

# KEESHONDS OF THE WORLD



MARGO EMERSON











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# KEESHONDS

OF  
THE  
WORLD



# KEESHONDS OF THE WORLD

MARGO EMERSON

*International Judge*

**Beech House Publishing**

15 the Maltings

Turk Street

Alton

Hants GU 34 1 DL



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ISBN 1- 85259-237-0

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First published 1991

**Dedication**

*To Muriel Cahill who  
truly loved Keeshonds*

**Beech Publishing House**  
15 The Maltings  
Turk St  
Alton GU 34 1 DL  
Hants

# KEESHONDS OF THE WORLD

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## FOREWORD

In 1984 when ill health forced me to abandon my life long interest in breeding and showing my Keeshonden , it was suggested I should write a book on the subject. I therefore spent a year contacting sources of information and researching the history.

Unfortunately, ill health took over my life once again and so after seven operations , two heart attacks and various other problems it is now in 1991 , that the project has come to fruition. During the intervening years there have been many changes with new names coming to the fore in both breeders and dogs; the latter being bred from the champions listed in the book.

It should be possible to trace the ancestor of any present day dogs and where they fit into the hierarchy. Obviously though mentioning every dog would be an impossibility and concentration has had to be on those kennels which have made a valuable contribution to the development of the breed. Looking back to the 1940s Mr Blanchard's **Landswoods** and Mr Bennison's **Mistybanks**, both helped others to success; there was also Mrs Harrop's **Grovelyns** with *Ch Jan of Grovelyn* being one of the first post-war champions in 1947.

Without the cooperation of and help of many Keeshond breeders and owners this book would have not been possible and I would like to offer my thanks to all who gave information and lent photographs. I am grateful to *Our Dogs* and *Dog World* for allowing me to use extracts from the magazines; also the Kennel Club for their help. In addition, my appreciation is recorded to the late Jock Makinson MRCVS for checking the chapter on health matters and to Jocelyn Jenner for recording so faithfully the details of her one and only litter.

Other people who also helped were Zoe Brakspear in Canada for visits to Mother Cecilia ; Sheila Brown, Denise Tookey and Helen Hodgkinson for their delightful sketches and Jeane Waller for sketches and explicit instructions. Paddy Driscoll gave tremendous assistance in compiling the *Roll of Champions* which I feel sure will become an important part of breed history.

After I had written the chapter on the Keeshond in the USA the excellent book *The New Complete Keeshond* was written by Carol and Ron Cash with far more intimate knowledge than I could ever achieve on the American scene. I have therefore only included details of earliest imports , but I am grateful for the excellent pictures sent by breeders in the USA.

If these simple chapters inspire just one owner to embark on a course of building a family of dogs , with the good of the breed in general and their own dogs in particular, this writing will have been worthwhile. The dogs you breed will be the continuation of the story.

Margo Emerson



## COLOUR ILLUSTRATIONS

These are shown opposite. Captions are given to indicate the subject matter covered. The whelping sequence illustrates the stages involved and the rapid development of puppies.

## Corrigenda

Due to a computer fault a number of corrections made by the author were not recorded .As far as possible , these errors have been eliminated and we apologize for any that may remain . Despite serious ill health Margo Emerson has forced herself to finish the work and for our part we felt that another delay would have been so disappointing.

The Publishers



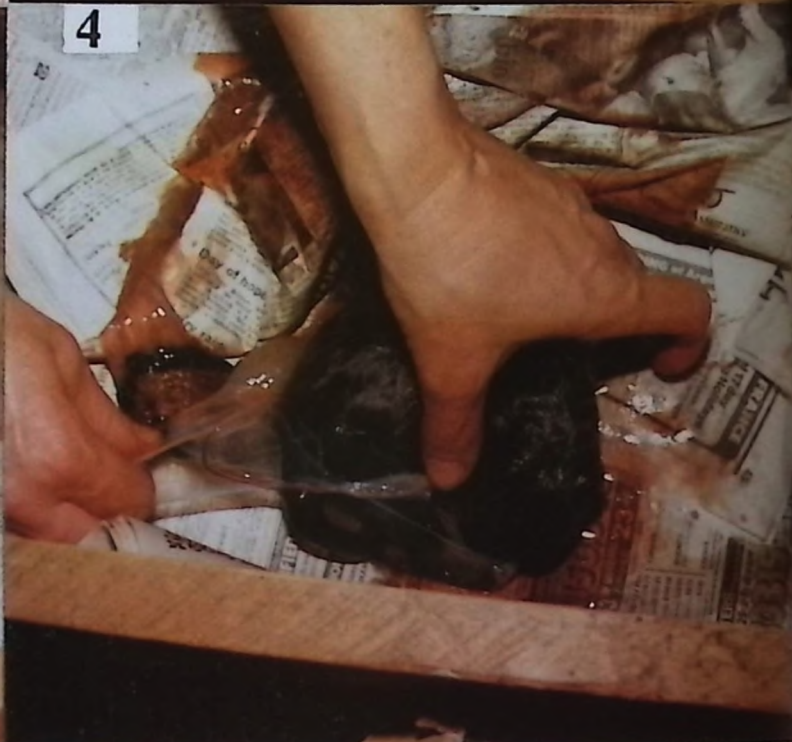
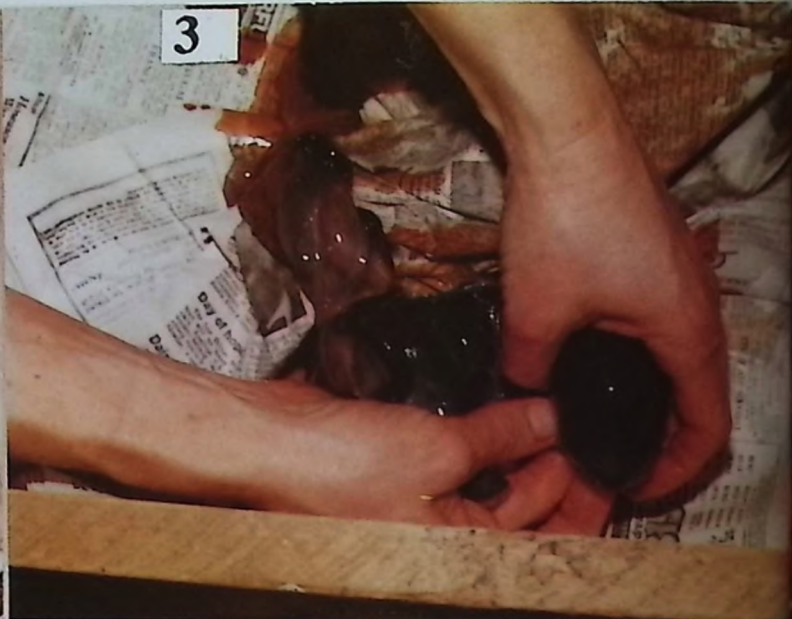


*Nordic Ch. Keestorpets Excellent* ( Mona Karlsson )



*Ch. Enrico Snow Star* ( Miss Ecklmayr, Austria )





### Stages in Whelping

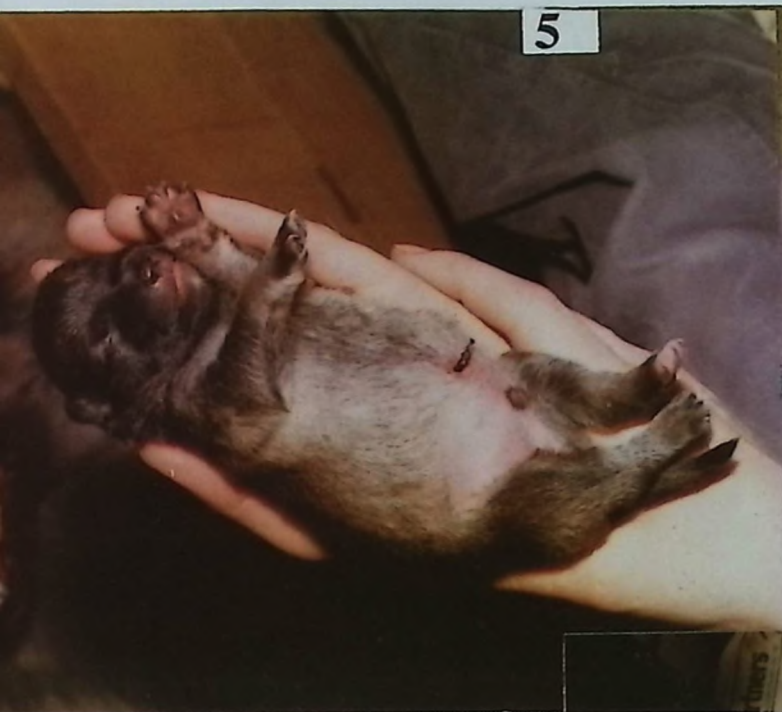
Above:

1. First steps; first puppy.
2. Bitch cleaning first Whelp.
- 3.& 4. Breaking birth sac  
when mother ignores it.

### Opposite:

5. Whelp at 36 hours.
6. Complete litter at 2 days.
7. Pups at 5 days
8. Puppy being weighed at 1 week.
9. Feeding together at 3 weeks.
10. At play at 4 weeks.









*Ch. Robinella of Rhinevale* (Margo Emerson, the author)



## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCING THE KEESHOND

My love affair with the Smiling Dutchman started when I was still at school (or should have been) and saw the world famous Evenlodes and their owner, Miss Hastings, moving into their new home at Henley on Thames in the early nineteen thirties. I knew at once I had found the right animal for me. From the days of flinging my arms around the shaggy ankles of cart horses, (all I could reach) to bringing home every stray dog and cat, I had found the epitome of all the charm of the animal world in one.

Still, half a century later, I am as bewitched as ever. His unique charm, his sheer good looks, his intelligence and the character he shows so clearly, is a source of constant interest.

Perhaps it is the fact that for centuries the Keeshond has lived closely with man, exclusively as a guard and friend, that has made him the most adaptable and perfect of companions. Home loving, with a highly developed sense of ownership, his family and their property are his whole world. Quick-witted and amazingly observant, his chameleon-like qualities turn him from an apparently fierce guard to a welcoming host immediately the newcomer is accepted or recognised, but few strangers would call the bluff of a Keeshond "on guard" for he takes his duties seriously. Rarely a hunter or killer he is not naturally aggressive, although well able to stand up for himself if attacked. His sense of personal dignity must not be abused and any dog "trailing his coat" will be dealt with.

Years of living in the confined area of a barge has made him tolerant and "handy" being able to curl up unobtrusively in any small space so that, despite his size, he takes up little room in today's small homes.

To me the ideal dog has a beautiful abundant coat, dry, hair-free mouth: clean non-hairy feet which do not carry mud, a face that is both pleasing to live with and very expressive with a happy confident outlook on life. All this I find in a Keeshond plus the bonus of a sense of humour, rare in any animal other than man, and an enjoyment of life which is delightfully infectious.

The fact that the coat has no "doggy" odour is a distinct advantage and very often the fur has a warm tweedy smell which is very pleasing in a dog who will share your home and hearth. Old paintings show that from time immemorial his general appearance has remained much as it is today and always he is depicted with people. At the height of his popularity in Holland, the country of his origin, he was used as the National emblem of the Dutch Patriots Party during their revolt against the House of Orange in the latter half of the nineteenth century and on their defeat faded from the scene. Fear that ownership of a Keeshond would indicate allegiance to the defeated party, it is thought that many of these lovely dogs were disposed of and little was heard of the breed for almost a century. Fortunately their intelligence and unbeatable qualities as a guard dog meant that some bargees and farmers kept their dogs and so we have the antecedents of our own stock. Pedigrees were sketchy especially in Holland, but the German lines can be traced to the first decade of the 1900's and pedigrees are marked 'Unrecorded' before that.

### THE SPITZ FAMILY

He is a member of the ancient Spitz family all of whom are noted for their independence and are recognisable by features such as the pricked ears and curled up tails and a certain jauntiness of disposition. The Finnish Spitz, the Chow Chow, the Elkhound, the Schipperke, the Samoyed, the German Spitz and all the Eskimo dogs and even the little Pomeranian are of this family. Recent additions are the Buhund, the Swedish Vallhund, the Japanese Spitz and Akita.





Figure 1.1 Keeshonds love children. The pride on the faces of the two Kitney girls when their Ch *Rahida of Rhinevale* gained his title shows in this happy picture.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Basenji is also classed as a Spitz being the only one with a thin fine coat. There are many more and it seems that almost every country has its own version of the Spitz. Several come from Scandinavia where Keeshonds are very popular.

### HISTORY OF THE BREED

There was no history of the breed in England until Mrs Wingfield Digby (then Miss Fletcher Hamilton) brought the first pair from Holland in the early 1900's, having spotted them on the barges during a yachting holiday on the canals. There is, however, evidence that members of the Keeshond family were here before that date for many old paintings show dogs so similar that there can be little doubt. The painting of George III and his Court, attributed to Gainsborough, and now in the Stuttgart Museum shows a very typical Keeshond and there are many other examples, Queen Victoria's Windsor Marco being a typical small Keeshond. Unfortunately, records were not kept in Holland as they were in Germany and so it is difficult to get a clear picture of Keeshond background.



The Spitz group have been domesticated throughout the ages and they seem to have drifted across Europe. Professor Bechman, the German researcher, has expressed this opinion and all researchers seem to agree that they were of Northern origin. Despite this, one of the very earliest depictions of a Keeshond-like dog appears on an Athenian wine jug dated circa 400 years BC.

### THE PREHISTORIC DOG

In May 1954 there was a notice in the paper on the finding of a prehistoric dog. It was found in the moors near Papenburg, near the lower Ems river in North West Germany. Labourers cutting peat came upon the well-preserved body of a dog enclosed in peat. They reported the find to the teacher of the next village who communicated the fact to the President of moor research at Papenburg. He forwarded the news to the Institute of Prehistoric Research at Munster, Dr Lotze, in whose presence the body was finally lifted. It is through Dr Lotze that I can give the exact details on the find:

*"The body and coat of the dog are well preserved except the lower part of the legs and part of the head.....only the remains of the skull could be found; length of body 25 inches height of shoulder approximately 12 or 13 inches. The coat of blackish brown colour, is rather long and straight, about two inches, with a short soft undercoat. The shape of the head is hat of a Spitz (Dr Lotze used this term himself). Finds of such prehistoric dogs are extremely rare and so far research has stated the age to be 3,200 years".*

Only one other prehistoric dog had been found earlier in that same area near Oldenburg, where it is preserved in the museum. It is supposed to have lived 5000 years ago, . . . It is slightly smaller than the present Wolfspitz/Keeshond of black colour with long hair and was found curled up in a sleeping position, its head a little broader than that of the present Spitz. It is noteworthy that this dog wears a collar of fibre.

Rather amusingly Dr Lotze says in his letter that so far no definite statement has been made as to what breed may claim these historic dogs as their ancestors although the Spitz seems to have the greatest chances as one may see even from this brief description; and the locality of the finds, Westphalia, being the home of the Wolfspitz as far back as the history of the breed goes".

#### Note:

The above letter appeared in *The Field* in December 1955 and was written by Miss Irene Weitz, a German breeder of Keeshonds.

All early writings and pictures indicate the acceptance of whole colours with white constantly mentioned and also black and brown, although the only photograph I have seen of Wolfspitz whelped prior to 1900 show very dark colouring with shading far less pronounced than we have today, but identically marked. Incidentally, in 1968, 81 Keeshond were registered in Holland, 76 being grey and only 5 white. The very first recorded mention of a Spitz was in 1450 when Count Eberhard zu Sayne of the Rhineland forbade the use of the word 'Spitzhund' as an invective! There has always been controversy over the Dutch Keeshond versus the German Wolfspitz, both being virtually the same animal. There is some colour variation and the Dutch Keeshond is somewhat smaller and gentler than the big German fellow and we get a selection of both types through the years. There is also a whole family of smaller German Spitz more closely allied to the Pomeranian.

Our British Keeshond has, however a few distinguishing features. Firstly the Kennel Club accepts only one colour, grey with shading, and no whole colours are acknowledged in the U.K. The breed Standard gives our ideal size as 18 inches at the withers (45.7cm) for dogs and 17 inches (43.2cms) for bitches so we are truly medium sized. To keep the lovely colour and



marking we have both dark and light dogs and both must be used as it is vitally important to the attraction of the breed to keep bright colour.

### THE KEESHOND CLUB

The first Keeshonds, then known as Dutch Barge Dogs, shown in England were Mrs Wingfield Digby's Breda and Sanni at Birmingham National Show in 1923, two years before the foundation of the first Specialist Club.

October 23rd 1925 saw a gathering at Mrs Wingfield Digby's home, Sherborne Castle, where the Dutch Barge Dog Club was inaugurated with Mrs Wingfield Digby as both President and Hon. Secretary, a job which was quite new to her. Mr F W Morton was Hon Treasurer and Mrs Griffith, Mr and Mrs Gambier, Mrs Hankey, Miss Hollins, Mrs and Miss Morton, Vice Admiral Sir H Pelly, Mrs Stephen and Major F J Wingfield Digby comprised the Committee. A year later at the request of the Kennel Club the name was changed to the Keeshond Club. The Dutch pronunciation is Case-hond and the plural is Keeshonden but, again, the Kennel Club thought otherwise and made our plural interpretation Keeshonds.

The following year the first Year Book was published, and in 1925 a subcommittee drew up the Breed Standard which remained virtually unaltered until 1983 when the Kennel Club requested 'clarification'.

Immediately after the war, the Club, which had been extremely well held together by Mrs Anderson of the Kultz Keeshonds, despite whole kennels being dispersed, had a membership of just seventy members. In 1950 there were eighty-five, some twenty to thirty of whom celebrated the Club Silver Jubilee with a dinner in London which I was privileged to attend. By the time of our Golden Jubilee in 1975, which was celebrated with a Luncheon Party, there were over 300 members and today the figure is nearer 500. With dedicated supporters all over the world the breed is in safe hands and it has never been spoilt by over-popularity.

### THE GUARD DOG

Typically a 'people's dog' the Keeshond was ubiquitous in his homeland, Holland, the Rhine Valley and parts of Germany at the turn of the century. Every barge had its Keeshond. Every carter had one riding on the cart, on guard and the vineyards along the banks of the Rhine saw them racing from one end of the tiers of grapes to the other watching for intruders and telling of any invaders. In Stuttgart there is a monument to the wine growers of the Rhineland which depicts a Keeshond. It is said that the Keeshond was the earliest form of Radar for in dense fog they seemed to have a sixth-sense and would rush barking to whichever side of the deck was nearing an unseen object. The wise Dutch sailors valued and trusted their Keeshonds and took heed of their warnings. It is also said that Keeshonds were to be seen lying outside the hostelrys alongside the waterways thus giving away who was still inside! This waiting for the owner is instinctive to this day for my own dogs will wait in the car however long I may be away never taking their eyes from the last spot at which they saw me.

All stages of the Keeshond's life are rewarding from the little bright-eyed enquiring pup to the gentle old faithful who rarely needs a word for your thoughts are read and understood. A very long-lived breed they usually reach their teens with few signs of old age and are active to the end if carefully fed and exercised all their lives. Tough and hardy they give a lifetime of devotion and pleasure and few people who own a Keeshond ever turn to any other breed.

The development of their true character is dependent upon having human companionship and as the economic stringency of our times has vastly reduced the number of owners who keep a large kennel of dogs this book is being written to help those who aim to have a small family



of quality Keeshonds for the pleasure of showing and breeding them, with the good of the breed in general, and the puppies they produce in particular, in mind. The average house can easily accommodate three or four and even more if good management is the keynote.

Your dogs should be a pleasure and if there is some part of dog owning that is causing stress check up with yourself and eliminate it. One dog too many for the home can so easily cause friction and I have known three stud dogs live happily together until the arrival of a fourth. He may be as good natured as all the others, but nevertheless he can be the 'one too many' and spoil the entire group. Should this happen the cure is obvious as over crowding brings many problems. Happily the Keeshond has the philosophical outlook on life that helps him adjust quickly and providing the new home is a really good one, steel yourself and make the move. The remaining dogs will soon settle back into the smooth routine that was prevailing and a more relaxed owner means more relaxed dogs. Although naturally friendly to other dogs there can be personality clashes and these will not be forgotten.

There is nothing more nerve-racking than two strongly opposed Keeshonds in one home and the keeping of doors closed and seeing who is in and who is out at the same time limits all the dogs freedom and tends to make them aggressive. It is an impossible situation and must be avoided. I have had it just once in my own small family due entirely to my own thoughtlessness. One very characterful bitch had a daughter of whom she was quite fond despite the fact that the daughter lived with friends some miles away and stayed with us only to go to shows. I was in the habit of collecting her with Mama in the car to welcome her and all was harmony.

One summer evening I decided it was too hot for the older bitch to come with me and I let the daughter run in ahead of me through a side gate where Mama was asleep in the garden. This was a mistake for she leapt up startled and a frightful scuffle ensued! From that moment on it was impossible even to have them with a door closed between them for they both flew at the bottom of the door in a frenzy of hate. So easily one can set up a disastrous pattern of behaviour and it is not possible to correct it. That was our only quarrel in the forty years of many Keeshonds.

The more freedom you are able to give your Keeshond, and the more he is with you, the better behaved will he be and the greater your enjoyment of his company. It is gratifying to hear people say what a well mannered dog you have even though you know that the dog is showing his party manners and can be as wicked as the next one at home!

An awareness of occasion is part of Keeshond character as is a strong determination as to what is right and wrong. Some years ago a queue had formed at our local station waiting for the gates to be opened to allow the commuters to go home. One impatient young man took a leap and vaulted over the railings. Before I realised what had happened my bitch had jumped and grabbed his coat. Disorderly conduct was not allowed in her eyes. Another very possessive bitch was very sweet to all visitors we allowed in but, if left in a room alone with them they were not allowed to stand up or touch anything in the room. On one occasion when I was out shopping, a guest who was staying and had been accepted in the house, decided to help by collecting the eggs from the hen house. I arrived home to an empty house. Halfway down the garden stood the visitor, eggs in hand, and our young policeman holding firmly on to her skirt! Although their instinct to guard and protect their owner's goods is strong, snappiness and actual biting is virtually unheard of in this breed.

Essentially easy-going and tolerant, with a natural love for children and with no trace of jealousy he is a trouble free devoted pet. A well known child psychiatrist has sent parents to me for a puppy when fear of dogs has become a problem and what a delightful cure for at eight weeks the puppy the child meets is a real live cross between a teddy bear and a panda. It could not fail to work!

Their sense of humour is seen in the joy they express when their antics make us laugh. One charming canine lady used to greet all her friends with a 'gift' in her mouth. Sometimes she would



bring out her blanket or bring her favourite bone. One day she made a great show of having a 'gift' for me and dropped an enormous dead spider into my hand! Their exceptionally expressive faces with smiling eyes are delightful and the theory that a dog never looks a human in the eye is completely confounded with this breed. A look may be enquiring, demanding or even reproachful, but he gets the message over so clearly that one is left wondering who coined the phrase "our dumb friends".....certainly not a Keeshond owner.

The pleasure of seeing their exuberant good humour and sharing the understanding that can be achieved between dog and owner makes your Keeshond an important part of your daily life. Sadly, just because he is so special, the gap he leaves is devastating. It is like the loss of a limb, an essential part of yourself and the only consolation is that, when it can be faced, another of the same family will be waiting to share the next chapter of your life. Never the same, for they are highly individual, yet there will be links to remind you and in time the newcomer will take just as firm a hold on your heart.



Fig. 1.2 Two eight week old Gavimir puppies.



## CHAPTER 2

## ARE YOU A KEESHOND PERSON?

First the Keeshond himself. An entirely independent and individual character he enters your home as a small fur bundle quickly taking over as a charming and intelligent addition to the family, beguiling friends, warning strangers, enchanting children, but never failing to be noticed. His striking appearance with huge silver and black off standing coat and unique markings attracts attention wherever he goes especially in the show ring. The serious dignified expression enhanced by finely drawn black spectacle marking round the eyes and sharply pricked foxy ears is belied by his wonderful sense of fun.

Authoritative when on guard, gentle and playful as a kitten with his own family, his quick wittedness and ability to size up a situation make him one jump ahead if you are not prepared for it.

There are only certain families who are true "Keeshond People". He is not for those who wish to own an obedient servant with no ideas of his own, for ever waiting for the next command. None of the submission found in the sheepdog group is seen here and the happiest relationship with a Keeshond is that of having a good and loyal friend with a zest for life which makes for a greater enjoyment of every pleasure shared, be it a walk in the woods or a quiet evening by the fireside. Adaptable and cheerful he fits into your moods and it is completely out of character for him to be mournful or lethargic, so much so that one would immediately seek a cause.

The home that has other pets will find the Keeshond taking care of them all. I have seen a young bitch take an injured rabbit and carry it with pride and tenderness to her own bed, only to see the rabbit die of fright! Ideal as a child's playmate he can join in their games however rowdy and rough with no fear of getting out of hand; he is hardy enough to look after himself yet will allow the toddler to use his coat to cling onto as he learns to walk. A sense of fun mingled with great responsibility and gentle devotion make him a treasured memory to any child who knows the joy of sharing its youth with a Keeshond.

The U.S.A awoke to the qualities of this breed in the early 1930's and formed the Keeshond Club of America in 1935 importing almost all their foundation stock from England and indeed to this day our American friends are often to be seen at the ringside at the bigger shows and always on the lookout for a good one to take home with them.

Many of our present day breeders started with one dog as a pet, then found that two more than doubled pleasure and so a new devotee was born. The average Keeshond kennel does not house more than six to eight adults. Over-stocking is the greatest mistake and it is the easiest thing in the world to build up a large kennel of mediocre stock and is a certain way not to enjoy your dogs. When Mrs Tucker's world famous Vorden Kennel closed its doors in 1962 it housed only six dogs and every one a champion, including Ch. Volkrijk of Vorden Supreme Champion at Crufts 1957. This is true success, for Vorden descendants are still known and winning all over the world.

Your first thought must be: "Is the Keeshond the dog for me?" If so, is it to be a dog or a bitch?

If you can keep only one dog and have neither the time nor the accommodation to breed, a male may be the best for you. If you show him successfully he may eventually be used at stud so you may later be sure of a descendant. Also you may have the pleasure and interest of seeing his puppies in the ring and following their show careers. He is bigger and more demanding than the bitch with a heavier, longer coat which is an advantage for showing and he does not lose it so frequently. He does not have to miss shows due to the twice yearly, three-week season and if you do not wish to use him at stud he will be none the worse for it.



If a dog does become "sexy" it is not a major operation to have him castrated, if he is not likely to be used at stud, and it seems to have little effect on his character otherwise. It does however end his show career as a castrated dog is ineligible for show, the exception being when it is medically necessary. In this case, providing the dog has sired a litter, a veterinary certificate submitted to the Kennel Club may nullify the ban. A less drastic step is the use of a comparatively new injection which will reduce over-sexiness without destroying the dog's ability to sire. It is not always successful, but well worth a try before resorting to castration and I am told in many cases it stops aggression and constant wetting indoors yet the bitch in season will still attract attention. It is a fact that if a dog does just a little winning it is unlikely anyone will ask for his services as the best dogs in the country can be used for a reasonable fee and as the fee is a minor expense compared with the rearing of a litter it is uneconomical for a breeder not to use the best. Even should he gain his title and become a champion, in a breed like this he will never earn his keep so remember you are keeping him as a pleasure and a hobby and do not expect a money spinner.

A dog needs more exercise than a bitch to keep him in tiptop condition and at least one short run and one fair walk a day are required. He will also need more careful training as he is the more wilful and he is stronger should he pull on the lead. He is not better than the bitch as a watchdog, but his additional size adds to the look as a guard. Given an owner who likes walking he is utterly tireless and always ready to be off.

One advantage in seeking a dog puppy is that many breeders are more willing to part with a top quality dog, knowing that later they can use him at stud, and so keep their line, whereas the really good bitches are rarely sold, being the strength of the kennel. If you tell the breeder that you intend to show you may be able to book a pick of litter dog from a superbly bred litter though you may have to wait for it. Most breeders plan one or two generations ahead and 'pick of litter' puppies are frequently bespoken.

If however you prefer the female of the species and have room to breed the occasional litter you may be able to buy a bitch puppy on breeding terms. This is often a great help to a novice owner as such a lot can be learned at little expense this way. If you plan to breed, the pedigree is of the utmost importance and there will be a lot to consider before you rush out and buy a puppy either on terms or outright. The bitch is not only smaller and gentler than the dog, but more tractable and often a closer relationship can be formed between bitch and owner than is achieved with a dog. This is a generalisation based on my own experience and many owners of delightful dogs will regard it as prejudiced.

Before you decide to breed stop and think if you have the time and accommodation as well as unlimited patience. If you are a town dweller and have neighbours you will have far more problems than those who are in the heart of the country, but these problems are not insurmountable providing you are not planning to leave the pups to themselves for too long at a time. If their day can be organised and split into sleeping, playing, feeding, and exercising times you will be able to cope but it does take time and it is not a hobby for those who are already busy.

From three to ten weeks of age puppies take a great deal of time if you are to make a real success of rearing and selling. You need a warm secluded place for your bitch to whelp where she will be safe and relaxed without visitors or children about. A run for the pups and an outhouse or shed which will be warm in winter and in which they can play during wet spells.

For a dog of either sex a safe well fenced garden is a must and the size is less important than the knowledge that it is safe. The perfect surroundings do not necessarily make a good home, only the right owner can do that. A truly conscientious owner can keep a dog well and happy against great odds, such as having only a tiny garden or living right in town for he will see his dog is taken out and is with him enough to offset the disadvantages whereas a dog shut outside in a large paddock alone, will not only fail to exercise himself but will sit and wait for his owner



and find no pleasure in his freedom. If you have decided you have room for a Keeshond in your home and in your heart let us look further into his character.



## CHAPTER 3

## CHARACTER AND BEHAVIOUR

In 1960 the following letter appeared in *The Field*. "A retired regular sergeant lived in our village and owned a Keeshond called "Betsy". This dog was his constant companion and a great solace in his lonely life after his wife's death. They were never apart. A dire disease began to make itself felt and the man was less and less able to take his dog out, but the dog never left him. One day a neighbour, opening the door, found the sergeant lying dead on his cottage floor and Betsy rushed out, distracted. She was caught and brought to us, half a mile away. We did not fasten her up and she stayed with us of her own free will but very sorrowfully and refusing food. Three or four times a day she went out onto the lawn and sat looking towards her old home and howled in a most distressing way. A few days later we took her to her masters funeral....she sat beside us in the pew, followed the mourners round to the grave, where she looked intently down at the coffin and then turned away pulling at her lead. She came home with us and from that moment she never howled again, she started eating and played with our dog; she seemed to know that her old life was over and that she must now settle down with the family that had adopted her and she has become devotedly attached to her new friends"

The letter was written by Mrs I.L.Carter of The Manor House. Barford St John. Oxford.

In 1980 Muriel Cahill, who was not only one of the breeds greatest supporters but also an International judge, contracted Motor Neurone disease formerly known as "creeping paralysis". Facing the inevitable with characteristic courage she arranged for her three dogs to be rehomed. Rhinevale Robin Hood and Ledwell Marmaduke went to homes found by Sylvia Scroggs Keeshond Rescue scheme and lived full and happy lives to ripe old age. The youngest of the three, Rhinevale Ricardian, went to a family he had known all his life as a pet and companion to their young Keeshond bitch. As he was used to exercising with them and visiting them it was an easy transition for him. Despite this he adopted a staid almost aloof manner and never accepted Rangelica's attempts to play, just eating and accepting the affection offered: he was not the dog they had previously known. Some four months after he had moved in he woke the household one night with frantic barking. He was distressed and overwrought and nothing pacified him. Eventually he was taken upstairs to lie by the bed, where he sleeps to this day. The following day he was so quiet and dull eyed that his owner feared he was sickening for some disease. He refused food and moped around obviously miserable. That was the day I telephoned to say that Muriel had died. He remained disconsolate and his owner attended the funeral a few days later still worried about him:

The next day he was still quiet but the day after there was a complete transformation. He was lively, playful and affectionate and a young dog once again. From that day on there has never been a time when it was not obvious that he was an absolute part of the family. It seems the Keeshond is resilient enough to accept a change providing the new home is a good one and their natural buoyancy helps them adjust. It is strange that in both these cases the dog seemed to know when their old life was truly ended.

Not being a good dog trainer I accept the fact that other people have been successful in Obedience Training and the Keeshond is recognised in America as a good Obedience dog. The whole concept of a servile instantly obedient dog does not appeal to me and perhaps my deep affinity with this breed is based on a mutual respect and a relationship which involves the understanding of each other's personalities. Sensibly brought up, never letting bad habits start, the average Keeshond needs very little training to become a civilised member of society. Instinctively clean and sociable, naughty puppy ways soon wear off and by two years of age your Keeshond is able to cope with most situations.



Perhaps we should look at the temperament and character of our dog so that we understand him. Firstly any Spitz, is inclined to think for himself more than the average dog: his streak of independence is well developed at a very early age. If you give a three week old puppy of most breeds a large bone there is bewilderment despite the fact the puppy is attracted. Not so a Keeshond. Tiny paws are wrapped round whatever part they can encompass and the action of gnawing at the bone, albeit with toothless gums, will be simulated!

As a breed they are highly instinctive and it is amusing to see a bitch, possibly indulging in a phantom pregnancy, make herself a 'suitable bed' in a tiled floor. First she 'digs' a deep hole using both the digging with front paws and scooping the 'earth' back. Then she regards the imagined pile of earth and decides to bank it up with a sweeping action of her nose. A 'wall' is apparently built at the back of the 'hole' and after trying it for size she may have to make adjustments until she can lean back on it in comfort! It is all done very seriously and purely imagined. One can well see that in the wild they would be most competent and certainly most Keeshond mothers know exactly what is needed for their young. There is, admittedly a naughty defiant streak in some dogs but it would be very sad if this were to be squashed and the interesting character never allowed to develop. All dogs, being pack animals, need a pack leader and, given the right environment, your Keeshond will acknowledge that you have taken this position, but it should not be stressed until it is needed if you are at all interested in animal behaviour.

Another factor that must be taken into consideration is that each one is an individual and what works with one dog may not with another. Understanding the dog is vital. I had one very happy natured easy-going bitch who hated to be surprised. I first discovered this when the train we met each night was diverted to another station. She was used to meeting her master and always gave him a rapturous welcome. However on seeing him at the wrong place and at the wrong time her expression was one of annoyance and she turned her head away and had to be talked into her usual good humour. Subsequently I found that if she was told when we set out that we were going to meet her master all was well wherever he turned up! She hated to be fooled in any way, but would accept any situation providing it was made clear to her beforehand. It is quite easy to make a Keeshond understand for they are so quick witted that they often outmatch the owner.

A neighbour of mine had one of my Keeshond dogs and he was in the habit of calling in frequently with her and greeting the bitches. However when we had one of them in season it was imperative that he should not find out. He knew perfectly well that if his owner went out during the morning without a coat she was coming to see me. Being a fashion conscious lady she was in the habit of wearing a hat when she went to London, the only time he stayed at home normally. Therefore, when my bitches were in season it was not unusual to have her arrive in garden boots, slacks and sweater topped by an Ascot style hat just to fool the dog!

Your Keeshond will do more to please you and win your affection than for any other reason so first and foremost win his love and trust. The early weeks of his life with you are important and time should be taken to humanise him and build a mutual understanding. It is hard to visualise a situation where an adult Keeshond would need actually chastising if he has been well brought up and it could do more harm than good. A puppy on the other hand must be taught and corrected and needs the occasional smack. When this is done it should be sharp and definite. Niggling taps and grumbling in a voice not very different from the voice used for praising, just confuse a dog. There is a special voice for orders which must be obeyed and having the 'iron in your voice' at the right time is imperative. If it is an order make sure you let it be known that it is and do not just 'ask' the dog but 'tell' him. Beware of making an issue of anything which might unnerve your dog, such as thunder or gunfire. Ignore any signs of fright and carry on as normal as if it was a matter of course. Over reassurance suggests to the dog that there is, in fact, something to be frightened of after all. In many instances the dog will take his cue from you so your attitude is important. Turn the wireless on very loudly and stay in the same room. For



obvious reasons we never leave the house on November 5th.

Of all breeds the Keeshond is most ritualistic and a habit once formed is extremely hard to break. This is where noise must be controlled. The Keeshond loves the sound of his own voice and must be taught from the start what is acceptable and what is strictly against the rules. Most of us in this crowded land have close neighbours who must be considered if we are to enjoy our animals. Absolutely no barking inside the house without reason is a golden rule. If you have more than one dog let them out separately rather than together, for they enjoy a barking match. If they get the annoying habit of barking as soon as the lead is touched before a walk, leave a bundle of collars and leads about the house and pick them up and jingle them frequently without a walk following, so that the jingle is no longer exciting. Soon it will be ignored. Alternatively use the nylon slip leads for a while, they are silent.

The memory of a Keeshond is fantastic. I have often sold puppies at eight weeks of age and not seen them again until meeting at a show a year later. The greeting I get tells me who it is far sooner than I can recall the new owner! One Keeshond owner who farmed in Wales retired from farming and eight years later took a mountainside cottage for a holiday. Shortly after arriving she was startled to see her Keeshond had remember the early days and a small flock of sheep had been rounded up and driven into her front garden!

The Keeshond can put on a great show of bravado which may fizzle out if it is ignored. They are not fighters but will sometimes make specific enemies and from then on any member of the breed that has offended will be regarded as 'danger'.

It is often based on insecurity and is especially shown when on the lead. Repression can magnify the trouble and if it can be glossed over it is better. Quite likely he will pass the 'enemy' with complete disregard if both are off the lead. In the case of a real fight sudden water via a hose or from a bucket will cause a pause which gives time to grab one dog but I am told a chair used as a lever between them is useful and safe for the operator! In forty years of Keeshonds I have never had to separate any two dogs. If you are unlucky enough to own a real fighter he must be kept under strict control at all times. Avoid trouble whenever possible and expect your dog to behave in a sensible manner remembering that the more freedom you are able to give him the better will he be.

Any change in the routine of the home is quickly noticed and it is quite flattering to see the interest shown if you wear a new outfit! It has to be sniffed at and approved! They are quite aware that certain shoes mean a walk and the sound of those shoes coming down the stairs send the dog straight for his lead. The association of ideas is there and this is what we must try to use in all training. For example after grooming the dog should 'stand' for bait, as he does at a show, for a few minutes so that when you do that 'pre-ring brush up' the sequence can be followed. If, when you are teaching your puppy to walk off the lead you spend all the time calling him and watching him he will feel this is your role. If, however, you call once and then step smartly behind a tree so that when he does deign to look round you are gone he will realise that he must watch you. Call only when you mean it and use his name sparingly so that it is regarded. It must never be just a background noise. The dog that refuses to come in from his garden when called is a great time waster, and like the bolting horse the cure is more of the same. Shut him out and leave him out. Preferably past his feeding time and make dinner preparation noises but ignore him. When you do eventually let him in, call him, preferably to another door, make a great fuss of him and congratulate him on coming in, giving him a special dinner so that coming in is so much nicer than the lonely spell outside.

The Keeshond is noisy if allowed to be, but there are ways to help minimise noise. Firstly if you have taught your dog to 'Down' and 'Stay' you will find it useful for it is not natural for a dog to bark lying down. Puppies are noisy and a solid fence to their run rather than chain link is a good quietener. If they can see you they want to join in and yell to let you know they want to. A little



wooden fence is ideal.

Grown dogs in runs side by side, need fencing half way up generally to stop them chasing noisily up and down. The puppies last feed at night should be given in complete silence. It is almost instinctive to say 'Good-night' to them but the human voice will trigger them off and a feed placed silently in their kennel and a quick getaway means no noise. For their own sakes they should not be allowed to be noisy and when someone who owns a few dogs tells me they have moved to an isolated area where the dogs 'can make as much noise as they like' I am always sorry. A yapping dog is a stupid dog in time and dogs should be taught when it is permissible to bark such as warning of strangers about, and when it is wrong.

There are many breeds that are far noisier than the Keeshond but a Keeshond is both an extrovert and a clever dog and he will quickly find that by expressing himself loudly he gets attention. The first error is putting a young puppy, that perhaps you have just taken from its siblings, into a run in your garden all alone. Instinctively he will yell! He is lonely, perhaps a little frightened and everything is strange. In fact, by doing just that, you are teaching your puppy that the garden is a place in which to yell and scream and eventually he will get attention. If you make a small safe area from your back door, where he can trot in and out at will, not only will you have a quiet puppy but he will also continue with whatever house training has been attempted. If you plan that your Keeshonds will be kennelled be sure they are in twos or threes and see that your new puppy is with a safe and playful companion. If paper training has been started secure several sheets of newspaper by four bricks in one corner and you will have a clean run. Its easier to change paper and just scrub one corner than have to disinfect the whole area.

It is allowing the first unnecessary bark to go unchecked that can be fatal. My own dogs are allowed legitimate barking, such as when there is a stranger about or a strange dog near their boundary, but barking within the house must be stamped out from the start. Teaching a dog to 'speak' for titbits is misguided for quite quickly he will realise that when food is about all he need do is give voice to be rewarded. Once more it is merely a case of avoiding bad habits establishing themselves and a caring owner will soon have a sensible guard dog who can discriminate between extraneous noise and 'invasion'.

### LETTING OFF STEAM

Litters play long, noisy, wild games and must be allowed to let off steam this way and then to everyone's relief they seem to go into a long deep sleep. Many dog books say the ideal is for puppies to rest quietly after each meal. I have never achieved this and the rowdiest times seem just after feeding. I have tried to curb this and follow the book and even tried shutting them in, but the walls of the puppyhouse rocked and the bumping and yelling told me they needed to be free to do as they wished. I have watched fox cubs playing the same rough games and have wondered if they had just been fed. Short of doping their food I can find no way to make puppies rest after meals! An adult will rest after food naturally but not a puppy. Food often acts as a stimulus and immediately after food, dogs, and even bitches, will mount each other and this can easily lead to quarrelling.

If your dogs indulge in this sort of play it is wisest to keep them apart for about an hour after food. If they are bitches they may end up fighting and if they are dogs and you have to reprimand them they may be confused when they are offered a bitch to mate. You cannot scold a Keeshond one day for doing what you will be encouraging him to do later on.

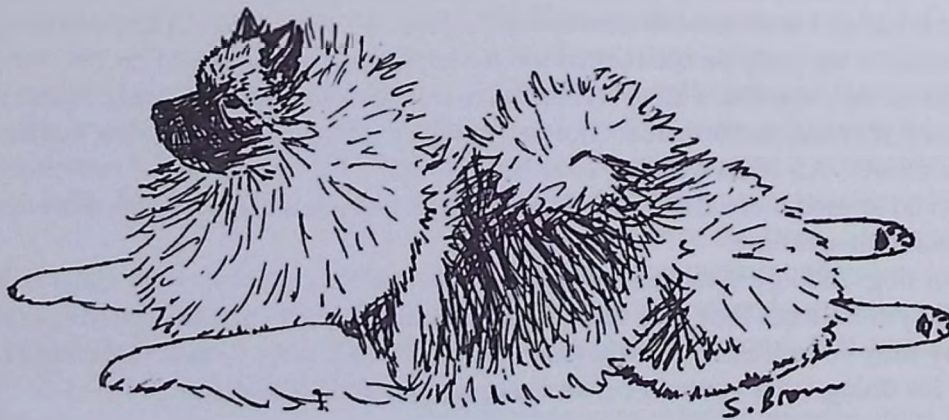
### TRAINING

Ring training classes are useful providing the trainer does not adopt a bullying attitude for this will never work with this breed. It is best to check the class on your own first for if there are fighters and badly behaved dogs all around you may be doing more harm than good. Run correctly it is an excellent start for the show dog but avoid obedience classes until all ring training is well understood.

Although free running is good for your dog and so enjoyable, road work is just as important and it is imperative that he should be well mannered on the lead. Road walking tightens the feet, increases depth of breathing and stimulates circulation. Every muscle benefits and as the uterus and heart are largely muscle the overall toning up of the system helps to keep the dog young. A badly behaved dog makes walking a torment but with good manners instilled and pulling checked right at the start it can be the high spot of the day for you both.

There is no way a choke collar should ever be used as not only is it an obnoxious device but would ruin the ruff. The newly developed "Halti", which is rather like a horses halter and controls the whole head, has proved an enormous success and if an adult Keeshond is an incurable puller this is the answer, I am assured that dogs very quickly get used to the Halti, thus relieving the owner of a problem both effectively and kindly. These are made of the lightweight nylon that is also used for show collars and leads.

All Keeshond owners know how gratifying it is to be stopped and asked what breed your 'beautiful dog' is and many new devotees to the breed are made this way. No one wishes to own an overbearing aggressive villain, but many dog lovers notice the good natured happy-go-lucky Keeshond, in complete accord with his owner and are left thinking 'I would like a dog like that'.





## CHAPTER 4

## CHOOSING YOUR FIRST PUPPY

If you decide that the Keeshond is for you it is almost certain that you will have to wait, for Keeshond puppies are booked ahead, especially for show stock. The current price for a pet Keeshond is around £200 and a show one is very little more as when buying a young pup you are taking a chance and most breeders are well aware of this. It is usually a joy to find a new owner who offers a good home and will also give the pup an opportunity in the show ring and you will find help and advice on every side. If you can pay a visit to the breeder with whom you have decided to deal you can learn a lot. Notice not only how the show dogs are kept, but try to see the 'oldies' to assess how they have aged, notice the general cleanliness and satisfy yourself that your puppy will have had a first class start in life. Nothing can ever replace lack of care during the first few weeks and a poorly reared weedy pup will rarely reach the top. Seeing dogs in their home is the perfect way to sum up temperament and to see how they receive you as a stranger to their territory.

The 'doggy' journals, such as *Our Dogs*, *Dog World* and *Dog Monthly*, list all the shows and indicate at which of these Keeshonds will be classed. By attending these shows and watching judges with the help of a catalogue, you will observe that there is more than one type present. This occurs when a breeder establishes a line following his or her own interpretation of the *Standard* and generally puppies from that particular kennel can be recognised. Some may be a little larger or taller than others. Some may carry particularly heavy coats, some may excel in colour and markings or others attributes. So from this you can soon see which is the type you most admire and likewise see the faults such as light eyes and unsoundness which you must aim to avoid. You may fall in love with a bitch and be able to wait for the pick of her next litter. One stud dog may prove to be your ideal but in either case try to see their offspring before making a decision.

If all the requirements are up to standard and a litter is due or even, if you are lucky, ready for you to choose from, you can start serious 'looking'. Although the breeder will be able to advise you, it is better to see the puppies running free and standing naturally than set up by the breeder. We are very lucky in this breed for at six to eight weeks of age you see in the baby a miniature of the adult dog. Outline is clearly there and even the eventual colour and texture of the coat can be seen in a tiny patch on the inside curl of the tail where it goes over the back; you will find a different glossy patch of hair which is very much how your pup will be later on. It is different in both colour and texture and is a good indication of what will replace the puppy wool.

An experienced breeder can usually grade the entire litter at this stage but there are still points that time alone can decide such as colour of eyes, final size, length and abundance of coat and, of course, action. Never be tempted to choose a puppy at three months of age for this is the pretty stage when all geese are swans! Faults are then very hard to see and the sheer charm of the little creature may lead you into forgetting all you have learned from the studying and show-going you have done.

## BREEDING TERMS AGREEMENT

It is sometimes possible to obtain a good bitch puppy on breeding terms with advantages to both breeder and purchaser. These terms are individual and can be drawn up to suit the two persons concerned. Usually it is a part payment for the bitch and the rest made up for by the breeder having one or two puppies from the first litter to a dog of the breeders choice. There are



pitfalls and very clearly *written details* should be signed and kept by both parties. They should include the name of the bitch, at which season she is to be mated and in whose name she shall be at time of whelping; in whose prefix the puppies are to be registered, at what age the breeder is to choose and take her share of the litter, who has pick of each sex, who is responsible for any veterinary fees, who is to pay the stud fee, etc.

This sounds a terrifying list beset with hurdles but in fact through the years I have made many valued friends this way. The new owner has the help and guidance of the more experienced breeder and probably help with placing the rest of the litter. The breeder has the advantage of another line without having to add to the home stock.

Sometimes a male show dog may go to a pet home with just the condition that the owner may show the dog now and then and use him at stud. Again its an individual arrangement and very easily contrived to suit both parties. It means the owner can have a dog at stud without keeping another at home and stud dogs can be a little 'growly' with each other and sometimes must be kept separately which is nicely avoided this way. Whichever way you deal you must take great care in choosing the actual pup. Faults which stand out even in puppyhood are long backs, weak fronts, low set tails, poor bone, long hare-shaped feet, wideset ears, snipecyness and lack of stop. Even at six weeks essential points I expect to see are, the tail high over the back, not just over the back legs, and a well laid shoulder, for these points will not alter. If you can see the litter at six weeks and visit again at eight weeks to make a final choice you will be even safer than choosing at six weeks.

Your puppy should be square looking, be firm and sturdy feeling with good round bone and tail should be thick. Ears, which should be small and neat, set high on the head, should be erect but, if not absolutely up they should be erect for a few minutes when first waking from sleep. Hold the pup on its back to see the set of the ear. The all-over-colour should be rather dark and there may be smudgy feet, but legs should be clean and creamy as should the tail and trousers. The face should already be showing marking and tiny spectacles round the eyes can be discerned. The eye itself should be very dark, navy blue to black and a pale colourless eye, rather watery in colour, denotes a light eye, a fault which once manifesting itself in a line is hard to eradicate. Hold the pup up to the light to see the eye with light on it, very dark and not too large is the one to seek. Too wideset ears often develop into a rather coarse head. Feet should be tight and round like a cats. Loose spread feet or pointed toes never turn into a good foot and can be seen from the start. I have had pups whose eyes and ears look rather large at six weeks but have not grown on as the head has developed ending up correct but it is safer to start with the correct head.

The stop should be well defined and it should be remembered that the head will go on developing until about two years of age so a wide head will end up too wide and coarse. The pigmentation should be black not purple or grey looking. A 'rams nose' or slight arch on the bridge of the nose is often described as a good point. However, this feature in a puppy may develop into an over-long muzzle and a shorter, even almost retrousse nose, ends up prettier. A too fine muzzle ends up snipecyn, whereas too blunt and thick looks coarse. Shoulder placement is important for it decides the length of the neck and also the back. A well placed shoulder with nicely arched neck leads to a proudly carried head. It makes for correct front action and is all to your dogs advantage. A nice short strong back and straight hindquarters with fairly short hind pasterns from the hock joint down. This gives drive and it is the long hock with wavering action that spoils the look of the dog going away in the ring. Tail set can be seen and it should be on top of the spine not just over the anus and should grow upwards towards the sky (not out and back like a Labrador's tail), so that when curled it can be carried tight on the back.

The ribs should be well rounded and a slight slope down from the withers to the tail should be seen even at such an early age. A slope the wrong way, from the tail dipping towards the





Figure 4.1 A typical eight week old puppy showing correct tail, clean feet, depth of body etc. Sire Ch *Rhinevale Rachmaninov*. Dam: *Gelderland Raffetina of Rhinevale*



Figure 4.2 A typical litter at six weeks of age. Dam: *Rhinevale Romarina* (photo: Sally Anne Thompson).





Figure 4.3 Two five week old puppies showing first signs of facial marking.

shoulder, is very unattractive and is unlikely to right itself. Beware the over-fat puppy that is too heavy for its legs, particularly if it is soft fat, usually the result of too much milk feeding. Another to avoid is the little pup with a distended stomach, sometimes mistaken for a fat puppy. In fact these specimens are generally thin in body and distension, which goes with a most ungainly walk, is due to worm infestation and is the hallmark of an incorrectly reared litter. The nose should be very black, the eyes should be clean and dry as well as very bright. The puppy should give an impression of compactness and be quite heavy, about seven pounds at six weeks.

It is far easier to pick a puppy from a litter one has bred and reared, knowing the background and the parents and spending hours with them, than to choose seeing them for only a short time so do not be hurried and just sit and watch. Soon you will find that one is catching your eye and standing out but be careful that it is not just the biggest. Have a further look at the one you fancy, examining the mouth, for neither overshot nor undershot can be accepted. Wrong mouths are rare but can happen so be sure you choose a pup with the correct scissor bite, top teeth just overlapping the lower teeth. Very slightly overshot will sometimes correct itself as the lower jaw is slower to complete growth than the top jaw, but it is not too hard to find the correct bite.

A male puppy should be entire with both testicles descended into the scrotum but it is much too soon to be dogmatic about this. Some dogs are much slower to develop than others and some are as much as six months before being entire. Little can be said of action at this stage, but the pup should move sturdily and should have a discernibly good front and be very active. While watching your puppy make a note of any motions passed by any member of the litter. These should be firm and formed never loose or runny. The latter may be the result of injudicious feeding of the dam or pups themselves or may indicate worms. More important it could indicate



the start of diarrhoea which is often the onset of virus infection. If a litter shows any sign of diarrhoea there must be a reason and it should be cleared up before any pups are sold.

Do not be hurried over this most important decision. Remember this enchanting bundle of fluff will move in and rule your household for many years and may well be the forerunner of a whole line of beautiful dogs. Stay alone with the pups if you can, just watching, and then start eliminating. First take away the sex you do not want and then as you spot a fault in a pup remove that one until only two remain. Then I suggest you let your heart rule your head for one can never be sure and the one showing so much promise can be a total failure! It is a gamble whatever you do so choose a pup whose character appeals to you.

With your puppy you should get a diet chart as well as the Kennel Club Registration and Transfer Form duly signed. There will also be a four or five generation pedigree. Most breeders are grateful for a telephone call a day or two later to say how you are getting on and 'after sales service' is an accepted responsibility. Health and character are of vital importance and can be assessed to some extent even as early as this. The standard of fitness and condition of the older inmates of the kennel from which you are purchasing your pup are a good guide as to the care your pup has had and the length of life one can expect. This is a breed which given normal care, will live happily and actively to a great age, well into the teens. It is not good enough to have old ones shut up somewhere ungroomed and existing just for the next meal, so ask to see all the relations you can and notice their place in the family. A caring owner will have attended to their needs and so you can be sure your pup will also have had the care and time spent on it that makes for a happy well adjusted dog.

The fertility factor must also be taken into consideration. A puppy from a normal sized litter produced by an easy whelper with no hang-ups is ideal. Some lines are more prolific than others, but every breeder has the odd singleton, or big litter, so it is a very vague guide unless there are generations to observe.

Some breeders think the very best puppies come from the third litter, but personally I like to take great care in choice of sire for the first two litters particularly, for I have found a diminishing fertility which others have agreed occurs. For example *Rona Lisa*, first litter seven, second litter one. *Raffetta* first litter seven, second litter four. I have only named my own bitches, but it applies to many other lines and my point is that whereas some breeders use a nearby suitable dog for the first litter to ascertain that their bitch is not barren and will breed with the intention of using the dog of their dreams later on, it does not always pay. Furthermore, the actual day of mating is another factor and if too late or too early will get small litters, if any.

The inclusion of Wheat Germ in the dog's diet will ensure that vitamin E is present and has been known to help, but should your bitch miss despite a good accepted mating at the time when both dog and bitch are keenest, your veterinary surgeon should be consulted. I do not advocate breeding from any bitch if getting her in whelp involves treatment, for a healthy normal bitch should conceive and whelp naturally and there is the risk of passing on whatever difficulties she has to the next generation.

The Keeshond is one of the most unspoilt healthy breeds and one expects this to be evident in every facet.

**It is a virtue we should cherish.**

To sum up your puppy should be heavy, rather cloddy and compact with a friendly outgoing personality and no obvious faults. Any sign of nervousness or shyness should be avoided like the plague. The pedigree should preferably show some *line* breeding if you wish to establish type. Line breeding is some relationship between sire and dam without it being as close as son to dam or father to daughter or brother and sister mating which is in-breeding. The latter can be highly successful but is not for anyone unfamiliar with several generations behind the sire and the dam. The mating of complete out-crosses, totally unrelated, can also be successful but it is a gamble and founding a line is not the time to take chances.



If a breeder has parted with old dogs to good pet homes it is a wise move for it is far better to avoid overcrowding and settle an "oldie" where it will be the centre of attention and have its own fireside in its declining years than have a kennel of elderly dogs getting sparse attention and wondering why their life has changed. To keep continuity a family must have young stock and it is essential from the show angle, too, so when dogs live in the house with their families a limit must be kept. To keep four or five one can retain a puppy every two or three years thus when your original is twelve you may have a nine year old a six year old and a three year old. It is unlikely you will still be breeding from your six year old so only your three year old is breeding and show stock.

Already you have three pensioners on your hands if you have kept them all. Unquestionably some are far too special to part with and there is no way they will be leaving, but just now and then exactly the right home can come along. Perhaps for a bereft friend to have one or a previous puppy buyer now too old to take on the training of a puppy but longing for a Keeshond. Then in the perfect situation one is able to reduce stock in the nicest possible way.

The Veteran Classes at the Keeshond Club Shows are a delight and show just how well most old Keeshonds can be kept. In America I remember seeing a fifteen year old, loved and respected by the whole family, human and canine, and we had the joy of owning *Ch Rapunzel of Rhinevale* until a few days before her seventeenth birthday, still active, and with sight, hearing and teeth all perfect. Only a stroke caused us to allow her to be put to sleep.

So remember as you make your choice that, with luck, you have a new member of the family who will be with you for many years and may start you off on the most fascinating and rewarding way of life.





## CHAPTER 5

## EIGHT WEEKS ONWARDS

Having selected your puppy the adventure is under way and even the journey home needs negotiating with care. You will have taken a towel or two in case of travel sickness and the breeder will have seen that no food was given within the last two hours. From the little pup's point of view this is a traumatic experience; up to this day he or she will not have been off the premises, and certainly not have seen traffic or been parted from the rest of the family, being all the security the pup has known, so you must give all the reassurance you can to help it feel comfortable and safe. You will, of course, carry your pup as the age for inoculation has not been reached. When sitting on your lap be sure to keep the head pointing slightly upwards as it is the 'head hanger' who is likely to be sick. A pup usually uses the owners arm as a head rest so it automatically held with the nose pointing upwards and they are rarely sick. Just the same a towel on your lap is wise for puppy sick is very very wet!

## HOUSE TRAINING

On arrival at the new home, again, everything is strange and time must be taken to let the newcomer get accustomed to the different surroundings. They are remarkably quick to accept this transition and it takes about forty-eight hours for them to learn the lay-out of the house and garden and settle into a routine. Both before you start the homeward journey and again on arrival walk round the garden with the puppy giving it a chance to relieve itself in the proper place right from the start, for every time a penny is spent in the house you have let a bad pattern begin. It is never any good putting a puppy outside the door, then letting it in a minute or two later and thinking it should then be clean. When you shut the door the pup's only idea at first is to re-join you, after all you are its only anchor right now so the chances are it has sat miserably trying to get indoors and as soon as you let it in it will feel confident, relax . . . and then soil the carpet!

You must at first spare the few minutes it takes to accompany the pup to whatever part of the garden you wish it to use (not too far off at first) and stay until the deed is done, then praise, reward by showing your approval and let the pup come straight in with you. Remember immediately on waking and after each meal an outside trip is essential, as well as whenever you see the pup sniffing around searching for the right spot. If you can whisk the pup to the right place in time you have scored a point, but if you miss, the wrong pattern is forming. Most puppies are used to using newspaper and if you have a sheet down by the door for emergencies it is generally used.

Smacking, scolding and the obnoxious habit of 'rubbing the nose in it' will teach the pup nothing and serve to confuse. A young puppy does not have complete control of its bladder and any excitement may cause a little trickle, but this is a passing phase and will clear up of its own accord as confidence is gained. If a puddle is made in the house that spot may become tempting to the pup and thorough cleaning with disinfectant is required and when dry it should be sprayed with a household aerosol to destroy all smells. If it is on a carpet a useful tip is to immediately squirt the place with a soda syphon. The force of the spray gets into the pile and the soda alkalises the urine and if well dried no stain occurs.

Puppies bred from, and brought up by, housetrained bitches and in clean surroundings are generally almost self trained and very clean at a young age. As, however carefully you breed, a large proportion of each litter will go to pet homes this is very important. Kennel trained dogs are a different proposition as, for their own comfort, dogs are taught to use their runs and it is harder for them to adjust to a house. Their puppies will have started life in an area with traces of urine smells and therefore will accept that and be harder to civilise. Actually taking the pup

to the chosen place for a few days will show what is intended and is the quickest way of establishing a good habit.

### THE DOG BED

Your puppy will need a bed and although the tough fibreglass beds are described as indestructible it is surprising what a sharp serrated edge the tiny needle puppy teeth can make. At this stage a cardboard box on its side, so that it has its own 'roof' in a quiet draught-free place is ideal. Later on the 27 or 30 inch (around 75cm) oval fibreglass bed with a rug or vet-bed in winter, is clean and warm and every dog's right. Quite often they only take to a bed in their later years.

### HANDLING PUPPIES

If there are children in the family there are two rules they should be taught to obey. One is that they should never pick the puppy up, but should go down to the puppy's level. Keeshond pups get very heavy, and quite quickly. The day invariably comes when the child drops the puppy. Broken legs and other injuries are too easily sustained and totally unnecessary. Also the old adage "Let sleeping dogs lie" should be strictly adhered to. A pup plays so hard and puts so much energy into all it does that it must be allowed to sleep when it wants to. To see a child (or an adult) dragging a sleepy pup from some refuge, where it has obviously gone for peace, is quite sickening. Keeshonds love children and will let them take advantage of their good nature which is all more reason that youngsters must be taught to respect the animal.

A somewhat disconcerting feature I have found in my own pups is that at about ten o'clock at night a great *joie de vivre* comes over them and the liveliest games take place and other Keeshond owners have remarked on this too. The only thing to do is to join in for a while and tire them out! It is from about four to six months this occurs so more exercise in the day at that stage may help. At least it means the rest of the night is peaceful!

### SETTLING IN

The very first night your pup spends with you is important and I do not belong to the school of thought that says "let it cry" or it will be spoilt. Even if you start puppy in your bedroom they are so independent that quite soon they will decide for themselves what part of the house is to be their dormitory. Quite often, alone, there is complete silence: it all depends on how secure the puppy feels. If you want the puppy to sleep in the kitchen, which is quite sensible, be sure to see all electric flexes and switches are safe, and pick up the door mat. These have the most amazing fascination for all puppies and we rarely have one with all its edges!

Whoever is accepting responsibility for the puppy should be the first down in the morning to dispose of soiled paper and take the puppy out. If the puppy appears to be lonely when first left a loudly ticking clock well wrapped up be put in the bed (a substitute for the dam's heartbeat) . . . it sometimes works. A "chew" to take to bed can help but Keeshonds are very self-possessed and quickly settle, so it is just a case of getting it used to a new way of life with as little drama as possible. I am quite used to new owners phoning to say "not a sound all night", "house clean within a few days". Having said that one must accept that there can be exceptions and then the use of a travelling crate, made of wire mesh, not solid, can be a help. It can be used as a bed with the door open all day and the puppy shut in it at night and generally the paper lined crate will still be clean in the morning. Of course this is not for a tiny puppy, but for one that has failed to train naturally and is posing a problem at about three to four months, by which time they should be able to go a short night quite well. Crates can be very useful and the way dogs take to them makes



one wonder if it is a throwback to the cave dwelling days.

Once a happy routine has been established other training can be considered. First the word "No" must be understood and like the dog's name, it should not be used constantly so that it loses significance. Having said "No" be sure it is understood and obeyed. The puppy's name should never be used prior to scolding as it should have happy connotations and "No" should be sufficient. From the very start, biting at feet and shoes, jumping onto furniture, and any sign of being destructive must not be allowed and if you cannot get it across that you mean "No" a small shaking should make it sink in. Tone of voice can do a lot here and praise, too, has its place. Put yourself in the pup's place and see how you would be thinking in the same position. Puppies live in the present and do not think ahead or remember far back so it is no good finding damage already done some time ago and scolding for it. Avoid it in the first place if you can. A daily sit in the car in the drive will gradually get the puppy accustomed to it and short drives can be a part of daily training. For your own safety, and the dog's, a dog guard is helpful. Even if there is a little dribbling or sickness at first it will quickly wear off for Keeshonds are great motorists and love travelling.

### FEEDING

It is up to you to decide the mealtimes for your pup so that they fit in with household arrangements and according to size and appetite either four or five meals daily will be the order at this stage. A poor eater might do better with longer gaps between feeds so four will suffice but another may thrive better on five small meals daily. You can be guided by the diet chart you have from the breeder. It is discussed further under "Diet".

Vetzyme tablets are usually very popular and provide vitamin B and can be used as rewards in training. Cheese is another good bribe. Both these, and every little meal, can be utilised as a 'training for show' session. Just a minute or two with the pup standing correctly, ears and tail well up, as it waits for each titbit will soon be regarded as a prelude to something nice and you can then gradually lengthen the time the pup stands every day. First try to keep the stance while you count to ten and then carry on until it is natural for the pup to get into the correct positions at the word "Stand" and maintain it for some time. You will be so glad you did all this when you want to show.

If you are using the small stainless steel dishes which are ideal you can tap the bottom of the dish of dinner with a fingernail and then in the ring you can keep your "bait" in a tiny tin and the same tapping will attract the dog and hold its attention, for it foretells "Goodies"!

### HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

You will have already contracted your veterinary surgeon regarding inoculations and as the rules change so frequently as regards the correct age and type of vaccine to use you must be guided by him. Whatever is used it should cover Distemper (Hard-pad), Infectious Canine Hepatitis, Leptospirosis (both types) and the newer disease Parvovirus. Whilst it is unusual for there to be any reaction to the injections, watch carefully and report any abnormality to your veterinary surgeon. He will advise you at what stage immunization is complete. Prior to this the most stringent precautions must be observed.

Once this has been completed you will be wanting to get your pup out and about and lead training can already have been started. A small light collar can be worn for part of each day. Then when it is no longer a novelty, attach a light nylon lead. The collar should be of the same material and the little nylon ones with a loop of chain which tightens up if the pup pulls are ideal. Let the lead trail a while, but never let the puppy play with it.





Fig. 5.1 *Restormel of Rhinevale*. Five week old bitch puppy



Fig. 5.2 *Restormel of Rhinevale*. The same puppy at five months.





Fig 5.3 Ch. *Rombert of Rhinevale* at 7 weeks. Although colour has not yet cleared this a good example of what to look for in tail set, stop and correct shoulder and neck. Sired by Ch. *Big Bang of Evenlode* ex. *Ragnhild of Rhinevale*.

There are then two ways which are accepted as training methods, one being to fix the lead onto a table leg or something heavy and even if it causes a scene leave it there. Personally I prefer to just pick up the lead and at first go with the pup and then gradually take up the slack and let the feel of the lead be known but there should never be a tug of war and it does take two to pull. A sharp jerk to bring the pup back and immediate slackening of the lead is far better training than allowing oneself to be towed along smacking at the dogs nose etc. Again voice is important. It is no good saying "Back" in a gentle voice, but a growling fierce "Back" just before a sharp jerk lets the puppy know what you mean. It is essential to have "the iron in your voice" when training a puppy. Lots of praise when a walk is achieved with no pulling should be the aim.

I have found that "pullers" are born. In one litter there can be several that are pleasure to take out from the start, and never pull except for the first few steps of a walk when there is lots of excitement, and in the same litter just one who throws all its weight into the collar and takes a lot of breaking in.

## TEETHING

At this stage your pup will be about four months and changing teeth. Tiny, pinky-white shells drop out of their own accord and the lovely big white teeth that replace them are far less damaging (and less painful) than the needle-like first teeth. Watch carefully for should the first lot remain while the second teeth are growing you will get double-banking and your veterinary surgeon should be consulted with a view to having the baby teeth removed. They may even be

so loose you can slip them out yourself. A teething pup needs to chew, and will, so a large uncut marrow bone will not only help the puppy but will save your furniture too!

It will give the puppy hours of fun and the owner hours of peace. The owner should be able to take a bone away from a dog if and when necessary, but this is not a game for children to play and dogs are tremendously possessive of bones above all else, so start when they are very young and wait till the dog is just about ready to stop gnawing at it anyway and gently, but firmly, remove it. If you must, a substitute can be offered. No child should ever interfere with a dog with a bone and the "game" of making the puppy growl can be the forerunner of teaching it to snap. It is unwise to set up a situation that could lead to complications which need never have arisen. Far better to leave it alone if it causes stress.





## CHAPTER 6

## THE UGLY DUCKLING STAGE

At four months your puppy will not be nearly as pretty as when you first had it. Legs look long and gangly, colour has gone pale with no marking, and the coat is short having lost the puppy coat and kept just wool. The head looks plain and the tail is wispy. However at this stage good bone, correct construction and the high set of the tail are very visible and it is only the furnishings that are lacking.

If you study your puppy very closely you will find that a new coat of a different texture is gradually taking over. It starts at all the extremities. A glossy dark muzzle with new hair creeping slowly up the face and driving the puppy wool back until it is just a top knot of fuzzy wool on the head is the most noticeable feature. The very tip of the tail gets a tuft of black adult coat and lower down on the inside of the curl of the tail you will find a little patch of adult, perfectly coloured hair which gives a very good indication of the eventual coat and colour. The paws become glossy and finer hairs appear on the ears. Here however we get a bunch of creamy fluff almost inside the ear which persists for some months and can only be tidied by finger and thumb stripping when it is ready to fall. By six months of age all the dark marking is beginning to come through again and you begin to realise you have got a Keeshond after all.

The body will deepen a little, but full development in this breed is slow and it is not until two to three years of age that you have a fully mature animal. The very best years are from two to five from the showing point of view, although here again there are many exceptions and some of the real veterans can challenge the young stock. Although the four to six months stage is called the 'ugly' age it has a charm all its own and the woolly lamb look is very appealing.

Exercise becomes quite important at six months and road work every day is a must to build strong muscles and keep feet tight and movement positive. As a baby your own garden with a few short training walks, will have sufficed, but a six month old needs both hard trotting and free running. However well your dog comes to your call it is asking for trouble to let any dog loose where there is any traffic at all. I have yet to meet a Keeshond with traffic sense and it is wise to use a collar that is 'unslippable'. The nylon collars with an inset chain loop are safest. The lead is attached to a ring in the loop which tightens when the dog pulls. I even knew of a Keeshond run over by a tractor in a field miles from any road so it pays to be very careful. Some puppies that have learned to come as soon as called at home will get distracted by other dogs, or people when out, and play the owner up . . . nothing is more infuriating!

It is devastating when you have given the dog a good walk and perhaps timed yourself to be back home or often to work, and then at the last moment the dog will not come. To catch a dog that does not want to be caught and to get furious and punish the dog when he does come only teaches him that to come is worse than to run off, which is just what you are trying to avoid. On the other hand we are only human and it is extremely hard to praise a dog you have been standing waiting for, knowing you were ruining the timing of your day, calling till you have nearly lost your voice and feeling your blood pressure rise from sheer frustration! Bribery, good old fashioned bribery, is the answer.

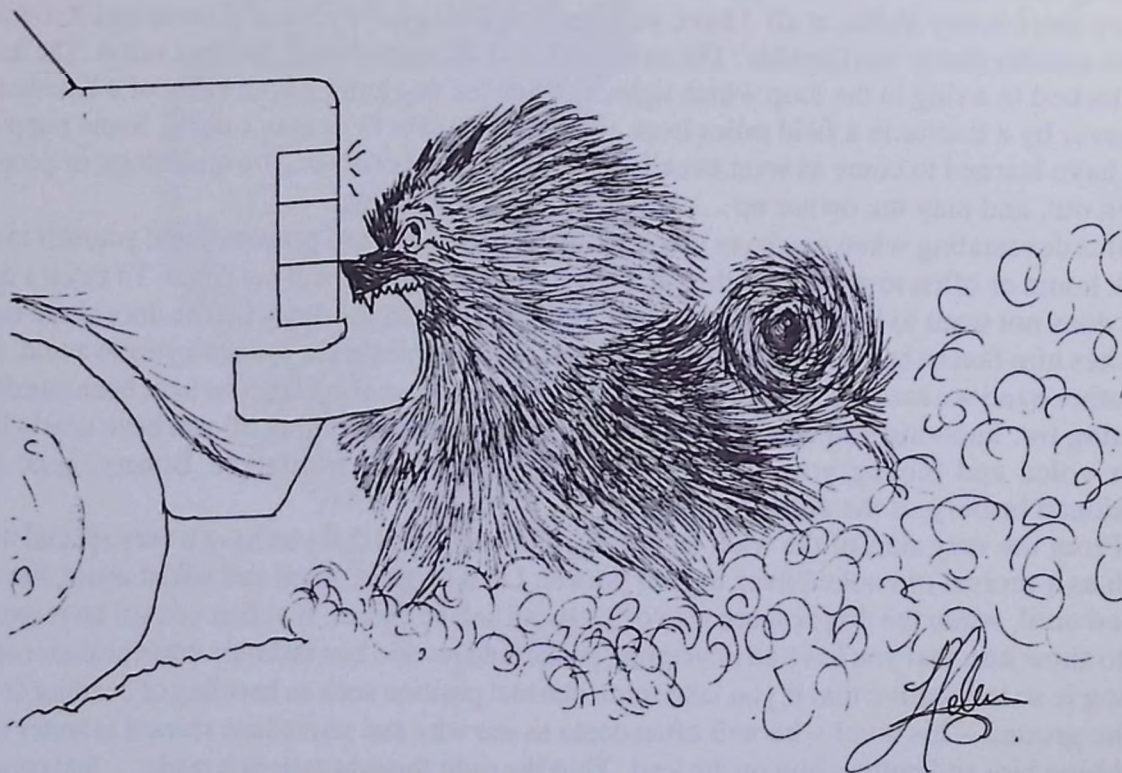
From the very start of the walk let the dog know by smell that you have a very special treat such as a morsel of cooked liver in your pocket. Let it be seen, smelt and talked about, but not tasted until, when the dog is some way off you call and he comes. If at first you get no response try to show him that you have an interesting pocket and reward him instantly when he does come. A dog is so inquisitive that if you take some unusual position such as kneeling or bending down to the ground – his level – he will often come to see why and immediate reward is better than grabbing him and putting him on the lead. Thus the right thought pattern is made . . . that coming



when called is nice. If when you first take your puppy out, during the stage when you can run as fast as the puppy, you sometimes hide suddenly behind a tree or go the wrong way, anything that surprises the puppy, it will serve to teach the fact that you must be watched and not that you are the watcher.

