

THE "POD" POST

The Portuguese Podengo Club of Great Britain (proposed)
NEWSLETTER

From the Editor

Welcome to the second Podengo newsletter. Since the last issue there have been quite a few happenings in the breed. This is the very reason that we are trying to put together a regular newsletter- so that you can find out what is going on.

We have had a fantastic response to the club. Lots and lots of new members, we have nearly 80 already and they keep on joining!

We are really excited about our first club event (details below), a companion dog show, which we hope that you will be able to join us. We also have plans to organise other events later in the year but more news of that in later newsletters.

I would really appreciate news from any of you fortunate enough to own a Podengo. The Podengos have hit the news several times including being seen in a recent issue of "OK" magazine (fame indeed!).

Wendy Mooney
Editor
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PODONGO GETS EMMERDALE STAR

Samy Winward (alias Katie Sugden) from Emmerdale has recently acquired a Podengo puppy from Betty Judge. As soon as she saw a picture of the Podengos, she decided that she must have one. Samy has joined our ever-increasing membership.

***** FORTHCOMING EVENT *****

Date for your diary!!

Our first Companion Dog Show. This is due to take place on Sunday 27th June 2004. The venue will be Bradfield Village Hall, Bradfield, Nr Reading. Starts at 1pm.

We are very fortunate to have our President Mrs Peggy Grayson as our judge.

There is a lovely outside area, which we can use if the weather is good and a good-sized hall if it is not.

Your New Committee.....

You have now got a new committee. This was elected at the Open Meeting. They will be acting on your behalf and of course on behalf of the Podengo breed in this country and it will no doubt be hard work in the early days.

We are hoping to have a number of fund- raising events this year but of course this is subject to finding suitable dates and venues. We will notify you as soon as we can and really hope that you will be able to support all these events. Remember that it is your club and we need your help...please.

Suggestions are always gratefully received and we will endeavour to organise a range of events that we hope will cover all aspects of owning a Podengo

And here they are :

For your information, the newly elected committee is as follows:

Chairman – Mrs Betty Judge
Secretary – Mrs Denise Stone
Treasurer – Mrs Wendy Mooney
Mrs Maxine Bennett
Mrs Jane Keeves
Miss Lesley Tomlinson
Mrs Pat Johnson
Miss Jessica Gruninger
Mr Colin Power
Mrs Elaine Power
Mr Paul Day
Mr Nigel Folds

PICTURE

"In the News"

Podengos have been in the news quite a bit recently... Our President, Mrs Peggy Grayson, wrote an article all about the m in Our Dogs, The Independent had an article on them. There were pictures just before Crufts in the Daily Telegraph. They were also mentioned in The Field. There was a lovely photo of some of Betty Judge's Pods featured in OK! Magazine.

"A New Addition to the Family"

With 5 Miniature Schnauzers and 1 Jack Russell (who sadly had to be put to sleep in December – aged 14) there was a space for another dog. I saw the photos of the Podengos in the Dog World paper prior to Crufts – they instantly appealed to me and was determined to visit the Breed Stand at Discover Dogs. ...Well,that was it !

Two visits within a couple of hours and I was hooked!

Couldn't wait to phone Betty Judge on the Monday and she told me there was already a litter of all boys – 3 weeks old.

The weeks crept by and on April 3rd went up to Betty's to choose my Podengo.

He is the most enchanting little dog. "FERDI" – now 10 weeks old. Apart from hanging on to the Schnauzers' beards, has been no trouble at all. Fearless and fun and I can't wait for his ears to go up – and to see what happens when he sees his first rabbit! Being on top of the Mendips, there are plenty about.

I am hoping to show him in 2005, so watch this space!

Thank you to Mrs Virginia Henshaw for this contribution to the Pod News.

We have a new Secretary...

Our new secretary is Mrs Denise Stone. She was elected at the Open Meeting held in March and the vote was unanimous. Being a club secretary in the dog world these days is a busy job and we are most grateful to her for agreeing to take this position in the club.

Denise has asked me to include the following information: Our companion dog show is on the 27th June at Bradfield Village Hall, Bradfield South End, Bradfield. The details of the show will be in the Dog press and will also be available from Denise. We are producing a club badge that will be on sale in the near future. Also at the companion dog show we will have different club items to sell; eg mugs, mouse mats and key rings etc.

Crufts 2004 - The Podengos' first Crufts...

Discover Dogs CRUFTS 2004.

Having attended Discover Dogs in London in November 2003, I had some idea of the interest that this new breed would generate. However, never in my wildest dreams did I imagine the Podengos would be so enthusiastically received, and the huge interest at Crufts proved this.

On the Wednesday before Crufts started I drove to Heathrow to collect my friends Portuguese Podengo Breeders, Ines and Miguel Rebelo arriving from Portugal to visit Crufts for the first time. From Heathrow we drove to the NEC to decorate the Portuguese Podengo booth, where we were helped by Geraldine and Steve Print and Sharkey Ward. This took quite a time especially hoisting the Portuguese Flags above the Booth. Everything was done by 4 p.m. Thursday morning at 6-15 a.m. and we were on our way back to Crufts for the first day with a team of Podengos. After a very busy day we left for home at 6 p.m. but we did not get very far, the whole area around the NEC was gridlocked after several accidents and volume of traffic. We did not arrive home until 9-30 p.m. ! Friday seemed to dawn early and we were on our way back to Crufts with the same team of Podengos, Friday was even busier, but the dogs continued to charm the crowds. We arrived home around 7 p.m. so the dogs did get more rest before we set off the next morning. Saturday was totally manic! there was never a moment when we did not have a huge crowd around the stand, Podengo fever had hit Crufts ! So many photographers both for official libraries and others for publications were continually being requested, and these little Podengos continued to "smile". Back again to Crufts early next morning with the same team of Podengos who by now were well seasoned on how to charm the crowds. Their stamina, patience and superb temperaments really shone through even after four hard days at the show.

The Stand was visited by many Portuguese visitors during the 4 days, which included the President of the Portuguese Podengo Club in Portugal Mr. Vitor Veiga and his wife Gabriela and Mrs Carla Molinari President of the Portuguese Kennel Club, who is also a breeder of the small Podengos in Portugal.

IT was great to see one of my Podengos (Fizzy) appearing on television on the Crufts programme on the Sunday evening.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the hardworking volunteers who help man the stand over the four days, Geraldine & Steve Print (all four days), Jessica Gruninger, Pat Johnson, Lesley and Sally Tomlinson, Lorraine Syred and of course Ines and Miguel Rebelo.

Betty Judge.