

The Deerhound Club

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2012

BREED SHOW FEATURE

Maud Earl - Canine Artist

50th Anniversary Hound Show



Regional News & Show News from Abroad

Health Matters



Cover photo: Bonita Gower

Voted BEST BREED CLUB
MAGAZINE by
“Dog World” newspaper
and Midland Counties
Canine Society

from the editor

Crufts is featured in this edition. Many congratulations to all those who did well. I always consider Crufts to be the start of the championship show season and we can look forward to longer days and the start of the outdoor shows this month.

We must not forget the Open shows, some of which really need our support, it is where most of our budding deerhound judges serve their apprenticeship, so please make an entry where you can.

This month one of our main events, our Breed Show, which remains an Open show, takes place in the north, in Blackpool. Always a relaxed and friendly event ????????????

Good luck to exhibitors, I hope your hounds will do well in the ring this year.

Regional News writers need your local news. I know the Spring issue is sometimes difficult to fill - members have not seen each other at events and news is in short supply. Any news or gossip is always good for the rest of us to

read so a quick email to your local regional newser would be a great help to them.

Unfortunately, this Newsletter is going out later than usual. I have not been at the editor's desk for the past few weeks. Hopefully, from now on, things will get back to normal.

Joan Wragg



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In this issue

- 2 From the President
- 2 New Members
- 3 Committee Matters
- 4 Regional News - Northern Crack
- 5 New Champions Feature
- 9 Health Matters
- 13 Shadow Becomes an Author
- 14 Spanish News
- 17 Regional News - Welsh News & Views
- 18 Saint-Gaudens and Deerhounds
- 21 Regional News - Midland Matters
- 22 Limited Shows Feature
- 33 Regional News - Scottish Notes
- 34 Frampton Country Fair
- 35 Deerhound Collectables
- 36 Best Puppy Feature
- 40 Regional News - Southern Snippets.
Dartmoor Vale Marathon
- 41 How to get your Hound fit for Lure Coursing
- 42 Dicksee Masterpiece
- 43 Regional News - Events East
- 44 Paws and Wheels
- 46 Regional News - Thames Valley Voice
- 47 Deerhound Breed Seminar.
Comments on Necks, Shoulders and Fronts
- 48 Discover Dogs
- 49 Portosystems Shunt Testing
- 50 Celebrating Marriage & Deerhounds
- 51 Show Results
- 53 Caption Competition
- 54 Regional News - Irish Eyes
- 56 Insight

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president's news



When Tony and Julie Schaanning Ling thanked whoever it was who forwarded the prize card they

mistakenly left on their bench at LKA, the email they sent went on to say that "since they started showing in 1972, they have kept every prize card won. Each has its own memories."

Their message set me thinking. I do (now) know that one of the Kennel Club requirements at a dog show is that exhibitors are awarded Prize Cards. My first time as Deerhound Club Breed Show Secretary – 1980, members had been very generous with donations towards Rosettes. It seemed to me rather a waste of money to bother with prize cards, when rosettes were much more fun for people to win. After the show, Miss Hartley came and quietly thanked me for my endeavours, and very nicely told me that I had contravened KC Rules & Regulations. Whew, thank goodness Field Officers were not yet invented! And of course Norah Hartley's gentle rebuke was infinitely more effective than if another Officer of the Club had thrown the Red Book at me.

At Fletton Tower, Miss Hartley had an award board for each hound - some major prize cards cheerfully displayed next to another Rotherwood hound with minor show achievements. When Mary Churchill and I first started travelling to shows, we would compare our success rate on the journey home. Counting ourselves lucky to gain a VHC in our early days, our hounds gradually managed to win some Reserve places and so it went on, and eventually we won a First prize card and a Challenge Certificate.

It is extremely nice to win a first prize card, and the deerhound showing community are invariably

very pleased for the winner. If you are used to being 'among the cards', then it is disappointing to be beaten by an exhibit that you usually hope to beat. But for some exhibitors, that win will give them so much pleasure that we have to gracefully accept the 'loveable loser' position. So whether your hound wins or loses, please be charming in your acceptance of the judge's decision!

Of course this is all leading up to my unearthing a prize card I won showing a rabbit. We were allowed pets at the Prep School I went to one in Norfolk, and Miss Ridsdale was the artistic headmistress - hence the hand painted prize card. Name of rabbit - goodness knows! I remember it was guaranteed a male until it got out one night, and had babies. We had a vivid green leather collar and lead for taking it for walks. Now all that remains is the 60 year old VHC prize card.

Are there any ancient - preferably canine - prize cards being hoarded by members? Probably more fun than the boring photocopy of a rosette that seems the norm at Champ Shows. Please scan or post me a copy - if you feel like a competition!

MARY GIRLING
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The DEERHOUND CLUB

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions should be paid directly to the Hon Treasurer, Hazel Williams, Manor Farm Cottage, Astwith, Pilsley, Chesterfield, Derbys, S45 8AN.
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Subs are due on the 1 January and must be paid by the 14 February otherwise you will be liable to a £10.00 rejoining fee.

Unfortunately, due to high bank charges we cannot accept euro cheques. We can however, accept travellers' cheques. Overseas members can pay by PAYPAL - please add £2.00 extra to your subscription to cover PAYPAL admin charges.

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UK Single - £15.00
UK Joint - £20.00
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Committee Matters

We held a Committee meeting in February, which had to be rearranged at very short notice because of the weather. Almost all of us were able to make the rearranged date, thank goodness.

After the usual business, among the topics for discussion was how to acquire some silver spoons for the Club – our current supplier has not replied to recent correspondence and since he is very elderly, there are some concerns that he may have gone out of business. The price of silver is still quite high, so we were hoping to wait until it came down a bit before ordering, but it now looks as though we may also need a new supplier. I know of one member who is patiently waiting for a spoon and there may be more of you out there who haven't yet got round to claiming yours. Please bear with us - we'll have them made as soon as we can, bearing in mind that it's the Club's money we're spending and we need to get as good a deal as possible.

We also discussed some technical details of the judges list criteria, since we now have our own breed-assessment seminar programme. We agreed that applicants for the B list will need to have a Deerhound Club certificate of judging competence, so C list judges, please be aware of this new requirement.

The February meeting is the one where we discuss AGM arrangements and the impending breed show. We have decided that we need a specials steward to ensure that everyone who is eligible to challenge

for a breed show trophy is aware of this, so if you win a class and are confronted by either myself or Gill Smith and given a slip of paper, please be sure to read it and bring your hound to the ring side at the end of judging.

We received further feedback from the breed seminar and judging assessment – we think that including an all-rounder judge on the assessment panel would be valuable and have invited two of the more Deerhound-orientated judges to take part.

The next Education Day will be held in Longstowe Hall in May and I understand that a Greyhound vet is coming to speak about running injuries, which should be very useful. There will, of course, be more Deerhound-specific sessions and if the precious days are anything to go by, it should make for a very interesting day out.

Puppies were also on the agenda. At that point, we were unaware of any litters in England, although there were several litters due in Scotland. As it turned out, some of the bitches missed, so there were fewer puppies around than expected. There is, however, a nine-year-old male who needs a new home through no fault of his own. If anyone can offer this blameless chap a hearthrug to spend his declining years on, Sue Reynolds would be delighted to hear from you.

On to health and we are very pleased to note that at least two members have taken up the offer of Capital Diagnostics to do liver shunt testing at a very favourable price

in order to establish just how common it is. We may be adding details to the litter registration forms that Mrs Reynolds

sends out on request. The Health Committee is also pursuing a DNA storage scheme with the Animal Health Trust, which could prove invaluable in future years. We are also looking into funding possible research into Dilated Cardiomyopathy, although inquiries are still at a very early stage. A member has offered to fundraise for this cause, which is wonderful news. Research doesn't come cheap these days and every little helps.

And that's about it for the February meeting. It's a long drive home from Oxford to East Lothian and I had plenty to reflect on on the way. As some of you may know, I have a bit of a health issue going on and I have decided that 2012-13 should be my final year as Hon. Secretary. It's been and still remains, a very interesting position, so if anyone of an administrative bent is interested in taking it on, please don't hide your light under a bushel – let us know!