If unreliability becomes a part of every walk all the pleasure of exercising will go. So right from the very first time try to find the answer, even if you have seek the help of some clever trainer. I have never heard of a Keeshond bitch being difficult in this respect but now and again a 'rogue' dog will try it on. The use of a flexi-lead, which allows a degree of freedom whilst maintaining control, is very useful in training.

With the idea of starting to show your dog in earnest at about eight months of age regular Ring Training Classes should be attended. If you do not know your local one your veterinary surgeon will, and the atmosphere alone is a help towards steady showing. Many other dogs of various types and size and with loud voices and variable manners are all things that will crop up at every show so the more inured to them your dog becomes the less distracted from showing will it be. Beware of Obedience Training Classes at this stage as it is usual for them to teach a dog to sit as soon as the owner stands still and that is just the opposite of the show 'stand' which you have been teaching. Once the show routine is so well known that the dog can do it automatically obedience training may be helpful but never before Ring Training.





## CHAPTER 7

## GROOMING

The quick daily grooming of your Keeshond, with a brush, against the lie of hair, takes just a few minutes and makes for a smart attractive dog. However, weekly deep grooming which includes care of teeth, ears and eyes, is quite another matter and should not be hurried. It is during this weekly session that any abnormality can be spotted and therefore dealt with. Your stiff brush is your best friend, but each dog is a separate case and you must find the brush that gets down to the skin when the coat is divided, without causing any irritation or soreness. Always use a table for the dog to stand on but some people are just as happy to go down on the floor with their dog and if you have one of those easy-going types who will roll about on command, allowing you to cope with first one side and then the other, your task is simple.

A too dry coat can be broken by hard brushing and although the long-term remedy is through the diet there are some excellent fine oils in aerosol cans to apply during grooming as an immediate aid. The coat should be layered with one hand and brushed with the other so that every single hair gets groomed. Have a look at eyes for older dogs may show signs of cataract; be sure the eyes are clean and dry.

The ears too, should have no smell, be clean as far as you can see and free of tangles all round. If the hairs round the ears are greasy, clean with surgical spirit. This can be used just inside the leather of the ear quite safely.

Teeth need to be kept clean and there is a difference between the treatment given by those who do this weekly, thus preventing a build up of tartar, and those who clean now and then, perhaps just before a show or after whelping when bitches teeth may be discoloured. For weekly cleaning a little lemon juice with water and a spot of honey to take away the bitterness can be used with a soft 'baby' toothbrush. If it is the occasional clean with some tartar present, a smoker's tooth powder used on the same type of brush will work wonders. I use a small jar with the lemon solution and dip the soft brush in, and there are no objections! Beware of using Peroxide, or any substance containing it, as it will turn the dark muzzle red. Bad breath may mean bad or dirty teeth.

All fringes should be combed and feet need to be kept tidy with scissors to keep the smart catfoot specified in the *Standard*. All untidy hairs especially those at the front of the foot, should be cut back to show the black claws. Hairs at the back of the foot, up to the stopper pad should be tidy and excess hair on the back pastern below the hock looks very out of place. Over-trimming of back pastern can make a dog look fine in bone and mar overall balance. Thick hairs between the pads under the feet should be cut short.

## CLEANING OR BATHING YOUR KEESHOND

If the whole coat is looking dull there are two ways of cleaning without resorting to a bath. First a greasy coat can be enlivened by a good rub with a cloth well damped with methylated spirits. Obviously this is an out-door job and the dog should be kept out until the fumes are gone. Otherwise one of the good dry shampoos or cleansing powders such as Cleansfur can make a wonderful difference. Part the coat in layers and fluff the powder on generously, letting the dog shake it out afterwards. Pat it out after a few minutes and deep brushing with clean brushes and he will look a picture. The tail and trousers benefit particularly from this treatment and it was the way all the Rhinevaes were kept as only once did we bath a dog.

However if you wish to bath, do it preferably when the coat is falling as it helps bring it out.

If there is an infestation of fleas a bath is essential. Then **Seleen** or some other specific shampoo should be used. **Seleen** leaves coats smelling clean and stops irritation. As some dogs are allergic to the flea and will bite or scratch raw when driven frantic by itching, it is a job to attend to at once. **Seleen** can be used weekly until all is well. Use tepid water and any good dog shampoo if the bath is just to cleanse. Begin with a ring of suds round the neck to prevent parasites taking refuge in the ears. Wash the body, tail, underside and legs, finishing with carefully washing the head with a face flannel taking care no water gets into the eyes or ears. Rinse and dry the head and then rinse the rest of the dog and lift him out with a big towel for the coat holds a great deal of water! There will be lots of shaking and rolling and if wise you will have chosen a warm day so all that can be done outside. A jaded coat can sometimes be revitalised by daily spraying with **Extract of Witchhazel** and brushing while still slightly damp. A light spray touching only the outer hairs is given and a clean brush used each day. Using a chamois leather to dry the dog saves towels.

As washing softens a dogs coat it should never be done just before a show. Three or four days at least should elapse. Chalking at shows is forbidden by the Kennel Club so your dog must look right before you set off and pre-show grooming is important.

If just the creamy parts need freshening you may like to mix a bowl of warm water and **Cetavlon** wring out a piece of towel in the water and wash the dog over constantly wringing the towel out in the water. Gradually the water becomes dirty as the dog becomes clean and no rinsing is needed. Whatever method of washing is used it should be remembered that the thick undercoat will lie like a wet blanket against the skin if you do not dry thoroughly. A dog that is used to an electric hair dryer since puppyhood will accept that type of drying and it is the quickest. When the coat is dropping a wide toothed comb can be used as soon as the coat is really lifting and used daily it will make the moult both shorter and less of a menace in the home than just letting it drop.

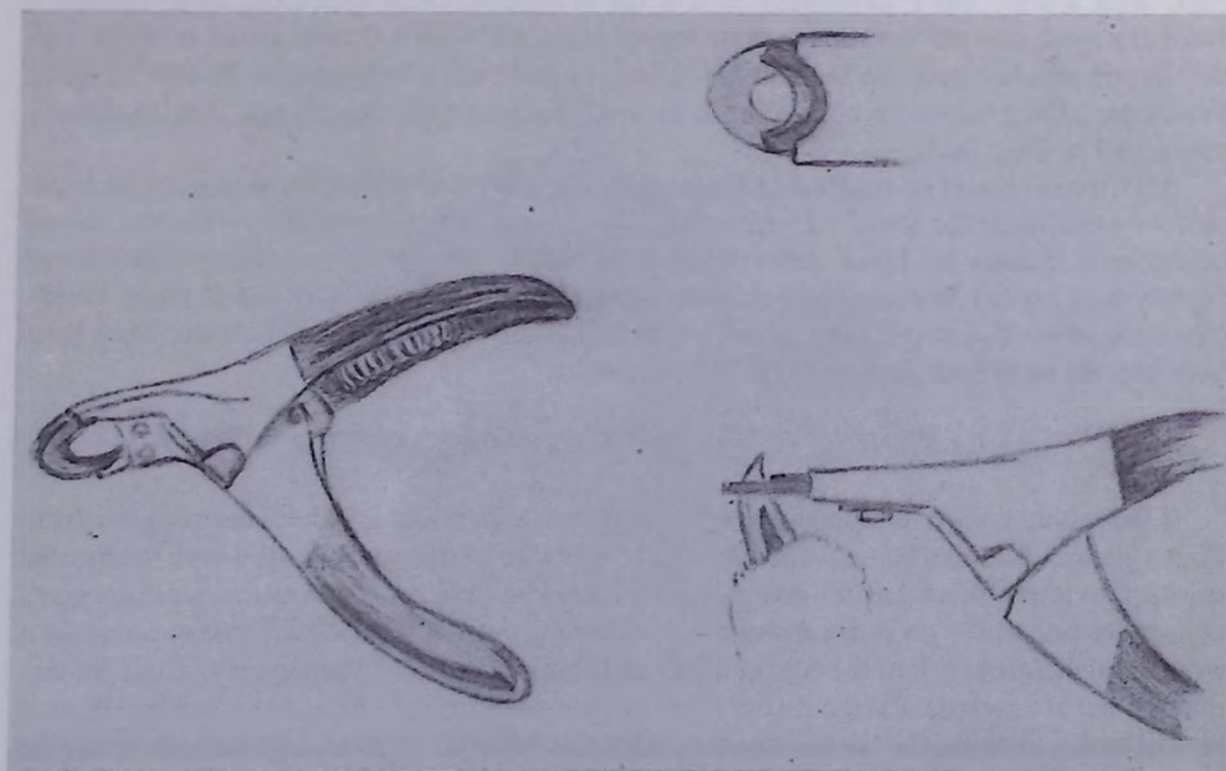


Fig 7.1 Pencil Drawing of Nail Clippers



### CLAWS

Claws are easier to deal with if the dog has adequate road exercise or a concrete or gravel run. Then, if any attention is needed, it is only a case of filing and smoothing down. If, however, you have to actually clip the claws a small nail clipper should be used. This should be of the type with a gap for the claw, not clippers that crush the nail. It is far easier to cut back the claw of a white dog with pale claws that show the quick as a pink line, than to clip a black claw like that of a Keeshond. With a black claw it is only too easy to take too much off and damage the quick, which is extremely painful for the dog and also is likely to set up an antagonistic attitude to any handling of the feet in future. The golden rule take very little off the tip at one time. Remember the claws should be able to reach down to the floor when moving.

Dew claws should have been removed in the first few days of life but if they have been left on, a constant watch should be kept for they may curl round and grow into the pad, again very painful for the dog. I have seen this condition turn septic and it is a very good reason to be sure any puppies you breed are safe from this when they leave you by having had them removed.

### EQUIPMENT

Your equipment should include two brushes, one for body coat and one for the long hairs on tail and trousers. I find the **Mason Pearson** type brush excellent, plus a longer bristled nylon brush. A coarse toothed comb, for tail and trousers and for removing dead coat and a fine comb for the head. The new "untangler" comb with rotating teeth makes tails and trousers more easily groomed. A soft 'baby' toothbrush, 'Guillotine' nail clippers and a file, blunt ended scissors for the feet, shampoo and a hair dryer if you need to bath your dog. Mostly it is your time and care which will keep your Keeshond looking at his best and in good order.





## CHAPTER 8

## DIET

Diet, human or canine, must be one of the most controversial subjects one can find.

The fact that so many dogs are apparently entirely fit on so many different foods suggests that it is more what the body does with the food than the specific meals that are fed.

In the old days hounds were fed on horsemeat which had been kept in running water until it was quite white. The only addition was a porridge of crude oats, yet not only did they appear fit and breed successfully, but were more than capable of a day's hunting. I recently met a breeder of toy dogs with her fourth generation that had never seen meat and were kept entirely on one of the 'complete' dog foods in dry form. Again the dogs looked fit, the eyes bright and breeding was normal.

We are told that tins hold all a dog can possibly need with no need to supplement and most pet owners seem to use this method of feeding exclusively. It is suggested that in the wild a more varied diet would be taken, but if you have ever been able to really study a wild fox you will often see poor condition and bare patches, so the wild ways are not so clever.

Certainly, in the wild, skins and bones would be eaten as well as the more favoured raw offal for all animals tackle the liver first if they can. So they would be getting a great deal of roughage often lacking in modern food. The dog is not just a carnivore, but an omnivore and fruit and berries are often eaten by my own Keeshonds in their garden. It seems that all the Spitz breeds, which are generally the most natural herbalists, love fruit. The advent of dog biscuits have altered the life of most dogs and biscuit meal added to table scraps became the pet dog's lot. Outbreaks of hysteria were attributed to white flour used in the production of all types of biscuit and meal, and rye flour replaced it in many instances. Some dogs can maintain a good level of condition on a diet which has a high carbohydrate content, such as biscuit, but alternatively, as in Ireland, it is not unusual for half a dozen eggs to be broken into a bowl as the main feed and these dogs, too, have the sheen of health on their coats. So diet is not a subject on which anyone can claim to have the only correct way. The teeth and mouth of the dog show that it is capable of tearing and swallowing sizeable chunks rather than chewing. The very powerful gastric juices can cope with fur and feather as well as large pieces of meat. Likening a dog's needs to the humans is a mistake for foods which we consider 'rich' are very acceptable to the dog and watering down of milk and mincing or sieving food is not only unnecessary work, but does not allow the digestion to do the work for which it is equipped. As well as being nourishing to the dog his food should also be a pleasure to him for it is healthy and natural to enjoy food. Therefore I still feel that meat is the most natural and sought after food. The dog needs protein, carbohydrates and trace elements and, as with people, vitamins are a necessity. A good all-round diet will include most of these, but there are still times when additives are needed.

During pregnancy and lactation, after illness, during the growing months and in old age, careful feeding can help enormously. Half a pound of protein a day, generally in the form of raw meat, is a good start. The quality of the meat is not important and rough fatty meat can be used under normal circumstances. It can be given in egg-sized pieces to give the digestion some work to do. If fish is given on some days add a raw, or just set, egg on top.

"Meat raw and offal cooked" is the rule that avoids a lot of trouble for too much offal or uncooked ox cheek will often cause a recognisable black runny motion. The feeding of whatever type of carbohydrate you decide to use; brown bread, biscuit, rusks, etc, should be done at a separate time for easy digestion. The way to know if your feeding is right, apart from the signs of good condition, is if the motion is correct. It should be firm and formed and diet should be adjusted until this is achieved. The addition of bran to the meat meal may help and it bulks up



of good condition, is if the motion is correct. It should be firm and formed and diet should be adjusted until this is achieved. The addition of bran to the meat meal may help and it bulks up a small meal making it more filling for the dog, but it is of practically no nutritional value. The addition of some raw vegetable such as carrots or green vegetable is beneficial but unless these are finely minced they appear to go through the dog unchanged in which case one feels they have done little good. Fresh water must be available at all times.

Assuming your Keeshond is living in the house and therefore needing food only to nourish him and not to keep him warm, the ideal time to feed is late in the afternoon. He should then be content through the night and not disturb you. The morning hours should not be hours of intake, but rather of elimination as it is natural for a dog to wake up, take exercise to relieve himself and then resume sleep. If you study your dogs at home you will find this is their habit.

Centuries of domestication has probably made the dog fit in with our pattern of life but we should follow nature where we can. In the wild state it is hunt, kill, eat, sleep which suggests that exercise is taken before and not after a meal. It takes approximately two hours for a meat meal to be digested and if carbohydrates in the form of dog biscuit is added it will take longer. So a minimum of two hours rest after food is good practice. Thus a dog fed in the late afternoon can rest, sleep and be on guard by nightfall. The heaviest sleep is after food. The most natural food for a dog is meat but in the case of a dog of Keeshond size it is hardly likely that in the wild state he would kill a cow or horse, so apart from joining in another animals kill he would have had to eat rabbits, birds, mice and other small rodents. In fact I have seen a Keeshond swallow a frog or toad although I think it was a mistake on the dogs part! Undoubtedly all the skin and bones would have been eaten and the viscera containing undigested food, so the diet would have been very varied. There would also have been long periods of enforced fasting. Today we have turned our dogs into modern creatures with sophisticated appetites and it is up to us to see they are offered the correct foods. Unbounded good health is every dogs birthright and it is one of the joys of dog owning to see this. It can only be achieved if the food you give your dog allows him to remain in good health all his life; therefore diet must change with age and circumstances.

The greatest universal error is to overfeed. The result is a lethargic animal with dull eyes, a dead looking coat and an ungainly body.

Essentially the Keeshond is light on his feet, quick and spritely and should remain so all his life. A little slowing up after ten to twelve years is usual but any ageing prior to this must make the owner consider whether or not he may be to blame. Daily exercise is, of course, necessary for good health but no amount of walking will take off the weight put on by overfeeding. It is wise to check the weight of your dog every six months so that an increase is quickly noted and diet adjusted accordingly. A mature bitch in hard condition averages thirty six to forty pounds in weight. The male being larger and generally heavier boned is somewhere around forty to forty four pounds ideally. Allowance must be made for the build of the dog but this is some guide and anything greatly in excess is a disaster. Up to half a pound of meat a day is the most a dog should need under normal circumstances and it can be varied with fish, eggs etc. If a dog is over weight it will do no harm to cut right down to four or five ounces of meat a day, plus yeast in some form, for two weeks to see if there is any reduction. If it is working keep it up for another week or so and then gradually get back onto a more varied diet keeping to considerably less than he was having originally.

Recently a bitch due to have an operation for the removal of a tumour was found to weigh sixty pounds. The veterinary surgeon refused to treat her until her weight was more normal or at least under fifty pounds. This was achieved on four ounces of lean meat a day with one small finger of very hard baked brown bread. The operation was successfully performed and the delighted owner now has a middle aged bitch with all the energy and fun of a youngster again. She had not realised just how staid and matronly the bitch had become. If you find it impossible to cut down sufficiently your veterinary surgeon can give you a tinned food especially prepared



to fight obesity and I have seen excellent results from this too. With the loss of pounds the years fall away, coats regain their sheen and eyes their brilliance. Interest in life is doubled and even a short walk is so much more appreciated that more exercise is taken thus helping the good work.

Although this is the age of additives I am convinced nothing can replace a good varied diet. Vitamins are more readily assimilated from the right food than from a bottle and sometimes the giving of additives can cause an imbalance. Vitamins A and D are perhaps the most important of all in the growth period and they are often associated. It is over sixty years since the first vitamins were discovered and their necessity is now accepted. Lack of vitamin A reduces the dogs resistance to disease, can cause eyes and eyelids to become inflamed and it has been discovered in laboratory tests that puppies fed on a diet deficient in vitamin A are subject to broncho pneumonia. Vitamin D (the sunshine vitamin) helps to build good strong bone and is anti-rachitic and assists in the development of a mouthful of perfect teeth. The actions of sunlight on the skin forms vitamin D and it is said that a cat sitting washing itself in the sun, as they so often do, is taking in this vitamin. Both A and D should be given in correct dosage and not overdone. The finest natural source is in fish oils such as cod liver oil and halibut liver oil the latter being preferable in as much as it is a smaller dose. Glaxo Adexolin is also excellent and being lighter than fish oils it is more easily digested. It avoids the rather unpleasant fishy smell on the dogs breath and also contains vitamin C. Both Vitamin A and D are found in milk and egg yolk. The giving of raw eggs is criticised as the white of egg contains Avidin which inhibits the absorption of Biotin thus depriving the dog of vitamin B. Therefore some owners just set the white by dropping the whole egg into boiling water for a minute or two or scrambling it lightly. Clearly both eggs and milk have a place in the dogs diet but essentially meat is his mainstay.

Vitamin B is a complex group of vitamins now skilfully presented to us in tablet-form such as Vetzyme, much sought after by the dogs, which makes our task easy. A shortage of vitamin B will show in poor coat and skin troubles and most of all in the nervous system. I have used enormous doses for nervous dogs with remarkably successful results and it is not easy to over dose as any unabsorbed vitamin B will be naturally expelled from the bowel. In very large doses the skin will give off a yeast odour which is repellent to fleas so this can be an advantage during an infestation. The natural sources of vitamin B are once again egg yolk, liver, oatmeal, brown bread and yeast. It is essential during growth and more especially during pregnancy, and lactation. It is not stored in the body so daily administration is advisable and Vetzyme Tablets are acknowledged to be an ideal and palatable form. All yeast extract products, Marmite and Yeastrel are sources which should be borne in mind especially for puppy rearing. It is essential for vitamin B to be given when a dog is on an all lean meat slimming diet.

Vitamin C, the anti-scurvy vitamin is not found in any of the dogs natural foods unless like many Keeshond he is a fruit eater. For many years we were told that the dog synthesized this vitamin within his own body and that he therefore had no need for ascorbic acid as a dietary adjunct. However more recently we find the veterinary profession prescribing it for various skin conditions and for some gastric troubles. It is not easy to give except by tablet but you can add some forms to your dog's meal by chopping a little spinach or brussel sprout on top. Citrus fruits which are rich source of vitamin C are not generally considered a part of a dogs diet but I have known breeders give orange juice to puppies and bitches saying it cures the scurf known as cradle crust. It is possible that some dogs are unable to synthesize Vitamin C and in that case it can be given as a supplement. When you see your dog eating grass it is unlikely that he is seeking vitamin C and far more likely he is trying to make himself sick, to rid himself of some unsuitable but irresistible trifle he has eaten!

Vitamin E is the anti-sterility vitamin and tests on rats have proved some interesting facts. Females fed on a diet devoid of vitamin E showed all normal generative signs but the foetuse died and were resorbed into the body. With the administration of vitamin E this was very quickly corrected and a normal litter resulted. It therefore seems wise to give a course of vitamin E to



any bitch which has been mated and missed, before attempting to get her in whelp again. The stud dog, too, can benefit from vitamin E but a longer course is advised. Vitamin E is not easy to find in food but the daily capsule of Wheat Germ Oil or dry Wheat Germ on the dinner is a safe and simple way to include it in the diet.

The list of Vitamins goes on, K controlling the coagulation of the blood but from here on it is in the veterinary surgeons field to advise as required for each individual dog.

Mealtimes are an important feature of your dogs day. Their life is dull if not punctuated by attention is some form such as grooming, walks, spells of training and meals. If you are already so busy that none of these things can be fitted into your daily routine a thoughtful check up on whether or not you have time to own a dog at all would be wise. It is the bored dog that develops bad habits and becomes either a yapper or home demolisher. Boredom does not suit the temperament of the Keeshond, who, given the right attention, will become a personality in his own right. So happy meal times, which the dog looks forward to, are part of his day.

There should be fresh water always available in any room the dog is in and in his garden or run. The water should be picked up before the main meal and not replaced for about an hour. Thus the digestive juices can do their work undiluted. I have found a mid-day drink for each dog a useful way of adjusting intake; for example any young ones get a drink of milk as do pregnant ladies and lactating bitches. The fatties get the same amount of fluid but it is mostly boiled water. Anyone who has need of it has barley water and milk and drops such as Adexelin or Wheat Germ are added then. It soon becomes a ritual and the dog reminds you when it is due! Occasionally a dog needs fattening and a creamy milk drink with a shake of shredded suet on top will soon help put on weight.

The thin dog's diet should include three eggs a week, fried bread cubed in place of biscuit. Herrings when available. Cooked meats with dumplings added and half a pint of milk a day. Two meals a day can be given until normal weight is attained. All these should be avoided for the fat dog and a main diet of lean meat with the addition of bran and water to bulk it up and a drink of half water half skimmed milk with perhaps one small hard finger of rusk at mid-day.

With dogs about the house and frequently in the kitchen with the owner when food is being prepared, it is so easy to give small titbits and soon the result is an over weight dog aged before its time and falling short of the desired peak of condition. If each time you are tempted you put the bacon rind or cold scraps into a bowl, at the end of the day you will see just how much extra would have been given. By all means use these bits but weigh them with the dogs meat so that the total is still the same. It is also prudent to check the amount you give on the scales even if it is all meat. I was in the habit of getting one pound bags of meat and sharing between two dogs with the conviction that they were only getting half a pound each. However on weighing I found a generous butcher was on the dogs side and they were regularly getting two or more extra ounces a day.

It is very important not to use stock or cooked meat more than a day old. No matter how high raw meat may be, even maggot infested, the dog will eat it, enjoy it and come to no harm on it, but one or two spoonfuls of sour stock or cooked meat past its best and you can have a very ill dog and an unnecessary veterinary bill.

Both tongue and rabbit cooked are particularly useful in tempting a shy feeder, as is liver. Dogs love the latter and it is rich in vitamin B but only a very small amount should be given at first as many Keeshonds seem to suffer from diarrhoea after it. If a small piece is happily accepted it can be increased but both liver and ox check are foods which should be cooked lightly and tried in small amounts. Liver is the ideal training titbit and excellent for poor pigmentation. all necessary and found correctly balanced in Canovel Tablets. The giving of seaweed powder has become popular with many breeders and is said to improve colour and pigmentation. Despite the fact that only minute traces of iodine are present in the body it is extremely important in the whole metabolism and is associated with the correct function of the thyroid gland. Loss



Trace elements should be covered by an adequate diet but additives can be used and any good make will be correctly balanced. Lime, phosphorous, manganese, zinc, copper, and iodine are of hair, especially round the neck and lower thigh and overweight can both be attributed to thyroid deficiency and veterinary advice should be sought as soon as the first signs appear. It is a condition comparatively easily corrected if diagnosed at the outset.

Trying to give your dog all he needs without fussing and making hard work of it is quite possible with a little forethought. Health foods and herbal remedies are used by many dog owners and if that is what your dog thrives on, all well and good.

The many whole foods and tinned foods are proving popular and satisfactory for many people but if in doubt try to follow nature as much as possible. When tinned foods display the words "vitamins added" it may well only be an addition to replace vitamins destroyed in the canning process.

The flesh of smaller animals must be nearer nature in a dog of this size so quite a percentage of their food would have been white meat. Dr Ralph Nelson of the Mayo Medical School states that excess protein in the diet can be injurious and in all probability reduces the life span. This was in reference to human diet but part of the evidence he cites in support of his anti-excess proteins thesis comes from animal experimentation. So a reduction of all meat and especially red meat is advisable as the dog ages. Chicken and rabbit are so useful but need a lot of work to remove every single bone. All small bones are very dangerous and I am told by a veterinary surgeon that the people who say "My dog can digest bones" are the ones who have never seen one die from this.

Paunch is a cheap safe and very nourishing food but extremely unpleasant to handle in the raw state. It is worthwhile for a kennel of dogs but for half a dozen kept primarily as house dogs it does not justify the foul smell of it cooking in your house. With a kennel it is quite a different proposition and all dogs seem to like it and thrive on it. Butchers tripe is not the same thing and is only an invalid food. The avoidance of highly spiced and salty food is obviously wise as is the avoidance of all sugar and white flour products. Sultanas and cheese are far better as training titbits than chocolate. Cottage cheese and Edam are less fattening and just as high in calcium content as cheddar, or full cream cheese.

Although we accept that the dogs diet should be predominantly protein, too much puts great strain on the kidneys whose function it is to eliminate body waste through the urine. So moderation in all things. Living closely with your dogs day to day it is easy to fail to notice some small change which may be significant, so training oneself to be observant is a help. The daily motion should be automatically checked as the correct hard formed motion follows the digestion of a meat diet. Any change in colour or texture can be the onset of some disorder. Milk foods can cause a loose yellow motion, grey motion may indicate liver upsets and dark loose motions are often caused by offal or unsuitable meat. The passing of undigested raw meat may be a sign of pancreatic deficiency and should be reported to your veterinary surgeon.

In parts of Canada, where there is a colony of brown bears living in a forest and another part of the colony living by a river there is a tremendous difference between the two. Those by the river spend their days catching and eating salmon, just taking one huge bite and throwing the remains back. In size, development and coat they are six months ahead of their woodland relatives. A diet rich in a digestible form of protein makes this difference.

Failure to control your dogs weight may be due to under or over activity of the thyroid gland and again it is your veterinary surgeon who can help you. These things are easily corrected if dealt with at once so never accept any lowering of health standards without query. The correctly fed dog should be brimming with vitality, young for his years and a joy to see. Coats, eyes and high spirits reflect the care you give and it is the greatest achievement to maintain this through a long life. It is the least we can do to repay them for some of the pleasure they give us.



### FOOD FACTS TO HELP YOU TO WORK OUT YOUR OWN FEEDING PLAN

The king of cereals is wheat but barley is richer in calcium. Best means of giving wheat is in biscuit, best way of giving barley is using the flaked form well soaked in milk, skimmed, if for a fat dog, rich as possible for pregnant or lactating bitches. Flaked barley such as **Sunwheel**, is also the best way of making barley water. One heaped tablespoonful to a pint of boiling water and let it stand. It is almost pink in colour and can be flavoured with Oxo etc if the dog refuses it. Diluted with a little milk it generally becomes very popular. Excellent for the kidneys and keeps eyes bright. The residue can be added to puppy feeds or used in place of biscuit or meal. I mix it with **Litterlac** for puppies. To add wheat to their diet **Shredded Wheat** or **Weetabix** are good and hard rusks made from brown bread are especially useful during teething. Oats are warming and nourishing and can be soaked in milk and used uncooked either with barley or in place of it in cold weather. Again a long soaking of raw flakes is better than cooking and equally digestible. The addition of a teaspoonful of honey reduces the acidity of the milk.

Eggs are a wonderful food containing all a dog needs. A maximum of three a week or less if your dog is fat, is a good ration but remember the yolk of an egg is a ball of fat. Puppies can have them scrambled or lightly poached and mixed with brown bread crumbs. Adults can have an egg just set and on top of their meat, which can be reduced that day, or hard boiled. Fish is useful as a change and is rich in calcium. It is usually popular and as it is not as satisfying as meat this is an ideal time to add an egg as above. Herrings are particularly good for lactating bitches as they are full of nourishment. Both the dam and puppies thrive on them. Just cook whole and then remove the head and with it the whole of the attached back bone. Chop up the rest, bones and all. White fish is useful for sick or convalescent dogs, lightly cooked. Fish can be fed raw to grown dogs but as heart worm can be carried by fish, light cooking is advisable.

Offal is useful but should generally be cooked. Liver is the best source of the B vitamins but many Keeshonds are unable to take more than a very small amount without a resulting loose black motion. The same applies to ox cheek so go carefully until you know if it can be accepted. Hearts, melts, kidneys and tongues are good, and the latter can be classed as white meat and with the two little side bones removed are a simple quick feed. When white meat is ordered such things as chicken, veal, rabbit and other poultry are intended. This is most useful for older dogs being less demanding on the kidneys and easily digested. All ten year olds and over should be fed with this in mind and chopped fresh parsley can be added to provide iron.

Red meat, (muscle meat) is the most favoured and natural dog food. It is however deficient in Vitamin A which can be easily added by a few drops of either **Halibut liver oil** or **Adexolin**. The biggest drawback to an all meat diet is its deficiency in calcium. It has been discovered in tests that a twenty-two pound growing dog "would have to consume one hundred-weight of muscle meat a day to supply the recommended calcium requirement". Therefore the addition of either sterilized bonemeal or calcium and phosphorous in a supplement such as **Stress**, is absolutely essential during pregnancy and lactation and beneficial at most periods of life. There is some natural fat in all meat and it is probably sufficient for the dog. Folic Acid, necessary for cell formation, is naturally present in liver and green leaf vegetables.

Raw apples, carrots etc. are enjoyed as a treat but both contain fruit sugar so overweight dogs must be deprived. Cheese is a useful training titbit. It is perhaps the very best way of giving calcium in the diet and a spoonful of cottage cheese on the daily meal is a way of being sure it is included. Yogurt reduces E coli in the gut and is useful in sickness and any tummy upset. A couple of tablespoons a day should always be given when a dog is given anti-biotics. Milk and meat do not make for easy digestion if given together, allow a two-hour interval for separate



absorption.

I find home made dog biscuits very popular but they should be given sparingly.

To a pound of Allinsons wheat flour add four to six ounces of Soya flour and rub in about four ounces of fat, chicken fat is ideal, but dripping will do. Add stock or Marmite, etc. to make a stiff dough and press down hard into a big flat greased tin. Cook for a long time in a low oven. Mark into squares and break up when cold. This is variable and oats, lentils, etc. can be used or added. Twice cooking makes it harder.



Fig.8.4 An untouched photograph of three generations at exercise. Left Mrs. Cahill's *Ch. Roxburgh of Rhinevale*, his Sire: *Ch. Rahida of Rhinevale* and Roxburgh's son *Rhinevale Revelstoke of Keesmere*. Note continuity of type



## CHAPTER 9

### YOUR DOG'S HEALTH

Perhaps the most important point in keeping your dog healthy is observing every detail when he is fit, so that the slightest deviation is instantly noticed. The next most important is knowing when it is a minor indisposition with which you can cope, and when it is a case of seeking qualified advice. To be for ever running to your chosen veterinary surgeon with every little thing is unwise, expensive and suggests there is something very wrong with either the strain you are breeding or the management of your dogs.

All your dogs should visit the surgery once a year for 'booster' injections to maintain immunity from certain diseases, and whenever there is an inexplicable attack of diarrhoea or a rise in temperature to 103F a consultation is indicated. Most breeders like to have their veterinary surgeon pay one visit the day after a whelping and older dogs can be helped by a regular check up. Taking the temperature is your best guide and the normal 101.4F suggests there is not much wrong. To take the temperature obtain a short bulb thermometer, stand your Keeshond on a table and with the tail firmly in one hand insert the thermometer in the rectum and keep it there for a little longer than you think you need. It is usually a half minute thermometer but allow a full minute, and if there is any difficulty the end of the thermometer can be coated with white Vaseline so that it slips in easily. I prefer not to use this as it also slips out easily! If you have a second pair of hands to hold the dog's head it is a lot easier. The range of a dog's temperature is not as great as ours and 103 can be the start of many troubles and should be reported to your veterinary surgeon. The following may help to sort out the trivial from the more serious disorders:

It should be recognised that this breed appears to be particularly susceptible to anaesthetics. My only personal experience of this was when a young bitch was anaesthetized for a simple X-ray. I was told to wait for half an hour by which time she would be able to walk out to the car, jump in and go home. In fact, after waiting two hours she was carried to the car, still asleep, and she remained in that condition for the rest of the day. By evening she was stirring but not fully awake and it was not until the next morning that she was able to take a drink and walk normally. This susceptibility should be mentioned to your veterinary surgeon who will then take any precautions he deems necessary.

### ANAL GLANDS

Anal gland trouble is not rare. The glands are situated on either side of the anus. With correct feeding and firm motions the glands should be working normally and there should be no build up of secretions. If however, the dog shows discomfort by dragging himself along the ground, often thought to be a sign of worms, or attempts to bite and lick his tail end it suggests trouble. Your veterinary surgeon can empty this gland manually, he may even show you how to do this yourself. However it is far better to be sure that some roughage is included in the daily diet and the addition of Kelloggs All Bran should prevent this ever developing. If it becomes a constant source of trouble and you have made sure there is no infestation of worms, the condition can become chronic and then surgery may be needed to correct it.

### BITES

Bites from other dogs, or even worse, from cats, need attention. First bleeding must be controlled, usually by applying firm pressure with a clean pad directly onto the wound. Ears

bleed most profusely and if the dog shakes his head a scarlet spotted decor is inevitable. For minor bites an application of Extract of Witch Hazel, undiluted, will both cleanse and stem bleeding. A deep bite may need expert attention, and even stitching, so a visit to the surgery should not be delayed. The actual tooth hole should not be allowed to heal over but must heal from the bottom up or an abscess will result and that is more trouble to deal with than the original bite. A daily swab with Peroxide keeps it clean and open.

### BURNS

The immediate treatment for minor burns is the application of cold water or ice for at least ten minutes or longer. Ice cubes or packs can help but with burns and scalds there is a degree of shock and the risk of infection, so a visit to the surgery is wise. The speed with which the cold water is applied is vital. It is possible the skin can be so damaged that a bald spot will result.

### CONSTIPATION

This is often the result of wrong feeding in some form, even when it is due to something the dog picks up. Bones are a very common cause and should be avoided until motions are back to normal and then given with care. The large uncut marrow bones which are the only safe bones, apart from soft veal bones, are unlikely to cause this unless the dog is getting too much off them. Again bran in some form will help, Kelloggs All Bran, but use plain bran if your dog is fat for the malt in human cereals will tend to put on weight. A little Liquid Paraffin for a day or two will help but only about a dessertspoonful as if more is given it flows through the dog making the trousers and tail grease coated and therefore dirty. If more than a day or two is needed use Olive oil as it is less harmful though that too is a fattener. Never use Castor oil.

### COUGHS

Since kennel cough came into our lives there seem to be regular outbreaks and, unfortunately, it is very infectious. A dog that is in a boarding kennel which gets just one victim in, is almost sure to come home with it. However, as always, the veterinary researchers are already working to help us and various vaccines are now on the market. One is a very simple nasal drop but I feel that by the time you read this our clever friends will have cracked it and inoculation against this will be as routine as it is against other diseases. Meantime it is one of those annoying things which keep us from showing or mixing with other dogs although the patient himself is not really ill. It is only dangerous for young puppies and older dogs, so if you have either extremes of age, isolation is wise. The actual cough sounds rather as if the dog is clearing his throat and a little honey seems soothing (and much enjoyed) though not curative.

Another type of cough is the sudden sharp fit of coughing caused by a heart condition. It is not terribly serious and is one of the heart conditions most treatable.

My own beloved Ch *Rapunzel* was put on tablets for this condition when she was nine years old and lived a fully active life until just on seventeen. This type of cough is noticed mostly when the dog first gets up from lying down or makes a sudden movement after resting. It does not unduly distress the dog nor need it distress the owner once you have taken advice and are careful to follow it. Veterinary advice should be sought.

### DIABETES

It is not as rare as we would like it to be: The first and most obvious symptom is an unnatural



thirst. Great amounts of water will sometimes be taken and consequently a clean house trained dog will suddenly leave pools in the night. Your veterinary surgeon will ask for a sample of urine and it is not always easy to collect this, especially from a male. The very first water passed in the morning is the best sample to get and an egg cupful is sufficient. Take your dog into the garden on his lead and have a small deep plastic bowl and when he stops try to catch the vital drops. It is essential that both the bowl you use and the bottle in which you take it to the surgery are clean as any trace of sugar or honey could give rise to a false reading. With a bitch a shallow dish is used and it is all much easier. You will be instructed in both medication and diet and many an old dog has coped admirably with the help of a caring owner.

### DIARRHOEA

This can have many facets. It can be that the dog ate a piece of wood or other unsuitable fodder but it can so easily be the first warning sign of something far more sinister. If the diarrhoea is yellow it may be caused by milk foods and if it is very dark, almost black, it may be from some form of meat such as ox-cheek, offal or blood, so it may be a warning. First think back as to what food changes may have caused it and then check the temperature. If it is up to 103F or more get veterinary advice. If there should be traces of blood in the excreta do not even bother to check the temperature but act at once. The dreaded Parvovirus, enteritis, hard pad, gastritis and many other disorders can start this way. If your veterinary surgeon decides it is just a tummy upset then you can withhold fluid, give a small feed of Arrowroot when food is given at all, but fasting is often wisest. Small sips of honey and boiled water may be the first intake and no meat should be given for some days. White fish lightly cooked with boiled rice and, later, rabbit are safe foods. If the dog has passed a quantity of jelly raw white of egg should be given. Put the white in a cup and cut it up with scissors so that it can be divided into spoonfuls as you wish. There are excellent tablets which your veterinary surgeon can prescribe, far more effective than the various treatments bought over the counter. When it is just a case of looseness and there is no sign of any other symptom Allen and Hanburys Charkaolin Granules sprinkled on the food will soothe and as it is tasteless it does not put the dog off his meal.

### DIGESTIVE UPSETS

The most usual is the bringing up of yellow or white froth and this may indicate a mild liver upset. I have had one or two Keeshonds that could not happily digest fat and kept on a careful diet have never looked back. If this is the case avoid eggs, cut all fat from the meat, use only fat free skimmed milk and only white fish; never rich fish like herrings. White meat is ideal and poultry is fat free, especially if cooked, cooled and all top fat skimmed off. A couple of Milk of Magnesia tablets first thing in the morning on an empty stomach may correct the condition, and the addition of charcoal in some form is useful.

Two or three charcoal biscuits last thing at night are antacid and also absorb gasses. Be sure the biscuits are genuine charcoal and not black wheaten biscuits which would not be as effective. Alternatively granular charcoal can be mixed into the daily feed. If a dog is taken off meat one of the better whole diets, such as Febo can be given and will be adequate but sadly so many people seem to feed it as an addition to normal food.

### Water

With any dry or "complete" foods ample water must be available, even if they have had some soaking. If you use it, let it be the only food given for a while. I have kept my own dogs on this for over a month at a time, when away from home, with no loss of condition and it is excellent



if there is any digestive trouble. Also I find the over active dog which behaves like a hyperkinetic child will often calm down on this diet. Meat can be introduced again in time.

### **DISTEMPER, HARD PAD and PARVOVIRUS**

These should be mentioned here and inoculation at the right time followed by 'booster' shots are a vital necessity.

### **ECLAMPSIA**

This is caused by a drop in the calcium level in the blood, and quite often occurs when the bitch has fed a large litter for a month or more but can also occur just before or just after whelping. It is one of the reasons why you should watch your lactating bitch carefully. The bitch will stagger and appear unable to stand and will quickly collapse. Fortunately, provided veterinary treatment is immediate the cure is miraculous. An injection of calcium and the bitch comes round wondering what all the fuss is about. However the operative word is 'immediate' and unless help is quickly obtained you will lose your bitch.

### **EAR TROUBLES**

Keeshonds, having prick ears into which air can get, are not prone to canker, but I have found one or two who cannot stand damp in their ears, and a rainy day or carelessly given wash can cause this. Keep the ears clean with Surgical Spirit on cotton wool wiped around the inside of the flap. If there is a mild discomfort a pinch of Iodoform in Boracic Powder (one in eight) once a week may help. Never probe the ear and get expert advice before any condition becomes chronic. No water should ever be put in the ear.

### **EMETICS**

In most dogs lives there comes a time when they consume something entirely unsuitable. If you want it back quickly a large crystal of washing soda pushed down the throat is very effective. It is a good plan to wrap a crystal that is the right size (about the size of a large hazelnut) in Clingfilm, and put it in a little tin in your medicine cupboard as when the panic is on there is never a suitable piece and just fine bits remain. Remember that anything that is jagged or caustic can do as much harm coming up as it did going down. Salt and water and mustard and water are often recommended but would obviously be hard to administer.

### **EYE TROUBLE**

Thanks to careful breeding and avoidance of exaggeration, Keeshonds rarely have eye troubles. A damp eye may respond to drying and rinsing with Optrex. Some forms of conjunctivitis are highly infectious and if one of your dogs get this, it may go through the lot so here again do not delay in getting help from those qualified to advise. The inside of the lower lid should show coral pink; redness indicates inflammation. If an antibiotic ointment is given be sure to follow your veterinary surgeon's advice to the letter. Get it right into the eye and apply it regularly from early morning until late at night for just as many days as you are told and then stop. Carrying on with a little drop each day will do no good and may render the dog immune to further benefit from that particular drug. Give your attention to it fully for a short time and all should



be well. If this condition is not coped with it can become chronic as the membrane thickens from constant inflammation. Never let it go on. Inflammation may also be the result of a draught, sometimes experienced while travelling.

### **FITS**

Teething fits are often referred to in dog books but I have neither seen one, or had reliable information regarding one, in a dog of this breed. Should a Keeshond have a fit of any kind your veterinary surgeon should be immediately consulted and he can then arrange for an EEG test which may establish the cause. Obviously if one is pursuing the principle of breeding only from healthy, trouble free stock the animal concerned should not be bred from nor should the sire or dam, if there is reason to suspect a tendency towards epilepsy. Whether heredity is a factor in epilepsy is controversial, however, as many breeds are beset with this sad condition we must try to keep the Keeshond as free of it as possible.

### **FOOT TROUBLES**

Soreness on the pads can be caused by the dog walking in tar on a hot day when the roads are affected or by the intrusion of a thorn etc. Tar and oil are best removed quickly with Eucalyptus Oil. It washes it off very easily and should always be in your medicine cupboard. Thorns need removing with tweezers and are often hard to trace. Immerse the whole foot in a jam jar of water with a little Peroxide in it and feel carefully to locate the offending object. If a hole is left see it is clean by using neat Peroxide and then, when dry, apply two coats of Newskin. It is much simpler than bandaging and the dogs do not object or try to remove it.

### **GROWTHS**

A great many dogs eventually die from cancer, therefore any small growth should be given immediate expert attention. The soft lumps that appear on the mammary glands are sometimes left but these should be watched as the nature of the growth can change. It is a veterinary problem and you must be guided by those who have studied the subject.

### **HEPATITIS**

Sometimes called Rubarths Disease, it can be acute and is caused by a virus. It is included in your inoculation programme. However if your dog should get this, fastidious nursing is essential. It is a serious disease and you will certainly need veterinary advice.

### **INTERDIGITAL CYSTS**

These small swellings, rather like boils, appear between the toes and cause the dog a lot of pain. He will lick and bite at them and will probably be lame. During the summer months grass seeds can be suspected. Twice daily bathing with hot water and Cetavlon will help bring it to a head and burst. The odd cyst is soon over but if a dog persists in getting these it can be a case for surgery. Check that it is not due to the dog going into ponds during his exercise for this can aggravate the condition.

### **INSECT BITES**

These include the stings of wasps and bees. Some puppies really ask to be stung chasing

and jumping at wasps and there is not always a cure when they get stung. A sting in the mouth or throat needs immediate veterinary treatment as they can be fatal. Anywhere else its just a case of helping to alleviate the pain and an anti-histamine tablet or Piriton given immediately will help. An ice cube applied to the sting helps and bathing with a solution of bicarbonate of soda should relieve the pain. The bee leaves his sting in so it must be removed carefully with tweezers. Vinegar relieves the pain of a wasp sting.

### KIDNEY TROUBLE

Many old dogs suffer from nephritis. The most usual signs are dark, strong smelling urine and excessive thirst. Although you will need advice from your veterinary surgeon a lot can be done by diet, and special foods can be obtained to help. White meat, fish and more bland foods such as cereals to replace the red meat diet all help. Barley water regularly and in quantity will help keep the kidneys flushed out, and it is very nourishing so small meals are supplemented this way. The addition of a drop of milk or chicken stock will help make barley water palatable.

### LEPTOSPIROSIS

The dreaded disease carried by rats. A good reason to be certain your runs are free of these pests. It is a virus and often a killer so it is important to see it is included in the 'booster' every year.

### METRITIS

This is inflammation of the womb and can be hard to detect. A rise in temperature, thirst, sometimes vomiting and you will know you have a sick bitch on your hands. It is a good reason for taking the temperature for a week after whelping and immediate veterinary help is needed. Anti-biotics are the usual answer and with care it can be dealt with in a way which makes us appreciate modern drugs. Pre-war it was often the end. Nowadays an hysterectomy carries little risk so even if the womb has to be removed, you should have a healthy bitch again within the month.

### MASTITIS

This too responds to treatment. It is recognised by a reddening of the milk glands which will be enlarged, hard and lumpy. The application of icy cold compresses may help but veterinary opinion varies and some say hot compresses! Either way prompt expert attention must be given especially if the bitch has a litter at the time, as she usually has.

### OVER-WEIGHT

This was the nightmare of my own bitches. So easily the extra few pounds would be put on and it was almost impossible to get it off again. Strict and careful feeding from the start, weighing meat and never being tempted to give any scraps that contain either white flour or sugar. Because of this problem I rarely fed any farinaceous foods and gave supplements to make up for what they missed. The weight a bitch gains after being spayed is unavoidable and again very strict dieting is the only control. A fit dog is always hungry so do not let the "I am starving" act deceive you. If you can keep weight down your dog will have a longer, more active life and look far better



than a lethargic "fatty". Coat stays more abundant and eyes brighter. The bulging eye of the over fat dog is very ugly and spoils the expression. Whereas all my own Keeshonds tended to put on weight thanks to dieting I never had a really fat one. However in a dog of this shape any excess shows and exercise alone will not disperse it.

The under-weight Keeshond is a rarity but worms may be suspected or pancreatic deficiency which prevents a dog getting full nourishment from his food. Either condition is a case for your veterinary adviser to sort out and both are controllable.

### PYOMETRA

There are two forms of this dreaded condition. Open and closed. In an open Pyometra there is a constant unpleasant discharge from the vulva, slightly yellow or pinky and containing pus. In the more dangerous closed Pyometra the build up of pus in the uterus is far more difficult to detect. Indeed the observant owner may well notice signs of the build up before a veterinary surgeon, who sees the bitch so rarely, is able to give a diagnosis. It is more usual in the older bitch and the theory that if the bitch has had two litters she is safe from it is entirely fallacious. The earliest signs are sometimes more frequent seasons, every four months or so rather than the normal six months. Increased thirst. A thickening of the 'waistline' or even sudden rotundity. During all this the bitch is not ill but an owner who knows the bitch well will notice a less lively attitude towards life and perhaps a capricious appetite and other small signs that all is not well. For either condition the ultimate cure is an hysterectomy. Many breeders take this step as a matter of routine when the breeding age is past to avoid the risk of this condition ever developing. Thus the bitch is operated on when she is fit and at the best time to cope with it all instead of when she is older and ill. With the advent of modern anaesthetics the risks are much reduced and it is usual for the bitch to be in the surgery for one day only, followed by five days careful nursing and quickly back to normal. As the bitch is often handed back to the owner by an assistant with no instructions as to care we will go into the nursing in a further chapter.

### RHEUMATISM

Some old dogs seem to get very stiff and have difficulty in getting to their feet especially first thing in the morning. Your veterinary surgeon can help so get advice and be sure a warm draught free bed is available. Avoid red meat and go onto a 'complete' diet such as Febo. A 'child size' Disprin dissolved in a saucer of tea or milk as an early morning drink seems to help. Certainly it does no harm and may reduce the inflammation.

### SKIN TROUBLES

The coat of the Keeshond seems to discourage fleas and lice, and parasites are rarely a problem. If there is an infestation it must be coped with both on the dog and in your home. Fleas do not breed on the dog and may well have found a breeding ground in the cracks of floor boards or carpets or even in your car. Anywhere the dog frequents can be the home of the flea. A spray from your veterinary surgeon for both the dog and the house will overcome the problem. The flea is a reddish brown and easily seen near the skin. Favourite spots are between the shoulder blades, on the back where the tail curls over it and around the neck. The tiny, gritty, black deposits left by the flea look like miniature coke. They are a sign you must go to work on these uninvited guests. As the flea is the host to the tape worm a worm dose is also indicated. Lice, which are paler and cling to the hairs must be rare in Keeshonds for I have never seen them.

There is also the rabbit mite or Cheyletiella Parasitivorax which look like scurf and needs microscopic examination to identify and causes irritation. For all these a medicated bath which



your veterinary surgeon will supply is necessary and all bedding should be changed and disinfected.

Ticks can also be a nuisance as they are blood suckers. They look like a grey wart which grows quickly as blood is sucked in and they appear mostly on ears and other short haired parts. They are picked up on sheep ground and under alder trees and are a summer hazard. The art of removing them is to get the legs, which are situated at the front end of the body, as well as the body itself. If the tick is just pulled at, it is difficult to get as the front legs are well buried in the dogs skin and if broken off can result in an infected spot with loss of hair. Put a jar of Vaseline into the fridge and when it is stiff paste it all over the tick cutting off the air supply. Leave for a few minutes and then remove with a twisting motion holding the tick in a piece of lint. Be sure you have the legs, dab with Peroxide and all should be well.

Eczema, which is a collective word for many skin conditions is not infectious and if a few applications of neat TCP do not effect a cure advice must be sought. Change of diet can help, withholding meat, giving fish, boiled rice and biscuit or go onto a 'complete' diet for a week or two. Do not let biting or scratching become a habit. If it is a wet condition Ichthyol and Calamine may help, in the instance of one small area. Again dealing with it at the very start should mean it is of short duration, but wet eczema can escalate alarmingly in a very short time so a visit to the veterinary surgery is advisable. It can be quickly controlled by a cortisone injection.

Although I would stress that any skin trouble in a Keeshond is unusual there is one condition which has caused some owners worry. That is a loss of hair on the hind legs, around the neck and sometimes at the bottom of the spine. The very first sign is a ring round the dogs neck as if the collar has broken the ruff. The hair on the ruff becomes sparse and very harsh, spiky in fact, and where the hair dies the skin blackens. This is usually a hormonal condition and it is seen in several of the Spitz breeds. It is connected with a malfunction of the thyroid gland and if taken early can be cured. Very often the condition corrects itself and after as much as a year with poor trousers and ruff suddenly both grow in again and no one ever knows why. It seems an hysterectomy or a litter may put it right in a bitch and neutering sometimes puts it right in a dog. That is rather a drastic step to take over a condition which is known to right itself, and as far as breeding a litter goes it is wrong to perpetuate any fault.

A thyroid test can be taken and your own veterinary surgeon may send you to a skin specialist, but as long as it is spotted at the onset it can usually be corrected. Liquid Mirra-coat is good for helping a new coat to grow in and can be bought at good pet shops or at the shows.

## TEETH

The symptom of toothache in a dog is dribbling and hanging the head to one side, pawing at the mouth, refusing to eat and obvious discomfort which soon makes the owner realise what is wrong. Of all breeds Keeshonds have such lovely big strong teeth that they are worth taking care of. However if trouble comes only your veterinary surgeon can help. It is not a small operation for a dog to have a tooth out for the roots go right into the jawbone and if care throughout life can avoid it surely it is a duty. Sometimes a dog will break a tooth either playing with another dog or on a bone and this can ruin his show life. Also I have known a dog get a piece of bone or a stick stuck across the roof of the mouth between the teeth. If you are trying to remove this remember that you must push back before you pull to the front, as the jaw narrows to the front and you will just wedge it more tightly than ever. It is surprising how co-operative a dog will be over this for he seems to know he needs your help.

## TRAVEL SICKNESS

Nearly all Keeshonds just love travelling and once used to motoring are so car minded



that an open door is an invitation to them ! A puppy will sometimes be dribbly and restless and just a travel pill can help settle them down. Half an Avomine given a couple of hours before the journey is ideal. Never feed within two hours of a trip and take water and a bowl with you.

## WORMS

Round worm eggs can be detected in the motions of most adult dogs on clinical examination despite the fact that they show no sign of having worms. Worm eggs can pass from the dam to unborn puppies through the placental circulation and that is why nearly all puppies are born with worms already present. Early worming, five weeks at the latest, will make a marked difference if there is an infestation and the "grizzly" unthriving puppy can swiftly change once free of this condition. I prefer to worm my bitches a week or two before mating but it is safe to worm when a bitch is two weeks in whelp if necessary.

Regular worming is the rule nowadays and both round and tape worms can be dealt with quite easily. After the routine puppy worming a dose at four to six months is advised and thereafter every four months. The tablets I use, Canovel Palatable Worm Tablets, are easy to give crushed on food and do not upset the dog nor is fasting necessary. It is a wise precaution, and all helps to make your dog acceptable to people with children who may have been influenced by the stories put about by the anti-dog folk.

Despite the 1983 Government report which exonerated the dog from spreading disease, suspicion remains and for the sake of all dogs these precautions should be taken.

There is one other health hazard which most of you will find superfluous knowing our English summers but I have known five Keeshonds to die of heat stroke. A pair of young Keeshonds left in a run with no shade and found collapsed, too late for help, and three that have died in cars. The heat in a car is terrific and a dog that feels the heat as a Keeshond does, is less able to take it than any other breed. It is sheer cruelty to leave a dog in a car in warm weather even with windows open and the dog should get out when you do. The only treatment for a dog overcome by heat is immersion in cold water and obviously that is not always possible. If there is no source of water or any house nearby where it can be obtained, use whatever you have for drinking, lemonade . . . anything cold, and wet the head and back of the neck and of course keep in the shade and try to keep the dog still. Travelling on a hot day is particularly hazardous and a plastic bottle of water, placed (uncapped) in your freezer well beforehand and when frozen hard wrapped in a cold towel and packed with the rest of your gear is very useful. Or a thermos of ice cubes is another alternative. Although being with you wherever you go is the Keeshonds life, his own cool home is the best place on a sunny day and plenty of water should be left. I find on a hot day there are no Keeshonds about, they are all sleeping under rhododendrons and appear as if by magic ten minutes before feeding time! Exercise should be only either early in the morning or after sundown and even then not as much as usual. Some other Spitz, Samoyeds, Finnish Spitz etc do not seem to feel the heat nearly as much as Keeshonds and will stay in the sun for a while, but a Keeshond is quickly distressed by heat and will try to get under some cover for shade. Perhaps their dark coats do not throw off the heat as lighter colours do. Whatever the reason it must be accepted that this breed does not like the heat and cannot tolerate the amount of heat which other dogs can take in their stride.

There are many books on the subject of Health written by those with far greater knowledge and experience than mine, but this is just to drop a hint as to the steps to take over every day incidents that occur when a few Keeshonds are kept. Nothing can replace the co-operation of your veterinary surgeon and it is better for both him and you to call him too early than too late.

Let him know that you really care about your dogs and are prepared to do your best for them. Sadly many veterinary surgeons are used to the uncaring breeder who regards dogs as a means of income, taking a totally material view of expenditure per dog. The caring breeder who is

genuinely interested in both their chosen breed and the fate of the puppies they breed will generally get the special consideration they deserve.

Whenever there is any doubt about your dog's health consult your veterinary adviser.



Wearing an "Elizabethan Collar" made from a plastic bucket



## CHAPTER 10

## TRUE OR FALSE?

Every sphere of life seems to be laced with fallacies and 'old wives tales' and the dog world is no exception.

The popular belief that fresh milk can cause worms is ridiculous.

Raw meat makes a dog fierce? What nonsense this is. If you aim to own really fit dogs meat is an essential, and raw is the more natural way to feed it. An underfed or hungry dog is far more likely to exhibit ferocity and there is no basis for this old fashioned theory. Even sillier is the idea of pouring milk onto the meat to prevent him being fierce. More likely to give him indigestion which is an excuse for being fierce!

Mating a bitch early in her season gives a preponderance of bitches and late mating gives dogs? The theory here is that nature adjusts the balance and early mating suggests there are too many dogs about. Being primarily interested in bitches and being beset by litters of all, and nearly all dogs, I have tried all these ways with no sort of pattern emerging. Mating on the tenth day I had one dog pup. Mating on the eleventh I had six dog pups no bitches in either litter. More usually, mating on the twelfth to fourteenth day I have still had litters of one dog pup and many litters of four and five males to one or two females. A nice theory but it never worked for me.

**Telegony.** The transmission of features from one sire to the litter sired by another dog at another season. Fears that if a bitch is mismated with a mongrel she is ruined for life are quite unfounded. Each mating is a complete occasion on its own and there is no connection with either the previous or the future litters. In some instances, where a bitch has refused to accept a dog of her own breed, it has been known to let her run with a dog of her own choosing, even a mongrel, just to try to get her in-whelp so that next time she may be more co-operative.

Another fallacy is that if a bitch is mated whilst moulting the pups will never hold a coat and perpetually moult.

The yarn that a bitch must have one litter or she will be subject to womb trouble is another we can dispense with. My own bitches have three and occasionally four litters in their lives and some have had womb trouble and some have not. The only one that never had a litter at all also got it.

The idea that a litter will help a nervous bitch is worse than fallacious for it could well mean perpetuating a serious character flaw. Nervous stock is not suitable for breeding from at all, for temperament is of the utmost importance and should be absolutely one hundred per cent reliable in any animal that is used.

Does feeding offal cause worms? I think all offal should be cooked for more reasons than this and it is a possibility.

The theory that you must wait for colour to cease before mating a bitch is a myth. If all breeders waited there would be few litters born for it may well last the full three weeks and more.

The story that lice appear on a dog 'naturally' generated by the warmth of the fur is just to comfort the owner who would prefer to believe this than to the fact that it is from an unclean kennel.

I have been told that a dog with a golden eye is kinder than a dark eye but as our Breed Standard calls for a dark eye this does not concern us, but I have never found it to be so in any breed.

A daily saucer of tea will cure skin trouble according to some who should know better. I feel that must be luck, for some skin troubles defy far more scientific treatments.



Another misconception is that either having a litter or an hysterectomy will prevent false pregnancies or 'phantoms'. I have seen many bitches that have had families indulge in this fantasy, and also maidens and bitches that have been spayed. It is hormone controlled and a difficult condition to deal with. Your veterinary surgeon can help but the owner can do a lot to shorten the indisposition by keeping the bitch occupied and active. Plenty of exercise, a bone to chew and having her with you and not allowed to lie in her bed for hours and generally taking her mind off it. The syndrome is similar to a broody hen whose cure if you are hard hearted is dunking in a bucket of cold water, or keeping her on the move and cold rather than warm. It is all an illusion and you must dispel it. Just as you give your nursing bitch complete peace, warmth, liquid food etc, so to prevent the making of milk all the opposite tactics must be employed.

To be factual where your dog's health is concerned, to utilise the benefits of research and modern drugs as we would for ourselves, makes sense to me.



Fig.10.1 Mrs. Newbold judging. Blackpool. Nan Greenwood showing *Worthy of Wistonia* 1950's



## CHAPTER 11

## KEESHOND RESCUE

It is a sad reflection on today's society that even in a breed with relatively small numbers, like the Keeshond, a rescue service is needed.

It was back in 1976 that Sylvia Scroggs of the famous Ledwell kennel first heard of two bitches in distress. They were litter sisters that had been left in boarding kennels as their owners no longer wanted them and therefore they were offered for sale. Rather nervous and in poor condition they arrived at Ledwell and spent some weeks recuperating before being sent to a new home. They are still there and, now in their teens, are yearly visitors to Ledwell as so many rescued dogs are. This was the start of a campaign which has now re-homed over 250 Keeshonds through the years, and when one considers that the Ledwell dogs are house dogs and not kennelled, one realises what dedication this has meant.

There are many ways that a dog can come unstuck however careful the breeder may be regarding suitability of purchaser. Illness or death in a family, a child's allergy, the dog may get lost and even more frequently nowadays it is the breakdown of a marriage that is the cause.

Each case is assessed and in some cases it is possible to send the dog direct from its first home to a waiting home but that is only in cases where the dog and owners are known and there are no character faults in the dog. More often the dog goes to Ledwell where he is bathed and generally cared for to get him into the best possible condition and to see his coat is right before he goes on. This way temperament can be judged and this avoids the risk of putting a square peg into a round hole. It is no good sending a boisterous youngster to an elderly lady but the right family will love him. Sylvia has a special gift for this and the number of happy dogs and owners grows yearly. No charge is made but most owners give a donation. Funds are in good heart and are admirably administered by Doris Purdon, who with many other Keeshond Club members, comprises a remarkable relay service for transporting these unwanted. Some time ago a dog was taken by relays of caring people from the South of England right up to Scotland.

Celia Howie and other helpers have run a Bring and Buy Stall at some of our Club Shows and there are generous friends. Money is spent on veterinary fees for over sexed dogs are neutered and bitches spayed, and no papers are given with the dog. Money also goes on petrol but if Sylvia charged a farthing an hour for all the care and nursing the account would soon be in the red. It is simply her genuine concern for the dogs and a love of the breed, which goes far beyond the vanities and vagaries of the showing, that has been the motivation leading to so many dogs living happily with loving owners whereas their fate might have been so different. Waiting disconsolately in some dog's home or put to sleep because no one cared.

At a delightful out-door Exemption Show in 1981, organised by Rosemary Francis of the Swashway Keeshonds, there was a special class for 'rescued' Keeshonds. The pride of the owners was only matched by the joie de vivre expressed by the dogs, all happy, well cared for and self-confident . . . a far cry from the often neglected insecure specimens that arrive at Ledwell. Incidentally the entire profit from the Show was given to Keeshond Rescue.

We know that when a call comes from a dog's home, the police, or a distressed owner, the team go into action and a Keeshond that might have had a sad end will get all the attention he may need and eventually find himself in a new and caring home for life. In 1988 Mrs Waller ("Brykin") took over this demanding post and a new era started. Again we have a dedicated breeder who immediately sets the wheels in motion on hearing of a Keeshond in trouble. With a willing band of people who help with transport, the relay system is still in operation and dogs that might have been lost to the breed are re-homed all over the country.

If there must be displaced dogs no better way has yet been found of tackling the problem, and all who love the breed must be grateful indeed to Keeshond Rescue and its willing helpers.



## CHAPTER 12

## NURSING A SICK DOG

Veterinary surgeons give their instructions and off they go. To them it is all so simple but to a first dog owner the giving of a pill can be daunting. In fact even those who you feel will be well able to cope can be foxed by a determined Keeshond!

Pills are best pushed right down the throat with no hesitation. Open the dog's mouth with one hand, lifting the upper jaw with the lips covering his top teeth. The clever dog that returns the pill after some minutes is infuriating! Try buttering the pill, keep to dead centre of the throat and be sure to push the pill right over the back of the throat and hold the mouth closed until the dog swallows. It is a job to be undertaken by one with very short finger nails. If the tablet can be crushed into powder it can be mixed into a ball of butter which has two advantages, the dog generally likes the taste and if you push it down the throat the butter melts taking the contents down the throat. A dog can swallow the most enormous pieces of rubbish when you do not want him to, but will choke and splutter over the tiniest tablet! Too much preparation gives him time to set out to resist, so a casual approach is best. If you find you just cannot open the mouth and push the pill really well back, almost all the way down, holding the mouth shut and the head upwards and stroking the throat until he swallows, you will have to try guile!

If he is a 'sweet-tooth' dates are useful but if meat is the favourite prepare five titbits. Just small bite size pieces and if possible have another dog in the room to make him keener to gobble it up quickly. The first three undoctored bits will get him keen, then offer the piece with the pill well buried inside and as he take it offer the next undoctored piece so that he has to snatch and gobble piece four to get the next piece. It works with a greedy dog. In the case of a difficult dog who will not co-operate a second person who can hold the dog may help, but if you take the dog to the veterinary surgeon he will get it down and so you must too. Sometimes a pill may be crushed into a tasty liquid and so disguised and accepted. Liquid medicine is best given from behind the dog. Firstly measure the correct dose into a small bottle such as an aspirin bottle for otherwise it will surely be partly spilt and the correct dose reduced. Then, sitting so that the dog is beside you, preferably facing the way you are, slip a finger into one side of his mouth pulling the lip away to form a pocket and slowly pour the dose into the pocket, not down the throat. Give him time to swallow keeping the nose pointing up, before you let go. Again difficult dogs need different ways and may need to be put on a table and held and then you can work from the front, but if a casual friendly approach can be made it avoids the very sight of the medicine bottle setting up a defiant attitude.

If you are given ear drops to be used so many times a day, you must remember to hold the ear forward as when the ear is back the passages are closed so the drops cannot enter. Any grease can be cleaned from the hair outside the ear with surgical spirit, otherwise it attracts dirt.

If you are told to put a boot on an injured foot it is best made from a new chamois leather and fixed on with Scotch Tape.

An 'Elizabethan' collar to prevent scratching or biting an injury can be made from a small plastic bucket. remove the base and cut a slit from top to bottom. Fit base round the neck and lace the side. Even better you can buy one ready made

Should you have to tape a dog's mouth an old nylon stocking is soft and strong. Start under the chin, bring up and cross over the nose, under the chin once more and cross and tie back behind the head.

Sometimes a coat is ordered, just as a protection against the dog taking out stitches after an operation, or to cover a 'hot-spot' on the skin which he is worrying. It should be thin and clean and can be made from the back of an old shirt. The material should reach from the back of the



neck to the root of the tail and be wide enough to enclose the whole body. Two slits should be made about six inches apart for the front legs to go through, and tapes added to the sides which can then be drawn up and tied along the back. Very rarely, a warm coat is needed, in which case the same design is suitable but an old woolly should be used for the material. Sometimes a child's sweater with neck and armholes cut out and a pleat down the centre front will do nicely without too much alteration. I have never had to use a coat on a Keeshond and when trying to keep a sick dog warm by covering it with a light blanket, the first sign of improvement is when they turn and pull it off! A warm room is far better when possible.

One of the most difficult instructions is to keep the patient still and unexercised as any dog that is capable of moving wants to do so. I sometimes think the veterinary profession must be the most tolerant in the world for it must be maddening to have the answer 'I can't' when asked to give pills, keep quiet, apply eyedrops etc. There are easy dogs and difficult ones but first of all win the dog's confidence and then approach the matter in a firm but tactful manner, not making too much of an issue of it. With the innovation of crates it is possible to control the activities to a great extent and a hard heart will mean a quicker cure. Taken out so many times a day, on a lead, and then closed in again will really rest a limb and once the cure is effected and normality resumed it will not take long to get condition back again. Rest can cure many minor lame conditions and these crates ensure the minimum of movement. It is no good crating for 23 hours followed by 30 minutes racing around. Complete control for 2 weeks can provide a magical cure in some cases. If a chew or some treat is given only in the crate it will become a treat to go in! Many dogs use them as beds and with the door left open under normal circumstances they are a most useful piece of equipment. For any administration, if the dog is in a corner he cannot back away. Although there should be no dithering and firmness is vital, lots of praise and petting can help too for it makes for a more relaxed patient. Keeshonds are not malingerers and are quick to recover so may have to be restrained from over-doing exercises after any illness.

Post operative care is simple nowadays and cleanliness, warmth and strict adherence to any instructions from whoever performed the operation is vital. The most usual major operation is an hysterectomy and it is generally only a one day visit to the surgery that is involved. Any lifting which has to be done should be in the same manner as for an in-whelp bitch, with one arm across the chest in front of the forelegs and the other arm under the back legs so that the dog is virtually sitting on one arm and supported in front by the other with no pressure on the abdomen. Complete quiet is the rule and no barking or trying to jump on chairs or go upstairs should be allowed. Any of these activities can cause stitches to break down and even worse, so it pays to be uncompromising about this and again a crate is very useful. If the dog is lying at floor level check the room temperature down there rather than at your own height as it may be very much colder. A warm room with some fresh air and no distractions for the first three days makes for a quick recovery.

The dog may be very thirsty but only two or three tablespoons of boiled water with the addition of a little glucose or honey should be given every two hours. If the dog is lying on its side it must be turned over to lie with paws in front, on its brisket, like a Trafalgar Square lion, before it eats or drinks to avoid anything going down the wrong way. Liquid could get into the lung and then the complication of pneumonia could occur. Liquid food only for the first twenty-four hours can be followed, providing the dog is thriving, by three small feeds in the next twenty-four hours, but they should be no more than a saucerful; first a milk feed, then white meat minced or rabbit is ideal. Barley water can be given and most Keeshonds will, from the very start, go outside when they need to, so be sure to see they have access. If there are discharges they are more easily spotted if the bed is covered with an old pillowslip or, some very light coloured smooth cloth and reported to the veterinary surgeon. If you are checking the temperature write it down. By the fifth day you should have a dog keen to be active again, and once the stitches are removed at about eight to ten days all is back to normal.

