

SPRING NEWSLETTER

May 2021 Edition

Welcome to the Spring 2021 Newsletter of the Affenpinscher Club. (Later than normal due to the strange times)

Thank you to those members who have renewed their subscriptions so promptly this year.

Dates For Your Diary



Firstly,

We sincerely trust that everyone has managed to stay safe and well during these exceedingly difficult times. The pandemic has forced enormous changes to our lives, and we are so grateful for those key workers, particularly in the NHS, essential retail, and transport, who have worked tirelessly to help and protect us.

Covid19 continues to disrupt our lives and the Affenpinscher Club's planned events for the early part of 2021. We were unable to hold our Open Show in February, nor could we have the AGM in March as planned. As Manchester and Crufts were the only shows with CCs for Affenpinschers held last year, we would not have had many dogs for the afternoon competitions at the AGM. Hopefully, the shows scheduled for later in the year will take place and eligible winners from the 2020 shows can be included in next year's competitions for Dog, Puppy and Veteran of the Years 2020/2021.

We are hoping to fit in the AGM later in the year but with so many of the general Championship Shows moving their dates it may be difficult to find a weekend that will be free. Some Clubs are still trying to reschedule their 2020 AGMs but fortunately we did hold ours before the first lockdown. We are keeping our fingers crossed that our Ch. Show scheduled for the 16th October this year, to be judged by Jenny Todhunter, will be able to go ahead. However, we think a Garden Party this year would be out of the question. Let us hope 2022 will be kinder to everyone.

Championship Shows 2021

2021 Amended Dates for Championship Shows scheduling CCs For Affenpinschers (Toy Group listed where known)

Southern Counties CA., Newbury	25 th June
East of England Agricultural Society	9 th July
Leeds City & District CA.,	23 rd July
Bath CS., Bath –	1 st August
Paignton & District FA.,	9 th August
Bournemouth CA,	15 th August
Blackpool & DCS,	20 – 22 nd August
Driffield Dog Show,	29 th August
Richmond Dog Show,	12 th September
Darlington Dog Show,	18 th September
Birmingham Dog Show	26 th September
Scottish Kennel Club, Edinburgh.	
Double May/October show –	2 nd October
Border Union	4 – 5 th October
Affenpinscher Club Ch. Show	16 th October
Midland Counties	30 th October
Ladies Kennel Association.	12 th December

Calendar 2021

Once again, we need to start thinking about next year's calendar and would like to feature member's dogs, more than one each month, if possible. Copyright free photos will be selected for their quality of reproduction and used anonymously. We hope to get an assortment of interesting, amusing, and charming Affenpinscher photos depicting the character of the breed. There is no charge for submitting photos. As high resolution is best, but maybe too large to be sent by email, the 'We Transfer' service could be used. This is a free service and Toni can download the pictures from their website.

As in previous years we are including an Affix listing for members. For a modest fee of £5, the listing will include your affix, name, one telephone number and an email address. Copy and photos to be sent to Toni Teasdale by post or email to tonsarne@outlook.com.

There may still be one or two copies of this year's calendar available - £7.50 including UK postage.

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Deadline Saturday 15th May 2020



Monkey Business

Sadly Ashlie Carter has had a change in her personal life and no longer has the time to continue as Editor of our magazine. I think everyone would agree that Ashlie produced several excellent issues and made a marvellous job of the 100th edition that came out at Christmas - she will be a hard act to follow. If you have the computer skills and the time to produce two issues a year and feel you would like to take on the position of editor with support from Markus and Toni, contact the Club for further information.