ANN (SID) TAYLOR, HON SEC.
APRIL 2012



A WARM WELCOME to New Club Members

Archie & Marjorie Fairlie
Cooden, East Sussex

Anne Vatne
Aalgaard Norway

Pam Moffat (Rejoin)
Tecoma, Victorie, Australia

Brian & Janet Jordon
Brimington, Chesterfield, Derbys

Mr Potts & Mrs Buckley
Little Srtoke, Bristol

Paul Humphreys
Chaing Mai, Thailand

Paul & Sharon Spicer
Battle, East Sussex

Dawn & Zoe Richardson
Tunstall, Richmond, North Yorkshire

David & Liz Ackers
Criccieth, Gwynedd

Dee Palmer
Hove, East Sussex

Tracey Dimmock
Chipnall, Market Drayton, Salop

Maureen & James Scott
Peebles, Scottish Borders

Kathrun Schini
Glen Allen, VA, USA

James Newton
Grimsby, Lincs

Mrs Lorna Steele
Newtown, Powys

Dr Evelyn O'Hare
Morcombelake, Bridport, Dorset

Mike Walters
Wick, Bristol

Bryan Powell
Exeter, Devon

Carol & Andrew Taylor
Hockley, Essex

Mr Shand & Mrs Troop
Stonehaven, Scotland

Mr & Mrs Lucerne-Lambourne
Broad Oak, Canterbury

Mrs Maggie Holder
Leeds, Kent

Neil & Stephanie Buxton
Whitnash, Leamington Spa

Dr David Feller
Sandy, Beds

Regional News *Irish Eyes*

Each January I make the effort to attend the Northern Ireland Hound of the Year competition organised by the Hound Club of Northern Ireland. Always a very leisurely affair, with refreshments available, it provides a nice opportunity to sit back and view the best of what has been winning in the other hound breeds across the province, or simply “catch up” with friends after Christmas. Run along the lines of a match meeting, it’s a knock out competition finishing with both the best puppy and best hound being crowned: a precocious standard long haired dachshund puppy taking the laurels for both legs this year much to the approval of a very sporting audience. Roy and Carol Hill live close to the venue and came along to watch proceedings and compare notes. They were delighted to report on sightings of recently introduced red kites in the area which they were closely monitoring with interest, a little too closely as it would turn out!

Roy rang a few weeks ago to tell me Carol had left and gone to feed their horses in a field at the top of a lane, a little out of the way. The horses fed, she had a wander about armed with binoculars, scanning the winter skies for any sign of the kites, when she fell over a tree root breaking her foot and ankle. Luckily she had her mobile phone and was able to summon help but still had to spend an hour lying in freezing conditions, watched over by two whippets and two deerhounds, before the emergency services managed to find her. After a week in hospital and following an operation she is on the mend and we wish her well, but a salutary lesson for the likes of me, who wanders far over hill and dale without ever taking a mobile phone, of how easily things can turn dangerously pear shaped.

To breed or not to breed, that is the question? Having taken the decision to breed and found a stud dog that just might work, we go blithely, or maybe blindly, forward. The puppies duly arrive and everything appears straightforward at that point; but don’t get too comfortable, this is

just the honeymoon period, it will last three weeks, and then the fun begins in earnest.

Because it was three years since our last litter I totally forgot the joys of having winter puppies

and, by some cruel quirk of fate, our litters are almost always born during the dark, short, wet, days. I consoled myself by repeating “Never again” as I set about the never ending routine of shoveling, hosing, disinfecting, feeding, bedding etc. aided by the incessant attention of the carefree whelps which took great pleasure in walking through anything that would make chores more awkward whilst others would trip and attack. Or the angst experienced when, with a soaring feeling of achievement rising in my chest, I would make my way to the kitchen for a much deserved coffee to view the result of my cleansing labours only to find, standing alone like the Old Man of Hoy, a stealthy stool had been deposited by one of the miscreants.

Winter pups are indeed hard work. I always find it amusing when people tell me they hate to see puppies go? I am positively delirious with relief when they go off to their new homes and the “crowd” is at last reduced to the one or two that are staying and we have the return of the status quo. Incredibly though, the memory of the relentless mayhem quickly fades as retained saplings grow and I find it hard to believe in these sharp Spring evenings, as they cavort endlessly, that once, in a silly moment of weakness, I harboured the thought of “never again!”

Some eighteen months ago we took on an Irish Wolfhound, almost as the fulfillment of an ambition I had to have another, since we lost our first one shortly after our marriage as result of bone cancer. Kerry ticked all the boxes for me: black, show quality, Irish bloodlines, female, but how would she behave with the deerhounds? I could see she was confident and feisty from the off but the deerhounds tolerated the newcomer and I persevered believing she could be moulded into our system; but I have to concede, not a failure, but to reality. I found it very surprising that two breeds whose modern history share well documented common origins could be poles apart in attitude and temperament: deep rooted differences which became particularly apparent at playtime. Deerhounds are born to run; play for them is a joyous simulation of the chase: first the boxing match like March hares and then the crazy tail chasing pursuit, ending only

when exhaustion declares a draw. Wolfhounds don’t pursue, they pummel. Quickly realising she possessed neither the puff nor the pace of the deerhounds, Kerry would wait until the chase was over and then bomb broadside into the unsuspecting pack, dominating and

threatening, born perhaps from a mixture of frustration and some base instinct? It was behavior the deerhounds found alien and confusing and I found unacceptably dangerous. If historical references are to be trusted, we find, of course, the wolfhounds’ history is often that of the pugilist: combatant in the arena’s of Rome, a dog of war, a guard in the stockade, a

single handed slayer of the wolf and even as a killer of a “cruel mastiff” in London’s Bear Garden. Whilst a deerhound’s modus operandi is clearly to chase and is very obviously of the greyhound family, the Wolfhounds’ methods, disposition and bulk suggest that it’s was more akin to the mighty Alaunt, slipped on large game at the end of the hunt to “finish it off.” Kerry’s powerful, instinctive desire to “finish off” the deerhounds at play left us with little choice and she went off to live with her own again where they prefer wrestling to running. The deerhounds never fully accepted that she could be their cousin anyway and, within a day of her departure, they felt as if they had been released from bondage and were dancing over the fields again to a new tune, as free as Nelson Mandela!

In these times where economic darkness engulfs the world we look for the first signs of light in the hope of a new dawn. Sometimes hope appears in a stunning, priceless form. When on a January Sunday afternoon our daughter, Naomi, told us she was expecting her second child we were simply overjoyed. That evening, almost in celebration, the Northern Lights spectacularly lit the heavens from distant Malin Head across the crystal skies to our home. The Aurora Borealis: the New Dawn of the North.

BRYAN DOAK
TEL: 02871 841292

PS. Congratulations to Rod and Cass Gillie on the birth of their first grandchild, a baby boy for their daughter, Paula. The Aurora Borealis has been busy !



RED KITE





Deerhounds Out of Africa

Karen Christenze Dinesen was born April 17, 1885 into an old world of landed gentry at the family farm,

Rungstedlund, near Rungsted, Denmark. Although she was raised in the world of the aristocracy, her family spent several months every year at the family country estates and her life included an environment of animals, crops, hiking and hunting. Early on she showed a talent for drawing and writing, publishing her first literary piece at the age of 17 under the pen name, Osceola, but became an internationally known writer under the pseudonym Isek Dinesen with her book 'Out of Africa'.

In 1912, Karen became engaged to her second cousin Baron Bror Blixen-Finecke. They decided to begin their new life together by buying a coffee plantation and moving to British East Africa, with Bror leaving for Kenya before Karen in order to purchase farm property. Karen joined him, arriving in Mombassa on January 14, 1914 and were married the same day. As a wedding gift they were given two deerhound puppies, a male and a female a few months apart in age, which Karen named Dusk and Dawn. Thus began her love of and life with deerhounds.

The sporting life for a deerhound in early 20th century Britain was rife with pitfalls to the health and well-being of a hound, but life in Africa was much more dangerous when dealing with things such as wild predators, flesh eating insects, poisonous plant life and the closest vet a two hour drive to Nairobi. When Karen bred her two hounds, Dawn gave birth to two male puppies, Askari (also referred to as Pjuske - native words for policeman), and Banja (or Pania - both Swahili words for rat). In a letter to her mother, Ingeborg Dinesen, in June of 1917, she wrote - "My two little dogs, Askari and Banja are here with me..... These two were just born when I arrived (after she returned from Nairobi) and are so comical, they are the image of Dusk in both appearance and character. These deerhounds are very faithful and intelligent, sweet dogs". Unfortunately, when the pups were only a few months old, their mother, Dawn, was killed when she was snatched by a leopard off the front veranda. Writing to her mother Karen penned, ".....and to my great sorrow I have lost Dawn..... She was a particularly sweet and intelligent dog and unlike Dusk, was most attached

to me, but she was far too daring".

In the late summer of 1918, Karen wrote to her mother - "My little dog Banja (he was the smallest of all her deerhounds) had a fight with a big boar that tore his chest badly, but I think he is recovering". Banja did recover and lived for another nine years. But in the late August of the same year she lost Dusk. He had run off into the bush after some animal while they were on safari and Karen spent three days searching and posted a reward for his whereabouts but to no avail. She sent her head man Farah out on a mule and he rode up into the mountains for several hours where he finally found Dusk, lying beside a zebra he had brought down. But the hound had been kicked repeatedly in the chest, was coughing up blood, could not stand, eat or drink, and died within an hour of Farah finding him and was buried by a large tree up in the mountains.

Sometime in early 1925 when Karen went to Denmark for a short visit, she obtained another female deerhound called Heather, who returned to Kenya with her. In 1926 when Heather went into first season, Karen was livid when she found out that a wild dog had got into the hound's pen and mated her. Her workers swore that Banja had got into the pen first and as she wrote to her brother Thomas she stated "..... of course that is not impossible, knowing Banja and we can only wait the course of events, I will be able to see at once who has been responsible for the puppies....." Unfortunately, it was not Banja that fathered the litter, but as the pups would make good lurchers Karen found homes for them among the neighbouring planters. Very early the following year Heather did have two puppies with Banja. Banja passed away in May of 1927 from old age - he was ten years old. A few days before his death, Karen wrote her mother, "I don't think he has much time left, but he is not suffering and is still himself, so sweet and gentle and keeping his old sense of humour despite his weakness....."

