



The Leonberger Club of Great Britain
Report for the International Union for
Leonberger Dogs

October 2013 – September 2014

Numbers of Leonbergers registered with the UK Kennel Club remains constant at about 350 per year. There are a number of breeders in the UK who are breeding and not registering litters usually as a result of inadequate health tests not being undertaken. Registration with the UK \KC is not dependent on club membership. The club advised puppy buyers to request to see copies of all health tests for mother and father before purchasing puppies.

The Club lost a small number of members this year due to unrest within the membership. However, things have settled down and we have a number of new members who have now joined the club.

In November 2013 the Club held its 25th Anniversary Championship Show. Judges were Mr John Feehan and Mrs Sarah Sevastopulo, both Club and Committee Members. One hundred and fifty dogs were entered and the crowning of nine new UK champions was celebrated at the show.

The Annual General Meeting of the club was also held in November and new committees were elected for Main Committee, Judges Sub Committee, Working Sub Committee and Health Committee. A new Welfare subcommittee was constituted for the first time at the request of the membership and according to Kennel Club rules. During the year our Welfare co-ordinator resigned and set up an independent Leonberger Welfare organisation. However, the club continues to support the LCGB Welfare through fund raising at fun days and through the publication of our annual Calendar.

Water and Draught work continue with dogs really enjoying working with their owners.

The health subcommittee continues its work to try and improve the health of the breed. Research into Goniodysgenesis is ongoing and the required 300 dogs have now been tested. A complementary DNA study is being launched by the Animal Health Trust. We anticipate being able to identify how prevalent the problem is by the end of this calendar year. A significant number of dogs have died this year due to Osteosarcoma and other cancers. Research into this disease has also been supported by the club. The LCGB continues to promote the need for temperament assessment and offers an assessment scheme. This years Health seminar will include topics on orthopaedic conditions and as usual a video recording will be turned into a DVD available through the club shop.

More puppies have been imported into the UK and the available gene pool continues to increase as a result.

Madeleine Jephcott

Secretary

Leonberger Club of Great Britain