



# Karma Dog Training



Linfield Cottage Lucas Lane  
Beaumont Cum Moze  
Essex  
CO16 9LP  
Telephone 01255 860513 or 01255 862505

[www.karmadogtraining.co.uk](http://www.karmadogtraining.co.uk)

## NEWSLETTER NO 4. NOVEMBER 2007.

Once again it is newsletter time. Roll on Spring I say, although it is nice to close the curtains on a dark night and be cosy indoors. The dog walks are not always so pleasant in the wind and rain.

Karma continues to gain momentum and is still very busy. The web site gets hits every day so the word is spreading.

### NEW PUPPY CLASS started 6/11/07.

We welcome the new members to the puppy class and hope they enjoy the experience and use the knowledge they learn for a lifetime. We hope they tell their friends and family how clever their puppies are after learning the training techniques at Karma.

Diane Reed & Monty (Border Collie), Lorraine Smith & Jake (Beagle), Jane Pleass & Bonny (King Charles Spaniel), Annabelle & Dodger (King Charles Spaniel), David Brown & Dylan (Labrador), Paul Crosby & Ned (Collie), Kerry Kennedy & Daisy May (Staffie X), Trevor Smith & Molly (Terrier), Paul Phelan & Colo (Rottweiler), Tracy Cooke & Sizzles (Pomeranian), Emma Tilstone & Lola (Bichon Frise), Julie Benson & Maverick (Jack Russell), Aleksandra Wilkins & Leo (Irish Setter), Brenda Deacon & Pippa (Lhasa Apso), Heather Frost & Bailey (Labrador Retriever), Samantha Hill & Frank (Pug).

### POEM.

#### FRIENDSHIP.

Thanks for your friendship  
For sharing so much,  
For lending a hand,  
For giving your love,  
For easing my burden,  
For lightening my load,  
For walking beside me,  
On life's difficult road.

We could say this about our wonderful dogs, couldn't we?

### ACHEIVEMENTS.

For completing the Foundation Puppy Course:-

Donna with Gracie, Carolan with Tinker, Lesley with Bess, Julie with Charlie, Julie with Kizzie, Stephen with Jack, Elsie with Zuki, Sara with Chico, Rosie with Zero, Julia with Sacha, Stephen with Taz, Mr & Mrs Powletts with Alfie, Debie with Molly, Elaine with Porscha.  
Well done to all of you and we hope to see you in the Improvers Classes.

### THE KENNEL CLUB GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME BRONZE AWARD HELD ON 3/11/07.

Congratulations to the following for passing the Bronze Award.

Margaret with Rupert, Judi with Poppy, Anne with Brazil, Mal with Magic, Jo with Indiana, Alison with Sid, Sarah with Muffin. A special commendation and congratulations to Margaret who is 10 years old with Floss her 13 month old Black Labrador, who conducted herself with great politeness and professionalism for someone so young. She was a credit to herself, her family and Karma Dog training and if there had been a first prize she would have won it.

Note that the Bronze award is judged by an independent Kennel Club approved judge and the dogs and handlers have to fulfil the criteria to the letter to get their award.

### **SPIRIT OF THE DOG.**

#### **UPDATE.**

Following a meeting on 2/11/07, the Trustees of the charity are: - Trevor Hayward, Pam Hayward, Jane Nettleton, Claudine Tisbury, Sue Ockwell, Margaret Norman and Mal Woolger.

The Committee members are: - Chairman, Trevor Hayward, Secretary Hannah, Treasurer Mal Woolger (All in post for 2 years before re-election). Margaret Norman, Sue Ockwell, Jane Nettleton, Claudine Tisbury, Jean Chapman. Sarah-Jane Dartnell, Pam Hayward and Gill Good.

The forms for applying to become a registered charity are complete and we await the Charity Commissions decision with fingers crossed.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for us to sell and we never say no to more!

Our funds are currently £4875.00. This is fantastic considering we only started 6 months ago.

The buy a brick campaign on the Spirit website is doing incredibly well with 126 bricks sold already.

Our next big fundraising event is the Late Night Christmas Shopping in Connaught Avenue Frinton on 14<sup>th</sup> December from 6pm. There will be Hot Chocolate and mince pies for sale plus a Tom bola and Christmas Raffle with some really fabulous prizes. So make a note in your diary and please come along and support us. The committee wish to thank Sue and Margaret for their hard work in organising this event also to Kathy of RK Sports who has given us the shop front to stage this event.

