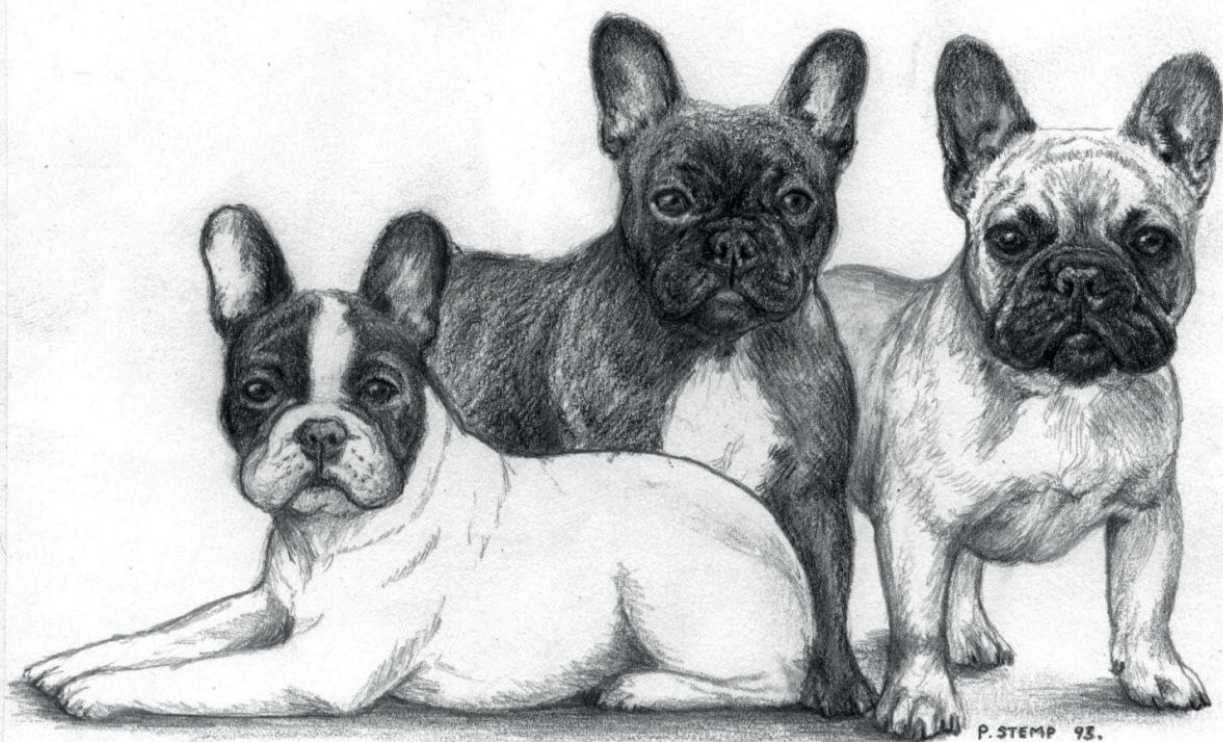


BAT EARS



MIDLAND & NORTHERN COUNTIES
FRENCH BULLDOG CLUB
MAGAZINE

SPRING 2024



Editor's Introduction

Welcome to the Spring 2024 edition of Bat Ears.

I'm putting this edition together as Crufts's 2024 has started. What an amazing show for Dean & Abbie Cund and their top winning boy Elton. He showed like a trooper in the group and BIS and did the breed proud. Elton made breed history being the first French Bulldog to win the Utility group at Crufts.

Then Richard Mavro and his merry band of helpers won the Utility Stand at Discover Dogs 2024. This is the third time the breed stand has been awarded this win. They were unindated this year. The RKC had arranged for representatives from DEFRA to visit the stand to see what information is given to the public about French Bulldogs. Everyone did a great job manning the stand over 4 days, giving valuable advice to the public about French Bulldogs.

French Bulldog Welfare Trust are always looking for foster carers and volunteers to help with transporting dogs etc. If you, or anyone you know may be able to help please contact Mick. The Welfare Trust deserves our support, they do marvellous work helping French Bulldogs in need.

Whether you are a pet owner or involved with the show world, all member's contributions are valued. If you have an article you think would be suitable or ideas for future editions please get in touch.