Lockdown Lunacy

Like many people, work meetings have been via Zoom or Teams. I had scheduled a brief meeting with colleagues to confirm a few details on a report we were collectively writing. I had hardly opened the meeting when my 8-month-old Affen pup entered the room with his loudest, squeakiest toy. I started to apologise but was greeted with a chorus of 'Let's see your puppy!' I duly held up Griff the Whiff (so-called because since he learned to cock his leg he wees up his chest). This led to a mass exodus whereby everyone left their screen to get their cat/dog/ ferret/parrot/bearded dragon/snake to hold up to the screen. This escalated to all their endearing habits, funny behaviour etc. We even got to favourite photos (one was of a boa constrictor wearing his Christmas jumper - a sleeve from a previous year's jumper). The meeting was scheduled for about 15 minutes but 45 minutes we were still admiring each other's pets! I eventually called the meeting to order, and we finally did the business of the day. The most important decision? We should all have a Zoom meeting just for our pets so they can get to know each other!

Written by June McNicholas

We would like to feature some more lockdown stories in the next issue of Monkey Business. If you have any amusing, interesting or even sad snippets on your personal lockdown with the dogs do let us share them.

Dog Thefts on the Increase. Please be careful.

Dog thefts have hit the news again in recent weeks, reporting an alarming increase of over 250% in 2020. All breeds are vulnerable. You may not think it could happen to you but dogs are being stolen from cars, gardens, parks and on routine walks. Our little breed may not be the most popular but they are small, cute, and could be used for breeding, sold on at livestock sales or even used for baiting if they are considered unprofitable by thieves.

I have two local examples from here in the Midlands. A friend was walking her Bedlington pup early one morning. She entered a local park via an empty car park when a van drew up and a man (no dog visible with him) commented that 'you don't see many of those theses days'/ how old?/Is he neutered?. Fortunately another car entered the car park and my friend had the presence of mind to wave enthusiastically as if she knew them or was expecting them. The man in the van drove off. My friend is a retired police officer so she noted the licence number and reported it. As there was no crime actually committed there was no further action but the police were made aware.

I also had a potentially suspicious incident last summer when I walked my Affen bitch and my Beauceron to a local park. I wanted to do some one-on-one training with my little Affen pup so I sent my Beau to lie down under the shade of a nearby hedge. Our training was going well when I was approached by a man (again without a dog or a child) who complimented me on my dog's obedience. It seemed quite innocent until the conversation went to 'That's an unusual breed, does that make them very valuable?' I gave a silent command for my Beau to come to heel. I don't think the man had noticed my rather large dog under the hedge. He abruptly ended the conversation and left. It could have been innocent but the two incidents made me look into the ways these dogs thieves operate and how we may be able to be on our guard.

Many of these recommendations are available on line from such sources as Pet Detective. I've summarised some of the things we should be aware of.

1. If you are in a rural area and/or keep outside dogs, make extra precautions for your dogs' safety. Thieves who normally targeted things like quad bikes and farming equipment are now focusing on dogs.

2. When walking your dogs to parks or along streets, keep your dog away from the roadside as leads can be snatched by motorcyclists and car drivers who quickly snatch up a dog into their vehicle.
3. When entering a car park do not let your dog out of your car until you have got yourself ready for the walk. Leash your dog when unloading and be vigilant for anyone who seems to be watching. Apparently car parks are now a major source of dog snatches.
4. Have a stash of special treats in your pocket (ideally only used on walks) and let your dog know you have them.
5. Practice your recall at least several times during the walk, rewarding your dog each time. Keep their focus on you
6. Always keep the dogs in front of you where you can see them and recall them. Dogs have been snatched when allowed to lag behind investigating a special smell.
7. Don't get distracted by your mobile phone. Too many people are too busy on their phone to even notice if they need to clean up after their dog, let alone if their dog is still with them.
8. Try to discourage your dogs from accepting treats from strangers. Early training to a 'special' command that means 'take it' is very helpful.
9. Be cautious of people -especially in pairs -who approach you and try to distract you by asking for directions or something similar. This is a ploy whereby one person distracts whilst the other quickly leashes your dog and steals it. There are reports that some such thieves may employ 'lures' such as treats or even a bitch in season.
10. If possible walk with a second person and/or alter times or routes so your dogs cannot be specifically targeted.

