

Norwegian Elkhound Notes 14th December 2025

There were no notes last week as there was only one piece of news and Wendy Sharman who uploads the notes in the Club website had only just completed a 4-day journey so I decided not to give her extra work. *(Very thoughtful of you and appreciated)*

First a personal warning from me. **FLEAS.**

Normally fleas die out after about September but because of the warmer weather they are still very much alive and kicking. After more than 40 years of never even having seen a flea, our girl brought home a very unwelcome visitor last week. Thankfully only one which I very quickly found and dispatched but it means very deep daily hoovering to catch any eggs that have been shed; usually along carpet edges and in gaps between floorboards and washing everything they have come into contact with at 40 degrees or higher. Not only you need to do this but any dog owner who has visited your house in case they've taken anything home on their clothes. Eggs hatch and hide in miniscule cracks then they pupate. The larvae then can't be killed by sprays and start another life cycle so this all needs to be done a second or third time after around a month. After we stopped showing and because Otta never meets other dogs, I gave up putting chemicals onto her. Big mistake. An infested dog obviously went for a moorland walk like her and its lodger was waiting on a blade of grass. Check your dogs- they don't always itch. Even my vet was surprised to find one in December. Easy (but expensive) treatment for her - just a very large tablet which she greedily munched up. Treating the house just in case, is a whole other ball game. Blankets, throws, cushions and her bed are all washed and she's now worriedly watching her stuffies having a bath. Not the best Christmas present.

Now to nicer news. Today of course is LKA, the last Ch show of the year where we were due in the ring not before 11.30 so a long day for everyone.

Last week Wendy Threadgold wrote;

"Best AVNSC Hound for Laakso Katja today at Camberley & District Canine Society. She was one of 6 shortlisted out of 20 for the Group, no further for us today. It was nice to get back to a show, if a chilly one. I've had all three girls down with a respiratory tract virus & Katja was in season so hopefully that's all out of the way & we can get going again. Best wishes for Christmas Wendy & Keith."

A few judges now for next year.

Manchester – Ron James

Crufts Moa Persson

NECGB Christine Gilbert

SKC Tim Ball

Bath Helen Wayman

Birmingham Martin Sanders

Windsor Karen Gold

Leeds Liz Mc Knight

Hound Assoc Nev Simms

WKC Jeff Horswell

Darlington Stuart Byrne.

Crufts 2027 – Lorraine Bolton

Crufts 2028 Editha Newton

As Vanessa mentioned in her notes last week in the paper, The KC website Find a Judge no longer says whether judges qualified to award CCs are Breed Specialists or All Rounders so it's possible that shows may skim past those names they don't know because they only judge the one breed meaning we may get fewer specialist judges. The responsibility for the Judging List has also, now been taken away from Breed Clubs. It's always been an unspoken rule that you don't ask for judging appointments but that may now have to change. Do check your listing on Find a Judge and be sure you are there. Quite a few names are missing which may be because they have retired or decided to stop judging but may have been missed.

A quick warning now for a safe Christmas.

1 - Cooked bones

Avoid giving your dog any bones! Cooked bones are more brittle and likely to splinter causing obstruction and possible perforation of the stomach and/or intestinal tract. Dispose of any leftovers correctly in pet proof bins.

2 - Blue cheese

This smelly snack contains a fungus which dogs are sensitive to and can cause stomach upset, tremors and even seizures. If it's on your cheese board – keep it out of reach of furry paws.

3 - Mince pies and Christmas cake/pudding

These sweet treats contain fruits such as grapes, sultanas and raisins which are toxic to pets, especially in the dried form. Even a small amount can lead to kidney problems.

4 – Chocolate/Sweets

Don't leave your sweets in reach of pets, just a small amount can cause them to feel unwell. Although they are fun decorations, avoid hanging chocolates on the tree in reach of pets. Check all sweets for the artificial sweetener xylitol which can kill even in tiny amounts.

5 Festive flowers

Many of us tend to decorate our homes with festive greenery. Poinsettia, mistletoe and ivy are mildly toxic to pets. Signs of ingestion can include diarrhoea, vomiting and excess salivation.

6 - Alcohol

The effects are not too different to those in humans when drunk in excess...However, our pets are much more sensitive and ingestion in severe cases can lead to a coma. Ensure any spillages are cleaned up straight away. I remember Joan Block's dog helping himself to a full glass of Drambuie and passing out.

7 - Onions and garlic

Raw or cooked, these veggies can cause stomach upset resulting in vomiting and diarrhoea initially. Following ingestion it's important to monitor your pet as red blood cell damage can occur leading to anaemia. **Stuffing.** Traditional stuffing contains onions which can cause haemolytic anaemia.

8 - Candles

Candles can be a fire hazard to pets, who may knock them over, burn themselves, or chew on the wax. Place real candles on high shelves or in secure areas where pets cannot reach

them. Some scented candles and air fresheners or essential oils also contain toxic ingredients, so use pet-friendly scents.

9- Decorations

Keep wires out of the way. Sparkly baubles look like great toys for your pet to play with, especially for cats, however, could cause an obstruction if swallowed and if glass will cause damage. Sharp pine needles can cause mild tummy upset or trauma if swallowed.

10 - Macadamia nuts

Tasty for us but toxic to our pets. Can cause stiffness, tremors and vomiting. Keep out of reach of pets, especially the chocolate coated ones...double danger!

If you are worried that your pet has eaten or come into contact with any of these hazards, please seek professional veterinary advice **straight away**.

Now to LKA results where the judge was Miss Serena Parker.

BEST OF BREED and BCC was Tyson's Bowerhinton Bright Flame At Starceylon JW

Dog CC went to Jill Cowper's Ch Graythor Augustus At Rothenborg

Res Dog CC was Simms', Ch Aftonlee Aros At Elverdal and

Res Bitch CC was won by .Williams', Laakso Kaunis At Akritiko

Mr & Mrs R & C Gilbert took Best Puppy with, Bowerhinton Bailey Grace For Balsemasi.

Best Veteran went to Hennesey's Bowerhinton Bombette and

Best Special Beginner was Neal Cuss with Norvin Krakjen.

Well done all.

We are not mailing Christmas cards this year where possible. If you have an email address we will contact you that way and there will be no notes next week, so may I wish everyone a lovely and healthy Christmas (avoid the flu) and a very happy, healthy and successful New Year. We truly miss being able to see you all.

Diana and Peter Hudson (norderhove@gmail.com.)