

The Stafford Knot

Inc. 501(c)3



JUNE 2016 PROMOTING THE STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER ISSUE 2, VOL 5 FREE

Crufts

Staffordshire Bull Terrier

Crufts www.thekennelclub.org.uk



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Writers - we are always looking for writers to send in articles for each issue. We look for original articles and stories as well as historical ones. All permissions must be granted prior to publishing. Please email - editor@thestaffordknot.com if your are interested and available.



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INTERPRETATION & ILLUSTRATION

OF THE WRITTEN BREED STANDARD

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The
Staffordshire
Bull Terrier

Interpretation & Illustration
of the
Written Breed Standard

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Shoulder, Arm, Front

Clean & Correct

Undesirable



Beautifully illustrated for us by Maurizio Molinari

Size, Proportion, Substance

"Heights Being Related to Weights"

If we extrapolate what the standard gives us for the height to weight ratios the following table represents the most ideal / correct substance throughout the range.

"Non conformity with these limits is a fault."

Males

14"	28 lbs
14 1/2"	30.45 lbs
15"	32.85 lbs
15 1/2"	35.5 lbs
16"	38 lbs

Females

14"	24 lbs
14 1/2"	26.25 lbs
15"	28.8 lbs
15 1/2"	31.31 lbs
16"	34 lbs

This is one of the least subjective passages in the entire standard, yet probably the most liberally interpreted (aka ignored) by unkeen eyes and novice judges. Proper substance is of extreme importance to any athlete. It is of even greater importance to the Stafford given the breed's original function as a competitive fighter. It defines the Stafford apart from other 'bully breeds' and remains an essential element of breed type. Do not hide behind the absence of scales and a wicket in the ring. Familiarize yourself with what a 15" 29 lb bitch looks like and learn to recognize this when you see it.

Size, Proportion, Substance

The standard is our guide to the ideal. Nonconformity to height or weight is a fault, not a disqualification. You will get quality dogs outside the mark, and you should always be willing to appreciate and reward quality. Make allowances, but be careful do not stray far. The breed standard always trumps opinion.

You may hear people refer to the Staffordshire Bull Terrier as having 3 distinct types. A 'Terrier type' a 'Bulldog type' and a 'Balanced type.' This is **not** correct. It is faulty logic to define **type** (that which makes a Stafford uniquely Stafford) by three different combinations of two diametrically opposing elements. In reality what the standard calls for is only one type; i.e. the one in the middle – the Balanced Type. This is the perfect blend between bull and terrier. Call it what you will, but remember: If an exhibit is not of the 'balanced type' he is by default of the 'unbalanced type.'



Picture an old fashioned balance scale. The ideal is right the middle just at the point of the fulcrum between bulldog and terrier.

HUGE thank you goes to all who contribute to the Illustrated Breed Standard and Judge Seminar projects. We could not present such a collection of information were it not for all the work done by so many people in this breed and others. We cannot name all of you but many many thanks are indeed passed on to each of you. Thank you also to those who sent in images of dogs to be used. We consider the projects to be invaluable educational tools. Take from them what you will with the understanding that we cannot all agree on all points but should continue to work together in efforts to protect this wonderful breed we all cherish. To use this judging seminar for your own club please email [The Stafford Knot](http://TheStaffordKnot.com).



The Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Interpretation & Illustration of the Written Breed Standard

Produced by
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DISCLAIMER
All drawings depict typical individuals. There are many variations in the breed. Therefore, the illustrations are included to assist in explaining the written breed standard and may not suit the "ideal" in every case. There are no permission granted. Some names, brands, photographs for the use of illustration of the dog shown in the illustrations.

Body & Topline

There is limited space to describe the body and topline. The dog should be a heavy, muscular, well-proportioned animal. The body should be a well-proportioned animal. The dog should be a heavy, muscular, well-proportioned animal. The body should be a well-proportioned animal. The dog should be a heavy, muscular, well-proportioned animal.

Gait

"Even, powerful and agile with economy of effort. Legs moving parallel when viewed from front or rear. Discernible drive from hind legs."

General Appearance

"The Staffordshire Bull Terrier is a smooth coated dog. It should be of great strength for its size and, although massive, should be active and agile."

Stafford Puppies & Youngsters

A Stafford puppy or youngster should not yet look like the finished article. They run and will go through many awkward stages. They may catch a glimpse of what the future holds as they mature. They may catch a glimpse of what the future holds as they mature. They may catch a glimpse of what the future holds as they mature.

Hindquarters

"The hindquarters should be well-matched, backs set down with stifles well bent. Legs should be parallel when viewed from behind. Careless, if any, on the hind legs are generally avoided. (USA) Feet set as in front."

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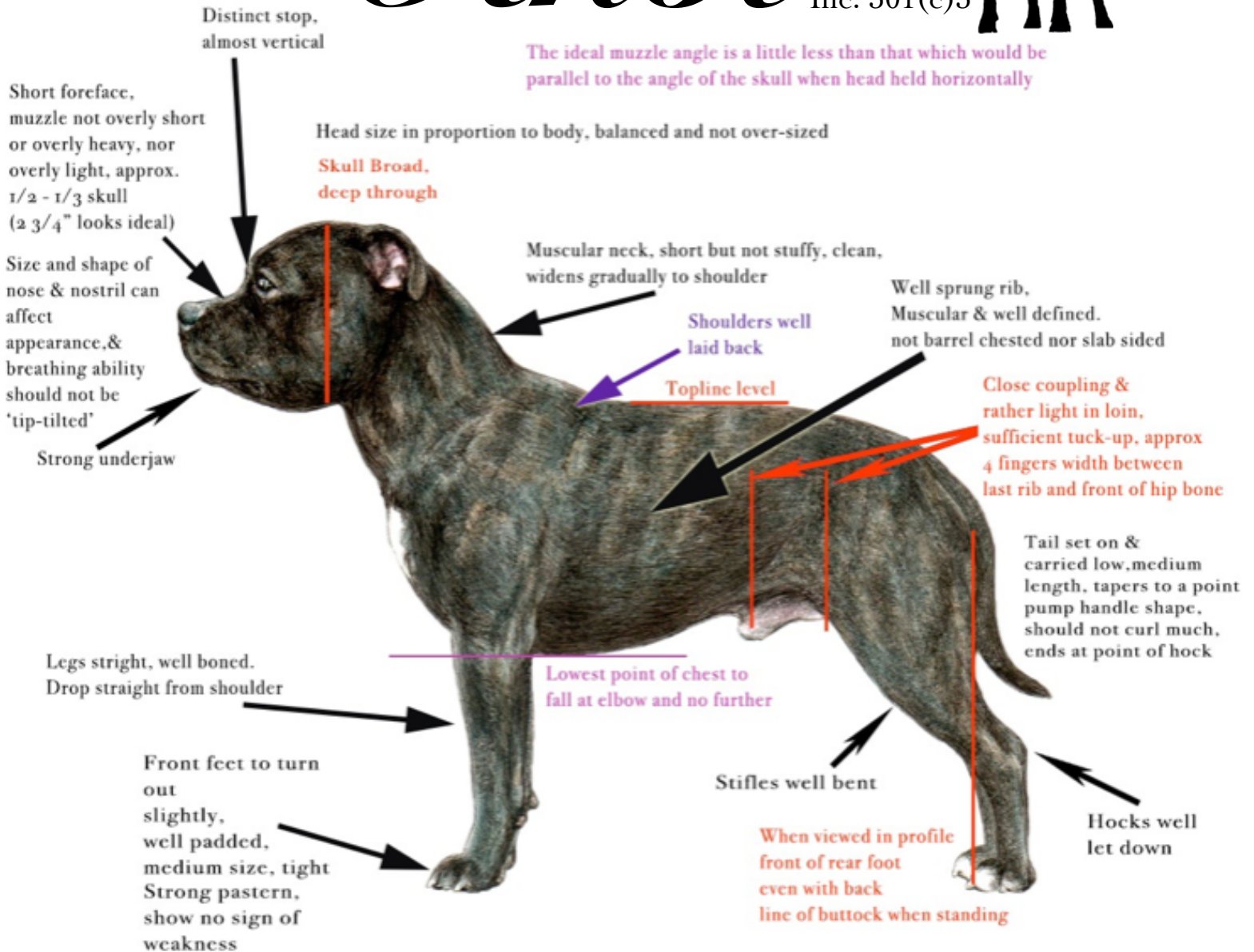


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Neck, Topline & Body

Neck - "Muscular, rather short, clean in outline gradually widening towards the shoulders."

Body - "Close-coupled, with level topline, wide front, deep brisket, well sprung ribs, muscular and well defined."

Note: The phrase "*rather] light in the loins*" appeared in early versions of the breed standard and is still included in the current, AKC (American) standard. By most counts this (now omitted) phrase is still very important. It references the "tuck-up" that a dog in proper condition should have. It calls for the breed to never be soft or fat, but instead maintain the athleticism that is a hallmark of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier.

For Presentation Only Unlawful To Print.

Forequarters - legs, shoulders, upper arm



The front legs should be straight with the feet turning out slightly at the pasterns. Legs are perpendicular to the ground, dropping straight down from the shoulder.

Shoulders are cleanly muscled, well laid back and will show no sign of looseness. Do not be impressed by exhibits with overloaded muscles in the shoulder. The Stafford is an agile athlete.

Again, think middle-weight boxer, not body builder.

Feel for the correct thickness and roundness of bone, which should be ample rather than heavy.

A stilted or circular action in the front legs while moving will indicate upright placed shoulders and/or short upper arm. Both are incorrect, and undesirable.

Elbows lie tightly against the body showing no looseness. The chest drops to the elbow or VERY slightly lower, not well below this point.

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LINKING THE PAST TO THE PRESENT

By Clare Robinson-Cox (HAMASON)

The origins of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier as a breed is somewhat shrouded in mystery. It is agreed that there is a mixture of different terrier breeds involved but there has been much debate over the years as to what those different terrier breeds are. A major factor in this quandary is that historically, dogs were bred primarily for fashion, to fulfil certain functions or to partake in various sports and there was little importance placed upon maintaining records such as pedigrees. Without pedigrees, dogs are unable to be registered with the Kennel Club and therefore cannot be recognised as a pure breed.

Joe Dunn, from Quarry Bank near Cradley Heath, Staffordshire – in the heart of The Black Country – had owned and bred dogs, including Staffordshire Bull Terriers, for many years and during 1932 and 1933 he decided to try to get them recognised as a pure breed by the Kennel Club.

At that time the Kennel Club ruling regarding registration of dogs was that dogs could be registered as a pure breed with the K.C. providing one or both parents were named on the pedigree, even if one or both of the parents were unregistered with the K.C.

Early in 1935, Mr Dunn sought permission from the Kennel Club to hold a variety show as a “feeler” to see how many Stafford owners

would enter their then unregistered dogs. These dogs could not compete to beat other terrier breeds entered at the variety show so Mr Dunn offered cash specials to the Stafford owners to attract entries.

The show was held on the bowling green at the Conservative Club, Cradley Heath in April 1935 with Mr F.W. Holden as the judge.

The show was a great success with twenty seven Staffords on show that day including:
Shaws Jim (Jim the Dandy), Birche’s Monty (Vindictive Monty), Peggs Joe (Fearless Joe), Harpers Dreadnought, Silver Queenie, Our Paddy, Foxalls Lady, Tranters Bessie, Brindle Tigress, Brindle Thelma, Hardwicke’s

Flossie, Smiths Brindle, Brave Nell, Shell Of Gold, Laws Queenie and Quick The Devil. The dogs that competed that day have since been made famous by the progeny they left behind them.

Following the show, Mr Dunn decided to form a club and enlisted the assistance of those owners who had kept and bred the breed for years. A meeting was held at the Old Cross Guns Hotel in Cradley Heath and the name “The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club” was agreed as the name of the Club by those present. The name was subsequently granted by the Kennel Club in July 1935 and so, our wonderful breed “officially” began.



The first elected officers and committee of the SBTC were as follows:

Mr Jack T Barnard - President
Mr H N Beilby - Chairman
Mr Joseph Dunn - Hon. Secretary

Other members/Committee: Jack Dunn, Harry Peg, M Smith, Joseph T Mallen, J Skidmore, Fred W Holden, S Grew, S W Poole, B Hardwicke, J Birch, C Grosvenor, Horace Priest, G Homer, H Hough, G Williams, A Forrest, M Hill, A Demaine, A Slater, N Dunn, H Boxley, T B Bishop, J W Wood, T W Barnard, A Foxall, W Shakespeare, A Griffiths, F Silvers and Gerald A Dudley.



