

Mastiff Association FUN DAY

Sunday 3rd May 2009

in the grounds of Lyme Hall, Cheshire

by kind permission of the National Trust

This was the fourth occasion that the M.A. has held its spring event in this wonderful setting which has such a strong and historically significant association with our breed.



*Some of the permanent residents
of Lyme Park*

This year the weather was kind and although cool and breezy, it was, at least, dry and bright and the Lyme Park staff were available throughout the afternoon to ensure that our event was problem free.

Although the number of mastiffs attending was not as great as we had hoped, everyone participating appeared to be enjoying the occasion and, as always, the spectacle of 'live' mastiffs in the Park was a great attraction for the other visitors on this very busy bank holiday weekend.

This event is divided into three sections – Novelty, Adventure (a selection of obedience events), & Courage (some agility tasks); and we were pleased to welcome our guest 'adjudicator', Claire Smith (Dobunni Mastiffs) who carried out her duties very efficiently.

The overall winner of the NOVELTY classes was **SAMPSON** owned by Dave Burnett.





The winner of both the **COURAGE & ADVENTURE** activities was **WINNIE** owned by the Price Family.

Gaining the most points in all three Sections overall and winning the title **Most Versatile Mastiff 2009** was **TIGGER** owned by the Mason Family.



The final event of the day, quite separate from the main programme, was the award of Lyme Hall Mastiff 2009 and is given entirely at the discretion of the Head Warden at Lyme Park. This year, Emily Orford (Head Warden) and her assistant Chris undertook the task jointly and were very thorough in their deliberations. They pulled out a shortlist of four and finally agreed that **Lyme Hall Mastiff 2009** was to be **HOMER** owned by William Dramard and Heidi Koljonen from Manchester who were presented with the magnificent Lyme Hall Trophy donated in memory of former Secretary, Karen Olsson, by her husband Andy. The trophy itself remains on display in Lyme Hall for the next twelve months.

Our thanks are recorded to main 'adjudicator', Claire Smith, seen here receiving a token of appreciation from Peter Sarjeant at the end of the day.



Thanks are also recorded to Derek Beech for coordinating the event; and to Colin Hill, Heather Corkin and Peter Sarjeant for their assistance with its smooth running.

More scenes from the afternoon's programme:-



