

Norwegian Elkhound Notes January 12th 2025

Happy New Year to all. I hope 2025 turns out to be a healthy and successful year for you all.

It certainly hasn't started too well up in Lancashire. My very bored Otta's just been for her first walk in 9 days. I managed to get to the local shops and the doctor on the 3rd but since then we've been snowed and iced in. A gritter finally appeared on Friday to help clear our street, (quite a miracle as it was the first time in the 11 years we've been here) but the ice remained until today when a very slow thaw started. I didn't think my shopping or my dog food would come but they did struggle through. I was down to 3 days' worth of dog food which had been completely out of stock. The main road into Yorkshire is still closed so the alternative route is high up over the moors. It was closed for 3 days by snow then extremely treacherous after temperatures of minus 9 at night. Footpaths are still under snow and ice and just not safe. We have rain forecast tomorrow so it will be very slick but might finally get rid of the white stuff. I hope everyone has remained safe and warm. Maureen Lake has been extremely ill since Christmas Eve with the doctor visiting her at home regularly so we send her good wishes for a quick recovery now. She was so ill she didn't know who or where she was and her GP felt she'd be safer at home. You really don't want to catch the bug that's put so many people in hospital recently. Take care in crowded places and maybe resort to a mask again.

There's been next to no news since last year, hence the late, brief news now. Two weeks ago Jill Cowper wrote the following. "Lovely boy Tassi won Best of Breed today at Coventry Ladies KS Open show under allrounder Janet Kaye, after which he was awarded Group 3. Really thrilled." Well done Jill and Tass.

Congratulations also to Maggie Mott on winning Best dog in Breed for 2024 in the Our Dogs tables and to Barbara Barganska on Best Puppy. I mentioned those last time but it was nice to see them confirmed in print. Condolences also to Barbara who lost her father last week.

A group from the Midlands managed a lovely walk with the Midlands Elkhounds at Calke Abbey today. No sign of snow there.

In case you missed it, the order of judging for Manchester on Sat 18th Jan has been published. We are in Bingley Hall ring 12 not before 10.30. We are after 48 borzois. The judge is Mr Tom H Johnston.

If you need to renew your insurance for any elderly dogs (over 8 or 9) do shop around and don't only rely on the comparison websites. One of them only had two companies listed for lifetime cover and after a huge search I only found two companies that don't require that you pay an extra 20% of every claim to their final payout; that's on top of your excess – they charge 20% of the remainder after you've paid your excess. One was called Waggel, the other was Direct Line. Remember also that you won't be covered for preexisting conditions although it is worth asking as a few will add them at an extra charge.

At least the weather forecast is for warmer but wet weather this week although fog for next weekend So safe travels to Manchester everyone and good luck.

Diana Hudson (norderhove@gmail.com)