

## Utility

### Keeshond

This spitz breed with its distinctive grey coat and typical harness markings, was used to guard barges in Holland and earned the epithet 'Dutch Barge Dog'. The breed had been the mascot of the Dutch Patriots' Party in the 18th Century, as a dog of this breed was owned by one of the prominent party leaders Cornelius ('Kees') de Gyselaer – hence it was known as Kees' dog – or Keeshond. When the party was defeated in 1787 the breed went out of fashion and the population declined dramatically.

A few breeders made concerted efforts using the best of the remaining dogs to revive the breed and, fortunately, interest in the breed was restored. The first Keeshonds were imported to the UK in 1905 and the first Breed Club formed in 1925. The breed became very popular and successful in shows of this era. The enthusiasm of English breeders rekindled more interest in the Keeshond in its native land and by 1933 the breed was recognised by the Dutch Kennel Club and today is recognised as the national dog of Holland.

Breed Group	Utility
Vulnerable Breed	No
Size	Medium
How much exercise?	Up to 1 hour per day
Length of coat	Medium
How much grooming?	Every day
Supposedly sheds?	Yes
Town or Country	Either
Type of home	Small or Large House
Minimum garden size	Small/Medium
Lifespan	Over 10 Years

## Health Information

You may be aware that some breeds of dog and their crosses can be susceptible to inherited disease. Of course you want to be sure that the dog you choose is as healthy as possible, and you would like to know that it has not inherited any undesirable disease-causing genes from its parents. There is some help in that DNA tests for diseases in purebred dogs are available for some conditions in some breeds, but there are not very many such tests just yet! There are also, however, a number of clinical veterinary screening schemes that dog breeders can use to increase the probability of producing healthy puppies.

Details of the various screening schemes, both veterinary and DNA, that are available to breeders in the UK can be found at [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth)

Potential dog owners should be aware that, at present, the application of various health screening results to breeding programmes is not always straightforward, and breeders may make choices for various reasons. A responsible breeder though, will always be willing to discuss relevant health issues with you. Breed clubs are often useful sources of breed-specific information.

## What Screening is relevant for the Keeshond?

Kennel Club Assured Breeders must use the following screening schemes for sires and dams BVA/KC

- DNA test - PHPT

The list above is not necessarily comprehensive. Breed clubs and experienced breeders are useful sources of information on health issues in the breed. All breeds have a Breed Health Coordinator.

## Keeshond Clubs

Name	Telephone
Keeshond Club	01708 854 920
North Of England Keeshond Club	01759 304773

## Keeshond Rescue Organisations








Name	Telephone
Keeshond Rescue	07709 303732
Keeshond Rescue	01295 721320



ACCREDITED BREEDER SCHEME

## Assured Breeders

Name	Member since	Phone	Accolades
Miss T Church Reading, Berkshire	25/03/2019	07780 437239	

Name	Member since	Phone	Accolades
<b>Mr R &amp; Mrs C Wilkin</b> March, Cambridgeshire	05/12/2012	01354 680892	  
<b>Mrs S Pattison</b> Peterborough, Cambridgeshire	17/06/2005	01733 240449	 
<b>Mesdames B Henman &amp; G Petersen &amp; C Bell</b> Workington, Cumbria	21/02/2017	07709 303232	
<b>Mrs C Bell</b> Workington, Cumbria	31/03/2009	07709 303732	  
<b>Mrs A &amp; Mr I Passmore</b> Bideford, Devon	16/05/2012	07837 682616	  
<b>Mrs J Sharp-Bale</b> Ringwood, Hampshire	19/03/2004	01202 824368	   
<b>Mrs M Bowden-Roche</b> Chatham, Kent	17/07/2019	07539 173000	
<b>Ms D C Gregory</b> Lincoln, Lincolnshire	31/10/2008	01522 703666	  
<b>Mr A J &amp; Mrs J M Fitches</b> Sleaford, Lincolnshire	03/05/2016	01529 302991	 
<b>Mrs V Tew</b> Banbury, Oxfordshire	24/11/2015	01295 721320	  
<b>Mr C R &amp; Mrs G A Brunt</b> Rotherham, South Yorkshire	31/08/2008	01709 279421	  
<b>Mr S &amp; Mrs D Palmer</b> Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear	19/02/2013	07913 309395	 
<b>Mrs A Atkinson</b> Castleford, West Yorkshire	12/03/2013	01132 868730	  
<b>Mrs U D Ransley</b> Wokingham, Berkshire	17/11/2011	0118 9761019	 



**Accolade of Excellence**

Denotes a significant contribution to a breed.



**Studbook Achievement**

Bred at least 3 dogs listed in the Studbook.



**Breed Club Membership**

Current member of one or more breed clubs



**Breeder Experience**

5 or more litters registered with the Kennel Club