The recovery is far quicker than after an illness when convalescence can be slow, especially

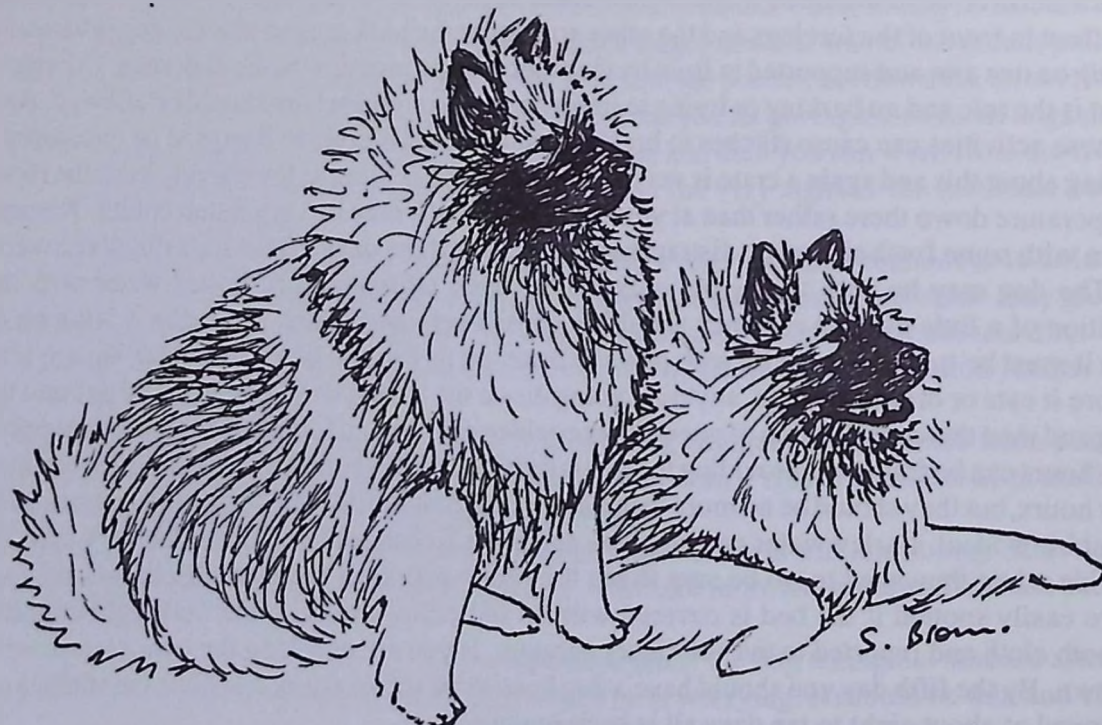


after a viral infection. In these cases return to normal should be gradual with periods of rest every day and a careful diet. Whenever anti-biotics are used some yoghurt should be included in the diet. The greatest aid to recovery is the Keeshonds own attitude to indisposition which shrugs it off and lets their excellent recuperative powers restore them to health. Refusal to eat can become a habit and the acceptance of food can be a turning point for recovery. If even rabbit fails to excite any interest a teaspoonful of Brands Essence (Beef flavoured) can be spooned into the side of the mouth every three hours. In the days before there was a vaccination against hard-pad my Ch Rapunzel succumbed to this most dreaded disease at four months of age. After ten weeks of night and day nursing plus all the veterinary help available at that time just nothing could tempt her to eat. A long way from shops we eventually got a jar of Brands Essence. I propped her up and tried to spoon a little into her mouth. At first she turned her head away showing me that once again I was offering her absolute poison! Then, quite suddenly a small tongue came out, passing the hand holding the spoon and going directly into the jar of Essence! From that day on she made steady progress gradually overcoming the nervous symptoms and growing to normal size and weight. How lucky we are that there is now a way of avoiding this horrible disease.

Once food is accepted a lightly poached egg can be mashed up as one meal, chicken, rabbit and of course liquid food with the addition of honey or glucose are light and nourishing. Some dogs are not happy to take milk so unless it is in the dog's usual diet dilute it with boiled water or barley water. Everything here is, of course, subject to your veterinary surgeon's approval and notes should be made of any advice so that it is not overlooked.

Fluids are particularly important during the fever period when the dog has a high temperature for dehydration is a problem and should it occur to any extent the dog would have to go on a drip which would mean being at the surgery.

Although any illness is traumatic and the nursing can be tiring and disruptive the reward of seeing the animal getting back to normal is enormous. One word of warning. The dog you nurse successfully will more than repay you and you will find that your invalid becomes the very special dog of your life.





## CHAPTER 13

## KEESHOND AT WORK

Although every work ever written about the Keeshond states his special propensity for companionship and guarding he has other talents.

Mrs Wingfield Digby describes how Falsterbo van Zaandam would track a fox indefinitely. Also how *Duris van Zaandam* could tell the difference between a sea trout and a salmon when out fishing! The German police tried using the Keeshond for their work but found them a little too independent. Rather than instantly obeying an order they will sometimes think of a better way of tackling the problem! This is very typical but not a trait for a police dog.

In 1938 Capt. Liakhoff of the Wallasey Guide Dog Centre trained a Keeshond as a Guide Dog for the Blind. She was *Guelder Aga*, bred by Mrs Gatacre, sired by *Dietz von der Grafschaft Mors* and Capt. Liakhoff described her as a most apt and willing pupil, anxious to learn and with a disposition admirably suited to her task. Many Keeshonds are very successfully trained for obedience work, notably in the United States of America.

The Keeshond's guarding and house dog qualities are so instinctive that they can hardly be called work as it is so natural to him and has always been his place in society. Some have been trained to retrieve but this is not easy with any of the Spitz tribe. The most successful story of a Keeshond proving his worth was in Sweden. In 1975 Mrs Inger Ahlberg had a puppy called Teddy. Sired by Nordic, Ch. *Waakzaam Wrestor* bred by Gullic Olsson. He was sold to an elderly lady who found him too lively and boisterous for her. Completely untrained he was returned to the Torparflickan Kennel where Mrs Ahlberg, noticing *Teddy's* intelligence and quick response, thought he might be trainable as a Guide Dog given the right person to undertake the training. Fortunately Mr Urban Domeij (who likes a challenge) declared himself willing to try to train *Teddy* with the help of an instructor from The Guide Dog Training School of Tleader Norway. This took six months and it was not until March 1977 that *Teddy* joined Boris Lamby and so changed both their lives. By now *Teddy* was 14 months old and there was an immediate rapport with his new owner who lives in a village with about a hundred separate households, in the centre of Stockholm. Soon *Teddy* knew every house and every port of call. Walks in the woods and visits to friends, independent of human guidance, gave Boris Lamby the freedom which blindness had taken from him. A new life opened up for him and a great deal of his time went into visiting schools and other institutions demonstrating *Teddy's* skill. The Keeshond's lively temperament and quick thinking were put to the best possible use and a wonderful relationship between dog and master was achieved.

Sadly there is a tragic end to the story for in February 1984 the dreaded disease cancer, which claims so many dogs, took *Teddy* leaving a most impossible gap. The first thoughts of Boris and Kerstin Lamby were that, as no dog could ever take *Teddy's* place, they would never have another. It took only two weeks for them to realize that they were depriving themselves of so much, that life was not worth living. At that time another breeder, Pia Anrep-Nordin, had a litter whose father went back to *Teddy's* line and a new Keeshond entered their home. He is a fine youngster and again his temperament suggests a trainability and intelligence which may result in future co-operation when he is old enough to train.

The loss of *Teddy* was described by his owner, who first lost his sight in 1963 as, "like going blind a second time" so it is hoped the new boy proves a good scholar.

Incidentally, as well as his uses *Teddy* was a good Keeshond for he won under an English judge at one of Sweden's biggest shows.

Speaking of "working dogs" suggests guide dogs or sheep herders but Mrs Sue Okeys' three Gavimir dogs have brought a new meaning to the phrase.

These three typical winning Keeshonds have very special skills and are in constant demand.





Fig. 13.1 Sue Okey with her well known team. *Manda* (*Gavimir Hosta*) her daughter *Megan* (*Gavimir Rosamunda*) and *Great Uncle Jan* (*Gavimir Sambur*)





Fig. 13.2 Megan with Chris Price. Chris broke his neck in a driving accident and was left chair-bound with little use in his arms. When Manda entered his life she gave him great joy and her gentleness meant he could take her for "walks" in his wheelchair. Every now and then she would "hitch a lift" bringing an element of fun into a sadly restricted life. Chris died recently and Sue and Megan attended the funeral.



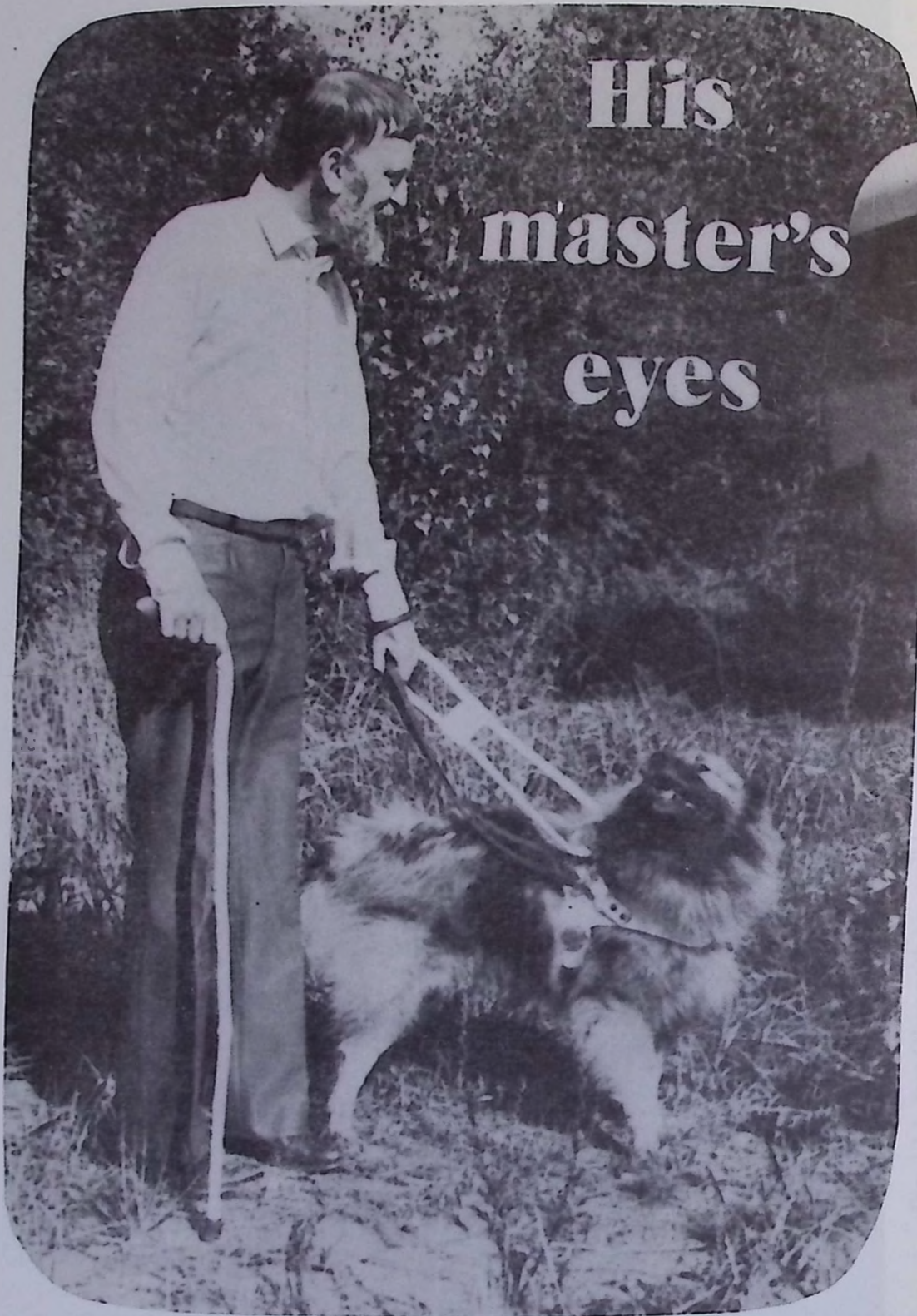


Fig 13.3 Boris Lamby with *Teddy*. The first trained Guide Dog for the Blind in Sweden.



the training. Fortunately Mr Urban Domeij (who likes a challenge) declared himself willing to try to train *Teddy* with the help of an instructor from The Guide Dog Training School of Tleader. The leader is *Great Uncle Jan*, at ten and a half years of age, a strong happy-go-lucky character with an inclination to make himself heard at times as well as seen! Then there is *Manda*, six years old and her two year old daughter *Megan*, both kind and more gentle by nature making them excellent company for anyone who is a little nervous of dogs or for the very young.

All three are registered working dogs with PAT, Pro-dogs Active Therapy. As a team they offer friendship to both young and old, visiting homes for the elderly and those invalids who can no longer keep a pet of their own but value the companionship and affection a dog can give. During the week they attend Bournemouth and Poole College of Further Education where they become demonstration models and "canine guinea pigs" for animal care students who learn handling, restraint, bandaging, grooming and other related skills as part of their course. Other college duties for the team may include the occasional careers convention and working with visiting veterinary surgeons. Being an Obedience instructor Sue uses them as a demonstration team, an occupation for which Jan shows a natural talent. Sue also has a "mobile zoo" which houses everything from snakes to rabbits and the dogs go too, when she is visiting various schools, play groups, Beaver, Cub and Brownie packs. These youngsters are taught general pet care and to appreciate the responsibility that pet owning entails. The latter has led to the District Council requesting the help of the team in publicising their local "clean up" campaign. This is child's play to them for they have worked with the press, television and had Roadshow and radio slots, all taken in their stride. Sue never forgets that when all three are curled up by her bed at night they are her companions and guardians and most of all her very best friends.



Fig 13.4 Boris Lamby with *Teddy*.



## CHAPTER 14

## THE STORY OF ANDY AND FERDIE

as told by Mrs Wingfield Digby in *My Life with Keeshonden*

In 1940, during World War II, two dogs were placed in boarding kennels at Dover by their owner, a serving Officer, who, presumably, was under orders for service overseas and of whom nothing more was heard.

When the Germans brought their long range guns to the French Coast to bombard the South East of England, one of the shells wrecked the kennels. The two Keeshonden escaped unhurt, but one can well imagine their terror and distress. However, by instinct they made their way together to London to their old home. On arrival there, the two very tired and footsore dogs went to the Masters flat and realising that not he, but strangers, were living there, they went away, despite the efforts of the porter, who recognised them and tried to catch them.

They made their way to a flat in another building to which they had often been taken by their Master, and again, the same disappointment . . . there were strangers in possession. Again they eluded the efforts of the porter to catch them and they ran off. So they roamed the streets, then an air-raid began and the terrified dogs, seeing an open doorway limped up the steps into the house where Lady Waechter, their rescuer, was watching, as she always did during air-raids, for any frightened animal that might seek shelter. Slowly the dogs made towards her and with that characteristic gesture that we all know and love in our Keeshonden, lifted and held up a paw. Lady Waechter realised their plight, seeing them footsore, dirty, starving and exhausted. She cared for them, comforted and fed them and put them to rest in a room at the back of the house. This was partially wrecked by a bomb in another air raid and Lady Waechter felt she must get them away from the constant raids upon London. She advertised for a home in the country for two lost dogs and was answered by Mrs Fry of the Isle of Wight who offered to take them. So the sad story of Andy and Ferdie ended happily for Mr and Mrs Fry devoted themselves to the dogs and gradually restored them to health and confidence and they lived the rest of their lives happy and beloved, and they, on their part, became devoted to their new owners, who had given them a feeling of security so necessary for a dog.

When the dogs came to Lady Waechter, Andy was wearing a collar with a disc upon which was engraved a name and an address in Dover (a memento which Mrs Fry treasured); upon this slender clue Lady Waechter set about trying to trace the owner of the dogs. It occurred to her that the name might be that of an Army Officer and might be on the list of customers of the Army and Navy Stores, and on enquiry there found that to be the case. Having the address of the flat at which he had lived, she was able to get the story of the appearance of the dogs there from the porter and that led her to the other flat to which they had gone. She was also enabled to contact a friend of the owner who had seen and recognised the dogs but who had not been, at the time, in a position to take them in. But Lady Waechter was never able to make contact with any member of the owner's family, so the pedigree of the dogs was never discovered. Some years after the death of Andy and Ferdie, Mrs Fry unexpectedly came upon another piece of their story which she thus relates.

"I was visiting a Keeshond owner in Portsmouth, not before known to me, when a man called to see him. I was introduced as a Keeshond owner and the visitor related the following incident, not knowing anything of Andy and Ferdinand or my connection with them. In 1940 he and his wife were in charge of greyhound kennels at Bexley Heath on the Dover road not far from London. One day his wife called his attention to 'two grey dogs' roaming among some half built houses opposite. They enticed them indoors, fed them and then took them to the Police Station. The wife kept talking about these lovely dogs and they decided to go next day to the Police





Fig 14.1 *Andy* and *Ferdie*.



Fig. 14.2 The author wearing Keeshond wool coat. *Ruffino of Rhinevale* and 6 week old bitch puppy.





Fig 14.3 Mrs. Fry with her Keeshonds, wearing a coat and hat made with wool provided by the dogs and spun by her, and a friend with a Pyrenean Mountain dog, who is wearing a coat and hat provided by the dogs and again, spun by Mrs. Fry.



Fig 14.4 Mrs. Luckhurst (Gavimir) spinning Keeshond hair with a bitch and litter looking on.



Station and bring them home. 'Alas' said the policeman 'We opened the kennel this morning and, like a flash they went and we have not seen them since'. This was just what Andy and Ferdi did so many times in the first year we had them... no warning, just whoosh! and two grey streaks in the distance. It could have been no other dogs. This man, whose name I never knew, was so pleased to be able to tell his wife what eventually happened to the dogs they had so often talked about".

But this is not the end of the story for it was the beginning of a world-wide circle of friends for Mrs Fry. During the war, wool for knitting was scarce, costly, and in great demand. Seeing the enormous bundles of combings spurred Mrs Fry on to attempt to spin it and her success became so great that, with demonstrations and later a television appearance, news of the breed spread rapidly.

When Mrs Fry discovered that the coats of her first two Keeshonds, the famous wanderers Andy and Ferdie, could be spun into lovely thick warm wool, her quiet life as a small town housewife was completely changed. In no time her skill became well known and series of demonstrations to Women's Institutes, Professional Women's Clubs and many other bodies followed. Not only local papers but the Nationals heard of this unique use for dog hair, and Mrs Fry and her own Keeshonds were featured in many ways including a daily 'strip cartoon' in the *Daily Mirror*. Wireless and Television sought her out and she did a lot to help popularise the breed at a time when it was little known. With her hand spinning wheel she was able to produce an ounce of wool in an hour but her husband, to whom she was devoted, spent many hours inventing and developing an electric wheel with which the output increased to ten ounces an hour. This was just as well for parcels of wool were arriving at her home from all over the world and by 1971 she was working on her second ton of wool and subsequently this extended to over 2 tons. Some other breeds produced suitable hair but it was Keeshond wool primarily which was her mainstay. The wool is spun from the combings of the thick creamy undercoat and the natural cream and oatmeal colours need no dyeing. As well as being very warm the wool is wet resistant, and so, ideal for gloves. The combings, which should not be allowed to get too dry and hot are sent to the spinner who cleans and spins it, returning it in hanks ready for winding and knitting. Happily there are still people in the breed with this skill, and several enthusiasts have acquired spinning wheels and take a pride in wearing coats which match their dogs. One moult in a grown dog can give sufficient wool for a sweater. I have seen bedside mats made from a thick ply, and finer plys are used for berets and jackets. During the War a Keeshond breeder who's son was in a prisoner of war camp knitted and sent him a very large Keeshond wool jersey. She was told that it was used by each prisoner at various times, whoever was in need, had a cold, or worse, was given this comforter and she and her dogs were very truly blessed! An elderly bull terrier friend has a coat made from my dogs and is delightfully snug and warm in it. It is interesting that every dog and every spinner seems to produce a slightly different wool, some finer and darker than, others. In most the pale creamy colour with a little grey in it predominates and as it can be brushed up like Angora wool the effect is soft and pretty. Despite this, it is remarkably tough, lasting well over ten years and withstanding numerous trouncings in a washing machine. It is like wearing a fur coat.

Even without spinning a handful of undercoat pushed into a gumboot instead of a sock is luxury indeed!

When used for weaving cloth, other wools and colours can be introduced and the variations are endless. It is like a soft tweed and most attractive.

So here you have a dog you can match and the enterprising Keeshond owning needlewoman has limitless scope for her imagination.



## CHAPTER 15

## THE CARE OF OLD FRIENDS

Despite their Peter Pan attitude towards life it is only natural that the years tell in one way or another. To maintain a really good standard of health right into the teens is a challenge to any conscientious owner.

From about ten years of age the consumption of red meat should be reduced to ease the strain on the kidneys. Three or four days a week white meat, fish or one of the whole dog foods well soaked can be given. The addition of finely chopped parsley to the main meal is excellent for an "oldie" and it is one of the richest natural sources of iron. A rabbit stew with vegetables is very much enjoyed, and easy on the digestion. The occasional tin of Puppy Food makes a change to keep meals a time of enjoyment. Some old dogs get very greedy as other interests fade and it may be wise to reduce the bulk of the meal and give a hard biscuit or rusk occasionally to allay the obvious pangs of starvation which they are so good at demonstrating when they feel it is to their advantage. After all a little spoiling at this time of life can do no harm and is rather nice for both dog and owner. As always with Keeshonds they are so individual that what works with one dog will prove totally unsatisfactory with another and although several small snacks a day kept many of my old ones content it did not work with *Ch Robinella*. Her attitude to a small meal was 'Well, that was the hors d'oeuvre now where is the proper dinner?' and she would not settle without a good bulky meal so one must adjust to each dog. After twelve years two small meals rather than one make digestion easier and all water should be boiled in hard water districts. A daily drink of milk or milk and barley water is good and very much appreciated at breakfast time. It makes getting up worthwhile.

Exercise is important and should be kept up as long as possible. Two short walks a day are ideal and make for good routine. In warm weather these should be taken early in the morning and after sunset for heat is trying for them. They cannot stand the heat of being shut in a car and I have heard of three old Keeshonds dying through this. A sad way to end a long friendship. Older dogs need calcium in their diet and some Vitamins, so a good daily supplement is useful. When very old it is essential to try to keep to routine as changes seem to upset them disproportionately.

There is help available from your veterinary surgeon and a yearly check up is worthwhile. There is a course of injections that can be of tremendous help so seek advice when you feel your dog is failing. Hearts can weaken but the heart is a very treatable organ and many Keeshonds live long happy lives with a daily 'heart pill'.

Grooming should not be neglected for both the dog's comfort and your pleasure in him. Some people cut the coat right down in a very hot spell and this helps and seems to have little effect on the subsequent growth. Sometimes an old dog will strongly object to being brushed and I wonder if his bones have got sensitive or if there is some other reason but whatever it may be this is not the time to make an issue of it. Far better to use a soft brush if and when you can, and just use scissors to cut out any tangles that appear.

Old dogs should never be expected to put up with the exuberance and rough play of young puppies and a place of their own, which is never violated, is a small token of respect they have earned.

The teeth should really be watched and claws may need clipping with less exercise being taken. A big safe beef bone is a great joy to any dog and gives hours of pleasure .... surely it is the equivalent of our library book!

A really old dog will sleep for over twenty of the twenty-four hours a day so the comfiest possible bed and lots of attention during the waking hours are the main stepping stones to contentment.





Fig. 15.1 Mrs F.J.B. Wingfield Digby – Three Champions and their Youngsters in July 1939



Lots of affection and that little extra tolerance allowing for a slower response, holding the door open a little longer for him to get through, giving time for lots of sniffing, to get the local news on the daily walks and letting him know that he is still important to you are all he will require for a happy old age and for you to be able to say Goodbye with no remorse.

Now and then one hears of old dogs dying in their sleep and what a lovely end to a long friendship this must be. Sadly it is far more usual for the owner to have to make the decision that the time has come for the final parting. If a dog is in pain and there is little hope of cure it is easy to decide. If a progressive disease has taken over it is accepted that time is limited and that the end is near. Far harder is it when an old dog just gets quiet and low spirited and there is no obvious reason but one is left wondering if there is some deeper cause. Old dogs sleep for twenty three out of twenty four hours, waking for meals and a trot round their own garden and accepting affection which they know is there. They do not want to be pestered by other dogs, nor do they need to be taken out. This of course refers to the very old dog of sixteen or so and up till then they may well show you that they want to take more exercise which is good for them.

After twelve years of age it must be played by ear giving the dog whatever life he wishes to live. Once all pleasures are gone, or in the case of any suffering, it is cowardly to evade the issue. Dogs are entitled to live out their lives only when life is worth living. Once you have reached the decision that you must intervene ring your veterinary surgeon and arrange for him to call rather than taking the dog to the surgery. Modern methods have made euthanasia painless and not distressing for the owner. Stay with your dog for the injection he is given will merely put him to sleep as if for an operation as far as you are concerned. Let him go in his own home with his own people around him. There are more and more pet Crematoriums opening if you do not want to bury him in your own garden. Your veterinary surgeon will advise you. Despite the hurt and loss you will know you have completed your duty to the best of your ability and in time the happier memories will take over. Their lives are shorter than ours and this is an inevitable situation during a lifetime of dog owning. The pleasure is certainly well worth the price.





## CHAPTER 16

## YOUR FIRST SHOW

## ELIGIBILITY AND TYPES OF SHOW

Puppies of less than six months of age cannot be shown at any show under Kennel Club rules, but there are often local Exemption Shows in the summer where you may like to try your luck for a start. In lots of ways wins here are very difficult as separate breeds are not classed and huge numbers of all ages and sizes go into the ring together so it is good training. The risk of infection is high so be sure you have not only had all the necessary shots but also allowed time for them to be effective.

There are also **Sanction Shows**, but Keeshonds are only given classes at **Open** and **Championship Shows**. The former mean what they say Open to all, Champions included. The latter are the most important of our shows being not only Open to Champions but also the only show at which you can make your dog a Champion. The best of each sex at a Championship Show will receive a Challenge Certificate (CC) and three of these from three different Judges are required to claim the title of Champion. When these Shows class your breed there is a judge who knows the breed and the dog which becomes Best of Breed, beating all the other entrants in breed classes, goes into the final gathering where each Best of Breed competes for the prestigious win of Best of Group and Group Winners compete for Best in Show.

The groups are divided into six sections **Working, Toys, Hounds, Gundogs, Terriers and Utility** to which the Keeshond belongs. The winner of each Breed enters the appropriate group and the winner of each Group contends for Best in Show. Prize money, if any, is negligible and entries are costly, as is the journey to the show and all accompanying extravagances. Nevertheless, if you really enjoy the dogs, and the whole bustling atmosphere, there is nothing like it and a day immersed in the interest and excitement of a big show is as good as a weeks holiday! As well as First, Second, Third, Reserve and Very Highly Commended you can score points towards the Annual Cups which both the Keeshond Club and the North of England Keeshond Club have on offer to their members. It is also possible to win a Junior Warrant by scoring twenty five points whilst under eighteen months of age. In this a First Prize in breed classes only, gains three points at Championship Shows, and one at an Open Show. It is not an easy win especially at certain times of the year. Your dog has to be the right age and in the right coat at the time there are a number of shows that put our breed on their schedule. Study the choice of classes to enter carefully; **Minor Puppy, Puppy, Novice, Special Beginners** are easier for a new exhibit than **Junior** which may have many seasoned showers with CC's, Junior Warrants, etc, behind them. Show records should be kept.

For the show itself you will need to have your dog looking at its very best so the day before a wash over the feet and legs and tail and trousers makes the cream parts of the coat bright and fresh. The body coat, which should not be dirty, will just need a good grooming using one of the powder cleaners to bring up the contrast between the dark and light hair. If this is all done at home all you will need at the show itself is a final brush up, a damp cloth to be sure paws look smart, a touch of Vaseline on the black claws to make them shine and you should have a Keeshond of which you can be proud.

There is always a lot to carry with water, dish, towels, as well as grooming gear. A short benching chain is essential at benched shows and it should not be long enough to allow the dog to jump off his bench, nor should it ever be attached to a choke collar. A rug to line the bench in cold weather and newspaper or an old towel in the summer and with your 'ring bait' and even a flask of coffee for yourself you soon feel like a pack-horse!



Plan to arrive early as finding your bench and then locating your ring all take far longer than you think they will. Your ring number will correspond with your bench number. At the big shows it is possible to buy a dinner for your dog which saves some carrying and although refreshments are usually available, remember it would mean leaving your dog alone on a bench so personally I prefer to take something with me. Comfortable shoes and wet weather gear are a necessity, especially at the open air summer shows.

Each ring has two Stewards allocated to assist the judge by marshalling the entries for each class and placing the winners of any previous class in their correct order.

You will find the Stewards are very helpful but once the judging has commenced they are too busy to help those outside the ring. Talking in the ring is unmannerly. If you are really early you may be able to trot your dog round an empty ring thus getting him used to it and as most judges start each class by sending the exhibits round he will have had a practice run. Walk with the dog on the inside, usually your left hand. When you are judged individually you will be asked to walk up the ring away from the judge and then back straight towards him. You may be asked to describe a triangle, so that the judge also sees the side view of your dog in action and again always keep the dog the judge's side of you.

Moving tidily and returning to your correct place in the "line up" gives a far better impression than wandering in the ring. Do not let yourself be pushed out of line and should you be amongst the winners you should stand accordingly in the next class you have entered.

The judge will ask your dog's age if it is a puppy and this must be given accurately with months plus weeks. You will also be asked to show your dog's mouth and the judge does not want you to open the mouth, but to draw up the lips and let him see the 'bite' which you will have practised at ring training or at home. Some judges handle the dog's mouth themselves which is quick and easier for a new exhibitor but in the interests of hygiene and with the constant risk of infection it pays to have the knack of doing it yourself swiftly and neatly.

It is now that your Ring Training Classes will prove worthwhile and the home training, such as finding the right pace to move your dog at his best, will pay off.

### CHALLENGE CERTIFICATES (CCs)

In 1983 there were twenty-six sets of Challenge Certificates on offer for Keeshonds. The next most prestigious win after the CC is the Reserve CC but that does not count towards the coveted title. A judge is entitled to withhold the CC if the top winning specimen does not, in the judge's opinion, come up to the *Standard* required but this rarely happens. The CC is signed by the judge as 'being worthy of the title' so if a judge honestly thinks the specimen is good enough to be Best of Breed, but still not good enough to hold a title in the breed it is right to withhold. Any award can be withheld and as there is a qualifier for Crufts now, it may be necessary to do so in some cases. A dog must have won a first at a Championship Show in certain classes to be allowed to enter Crufts and as the classes may be altered each year it is advisable to check with the Kennel Club.

Your dog's deportment is vitally important and a dog that shows really well and puts his personality over is half way to winning. If your puppy is a really steady 'shower' you may like to go in for one of the Puppy Stakes' classes which attract enormous entries and are open to all breeds. It is a case of standing in the ring for a very long time but, as in breed classes, your dog can be allowed to relax at various times. After personal examination, and while the rest of the class are being moved, let the puppy relax, but be watching and as soon as the last one is being moved gather him together, a taste of whatever 'goodie' you are using for bait will get his attention and bring him back to the position you have taught him to adopt for show. During show training it helps to stand outside a french window where you see your reflection, so you will see



what the judge will see as you stand in the ring. This way faults can be corrected before they become irreversible habits.

Marking your catalogue throughout the show, and keeping it, can be useful as it will give you an idea of the lines that are winning and after several shows with several different judges' opinions you will see which dogs are good enough to please all judges. All-rounder's opinions sometimes differ from those expressed by 'specialist' judges who, although obviously knowing more about the breed, may be more prejudiced having distinct preference for one particular type with disregard for other features. There is no doubt that a breed needs both opinions and the all-rounder will pick a sound, well balanced dog, usually a good mover, even if there may be small faults which we, as breeders are seeing only too clearly. Therefore a collection of marked catalogues can be revealing.

After showing, your dog will be tired and is best kept to his own bench until the trek home starts. If you have been lucky and won a card you will be looking forward to the next show. If you have not it does not mean that the next show will be the same. Many men, many minds, and 'the dog on the day' are both very true and I would suggest that at least three shows should be tried before deciding you have a non-show specimen. Even then an ugly duckling can grow into a swan so ask the opinion of one or two experienced breeders at the show before giving up. Help in this breed is always available and newcomers are made very welcome.

On returning from any show everything you have worn and any towels or show bags may carry some infection and should be thoroughly cleaned and left out of doors in the air for as long as possible before being used where there are other dogs. In the case of returning to uninoculated puppies this is especially important and shoes worn to shows should be swabbed with disinfectant and never worn in the puppy run. Many owners ask all visitors to walk through shallow trays of disinfectant at the entrance to the kennels and although this may be out-of-date since there are so many forms of immunization it is a precaution we can so easily take.

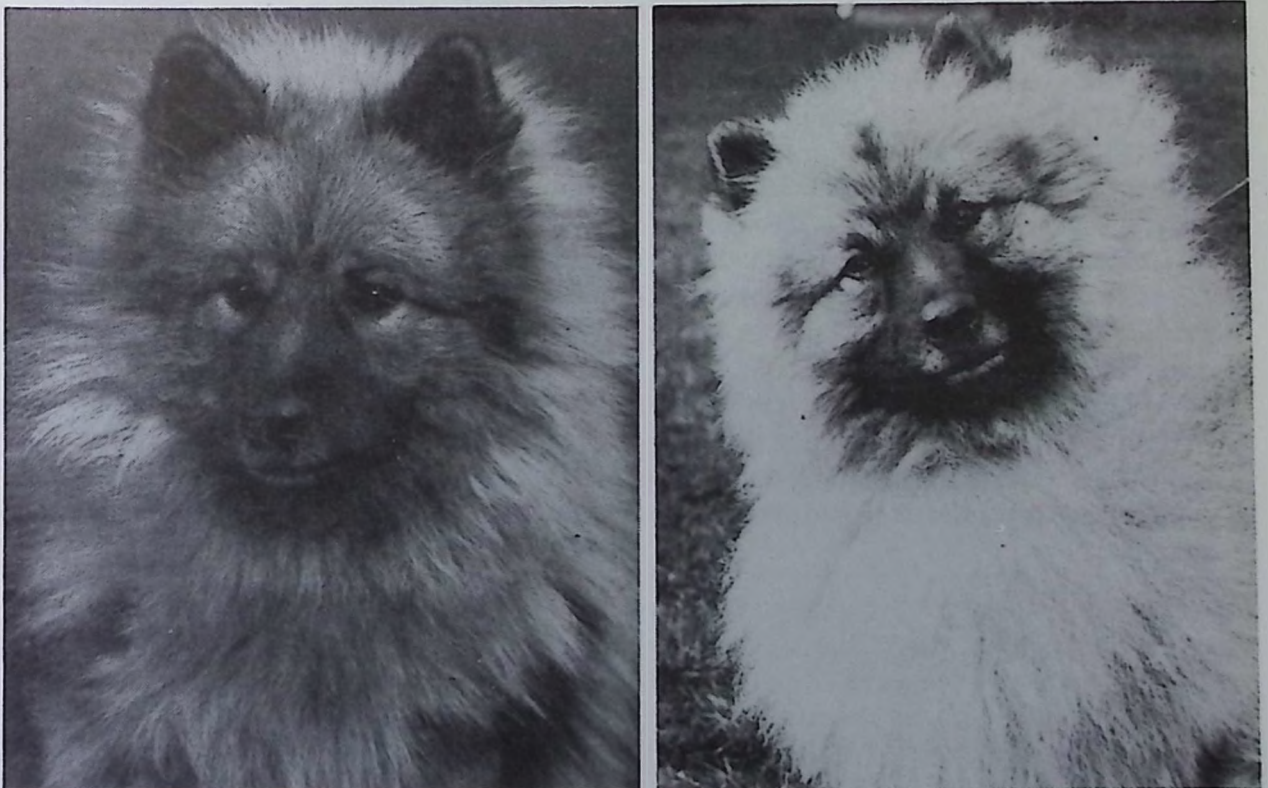


Fig. 16.1 Dog and Bitch – both Juniors

**CHAPTER 17**  
**BREED STANDARD AS ADOPTED**  
**BY THE KEESHOND CLUB IN 1986**

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** Short, compact body, confident carriage. Foxlike head with small, pointed ears, alert expression, large ruff, well feathered tail curled over back

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Sturdy, intelligent and adaptable, ideal companion, good guard, shows boldly.

**TEMPERAMENT:** Bold, alert, friendly with marked guarding tendency.

**HEAD AND SKULL:** Well proportioned, wedge shaped when seen from above; from side showing definite stop. Dark muzzle equal to length of flat skull. Neither coarse nor snipey. Nose black.

**EYES:** Dark, medium size, almond shaped, obliquely set. Well defined 'spectacles' shown as a delicately pencilled black line slanting from outer corner of eye to lower corner of ear, coupled with distinct markings and shadings forming expressive short eyebrows.

**EARS:** Dark, small, ivy-leaved in shape. Erect, velvety texture. Well set on head, neither too wide nor meeting.

**MOUTH:** Jaws strong, with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaws. Lips black.

**NECK:** Moderately long and arched, covered with thick, profuse coat forming large ruff.

**FOREQUARTERS:** Shoulders well sloped. Straight front of medium width with good bone.

**BODY:** Short, compact; length from withers to tail equal to height at withers, well sprung in rib. Good depth of brisket.

**FEET:** Well padded, round, cat-like, tight, cream in colour; black nails.

**TAIL:** Moderately long, high set. tightly curled over back, double curl highly desirable. Light plume on top where curled, with black tip, carried closely at all times.

**GAIT/MOVEMENT:** Clean, brisk, straight and sharp.

**COAT:** Harsh, off standing, straight. Dense ruff, well feathered on forelegs and profuse trousers, not feathered below hock. Soft, thick light-coloured (not tawny) undercoat. Never silky, wavy or woolly, nor forming a parting on back.

**COLOUR:** A mixture of grey and black. Undercoat very pale grey or cream (not tawny). All shades of grey acceptable, body hairs black tipped. Shoulder markings well defined and all markings definite. Forelegs and hock cream with no black below wrist or hock. Pencilling accepted.

**SIZE:** Ideal height: Dogs 45.7cm (18ins). Bitches 43.2cm (17ins).

**FAULTS:** Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

**NOTE:** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.



## A DEEPER LOOK AT THE STANDARD AS AT 1986

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** I wonder if this section was given to an artist, who had never seen a Keeshond, just what he would draw? The point that does get across is that compactness and alertness are essentially part of the Keeshond. However it does suggest a stocky, well-built workmanlike dog. The attractive and wholly individual marking, which is a great deal of the breed's charm, is not referred to here but it is one of the first things one notices. The general appearance can be made or marred by this, for lack of marking is immediately apparent and an all grey or smudgily marked one is unattractive and untypical. A bold, smart, showy dog with black grey and cream all showing up clearly is what we hope to see. In General Appearance the outline is all important and a good Kees is more heavily built in the front than the back, for the huge ruff and deep chest make for an impressive front end. The hind-quarters are neat and the tail should fit snugly over the back being a part of the whole and not a separate appendage. The whole should fit into the outline of an egg with the head in the larger end and the tail in the pointed end. The slope down from withers to tail accentuates this and it is a feature easily lost. A close-knit tidy dog with plenty of self assurance and a good presence is the ideal.

**HEAD:** Here a great deal is left unsaid. Well proportioned to the body presumably means in correct balance but wedge shape leaves us plenty of room for variation for the dictionary definition of 'wedge' merely says 'Thick at one end and sloping to a thin edge at the other!' It does however indicate that the line at the side of the head should be smooth and not with sudden widening or rounded cheeks as in some Spitz breeds. A definite stop is important and lack of stop is unsightly giving a wolflike look. Apple-headed, which means too rounded a skull, often rising rather suddenly after the stop, is also undesirable. The muzzle should be in balance with head and snipecyness is more often seen than a coarse muzzle, especially in bitches. A very slightly squared, solid muzzle enhances the face and adds character.

Although the muzzle should be dark a solid black muzzle is incorrect but quite often seen in puppies and it corrects itself as the second coat comes in. A far worse fault is the too light muzzle which spoils the whole head. The shading on the head is especially important as spectacles cannot be seen if there is too much black and worse still they are sometimes interpreted as light patches all round the eyes, like goggles, and very unattractive. The shading should be delicate and pleasing. There is often a dark line up the centre of the forehead and this is very pretty and adds to the expressiveness of the face. There is no hesitation about colour of eyes. Dark means dark, that is as dark as possible and it is a mistake to try to make excuses for a light eye by suggesting a pale dog can have a lighter eye than a dark one. A light eye should be avoided in all show and breeding stock for it is a fault which is not easily eradicated and once in your line may recur at any time. Eyes can darken with age but also they can lighten. At least try to start off with the correct eye both in colour and set. Almond shape and obliquely set and never round or protruding. An over weight dog will often have protruding eyes. The eye rims should be black and tight to the eye; any trace of grey or purple in the rims should be regarded as either lack of pigmentation or poor condition.

**EARS:** To say well set on head, not wide yet not meeting is ambiguous! The fine darker ear shaped like an ivy leaf, carried erect and forever on the move, is very much part of Kees expression. Indeed when a Keeshond "smiles" his ears disappear back into his ruff. A drop ear is far from being the only fault and an ear can fail in many ways. A tall sharply edged Alsatian-like ear, a heavy wide set ear, coming from too low on the side of the head or even ears too much on top of the head can change the whole appearance. The thickly coated ear is untypical and less mobile. We have occasionally seen ears which have been trimmed with scissors to give a sharp outline but this is not acceptable and it should not be necessary. The most familiar fault is too large an ear and here again the standard gives no quarter and is concise in saying 'a small ear'.





Fig. 17.1 *Ch. Robinella of Rhinevale* owned by Author. Sire: *Ch. Rahida of Rhinevale* Dam: *Robertina of Rhinevale*

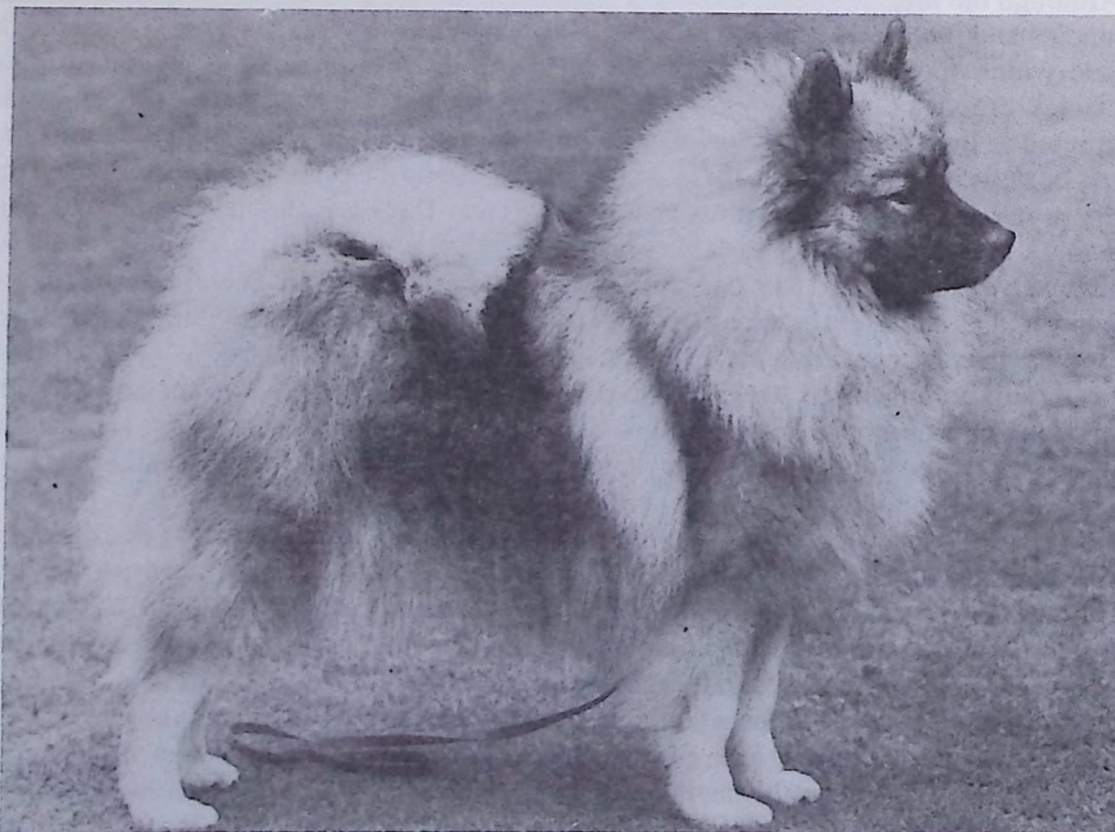


Fig. 17.2 *Ch. Neradmik Keepsake*. Owner: Mr. J.R. Stockman Breeder: Mrs. J. Sharp Sire: *Ch. Neradmik Didikie* Dam: *Valsgate Silver Buckle*



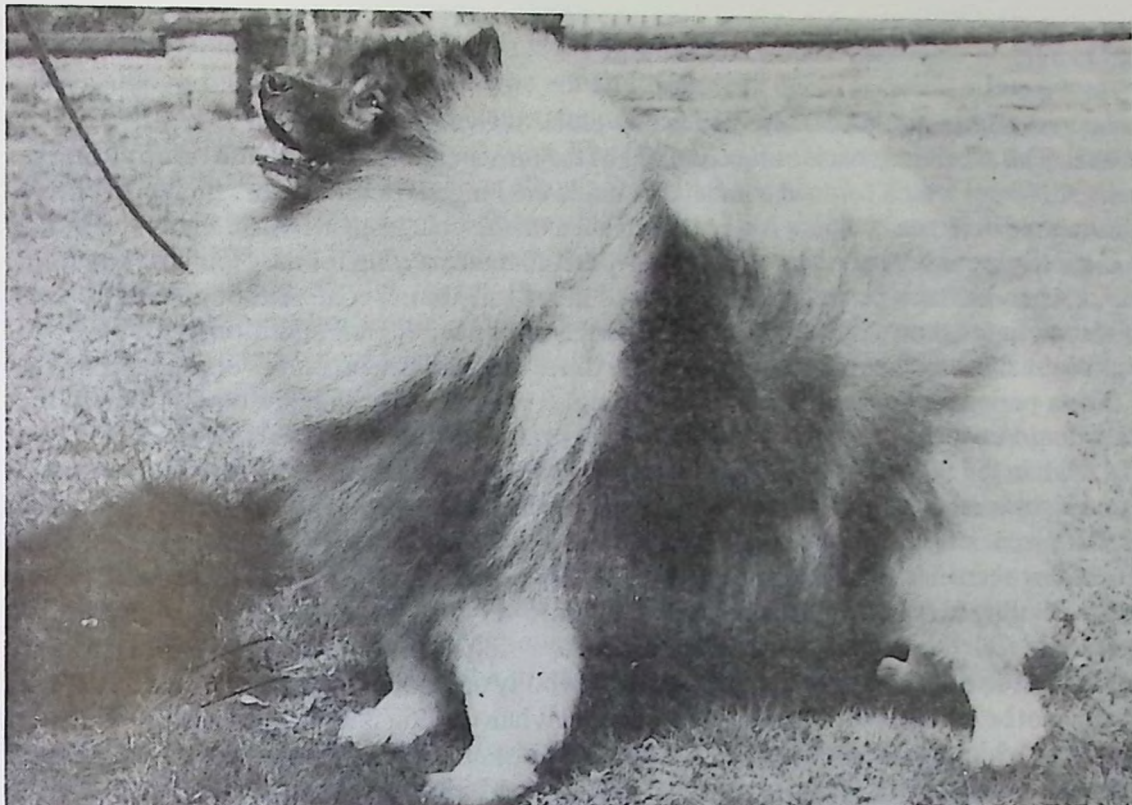


Fig. 17.3 *Waakzaam Wiederman*. Owner/Breeder: Mrs. E.M. Smyth Sire: *Ch. Waakzaam Waag*. Dam: *Ch. Waakzaam Waalre*



Fig. 17.4 *Ch. Ledwell Lysander* Owner: Mrs. J. Sharp Sire: *Ch. Ledwell Dutchman* Dam: *Ch. Ledwell Heide*. Breeder: Mrs. Scroggs



The actual set of ear should be as the hands of a clock at five to one...not ten to two!

**COAT:** The keeshond coat is unique and one of the most beautiful pelts found on any animal. The pale, soft wool which forms the undercoat holds the long, dark outer hairs thus preventing them falling into a flat coat. There is a healthy glisten on the coat, especially on the black hairs, which is synonymous with good condition. Silky, soft coats are wrong for they tend to fall rather than stay crisp with the off standing quality found in the truly harsh coat. Although waviness is a fault it sometimes shows in puppies, usually on the back near the tail and if only slight it will disappear with the adult coat. Curly coats are very rare but I have seen one overseas and it was frizzy, like a permanent wave that had gone wrong. It was nowhere that we could trace in the dogs breeding. A parting down the back is also a very rare fault. I have only seen it once and that was in a town in the South West of England when we were travelling. A well built and very self possessed Keeshond came along towards the car. I got out to greet him, got a brief acknowledgement and he went swiftly about his business. As he went off I noticed a long straight parting as obvious as that seen on a Skye Terrier, from withers to tail. I have never seen it before or since! Short coats, failing in length in the black outer hairs, are very frustrating and more often seen in females. Dogs with this fault will not get far in the show ring. There are several totally different types of hair in the Keeshond coat. Firstly, the thick woolly undercoat, essentially pale in colour. This should not be overgroomed and only combed out when the dog is moulting. There is the soft short thick fur which covers the head, legs and feet. This should be very dense and give a plushy feel. The legs and feet should be pale, and cream is the usual colour sought but I have seen a very pale silvery grey look most attractive. Another type of hair appears on the ruff, trousers and tail and this is very long and again pale in colour, it can be from ten to thirteen inches in length. It requires thorough grooming and if neglected spoils the dog. The actual body coat is composed of two layers, the undercoat being a thick dense blanket which holds in position the long offstanding hairs. These are not all of one shade but are creamy at the root with a black tip about four inches long. Thus the shading can vary from dog to dog and all shades of grey are acceptable. The bushy cream tail has a black tip and the ruff is followed by some dark coat and then a light shoulder mark from the withers to the back of the front leg. The front of the ruff falls in a full 'apron' from under the dogs chin and forms part of the frame for the face. All this is light in colour so the dark head with its pretty markings is beautifully set off. A full coated well marked Keeshond is truly spectacular.

**TAIL:** Although referred to as white in some Standards this is misleading as is the reference to double curl. The colour definition should be light, rather than white, for there is no white on a Keeshond. The double curl refers only to the fact that the tip is curled under and the main tail curled over the back. Misinterpreted it can lead to a double curled tail in a tight knot at the end of the back which is not compatible with the correct outline. The set of the tail is vitally important. It must be set right up on the back, not just above the anus. If the set is right, so that the tail is growing straight upright, it can freely curl over the back. If, however, it is set so that the tail appears to grow out pointing backwards it can never be carried correctly. In profile there should be very little space showing between the ruff and the tail and at no time should it be carried down. It is entirely out of character to see a Keeshond with tail either down or at half mast, it is only in cases of sickness, fear or sometimes when eating. The natural position of a Keeshond tail is high on the back, now, tomorrow, and for ever.

**LEGS:** The sturdy creamy legs are an attractive part of the whole picture and bone should be solid looking and in balance with the size of the dog. Weak bone or too fine bone is detrimental in the ring. Length of leg is vitally important to the general appearance of the dog. It is clear from old pictures of the first winning Kees in this country that we now have a less leggy type. This



makes for compactness but too short a leg is ugly and immediately throws a dog out of balance, suggesting a long back. There is a type which I have seen once, or twice, a small Kees with a rather large head and short legs, suggesting, dwarfism, and as this would mean a glandular abnormality they should not be bred from. The feather on the front legs is from the pastern to the elbow and needs careful grooming as elbows get matted very easily. This is one of the rare cases for combing. The placing of the hock can make or mar hind action, a long hind pastern up to the hock joint means rather sloppy, weak movement, lacking drive. A medium, short hind pastern is preferable and generally means the trousers will come lower and the pads may show underneath the foot when trotting. There should be strong drive and although the hock should not be as straight as in a Chow Chow, only slight angulation is called for, and this is essential to the unique action of the breed.

**FEET:** The neat round well knuckled up cat-foot, solidly cream with jet black nails, just showing, is most pleasing to see. The two front toes should not protrude far beyond the side toes and a long hare foot is a definite fault. A loose splayed foot is ugly and although some improvement can be made by correct road work, a good foot must be bred for, and watched in breeding programmes. There is a tendency to rely on cutting claws hard back to make feet look right, but this is wrong and I have seen claws cut back so far that they do not reach over to the ground as they should when the dog moves, thus not showing the black nails. Claws that are too long throw the foot back giving the effect of a weak pastern and need tipping but correctly exercised the claws are no trouble.

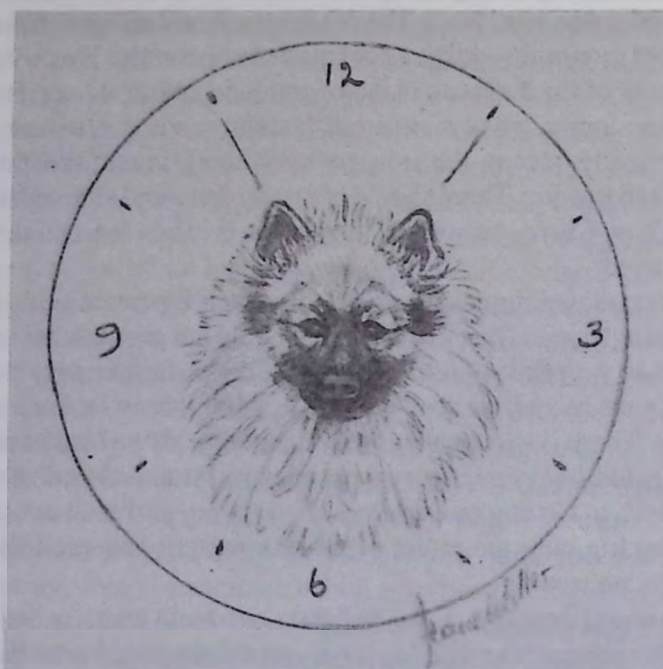
**MOUTH:** With normal dentition a dog has forty two teeth and any deviation is extremely rare in a Keeshond. The scissor bite with top teeth just overlapping lower teeth is normal. Even at a great age the well cared for Keeshond has a perfect mouth. They are not dribbly dogs and the dark gums show off the big clean white teeth to perfection. Irregular dentition is very rare in the breed but even so it is a fault we must always watch for as in other breeds it is difficult to breed out. A level mouth with teeth that meet is not correct. There should be no gaps in teeth and they should fit closely together.

**DOGS SHOULD SHOW BOLDLY:** Here the temperament of the dog shows and a nervous or diffident dog is untypical.

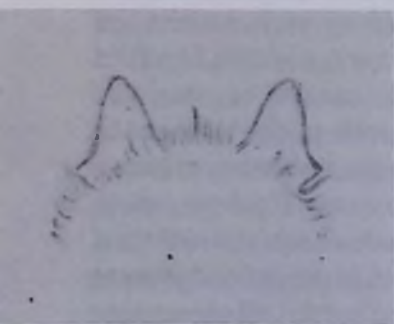
**ACTION:** Keeshond action has caused a lot of controversy through the years. As a breed at one time we had too many poor movers amongst our best dogs. Not necessarily unsound dogs but poor movers. Time and selective breeding has improved the overall pattern and as it improves so wins in the Best in Show ring come our way. Unsoundness is apparent in some and an unsound dog will never be a good mover. 'Out at elbow' a fault that we see in over barrelled dogs, causes bad front movement just as a sickle hocked or cow hocked one will be marred by bad hind action. Weak pasterns or lack of drive from the hind quarters make a sloppy mover and the buoyant, jaunty action we seek is dependant upon correct confirmation and strong muscles. Badly placed shoulders make for poor front action, with a tight restricted step. *Hackney action*, putting one in mind of the poodle, is wrong and "dishing" is another fault we see now and then. Unfortunately, apart from very obvious faults, action is difficult to assess in puppyhood as some which look too wide in front correct themselves and others which appear to start off showing no particular weakness may go to pieces later on. The narrow front, with two legs seeming to come from one hole, may adjust as the brisket drops and the chest develops. A bitch that carries a heavy litter may go out at elbow. The rather close hind action, providing it is firm and straight, is more of a trait than a fault, and in keeping with the neat hind quarters which are essential to the overall outline.

Straight, brisk, sprightly action, giving the impression that the dog is very light on his feet and concise in his movements is correct and any clumsiness is out of character.

**THE HEIGHT:** Is given as 45.7cm (18inches) for a dog and 43.2cm (17 inches) for a bitch



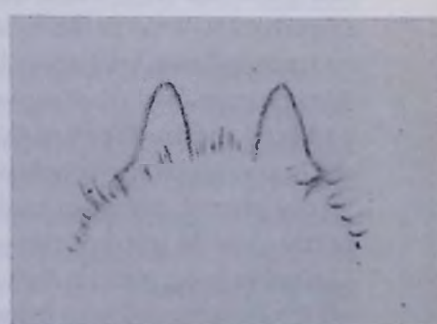
Ears at five to one (not ten to two)



Correct



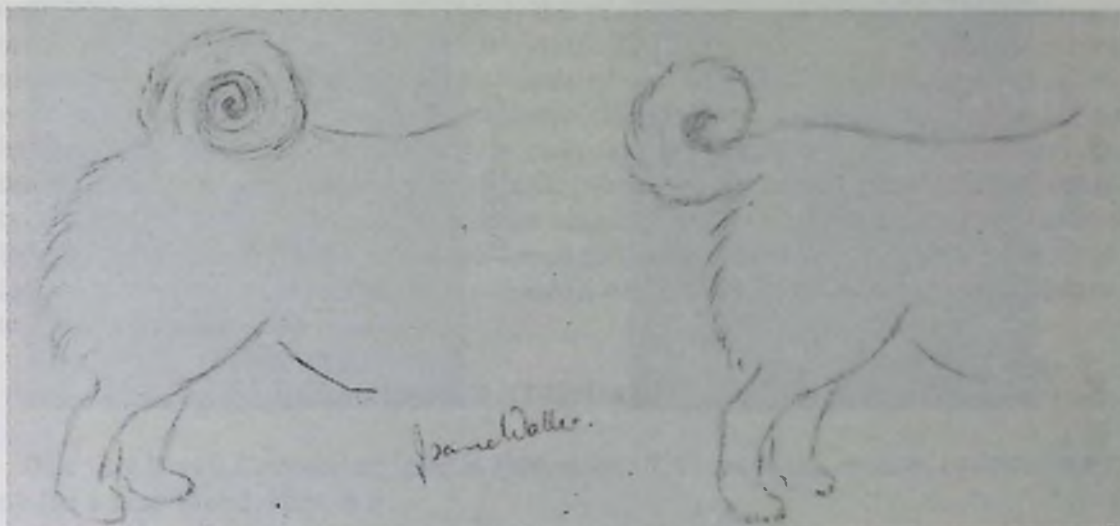
Wide-Set



Too Close

Set of Ears from Back





**Wrong**  
**Carried over Hind Legs**

**Wrong**  
**Loose - Falling Off Back**



**Wrong - A 'Samoyed' Tail**  
**Falling to one Side**



**Correct Set**  
**Carried High on the Back**

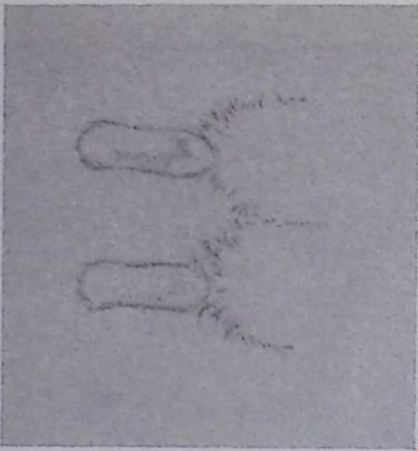


Correct Front



Splayed Front

Narrow Front



Correct Hind View



Weak Hind Quarters

Faults We Often See



The very big Keeshond loses the 'handiness' which is part of the dog himself. The measurement is taken from the withers to the ground and has been completely ignored by some judges so we have had fashions for big ones and fashions for small ones at various times. Very few of our current top winning Keeshonds are strictly this size. Certainly not the males. Those nearest the correct size are frequently considered too small. This is a pity for a truly medium sized dog is universally popular and that is what the Keeshond should be. Oversize is undesirable and leads to coarseness and a rather long smooth untypical gait. Even worse, the tiny ones showing a distinct Pomeranian tendency, usually accompanied by a rather apple head, lose their breed identity. It is not an easy problem and when the oversize ones win so frequently the new exhibitor accepts that the judge must be right and that a big dog is what is required. There is considerable disparity between dog and bitch in this breed and this is accentuated when very big dogs are placed beside correct sized bitches. We should not let fashion, or the desire to win, influence our attempts to breed true to type.

### BREED STANDARDS

The first Breed Standard adopted in England in 1925 was, in my opinion, an extremely good one for a new breed. Here it is.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** A short, compact dog, with foxy head, small, erect, high-set ears, and stiffly curled, bushy haired tail. He has a straight coat, forming a mane and frill of profuse standing off hair. Head, ears and feet short and thickly haired.

**HEAD:** The head must be of medium size, wedge shaped in outline. In its profile it may exhibit only a little 'stop'. The muzzle must not be too long, but in good proportion with the skull, free from lippiness and very slightly bent. The eyes should be of medium size, rather oblique in shape, and preferably dark in colour.

**NECK AND BODY:** The neck should be moderately long, the back as short as possible, straight, but slightly higher in front than at the back. The chest fairly deep and not too wide, the body being well ribbed up and the barrel well rounded.

**TAIL:** The tail must be rather long and high-set, turned over the back and stiffly curled.

**LEGS:** The forelegs must be of medium length, powerful, and perfectly straight. The feet small and compact in shape and the forelegs and thighs well feathered.

**COAT:** Just like the Pomeranian.

**COLOUR:** The colour should be a silver grey with black pointed hairs. Round the eyes, the legs, the belly, and tail, of a lighter colour.

**SIZE:** About 18 inches. A larger dog is preferable to a smaller one, but the size is not to prejudice the type. (Suggested dog 20 inches, Bitches 18 inches)

### UNDESIRABLE POINTS

Too blunt muzzle, too large eyes, too large ears, tail held too high, not on the back or hanging down by the side, curled coat and all white spots, too light eyes and apple heads, ears not quite erect, light noses and lips.

When one takes into consideration how little was known of the breed at that time it was a good guide.

In 1927 there was a review and a further Standard was adopted with one or two minor alterations and rather better wording. a further review took place in 1933. In 1935 the following Standard was adopted and continued in use until 1986.

**STANDARD OF POINTS**as adopted by **THE KEESHOND CLUB 1935**

**1. GENERAL APPEARANCE:** A short compact body; alert carriage, foxlike head; small pointed ears; a well-feathered curling tail carried over the back; hair very thick on the neck forming a large ruff; head, ears and legs covered with thick, short hair.

**2. HEAD:** Well proportioned to the body, wedge shaped when seen from above, sideways showing definite stop. Muzzle should be medium length, neither coarse or snipey. Eyes dark with well defined spectacles.

**3. EARS:** Small and well set on head, not wide and yet not meeting.

**4. COAT:** Dense and harsh (off standing), dense ruff and well-feathered, profuse trousers; a soft, thick, light coloured undercoat. Coat should not be silky, wavy, or woolly, nor should it form a parting on the back.

**5. TAIL:** Tightly curled, a double curl at the end is particularly good. Plume to be white on the top where curled with a black tip.

**6. LEGS:** Straight, good bone and cream in colour, forelegs feathered. Hindlegs should be straight, showing very little hock, and not feathered below the hock.

**7. FEET:** Round and cat-like and black nails.

**8. MOUTH:** Mouth should be neither over nor under shot, upper teeth should just overlap under teeth and should be white, sound and strong (but discolouration from distemper not to penalize severely).

**9.** Dogs should show boldly and keep their tails curled when standing still.

**10.** Dogs should move cleanly and briskly, not lope like an Alsatian, but movement should be straight and sharp.

**11.** The ideal height is 18 inches for dogs and 17 inches for bitches, but size should not unduly prejudice type.

**12. COLOUR:** Should be wolf or ash-grey; not all black nor all white, and markings should be definite.

**UNDESIRABLE POINTS**

1. Light eyes, prominent eyes.
2. Curly or wavy tendency in coat.
3. Silky coat.
4. Absence of spectacles.
5. Nervous demeanour.
6. Drop ears.
7. Whole white foot or feet.
8. Black marks below the knee, pencilling excepted.
9. White chest.
10. Apple head or absence of stop.

**VALUE OF POINTS**

General appearance and body.....	50
Coat.....	20
Head.....	10
Feet.....	5
Colour.....	5
Tail.....	5
Legs.....	5



## CHAPTER 18

### JUDGING THE BREED

There are two types of mind, the creative and the critical. The breeder is, by definition, creative, but the **critical faculty** is absolutely vital.

"Kennel Blindness" or the inability to recognise faults in your own stock is widespread and can spell the end of a successful line. Comparison of the top winners, who can be placed by both all-rounders and specialist judges alike, with those that you think should have won, can be instructive if contemplated with an open mind and, evaluation of both qualities and faults must be learned.

When you have established the fact that you are a serious breeder, and dogs you have bred are doing their share of winning, you will probably be asked if you would care to judge the breed at one of the smaller shows. Only when you feel sure that you can complete the task with some authority should you accept. Judging is an inexact science with some personal views involved.

The absolute necessity for becoming a good judge is:

- A. A thorough knowledge of the *Breed Standard*
- B. A good eye for a dog
- C. The ability to balance faults against virtues
- D. Integrity

All breeders have besetting sins in their own lines just as they have consistent virtues, and a breeder with a long line of dark eyed stock is apt to notice with great distaste any light-eyed specimens. It stands out so much more if you are not used to seeing it every day. We also, being human, have a special horror of certain faults and a more lenient attitude to others which may be equally wrong. This must be sorted out and corrected in your own mind before venturing to give an opinion on other people's dogs.

Type varies from kennel to kennel which proves that we all have slightly different conceptions of the meaning of the *standard* and quite naturally the judge prefers the type he or she breeds and is therefore inclined towards that type. However, the standard is there in black and white to guide us and it must not be sacrificed to personal whims.

Keeping the ring orderly and using exactly the same position for all winners from First to VHC in every class, helps to make your placings understandable to the ringsider. The assistance of a capable Steward can make your job so much easier, and your concentration should not have to be broken to check if all the entries are in the ring before you start, as all that will be taken care of for you.

One of the best ways of learning ring control is by acting as Steward to as many judges as you can. You will notice their ways of working and become familiar with the pattern of procedure. As there is frequently a shortage of Stewards you will soon be shown what to do and your help will be appreciated. A cloth soaked in odourless Cetavlon and a towel, used to keep hands clean when handling the dogs may help prevent the spread of infection.

Your very first class is usually a puppy class and sending the dogs round the ring helps to settle them down. Justice must not only be done, but must be seen to be done and the most unlikely specimen is entitled to an equally thorough examination as the eye-catcher who may be your





Fig. 18.1 Correct outline showing how the whole should fit within an egg.



Fig. 18.2 Two famous champions. Father and Son. *Ch. Hans Silver Myst* and *Ch. Ledwell Dutchman*



eventual **Best of Breed** winner. All have paid to enter for your opinion and are entitled to it. Unhurried judging, without time wasting, but sparing the extra few minutes for unruly puppies and new exhibitors is appreciated. The use of Christian names in the ring risks giving a wrong impression to newcomers and there should be no conversation in the ring.

As each dog comes before you for individual assessment give the owner time to 'stand' him, view him from all angles and starting at the head go over him using the hands to feel what is hidden by the coat. Establish that males are 'entire' and spare extra time for the young stock and newcomers.

Some allowance for age must be given when judging puppies just as it must be taken into account in Veteran classes. In Brace classes the idea is to find a matching pair but they must be typical of the breed and good specimens. Our Standard gives prominence to General Appearance and here there must be some personal preference. If the outline and immediate impression is not within your conception of what a Keeshond should be it is unlikely that the filling in of other points will influence you. So first be sure the actual silhouette is what you are seeking. Having studied your Standard and seen pictures of the 'greats' in the breed, keep all that in your mind and try to find your ideal. Of course every dog has its faults and when you come to actually placing the dogs these must be balanced against the dog as a whole. Certain faults are more likely to be transmissible than others, and those that are likely to be passed on and may become fixed in the breed are the most dangerous.

**Action** is always a debatable point for we all seem to see it differently. It is not always synonymous with soundness and there can be habits in action which spoil the true movement. Also action is unique in the Keeshond and a long dead straight stride, lacking the somewhat jerky bounce of the true Keeshond is as wrong as a typical mover who may not be quite so accurate. Hind movement in the Keeshond has always been rather close which is characteristic of a dog of this shape. It is more a trait than a fault. A good neck leads to attractive, proud head carriage, and generally means well laid shoulders. A stuffy dog rarely moves freely, and a forward shoulder leads to a 'tied' incorrect front action.

When you see the **short back and truly compact body** with tail set high and carried well over the back, start looking for the finer details. The quality of the head which includes eyes, ears and facial marking is vital in a show dog. The ruff, the texture of the coat which must be felt, as well as just seen, the teeth which must be checked for correct bite, are all important points. Use your hands to check if the dog is entire and to see if there is a good strong, well ribbed-up body under all that coat. Muscles can be felt and the dog that is correctly exercised scores here. The space between the shoulder blades, at the withers, should be a good thumb width. Weak bone can spoil the picture and really good cat feet are a most attractive feature.

Watch carefully as the dog is moved away from you and back and if you are not absolutely satisfied ask to see him move once more. In a big class it is permissible to bring forward half a dozen and then check again before actually placing these and as the Steward will show the remainder out of the ring you will have more room to see them. When two are running almost neck and neck find the one with the little extra something, such as that elusive slope down from withers to tail, or the particularly sharp colouring or even the personality of the dog which can come over so strongly in some.

Expression counts here and clever handling can make all the difference but it is the dog himself you must study and, just as when you are picking a puppy, one will stand out to you, so now your top winner will fill your eye and satisfy you. Too much juggling about over placings gives an indecisive impression so try to be definite. Such 'tricks' as giving the lower cards first and working up to the top, or handing out the Reserve CC before the more important Challenge Certificate are unworthy of any good judge and despised by the more knowledgeable. Direct, straight forward placing of each exhibit in the position you think it deserves is the essence of your commitment. Not everyone will agree with your placings so you must know in your own mind





Fig. 18.3 Ch. *Duroya Roleander of Rhinevale*. Sire: Ch. *Sinterklass Big Noise of Evenlode*. Dam: *Raphaella of Rhinevale*. Owner: Mrs. D. Emerson. Breeder: Mrs. Pomfrey. "Typical show stance".

just why you selected those you did, and you have the chance to make these reasons clear in your critique. This is a chore most judges dislike and should be tackled from the notes you have made as soon as possible while images of the dogs are still clear in your mind. If you can give a word picture of the winners it makes interesting reading for those who were not at the show, and perhaps makes sense of some placings which might otherwise have been questionable. The view from the ringside cannot be as detailed as the judges, as small points such as a misplaced tooth or poor pigmentation are only seen close to and if two are equally good otherwise it can be a deciding factor.

Well written *critiques* are very much appreciated and often cut out and kept by enthusiasts who refer to them for information about certain dogs when they want to find a suitable stud, so be sure your critique is accurate and comprehensive. It should however never be unkind as each exhibit is special to his owner and it is quite easy to express your preference for one dog over another without damning the lesser of the two. For example "ears not so small and neat as the one above him" is a lot kinder than saying 'ears big and untidy' but the message is there that ears were the deciding factor. Fault judging is a pitfall for the less knowledgeable who, seeing a fault, is then blinded to all virtues. It is the easiest way to rule out a dog but may be unfair. A word picture of the dog, stressing virtues and not overstating faults is the most satisfactory way. The top winners are usually very easy to select but it is the placings down the line which show if you are keeping to type. If your final line up is pleasing you can feel you have done well and a row of well constructed smart Keeshonds of similar type suggests the judge knew what to look for.

Yours is only one opinion and another day with another judge an entirely different picture may emerge. Dogs have their good days and their 'off' days and you must judge the dog on the day despite any previous honours or preferences. It is a task that gets easier with practice and it is a wise rule that says a certain number of smaller shows must be achieved before rising to the status of giving Challenge Certificates. For this the Kennel Club will want particulars of previous experience so keep notes of all you do. When judging you realise just how vital it is for your dog to show well so the judging can also make you a better exhibitor.



## SELECTING A MATE

Although when we start to win and get ambitious the glamour of the title of Champion is our aim it must be remembered that there always have been and always will be great dogs and bitches who for one reason or another never reach that status. Mrs Woodiwiss' record breaking stud dog *Commandant of Duroya* hated shows and after a good winning career with one CC and 3 Reserve CCs to his credit he was retired. The dam of the first post war record CC holder Ch *Ledwell Dutchman*, owned by, Mr and Mrs Purdon, was Mrs Scroggs' *Ledwell Catastrophe*, never a great showgirl. That honour went to her sister Ch *Ledwell Charlotte*. Other bitches who produced more than one Champion offspring include Miss Hastings' *Wren of Evenlode*, Mrs Tucker's *Vyand of Vorden* and *Vrivolity of Vorden*, Mrs Collins' *Tassle of Ven*, Mr and Mrs Greenwood's *Thelma of Grovelyn*, Major Gowans' *Vesta of Summerleaze* and my own *Robertina and Ragnhild of Rhinevale* and those are just a few I recall from the quality of their descendants. There are many more.

Many small incidents can prevent a dog from maintaining a show career. For example, Mrs Tucker's *Vrivolity of Vorden* fell on some steps and broke a tooth, a bad experience at an early stage in showing such as being involved in a fight can put a dog off the whole atmosphere of shows. Some will suddenly refuse to move or use their ears in the ring. All these minor points which can terminate a show career have no bearing on the stock a well bred good dog or bitch can produce so if you are taken with a dog that never quite makes the grade do not be put off but follow your hunch.