In the summer of 1927, Karen still despaired that Heather would not follow her on horseback, so she decided to attempt to train her while on a lead. She wrapped the hound's leash around her fingers so she wouldn't lose it and mounted her horse. Heather started leaping about, causing the horse to leap about, much to the delight of her workers' young children who asked if she would do it again!

In December of 1928, she again bred from Heather who had a difficult pregnancy and birth. She started labour on a Sunday evening and had one small puppy on Monday evening and a second one Tuesday morning. She never fully recovered from the complications and died six weeks later. The two puppies survived and Karen named them Dinah and David.

David died in 1930 from unknown causes. Karen had to give up the plantation and return to Denmark permanently in 1932, and not knowing what her future life would be, she left Dinah and one other remaining deerhound with a good friend on a neighbouring plantation "where they would get good hunting". And though in later years she had no more deerhounds, she never ceased remembering or picturing her beloved hounds on the plains of Africa.

SANDY MACALLISTER

Text reprinted from The Claymore

* I once asked Hugh Campbell ('Orbost' deerhounds), who had been out in East Africa, if he had known her and he said he had met her. ED.

Africa 1920's - Karen with one of her deerhounds





DRUMMOND

News from Spain

2012 Is up and running, and already a quarter gone. Where does the time go? I'm glad to get last year finished actually, as I managed to fall flat on my face on the concrete and damage two ribs and my diaphragm, it was nearly eight weeks before I could laugh, cough or sneeze properly and even breathing wasn't easy. Here in Spain, I seem to have a penchant for rib breaking, this is the third time in six years. The first time, I was run over by Dougal, the second when Lily dragged me over a chain link fence, but I cannot blame the dogs this last time. I must be getting a bit dodderly in my old age. (I was sober at the time!!)

Our hounds drift elegantly on, waited on hand and foot (or paw), to the extent that Drummond actually ate his breakfast on the sofa recently as he was too comfy to come and get it! Can you imagine it? Delia holding his bowl for him, whilst he picked out the pieces he fancied! I wish I'd had a camera handy.

When I spoke to Sue Ward recently, she said she was going to list her occupation as "deerhound butler", I know exactly what she means. Seems that not only did she make a birthday cake for Sapphire's 10th birthday but also cream cup cakes and pork pies. What a wonderful life! Whatever happened to the days when dogs ate 'dog food'? She reports that all is well with her pack at present, except Angus (Drummond's brother) who had a good gallop and came back limping - there is always one to worry about. I suppose it's inevitable with what my old Norfolk lurcher owning friends called "running dogs".

I have just realised that I shouldn't criticise

what people feed their hounds as I am probably one of the worst offenders! I've just looked in my shopping bag and realised that it's nearly all for the dogs. They have stewing steak, chicken, pressed turkey slices, liver and dog chews, plus pigs ears. We have bread, yoghurt, eggs, biscuits and cheese, but I'm fairly certain that the cheese will go their way too! As Shakespeare said "What fools these mortals be"!

Barron seems to be the main culprit for my shopping trips. He is almost three and eats non-stop if you let him. He never seems to get full! Our vet. has given him an M.O.T. and says he is perfectly OK, so I guess he is just a greedy dog. Maybe he has a high metabolic rate or a dodgy astate but he sure can eat!! So far he hasn't any excess weight and I think I would rather have him greedy than a poor eater. We once had an Afghan hound who was a poor eater, she was a real worry and would often go three or four days without eating.

I think Barron has given up on the idea of being 'alpha male', as Drummond, for all his good nature and tolerance, has given him a few sharp lessons. I saw him put in his place recently during one of their 'round the house wall of death' races. He got close enough to Drummond to grab his tail and pull him to a stop. I cringed and waited for the explosion, but instead of flooring him, Drummond gave him 'the look', then walked off as though he wasn't there, towing him effortlessly behind. He could have been a big tow truck pulling a mini out of a ploughed field. The strength in those long skinny legs must be tremendous. Barron was very impressed (as was I) I know dogs have 4xwheel drive and independent suspension, but that was quite a display!

Our other southern Spanish friend, Jane Powell, also seems to be having an incident free spell at present, (I hope writing this does not put the 'evil eye' on her) and indeed won a 2nd in the Group with Beatriz (Barron's sister), at the Malaga Show. She always was a very showy young lady, and Jane says she is filling out a bit and looking very good. I think she may go on to great things. To actually win a hound class here is difficult, as the Spanish are very fixated on Galgos (Greyhounds) and they nearly always win first place. To be honest, I find the type here a little too light and dainty, but then I have been used to racing greyhounds with a bit more bulk and muscle, so I am probably a little biased. We had another 'interesting' incident one

'peaceful' evening just after Christmas. Barron wandered sleepily in and hopped onto the sofa for a quick nap. Unfortunately, he landed right on top of Lucy. She was not happy about being woken like that, and promptly bit his backside. He let out a yell of fright and fled, but ran right over poor Drummond who was happily snoring against the sideboard. He, in turn, let out a huge roar and leapt to his feet nearly knocking over the sideboard in the process. Bric-a-brac, ornaments, photos and crystals all cascaded down with a tremendous clatter, followed by a snowstorm of Christmas cards. What a shambles!! I had been happily dozing too, but I shot out of my chair and found them glaring and grumbling at each other and all displaying a full set of 'Dentastix' teeth. (I really love that advert). I jumped in between them, (in retrospect not a clever idea) and did a bit of grumbling and dental displaying of my own, which fortunately defused the situation instantly. Well, it did as far as they were concerned, they all went back to bed and left us to sort out the mess. "Madre Mia", as they say here, I thought owning dogs was supposed to ease tension and stress!

There is no doubt there is always something funny, interesting or pure panic inducing, about being a deerhound owner. I don't think their naughtiness is ever deliberate, and a quick cuddle, or a gentle arm and hand nibble usually cures the problem. You can't be cross with them for long?

You may remember how I bragged about our lovely weather in the Newsletter, well, you will be pleased to hear that it's freezing here at present, with an icy north wind blowing straight off the snowy tops of the Sierra Nevadas. That will teach me to boast about our weather. We certainly don't want too much of this, although the hounds seem to enjoy it and get quite lively. I have even had to scrape frost from my windscreen before setting off!

The temperature has now crept up to 16 degrees so we are off for the ritual walk, must get the pack round the block and back before it drops again.

Hasta La Vista
GEORGE MACDONALD-HEDGER

LAST MINUTE NEWS.....
Jane tells me there may be another Deerhound coming to Spain. More on that next time.



Breed Show 2012

20 April - 22 April

HERONS REACH VILLAGE HOTEL
East Park Drive, Blackpool, Lancs, FY3 8LL
Tel: 01253 838866 Fax: 0844 980 0850

WEEKEND RATES

INCLUDES: Friday - Dinner/Bed & Breakfast
Saturday - Mid morning coffee/
Lunch/Dinner/Bed & Breakfast
Sunday - Breakfast/mid morning coffee
DOUBLE ROOM - £155.00 per person
(double room occupancy)
SINGLE ROOM - £175.00 per person
No extra charge for dogs
Additional nights - Wednesday, Thursday
or Sunday - £75.00 per room, per night.

A deposit of £25.00 is requested when
booking, please quote 'The Deerhound Club'
& Ref: THDE 130412.

If written confirmation is required please ask
when booking.

Judges: Mrs Pat Allwright (Dogs), Mrs Joyce Bond (Bitches)
Referee & Sunday classes - Mr Keith Thornton

Show Secretary: Mary Ann Stuart Tel: 01692 652280 Email: mastuart@talk21.com
Show Managers: Robin and Jean Spencer Tel: 01772 435560 Email: spencer_r1@sky.com

TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY 20 APRIL

2.30pm	THE COMMITTEE MEET AND GREET new and overseas members for tea & biscuits
4.00pm	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7.00pm	BUFFET DINNER Dress casual, optional FANCY DRESS, theme - 'HOLLYWOOD - THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT'. Oscars awarded for best fancy dress. LIVE MUSIC - Soul and Motown

SATURDAY 21 APRIL

9.00am	BREED SHOW judging commences
12.00pm - 1.30pm	SNACK LUNCH
7.30pm for 8.00pm	GALA DINNER followed by TROPHY PRESENTATIONS Dress - evening wear/black tie preferred

SUNDAY 22 APRIL

9.45am	PARADE OF CHAMPIONS
10.00am	BREED SHOW SPECIAL CLASSES judging commences

THE RAFFLE - Donated prizes will be most welcome



HEALTH MATTERS - Demodicosis



same side and that he was doing it a lot, so I sat him down for a closer look.

There was a relatively round, silver dollar sized area of thin hair at the commissure of his lips (where the upper and lower lip meet). The hair was thin partly because there was less of it and partly because many shafts were broken off short. The skin had raised bumps, which were

swollen hair follicles. Many follicles had hard dark cores that protruded from the top, and a few follicles were reddened and scabbed. I checked the inside of his lips and his gums and teeth, to see if there was something in his mouth that might be bothering him. He had a little tartar build up on the biggest tooth in his upper jaw, but that was the same on both sides of his mouth, and there was no sign of gum irritation that might be causing him to scratch his face.