Finally we lost another stalwart of French Bulldogs in October last year. Mary Le Gallais was our Club Vice President, she had been active in French Bulldogs from the mid 1970's. Mary was well respected in the breed as a judge and breeder. She particularly loved fawns and bred under her Gais kennel name. Pugs were also her great love. Mary's close friend, Maureen Bootle has kindly written a eulogy for Mary.

That's all from me, enjoy your Bat Ears.

Angela McInnes

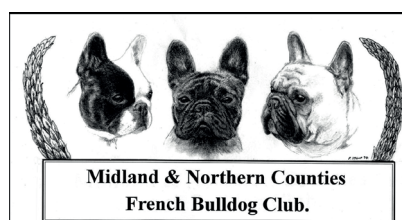
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Disclaimer:

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With the Editor or other members of the Committee reserving the right to edit within limits to ensure the intent is still portrayed, or reject any articles not deemed appropriate for publication in Bat Ears.

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Message From the Club President – Peter Kendrick

It is so good to have this opportunity once again to say a big thank you to the hard working committee and to the loyal members who continue to support our club in many ways.

Unfortunately, I must apologise again for my lack of attendance at some of our events during the last year which was due to ongoing health issues. David our secretary continues to keep me up to date and of course I follow the events on the club's Facebook and website pages. I must congratulate all those that put so much hard work into the preparation and presentation of our shows and events such as Discover Dogs at Crufts.

As you might be aware, I have decided not to seek re-election to the M&NCFBC committee at this years AGM. After over 40 years as a member of the club and many years on the committee, a number of which I served as Chairman, it has been a difficult decision for me to make as I have made so many friends through the club and have so many lovely memories. However I feel that the committee needs to have younger active members to take the club forward and hopefully members will want to come forward and join the hard working committee. I will of course be pleased to continue in the role of President and help the club in any way I can.

I must say a big thank you to the breed welfare groups who are always under so much pressure, if you can help in anyway it would be really appreciated. Offers of fostering, home vetting or just items for auction or raffles are always most welcome.

I again thank you all for your support and wish you all a successful and happy showing season and send lots of love to all your Frenchies

Peter



Chairmans Report

The Club remains in a very healthy position financially and we look forward to welcoming new and old members to our events throughout 2024. With the addition of a second championship show we will have a very busy year ahead and we look forward to the continued support of our members.

Talking of membership, renewals are due from the first of January and early signs are looking excellent with a number of new members signing up. Another note to remember with regards the M&NCFBC is that we are the only club that lets you the members pick the judges you want for your shows.

We ran 3 very successful shows last year which were all very well supported so a big congratulations to everyone involved in putting on these shows, a big thank you to everyone who sponsored classes and donated, your support is genuinely appreciated.

Good signs on the registration front where French Bulldogs registrations decreased by 38.9% in 2023, which can only be a good thing, let's hope this continues and we can get back to more normal levels. We are certainly now seeing a big decrease in demand for all these fad colours and designer bred 'Frenchies'.

The committee welcomed 3 new members in 2023 namely Olivia Timms , Dawn Smith and a previous committee member, Lilian Poulson. Please remember the Officers & Committee are here to serve you. We are always open to new ideas from our members so please if you have any forward them onto us.

We have a fabulous health testing team in place who are doing a sterling job so please let's all get behind our breed and our health team who have worked tirelessly to go out on health testing events throughout the country and keep health testing our beloved breed. We are constantly under the microscope from animal activist groups who would love to see our breed banned. We all have a duty of care to ensure the health of our breed and the only way forward is to ensure we only breed from health tested dogs.

On a personal note I would like to thank the hard working committee & officers of the M&NCFBC for their time and efforts throughout the year and wish everyone in our wonderful breed a happy and successful year ahead of showing . Be kind & considerate to your fellow exhibitors and let's all enjoy our fabulous hobby.

Chairman

Dean Cund



Message From the Club Secretary – David Spencer

I am grateful to have the opportunity to write this message and must thank Angela McInnes for all the work she has put into producing Bat Ears twice a year. I know from the comments I receive from members how much each edition is appreciated.