By Clare Robinson-Cox (HAMASON)

Mr Dunn has said "without the co-operation of these persons it would have been impossible to have formed such a club and these should be considered as the pioneers of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club."

So, how do the beginnings of our illustrious breed link to me today, sat here, writing this article – how do I link to the past and what story is there to be told? Well, here goes.....

My father, Harry Robinson, was born and raised around Staffords by his Grandparents, who lived in Rowley Regis, near Blackheath. He came from a family of workers in the iron and chain industries of the Black Country – the traditional owners and breeders of the Fighting Terrier, Bull and Terrier or Pit-Dog as the Stafford was more commonly known outside of the Black Country. It had long been known as the Staffordshire Bull Terrier or Stafford (**not Staffy, Staffie or Staff – it's a Stafford!**) by us Black Country folk!!

In 1969 Harry's uncle, Dick Siviter, a keen Stafford enthusiast himself (but an even keener pigeon flyer!), gave Harry, and his new wife Maureen, a Stafford puppy as a wedding present. This didn't go down too well with Maureen, a cat-lover, but she quickly grew fond of the white and brindle pied bitch they had, aptly named Patch – Kennel Club name Patchy Lass. During 1970/1971, Harry began to attend various dog shows as an observer, thinking this dog-showing may be something he would like to try. From his upbringing and experience of Staffords, he already knew that, though Patch was loved, she was not of show quality, so his search for a suitable pup began.

He and Maureen went to visit several breeders and looked at quite a few litters but decided, from his knowledge of the breed, that none of the puppies he saw were of the quality and breeding that he wanted for his first foray into the show ring.

Newcomers to the breed should take note here – by all means have a Stafford, love a Stafford, even show a Stafford if that's what you want to do – but to own a truly show-worthy specimen and a potential founder of a breeding line, you need to do your research thoroughly and don't necessarily

buy the first puppy you see and expect to be the owner of a Champion in a couple of year's time – anyone who has been in this "game" for more than 5 minutes will tell you, it doesn't work that way!!!

During 1971, Harry had seen a dog on the show circuit he admired greatly – CH Rockmere Rip-It-Up, a stunning red dog owned by Jim McKellar. Harry began to make enquiries to see if there were any puppies out of this dog that may be available. Through his searching, early in 1972 he contacted a lady he had got to know a little around the show ring, a lady who many people will still know today – Joyce Shorrock of the famous Eastaff Kennel. Joyce explained to Harry that she did not have any puppies due but a gentleman who lived in the Midlands had mated his Champion bitch to Ch. Rockmere Rip-It-Up and suggested Harry made contact with him.

Now, this is where the links to the past are starting to be forged, for that gentleman in the Midlands was none other than Gerald Dudley – one of Joe Dunn's "pioneers of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club". Harry contacted Gerald, and his wife, Gwen, to make enquiries about the litter and Gerald confirmed he did have puppies out of his CHAMPION bitch, Sanville Red Rhapsody and Jim McKellar's dog, Ch. Rockmere Rip-It-Up. Gerald said he had one red puppy bitch remaining and Harry was quite welcome to visit and have a look, after Mr McKellar had been and had his pick of the litter, as owner of the stud dog.





By Clare Robinson-Cox (HAMASON)

Harry and Maureen decided to take up Gerald's offer and duly went to visit the famous Wychbury Kennel in Pedmore, near Stourbridge. Incidentally, the name of this Kennel was taken from Wychbury Hill, one of the Clent Hills, situated between the parish's of Hagley and Pedmore. It is the site of the Wychbury Ring, an Iron Age hill fort, and the Wychbury Obelisk.

When Harry and Maureen arrived at Gerald and Gwen's, Gerald confirmed that Mr McKellar had indeed been and collected his "pick" of the litter. "But don't worry" said Gerald, "he's left the best one for you"!!! And, as it turned out, Gerald was right – Harry and Maureen brought home their first "show dog" who was to be registered at the Kennel Club using their newly acquired "HAMASON" affix – Red Rapture Of Hamason.

She went on to gain her Junior Warrant with almost 50 points (25 being the requirement to attain the title) and became Harry and Maureen's first Champion in 1974. But enough of such "recent" events, that's a link for another time. The purpose today is to share with you some of the

pictures and memories and memorabilia of the past that have travelled to the present via the link that was Gerald Dudley and his friendship with Harry Robinson.

After purchasing Ch. Red Rapture Of Hamason from Gerald and Gwen in 1972, Harry became a good friend, helping them out with odd jobs around the house, cutting the lawns (and they were BIG lawns!) and general DIY during his weekly visits, as well as chauffeuring Gerald and Gwen to shows as observers or to fulfill judging appointments when Gerald was no longer confident to drive. As Gerald and Gwen had sadly not been blessed with a child that reached adulthood, their daughter, Geraldine, had died at the



age of 5, they welcomed Harry's company, help and support during the last 10 years of their lives. Here is a picture of Gerald with Geraldine and another one of Geraldine, shortly before she died of meningitis.

When Gerald died in 1982, shortly after Gwen had passed away, his niece, Pearl Wood (nee Dudley), who knew Harry quite well through his friendship with her Uncle and Aunt, invited Harry to have whatever Stafford memorabilia he wanted when the Dudley's house was cleared.





By Clare Robinson-Cox (HAMASON)

Some older Stafford enthusiast may remember Pearl as she used to handle some of the Wychbury dogs, including Ch. Wychbury Kimson, who used to live with Pearl, but pictured here being handled by Gerald.



Pearl was an amazing artist, even though it was only a hobby. This is her original oil painting of Ch. Brindle Crescendo Of Wychbury:



Speaking of oil paintings, Gerald purchased an original oil of a very early specimen of the breed painted at sometime during the 1800's. This painting had hung in the Dudley's house for many years but, after their death, the house was sadly burgled. When Pearl arrived at the house, she found this oil painting on the floor and it had been trampled upon, which accounts for the damage you can see today.



You may be able to see on this painting, that the dog wears a metal collar, the type that the fighting dogs of old used to wear outside the ring for show – I assume the better the fighter, the better the collar!



By Clare Robinson-Cox (HAMASON)



There are many other items that are of historical note that Gerald and Gwen left behind and a great place to see such memorabilia is at the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Heritage Centre, Albert Street, Wednesbury, WS10 7EW. The Centre has recently opened at this new venue and there is a separate article in The Stafford Knot covering this prestigious event.

But for now, I will leave you with the words of Gerald Dudley himself, the link for me from the past to the present – a true gentleman of whom I have fond memories:

***“Once a Stafford owner, always a Stafford owner, is a very common remark to be heard in all spheres of life, so what better compliment can be handed out to any Breed.*”**

This dog has certainly proved himself to be “The Sportsman” and we have to thank our predecessors who bred and passed such a specimen along to us, so let us, therefore, keep him as such, however much our opinions may differ with respect to any progress made in appearance etc., and we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our part and be able to pass along the most Loveable, Intelligent, Fearless and above all, The Greatest Pal man, woman or child ever had.”



Hamason

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EXPLANATION

- 1898 Date with the Black Country
- London is marked like in 1898
- Churches and Chapels
- Township Boundaries
- Great Roads
- Roads and Ambulance Routes
- Stippled Ground
- Rivers

REFERENCE to the HUNDREDS

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- 2 Totmonlow
- 3 Catterton
- 4 Odley
- 5 Seisdon

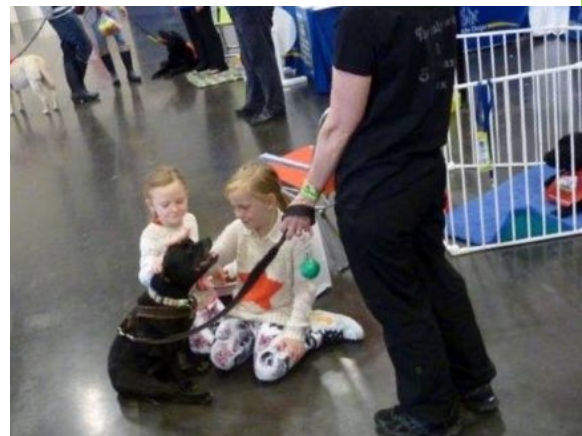
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ClareRobinsonCox@gmail.com or Spencer Cox 07980 725294
Website: <http://hamasonstaffords.co.uk/>



East Anglian Display Team at Crufts

by Lesley McFadyen

For the 5th year running our Display Team made their appearance in the Main Arena at Crufts showing off how versatile Staffordshire Bull Terriers really are. This year we added another dimension to our display using music clips to highlight some of the action which worked well. Our team members are always keen to step up to the plate and our display now consists of action packed agility and also plenty of tricks. We also this year included a demonstration of the new 'Obreedience' competition that the Kennel Club have introduced which consists of four dogs on a team showing off various obedience disciplines. The idea is to encourage breeds other than those traditionally associated with obedience to have a go - Staffords of course can rise to the challenge! We are also lucky that we have puppies on the team and even Avril's young daughter Izzy joining in so we can maximise 'The Cute Factor' - everyone loves a puppy and child working together. Following the display in the Main Arena we were also invited to take part in the Good Citizen ring later in the afternoon which got a great reception and a few of the team took their dogs on the Young Kennel Club stand to attract the crowds. It was a busy day but such good fun.





East Anglian Display Team at Crufts

CONTINUED

And so now, our 2016 outdoor season is getting underway and we have a packed diary already.

This year we have decided to try to reach different audiences so we as well as some of our 'regular' bookings we have a couple of bookings with Classic Festivals at their events in Suffolk (Framlingham College) and Norfolk (Stradsett), we will be once again joining forces with Ali Taylor and Battersea at the CLA Game Fair, this year being held at Ragley Hall in Warwickshire, and we have also been invited to appear at Dog-Fest, the great dog event organised by Noel Fitzpatrick, the Supervet.

This will be in Windsor Great Park at the end of June. As

always, we would love to meet any of you if you are at any of these events.



Catstaff

So proud of these littermates,
Crufts Qualified 2016

Catstaff's Dont Care

1st PB - NESBTC

sire: GB CH Lackyle Diabhal Og
dam: Catstaff's My Little Girl

Catstaff's Born This Way

1st PD - Richmond



Many thanks to Craig Kerry for
showing Bonnie for me
in 2015.

Also good luck and best wishes
to all fellow exhibitors
in 2016

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The SBT Heritage Centre Opening. by Clare Robinson-Cox



The day dawned, bright and dry, though a little chilly, but that was to be expected as it was only February. This was a day that a small, dedicated group of people had been working towards for almost two years, sometimes thinking it would never happen. But Saturday 20th February 2016 is a day that those people will, I am sure, remember for a very long time, as will anyone else who had the pride and privilege to be invited to attend. The event that had been so long awaited? The re-opening of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Heritage Centre in Wednesbury, West Midlands.

Unfortunately, just over 2 years ago, the Heritage Centre was forced to close its doors as they had to leave the Old Post Office, the original venue. As the Centre is a Charity run entirely by volunteers, this change of venue gave the Heritage Centre committee a big headache – where would they go, where could all of the treasures be stored, what costs would they incur and how could they pay them?

Luckily a venue just yards from the Old Post Office was available and, after negotiation with the local council, the Heritage Centre took possession of its new venue during early 2014. Great news indeed but the building was in a sorry state to say the least.

The Heritage Centre originally opened over 10 years ago



in a different venue. They had opened their doors on a regular basis to welcome visitors from far and wide, as well as the local community, who have an interest in the Staffordshire Bull Terrier.



The SBT Heritage Centre Opening

by Clare Robinson-Cox

CONTINUED

But, through the hard work of the committee and other volunteers the Heritage Centre was transformed and the official opening date was set.



So with a new logo, the big moment had arrived. The Centre was being officially opened by “Her Worshipful the Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Mrs Barbara Price and her Consort, Councillor Robert Price”.



A new logo was designed, incorporating the Black Country flag, echoing the fact that the Staffordshire Bull Terrier is the only true breed founded in the heart of the Black Country, amidst the smoke and fires of the iron and chain foundries and the brick cones of the glassworks. The flag depicts the black of the smoke with the red of the fire (black by day, red by night), divided by the outline of a brick glasswork cone in white, surrounded by the chains of industry. No other breed is more appropriately linked to this flag and, by right of passage, no other group or charity representing dog breeds, can realistically lay claim to raising it in their name.





