



The Great Dane Club Newsletter Winter 2013



WELCOME

The Great Dane Club is pleased to announce its decision to produce a quarterly email newsletter instead of the annual magazine, owing to the high cost of production and postage. It was a difficult decision to make but it was felt that the club could not keep losing money on the magazine.

The newsletter will keep you, the members, more regularly updated on the club's events.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter or have any topics you would like to see included in future newsletters, please contact the newsletter editor Joy Sinclair:

Tel: 01908 559368 or by email joysinclair@hotmail.com

A printed copy will be available on request.

So please remember to inform us of your email address so you don't miss out.

We are really looking forward to the future as we have some exciting ideas in the pipeline and we strongly believe that this is the perfect time to use the scientific potential available to us to help improve the length and quality of life for our wonderful breed.

During 2013 The Great Dane Club will be running 3 shows as usual but with a slight difference this year. More about that later.

BUT WHAT HAPPENED IN 2012

We held a Judges Seminar, in October, in conjunction with The East of England GDC, which was well attended, with 8 breed specialists and 6 All-rounders. We would like to thank the EEGDC for all their help in running a very successful seminar and the volunteers who bought their dogs along for the delegates to go over.

Elaine Hyde, (Dorneywood) gave a most informative presentation with many illustrations, it must have taken many hours to source them, of what a Dane should and should not look like. Elaine went into detail about the important anatomical points and the correct conformation of the Dane. Many thanks Elaine. For details of the next Judges Seminar, see later.

AGM

Like many breed clubs, our committee is doing its best to come up with ideas to improve our financial position and to make more of what we already have. It was with this in mind that last year we held our AGM immediately after our Members Limited Show. We hoped that it would save our members extra travelling costs and save the Club the cost of a venue. We were very disappointed that so many members exhibiting at the show left before the AGM. But we will continue to hold the AGM on the day of this show. Club members who wish to put forward any items for the Annual General Meeting, on 27 May 2013 at Chievely Hall, High Street, Chievely, Newbury RG20 8TE, must notify the Secretary, Mrs Marion Hipkin, in writing, by 14th February.

MEMBERSHIP

Sam Stapleford is now the club's Membership Secretary. Subscriptions were due on 1st January 2013 and remain the same cost at £5.00 single and £6.00 joint, with overseas at £10.00. Life membership is extremely good value at £75.00 single and £90.00 joint. Please don't forget to let Sam know if you have changed address or phone number.

JOIN THE COMMITTEE

Any club member of two or more consecutive years standing, who wishes to be nominated to the committee, please notify me, in writing, by the same date. This applies to any present committee member.

SEND US YOUR CV

Don't forget to keep your judging CV updated, and send it in to us. The Great Dane Club has now adopted the Breed Council Judging criteria for 2012 and all persons situated on the A3, B and C lists, must update their CVs on an annual basis. This is KC Policy.

POINTS MEAN PRIZES

Members of the Great Dane Club are also invited to submit their points for the Annual Points Trophy. With any dog there are three points awarded for a first place, two points for a second and one point for third, which must have been won in Great Dane classes at Championship and Open Shows during the year 2012.

WHO'S WHO IN THE DANE WORLD?

Meet the breeders – Mrs Elaine Hyde, Dorneywood

Did you come from a dog owning family?

We always had a dog in the family, mostly Golden Retrievers. The first dog I remember properly was a son of Ch Camrose Fantango (approximately 1952) this was just before

vaccinations for distemper became available and he got hardpad (distemper) and died, he was about 3 years old. I remember my mother being inconsolable in fact the whole family was devastated and this is my early remembrance. We are extremely lucky now that these problems are largely under control.

When were you first interested in dogs?

In 1961 I pleaded with my dad to have a Dane. I had a Saturday job in a kennels and they had an old brindle Dane boarding there – love at first sight! He wouldn't relent. I had to wait until I got married (1970), and then got my first Dane, a Merrowlea. Dad subsequently said to my husband, "Well, you didn't hold out for long did you". She lived to be 11 and in her I found my abiding love of this breed.

What year did you start in Danes?