Last year I mentioned our concerns about the record number of registrations of French Bulldogs. During the last year registrations have dropped and it will be interesting to see if this trend continues.

It is important that we as a club truly represent French Bulldog lovers and I would therefore kindly ask all members to promote the club and help recruit new members whether it be by word of mouth, paying for a years membership with each puppy sold or if you have your own ideas it would really be appreciated. Membership forms are available on our website or by emailing myself at honsecmncfbc@gmail.com or from our treasurer at hontreasurmncfbc@gmail.com

Once again we have continued to promote the breed at Discover Dogs at Crufts and must thank Richard Mavro-Michaelis, Jackie and all the helpers, volunteers and of course the frenchies for all the time and effort that they put in.

We together with the other French Bulldog clubs continue to lobby the Kennel Club regarding the registration of non recognised colours in our breed.

Can I end by thanking all members for continuing to support the club and the committee.

David



Treasurers Report 2023

My first year completed as Treasurer after the sad passing of Carole Burton. I have broken down the events in the year by income and expenditure for you to see.

Championship Show September

Income for the championship show has decreased by £509.70 in 2023, this is mainly due to the show entries being lower by £386.00. Some other decreases are in relation to the income from the catalogue's, raffle show and donations.

Expenditure has decrease significantly by £494.55 in 2023 this is mainly due to the increase in the expenditure relating to judge's gifts and printing.

Spring Open Show

Income has been increased significantly in 2023 by £304.23 this is mainly due to the sponsorship income of £260.

Expenditure has slightly decreased in 2023 by £139.13 this can be mainly attributed to the significant reduce in printing offsets with a slight increase in relation to venues, judge's gifts, rosettes, and refreshments.

Winter Open Show

Income has decreased by £46.00 in 2023 this is due to the decrease in show donations.

Expenditure has decreased by £261.81 in 2023 this is mainly due to increases in cost of judge's gift and rosettes.

Annual General Meeting

Again, the AGM was done in person after the April show so there will be no venue cost for this meeting. They only expenditure was for the advert for Our Dogs.

Bat Ears

There was two Bat Ears produced in 2023, a spring and a winter edition. Thank you to Angela McInnes for the producing these. The cost in printing and post Bat Ears caused a total loss of £784.45. One of our benefits of membership is that our members receive a copy.

Breed Appreciation Day

Due to a late payment £30 was paid into this year instead of the previous year

General Income and Expenditure

The total income was higher for 2023 than 2022 this was mainly due to the greater

membership subscriptions and other income received in 2022.

The expenditure in 2023 is significantly higher than 2022 the main variance was due to the printing of the Bat Ears magazine, whilst other costs were either reduced or increased and offset each other.

There is a deficit in 2023 rather than a surplus 2022. And increase in the expenditure that was paid out in 2023.

With regards to the insurance costs these are not included within the show breakdowns and therefore become part of the show income list within the income and expenditure account.

Membership Report 2024

	2024	2023	2022	2020/2021	2019	2018	2017	2016
	Members	Members	Members	Members	Member	Members	Members	Members
Single	64	67	73	73	87	87	93	93
Joint	44	51	52	104	59	118	61	122
Total	108	118	125	177	146	205	154	215
Full	108	103	106	153	132	188	138	199
Assoc	0	15	19	24	14	17	16	16
Total	108	118	125	177	146	205	154	215
O/Seas	2	2	4	4	5	6	6	7
<u>Life</u>	9	10	10	14	10	14	10	14

The Membership at present stands at 108 (152 members) with some members still to renew their membership, I am actively encouraging these members to renew their subscriptions.

One life member has passed away, one being a joint membership now single.

