind daily and you held me so near
But the gate was left open – I chanced a walk on my own
I'd have cowered in fear if only I'd known

I know how you cried on the night that I strayed
I know how you searched, I know how you prayed
But I went to a pound far far from our home
Where I crouched in despair in my kennel alone

I know that you phoned for I Heard your dear voice
And I hoped you would hear me so I barked myself hoarse
Although I'm a Lab-cross with stockings all white
On their form I'm a Staffie cross – the descriptions not right

So they said I'm not here and I sank to my bed
My kennel coughs worse and I can't raise my head
The rescue came yesterday but they hadn't a place
For an un-neutered cross breed with mucus-streaked face

If only you'd come to search for me here
You would have known me at once; you would have sensed I was near
You would have sorted my ills; you would have carried me home
And I promise our God no more would I roam

Now my eyes plead for mercy from my seven days are done
And I am waiting with dread for the final vet run
No arms will caress me as they inject me to death
No words will comfort me as I take my last breath

When the body man comes, it is fitting I'm found
In a bin bag in the freezer in the depths of the pound
Thrown away like the rubbish – no respect and no shame
Denied even time to find you again

My Loyalty and devotion they did cruelly betray
Without microchip or nametag, I am just a dispensable stray
Once waggy-tailed once proud, beloved and free
Oh God look with pain at what mankind's done to me
By Doris Banham.

We met Doris at All About Dogs and she runs a sanctuary that visits the local pounds and rescues as many dogs as she can. She was happy for me to include this in our newsletter. An amazing woman! Local authorities destroy approx. 2,000 healthy dogs a year, if this does not spur you to ensure your dog always has ID and is micro-chipped then I do not know what will.

I am not ashamed to say that it makes me cry each time I read this and it helps me to carry on the hard work for the Spirit, which will also be able to save dogs under sentence of death.

EVENTS.

28th June Great Bentley Carnival- Spirit has a Tombola and Merchandise Stall 12.00 to 4pm

12th July Coffee Morning 10.00 am to 12.00 noon Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Pier Avenue, Clacton.

16th August 7.30 pm for 8 pm Quiz Night St Osyth Village Hall
A big thank you to Mo Saunders for organising this event.
Come on, get a team ready.

21st and 22nd August Clacton Air Show – Tombola, Merchandise and wonderful Mango Wood Items on sale, plus Tarot Card readings.

25th August Beaumont Village Fete-Dog Display, time to be advised.

31st August 10.00 am to 4.00 pm Fun Companion Dog Show plus Agility and much more. Entrance fee £1.00. Centenary Way Lt Clacton (Nr Morrisons).
A huge thank you to Lorraine and Sophie for organising this event.

13th September 8.00pm to 11.00 pm Disco Music by Coast FM – Soken House The Triangle
Tickets £5.00 each. Bring own food, subsidised Bar.

If any of you would like to help at any of these events then please let Mal, Jane or Claudine know.

FEEDBACK 'ALL ABOUT DOGS'

We received some very positive feedback from the commentator of Arena 2 on the conduct of dogs and handlers before and during our display. This was praise indeed as the woman commentates at venues such as 'Crufts'. So thank you for attending and very well done to all of you. We hope to be invited back next year and let's hope the weather is good but not quite so hot, which made it difficult for the dogs.

CONGRATULATIONS.

Many congratulations to Hannah and Rob on the birth of their first child, a boy weighing in at 9lb 10oz, so welcome Alex Peter.

ACHIEVEMENTS.

Congratulations to Gill and Blue for coming 12th out of 48 at the Ipswich Dog Training Club Open Dog Show and for coming 8th out of 40 at Woodbridge Dog Training Club Open Show. These were Gill and Blues first shows and the classes they competed in were Pre-beginners Obedience. So well done.

BRONZE AND SILVER AWARDS.

We have started training for these awards. Hopefully the tests will be in Sept/Oct. You will be advised in good time.

FINALLY
SOME PHOTOS FROM MARILYN AND MARGARET.



Mal Woolger 18/6/08.