The SBT Heritage Centre Opening

by Clare Robinson-Cox

CONTINUED



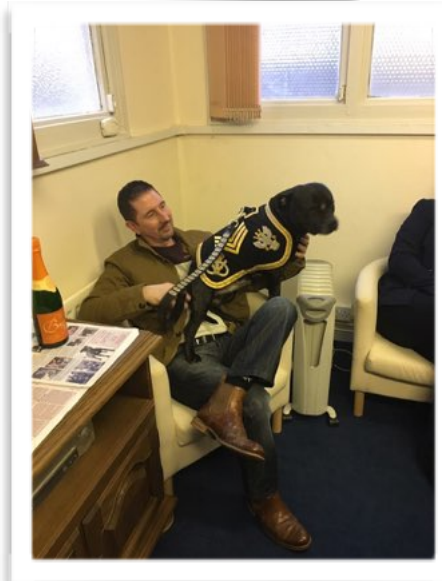
Other notable VIPs included Greg Hedges of the Mercian Regiment (formed by amalgamation of the Staffordshire Regiment) in full dress uniform along with an even more important guest, the Regiment mascot – Watchman.



Watchman seemed to have had a most enjoyable day, meeting lots of people, including his breeders – Karon and Wayne Jackson.

Members of the Sedgley and Gornal Staffordshire Bull Terrier Ringcraft

Club were invited in recognition of the support and fundraising they have and still continue to contribute towards the Centre. The S&G SBTRC are regular fund-raisers for other worthy causes,



including Help For Heroes, and make a significant contribution every year to the Black Country Carnival that takes place in Old Hill in July.





The SBT Heritage Centre Opening

by Clare Robinson-Cox

CONTINUED

The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club was also invited and well represented by committee members, who were delighted and honoured to have been a part of the day. The Club has subsequently re-affirmed its support of the Heritage Centre by making a substantial donation for further much-needed roof repairs. Furthermore, two of the SBTC Committee members, Spencer Cox and Wayne Jackson, were welcomed to the opening in their own right for the provision and fitting of some of the carpet and flooring at the Centre.

The overwhelming feedback from the day was it was a great success and many of those who attended are looking forward to returning again very soon. For now, I will leave you with some further pictures of the Centre, the visitors and, of course, the dogs that are our wonderful breed. But remember, the SBT Heritage Centre is a charity, run by unpaid volunteers using donations to maintain this Centre, protecting and promoting the history and heritage of OUR breed. If you are able to donate, no matter how little, please do so via this link: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=6MMML3JLEPDK2 and you will receive a warm and friendly welcome at the SBT Heritage Centre for many years to come.



Other VIPs from other SBT Clubs around the country included Archie Bryden, Gillian Skelly, Lesley Mcfadyen and Jo-Ann Essex, all of whom had travelled quite a way to be part of such an auspicious event.

The Heritage Centre committee worked very hard throughout the day to ensure every guest was welcomed and shown around the new Centre, as well as providing a wonderful spread for everyone to enjoy.





Staffordshire Bull Terrier Welfare

Devoted to Staffordshire Bull Terrier Rescue



Patron: The Right Honourable Lord Hattersley FRSL, PC



Staffordshire Bull Terrier Welfare
With Groups in the following areas of the UK

North Eastern Staffordshire Bull Terrier Rescue (Audrey Hubery)

North West S.B.T.Rescue (Barbara Green)

Leicester S.B.T.Rescue (Norma Vann & Helen Treece)

Midlands S.B.T.Rescue (Judith Morgan)

John & Gwen Laker South East S.B.T Stuart Mann (Treasurer) & Val Mann (shop manager)

*Still active and agile,
sometimes appearing in the
Junior Showmanship ring
with her friend Ms. Manning.*

'Bittles'

Redbow Whiplash Wanda RN

Wildstarrs Ready Freddy x Redbow Samba in the Rain

2009 SBTCA National Specialty Best Veteran in Sweepstakes

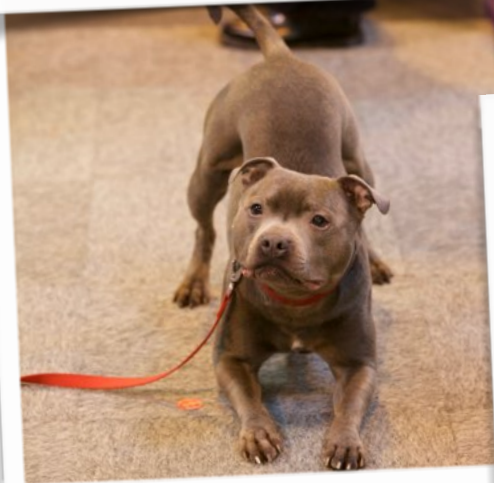
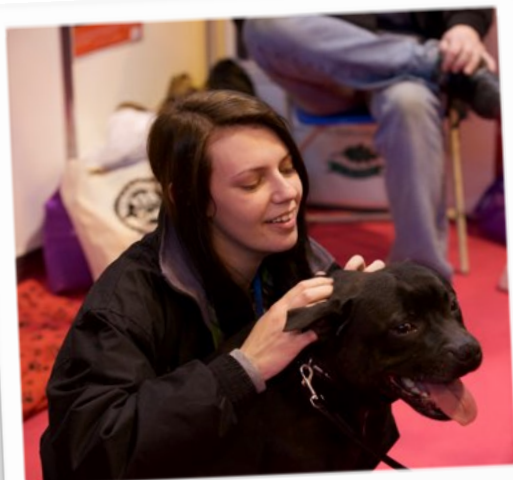
Owned and loved by B. Manning & R. Redsun

Whelped 12/30/2001



CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF CRUFTS - 2016

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SHOW





CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF CRUFTS - 2016

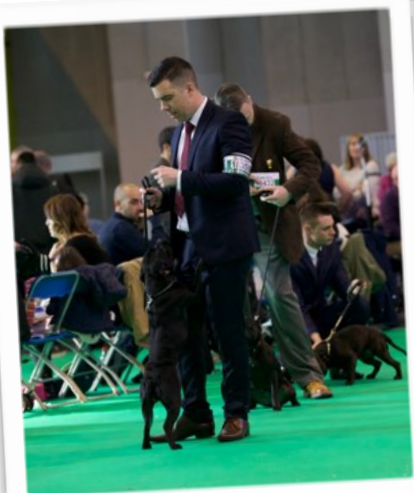
PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SHOW





CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF CRUFTS - 2016

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SHOW





CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF CRUFTS - 2016

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SHOW





CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF CRUFTS - 2016

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SHOW





CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF CRUFTS - 2016

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE SHOW



STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER KENNEL

WAVEMAKER

PIXIE

TACKLE

BAY



MARINA

FRANCIS

JIM & LYNN CASWELL

wavemakerstaffords.com

INFO@WAVEMAKERSTAFFORDS.COM

DESIGNED BY A P.AMORES



CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Clare Robinson-Cox (Hamason)

Discover Dogs is a massive part of the whole CRUFTS spectacular.

Discover Dogs is a massive part of the whole CRUFTS spectacular. It allows visitors to the World's Greatest Dog Show to get “up close and personal” with every breed of dog that will be exhibited over the 4-day extravaganza.

(And so it begins.....)

Every breed of dog has their own designated stand and the breeds are generally ordered alphabetically within the Group they are aligned with.

This gives prospective puppy-buyers the chance to meet the breed they are thinking of welcoming into their lives and really understand which is the right breed for them. It also enables existing dog owners the chance to meet breed experts and other breed enthusiasts who are able to offer advice and guidance on lots of topics, including general care, breed-specific information and health issues



Staffordshire Bull Terrier

EUKANUBA



CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Continued

(Taking shape.....)

The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club are proud to take responsibility for organising the stand to represent our wonderful breed at such a prestigious event. But this involves a lot of work behind the scenes – organising stand material and displays, putting these displays up before the Show opens & then taking everything down after the show closes, inviting owners and dogs to represent the breed to ensure the stand is adequately staffed throughout the 4 days. So for any of you that have had the pleasure of visiting us at CRUFTS, please give a thought to those who have worked very hard before and after the Show to make the event a success – a big “WELL DONE” to all concerned.



CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Continued

(Ready to open.....)

This year we had the pleasure of welcoming Buddy Dog – The Rescue Staffy, who was a real hit with everyone he met. Buddy was found abandoned and locked in a cage. He was laying in his own excrement and was extremely underweight, he weighed just 3 kgs. Buddy had a serious skin condition called demodectic mange and due to him not being treated and also being left in his own mess he also had secondary infections in his skin. Buddy's paw pads were raw due to the amount of urine he had been left in. He was rescued by Nicola and Jon who just happened to spot Buddy, locked in his cage at the side of the road, as they were driving along. Thank goodness they stopped and picked him up. They drove him 86 miles to their vets checking that Buddy was alive constantly along the way as they weren't sure he was going to make it. Buddy now has his own FaceBook page so if you want to find out more or see what Buddy is up to, please visit his page – www.facebook.com/buddydogtherescuestaffy . Buddy, along with Nicola and Jon, helped visitors to the stand to understand just how wonderful and forgiving Staffords can be – for Buddy to have had such a terrible start in life and yet still love us humans so unconditionally is amazing. They also helped educate our visitors about demodectic mange and that even the most terrible skin conditions can be helped dramatically with the right medical support, feeding and bathing regime. It was hard work with Buddy as he was in such an awful state when rescued, but anything is possible.

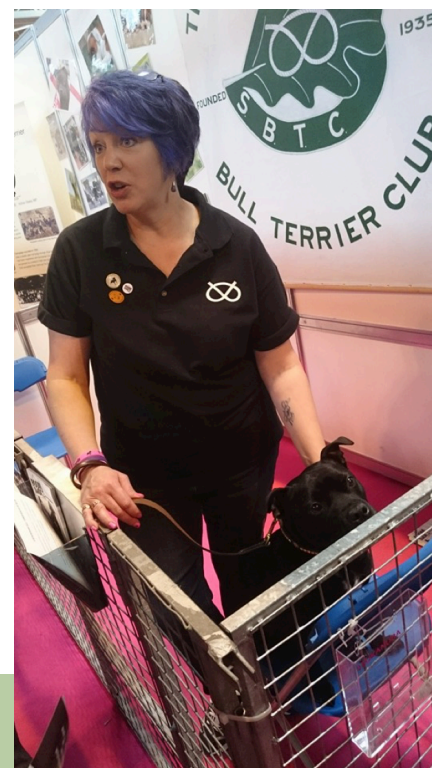


CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Continued

("Buddy The Rescue Staffy")

It was also lovely to welcome Judith Morgan and Room For 1 More Stafford Rescue. Judith and the Team work tirelessly to rescue Staffords from all over the UK who would otherwise be put to sleep. They are a non-profit organisation who provide lifetime backup for every dog they rehome. You can find out more information via their website – www.roomfor1morestaffordrescue.com or follow them on FaceBook - www.facebook.com/rf1m.staffierescue . They helped to educate our visitors that Staffords make excellent pets but, sadly, are the breed most frequently abandoned by irresponsible dog-owners. They helped our visitors to understand that taking on any dog is a big commitment and a decision that should not be taken lightly but, if any of our visitors were looking for a pet, then giving an abandoned Stafford may be the right thing for them to do.





CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Continued

(Buddy & Roxy)

Another fantastic group of people to join the Discover Dogs Team this year were representatives from [The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Heritage Centre](http://www.thestaffordshirebullterrier.co.uk). There is more information about The Heritage Centre elsewhere in this issue, where the opening of the new Centre is covered. Alternatively, you can visit their website - www.thestaffordshirebullterrier.co.uk – or follow them via their FaceBook page - www.facebook.com/SBTHeritage .

(Friday’s Helpers) (right)

The stand was also well represented throughout the weekend by volunteers from The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club and regular members of the SBTC Handling Club. I am sure many of you are already members of The SBTC, or “The Parent Club”, as it is affectionately known. If you are not currently a member and want to join or just want to find out more, please visit their website – www.thesbtc.org.uk .





CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Continued





CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Continued

(Members of the SBTC Committee)

Throughout the weekend we were inundated with visitors – people who already owned a Stafford or had owned one in the past, people who were thinking of owning a Stafford and were just looking for advice and people who had always been afraid of Staffords due to their reputation as a “fighting dog” but had been persuaded to take a closer look. It is a pleasure to welcome everyone but particularly those people who overcome their “fear” and leave Discover Dogs covered in doggy kisses and converted to loving Staffords and wanting one themselves.

(Saturday’s Helpers)
Here are some more pictures of the public getting “up close and personal” with our Staffords.





