

Norwegian Elkhounds Notes 04/01/26

A very happy, healthy and successful New Year to everyone. I hope no one is coping with heavy snowfall and ice. Despite a yellow warning, the snow hasn't arrived here yet but it's bitterly cold.

Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Brian Lake on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Congratulations to Mel Hennesy because Bowerhinton Bombette won her veteran warrant – not an easy achievement.

Are you still collecting dog undercoat for Chiora, the startup company doing research into the best ways of spinning dog hair into high quality thread and fabrics. They now have a website at <https://chiora.org/> where you can sign up for their newsletter. They currently have 12,325g but still need another 13,675g so please do keep on collecting. Posting undercoat to them is free if you ask for postal labels but they need you to send a minimum weight of 500g. Only two parcels have yet been received from any Elkhounds.

Our Dogs has confirmed the breed leaders up to Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 2025. Top Puppy is Kamgaard Kariad and Top Dog is Ch Kamgaard Klementina. I haven't yet seen updates on the rest.

I had news from just one Open show when Wendy Threadgold wrote “Despite my little Katja being shaved to within an inch of her life we braved The Coventry Ladies CA & were awarded Hound Group 3 in a large quality line up. So thrilled.”

Katja had chewed up some plastic so the locum vet wanted to scan her. Despite being told to only shave the minimum necessary he went crazy with the clippers and shaved right up her sides. Why on earth do vets do that? It's so uncomfortable for the dog when it's growing back. This is such a shame as Katja is so close to her Junior Warrant.

When my Sky needed a scan of her tummy, it was done in the surgery with me watching and not a single hair clipped. After a young trainee vet, years ago in Edinburgh vet hospital said “I'll just take her in the back to shave her neck” -he was going to shave off half of Silky's ruff, simply to take blood from her jugular vein instead of her leg, I no longer let my dogs out of my sight at the vet's. The new vets weren't even being taught how to take blood from the leg yet my own vet could do it without even shaving a single hair. She once told me that Elkhounds have perfectly straight veins that are really easy to find, whereas other breeds' veins could be twisted and curved.

Diana Hudson (norderhove@gmail.com)