

Great Swiss Mountain Dog Club

Newsletter May 2015



Crufts 2015

This year saw an entry of 33 dogs of which 30 were GSMDs (9 from overseas). The judge, Mr Engh from Norway, was thorough, patient and gentle with the dogs. He went over each one carefully and gave the handlers plenty of opportunity to show the dogs off. He chose the Netherland and Luxemburg champion Bonanza the Boss Van De Dovodolin (Paco) for Best of Breed. Paco is owned by Mrs S A Hoeben and was bred and handled by Yvonne Schoeber. Paco is a very big, strong, mature dog and was a worthy winner. Best Bitch and Best Opposite Sex was Arsien Karantanska -bred by Neca Jerkovic in Slovenia and owned by Natalie Hovers in the Netherlands. Best Puppy and Reserve Best Bitch, Springhaze Just Dreaming, was born, bred and owned in the UK by Sue and Steve Brailey.



The Three Colours of My Heart

By Jitka Wigley
(Club Member)

When we said "Let's get a dog!"
We thought: warm cuddles, walks and fun
Not realizing that a Swissy
Comes as a best friend and child in one

'Larger than life' fits precisely
Slurping up all joys on earth
But when scared, tired or unsure
He turns to a baby
All mine - except for the birth ☺

Mute face, just barks,
What makes a swissy stand out?
The gaze of his soulful eyes
It speaks clear and loud

He makes you laugh, he makes you cry
But high and above
He makes your heart sing with love
Forever tinted tricolor

Dates for your Diary

23rd May 2015

GSMD Club Character Assessment and Carting Day. Chievely Village Hall, Nr Newbury, Berks. RG20 8TE

3rd October 2015

Breed seminar at Ryton in Dunsmore, Coventry

29th November 2015

Swissmas Party at Overseal, Derbyshire

19th March 2016

AGM at Overseal, Derbyshire.

Members' Questionnaire

There was much discussion both at the AGM and the subsequent committee meeting around the sharing of member's contact and dog details. As a young club, we want to ensure we progress, improve and meet the needs of our members and so it was decided that we would ask you all how you felt about the sharing of your information with fellow members. As these things tend to do, this then developed into asking your views on various aspects of the club's activities. It's your club - what do you want from it? Alongside this newsletter you should have received the questionnaire and we ask that you complete and return it, either via email or by post to me - details are on the questionnaire's front page.

Swissy Walk – Knoll Beach

On Sunday 19th April seven Swissies, a Rottweiler and a Border Collie thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful walk together along Knoll Beach, Studland Bay in Dorset. Top marks to whoever organised the weather – it was gorgeous! Dogs and owners had a fantastic sociable time together and this continued over lunch when we all met at a local pub. Truly a great Swissy-filled day.



Haven't yet joined in a Swissy walk? Keep your eye on the club website for details of any planned near you. If you have a nice area for a walk with a dog-friendly place to have lunch nearby, why not let us know about it and organise a future Swissy walk? We need to ensure club events happen all around the country so everyone can get involved at some point and a Swissy walk is a perfect way to meet other members.



Achievements

Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme – Monty achieved the Silver Award and is working towards Gold.



If you and your dog has achieved a goal or accolade you feel needs recognition, don't hide your light under a bushel - tell us about it! We can include the news in a future newsletter and perhaps encourage other members to take on challenges with their dogs.

Your Newsletter

Having just joined the club committee, one of the first jobs I have inherited is to take on responsibility for the Newsletter. I don't mind admitting, a job I find very daunting.

Therefore, I'm asking for the support of you, my fellow club members, in the search for interesting content. If you have any news, achievements, photos, useful links to articles you've found on the web, recommended products, funny stories - anything you think might interest other GSMD owners, please, please, please let me know.

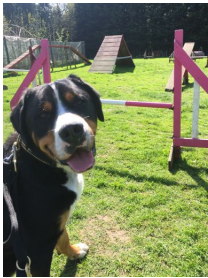
Jan

Email:

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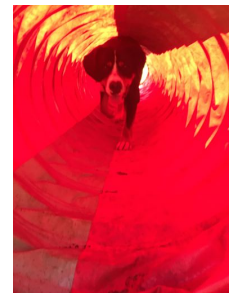
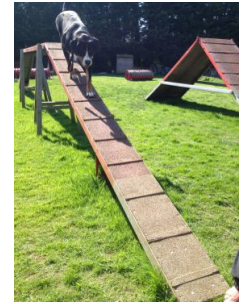
Mob: 07545 162850





Thought of doing Agility with your Swissie?

GSMDs thrive on having a purpose but sadly, as their working role has diminished it can sometimes be tricky finding activities to challenge them. As a family, we have joined our local dog training club and alongside their weekly obedience classes, our Swissies take part in the agility classes. We are the least competitive people I know so we don't intend to compete but, instead, do it purely to challenge and entertain our dogs. And challenged and entertained they certainly are - and so are we! Just trying to remember the sequence of the elements is challenge enough for me. But there is no doubt that it is a fantastic way to develop the relationship you have with your dog whilst you exercise both his body and mind. Look up your local dog training club and give it a go. Most offer a 'taster' session so you can 'try before you buy'.
Jan Buckingham



No, its not a time machine - it's Monty in the tunnel !



Get snapping for the photo's for the 2016 GSMD calendar.

All photo's must be landscape.

Closing date for entries 31st August 2015.

Send entries, one at a time,

to Sue Brailey.... smbrailey@tiscali.co.uk

Should you wish to contact us, the Club Officers 2015 are:

Chairman - Peter Swinburn - Tel: 01889 568341

Secretary - Sue Parkin-Russell - Tel:01635 299353

Treasurer - Steve Brailey - Tel: 01380 830386

Membership Secretary/ Newsletter Editor - Jan Buckingham – Tel: 020 8890 7714

