

## ALABAMA ROT THE BACKGROUND by Stan Rawlings

**Fear Based Stories:** It's that time of year again, one day of hot weather and people start flooding to the countryside.

Many of us have dogs and suddenly the papers are filled with fear stories about the dreaded flesh munching disease, dramatically named Alabama Rot.

Would it surprise you to know there has never been one proven case of Alabama Rot in the UK? So how and why did this "fake news begin"?

**Alabama Rot:** These stories started from one source in the UK, and that was a veterinary group called Anderson Moores Vet Clinic based near Winchester in Hampshire. They wrote a paper explaining that though they called it Alabama Rot, it is not actually the same disease that was first seen in surprise surprise, Alabama in the USA. It appeared there in the late 1980s and only appeared to affect greyhounds. The cause of that was apparently a reaction to toxins produced by bacteria, possibly a mutated strain of E. coli.

However recent suggestions have been put forward that Alabama Rot could be caused by the food they feed racing greyhounds in the USA. It is called 4-D meat and gets its name from diseased, dying, disabled and dead livestock, deemed unfit for human consumption.

**Possible Cure Breakthrough:** By using therapeutic plasma exchange (TPE) or "plasmapheresis" to filter all the patient's blood, toxic substances are removed and, once filtered, the blood is returned to the patient. This procedure was used on six dogs suffering from the symptoms of Alabama rot, with two of the dogs going on to make a full recovery.

Development of the treatment was made possible by the discovery of the similarities between Alabama rot in dogs and thrombotic microangiopathy in humans, which is also treated with plasma exchange.

Stefano Cortellini, an author of the study, and lecturer in emergency and critical care at the RVC, said: "Despite the fact only a third of dogs treated with TPE recovered from their disease, this is the first time dogs so severely affected by CRGV have been reported to survive, so we remain optimistic that TPE may play an important role in the treatment of this deadly disease."

full article at <https://www.doglistener.co.uk/alabama-rot-dogs-truth-or-fiction>

This year there have been 14 new cases of CRGV bringing it to a total of 189 since 2012, there were 52 cases in 2018.

## OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

**Chairman** - Pauline Burtenshaw

Tel: 01903 717837

e-mail: [Paulinekb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Paulinekb@hotmail.co.uk)

**Secretary** - Hilary Sykes -

01243-860083

e-mail: [hilary.sykes39@gmail.com](mailto:hilary.sykes39@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** - Maureen Fitzgibbons

- 01243-825475

e-mail: [maureen.fitzgibbons@sky.com](mailto:maureen.fitzgibbons@sky.com)

**Show Secretary:** Kim Brown

Tel: 07795180293

email: [kimjudithbrown@gmail.com](mailto:kimjudithbrown@gmail.com)

**Committee**

Helen Sargent 01243 821533

Kim Brown 01243 821552

Debra Saunders 07795180293

Paul White

David Bonthron

David Farr.

# NEWS HOUND



BOGNOR REGIS & DISTRICT DOG TRAINING CLUB

[www.bognordogclub.org.uk](http://www.bognordogclub.org.uk)

**WELCOME:** The Officers & Committee would like to welcome everyone to a new term, especially those of you who are new to the club. We pride ourselves on being a friendly and happy club, and if anyone has any problems or needs advice, please speak to any Trainer or Committee member. With the vast amount of experience which our trainers and Committee have, someone will usually be able to provide an answer.

**ANNUAL SHOW:** Another big thank you goes to all Club Members and the Committee for their enormous help with this year's Show. A large number attending, which resulted in £1700 being raised for the Ability Dogs 4 Young People charity, which will be presented to at our Christmas party on Thursday 12th December. Our appreciation also goes to the Judges and Stewards, who did a superb job, and of course all of our sponsors, especially Tom Williamson owner and Director of THW Landscape Construction who were very kindly our main sponsor, and also to Laura Vander Wee from Brick Kiln Garden centre for her superb support to the show also big thanks to Sian, Manager of Runcton Pet Warehouse who were also a Ring Sponsor.

**DEMO AT PAGHAM:** Sue Weller would like to offer a big thank you to all of the demonstration team members that kindly gave up their time to give a training demonstration at Pagham on Parade Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup>. We had good feedback & interest, a good job well done it was a very successful afternoon.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Our Annual Christmas party will be held on Thursday 12th December at 7-30 pm. There will be the usual Fancy dress (for dogs) and lots of doggy games. Refreshments will be provided. This is a fun evening for you, your family and most importantly your dogs, so come along and start your Christmas early. We will also be making the cheque presentation to Ability Dogs 4 Young People

**DISCOVER DOGS:** will be taking place at the ExCel London on Saturday & Sunday 12th/13th October. With over 200 breeds of Pedigree Dogs attending and over 100 trade stands it is an enjoyable day out. More information at [www.discoverdogs.org.uk/](http://www.discoverdogs.org.uk/)

**MARINE PARK GARDENS:** Last year we reported that the dog ban in Marine Park gardens had been suspended. This was however relatively short lived, as it was re-imposed a few months later after a child was attacked by a Dog owned by a Lady from Devon.

After many protests to Gillian Brown who was at the time leader of Arun Council, she sent an email to Walter Wiltshire and posted on the Bognor Regis Dog Owners forum Facebook page confirmation that the ban is still suspended, but of course ADC have still not changed the NO DOGS signs. A copy of the e-mail can be found at the Café in West Park.