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CRUFTS 2016 – Discover Dogs

Continued

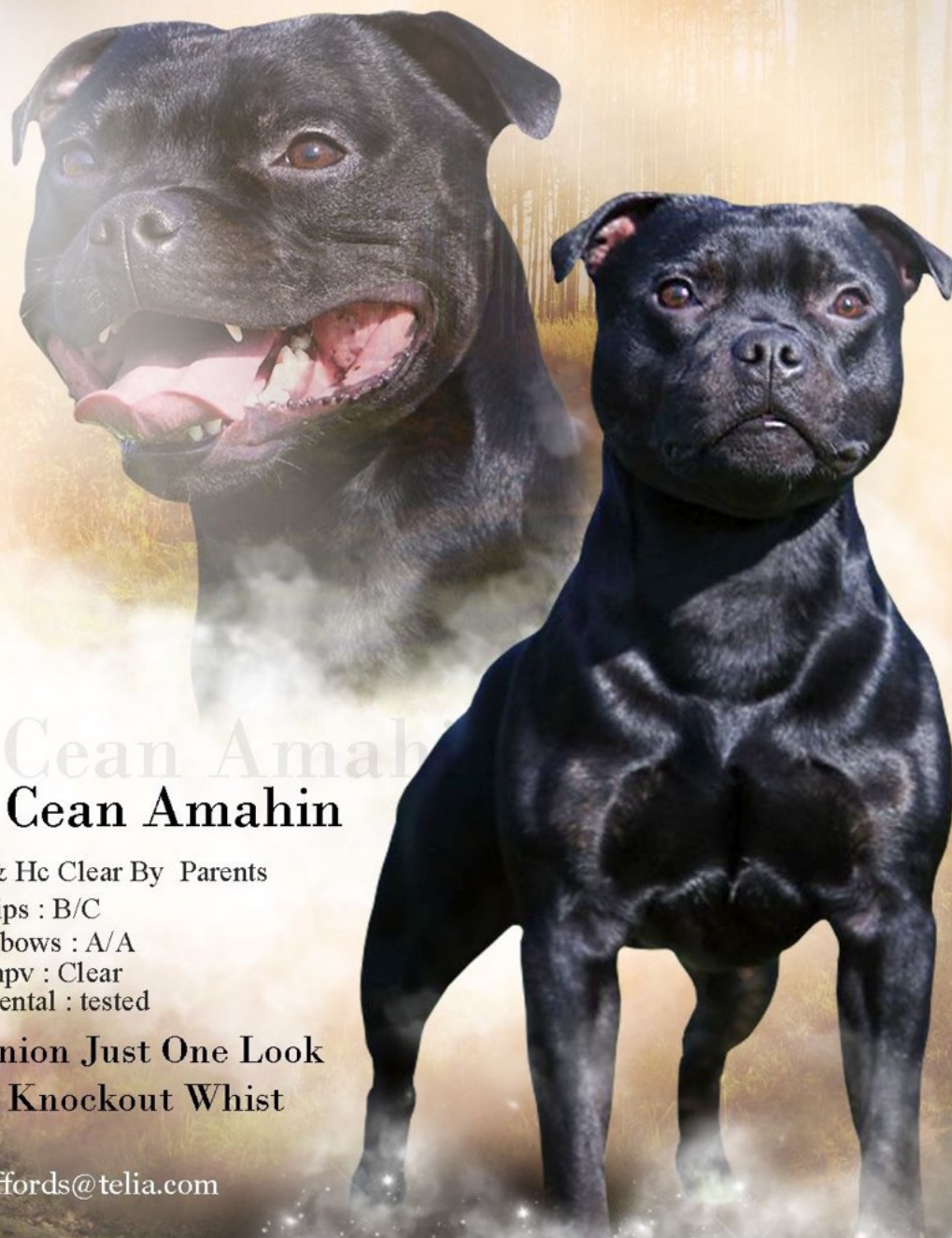
(That's a wrap!!!! See you next year)

Another fantastic weekend was had by everyone who helped on the Discover Dogs stand as well as by those who visited us. Look forward to seeing you all again next year or, if you have not yet visited us, make sure you do!!



Crudha

Staffordshire Bull Terriers



Crudha Cean Amahin

L2hga & Hc Clear By Parents

Hips : B/C

Elbows : A/A

Phpv : Clear

Mental : tested

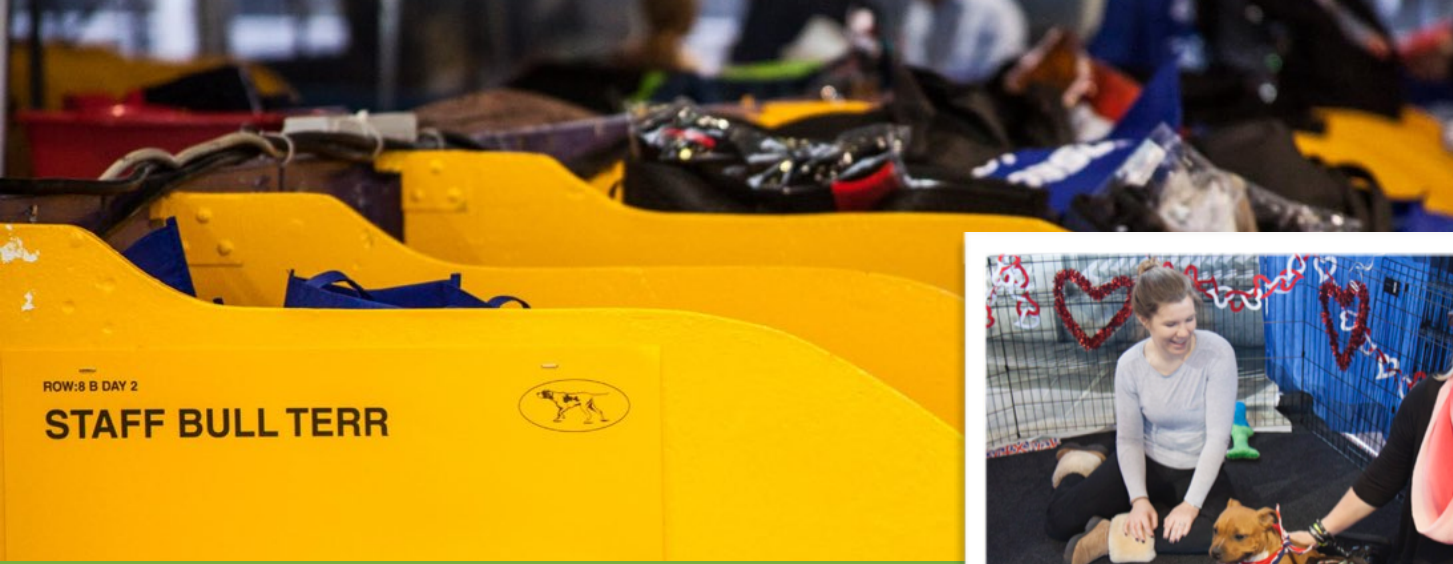
Sire : Nethertonion Just One Look

Dam : Crudha Knockout Whist

e-mail crudha-staffords@telia.com

www.crudha-staffords.com

By Wattleas Gregory



A Big Hit in the Big Apple – by Toni Pawson

What better way to spend a cold Winter Day in New York City then to Host the Staffordshire Bull Terrier booth at the American Kennel Club (AKC) Meet the Breeds. This event has become a tradition for me and I truly enjoy doing it every year. If you aren't familiar with this event, I highly suggest you spend a day and get to meet over 160 different breeds under one roof sponsored by the AKC if one is available near your hometown.

Each breed is assigned a booth, to welcome the public showcasing their breeds with history, health information, photos, and volunteers handy to answer any questions people have. Breed booths are typically decorated with themes that associate the breed's history, country of origin, or what that particular breed is bred for. Each year I try to think of a theme and decorate the booth accordingly. Since this event is on or

around Valentine's Day, I like to use the word "love" with the theme.

A very cold morning, I headed to New York City from Long Island, with a full carload of everything red, even a red puppy. I was greeted by some volunteers to help me set up the booth. Usually I am very organized, that was not the case this year. As we finished decorating the booth, we were already gaining attention from the public just as the doors opened for the day.

Usually the volunteers that come to help are local to the area. I was thrilled to hear that some friends from all over the country would be in town for Westminster Dog Show and wanted to help in the booth. Excited to see some familiar faces and meet some new Stafford owners as we all pitched in to promote our breed.



A Big Hit in the Big Apple – by Toni Pawson

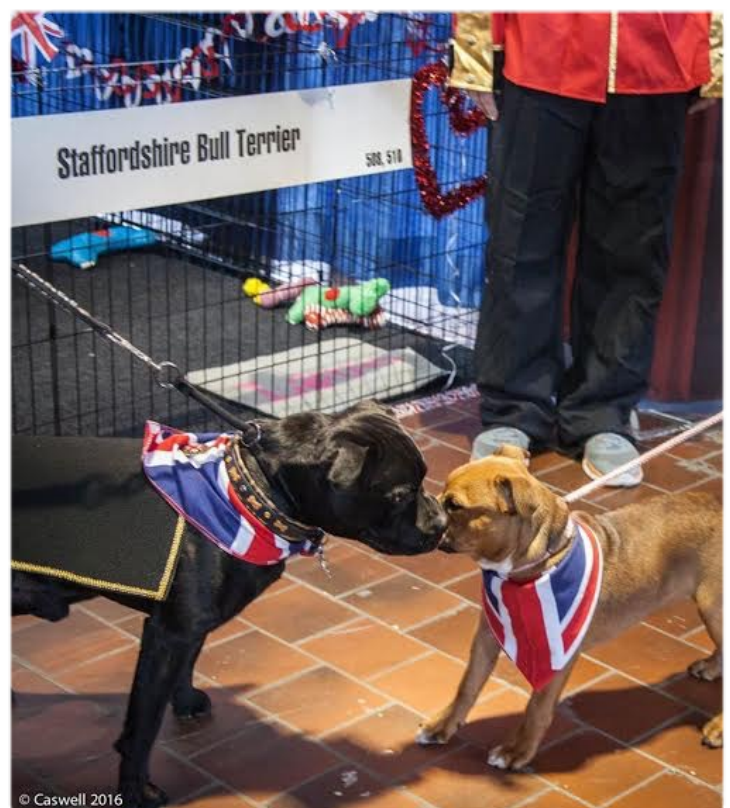
During the planning process for this event, I decided to incorporate a little bit of “England” in the booth. Some flags, an English Telephone Booth prop, and a British Guard was the finishing touches to the booth this year. Huge thanks going out to Jim Caswell as he so graciously agreed to wear the costume and play along for our booth visitors. I thought I was going to have to beg Jim but he stepped up and played along, I think he had a great time too.

Lynn Caswell came up with the idea of volunteers wearing matching shirts so we were easily recognized for the public. A section designated for puppies is always a huge hit. Three puppies from my recent litter reunited and spent the day with their owners having fun and loving all the hugs and kisses from children to adults.

Events like these promoting positives of the breed are so very important. I highly recommend anyone interested in purchasing a Staffordshire Bull Terrier try to attend one of these events to talk to owners and breeders. It is also so interesting to speak to people that have never seen or heard of our breed, and then to watch them walk away smiling and loving all the dogs they just met. I always enjoy walking around when time permits to see the different breeds, talk to some of the vendors, and watch some of the different demonstrations.

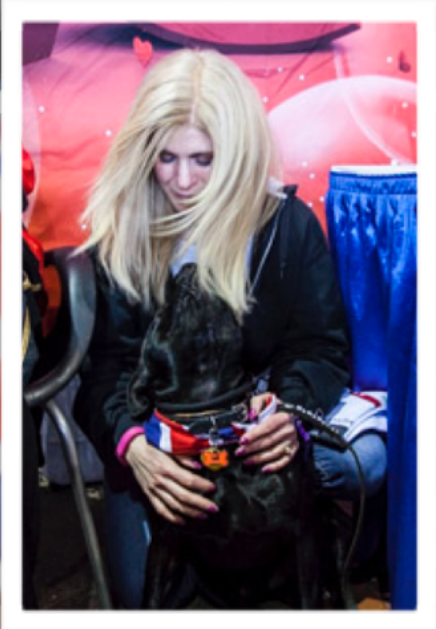
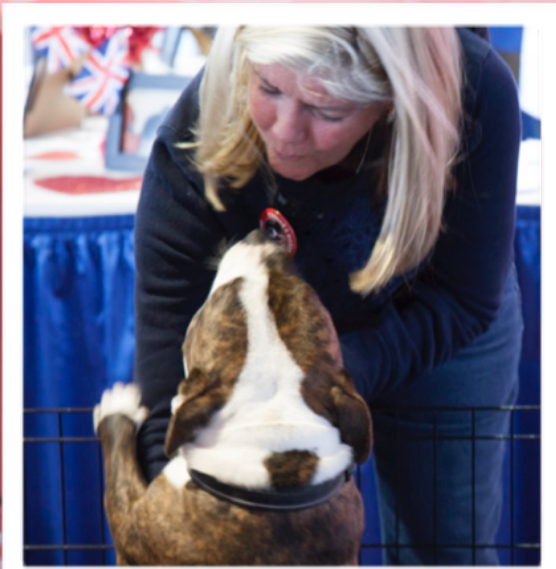
It is a fun weekend that extends to Monday and Tuesday with the Westminster Dog Show. Staffords are typically showing on Tuesday so out of town visitors get a chance to do some New York City sightseeing. If you plan

on visiting New York City next year, stop by the breed booth and meet some amazing people, and some great dogs. Huge thanks to everyone that attended and helped, once again, Staffords were a BIG hit in the Big Apple.