#### **RANDOM.**

Just have to tell you all about my gorgeous new rescue dog who is called Random, she will have the Kennel name of 'Random Spirit'. She is a 15 month old working sheep dog (A Huntaway). She was with a family who are going through a relationship breakdown and had to be found a new home.

Claudine got her for me and she is the most beautiful dog both in looks and nature. I am going to teach her obedience and sheep dog trialling. I hope you all will like her as much as I do.

#### **PIPPA'S PROGRESS.**

Pippa and Sue continue to amaze us with their achievements. Pippa now does a lovely sit or down stay and is so confident around other dogs. We all just love to see her in class. Well done.

#### **BERYL AND MITZI.**

Beryl and Mitzi have unfortunately been unable to attend classes as Beryl is unwell. We all miss them and wish Beryl a speedy recovery.

#### **KARMA CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Christmas party will be at Beaumont Village hall on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 6pm onwards, free refreshments. Fancy dress for dogs and/or handlers is optional, there will be a rosette for the best three fancy dress outfits. Fun competitions will be run, all welcome. There is then a Christmas break under Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January when classes restart. Jane Claudine and Jean wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The following two pages about Garden Hazards collated by Margaret Norman with Thanks.

## Garden hazards for pets

### ***Stings***

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Bees and wasps commonly sting pets in the garden in summer, especially the young puppies who investigate everything ! The sting often occurs around the head, front paws or mouth. The dog will suddenly yelp in pain and paw at or lick the sting, which will soon swell up causing pain.

If the sting is in the mouth or throat, it can be distressing and dangerous. When a bee stings, the sting is usually left in and the bee dies, but wasps withdraw them and can repeat the attack.

- **Bees**

Withdraw the stinger and bathe the area in bicarbonate as the sting is acid.

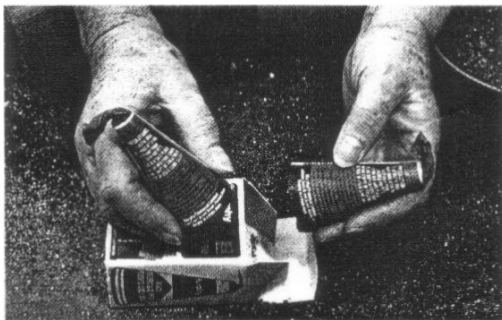
- **Wasps**

Bathe the area in vinegar as the sting is alkaline

IF THE PET IS DISTRESSED, CONTACT  
YOU VET

### ***Pesticides and Herbicides***

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- **Herbicides**

There are too many to list in detail, but in general dogs, cats, other pets and children should be kept away from the areas of the garden where these chemicals have been used as per manufacturers instructions. By far the greatest hazard is for the pet to find the undiluted fluid or powder in it's container, so do be especially careful to store these safely.

Paraquat is worth a mention as it is the commonest poison affecting dogs and cats. It is a general plant killer, and when taken in by dogs and cats causes death by liver failure.

- **Pesticides**

Rodent and slug poisons are a particular hazard as they are often attractively tasty to cats and dogs.

### ***Rat and mouse poison***

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Rat and mouse poisons should ideally never be used by amateurs, but if used should always be placed with great care as they will poison your pet if eaten. It is advisable to get professional help. Many contain Warfarin which causes death by haemorrhage. Your vet has an antidote so if this is suspected, contact him immediately

### ***Slug Bait***

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Slug Bait (Metaldehyde) is very attractive to dogs and cats and is a very dangerous poison there is no specific antidote and it causes severe fits and death. Your vet will have to give sedatives or anaesthetics and intravenous fluids to attempt to control the fits and prevent death. Pets often die from this poison but can sometimes survive.

It is so far better to prevent this problem by not using slug bait, or by ensuring it is placed where your dog or cat cannot reach or find it. Cats are much more at risk as they will venture in to the garden or neighbours who use slug bait and who may not be aware of the hazards.