My mental list of possibilities had a half dozen entries, but in capital letters at the top was DEMODICOSIS - a local infestation of tiny mites that have the Latin name *Demodex Canis*. Ranger's case was classic, but I did a skin scraping just to make sure, and found dozens of *Demodex* mites.

A PRIMER ON DEMODICOSIS

This skin disease of dogs occurs when large numbers of *Demodex* mites inhabit hair follicles and the sebaceous glands that empty into the follicles. In small numbers, these mites are normal residents of the skin of dogs and cause no harm. Indeed, every mammal species, including humans, has its own *Demodex* mite species that lives happily and harmlessly in hair follicles. It is only when the *Demodex* mites population explodes that problems arise.

In dogs, these mites are transmitted from dam to puppies during nursing within the first 72 hours after birth. This is the only time *Demodex* mites move from animal to animal; the rest of the time, the mites spend their entire cycle on their host.

For this reason, Demodicosis is not considered to be a contagious disease.

What causes these normally benign mites to proliferate and cause skin disease?

The whole story is not completely understood, but it is clear that immunosuppression can precipitate the disease. This seems to be why Demodicosis typically occurs in young dogs around the age of puberty. That time of life is a period of natural immunosuppression coupled with changes in sebaceous gland secretions. Together, these predispose dogs to Demodicosis, just as they predispose teenagers to pimples and acne. Other causes are stress (estrus, pregnancy, surgery or boarding) or treatment with corticosteroids, can also precipitate the development of Demodicosis. Apparently for Ranger, seeing me walk out of his life was stressful.

Demodicosis can take two forms: localised and generalised. Localised Demodicosis occurs in dogs less than two years old, and often appears as circular lesions on the face, as in Ranger's case. Lesions typically are single and consist of areas of hair thinning or loss, reddened and/or darkened skin and blackheads. Itching is absent or weak. The diagnosis is confirmed by examining a skin scraping under the microscope to look for mites.

Localised Demodicosis that is confined to a single lesion, like Ranger's case, can be and should be left untreated. The prognosis for this form is good, and spontaneous recovery within 4-8 weeks is the norm.

A few cases of localised Demodicosis, especially where there is more than one lesion in different places on the body, progress to the generalised form. Generalised Demodicosis is a severe disease with widespread lesions that are usually aggravated by secondary bacterial infections deep in the skin. Dogs can become very ill, with generalised lymph node enlargement, lethargy and fever, especially if the infection gets into the blood stream.

Cases of localised Demodicosis where more than one lesion is present, and generalised Demodicosis, always require

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

A few years ago, I left on a business trip and did not return for five days. I travel on business many times a year, but normally I am away from home for only one night. Another thing that was different about this trip was the way I left. Usually I head to the airport before dawn, but this time I left in the middle of the day and walked out of the kitchen door in full view of our two 20 month old deerhounds.

Ranger was especially stressed to see me go. He moped around, would not eat his evening meal, and vomited once or twice that night. For the next five days he was inconsolable, barely drinking and taking only the occasional bites of food by hand. Ranger's brother took things much better, probably because he is prince of the household and having one less subject for a while was a minor inconvenience.

As you can imagine, my return on Sunday caused joyful celebration on Ranger's part. Once we got over the kissing and frolicking, and had a nice long walk and a good massage-brushing session, all was right with his world. I vowed never to let him see me leave on a trip again.

Over the next couple of weeks, I noticed Ranger occasionally scratching the right side of his face. As you know, this is no easy manoeuvre for a deerhound when it's done standing up. It requires careful balance and control, and usually performed like a slow motion ballet. Because face scratching is such an awkward act, it caught my attention every time. By the third week, it dawned on me that Ranger always scratched the

HEALTH MATTERS

treatment and the prognosis is always guarded. Hair clipping and body cleansing, especially with benzoyl peroxide shampoo (used for its follicle flushing activity), may be required. Whole body amitraz (Mitaban) dips (0.025%) applied every 2 weeks is an approved treatment for generalised Demodicosis in the USA. Higher concentrations (0.1%) and shorter treatment intervals (1 week) may be more effective.

Some dogs are sensitive to amitraz and others do not respond even after many months of therapy. For these dogs, veterinary dermatologists often turn to extra-label use of oral drugs that can be used for generalised Demodicosis. Reportedly successful systemic oral treatments that ARE NOT approved in the USA include:

■ Milbemycin oxime (Interceptor at 0.5 -1mg/kg once a day, which is approved in some countries.

■ Moxidectin at 400 micrograms/kg once a day.

■ Ivermectin (Ivomec and generics) at 300 - 600 micrograms/kg once a day. Different dose regimens have been proposed with a gradually increased dosage and thorough monitoring of patients to detect any potentially toxic effect.

Secondary bacterial infections are treated with an appropriate antibiotic. Local and systemic corticosteroids are contraindicated in any dog with Demodicosis.

Antiparasitic therapy must be continued not only until clinical signs abate but also until two consecutive negative skin scrapings are obtained at 1 month intervals.

Generalised Demodicosis runs in families and lines and is considered a heritable disease. Dogs with localised Demodicosis that are intended for breeding should be observed without treatment to be sure that the lesion clears up on its own and that the generalised form does not develop.

JOHN DILLBERGER

Nashville, USA.

John@Greymorn.com

The Deerhound Club

LIMITED SHOW

Saturday, 29 September 2012

The Canine Academy, Tollerton, Notts NG12 4GB

Judges: Mr Mark Cannon (Dogs)

Mr Chris Wilkinson (Bitches)

Referee and Special Classes: Mr Peter Pask

Show Secretary: Joyce Bond

Show Managers: Joss Duddell & Sue Reynolds

MYSTERY PAINTING

Calling all deerhound sleuths

I saw this painting in an auction in Birmingham. It was catalogued as "An unsigned watercolour on paper, a head study of a wolfhound" - I thought it was obviously a deerhound. It had a reserve of £80, I didn't entertain bidding at that price, not for an unsigned painting.

The following month it was back in the sale - this time with a reserve of £50. Again I dismissed it as overpriced but I just couldn't stop thinking about it. I wondered who painted it and what hound it was. If it was cheaper I would take the risk and try to satisfy my curiosity by removing it from the frame to see if there was anything written on the back of it.

I contacted the auctioneers to leave a commission bid. Most auctioneers will not take a commission bid at a lower value than the estimate or reserve, but I thought I would be cheeky and asked if they would take a bid of £20. The assistant took my details and said she would ask the auctioneer if he would accept this. About a week later, I received a letter saying my bid had been accepted.



When I received the picture I immediately removed it from its frame. Unfortunately, it was not signed and there were no obvious clues. It's clearly an original, painted on cream coloured paper with a sandy coloured background wash and has been roughly cut out with scissors, maybe from a sketch book or from a larger piece of work which could have included other similar head studies. The overall size of the painting, including the frame, is 14" x 11" (cms???). The actual head measures approximately 7.5" long (cm?)

It would be interesting to know if anyone can shed more light on this painting. Do you recognise the artist or the hound? I would be grateful for any information.

JOHN FRANCIS

Peopleton Deerhounds

Phone: 01905 841347

Email: peopleton@btinternet.com

Regional News *Events East*

I seem to have been walking for most of the day lately. I try not to take the same route every walk. I do a circular walk around the private racecourse which is opposite my house. It's a good place for introducing puppies to other dogs. When I do road walks my hounds have to be well behaved when they meet the horses in training. So when I start road walks with puppies they have to learn to stand still when a string of race horses pass by, as the road is very narrow. One of the new horses this year is very high spirited and loves to show off bucking and rearing when he sees us. Fortunately, he has a very good capable jockey!

Another walk I do is through woodland, there are loads of deer in the woods, lots of squirrels, rabbits and the odd hare. We sometimes come across snakes curled up in the sun. No adders thank goodness!

A river runs under the road just down from my kennels and this week there was a heron stood on the bank with an Egret. It's great when I spot something unusual. One of the Reeves pheasants seems to be really tame, he is usually on the edge of a footpath and he walks along by our side making his bubbly call. I found three tail feathers down on the road from one of his mates they measured about 30 inches. With the shooting season closing on the 1st Feb we

had a number of drives going through the woods all around the house and the kennels. All the hounds set up howling I think they probably send more birds out than the beaters! My free range cockerels run for cover in an empty kennel and sit in there until the beaters have gone.

A gamekeeper friend of ours often brings shot deer down for our freezer or for the dogs, depending on the condition and how long it has been shot. He turned up last week with a muntjac, it had, at some time in its life, caught its leg in a discarded coke can, the ring pull had gone but the leg was caught firmly in the top, the can had worn away but the top was still attached to the leg. The flesh and hair had grow around the top and it was a part of its leg. I hate litter of any sort but this really brings it home what damage a discarded item can do.

I was invited to speak on Suffolk Radio last week. They were discussing the dogs on the Kennel Clubs Vulnerable Breeds List of which the Deerhound is one. They were very interested in the fashion of two pedigree dogs being bred together and producing cross breeds with cute names like Cockerpoos etc. They asked if

these type of dogs were slowing down sales of pedigree dogs, as the Kennel Club believed and had it had a knock on effect with our breed. The Kennel Club had given my name to the radio station and I think I gave a good account on the status of our breed and I had some good feedback from listeners.