Each show is just one person's opinion and a glance through the records assures any breeder that it is the pedigree that counts.

You may leave a show feeling either that you did not get a fair deal or that some other dog did not. When the judges critique appears in the two dog papers it may explain what the judge intended.

Cutting out the critiques is also a way of collecting various opinions on certain dogs. It gives a clue as to the type each particular judge finds most comparable to the *Standard* and will tend to show up a fault which may be troubling one particular kennel.

All this should help you when the time comes to choose a mate for your bitch or to buy another dog or bitch if a new line is sought.

Most breeders will gladly send you copies of their stud dogs' pedigrees and you may see some dogs in the pedigree being shown. Watch their temperament as well as their show qualities and your observations may help you to breed Keeshonds with the right looks and the desirable character.





## CHAPTER 19

## THE STUD DOG, BROOD BITCH, AND THEIR UNION

A dog which may be used at stud should be kept in the very peak of condition. As well as daily exercise and ample good food he should have confidence in his owner. It is wise to discourage 'sexy' behaviour with other dogs as this is no sign that he will be good at stud, indeed, it merely serves to confuse him. On the other hand, if, whenever he attempts to mount a dog or bitch he is severely reprimanded he may, when the right time comes, hesitate to mount a bitch at all, so common sense must be used to avoid setting up a discordant pattern over this. It is quite a good thing, if the dog is well developed and mature, to let him have his first bitch at about eleven months to a year, although he may not be ready and nature cannot be hurried. Ch *Ledwell Dutchman* refused all bitches until he was two years old.

The first time is very important. Keep him on a lead to meet the bitch and if possible choose a bitch that has already had at least one litter. This means that one member of the party knows what to do and it is quite usual for the bitch to show the dog very clearly what she expects of him. It is a mistake to start before the bitch is ready and willing as if you do she will turn on the dog and if he is at all shy or diffident it may put him off for a long time to come. The twelfth to fourteenth day is probably best, but allow lots of time and have patience. Two people can cope better than one and an experienced breeder should be present.

Before deciding to let your dog be used there are issues to consider. In a breed such as the Keeshond the demand is never great. If a dog is really a pet and perhaps does some winning and shows no great interest in the opposite sex it might be as well to leave things as they are. Some dogs, after one bitch, whether they mate successfully or not, become more sexy and therefore difficult to show and less of a pleasure in the home if they start attempting to escape to seek bitches. Also if you keep two dogs it can set up jealousy which would not otherwise have manifested itself. Only a few Champions and top winners become popular enough to have a steady supply of bitches and even then there are long gaps as the fashion for one particular dog ends and the next young hero takes over. It does not always unsettle a dog but it can happen and it is up to the owner to know his dog well enough to make the right decision.

If there is another dog or bitch in the house it is a wise move to wash the undercarriage of the dog used, before he returns, as fights are so easily started over bitches. Veterinary Amplex is suitable or any mild disinfectant and a final spray around the tail end with a household spray to discourage sniffing. Do not let the bitch visit the house if you have two dogs, but try to arrange to be the one to visit. A garage or enclosed yard or secluded garden are ideal as the venue, preferably where noise will not matter as bitches let out a most disconcerting scream at times. Be sure the floor is not slippery and can be washed down afterwards. Concrete is fine. If the dog is smaller than the bitch or seems to be having difficulty in gaining the right position try putting an overturned door-mat just behind the bitch's hind legs thus affording the dog more purchase and height. If the dog is large and towers over the bitch you can use the door-mat for her but this is rare and a big dog generally manages very well.

One person should hold the bitch's head, preferably the owner, and however good natured she normally is, avoid the risk of being bitten. A dog often needs a little guidance and he should be accustomed to being handled from the start. Once the dog has penetrated and ejaculated the tie should commence and the dog turn so that they are standing tail to tail. However, there should be no attempt to hurry this and if the dog stays on her back for a few minutes before he turns, all the better as to rush it may mean he breaks away. He may start to turn on his own, but, keeping both animals steady, help can be given by lifting one of the dog's forelegs over the bitch's back



so that both are on the same side and the corresponding hind leg can be helped over so that a tail to tail position is maintained. Both tails can then be grasped in one hand thus preventing either pulling away from the other. The tie may last anything from a few minutes to an hour or more and the length of tie is no indication of the success of the mating.

A mating with no tie can, and often does, produce a normal litter but the chances of fertilisation are reduced as during the tie the liquid which enables the sperm to move is flowing in. There are three separate fluids released during the mating. First an alkaline fluid devoid of sperm, then the sperm followed by the fluid during the length of the tie and for a normal mating all three are necessary. Some people tip the bitch up onto her front legs for a few minutes after the withdrawal with the intention of preventing any loss of sperm. Some people prefer two matings with an interval of one day in between, some find one mating equally satisfactory. Personally, if the bitch is healthy, the dog normal and a correct mating with a satisfactory tie is achieved, one mating should be adequate. However if the bitch has resisted or if there has been no tie it suggests it may not have been just the right day and a second attempt is indicated. After mating a bitch should be rested for a couple of hours and discouraged from passing water during this period. The dog too, despite the fact that he will no doubt be anxious to do it all over again, should be kept quiet. It is important to set the right pattern at this first mating and if a tie has not been achieved and the dog is still keen let him try again in an hour or two so that he understands he has not done the job yet. Certain dogs in this breed have proved to be first class influential sires without ever tying, but this does not mean that one can condone this and a normal full mating is the aim.

With a 'no-tie' mating it is customary for the stud fee to be paid only when live puppies are born, instead of the general rule of paying the fee at the time of mating. This also applies to the use of a dog not yet a proved sire and in all cases the fee should be agreed beforehand. A receipt and a copy of the dog's pedigree should be given to the bitch owner and some interested dog owners like to have a copy of the bitch's pedigree for their records. The Kennel Club registration form must also be signed by the owner of the sire. I would advise both dog and bitch owners to be present at the mating.

It is a common error to allow the dog to continue making unsuccessful attempts for too long, and for too little time to be given for the initial 'courting' period. Let them meet on leads, let them play if they wish, for a flirtatious bitch will often convey to the dog what it is all about far more cleverly than a human can. Even if she displays the coy unwillingness often shown at first, providing she is just snapping and playing 'hard to get' it will serve to stimulate the dog's interest and should not be taken as a serious objection. If, however, the bitch shows real anger and is dead against any advances at all she is probably not yet ready so wait another twentyfour hours and give them another chance.

Forced matings are not only distasteful but in the right circumstances should not be necessary. You may even have to try another dog for it can be a personal dislike, but this is rare and the usual mistake is that the wrong day has been chosen. At the right time in the season, usually in the middle, there is a time when the vulva softens and loses the redness seen at first and this is when mating should be easiest. The bitch's behaviour is a clear guide as to when she is ready she will 'stand' to the dog, legs braced, and tail firmly switched to one side and this stance is an immediate reaction to any dog (or bitch) sniffing around her. Bitches will mount one another at this time and early in the season your bitch will object, but as the time for mating approaches she will change her attitude and be only too willing to co-operate. Indeed, at the right moment, a mating can be achieved with both dog and bitch running free and this is ideal.

If a stud dog that has sired litters starts to 'miss' your veterinary surgeon should be consulted and a swab of the secretions of the prepuce taken for laboratory examination for fear he may have picked up an infection. If a dog is accepting bitches from various kennels it is a wise



## TWO GREAT SIRES



Fig. 19.1 *Commandant of Duroya*. Sire: *Ch. Kester of Wendees* Dam: *Duroya Beatrix* Owner/Breeder: Mrs. A. Woodiwiss



Fig. 19.2 *Ch. Bingo* Sire: *Dochfour Hendrik* Dam: *Darkie of Hyver* Owner: Mrs. Norton A Champion in 1932



precaution to have this done once a year anyway for if anything is wrong the sooner it is dealt with the better and the sooner he can be back at stud. To allow a dog to get tired and frustrated by prolonging attempts at mating for longer than half an hour is unwise. Far better to take him right away, however much he may dislike the idea, rest him and try again later. A couple of hours rest and even if he has spent himself he will be ready to try again, if he is a young and vigorous dog. No food should be given to either of the participants before mating but it always appears to be thirsty work and part of the scene setting is a large bowl of water. Keeshonds are particularly difficult in one way for with such profuse tail and trousers it is impossible to see just what is going on and the person handling the dog should be able to feel what is happening. I like to stand (or more likely kneel!) with the bitch's head on my left, my left hand under the bitch with two fingers each side of the vulva. Thus one is aware when the penis enters and the right hand is free on the right side to guide the dog. With the inexperienced dog it is sometimes helpful to give a firm push towards the bitch after he has entered and a dog should be trained to accept help should he need it. Some are natural experts and never need even a hint!

The health and condition of the stud dog is important and is referred to at the beginning of this chapter but exercise is especially significant and it has been proved that bulls which are given some daily exercise are more fertile than those kept in bull pens all their lives; therefore, how much more important for a free running animal such as the dog.

It is normal for fertility to diminish from about the age of nine, but we have had some remarkable 'oldies' in this breed and it is individual as so many factors influence this interesting subject.

### THE BROOD BITCH

When we speak of the brood bitch we are speaking of the most important member of your doggy family. A first class brood bitch will found a line and this is what every dedicated breeder wants. Quite often there will be two good bitches in one litter, one may gain her title but the other may well be the better producer. This can happen with males too and sometimes the litter brother of a famous dog or bitch can be worth its weight in gold. I could cite many examples of this but will only speak of my own. In the 1950's when Miss Hastings exported Ch *Tom Tit of Evenlode* to America I used his litter brother *Tommy Tucker of Evenlode* and had a litter of six dog puppies. One of these was *Raphael of Rhinevale* who later sired my Ch *Rapunzel* on whom the entire Rhinevale family was founded. Twenty years later there were two bitch puppies in the Ch *Rahida of Rhinevale ex Robertina of Rhinevale* litter. I kept Ch *Robinella of Rhinevale*, famous in show ring but she bred only one litter. In it were two English champions and one Scandinavian Champion. Her sister *Rumbelinda* went to Mrs Scroggs and founded the now world famous Ledwell Kennel with Ch *Ledwell Dutchman* and Am & Can Ch *Racassous of Rhinevale* and the lovely Ch *Ledwell Charlotte* appearing in the first two generations to bring the prefix to the fore.

A reasonably good specimen from a well bred litter with quality throughout is preferable to a flashy specimen from a mixed litter when it comes to breeding. What is behind your bitch is what she will pass on and pedigrees should be studied very carefully preferably with the co-operation of someone who has been in the breed long enough to know some of the old dogs personally. The late and great H.S. Lloyd (The Wizard of Ware) breeder of the famous Ware Cocker Spaniels once said to me that the first three generations were the most significant as further back than that the dilution gets too great.

As with the stud dog, first class condition is essential in the brood bitch, with bright eyes, she healthy coat and above all no excess weight. As well as being a typical specimen of the breed



must also have all the true sweet Keeshond character and be entirely free of nerves and mental kinks. A friendly composed serene disposition self-assured and showing plenty of personality is ideal. This is the type of bitch to bring up her family, with a bit of co-operation from her owner, without fuss or bother.

Every animal has its faults and virtues and in selecting a mate try to double on the good points thus fixing them in your line and avoid doubling on the weak feature for the same reason. About two years old is a nice stage at which to start your bitch's breeding career for she is fully mature by then and should have had some time to get known in the show ring.

In this breed there are not the troubles that beset the more exaggerated breeds and Keeshonds are normally easy whelpers and good mothers.

The usual pattern is for the first season to commence at anything from six to nine months of age and thereafter at six monthly intervals. There are, of course many variations on this and I have had bitches who have not come into season until after a year of age but still had normal litters when mated at the next season, some ten months later. The normal heat shows itself firstly by enlargement of the vulva and then a blood coloured discharge. Sometimes this is rather dark and brownish. Put this in your diary as Day One. The season lasts approximately three weeks and the second week is generally the period for mating and I have found the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth days the most reliable for this. I hear from other breeders of bitches that will only accept a dog on the seventeenth day and even on the twentieth day and no doubt such anomalies do occur but this is being written on forty years of personal experience and I have never had a bitch conceive mated on the fifteenth day or later. I once mated a bitch on her tenth day, as that was the only day the dog was available, and had one puppy. The same bitch mated on the thirteenth day two seasons later had seven in her litter. The average litter consists of five to eight puppies but here again anything can happen and eleven was my largest litter but I remember Mrs Scroggs having a litter of twelve! I do not believe in destroying perfectly healthy whelps and if the bitch is given the correct environment and nourishment she will cope for the vital first ten days or so after which you can help with supplementary feeds.

Generally the bloody discharge will continue for the whole three weeks and even when it pales she is still mateable so strict precautions should be taken throughout. At this time safety is more important than exercise and it is unfair to male dog owners to take her on roads where a sniffing dog can so easily stray into the traffic. The greatest vigilance must be shown and after mating she is still as vulnerable. She may develop escapist tendencies so do not rely on normal behaviour. Your own garden is the best place at this time.

To return to the question of the actual mating, you should have contacted the owner of the dog of your choice even before the season has started and then phone again on the first day. If your bitch is acceptable the fee should have been agreed and an appointment can be made.

On arrival at the dog owner's premises, leave her in your car until you have announced yourself to give time for other dogs to be shut away if necessary and to avoid leaving tell-tale trails. Dogs so easily go off their food if they get scent of a bitch and can really lose condition.

A normally healthy bitch is not indisposed during her season but she can be both irritable with other bitches and very destructive. The favourite bed or blanket may be shredded and sometimes damage, such as a teething puppy might create, is produced! A fight with a bitch who is normally a friend can occur and it is unwise to leave two shut up together at this time. Even mother and daughter, usually a close and affectionate relationship, can come unstuck at this time and certainly to have two both in season together is asking for trouble. No deodorants should be used on a bitch you intend to mate. During her season and her pregnancy a bitch seeks extra affection but once she has her litter her interest in you, and indeed in everything except her family just evaporates.

The next nine weeks are immensely important and may be the beginning of whole new dynasty.





Fig. 19.3 Three generations examine the new arrivals. Mum, *Ralkeesha of Rhinevale*, Great Grandma, *Rhinevale Right as Rain*, and Grandma *Rhinevale Ramerezi*. All the property of Mrs. Jean Waller

## CHAPTER 20

## THE IN-WHELP BITCH AND WHELPING

Having got your bitch apparently satisfactorily mated the big question is . . . Is she in whelp? No-one can be sure and nine weeks seems an awfully long time to wait and see! The very earliest hint is increased thirst and if you find the water bowls need refilling more frequently than usual you can hope. If you measure the bitch's waist when mated, finding the smallest part, and then again at about five weeks you may see an increase though even this is no certain sign. One of my bitches went from a twenty-four inch waist to thirty-two inches when carrying a litter of eight. Her daughter later went from twenty-three inches to twenty-nine and produced one puppy! I do not advocate feeling and poking at a bitch, but if you are unduly concerned a visit to your veterinary surgeon can sometimes help if you take her for examination at about the third week. It would be wise to ring and ask at what stage he would like to see her for some say twenty-two days and some say twenty-six days and there is obviously quite a difference. It is by no means an easy and sure diagnosis, and some wise veterinary surgeons prefer not to make such prognosis as so much can still go wrong to disprove their theories.

For example the false pregnancy, when even the bitch thinks she is pregnant and takes great care of herself showing every symptom from the increasing size, making milk and even digging a bed at the right time. Also there is the distressing but thankfully rare case of the bitch resorbing the puppies at the sixth week.

At three weeks the embryos can sometimes be felt, like small golf balls, but after that, fluid forms around them and palpation is impossible. If at three weeks the embryos are actually felt, despite the fact that most bitches tense themselves making it more difficult, and then there are no results, resorption may well have occurred. I have had an example of this with one bitch and it was quite extraordinary the way she behaved as an in-whelp lady, refusing to jump in or out of the car without help and being very quiet until the beginning of the sixth week. In one day her entire attitude changed and she shook herself, got up with the old lively mischievous expression quite clearly saying 'Well now that is over we can get back to normal'. This bitch was mated twice to different dogs with the same result each time so she was neutered. There are two hormones especially vital in pregnancy, the second hormone taking over at the sixth week. In cases of resorption this can be treated by a veterinary surgeon so that the litter will survive but what is the point in breeding where there is obviously a hormonal imbalance and therefore the bitch cannot be described as truly fit? Better to make a fresh start.

Your bitch may be wormed up to the second week with **Canovel Wormer**. Indications that your bitch is in-whelp can be observed from about the third week, Some get car sick or even have morning sickness. Some get erratic about food, sometimes refusing food at all and eating as much as they can get hold of at other times.

Some take to their beds and even get possessive about them if there are other dogs about, The slight sickness, which is just froth, can be ignored but fatty foods should be avoided and extra affection is always welcome. They should be encouraged to take normal exercise and a good walk a day is essential to keep muscles well toned up. By keeping your bitch correctly fed and well exercised you are helping her towards a normal and easy whelping.

Apart from the addition of some digestible form of Vitamin A there need be no change in diet for the first five weeks providing the normal diet is fresh meat. Vitamin A is essential for the eyes and the eye is formed very early in pregnancy and it is therefore during the very first weeks that it must be present. I use *Adexolin* and five drops a day throughout the nine weeks and during lactation ensures there is no lack of either Vitamin A or D and there is also vitamin C in it.



The only time you can be pretty sure she is in-whelp is when you see or feel movement inside the bitch. This only happens in the last couple of weeks and up to then you are still guessing. Even examination by X-ray is only possible at the end and we are told that up to the fifty seventh day there is little to be seen, I have noticed that if a bitch has an 'off-day' at about the nineteenth to twenty first day of pregnancy, refusing food and being loth to leave her bed, she is usually happily in whelp. Also the slight sticky discharge from the vulva is a good sign and should be watched, for should it darken or show signs of being foul in any way it is a warning and veterinary advice should be sought.

Being a squarely built dog a Keeshond often keeps her secret to the very last minute, especially if she is carrying a very small litter, so although one must feed presuming her to be in-whelp over feeding must be avoided. Two nourishing meals daily for the last month gradually increasing the quantity as she gets larger are ideal. At about a month a mid morning drink of non-fat milk with a cube of cheese can be given, both means of supplying a natural source of calcium. Cheap cottage cheese is the best for her and my own bitches get this daily from then on whatever chemical calcium is being used. At about seven weeks, if she looks as if she may be carrying a large litter, twice a week a raw egg is substituted for cheese. In fact the only addition to a raw meat diet is the aforementioned *Adexolin* and some form of calcium or bonemeal with phosphorous and the necessary vitamins to ensure absorption.

The entire routine and diet of the in-whelp bitch should aim to produce thin, strong, wiry puppies, vigorous and easy for her to pass; not fat heavy whelps; so all carbohydrates are kept to the minimum. An all meat diet is lacking in Vitamin B. so throughout a daily ration of *Vetzyme* is given increasing in quantity as time goes on. By the fifth to sixth week you will have a pretty shrewd idea of whether or not you are an 'expectant breeder' and your bitch will be getting very hungry. Her meat can be gradually increased from the usual half pound a day to three quarters of a pound at five weeks and by seven weeks a pound a day is quite usual. It is wise to split this into two meals daily to avoid overloading the stomach, and with half a pound every mid-day the later meal can be increased as and when it is needed. At the end you may be giving as much as a pound and a half a day plus a little milk and cheese but beware of getting the bitch herself fat for that is not conducive to easy whelping.

No bones should be given at this time and her motions should be watched daily and any sign of constipation dealt with by the addition of a little bran and a teaspoonful of Liquid Paraffin added to her meal. The addition of liquid paraffin should not be sustained as it absorbs the vitamin A and D which is vital for the assimilation of calcium, so important at this stage. I find 'Stress' contains a correct balance of calcium and phosphorous with the necessary vitamins, and it is easy to administer as being powder it can be mixed into the feed. Soft veal bones that can be cut with a knife are excellent but no hard pieces that might cause a digestive upset should be risked.

Although plenty of exercise is vital, playing rough games with other dogs, racing up and down stairs and standing up on the hind legs should be discouraged. Free running and road work prevent any sluggishness but towards the last weeks two short walks daily are preferable to one. You have to be the one to decide this for they are so game they very rarely flag!

A normal happy life with lots of fresh air and companionship and you will have a contented 'lady-in-waiting'.

During the last week a dessertspoonful of pure olive oil may be added to the feed as it is supposed to help with an easy whelping.....probably one of the fallacies to which I adhere! Certainly in this breed trouble is rare and being such a normal shape there is every chance of a normal whelping. Just the same, precautions must be taken and everything possible done for your bitches comfort and well being as well as for the welfare of her off spring.

The gestation period is sixty three days but first litters are very often early and it is best to be



prepared from the fifty seventh day on. About this time you will find that most of the tummy hair has loosened and would, in the wild state have formed a most luxurious bed for the "new borns" to arrive on. However, as we shall be providing all that, we can remove the loose hair in the daily grooming ( which is a good stimulus to the circulation during pregnancy) and see that the milk glands are clear. These sometimes show distinct changes at about a month to five weeks of pregnancy, but I have never found this to be a reliable guide as to whether or not the bitch has conceived. Quite often there is practically no sign of milk until after the actual arrival of the family, and equally a bitch can make milk but have no puppies present.

Cleanliness is of the utmost importance and Cetavlon which is an antiseptic detergent is a good stand-by. Ask your chemist to make you a pint bottle of one per cent solution and use it added to warm water at the ratio of two tablespoonfuls to a pint of water. It needs no rinsing and has no smell. The trousers should be kept clean and if soiled can be brushed with a brush dipped in this solution and then dried with paper towels. When whelping is imminent the whole tummy area including milk glands and the inside of the hind legs and trousers should be washed and gently dried. The tail must also be clean and can be included in the wash in preference to cutting off the plume, which used to be the drill before such an effective cleanser was available.

From the fifty seventh day on, the temperature can be checked night and morning and the normal 101.4 will drop and go right down, even as low as 98f. before the actual whelping. This is nature's way of reducing the warmth in which the foetus has developed and is the first step to acclimatizing the whelp to the cold world he will soon be entering. After this drop the bitch should not be left, but up to this point a normal routine can be maintained. Also from this time she should sleep in the box you intend her to whelp in so that it is familiar to her. If you have made arrangements with your veterinary surgeon to forewarn him, a phone call that the temperature has dropped will let him know to stand by. So your bitch is ready, your veterinary surgeon is ready.... but are you?

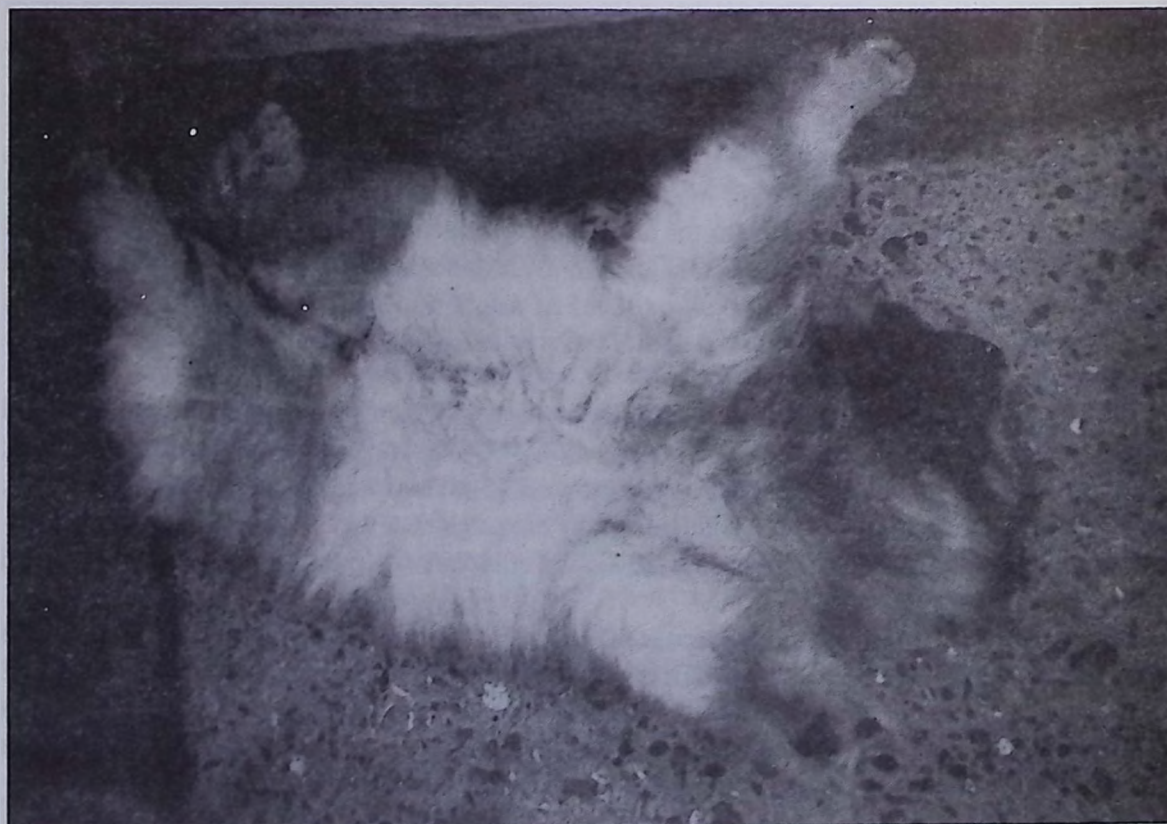


Fig. 20.1 An exhausted eight week old! Owned and bred by Mrs. Jeane Waller



## CHAPTER 21

## THE WHELPING BOX

The type of box illustrated is practical and can be used for ever with careful cleaning, disinfecting and resting between each litter. The spare floors mean there should be a clean one always available and one can be in the air. Fresh air after cleaning and leaving to 'weather' is a good way of keeping it germ free.

For whelping, just newspaper is used but later, when a warm blanket is needed a piece cut to the right size can be wrapped around the floor before it is inserted, and so it keeps flat.

The hinged front means it can be kept "up" to keep tinies safe and then, when they are ready, it can be put down to make it easy for them to get in and out.

The lid is vital and can be inverted and used as a spare box at other times. When the whelps are in the house and the box is either under a table or in a very warm room the lid can be left off so that you can see at a glance that all is well, but once outside in a kennel or even an unheated room the lid must go on so that any warmth is contained. It makes a terrific difference, and in a deep box of dry straw, woodwool, or a generous blanket or vet-bed within a draught free kennel well fed puppies are able to cope with the worst weather. I have also found that some bitches like to have their own bed or blanket on top of the lid when they get to the state of finding their offspring a bit too demanding.

The box itself is of white wood which can be well scrubbed with hot soda and soap after each whelping and then hosed with cold water and finally well swabbed with diluted household bleach. This keeps it spotlessly clean and white, ready for the next family. It can then stand outside for a week or two and a painted or varnished box would soon get shabby with this treatment. If puppies gnaw at the sides they will not do themselves any harm and paint or creosote can be dangerous.

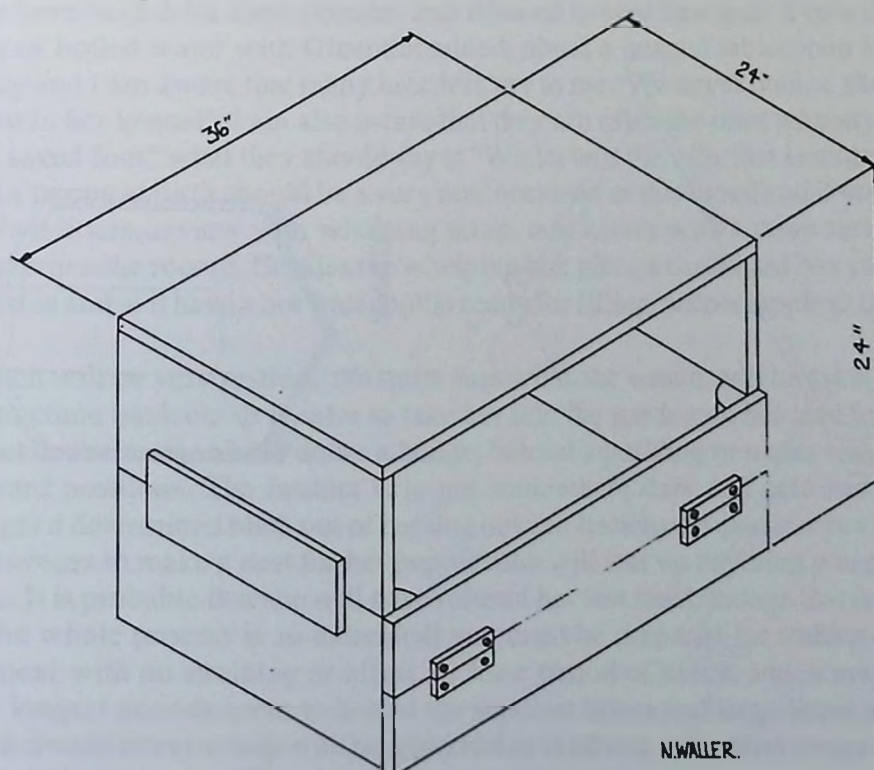


Fig. 21.1 The Whelping Box

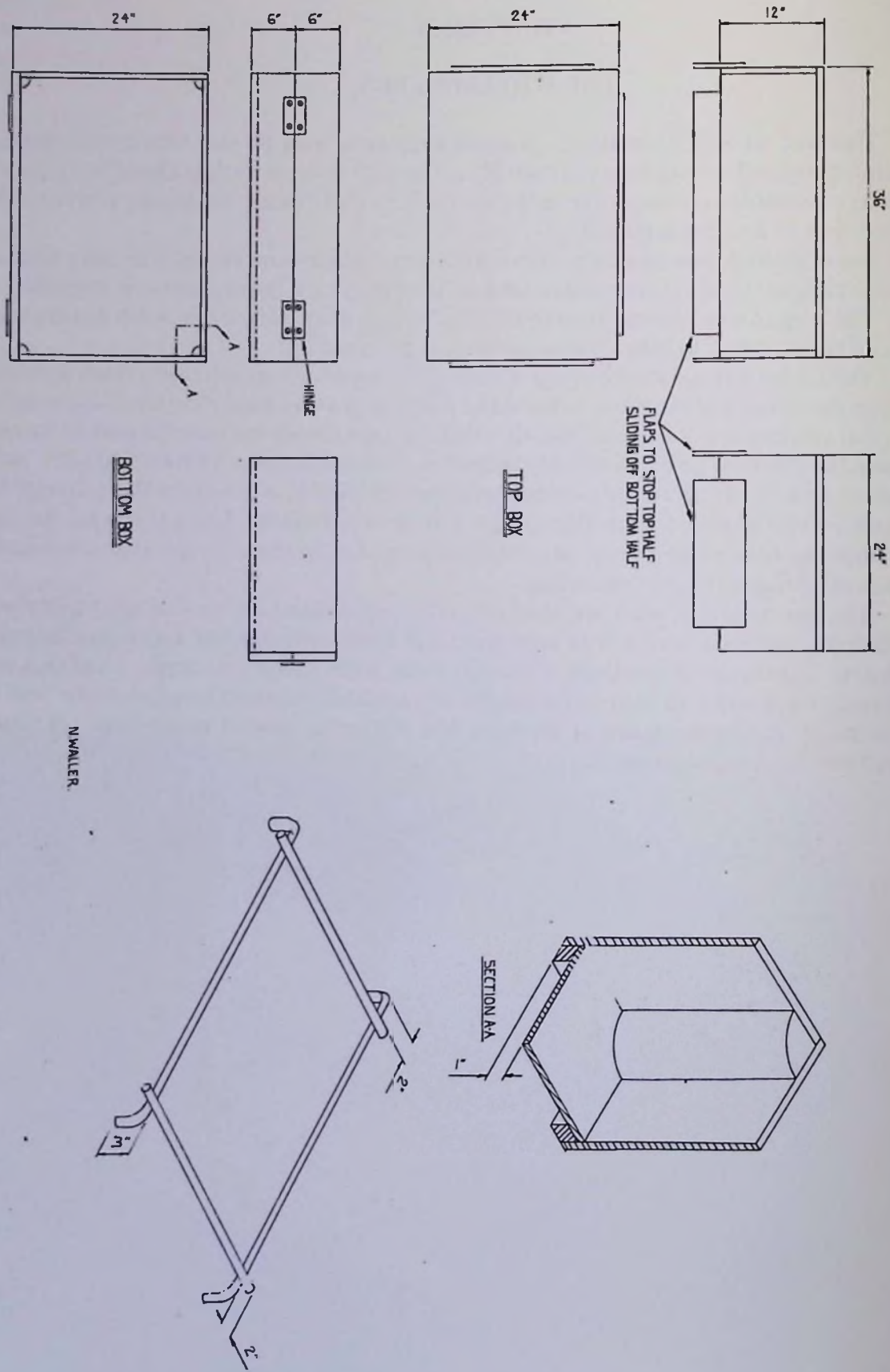


Fig. 21.2 The Whelping Box



The object of the design is to have plain surfaces which can be cleaned easily with no unnecessary crannies for germs to lurk in, and no catches or bits on which pups can get caught up. The blankets should always have a clean edge as heads can get caught in strands or they may get chewed and swallowed; Wrapping it well round the floor is a safeguard. A vet-bed is ideal. If there has been any risk of germs the box can be treated with a blow lamp but I have used only two boxes in forty years so this is not a very likely happening. If you do have to resort to this treatment be sure the corners and grooves are well subjected to the maximum heat. During the time the puppies are in the box, a daily wipe around the inside with a cloth dipped in Cetavlon and hot water will keep it fresh and unmarked.

It is a mistake to make the box too large as it becomes unwieldy to handle and loses the cosiness, but on the other hand it should be large enough for very young pups to use one end as their nest, and the other as a toilet and this is the start of house training. A normally clean dog will never soil its own bed so give even tiny puppies the room to make this distinction.

### THE WHELPING

Your preparations for the arrival of the litter should include things for your own comfort as you may be on call for some time. You will appreciate the warmth of the whelping quarters as much as your bitch does on a cold night, and I would never advocate trying to whelp a bitch in an outside kennel. A warm quiet room with hot and cold water, the means of making a hot drink, and easy access to the garden is ideal and this usually suggests using the kitchen.

The whelping box should be lined with many thicknesses of newspaper, half a dozen or more of a big daily and a spare stack of newspaper should be standing by. A great deal of this is wasted in the early digging and scraping which she will do, and when the action starts fresh layers will need to be placed on top of soiled paper as removing it is not practical.

In the room with you, you will need a clock, pencil and paper, Dettol, a pair of white cotton sleeping gloves from Boots, a pair of scales lined with a tissue, Dental floss and a pair of scissors which have been boiled for some minutes and allowed to cool unwiped. You will have already made a jug of boiled water with Glucodin added, about a heaped tablespoon to a quart. This sounds fussy and I am aware that many breeders say to me "We never bother, she whelps all on her own, out in her kennel", I am also aware that they are often the ones who say "She whelped six and we saved four" what they should say is "We let two die", for that is more truly the case. The loss of a puppy at birth should be a very rare occasion in this breed and if you have lost one in each of two litters, review your whelping setup, talk it over with a more successful breeder and try to improve the record. Besides the whelping box place a cardboard box such as groceries are delivered in and in it have a hot water bottle ready for filling, with wrappings for it and a small blanket.

Your bitch will be very restless, not quite sure what she wants, will be asking to go out and then want to come back etc. It is safer to take her into the garden on her lead for some bitches show a great desire to dig a hole under a hedge, behind a building or under a shed and get into very awkward positions. The instinct is to get somewhere dark and safe and it can be very difficult to get a determined bitch out of her dug out and back to the quarters you have prepared. In her endeavours to make a nest for her puppies she will tear up anything you put into the box at this stage. It is probable that she will have refused her last meal, though that is not always the case, and the whole process is so individual you must be prepared for sudden puppies which seem to appear with no straining or effort, or for a period of unrest which may exceed thirty hours! The longest periods seem to herald the smallest litters and large litters arrive with less fuss. A bitch should never whelp with no supervision at all and one whose owner is close at hand will be more relaxed and confident throughout.



When one of my own bitches came back to me to whelp she spent a whole day and night in this state of preparation, and still did not settle down to having her puppies. She was a much loved pet and devoted to her owner and, fortunately, to me too. It suddenly occurred to me that she wanted her own mistress there as I could find no cause for the delay. I rang her owner at five a.m. and told her. At eight, having driven seventy odd miles her mistress arrived to a rapturous greeting. By eight fifteen one puppy had arrived and by nine o'clock four were scrambling round the box! Then she took her time but it was interesting to note that she was just as upset if I went out of the room, and not one whelp arrived without both of us being present. This restless period is during the time the passages are dilating to allow the puppies to pass through them. There is some sticky discharge which acts as lubricant and although you cannot see the contractions yet, the bitch is experiencing them and will seek reassurance as she shows you quite clearly that she is in some discomfort and is wondering what is happening. She will investigate her rear, lick at herself and may shiver and blink rapidly. If she has eaten she may be sick or bring up water. A whelping position sometimes adopted is to have the front legs fully extended forward as if stretching and head lowered between the front legs, not a pose adopted at other times. As the strains strengthen she will brace herself against the back of the whelping box with much puffing and panting. Note the time of the very first visible contraction which can be clearly seen for the effort goes the whole length of the body. Write the time down. This is essential, for if your bitch should continue to strain vigorously for as long as an hour with no result contact your veterinary surgeon. If she is allowed to strain for too long and then the veterinary surgeon finds a caesarian section is necessary, the time wasted and the energy expended on fruitless straining may create hazards which could have been avoided. With this breed ten to twenty minutes may be spent on expelling the first puppy and very often less. You will see the water which will flow from the bag as it breaks and serves its purpose by flushing the vagina. Do not interfere and the next few contractions should see the whelp arriving head first, back uppermost in his own foetal membrane. Sometimes the sac may already be broken but most bitches can cope. Even a breech birth, that is the hind legs arrive first, is often coped with efficiently by the bitch herself. If however, the sac has broken there is a risk the whelp may drown so holding as much as you can see, help by pulling firmly but, gently at the next contraction. Wipe clean the mouth making sure the tongue is not stuck to the roof of the mouth. Then holding head downwards expel any water and get him breathing. Attached to the baby is the placenta and a sinuous cord joins them.

Ideally the placenta arrives with the puppy, but quite often the placenta is retained and the puppy is left dangling from the vulva. Try to get the bitch to attend to this herself for the finest whelping instrument of all is her own strong clean tongue, but firstly be sure the head is clear of the bag so that the puppy can breathe. This sometimes disturbs the bitch and you may have to help her for in turning round she may crush or knock the puppy into the sides of the box. This is the only occasion on which you may attempt to make an extraction from the bitch when she is not straining. Here I suggest using the cotton gloves for towels are clumsy and not all of us like handling slimy squirming puppies which slip out of ones hand so easily. Gloves help get a grip and can be boiled and bleached for re-use. With gloves on, wrap one finger round the cord as far from the whelp as you can and gently but firmly pull the placenta out. Against the time of arrival write down that you have the placenta. Again give the bitch the chance to deal with the situation and she will probably bite through the cord and eat the placenta. However if she does not cope you will have to help. The cord should be either cut or broken. I prefer to use sterilised scissors. Firstly tie a length of dental floss round the cord about two or three inches from the whelp and cut on the placenta side of the floss. Your new born needs all this done with speed and his breathing passages must be clear and in use. A little cry means he is in working order and if the dam has not started her somewhat rough licking and tossing around to dry him you must intervene and a good rub with a warm towel will usually bring forth the first squeal. If not, open



the mouth gently with the tip of a finger and blow several times down the throat in the rhythm you would expect him to breathe naturally. It is a surprising how dead a puppy can seem and yet be successfully revived. Books on general whelping give more details but it is rarely needed in a healthy un-exaggerated breed like the Keeshond.

Laying the puppy on its back on your hand, head in fingertips and swinging it hard downwards in a sweep, or putting it in a just warm oven may work, but first and foremost see that he can breathe. A dab of neat brandy from your fingertip straight onto the tongue may make him gasp and start breathing, and once this is established he can go onto the well padded hot bottle in the cardboard box under the blanket while the dam has number two. Even if you had to help with the first one she may well take over and deal with the rest of the litter herself. Sometimes an over enthusiastic mother will lick the new-comers tummy too heartily causing the stump of the cord to bleed. A tiny puppy cannot afford to lose blood and the end of the cord should be firmly held in cotton wool for some minutes until the bleeding has ceased. So keep a sharp eye on the babies throughout. She may feed number one for a little while before you need to remove him for the emergence of puppy number two, but beware of distracting her.

I am convinced that the average bitch with the benefit of instinct is far more clever about all this than we realise and, if all is well, the less interference the better. There is no sure sign when the bitch has finished as she will rest and sleep between puppies and so she should. I have settled the mother in a clean bed with eight babies, to find nine there the next morning! I have also sat in a veterinary surgery at three in the morning, the bitch having produced one big dog pup waiting for the rest of the litter, only to find the most relaxed member of the party was the bitch who had no intention of having any more!

Each puppy has added to the wetness and mess in the whelping box even though you have topped it up with fresh layers. When she does appear to have finished persuade her to go outside to relieve herself, better still, if you have a helper, take her on her lead. While she is out quickly put all the puppies into the cardboard box and change the floor of the box, reline it with newspapers galore and top with a warm blanket or vet-bed which can be fixed round the floor and so stay flat. It must be done very swiftly for instinct will tell her to return at once and she will know you are moving her puppies, and she must not be upset.

From the very beginning handle the puppies gently but very firmly. Too gentle, hesitant holding, will not give the puppies confidence. They should be moved slowly and firmly with no sudden shock. The search for food starts at once and should be encouraged, even during whelping if the bitch has them in her box, as the sucking stimulates the contractions. See they have a working nipple each and if you can give your bitch warmth, peace and security you will have taken the first big step to being a successful breeder.

Dettol can be added to hand washing water and a bucket of Dettol and water into which used towels and eventually the gloves can be dropped helps keep things orderly.

Any whining or crying from the puppies is a sign all is not well and a silent happily feeding litter can safely be left to the mothers care. The little dark glossy whelps will be quite thin and lanky looking at birth but within a day they seem to alter and by three days you have a mole-like velvety puppy filling out and rounding, with silvery marking just showing through. I have found that the very dark puppies are the ones that end up with good clearly defined marking even though they may take a while to clear on feet. The whippy little tail thickens quickly and at a very early stage it will stand away from the body when feeding.

The eyes will show as tiny glistening slits at about nine to twelve days and once they are open the puppies should be protected from direct strong light and, as in the wild they would be in a dark low roofed burrow, it is safest to let them get accustomed to all lights gradually. Although a light is left on overnight at first for a bitch with a litter it is dim and not directly overhead.

Generally a well fed bitch will have ample milk and the two teats at the back are the most



popular, If there is a small puppy in the litter these should be offered but it is usually the giant who claims the easiest flow and keeps it all to himself. Should the puppies show signs of hunger by whimpering and dropping off the teats, there may be a temporary shortage of milk and until a flow is established supplementary feeds will have to be given. Cows milk is entirely unsatisfactory and there are many good brands of simulated bitches milk, the one I prefer being Litterlac. The fat content of bitches milk, being 3 times that of cows milk which has only one third of the nutritive value, means that cows milk would have to be very heavily enriched to make it suitable. A Bells feeder can be used but as it is usually a very temporary measure a dropper bottle is a useful substitute, until you see if your veterinary surgeon has solved the problem with an injection, Warmth is even more important than food for the first few hours but it is as well to be prepared. The milk is sometimes slow in coming down.

The average weight for a new born is eight to thirteen ounces and in the first week there should be a gain of between half a pound and a pound, In fact they can double their birth weight. from then on the gain is about a pound a week.

### THE FIRST MONTH

The first few days after whelping are tremendously important and although the dam will be doing all the work for her little family you have to care for her. Warmth is essential and a room at 70f is ideal. She will be thirsty and the glucose and water plus milk can be given freely. No solid food should be offered for the first forty eight hours. If your bitch has eaten all the placentas or afterbirths from a litter of seven or eight puppies she will have consumed the equivalent of over a pound of raw offal and the loose black motion she will pass the next day is indicative of this. Therefore at first just milk, a raw egg, and if it is a big litter a feed of Complan twice a day and barley water should be given for two whole days. It sounds hard as she is hungry and feeding her family so eagerly, but your chief aim is to keep her temperature down to the correct level and therefore a light diet is wisest.

Check the temperature night and morning as you have been doing and you will find it slightly up. A lactating bitch will have a slightly higher temperature than normal about 102f to 103f but anything over this, however little should be reported to your veterinary surgeon. It is your early warning system. The dam will also show some discharges, the bright deep green discharge being particularly alarming to new comers, and a twice daily wash with tepid water and Cetavlon will keep her clean and sweet smelling. If allowed to remain on the coat the green will stain it. She must be well dried or she will make the puppies bed damp. In the case of a copious discharge the trousers and tail plume can be cut off but it does mar the bitches appearance for a long time, and these discharges diminish within three or four days and are quite cleared up in two weeks. Dewclaws should be removed at three to five days. With big sturdy puppies like Keeshonds I find three days quite old enough and it should cause no trauma. Watch that there is no bleeding and do not let the bitch get upset over it.

The milk glands should be regularly examined as, especially in the case of a small litter, some glands may be unused and can get congested, swollen and hard not only causing the bitch great discomfort but also risking the onset of mastitis. If the glands get enlarged and too hard for the whelps to suckle a gentle massage with oily fingers and the expressing of a little milk will make them more malleable, and the biggest strongest puppy can then help if you can get him sucking. This condition is usually only seen in the first two or three days when the bitch has more milk than the family can take but it should be noticed. Even in the first three weeks "humanising" can start. Gently fondle the puppies as they lie accustoming them to the feel and scent of human hands. Heat for Keeshond puppies, is a debatable point. A well heated room for the first week gradually reducing the temperature from the 70f at which the bitch whelped to normal house heat



by the time the eyes are open at ten to twelve days is desirable and at first heat is more important than food to the whelps. I do not like the use of infra red lamps over the box and consider it out of keeping for a long haired sturdy breed. In a warm atmosphere with complete freedom I have never had a bitch refuse to feed and care for her puppies. In warm weather they will lie beside the box rather than in it, getting in and out as they think fit, although this is unusual in other breeds. The uninitiated may think she is not caring as she should but this is not so. You will find the puppies well fed, quiet and spotlessly clean. I have been closely associated with several other breeds but have never found this trait in them so presume it to be unique to Spitz breeds.

On the occasions that a breeder rings me to say her bitch will not feed her puppies there has invariably been a lamp over the box. If you are unable to heat the room and resort to a lamp it should be over one end of the box and not too low. Keeshonds feel heat tremendously and therefore to lie in the warmth of a litter with heat coming down as well is totally out of character and must, I believe, cause a bitch great distress. I have also noticed puppies under lamps are often "itchy". Even in an outside kennel heat can be provided without infra red lamps. A box with its own roof retains the heat generated by the dogs naturally. After three weeks in the house my puppies are moved out for short periods to acclimatise them. Their brick built kennel has no heating but their whelping box with its lid, filled with fresh wheat straw or lined with newspaper and vet-bed and in very icy weather a well wrapped stone hot water bottle is adequate.

By three to four weeks they have thick coats and the mother will be with them at first and I have often noticed when taking the last feed out at eleven at night in mid-winter that the heat they make in the nest would cook an egg! However, this is winter quartering and in summer just a layer of vet-bed at night and lots of newspaper will suffice, so much easier for the daily clean out. Vet-bed is easily washed and dries quickly.

To make life easier for both you and the puppies you will have got them eating quite well before they are put out permanently. Providing your bitch has still plenty of milk the first food can be finely minced meat. I never scrape meat for a dog of this size and find the easiest way is

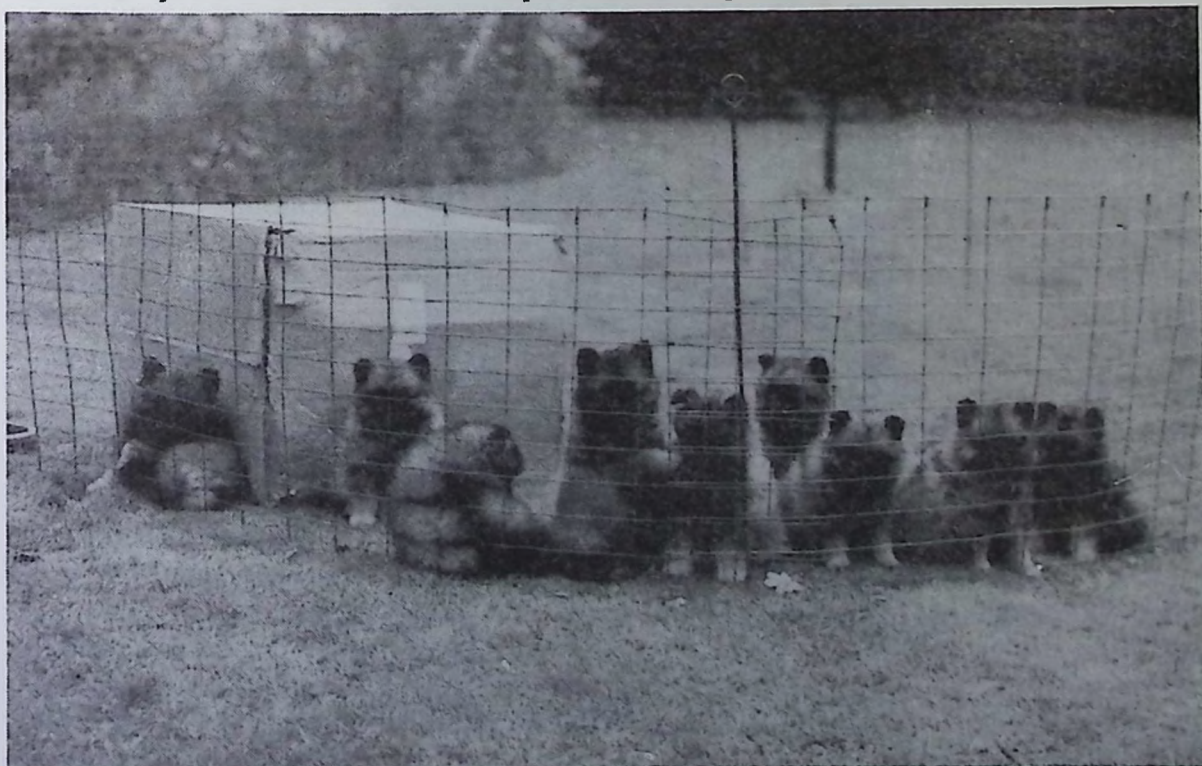


Fig. 21.3 The 1986 Vanwall litter. Sire: *Keesland Jumping Jack Flash!* Dam: Ch. *Kwintex Kelly*. Note all ears erect at six weeks. Six of the litter were Ch. show winners whilst still puppies





Fig. 21.4 Three 7 week old Brykin puppies. Owner/Breeder Mrs. Jeane Waller



Fig. 21.5 Teaching a puppy to lap.



to buy the best and finest mince, decide about how much you will offer each puppy, about a teaspoonful at first, and make up a tiny ball of meat for each one. This can be at about two and half weeks of age. Make a slight point in the ball of meat and with the puppy on your lap let him suck at it. Suddenly he will realise it tastes good! Even then there may be reluctance to actually swallow so just push a tiny piece down to start with until you find it is taken readily. Occasionally puppies may cry after feeding and appear restless and unsettled. This can occur before weaning is attempted and may indicate that the bitch's milk is a little acid. Puppies can be eased with a small teaspoon of Dinnefords Gripe Mixture. (Tinies can be given it from a dropper bottle). Two little feeds a day will soon get him used to mealtimes and by four weeks eating together at one bowl can be introduced.

Teaching to lap is no problem and again on your lap is the place so that you can hold the puppy firmly giving him confidence. Use a small dish with an edge that you can hold under the chin and be sure to use a good food such as Litterlac, rather than cows milk which would require fortifying with egg yolk and glucose. With several excellent simply prepared products on the market milk feeding is no problem. Many puppies seem happier to take their milk feed if it is very slightly thickened with Farex weaning food which gives additional nourishment.

There should be a weekly weighing session and this is a good time to cut back the tiny sharp claws which can scratch the dam at feeding time. Just remove the tip with nail scissors and record the weight of each puppy so that you will know if one fails to thrive, and this will also be a good guide for the next litter. By one month of age the aim should be to get the bitch away from them as soon as she is ready and the puppies should be on four or five meals a day, at four hourly intervals. My own routine was seven a.m. eleven a.m. three p.m. seven p.m. and eleven p.m. in winter, with an hour or so earlier in the summer months when the puppies are awake earlier and demand to be let out! Two meat meals, one fish or egg and two milk feeds covering the longest possible period.

Many breeders feel puppies should be fed individually but I find at this stage a little competition makes for speed. There is no question of the smallest and slowest being left out, for with meat the dish is just refilled until all have ceased to show interest. The same applies to **Purina** as a feed but milk feeds can be over done, with fat sloppy puppies as a result. The dish should be raised an inch or two from the ground or they will fall into it! Even at this stage fresh water should be always available. Preferably in a non-spill feeder, such as the "waterhole".

Meal times should be unhurried as it is usual for puppies to pay nature's calls after feeding, and if you have waited with the puppies you can guide them to the correct place and also clean up at once. Dishes must be picked up straight away for flies and wasps are attracted to remains of food and are an unnecessary risk. At this stage every feed has to be accompanied with a warm damp face flannel and dry towel for the "after-feed wash and brush up"! The floor of their kennel should have either a sprinkle of sawdust or a good layer of newspaper to absorb puddles and constant changing keeps the place clean. The better and cleaner their early quarters, the easier they will be to house train. If they grow up used to smells and dirt it is far more difficult to try to civilise them.

All this time the dam will be needing more nourishment than ever. The greatest drain on the bitch comes when the puppies are four to five weeks of age. Her diet should include at least two good protein meals such as a pound of raw meat for one feed, and fish and eggs or cooked offal with carrots etc as the second meal, also two milk feeds such as a breakfast of 3/4 pint of milk with barley or oats soaked in it, and the same at night but with **Purina** or a wheat product in it. Rusks can be given and the additives Adexolin and whatever calcium you have chosen to use are essential. It is the only time when you can really indulge your bitch with lots of lovely food and she certainly deserves it. She should leave her litter looking fit and not thin and poor.

At this stage a covered run and some safe heating in the puppyhouse are both useful and work savers as damp makes a run difficult to clean and limits the use of it. Failing this a second puppy



house or kennel which can be used when the main one is wet from scrubbing out is ideal. If they face different directions you can often make use of any sun and warmth there may be. The only really safe heating is hot pipes on a wall and I would far rather have none than risk wires which could be chewed or heaters which can be knocked over.

I have no outside heating and a well fed dry puppy can keep himself warm by playing as he should be doing at this stage. The bed itself must be warm and sheltered, free from all draughts. The only weather when I bring puppies indoors is fog. The damp air not only surrounds them but is breathed in and must chill them. Keeshonds are very tough and will stay out in all conditions so you do have to think for them. Quite young puppies curiously enough, seem to pop in and out of their kennel like little weather men for I have often rushed home when a sudden rain storm has developed only to find them all inside snug and bone dry!

### THE SECOND MONTH

By the time you are coming to the fifth week you should have registered your puppies, got them completely used to gentle brushing and given them as much human companionship as possible. They should know their names, be able to eat alone or in a group, and have some idea of cleanliness. Their teeth are like needles, their manners unreliable, but character will begin to show quite clearly. Those with guarding instinct will already be showing that they recognise a friend from a stranger, but none should be shy. About this time some bitches will institute their own form of weaning by regurgitating their own food for the puppies. Put like that it sounds clever but, in fact, it means they will be sick all over the puppies bringing up meat in large unsuitable pieces thus risking choking puppies and making a lot of work! So at the very first sign of this make it a rule to keep mother and babies quite separate for at least two hours after feeding. By now the aim is to get the bitch away from the puppies so that she will quickly get back to normal and they will be ready to start their new lives at eight weeks. Keeshond bitches get bored with their young at about this time, and it is no hardship for them to be kept away from the puppies all day, letting the bitch go to them just at night and even then they should be able to get out of reach. Very soon it is just a visit night and morning and by six weeks she should be finished with them altogether. Allowing the puppies to feed from the dam after five to six weeks of age risks nullifying the efficiency of the first inoculations.

They have to be kept apart from the dam for the first worming at five weeks and with modern doses no fasting is necessary. Your veterinary surgeon will supply the tablets if you give him the date of birth and the weight of the puppies. Alternatively you can use **Shaws Erliworm** which I have found most effective and I have never known it to upset a puppy. It is syrupy and some puppies will accept it and lap it out of a shallow spoon, but as it is quite a small dose it is not difficult to pour it into the side of the little mouth and hold the head back for a minute or so. Watch the puppies afterwards as some may return it, but if it has stayed down for about 15 minutes all should be well. All areas should be covered with paper for the next twenty four hours and a good big bonfire should follow. The second dose at seven weeks means they are ready to go, but, even so, advise on your diet sheets that go with each puppy, that a final worming at four months, after all inoculations are completed, should be obtained from their own veterinary surgeon. Worm the dam when she has finished with her litter. The five daily meals are no bother at this stage and claws should still be kept short. Meat, fish, tinned puppy food, Febo, milk and some cereals should be worked into the diet to assist the new owner who may not have a supply of one particular food at first. The good old scrambled egg is a standby.

Getting the bitch's milk dried up and putting her back on half a pound of meat a day, after all her indulgence, needs some tact! Very hard rusks are useful as they make her work and she seems to feel more satisfied. Uncut marrow bones work in the same way and stave off the pangs of hunger. Food should be dry and no milk, just her meat, and if you are hard hearted enough you



can cut right down for a few days and keep her away from the puppies so that they do not feed, thus preventing them stimulating the flow of milk, and the drying up process will be speeded up. Although it is best for her to stop feeding she may still want to be with them and if so all the better for the puppies. I have seen mothers literally teaching their offspring to hunt mice by chasing round a haystack and diving as if hunting; it's such an enjoyable game. Each day should be happy for both mother and the family so there has to be different treatment for different bitches. Some are happy to leave them but some get upset if shut away so there must be flexibility. Bitches may be a little disturbed and quite difficult at this stage and it's a time when they need understanding and tolerance.

Small collars such as cats wear, can be put on the puppies and a little gentle lead training will make it easier for the new owner, and if the puppy is to be shown he should be "*standing*" for each meal. Individual meals are given at this stage so that eating alone will be quite usual and a short lesson on "*standing*" after the daily grooming helps. Although so young, a great deal can be learnt at this age if you give the time and patience to it. The nicer his behaviour in his new home the more likely the owner is to be pleased with her acquisition.

Once a puppy is brought into the house, being put to sleep at night in a crate is ideal for it means the puppy will quickly be clean, and confines any first mistakes. Obviously the crate must be made a happy place and a bone taken in helps. Getting used to it during the daytime with the door standing open, often means the puppy will decide for himself that it is his rightful place and use it as a basket.

At about five weeks it is easy to see the puppies that look as if they should end up in the show ring, and those that can go as handsome pets. If by now the puppies are not individually distinguishable they can be marked by either using nail varnish on their hind claws or culinary colouring which is liquid and can be painted onto the hair in some hidden spot. The red and green are ideal and quite harmless. The nail varnish is trickier to apply but easier to remove. It is wise to sell the least good first if you have not got them booked up, so that if you should be left with an older one on your hands it will be a good one. The right home always comes along and you must satisfy yourself that the people to whom you entrust your puppy are the right ones for that particular puppy.

Pedigree forms and receipt books can be bought from "*Our Dogs*" The writing out of pedigrees and diet charts takes time, but you are not free to be out a lot with puppies of this age so it fits in very well. It is an extremely busy, wearing time for the owner and every minute you can spend with the litter is beneficial to it.

Shows are best avoided for the susceptibility to infection is increased as any immunity derived from the bitch diminishes. The period from six weeks to the date of completed inoculations is a danger time, and if you do venture to a show the strictest isolation of the dog exhibited and disinfecting of clothes worn, must be undertaken.

About eight to nine weeks after whelping the bitch will lose her coat in a most alarming way going as smooth as a whippet and looking half her normal size. A good time to bath and the new coat will soon grow in. About ten weeks must be allowed for a coat to grow.

It is time the puppy knew what it was like to be away from the rest of the litter, and this can be coupled with the start of car training by putting him into a crate in the car for a short time each day. All these small things will help him to adjust quickly to a new home life, and avoid setting up stresses which a new owner may be less able to cope with than you.

Keeping people and other dogs away and trying to steer clear of disease in any form is not easy and if you are planning to sell at eight weeks, which is generally accepted as the ideal time, it is as well to have as many puppies as possible booked for around that date by advertising and making arrangements well beforehand. If any are going to other breeders, used to rearing puppies, let them go even sooner to break up the litter. Undoubtedly if the puppies were so unlucky as to get a germ it would go through the lot, so some away as soon as it is feasible makes



sense.

Quality can be discerned by then so you will know what you want to keep and what you want to place in pet homes.

Book advertisements to come out when the puppies are six weeks old, a pretty age and it is nice for people to see them really young. Beware of prospective buyers who are travelling from kennel to kennel looking at litters, and spreading any germs they may meet. Check that they have not been with any sick dogs before letting them near your stock. When I was young and foolish I once had a nice family arrive and sit on the floor in the midst of my precious puppies and tell me that they had just been to Battersea Dogs Home as they might take on a stray! Although we all survived I spent sleepless nights and many days waiting for some terrible symptom to show! Advertising must be accurate and there are ways of making your advertisement attractive without untruths. Show stock going into one of the dog papers will require name of sire and dam, date of birth, any special wins by the immediate relatives and that is all. The pets which go into a local paper need quite a different technique. Firstly the reader may never have seen a Keeshond so you must be more descriptive. Words such as 'excellent house dogs' 'companions and guards' 'family dogs' which may tempt a buyer to visit, and if you can get the person to see the litter the puppies themselves do the rest for they are totally irresistible. Age in weeks, price 'from' is useful and it is possible you may have one you can let go more cheaply as it may be too small etc. Name of sire and dam does not matter to this buyer but disposition is very important so 'delightfully friendly dispositions' may help. Also if the column you plan to advertise in is in alphabetical order start your advertisement with an 'A' such as 'Affectionate' or 'An unusual breed' etc. so that you are top of the column.

Every enquiry should be followed up and a letter with photographs of the parents will often turn a mild interest into a desire to know more about them with a resultant visit and sale. If you do not take to the person who wants the puppy, never sell to him. Make any excuse, tell the sort of white lie St. Peter will understand. It has happened and it is very embarrassing. The best thing is to say that actually someone else did ask to have first refusal on that puppy and you will phone later if it is still available. I have had to do this when young children were involved and during the visit it became clear that the child would be allowed to use the puppy as a live toy. On one occasion the deal was completed and the owners were on their way out when I knew I could not let the puppy go. In that instance I just took it out of their hands and said that their child was obviously too young and perhaps next year . . . Far better to have a few uncomfortable minutes than to always worry and wonder if your puppy went to the right place. Enquiries as to whether there is someone at home all day, if the garden is safely fenced, what other pets are kept all help to build up a picture of the home. A most telling question is if there has been a previous dog in the family and if so, at what age it died or was put to sleep and why the decision was taken. If the dog was simply given to another home the outlook for your puppy is poor.

With all the details possible you still cannot be sure all will be well and over the years we all make mistakes. On your receipt there will be a space for other comments, and if on this you put your telephone number and add "In the event of having to part with this dog please allow me first refusal" there is some chance that you may be informed. A six monthly phone call to hear how the dog is getting on, and if possible a visit, is often to your advantage as you may find the dog has grown into a beauty and then you can persuade the owner to branch out into the show world. A good dog shown carrying your prefix is a constant advertisement.

If you are not keeping one puppy for yourself the ninth week with empty kennel and time on your hands can be depressing, but getting your bitch back into show condition will take all your spare time.

When you have some winners out it is probable that you will be asked to send a puppy to an overseas enthusiast. This is quite a different kettle of fish from selling in England. For one thing if things go wrong there is no reason why you should not have your dog back if it is still in this



country, and re-home him if necessary. However, although our strict quarantine regulations mean we can send to almost anywhere in the world, they preclude a dog coming in without six months expensive quarantine kennelling. So your dog goes out of your control for life. Another fact to consider is that some countries have more lenient laws regarding cruelty to animals than we have, and there are many countries with little regard for the dog, especially in the East. It is not only the life of the dog or bitch you send that must be on your conscience, but one must presume they will be bred from and therefore there will be descendants that may go to less dedicated owners than the person to whom you sell. All this must be thought about most carefully, and although several of my dogs have had marvellous homes with caring owners in other countries, I have refused far more homes that were offered than I have accepted, for various reasons.

If you have corresponded fully with a prospective owner and satisfied yourself that it will be a satisfactory home, the actual transport must be arranged unless the new owner can collect the puppy. Several countries have dog Clubs that charter planes to come over to Crufts, and on these flights dogs may travel in the plane with their owners which is not allowed on normal flights, where your puppy will have to travel 'Freight', and will need his own travel box. These can be bought at Shows or good dog shops. I found an ideal age was ten to eleven weeks for a sturdy well fed puppy, for he is just old enough to go without food for some hours with no ill effects and yet still young enough to be unworried by strangers and unusual noise.

Earlier than this is sometimes risky as a dog must have a veterinary certificate stating that he is "Entire" to obtain an export pedigree. He should not be sedated for he will need to be able to balance and the box should be lined with newspaper. If you wish the whole operation can be carried out by an exporter who is the expert and able to cope with the piles of paperwork involved. If you are a long way from the despatch airport it could well be safest to take the puppy to the export kennel a day or so before and leave it in their very capable hands. If you are coping yourself you will need to give up a lot of time to it and stay until the time of despatch. It should be arranged for the new owner to meet the plane if possible and to telephone immediately they have got the puppy home.

Once you have agreed to sell, contact the Ministry of Agriculture to find out what rules and regulations there are regarding the import to that particular country. This varies considerably some seeming incredibly finicky and others quite casual. You will need veterinary certificates and all this takes a lot of time. Here I should stress that if you are sending a puppy as a future show dog it simply must be a good one, and not taken from a litter when the pick of both sexes has been annexed. It may well be that your puppy is the only representative of our breed from that country, and after all the good stock English breeders have exported there is a tradition to uphold.

With the extra cost of export pedigree at £20, veterinary certificates, travelling and keeping the puppy a little longer, the cost will obviously be more than the price asked here, but inflated prices can mean dissatisfaction when the puppy matures if it does not live up to early promise and as it is always a bit of a gamble reason should prevail.

The puppy can generally be sent safely without payment as it is of little intrinsic value without the Export Certificate etc., which the Kennel Club will supply, and you need not send until the transaction is complete.





Fig. 21.6 Author with Ch. *Rapunzel of Rhinevale* and six week old descendant



Fig. 21.7 Three 7 week old Rhinevale puppies



## CHAPTER 22

## PUPPY DEVELOPMENT

**At Birth.** Your puppy will be very dark, almost black, rather thin and long, with a large head and very little marking showing: average weight 8 to 12 ounces.

**At One Week.** The puppies are rounder, plumper and fluffier with shading showing in some, mostly on the legs. At this stage there may be some with what is known as "Badger-pye coats". This is the very tips of the hairs showing a pale nondescript colour. It is comparatively rare and has no bearing on the ultimate colouring of the dog. In fact the few I have known have had particularly good harsh coats as adults. The puppy looks shorter now and will have almost doubled his birth weight.

**At Two Weeks.** Eyes open and for the first time there is an awareness of surroundings. The tail will stand away from the body and may even wag when the puppy is stroked.

**At Three Weeks.** This is a lovely age for they are on their feet, getting out of their box and feeling adventurous. Little tails go up onto the back at times. Food is accepted and weight should be about three pounds or more.

**At Four Weeks.** With four or five meals a day great strides are made and you can see quite clearly what breed you have. Ears start to come up at first waking but will drop during the day. A sturdy square little creature full of life when awake and busy establishing his place amongst his siblings. My own puppies are outside by now for part of the time even if brought in for companionship now and then. Fresh air is important and the mother is rather bored with them by now.

**At Five Weeks.** Independent of the dam and well able to get about the independence characteristic of the breed now shows in many small ways. The shading shows now with any black or white tips to the toes blending into the cream leg.

**At Six Weeks.** You should have a perfect miniature of the grown dog. Ears and tail up, quality of coat and good bone being clear. Very often it is the smallest in the litter who is first to have his eyes open and ears erect. The eventual size of the dog cannot be estimated at this stage and many small puppies, if well reared, grow into lovely specimens and should never be overlooked. The larger puppy may not be so quick to get ears erect, for it is a heavier ear, given time he will catch up. At this age the weight is generally somewhere between seven and nine pounds or more.

**At Eight Weeks.** You have a square chunky puppy, completely self possessed and full of life. Although action cannot be truly assessed there can be definite indications of faults. He should stand four square and an outstanding specimen can be recognised....always allowing for the fact that things can go wrong at any stage of growth and luck is essential.







Fig. 22.1 *Ramahawk* at 4 months



Fig. 22.2 *Ramahawk of Rhinevale at Gelderland* at 18 months. Sire: *Ch Gavimir Nighthawk*  
Dam: *Rhinevale Ramerezi* Owner: Mrs. C. Moore Breeder: Mrs. J. Waller





Fig. 22.3 *Rhondorf* at five weeks, ears just lifting



Fig. 22.4 *Rhondorf of Rhinevale* at ten months. Sire: *Ch Big Bang of Evenlode* Dam: *Rallentando of Rhinevale* Breeder: Mrs. D. Emerson later jointly owned with Mrs. Head





Fig. 22.5 *Rhinevale Remember Me* 7 weeks old



Fig. 22.6 *Restormel of Rhinevale* at 7 months, still a little gangly, coat and markings showing clearly



## CHAPTER 23

## RECORD KEEPING

No one involved with dogs has the time for a lot of office work and keeping in touch with those who purchase your puppies takes quite a lot of time. There are, however, certain records you need to have.

Details such as **breeding, date of birth, and registration numbers** will be on all pedigrees so, providing copies are filed these need not be repeated. Date of inoculation, brand used and the date the booster is due should be recorded. Dates of bitch's seasons and if you should mate her the day chosen and details as to the number of visits to the dog, length of tie, whether she appears still mateable after the normal time, as all this may be useful at a later date. Hopefully you will also enter the date of whelping with any salient features. Weight of the puppies at birth, hours taken for whelping, variance of temperature all prove interesting for comparison with later litters. I have found it extremely useful to keep a large 'dog diary' into which all deviations from normal are entered. Thus in the case of any indisposition I can look back and see not only the actual onset, should a secondary condition occur, but every symptom, the veterinary surgeon's diagnosis, the treatment, diet, temperature, motions etc. Notes of what food was accepted may help another dog years later. Memory is not enough and a factual account is invaluable.

Another section of your records should include show entries: Not only can you look back and see which judge liked your type of dog, but you will also have the means of checking up on points for trophies and when a dog has won himself out of the lower classes and you can also check on Junior Warrant points. Ever optimistic, as all dog breeders must be, a page may be kept for 'Cups'. Enter the name of the trophy, where and when it was won, and the date on which you actually take possession of it. More important, a note should be made of any change such as a place and date when taken for engraving and finally the date and name of the person to whom you give the cup when returning it for the next show. Even the best organised Clubs lose track of their trophies now and then, and it is satisfactory to be able to look back and know exactly what transpired during the time you were responsible for its safety. Most trophies are covered by insurance by the Club that owns them.

When it comes to parting with your puppies there is more to remember so a card file system is indicated. The dog's name, the new owners name and address, etc. with further details such as the person who sent the purchaser to you, or the advertisement which attracted them. This will guide you when next advertising. The date of the transfer of ownership should be carded and if there should be any delay in the Kennel Club papers which necessitates them being sent on, the date of posting should be entered. When you have been breeding for some years you will also have the sad duty of filling in the date of death and the cause. Here again some pattern may emerge and from my own cards I find that far and away the great majority of Keeshonds live until well into their teens, and 'heart' is given as the most usual cause of death, which probably means just old age. Cancer, too, is rife in all dogs and takes its toll. A good many are eventually put to sleep when life loses its appeal which is a duty any of us may have to face.

As a licence from the local authority is needed if you keep three or more bitches all details should be kept. Prior to this being granted your premises will be inspected and the fee varies from place to place. The intention of this law was to protect dogs and put a stop to the 'puppy farms' which bring discredit to the whole business of dog breeding. Although it is doubtful if it has achieved its original aim, it is essential to comply if you have the number of bitches and wish to keep on the right side of the law. Copies of all agreements should be kept with special emphasis on any Breeding Terms contracts.