**CLUB SWEATSHIRTS & POLO SHIRTS** are available by contacting Maureen. All are blue with an embroidered club logo. Prices start at £14-95 for Sweatshirts and £12-95 for Polo shirts. Please see web site for details and photo's.

**GOOD CITIZENS:** During the year, the club organise a number of Good Citizen tests. Details of what is required can be found on the Club web site [www.bognordogclub.org.uk](http://www.bognordogclub.org.uk), or contact Helen who will provide details.

[www.bognordogclub.org.uk](http://www.bognordogclub.org.uk)

Editorial: Phil Lewis

Tel: 01243 826181; e-mail: [phil42@freeolamail.com](mailto:phil42@freeolamail.com)

September 2019

## TRAINERS FOR THIS TERM

### Thursday:

Puppy Class (6-30pm) - Maureen Fitzgibbons

Pre-beginners (7-00pm) - Mavis Heppell assisted by David Page

Novice 1 (8-00pm) - Pauline Burtenshaw

Novice 2 (9-00pm) - David Vivash

### Friday:

Puppy Class (6-30pm) - Maureen Fitzgibbons

Pre-beginners (7-00pm) - Hilary Sykes

Beginners (8-00pm) - Gaynor Winterman

"A" & "B" class 9-00pm) - Sue Weller

## PETITION - Make Pet theft a specific crime

It is proposed to amend the Animal Welfare Act 2006 to make pet theft a specific offence, distinct from that of inanimate objects like an old bike or a Lawn mower and in sentencing, the courts must consider the fear, alarm or distress to the pet and owners and not just the monetary value.

At least five dogs are stolen every day in England & Wales. Research by Allen et al (2019) reveals an increase in dog theft crimes. There were 1,294 in 2015, 1,525 in 2016, 1,678 in 2017; and at the same time an alarming decrease in court charges related to dog theft crimes. There were just 62 in 2015, 48 in 2016 and 37 in 2017. A strong deterrent is needed. This amendment would ensure on conviction, imprisonment for a term up to 2 years becomes available to courts.

*[Ed. a zero is missing ! - I would make it 20 years]*

Please Support Pet Theft Reform and sign the petition which has over 116,000 signatures:

<http://www.stolenandmissingpetsalliance.co.uk/>

Two guys are walking through a game park & they come across a lion that has not eaten for days. The lion starts chasing the two men. They run as fast as they can and the one guy starts getting tired and decides to say a prayer, "Please turn this lion into a Christian, Lord." He looks to see if the lion is still chasing and he sees the lion on its knees. Happy to see his prayer answered, he turns around and heads towards the lion. As he comes closer to the lion, he hears it saying a prayer: "Thank you Lord for the food I am about to receive."



## Dog Owners Facebook Page

Most people will probably be aware of a recently new Facebook Page called **Bognor Regis Dog Owners Forum**. It was originally set up to try and persuade more shops and businesses in Bognor Regis to be Dog friendly. It has attracted a lot of members and has now moved more into a general Dog Owners forum with many people exchanging Doggy business and photographs etc. It also provides alerts that Dog owning people may wish to be aware of and of course any lost pets are mentioned.

## END OF TERM ASSESSMENTS

We will be doing assessments again next term and your own Trainer will do ongoing assessment of you each week, so please try to come along to all your classes so that he/she can keep an accurate record of how you are progressing. At the end of the term the Trainers will have a meeting and will discuss who in their own classes they wish to go up. If you do not go up it does not mean that you have "failed", but that you just need another term in the lower class so that you do not struggle with more difficult work in the higher class before you and your dog are ready. At the end of the Autumn term there will be a ballot when you can vote for whether you prefer this system, or whether you would like to return to end of term tests as we have always had them. Being the democracy we are - the highest number of votes wins and we trust the losers will not become Remoaners!!!!!"

Hilary

### Pre-beginners Thursday (Trainer Mavis Heppell)

Wendy Swann with Charlie

Louise Cross with Theo.

### Pre-Beginners Friday (Trainer Hilary Sykes)

Daniel Wallis with Robyn

Angelika Hegedus with Minnie

### Beginners (Trainer Gaynor Winterman)

Maureen Fitzgibbons with Connie

Sharon King with Max

Sue Hall with Louis

Sally Hammond with Indy

Peggy Partridge with Bilbo

Paul White

### Novice Classes (Trainers Pauline Burtenshaw & David Vivash)

Jean Mitchell with Milly

Jo Davison with Abby

Susie Hackett with Tanner

There were no passes in the "A" or "B" classes.

## Diary dates

**Christmas Party** : Thursday, 12th. December

**Autumn Term**: 5/6th Sept - 21/22nd Nov

### Dates for 2020 (NEXT YEAR):

Spring Term: 10/11th. January - 11/12th April

Summer Term: 2/3rd May - 25/26th July

Autumn Term: 5/6th September - 21/22nd Nov

**A Man** goes to a Psychiatrist and says can you help me ?, I keep thinking I am a Dog  
The Psychiatrist says yes of course I can this is very common. Hop up on to the couch and I will take a look.  
The Man says sorry I can't get on the couch, I am not allowed!.