Outstanding Membership are. (As of 29.03.2024)

64 Full members Which consists of

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

Amanda Jayne Pike hontreasurermncfbc@gmail.com

Officers and Committee 2024

Patrons

Mrs Maureen Bootle, Mrs Wendy Henderson, Mr. Peter Kendrick

President

Mr Peter Kendrick

Vice-President

Vacant

Committee

Chairman

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12 Kettlewell Way, Chelmsley, Birmingham B37 5JD

Tel: 0121 7881232

Vice-Chairman

Mr Richard Mavro-Michaelis,

Shoebridge House, Main Road, Eastburn, Keighley, W.Yorks BD20

7SJ Tel:01535 652057

Honorary Secretary

Mr David Spencer

The Bungalow,

Autumn Cottage, Baughton Hill, Earls Croome

WR8 9DG

Email: honsecmncfbc@gmail.com

Assistant Honorary Secretary

Ms Abbie Cund,

12 Kettlewell Way, Chelmsley, Birmingham B37 5JD

Tel: 01217881232 Email: **showsecmncfbc@gmail.com**

Honorary Treasurer & Membership Secretary

Ms Amanda-Jayne Pike

98 Main Road, Morton, Alfreton, Derbyshire. DE55 6HH

Tel: 01773 875185 Email: **hontreasurermncfbc@gmail.com**

Committee

Ms Abbie Cund, Mr Dean Cund,

Mr Peter Kendrick, Mr Richard Mavro- Michaelis,

Ms Amanda-Jayne Pike, Mr David Spencer,

Mrs Rebecca Cassidy

29 Dean Close, Birmingham

Mr Gareth Hickin

43 Forth Drive, Fordbridge, Birmingham B37 6PP 07843309090

Mrs Angela McInnes

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Ms Dawn Smith

45 Branson Avenue, Weston Coyney, Stoke On Trent, ST3 5LP 07814007597

Ms Olivia Timms

2 Childs Terrace, Silver St Close, Northolt, UB5 4NJ 07770510561

Mrs Lilian Poulson

17 Hazelgrove, Meir, Stoke On Trent ST3 5PL 01782 316945

Hi my name is Lilian Poulson. My first breed of dog was a german shepherd my mum and dad had. When I married Barry we had min poodles. I showed them for 22 year doing very well in the ring. In the early 80 we bought our first French Bulldog Amy; Bossyboots at Patchdown. Amy won res 9 RCC and then many best Veterans. MARCUS joined us - Brandoux Valentinoux at Patchdown JW, who at 12 months of age won Res CC and Best Puppy

in Breed at CRUFTS. What day to remember! Guy - Patchdown PILOT JW who won 2 Res CC's. I award CC's in LEONBERGERS. I had the pleasure of judging them at Crufts. I have also judged my beloved FRENCH BULLDOGS at many Champ shows.

Judges Sub Committee

Mr Dean Cund * Mr Peter Kendrick* Abbie Cund* Angela McInnes*

R Mavro Michaelis, R Cassidy

*Denotes award CC's in French Bulldogs

Show Secretary

Ms Abbie Cund

email: showsecmncfbc@gmail.com



Mary Le Gallais

18 th July 1937 - 31 st October 2023

Sadly, the news of the death of Mary LeGallais arrived just too late for the last Bat Ears.

Mary died, aged 86, after a few days in hospital. More recent members of our breed may not have known her, but those of us around since the 60s cannot fail to have known her and the impact made on our breed, especially by her wonderful fawns. I first met her back then, when her passion was Pugs and we met through mutual friends in that breed. I think Mary had 6 Pug champions (including a group winner). In the 70s French Bulldogs were welcomed alongside the Pugs, until, gradually, Frenches (mostly fawns) became the only breed at Gais.

Her dogs were wonderful characters, and visiting them at home was a joy. Always fit and healthy they enjoyed life to the full, running freely around Town Farm House and its surrounding fields. When Mary retired she moved to a picturesque cottage in a village near Cheltenham and soon the dogs became known to the villagers on their walks.

Mary and I served on the two older breed club Committees at the same time, and Mary also served on the committees of L.K.A. and W.E.L.K.S. She was a very hard worker, forthright and passionate about the dog s show scene. Those of us who were her friends will, I am sure, remember her mostly for her sense of fun. If you were in the company of Mary, you would spend most of the time together smiling and laughing!

Although we lived a good distance apart, we enjoyed visiting each other at home, as did our dogs! We met up at most shows, and were constantly in touch by phone. Even when we both retired from driving, and couldn't meet face to face, we had lengthy phone chats at least once a week, until her last two weeks.