With the weather below freezing and thick snow, I am busy cooking hot chicken and vegetable broth for my kennel hounds, which I give them in the morning after they have been out.

They love it and it makes me feel satisfied that they go into a warm kennel and a hot meal.

Chris de Bolla and I are getting on with organising the next Education Day so please if there is anything you would like including please let me know.

Have a good 2012.

JOYCE BOND



LIVING WITH DEERHOUNDS

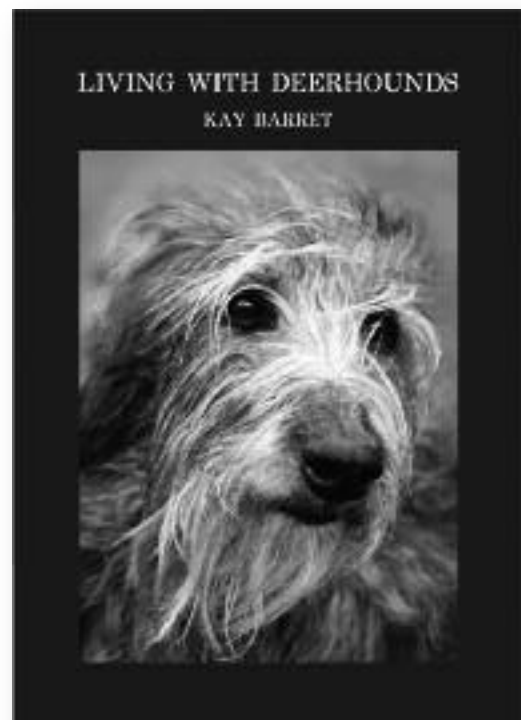
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Education Day Sunday 8th July 2012

To be held at
Longstowe Village Hall
Longstowe, Nr Cambridge

- Talk by Bill Steele (Greyhound vet) on running dog injuries.
Followed by Questions and Answers
- Fifty Points of the dog. Explained and shown on live model,
with audience participation
- How to present a dog in the show ring

Beautiful Deerhound print by artist Sue Driver to be raffled.

Tickets £17 per person - Lunch and Coffee included

Apply to Joyce Bond Tel 01284 729 142 or email regalflight@inweb.co.uk.

All profits to Deerhound Rescue and a donation to Greyhound Rescue



Congratulations

To 'B' Cassels on your 98th
birthday on the 15 April
and to
Kenneth and 'B' who are
celebrating their
70th Wedding Anniversary
on the 18 April 2012



from the Deerhound Club

Deerhound

"I bought these candlesticks a short while ago. I really don't know anything about them, except I believe they came from Argyllshire. They are made from Britannia metal (a pewter type alloy) and give the effect of bronze, they stand 13 inches (300 mm) to the top of the candle holder. There is a round socket under each of them so I assume they were part of a candelabra but really have no idea.

If anyone has any further information on them I would love to hear it.

Hazel Williams

METAL CANDLESTICKS



Collectables

Portosystemic Shunt Testing in Deerhound Puppies

The Deerhound Club is investigating the incidence of congenital portosystemic shunt (PSS) within the breed, in collaboration with Dr Bryn Tennant BVSc PhD MRCVS at Capital Diagnostics (SAC Veterinary Services), a companion animal clinical pathology service based in Edinburgh. (Detailed information given in the Winter Newsletter 2011)

The aims of the survey are to:

- 1. Assess the incidence of PSS in Deerhounds.
- 2. To assess whether early screening at 8-12 weeks of age detects all cases of PSS.
- 3. To determine whether screening has any long term impact on the prevalence of PSS.

We are seeking to recruit Deerhound breeders willing to allow their puppies to be blood sampled at 8-12 weeks of age, 2 hours after feeding. Capital Diagnostics will assay serum bile acids and provide a report to you for each puppy sampled. The assay will be offered at a subsidised cost of £2/puppy + VAT, with the invoice for the assay being charged to the veterinary surgeon submitting the samples. All other charges relating to obtaining samples will be met by the breeder.

Each breeder wishing to be involved has been instructed to apply for a pack which includes submission forms, sample tubes and a freepost envelope. If these are not provided by the breeder, the pack can be requested from:

CAPITAL DIAGNOSTICS
SAC Veterinary Services
Allan Watt Building, Bush Estate,
Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0QE.
Phone: 01315353145
e-mail: VCEdinburgh@sac.co.uk

We would like to thank you for your assistance in this project which should provide valuable information on this disease in Deerhounds.

BRYN TENNANT BVSc PhD MRCVS
Manager Capital Diagnostics

The Deerhound Club

BREED SEMINAR AND JUDGING COMPETENCE ASSESSMENT

21 October 2012

The Canine Academy, Tollerton, Notts NG12 4GB

More information in the next Newsletter

Contact:

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Regional News **Scottish Notes**

I wonder whether I am the only one who dreads the approach of the festive season. This is mainly because so many emergencies involving the dogs have cropped up around Christmas and New Year. It all started with my second Deerhound - Melchior Aldie. She was out of sorts on 2 January - still very much a holiday - seen by the vet as an emergency on the following day. By that time, she had an open pyometra and after 24 hrs of antibiotics, had a hysterectomy. A few years later, another bitch had her hysterectomy on Friday, two days before Christmas. A dog developing heart failure had to go for a diuretic injection on 27 December.

That's the sort of thing that happens. This year was worse, though the emergency cropped up slightly earlier in December, when my beloved Midgie - Moireach Flyer of Fingon became increasingly lethargic over two days, was diagnosed with a pericardial effusion and put to sleep.

My admiration for vets is unstinting. They treat a range of conditions, both medical and surgical, which the average GP would be rapidly referring to the nearest hospital specialist. Our local vets have an excellent out of hours co-operative scheme to cover weekends and holidays. Sods Law being effective in this area, I have met quite a few of the vets from the other participating practices. Without exception they have provided brilliant treatment.

Losing a Deerhound is always heartbreaking but some are just that little bit more special.

Midgie was wicked and wilful and chose me by shameless deceit. There were three puppies in the litter. When I went to see them, two played around, shredded paper, dug up the garden, whatever. The third sat on the grass, paws folded in front of her, looking disapproving. Then she came into the house and sat beside me on the settee. Her breeders were stunned. I believe she was usually the trouble maker. I'm not sure that she behaved so well again. She was a typical Deerhound with speaking ears.

That brings me to "The Christmas Mystery". Midgie was ten months old. At that time I had Ardkinglas Yatzi, Ardkinglas Clementine and Fingon Desert Orchid. On a mid December Sunday, I took the pack for a walk over the nearby stubble fields. At about three o'clock we were heading home as it was getting dark. Clem and Orchy were walking beside me. I looked back but the other two had vanished. After climbing a small hill to view an empty field, I concluded that they had headed down the field and jumped the wall into the golf-course. The good girls were rushed home. I left them and headed for the main road & the club house. No sign of the truants and nobody had seen them. What to do?



search, I went home & phoned the helpful policeman again. No further sightings. At that point Lesley Patrick (Fearnwood Deerhounds) phoned, I told her my problem and without hesitation she and Stephen set out from Dollar to join the hunt. Lesley knew the area having lived nearby. We had no luck and they went home. I had gone back to the house about nine o'clock when there was a phone call from the police. "A lady was taking a dog, which they thought was mine, to the police station in the next village". Very fast car trip!

This marvellous soul had Yatzi on a lead. She had been walking her own dog when she had met the missing mutts playing in the school grounds. She had managed to catch Yatzi but Midgie had done the typical puppy thing - dancing around just out of reach. Having thanked her rescuer, I bundled Yatzi into the car and drove up to the high-school. We

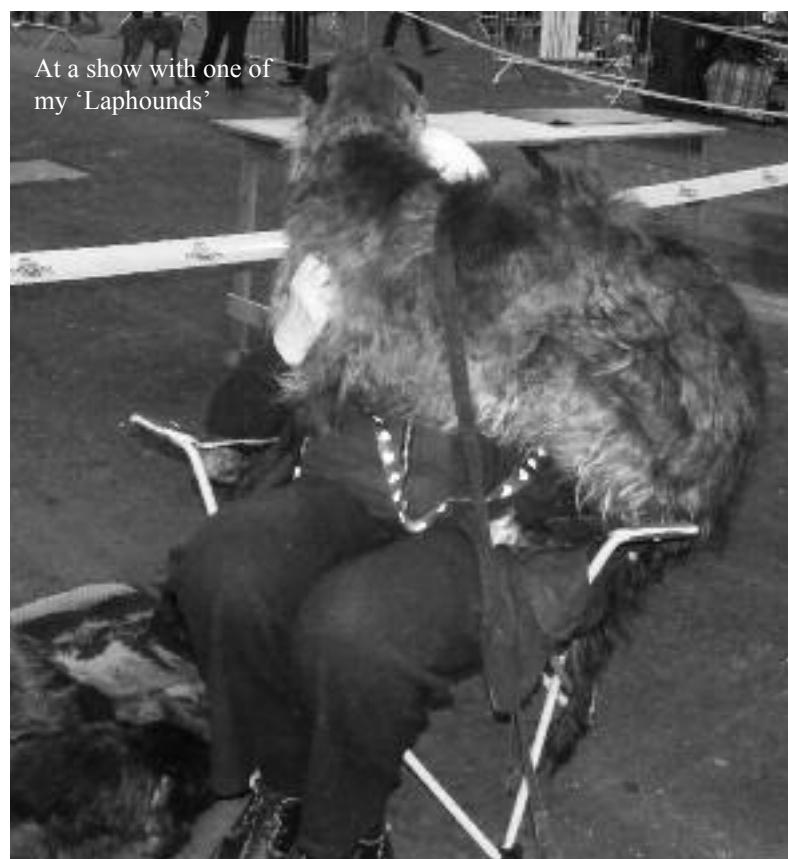
walked all the streets around, prowled round the school buildings and grounds for a long time. When Yatzi got tired I put her in the car and hunted on my own. Finally, I went home. It was just after eleven pm.