My Merrowlea bitch was a lovely person and I loved her to bits but she just wasn't a show dog and after a few shows with her and looking round at what was on offer, I bought an Oldmanor bitch who became Ch Oldmanor Maymirth of Dorneywood – my foundation bitch and she is behind all the Dorneywood Danes.

What was your first Dane?

Mae of Merrowlea – see above

What was your foundation bitch?

Ch Oldmanor Maymirth of Dorneywood – see above. People often think that Ann Foxwell and I bought litter sisters – this is nearly true but Anne bought Ch. Oldmanor Manthem of Auldmoor who was out of Maymirth's dam's litter sister and sired by the same dog Ch Oldmanor Pioneer of Daneii, so our bitches were first cousins and half sisters! Both of our bitches were a lovely type and produced champions for us.

It also forged a lifelong friendship between Ann and I, mixed with not a small amount of good natured rivalry.

What are your favourite top 3 Danes (any country)?

Well, this is a difficult one!! When I first came into Danes and saw the American Danes I loved Ch Dinro Diplomat, the BMW harlequins, the Edendanes and Harmony Hill stock. There are several Danes whose photographs are outstanding and the dogs look mouth-wateringly beautiful. However, I don't think it is fair to judge by a photograph because, as we all know pictures can be a false representation. So I will go for Danes which I have actually seen in the flesh. Ch. Walkmyll Mayo, Ch Daneagle Alexandra, Ch. Hotpoints Be my Joy, Ch Hotpoints New Treasure for Batworth – there are obviously more but these four stand out for me.

What colours have you bred?

Fawns and brindles.

When do you think Danes in the UK were at their strongest in quality?

In the 1980 there were a lot of typy Danes about and the show rings were very full, with entries of 250 being the norm (not all of them show quality I hasten to add).

What was your best show win?

In 1979 the late Joe Braddon gave Dorneywood Dandylion the dog CC and BOB, Ch Dorneywood Debonair the bitch CC, her sister Ch Dorneywood Damask the reserve bitch CC and Dorneywood Electra (later Ch.) best puppy. This was at the GDBA Championship show at Stoneleigh – my car used to know its own way there!

Do you have an interest / passion for any other breed / s?

I used to have a passion for Pekinese – not shared by either of my husbands! But I have always had an abiding love of sight-hounds and we have a rescued retired racing greyhound – a wonderful breed.

ON THE HEALTH FRONT

There is much activity on the health front. The Kennel Club is bringing in more measures to control the level of exaggerated conformation, but we are fortunate in Danes that there are not any extremes to concern us. Having said that, the breed has been placed on the Breed Watch Register for loose eyes (ectropion) and on the BVA alert for the very distressing condition, glaucoma. Hip Dysplasia – there has been an adjustment made to the HD scoring scheme for Danes - as follows:
CHANGE FROM REQUIREMENT TO A RECOMMENDATION - effective from July 1st 2012.

DCM Update

The Great Dane Club is proud of its record with regards to helping with the health and welfare of Great Danes and we were able to donate a Holter monitor, to Liverpool University, to assist with their research into DCM last year.



To read the recent update on the DCM Project by Hannah Stephenson, Veterinary Surgeon, go to our website using the link below:
<http://thegreatdaneclub.com/dilated-cardiomyopathy-update-dec-2012/>

HOW TO KEEP YOUR DANE HEALTHY IN WINTER



My paws hurt - most dogs love playing in snow and we enjoy watching them having fun. But snow, cold winds, rain and cold air can cause chapped paws. More sinister are mainly invisible residues of chemicals e.g. anti-freeze, de-icers which cause soreness to paws and poisoning if licked. Salt may be on roads and pavements too. Massaging paws with petroleum jelly before you go out can help protect sores.

My skin itches - Danes' coats don't require too much attention in winter but exposure to the element can cause flaky, itchy skin. Frequent bathing can remove essential oils from the skin and increase the chance of developing dry, flaky skin. Frequent brushing removes dead hair and helps to stimulate circulation, thus improving the skin's overall condition.

I like my walks but - after a wet walk, towel-dry your Dane as soon as possible on return, not forgetting feet and in between the toes. Older Danes may appreciate a coat. This will help retain body heat and prevent skin from getting dry.

