

## Norwegian Elkhound Notes September 1<sup>st</sup> 2024

I'm afraid I have to start these notes with the sad news that Colin Maun passed away at the start of the week after a long illness. Although Colin didn't show the dogs himself, he was always there to support Treena and was much loved by everyone. Georgina wrote a beautiful message saying, far better than I could; "Dad was a wonderful man loved by many, an incredibly kind husband and the best Dad and father-in-law you could ask for. His optimism, courage and let's be honest, stubbornness and a love of a good drink in great company, are characteristics that I've inherited and am forever grateful for." He never stopped fighting that awful disease. His cheerful presence will be sadly missed at the shows. Such a lovely man. Sending sincere sympathy to his family. You can find details of Georgina's tribute to her dad a celebration of his life on <https://colin-maun.muchloved.com/>

Today, Sunday, is the Elkhound Fun Day for newcomers to the breed and pet owners. Donna Preston, after starting her day at 4am to help run the event, kindly found the energy to tell me " It was a great day and the weather gods shone on us. Around 40 Elkhounds were there; the man trailing was a really big hit and the queue was long for it. The Q&A was well received and lot's stayed to enter the fun classes. All in all it was a great day." There are lots of reports and photos on GB Norwegian Elkhound Group on Facebook. Well done to the organisers. More details below.

This week was also the City of Birmingham show. We have no CCs so the entry was quite small with entries only in Open Dog and Bitch, Good Citizen and Puppy. Best of Breed and Best Bitch was Callow and Davis's Ch Whittimere Alright Bab JW. Best Dog went to Clarke's Graythor Cosmopolitan with Treena Maun winning Reserve best dog and bitch with Bassanio and Blackbird. Best Puppy was Tanja Mortimer's Laakso Julaften. (which by the way means Christmas Eve in Norwegian).

The next show with classes but again no CCs is Richmond on the 6th of September. Being on a Friday this has only drawn 3 entries for Mrs J Kay to judge.

Schedules for the Nordic Open Show are now out on Fosse Data. Our judge is Diane Cook. Entries close November 4<sup>th</sup>. Do support this lovely show where show manager is our well known ex treasurer Stuart Byrne. Judging starts at 9.30am.

Schedules are also on Fosse Data for the NEAS Ch show on Sunday, 20 October at Middlebie near Lockerbie, DG11 3HT. Postal entries close Monday, 23 September. Online entries close Tuesday, 1 October. It's only a few years since the NEAS almost disappeared but this will be their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show. Please do support it.

Entries have now closed for the NECGB Open Show which is on Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> at Corley Village Hall CV7 8AY. Judge Phil Freer. A good opportunity to meet hopefully, lots of Elkhounds.

Well, we're already into September which means Autumn is on its way. The Autumn Equinox is September 22<sup>nd</sup> when day and night will be around the same length. From then on, the period of daylight gets shorter. Did anyone actually notice Summer? We've had some very cold nights and our heating has been coming on early morning. The birds have already eaten every single berry on our Rowan tree which doesn't normally happen until late October. I hope that doesn't mean they are building themselves up for a hard winter. In this part of rural Lancashire, countryside lore is taken very seriously and is usually correct.

LATE NEWS

Further news about the Fun Day from Elaine Simms who along with Nicola Callow and Donna was one of the organisers who came up with this brilliant idea. Such a shame that Gill Bingham didn't live to see it. She was so looking forward to being involved.

"I'll give a brief run down of the day as I remember it.... Really lovely venue & the weather was kind, so we had a ring set up outside, although inside had a good space too, the man trailing lady gave a talk indoors to start then took those outside who wanted to 'have a go', they say it was great fun. Will then did a presentation on ring craft skills helped by Jill, quite a few had a go at that too, a short break & lunch then the panel were asked questions, Ness, Jill & Maggie who were very precise & clear in their thoughts, we then had a fun show, Ness judged the puppies, Donna Preston did the novelty classes then Ness came back & awarded Best of, finishing with the games, sausage eating contest which was hilarious as the owners were all keen to win but the dogs were only keen on hovering up the sausages 😄, then musical bones, musical chairs but with bone shaped mats for the dogs to sit on when the music stopped, as you can imagine that went well 😊, lots of raffle prizes donated which was great, so many people being generous with their time & money, thoroughly enjoyed by everyone & feel it was a great success." Elaine.

A huge well done to the organisers.

Diana Hudson. (norderhove@gmail.com).