When you eventually come to judge the breed strict records should be kept as to the type of show, number of classes and number of exhibits in each class. This will be invaluable when you



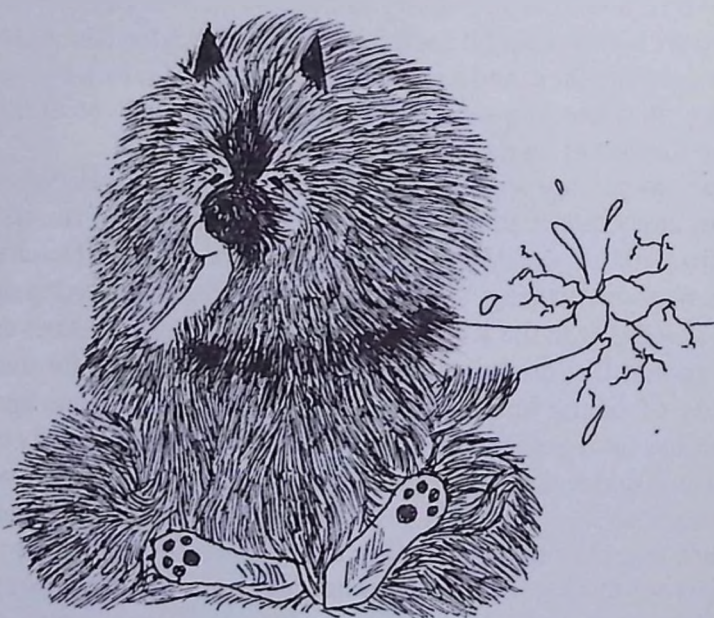
are invited to become a championship show judge and give Challenge Certificates. The Kennel Club have to pass you for this honour, and the form they send you will require all this information and more, and may influence your acceptance. There should be accurate entries for there is no margin for error here.

A well-filled-in receipt book tells quite a lot and should you have a dog at stud there is room on the counterfoil to add the result of the mating. These, too, are interesting to see, as a pattern shows when a dog no longer sires and with a quick look back you will find which lines went best with his breeding.

I do not suggest a separate account is kept for money spent on your dogs as I am sure it is far more than any of us ever admit ! Approaching the keeping of a few bitches as a family, as opposed to running a kennel, this is hardly necessary.

Insurance can be obtained for your own stock and for puppies up to the time of sale and several different companies offer various schemes and are advertised in the dog papers. New owners often like to know about this. If you send a puppy overseas keep all the forms and details. Although the rules vary from country to country despatching routine is the same and unless you employ one of the very efficient export services be prepared for a lot of paperwork. Rules for each country can be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Although some records are vital this should be kept to a minimum as time spent with your dogs is far more rewarding and most of us regard all office work as just a necessary evil.



WHAT SHALL I DO NEXT ? *Heidi*



## CHAPTER 24

### THE NUN WHO LOVED KEESHONDS

#### A UNIQUE PERSONALITY

Mother Cecilia Mary, who owned seven Keeshonds and one Saint Bernard, was a unique personality. Born in London in 1889, into an Anglican family, she made history by becoming the only nun to defy the Vatican and survive in her vocation.

Despite having a Methodist Minister as her paternal grandfather, the family had no religious pattern and it was only this one little girl who, shyly and secretly sought to work for God. Her attendance at a meeting at the Albert Hall when she was about ten years old strengthened this determination. Soon after this event her father contracted tuberculosis, which was rife in those days, and was given a short life expectancy. The family moved to a farm in Warwickshire on the assumption that the country would be advantageous. It certainly must have been, for he disproved the doctors prognosis and lived to a ripe old age!

This was Mother Cecilia Mary's first introduction to the countryside and her initial contact with animals. She was fascinated and felt a great affinity with all aspects of nature.

It was here, at an Anglo-Catholic church in the village, that she was baptized and later confirmed against her families wishes. Although only fourteen years old she fought strong family opposition on both occasions but remained resolute in her determination to eventually work for the church.

Two years later, with her father once more active, the family moved to Birmingham, where Mother Cecilia Mary enrolled at the Theological College. In 1910 a week-long stay in an Anglican Convent again brought parental wrath, but failed to deter her. Threats of war were in the air and shortly before the out-break in 1914 the family moved to Canada leaving their rebel daughter to work in the under-privileged areas of Birmingham throughout the war years.

A visit to her family in 1918, and the meeting with a prominent churchman there, led to her joining her family two years later. Thus started a life of tremendous importance which benefited many hundreds of children and elderly folk and eventually thousands of animals as well.

Between then and 1960, before the care of animals dominated her life, Mother Cecilia Mary founded a children's hostel, turning it into a highly successful school in 1923; even later she turned it into a combined home and hospital for the elderly poor; she founded the first Anglo-Catholic Community of Nuns of the Benedictine Order and founded the Society of the Love of Jesus with herself as Mother Superior. In 1937 she was received into the Roman Catholic Church although some years later, after much dispute with Rome, she returned to the Anglo-Catholic fold.

#### A DOG SANCTUARY

By 1960 she was over seventy years old and had been dogged by ill health for some years. Plans were afoot for her to retire and live quietly in the Priory to which she had devoted so many years. These plans were never fulfilled for a lay worker called to see her one day telling her of a sadly neglected dog and begging her to intervene on its behalf. As always the cry for help was answered and she visited the house. She found an emaciated Keeshond bitch with eight puppies, lying on a bare floor in a dark and filthy basement. There was no sign of food or water and the puppies were too weak to stand. The breeder was asking twenty dollars each for the puppies and





Fig. 24.1 The Two Founders of the Good Shepherd Shelter



the smallest and weakest was bought. When she returned to the Priory she contacted the local SPCA only to be told that the house in question was outside their territory and they therefore had no authority to act. There was only one answer, and a second visit was made with the dam and remaining puppies all returning to the Priory.

Pitifully thin, sickly and vermin ridden, the whole litter needed great care, but all were successfully reared, some destined to remain with their saviour for the rest of their lives. One can imagine the impact this must have had on a community of nuns used to a peaceful and orderly life but this was only the beginning for within days the word had spread and a variety of unwanted, lost or injured animals kept arriving at the door.

By the Autumn of 1961 there were twenty-eight dogs in residence and complaints about noise and nuisance were plentiful. Caring for the dogs had also become a full time occupation which triggered off the dispute with the Vatican. With the influx of animals not only growing, but diversifying to include horses and goats more ground and larger buildings were needed which lead to a move to a twenty-four acre site at Metcheson and Mother Cecilia Mary breaking away from those with whom she had worked for so many years. However, five of the sisters elected to go with her and between them cared for some two hundred animals working on the principle that no animal should ever be destroyed if a normal life was possible. Of all the animals and birds that sought sanctuary, dogs headed the list and many hundreds were cared for.

At seventy-seven years of age, fighting deteriorating health and ever greater opposition from the Vatican, with the threat of ex-communication, yet another move had to be undertaken to accommodate the enormous animal family. Eventually a 58 acre site at Mill Bay was found and the actual move attracted a great deal of publicity. Mostly using private cars and with volunteer helpers it was dubbed *The Noahs Ark Operation* in one paper and unbelievably it was completed in one day. The publicity was good and more donations arrived with the added joy of volunteer helpers. This was the hey-day of the project. The Shelter's own journal was produced and *The Shepherds Crook* was sent all over the world bringing in support and world-wide interest. The whole of America knew about it and the Keeshond Club in England made a collection as their contribution. Building stables and kennels and weekly food bills running into thousands of dollars a week meant constant fund raising and a shop was opened to which animal lovers sent gifts.

As is so often the way enemies were made as well as friends and a move to have the shelter closed down caused great stress. It is sad to have to end this chapter on a tragic note, but disputes among the directors, staff problems and even more significantly, the complete breakdown of Mother Cecilia Mary's health, brought utter confusion. Today, with its founder bed-ridden and in hospital, the buildings stand derelict and a solitary nun copes with the few remaining dogs. It seems as if all the enthusiasm and the energy were inspired by one remarkable woman's love and compassion and as the years took their toll so the shelter, which was her life, disintegrated. Undoubtedly that pitiful Keeshond bitch and her family were the instrument that brought happiness and success to countless helpless animals and they, like their saviour, deserve to be remembered.



## CHAPTER 25

## THE KEESHOND IN ENGLAND

At Tattersalls yesterday a group of people held a show of what they firmly believe the most charming dog in the world – the Keeshond, the Dutch barge dog.

He was brought to England 13 years ago by Col. F.J.B. Wingfield-Digby (now President of the Keeshond Club, whose fifth open show this was), but has since become a naturalised Englishman.

**He is a cross between a Pomeranian and an Alsatian  
and looks a little like the distant relative of a husky.**

**Almost his only failing is that he hates getting wet.**

It was a pretty sight to see these dogs in the ring. Their bushy-haired, white tails curled elegantly over their backs, their foxy heads, with small ears erect, were set off by the thickest of ruffs, and they were very conscious of the magnificent thickness of their well-brushed, fine straight coats.

#### High Standard

If a Keeshond wants to get into championship class he should not be more than 18" high at the shoulder, boast a pair of lightish tan spectacles round the eyes, and own a coat which has the silvery grey of a wolf.

A well-known Dutch breeder, Mrs. H. Stenfurt-Kroese, was the judge, and she told me she considered the standard extremely high.

Among the winners were:– Puppy Dogs: Mrs. L. Baigent's Wilhelm van Alkmar, Col. and Mrs. Wingfield-Digby's Snowfleet van Zaandam Junior Dogs: Col. and Mrs. Wingfield-Digby's Katitcha van Zaandam. Mrs. Jane G. Soulsby's Hawdon of Houghtonville Post-graduate Dogs: Mrs. Rokeby's Hudel of Evenlode, Mrs. D. Miller's Olaf. Mid-Limit Dogs: Mrs. W.E. Gateacre's Guelder Ado, Col. and Mrs. Wingfield-Digby's Katitcha van Zaandam. Limit Dogs: Col. and Mrs. Wingfield-Digby's Katitcha van Zaandam, Miss Joan Harman's Jerry of Kynaston.

The above item and accompanying photograph Fig. 25.1 appeared in a daily paper in the late twenties.







Fig. 25.1 These puppies were shown at a Pre-war Keeshond Club show. In those days there were "litter" classes which were discontinued being a danger to the dogs entered as they were too young to have been inoculated and distemper was rife at the time.

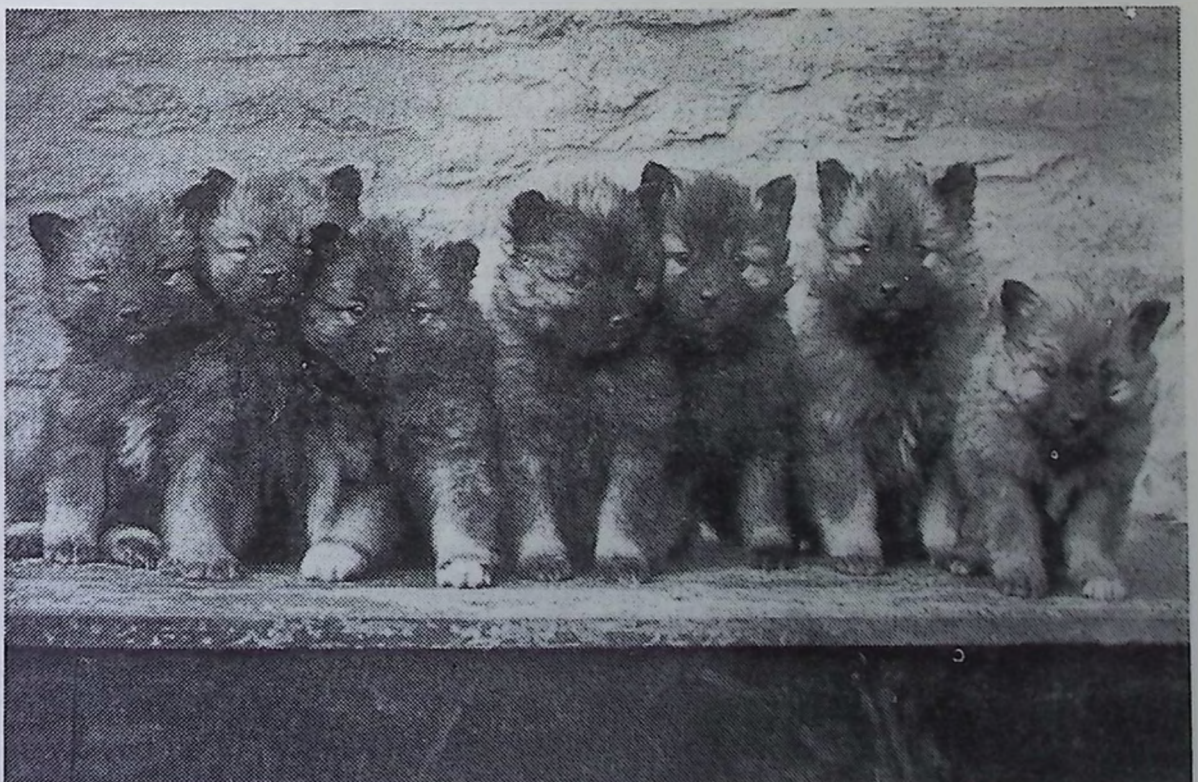


Fig. 25.2 A van Zaandam litter in the 1950's



Although the Keeshond is a member of the Spitz Group, which are acknowledged to be of extremely ancient origin, recognition of the Keeshond as we know it, the grey-and-black shaded, medium sized variety, came quite late. A picture of a "shaded sable Pomeranian" called Kees, owned by Miss G. Beverley appeared in the *Kennel Gazette* in 1911 but his origin is unknown and there is no record of any descendants. He is thought to have been the first Keeshond in this country for Miss Beverley expressed her admiration for a Keeshond belonging to a Dutch family with whom she was staying in Friesland and later a puppy was sent to her.

However, we know that earlier, in 1902, Mrs Wingfield Digby, then a school girl, had persuaded her parents to buy her two puppies direct from a barge during a sailing holiday on the Dutch canals for the sum of four shillings (20p). It was only after this pair had produced a litter that the fact that they had bred so 'true' suggested they were a pure breed and that it was not just a lucky chance that the first two matched so perfectly. There are reports that various Keeshonds were seen around Chester in 1903, but as some were brown and were referred to as Wolf Spitz it suggests they were not pure Keeshond. Although whole colours are accepted in some countries this book is specifically about the grey Keeshond, the only colour recognised by the Kennel Club.

After the first World War, Mrs Wingfield Digby, by then a young woman with a growing family, decided to pursue her interest in "the little barge dogs" which had so quickly won admirers and she set about paving the way for the establishment of the breed in England.

In this she had the co-operation of several friends and others who were attracted to these unusual dogs and in October 1925 the Keeshond Club was formed.

In the first Committee Mrs Wingfield Digby was not only the President but also the Hon Secretary. The 1927 Committee had Lt. Col. F.J.B. Wingfield Digby, D.S.O., as President and Lady Pelly the Vice President. Baroness Burton, Mr and Mrs Gambier, Mrs Gammidge, Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Hollins, Mrs J. C. Moore, Mrs F. W. Morton, Vice Admiral Sir Henry Pelly, Lady Kathleen Pilkington, Mrs Stephens and Mrs Fisher Rowe (Mrs Wingfield Digby's sister) made up the rest of the committee and were supporters at the time when all the help possible was needed. By 1931 Miss Hastings had joined them and Col Masters, who became Treasurer, an honorary position which he held for many years.

Just twenty-five Keeshonds were registered that year. Originally called the Dutch Barge Dog Club the name was changed in 1926 to what it is today – "The Keeshond Club", the North of England Keeshond Club being formed ten years later.

An important event for the breed was the arrival in England of Mrs Alice Gatacre in 1928, which was the year the breed was given challenge certificates. Dutch by birth, she was married to an Englishman and devoted to the Keeshond, her *Guelder Kennel* with Dutch and German dogs was of great value. She brought with her *Ado von Theirlstein* and his dam *Ada*, who whelped in quarantine, and a whole new bloodline emerged. This was the nucleus of the Guelder kennel which, with the van Zaandams, owned by Mrs Wingfield Digby, dominated the breed at that time.

As early as 1927 Baroness Burton became interested in the breed to later become Vice President of the Keeshond Club. With her Dochfour kennel of Cairns and gun dogs already well known, her Keeshonds came to the fore with her great favourite Ch *Dochfour Hendrick* becoming the first champion in the breed. *Erika von der Maiblume*, imported by Mrs Gatacre joined the Dochfour Kennel which housed quite a number of the breed pre-war.

Until 1927 Keeshonds were shown in the "Foreign Dogs" category. At the Kennel Club Show that year with Count de Bylandt judging, Baroness Burton's *Dochfour Hendrick* was



considered to be the best Keeshond and Best Opposite Sex was Mrs Wingfield Digby's famous *Gesina van Zaandam*, both of whom later won their titles. In 1928 Mrs Wingfield Digby's imported *Bartel van Zaandam* (previously *Billo von der Maiblume* registered as *Bartel* in England) won the first Challenge Certificate (CC) in the breed at Crufts under Mr C.A. Schuld. In 1929 the dog CC went to Mrs Gatacre's *Ado von Theirlstein*, his first, with Baroness de Constant Rebecque judging. Mrs Gatacre, now a nonagenarian, lives in a castle in Holland with a Yorkshire Terrier as her canine companion. Her son, however, still has Keeshonds. 1931 and 1932 saw Dutch judges at Crufts with Mrs Gatacre's *Guelder Geron* taking both certificates. He was a brother of CH *Ado von Theirlstein* and later became a champion.

It was also in 1931 that Mrs Wingfield Digby's famous Ch *Konstanz van Zaandam* won his first CC to accumulate ten more before his retirement from the ring. Crufts 1933 saw him take the top award.

As well as the grey Keeshond Mrs Gatacre imported some whole colours, white and black and sought to get them recognised by The Keeshond Club. They were not accepted and this caused some dissension resulting in Mrs Gatacre's resignation from the Club. Before resigning, in a bold bid for recognition of the whole colours, Mrs Gatacre showed two black bitches and two white dogs at Crufts under Mr Schuld. One can well imagine the scene and after, the Show Secretary had been called the judge was instructed to judge the three different colours, white, black, and grey in the same class, on their respective qualities. Despite this minor victory the Guelder kennel appeared to fade and there seems no trace of them after 1938 when they moved to Ireland. Mrs Gatacre did however return to judge the breed at Crufts in 1951.

The Guelder kennel had done a great deal for the breed and Mrs Gatacre left us a very valuable legacy in her book *The Keeshond*, now sadly out of print.

From this short summary of important Keeshonds on which our breed has been built you will notice that, although we are inclined to refer to our dogs as Dutch Keeshonds, in fact, a great number came from Germany and certainly from all old records it is the Rhine Spitz and the German Wurttemberger Spitz that resembles today's Keeshond as we know it. The latter is black in colour, but has more features which we prize such as neatness of ear and compactness of body than the Rhineland Spitz and it is a shade smaller. The Rhineland Keeshond which comes from the East of the Rhine has the colouring we accept but at one time, according to the Dutch, the Keeshond should have "no distinct markings" and spectacles were to be discouraged! Quite the opposite of our Breed *Standard* and not in accordance with the current Dutch *Standard* either. Obviously the Dutch specimen is now very like our own, and they have a preponderance of grey Keeshonds.

People who had come into the breed were headed by Miss Osmonda Hastings whose Evenlode kennel not only came to the top in this country but won world wide acclaim and her knowledge and love of the breed is unquestioned.

Dr Wildboer's Dekana kennel, although very short lived, produced some good dogs and Mrs Williamson of the Worton's also made their mark. Worton was a kennel-maid-training kennel and their main breed was Cocker Spaniels but they also housed Borzois, Setters, Bedlington's, Schnauzers, Clumber Spaniels, Wire-haired terriers and Cairns as well as Keeshonds! *Aleda of Worton* was well known as a winner, as was *Estant of Worton* and *Hendrick of Worton* who proved to be a successful sire. He was a small dog of Van Zaandam breeding.

The year 1931 was momentous for the breed. Mrs Gatacre exported stock to the United States of America, Spain, Holland and France and *Guelder Chinchilla* drew a great deal of attention in the USA and drew many Americans into the breed. In this country, too, it was a year



of advancement. One canine journalist wrote that the improvement in quality between Crufts and the last show of the year was striking. Another personality of the dog world of that era, Phyllis Robson, one time editor of *Dog World*, wrote "... the Chow Chow, Samoyed, Poodle and the Keeshond are unmistakably fashionable". Another authoritative quote stated "Most Keeshonden are good-looking and anyone who acquires a plain Keeshond may consider himself unlucky".

The prices being asked at this time make interesting reading: Baroness Burton's Dochfour kennel offered *Dochfour Eda* for sale at three guineas (£3.15) which included a free stud service to *Dochfour Willi*. Another offer was a multiple first prize winning bitch, two years old for fifteen guineas, and even one described as "ears not sufficiently erect, though a winner at championship shows... on breeding terms for four guineas". Many advertisements included the dramatic words 'over distemper' and anyone who remembers the pre-incoculation days will appreciate what at this implies.

With new enthusiasts in the breed, and many more imported dogs, the foundation of future breeding was laid, for these dogs are away in the background of all today's pedigrees. *Black Bock* (formerly *Peter Graner*) was born in Germany in 1925 and imported by Mrs Moore, in 1927. He made an enemy of one of Mrs Moore's dogs and was eventually passed to Miss Hastings who found him "a most faithful and lovable companion". He was black in name only and a good specimen. Other German imports were *Bartel van Zaandam*, formerly *Billo von der Maiblume* and *Hendrick van Zaandam*, formerly *Horst am Ziel*. The changing of names makes for confusion and is no longer allowed. Two more who were useful additions were *Alli von der Sternwarte* and *Max of Backombe*. The most influential bitches from Germany were *Bertle von der Maiblume*, litter sister of *Bartel*, and *Birna von Leopoldshafen* who came in whelp to *Ch Geron am Ziel*. In September 1926 *Birna* whelped a large litter in quarantine only three of which survived and sadly all were dogs. One of these was acquired by Mrs Fletcher Austin and was registered *Kees of Barnacre*. Later his dam joined him in Mrs Fletcher Austins kennel where she had a litter sired by *Ch Dochfour Hendrick* before being exported to America. Another quarantine disaster was when Mrs J. C. Moore imported *Bertle von der Maiblume* in whelp to *Max*, the sire of *Alli von der Sternwarte*; of the three resulting puppies only one survived. She was acquired by Mrs Wingfield Digby, registered as *Cuba van Zaandam* and proved a most valuable brood.

As a result of a visit to German kennels, Mrs Moore and Mrs Morton brought over two more German Keeshonds to figure prominently in the early pedigrees. They were *Aria* and *Cely von Jura de Witt*. It is the blending of the larger darker German type with the Dutch lines that has given us the modern Keeshond. From Holland came *Cornelius van Zaandam*, *Ravensdown Aagje*, and the ill fated *Wachter* who died whelping shortly after winning the bitch CC at Crufts in 1928. Almost all the Guelders were Dutch and many of Mrs Wingfield Digby's Keeshonds too, both introducing German blood as well.

The tragic story of the German imported *Christel am Ziel* leaves one wondering what circumstances led to her import, or even more traumatic, her sale. Mrs Morton imported her at the age of nine, so surely not for show or for breeding. She died in quarantine of a broken heart. In Germany she was considered as near perfect as the breed had achieved and her litters included some of the most important dogs in the breed. Indeed, even today, it would be very hard to find a quality Keeshond that does not go back on some line to this beautiful bitch. Some of her descendants are *Ch Bartel van Zaandam*, *Dietz von der Grafschft Mors*, *Cuba van Zaandam*, *Guelder Geron*, *Gonda*, and *Ginkel*, *Flora von Theirlstein* and *Ch Ado von Theirlstein*.





Fig. 25.3 Keeshond Club Ch. Show 1953. Mrs. L.M. Deakin with *Ch. Winkanton of Wistonia*. Miss Winifred Shotter who presented the trophies. The judge W. Macdonald Daly. Mrs. G. Wingfield Digby with *Bess Van Zaandam*



Fig. 25.4 North of England Keeshond Club Members in the Early 1950's



The breed owes a great debt to the enterprising and dedicated breeders of that era for the care they took to import good stock and for being sufficiently far-sighted to obtain Keeshonds from both Germany and Holland.

Up to 1938 there were several Keeshonds that had proved of sufficient quality to earn their title or at least one Challenge Certificate and several major shows were putting on classes for the breed. CC winners included *Ch Sterndale Sargo*, *Ch Hugo of Houghtonville*, both *Major* and *Minor of Morven* several more *van Zaandams*, several more *Guelders*, *Ch Sterndale Sylvia*, *Ch Viva van Eyck*, more *Dochfours* and last, but far from least, *Ch Tiptoes*, the first champion bitch in England.

*Ch Tiptoes* litter sister, *Minka*, also created a record by becoming the first Keeshond to be obedience trained. *Ch Tiptoes* was the foundation of Miss Kay's Peakland kennel. Sired by *Ch Dochfour Hendrick* the sisters were bred from *Weia van Zaandam*. *Foxlydiate Razor*, *Gouverneur General* and *Hans of Houghtonville* also joined the ranks of the CC winners but made no great impression on the breed.

Here are some remarks made by either those who judged or knew some of the notable dogs of the day:

*Ch Bartel van Zaandam*. ".....very typical though rather light-eyed. He became the property of Mrs Moore and died as the result of an accident in 1931, leaving good progeny".

*Ch Dochfour Hendrick* (not shown after 1930). ".....was a big upstanding dog with very dark eyes, exceedingly good bone and front. He was a good colour but darkened with age".

*Ch Konstanz van Zaandam*. ".....his pictures do not do him justice. He was the best the Van Zaandam kennel ever bred. A grand dog, very masculine and most beautifully made with good bone. Beautiful head, lovely silver grey colour with distinct shading, an excellent front and just the right bend of stifle".

*Ch Simonius van Zaandam*. " .....an outstanding dog.....".

*Ch Lutine* and *Ch Fina van Zaandam*. " .....two of our loveliest bitches".

*Ch Dochfour Jacob*. " .....a biggish dog with a florious coat, rather like his sire *Ch Dochfour Hendrick*.

*Ch Sterndale Sargo*. ".....another lovely son of *Ch Dochfour Hendrick* and very like him.

*Black Bock*. ".....a lovely type but rather dark in head".

*Ch Ado von Thierlstein*. ".....quite a different type from the other imports being smaller, lighter of bone, very compact but inclined to sandiness in colour and round in eye. A very pretty attractive dog but rather Pommy".



## VAN ZAANDAM

Through the years Mrs Wingfield Digby's interest in the breed never waned and two post-war champions appeared from her kennel, Int. Ch. *Billo van Zaandam* and Ch *Beron van Zaandam* in 1953 and 1955 respectively, the latter being a son of Ch. *Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn* whose line goes back through Mrs Harrops' Grovelyn line to the early Ravensknowles. Honoured by Keeshond Clubs in many countries, Mrs Wingfield Digby continued to visit the shows until in her late eighties, albeit in a wheel chair latterly. Up to the time of her death at ninety years of age she still wanted to know names and breeding of the top winners. With the help of Mr Mainwood, her constant aide during the last twenty years of her life, she wrote her book *My life with Keeshonden*. This was published in 1969 and anyone reading it will get a cameo impression of this gallant lady. Ch. *Konstanz van Zaandam* was born in 1931 and Ch. *Beron van Zaandam* in 1955, thus covering over 20 years.

## EVENLODE

During the thirties Miss Hastings enlarged her Evenlode Kennel and some very beautiful specimens of the breed were produced. Their influence has continued, blended with other lines and most of today's top kennels go back to her breeding. Her *Busta of Hyver*, sired by Ch *Alli von der Sternwarte*, was a striking bitch with a lovely head and dense well marked coat, short by today's standards. The mating with *Cely von Jura de Witt* gave Miss Hastings the lovely CC winner *Dorcas of Evenlode* who in her turn produced a spectacular litter to Ch *Bingo*. There were three puppies in it destined for stardom. They were Ch *Hagedorn of Evenlode* whose record of winning sixteen CCs was not beaten by a bitch until Ch *Volkrijk of Vorden* won 24 in 1957.

Ch *Halunke of Evenlode* won the record number of CCs for a male until beaten when Ch *Ledwell Dutchman* won his twenty-fifth in 1976. The third of the trio was Ch *Herzog of Evenlode* owned by Mrs Fort (now the late Mrs J.R. Collins) a notable early American champion and one who made his name part of the history of the breed in U.S.A. Mated to Ch *Konstanz van Zaandam*, *Dorcas*, produced Ch *Gijsbrecht of Evenlode*, so she was a valuable brood.

Amongst the other famous Evenlodes was the CC winner *Diana*, and the beautiful Ch *Furstin of Evenlode*, daughter of *Black Bock*. Slightly smaller, very compact with lovely colour and marking she was the first Keeshond to really steal my heart and I have always felt privileged to have owned her descendants. Her sweet head was an example of true Keeshond beauty, with femininity combined with strength. Evenlode Keeshonds were still at the top with Ch *Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle* winning B.I.S at L.K.A in 1963. The first Keeshond dog ever to achieve this at a championship show.

With the outbreak of war in 1939 Keeshond activities were suspended. Apart from small shows, limited to an area, all shows stopped and feeding became very difficult. The Club was held together by a dedicated few to whom we are all indebted. Firstly the late Mrs Doreen Anderson of the Kultz prefix whose home was in a remote area of Scotland. At that time she was Hon. Sec. of The Keeshond Club and it was she and Mrs Wingfield Digby, who personally paid out any dues and kept the Club afloat. By much letter writing she managed to keep many members in touch and one or two important dogs were taken to the safety of her home. Miss Barbara Glover, who was in the Womens Land Army, working on a farm during the war, took with her several of the Evenlode dogs and bitches thus saving the nucleus of the quality stock which formed the post war Evenlodes.



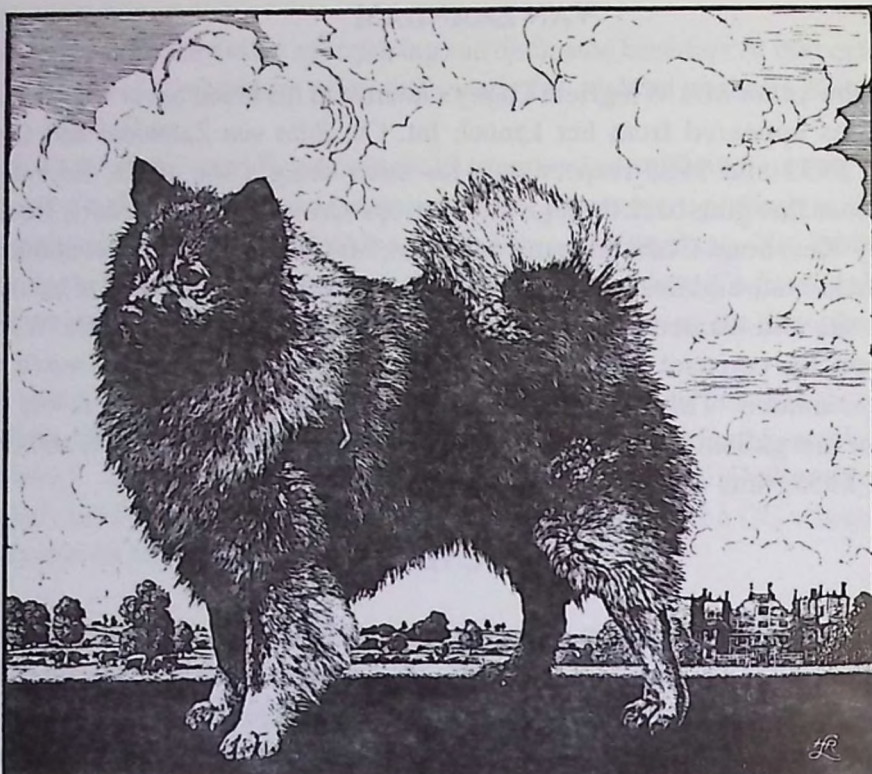


Fig. 25.5 The Champion *Konstanz Van Zaandam*. Owner/Breeder Mr. Wingfield Digby



Fig. 25.6 Mrs. Wingfield Digby, who brought the breed to this country in the early nineteenth hundreds, showing one of her dogs over fifty years later





Fig. 25.7 *Ch. Furstin of Evenlode* 1934. Sire German Import *Black Bock* Dam *Diana of Evenlode*. Owner Miss O.M. Hastings



Fig. 25.8 *Ch. Hagedorn of Evenlode*. Owner Miss O.M. Hastings. Sire *Ch. Bingo* Dam *Dorcas of Evenlode* 1935





Fig. 25.9 *Ch. Ludwig of Evenlode* taken from a photograph: Sire *Gijsbrecht of Evenlode*. Dam *Ch. Furstin of Evenlode*. A beautiful dog born in 1937





Fig. 25.10 Ch. *Merrybelle Monarch of Evenlode*. Sire Ch. *Randalone of Rhinevale*. Dam Ch. *Rondina of Rhinevale*. Breeder Mr. Merry Owner: Miss O.M. Hastings

The breed is deeply indebted to Miss Glover for thanks to her Ch *Lucinda of Evenlode*, Ch. *Liebling*, *Lehrmeister*, *Pieter* and *Penelope* were saved and proved an invaluable background for so many post war winners. Researching pedigrees there are very few dogs that cannot trace their ancestry to one of these, and their influence is worldwide. Later Miss Glover was destined to be the longest serving and most able Hon. Sec. the Keeshond Club has ever had and the smooth running of over twenty-five years was just part of her contribution.

Miss Hastings herself served in the F.A.N.Y.S. for the whole of the war returning with a new friend, Miss Kempe, who became her partner. The van Zaandam kennel was able to restart with some of the dogs that had been placed out with staff and friends. It was possible for a family to feed one dog, but to keep a kennel was impossible. So these were the two most important kennels when life returned to normal in 1945. As well, there were Mrs Gould's Summerleaze kennels based entirely on van Zaandam and one or two in the North with Vorden most prominent, Ravensknowle and Grovelyn and very soon the famous Wistonias.

First post-war litters included one from *Penelope of Evenlode*, who was a daughter of Ch *Ludwig of Evenlode* and Ch *Leibling of Evenlode*. Mated to *Pieter of Evenlode* a significant litter was produced including a bitch for Miss Kempe. One bitch started the post-war Welfords for Miss Glover *Truda of Evenlode*, and one came to me, *Tabitha of Evenlode*, and every Rhinevale is descended from her. *Timothy of Evenlode* went to Baroness Burton.

It is interesting to see how casually some people came into the breed.



### THE RAVENSKNOWLE KENNEL

One name stands out in the early nineteen-forties and that is Ravensknowle, owned by Mrs Newbold. Funnily enough Mrs Newbold was seeking a Chow Chow when a friend told her of a local litter. She went to see them and despite the fact that they were not the colour of the Chow she wanted she decided to take a dog puppy. A neighbour persuaded her to give her dog a chance at a show and knowing nothing about the breed the unfortunate dog was taken to a terrier handler for show preparation. His undercoat was pulled out, clippers were taken to him and he was shaved round the ears. His tail was primped into a ball and after a four mile walk they arrived at his first show! The show was poorly attended and he managed to get four cards!

This led to a schedule for the North of England Keeshond Club Show being sent and after attending this Mrs Newbold learnt a lot and bought a very lovely bitch, *Queen of Tufton*. Her pedigree included Guelder breeding and *Black Bock*, *Cely von Jura de Witt* and other important imports. That first, so causally bought dog puppy, became the famous *Hendrick of Ravensknowle* a son of *Gibraltar Demetri ex Range* going back to the Dochfour line and mated to *Queen of Tufton* he sired the first post-war champion, *Ch Major of Broadcliffe*. *Hendrick* was a good looking dog and shown fearlessly he did a lot to popularise the breed when it was little known. He was born just before the war and during the war years he won over four-hundred cards, most of them firsts.

In the same litter as *Ch Major of Broadcliffe* were two famous brothers *Rogue and Rascal of Ravensknowle* both Best in Show winners and good stud dogs. Amongst the famous bitches in this kennel were *Ch Kiska of Ravensknowle* and *Ruffle of Ravensknowle*, her daughter by *Rogue*. It was Major who made such an impact on the breed. He was a dog everyone admired and always so well presented and shown by Mr Broadhurst senior, while his son, Cliff, was still in the Army. Clifford Broadhurst chose a Keeshond as the dog for him after seeing a cigarette card depicting a Keeshond and with no knowledge of dogs at all. Having decided on the breed he wrote to a dog food manufacturer and asked how he could find a puppy. Mrs Newbold's address was given to him and when a litter arrived young Clifford was told he could have the pick of the litter providing he would show it in his own area. As it turned out it was Clifford's father who trained and showed *Major* so successfully. Known at home as *Raq* he was a well loved pet and proved to be a wonderful character so, in that respect also, his quality as a sire benefited us all. He won seven CCs in all before being retired from the ring, but his progeny and their descendants are ubiquitous and almost every winner of today goes back to this great dog. As I recall him he was one of those dignified serious dogs, handsome and sound, with great character. He sired three champions in one litter one of which was *Ch Verschancing of Vorden* the sire of the Crufts' Best in Show winner *Ch Volkrijk of Vorden*. Another outstanding dog sired by Major was Miss Farrelly's Int. *Ch Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn ex Ch Ardent of Ravensknowle* winning his title both here and in Ireland and siring several champions in this country.

In February 1949 the North of England Keeshond Club held a Championship Show in Manchester judged by Mrs Newbold and it drew the excellent entry of almost 100 Keeshonds. Many classes were up to fifteen strong and Best in Show went to *Ch Major of Broadcliffe* with another sired by the famous *Hendrick of Ravensknowle*, Mr Greenwood's *Ch Hecate of Muirville*, taking the bitch CC.





Fig. 25.11 The First Post War Champion. *Ch. Major of Broadcliffe*. Sire *Hendrick of Ravensknowle*. Dam *Queen of Tufston*. Breeder Mrs. I. Newbold. Owner C. Broadhurst





Fig. 25.12 Ch. *Major of Broadcliffe*. Owner Mr. C. Broadhurst. Sire *Hendrick of Ravensknowle*. Dam *Queen of Tufton* Breeder Mrs I Newbold

### RHINEVALE (AUTHOR'S KENNEL)

The Rhinevales made a poor start. *Tabitha of Evenlode* came to me in 1946 at eight weeks and was a delight but like all breeders I wanted my own home bred bitch. *Tabitha* was mated to the famous Lehrmeister of Evenlode and seven delightful puppies arrived including a promising bitch. She was retained but sadly died of hard-pad at six months, for in those days (1940's) there was no inoculation and rather haphazard treatment. *Tabitha* was next mated to *Tommy Tucker of Evenlode*, litter brother of Int.Ch. *Tom Tit of Evenlode* and the resulting litter of six dog puppies was a bitter disappointment. I decided something must be done if ever I was to get the bitch of my dreams. During this time an exceptionally beautiful dog emerged in the North of England, Ch *Colin of Ossen*, by *Vermeer Benjamin (Van Zaandam breeding)* ex *Vesta of Summerlease (Vorden Van Zaandam)* and I approached the owner of *Vesta* with the proposal that I should have her for a litter which we would share. There was a good dog amongst the six sired by *Tommy Tucker*, *Raphael of Rhinevale* and he, mated to *Vesta* gave me the Keeshond that was all I ever wanted Ch *Rapunzel of Rhinevale*.

Dramas were not over, however, for at four months of age, she too, contracted hard-pad which I brought back from a show. After ten weeks of night and day nursing a frail but precious little lady emerged to rapidly gain strength and take to the show world like a duck to water. She won her first CC as a puppy and her title while a Junior and spent all her seventeen years at Rhinevale giving unending pleasure. In her first litter to Ch *Winchell of Wiston* she produced Miss Kellam Smith's Ch *Randi of Rhinevale* and the bitch I kept Ragnhild who in turn bred me the sweet Ch *Randalone of Rhinevale*, a singleton sired by Ch *Colin of Ossen*.





Fig. 25.13 *Ch. Rapunzel of Rhinevale*



Fig. 25.14 *Tabitha of Evenlode* at 3 months





Fig. 25.15 Brother and Sister, *Ch. Riesling* and *Ch. Raffetta of Rhinevale* taking both CCs at Birmingham Ch. Show 1970 whilst still Juniors. *Ch. Riesling* the property of Mrs. D. Purdon

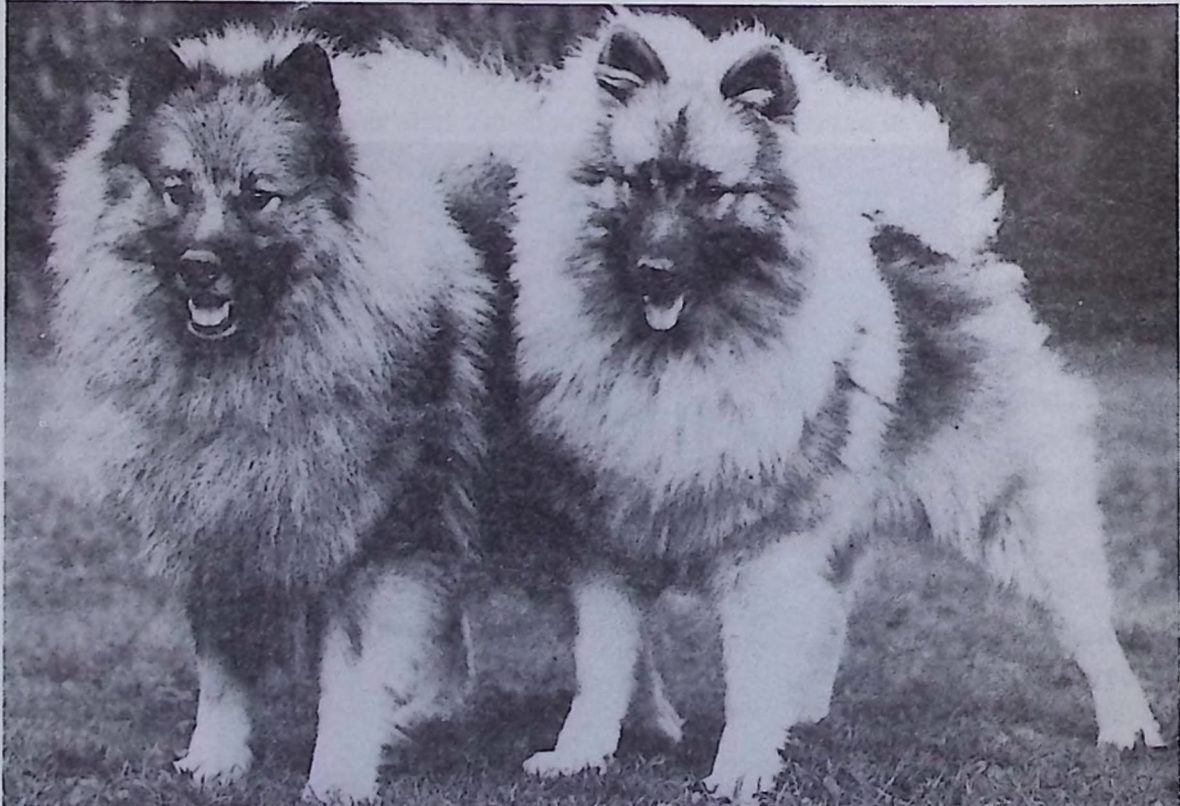


Fig. 25.16 *Ch. Robinella of Rhinevale* and *Restormel of Rhinevale* (at 7 months) both owned and bred by the Author





Fig. 25.17 Three ladies who have all had the privilege of holding the office of President of the Keeshond Club. Left to Right Mrs. C. Muschamp with the *Ch. Berryvale Smug of Ven*. Miss O. Hastings. Mrs. J.R. Collins with *Ch. Dutch Uncle of Ven*

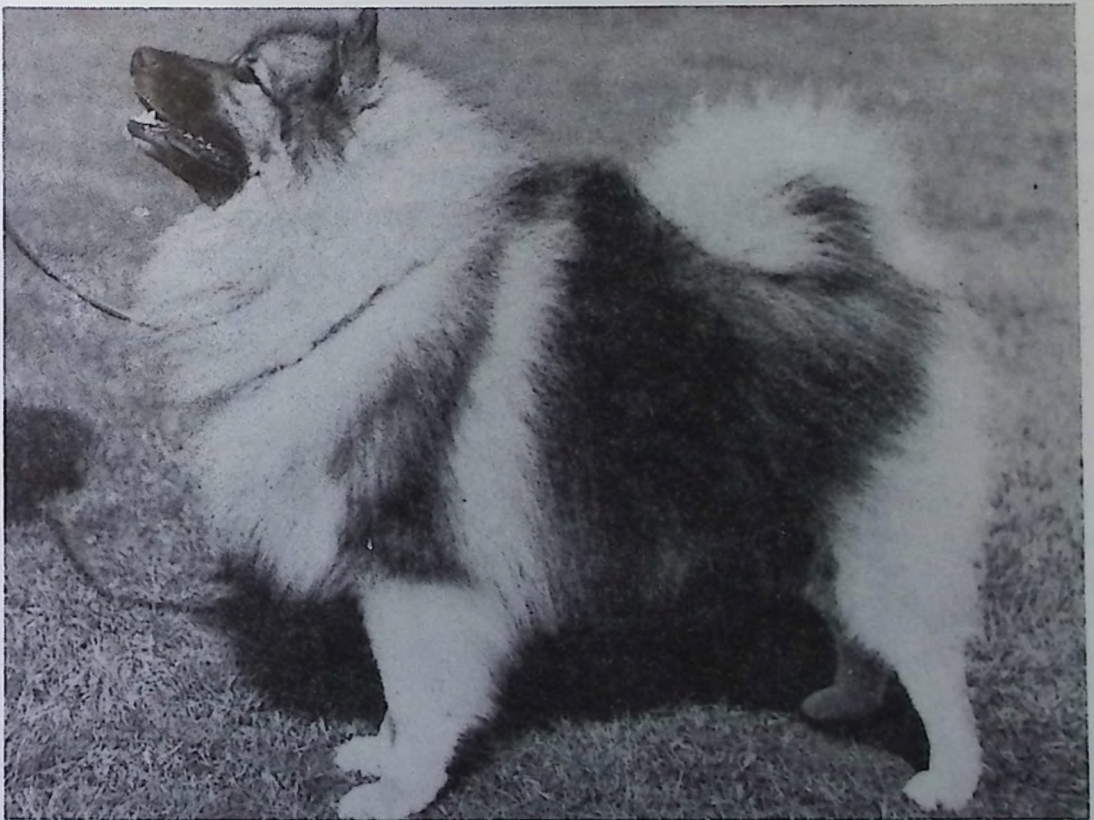


Fig. 25.18 *Ch. Rhinevale Rachmaninov*. Owner: Miss Paddy Driscoll Sire: *Ch. Ledwell Dutchman* Dam: *Ronalisa of Rhinevale*



From them stemmed a line containing sixteen UK champions and many overseas. In 1970 the top winners in U.K Sweden, USA, Canada, South Africa were all her Rhinevale descendants. Several kennels were founded on Rhinevale stock including the two famous lines Ledwell and Gavimir. Ch *Rapunzels* blood will never be lost for she is way back in nearly all the top winners pedigrees. Over forty years serving on the committee of Keeshond Club and being so deeply involved with Keeshonds and their people gave me courage to attempt this book. Failing health meant the cessation of breeding in the 1970's and the last Rhinevales were bred by Mrs Jeane Waller from her *Rhinevale Ramerezi* and she is now breeding under her own prefix, *Brykin*.

### WELFORD

Restarting her Welford kennel after the war it was inevitable that Miss Glover would have an Evenlode bitch after her care of so many Evenlodes during the hard days of feeding difficulties. *Truda of Evenlode* by *Pieter of Evenlode* ex *Penelope of Evenlode*, (litter sister of my *Tabitha*) was the founding brood. Mated to *Vandyke of Vorden* a striking young dog *Welford Claus* appeared. At an early post war Club Show judged by Mrs Wingfield Digby, he was best dog in show. Twice the home bred *Welford Ina* was mated to *USA CH Ruttkay Moerdaag of Ven* and *Welford Lucky* and *Welford Nina* became champions. Ch *Welford Orinda of Ven* stayed at Ven in Mrs Collins name and was mated to Ch *Surprise of Ven* and produced Ch *Welford Peta*. This mating was repeated in 1975 and Ch *Solo of Ven* was the only puppy. As well as maintaining her own line and managing the large Ven kennel Miss Glover was both Hon Secretary and show manager of the Keeshond Club for over twenty-five years, she is currently the President.



Fig. 25.19 Ch. *Welford Peta*. Owner Miss B. Glover Sire Ch. *Dutch Uncle of Ven*. Dam Ch. *Welford Orinda of Ven*



## VORDEN

Mrs Tucker's first Keeshond, acquired whilst she was still a schoolgirl, sadly died of distemper. Undaunted, *Guelder Vixen* came from Mrs Gatacre's kennel and was duly mated to *Guelder Ado*. Only one puppy survived and this was the first of one of the greatest lines ever, *Valerie van Vorden*. To the quality producing *Hendrick of Ravensknowle* she produced *Vandyke of Vorden* winner of Best Exhibit at the first Keeshond Club Show and the first North of England Keeshond Club Show after the war, under the two experts Miss Hastings and Mrs Wingfield Digby respectively. Mated to *Guelder Aethelflaed*, *Vandyke* sired *Veldroos of Vorden* who in her turn was mated to *Lehrmeister of Evenlode*, the breeding behind Int Ch *Vrijmetselaar of Vorden*, who, mated to *Welford Veta of Vorden* sired the remarkable *Vyand of Vorden* producer of three champions in one litter sired by Ch *Major of Broadcliffe*.

One of these champions was Ch *Vershancing of Vorden* sire of the Crufts' Best in Show winner Ch *Volkrijk of Vorden*, the Keeshond that brought the breed to the fore. Until this great win in 1957 the breed was rarely recognised in the street and many opinions were expressed as to what 'cross' had been made to make a Keeshond! After all the publicity and television coverage Ch *Volkrijk* received there was a marked difference and much more interest was shown in the breed. Almost overnight the breed became recognised.

*Volkrijk's* dam was Ch *Vorden Meg of Meadowrock* a bitch bought in for her breeding and quality and the winner of nine CCs. *Volkrijks* record of twenty-four CCs has not yet been beaten by any bitch and she also took Best in Show at Ayr in 1957. The first time a Keeshond was best in show at an all breed Ch. Show. Her son, by Ch *Big Bang of Evenlode*, Ch *Volkrad of Vorden* mated to *Vrivolity of Vorden* who was out of *Rififi of Rhinevale* sired two more champions Int Ch *Vaalsmeer of Vorden* and Ch *Verkijgen of Vorden*.

After *Volkrijk* it was felt the Vorden Kennel had reached its zenith but the beautiful Ch *Veraura of Vorden* was even more delightful and many of us who knew and admired her felt she exceeded the charm of her kennel mate. She won a total of thirteen CCs gaining her first at seven months. She was a daughter of the handsome Ch *Wagtail of Evenlode ex Aura or Goss* and when the Vorden kennel disbanded Ch *Veraura* joined the Valsgates becoming the Stockman family pet for the rest of her long life.

From this catalogue of breeding you will be able trace the line that started with *Valerie van Vorden* and went on, unbroken, to Crufts' Best in Show some twenty years later.

## WISTONIA

Towards the end of the war Mr Greenwood met the breed and was an instant devotee. Together with his wife, Nan, the Wistonia Kennel was quickly established and the records they achieved have never been equalled. By 1946 the growing kennel already housed three stud dogs, *Aavrik of Wistonia* by *Pieter of Evenlode ex Vandyquette of Vorden*, *Vallei of Vorden* and *Worthy of Wistonia*, son of *Zandi van Zaandam* and the one destined to become best known. All were offered at stud at a fee of three guineas.

In the following ten years thirty Wistonia champions were made up, many going overseas to gain their second title thus becoming International Champions. By 1956 there were six dogs at stud in the kennel and four were homebred champions. I recall the Wistonias as being smart short-backed types with the first really clean solid cream legs and feet, a feature now firmly established, but in those days dark toes and even the odd 'thumb-marks' were not unknown.





Fig. 25.20 *Vandyke of Vorden*. Owner Mrs. I.M. Tucker. Sire *Hendrick of Ravensknowle*. Dam *Valerie Van Vorden*



Fig. 25.21 *Ch. Veraura of Vorden*. Owner Mrs. I.M. Tucker. Sire *Ch. Verschancing of Vorden*. Dam *Aura of Goss* Breeder D. Smith





Fig. 25.22 *Ch. Volkrad of Vorden*. Owner Mrs. I.M. Tucker. Sire *Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode*. Dam *Ch. Volkrijk of Vorden*



Fig. 25.23 *Am and Can Ch. Wrocky of Wistonia*. Sire *Ch. Wylco of Wistonia*. Dam *Waneta of Wistonia*. Owner Flakee Kennel. Breeder Mrs. N. Greenwood



Without doubt the Wistonias swept the board in those years and the Norton Rose Bowl for the kennel winning the most first prizes in the Year went to them from 1952 to 1954 which meant they had won it outright. They represented it to be a perpetual trophy and continued to win it without a break until Miss Hastings' Evenlode kennel took it in 1959.

They won this award once more in 1962 before emigrating to U.S.A. in 1964, where Mr Greenwood died a few years later. Mrs Greenwood bred the Wistonias successfully, in direct line from the original winners, at her home in California until her death in 1986. Many Wistonias are still winning. Int Ch *Wrocky of Wistonia* has been used as an example of the breed Standard and is just one of many famous dogs to bear this affix.

### VEN AND WELFORD

Mrs Collins *Ven* kennel and Miss Glovers *Welfords* are inevitably linked for they were together for some thirty years during which time both came to the fore in the breed. In the early 1950's Mrs Collins, who was well known in the States for her *Van Sandar* Keeshonds returned to England. With the backing of Jere Collins, a dedicated and knowledgeable dog man, and the expertise of Barbara Glover who was previously with the Evenlodes, the Vens emerged to quickly become a force to be reckoned with. Based on the proven formula of blending the best of Evenlode and Vorden their *Vanderveer of Vorden* by Ch *Young Geron of Evenlode* ex Ch *Veraura of Vorden*, gained her title in 1959 and was the first home bred post war Ven to do so. Ch *Young Geron of Evenlode*, by Ch *Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn* ex *Wren of Evenlode*, was already a champion and their top stud dog. These two formed the basis for a strong winning line. A string of lovely dogs came from Ven during the late fifties and sixties and at one time they housed nine champions. Particularly well known at that time were Ch *Dutch Uncle of Ven*, Ch *Aunt Susan of Ven* and Ch *Vivandiere of Ven* the first two being ex Ch *Vanderveer of Vorden* and *Tassle of Ven*. respectively. Two bitches were imported from Holland and a dog from USA. He was Am.Ch *Ruttkay Moerdaag of Ven*, who, although he did not add to his glory in the ring in England, sired six champions. Mrs Collins was a most popular President of the Keeshond Club for some years and her death in 1985, following four years of widowhood, left a very sad gap in the English Keeshond scene. The Vens were the top kennel in 1963 and 1965.

### DUROYA

Mrs Audrey Woodiwiss founded her Duroya kennel on Wistonia breeding in the 1950's making her first bitch, Warmida of Wistonia, a champion in 1959. The first home-bred Duroya champion was Ch *Bekoorester of Duroya* who gained her title in 1962 and a string of good sound Keeshonds have carried this prefix to many places around the world.

Putting good action and equable temperament high on the list of essential qualities, several good lines were blended in with the original Wistonias including Vanglede, Ven and Rhinevale. but the undisputed star of the kennel was *Commandant of Duroya* for he held the Champion Bingo Stud Dog Rose Bowl on six occasions from 1967 to 1972 inclusively. He sired twelve English champions as well as numerous overseas title winners and he left the breed enriched by his stock.

He seemed to suit bitches from many different lines and on three occasions sired two





Fig. 25.24 Eng. and S.A. Ch. *Duroya Josephine of Vendersee*. Owners Mr. and Mrs. Stubbings. Sire Ch. *Riesling of Rhinevale*. Dam *Duroya Imogen*



Fig. 25.25 Ch. *Bekoorester of Duroya*. Home Bred. Owner Mrs. Woodiwiss. Sire *Aspiration of Duroya*. Dam Ch. *Warmida of Wistonia*





Fig. 25.26 *Ch. Aunt Susan of Ven*. Owner Mrs. J.R. Collins. Sire *Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode* Dam *Ch. Vanderveer of Vorden*



Fig. 25.27 *Am. Ch. Moerdaag of Ven* The dog imported from U.S.A. by the Ven kennel. Sire *Am. Ch. Ruttkay Roem*. Dam *Am. Ch. Lorelei van Ruttkay*





Fig. 25.28 *Ch. Surprise of Ven*. Owner Mrs. J.R. Collins. Sire *Ch. Reisling of Rhinevale* Dam *Ch. Polly Flinders of Ven*



Fig. 25.29 *Ch. Vivandiere of Ven*, a daughter of *Commandant of Duroya* Owner/breeder Mrs. M. Collins



champions in a litter. It was only his dislike of the show ring, and consequent retirement that prevented him getting that vital third CC and his title. Some well known descendants include *Ch Duroya Chefke*, *Ch Duroya Honesty* and *Ch Duroya Irrestible of Dargrant* which helped found Mrs Blackburns Dargrant kennel. Two more, Duroyas, *Ch Duroya Final Edition* and *Ch Duroya Joesphine of Vandersee* both eventually taken to South Africa with their owners Mr and Mrs Stubbings where they continued to show them to bring credit to the breed in South African shows. Duroya stock has benefited many lines in many countries. Duroya was the top kennel in 1964, 1968, 1977 and 1982.

### VALSGATE

Being so deeply involved with the dog game as a judge, serving on several committees at the Kennel Club, and one time Chairman of the Keeshond Club, and having a busy veterinary practice meant breeding had to be kept down to just keeping a single line, but despite this fact some good stock appeared carrying the Valsgate prefix both at home and abroad. With the whole Stockman family interested in the breed the 1980's saw *Ch Valsgate Squires Boy* right at the top. Again a foundation that goes back to Evenlode and Vordens proved right.

His sire, the glamorous *Ch Ledwell Soloman* handed on his good looks to *Ch Valsgate Squires Boy*, popularly known as Jack, and his dam *Ch Valsgate Bonne Chance* gave him her good movement. She was sired by a superb mover, *Ch Emgees Mr Wonderful*, a son of *Ch Riesling of Rhinevale* ex a *Ch Ledwell Dutchman* daughter. *Bonne Chance's* dam was *Valsgate Curlew*, who, through her dam *Ch Valsgate Briony* goes back to the first of the Valsgates. The breed has been fortunate in having stud dogs of delightful character, like Jack, and they seem to pass it on.

He collected an impressive number of Best of Breed wins during the reign of *Ch Gavimir Nighthawk*, in fact those two dominated the ring for 1983 and 1984.

Mike Stockman first knew the Vorden Keeshonds whilst he was still a schoolboy and it was just a pet that was his first special dog. This dog accompanied him everywhere, even going out to Germany when Mr Stockman joined the Veterinary Corps of the Army after qualifying as a veterinary surgeon. Working with the Army dogs, and later an extremely busy practice, he became involved in all sides of the dog game. When his children were young another Vorden dog joined the family and became well-known for his great character. He was *Valmijk of Vorden*, a son of Int. *Ch Valsmeer of Vorden* ex *Valsgate Fringe of Ven*. Perhaps *Valmijk's* greatest claims to fame are the climbing of Ben Nevis with his owner, walking from Barnet to Crufts and still being bright enough to be among the winners and as the sire of *Ch Hans Silver Myst*, bred by Mrs. M. Gardener.

The lovely *Ch Neradmik Keepsake* daughter of *Ch Squire Boys* ' litter sister *Silver Buckle*, sired by *Ch Neradmik Didikie* was one of the top winning bitches in 1985 and 1986 and was the top Keeshond bitch in 1988. The Valsgate kennel, like the practice is a family interest and Mrs. Valerie Stockman, MRCVS judges at championship level. Daughter Caroline is currently on the Open show list. In 1988 Mike Stockman was elected Chairman of Crufts thus taking responsibility for the worlds greatest dog show.

### LEDWELL

An important name came to the fore in 1966 when Mrs Scroggs restarted her now famous





Fig. 25.30 Ch. *Dutch Uncle of Ven* sired by Ch. *Big Bang of Evenlode*. Owner/breeder Mrs. M. Collins

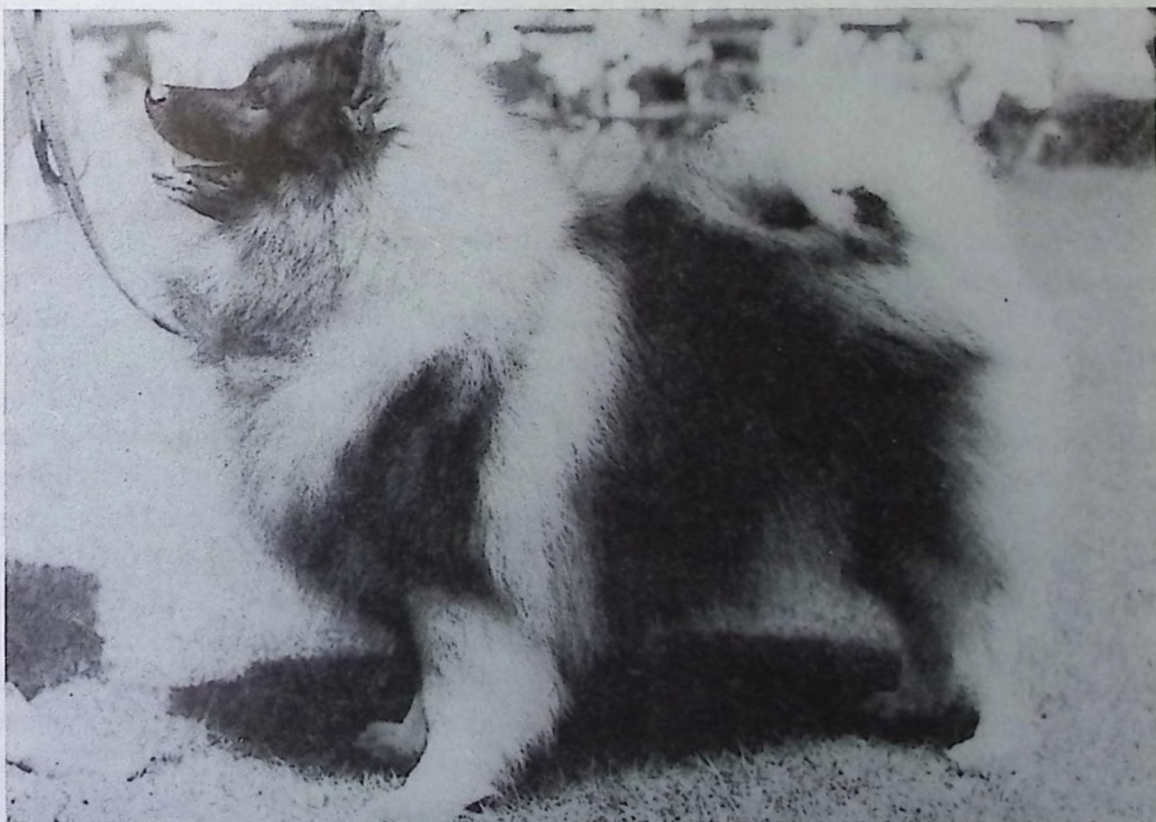


Fig. 25.31 Ch. *Duroya Chefke*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. Woodiwiss. Sire *Commandant of Duroya*. Dam Ch. *Bekoorester of Duroya*



Ledwell kennel. For several years there had been both Evenlode and Rhinevale Keeshonds in the Scroggs home but a young family meant there was neither the time nor opportunity for showing or breeding. Always interested in dogs, and entirely captivated by the Keeshond, a Rhinevale puppy was booked. The mating of Ch *Rahida of Rhinevale* to *Robertina of Rhinevale* was expressly to produce a bitch to be mated to *Rhondorf of Rhinevale*, a son of Ch *Big Bang of Evenlode* ex CC winner *Rallentando of Rhinevale*. There were two bitches in the resultant litter, Ch *Robinella*, whom I kept, and *Rumbelinda* who went to Mrs Scroggs. The latter was one of those wicked but lovable characters and all the Ledwells are descended from her. *Rhondorf*, although one of the best I ever had in my opinion, was only shown three or four times as he went to a friend as a family pet. He had won two Reserve CCs and a Best in Show by the time he was a year old and I very much wanted to retain him in the pedigree. Such is the irony of long term planning for I was never able to get Ch *Robinella* to accept him as a mate. *Rumbelinda* did, however, and the resulting litter contained Ch *Ledwell Charlotte*, Am.Can.Ch *Raccasins of Rhinevale* and *Ledwell Catastrophe*, who in turn produced Ch *Ledwell Dutchman*, the record CC winner. Ch *Ledwell Charlotte* was the first lady and special favourite at Ledwell for many years and she produced Ch *Ledwell Heidi* when mated to Ch *Surprise of Ven. Heidi*, mated to Ch *Ledwell Dutchman* produced the next top winner Ch *Ledwell Lysander*, star of the Neradmik Kennel, and Ch *Ledwell Lustre of Keesland*, later to win fame as the producer of four champions in one litter and foundation bitch of the Keesland line.

Throughout the seventies and early eighties many Ledwell Keeshonds graced the ring achieving great success both in England and overseas: more important, they founded several new kennels which have proved beneficial to the breed. In 1987 Mrs Scroggs imported Am and Can Ch *Greenkees Envoy V Ledwell* in whelp to Am and Can Ch *Wistonia Wynscott. Envoy* quickly got her UK title and several of her puppies are now making their mark. Thus a new chapter of Ledwell history has started.

### WAAKZAAM

The Waakzaam kennel came into being in the mid-fifties with both Professor Smyth and Mrs Smyth deeply involved with their development. A beautifully bred Vorden bitch, *Voljasmin of Vorden*, sired by Ch *Volkrad of Vorden* ex Ch *Veraura of Vorden* was acquired in 1958 and she not only won her title but also proved a superb brood.

*Verscherry of Vorden* was also used in the kennel and with the old magic of bringing in top quality Evenlode blood the first homebred champion emerged. He was Ch *Waakzaam Kristian* owned by Capt. G.G. Rowsell, sired by Ch *Wagtail of Evenlode*. He was the first of a number of outstanding dogs that took the kennel to the top winning the Norton Rose Bowl for the top kennel in 1967. This was repeated in 1969 and held consecutively from then until 1975. Thus with eight wins in all the Wistonia record was very nearly reached. This line managed to have masculine dogs, well up to size, yet dainty feminine bitches and their quality was acknowledged both in the U.K and the countries to which they were exported. One of the best known was Ch *Waakzaam Waag*, son of Ch *Sinterklaas Brush Name* and Ch *Waakzaam Waltraute*, whose progeny took Best in Show at the Keeshond Club Championship Show in 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1978 being second only to *Commandant of Duroya* as a successful sire at that time. He was, I think, Mary Smyth's special favourite and one of his great wins was the Utility Group at Birmingham Championship Show in 1973. Three Waakzaams gained their titles in 1968, in all 16 Waakzaams took their titles. Following the death of Professor Smyth in 1979 both breeding





Fig. 25.32 Ch. *Valsgate Squires Boy*. Owner/Breeder M.J. R. Stockman Esq. M.R.C.V.S. Sire Ch. *Ledwell Solomon*. Dam Ch. *Valsgate Bonne Chance*



Fig. 25.33 Ch. *Ledwell Heidi*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. S. Scroggs. Sire Ch. *Surprise of Ven*. Dam Ch. *Ledwell Charlotte*



and showing have ceased and it is a loss to the breed.

More than a dozen champions carried this prefix in England alone and fortunately the line has been continued in both the Kwintex kennel and the Kinkeesha kennel. Mary Smyth's interest in the breed remains and she is the President of the North of England Keeshond Club.

### KEESLAND

Based on a bitch of impeccable breeding, Ch *Ledwell Lustre of Keesland* by Ch *Ledwell Dutchman* ex Ch *Ledwell Heidi*, Gina Weedon has built a superb line without keeping a great number of dogs. Skillfully weaving in outcross dogs and then bringing their progeny back into the breeding programme an unbroken line of champion bitches has been established. With ten UK champions, five in other hands, the Keeslands have become one of the finest lines. The "F" litter with four champions, one also getting his USA title, was the third generation and their quality still goes on in many kennels. The home kennel kept Ch. *Keesland Ember* (by Ch *Rhinevale Rachmaninov*) Crufts CC winner 1976. Ch *Keesland Gypsy* (by Ch *Gelderland Clipper of Swashway*) Ch *Keesland Highlight* (by *Sam the Candyman*) Bitch CC winner Crufts 1984 Ch *Keesland Legend* (by Ch *Neradmik Didikie*) and the latest Ch *Keesland Nikita* (bred by Mrs Quinn by Ch *Swashway the Pirate*), a direct line of six champions since *Lustre*. There are several overseas champions and although comparatively few litters are bred at Keesland they have earned a prestigious position in the history of the breed.

### SWASHWAY

The Swashway kennel is a mother and daughter partnership. Mesdames Francis and Wilding selected a Vanglede bitch as their foundation and she carried a string of Vanglede champions and Commandant of Duroya in her pedigree. She was Vanglede Koala and mated to Ledwell Fandango produced Ch *Swashway No Rush* in her very first litter. A dog of striking colour and masculinity he won well, including winning the Utility Group at Windsor Championship 1979. As well as siring Ch *Gelderland Clipper of Swashway*, who proved the outstanding sire of the seventies, he sired Ch *Duroya Junker* who did so much for the breed in Scandinavia when he joined Mr and Mrs Holmberg's Stiibergs kennel. *No Rush* and *Clipper* accounted for over 20 CCs and *Clipper* sired eleven champions. Ch *Gavimir Reseda of Swashway* and *Keesland Indigo of Swashway*, both sired by *Clipper*, strengthened the bitch line. *Reseda* was mated to *Ledwell Buccaneer at Lowella* and a delightful pair of puppies *Swashway Calypso* and Ch *Swashway the Pirate* did a lot of winning in '86 and '87, *The Pirate* gaining his title and proving a most successful stud dog. Two more that carried the Swashway prefix are Mrs Goddard's Ch *Finians Rainbow* and Miss Burnett's Ch *Swashway On Your Toes* thus bringing new enthusiasts into the breed. Eileen Wilding was a school girl when she handled her own bitch *Silver Slippers* to win the bitch CC and Best of Breed under the Dutch expert Mrs Stenfurt Kroese at Crufts in the early 1950's.

### GELDERLAND

The Gelderland prefix belongs to Mrs Moore and is best known for the breed's top stud dog Ch *Gelderland Clipper of Swashway*, (by Ch *Swashway No Rush*) which she bred, and the beautiful Ch *Gelderland Aurelia*. *Clipper* went to the Swashway kennel as a puppy and took a





Fig. 25.34 Ch. *Waakzaam Wotan*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. M. Smyth. Sire Ch. *Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle*. Dam *Waakzaam Weisijnga*



Fig. 25.35 Ch. *Waakzaam Waalre* Owner/Breeder Mrs. E.M. Smyth. Sire Ch. *Waakzaam Wotan* Dam Ch. *Waakzaam Walriekend*



long time to come to his best but excelled as a sire. *Aurelia* stayed in her home kennel and was the top winning bitch of 1975. Based on Rhinevale and Ven breeding, the Gelderlands were always perfectly presented and shown and great care and attention went into their rearing. Even before Mrs Moore registered the prefix Gelderland her Keeshonds were all truly well-bred quality dogs. Her first was a litter sister of Ch *Rondina of Rhinevale*, her second a litter brother of the famous Ch *Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle*, then the plan to breed her own took shape and two bitches were purchased, one being *Nicola Debrereton*, litter sister of Ch *Hans Silver Mysts* dam and a Reserve CC winner and the royally bred *Mittens of Ven*, sired by Am.Ch *Moerdaag of Ven* ex the beautiful Ch *Vivandier of Ven*, who also became a CC and Res.CC winner. Breeding started in earnest with *Rhinevale Raffetina of Gelderland* and mated to Ch *Surprise of Ven* the first champion bitch, Ch *Gelderland Aurelia*, resulted. *Raffetina* was a daughter of Ch *Raffetta of Rhinevale*.. Mrs. Moores' present dog, a direct descendant, *Rhinevale Ramahawk at Gelderland*, bred by Mrs Waller was Best in Show at the Keeshond Club CH. Show in 1987.

### CANDYMAY

Mrs Randalls Keeshonds were first noted when her home bred *Heinz Sparkler* gained his title in 1970. He was sired by Ch *Vanglede Firecracker* ex *Heidi of Henneker* and was followed by one or two more Vangledes. It was when Mrs Randall acquired a bitch from the famous Keesland "F" litter that she came back into the ring. Mated to Ch *Dalbaro Samson, Flashlight* produced Ch *Candymay Cedar* and also Ch *Candymay Columbine at Byquy*. Through the years Mr and Mrs Randall have been most loyal supporters and established a good line.