Other recommendations can be found online. None of this is aimed to alarm anyone but in these strange times we need to be a very careful with our little companions.

Finally, a comment from our Secretary who has noted concerns that new dogs and / or new vet practices are not routinely scanned for chips to verify status and ownership. Please ensure that all records are duly logged. Have any documentation and photos of your dogs ready to present should the worst happen. Hopefully, it will never happen with any of our little gremlins, but please stay safe and enjoy our freedom in parks and walks.

Stolen / Missing Affenpinscher



Has somebody in your area recently acquired a small black hairy dog who might have been clipped off by now – please notify your local police or dog warden? They are microchipped so can be identified. One of the pair stolen in Essex was recovered in Northamptonshire but the other one and the one from Hertfordshire are still missing.

Both owners are devastated to have lost their dog and think of them ever day and hope they are not being mistreated.

I moved to Devon over a year ago and four of my dogs have been seen by my local vet. Neither I nor the dogs were known to them, but they were not scanned. Covid restrictions are not an excuse. It is up to us to lobby our local veterinary practices to record the microchips of all new dogs and check the numbers with the relevant database. Checking can be done by a receptionist. Toni Teasdale

Other Items

Club Tablecloth

The Affenpinscher Club tablecloth is embroidered with breeder's affixes. If you would like to add yours the cost is £10 per affix. Contact Toni Teasdale giving details of the affix and any preference for a particular colour and she will organise it for you.

Club Trophies

We have not given out class trophies at our shows for a several years now but there are a number that are missing. If exhibitors have any trophies won a long time ago that could belong to the Club perhaps you could contact Toni or Karen Edwards.

We are also looking for the Jetstone Memorial Trophy awarded at the AGM to the Top Breeder. It is a large wooden shield with smaller bronze coloured shields that have been engraved with the name of the winner each year. If you were a Top Breeder in the last few years it would be appreciated if you could check if you still have it.

Website

The Clubs website www.affenpinscherclub.co.uk . We would like members to get involved so if you have any ideas for what you would like to see on the site do contact us. We still need good resolution Affenpinscher photos particularly those showing the character of the little monkeys. Your dog does not have to be a show dog to warrant an appearance.

Contact Markus markus.schneider69@ymail.com on 01543 492437 or

Hon Secretary : Toni Teasdale 01884 841 463 tonsarne@outlook.com

AGM

Notice of the AGM and the Agenda were published in the Winter 2020 Monkey Business but because of ongoing restrictions we have been unable to hold the event. The Committee are hoping to find a convenient date later in the year.

Agenda Item 8.1 The Secretary received one nomination for the Committee but a vote is not necessary. A member whose 2 year term has expired will not be standing so Paule Pimble will be joining the Committee. Paule is well known to many members as she has designed and set up the prize winning Affenpinscher booth in the Discover Dogs area at Crufts for many years now.

Agenda Item 9. Members have requested more time to return voting papers. To make this possible it is necessary to amend the penultimate paragraph of Rule 7. The Committee wish to put forward the following proposal to amend the current 31 days to 42 days for receipt of proposals to allow more time for preparation of the relevant paperwork to be posted to members. The amended penultimate paragraph of Rule 7 reads as follows (amendment underlined).

'Fifty days written notice shall be given of an Annual General Meeting. Agenda items shall be forwarded up to forty-two days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. The Agenda for such meetings will be circulated to members ten days before the date of the meeting.'

The rule change has to be approved by members but as we cannot say when we can hold this year's AGM and would like the change to come into force as soon as possible. A voting paper is enclosed for eligible members. If the majority of members approve the proposal, and subsequently it has Kennel Club approval, the rule change should be effective from 2021.



And finally....



Subscriptions for 2021 should have been paid by now. A renewal slip was enclosed with the Christmas edition of Monkey Business.

Hon Secretary : Toni Teasdale 01884 841 463 tonsarne@outlook.com

www.affenpinscherclub.co.uk