Beer traps are attractive to slugs and are a useful alternative as are crushed baked egg-shells, which can be used to encircle plants vulnerable to attack

## Avoid Poisonous Plants

As there are reported cases of pets eating poisonous plants and making themselves ill, it is much safer to avoid the most toxic plants, especially if there is a new puppy in the family. The Horticultural Trades Association has a code of practice for its members and most good nurseries and garden centres label plants and bulbs which are toxic or cause skin allergies. They group plants into three categories depending on their toxicity, plants from categories A and B being the ones to avoid at all costs.

### Category A

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Poisonous if eaten. Skin contact commonly causes severe blistering dermatitis  
Rhus radicans, Rhus succedanea,  
Rhus verniflora Poison sumac

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### Category B

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Toxic if eaten, May cause skin allergy \*

Aconitum	Monkshood
Arum *	Arum Lily
Atropa	Deadly nightshade
Colchicum	Autumn crocus, Meadow saffron, Naked ladies
Convallaria majaris	Lily-of-the-valley
Daphne laureola, D. mezereum and other species	Mezereum
Datura	Thorn Apple
Dictamnus albus *	Burning bush, Dittany
Dieffenbachia *	Dumb cane, Leopard lily
Digitalis	Foxglove
Gaultheria ( <i>section Pernettya only</i> )	
Gloriosa superba	Glory lily
Hysocyamus	Henbane
Laburnum	Golden Chain, Golden rain
Lantana	
Nerium oleander	Oleander
Phytolacca	Poke root, Poke weed
Primula obconica *	German primula, Poison primula
Ricinus communis	Castor oil plant
Ruta *	Rue
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet, Woody nightshade
Taxus	Yew
Veratrum	False hellebore

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### Category C

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Harmful if eaten / Skin allergen \*

Aesculus, Agrostemma, Alstromeria \*, Aquilegia, Brugsmansia, Caltha, Catharanthus roseus, Cupressocyparis Leylandii \*, Delphinium, Dendrathera \*, Echium \*, Euonymus, Euphorbia \*, Ficus carica \*, Fremontendron \*, Gaultheria, Hedera \*, Helleborus, Hyacinthus \*, Hypericum perforatum, Ipomoea, Iris, Juniperus sabina, Kalmia, Ligustrum, Lobelia tupa \*, Lupinus, Narcissus \*, Ornithogalum, Polygonatum, Prunus laurocerasus, Rhamnus, Schefflera \*, Scilla, Thuja \*, Tulipa \*, Wisteria.

Needless to say, if your pet is vomiting and you suspect it has eaten something poisonous, take it straight to your local veterinary practice,

## YOUR TRASH IS WORTH CASH

Your office trash can be worth thousands of pounds to Spirit of the Dog!

Office materials that normally end up in the bin - toner and inkjet printer cartridges, and old mobile phones - can be recycled to raise valuable funds for Spirit of the Dog. If you're guilty of throwing away used printer cartridges and other recyclable office materials, read on!

Spirit of the Dog has teamed up with leading recyclers at the Recycling Appeal in an environmentally friendly fundraising scheme. Every time you donate a cartridge or old mobile phone to the Spirit of the Dog Recycling Appeal, Spirit of the Dog will earn cash.

Spirit of the Dog's Recycling Appeal is an easy way to help the environment while supporting a great cause. We are currently working to raise funds for a Rehabilitation centre and with your support, we are confident our Recycling Appeal will be a great success.

Not only will your participation in the Spirit of the Dog's Recycling Appeal raise the organisation much needed funds, recycling allows you to make a positive impact on the environment.

Rob Morton of the Recycling Appeal says:

"Throwing away old mobile phones and used printer cartridges sends them to landfill sites where they become part of our nation's growing waste problem. The vast majority of mobile phones contain toxic substances, which can leak into the surrounding soil and pollute it, and printer cartridges take hundreds of years to biodegrade. Why not use these products for something good? Send them to the Spirit of the Dog Recycling Appeal and they will be refurbished and re-used. Some of the mobile phones even end up in developing countries where little or no landline infrastructure exists meaning your old mobile could provide a lifeline for someone."

So put your old mobile phones, inkjet and toner printer cartridges to one side.

We will have recycle collection boxes available at training classes. Alternatively the Recycling Appeal provides free collections if you have more than ten items, and freepost envelopes if you have less. To get more details and begin recycling, visit [www.recyclingappeal.com](http://www.recyclingappeal.com) or call the Recycling Appeal team on 08451 30 20 10. and quote Spirit of the Dog Rehabilitation fund or our Account number VEN0279382. Use your trash to help the environment and support Spirit of the Dog. It won't cost you a penny.

