**Norwegian Elkhound Notes 16th November 2025**

There were no notes last week as no one sent in any news and the same this week so I thought I would update on the several Cub Members who have been ill. I'm delighted to say Jill Cowper is making a steady if somewhat frustratingly slow recovery. She attends Cardiac Rehab every week and is making good progress although she can still only manage to walk one dog. Patience Jill, it will improve.

Margaret Wadsworth has been in bed for a week with flu which seems to be rampant just now. Maybe it's time to start wearing masks again.

Maureen and Brian Lake are both suffering age related problems. Brian has very bad legs and is quite frail and Maureen has been suffering bad confusion and memory caused by a very severe illness she had a year ago.

I'm thrilled to say that my optician's comment on my cataract operations was "Amazing". Both eyes are identical and I no longer need glasses for distance or TV at all—for the first time in 59 years. I actually feel naked without them so have got some glasses with plain lens. I now only need reading glasses.

We seem to have had nothing but breakdowns for the past couple of months; two freezers broke down and the new one defrosted itself; then my car refused to lock and then I had half a tooth snap off.

But the most worrying was that I had to take Otta to the vet this week. All our regular vets bar one have left when the practise was taken over by a National company and we now only have one vet with more than 5 years' experience. Two young vets had previously brushed off her problems as "Just a bit of arthritis given her age" and had refused to remove an ever-increasing cutaneous horn because "It might bleed".

So, I waited so I could see the one remaining experienced vet who only works part time. She's been diagnosed with Idiopathic Dyskinesia which is trembling of her legs. Sometimes it's like having a vibrator leaning against you and if she gets excited or nervous the trembling becomes really violent. In her case there is no known cause. In some breeds it can be far worse leading to total rigidity and an inability to control movement and can be hereditary. It can be caused by a brain tumour or even a sensitivity to gluten. We just don't know except that it doesn't present like the hereditary type.

She's been given muscle relaxant tablets which have made a huge difference. It doesn't seem to bother her in the least. She doesn't even seem to notice it at all. No pain, most definitely NO arthritis and she's not that old at 11. She leaps in and out of the car as normal and her movement isn't affected. She only trembles when she's still. Just 2 days of tablets so far have made a huge difference. Has anyone else ever experienced this? I know of just one dog who only has trembling back legs which sounds more like a disc problem. Oh, and the vet simply pulled off the cutaneous horn which had reached 4 inches in length and 1 inch thick and there was no bleeding at all. So much for the young vets' lack of experience. I know who I'll be seeing in future.

In the Our Dogs listings this week, Top Brood Bitch so far is Graythor Lo Lykkelig and Top stud Dog is Kestos Rex of Rothenborg.

Do you remember a few months ago a new company was asking for dog hair to do research into the best ways of spinning it? They still want as much hair as you can send so please do save it all. Details are on the necgb website https://www.necgb.net/Elkhound/news-and-results/news/general-news/undercoat-collection or contact info@chiora.org. Posting hair to them will be free. I don't know about yours but mine is moulting like crazy. She obviously doesn't know that there's snow forecast this week.

There's a lovely entry of 22 for the Nordic. Good luck everyone.

Diana Hudson (norderhove@gmail.com PLEASE SEND YOUR NEWS.