

2016 BTCO GROOMING DAY

an Educational and Fun Event for all Border Terrier Owners

Our Border Terrier grooming day was held once again in Sutton with a good turn-out of humans and border terriers to take part in this informal working session. Many thanks to Bev and Bill Ferguson for donating the use of the outer building on their property for the session and to Global Pet Foods (Keswick) for providing pizzas for lunch. Also thanks to Linda Hough and all others who provided snacks and coffee at the session.

During the lunch break we enjoyed an interesting and informative presentation on the sport of Scent Detection by Diane Dirsus Breckles, an avid and enthusiastic participant in this sport also described as “Nosework”. The presentation was followed by a short outdoor demonstration by Diane and her canine companion.

Some key points from Diane’s presentation are:

Nosework is a canine sport created to mimic professional detection dog tasks – finding a hidden target odour such as wintergreen, pine or thyme, often ignoring distractions, and alerting the handler.

Nosework is a sport that requires no formal Obedience training of the dog and uses no clickers, tight leashes or commands. The dog just follows his nose.

Any dog can “play the game” and it can be beneficial for many reasons:

- Senior dogs or dogs with disabilities can benefit as physical prowess is not required
- The sport teaches young dogs some form of impulse control as they learn to ignore distractors and focus on finding the target odour.
- Inspires confidence in dogs
- Dogs that are reactive to other dogs can participate as the search areas have no other dogs in the immediate area
- It is a thinking game which helps tire a dog out
- This is a sport you can do with your dog almost anywhere. Setup is minimal, equipment is portable and relatively inexpensive. All you need to start is a dog !

For more information on this fun activity you can do with your dogs, check out the Sporting Detection Dogs Association (SDDA) website at www.SportingDetectionDogs.ca or via email at info@sportingdetectiondogs.ca

Pictures from the 2016 grooming day are available on the BTCO website Photo Galley