A Big Hit in the Big Apple – by Toni Pawson





If you want this



But can't handle this



And you're going to do this



THEN PLEASE BUY THIS INSTEAD!

These eyes are waiting for YOUR love!

Please don't keep me waiting . . . rescue@SBTCA.com



Breed Type

BY Melanie Sinclair

Breed Type – that most elusive concept that is yet so obvious when you see it! If you show your dog, or are involved in the world of dog breeding, you will often hear the phrase ‘typey’. You will read critiques telling you that a particular specimen has type in abundance. This topic generates hot debate and has been written about since people began crafting breed standards. I am sure I am not alone in having the desire to hear from those steeped in our own breed, the Staffordshire Bull Terrier, all about their views on type.

Tony Lee agrees that it is a much debated topic, *“Type is a very difficult term to define – chapters in books have been devoted to the subject without a truly clear resolution.”* Richard Beauchamp, in his book, *Solving the Mysteries of Breed Type*, asserts that *“Knowing what was originally intended for our breeds is critical,”* and that *“If we pay respect to nothing else, it should at least be to what the creators of the breed intended.”* He argues that following this principle will help avoid exaggeration, stating that breeders, *“...seem in constant danger of believing that if a characteristic is called for at all, then the more of it a dog has the better!”*

When asked about this comment, Lesley McFadyen offered that *“The only characteristic I would want in excess in a Stafford, and continually get, is a big heart!”* So, what about temperament?

The original purpose of the SBT, as we all know, was as a fighting dog, but with that tenacity and stoic acceptance of hardship, a fierce loyalty to

its people. Lesley McFadyen describes a particular dog that for her exudes breed type as, *“A hard dog to handle in the ring with fire in his belly at the touch of a button, also a sweet dog with two leggeds, as it should be.”*

Many will air the view that the temperament of the breed has changed, they have less ‘fire in the belly’ as an apparent desire for a quieter and less feisty dog affects selection for breeding. Alan Hedges shares his concern that this aspect of the breed has changed for the worse. *“The times we live in means temperament is slowly being washed away and the breed is not what it was.”*

When asked how breed type had evolved during their time in the breed the majority felt that basic type had stayed the same.

Archie Bryden: *“To me breed type is that combination of factors that makes a dog recognizable as being of the particular breed without having to be analysed. Thus on that point I feel that basic type has stayed the same overall since I started in early 80s.”*

Alan Hedges: *“I don't think type changes ... A dog that had type the day I started would still have it now.”*





Breed Type

BY Melanie Sinclair

CONTINUED

Lesley McFadyen: *"I'm not sure that type can 'evolve' – it is what defines a Staffordshire Bull Terrier. There will always be differing opinions on what people think of as good 'type', veering from the heavier, more bully type to the lesser, more terrier type ... For me what epitomises type is the when you see a dog from a distance and know almost instantly that it is a Stafford not only by its shape but by its manner."*

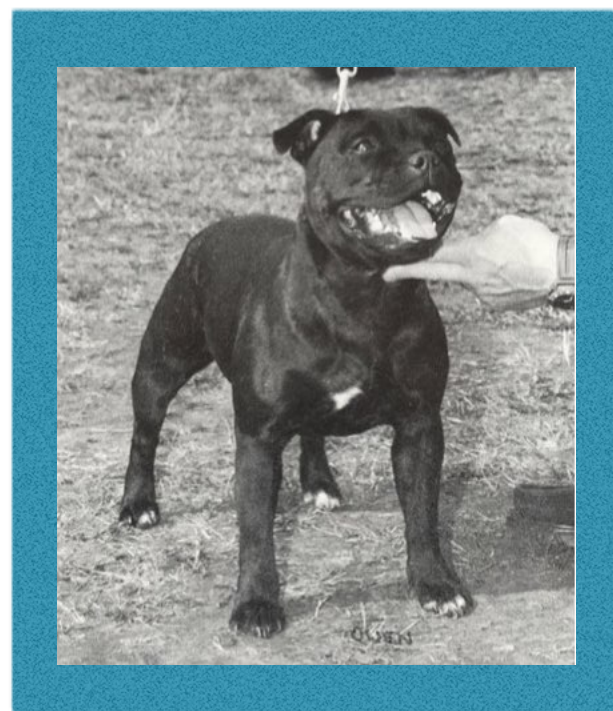
Julie Gray referred also to the distinction made by some between 'bully' and 'terrier' type, and was *"extremely worried a few years back about what appeared to be a split appearing in the breed with three types appearing terrier/athletic, bully, and the correct blend of bull and terrier i.e. Standard. I had several discussions with Clare Lee about how standard dogs appear 'plain' when aside more exaggerated versions. I was genuinely concerned that we may end up like the Akita or the German Shepherd with distinct differences in type."*

Tony Lee sums it up nicely, *"Staffords are the combination of 'bull' and 'terrier' types, but the golden egg is melding these two into the 'bull-terrier', the ideal of which differs from person to person."*

Personal preference obviously comes into breeding and judging dogs, and there will always be studs that are popular and dogs that do exceptionally well in the ring. It is possible to hear exhibitors and breeders commenting that a dog is of quality but not the type that are winning just now. Some express concern that

features are becoming exaggerated, in particular the head. Did our panel have any concern that fashion had eroded function?

Norman Berry believes that there *"may be a case for thinking so. We have tried in the last thirty years to rid the Stafford of its physical deficient properties and in doing so certain old aspects have disappeared along with it. One outstanding point being the rolling gait we used to associate the Stafford with is now a rarity. We now wish for a more straight boned front and by doing so we now find narrow front and more refined head being the order of the day which takes away the pugnacious look which was most common in the past. I wouldn't say that there has been too much erosion within the breed - this statement coming from a breeder who was in favour of what has now become the norm - but we now find type is more difficult to observe as a result, and, where it is found, type must be accepted and rewarded."*





Breed Type

BY Melanie Sinclair

CONTINUED

Dean Cund agrees that fashion plays its part, *“Without doubt fashion has dictated the type of Stafford we now see in the ring today ... Breed type changes due to breeders losing site of what the breed’s original function was, instead they focus on certain points that they find desirable instead of what’s functional. Some breeders can’t see past a good head while losing sight of other aspects.”*

Dean believes that judges and breeders/exhibitors must share responsibility for this, and observes that while judges state they can only award what is brought before them it is a fact that exhibitors will show the style and type of dog that they believe the judge will put up. He states that breeders/exhibitors and judges, *“must share equal blame and strive to promote functional Staffords over what has become fashionable,”* and cautions that, *“Over the last forty or so years breeders have gravely insulted the careful work of evolution by breeding dogs with eyes that can’t see, legs that can’t run dogs that can’t breathe, or naturally reproduce.”*

Jack Coats’ observations over the years have seen breeders nowadays striving for that more balanced dog, *“When I started there were a good few very heavy set dogs with not a lot of light under them. In this respect, I feel the breed has improved for the better ... the construction of the dogs has in my opinion improved, with much more athleticism in their makeup. Nowadays I feel that the balance of Bull and Terrier is much better.”* However, with the recent

decline in numbers of Staffords Jack has noted a reduction in the depth of quality of bitches.

Tony Lee notes that *“In my fifty odd years in the breed, there have been some shifts in type. The dogs used to be much more variable with some horrendous (too wide) fronts and top-lines more like ski slopes, but they were much more macho. Today, some of these have been corrected and perhaps overdone it with the fronts, and backs have been levelled but bringing in sloping croups. Nowadays we don’t see as many of the snipey terrier types with poor stops and slitty eyes. The abundance of well-sprung ribs seems to belong to yesteryear. Overall, the breed has become more uniform, albeit refined, but many of the bitches are too refined and are what one could only describe as ‘delicate’. Nowhere does it say that that they should be a different shape to the dog. It should only be their weight. I believe that it is the strength of the bitches that govern the strength of the breed as a whole.”*

Lesley McFadyen also cautions against exaggeration, *“Serious breeders and exhibitors now appear to have more concern for overall conformation but must be aware that the best Staffords must not only be fit for function (and function in today’s world must mean the ability to live an active and healthy life as opposed to the breed’s original function) but must also conform to the Breed Standard, exude breed type and not follow fashion trends to extreme.”*



Breed Type

BY Melanie Sinclair

CONTINUED

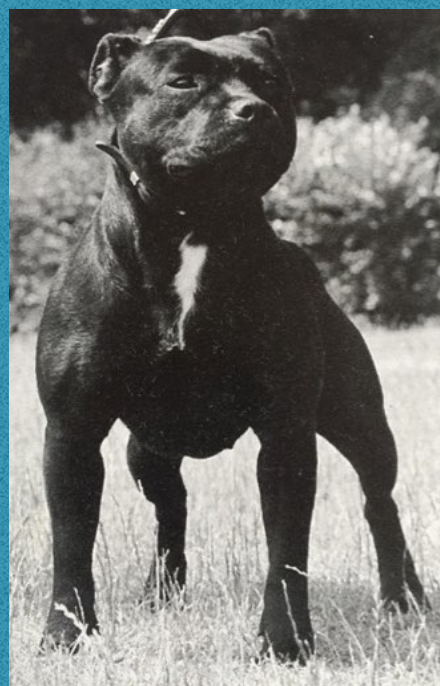
Archie Bryden acknowledges that fashion has an effect but believes it is limited, *“we do have swings of fashion but inevitably there is a swing back sooner or later, which normally happens if the ‘swing’ is leading to exaggeration. Some judges, including highly respected ones, have been called ‘head hunters’ over the years but most of those are looking for good strong heads but not coarse, overdone, possibly lippy, ones. We must remember that the head is the hallmark of type with virtually all breeds. The same goes for dogs of a lighter build or a slightly leggier type. Some may prefer this but again there may come the point when they become too light and most importantly lacking in bone that the inevitable reaction sets in. Thus despite fashion there will always be a reversion to what most will regard as good type without gross exaggeration.”*

So, a definite note of caution against exaggeration, a focus on fitness for the modern function of the breed and positivity about the balance of the dogs being bred and exhibited today. Breeders, of course, aim to surpass the previous generation, so what do our panel believe are the improvements over their time in the breed?

Archie Bryden notes an improvement in eye shape, *“Since the 80s when some with very oval or slitty eyes did pretty well despite the terrible expressions these produced. Again some, often with poor eye shape, had ‘ski slope’ stops or rather virtual non-existence of stop and these are rare today.”*

Alan Hedges observes that soundness has improved in the breed, and Jack Coats agrees, elaborating that, *“I think the construction of the dogs has improved a lot, fronts, and shoulder assembly especially are I feel much better than thirty years ago, and therefore with better construction the movement has improved along with it.”* Dean Cund agrees that fronts have improved, *“... we now see fronts that are straight along with much better feet which are much tighter and well-padded rarely now do we see the flat splayed feet which were once so evident in the breed.”* Lesley McFadyen highlights that breeders now pay more attention to conformation.

Julie Gray notes a, *“... greater awareness of health issues in the breed nowadays and on the whole the breed has embraced testing that is available.”*





Breed Type

BY Melanie Sinclair

CONTINUED

One of my interviewees said that they find breed type hard to put into words but they know it when they see it. I thought that it would be interesting for the purposes of this article to ask contributors to name the three Staffords that they felt exhibited outstanding breed type, and to explain why. The dogs chosen represent the breed over decades, from the past to the present, some very well known and others not so. If you are an 'every day is a learning day' type of character you may wish to make your own notes on these dogs and consider who your personal top three would be, and how you would justify your choices.

Aus/Uk.Ch. Koendidda Umrumm.

Top pick dog, chosen by three interviewees for his strong fiery expression and bodily make up along with typical temperament, a good physical example of a male Stafford he also had tremendous presence and attitude, temperament.