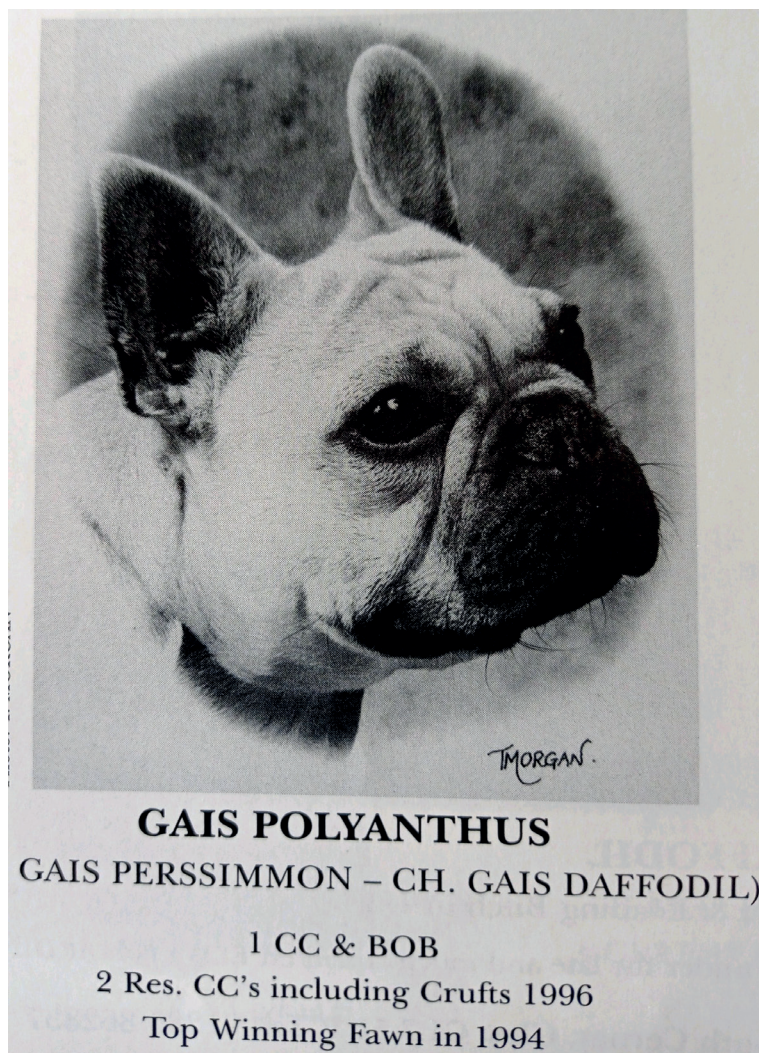
Her champion Frenches included Gais Buttercup, G. Daffodil, G.Persimmom, Tommyville Tulip of Gais, G. Lupin and G Jonquil. When I married Jan Blomquist in the late 80s Mary gave us,a wedding present of a very small brindle boy who soon became Swedish Ch. Gais

Bramble of Tommyville. I think maybe our stories of Brambles antics inspired her visit us to see just what a character this little man was. He was rarely to be found in the company of the Frenchie gang, usually in close company of the Labrador part of the family, retrieving, swimming in the Baltic and eating like a Lab, though never weighing more than 23lbs!

Mary couldn't believe how Bramble travelled so fast in the deep snow.

Mary spent her time at dog shows enjoying showing most of all, She also judged both of her breeds, and helped behind the scenes at championship shows. I'm sure most of the exhibitors watching her judging will remember her, when she went over the fabulous Ch. Birique Prinzessin, she obviously adored her, and labelled her The Marilyn Monroe of Frenchies.