A further call to the police yielded nothing, apart from the advice to contact the dog warden in the morning. Worn out, I headed for the kitchen to make a cup of tea. When I opened the door, there was Midgie sitting serenely in the middle of the floor with her paws crossed, looking like a sphinx. She was quite pleased to see me!!!!

The kitchen door to the garden was shut, though not locked. The garden gate was also latched. From that day to this, I have no idea how she travelled the three miles home and got into the house! No neighbour admitted to finding her at the gate & letting her in. It might have been the police, but they certainly didn't tell me. My own theory is that it was Santa Claus doing an early trip. Certainly Midgie never let on.

The Scottish show scene has started, although the Kilmarnock Show, on the 3rd Jan, had to be cancelled because of the "hurricane winds". There were four Deerhound classes at the Caledonian show. BOB was Morton and Morgan's - Cotherstone Shot and Steel. At the Highland Canine Association Members Limited Show at Invergordon, Ann Smart's - Kessock Marsco of Greysteil was Best in Show.

MARJORY MCKINNON
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marjory.mckinnon@tesco.net



At a show with one of my 'Laphounds'

I went home and phoned the police. I was rewarded by the information that two large "lurchers" had been seen disappearing behind a local convenience store. I gave my details, jumped into the car and headed on their trail. The sighting had been about half a mile away. Needless to say there was no sign of them.

After a good

THE DEERHOUND CLUB TROPHY POINTS 2011

THE DEERHOUND CLUB TROPHIES

2011

Points Scored

HOUD	DUFALT	ARBOTSFORD	RURITANIA	ROSS	BLYTHEBLUE	FLUTE	MELCHIOR
CH BRACKENLAND TAN AT KILBOURNE	2	43	-----	2	-----	3	0
CH GREYFLAX CRYSTAL	3	26	-----	2	3	-----	2
CH GREYFRIARS GILLE OF BEARDSWOOD	2	-----	49	1	-----	3	0
CH HYDSIGHT INTO THE MYSTIC	2	18	-----	2	3	-----	0

Number of Wins or Points Scored

GELTSDALE	AIRBORO DOG	AIRBORO BITCH	BARMAUD
CH STRANWITH SYMPHONY (4)	CH STRANWITH SYMPHONY (5)	CHARBONNEL FLISS (4)	KILBOURNE TELIAH (6)
CHARBONNEL FLISS (2)	KWARICOTT ASCLEPIUS (2)	CH BRACKENLAND TAN AT KILBOURNE (3)	KILBOURNE WOODSMAN TO ORMANSTAR (3)
CH BRACKENLAND TAN AT KILBOURNE (2)	HYDSIGHT RIDDICK (2)	CH HYDSIGHT INTO THE MYSTIC (3)	
LADYGROVE CALAMITY JANE AT AMIRO (2)	CH PYEFLEET ROLLO (2)	STRANWITH MORAG (2)	
		DORRATOR DRELLA (2)	

Number of Wins or Points Scored

BEARDSWOOD	MIMOR	FAWCETT	ENTERKINE EVITA
KILBOURNE TELIAH (6)	CH GREYFLAX CRYSTAL (3)	CH GREYFLAX CRYSTAL (40)	CH GREYFRIARS GILLE OF BEARDSWOOD (5)
ELINKAYEE BOYCEE AT KILBOURNE (3)	LEOCH HEATHER (2)	ARDNEISH PANTALAIMON (48)	STRANWITH MORAG (2)
AIN'T MISBEHAVIN AT KILBOURNE (3)			CH GREYFLAX MILLY MOLLY MANDY (3)

THE DEERHOUND CLUB TROPHIES

TOSCANA OF	MANSNAV	FITZROY	BLANA
ENTERKINE			
DORRATOR GETHEN	CH KWARICOTT ARCHIMAGO	CH GREYFLAX MYTH TO KILBOURNE (52)	MISTY LEE (33)
	CH BRACKENLAND TAN AT KILBOURNE	CH GREYFLAX THE MIGHTY QUEEN (34)	CH GREYFLAX MILLY MOLLY MANDY (29)
		CH REGALFLIGHT STORMBIRD (27)	CH HYDSIGHT A BOX OF DREAMS (2)

ROB ROY	WESTLEY DOG	AVENING BITCH	BALGROGAN
	NEROCHE IRVING (3)	ARDNEISH PANTALAIMON (3)	BARRET (4)
DORRATOR GETHEN (2)	HAMILTONHILL FREDDY MERCURY (2)	CH GREYFLAX CRYSTAL (2)	HELPS (3)
REGALFLIGHT SKATHA OF OLLANDSHEART (2)	MENTEITH DECLAN (2)	CH HYDSIGHT SHADOW OF A DOUBT (2)	GIRLING (2)
GENTIEHUN MIA-MAY (2)	WOLFSCASTLE DRAIG (2)	KILLOETER PIERIS OF CANERIKIE (2)	
GENTIEHUN TAIN (2)	CH HYDSIGHT RIDDICK (2)		

PENTLANDS	ST ANDREWS	DEERHOLT	NEW MEMBERS CUP
EREWON DABUSTER (48)	LEALLA JOKA (28)	AIN'T MISBEHAVIN AT KILBOURNE (2)	NO CLAIMANT
LEALLA IS FEARR (31)	LEALLA IS FEARR (29)	GILTAN HERO (2)	
LEALLA JOKA (21)			
STRANWITH SLATE TO BALGALED (21)			

TOP BREEDER
FINNETT & HEATHCOTE (26)
PEACH (15)
RAILEY (11)
MILLER (11)
BARRET (10)



Regional News

Thames Valley Voice

We have been lucky (so far!) with the weather this winter and both us and the dogs seem to be fitter than normal. Mostly, I guess, from our walks not being hampered by inclement weather, encouraging one to keep going instead of heading for home. This, you would think, is a desirable outcome, but bouncy fit dogs are not always a pleasure! Poesy, now two and a half, is pinging out of her skin and this was starting to get our foster lurcher, Ollie, to the point of no longer wanting to come out with her and who could blame him? He is an older boy who had been beaten, starved and dumped on the streets. Greyhound Gap rescued him from his certain fate after seven days at the pound, he was doing very badly in kennels and so came to stay last February and, to be honest, we didn't think anybody would step forward to rehome him and he would be a permanent resident. Luckily for him, just as he had switched from play pal to play toy, a totally perfect home came up and he is now an only dog and happily very settled already. Such good timing, as constantly tempering Poesy's behaviour was getting exhausting! I have to admit to being just a little envious of his new owners, walking their one well behaved hound - what a relaxing time they must be having!



Whilst on the subject of lively dogs, we do consider ourselves very lucky in that we walk in areas that have a large dog population and ours are well socialised, well behaved and walk off lead as a little pack, but even so, you can't switch off and totally relax. A pinging Poesy makes sure of that!

In the beginning of January, we had another meeting at the racing greyhound schooling

track in Oxfordshire. I was really pleased to see some new faces & hounds this time, as well as regulars, & we also had some other breeds join us which all contributed to an excellent meet of approximately 16 hounds. Previously, there has been some confusion over the distance that the Deerhounds run, largely due to the fact the men of the track are of few words! At last, it is confirmed that the run times are over 250metres, the runs are longer than the timed section, and all the times we get are the first over the line only and are in seconds. The fastest greyhound they have recorded on the track did 250metres in 14 seconds.

First runs were (sorry, I didn't get everybody's surnames) John Francis and & Dee Blatchford's - Cloweswood Acer and Cloweswood Scilla of Peopleton, Scilla winning on 23.80s. Next Barbara's - Shelta and Jas, Shelta 18.90s. Our Beardswood Poesy & Carol's - Kira, Poesy 21.15. Elise Cartmel's mad, flying sausage lurcher, Hettie with her and Claire Cartmel's - Ch Drawing Down the Moon to Cusidh (Banrigh). Hettie winning on 19.20. Beardswood Quintessa, shaky solo start - 29.80. Melanie's Saluki - Kipling, solo run 18.40. Celia's Borzois together - ran backwards and then, Beardswood Quinnlan, Gypsy the lurcher, and Carol's older girl, all decided not to finish but had a lovely time mucking around on the grass!