Ch. Eastaff Noire Fille Top pick bitch, again chosen by three for her exceptional class, was a lovely bitch, displayed feminism with sufficient substance. Around in the late 1980's she would have easily competed favourably today.

Ch Jamarvans Femme Fatale of Vanoric came up twice, made up from junior back in 1996, she was all I was looking for.

Ch Valglo Casanova at Crossguns No dog can win 40CCs under so many judges without having breed type in abundance. I was one of that many and he was 'spot on' in all respects on the day. I first saw him casually outside the ring as a youngster and you could see at a glance he had that 'wow' factor even then.

CH Clairwell Lady in Red and CH Bellglen Braws Best.

Both were exceptional red bitches, strength and femininity, stunning heads and expression, I really liked their body proportions

CH Stormlodge Ann Bonny

She exuded Stafford with an impression of great strength, always in great nick condition wise, she was a shapely bitch with a strong backend she looked as though she had it together. I loved her head and expression and she had presence.



Breed Type

BY Melanie Sinclair

CONTINUED

Ch. Taraiel Ciara

Oozing type and femininity.

Ch Bellerophen Bevin Boy

All you could wish for. Colour, structure, movement and of course - type.

Ch Sparstaff Dodgy Docker

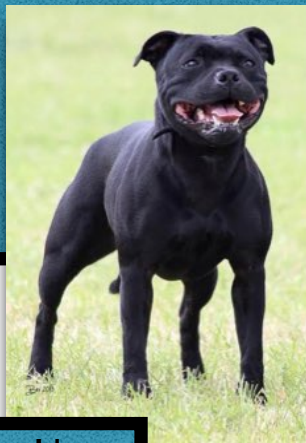
The complete package on the day so no more to be said.

Ch. Aboriginal Warrior Queen



Lesley's third choice "no one will know, but I would have to say *my first Stafford, Pepper, KC name Lively Lass: a bitch that we brought in to our home in the mid 1970s when my family was young. We bought her from Fazakerley in Liverpool, with dogs in her pedigree from Betchgreen and Raparree lines, although that meant nothing to me at the time. Without even knowing it she taught me exactly what the breed is about, being the best possible family dog.... a wonderful friend to my growing family, not an aggressor but certainly capable with other dogs when the occasion arose she showed me what true Stafford temperament is and that is the essence of our breed as far as I see it.*"

Ch Dare To Dream



Ch Spirestaff Jimmy Jazz



Another of our panel says this - "All 3 above (side and below) dogs are outstanding examples of the breed in my opinion devoid of exaggeration every part just flowed displaying a great picture of balance and athleticism which for me is essential for our breed."

Ch Cragail's Black'een



I think this sums up something very important—how Staffords capture your heart and keep it for life! On this point judges, breeders, exhibitors and pet owners will always agree.

BY WATTRELOS GREGORY



CONTACT



greg_neo@msn.com



WATTRELOS GREGORY

J. Pearl Amber Dix

DE L'ILE AUX BULLS

J. Pearl Amber Dix
L.Zha & Ho Clear By Parents
Sire : Staffjo's Jackpot Crusher
Dam : Havana Du Clan'Molotov

Breeder : Wattrelos Gregory, Honeebub,Julie
Owned by Wattrelos Gregory

DE L'ILE AUX BULLS

Regionale D'origine STFC Nancy 2015
Classé : baby bitch 1er
Judge : Miss Dagny Byrne (FR)
International Show Liverpool 2015
Classé : baby bitch 1er
Judge : Mr Bruce Schwartz (USA)
Championship show nancy 2015
Classé : baby bitch 1er
Judge : Miss Audrey Inbery (UK)

83 Th EuroDogShow Kortrijk
Classé : Puppy bitch 4ème
Judge : Tim Hebb (BE)

Lovely Girl Liana
DE L'ILE AUX BULLS
Jana
DAM : FERIA DU CLAN'MOLOTOV
SIRE : FAULLENBUMS SNOW PATROL
7 Month

STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER

Havana Du Clan'Molotov

DU CLAN'MOLOTOV

HAVANNA DU CLAN'MOLOTOV
L.Zha & Ho Clear
Sire : For you baby
Dam : Elvira du clan 'Molotov

Breeder : Michel Moreau-Larrang, Claudine Moreau-Larrang
Owned : by Wattrelos Grégory

DE L'ILE AUX BULLS
DE L'ILE AUX BULLS

Jack
John Cook De l'ile Aux Bulls

Staffjo's Jackpot Crusher
Havana Du Clan Molotov

staffordshire bull terrier

ELEVAGE DE

Elevage De La Vauxoise

CH. HARLEQUIN WHITE KNIGHT DE LA VAUXOISE
CH. de working CH
Stud Book Number

CH. I'M BLACK ANGE DE LA VAUXOISE
CH. de working CH
Stud Book Number

ELEVAGE DE LA VAUXOISE
STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER

Harlequin White Knight
I'm Black Ange
White Knight
Black Ange
White Knight

Marriage Effectué Le 2 Septembre

WWW.DELAVAUVOISE.NET

By Wattrelos Gregory

STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER
STORMSHOT



CAREN DE ORPHANUS

STORMFIRE ANGEL'S

STORMFIRE WOLF SAMSON

STORMFIRE HOT SHOT

STORMFIRE HOT DREAMS





THE ENRICHMENT EFFECT CALM HEARTS & STRONG MINDS

by Jane Killion

Director of the new film "Puppy Culture - The Critical First 12 Weeks That Can Shape Your Puppy's Future"

Did you know that your puppies will have larger brains and be more emotionally stable if you raise them in an enriched environment? Here's a (link to a) clip from our film, "Puppy Culture," that talks about the incredible results of what we call "The Enrichment Effect"

<https://www.puppyculture.com/enrichvideo.html>



THE BRAIN GARDEN

Animals raised in enriched environments have been shown to have the following physiological changes over animals raised under standard laboratory conditions:

- Larger brains
- More new brain cells and neural connections
- Better brain cell survival

The result of these physical changes in brain structure result in the following intellectual and emotional benefits:

- Improved ability to learn and remember
- More emotional stability
- Better resiliency to stress





THE ENRICHMENT EFFECT

CALM HEARTS & STRONG MINDS

by Jane Killion

CONTINUED

THE ENRICHMENT TRIPLE CROWN

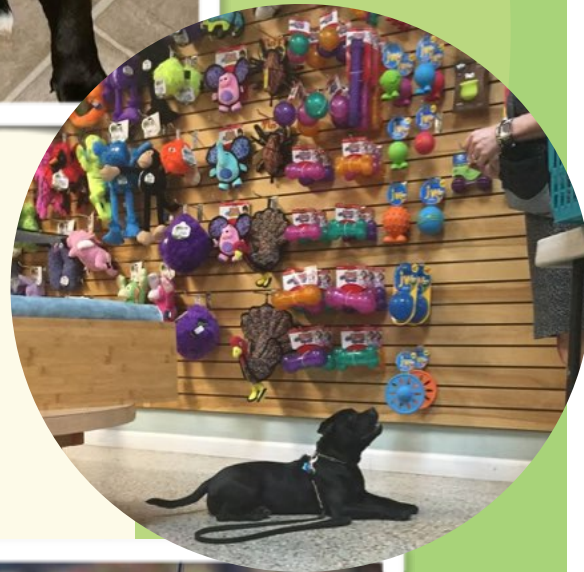
While many breeders are hip to the idea of enrichment, very few breeders understand that just providing toys and social interaction is not enough to take full advantage of what we call “The Enrichment Effect.” The optimal enriched environment will offer the following three things:

1. Stimulating living area - for example, toys, visual objects, different types of footing, different sounds, and social interaction. Breeders have done a great job with this in recent years, and there are even a number of commercial “play pen” type products available for puppies.

2. Exercise - Including adequate space to move as much as the puppies wish to, “jungle gym” type challenges such as climbing and outdoor exercise, when possible.

3. Problem solving and learning - “Active” training challenges, where the puppy is presented with a problem or training task, and then asked to solve that problem for a reward. This is as opposed to “passive” challenges usually provided by breeders in the form of toys and interactive objects.

Interestingly, it appears that the task has to be motivated by positive reinforcement for neural benefits to take place. Apparently, the hormonal effect (cortisol release) caused by corrections or aversives inhibits the growth and survival of brain cells.





THE ENRICHMENT EFFECT

CALM HEARTS & STRONG MINDS

by Jane Killion

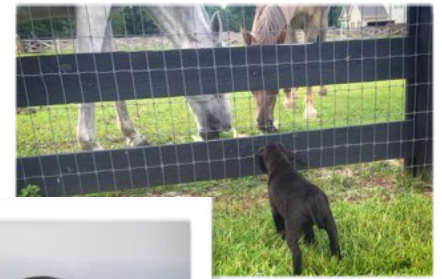
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THE WHOLE IS GREATER THAN THE SUM OF THE PARTS

While any one of these elements taken alone will have some positive effect, there is some evidence that these elements have an additive effect on each other. So the same stimulating living area will have more positive effects if coupled with exercise and problem solving/learning, than a stimulating living area alone.

What's interesting is that each of these components of enrichment will positively affect the brain in a different way. For instance:

- Exercise alone has been shown to increase the thickness of the cerebral cortex (the “thinking” part of the brain), but has been found not to increase the formation of the neural connections in the brain (synaptogenesis) which are necessary for learning and memory.
- Stimulating (“enriched”) living environments have been shown to improve brain cell survival, but may not increase the number of new cells being produced.
- Problem solving and learning appear to increase neural formation, survival, and neural connections, but have been found to not be as effective as exercise in forming new blood vessels (angiogenesis) in the brain.





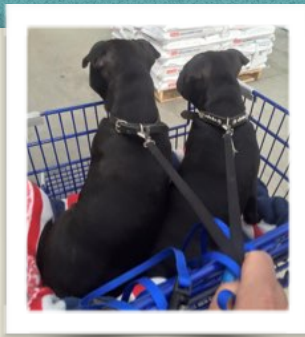
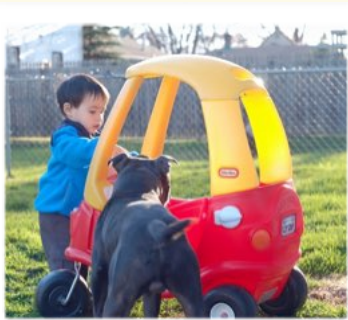
THE ENRICHMENT EFFECT CALM HEARTS & STRONG MINDS

by Jane Killion

CONTINUED

Although I'm not aware of a specific study that addresses this, it's easy to see how the distinct effects of stimulating environment, exercise, and learning could fit together like interlocking fingers and leverage each other's delivery on the Enrichment Effect. So breeders are well advised to include all three in their puppy rearing program

MORE IS NOT BETTER



Too much stimulation and challenge can be as harmful as not enough, and something that is extremely beneficial one week of a puppy's life could be detrimental in the next. So, as with everything, a balance is needed.

You can certainly get a lot of good ideas for environmental enrichment on the Internet, but we're going to pitch Puppy Culture here, because we've provided in-depth, week-by-week instructions for age appropriate enrichment protocols. We show you how to tune stimulation/enrichment to your puppy's level of development, which is key to a successful enrichment program.

WHAT'S THE RUSH?

There's plenty of evidence that animals of any age can benefit from the Enrichment Effect. Even if your dog or puppy was raised in an impoverished environment, he can grow new brain cells and form new neural connections. So why do breeders need to jump in and start so early? The key here that the critical socialization period is this incredibly short time where we have an opportunity to make an exponentially bigger impact on behavior, compared to even a few weeks later in the puppy's life. As Dr. Meghan Herron DVM and Jean Donaldson point out in *Puppy Culture*, you've got about 9 weeks (from age 3 weeks through 12 weeks) to get your primary work done. Things start going downhill rapidly at 12 weeks and by 5 months of age the ship has pretty much sailed in terms of being able to impact behavior with only a couple of exposures. It's my position that I want to give my puppies all the brain power I can so that they can assimilate as much information as possible during this critical socialization period. This is strictly my hypothesis, but I want to give the information I pour into my puppies a chance to "stick" and I believe the Enrichment Effect can help.