### GAVIMIR

Mrs Luckhurst started her line in 1973 with a royally bred bitch *Rhinevale Roitelet* sired by Ch *Ledwell Dutchman* ex Ch *Raffetta of Rhinevale* ..*Roitelet's* daughter mated to Ch *Surprise of Ven* produced the first *Gavimir* champion *Gavimir Wolverine*. *Gavimir Wombat*, litter sister of *Wolverine* mated to Ch *Rhinevale Rachmaninov* brought the first *Gavimir* dog champion Ch *Gavimir Toblerone*, a singleton who sired three CC winners ex Ch *Gavimir Vervet*. These were the early days of one of the breeds most successful post-war kennels and since then eleven *Gavimir* champions have taken their place in the show ring. The home bred Ch *Gavimir Nighthawk* is the current record holder with thirty four CCs to his credit. He started well for he took Reserve Best in Show at Southern Counties while still a puppy, won the dog CC at Crufts on three occasions, twice being also Best of Breed and once going on to top the Utility Group. Perhaps his greatest moment was when he went through his classes, took the Utility Group and on to Best in Show at Blackpool championship show in 1984. His son Ch *Gavimir Kiang* went to New Zealand where he was top winner in 1985 and his daughter *Traza Teazle* equalled this in Sweden. The same year *Gavimir Fossa* was the top winning Keeshond in Finland. At home *Fossa's* sister Ch *Gavimir Fennec* was the bitch of the year with seven CCs to her credit. 1985 was a great year for this enthusiastic owner whose dogs are always prepared and shown to perfection. The Ch *Swashway the Pirate Fennec* mating produced the 1989 champions *Gavimir Seed Pearl* and Mrs Lounds Ch *Gavimir Sterling Silver*, thus bringing a new supporter into the breed.



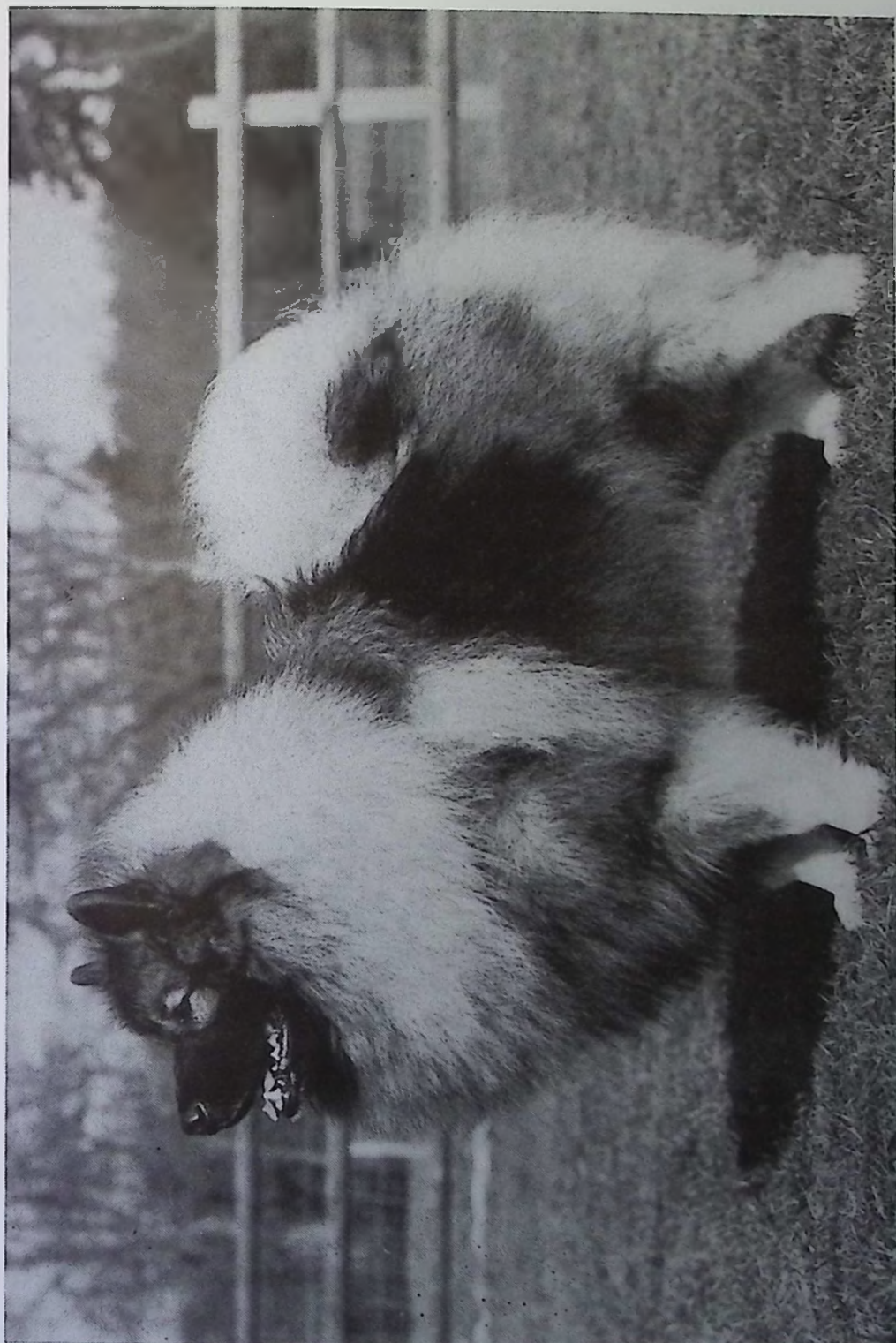


Fig. 25.36 Ch. Gavimir Nighthawk (holder of 34 CC's) Sire Kwintex Katterwaard. Dam Gavimir Verbena. Born 28.7.80 Owner/Breeder Mrs. Pam Luckhurst



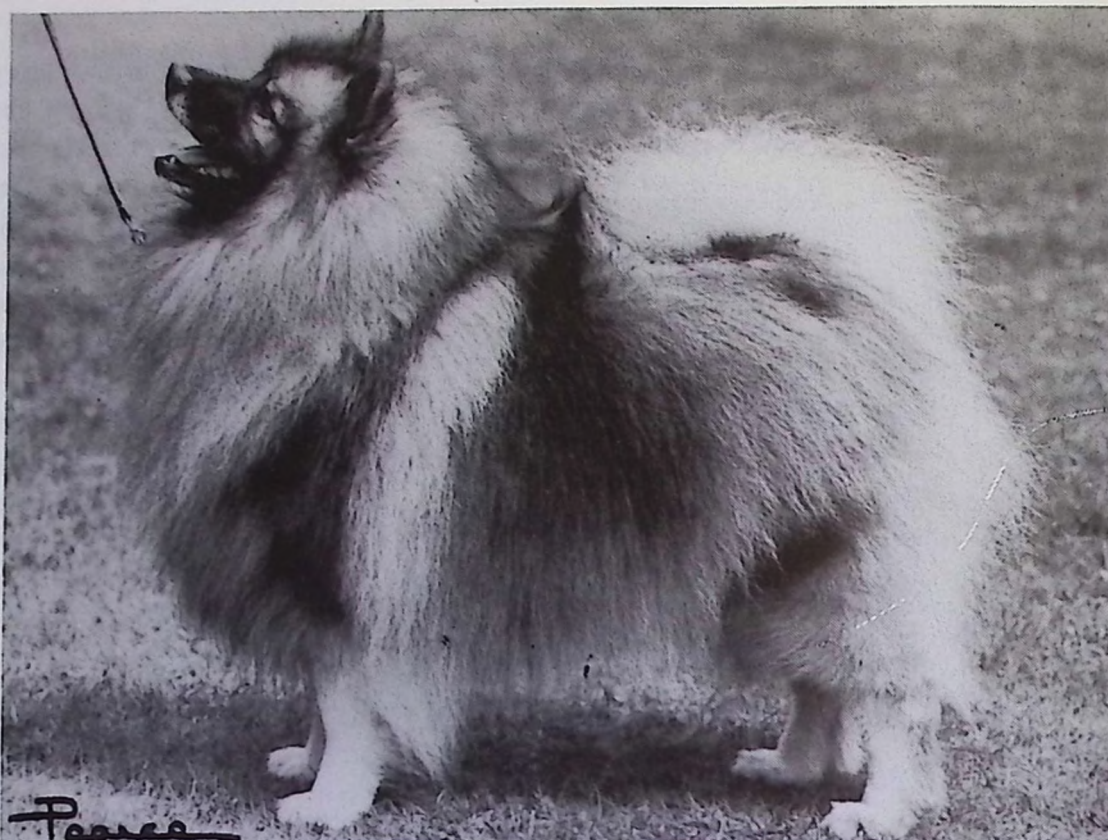


Fig. 25.37 Ch. Swashway Finians Rainbow. Sire *Keesland Karel of Lekkerbek*. Dam *Keesland Indigo of Swashway*. Breeders Mesdames R. Francis and Eileen R. Wilding Owner Mrs. Lyn Goddard



Fig. 25.38 Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway. Sire *Ch. Swashway No Rush*. Dam *Ch. Gelderland Aurelia*. Owner Mesdames Francis and Wilding. Breeder Mrs. C. Moore





Fig. 25.39 *Ch. Keesland Legend*. Sire *Ch. Neradmik Didikie*. Dam *Ch. Keesland Highlight*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. Gina Weedon

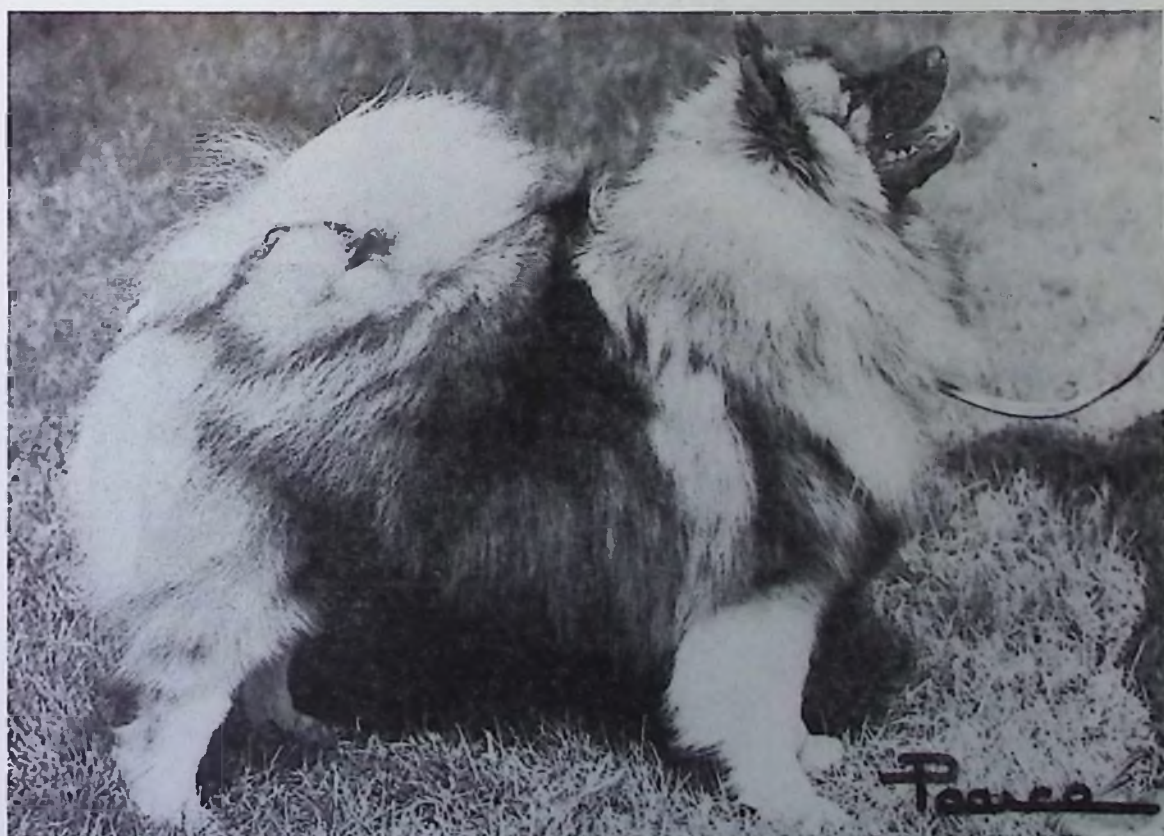


Fig. 25.40 *Ch. Keesland Highlight*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. Weedon. Sire *Sam the Candyman*. Dam *Ch. Keesland Gypsy*





Fig. 25.41 *Swashway Calypso*. Litter sister of *Ch. Swashway the Pirate*. Sire *Ledwell Buccaneer at Lowella*. Dam *Ch. Gavimir Reseda of Swashway* Owner/Breeder *Swashway* kennel

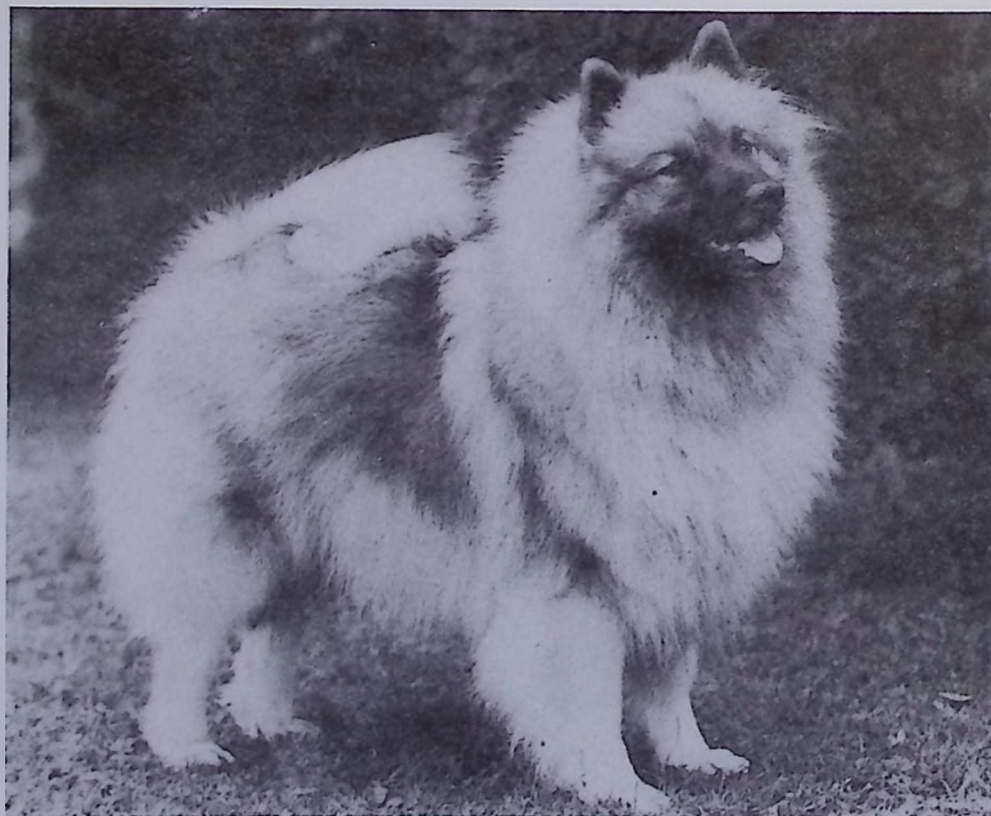


Fig. 25.42 *Ch. Gelderland Aurelia*. Owner/Breeder *Mrs. C.M. Moore*. Sire *Ch. Surprise of Ven*. Dam *Gelderland Raffetina of Rhinevale*



## VANDABAN

Mrs Banfield was a very long time getting into the breed for her first bitches failed to breed. Since Gelderland Arabella joined her kennel some good stock has emerged with Ch *Vandaban Henrietta* in pride of place. Her litter brother gained his title in Australia and breeding is taken seriously at Vandaban. Mated to Ch *Neradmik Didikie*, *Henrietta* produced another quality bitch *Vandaban Morning Mist* a winning puppy that went on to take her title in 1988. Ch *Vandaban Alloween at Neradmik* is behind the record breaking Ch. *Neradmik Jupiter*.

## HANOVARIAN

The last two Vens to attain their titles were, in fact, bought as puppies by Mrs Macdonalds Hanovarian kennel and campaigned by her. Ch *Hanovarian Zeus of Ven* had a brilliant career with a precocious win of three puppy stakes at Championship shows, beating over four hundred puppies. Later Mrs Collins repeated the mating of *Dutch Oven of Ven* to Mrs Macdonalds *Hanovarian Twilight* and *Zorba of Ven Hanovarian* joined *Zeus* and was successfully piloted to his title. *Zeus* mated to *Hanovarian Upstart* gave Mrs Macdonald a home bred champion *Hanovarian John Boy*. In Australia, where Mrs Macdonald judged in 1987, *Hanovarian Silver Moonlight* gained his title. Hanovarian was the top kennel in the breed in 1976 and 1978. There have been no Hanovarians in the last few years as the other breed in the kennel, Lowchens, took over in the show ring.

## SILBERNE

Mr and Mrs Arran met Mrs Smyths *Waakzaams* in their early days and duly acquired *Waakzaam Weere*. The second bitch to join them *Dalbaro Quest*, was mated to *Welford Nollykins of Ven* (a son of USA Ch *Ruttkay Moerdaag of Ven*) which resulted in their first champion for *Silberne Cavalcade* was made up in 1977. Mated to *Waakzaam Weere* he sired Ch *Silberne Idle Chatter* and later mated to *Silberne Merry Maker* Mrs Woodiwiss's Ch *Silberne Renaissance of Duroya* who took her title in 1986. In the early eighties *Idle Chatter* produced the last home champion, *Silberne Krafti*, sired by *Boreasvale Baarda*. Professional interests have meant the cessation of both breeding and showing for a while but there is no doubt that Keeshonds will be high in their list of priorities as soon as time allows.

## NERADMIK

Beginning with a pet Van Zaandam bitch and later acquiring *Davean Cover Girl* with whom she won two CCs Jean Sharp climbed to the very top of the tree in 1989 with her home bred Ch *Neradmik Jupiter*. However it was in 1974 with the purchase of *Ledwell Lysander* that the kennel came to the fore. Destined for stardom from the start he had a meteoric career winning his first CC at ten months and his title at a year and Best in Show at British Utility Breeds Association Championship Show. Even greater wins were to come his way for at six years of age he was Best in Show at Windsor, one of the countries most prestigious shows. He darkened with age and his one weakness a pale coat was corrected. He went on to win 25CCs equalling his sire, Ch *Ledwell Dutchmans* record and was then retired from the ring. In 1985 at the age of eleven he attended the Keeshond Club Show as a Veteran but again there was nothing to beat



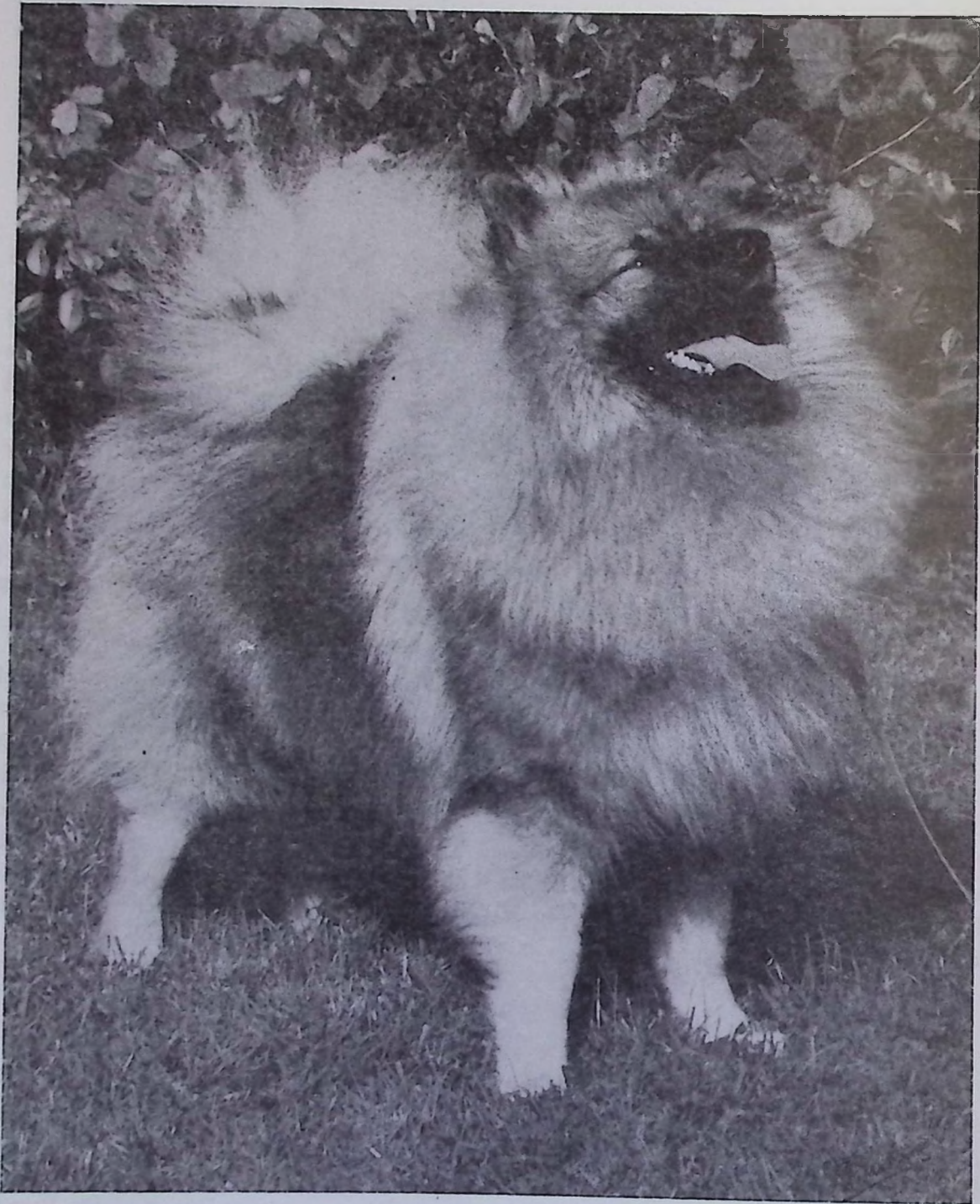


Fig. 25.43 *Ch. Vaderson Solario*





Fig. 25.44 Ch. *Candymay Cedar*. Sire Ch. *Dalbaro Samson*. Dam *Keesland Flashlight of Candymay*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. Randall



Fig. 25.45 Ch. *Vandaban Morning Mist*. Sire Ch. *Neradmik Didikie*. Dam Ch. *Vandaban Henrietta*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. Di Banfield





Fig. 25.46 *Ch. Hanovarian Zeus of Ven*. Owner Mrs. A. Macdonald. Sire *Hanovarian Twilight*. Dam *Dutch Oven of Ven*. Breeder Mrs. Collins



Fig. 25.47 *Ch. Silberne Cavalcade*. Sire *Welford Nollekins of Ven*. Dam *Dalbaro Quest*. Breeder/Owner Mrs. S. Arran



him so in fact he had 26 Ccs. There followed a string of good dogs with Mr Allens Ch *Neradmik Illusion* perhaps the best known. Sired by *Neradmik Griffin at Morvania ex Bodarin Bernadette at Neradmik*, Ch *Neradmik Jupiter* came into the world, in 1984 and another record breaker appeared. Four times Best in Show at Birmingham National, Leicester City, Border Union and Blackpool he is now challenging to be the top Keeshond for he is only one CC short of equalling the record held by Mrs Luckhursts Ch *Gavimir Nighthawk* who holds 34. Meantime there have been champion bitches with Ch *Neradmik Keepsake* the best known. Altogether ten champions have this prefix some in other hands. With a view to widening the line with new blood a trip to the United States in 1988 resulted in the purchase of two puppies from Windrift kennel and the Designer kennel. The future will see many more from this enthusiastic owner.



Fig. 25.48 Mrs Sharp Bales two puppies imported from U S A Windrifts Oneupmanship for *Neradmik* and Designer Steppin' in Style for *Neradmik* Breeders Mrs J Reed & Mrs J Corrington, Mrs R Jacobs & Mrs M Storey.

### EMGEES

Despite keeping just one or two house pet bitches Mrs Gardener has produced two champions. Firstly the great Ch *Hans Silver Myst* foundation of the Julyn kennel owned by Miss Gilbert and Miss Davison and later Ch *Emgees Mr Wonderful* owned by the late Mr Killingly, the dog woven into the Valsgate line. The years have stopped Mrs Gardener breeding and showing but there is always a Keeshond in the home of this enthusiast.

### VANWALL

Although up to 1987 there has never been a prefix telling you that a particular dog belonged to the Purdon family, and although they only started breeding their own line in 1987, no history of the breed in England would be complete if they were not included.

It must have been back in 1960 that I first noticed a new spectator at our Club shows. Standing



quietly in the background, watching every move, but never speaking to anyone was the same man at more than one show. Eventually I asked him if he had a Keeshond and was surprised to find he had taken on a dog of my breeding which the owner had found too lively for him. At the next show there were two of them, for Mrs Purdon had come too, and again I had a casual chat. By 1963 they acquired *Ringo of Rhinevale* and showed him successfully thus getting the bug for showing a Keeshond. They very quickly made friends in the breed becoming the most popular and helpful members the Club could possibly have. Many are the stories of times they have helped other Keeshond people and Doris Purdon is a most conscientious Keeshond Club Treasurer. Co-operating with Mrs Waller, she manages the finances of the Rescue and any task that will benefit the breed is gladly undertaken.

In 1969 an eight week old puppy, *Riesling Rhinevale*, joined them and by the end of 1970 he had won his title. He was rather a serious dog and they thought he might be happy with a puppy companion.

In the summer of 1970 another eight week old joined the family and this time it was the legendary *Ledwell Dutchman* from Mrs. Scroggs. By the end of 1971 they had two champions and both sired winning stock. Dutchman, who was a gentle, beautifully mannered dog, won the hearts of all who knew him and was as popular with all-rounders as he was in the breed. His twenty-five CCs were won without discriminating showing as all judges approved this most typical of dogs. Winning the Utility Group at Crufts in 1976 under one of the world's leading judges, Stanley Dangerfield, was perhaps his greatest moment. He refused to mate a bitch until he was over two years old but made up for that by siring six champions as did his companion *Riesling*.

Later yet another puppy was chosen at an early age and again their choice was right for he was Ch *Rhinevale Roustabout*. The family of males, all used at stud, have always lived as housedogs with no quarrelling, due to good management. The first two champions lived to a ripe old age and left a gap which was filled by the purchase of Ch *Ledwell Yorrick*, who was a son of Ch *Surprise of Ven* (by *Riesling*) out of *Ledwell Quetta* (by *Dutchman*) thus getting back the bloodlines of their two favourites.

An outstandingly beautiful puppy, *Yorrick* went through an off period when he refused to show, but by 1985 he had his title and had sired their other CC winning dogs *Julyn Silver Sprit*. Now a daughter of *Yorrick*, Ch *Kwintex Kelly* has been acquired from Mrs Birch and again their selection appears to be right for before reaching her first birthday she had two CCs to her credit and she was a champion at 13 months.

The future may well show that this sporting couple will have an even greater influence on the breed for Keeshonds are not just a hobby...they are their life. They took the prestigious Barnacre Cup in 1985. In 1988 a prefix was granted and the first Vanwall puppies made a successful debut in the ring. Kellys' puppies by Keesland *Jumping Jack Flash of Vandorne* are winning both in England and overseas. *Vanwall Lovely Rita* joined Mrs. Birches' Kwintex kennel and awaits her third CC hopefully. The future looks most promising for an up and coming line.

### SUMMERLEAZE

The late Mrs Gould's Summerleaze line was established during the war and was based on van Zaandam breeding. The first champion in the kennel was *Brielle of Summerleaze* in 1949. Sired by *Delfrik of Summerleaze ex Beryl of Summerleaze*, this was a successful union repeated several times with good winners in every litter. Poor health took Mrs. Gould out of the breed





Fig. 25.49 Ch. *Hans Silver Myst*. Owners Misses Davison & Gilbert. Sire *Valmijk of Vorden*. Dam *Natacha Debrereton* Breeder: Mrs. Gardener



Fig. 25.50 Ch. *Ledwell Dutchman*. Sire Ch. *Hans Silver Myst*. Dam *Ledwell Catastrophe*. Breeder Mrs. Scroggs Owner: Mrs. D. Purdon





Fig. 25.51 *Ch. Riesling of Rhinevale*. Owner Mrs. D. Purdon. Sire *Commandant of Duroya*.  
Dam *Ch. Robinella of Rhinevale*



Fig. 25.52 *Vaderson Vivace* Sire *Ledwell Marmaduke* Dam *Ch. Norsled Piacere of Vaderson*  
Owner/Breeder Mrs. P. Parkes





Fig. 25.53 *Ch. Bergarita Guardsman* Sire *Ch. Dalbarc Samson*. Dam *Vaderson Vespetra*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. J. Partridge



Fig. 25.54 *Ch. Ranoel Auriga*. Sire *Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway*. Dam *Ledwell Isabella*. Owner/breeders Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Howie



but her interest remained and she was on the Committee for several years. The Summerleaze line was continued in the Rhinevales.

### BYQUY

This kennel is truly a family affair with Colin and Angela Reed, their daughter Melanie and her husband David Reed Mathews all deeply interested. Dogs have been their chief occupation for some years with Bulldogs before Keeshonds took over and three of the four are popular judges with Colin accepted as an all rounder. After making up Ch *Dalbaro Samson* (by Ch *Kayluws Kondore of Ledwell* ex *Tingalary Singing Wind*) a bitch puppy was obtained from Mrs Randall and so Ch *Candymay Columbine* strengthened their line. Mated to Ch *Bergarita Guardsman* she produced their latest winners *Byquy Beach Charmer*, and her brother *Burgo-master*, who now has his title, as has *Byquy Bevalisa.*, who is currently adding more CC's to her name.

### BERGARITA

Mrs Partridge came from a family already connected with Samoyeds and her own Keeshond kennel started in 1950. Already a well known judge of cavies she and her husband are popular judges of the breed. The stars of the kennel are Ch. *Bergarita Brigadier* a home bred dog sired by *Sinterklass Dutch Dandy* ex *Sinterklass Chinchilla Cap* born in 1969 and Ch *Bergarita Guardsman* sired by Ch *Dalbaro Samson* at Byquy ex *Vaderson Vespetra* also home bred. He gained his title in 1987. Twenty seven years of breeding Keeshonds and working on behalf of the breed, lies between these two. Mrs Partridge also takes responsibility for the valuable Keeshond Club trophies.

### BODARIN

Surely Mrs Agnes Quinn must be our unluckiest breeder for after some years breeding collies she turned to Keeshonds and acquired one of the Keesland "F" litter, the beautiful Ch *Keesland Fennella of Borarin*. After piloting her to her title she proved to be a non-breeder. The second acquisition was also to be a disappointment and fresh blood was brought in by acquiring *Seakee Maratta of Bodarin* from Miss Morel, sired by *Seakee Memling* ex a USA bred bitch *Shady Acres Irish Mint Mist*. With the addition of the winning bitch *Keesland Koula of Bodarin* (sister of *Karel*) it looks as if persistence will prove worthwhile. *Koula* is the dam of Mrs Weedons latest champion, Ch *Keesland Nikita* bred by Mrs Quinn.

### RANOEL

Mr and Mrs Howie's Ranoel kennel was Ledwell founded with *Ledwell Pandora*, from their very first litter gaining her title in 1976. Her dam *Ledwell Isabella* had already started winning for them and mated to Ch *Rhinevale Rachmaninov* produced *Pandora* who became a well-known winner with several Res CCs to her credit. Later, mated to Ch *Gelderland Clipper of Swashway*, *Isabella* produced the first champion to carry the Ranoel prefix, Ch *Ranoel Auriga* whose litter sister Ch *Ranoel Arabella* gained her title to the joy of her owner Mrs Waters.. Mr. and Mrs. Howie are careful breeders who both work hard for the breed. Ch *Auriga* mated to Ch





Fig. 25.55 *Byquy Beach Charmer* CC winner. Sire Ch. *Bergarita Guardsman* Dam Ch. *Candymay Columbine*. Owner/Breeders Mr. and Mrs. Reed Matthews



Fig. 25.56 Ch. *Venway Delph Viking*. Sire *Kwintex Katterwaard*. Dam *Goody Snow Shoes*; Breeder Mrs. Crawford. Exported to Sweden after attaining his title.



*Neradmik Didikie produced Ch Ranoel Dromodore owned by Miss Revell. Len Howie is the current Chairman of the Keeshond Club.*

### ROSSVALE

Mrs Sheila Brown's successful kennel of Shi Tzu's always includes one or two Keeshonds. In the early seventies *Vanglede Little Joker* bred by Mrs Blair was campaigned to her title. Later *Shelderon Dawn Dromer*, a puppy from Mrs McIntosh's kennel joined the family to produce Ch *Rossvale Scarlet O'Hara* when mated to *Keesland Gemini*, a litter brother of Ch *Keesland Gypsy*.

### CYFELIN

Like the Purdon family Mr and Mrs Hill took on a Keeshond dog that had to be re-homed. They fell for the dog itself and so grew interested in shows. A lovely feminine bitch *Ledwell Antoinette* was bought as a puppy and quickly got her title. Sired by Ch *Ledwell Solomon* ex *Ledwell Theodora*. Next came a puppy from Mrs Weedons kennel Ch *Keesland Joy of Cyfelin*, royally bred, sired by Ch *Valsgate Squires Boy* ex Ch *Keesland Gypsy*. Later Ch *Sinterklass Kipling*, ex *Sinterklass Train Beater* sired by Ch *Riesling of Rhinevale*. He was piloted to his title by Mrs Lofting his first owner. He spent his last years at Cyfelin. Like most Keeshond owners few dogs are kept and life is divided between being house dogs and kennel dogs.

### KINKEESHA

Two kennels that came to the fore in the late seventies are the Kinkeesha and the Venway. A mother and daughter partnership brought the Kinkeesha line into being with Mrs Royston and Mrs Tierney being equally interested, although it is Mrs Tierney who shows the dogs. Their foundation bitch Ch *Carlsdryke Carmoni*, bred by Mrs Dyke was sired by a beautiful dog, Ch *Waakzaam Weiderman* ex *Carlsdryk Cheyn* a bitch with a Vorden background. Another bitch was obtained, *Waakzaam Waagskuis* and mated to Ch *Silberne Cavalcade* produced Ch *Kinkeesha Kosmik* who gained his title in 1982. Their Ch *Kinkeesha Kuschka* was sired by his litter brother *Kinkeesha Kasslus*.

### VANGLEDE

It was largely thanks to *Commandant of Duroya* that Mrs Blair's Vanglede kennel came so quickly to the top in the early sixties with Ch *Vanglede Donna* coming from her foundation bitch *Whislyn of Wistonia*. Of the six Vanglede champions that followed, four were sired by *Commandant* and Mrs Blair's untimely death in 1973 robbed the breed of a sincere friend. A clever breeder and an enthusiastic exhibitor, she was a grievous loss to the Keeshond world.

### SINTERKLASS

Somewhere around 1960 the royally bred *Vader Kerstmis of Vorden*, sired by Ch *Young Geron of Evenlode* ex Ch *Veraura of Vorden* (again the magic mix!) joined Miss Collier's



Sinterklaas kennel. Mated to the CC winning bitch *Dainty Karla* he sired *Lass of Vankeena* who, although not a great winner herself, achieved fame by producing three dogs in one litter destined to make breed history. She was put to Ch *Big Bang of Evenlode* and his owner, Miss Hastings, acquired Ch *Sinterklaas Big Noise of Evenlode*. The breeder Miss Collier kept Ch *Sinterklaas Brush Name* and the third, *Sinterklaas Brave Nimrod* went to America to become an American and Canadian champion and to make his name as a sire of many champions.

### VENWAY

Mr and Mrs Crawford were drawn into the breed simply by falling for a picture of a Keeshond in a book on sale in a pet shop and the Venways were on their way! Their first bitch was a daughter of Ch *Vanglede Laughing Jenny*. Then *Kwintex Katteraad* was bought from his breeder Mrs Birch, whose kennel is founded on Waakzaam stock and, mated to Jenny, the first Venway champion emerged, *Venway Delph Viking*. Mr Riddle, using *Viking*, soon bred their next one, Ch *Raedels Berenice*. *Kwintex Katterwaad* is an interesting dog. Very smart and impeccably bred he was sired by Ch *Waakzaam Wiederman ex Ch Waakzaam Waagja*, he proved an excellent sire despite the fact that many people considered him too small. In fact so many of the winning dogs are over the ideal eighteen inches at the withers that it may well be he was correct. His famous son, Ch *Gavimir Nighthawk* is acknowledge to be well up to size, but such a good specimen that he can carry it off successfully. Venway stock is winning both at home and in Sweden.

### DALBARO

Further North, Mrs Barbara Shaw's Dalbara kennel continues successfully in a small way with the Am. Ch *Dalbaro Beachcomber* having made his mark in USA and Ch *Dalbaro Samson*, owned by Mr C. Reed, keeping the flag flying here in the early eighties.

### KWINTEX

Mrs Birch's Kwintex kennel, based on the best of Waakzaam breeding is coming steadily to the fore with *Kwintex Katterwaad* gaining fame as a sire and *Kwintex Karisma* gaining her title. Mrs Birch is the breeder of Ch *Kwintex Kelly*, owned by Mrs Purdon. One of Kelly's daughter *Vanwall Lovely Rita* joined the Kwintex kennel and is on her way to her title.

### VADERSON

In the early sixties, *Vader Kerstmis of Vorden* also gave Mr and Mrs Parkes' Vaderson kennel its first big winner, Ch *Sinterklaas Test Pilot* whose dam was an unknown one, *Sinterklaas Mandy of Sandling*. He became a champion in 1963. Ch *Vaderson Vivace*, sired by *Ledwell Maraduke* is a direct descendant of *Test Pilot* through her dam, Ch *Norsled Piacere of Vaderson*, the top winning bitch in 1980. Ch *Norsled Piacere of Vaderson* was the first Vaderson champion bitch; sired by *Rhinevale Robin Hood ex Vaderson Sieglinde* she was bred by Mrs Haddon. A repeat of this mating just prior to Sieglindes export to Sweden gave her Swedish owners one of that country's top winning dogs Ch *Repetas Alberto*. Two young sons of Ch *Vaderson Vivace* made their names in the ring in their home country and a brother, exported to New Zealand, has





Fig. 25.57 Ch *Dalbaro Samson*. Sire Ch *Kayluws Kondore of Ledwell*, Dam *Tingalary Singing Wind*. Owners Mr, Mrs & Miss Reed. Breeder Mrs B Shaw



Fig. 25.58 Ch *Willkees Silver Star of Dargrant*. Sire Ch *Dargrant Dynamite*. Dam *Neradmik Jean Jeannie*. Owner Mrs Blackburn. Breeder Miss Claire Williams



taken the line into a new area.

Like most Keeshond folk, the Parkes family keep a small pack of up to six dogs living companionably in their home, which is the way Keeshonds like. Numbers do not denote quality and from these records you will see that a single line can be equally successful with those who run a kennel. Both Mr and Mrs Parkes judge the breed and are equally involved. 1989 saw their home bred Ch *Vaderson Solario*, take the CC and Best of breed at the Keeshond Club Show. Sired by *Vaderson Van Tromp ex Vaderson Novanna*. A red letter day indeed.

### BOREASVALE

Mrs Hardcastle, breeder of Ch *Boreasvale Bojangles* and Ch *Boreasvale Babooshka*, was kennel maid at Wistonia and still follows their pattern in many ways. Like Wistonia she believes in large runs and each is a quarter of an acre; she also feeds mainly on sheep paunch and keeps about ten Keeshonds, who divide their time between kennel and run and being house dogs. *Boreasvale Berberis*, who was exported to Sweden, won his title there and sired seven champions. *Boreasvale Bomolita* gained her title in 1988 and has stayed in her home kennel whilst yet another of the bitches has been winning in Holland, Luxembourg and Belgium.

There are many other breed enthusiasts whose stock is regularly amongst the winners. Some of these prefixes are already well known and others will undoubtedly feature in the continuing story of the breed.

They include Mr & Mrs Barham *FILANTON*, Mrs Barnes *Zelanderzcar*, Mrs Burgess *REESBURG*, Mr & Mrs Beacock *KERRAYLIN*, Mr & Mrs Clarke *FLEVOLAND*, Mr & Mrs Curry *NORKEES*, Misses Davison & Gilbert *JULYN*, Mrs Dean *LEKKERBEK*, Mrs Hodgkinson *LEVINKAN*, Mr Ingram *JAMSHE*, Mrs Kingdom *PELANGO*, Mrs Lounds *ANNANETT*, Mrs McIntosh *SHELDERON*, Miss Morel *SEAKEE*, Mrs Morgan *CALINIGO*, Mr Riddle *RAEDEL*, Mrs Tew *BARGEWAY*, Mr & Mrs Tookey *VEKLEE*, Mrs Waters *MALMECK*, Mrs Waller *BRYKIN*, Mrs Williams *NOZONO* and many more.







Fig 25.59 Ch *Vondel Handyman*. Owner/Breeder: Jock George taking Best in Show Chester CH Show 1966. Sire: Ch *Dutch Uncle of Ven*. Dam: *Vrona of Vorden*

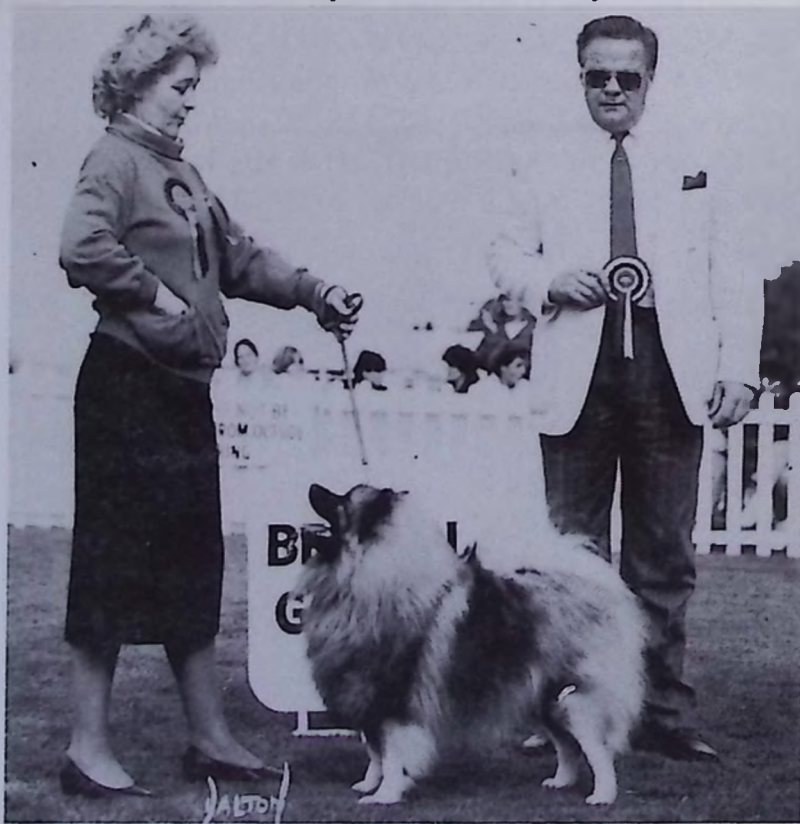


Fig 25.60 Winning the Utility Group. Richmond Ch 1986 Show Ch *Rhinevale Rameses*. Sire: Ch *Gelderland Clipper of Swashway*. Dam: *Rhinevale Risobella*. Owner: Mrs M E Elliott Breeder Mrs. N. Newnham



## KEESHOND CLUB ANNUAL TROPHIES

The Norton Rose Bowl presented by Mrs Norton for the Kennel winning the most First Prizes during the year.

Date	Kennel	Owner
1947	<i>Ravensknowle</i>	Mrs I. Newbold
1948-1958inc	<i>Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1959	<i>Evenlode</i>	Miss O.M. Hastings
1960/1961	<i>Vorden</i>	Mrs I.M. Tucker
1962	<i>Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1963	<i>Ven</i>	Mrs J.R. Collins
1964	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1965/1966	<i>Ven</i>	Mrs J.R. Collins
1967	<i>Waakzaam</i>	Mrs E.M. Smyth
1968	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1969-1975inc	<i>Waakzaam</i>	Mrs E.M. Smyth
1976	<i>Hanovarian</i>	Mrs A. Macdonald
1977	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1978	<i>Hanovarian</i>	Mrs A. Macdonald
1979	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1980	<i>Dargrant</i>	Mrs Blackburn
1981	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1982	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1983	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1984	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1985	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1986	<i>Boreasvale</i>	Mrs J. Hardcastle
1987	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1988	<i>Boreasvale</i>	Mrs J. Hardcastle
1989	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst

## BINGO ROSE BOWL

The Ch Bingo Rose Bowl, presented by Mrs Norton of the Van Eyck Keeshonds for the stud dog whose progeny scores most points during the year, has an interesting history. Ch *Bingo* was sired by Ch *Dochfour Hendrick* out of *Darkie of Hyver*. He was the fourth champion in the breed, was raffled for half-a-crown (twelve and a half pence in today's money) and was won by a well-known exhibitor of Griffons. She in turn passed him on to Mrs Norton. As so often happens he not only won her heart but started an interest in the breed which led to Mrs Norton's Van Eyck Kennel owning and breeding many well-known Keeshonds of that era. Ch *Bingo* sired many winners, the most significant being the three in a litter to Miss Hastings' *Dorcas of Evenlode*, Am Ch *Herzoa of Evenlode* the property of Mrs Collins (then Mrs Fort), Ch *Halunke of Evenlode* and Ch *Hagedorn of Evenlode* the winner of the most CCs in the breed at that time. On those lines the famous Evenlode Kennel, one of the greatest ever, was founded.



The winners of the Ch Bingo Trophy from the war years onwards are as follows:

Date	Name	Owner
1948	<i>Vandyke of Vorden</i>	Mrs I M Tucker
1949-1951	<i>Worthy of Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1952-1955	<i>Ch Winchell of Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1956	<i>Ch Verschancing of Vorden</i>	Mrs I.M. Tucker
1957/1958	<i>Ch Big Bang of Evenlode</i>	Miss O.M. Hastings
1959	<i>Ch Volkrad of Vorden</i>	Mrs I.M. Tucker
1960	<i>Ch Big Bang of Evenlode</i>	Miss O.M. Hastings
1961	<i>Ch Vorden Good Guard of Evenlode</i>	Mrs I.M. Tucker
1962-1965	<i>Ch Big Bang of Evenlode</i>	Miss O.M. Hastings
1966	<i>Am Ch Rutkay Moerdawg of Ven</i>	Mrs J.R. Collins
1967-1972	<i>Commandant of Duroya</i>	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1973	<i>Ch Waakzaam Waag</i>	Mrs E.M. Smyth
1974/1975	<i>Ch Ledwell Dutchman</i>	Mrs D. Purdon
1976/1977	<i>Ch Surprise of Ven</i>	Mrs J.R. Collins
1978/1979	<i>Ch Riesling of Rhinevale</i>	Mrs D. Purdon
1980-1984	<i>Ch Gelderland Clipper of Swashway</i>	Mesdames Francis & Wilding
1985	<i>Ch Gavimir Nighthawk</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1986-1988	<i>Ch Neradmik Didikie</i>	Mrs Sharp Bale
1989	<i>Ledwell Silver Dollar</i>	Mrs S. Scroggs

#### The Dorcas of Evenlode Challenge Cup.

This was presented by Miss O.M.Hastings for the Brood Bitch whose progeny scores most points at Championship Shows.

Date	Name of Dog	Owner
1948	<i>Vyand of Vorden</i>	Mr & Mrs Ball
1949	<i>Ch Anna of Vanloen</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1950	<i>Ch Mistybank Madonna of Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1951	<i>Silver Lady</i>	Miss J.B. Taylor
1952	<i>Ch Wazelaine of Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1954	<i>Waneta of Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood

This third win gave the cup to the Wistonia Kennel outright. However, they elected to re-present it as before.

1955	<i>Winnaslass of Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1956	<i>Mar-ke-val of Wistonia</i>	Mr & Mrs Greenwood
1957	<i>Ch Rapunzel of Rhinevale</i>	Mrs D. Emerson
1958	No Claim	
1959	<i>Ch Veraura of Vorden</i>	Mrs I.M. Tucker
1960	<i>Ch Rondina of Rhinevale</i>	Mr T. Merry
1961	<i>Vrivity of Vorden</i>	Mrs I.M. Tucker
1962/1963	<i>Ch Vanderveer of Vorden</i>	Mrs J.R. Collins
1964/1965	<i>Tassle of Ven</i>	Mrs J.R. Collins
1966	<i>Vrona of Vorden</i>	Mrs I.M. Tucker
1967	<i>Waakzaam Wonderbalijk</i>	Mrs E.M. Smyth
1968/1969	<i>Vanglede Countess</i>	Mrs Blair
1970	<i>Ch Robinella of Rhinevale</i>	Mrs D. Emerson



**Dorcas of Evenlode Cup continued**

1971/1972	<i>Ledwell Catastrophe</i>	Mrs S. Scroggs
1973	<i>Rhinevale Remember Me</i>	Mrs D. Emerson
1974	<i>Ch Raffetta of Rhinevale</i>	Mrs D. Emerson
1975	<i>Ledwell Heidi</i>	Mrs S. Scroggs
1976	<i>Kandikhuif Yolanda</i>	Mrs A. Macdonald
1977	<i>Gavimir Roitelet of Rhinevale</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1978	<i>Ledwell Heidi</i>	Mrs S. Scroggs
1979	<i>Gelderland Aurelia</i>	Mrs J. Moore
1980	<i>Ledwell Lustre of Keesland</i>	Mr & Mrs Weedon
1981/1982	<i>Ch Ledwell Lustre of Keesland</i>	Mr & Mrs Weedon
1983	<i>Gavimir Verbena</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1984	<i>Gavimir Verbena</i>	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1985	<i>Ch Keesland Highlight</i>	Mrs Weedon
1986	<i>Valsgate Silver Buckle</i>	Mrs Sharp
1987	<i>Bodarin Bernardette at Neradmik</i>	Mrs Sharp Bale
1988	<i>Valsgate Silver Buckle</i>	Mrs Sharp Bale
1989	<i>Ch Kwintex Kelly</i>	Mrs Purdon

**CRUFTS C.C. WINNERS AND B.B.\* (1948 - 1987)**

\*Denotes Best of Breed

Year	Judge	Winner of Dog C.C.	Winner of Bitch C.C.
1948	Mrs Wingfield Digby	<i>Harmony of Muirville*</i>	<i>Whimsey of Wistonia</i>
1949	Show cancelled (Due to Foot and Mouth outbreak)		
1950	Mrs D.F.Gardiner	<i>Verchancing of Vorden</i>	<i>Wazelaine of Wistonia</i>
1951	Mrs A Gatacre	<i>Ch. Colin of Ossen*</i>	<i>Ch. Vorstin of Vlieland</i>
1952	Mr J.R.Foster	<i>Vertrekken of Vorden*</i>	<i>Rapunzel of Rhinevale</i>
1953	Mrs H.Stenfert-Kroese (Holland)	<i>Wisher of Wistonia</i>	<i>Silver Slipper*</i>
1954	Show cancelled (Due to an electricians strike)		
1955	Mr C.H.Blanchard	<i>Ch Wricky of Wistonia*</i>	<i>Volkrijk of Vorden</i>
1956	Miss M.Keyte-Perry	<i>Wynjan of Wistonia</i>	<i>Ch Volkrijk of Vorden*</i>
1957	Mrs W.Barber	<i>Wynjan of Wistonia</i>	<i>Ch Volkrijk of Vorden*</i>
1958	Mr J.R.Foster	<i>Randalone of Rhinevale</i>	<i>Ch Volkrijk of Vorden*</i>
1959	Miss G.M.M.Cousens	<i>Ch Randalone of Rhinevale</i>	<i>Ch Volkrijk of Vorden*</i>
1960	Mrs I.M.Tucker	<i>Ch Waakzaam Kristian*</i>	<i>Maritana of Mazelands</i>
1961	Miss O.Hastings	<i>Vader Kerstmis of Vorden</i>	<i>Ch Rondina of Rhinevale*</i>
1962	Mrs D.Anderson	<i>Ch Westryton of Wistonia*</i>	<i>Winmitzy of Wistonia</i>
1963	Mrs I.Newbold	<i>Ch Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle</i>	<i>Ch Winmitzy of Wistonia</i>
1964	Major L.H.H.Glover	<i>Ch Rahida of Rhinevale*</i>	<i>Warmida of Wistonia</i>
1965	Mrs C.Harrop	<i>Ch Sinterklaas Brush Name*</i>	<i>Duroya of Wistonia</i>
1966	Mr J.R.Collins	<i>Vondel Handyman*</i>	<i>Cousin Kate of Ven</i>
1967	Mr S.Dangerfield	<i>Ch Vondeo Handyman*</i>	<i>Belle Blonde of Berryvale</i>
1968	Mr F.Warner-Hill	<i>Ch Sinterklaas Big Noise*</i>	<i>Welford Lucky</i>
1969	Mr A.W.Fullwood	<i>Ch Waakzaam Wotan*</i>	<i>Kandijkuij Aunt Louisa</i>
1970	Mr A.O.Grindley	<i>Leeavon Duroya</i>	<i>Ch Robinella of Rhinevale*</i>
1971	Mrs A.J.Hopwood	<i>Ch Riesling of Rhinevale*</i>	<i>Vanglede Invincible</i>
1972	Mrs M.Emerson	<i>Ch Ledwell Dutchman*</i>	<i>Waakzaam Wanroij</i>
1973	Mr J.H.J.Braddon	<i>Ch Heinz Sparkler*</i>	<i>Teekola Vancherie</i>
1974	Mr H.Essam	<i>Ch Ledwell Dutchman</i>	<i>Ch Waakzaam Wursel*</i>
1975	Mr P.Whitaker	<i>Ch Waakzaam Waagson</i>	<i>Shelderon Dreamy Denker*</i>
1976	Miss B.Glover	<i>Ch Ledwell Dutchman*</i>	<i>Ch Waakzaam Wursling</i>



## Crufts C.C. Winners and B.B.\* (1948-1987) continued

1977	Mr J.R.Collins	<i>Ch Octave of Ven*</i>	<i>Ledwell Heidi</i>
1978	Miss F.Hamilton	<i>Ch Octave of Ven*</i>	<i>Keesland Ember</i>
1979	Mr J.H.J.Braddon	<i>Vandaban 'Alloween'</i>	<i>Ledwell Quality*</i>
1980	Judge Hopkin	<i>Ch Gelderland Clipper</i>	<i>Ch Solo of Ven</i>
1981	Mrs A.Reed	<i>Ch Boreasvale Bojangles*</i>	<i>Ch Duroya Irresistible</i>
1982	Miss B.Glover	<i>Ch Gavimir Nighthawk</i>	<i>Koltonhill Keurig*</i>
1983	Mr D.Appleton	<i>Ch Gavimir Nighthawk*</i>	<i>Ch Duroya Irresistible</i>
1984	Mrs C.G.Sutton	<i>Ch Gavimir Nighthawk*</i>	<i>Ch Keesland Highlight</i>
1985	Miss M Collier	<i>Dargrant Distant Drummer</i>	<i>Ch Sheburn Lucinda*</i>
1986	Mr M.J.R.Stockman	<i>Ch Neradmik Illusion*</i>	<i>Keesland Joy of Cyfelin</i>
1987	Mrs E.M.Smyth	<i>Ch Bergarita Guardsman*</i>	<i>Venway Kickeboe</i>
1988	Mr R.James	<i>Ch Neradmik Jupiter*</i>	<i>Swashway On Your Toes</i>
1989	Mrs S.Scroggs	<i>Keesland Karel of Lekkerbek</i>	<i>Neradmik Quantreux*</i>

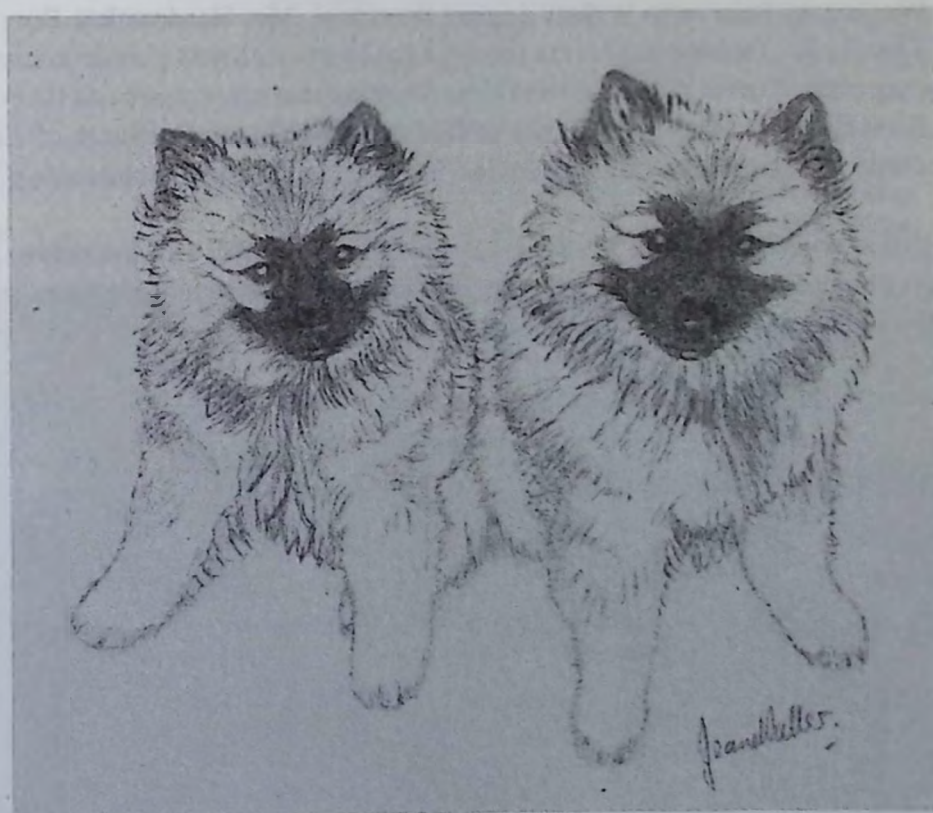
## THE WINNERS OF BEST IN SHOW AT THE KEESHOND CLUB CH SHOW

Date	Owner	Name of Dog	Sex
1946	Mrs I.M.Tucker	<i>Vandyke of Vorden</i>	D
1946	Mr C.Broadhead	<i>Major of Broadcliffe</i>	D
1947	Mrs V.Balnchard	<i>Linda of Landswood</i>	B
1947	Miss C.Blower & Mrs Garnett	<i>Jan of Grovelyn</i>	D
1948	Mrs V.Blanchard	<i>Ch Linda of Landswood</i>	B
1949	Mr & Mrs Greenwood	<i>Waarborg of Wistonia</i>	D
1950	Miss F.A. Dicker	<i>Brikie van Zamdarn</i>	B
1951	Mrs E.A. Ellis & Mr W.B. Ince	<i>Ch Colin of Ossen</i>	D
1952	Mrs E. A. Ellis & Mr W. B. Ince	<i>Ch Colin of Ossen</i>	D
1953	Mrs L.M. Deakin	<i>Wynkanton of Wistonia</i>	D
1954	Mrs D. Emerson	<i>Ch Rapunzel of Rhinevale</i>	B
1955	Mrs I.M.Tucker	<i>Ch Volkrijji of Vorden</i>	B
1956	Mrs I.M.Tucker	<i>Ch Veraura of Vorden</i>	B
1957	Mr & Mrs Greenwood	<i>Ch Wazzi of Wistonia</i>	B
1958	Mr T.Merry	<i>Ch Rondina of Rhinevale</i>	B
1959	Miss D.Payne	<i>Dainty Karla</i>	B
1960	Col. E.Spencer	<i>Firefly of Evenlode</i>	D
1961	No show held		
1962	Miss O.M. Hastings	<i>Ch Evenlode Manarch of Merrybelle</i>	D
1963	Miss O. M. Hastings	<i>Ch Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle</i>	D
1964	Mrs J.R. Collins	<i>Ch Dutch Uncle of Ven</i>	D
1965	Mrs J. R. Collins	<i>Ch Dutch Uncle of Ven</i>	D
1966	Mr J. George	<i>Ch Vondel Handy Man</i>	D
1967	Mr & Mrs Ransome	<i>Welford Lucky</i>	B
1968	Mrs D.Emerson	<i>Robinella of Rhinevale</i>	B
1969	Miss E.H.Davison	<i>Hans Silver Myst</i>	D
1971	Mrs D.Emerson	<i>Ch Duroya Roleander of Rhinevale</i>	D
1972	Mrs J.R.Collins	<i>Ch Welford Orinda of Ven</i>	B
1973	Mrs D.Emerson	<i>Rhinevale Rarebit</i>	B
1974	Mrs D.Purdon	<i>Ch Ledwell Dutchman</i>	D
1975	Mr D.Udani	<i>Ch Waakzaam Wiederman</i>	D
1976	Mr D.Udani	<i>Azad Asha</i>	B
1977	Mrs E.M.Smyth	<i>Waakzaam Wiederman</i>	D



## The Winners of Best in Show at the Keeshond Club CH Show (continued)

1978	Mrs E. M. Smyth	<i>Waaksam Wijsman</i>	D
1979	Mrs P. Luckhurst	<i>Gavimir Toblerone</i>	D
1980	Mrs B. Edward	<i>Ledwell Soloman</i>	D
1981	Mrs B. Edward	<i>Ch Ledwell Soloman</i>	D
1982	Mr & Mrs Gee	<i>Azad Geeta</i>	B
1983	Mrs P. Luckhurst	<i>Gavimir Kiang</i>	D
1984	Mr M.J.R. Stockman	<i>Ch Valsgate Squires' Boy</i>	D
1985	Mrs J. Sharp	<i>Ch Ledwell Lysander</i>	D
1986	Mrs M. Elliot	<i>Ch Rhinevale Rameses</i>	D
1987	Mrs C. Moore	<i>Rhinevale Ramahawk at Gelderland</i>	D
1988	Mrs Sharp Bale	<i>Ch Neradmik Jupiter</i>	D
1989	Mrs P. Parkes	<i>Ch Vaderson Solario</i>	D





## THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

### KEESHOND CLUB

It was in 1936 that several breeders in Yorkshire and Co Durham got together and formed The North of England Keeshond Club, with Mr R Siddall as President and Mr C H Blanchard and Mr H Craven as Hon. Secretaries. There is little news of the early days, but with such influential kennels as Ravensknowle, Vorden and Wistonia heading the Northern scene just after the war the importance of the Northern dogs is obvious. In 1948 the President was Mr E Clegg with Mr F Hill Hon. Treasurer, Mrs R Helliwell Hon. Secretary and Mr F Greenwood Chairman. The Committee included Mrs Tucker (Vorden), Mrs Newbold (Ravensknowle), Mrs Harrop (Grovelyn), and Mrs Greenwood (Wistonia), all names which have contributed to breed history. For some years Mrs Anderson of the Kultz Keeshonds was the President and from a very small beginning the membership now stands at about 150.

Like the Keeshond Club, two shows a year are held, one with championship status and one Open Show. Mrs Woodiwiss with her Duroya kennel has always been a loyal supporter as has Mrs Smyth of Waakzaam fame who is their current President. Mrs Hardcastle's Boreasvale Keeshonds and Mrs Shaw's Dalbaro kennel are forces in the North with new people joining their ranks. Janet Tierney of the Kinkeesha kennel was Hon. Secretary for some years and the position is now held by Ruth Burgess. With the majority of Keeshond owners in the South of England it is good news that the North not only maintains its position, but the membership grows annually.

Loyal Northern supporters include, Mr & Mrs Arran, (Silberne) Bill and Rosemary Allen, Sheila McIntosh (Shelderon), D. Kitson (Davean), Mrs Edith Stevenson and her daughter Mrs Barclay (Vorliebe) Mrs J. Shaw and Mr & Mrs Crawford, Venway.

### THE NORTH OF ENGLAND KEESHOND CLUB TROPHIES

**The Kultz Trophy – for the Kennel gaining most points.**

Date	Kennel	Owner
1974	<i>Waakzaam</i>	Mrs Smyth
1975	<i>Waaksaam</i>	Mrs Smyth
1977	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs Woodiwiss
1979	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs Woodiwiss
1980	<i>Dargrant</i>	Mrs Holmes
1981	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs Luckhurst
1982	<i>Duroya</i>	Mrs Woodiwiss
1983	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs Luckhurst
1984	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs Luckhurst
1985	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs Luckhurst
1986	<i>Boreasvale</i>	Mrs Hardcastle
1987	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs Luckhurst
1988	<i>Boreasvale</i>	Mrs Hardcastle
1989	<i>Gavimir</i>	Mrs Luckhurst



## North of England Trophies continued

## The Galdrik Trophy – the Top Stud Dog

Date	Name	Owner
1978	CH REISLING OF RHINEVALE	Mrs D. Purdon
1980	CH REISLING OF RHINEVALE	Mrs D. Purdon
1981	No Claim	
1982	CH BOREASVALE BOJANGLES	Mrs J. Hardcastle
1983	KWINTX KATTERWAAD	Mrs L.W. Birch
1984	KWINTX KATTERWAAD	Mrs L.W. Birch
1985	CH GAVIMIR NIGHTHAWK	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1986	CH NERADMIK DIDIKIE	Mrs J. Sharp
1988	CH NERADMIK DIDIKIE	Mrs J. Sharp
1989	LEDWELL SILVER DOLLAR	Mrs S. Scroggs

## The Galdrikette Trophy – the Top Brood Bitch

1978	RHINEVALE ROITLET OF GAVIMIR	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1979	CH LEDWELL HEIDI	Mrs S. Scroggs
1980	DUROYA IMOGEN	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1981	No Claim	
1982	CH DUROYA IMOGEN	Mrs A. Woodiwiss
1983	CH GAVIMIR VERVET	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1984	CH GAVIMIR VERBENA	Mrs P. Luckhurst
1985	SHELDERON DAWN DROMER	Mrs S. Brown
1986	VALSGATE SILVER BUCKLE	Mrs J. Sharp
1987	BODARIN BERNADETTE AT NERADMIK	Mrs J. Sharp
1988	VALSGATE SILVER BUCKLE	Mrs J. Sharp
1989	CH KWINTX KELLY	Mrs D. Purdon



Fig. 25.61 North of England Keeshond Club Supporters. 1950's. Mrs Ida Newbold, Mr J. Saunders. Mrs Helliwell. Mr Hill (who bred Hendrick of Ravensknowle) Mr F. Greenwood and Mr. Helliwell.



## KENNEL CLUB REGISTRATION

1945.....261  
 1950.....424  
 1955.....380  
 1960.....281  
 1965.....210  
 1966.....334  
 1967.....299  
 1968.....288  
 1969.....292  
 1970.....379  
 1971.....302  
 1972.....273  
 1973.....268  
 1974.....258  
 1975.....228  
 1976.....123

In 1976 the method of Registration was changed and litter recording was instituted, therefore the 1976 and 1977 figured cannot be regarded as a drop in entries but must be considered in the general gradual decrease.

1977.....72  
 1978.....235  
 1979.....255  
 1980.....223  
 1981.....198  
 1982.....142  
 1983.....216  
 1984.....253  
 1985.....177  
 1986.....242  
 1987.....221  
 1988.....156

Prefixes that were well known prior to the cessation of Championship Shows in 1939, in alphabetical order.

CANFORD  
 DE WITT  
 DOCHFOUR  
 EVENLODE  
 GUELDER  
 HOUGHTONVILLE  
 KULTZ  
 MORVEN  
 OKEBROOK  
 STERNDALE  
 VAN EYCK

MISS E. HARRISON  
 MRS F. W. MORTON.  
 BARONESS BURTON.  
 MISS O. M. HASTINGS.  
 MRS W. E. GATACRE.  
 MRS J.G.SOULSBY  
 MRS D. ANDERSON  
 MISS M. SELLAR.  
 MISS J. HARMON.  
 J. R. FOSTER.  
 MRS F. H. NORTON.

By the resumption of shows in 1945/46 both VORDEN and RAVENSKNOWLE (were showing locally).



## PREFIXES

Annanett	Mr. & Mrs. Lounds
Bargeway	Mrs Tew
Barj	Mr & Mrs Jones
Belmondo	Mr & Mrs Bulgess
Benadaus	Mr & Mrs Berwick
Bergarita	Mr & Mrs Partridge
Boreasvale	Mrs Hardcastle
Brykin	Mrs Waller
Byquy	Mr & Mrs Reed-Matthews
Calinigo	Mr & Mrs Morgan
Candymay	Mrs Randall
Cyfelin	Mr & Mrs Hill
Dagrant	Mrs Blackburn
Duroya	Mrs Woodiwiss
Filanton	Mr & Mrs Barham
Flevoland	Mr & Mrs Clarke
Franrik	Mr & Mrs Clasby
Gelderland	Mrs Moore
Gordorna	Mr & Mrs Lister
Helkeeson	Mr & Mrs Brewer
Jameshe	Mr Ingram
Keesland	Mrs Weedon
Kerraylin	Mr & Mrs Beacock
Leazehond	Mr & Mrs Newman
Ledwell	Mrs Scroggs
Lckkerbek	Mrs Dean
Levinkan	Mrs Hodgkinson
Malmeck	Mrs Waters
Neradmik	Mrs Sharp-Bale
Nozona	Mrs Williams
Pelango	Mrs Kingdom
Raedels	Mr Riddle
Ranoel	Mr & Mrs Howie
Reesburg	Mrs R Burgess
Rhinevale	Mrs Emerson
Seakee	Miss Morel
Shelderon	Mrs McIntosh
Strumpsels	Mrs Edmonds
Swashway	Mrs Francis & Mrs Wilding
Vaderson	Mr & Mrs Parkes
Valsgate	Mr Stockman
Vandaban	Mrs Banfield
Vanijk	Miss Burnett
Willkees	Miss C Williams
Vanwall	Mrs Purdon
Veklee	Mr & Mrs Tookey
Welford	Miss Glover
Wentgarth	Mrs Basket
Zelandzcar	Mrs Barnes



## CHAPTER 26

The following sections attempts to research the original strains used to establish the breed in various countries. Thanks to co-operation with overseas enthusiasts this assessment was made on the status of kennels in 1984/85 and in some countries great strides have been made since then with many more imports and new lines coming to the fore.

## THE KEESHOND IN HOLLAND

The history of the Keeshond in Holland goes much further back than in England as the first appearance in the show ring was on April 11/12th 1874 when the Amsterdam section of the Dutch Agricultural show recorded nine Keeshonds being exhibited, mainly of unknown breeding. Although described as 'of the large variety', as opposed to Dwerkkeeshonden (Pomeranians) there were at that time many white, black and even orange specimens. One of the earliest regularly shown dogs was a white Keeshond called *Spits van Overveen* born in 1888. He was owned by Kees v.d. Vliet and was the first Keeshond ever entered in the Dutch Stud Register. Later his name was changed to *Spits van Dvinzicht*.

In April 1891 five Keeshonds were entered at the Cynophilia Tentoonstelling Show, which is the equivalent of a Championship show, and three of these were grey and two white. By 1893 the famous *Othello*, an all black dog, had topped the breed and he was from Karel Schuttes 'Pomerania' Kennel which was the largest kennel of that era. The name 'Pomerania' does not mean Dwerkkeeshonden, for in 1902 when 47 Keeshonds were registered, 42 were from this line. 1894 and 1895 saw two more breeders showing successfully, G. Kuyl van Gijh and J.V. v.d. Roemer. At the turn of the century the breed was given a boost by the importation from England of two white Spitz. They were apparently much admired and as a result of their inclusion in various breeding programmes a lovely quality emerged and the Keeshond became recognised as one of the most beautiful dogs in the show ring at that time.

In 1910, Mrs v.d. Blom, who lived in the Hague, imported the German Ch *Fritz Vom Harz*, a good looking grey, and a little later another German Keeshond, this time a bitch. She was *Lottie von Randersacker*, also grey, and these two produced offspring that were shown successfully both nationally and internationally. Indeed we, who have adopted the grey Keeshond, are deeply indebted to Mrs v.d. Blom for it was she who promoted this particular colour and between 1910 and 1923 it was her concentrated effort which established the grey Keeshond. She was the founder of the Nederlandse Keeshonden Club and there is a photograph of her with three typical Keeshonds in *The Keeshond and Dwerkkeeshond* by A.L.J. Vos Treskes and S. van Hemeert which is written in Dutch. This photograph was taken in 1915 and the dogs in it are very like the dogs seen in England in the 1940s. After 1923 Mrs v.d. Blom turned to the little Dwerkkeeshonden or Pomeranian and the same book has a delightful photograph of her taken in 1925 surrounded by her little dogs.