I'm hungry - dogs burn energy to help keep warm in winter, this may cause dehydration in older or ill dogs. Your Dane may need more food during cold weather and plenty of water to drink which will help prevent dehydration and also keep skin healthy.

I don't want to get hypothermia – short-haired dogs, oldies and puppies are most susceptible to hypothermia. Prolonged exposure to cold will cause a drop in body temperature. Signs of hypothermia are violent shivering, then listlessness, weak pulse, lethargy and if left unnoticed and untreated, coma. If the dog's temperature (taken rectally) drops below 35 degrees centigrade or 95 degree F, then veterinary attention is required.

Oh no frostbite! Yes your Dane could get frostbite. Parts of the body which are susceptible are tips of ears, tails, pads and scrotum. Frostbite often accompanies hypothermia. The tell tale signs are pale white or blue skin colour. The affected area will become red and swollen and may begin to peel as the blood returns to the area. A black line appears between dead and living tissue.

AROUND THE COMMITTEE

Marion Hipkin reports on her judging appointment in South Africa



I was delighted and honoured to be asked by The South African Great Dane Association to judge their Championship Show just outside Johannesburg in April this year.

It had been 10 years since I last visited South Africa. On this trip my travelling companion was a good friend, Gina Hardy, who is a successful owner, breeder / exhibitor of Miniature W/H Dachshunds.

We arrived in South Africa early in the morning to be greeted by my steward Elaine and taken to her bed and breakfast and were greeted by her Rottweilers. Elaine and David really looked after us and we of course talked a little about dogs and the dog world. The day of the show arrived to a lovely sunny day and an excellent venue, well cut grass and large ring. Like many clubs here and abroad, entries are falling but nevertheless there were some very nice dogs to go over.

My Best In Show went to a very handsome fawn dog Ch Fairmoors Call Me Fagin. At only 2 and a half years he had everything I was looking for. He had a stunning outline and very muscular all through. He had the kindest of expression, excellent fore quarters with a wonderful spring of rib and could he move.

My Best Bitch was Aquila Magic Melody of Tarransae, a quality fawn, very elegant with a lovely reach of neck, so balanced, again a youngster with plenty to come.

The Best puppy was Noblecourt Just For Joy, who certainly has a bright future, at only 7 months had plenty of bone and substance a real little stunner.

It was lovely to go over the veteran, Ch Pendane Ruby Of Everich, who was nine and a half years old with a complete grey muzzle and the darkest of eye that made her look so serene. Still with excellent body condition. She really went round the ring well with her mature owner in tow. A real sweetheart.

Everyone stayed at the end of the show and talked about Great Danes and to the judge about the day and enjoyed a little bite to eat and had a little liquid refreshment. Gina is now getting used to having a Dane on her lap! Converted, well maybe.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THE GREAT DANE CLUB'S FORTHCOMING SHOWS 2013

Members Limited Show – Monday 27 May
Championship Show – Sunday 04 August
Open Show – Sunday 24 November

See our website for details of venues and Judges – www.thegreatdaneclub.com

CRUFTS

Sunday 10 March – Judge Mr Laurence Morgan-Evans (Vanmore).



The Great Dane Club will have its merchandising stand at ringside displaying for sale a fine collection of sterling silver Dane jewellery, ideal to treat yourself or buy a piece for someone special. Do come and visit us.

JUDGING SEMINAR

The Great Dane Club is pleased to announce that together with The EEGDC a Judges Seminar will be held on Sunday 27th October at The Holiday Inn, Crick, Northamptonshire (Junction 18 of the M1). More details nearer the time.

Open Show – Special Announcement

Back to Back Show



The Great Dane Club will be sharing the day and the venue with the Great Dane Breeders and Owners Association – 2 Open Shows in one day at the popular Sky Blue Connection. Your chance to double your wins, for half the travelling costs. More details to follow nearer the time.

STOP PRESS!

The Championship Show will this year be on **Fosse Data**. Details will be shown on our website soon.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

A special thanks from the committee to all the exhibitors who supported our Shows in 2012. We look forward to seeing you at the Shows this year and wish you all a very happy, healthy and successful 2013.

The Great Dane Club