THE ENRICHMENT EFFECT

CALM HEARTS & STRONG MINDS

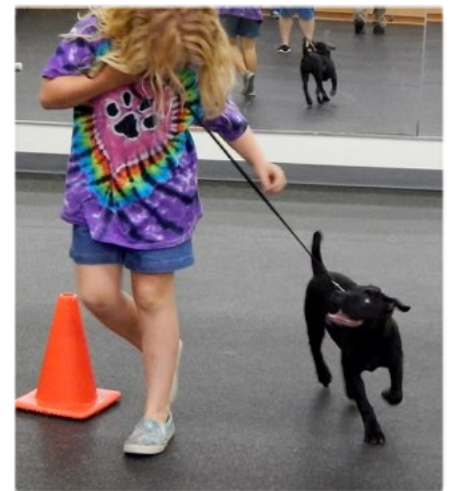
by Jane Killion

CONTINUED

DO I REALLY WANT MY PUPPIES TO BE THAT SMART?

I have heard breeders question whether high intelligence is desirable in puppies. They're afraid the puppies will be too "busy" and difficult for average pet people to handle.

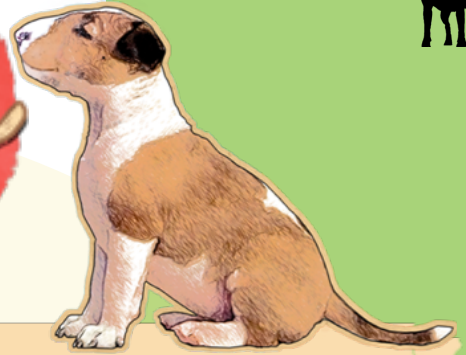
The good news is that the ultimate benefit of the Enrichment Effect is increased emotional stability of the puppies. Better recovery from fear, less fear-based aggression, calmer, and quicker to learn basic "commands." So the kind of intelligence that enrichment cultivates is compatible with an "easy to live with" kind of dog. In sum, the Enrichment Effect is a net plus for everyone, and every breeder and puppy owner should take advantage of it!



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CH BISS Ciera

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Dam : MBISS MBIS Homebrewed Page Three Girl, BN, RN

Breeder : Lorelei Craig and Jason Nicolai

www.cierastaffords.com

Owned By : Lorelei Craig

www.homebrewedstaffords.com

By Wattleos Gregory

DNA TESTS FOR STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIERS

The AHT provides DNA testing for L-2-HGA (L-2-HYDROXYGLUTARIC ACIDURIA) and HC (HEREDITARY CATARACTS) in Staffordshire Bull Terriers.

These tests give a definitive answer (clear, carrier or affected) for the genetic status of a dog for these diseases, and can be carried out using either EDTA blood samples or cheek swabs.

Cheek swabs can conveniently be taken by the owner, at home, using the sampling kit available free of charge from the Animal Health Trust.

For information on pricing, obtaining a free test kit and other tests available visit:

www.aht.org.uk/genetics_tests.html or e-mail dnatesting@aht.org.uk

Alternatively you can call 01638 555621.

AHT



Animal Health Trust



Thoughts on Breeding

by Alan Mitchell (2008 reprint)

Many people starting out at breeding and rush to use the current highest scoring dog without any research and they are gambling against the house. That wonder dog may have been the odd one out in a sub-standard litter and the pups are likely to be like them. Next, of course, is the fact that the dog may be totally unrelated and of a different type altogether. The resultant litter in that case will probably be an odd mixture of quality and type.

In my view, if your aim is to breed long term and produce typical, sound dogs of good quality and temperament, a clinical approach is best. Look for a stud dog which is reasonably fault-free and doesn't rely on one outstanding feature for success. You will find several. Then look at the partner and grandparents (if possible) to see whether they are very much off one mould. Next, where possible, look at pups off the dog when the bitch is of a quality and of similar type to yours.

The next thing is to pray hard to whatever god you have, because Lady Luck always plays a part.

Having bred your first litter, I would keep the best bitch as if you bred first-class bitches time after time, you can try each to three stud dogs which carry the same blood on the top or bottom line of the pedigree, select again and pursue the line which gives most success.

Now, you have a recognizable type carrying your affix and the time comes when success should follow. I believe that getting the bitches right gives the stud a real chance of producing the goods.

Last of all you need to cultivate, if it isn't inborn, a stubborn determination to succeed in producing 'the goods' – Staffords which truly are worthy.

It isn't an easy task and is often two steps forward and one step back, as just when you think you have cracked it, a fault seems to have come from nowhere. This is where the true enthusiast goes about sorting the problem.

Ch Hoplite Red Devil





Thoughts on Breeding

CONTINUED

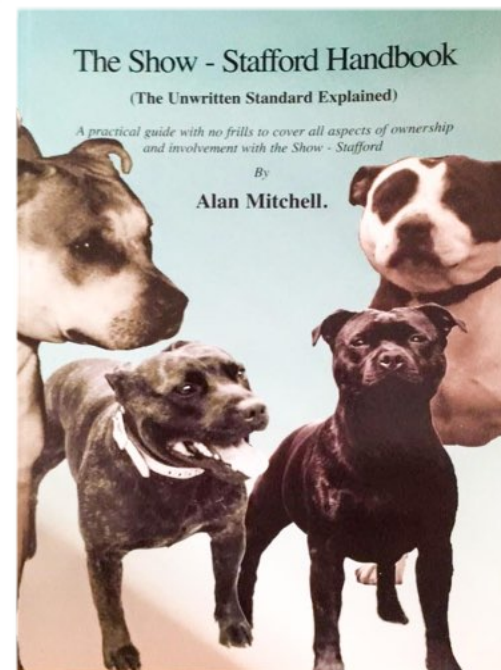
Faced with this problem, I bought in two bitches from good stock. One produced huge dogs although only 15" herself and one suited my stud dogs ideally. However, a repeat mating of the one which produced the problem, done to check if it was a permanent problem produced excellent pups with no trace of the fault. A little sperm with Michael Phelps' ability to swim had done the trick.

Nothing is straight forward, which is the fascination. For years you may produce first-class Staffords when there are one or two specimens owned by others which are beating them. It's frustrating but after a while you have the reward as the position is reversed and you are on the upswing again.

At times you will have balanced dogs when bully ones are favored and then top-sized dogs when smaller ones are in vogue, or balanced ones when a group of the show judges go for terriers with no trace of the bull factor. Keep going, stick to your guns and the wheel will go round and when the bully ones run into problems with heart and have to be helped on hot days or when the bone becomes too slight on the terriers and the bitches have whelping problems, your stock will be at a premium. Oh! And keep your fingers crossed!!



Bill McKnight (Belnight) with Ch Hoplite Fearless Devil



If you own a Stafford and do not own this book - do yourself a favor and get your hands on a copy!



Thoughts on Breeding

CONTINUED



A candid photo from Alan's last judging assignment, Perry Georgia 2008



Ch Hoplite Another Ace



Alan Mitchell (Hoplite) & Mark Marshall (Marstaff)



CH Marstaff Easter Surprise at Hoplite
out of Ch Brystaff Simply The Best



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Stafford's for L-2HGA, HC and PHPV

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SHOW
Days
.info

The logo features the word 'SHOW' in large, blue, outlined letters. Below it, 'Days' is written in a yellow, cursive script. To the right, '.info' is in red, bold, sans-serif font. Several black paw prints are scattered around the text, with some overlapping the letters.



HEALTH TESTING INFORMATION

Remember, if you choose to breed from a carrier you must test the entire resulting litter to determine clears & carriers. Thus if you choose to keep a carrier from that litter, the same must be done for each subsequent litter resulting from breeding carriers. If you sell carrier pups, please consider spay/neuter so that more carriers are not produced. With the advent and ease of genetic testing many of these diseases could be eliminated by only breeding clear to clear. To use a known carrier requires an extra step of responsibility. **There is no excuse to breed an untested dog.**

TESTING FACILITY FOR L2-Hga & HC

Animal Health Trust

Address: Lanwades Park, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7UU

Website: www.aht.org.uk

Contact Details:

General Enquiries

Contact Telephone: 01638 751000

Contact Fax: 01638 750410

E-mail: info@aht.org.uk

Canine DNA Testing

Contact Telephone: 01638 555621

Contact Fax: 01638 555666

E-mail: dnatesting@aht.org.uk

To order DNA Tests online, please visit:

www.ahtdnatesting.co.uk

VetGen (Veterinary Genetic Services)

Address: 3728 Plaza Drive, Suite 1, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48108 USA

Website: www.vetgen.com

Contact Details:

Phone: (734) 669-8440

Toll Free: (800) 483-8436 (US & Canada)

Fax: (734) 669-8441

Email: vetgen@vetgen.com



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TESTING FACILITY FOR HC:

Animal Genetics Inc. (USA)

Address: 1336 Timberlane Road, Tallahassee, FL-32312 – 1766, USA

Website: www.animalgenetics.us

Contact Details:

Phone: 800-514-9672

Email: contact@animalgenetics.us

Animal Genetics (Europe)

Address: 1 Mount Charles Road, St. Austell, Cornwall, PL25 3LB, ENGLAND

Website: www.animalgenetics.eu

Contact Details:

Phone: 44 (0)1726 247788

Email: info@animalgenetics.eu

OTHER TESTING FACILITIES FOR L2-Hga and/or HC:

FRANCE: www.antagene.com

CZECH REPUBLIC: www.genomia.cz

GERMANY: www.laboklin.de / www.laboklin.co.uk

SOUTH AFRICAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION (SAVA): www.sava.co.za Tel: 012 345 1150

AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION: www.ava.com.au

NEW ZEALAND VETERINARY ASSOCIATION: www.nzva.org.nz

SWEDISH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION: www.svf.se Email: kansli@svf.se Tel: +46-8-545-559-20



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Remember, if you choose to breed from a carrier you must test the entire resulting litter to determine clears & carriers. Thus if you choose to keep a carrier from that litter, the same must be done for each subsequent litter resulting from breeding carriers. If you sell carrier pups, please consider spay/neuter so that more carriers are not produced. With the advent and ease of genetic testing many of these diseases could be eliminated by only breeding clear to clear. To use a known carrier requires an extra step of responsibility. **There is no excuse to breed an untested dog.**

TESTING FACILITY FOR HIP, ELBOW, PATELLA, EYE AND CARDIAC CERTIFICATIONS*:

Orthopaedic Foundation For Animals (OFA)

Address: 2300 E Nifong Boulevard, Columbia, Missouri, 65201-3806

Website: www.ofa.net

Contact Details:

Phone: (573) 442-0418

Fax: (573) 875-5073

Email: ofa@offa.org

**NOTE: A Board Certified Cardiologist must perform all Cardiac exams. A qualified licensed Veterinarian can provide X-Ray films for hips, elbows and Patella.*

Coat color testing for those wishing not to produce blues, dilutes or black and tan (tan pointed markings in any color or pattern) can be found at many labs now including [VetGen](#) & [DDC](#) in USA.

** NOTE: a CAER or PHPV test done by a canine ophthalmologist is NOT the same test as the DNA test for HC - BQTH tests should be carried out*



CUSHINGS by Wendy Clewly

Tia (Ch Araidh Tea Leaf AD, JDX, SPD) has always been a very active girl loving her time both in the Confirmation and Agility rings it was during February 2013 that we noticed something was amiss at just seven years old and having always been approximately 15kg her weight she had put on a kilo or so but more noticeable was her coat which would have been better suited to a brown grizzly bear than a Stafford.

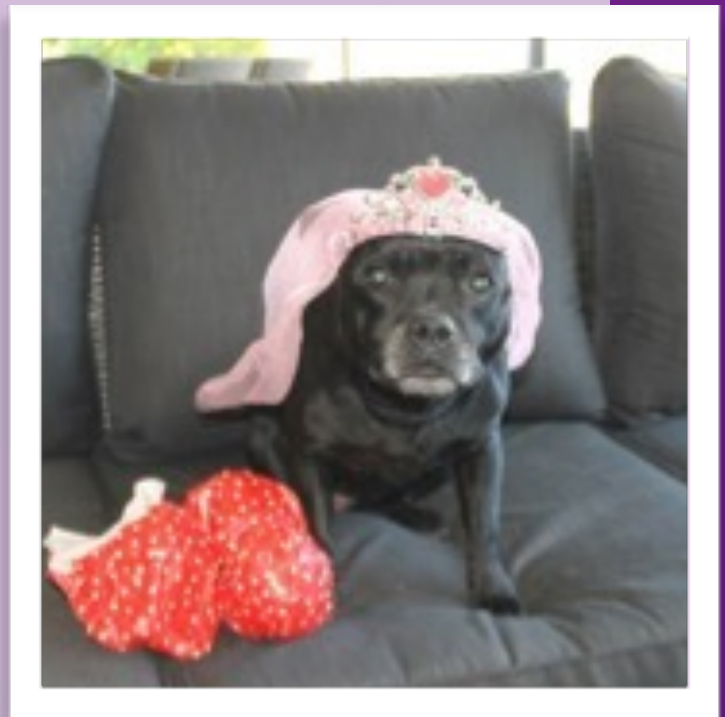
We commenced putting her on a bit of a diet and she was ok so entered her in an Agility trial where both girls Tia and Alice both obtained another Agility title each it was during the presentation as a lady sat stroking her that she noticed her glands were enlarged, upon feeling it panic set in, they were huge, how had I missed it..... off to the vets we went. Couple of tests and it was put down to an ear infection as Tia can't just swim she has to dive and spends a lot of time underwater, those mad Araidhs although I think the first Araidh to like swimming! although mum Carey I seem to remember loved submerging her head hmmm.