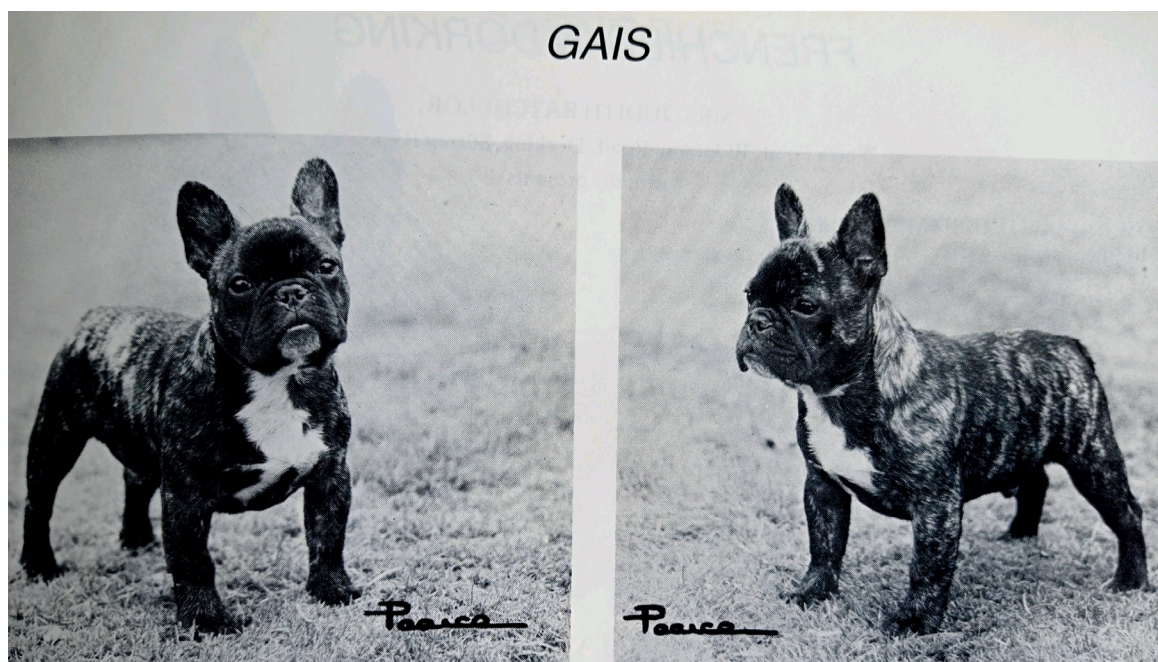
It is impossible to say how much a loyal friend of so many decades is missed. Thank you Mary for the joy you brought to me, and to many others, and may you rest in peace.





Mary cutting the Club's Golden Jubilee Celebration cake at the Club Championship show September 2008.

Well known for her love of Fawns, Mary also bred some lovely brindles too.



And lastly **GAIS PERIWINKLE**, one of **BUTTERCUP**'s babies from her litter by **CH. BESING PRINCE MATOU**. Shown here at 4 months old, he is the only dog puppy out of her lovely self-whelped litter of 5, born most appropriately, on her third birthday, 3rd January, 1981.
MRS. D. le GALLAIS, Town Farm House, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Wilts.
Telephone: 066-67-610.

Breed Health Updates

In September, the Royal Kennel Club launched their “Play Your Part – Breeding, Buying and Bringing up Brachycephalic Dogs” report which urges more collaboration on the issues faced by our breed, Pugs and Bulldogs. We are all aware that the popularity of our breed over the past decade has brought many issues to the forefront and we have an increasing welfare crisis facing some of the indiscriminately bred dogs. The report goes into depth on how the RKC continues to work closely with the Breed Clubs, Breeders, Welfare & Veterinary Organisations and The Government to improve the health of this and future generations of dogs and what plans they have for the future to better engage with the buying public through education on health and screening programs, breed standards. There are initiatives being introduced to tackle the problems we see today, to hopefully avoid the need for further Breed Specific legislation and bans as has been seen in some overseas countries.

The RKC believe that the role of Dog Shows in shaping trends of the buying public is minimal, although they do feel they give an excellent platform for education of breeders and owners. Statistics produced showed that at Crufts 2023, 48% of French Bulldogs and 69% that have been bred from had been Respiratory Function Graded and this is a significantly higher proportion of dogs that are RFG tested compared to the general population. However, even with these statistics there is still room for improvement. With that in mind, the RKC are currently working on the possible implementation of the following measures to further promote show dogs as the Ambassadors of the Breeds: -

1) Introducing Crufts related entry criteria for Pugs, Bulldogs and French Bulldogs.

(I believe this is likely to be a current RFG test (dated within last 2 years) for any dog of testable age from Crufts 2025, no specific announcement has been made yet or whether there will be a grade requirement)

2) Additional veterinary check criteria - to enable vets to be given the ability to fail a dog on additional criteria, and to consider random veterinary health checks at shows for any breed of concern.