Two other breeders who became well known for their knowledge and devotion to the breed were Baroness van Hardenbroek and Mrs Stenfert Croese-Croll. The Baroness started her Walhalla Kennel with a dog called *Bart*, bought from gypsies and his pedigree consisted of only four names. Sired by *Fik* (pedigree unknown) ex *Pol*, a daughter of *Fix* and *Fikse*. He became one of the best known Keeshonds of that era. In the 1930s a string from the Walhalla Kennel were winning regularly and included such famous names as *Dierderick von Walhalla*, *Maja von*





Fig 26.1 Dutch Ch. *Ledwell Humorist*. Owner Mrs Vos Treske. Exported by his breeder Mrs Scroggs and he had a very beneficial influence on the Dutch lines.



Fig. 26.2 Dutch and International Ch. *Jarl van 'T Benthuyts*



*Walhalla, Ulrick von Walhalla, Ritsaerd von Walhalla and Betty von Walhalla.*

Mrs Stenfert Croese-Croll owned the famous Roy Kennel and many influential dogs started their life in her kennel. Amongst her well known winners were *Akke Roy, Lex Roy* and *Robert Roy* but it was as a judge of the breed that she is best remembered. Equally popular on the Continent and in England she made a notable contribution to the breed, until her death in 1971. She judged Crufts in 1953 and the Keeshond Club Ch Show in 1958. Between 1919 and 1924 there seems to have been some reciprocal agreement between the Dutch and German Keeshond Clubs. About this time some breeders tried to nominate the Keeshond as the National dog of Holland and a finer, rather smaller type of dog emerged, thus separating the Dutch type from the larger German Wolf-Spitz. The smaller type was campaigned and a second Keeshond Club initiated. This was The Hollandse Keeshond Club which folded up some twenty years later for lack of support. In 1960 the German standard was adopted but since 1974 the Dutch standard, which is very similar to our own, has been accepted. The height of quality was in the seventies when there were several kennels around the Arnhem area and many others showing good dogs. Mrs von Treske, a leading authority on the breed and one time Hon. Sec. of the Nederlandse Keeshond Club judged in England in 1969 at Birmingham. In 1973 she imported *Ledwell Humorist*. He was a handsome son of *Ch Surprise of Ven* and *Ch Ledwell Charlotte* and quickly gained his title and did a great deal of winning. More importantly his stock proved beneficial to the breed as a whole and it is interesting to note that when Mrs Scroggs judged in Holland in 1985 her Best in Show, *Mr Leerings, Nederlandse and Int. Ch Astor* is a grandson of the puppy she sent out twelve years previously *Ledwell Humorist*.



Fig. 26.3 *Elza Van De Bloemschevaert* Dutch and Int. Champion Bitch



The original Nederlandse Keeshond Club continues to thrive but the Keeshond is a family dog in his native land and many more are owned than are registered and shown. Registrations have dropped slightly in the last ten years but the faithful following the Keeshond has secured his position and his future.

Registrations:

1974	179
1975	144
1976	164
1977	196
1978	159
1979	114
1980	114
1981	132
1982	116
1983	226
1984	111





### THE KEESHOND IN USA

Ever since 1926, when the first Keeshond entered America from Germany there has been a faithful and ever increasing interest in the breed.

This suggests the breed is in good heart with so many enthusiasts promoting and caring for its future.

It was in 1930 that the breed was officially classified as Non-Sporting Group 6 by the American Kennel Club and the very first Keeshond registered owned by Carl Hinderer, was a daughter of Ch *Geron am Ziel* ex *Hilde am Ziel*. In 1931 Mr Alf Delmont broadcast a description of the breed on Chicago Radio. The Press took note and the breed was featured in *The American Kennel Gazette*, *the Sphere*, *The New York Herald* and the *Tribune*. American dog fanciers took the breed to their hearts and an influx of British bred dogs resulted.

In Illinois an important kennel was established by Mr Irving Florsheim with *Dochfour Jacob*, from Baroness Burton *Guelder Primrose*, *Guelder Petrucia*, *Guelder Silver Witch* and *Guelder Chinchilla* from Mrs Gatacre, author of *The Keeshond*. Four more Guelders went to Mrs H.C. House of Connecticut. From Miss Hastings' Evenlode Kennel *Rupert of Glebelands*, and *Christabel and Dilly of Evenlode* were imported and Mrs Wingfield Digby sent *Taal van Zaandam*, *Derek van Zaandam* and *Fenna van Zaandam*. She also sent *Gerard of Evenlode*, bred by Miss Hastings.

Mrs Kramer imported *Admiral van Sandar* and Mrs Fort (now Mrs Collins) took her winning dogs from England to the States. Her prefix at that time was van Sandar and her *Black Peter*, *Annie van Sandar* and *Herzog of Evenlode* (the latter one of a famous trio) were among the first to attain their titles.

Miss Hastings sent *Gerolf of Evenlode* to Mrs Jarrett, a Chow Chow breeder, who, with the co-operation of Mrs Irving Florsheim founded the first Keeshond club of America in 1935.

In 1936 just 129 Keeshonds were registered, 77 dogs and 52 bitches. By 1984, 2368 Keeshonds had obtained their title in the USA. These were sired by 801 dogs out of 1305 bitches, these statistics alone showing the tremendous popularity of the breed.

There is however a dark side to this as I understand there are frequently Keeshond puppies for sale in less than reputable pet markets whereas in England it is a very rare occurrence to obtain a Keeshond in any way other than direct from the breeder.

There are many differences of significance between English and American champions which must be understood to enable one to evaluate the quality of the Keeshonds in the U.S.A. There champions are more easily made up and, therefore, the important wins are Group wins. The American Kennel Club require that the Keeshond must win a total of 15 points to become a champion. They must be won under three different judges and the points must include a minimum of three in each of two shows under different judges. The points go to the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch, Winners being a class for which dogs which are already champions are *not* eligible. It is composed of the winners of the other classes. The number of points awarded is governed by the number of entries beaten. Only five points can be won at any show and the number varies in different breeds and various areas.

The most obvious difference in the showing between our two countries is that in England the Challenge Certificate has to be won against any champions entered and in U.S.A. the champions are in a separate class. In 1978 the K.C.A. initiated the Register of Merit and Register of Merit Excellent, (designated as ROM and ROMX after the dog's name). It is a title open to all and dependant upon the offspring attaining their titles. Stud dogs or Brood bitches must produce



twenty champions to attain the coveted ROMX.

It is estimated that only one per cent of the sires/dams of all the American Champions earn ROMX and five per cent the ROM.

In 1981 another award was initiated by the KCA to recognise the outstanding winners. This is the Hall of Fame Award (HOF) and is also applicable to Obedience Champions. Dogs must earn 100 HOF points and beat 1000 dogs in Competition. HOF points are awarded for Best in Show, Group placings and Speciality Best of Breed, etc. Females must earn 20 HOF points and defeat 200 in Competition.

Obedience work is more popular in the USA Keeshond world than it is in England and there are Obedience and Service Dogs with various qualifications. The first Keeshond to hold breed and Obedience titles was Ch *Pandora of Redding* in 1973, owned by Judith and Robert Brown. In the years since the AKC has instituted other titles, for example, Obedience Trail Ch (OT CH) and Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX), although some have won those letters to date no Keeshond has all the titles. However about one in every eight holders of Obedience titles are also Champions in the breed.

Mrs Doreen Anderson of the Kultz Keeshonds, who resided in Scotland, and was at various times Hon. Sec. of the Keeshond Club and later President of the North of England Keeshond Club, presented the Kultz Breeders Challenge Trophy to the Keeshond Club of America in 1964. It was offered to the member breeder of the most Champions recorded during the year, to be won three times for permanent possession. This trophy became a valued prestigious win and there was sporting and courageous challenging to acquire it. It is interesting to note that had it been presented one year earlier its history might have been shorter for the first winner was Marilyn Bender with four Champions completing their title in 1964. Five of Marilyn Bender's 'Candy Kids' litter had attained titles in 1963 and her Ch *Wil-los Zoet Zang* was named Dam of the Year, beginning a climb that was to take her to the top of the Dams of American Champions List.

During the twenty years the Kultz Trophy has been on offer fourteen first legs have been earned including Gwen Worley 1969, Mrs Elmer White 1972, Alice Gamache 1973, Mr and Mrs Sam Kelly 1976, Janice Wanamaker 1977, Shirley Gray 1978, and Judy M. Daughtery 1982. Seven of the fourteen have earned 2nd legs. Marilyn Bender 1964 and 1970. Rodney Nickerson 1965 and 1967. Carolyn Coughlin 1968 and 1971. Mr and Mrs Jack Howard 1973 and 1974. Mrs Nan Greenwood 1974 and 1975. Joanne Reed 1977 and 1979. Helga and Joseph Cuneo 1980 and 1981. In 1966 it was not awarded as there were no applications. That list of winners accounted for 102 American Champions.

After twenty years one name was engraved for the third and final time, Helga Cuneo, whose well-known Ch *Tryons Fearless Fruhling* reached the top of the "Dams of American Champions" list, thus completing the history of this popular trophy. Glancing through the history of the breed in U.S.A. there are some names that stand out for having established a line of quality Keeshonds which have been instrumental in not only winning themselves, but founding other lines and generally benefitting the world of dogs. Mr and Mrs Porter Washington's *Flakkee* kennel, the late Virginia Ruttkay's *Ruttkay*. The Late Nan Greenwood's *Wistonia*, Jean Howard's *Jee Jac's* in Washington, Jane Parshall with her *Japar* Keeshonds in Ohio, Carol Aubut's *Tanglewoods*, Harriet Cinkosky's *Holland Hond's*, Jan and George Wanamaker with *Candray*, Helga Cuneo's *Fearless*, Dorothy and Sam Kelley's *Keli-Kees* in Texas, Joanne Reed's *Windrift* and Gene and Donna Smith's *Baronwood*. Right up to date is Robin Starks *Star-Kees* Kennel with the star of all time Ch *Star Kees Batman* ROMX with fifty champion



offspring so far. Top dam is currently Helga Cuneo's Ch *Tryons Fearless Fruhling* ROMX with sixteen champions to her credit.

In a country covering such tremendous areas there are obviously many more devotees and good breeders, but it is from these names that we get the dogs that have had a substantial influence on the modern Keeshond and the photographs show the high standard of quality that has been attained.

The Code of Ethics which is a guide for breeders has no doubt helped in this direction and was the brain-child of Mrs J. Whitney Peterson whose Nederlan Kennel was amongst the top winners in the 1940s and 1950s. Having imported from Evenlode and Wistonia the Nederlands made a name for themselves with perhaps Mr and Mrs Emerson P. Hempstead's Am.Can.Ch *Nederlan Herman v. Mack* in pride of place. Having lost her first home bred puppy in a road accident Mrs Peterson acquired *Nether-Lairs Banner de Gyselaer* who, despite the fact that he was only shown within a 150 mile radius of his home, accounted for over forty Best of Breeds including a National Speciality and Westminster 1954 and 1956.

Another early importer was Mrs Kenneth Fitzpatrick who founded her *Van Fitz* Kennel in 1934 with an English bred bitch *Tilly Van Fitz of Canford* bred by Miss E. Harrison. A young male by Ch *Bingo* called *Dynasty of Canford* joined the Kennel which already had a Guelder and a whole new chapter opened. Later Eng.Ch *Tom Tit of Evenlode* joined them to not only sire seventeen Am. champions but also at his twenty shows he won three Best in Shows, and Ten Groups.



Fig. 26.4 Am. Ch. *Van Mells Pot of Gold*. HOF Sire Ch. *Keli-Kees Royal Ra of Roblyn*. Dam Ch. *Schatzie Van Rutkay*. Owner Carole Vander Meulen





Fig. 26.5 Ch. *Rich-Bobs Stormy Weather ROMX* Sire Ch. *Rich-Bobs Geronimo of Coventry*. Dam *Rich Bobs Stardust*. Owner Helga and Joe Cuneo



Fig. 26.6 Am. Ch. *Rutt kay Clydes Cubby HOF*. Owner Mae Evans. Sire Ch. *Mavericks Son of Ilka*. Dam Am. Ch. *Rutt kay Misty Morning*





Fig. 26.7 Am. Ch. *Fearless Flavour for Keeslund HOF*. Owner Judith Pomato. Sire Am. Ch. *Fearless Flintstone*. Dam Am. Ch. *Tryuns Fearless Fruhling*



Fig. 26.8 Am. Ch. *Charmac Scatman to Star-Kees*. Owner Robin Stark and Richard Krane. Sire Am. Ch. *Star-Kees Batman ROMX*. Dam Am. Ch. *Fearless Fortune Cookie CD. ROM.*





Fig. 26.9 Am. Ch. *Star-Kees Batman* ROMX. Owner Robin Stark. Sire Am. Ch. *Flakee Jackpot*. Dam Am. Ch. *Star-Kees Forever Amber* CD.



Fig. 26.10 Am. Ch. *Tryons' Fearless Fruhling* ROMX. Owner Mrs. Helga Cuneo. Sire Am. Ch. *Richrobs Stormy Weather*. Dam Am. Ch. *Tryons' Pound Sterling* CD. ROM.





Fig. 26.11 Left to Right Am. Ch. *Rich-Robs Stormy Weather* ROMX with two from one of his litters Ch. *Windrift's Love Unlimited* HOF and Ch. *Windrifts Lover Boy*



Fig. 26.12 Top Canadian Bred Winner Ch. *Reydorp Blast Off*. Sire Am. & Can. Ch. *Racassius of Rhinevale*. Dam. Ch. *Waakzaam Welsrijip*. Owner Mrs. Flo Beasley. Breeder Dr P Woodyer.



Mrs Fitzpatrick took an important place in the history of the Keeshond in America for whilst being President of the Pacific Coast Keeshond Club, the Keeshond Club of Southern California emerged from it. Mrs Fitzpatrick judged the 1950 Keeshond Club of America Speciality and became the National Club's President in 1955. Her tragic death that year left a sad gap. It was *Patriot Van Fitz and Punch Van Fitz*, both bred by Mrs. Fitzpatrick, that brought Mrs Van Cott Niven (later Mrs Porter Washington) into the breed and with early imports from Wistonia the Flakkee Kennel has had a profound influence on the breed, creating many new records and breeding and exhibiting a long line of famous dogs. It was fortunate that the breeding programme was continued by Mr Fitzpatrick who imported a most impeccably bred dog from Mrs Tucker. He was Eng. Am. Ch *Vangabang of Vorden*, sired by Ch *Big Bang of Evenlode* ex the Crufts Best in show winner Ch *Volkrijk of Vorden*. A meteoric career in the show ring was crowned by his winning the Quaker Oats award for winning more Group Firsts than any other dog of any breed in the Far West division of the country.

Mr and Mrs Sam Kelley's *Keli-Kees* Kennel has proved to be a strong influence with thirty Champions made up to date. It was not until 1967 that the first litter was bred and by the end of 1968 the first champion had emerged. The latest champion Am.Ch *Keli-Kees Kris Shannon* is a direct descendent. This was the final home of the well known Am.Can.Ch *Sinterklaas Brave Nimrod* one of a famous trio of champions sired by Ch *Big Bang of Evenlode* ex *Lass of Vankeena*. *Brave Nimrod* himself sired 25 U.S.A. and 7 Canadian champions. Am.Ch *Keli-Kees Melody of Kilarney* is the dam of nine American Champions and Ch *Keli-Kees Royal Ra of Roblyn* sired Carole Vander-Meulen's Am.Ch *Van Molls Pot of Gold* HOF a dog with an impressive show record. A famous dog of the seventies was Mr and Mrs Cuneo's Ch *Rich Robs Stormy Weather ROMX*, sire of twenty nine U.S.A. champions and sire of the top dam of all time Am.Ch *Tryons Fearless Fruhling* and of two speciality winners Am.Ch *Windrifts Love Unlimited* and litter mate *Windrifts Lover Boy*. *Stormy* was the top Stud dog in 1978 when he also won the Speciality and retained his stud title in 1979.

Lydia and William Laycock broke all records with their famous *Ruttkay Echo Von Rhine-gold*. Not only did he win the title of Champion in five countries, namely U.S.A., Canada, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Ecuador, but he also won the U.S.A. and Canadian CD and CDX, with another from the same stable Am.Can.Ch *Candray Coronet* taking titles in Puerto Rica and Venezuela plus her U.S.A. and Canadian CD and CDX. Although her Obedience career did not start until she was four years of age she took it in great style taking three out of four titles at her first four shows. She also won CACIB.

From his name *Ruttkay Echo Von Rhinegold*, must have originated from the Late Virginia Ruttkay's kennel. This was the background of a large breeding programme and many successful exhibitors started with Ruttkay stock. As well as encouraging private owners Mrs Ruttkay spent a great deal of her time promoting the breed, and their influence is still there in to-day's winners. The name Ruttkay can never be forgotten.

Mr and Mrs Walter Dayringer's *Jul-Day* Keeshonden are well known, but even greater kudos came their way in 1968 when they were voted by the Keeshond Club of America to receive the Dog World Award of the Year for "outstanding service on behalf of dogs". On hearing that a number of Keeshonds had been abandoned in a "breeders yard" the Dayringers, who are united in love of the breed, went into immediate action. Although the yard was many miles away from them they travelled there to find the dogs in pitiful condition, starving and without water and the owner was never traced. Through local Rescue Societies the Dayringers had all the dogs legally impounded and they were given their first food and water for over a week.



Legalities completed, the dogs were released to the Dayringers who, with veterinary supervision, set about the long task of nursing the fifteen survivors back to health. One can imagine the state, both physical and emotional, that must have overtaken the dogs at this stage. Months of hard work and expense went into their rehabilitation. It is even more to the credit of these caring people that with time every one of the rescued dogs was placed in a loving home. It is good to know that this was acknowledged by the award and to know that there are people who care so sincerely.

A great grand-daughter of Ch *Vereeren of Vorden*, Mrs Zingler's *Marcys' Teddy Bear* has an interesting record. Bred by M. Backer she went to Mrs Zingler as a baby in 1971 and lived for thirteen happy years. During that time she was shown at 120 shows winning her title at nineteen months, was placed in Groups in six different years, was one of only five multiple Group winning bitches in the last twenty years, was the only bitch Group winner with an Obedience qualification, was the only Keeshond bitch admitted to the Conformation Hall of Fame to also hold an advanced Obedience degree as well as being a good and loving companion. Mrs Zingler, one time President of the Keeshond Club of America, must be proud to have kept *Teddy Bear* in such condition that at nine years old she could still take Groups. She was always owner-handled.

Mae Evans, who has handled so many Keeshonds to victory in the past is now a Keeshond owner having taken on some Ruttkays after the death of Virginia Ruttkay the most notable being Am. Ch *Ruttkays Clyde's Cubby* HOF, a son of Am. Ch *Maverick Son of Ilka* ex Am. Ch *Ruttkay Misty Morning* so is entering another section of the Keeshond world.

When I had the honour of judging the breed in America in the early 1970s I was impressed by the sharp colouring and good coats achieved by USA breeders and since then quality has improved each year. The disparity between the dogs on the East and West coasts is only understood when one realises that the distance between our dogs in England and those on the East coast of America is the same as the distance from East Coast to West. The size varies so I am told and there seems to be more in the California area to warrant two clubs.

There are so many excellent kennels that I have not mentioned and so many clubs, including TAKS which is concerned with welfare, that I would suggest the acquisition of Carol and Ron Cash's "*The New Complete Keeshond*" which has all the up to date information on the breed. It is a most excellent book and no Keeshond owner should be without it.

## OFFICIAL BREED STANDARD OF THE KEESHOND IN USA

*As adopted by the Keeshond Club of America, and approved by the American Kennel Club,  
July 12, 1949.*

## GENERAL APPEARANCE AND CONFORMATION

The Keeshond is a handsome dog, of well-balanced, short coupled body, attracting attention not only by his alert carriage and intelligent expression, but also by his luxurious coat, his richly plumed tail, well curled over his back, and by his foxlike face and head with small pointed ears. His coat is very thick round the neck, fore part of the shoulders and chest, forming a lionlike mane. His rump and hind legs, down to the hocks, are also, thickly coated, forming the characteristic "trousers". His head, ears and lower legs are covered with thick short hair. The ideal height of fully matured dogs (over 2 years old), measured from top of withers to the ground,



is: for males, 18 inches; bitches, 17 inches. However, size consideration should not outweigh that of type. When dogs are judged equal in type, the dog nearest the ideal height is to be preferred. Length of back from withers to rump should equal height as measured above.

## HEAD

**Expression:** Expression is largely dependent on the distinctive characteristic called "spectacles" – a delicately penciled line slanting slightly upward from the outer corner of each eye to the lower corner of the ear, coupled with distinct markings and shadings forming short but expressive eyebrows. Markings (or shadings) on face and head must present a pleasing appearance, imparting to the dog an alert and intelligent expression. *Fault*– Absence of "spectacles".

**Skull:** The head should be well-proportioned to the body, wedge-shaped when viewed from above. Not only in muzzle, but the whole head should give this impression when the ears are drawn back by covering the nape of the neck and ears with one hand. Head in profile should exhibit a definite stop. *Fault*– Apple head, or absence of stop.

**Muzzle:** The muzzle should be dark in colour and of medium length, neither coarse nor snipy, and well-proportioned to the skull.

**Mouth:** The mouth should be neither overshot nor undershot. Lips should be black and closely meeting, not thick, coarse, or sagging; and with no wrinkle at the corner of the mouth. *Fault:* Overshot or undershot.

**Teeth:** The teeth should be white, sound and strong (but discolouration from distemper not to penalise severely); upper teeth should just overlap the lower teeth.

**Eyes:** Eyes should be dark brown in colour, of medium size, rather oblique in shape and not set too wide apart. *Fault* Protruding round eyes or eyes light in colour.

**Ears:** Ears should be small, triangular in shape, mounted high on head and carried erect; dark in colour and covered with thick, velvety, short hair. Size should be proportionate to the head-length approximating the distance from outer corner of the eyes to the nearest edge of the ear. *Fault* Ears not carried erect when at attention.

## BODY

**Neck and shoulders:** The neck should be moderately long, well-shaped and well-set on shoulders; covered with a profuse mane, sweeping from under the jaw and covering the whole of the front part of the shoulders and chest, as well as the top part of the shoulders.

**Chest, back and loin:** The body should be compact with a short, straight back sloping slightly downward toward the hindquarters; well-ribbed, barrel well rounded, belly moderately tucked up, deep and strong of chest.

**Legs:** Forelegs should be straight seen from any angle and well feathered. Hindlegs should be profusely feathered down to the hocks – not below, with hocks only slightly bent. Legs must be of good bone and cream in colour. *Fault* Black markings below the knee, pencilling excepted.

**Feet:** The feet should be compact, well-rounded, catlike, and cream in colour. Toes are nicely arched, with black nails. *Fault* White foot or feet.

**Tail:** The tail should be set on high, Moderately long, and well feathered, tightly curled over back. It should lie flat and close to the body with a very light grey plume on top where curled, but the tip of the tail should be black. The tail should form a part of the "silhouette" of the dog's



body, rather than give the appearance of an appendage. *Fault* Tail not lying close to the back.

**Action:** Dogs should show boldly and keep tails curled over the back. They should move cleanly and briskly; and movement should be straight and sharp (not lope like a German Shepherd Dog). *Fault* Tail not carried over back when moving.

### COAT

The body should be abundantly covered with long, straight, harsh hair; standing well out from a thick, downy undercoat. The hair on the legs should be smooth and short, except for a feathering on the front legs and "trousers", as previously described, on the hind legs. The hair on the tail should be profuse, forming a rich plume. Head, including muzzle, skull and ears, should be covered with smooth, soft, short hair velvety in texture on the ears. Coat must not part down the back. *Fault* Silky, wavy, or curly coats. Parting in coat down the back.

### COLOUR AND MARKINGS

A mixture of grey and black. The undercoat should be very pale grey or cream (not tawny). The hair of the outer coat is black tipped, the length of the black tips producing the characteristic shading of colour. The colour may vary from light to dark, but any pronounced deviation from the grey colour is not permissible. The plume of the tail should be very light grey when curled on back, and the tip of the tail should be black. Legs and feet should be cream. Ears should be very dark almost black. Shoulder line markings (light grey) should be well defined. The colour of the ruff and "trousers" is generally lighter than that of the body. "Spectacles" and shadings, as previously described, are characteristic of the breed and must be present to some degree. There should be no pronounced white markings. *Very Serious Faults* Entirely black or white or any other solid colour; any pronounced deviation from the grey colour.

### SCALE OF POINTS

<i>General Conformation and Appearance</i> .....		20
<i>Head</i>	Shape.....	6
	Eyes.....	5
	Ears.....	5
	Teeth.....	4
<i>Body</i>	Chest, Back and Loin..	10
	Tail.....	10
	Neck and Shoulders.....	8
	Legs.....	4
	Feet.....	3
<i>Coat</i> .....		15
<i>Colour and Markings</i> .....		10

TOTAL 

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 100



### THE KEESHOND IN SWEDEN

Prior to 1950 there is no record of this breed in Sweden. Mrs Carin Slattné, a wellknown breeder of Lakeland Terriers was asked by a Finnish Spitz breeder if she could think of a breed that would go well with her already established Finnish Spitz. Having seen and admired Keeshonds in England at various shows, Mrs Slattné contacted Lady Kitty Ritson, an English Finnish Spitz breeder, suggesting the exchange of a good Swedish bred Finnish Spitz for an English bred Keeshond. Lady Ritson was not immediately able to help and the idea lapsed. However, she must have discussed this with other Finnish Spitz breeders for some months later a letter from the late Miss Dorothy Rose of the Wildings Finnish Spitz and Keeshonds, contained the offer of two six month old puppies. So the first two Keeshonds arrived in Sweden and they were *Rogue of the Wildings* (by *Vrijsprak of Vorden* ex *Vaarbaar of Vorden*) and *Voorichten of Vorden* (by *Ch Verschansing of Vorden* ex *Valeer of Vorden*) so from that the very start top quality was imported. In 1952 *Yolande of Diseworth* (by *Venture of Evenlode* ex *Silver Lady*) arrived in-whelp to *Teddy of the Wildings* another Vorden bred dog. With him came *Katrellie van Zaandam* in whelp to *Int. Ch Billo van Zaandam*. *Katrellie* herself was a daughter of *Ch Brille of Summerleaze* one of the first post-war champions. Seven years later another royally bred youngster was sent to Sweden, *Voljoker of Vorden* (by *Volkraad of Vorden* ex the beautiful *Ch Veraura of Vorden*).

Three Keeshonds were also imported from Holland but they were little known outside their own area and had no great influence on the future of the breed. With only two Keeshonds registered with the Swedish Kennel Club in 1950 the numbers grew to 42 by 1960 and in the



Fig. 26.13 Int. & Nordic Ch. *Repetas' Alberto*. Top Winning Keeshond 1977, 1980 & 1981. Owners Britt & Bengt Johansson. By Rhinevale Robin Hood Ex. Vaderson Sieglinde



middle sixties the number leapt as two important kennels emerged. Mrs Ahlberg's "Torparflickan" Kennel which was based on her imported *Hussar of Ven* and Mrs Dalquist who imported *Van Bergen of Ven*. Both these dogs were sired by the Vens imported dog Am.Ch *Ruttay Moerdaag of Ven* and both proved to be potent sires. *Van Bergen* especially passed on his lovely type and character to his progeny. Both became Swedish Champion's With greater substance and more abundant coats than previous imports, both he and his stock attracted many people to the breed.

In 1963 Mai and Sten Holmberg became interested and acquired a Swedish bred bitch called *Dasjenkas* and she won her Swedish and Danish title thus confirming their belief that they had found the right breed for them. They bred from *Dasjenkas* and registered their now famous prefix 'Stiibergs'. In 1966 a visit to England resulted in their adding *Rampant of Rhinevale* to their other three Keeshonds. He was a son of Ch *Sinterklaas Big Noise of Evenlode ex Rhyllis of Rhinevale* and he quickly got his Swedish title. He is the only Keeshond at that time to win the title Int. Nordic, Swedish, and Finnish Champion, which means he took his title in Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland. The Stiiberg kennel also bought a Swedish bred daughter of Swedish Ch *Van Bergen of Ven* and Swedish and Danish Ch *Blazon of Ven* called *Black Girl* and the subsequent matings of *Rampant* and *Black Girl* and other *Van Bergen* bitches started an era of beautiful sweet tempered Keeshonds and by 1970 registrations had risen to 212.

About this time I took a puppy over to Mr and Mrs Holmberg, called *Rhinevale Rockefeller* a son of *Rona Lisa of Rhinevale* sired by Ch *Roxburgh of Rhinevale*. He became a Swedish and

Norwegian Champion and proved immensely useful to the Stiiberg Kennel, being the most widely used stud dog in Sweden. Apart from gaining his own title he sired twenty champions and several CC winners and all through his career has been famous for his sweet serene



Fig. 26.14 Int. & Nordic Ch. *Keestorpets Colombo*. Owner Mona Karlsson. Sire Nordic Ch. *Waakzaam Wrestler*. Dam Sw. Ch. *Torparflickans Zsa Zsa*. Top Winning Keeshond 1978



temperament. In 1978 yet another British dog joined the Stiiberg Kennel when *Duroya Junker* went out. He is a son of *Ch Swashway No Rush ex Duroya Imogen* and quickly became International and Nordic Champion. He also proved a most useful sire and an admirable addition to the already established Swedish lines. As well as winning his own title he sired thirteen champions in Sweden, Denmark and Finland.

Earlier, in 1973 another important dog made his debut. Mrs Ahlberg imported *Waakzaam Wrestor* for her Torparflickan Kennel to be joined later by *Valsgate Oyster Catcher*, a *Ch Ledwell Dutchman* daughter. Sadly the Torparflickan Kennel was disbanded in 1977, but puppies from this excellent line provided a base for Mona Karlsson's Keestorpets Kennel and Pia Anrep-Nordin's Wesaborgs Kennel so these valuable contributions to the breed have not been lost. Mona Karlsson's foundation bitch was *Torparfickans ZsaZsa* and mated to Nordic *Ch Waakzaam Wrestor* she produced the handsome Int. and Nordic *Ch Colombo* and Nordic *Ch Cherie* which gave this young kennel a flying start. She also took over *Valsgate Oyster Catcher* making her a Swedish and Finnish Champion. These two proved to be ideally suited to each other and their subsequent mating produced among other winners the top winning Keeshond of 1983, Nordic *Ch Keestorpets Excellent*!

1974 saw Inger-Britt and Bengt Johansson come strongly into the breed with their imported *Repeta of Ven* (by *Ch Surprise of Ven ex Ch Welford Orinda of Ven*). She was their foundation bitch and her name *Repeta* was registered as their prefix. Mated first to *Rhinevale Rockefeller* and then to *Duroya Junker* she proved her value as a brood bitch with several of her offspring gaining Swedish and Norwegian titles as, indeed, she herself did. The Repeta Kennel bought two more Keeshond: from England, *Peccadillo of Ven*, another *Ch Surprise* daughter, ex *Vaderson Sieglinde* (by *Ch Waakzaam Waag ex Norsled Leonie of Vaderson*) in whelp to *Rhinevale Robin Hood*. *Sieglinde* produced a lovely litter one of which was *Repetas Alberto* who not only became an Int. and Nordic Champion but was the top winning Keeshond of 1977, 1980 and 1981 with several Group placings. He was popular at stud and sired eleven champions and several CC winners in Scandinavia. Top winner in 1982 was Mai Holmberg's Sw and S.F. *Ch Stiibergs Oberon*, a son of Int. & Nordic *Ch Duroya Junker* and Nordic *Ch Stiibergs None Nicer*.

The Saxdahllens Kennels, the Lohanras Kennels and the Thaagardens Kennels produced quality show stock, the latter being the home of *Ch Stiibergs Kommendant av Baloo* the top winner of 1970 and 1971.

In Keeshonds it is comparatively rare for a bitch to be the top winner of the year for the males with their more showy coats and greater size are the eyecatchers. Just three outstandingly beautiful bitches have taken this position in Sweden in 1968, 1973 and 1975. First came the lovely Sw. *Ch Torparflickans Tintomara* owned by Pernilla Thelander, then Int. and Nordic *Ch Corinne* owned by Britta Nilsson and lastly Ruth Lindskog's Int. and Nordic *Ch Susan*.

The Swedish Keeshondringen, starting with a modest fifteen members, has grown in strength and numbers thanks to the hard work put in by a strong Committee of dedicated breed enthusiasts. In 1983 there were over three-hundred members. They held their first show in 1968 with twenty seven exhibits and in 1983 the show drew an entry of 64.

Their excellent Club Magazine which was written by Mrs Brita Nicklason has done a great deal to keep the Club together. Full of good photographs and informative articles, it has been a very worth while contribution. Mrs Nicklason's knowledge of English pedigrees always astounds me, and she proved an excellent editor.

Wise importing of quality stock followed by careful breeding has brought the Swedish Keeshond to a high standard. The future of the breed in Scandinavia is in safe hands.





Fig. 26.15 Nordic Ch. *Keestorpets Excellent*. Owner/Breeder Mona Karlson. Sire Int. and Nordic Ch. *Keestorpets Colombo*. Dam Ch. *Valsgate Oyster Catcher*. Top Winning Keeshond 1983



Fig. 26.16 Int. & Nordic Sf Ch. *Rampant of Rhinevale*. Owners Sten & Mai Holmberg. Sire Ch. *Sinterklaas Big Noise of Evenlode*. Dam *Rhyllis of Rhinevale* Breeder Mrs. Howard





Fig. 26.17 Two of Sweden's most Influential Bitches in the early 1970's in the Stiibelgs Kennel. Int. & Nordic Ch. *Black Girl* By Ch. *Van Bergen of Ven* ex Sw. Ch. *Blazon of Ven*. Swedish & Danish Ch. *Gitt Gay*, her daughter owned by Carin Anderson



Fig. 26.18 Int. Nord. Ch *Duroya Junker*. Sire Ch *Swashway No Rush*. Dam Ch *Duroya Imogen*. Exported by Mrs Woodiwiss to Mrs Holmberg's Stiiberg kennel in Sweden.





Fig 26.19 An important import was: *Repeta of Ven*.. Sire *Ch Surprise of Ven*; Dam *Ch Welford Orinda of Ven*. Breeder: Mrs. Collins. She was the foundation bitch for the Repeta Kennel of Inger-Britt and Bengt Johansson.





Fig. 26.20 Ruth Lindsdags' Int and Nordic Ch *Susan* Top winning bitch 1975



Fig 26.21 Nordic Ch. *Keestorpets Excellent* by Int and Nordic Ch. *Keestorpets Colombo* ex Ch. *Valsgate Oyster Catcher* Top winning Keeshond 1983 Breeder/Owner Mona Karlsson



### THE KEESHOND IN FINLAND

As will be seen from the illustrations, Finland has attained a very high standard of quality in their Keeshonds. Yet it was not until late in 1957 that the first Keeshond arrived in Finland. This was *Freidstahills Drusilla*, a beautiful Swedish-bred bitch presented to the well-known genealogist Mr Lauri Vuolasvirta, who passed her on to Marketta Lilja, then a school-girl. Mrs Sirkka Heinonen saw her and decided she too would like a puppy and through Mr Vuolasvirta another bitch puppy was imported, this time from Holland. In 1958 a dog puppy *Raoul of Rhinevale* went from England to Mrs Hyoki. He was sired by Ch *Big Bang of Evenlode ex Ragnhild of Rhinevale* and was to be joined by *Ralana of Rhinevale* a bitch by Ch *Randalone of Rhinevale ex Kimberman Jan*. It transpired that *Ralana's* plane was met by Mrs Lilja for Mrs Hyoki, and the puppy stayed with her until a visit to Mrs Hyoki could be arranged. During this time *Ralana* so endeared herself to Mrs Lilja that she remained with her for the rest of her life. She was an early and important member of the Alkestitan Kennel and in 1960 yet another well bred youngster made the journey to Finland when *Woodroyd Mona Lisa* by Ch *Volkrad of Vorden ex Melodie of Woodroyd* was introduced, thanks once more to Mr Vuolasvirta. Mrs Heinonen took her bitch to Sweden to be mated to Nordic Ch *Alrick* and the only issue, a dog puppy, was, as is so often the case with singletons, of outstanding quality, *Marijken Hilarik*. This dog not only became a Finnish Champion but sired a litter of seven puppies to *Ralana*, five of which became Champions. Previously *Ralana* had been mated to *Raoul* and two of the four in the litter took their titles. The mating to *Hilarik* was repeated and produced the first ever Finnish bred International Champion, *Alkestitan Marijke*.

In 1965 Miss Sirkka Vuorinen of the Kellovuoren Keeshonds imported *Glorious Twelfth of Ven*, a dog sired by Am. Ch *Rutkay Moerdaag of Ven ex Vanessa of Ven* and he proved to be an exceptional dog, winning many titles including International, Nordic and Danish Champion and on one occasion topped the breed in Hungary. Many of these wins are now debarred to Finnish exhibitors by the strict Rabies Laws.

In 1967 a Swedish bitch, *Emma*, sired by *Vanbergen of Ven ex Vanessa of Ven* both eventual title holders, was mated to *Glorious Twelfth*. Already a Danish Champion *Emma*, produced a litter of five, four of which got their titles.

The years 1968 and 1969 saw two more youngsters arrive from England, *Corrie Chieftan of Ven* who became a Nordic Champion and proved a most useful sire. He was by Ch *Dutch Uncle of Ven ex Roedeer of Redshoot* and joined Miss Raili Antinaho's Kennel. Another Rhinevale joined Mrs Lilja, this time sired by *Commandant of Duroya ex Ch Robinella of Rhinevale* and she quickly became *International and Nordic Champion Raketta of Rhinevale*. She was the most successful bitch the country has had being four times Best of Group and four times Reserve Best in Show.

Yet another Rhinevale joined Mrs Lijas Alkestitans when *Rhinevale Rose Marie* sired by *Konavli Radin ex Rhinevale Romarina* went out in 1978. The following year *Rose Marie* went to the successful Swedish Stiibergs Kennel where she was mated to Sw. Ch *Duroya Junker* thus bringing a fresh blood line into the breed in Finland.

Swedish dogs which have been imported include Swedish and Finnish Ch *Jackpot*, by *Vandaban Athelstan x Thaagardens Sharriana*, and *Stiibergs Ruffino*, by Ch *Duroya Junker ex Stiibergs Pierita*..

Co-operation between Swedish and Finnish breeders has helped to strengthen the breed and





Fig 26.22 The Finnish Kennel Club's 85 years anniversary cavalcade, 1974, Mrs. Lea Purhonen in original dress from Holland with *Wilma*, 8 months





Fig. 26.23 Int. Finnish and Nordic Ch. *Solvargens Unik*. Owner Ilkka Kokko by *Stiibergs Utter* Ex. *Stiibergs Pierina*. Top Winning Keeshond 1983.



Fig. 26.24 Nord Ch. *Alkestitan Wilma* with her mother Int. and Nord. Ch. *Raketta of Rhinevale*. Both have produced champion children and have been top winners of their year. Owner Mrs. Irene Lilja





Fig. 26.25 Best in the Progeny Group 1973. Alkestitan Kennel, Owner Mrs. Irene Lilja (centre) Ch. *Uula, Ulriika*, Int. and Nord Ch. *Utter, Ullariina*, Int. and Nord Ch. *Teemu*. Seeing this striking line of top quality Keeshonds shows the tremendous work Mrs. Lilja has done for the benefit of the breed in Finland



Fig. 26.26 Mrs Irene Lilja with Int Nord Ch Raketta of Rhinevale at the Winners show, 1973.



is ever increasing.

The last two Rhinevale dogs to go to Finland were *Rhinevale Russelite* by *Ch Rhinevale Roustabout* ex *Rhinevale Rafleur* and he joined Mr Erkki Leppanens Kennel and *Rhinevale Renegade* to Mrs Inger Wickstrom. *Renegade* is a son of *Ch Gelderland Clipper of Swashway* ex *Rhinevale Risobella*.. The latter gained his title and proved an excellent sire.

Unfortunately several kennels have closed for various reasons but as always there are new enthusiasts coming into the breed.

Already established winning lines include:

Mr Nillo Huumo with his Huannun Kennel

Mr and Mrs Martti Vatanen with their Ikurin Kennel

Mrs Tora Andersson with the Dutch Charm Keeshonds based on Alkestitan and Swedish Repetas lines

Mrs Heinonen based on Stiibergs stock ,and the greatest of them all

Mrs Liljas' Alkestitans Kennel which has done so much to promote the breed in Finland.

There are others breeding for show who have not yet acquired their own prefix.

The Finnish Keeshond Club lives under the fascinating name of the Hollanninpystykorvahydistys. R. Y. and was founded in 1965 with just eighteen members. Mrs Lilja, the most faithful and devoted of Keeshond enthusiasts was elected to the Chair with Mr Vuolasvirta as Vice Chairman. For more than ten years Mrs Lilja held this position during which time she did a great deal for the breed eventually resigning at her own request. Her place was taken by Mr Roli Sandbacka who continued her good work, followed by Mr Erkki Leppanen who was succeeded in 1980 by Mrs Inger Wickstrom in whose capable hands the Club has continued to expand. By the end of 1983 there were two hundred and six members with over five hundred dogs and the future of the breed in this country seems golden indeed. The loss of Mr Vuolasvirta in 1967, when he was doing so much good work to help this growing Club was a sad blow. To his memory, in gratitude for his sustained interest, the Finnish Club have given a plaque known as the Vuolasvirta Plaque for the most successful breeder and for Mrs Lilja it was the crown to all her successes when she was the second person to win it in 1981.





## THE KEESHOND IN DENMARK

It seems odd that with the breed so strong in Scandinavia generally, Denmark, a dog loving country, has never been a stronghold of Keeshonds. Very few are exhibited at their shows with six as an average number over the last ten years and a total of 46 Keeshond owners are representatives of the breed in the Spitzclub.

In October 1955 Miss Elsa Neilsen of the Tryggevaelde Kennel showed one of the bitches she had imported from Sweden thus pioneering the breed. Miss Neilsen also imported a bitch from Baroness van Hardenbroek's Dutch kennel. Some of this stock went back to van Zaandam breeding with Int.Ch *Billo van Zaandam* and *Katrellie van Zaandam* featuring. There is little news of the breed in the 1960s, but two Swedish bred imported dogs made news in the 1970s. They were both owned by Mrs Grethe Christensen and went to Denmark as puppies. One was Dan.Ch *Stiibergs Nickie* sired by Int.Ch *Slattangs Korintheus* ex Swedish Ch *Black Girl* and bred by Mai Holmberg and the other was Danish and Nordic Ch *Bonzo* sired by Sw. and Dan.Ch *Buster* ex Sw. and Dan. Ch *Stiibergs Gitt Gay* bred by Carin Anderson.

Between 1971 and 1975 *Nickie* won 17 Best of Breeds with 8 Group Firsts and was twice Best in Show at Championship shows. For two years running he was Dog of the Year in the Danish Spitz Club. This honour was also achieved by his kennel mate *Bonzo*, including being third in the all-breed Danish Kennel Clubs Dog of the Year contest. Twice he won Best in Show at nine years old, winning this honour from the veteran class.

With good history like this behind them surely this breed will make progress in Denmark. In 1982 *Gavimir Opossum* was sent to Miss Herdis Olsen from England, with a blood line which may well strengthen the breed.

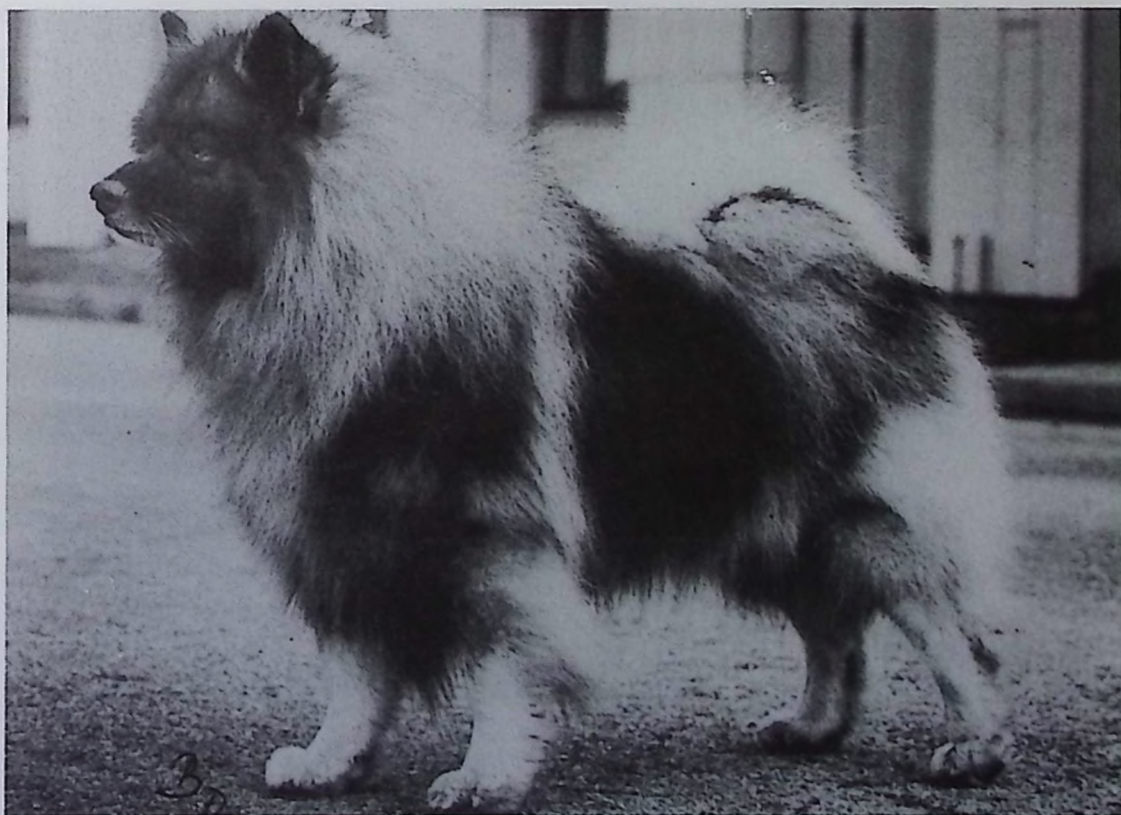


Fig 26.27 Danish Ch *Bonzo* (By Swedish and Danish Ch *Buster* ex Swedish and Danish Ch *Stiibergs Gitt Gay*). Breeder: Mrs. Carin Andersson, Sweden. Owner: Mrs Grethe Christensen.





Fig. 26.28 Prince Harald of Norway with his wife and their Keeshond



Fig. 26.29 N.V. Ch. *Wangbo's Tammy Girl*. Owner/Breeder Marit Wanggard. Sire SW & Nor Ch. *Rhinevale Rockefeller*. Dam *Knarrebo's Kees*



## THE KEESHOND IN NORWAY

It was in the late 1950s that the Keeshond first came to the fore in Norway. Swedish bred stock was the foundation so all the early Swedish history is repeated. Some ten years later Jen Semb-Nygaard imported from England *Kissin' Cousin of Ven* who later became a Norwegian Champion. She was sired by Ch *Sinterklaas Big Noise of Evenlode* ex *Cousin Kate of Ven* and this helped the Bjornheim Kennel to lead the way with quality stock in the sixties and seventies. The kennel was later strengthened by more imports the most important being *Duroya Erato* sired by Ch *Duroya Red Admiral of Rhinevale* ex *Lekdon Little Petula*. *Ledwell Matador*, sired by the legendary Ch *Ledwell Dutchman* ex Ch *Ledwell Heidi*, also took his Norwegian Championship title. *Ledwell Nymph* joined him and she was sired by Ch *Ledwell Lysander* (son of *Dutchman* and contender for the record number of CCs in England) out of *Ledwell Jezebel*.

Another important breeder is Marit Wanggard of the Wangbo Kennel. This kennel was founded on a bitch called *Knarrebo's Kees* whose breeding was partly from the well known Swedish Tarporflickan Kennel. Mated to Swedish and Norwegian Ch *Rhinevale Rockefeller* she produced the beautiful Norwegian Champion *Wangbo's Tammy Girl*, dam of several very good litters.

About 1970 the Norwegian Royal family noticed the Keeshond for the first time and decided to have them as their family pets. King Olaf obtained a dog called *Tryggevaelders Unique* whose breeding goes right back to the original Swedish imports *Teddy of the Wildings* and *Yolande of Diseworth*. The Tryggevaeldes Kennel also had some of the strains from the Walhalla Kennel in Holland so it is probable that both Dutch and British breeding lies behind the Swedish that eventually went to the Norwegian Royal household. Later Prince Harald also added a Keeshond and he was called *Toto* and was from the same line, the Tryggevaelde's Kennel which is in Copenhagen. Many of the informal pictures of members of the Royal family show a Keeshond sharing their leisure hours.





### THE KEESHOND IN GERMANY

The Verein fur Deutsche Spitze E.V. embraces all the Spitz breeds in Germany including the Wolfs spitz which is the German name for the Keeshond.

Established in 1899 there are about one and a half thousand members. However far one is able to go back, it is obvious that the Keeshond has been a true family dog, a friend in the home and an acknowledged watchdog.

Right up to the present time there are many Keeshonds with no recorded pedigree all over the country with a preponderance in Westphalia and the Rhineland. These puppies with no pedigree are sold more cheaply but even so there is a rule which requires any Spitz bitch that is to be bred from shall first be shown, which takes some bitches into the show world, albeit, briefly. There seem to be far more restrictions on breeding than we have and other rules include, any litter of more than six puppies shall have a foster mother, or be reduced to six by culling. If the bitch rears them herself she must not be mated again for 16 months.

Stud dogs are to be retired at ten years of age. The Hauptzuchtwart visits litters and they are tattooed; X-raying for Hip dysplasia is compulsory.

Perhaps it is due to these controls that unrecorded breeding still goes on. Many important early imports from Germany, on which much English breeding is based, have only one or two generations in their pedigrees before reverting to "unrecorded stock".

Since the war the Verein fur Deutsche Spitze has done a lot towards improving the quality of the breed and there is an average of twenty to thirty specimens at most shows. There are about a dozen shows a year at which a C.A.C.I.B. can be won and three make a champion, as in our country, with four C.A.C.I.B.s in three different countries in the course of two years giving the title of International Champion. The standard of presentation has improved and although attracting the dog from outside the ring is popular in many Continental shows the general opinion is that the showing is more attractive in recent years. Perhaps the most revered breeder is Miss Weitz of "von Wymarshof" fame who has been breeding for some thirty-five years with German based Keeshonds prior to the introduction of English blood from *Beretta van Zaandam*. *Int. Ch Robin von Wymarshof* was a son of *Hansel von Wymarshof ex Beretta* and was a notable winner. Other prefixes that have earned recognition by producing quality Keeshonds are the "von Christelhof", the "von Klinkerwerk" (who also had two dogs and a bitch from English breeder Mrs Elliotts Kammler line) "von Fasanenweg", "von Osterhof", and "von Sternlesburg".

Registrations have remained steady at over two hundred a year since the late 1970s and interest is increasing. It is clearly recognised that it is as a family pet and a part of the household that the Keeshond is best known. To Germany must go the credit of having introduced the breed to America for it was way back in 1926 that Carl Hinderer imported the German bred *Wachter Schwartz* which led to the breeds registration as Keeshonden by the American Kennel Club in 1930.





In Memory of Champion *Siberne Krafti*. Drawing reproduced by kind permission of and handler/owner  
Edward Arran (Copyright reserved)



### THE KEESHOND IN AUSTRIA

Although not numerically strong the Keeshond has a small company of faithful devotees in Austria. The breed has been known there since the turn of the century but was not registered with the Austrian K.C. until 1937. Serious breeding started in 1948 and grew from 14 registered in 1949 to 162 in 1959. The peak was reached in 1963 with 271 registrations. Since then the numbers have declined and an average of sixty Keeshonds a year are being recorded.

In 1968 there were 64, in 1969 66, down to the lowest figure of only 46 in 1985. Showing is not a popular pastime there and more than half the Keeshonds bred go to farmers as guard dogs, where their lack of hunting and killing instinct is appreciated.

The two main breeders over the last twenty five years are Mrs Saurma Jeltsch who owns the von der Erpelsburg kennel and Mrs Moser with the Haschendorf affix. Although Mrs Moser does not show, her dogs win well for others. The von der Bayersburg kennel belongs to Mr Beier and Ch *Catya*, Ch *Donja*, Ch *Ferro*, and Ch *Gundo* all carry his name. All these are producing champions. Britta Ecklmayr owns a young dog with an impressive string of titles. He is an International Champion being Austrian Ch, German Ch, Yugoslav Ch, and World Champion he is Ch *Enrico Snow Star* and he is already the sire of over 100 puppies. It is interesting to note that two of the stud dogs in his pedigree are English, *Roudi of Rhinevale* and *Reages Clefid*.

*Roudi* was sired by Ch *Sinterklaas Big Noise of Evenlode ex Rhyllis of Rhinevale* and *Clefid* carries Miss Seagers prefix, sired by Ch *Heinz Sparkler*. Both went to Germany in the late sixties.

At the 1986 World Show held near Vienna there were 45 Keeshonds entered from Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Holland and Belgium, also some from South Africa and American breeding. Ch *Enrico Snow Star* was Best of Breed and a bitch from the *Barsewolffhaag* kennel in Holland took best bitch, Ch *Double Diamond van den Barsewolffhaag*.

Recently Miss Ecklmayr imported two well bred specimens to strengthen the *Hausruckhohe* kennel. A bitch from Germany, *Conny vom Erfftal*, already a winner in her native land and a bitch puppy from Sweden, *Repetas Pearl of Grey*. It is planned to combine these new lines with those that carry Austrian blood and maybe there will be an awakening of interest in the Keeshond as a show dog.

Their Standard is the same as that used in Germany; and restrictions imposed on breeding are similar to those laid down there.







Fig. 29.31 Ch *Enrico Snow Star*. Sire *Pan vom Spitzpark*. Dam *Biela vom Spitzpark*. Owner/breeder Miss Eckmayr





Two Keeshonds outside a German Farmyard



## THE KEESHOND IN FRANCE

The French version of the Keeshond is called the Spitz Loups and has fluctuated considerably in popularity through the years.

A club was founded in 1951 embracing all the breeds referred to as "Northern" dogs and to-day with 1300 members only 70 are owners of Spitz Loups. Only 972 have been entered in the French Stud Book.

The hey day of the breed in France was in the 1960's with imports from both Holland and Germany forming the basis of the better known kennels. In those days with a fair number of breeders producing litters a number of good specimens could be selected for the show ring. Nowadays there are very few breeders though of course there are still those who breed the odd litter from their pet Keeshond, but these are not registered.

There are only two regular breeders, Mme Casteran and Mme Simon Mathieu. In the single litter bred by Mme Derangere from her Ch *Wendy de Saint Savine* there were two important dogs both getting their title. They were Ch *Bet IB Nordick de Saint Savine*, owner Mme Richard, and Ch *Bet IB Nycki de Saint Savine*, owned by Mme Grisson. They were sired by Ch *Yankee Scout oet et Laad van Aleer* imported from Mrs Zuidemas' well known Dutch kennel and owned by the late Mme Beluix, one time Treasurer of the Spitz Loups Club. Ch *Wendy's* breeding went back to some English dogs. Mrs Wingfield Digby sent some Van Zaandams to France and two Rhinevale went to M. Coutard some twenty years ago.

Despite the paucity of news about the Spitz Loup the following article which appeared in a French dog journal suggests we are all seeking the same points. It was written by Mme Casteran



Fig. 26.33 Ch. *Tosca de la Vallee des Charbonniers*. Sire *Akki Von St. Toniser Laand*. Dam *Zonnetje det et Laand*. owner Mme. Simon Mathieu



of the Hotalinka kennel.

"Let us talk here simply of the characteristics of the Spitz Loup which our dogs have developed. The German standard gives a height of 45 to 55 cms at the withers even up to 60cms on condition that the dog remains typical. The Spitz Loup and other smaller Spitz have a great similarity but I believe our Spitz Loup deserves a special paragraph as there are some differences from these distant cousins. Difference in the shape of the skull, of the muzzle, of the eyes.....differences in the coat from those which are self coloured. Our Spitz has a woolly fleece, light in colour, and an outer coat which is longer, light coloured at the base with long black tips. The characteristic light harness markings coming from the withers down the shoulders and there is pale shading beneath the tail and down the thighs. The face, too, must be typical. Muzzle and lips black, a dark mask reaching from the muzzle to between the eyes to the skull. Noticeable faults are, rounded head (applehead); too short squashed up nose; round eyes; ears too wide apart; ears too long or drooping; lack of "spectacles" in face marking; back too long; overweight; poor gait; tail not well curled over the back; tail too short. The coat should be free from all traces of twany or yellow. The Spitz Loup must be proud, the head held high, ears erect, tail well curled and carried high on the back. The dog is svelte, active gay and playful. His limbs are solid, good and straight on his little round cat-like feet. The back is straight and firm. He should give the impression of strength and lightness both at the same time." Mme Casteran.

Sadly since 1970 there has been a decline in registrations and show entries and there are rarely more than three or four Spitz Loup at any show. Out of the four hundred "Northern" dogs exhibited at the Breeders Show in September 1984 the Spitz Loup were represented by just four dogs and one bitch which was an absentee. Three large white Spitz were shown. There has been



Fig. 26.34 Ch. *Alex vom Gaurisankar*. Sire Ch. *Collin vom Hofinger Blick*. Dam *Raute vom Rheinfeld*. Owner Mme Casteran



a revival of interest in the dog generally in France and it seems this may be the time for the breed to come to the fore again. In 1984 only 38 puppies were registered but 1985 saw three new imports so the upsurge may well have started.



Fig. 26.35 Ch. *Moky de Hotalinka*. Sire *Tommy Blue of Kenstaff*. Dam *Anouk du Longet*. Owner Mme. Casteran

Mme Casteran keeps only four dogs but all are of great quality. They are also an interesting mixture of international lines, combining Dutch, German, Swiss and English breeding. Ch *Moky de Hotalinka*, born in 1976 was out of a Swiss bitch *Anouk de Longet* by an English bred dog *Tommy Blue of Kenstaff*. "Kenstaff" is a name given by the Kennel Club when no personal affix is registered. *Tommy Blue* was by *Magnuson of Mazelands ex Minteena of Mazelands* and was bred and exported by Mrs V. Tippet. The late Gladys Hughes was the owner of the Mazelands affix and her breeding was based on the inevitable Vorden/Evenlode blend. One of Mme Casteran's dogs *Alex von Gaurisankar*, a German-bred son of *Raute vom Rheinfeld* and Ch *Collin vom Hofinger*, was the top stud dog in 1977 and runner up the following year; in the same year his kennel mate *Anouk*, the foundation bitch, won her International and French title. Sadly a prolapse of the womb ended her breeding career in 1980. At Hotalinka there is also *Phyrka de Hotalinka* from the mating of *Alex* and *Moky* in 1979. The family is completed by *Effy vom Kamener*, a German-bred daughter of *Marko vom Fazenweg* and *Dina von der Irisblute* (Dutch) born in 1980.

They are all house dogs, each with his own bed and Mme Castern has strong views about the breed and insists on soundness in her dogs. Inter-breeding is not practised at Hotalinka.



## THE KEESHOND IN IRELAND

### IRISH KENNEL CLUB

It was in 1932 that the Irish Kennel Club recognised the breed by allocating Four Point Green Star Certificates at their show in Dublin. Both were won by dogs from England; Ch *Ado von Theirlstein* won the dog Certificate and *Kenau van Zaandam* the bitch Certificate.

Prior to this *Argosy Cheeky* and *Guelder Griselda* had been imported by Mrs Savell-Hicks who bred *Bellavon van Zell*, the first Keeshond to enter Ulster. Later Mrs Magrath and Miss M. Saunders imported two of Ado's sons, *Guelder Alewyn* and *Guelder Carina* respectively.

*Guelder Alewyn* met an early death in 1933, but two of his sons, *Peter of Cherry Mount* and *Pompey of Coollattin* won Four Point Green Stars at the Irish Kennel Club Shows in 1934 and 1935. The latter also won Best Exhibit in Show at the Royal Ulster Show in Belfast and became a well-known winner in England. He also won the Challenge Certificate at Glasgow under Mr Holland Buckley in 1935. *Pompey* was a grandson of the very first import *Argosy Cheeky*.

In 1936 another notable dog, *Guelder Jan Anton*, won the Green Star at the Irish Kennel Club Show and he sired many well-known Irish Keeshonds. In the late forties Mrs Doris Greene's Altnavanog Kennel, based on her imported Irish Ch. *Kristine of Scafield*., produced a litter sired by Ch *Verschansing of Vorden*. One of these puppies was exported to America and became Irish and Am. Ch *Karel of Altnavanog* and was a member of the famous Ruttkay Kennel where he was at stud. He sired American Champions and his breeding must be behind quite a few of the USA lines.

There is no news of Irish Keeshonds during the war years but in the early fifties a Continental bred bitch, *Fluff de Bouffemont*, produced a bitch puppy sired by a dog called *Neel Thakeen* and bred by Mr Plunkett. She became the property of Mr and Mrs O'Reilly who registered her as *Brighton Gem*, sometimes seen in pedigrees as '*Dusky Gem*'. Not only did she become an Irish Champion but proved to be a most useful brood and her mating to Ch *Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn* founded some of Ireland's most successful lines. Some of her stock joined the van Zaandam kennel and one of the last winning van Zaandams, *Sweetwater Roodstart van Zaandam*, was a descendent. Another of the *Geron ex Gem* litter started Mr and Mrs Travers Klonkeen kennel first home of Ch *Magpie of Klonkeen*. Mr and Mrs McQuirk made their *Rudolph of Klonkeen* a champion and Mrs Pobjoy obtained her first Keeshond from Mr Travers, a bitch by *Rubaiyat of Rhinevale ex Greeta of Brightonale*. Mrs Pobjoy's Algorta prefix was well known at this time and in 1964 she imported *Duroya Charm Spinner* making him a champion two years later, also placing in non-sporting groups.

In 1975 another puppy was imported, this time a bitch, *Duroya Yvette*. By then another enthusiast, Mr Larry Kearns, had imported a Waakzaam dog *Waakzamm Waaglein* and the two produced a good litter. Mrs Pobjoy bred many quality litters but most went as pets although those that went into the show world always did well. It was an Algorta that started Mrs Geraldine Clark in the breed and she took her *Princess of Algorta* through to her title. When Mr Redmond had to give up his imported dog *Waakzaam Wolfeze* Mrs Clark took him on and formed a partnership with Mrs Celia McMurphy who later imported *Waakzaam Wilbur and Gavimir Rasse*. Mrs McMurphy's prefix is Arktos.

Mr Paddy Lafford reversed his name and the Droffal Keeshonds made their debut. With *Wistonia* behind it, several quality litters were bred and he had the pleasure of campaigning his



own *Droffal September Night* to the title. Mrs Pacelli Flanagan started her canine education with her father's Pomeranians and decided a slightly larger member of the Spitz family would suit her. She had a long wait, but eventually obtained a bitch with *Algorta* breeding behind her from Mrs Mulcahy of Co.Cork. She was *Sylvia of Pickerstown* and after being granted the prefix *Pomadora* a litter was bred, sired by *Waakzaam Wilbur*. They were a fine litter and one went to Mr Peter Fahy of Galway who later imported *Stumpsel Snowman*. These two were shown successfully in many areas.

Mr Larry Kearns' two imports *Waakzaam Waaglein* and *Waakzaam Waagdoghter* both attained their titles and produced a very good litter. It is interesting to note that one of the puppies went to a descendant of W.B. Yeats, the poet. Keeshonds must be a family weakness for every photograph of Ireland's most celebrated writer shows a Keeshond by his side!

Mrs Liz Wogan's first Keeshond was *Saluskalan of Shelderon* who did just enough winning to convince his owner that showing a Keeshond was fun. Another English bred Keeshond followed, *Susannah of Utrecht*, a daughter of *Ch Surprise of Ven*, and she had the distinction of being the first Keeshond to win Best in Show at a Championship Show in Ireland. After gaining her title she visited England and was mated to *Ch Gelderland Clipper of Swashway* which was the background for the top winner *Deminiac Aramis*, a beautiful specimen of the breed. Tragically he died suddenly before he was three years old but those three years had proved him to be a wonderful ambassador for the breed with Reserve Best in Show at Irish Kennel Clubs Show in 1983, followed by a long absence from the ring for a change of coat and a spectacular return at the end of the year when he took the Utility Group at both the Hibernian Show and the Combined Canine, two of the country's most prestigious shows. His death was a blow to the up and coming Deminiac kennel but another import, *Candyman Carousel* has kept the flag flying with two Best in Shows, two Reserve Best in Shows and five Utility Groups so far, to her credit.

#### Registrations in the breed:

1974.....	3
1975.....	5
1976.....	4
1977.....	5
1978.....	7
1979.....	6
1980....	11
1981.....	6
1982.....	8
1983.....	6
1984....	10







Fig. 26.36 *Deminiac Aramis*. Owner/Breeder Mrs. E. Wogan. Sire Ch. *Gelderland Clipper Swashway*. Dam Ir. Ch. *Susannah of Utrecht*





### THE KEESHOND IN AUSTRALIA

It was in the 1940s that Mrs C. Bourne first came into the breed and she acquired first class stock with *Babette of Willowden* and *Valise of Vorden*, making the latter a champion in this country. At the North of England Championship Show in 1949 both her *Airprince* and *Airking of Arnhem* were shown in the Post-graduate class, an exceptional class, the first four of which became champions. This was their last show before the long journey to Australia where Mrs Bourne took up residence with four Keeshonds, Ch *Valies of Vorden*, *Airking*, *Airprince* and *Airamber of Arnhem*, to found the breed over there. It was a lone furrow to plough and with no new blood it was impossible to foster the interest they aroused at shows. However, time put this right and an impressive string of imports has widened the field and there is now a faithful following of the breed with a band of breeders who, by judicious breeding, have attained a good standard.

A points system prevails for making up an Australian champion. One hundred points must be collected and these are allotted according to the number being shown and are also given for Best in Show. Group awards add to the sum total and it is possible for an exceptionally good winner to qualify at just four shows. I am sure this must be very rare for quality looks good and judges can withhold Challenge Points if they consider the entry below standard just as Challenge Certificates can be withheld in England.

There is not just one Keeshond Club, for the area is too vast, but already two States have formed their own Clubs in New South Wales and Victoria and it is hoped more will follow. Climate must affect coats and some areas are more suitable than others, but apparently the dogs adjust to the climate and there are now representatives of many English kennels despite the three or four months quarantine demanded by the Australian authorities.

Imports include *Kimberman Helder*, *Thillo van Zaandam*, *Bikkie van Zaandam*, *Ensign of Duroya*, *Duroya Charming Angel*, *Vaulter of Ven*, *Valsgate Broth of a boy*, *Lekdon Zabadak of Duroya*, *Vanglede Hyperion*, *Waakzaam Weismuller*, *Lady Jane Grey*, *Keesland Hailey*, *Duroya Janessa of Dargrant*, *Vandaban Fanfare*, *Duroya Imperator*, *Duroya Homeguard*, *Ledwell Jasper*, *Ledwell Intrepid*, *Ledwell Bonanza*, *Waakzaam Woalsoken*, *Waakzaam Solthuis*, *Gavimir Ubicaan* and *Hanovarian Silver Moonlight*. With so many lines from kennels which have made their name in the breed in this country it is not surprising that one sees such lovely dogs.

A few years ago Mrs Douglas of the Colijn Kennel spent some months touring this country and deciding which lines she felt would be most beneficial to the Australian Keeshonds and as she has bred over fifty champions and has held the top breeders trophy for more than ten years her work for the breed has been of great importance.

Mrs Margaret Liptrott of the Harzwald Kennels is another who has been to visit the English shows and her *Vanglede Hyperion*, bred by the late Mrs Blair proved a valuable sire. Her most recent import is *Vaderson Vermouth*, a son of Ch *Sinterklaas Kipling* and Ch *Vanderson Vivace*, one whose pedigree alone must make him an asset. Already making a name for themselves are Australian Ch *Harzwald Fancy Pants* and his son Australia Ch *Harzwald Heirloom* direct descendants of Australian Ch *Vanglede Hyperion*, and holders of many top awards including Best in Show.

Karen Findlow is another very loyal supporter and her Grachthond Kennel is a leading name at the shows. Her two imports *Vandaban Fanfare* and *Keesland Hailey* have proved their worth



and matured into good show dogs. The most famous Grachthond is Australian Ch *Grachthond Volbregen* sired by Australian Ch *Gavimir Ubacaan*. ex Australian Ch *Delf Blauw Rouletter*, a gentle natured dog known as *Banner*. His wins include over fifty 'in Group' and 'in Show' awards and in 1982 he took Best Opposite Sex Puppy all breeds at the Sydney Royal Easter Show under an American judge, the first time in thirty years. He is now proving his worth at stud.

Perhaps the kennels most important brood bitch is Australian Ch *Blauw Roulette* born 1979 sired by Australian Ch *Delf Blauw Driftkon* ex *Alkmaar Circe*. As well as being a good winner herself with many top awards she returned to the ring after a litter in 1981 to take the bitch Challenge at Brisbane Royal in 1982 with her two son *Grachthond Wolmacht* and Australian Ch *Grachthond Volbregen* taking the cc and Reserve respectively. She has had one other litter and in it was Australian Ch *Grachthond Bloemrijk* top winning Keeshond in Victoria 1982 and 1983 plus two New Zealand Champions.

Mr and Mrs Parker's successful Rymiska Kennel has housed a number of top winners, perhaps the most beautiful being Australian Ch *Rymiska Kzam* winner of Challenge Certificates in three States within one year. A multiple Group winner he was Best in Show at the Keeshond Club of Victoria, with kennel mate Australian Ch *Rymiska Little Gem* taking Best Puppy in Show at Sydney Royal in 1983.

Mr L. Norman's imported *Duroya Homeguard* had a short and successful show career winning his title, but it is as a stud dog that he has gained fame. Many of his progeny are seen in the show ring and are consistent winners.

Other well known breeders are Pat Clarke, with her Keedale line, R and E Ryan with Ryfrost, Mr and Mrs Creighton with their Keesoyed Kennel and owners of 1982's top winner in Victoria, Australian Ch *Grachthond Bloemrijk*, Mrs Wyhoon, Mrs Emery and Mr D Clark. The Tiburon Kennel owned by Mr and Mrs Churchward and the Cleverly's Alkmaar Kennel, both house champions and with so many enthusiastic and wise breeders one is not surprised to see the outstanding quality of their Keeshonds. Colour and coats look exceptionally good and the photographs show that the English imports have proved their value.

With a most impressive string of wins including five times Best in Show Australian Ch *Rymiska Kzam* has been invited to the 1984 Contest of Champions.





Fig. 26.37 Aust. Ch. *Rymiska Kzam*. Owner Mr. and Mrs. Parker. Sire Aust. Ch. *Duroya Homeguard*. Dam Aust. Ch. *Colijn Miss Miska*. Photo Twigg



Fig. 26.38 Aust. Ch. *Grachthond Volbrengen*. Owner Mrs. Findlow. Sire Aust. Ch. *Gavimir Ubacaan* Dam Aust. Ch. *Delft Blauw Roulette*





Fig. 26.39 Aust. Ch. *Delft Blauw Roulette*. Owner Karen Findlow. Sire Aust. Ch. *Delft Blauw Driftkon*. Dam *Alkmaar Circe*





### THE KEESHOND IN NEW ZEALAND

Mrs O'Rorke imported some dogs from Mrs Bournes *Arnhem* strain in Australia in 1950 and the breed saw *Arnhem Rascal* became the first Keeshond champion. By the time the New Zealand Keeshond Club was formed in 1983 there was a wider range as there were imports from Australia and good stock from the U.K. which must have made selecting breeding stock a lot easier.

Their first Open Show was held in 1985 by which time there were over a hundred club members a figure that is still growing. Mr and Mrs Dave Clark of the *Gildenwyn* kennel are amongst the leading supporters and their strong kennel includes an English import *Malmeck Zhivago* from Mrs Waters kennel and also the countries top winning bitch Ch *Brown Derby Marie Joy* with 30 CCs to her credit. It is interesting to note that all New Zealand Keeshonds are owner/handled as our U.K. dogs are, as professional handlers are prohibited.

Registration reached three figures in the early 80's and by now with so much interest in the breed they probably equal our own.

Breeders are not numerous but obviously dedicated to keeping good quality stock and again the breed is in safe hands.





### THE KEESHOND IN CANADA

It is very difficult for those breeders who live in such vast countries as Canada to get together and know one another's dogs. Despite this there are some very sincere enthusiasts in that country. It was not until 1929 that the first Keeshond was imported by Miss M. E. Butler of Montreal. This was the first of a pair exported by Miss Hastings, *Alex* and *Daniel of Evenlode*. The bitch, *Alex*, was by *Den Helder ex Grania* and *Daniel* was by *Cely von Jura de Witt ex Lufton Liefje*, and he became the first Canadian Champion. His shows were The Ladies Kennel Club of Canada in 1931, Montreal Kennel Association and Ladies Kennel Club of Canada 1933. In her kennel Miss Butler also had *Netherlands Breda*.