Couple of months later and her weight remained high she had gone from a non greedy dog to snatching food and was always hungry so back to the vets we went, a few tests later and Cushings was suspected with hindsight now knowing the symptoms it's blindingly obvious.

There is no single test to diagnose Cushing's disease. The history, physical exam, and results of initial blood and urine tests often provide a strong suspicion for the presence of Cushing's disease.

Laboratory tests that are most commonly altered by Cushing's disease are an increase in white blood cell count, increase in the liver enzyme ALP (also called SAP or serum alkaline phosphatase), increased blood sugar (although not as high as the blood sugar levels of diabetic patients), increased cholesterol and dilute urine.

Our vet in Tamworth, NSW suspected it might be Adrenal Cushings which gives very little lifespan expectancy to be sure they arranged an appointment for us at SASH in Sydney (they are featured on Bondi Vet on TV).





CUSHINGS by Wendy Clewly

CONTINUED

Sydney for us is a five hour drive and they wanted Tia in overnight so a local hotel was booked for me. I was amazed at SASH it's in a very corporate area and is over several high rise buildings, the place is amazing, the staff are first class and the facilities as good as I've seen anywhere.

Cushing's disease (hyperadrenocorticism) is the overproduction of the hormone cortisol by the adrenal glands that are located in the belly near the kidneys. Most dogs with Cushing's disease are about 6 years old or older. Cortisol affects the function of many organs in the body, so the signs of Cushing's disease may be varied.

Some of the more common signs of Cushing's disease include hair loss, pot-bellied appearance, increased appetite, and increased drinking and urination called polydipsia and polyuria (PU/PD). Hair loss caused by Cushing's disease occurs primarily on the body, sparing the head and legs. Less common signs of Cushing's disease are weakness, panting, and an abnormal way of walking (stiff or standing or walking with the paws knuckled over). Some dogs with Cushing's disease develop a blood clot to the lungs and show a rapid onset of difficulty breathing.

There are two types of Cushing's disease that are treated differently. The most common form of Cushing's disease is caused by the overproduction of a hormone by the pituitary gland in the brain that in turn controls the amount of cortisol produced by the adrenal glands. This is called pituitary-dependent Cushing's. A small percentage of dogs with Cushing's disease have a tumour of one of the adrenal glands which is called adrenal-dependent Cushing's.

Tia has Pituitary Cushings so for her this means a life-long daily medication of Vetoryl the key is to get the quantity correct and this involves testing monthly and adjusting medication each time to bring the cortisol count to normal.

We had been going great until about three months in one evening Tia started panting and acting like she was high on drugs, anyone that know here will know she is a sweetheart, never naughty and can be taken into any situation and relied on to be a great ambassador for the breed - what we now had was a girl screaming and panting a four hour out of hours vet visit later and home she came for the night and was booked in the next day where she then stayed for a few days.

Nine months on all the symptoms have slow dissipated, she had gone from 15kg to 20kg but literally in the last few weeks she is now 16.5kg and has lost the typical Cushings pot bellied appearance and finally we have a tuck up! literally the only remaining symptom is her coat which still reminds me of a grizzly bear but all that aside we finally have our girl back to 'normal' of course the pituitary tumour is still there but the symptoms at least are now under control thanks to the medication.



CUSHINGS by Wendy Clewly

CONTINUED

Footnote:

Tia lost her battle with Cushings on the 4th July 2015

After the medications were under control her weight returned to 15kg and her energy returned tenfold she again had her busy head on loving nothing better than to run/play 24/7 her boundless energy and love of swimming, balls and shoes was her very essence.

In the last few weeks we found that she would not eat I had read that anorexia can be a final stage of Cushings but we pushed on changing her food almost daily until eventually her bowl resembled a clock face with a little spoonful of chopped steak, mince beef with cheese, tuna, cheese on toast, chicken breast you name it we tried to tempt her to eat towards the end she was not eating at all and her weight dropped to under 14kg. One afternoon I knew that it was time. Our vet came out and she passed on





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PLEASE CONTACT
jo@scruffydogs.co.uk
OR ProSBHealth@aol.com
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easbtc@thedoghouse89.freemove.co.uk

<http://www.eastangliansbtclub.co.uk/rescue.html>



North Eastern Staffordshire Bull Terrier Rescue

Contact: Audrey Hubery
Phone # 01388 606000
E-mail: nozac.hubery@googlemail.com



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<http://www.staffordrescuevictoria.org.au/>



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By Wainelas Gregory

By Wainelas Gregory

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Dam : Thrasher's My Milkshake Brings All The Boys To The Yard

Sire : Thrasher Oreo with Double Stuff

TERRIER TREATS



RECIPES FOR YOUR STAFFORD



LIVER CAKE

Ingredients:

Equal parts (by volume) raw livers and tapioca starch/flour.
For example, about 1 1/2 lbs liver and 2 cups of tapioca flour work well.

2 TB oil (we use coconut oil)

Method:

Put ingredients in a blender/food processor and blend until smooth. Line a cookie sheet (not a completely flat one; it needs edges) with parchment paper. Pour in the goop and spread it flat. It should be less than 1/2 inch thick. Bake at 300F for 30 minutes or until done.

Cool in pan. Then lift the whole thing out with the parchment paper. Flip it over onto a large cutting board and peel off the parchment. Cut into small squares.

This recipe is the basic version but feel free to add garlic, turmeric, kelp, or whatever supplement you like.





STAFFORDS OF THE PAST

The Stafford Knot, Inc. would like to send a very special THANK YOU to Mr. Brian Owen for allowing the use of his personal photo collection of early UK Champions.

We will feature several of photos from this amazing collection in each issue

Ch Belsevore Ross N Co



Ch Bullyview Alright Mate



Ch Crossguns Revolution



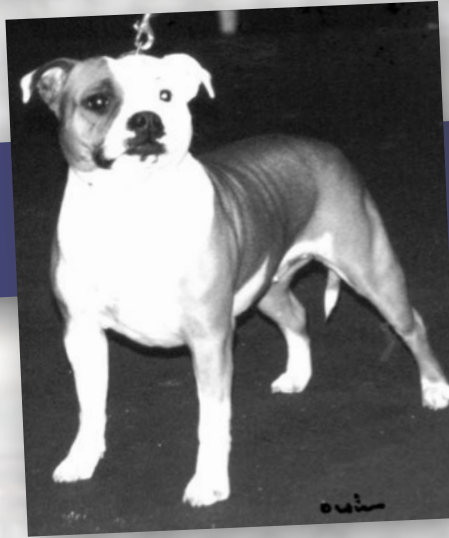


STAFFORDS OF THE PAST

The Stafford Knot, Inc. would like to send a very special THANK YOU to Mr. Brian Owen for allowing the use of his personal photo collection of early UK Champions.

We will feature several of photos from this amazing collection in each issue

Ch Higlands Pied Piper



Ch Jodels Box of Delight



Ch Nordic Chief





FROM THE EDITOR



Hello Everyone

Firstly, I hope all our readers are keeping well wherever you are in the world.

We have some new people to the team following on from our last edition at the beginning of January. Welcome to Melanie Sinclair and to Angel Pinazo Amores both join us and the existing team look forward to working with them.

The June edition of the Knot is a bumper issue with many interesting articles, not least the grand Opening of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Heritage Centre, a must for overseas visitors. We have some excellent articles with some being kept back until the December edition as we didn't want our readers to get too bogged down with reading.

From my point of view, the team are working together really well, all are passionate about the breed and want the Knot to continue to grow and reach as many people as possible so please do share this with your friends, family.

Those who had their adverts in the December/January edition are included in this edition as your advert runs for two editions of the magazines so I will be contacting you in the hope that you will continue to advertise with us and get some of your friends as well.

Thank you for all the hard work the team has done these last few months and of course to our great leader Lynn Caswell who is slowly handing stuff over to us as Tina our master on the Apple Mac is getting her head around the layout etc. I am sure that the next edition Tina will be fully up to speed and Lynn can take a well-earned rest.

Please send us your news and views always happy to hear from you all

Helen
rolenskasbt@gmail.com



FROM THE EDITOR

"We don't need geography. Staffords are our world."



Hello fellow
Stafford fans -
thank you for
supporting TSK
and for your
continued participation

in not only this publication, but also
in sharing our Illustrated Breed
Standard project and our online
rescue fund raisers.

I think if we step back and have a
good look at the Staffordshire Bull
Terrier around the world we will see
its in pretty good shape overall.
From my travels this past year (USA,
UK, Australia) seeing 1000+
Staffords, I believe the quality is
really pretty good and folks are
working harder to improve the
fitness levels also. I believe there are
more people doing more health
testing and taking advantage of
more performance events including
Barn Hunt, Nose Work, Dock
Jumping, Lure Coursing,
Conformation, Tracking, Agility,
Obedience and more. To me this
says we are really showing that the
Stafford is truly 'A foremost all
purpose dog' as our standard
requires. Good job everyone! There
are some really excellent Staffords
out there!

On the other hand, with Social
Media we are also seeing a lot more
complaining, division, frustration,
and unrest over subjects that (as our
terriers) people seem quite

passionate about. FB allows people
to be influenced by their peers to
adopt/accept certain behaviors,
follow trends including trends that
are bullying in nature sometimes
unknowingly so. Things are typed
and repeated which can be quite
hurtful and sometimes untrue.

Whether or not you feel strongly
about a topic concerning our breed,
find a way to resolve the issue
peacefully instead of enraging
people online so that they act out
parroting the information they hear.
We all love this breed. That's why
you are reading this publication right
now. Let's find a way to accept the
different ways we love them rather
than creating anger and resentment
and division amongst us all. It's
really none of your business what
some other Stafford person charges
for their puppies or what their buyer
pays, what color they breed, if they
like big ones or small ones, who
they sell to or whether or not they
are judged on a ramp - as long as
there are loving, responsible homes
for puppies, help with rescue, health
tests being done and mentoring
available. Those things do matter.

If someone else has a differing view
from yours let it go or engage them
in calm conversation to see why. It
could be they just don't know better.
Maybe they did not have a mentor. If
they are simply breeding for extra
income (something I can't figure out

how they do since we spend many
\$1000's on each litter) then there is
likely nothing you can do to change
it. You simply cannot legislate good
sense. People are going to have
different needs, likes and wants.
That's called diversity. You can't ban
something that you don't like and
expect a change. (BSL & prohibition
come to mind) You can't expect
everyone to want what you say is
right. It's not right for everyone. It's
only right for you. Who are you to
say what's right and what's wrong?

For example - if a judge wishes to
examine your dog on a ramp - teach
your dog to look damn good on a
ramp. If it's made right that's easy to
do. If you don't wish to breed blue
dogs, DNA test your own dogs and
any dogs you wish to use at stud
and you have complete control over
that.

In other words - be more accepting,
helpful, compassionate and
proactive. Be less judgmental,
accusatory, nose and angry.

—Lynn Caswell (Wavemaker)
Sr. Editor, Creative Director

Rolenska

*Rolenska Kisses
of Fire aka Paris*

Paris

**SIRE : WAYSTAFF SUPER TROUPER
AT ROLENSKA**

**DAM : ESTOY SONDANDO
DE LA VAUXOISE**

*Contact Helen Keaney
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STAFFORSHIRE BULL TERRIER

By Wattleos Gregory

Rolenska

STAFFORSHIRE BULL TERRIER

Working Ch. & Ch. Veteran French

Rolenska Winner Takes it All

Aka Winnie

Estoy Sondando

De La Vauxcise Aka Ebony



Sire : Vaevictis Slim Shady

Dam : Saxanjax Head Over Heels At Rolenska

Phone +44 1543 684422

Contact Helen Keaney

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Working Ch. & Ch. Veteran French

Sire : Rolenska Winner Takes it All Aka Winnie

Dam : Bibi's Love De La Vauxoise

By Wattlelos Gregory