

Trilby (Libellula Lass of Copyhold CDex UDex) 2.10.95 – 18.10.10



Trilby was the oldest Stafford I have ever had in the thirty six years that I have been lucky enough to own the breed. She was the last of my dogs to be directly descended from Staffords I bred and showed years ago but she was never destined for the show ring, although, on the rare occasions she ventured into beauty competitions, she came home with rosettes.

When I bought Trilby it was for me to train her for obedience, working trials and agility and in all of those disciplines, she excelled.

She gained her CDex and UDex qualifications in working trials, (only the second Stafford ever to do this) and frequently came home with best track and best nosework awards having beaten the more traditional breeds (including the odd police dog!) along the way. In obedience she won up to Novice and Class A, usually putting in a perfect scent test. Scent in obedience is completely different from working trials. In obedience, she had to identify

a cloth with my scent on it from amongst similar cloths and do a formal retrieve. In trials, she had to find all sorts of articles that had been handled by a steward and placed in a 25 yard square (which could be on heather taller than Trilby, a wet, muddy ploughed field or lush grass) and then retrieve them to hand – Trilby could do both brilliantly.

Trilby also competed in agility, again winning many rosettes and trophies. She was a wonderful little dog to handle and as I never had a hope of keeping up with her, I had taught her to turn left and right on command so I could steer her around a course when she was belting off ahead of me, all I had to do was think quickly enough to get the commands in!

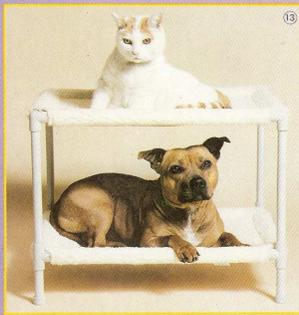
Because of her training for competitions she was once asked to do a photo shoot for a company called Hub International, who produce dog beds – of course, we said we would have a go, so Trilby and I spent a day in a studio with her having to pose on various beds with a selection of dogs and a cat that she had never met before in her life! She behaved impeccably even when her fellow models were attempting to leg it across the room and had to be held in place till the last

possible moment before the photo was taken!

Years later, I phoned Hub International to order a dog bed and asked if they remembered the Stafford who had once modeled for them – not only did they remember her, they gave us 'staff discount' as she had once worked for them! The bed is still in use and very popular with my Staffords.

Another thing that came about because of her training was a day filming with the BBC on a beach in Somerset. Again, she had to work with a host of dogs she had never met before, running in a group up and down a beach and posing for photos with the presenter, Phillippa Forester. Of all the dogs in the group, Trilby was the one who behaved the best, never moving from her position even when the St Bernard near to her almost stepped on her as he decided that posing was boring!

Through her life, Trilby was involved in many demonstrations of obedience, agility and working trials at everything from local village fetes to the Royal Bath and West Show and comprehensive schools. She was always perfectly behaved and extremely popular with the audiences.



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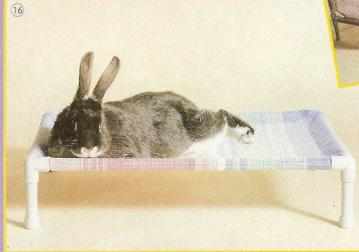
BELOW: 24 x 18 (610mmx457mm) chair PVC fabric, grade D & 24 x 18 high backed chair, PVC fabric grade D. Both available in fleece & PVC fabric, grade Aa.



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ABOVE: 24 x 18 (610mmx457mm) Fleece & PVC fabric bunk bed in 1/2 tube, grade Aa. Also available in PVC fabric & Fleece fabric grades D.

BELOW: Mr Rabbit on 24 x 18 (610mmx457mm) 1/2 tube-lounger, grade D, PVC fabric. This size available in: fleece and PVC fabric, for cold winter nights.



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ABOVE: A selection of small dog & cat furniture, all available in PVC & fleece grade Aa. Fleece fabric grade D - PVC fabric grade D. 2 sizes available: 24 x 18 (610mmx457mm) 22 1/2 x 18 1/2 (546mmx343mm)



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BELOW: Hub International have various mattresses & liners to suit all occasions. The ones below are fleece & fabric - Ask for details.



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ABOVE: Nest for small dogs & cats.

Trilby in HUB International brochure

To place an order Tel/Fax: 01491 628897. Hub International, Henley-on-Thames RG9 5JU

Away from her training activities, Trilby was a PAT Dog and visited the elderly and ill for many years, her last job being a weekly visit to the local mental hospital where she definitely cheered up many of the patients.

With Trilby, I achieved more in competitions than I had ever thought possible and did things I never imagined doing. Through her I learned huge amounts about dog training and met many brilliant dog trainers, some of whom have become my best friends. She was a wonderful companion and was happy to lie beside me while I gardened or do a half mile track with enthusiasm – whatever I wanted to do she was always up for it! I know she had a long and full life, but it does seem strange without her

– Trilby, sleep well, my friend, I'll see you again one day.

Marney Wells

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