The next excitement was when Miss Hilda White showed seven Keeshonds at the York Kennel Club Show, Ontario. Some were from the van Zaandam Kennel, but as Miss White registered the affix van Zaandam in Canada it is difficult to know which were which. Certainly she imported *Hansel van Zaandam*, by *Alli von der Sternwarte ex Ch Gestina van Zaandam* and a daughter of *Guelder Geron*, *Gypsy van Leyden*. There was no immediate popularity of the breed but a smattering of Keeshonds have persisted. In 1929 only one Keeshond was registered, rising to six in 1937, all of which were registered by Mrs A. Toole of West Calgary, Alberta who imported an Irish bred dog *Orange Jorie*, a grandson of *Guelder Alewyn*.

It was not until 1955 that Mrs Mavis Dunsford met her ideal dog. A visiting blacksmith brought with him a Keeshond and from then on there was no other dog for her. The first pair she owned were both bitches and both spayed. *Gay Glades Silver* became the family pet, but *Gay Glades Gretch Anne* gave her owner immense satisfaction by proving an excellent bitch to train and together they went through the obedience classes. Both bitches lived to be over fifteen and it was when a replacement dog was bought, that the interest in showing was roused. With *Evenlode* and *Vorden* in his back ground he had a lot to offer. He was the first of a very good line and other top lines were brought in with the steady determination of improving with each generation. The top U.S.A. lines were included and the kennel now houses three dogs and three bitches plus one of each sex placed out. It is to Mrs Dunsford's credit that by 1981 Can.Ch *Keeshofs Star Performer DJ* was Canada's top winner. A title he retained in 1982. The Keeshof prefix is not to be confused with the U.S.A. similar name. *Star Performer* added to his important wins by being ninth in the Non-Sporting in 1981 and 10th in NonSporting in 1982. (This is for all breeds in Canada). Three Best in Show awards. His sire was Am. and Can.Ch *Jeejacs Orthello V Keeshof* and his dam *Keeshof Schoenanne*.

Another breeder who has done a great deal for the breed over there is Mrs Olafson. In 1968 she imported *Racassius of Rhinevale*, sired by *Rhondorf of Rhinevale ex Rumbelinda of Rhinevale*, later joined by the bitch *Rugosa of Rhinevale* by Ch *Rahida of Rhinevale ex Rapha-ella of Rhinevale* and both attained their Canadian and American titles. *Rugosa* was the top winning show bitch in Canada and U.S.A. in 1969 and produced a good number of both Canadian and American champions. As a sire *Racassius* won the coveted ROMX for siring twenty or more U.S.A. Champions and his most famous son was undoubtedly Mrs Flo Beasley's Can.Ch *Reydorp Blast Off* bred by Dr Peter Woodyer. Many years ago, when he was a veterinary student, Peter Woodyer once told me that his ambition was to use a Rhinevale dog of his choosing to a Waakzaam bitch of his choosing. Well, he certainly did it with distinction for *Blast Off* is the all-time top winning Keeshond in Canada, and his dam was Can.Ch *Waakzamm*





Fig. 26.40 Am. and Can. Ch. *Rugosa of Rhinevale*. Owner Mrs. Betty Olafson Sire Ch. *Rahida of Rhinevale*. Dam *Raphaella of Rhinevale* Breeder Mrs. Pumfrey



Fig. 26.41 Can. Ch. *Reydorp Blast Off* CD. Owner Mrs. Cecil Beasley. Sire Am. and Can. Ch. *Racassius of Rhinevale* ROMX. Dam Can. Ch. *Waakzaam Welsrijp*





Fig. 26.42 Awaiting their guests. Can & V.S. CH *Rugosa of Rhinevale*



Fig. 26.43 Mrs. Olafson's House pets showing their friendship – but not sharing!



*Welstrip*. With twenty three Best in Show awards, one hundred and seventeen Group firsts and, at the age of seven, he won his C.D. (Companion Dog, an Obedience title) with high marks at his first three tests. He was top winning Keeshond in Canada in 1971, 1972, 1975, 1976, a wonderful record.

In 1970 Mrs Betty Olafson's Am. and Can.Ch *Racassius of Rhinevale* ROMX was the top winner and in 1973 it was *Paladins Jolly Roger*, 1974 Dr Peter Witt's Can.Ch *Keebooms Big Boy*, 1977 Mr and Mrs Nugent's Am. and Can.Ch *Paladins Deputy Dawg*, 1979, Mrs Louise Bakke's Can.Ch *Windrifts Dr. Bombay*, 1979 Mrs Mavis Dunsford's Am. and Can.Ch *Jeejacs Orthello V Keeshof*, 1980 Mr and Mrs Bonham's Can.Ch *Geluk Is Kaddacks Big Tough Man*, 1981 and 1982 Mrs Mavis Dunsford's Can.Ch *Keeshof Star Performer DJ* 1983 Mrs Eileen Currie's Can.Ch *Brialin Regal Knight*.

*Racassius* is the only Canadian dog to have ROMX as he is the sire of twentyfive American champions. Mr and Mrs Nugent founded their Paladin line in 1968 and within ten years had reached the top, winning in both USA and Canada and making up dual champions. Their Can. and Am.Ch *Paladins Jolly Roger* was the first all Canadian bred Keeshond to win Best in Show all breeds and he has excelled as a stud dog.

Don and Gladys Gates, of Nova Scotia, bred Can.Ch *Seawind Lit'l Bit o' Wrock CD* in their very first litter, thus establishing the Seawind as a Kennel worthy of respect. Excelling in colour and marking he took Best in Show at Halifax Kennel Club 1984. Both he and his sire Can.Ch *Kendols Chinook of Gates CD* have visited Mr and Mrs Eckharts Greenkees Kennel in U.S.A. to mate with their Ledwell imports which may well be the start of another chapter. Stressing the importance of temperament the Gates plan to bring in English breeding when they can. In 1987 a descendant of this breeding was brought back to UK to Mrs Scroggs Ledwell kennel and a new highly successful line started.

As well as the Keeshond Club of Canada there is the Keeshond Breeders and Fanciers Association of British Columbia which was the original Club. Although only eighteen members strong a yearly Speciality is held and an all-breed Sanction Show which shows just how hard working and dedicated the Canadian Keeshond owners are.



Fig. 26.44 Am and Can Ch *Racassius of Rhinevale* ROMX. Owner: Mrs Betty Olafson. Sire: *Rhondorf of Rhinevale* . Dam: *Rumbelinda of Rhinevale*.



### THE KEESHOND IN SOUTH AFRICA

There seems to have been an inexplicable decline in the popularity of the breed in the Republic in the last ten or twelve years. From 1972 when the S.A. Keeshond Club was 200 strong and registrations stood at over 500, to 1984 with a mere 28 registrations and a handful of people keeping the club going. With the Dutch influence so woven into the history of the country it is surprising that the breed has not made greater headway; the unsuitability of the climate in some areas may well be the discouraging factor.

It was around 1950 that Mrs Wingfield Digby sent a breeding pair, *Trusty van Zaandam and Heena of Summerleaze* to the late Michael Lupton who used the Van Zaandam prefix in that country with Mrs Wingfield Digby's consent. In 1959 a descendant *Caspar van Zaandam* owned by Mr Lupton, made history by being the first Keeshond to take a Best in Show, at Blomfontein which is an important championship show. *Carlzdryk Christopher*, from Mrs Dykes Kennel in England went out and was mated to another from the U.K., S.A. Ch *Merrybelle Celyne* carrying the late Mr Merry's prefix and the well known winner S.A. Ch *Zepp van Saftingen* was one of the resultant litter. Bred by Mrs N Ficker he was owned and shown by Miss J. Wingels during the late sixties. Another top winner of that era was Mrs Steyn's homebred S.A. Ch *Ken-Melenes Viscount Bambi* whose Best of Breed wins included five under leading International judges. It was two from the Ken-Melenes Kennel that brought Mrs Carol Ruzow into the breed for her *Ken-Melenes Top Model of Chattaronga* and *Ken-Melenes Talleyrand of Chattaronga* both got their S.A. titles, the latter crowning his career by winning his fourth CC under Mrs Whitney Peterson, the U.S.A. authority, in a class of twenty top winners.

Mrs Ruzow visited the English kennels and as a result imported two dogs from Mrs Smyth's Waakzaam kennel and a bitch from Rhinevale. The two dogs, S.A. Ch *Waakzaam Wroom of Chattaronga* and S.A. Ch *Waakzaam Walks of Chattaronga* proved of great value, perhaps especially *Wroom* who was a son of Ch *Sinterklaas Brush Name* and Ch *Waakzaam Waltraute*, so from a famous litter. His three Best in Show include Goldfields K.C, one of the most important Shows in South Africa. *Rhinevale Revelinda* joined them, a daughter of Ch *Raffetta of Rhinevale* and she gained her S.A. title and seven challenge certificates in six months. She also took Best in Show at the S.A. Keeshond Club Show in 1972. Mated to *Wroom* she produced S.A. Ch *Chattaronga Camille* who took the limelight and at that time Chattaronga was the leading line. However, Mrs Ruzow's other string, Standard Poodles, took more of her time and her subsequent migration to the USA ended their reign. Some of her dogs went to Mrs Pam Fedder. About this time Mrs E. Ficker imported two Dutch Champions from the Sigelinski Kennel and both *Sigelinski Siem* and *Sigelinski Marjen* got their S.A. titles. 1973 to 1979 saw Mrs and Miss Wingel's Starkenburgh Kennel come to the fore. Their S.A. Ch *Waakzaam Willa* mated to S.A. Ch *Waakzaam Walks of Chattaronga* produced the top winner of that time, S.A. Ch *Starkenburgh Schavuit*, winner of sixteen CCs and twenty-seven Best of Breeds.

There were two champions in that litter but later *Willa* exceeded that by producing four S.A. Champions in her litter to S.A. Ch *Waakzaam Wroom of Chattaronge*. 1978 to 1981 saw Mr and Mrs Kirk's imported S.A. Ch *Ledwell Nutcracker*, a son of Ch *Ledwell Lysander*, take his place among the stars and Mrs Ficker's outstanding brood bitch S.A. Ch *Waakzaam Willa* produced another three champions to him in 1980. About this time another great lady of the breed appeared. She was Mrs Wingel's *Starkenburgh Serenade*, who after winning 14 CCs and three Best of Breeds was mated to *Gavimir Trogon*, imported from England and two of their offspring





Fig. 26.45 *Starkenburgh Symbol*. 1 year old. Owners Mrs. N. & Miss J. Wingels. Sire *Gavimir Trogon*. Dam S.A. Ch. *Starkenburgh Serenade*



Fig. 26.46 Ch. *Starkenburgh Schavuits*. Owner Mrs. N. & Miss J. Wingels. Sire S.A. Ch. *Waakzaam Walks of Chattaronga*. Dam S.A. Ch. *Waakzaam Willa*



have won CCs in their first year. They are *Starkenburgh Symbol* and *Starkenburgh Symphony* who should have bright futures. It was in 1979 that Mr and Mrs Stubbings took their well-known winners to South Africa and established their Vandersee Kennel. It is a Duroya based line with the famous *Commandants* last son Eng. and S.A. Ch *Final Edition of Duroya* and Eng. and S.A. Ch *Duroya Josephine of Vandersee* in pride of place. *Josephine* by Ch *Riesling of Rhinevale* ex Ch *Duroya Imogen*, not only had the impressive win of Reserve Best in Show at Birmingham National (one of England's biggest shows) but also became the top winning Keeshond in the U.K. in 1979 despite leaving the country in mid-summer. It was the mating of these two that produced the Stubbings current champions, *Vanderse Ad Lib* and *Vandersee Additions*. The latter after winning his S.A. title went on to take Best in Show at the Hottentots Holland Kennel Club in Cape Town in 1981.

Another high spot of 1979 was when Mrs Pam Fedder brought *Tanglewood Magic Marker* from America. By Am. Ch *Holland Hond Landmark ex Tanglewood True Love* he was bred by M.M. Stalkas. Mrs Fedder added her Kavaeha suffix and showed him successfully gaining his S.A. title. After topping the charts in 1981 and 1982 he was mated to Mrs Fiedder's homebred S.A. Ch *Kavanha Anneline* and the puppy retained became S.A. Ch *Kavanha Gotcha* who started a winning streak in 1983 and has kept it up to date. S.A. Ch *Tanglewood Magic Marker of Kavanha* took Best in Show at Sasolburg. Both the Vandersee and the Kavanhas have sent forward contenders for the Epol Interprovincial Tournament held in conjunction with the Witwatersrand Kennel Club show with the Vandersee Kennel winning the Interprovincial Utility Group Final for three years running, twice with S.A. Ch *Vandersee Addition* and once with S.A. Ch *Vandersee Ad Lib*.

Entries at shows have dwindled, but there is hope of more interest in the future. With only five regular exhibitors and only two or three in Open Classes, new exhibitors are needed. The immense journeys that are undertaken to complete a show circuit may well be a factor for from Johannesburg to Durban involves a 400 mile trip each way and to get to the Cape a thousand miles are involved. This can mean for those that are working that they travel from Friday to Monday morning to get back in time for work which is more than can be expected even from the most dedicated.

### REGISTRATIONS

Registrations in 1970 were 532

1976	161
1977	56
1978	7
1979	66
1980	37
1981	21
1982	36
1983	20
1984	28

These figures were taken from Annual Statistics published in the Kennel Union Gazette.





Fig. 26.47 S.A. Ch. *Vandersee Ad Lib* by Eng. and S.A. Ch. *Final Edition of Duroya*. Ex Eng. and S.A. Ch. *Duroya Josephine of Vandersee*.. Owner/breeders Mr. and Mrs. Stubbings.





## Glossary of Terms appertaining to the Keeshond as defined by the Kennel Club

ABDOMEN	The body cavity between chest and pelvis.
ACTION	Movement. The way a dog walks, trots or runs.
AFFIX	The registered kennel name of breeder/owner.
ALMOND EYES	The eye, set in surrounding tissue of almond shape.
ANGULATION	The angles formed at the joint by the bones; mainly, the shoulder, upper arm, elbow, stifle and hock.
ANUS	Outlet at end of rectum.
APPLE HEAD	Very domed rounded skull.
APRON	Longer hair below the neck on the chest. Frill.
BACK	Vertebrae between the withers and the loin.
BAD MOUTH	Crooked or unaligned teeth; bite over or undershot in excess of standard specification.
BALANCE	A consistent whole; symmetrical; typically proportioned as a whole or as regards its separate parts; i.e. balance of head, balance of body, or balance of head and body.
BARREL	Rounded rib section.
BARREL HOCKS	Hocks that turn out, causing the feet to toe in. Also called 'spread hocks'.
BENCHED SHOW	A dog show at which the dogs competing for prizes are 'benched' or leashed on benches.
BEST IN SHOW	A dog show award to the dog adjudged best of all breeds.
BEST OF BREED	A dog show award given to the dog adjudged best of its breed.
BITCHY	A feminine looking male dog.
BITE	The relative position of the upper and lower teeth when the mouth is closed.
BLOOM	The sheen of coat in prime condition.
BLOWN	When the coat is moulting or casting.
BODIED UP	Mature, well developed.
BONE	The relative size (girth) of dogs leg bones substance.
BRACE	Two dogs of a kind. A couple or pair.
BREASTBONE	Bone in forepart of chest.
BREEDER	A person who breeds dogs. Under kennel club rules the breeder of a dog is the owner (or, if the dam was leased, the leaser) of the dam of the puppy when the litter was whelped.
BRISKET	The forepart of the body below the chest between the forelegs, closest to the ribs.
BROOD BITCH	A female used for breeding. Brood matron.
CANINES	The two upper and lower long sharp-pointed teeth next to incisors. Fangs.
CARPALS	Bones of the wrist.
CASTRATE	To remove the testicles of the male dog.
CAT- FOOT	The short, round, compact foot like that of a cat.
	The foot with short third digits.
CHAMPION	A dog having acquired the title of champion.
CHARACTER	Combination of appearance, disposition and behaviour.
CHEST	The forepart of the body or trunk that is enclosed by the ribs.
CHISELLED	Clean-cut in head, particularly between the eyes.
CHOKE COLLAR	A leather or chain collar fitted to the dogs neck in such a manner that the degree of tension exerted by the hand tightens or loosens it.
CLODDY	Low, thickset, comparatively heavy.
CLOSE COUPLED	Short in couplings.
COARSE	Lacking refinement.
COAT	The dogs hair covering.
COBBY	Short-bodied, compact.
CONDITION	Health as shown by the coat, state of flesh, general appearance and deportment.
CONFORMATION	The form and structure, make the shape; arrangement of the parts in conformity with the breed standard demand
CORKY	Active, lively, alert.
COUPLING	The part of the body between the ribs and pelvis; the loin.
CODERING	
GROUND	Amount of ground covered by a dog when moving or standing.
COW HOCKED	When the hocks turn inwards towards each other.
CRABBING	Dog moves with his body at an angle to the line of travel.
CREST	The upper, arched portion of the neck.
CROUP (RUMP)	That part of the back from the front of the pelvis to the root of the tail.
CRYPTORCHID	The adult male whose testicles are abnormally in the abdominal cavity. Bilateral cryptorchidism involves both side; that is, neither testicle has descended into the scrotum Unilateral cryptorchidism involves one side only; that is one testicle is retained or hidden and one descended.



DAYLIGHT	Showing too much.....too high on the leg.
DENTITION	The number and arrangement of the teeth. Every dog should have a complete set of 42
DEWCLAW	The fifth digit on the inside of the leg.
DISH-FACE	When the nasal bone is so formed that the nose is higher at the tip than the stop; or, a slight concavness of line from the stop to the nose tip.
DISTEMPER - TEETH	Teeth discoloured or pitted as a result of distemper.
DOGGY	A masculine looking bitch.
DOMED	Evenly rounded in skull; convex instead of flat.
DOUBLE COAT	An outer coat resistant to weather, together with an undercoat of softer hair for warmth and water proofing.
DOWN FACED	The muzzle inclining downwards from the skull to the tip of the nose.
DOWN ON PASTERN	Weak or faulty pastern (metacarpus) set at a pronounced angle from the vertical.
DRIVE	A solid thrusting of the hindquarters, "denoting sound locomotion."
DROP EAR	The ends of the ear folded or drooping forward, as contrasted with erect or prick ears.
ENTROPION	A condition in which the eyelids are turned inwards.
EXPRESSION	The general appearance of all features of the head as viewed from the front.
EYETEETH	The upper canines.
FAKING	Changing the appearance of a dog by artificial means with the object of deceiving the onlooker as to its real merit.
FANCIER	A person especially interested and usually active in some phase of the sport of pure bred dogs.
FEATHERING	Longer fringe of hair on legs and tail.
FEMUR	Thigh bone from hips to stifle joint.
FIDDLE FRONT	Forelegs out at elbow, pasterns close, feet turned out.
FLANK	The side of the body between the last rib and the hip. .
FLAT SIDED	Ribs insufficiently rounded as they approach the sternum or breastbone.
FOREFACE	The front part of the head, before the eyes, muzzle.
FOREHAND	Front part of dog, including head and neck.
FORELEG	The leg from elbow to foot.
FOREQUARTERS	Front part of dog excluding head and neck.
FOXY	Sharp expression; pointed nose with short foreface and upright ears.
FRONT	The forepart of the body as viewed head on; i.e. forelegs, chest, brisket and shoulder line.
FRONTALBONE	The skull bone over the eyes.
FURNISHINGS	Desirable long hair on legs, breeching and tail.
GAIT	The pattern of footsteps at various rates of speed, each pattern distinguished by a particular rhythm and footfall.
GESTATION	The elapsed time between conception and birth; in dogs, usually about 63 days.
GROOM	To brush, comb, trim, or otherwise make a dogs coat neat.
GROUPS	The breeds as grouped in divisions to facilitate judging.
GUARD HAIRS	The longer stiffer hairs which grow through the undercoat partly concealing it.
HACKLES	Hair on neck back raised involuntarily in fright or anger.
HACKNEY ACTION	The high lifting of the front feet, like that of a hackney horse.
HAM	Muscular development of the hind leg above the stifle.
HANDLER	A person who handles a dog in the show ring.
HAREFOOT	A foot whose third digit is longer, hence an elongated foot.
HARSH COAT	Stiff wiry coat.
HEAT	Seasonal period of the female. Oestrus.
HEIGHT	Verticle measurement from the withers to the ground.
HIND LEG	Leg from pelvis to foot.
HINDQUARTERS	Rear assembly of dog (pelvis, thighs, hocks and paws).
HOCK	The tarsus or collection of bones of the hind ieg forming the joint between the second thigh and the metatarsus; the dogs true heel.
INBREEDING	The mating of closely related dogs of the same breed.
INCISORS	The upper and lower front teeth between the canines.
JAWS	Upper and lower part of the foreface containing teeth.
JOWLS	Flesh of lips and jaws.
KNEE JOINT	The stifle joint.
LAYBACK	The angle of the shoulder blade, when viewed from the side.
LEGGY	Too long in the leg for correct balance.
LEVEL BITE	When the front teeth (incisors) of the upper and lower jaws meet exactly edge to edge. Princer bite.
LINE BREEDING	The mating of related dogs of the same standard breed within the line of family, to a common ancestor, as, for example, a dog to his granddam or a bitch to her grandsire.



LIPPY	Pendulous lips or lips that do not fit tightly.
LITTER	The puppy or puppies of one whelping.
LOIN	Region of the body on either side of the vertebral column between the last ribs and the hindquarters
LONG COUPLED	Opposite to short coupled; having a long loin.
LOW SET	When tail is set on below level of topline; or ears, set below line of correct placement for the breed.
MAIDEN	A bitch that has not been mated.
MANE	Long and profuse hair on top and sides of the neck.
MILK TEETH	First teeth.
MOLARS	The dog has four premolars in each side of the upper and lower jaw. There are two true molars on each side of the upper jaw and three on each side of the lower jaw.
MOLERA	Incomplete, or failure of bones of skull to unite.
MONORCHID	A dog with only, one testicle.
MOULT	Seasonal casting of the coat.
MOUTH	That part of the head made up of the two jaw bones and containing the teeth, Also used to describe the set of the jaws or teeth in relation to each other, as in 'a bad mouth' or in 'a good mouth.'
MOVING CLOSE	When the hind limbs move close to each other though complete length of limb remains straight.
MOVING STRAIGHT	Term descriptive of balanced gaiting in which angle of inclination begins at the shoulder, or hip joint, and limbs remain upright from these points to the pads of the feet, even as the legs flex or extend in reaching or thrusting.
MUZZLE	The head in front of the eyes, nasal bone, nostrils, and jaws; foreface. Also a strap or wire cage attached to the foreface to prevent the dog from biting or picking up food.
NECK	That part between skull and front of shoulder blade.
NOSE	Organ of smell; also the ability to detect by means of scent
OBLIQUE SHOULDERS	Shoulders well laid back.
OCCIPUT	Upper back point of the skull.
OESTRUM	The period during which a bitch is ready for mating.
OPEN CLASS	A class at dog shows in which all dogs may compete.
OUT AT ELBOWS	Elbow turning out from the body as opposed to being held close.
OUT AT SHOULDER	With shoulder blades loosely attached to the body, leaving the shoulders jutting out in relief and increasing the breadth of the front.
OUT OF COAT	See moult.
OUTCROSSING	The mating of unrelated individuals of the same breed.
OVERSHOT	The front teeth (incisors) of the upper jaw overlap and do not touch the front teeth of the lower jaw when the mouth is closed.
PACE	A gait in which the left foreleg and left hind leg advance in unison, then the right foreleg and the right hindleg.
PADS	Tough, shock absorbing projections on the underside of the feet. Soles.
PASTERN	Commonly recognised as the region of the foreleg between the wrist and the digits.
PATELLA	A cap-like bone, similar to the human knee cap, at stifle joint.
PEDIGREE	The written record of a dogs descent of three generations or more.
PELVIS	A cage-like set of bones formed by the pelvic arch and adjoining bones.
PENCILLING	Black lines on the toes.
PIGEON TOED	Forefeet pointing in; pinning.
PIGMENT	Colour of nose, lips and eye rims.
PLAITING	Manner of walking or trotting in which the legs cross.
PLUME	A long fringe of hair hanging from the tail.
POKE	To carry the neck stretched forward in an abnormally low, ungainly position usually when moving.
PRE-MOLAR	Small double teeth between canines and large back teeth.
PRICK EAR	Carried erect and usually pointed at the top.
PROFESSIONAL HANDLER	A person who shows dogs for a fee.
PROUD	Held high.
PUT DOWN	To prepare a dog for the show ring; also used to denote a dog unplaced in competition. Also a term for euthanasia.
PUPPY	A dog under twelve months of age.
QUARTERS	The hind legs.
RANGY	Long bodied, usually lacking depth in chest.
REACHY	With long neck.
REGISTER	To record the Kennel Club of dogs breeding particulars.
RIBBED UP	(Well ribbed up) long ribs that angle back from the spinal column. (45 degrees considered ideal).
ROCKING HORSE	Both front and rear legs extend out from body as in old fashioned rocking horse.
ROLLING GAIT	Swaying ambling action when moving.



ROMAN NOSE	A nose whose bridge is so comparatively high as to form a slightly convex line from forehead to nose tip. Rams nose.
RUFF	Thick, longer hair growth around the neck.
RUMP	See Croup.
RUNT	Undersized puppy in litter.
SADDLE BACK	Over-long back, with a dip behind the withers.
SCAPULA	Shoulder blade.
SCISSOR BITE	Jaws strong, with a perfect regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaws.
SEASON	See Oestrus.
SECOND THIGH	That part of the hindquarter from the stifle to the hock. Lower thigh.
SERVICE	Use of stud dog.
SET ON	Placement of tail on body and position of ears on skull.
SET UP	Posed so as to make the most of the dog's appearance for the show ring.
SHELLY	A weakly formed, shallow, narrow body, lacking substance.
SHORT COUPLED	With very short coupling.
SICKLE HOCKED	Inability to extend the hock joint on the back reach of the hind leg.
SINGLE TRACKING	All footprints falling on the single line of travel.
SIRE	The male parent.
SLAB SIDED	Flat ribs with too little spring from spinal column.
SLOPING SHOULDER	The shoulder blade set obliquely or 'laid back'.
SNIPY	A pointed, weak muzzle.
SOUNDNESS	The state of mental and physical health when all organs and faculties are complete and functioning normally, each in its rightful relation to the other.
SPAY	To perform a surgical operation to remove a bitch's ability to conceive.
SPECTACLES	Shadings or dark markings over or around the eyes or from eyes to ears.
SPLAY FOOT	A flat foot with toes spreading. Open foot, open toed.
SPRING OF RIBS	Angle at which upper end of rib, meets the vertebrae.
STANCE	Manner of standing.
STANDARD	A description of the ideal dog of each recognised breed, to serve as a word pattern by which dogs are judged at shows.
STANDOFF COAT	A long or heavy coat that stands off from the body.
STARING COAT	The hair dry, harsh and sometimes curling at the tips. Out of condition.
STERNUM	Breastbone.
STIFLE	The joint of the hind leg between the thigh and the second thigh. The dog's knee.
STILTED	Stiff jerking gait caused by non-flexing of joints.
STOP	The step up from muzzle to skull; indentation between the eyes where the nasal bone and the skull meet.
STRAIGHT HOCKED	Lacking appreciable angulation of the hock joints.
STRAIGHT IN	
PASTERN	Little or no bend between the joint and foot.
STRAIGHT	
SHOULDERS	The shoulder blades straight up and down, as opposed to sloping or 'well laid back'.
STUD BOOK	A record of the breeding particulars of winning dogs of recognised breeds.
STUD DOG	A male dog used for breeding purposes.
SUBSTANCE	Heaviness of bone and general volume of body.
SWAYBACK	Concave curvature of the line between the withers and the hip bones.
TAIL SET	How the base of the tail sets on the rump.
TEAM	Three or more dogs.
TEMPERAMENT	Mixture of natural qualities and traits which produce character.
TEXTURE	Nature or feel of coat.
THIGH	The hindquarters from hip to stifle.
THROAT	Part of neck immediately below lower jaw.
THUMB MARKS	Black spots on the region of the pastern.
TIED AT THE ELBOWS	Elbows set too close under body.
TIMBER	Bone, especially of the legs.
TOPLINE	The dogs outline from just behind the withers to the tail set.
TUCK UP	Concave underline of body curving upwards from depth of rib to narrow waist.
TYPE	The characteristic qualities distinguishing a breed; the embodiment of a standard's essentials.
UNDERCOAT	Dense, soft, short weather resistant coat concealed by longer top-coat.
UNDERSHOT	The front teeth (incisors) of the lower jaw overlapping or projecting beyond the front teeth of the upper jaw when the mouth is closed.
UPPER ARM	The humerus or bone of the foreleg, between the shoulder blade and the elbow.



UPRIGHT SHOULDER	Without sufficient angulation of shoulder blade.
WEEDY	Light-boned, lacking substance.
WELL LET DOWN	Metatarsai short and upright.
WELL SPRUNG RIBS	Ribs springing out from spinal column giving good, round shape.
WHELPS	Unweaned puppies.
WHISKER	Longer hairs on muzzle sides and lower jaw.
WITHERS	The highest point of the body immediately behind the neck.

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## APPENDIX

### ROLL OF CHAMPIONS



## ROLL OF CHAMPIONS

NAME OF DOG	SEX	SIRE	DAM	BREEDER	OWNER	D.O.B
1929						
Dochfour Hendrik	D	Hendrik van Zaandam	Ch. Gesina van Zaandam	Col & Mrs Wingfield-Digby	Baroness Burton	25/4/26
1930						
Bartel van Zaandam Tiptoes	D	Wachter v Zuffenhaus B Ch. Dochfour Hendrik	Agnes von der Maiblume Wica van Zaandam	E. Schmidt Miss A H Kay	Mrs J C Moore Breeder	6/3/23 8/5/29
1931						
Ado von Thierstein Pleuntje van Zaandam Tresina van Zaandam	D	Geron am Ziel B Alli v d Sternwarte B Ch. Bartel van Zaandam	Ada von Thierstein Ch. Gesina van Zaandam Breda van Zaandam	Miss T Lehmer Col & Mrs Wingfield-Digby Mrs S de Calry	Mrs W E Galacre Mrs D Courthope Last Col & Mrs Wingfield-Digby	10/6/27 6/12/27 22/2/25
1932						
Dochfour Wanda Bettina de Wilt Bingo Stemdale Sargo	B	Ch. Dochfour Hendrik B Black Bock D Ch. Dochfour Hendrik D Ch. Dochfour Hendrik	Dochfour Wilhelmina Gilda de Wilt Dharkie of Hyver Gelria de Wilt	Baroness Burton Mrs F W Morton Mrs F W Morton Mrs J R Foster	Breeder Mrs F H Norton Mrs J Norton Breeder	12/5/28 27/5/28 23/9/27 22/3/29
1933						
Konstanz van Zaandam Viva van Eyck Dochfour Jacob	D	Karel van Zaandam B Black Bock D Ch. Dochfour Hendrik	Kenau van Zaandam Hyden Dingo Dochfour Wilhelmina	Col & Mrs Wingfield-Digby Mrs C A Lovegrove Baroness Burton	Breeder Mrs F H Norton The Hon. Lady Lettie Cooper	28/2/31 8/7/30 12/5/58
1934						
Piet van Macrlant Garry de Wilt Guelder Silvia Lurine van Zaandam Furstin of Evenlode Don of Dumblefore	D	Karel van Zaandam D Cely v Jura de Wilt B Ch. Stemdale Sargo B Karel van Zaandam B Black Bock D Alli v d Sternwarte	Ch. Pleuntje van Zaandam Gilda de Wilt Ada von Thierstein Ch. Gesina van Zaandam Diana of Evenlode Cuba van Zaandam	Mrs Courthope Last Mrs F W Morton Mrs W E Galacre Col & Mrs Wingfield-Digby Miss O M Hastings Miss E Langman	Breeder Miss O M Hastings Mrs E Smith Breeders Breeder Miss M S Clugston	9/11/30 10/7/30 1/4/32 28/2/33 19/6/32 28/5/29



1935

Hugo of Rood Ashton  
Hagedorn of Evenlode

Gretel of Lypiatt  
Dorcas of Evenlode

Hon. Lady Cooper  
Miss O M Hastings

P Edwards  
Breeder

28/12/30  
19/8/34

1936

Forsyte Hanzel (late Patricia of St Mildreds)

B Hans of Rood Ashton  
D Ch. Bingo  
B Seerp van Dekuma  
B Karel van Zaandam  
D Hans of Rood Ashton

Zela  
Dorcas of Evenlode  
Gelria de Witt  
Ch. Gesina van Zaandam  
Banacre Zimp

Mrs E M Peacock  
Miss O M Hastings  
J R Foster  
Col & Mrs Wingfield-Digby  
Mr & Mrs F W Wickens

29/10/33  
19/8/34  
22/8/32  
28/2/33  
14/7/32

1937

Okebrook Cavette  
Simonius van Zaandam  
(late Simon of Kynaston)

Dochfour Yvette  
Smootze of Kynaston

Breeder  
Col & Mrs Wingfield-Digby

8/5/34  
3/6/34

1938

Hugo of Houghtonville

Jancoorrie van Zaandam

Breeder

22/8/34

1939

Ludwig of Evenlode  
Guelder Canterburybell  
Juliana Colleen

Ch. Furstin of Evenlode  
Tellahina van Zaandam  
Oranje Brigitte

Breeder  
Mrs W Galacre  
Mrs H Rawcliffe

10/2/37  
5/3/36  
31/7/34

1947

Major of Broadcliff

D Hendrick of Ravensknowle

Mrs L Newbold

C Brodhurst

24/4/41

1948

Linda of Landswood  
Valies of Vorden  
Ardent of Ravensknowle  
Reckless Rebel

Vanitas of Vorden  
Vlaaskrud of Vorden  
Vanitas of Vorden  
Hathershaw Duchess

Mrs V Blanchard  
Mrs C Boume  
Miss C Blower  
Mrs L Turner

30/1/44  
21/9/45  
30/1/44  
16/8/45



Tom Tit of Evenlode Mistybank Madonna of	D Vandyke of Vorden B Vandyke of Vorden	Ch. Lucinda of Evenlode Zara of Muirville	Miss O M Hastings T Bennisson	Breeder Mr & Mrs Greenwood	2/4/46 8/7/46
1949					
Hecate of Muirville Verrukkelijk of Vorden Jan of Grovelyn Whimsy of Wistonia Waarborg of Wistonia Anna of Vanloen Brille of Summerlease	B Hendrick of Ravensknowle B Ch. Major of Broadcliff D Ch. Major of Broadcliff B Worthy of Wistonia D Worthy of Wistonia B Leon Lancer D Delfrik of Summerlease	Hebe of Muirville Vyand of Vorden Regina of Ravensknowle Ch. Mistybank Madonna of Wistonia Anna of Vanloen Silver Jubilee Berly of Summerlease	J F Fryer Mrs I M Tucker Miss C Blower & Mrs H Garnett Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Mr & Mrs F Greenwood J L Dunwell Mrs N M Gould	Mr & Mrs Greenwood Breeder Breeders Breeders Breeders Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Col. & Mrs F Wingfield-Digby	17/6/44 10/12/47 4/2/44 12/1/48 17/8/47 25/10/43 25/2/45
1950					
Verchansing of Vorden Verpozing of Vorden Wrona of Wistonia Bingo of Grovelyn Vorstin of Vlieland Colin of Ossen Winna of Wistonia	D Ch. Major of Broadcliff B Ch. Major of Broadcliff B Worthy of Wistonia D Jan of Grovelyn B Ch. Major of Broadcliff D Vermeer Benjamin B Worthy of Wistonia	Vyand of Vorden Vyand of Vorden Greetia of Ducheliffe Ruffle of Grovelyn Annette of Bishopcroft Vesta of Summerlease Ch. Mistybank	Mrs I M Tucker Mrs I M Tucker Mrs M Whitehead H Blakeley T B Reed & Mrs A Armstrong Major & Mrs J Gowan Mr & Mrs F Greenwood	Breeder T B Reid & Mrs A Armstrong Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Mrs C Harrop Breeders Mrs E A Ellis & Mr Ince Breeders	10/12/47 10/12/47 15/3/49 9/5/46 6/3/48 22/5/49 30/3/49
1951					
Wazelaïne of Wistonia Winchell of Wistonia Pilot of Louter Zena of Discworth	B Worthy of Wistonia D Worthy of Wistonia D Tommy Tucker of Evenlode B Pieter of Evenlode	Ch. Hecate of Muirville Thelma of Grovelyn Queen of Carrfield Silver Lady	Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Mrs O Davies Miss E L Galley Miss J B Taylor	Breeders Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Breeder Breeder	9/5/48 25/2/49 11/11/48 4/5/48
1952					
Lightning of Benthead Juliana of Wendees Rapunzel of Rhinevale Wot a Gal of Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn Winrosa of Wistonia Wyloo of Wistonia	D Afrik of Willowden B Ch. Winchell of Wistonia B Raphael of Rhinevale B Worthy of Wistonia B Ch. Major of Broadcliff B Ch. Winchell of Wistonia D Ch. Winchell of Wistonia	Verroesten of Vorden Wendee of Wistonia Vesta of Summerlease Thelma of Grovelyn Ch. Ardent of Ravensknowle Wroosa of Wistonia Ch. Wazelaïne of	R Knowles Miss V. Liver Major & Mrs J Gowan Mrs O Davies Miss C Blower Mrs D C Roscoe Mr & Mrs F Greenwood	H Anderton Breeder Mrs D Emerson Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Miss R Farrelly Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Breeders	29/9/49 28/8/50 18/11/50 29/3/51 24/10/47 14/8/50 24/5/50



## 1953

Kiska of Ravensknowle  
 Vrijster of Vorden  
 Wayston of Wistonia  
 Wagtail of Evenlode  
 Wymark of Wistonia  
 Vorden Meg of Meadowrock  
 Billo van Zaandaam

B Rogue of Ravensknowle  
 B Ch. Major of Broadcliff  
 D Ch. Winchell of Wistonia  
 D Ch. Tom Tit of Evenlode  
 D Wyloo of Wistonia  
 B Afrik of Willowden  
 D Bimbo of Puch

Ruffle of Ravensknowle  
 Vijgeleide of Vorden  
 Ch. Wazelaïne of Wistonia  
 Unity of Evenlode  
 Whyalla of Wistonia  
 Zeelands Stormcloud  
 Benita van Zaandaam

Mrs L Newbold  
 Mrs L M Tucker  
 Mr & Mrs F Greenwood  
 Miss O Hastings  
 Mr & Mrs Greenwood  
 H. Anderton  
 Col & Mrs Wingfield Digby

Breeder  
 Breeder  
 Breeders  
 Breeder  
 Breeders  
 Mrs I M Tucker  
 Mrs. Wingfield Digby

7/11/50  
 3/1/50  
 2/6/51  
 24/4/49  
 17/6/51  
 21/3/51  
 8/3/49

## 1954

Wrocky of Wistonia  
 Wynkanton of Wistonia  
 Zelda of Evenlode  
 Young Tom of Evenlode  
 Kosic of Keesling

D Ch. Wyloo of Wistonia  
 D Ch. Winchell of Wistonia  
 B Ch. Wagtail of Evenlode  
 D Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn  
 B Ch. Winchell of Wistonia

Waneta of Wistonia  
 Ch. Wazelaïne of Wistonia  
 Verteeraar of Evenlode  
 Wren of Evenlode  
 Wanda of Keesling

Breeders  
 Mrs L M Deakin  
 Breeder  
 Breeder  
 Breeder

22/5/52  
 2/6/51  
 14/11/52  
 9/7/51  
 5/7/52

## 1955

Wricky of Wistonia  
 Volkrijk of Vorden  
 Winnrex of Wistonia  
 Beron Van Zaandaam

D Ch. Winchell of Wistonia  
 B Ch. Verschansing of Vorden  
 D Ch. Wymack of Wistonia  
 D Ch. Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn

Wannee of Wistonia  
 Ch. Vorden meg of Meadowrock  
 Ch. Wot a Gal of Wistonia  
 Betsina Van Zaandaam

Mrs A M Terry  
 Breeder  
 Breeder  
 Breeders

3/7/51  
 13/1/54  
 18/4/53  
 14/9/49

## 1956

Veraura of Vorden  
 Wendhausen of Wistonia  
 Young Geron of Evenlode  
 Kester of Wendees

D Ch. Verschansing of Vorden  
 D Ch. Winchell of Wistonia  
 D Ch. Rayvalen Geron of Grovelyn  
 D Ch. Wrocky of Wistonia

Aura of Goss  
 Ch. Wazelaïne of Wistonia  
 Wren of Evenlode  
 Ch. Juliana of Wendees

Mrs I M Tucker  
 Breeders  
 T N Collins  
 Breeder

3/8/55  
 2/6/51  
 9/7/51  
 26/11/54

## 1957

Wallei of Wistonia  
 Wazzi of Wistonia  
 Willard of Wistonia  
 Big Bang of Evenlode  
 Wynjan of Wistonia

D Ch. Wrocky of Wistonia  
 B Ch. Winchell of Wistonia  
 D Ch. Wayston of Wistonia  
 D Ch. Young Tom of Evenlode  
 D Ch. Winnrex of Wistonia

Mar-kr-val of Wistonia  
 Ch. Wazelaïne of Wistonia  
 Writz of Wistonia  
 Ch. Zelda of Evenlode  
 Val-ke-mar of Wistonia

Breeders  
 Breeders  
 Mr & Mrs J Hayston-Reay & Miss Hesling  
 Breeder  
 R Pilton

6/11/54  
 2/6/51  
 21/7/53  
 27/11/54



Writz of Wistonia Wykoorn of Wistonia	B Ch. Winchell of Wistonia D Ch. Wyloo of Wistonia	Waneta of Wistonia Winnaslass of Wistonia	Mr & Mrs Greenwood Mr & Mrs Greenwood	Breeders Mrs M Bodham	3/6/51 30/12/52
1958					
Randalone of Rhinevale Volkraad of Vorden Winckela of Wistonia Wistonia Aristocrat of Dorol Westryton of Wistonia Winzari of Wistonia	D Ch. Colin of Ossen D Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode B Ch. Winnex of Wistonia D Kolin of Wendees D Ch. Kester of Wendees B Winnex of Wistonia	Raenhild of Rhinevale Ch. Volkrijk of Vorden Miss Prim of Meadowrock Delia of Dorol Winzari of Wistonia Val-ke-mar of Wistonia	Mrs D Emerson Mrs I M Tucker Mr & Mrs Greenwood O W Holmes Mr & Mrs Greenwood Mr & Mrs F Greenwood	Breeder Breeder Breeders Mr & Mrs Greenwood K Ellinor Breeders	23/10/54 5/4/56 15/5/57 18/11/55 5/7/57 26/2/56
1959					
Randi of Rhinevale Wrapsolone of Wistonia Rondina of Rhinevale Vanderveer of Vorden Wintari of Wistonia	D Ch. Wrocky of Wistonia D Ch. Winchell of Wistonia B Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode B Ch. Young Geron of Evenlode D Winnex of Wistonia	Ch. Rapunzel of Rhinevale Whapsody of Wistonia Ch. Rapunzel of Rhinevale Ch. Veraura of Vorden Wrozzelle of Wistonia	Mrs D Emerson Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Mrs D Emerson Mrs I M Tucker Mr & Mrs Greenwood	Miss I Kellam-Smith Mrs K. A. Nalson T G Terry Mr & Mrs T Collins Breeders	16/4/54 17/10/56 4/2/56 21/12/56 12/4/56
1960					
Waakzaam Kristian Evenlode Monarch of Merrybell Rombert of Rhinevale	D Ch. Wagtail of Evenlode D Ch. Randalone of Rhinevale D Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode	Verscherry of Vorden Ch. Rondina of Rhinevale Raghild of Rhinevale	Mrs E Smyth Mr T G Merry Mrs D Emerson	G G Roswell Miss O M Hastings Miss I M Kellam-Smith	30/5/57 28/6/58 14/9/57
1961					
Shaughmcor Lady Hildegard Littletoyd Waakzaam Voljasmin of Vorden Vorden Good Guard of Evenlode Merry Christmas of Ven	B Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode B Ch. Volkraad of Vorden D Ch. Verschansing of Vorden B Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle	Rebecca of Rhinevale Ch. Veraura of Vorden Double Diamond of Evenlode Christmas Carol of Evenlode	Mrs E. Dr M & Dr J Chesterfield Mrs I M Tucker Miss O M Hastings Mr & Mrs J Collins	Miss P Kempe Mrs E M Smyth Mrs E M Dyke Mrs J Collins	1/10/58 24/6/58 1/2/59 8/7/59
1962					
Vaalsmeer of Vorden Berryvale Smug of Ven Winnulzy of Wistonia Verkrigjen of Vorden	D Vorden Good Guard of Evenlode B Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode B Winnex of Wistonia B Vorden Good Guard of Evenlode	Vrivilody of Vorden Ch. Vanderveer of Vorden Miss Prim of Meadowrock Vrivilody of Vorden	Mrs I M Tucker Mr & Mrs J Collins & Mr T Collins Mr & Mrs F Greenwood Mrs I M Tucker	Breeder Mrs C Muschamp Breeders Breeder	30/7/60 11/12/60 15/5/57 30/7/60



Vlieland Vanity of Vliendale	B Ch. Westryton of Wistonia	Mill Teena	Mrs H Harrison	Mr & Mrs T B Reed	8/10/60
1963					
Whiplash of Wistonia	D Wanjohe of Wistonia	Winlunde of Wistonia	Mr & Mrs F Greenwood	Breeders	26/10/61
Dutch Uncle of Ven	D Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode	Ch. Vandervoer of Vorden	Mr & Mrs J R & Mr T Collins	Mrs J R Collins	11/12/60
Festive Fantasy of Evenlode	B Vader Kerstnis of Vorden	Day Dream of Evenlode	Miss O M Hastings	Breeder	12/12/58
Waakzaam Wilbrandt	D Ch. Volkraad of Vorden	Verschery of Vorden	Mrs E M Smyth	Miss M Laister	11/3/59
Rahida of Rhinevale	D Ch. Young Geron of Evenlode	Ringdove of Rhinevale	Mrs D Emerson	Miss G Kinney	20/10/61
1964					
Saskia of Ven	B Ch. Evenlode Monarch of Merreybelle	Vanessa of Ven	Mrs J L Collins	Breeder	22/10/62
Warmida of Wistonia	B Ch. Winterri of Wistonia	Winkooshla of Wistonia	Mr & Mrs F Greenwood	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	3/2/59
Sinterklass Brush Name	D Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode	Sinterklass Lass of Vankeena	Miss N W Collier	Breeder	16/11/62
1965					
Viking of Vlieland	D Ch. Westryton of Wistonia	Vanasetta of Vlieland	Mr & Mrs T B Reed	Breeders	2/4/63
Duroya Delfzijl of Lowery	B Commandant of Duroya	Viaradus of Vorden	J L Gyle	Mrs E Woodiwiss	9/1/63
Sinterklaas Test Pilot	D Yader Kerstnis of Vorden	Sinterklaas Mandy of Sandling	Miss M Collier	Mrs P Parkes	7/7/61
Vivandiere of Ven	B Commandant of Duroya	Tassle of Ven	Mrs J R Collins	Breeder	10/10/63
Waakzaam Wonderbaarlijk	B Waakzaam Wildeuran	Waalzaam Welmiek	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	1/1/62
Aunt Susan of Ven	B Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode	Ch. Vandervoer of Evenlode	Mrs J R Collins	Breeder	21/4/62
1966					
Vondel Handyman	D Ch. Dutch Uncle of Ven	Vrona of Vorden	J George	Breeder	17/10/63
Belle Blonde of Berryvale	B Am. Ch. Rutikay Moerdaag of Ven	Ch. Berryvale Smug of Ven	Mrs C M Muschamp	Breeder	2/11/64
Belkoorester of Duroya	B Aspiration of Duroya	Warmida of Wistonia	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	Breeder	14/1/62
1967					
Duroya Guardsman of Ven	D Commandant of Duroya	Tassle of Ven	Mrs J R Collins	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	10/10/63
Sinterklaas Big Noise of Evenlode	D Ch. Big Bang of Evenlode Sinterklaas	Lass of Vankeena	Miss Collier	Miss O M Hastings	16/11/62
Vangiede Donna	B Rayeverne Revalli	Whisllyn of Wistonia	Mrs L Blair	Breeder	10/10/64
Vondel Miss Judy	B Ch. Dutch Uncle of Ven	Vrona of Vorden	J George	Breeder	17/10/63
Vagabond of Vlieland	D Ch. Viking of Vlieland	Keeta of Fenholme	Mr I Smythe	Mr & Mrs T B Reed	26/9/65
Meadowrock Wraydale of Wistonia	D Waldiki of Wistonia	Terdale Ails & Graces	Mr & Mrs R Morris	H Anderton	27/8/62



Vangede Countess	B Ch. Whiplash of Wistonia	Whisllyn of Wistonia	Mrs L Blair	Breeder	17/6/63
1968					
Welford Lucky	D Am.Ch. Ruttkay Moerdaag of Ven	Welford Ina	Miss B Glover	Mr & Mrs G Ransome	13/7/65
Robinella of Rhinevale	B Ch. Rahida of Rhinevale	Robertina of Rhinevale	Mrs D Emerson	Breeder	14/5/66
Vangede Firecracker	D Commandant of Duroya	Ch. Vangede Countess	Mrs L Blair	Breeder	20/3/67
Waakzaam Welma	B Waakzaam Wotan	Waakzaam Welrekend	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	22/5/65
Waakzaam Waltraute	B Waakzaam Wotan	Waakzaam Voljasmijn of Verden	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	9/8/64
Waakzaam Wotan	D Ch. Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle	Waakzaam Weisinga	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	19/5/63
1969					
Young Loxtunvar of Gezellin	D Ch. Evenlode Monarch of Merrybelle	Ria of Noark	Mrs Cooper	D G Howard	27/6/62
Kandijkuf Aunt Louisa	B Am.Ch. Ruttkay Moerdaag of Ven	Ch. Aunt Susan Of Ven	Mrs J R Collins	Miss R Buesden	15/9/64
Hans Silver Myst	D Valmijk of Vorden	Natacha Debreton	Mrs M Gardiner	Miss E Davison	15/1/65
Vangede Helena	B Commandant of Duroya	Ch. Vangede Countess	Mrs L Blair	Miss M Leach	10/5/68
Viljoen of Ven	B Am.Ch. Ruttkay Moerdaag	Ch. Aunt Susan of Ven	Mrs J R Collins	Breeder	30/7/67
Roxburgh of Rhinevale	D Ch. Rahida of Rhinevale	Ripolina of Rhinevale	Mrs V Coates	Mrs M E Cahill	24/11/64
Waakzaam Waale	B Waakzaam Wotan	Waakzaam Walrickend	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	8/3/67
1970					
Duroya Rolcander of Rhinevale	D Ch. Sinterklass Big Noise	Raphaella of Rhinevale	Mrs Pumphrey	Mrs D Emerson	6/7/67
Heinz Sparkler	B Ch. Vangede Firecracker	Heidi of Henniker	Mrs M E Randall	Breeder	18/9/69
Viva of Ven	B Am.Ch. Ruttkay Moerdaag of Ven	Ch. Vivandiere of Ven	Mrs J Collins	Breeder	17/6/68
Ledwell Charlotte	B Rhondorf of Rhinevale	Runbelinda of Rhinevale	Mrs S Scroggs	Breeder	30/6/68
Riesling of Rhinevale	D Commandant of Duroya	Ch. Robinella of Rhinevale	Mrs D Emerson	Mrs D Purdon	5/1/69
1971					
Vangede Invincible	D Commandant of Duroya	Ch. Vangede Countess	Mrs S Blair	Breeder	1/7/69
Waakzaam Waag	D Sinterklass Brush Name	Ch. Waakzaam Walruate	Mrs E Smyth	Breeder	17/12/69
Duroya Red Admiral	D Ch. Rahida of Rhinevale	Robertina of Rhinevale	Mrs D Emerson	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	31/7/68
Welford Orinda of Ven	B Duroya Charm's Son of Ven	Welford Nina	Miss Glover	Mrs J R Collins	19/2/70
Ledwell Dutchman	D Ch. Hans Silver Myst	Ledwell Catastrophe	Mrs S Scroggs	Mrs D M Purdon	24/7/70
1972					
Duroya Charm's Son	D Dutch Uncle of Ven	Duroya Charm	Mrs Marjoram	Mrs J R Collins	29/5/66



Raffetta of Rhinevale	B Commandant of Duroya	Ch. Robinella of Rhinevale	Mrs D Emerson	Mrs D Emerson & Mr J Edge	5/1/69
Surprise of Ven	D Ch. Riesling of Rhinevale	Polly Flinders of Ven	Miss J R Collins	Breeder	15/12/70
Beatrice of Davan	B Ch. Meadowrock Wraydale of Wistonia	Wilhelmina of Neustadt	D Kitson	Breeder	1/11/70
Waakzaam Wursel	B Ch. Waakzaam Waag	Ch. Waakzaam Welma	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	21/8/71
1973					
Ven Amanda of Cowells	B Ch. Roxburgh of Rhinevale	Megan of Ven	Mrs R Mellersh	Mrs J R Collins	14/4/70
Welford Nina	B Am. Ch. Rutkay Moerdaag	Welford Ina	Miss B Glover	Breeder	21/1/68
Valgate Briony	B Valmijk of Vorden	Waakzaam Wrona	Mr M Stockman	Breeder	16/6/70
Vangede Jolly Don	D Ch. Vangede Filecracker	Vangede Donna	Mrs L Blair	Miss M Vickers	1/2/71
Waakzaam Wanrij	B Ch. Waakzaam Wotan	Ch. Waakzaam Wonderbarlijk	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	28/12/67
Rhinevale Rarebit	B Ch. Riesling of Rhinevale	Rhinevale Remember Me	Mrs D Emerson	Breeder	4/5/72
1974					
Vangede Katrina	B Vangede Jolly Don	Ch. Vangede Invincible	Mrs L Blair	Mr & Mrs T B Reed	8/4/72
Bergaria Brigadier	D Sinterklass Dutch Dandy	Sinterklass Chinchilla Cap	Mrs J R Partridge	Breeder	18/4/69
Waakzaam Wursling	B Ch. Ledwell Dutchman	Ch. Waakzaam Wursel	Mrs E M Smyth	Mrs M F Udani	24/5/73
Waakzaam Waagson	D Ch. Waakzaam Waag	Waakzaam Werwelwind	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	5/4/74
Welford Peta	B Ch. Surprise of Ven	Ch. Welford Orinda of Ven	Miss B Glover	Breeder	30/4/72
Waakzaam Wijsman	D Ch. Waakzaam Waag	Ch. Waakzaam Waalre	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	17/11/71
1975					
Gelderland Aurelia	B Ch. Surprise of Ven	Rhinevale Raffetina of Gelderland	Mrs C M Moore	Breeder	9/8/73
Duroya Chefke	D Commandant of Duroya	Ch. Bekoorster of Duroya	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	Breeder	13/4/70
Ledwell Lysander	D Ch. Ledwell Dutchman	Ledwell Heidi	Mrs S Scroggs	Mrs J Sharp	14/10/74
1976					
Rhinevale Faclunaminov	D Ch. Ledwell Dutchman	Rona Lisa of Rhinevale	Mrs D Emerson	Miss P A Driscoll	12/8/73
Harovarlan Spring Mist	B Ch. Sinterklass Test Pilot	Kandijkui Yolarda	Mrs A MacDonald	Breeder	27/11/71
Azad Asha**	B Ch. Waakzaam Waag	Ch. Waakzaam Wursling	D Udani	Breeder	8/6/75
Final Edition of Duroya	D Commandant of Duroya	Duroya Evergay	Medames Woodiwiss & Foster	Mr & Mrs I L Stubbings	20/6/73
Octave of Ven	D Ch. Surprise of Ven	Octavia of Ven	Mrs J R Collins	Mr and Mrs E M Abel	3/6/74
Rhinevale Roustabout	D Ch. Ledwell Dutchman	Raffetta of Rhinevale	Mrs D Emerson	W Purdon	11/9/73



## 1977

Ledwell Heidi	B Ch. Surprise of Ven	Ch. Ledwell Charlotte	Mrs S Scroggs	Breeder	23/12/72
Waakzaam Wiederman	D Ch. Waakzaam Wagg	Ch. Waakzaam Waalre	Mrs E M Smyth	Breeder	17/11/71
Vangede Laughing Jenny	B Commandant of Duroya	Vangede Jokers Delight	Mrs L Blair	Mrs R Shaw	12/1/73
Silberne Cavalcade	D Welford Nollekens of Ven	Dalbaro Quest	Mrs S Arran	Breeder	10/10/74
Carlzdyk Carmoni	B Waakzaam Wiederman	Carlzdyk Cheyn	Mrs E M Dyke	Mrs F Royston & Mrs S Tierney	14/8/75
Norsled Piacere of Vaderson	B Rhinevale Robin Hood	Vaderson Sieglinde	Mrs S Hadden	Mrs P Parkes	10/10/74
Gavimir Wolverine	B Ch. Surprise of Ven	Rhinevale Roitelet of Gavimir	Mrs P Luckhurst	Breeder	14/7/75
Swashway No Rush	D Ledwell Fandango	Vangede Koala	Mrs R Frances & Mrs E Wilding	Breeders	8/12/74

## 1978

Keesland Ember	B Ch. Rhinevale Rachmininov	Ch. Ledwell Lucire of Keesland	Mr & Mrs Weedon	Breeders	10/6/76
Ledwell Pandora	B Ch. Rhinevale Rachmininov	Ledwell Isabella	Mrs S Scroggs	L Howie	1/7/76
Sinterklaas Kipling	D Ch. Riesling of Rhinevale	Sinterklaas Train Bearer	A Lofing	Mr & Mrs C Lofing	8/8/75
Solo of Ven	D Ch. Surprise of Ven	Ch. Welford Orinda of Ven	Mrs J Collins	Breeder	16/9/75

## 1979

Duroya Josephine of Vandarsee	B Ch. Riesling of Rhinevale	Duroya Imogen	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	Mr & Mrs I L Stubbings	17/11/76
Vandaban 'Alloeven of Neradmik	D Ch. Ledwell Lysander	Gelderland Arabella of Vandaban	Mrs D Banfield	Mrs J Sharp	31/10/77
Harovarlan Zues of Ven	D Harovarlan Twilight	Dutch Oven of Ven	Mrs J R Collins	Mrs A MacDonald	22/7/77
Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	D Ch. Swashway No Rush	Ch. Gelderland Aurelia	Mrs C M Moore	Mrs R Frances & Mrs E Wilding	7/11/76
Krazikaze Kracker of Duroya	B Quadrille of Ven	Duroya Irene of Krazikaze	Mrs S West	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	4/7/78
Gavimir Toblerone	D Ch. Rhinevale Rachmaninov	Gavimir Wombat	Mrs P Luckhurst	Breeder	22/6/78
Gavimir Vervet	B Ch. Surprise of Ven	Rhinevale Roitelet of Gavimir	Mrs P Luckhurst	Breeder	5/11/76

## 1980

Vaderson Vivace	B Ledwell Marmaduke	Norsled Piacere of Vaderson	Mrs P Parkes	Breeder	12/3/78
Emgee's Mr Wonderful	D Ch. Riesling of Rhinevale	Emgee's Sweet Reward	Mrs M Gardener	C A Killingley	11/11/76
Ledwell Solomon	D Ledwell Dante	Ledwell Nerina	Mrs S Scroggs	Mrs B Edwards	28/5/78
Ranoel Auriga	B Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Ledwell Isabella	TL Howie	Breeder	19/11/78
Waakzaam Waagja	B Ch. Waakzaam Waag	Waakzaam Wurslein	Mrs E M Smyth	Mrs I Birch	19/1/76

## 1981

Boreasvale Bojangles	D Sam The Candyman	Boreasvale Bellavista	Mrs J Hardcastle	Breeder	12/9/79
Duroya Inesistable of Dargrant	B Ch. Surprise of Ven	Duroya Honesty	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	Mrs G A Holmes	8/6/79



Keesland Gypsy	B Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Ch. Keesland Ember	Mr & Mrs Weedon	Breeders	12/9/79
Duroya Honesty	B Hanovarian Twilight	Duroya Gerda	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	Breeder	5/7/76
Silberne Idle Chatter	B Ch. Silberne Cavalcade	Waakzaam Weere	Mrs S Arran	Breeder	18/11/77
Venway Delph Viking	D Kwinex Katterwaard	Goody Snow Shoes	Mr & Mrs F W Crawford	Breeder	30/12/78
1981					
Keesland Fisherman	D Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Ch. Ledwell Lustre of Keesland	Mr & Mrs V Weedon	Breeders	22/6/79
Ranoel Arabella	B Vanaban 'Alloeven of Neradnik	Ledwell Isabella	T L Howie	Mrs E Waters	19/11/78
Kayluws Kondore of Ledwell	D Ch. Ledwell Dutchman	Ledwell Karina	Mrs P James	D Kilson	23/11/76
Keesland Fenella of Bodarin	B Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Ch. Ledwell Lustre of Keesland	Mr & Mrs V Weedon	Mr & Mrs Quinn	22/6/79
Ledwell Lustre of Keesland	B Ch. Ledwell Dutchman	Ledwell Heidi	Mrs S Scroggs	Mr & Mrs V Weedon	14/10/74
Duroya Jester	D Ch. Riesling of Rhinevale	Duroya Imogen	Mrs E Woodiwiss	D Harding	17/11/76
Vangede Little Joker	B Commandant of Duroya	Vangede Joker's Delight	Mrs L Blair	Mrs S Brown	12/1/73
1982					
Gavimir Nighthawk	D Kwinex Katterwaard	Gavimir Verbena	Mrs P Luckhurst	Breeder	28/7/80
Azad Geda	B Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Ch. Waakzaam Wursling	D Udani	Mr & Mrs Gee	4/9/80
Kinkesha Kosmik	D Ch. Silberne Cavalcade	Waakzaam Waagskuis	Mrs F Royston & Mrs S Tiemey	Mr & Mrs D J Turton	2/9/79
Pelangos Phoela	B Ch. Ledwell Dutchman	Waakzaam Wrijscie of Pelango	Mr & Mrs Kingdo	Mrs C Hughes	28/6/76
Keesland Firefly	D Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Ledwell Lustre of Keesland	Mrs R Weedon	Mr & Mrs Goddard	22/6/79
Hanovarian Jonh Boy	D Ch. Hanovarian Zues of Ven	Hanovarian Upstart	Mrs A MacDonald	Breeder	21/7/79
Silberne Krafti	B Boreasvale Baarda	Silberne Idle Chatter	Mrs S Arran	Breeder	3/10/77
Zorba of Ven Hanovarian	D Hanovarian Twilight	Dutch Oven of Ven	Mrs J R Collins	Mrs A MacDonald	14/8/78
Duroya Imogen	B Ch. Duroya Charms Son	Duroya Heiress	Mrs A E Woodiwiss	Breeder	1/4/74
Boreasvale Bab-xoshka	B Ch. Boreasvale Bojangles	Tingalary Twinklin Star of Boreasvale	Mrs J Hardcastle	Breeder	27/8/80
Koltonhill Keurig	B Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Quendaakes Jandelsa	Mrs P Hill	Breeder	12/11/80
1983					
Neradnik Didkie	D Ch. Keesland Clipper of Lekkerbek	Neradnik Christabella	Mrs J Sharp	Breeder	14/2/81
Valsgate Bonne Chance	B Ch. Emgees Mr Wonderful	Valsgate Curlew	M J Stockman	Breeder	8/11/78
Gavimir Reseda of Swashway	B Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Rhinevale Roitelet of Gavimir	Mrs P Luckhurst	Mrs R Francis & Mrs E Wilding	23/4/79
Neradnik Donna	B Ch. Keesland Clipper of Lekkerbek	Neradnik Christabel	Mrs J Sharp	Mr & Mrs B White	14/2/81
Valsgate Squire's Boy	D Ch. Ledwell Solomon	Ch. Valsgate Bonne Chance	M J Stockman	Breeder	6/9/81
Keesland Flipper of Lekkerbek	D Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Ch. Ledwell Lustre of Keesland	Mr & Mrs V Weedon	Mrs Dean	22/6/79
Keesland Highlight	B Sam the Candyman	Keesland Gypsy	Mr R & Mrs V Weedon	Breeder	10/8/82
Traza Teasel	B Ch. Gavimir Nighthawk	Traza Truscha	Mrs J Whitworth	Mrs P F Luckhurst	1/5/82
Dalbaro Samson	D Ch. Kayluws Kondore of Ledwell	Tingalary Singing Wind	Mrs B Shaw	Mr C & Mrs A & Miss M Reed	31/7/81



1984

Gavimir Kiang	D Ch. Gavimir Nighthawk	Gavimir Puffin	Mrs P Luckhurst	Breeder	2/4/82
SHeburn Lucinda	B Ch. Hanovarian Zeus of Ven	Adora Adelia of Sheburn	Miss B Wakeman	Breeder	19/8/79
Ledwell Antoinette	B Ch. Ledwell Solomon	Ledwell Theodora	Mrs S Scroggs	Mrs SHill	10/6/81
Racels Berenice	B Racels Arminel	Kwintex Kirsche	Mr & Mrs Riddle	Mr & Mrs Crawford	2/7/82
Kinkeesha Kushka	B Kinkeesha Kassias	Waakzaam Waagskuls	Mesdames F Roysdon & S Tierney	Breeders	8/10/83

1985

Vandaban Henrietta	B Ch. Gelderland Clipper Of Swashway	Vandaban Amarella	Mrs D Banfield	Breeder	6/2/83
Gavimir Femtec	B Ch. Gavimir Nighthawk	Gavimir Puffin	Mrs P F Luckhurst	Breeder	2/5/84
Ledwell Yorrick	D Ch. Surprise of Ven	Ledwell Quetta	Mrs S Scroggs	Mrs D M Purdon	18/7/80
Rossvale Scarlett O'Hara	B Keesland Gemini	Shdderon Dawn Dromer of Rossvale	Mrs S Brown	Breeder	1/4/84
Neradmik Illusion	B Ch. Neradmik Didikie	Valsgaate Silver Buckle	Mrs J Sharp	Mr W Allan	7/11/83
Gavimir Garivet	B Ch. Gavimir Kiang	Gavimir Naica	Mrs P F Luckhurst	Breeder	12/1/85
Kwintex Kelly	B Ch. Ledwell Yorrick	Ch. Kwintex Karisma	Mrs D M Purdon	Mrs I Birch	1/8/84
Ranoc Dromodore	B Ch. Neradmik Didikie	Ch. Ranoc Auriga	Mr T L Howie	Miss A Revell	16/12/83

1986

Silberne Renaissance of Duroya	B Ch. Silberne Cavalcade	Silberne Merry Maker	Mrs S Arran	Mrs Woodiwiss & Miss Taylor	20/11/84
Kwintex Karisma	B Ch. Kayluws Kondore of Ledwell	Waakzaam Weigle	Mrs I Birch	Breeder	7/11/82
Neradmik Keesake	B Ch. Neradmik Didikie	Valsgaate Silver Buckle	Mrs J Sharp	M J Stockman	21/5/85
Keesland Joy of Cyfelin	B Ch. Valsgates Squires Boy	Ch. Keesland Gypsy	Mr & Mrs R Weedon	Mr & Mrs P A Hill	17/1/84
Morvania Marietta	B Bisukees Cam Dearg	Ch. Neradmik Donna	Mrs A White	Breeder	1/7/85
Rhinevale Ramesses	D Ch. Gelderland Clipper of Swashway	Rhinevale Risobella	Mrs D Emerson	Mrs M E Elliott	27/2/82
Neradmik Jupiter	D Neradmik Griffin at Morvania	Bodarin Barnadette at Neradmik	Mrs J Sharp	Breeder	21/6/84

1987

Bergaria Guardsman	D Ch. Dalbaro Sansom	Vaderson Vespeta	Mrs J R Partridge	Breeder	8/12/85
Dargant Dynamite	D Dargant Dazzler	Ch. Duroya Irististable of Dargant	Mrs G A Blackman	Breeder	13/11/83
Swashway the Pirate	D Ledwell Buccaneer ay Lowella	Ch. Gavimir Reseda of Swashway	Mesdames R Francis & E Wilding	Breeder	7/7/85
Trixkees Taftetta	B Keesland Gemini	Duroya Marietta	Mrs S Esland	Breeder	16/3/86



Keesland Legend	B Ch. Neradmik Didikie	Ch. Keesland Highlight	Mr & Mrs Weedon	Breeder	3/6/86
Swashway On Your Toes	B Keesland Karel of Lekkerbek	Keesland Indigo At Swashway	Mesdames R Francis & E Wilding	Miss A Burnett	3/5/86
Greenkees Envoy V Ledwell	B Seawind's Lit Bit O'Wrock	Ledwell Fortune	Mr & Mrs W H & T O Eckhart	Mrs Scroggs	24/2/85
	Can C.D.				
Candyman Cedar	D Ch. Dalbaro Samson	Keesland Flashlight of Candymay	Mrs M E Randall	Breeder	18/9/84
Vaderson Solario	D Vaderson Van Tromp	Vaderson Novanna	Mrs P J Parkes	Breeder	29/10/85
Neradmik Nicola	B Ch. Neradmik Jupiter	Neradmik Imagination*	Mrs J Sharp	Miss Laurie	22/8/86
Vandaban Morning Mist	B Ch. Neradmik Didikie	Ch. Vandaban Henrietta	Mrs D J Banfield	Breeder	29/10/86
Boreasvale Bonikita	B Silberne Over Draft	Ch. Boreasvale Babooshka	Mrs J Hardcastle	Breeder	9/11/85
Swashway Finians Rainbow	D Keesland Karel of Lekkerbek	Keesland Indigo At Swashway	Mesdames R Francis & E Wilding	Mrs L Goddard	3/5/86

\*\* 3rd C.C. gained 23/4/76 (before one year old) became Champion 25/6/76.

\* Although registered as Imagination, Imagination is the more widely used spelling.

NB The sire or dam of the champion is not indicated here as a champion, if at the time of registration of its progeny, it was not a champion. Sires or dams that subsequently became champions will be listed under the appropriate year.



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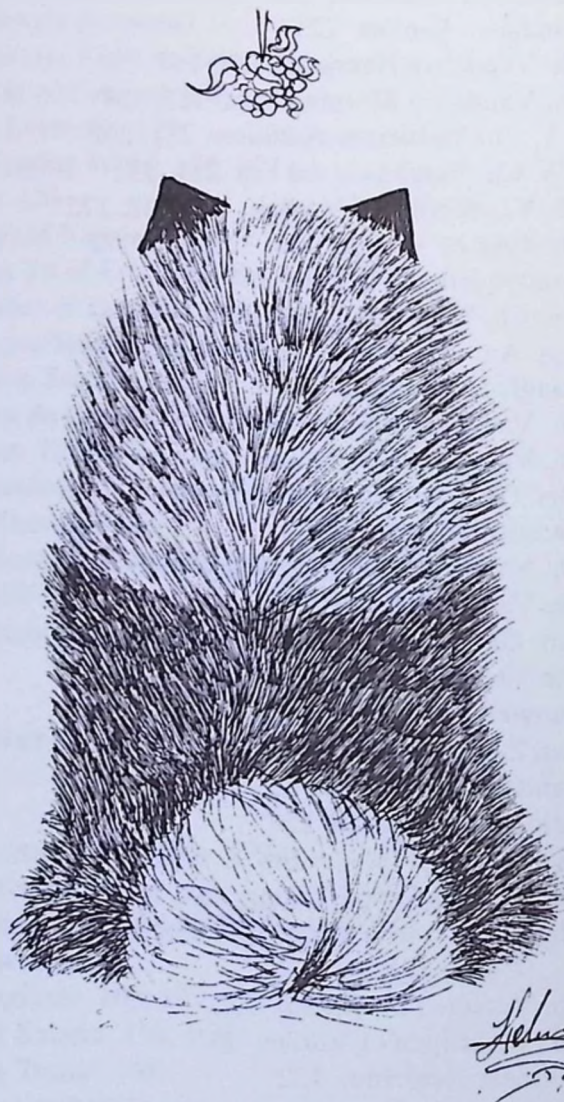
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## KEESHONDS OF THE WORLD

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The Keeshond has a long history as a companion dog. A member of the Spitz family this breed originated as the Dutch barge dog . The attributes are high intelligence, extremely good temperament, and suitability to live within a family group. They instinctively guard their homes. The dense, thick luxurious coat obviously requires attention, but the trouble is not excessive for those who like a friendly dog who will do all to please his or her owner. This book covers all aspects of keeping , breeding and showing this likeable dog. It traces the history and development of the breed and assesses its place in various countries throughout the world . The author , Margo Emerson , has bred many champions. and has written on the breed in *Our Dogs* for more than 40 years. She is also an International Judge.

ISBN 1-85259-237-0



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Publisher: **Beech Publishing House**, 15, The Maltings, Turk Street,  
Alton, Hants , GU 34 1 DL