If you would like to become a collection point or know someone who would then please email [Trevor@SpiritoftheDog.org.uk](mailto:Trevor@SpiritoftheDog.org.uk), we are currently looking for local shops to partner with, and an article will be going into the local papers shortly publishing the campaign and collection points.

We also need people to register as supporters of the appeal on the [www.recyclingappeal.com](http://www.recyclingappeal.com) website, This way our name gets added to the list of recognised Appeals and we get a bit of publicity, All you need to do is click on the Recycle link on the Spirit of the Dog website, then register that you have some cartridges to send back (even if you haven't got any yet, you can still register) in the Collecting for box select Other and then in the next box type Spirit of the Dog Rehabilitation Fund, then fill in your details and they will send you out some collection bags.

## TOSS –IN FRUIT CAKE.

### Ingredients.

250g (8oz) Self-raising flour.  
½ level teaspoon ground mixed spice  
Pinch of salt  
125g (4oz) soft brown sugar  
300-350g (10-12oz) mixed dried fruit  
60g (2oz) glace cherries, quartered  
2 medium eggs  
125ml (4 fl/oz) oil  
125ml (4 fl/oz) milk  
½ teaspoon almond essence  
30g (1oz) Demerara sugar.

18cm (7in) square or 20cm (8in) round cake tin, lined with baking parchment.

Set the oven to cool, Gas mark 2 or 150C

### Method.

Sift the flour, spice and salt into a mixing bowl.

Add the rest of the ingredients, except the Demerara sugar.

Either beat with a wooden spoon for 3-4 until well mixed or  
use an electric mixer and beat for 1-2 minutes.

Turn the mixture into the tin, sprinkle with the Demerara sugar, and bake just above the  
centre of the oven for 2 hours, or until a skewer comes out clean after being inserted into  
the cake.

Remove the cake from the oven and leave to cool in the tin before turning out.

Wrap the cold cake in baking parchment, then foil, and freeze for up to 3 months.

Recipe from Jean Chapman.

And Finally

## **My Tilly Experience**

By Jane Nettleton. Karma Dog Training.

I thought it was about time I told you all about the beginnings of Tilly.

Tilly is a rough coated Lurcher she was rescued from a gypsy camp in Colchester and taken to Mistly Farm Park at the age of approximately 8 weeks. She was kept there with a lot of other dogs that Mistly take on. They re-home as many dogs as they can.

Not all can be rehomed due to illness etc so they keep them as part of the family.

Tilly was the only female left in the litter she was rescued with two other male dogs.

I had been looking out for a Lurcher for a while, the cross I was looking for was Greyhound Bearded collie I had seen lots of them over the years and they all had fantastic temperaments and full of tim. Then along came a call from the RSPCA to say they had some Lurchers at Mistly of course I decided to take a look. They brought the three dogs out for me to look at. The boys were lovely very attentive and wanted to please. Tilly however wanted to hunt the bird's sheep goats and whatever else came into vision stalking anything that moved. How could I leave her behind?

Her breeding is Greyhound Deerhound Terrier cross and she was and still is full of prey drive. She was very thin so I took her straight to the vets and was told that she had rickets and was very mal-nourished my vet wasn't sure if her bones would be very strong and advised that the prognosis may not be that good and she was that poorly she may even die. She was so hungry she ate snail's worm's insects and anything else she could find that was remotely edible, So my job was to build her up day-by-day she got stronger and stronger. Obviously she survived her ordeal and now she has been trained to do some basic obedience and heelwork to music

As with all dogs the day to day Foundation exercises are very important, if I hadn't have stuck with them Tilly would not have made the dog she is today. If I drop them she reverts to being a confused and difficult dog. She would at any opportunity attack my other female dogs especially Crystal who had Addison's Disease and was 5 years older than her. Tilly at times was not an easy dog to live with. Sticking to the Foundation Rules means a quiet life for us all, dropping them means all hell breaks loose in the house. Tilly was the youngest dog in my pack at the time and tried to push the older dogs around. She is now in her 9<sup>th</sup> Year and has had her fair share of tumbles and scrapes. She is now the oldest dog in my pack she still has a very strong character but she is a real sweetie and we all love her to bits.

Jane