We had a short break and then ran in a different order, most of the dogs getting the hang of it second time round. Scilla beat Acer on 21.30. Shelta beat Posy 19.11. Kira beat Jas 19.17. Hettie ran solo, 19.40 and Kipling beat Smudge, the greyhound, on 18.35

Then the battle of the show champion's with Sarah Helps' - Ch Greyfriars Gillie for

Beardswood pipping Cartmel's - Ch Drawing Down the Moon to Cusidh to the post with 21.20.

We are planning another meeting soon and would love to see more new faces. We normally do a couple of runs, have a bit of a chat, a picnic, and then head off, so it's only a few hours and it's so good for the dogs. Other breeds are welcome and we'd love to see you there. If you are interested please send me an email.

As I sit and write, the sun is shining and it feels like Spring is well and truly on the way. Crufts is on the horizon, I always think of it as the beginning of the shows and I always look forward to it although I am never quite sure why??!! I think it is quite funny how most people say they enjoy it without a dog and have entered but intend to go dogless. Maybe one day we will all turn up to an empty ring!!!!

Whether you enjoy showing or not, I am reliably informed that there will be a Deerhound Fun Day later on in the year. These things take a lot of organisation and it is thoroughly enjoyable way to spend a day with the dogs, so do look out for the date which will be on the Club website. Please try and support it if you can and if anybody has any other ideas for an interesting day we would love to hear about it.

Last year, Julian and I set up 'All Breed Lure Racing' which was started to allow all breeds to get a chance to try lure coursing. Deerhounds are welcome and for every Deerhound that attends in 2012 we will give a donation to the deerhound rescue section of the Deerhound Club. Details at www.lureracing.com

Work, shows, racing, it's going to be a busy year and I wish you all a good one.

LIZA FAIRCLOTH
lizafaircloth@btconnect.com



THE PIPER CALLS THE TUNE

Continuing the series on club members who find time for interests other than deerhounds. Here we feature Andie Buchanan who has piped for the Deerhound Club at Lodge Park and at the Breed Show

Recently, I and my wife, Jean, have missed all the Deerhound events that we normally attend due to normal family things like weddings, new babies and big birthdays! But one of the biggest and ongoing projects that we have been involved in, over the last year, is our association with the 'Auld Alliance'.

This is a group of people, mainly French, who have been working together to raise money to erect a statue of Bill Millin, who died last year, who piped Lord Lovat ashore at Sword Beach on D-Day in WWII. This statue will be sited on Sword Beach. Our involvement started when we met members of the French Police Pipe Band when they came over for Bill's funeral last year. This came about as Bill had become a close friend of mine over the years. He started by being my mentor on the bagpipes, and, like me a former Commando, he was a sort of father figure.

The French Pipers then extended an invitation for me to become part of their association and asked me to lead the massed pipebands at the D-Day memorial parade on Sword Beach last June. As it turned out, this became a much bigger event - a full on 'Pipe Fest' to raise money for the above mentioned statue.

As a Commando in WWII, Bill was asked by Brigadier The Lord Lovat (clan chief of the Clan Fraser), if he would land on the Normandy Beaches and play his bagpipes to lead the Commandos, French and English, ashore on the assault. Bill replied that it was not allowed by the Army as so many pipers were lost in the Great War, to which Lovat's response was - "Are you Scottish?!" "Aye!" replied Bill. "Good!" said Lovat, "That's an English Law. It does not apply to us. We are Scottish!"

So the 1st Special Service Brigade, composed of No's, 3, 4, 6 and 10 inter allied Commando, and 45 Commando Royal Marines were to be piped into battle. The mission of the Commandos, who were on the left flank of the invasion, was to move forward, capturing some key points and to relieve Major John Howards. Glider borne troops, and the Parachute Regiment had

been dropped, at 2359hrs, on the 5th of June as a coup de main. Their orders were to take and hold the bridges over the River Orne, and the Canal, later to be known as Pegasus Bridge. They were tasked with stopping the Panzer brigades who were known to be to the east at the Pas de Calais prepared for an invasion and ready to attack the invasion beaches.

Interestingly, Major John Howard and his Glider borne troops carried out many rehearsals using live ammunition, on the river and canal bridges at Exeter in Devon. They left from the Hamble river, sailing for Normandy, Bill was in the leading craft, on the bows, playing the pipes to the cheers of the troops on the vast fleet. The crossing was very rough and most of the men were violently ill. The barrage from the naval guns was deafening as the dawn rose to see some 6,000 craft, in the grey dawn, disgorging men onto smaller landing craft.

Lovat was one of the first off the craft, and although he was about 6ft 7inches tall, the water came past his waist. Bill was considerably shorter. He jumped in, pipes held high out of the water, with his kilt spread around him floating on the sea like a tartan Tutu, he played the pipes as the Commandos rushed forward onto the defending Germans positions. They fought like lions, particularly the French, fighting on French soil. Men were falling all around as Bill played 'Highland Laddie', or ('Salute to the Chieftain'), as it is sometimes known. Lovat turned and smiled at Bill. After he had stopped playing and the troops were reorganising, Lovat said, "Give us a tune, Millin", "Yes sir, and would you be wanting me to walk up and down?" That would be nice ", said Lovat. Bill struck up and walked up and down playing 'Road to the Isles'. The Commando's were still taking casualties, & bodies were everywhere. They then moved on towards their second objective, & thence towards the bridges. Bill was asked to play as they approached, so the men would know they, the Commandos, were on the way. This was portrayed in the 1962 film 'The Longest Day.'

So, Bill became a very famous piper, and was honoured and well known in Normandy. The towns near the beaches and the French D Day Piper Bill Millin Society raised money to erect the statue on the exact spot where Bill landed. He was able to show me the original maquette for the statue before he died, and was justifiably very proud. The statue, when erected, will commemorate all those who fell on the D-Day Landings. He died before enough money had been raised to translate the

maquette into bronze, but this process is underway now, with a finish date of June 2013.

Before he died Bill had expressed a desire to have a quiet, private funeral, and for me to play for him, as I had for Maggie, his wife, who died 10 years earlier. We were in France when his son phoned to say Bill had passed away. The funeral was anything but private, with cameras and journalists from all over the world there. The French Mayor of Colleville-Montgomery and the President of the D Day Association were all there too. As requested, I played but the whole thing took 2 hours, instead of 20 mins!

As a result of this meeting, the French contingent asked me to play in June 2011, leading 500 pipers from Sword Beach to Pegasus Bridge in Bill's footsteps. There was also a parade through Caen, followed by a civic reception. There were further visits to other key places in the country to coincide with the D Day Remembrance ceremonies.

There followed a fundraising concert for Bill, in Colleville-Montgomery, at which I played and Jean sang.

When the statue is erected Bill's son & I will be guests of honour. I was also a Commando for 33years, so all of this has been a very humbling and emotional experience.

Jean and I miss the coursing, the club and all our friends. We are looking forward to our return to normality with the Deerhound Club soon.

ANDIE BUCHANAN



As an exhibitor it is better to wear smart clothes that compliment your dog, i.e. - clothes of a contrasting colour to that of your dog, and thereby enhance your hound.

Equally, the judge should be smartly dressed, it is a great compliment to be asked to judge any breed and one should look the part. Don't wear scarves, ties or a long necklace that could dangle in front of a hound's head when going over it.

It is beneficial to watch your dog at all times in the ring, if he/she is standing incorrectly, the judge may notice this and it may not help your final position in the line-up.

As a judge, arrive early enough for your judging, and make sure your steward(s) understand where you want the dogs to stand at the beginning of the class and in the final placings. Remember, the judge is in charge of the ring at all times, be firm but courteous to all. Chatting to exhibitors is to be discouraged. Also check the surface of the ring for hidden foreign objects in the grass which should be removed, and holes noted, to warn exhibitors, so as not to cause injury to exhibits/exhibitors, and in the case of indoor rings, shiny surfaces and uneven matting.

During judging, try not to have your dogs lined up so that you are looking into the glare of the sun, a good view of your exhibits is essential, there is nothing worse than having to shield ones eyes to view hounds.

It is also advisable to instruct your steward to have the next class ready

JUDGING DEERHOUNDS

WENDY CROSS gives tips on ring etiquette and going over a hound

whilst you are writing your critique. In the case of Open shows, a critique is required for the first placed dog only, and at the Breed Show and Championship Shows, the first and second placed dogs. Also, enquire from your steward, how many places are to be awarded for each class.

When all dogs in the first class are assembled, write in your judging book any absentees which your steward will advise you of, and then proceed to walk down the line of dogs making a mental note of certain features. Then clearly instruct the exhibitors to move the exhibits around the ring, once or twice. If the class is large, and the ring small, (which can happen at some Open shows) split the class into two, and again, give clear instructions to exhibitors. Ask the first group to move around the ring once or twice and then do the same for the second group. At the same time, gesticulating to the first exhibitor to have their dog ready for individual examination. The first dog should then be in place ready for individual examination. Remember you are judging to the Breed Standard.

It is a Kennel Club rule that you take only three minutes, per dog, for judging, and this should include the time allowed for Best of Breed and Best Puppy, but do not keep looking at your watch, it is better to ask the steward before commencement of judging to let you know if you are taking too long.

