

## Breed Health Watch

Tibetan Spaniel Health Report Feb 2024

2024 has thankfully for our breed been fairly quiet health wise, The Patella luxation project continues, the testing form should be available from all the breed clubs or from myself. Let me remind everyone this is purely a research project to gather information so that everyone in the breed is better informed, any information released will only be in the form of numbers and results, there is not any intention of disclosing owner's names or dog's names.

I mentioned BOAS last year and was somewhat surprised that some people were unaware of what it is, It is Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome, while we as a breed at the moment do not see this as a problem, we must always be aware that Tibetan Spaniels are listed in many places as a Brachycephalic breed and although we do not have all the health issues that other brachycephalic breeds have, people not involved with the breed could see a problem where one does not exist, It is my understanding that in Australia airlines are requiring that Tibetan Spaniels be BOAS tested before they will fly them. So, we must not bury our heads in the sand about this.

The Kennel Clubs Genetics Centre which has relocated from the Animal Health Trust to Cambridge University have a funding problem at the moment as the Kennel Club have said they cannot fund it in the future, they are asking Breeds to help by pledging £1500 per breed, this equates to £300 per club If this centre closes down, a wealth of experience will go along with years of samples collected for many breeds including ours. The Tibetan spaniel clubs contributed to the give a dog a genome project and a dog with PRA was used in the study, unfortunately the type of PRA this dog had was not PRA3 and unfortunately no definitive markers for the type of PRA this dog had were seen, however the DNA from this dog is still being used in their research program.

There is a wealth of information in the breed so if anyone has a question please do not hesitate to ask, we may not know the answer but will endeavour to get the relevant information for you.

Sheila Thomson

(Beed health representative to the kennel club)

### Breed Club health representatives

Tibetan Spaniel Association	Mr Carlton Hall
South Western Tibetan Spaniel Club	Ms Heather Simper
Northern Tibetan Spaniel Club	Sheila Thomson
Tibetan Spaniel Club of Scotland	Mrs Gail Adams
South East and East Anglian Tibetan Spaniel Society	Ms Sarah Styles.