First, walk to the back of the dog and look from the floor

up and along the back to the head, this gives a quick indication of how the hocks and rear pasterns are placed, the set on of the tail, the width of the back and the width of the skull at the occiput. Then walk round to the front of the dog, do not slide along the dog's side too closely as this may unnerve the dog if he/she cannot see what you are doing. Before approaching, look at the front legs to see how they are positioned, then approach carefully but not too slowly so as to gain the dog's confidence. Enquire from the handler the age of the exhibit which should be done up to, and including, Yearling class, but there is no Kennel Club rule about this.

Look first at the teeth for a bite, as per the Breed Standard, and if in any doubt, run your thumb along the top teeth where they cover the bottom teeth to find the correct bite, then proceed to check that all teeth are present both sides of the front teeth. Next, look at the shape and colour of the eyes and run your fingers through the stop (the area between the eyes) then check the length of the ears, their thickness and the fold, (puppies do not always carry their ears in the correct way), finally place the dog's head between your hands to see the width of skull - this can be deceiving as some hounds have much furnishing which makes their skull look too broad. Then look down the front of the hound and place your hand between the two front legs which will determine the width of chest and heart and lung capacity, also close your hand around a front leg to check the flat shaped bone and the thickness, assess the pastern and foot, making a mental note of findings. Place your hands behind the skull and run down the arch of the neck and on to the top of shoulder blades, determine the width between the shoulders, and keeping one hand on this point, run your hand forward along the shoulder blade following down to the upper arm to determine the angulation of both. Then look to see if the angle, down from the original point at the top of the shoulder, is in line with the leg.

Move both hands over both sides of the rib cage, working along the length of the body. Note the amount of spring of rib, depth of chest, and tuck up, then place your hands on the loin and determine the length from the end of the rib cage to the hip, carry on over the croup to the tail set. Check the width of hips and run down the front of the back leg to determine the bend of stifle, then run



your hand down to the floor at the back of the leg from the hock joint to see how well let down the hocks are. Hold the tail and run your other hand down to see where it finishes in relation to the back of the leg. If you are going over a male, check to see if he is entire, but don't grab at his anatomy so as to startle him! At this point, check the amount of leg muscle by running your hands either side a rear back leg. Also check the hock joint to see the turn of stifle and width of second thigh.

Then stand at the side of the exhibit and run your hand over the topline to determine where the arch over the loin starts and how steep the croup is.

All of the above must be borne in mind, particularly when judging puppies, one must not take too long as they tend to get bored quickly and will also get put off easily by a judge who is either too heavy handed or too hesitant with them.

When you have finished going over the exhibit, stand back and have a final look at the overall picture the dog presents. Then give clear instructions to the handler where you want the dog to move. I prefer a large circle, rather than a triangle, as one often sees this large breed slip when trying to turn sharply and it interrupts the movement for the judge to assess. Then ask the handler to run the dog away from you and back again, using the longest possible part of the ring, to give the dog every chance to show off their movement. When the dog stops before you, glance at the front, the side and the rear quickly, then thank the handler before they rejoin the rest of the class.

When this procedure has been followed for all exhibits in the class, you may then make your placings, clearly indicating to each exhibitor, starting with first, second and so on, asking them to come out into the middle of the ring. When you have all your required placings, quickly thank the remaining non-winners leaving the ring. Then look at your placings again, make sure you have them in your preferred order and instruct the steward that is it. Your steward will announce the placings and award the exhibitors their prize cards, whilst you go down the line recording the placings in your judging book.

After the steward has awarded the prize cards, proceed to write the required critique, it is preferable to start at the head and carry on through the exhibit as you had done when examining.

When choosing your dog and bitch Challenge Certificate and Reserve Challenge Certificate winners, your steward will call into the ring all unbeaten dog or bitch exhibits. You may wish to move them again, together or individually, when asking for the latter, it is better to send the exhibit to the end of the line to avoid crowding at the front.

When you have made up your mind who will be awarded the Challenge Certificate, ask the exhibit to come out to the centre of the ring, you then award the card/rosette, likewise for the Reserve CC winner, having signed the certificates before awarding them. Although not a Kennel Club rule, I do not fill in the details of the dog or owner until all judging has been completed. It could be construed that the dog CC winner would

have an advantage over the bitch CC winner, in that the judge then knows the name of the dog, together with a possible 'Ch' before his name.

Then we come to Best of Breed. Your steward will call for the two CC winners, you may wish to move them again. When you have made your final decision, again, ask the BOB winner to the centre of the ring and make the award. Likewise, for Reserve Best of Breed, if applicable, and for Best Puppy. A well deserved lap of honour follows!

When your judging is complete, check that all your slips in your judging book have been signed and all absentees are correctly recorded. Your steward will then give to you a completed catalogue to enable you to write your critique for onward transmission to the dog press and the Deerhound Club which should be completed as soon as possible.

Exhibitors like to see what your opinion is of their dog and they have, after all, paid a lot of money for that opinion and it is essential to do so.

Thank your steward/s for his/her assistance. A good steward is of paramount importance and should have helped you with the smooth running of the ring, their services are invaluable.

In the case of judging at Championship shows, go to the Secretary's office to collect a printout of your winners, and a catalogue, but this will not be ready for at least half an hour.

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1. What was the name of the first dog in space?

2. Which dog breed can have a blue tongue?

3. In which vampire film do you meet a Husky called Nanook?

4. How many times are dogs mentioned in the bible?

5. When the FIFA World Cup was stolen in 1966 what was the name of the dog who found it?

6. Who sang about "Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun?"

7. What was the name of Odysseus's faithful hound in Homer's 'Odyssey'?

8. Name the three guard dogs owned by Farmer Maggott in Tolkien's 'Lord of the Rings'?

9. The Greyhound comes from which country?

10. How many dogs survived the sinking of the Titanic?

11. Which dog breed can get acne?

12. Whose dog was called Dogmatix?

13. Which deerhound breeder had the affix - O' the Pentlands?

14. In astronomy, what is the correct name for the Dog Star?

Dog Trivia QUIZ



ANSWERS ON PAGE 39

Regional News

Welsh News & Views

Due to Kim being in & out of hospital with an infected gall bladder since the beginning of February, I have not had 5 minutes to sit down & put pen to paper.

We would like to thank you all for your kind offers of help, cards & phone calls, it was much appreciated & knowing we have such a good network of friends has been so comforting. It has been an awful worry, but Kim seems to have finally recovered & is awaiting an operation hopefully in the next few weeks?



Unfortunately, we have missed a couple of shows we were hoping to get to; to give the youngsters some ring experience before Crufts. Swansea Canine & Dist. pulled in a good entry with Jenny Grimshaw judging, I hear it was a fun day as usual, with Sally Parsons & Alan McKinnon, now Welsh residents, taking BOB.

Ebony has again put us in a dilemma & with Kim's illness it looks doubtful that we will make it to Crufts? Her YFC have again won the talent show & just like last year, the final happens to fall on hound day! It is North Wales this time so not even on route via the NEC. She has to

make the decision to help with the handling & take our young lad in his class or let her club down. Poor thing, I do feel for her & totally understand if she chooses her club, as they have been rehearsing for months & had stiff competition. I would obviously be delighted if she chooses to show our dogs.

Our thoughts are with Mel & Billy Berrigan at this sad time. Ivor passed away on the 8th

March. Kim & I were privileged to have spent his last weekend with him, as it was his wish to come & see the hounds for the last time. Although frail & in some discomfort he was able to sit & chat as usual at the kitchen table surrounded by the dogs. Ivor was never afraid to speak his mind & had a wicked sense of humour. We were witnesses at their wedding in 2005 & Billy & Ebony have grown up together.

We met through our Hydfron hounds & we introduced them to our local club & became friends. Ivor was always trying to persuade Mel to get another Deerhound but to Mel's

credit the timing was not right & she had become interested in showing & breeding fox terriers. Therefore, Ivor was quite content to come & cast his eye over our litters & was always able to pick out the ones with potential. He will be missed at club, as you need folk that are not afraid to rock the boat sometimes!

Mel & Billy's wish was to celebrate his life with a fitting send off. Our deerhounds, Bear & Doogal, greeted guests & lead the funeral procession into church. Mel will need our support over the coming months, but has a hobby that will keep her busy.

ZOE BRODIE

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Ivor and Mel Berrigan on their wedding day



Happy 16th birthday to our darling daughter, Ebony - Hope your future brings you all you dream of!



BREED SHOW 2012

Best in Show: Miss B Adams -
ARDNEISH PANTALAIMON
with judges, Mrs P Allwright & Mrs J Bond

Below: Best Puppy in Show: Mr M & Y Davis's -
Kilbourne Nimble

Photos: Glenis Peach



HOUND SHOW 2012

Best Opposite Sex: Mr M & Mrs G Peach's -
KILBOURNE HECTOR TO OELMUHLE
Best of Breed (right): Mr M & Mrs G Peach's -
KILBOURNE TELIAH with judge, Mrs L Cartledge

Right - Best Puppy in Breed: Miss J Ellse's -
KILBOURNE UNITY

Photos: Joan Wragg