3) A review of mandatory training, guidance, and regulation applicable to judges.

4) More specific measuring and monitoring of conformational features - such as nostrils, leg length, body condition, extremes of coat, extremes of skin and eye conformation to encourage greater attention to these areas.

5) A health supplement to the breed standard - for some breeds, to be very clear on the health and welfare concerns for that breed and how they should not be rewarded in the show ring.

The full report can be found <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/6186/play-your-part.pdf> and includes stats on 10 years registration figures and more information on the

Respiratory Function Grading Scheme and it's results.

The Breed Health Representatives continue to work in collaboration with the RKC on Health Initiatives and sit regularly as members of the Brachycephalic Working Group. Details of the working group and published reports can be found at <https://www.ukbwg.org.uk>

Vanessa Bryant – French Bulldog Health Scheme Administrator

FBCEHealth@outlook.com



**BLACKPOOL & DISTRICT
CANINE SOCIETY LTD**



21st to 23rd June 2024

Health Testing

Blackpool Championship Show will have

Dr Laura Hamilton BVM&S PgC SAC PgC SAM MRCVS

In attendance as Show Vet and she is delighted to be able to offer the following Health Testing if you are in attendance.

Heart Testing by Auscultation (VCS Certificate) £40 – All Breeds and

Breed Health Scheme tests for French Bulldogs, Bulldogs and Pugs and Respiratory Function Grading (BOAS) Laura is one of the Official Regional Assessors for the KC Respiratory Function Grading Scheme.

RFG – £55 per dog

Breed Health Scheme Check and RFG £60 per dog Breed Health Scheme Check, RFG and Heart (VCS) £65



Health Matters.

This information was found on the BVA website. Each problem is viewed as a “welfare issue” for the breed.

Brachycephalic conformation causes facial folds and narrow ear canals. This can favour chronic skin infections that cause discomfort and complicate long - term management of allergic skin disease.

Brachycephalic breeds are predisposed, (susceptible) to allergic Atopic skin disease affecting the face, ears and commonly feet. This Dermatitis/Eczema makes patches of skin itchy, cracked and sore and can be miserable for the affected dog.

French Bulldogs that do not have allergic skin disorders need intensive home skin care protocols to manage and prevent skin fold dermatitis.

Chronic or recurrent ear canal infections can lead to middle ear disease which can be extremely uncomfortable for the affected dog.

The shape of a French Bulldog’s skull means the eyes sit in a shallow orbit in the skull. This makes the eyes susceptible to injury, corneal ulceration and tear film disease. All extremely uncomfortable for the dog.

Brachycephalic Ocular Syndrome occurs when the eyelids cannot close properly over the eyeball. The eye will become dry and lead to ulceration – pain - and potential surgical removal.

French Bulldogs are known to be susceptible to life - long skin disease. The Pied colour in particular seem very prone. The facial folds, ear canals, middle ear, nasopharynx, feet, tail fold, lip folds, bridge of nose, and vulva can all be affected.

Skin fold dermatitis is caused by friction; for example; the dog rubbing it’s face fold on a rug. Skin to skin contact, (Intertrigo), can cause bacterial or yeast overgrowth. Tears and saliva can cause additional wetness which leads to macerated skin. This occurs when the skin is in contact with moisture for too long – the skin looks pale, wrinkly and soft, (this happens to your hands and feet when you stay in the bath too long!).

There is also a lack of ventilation in these skin folds which makes things worse. It can range from reddened to infected skin.

French Bulldogs are prone to dry, cracked noses, due to the anatomy of their head. The nose sits high on their stubby muzzle making it difficult to reach with their tongue.

The dry nose can be made worse by extreme heat or cold, sun exposure, and indoor heating. Dehydration will make the nose drier, so make sure your Frenchie drinks plenty of water during hot, humid periods of weather.

There are lots of remedies for a dry nose – soak the dry nose with a warm, moist towel and dab the balm on. There are lots of options from Vaseline to Paw Paw, it needs to soothe and moisturise the dry skin.

Angela McInnes



LEEDS Championship Dog Show Ltd.

26th To 28th July 2024 Health Testing

Leeds Championship Show is delighted to be able to offer the following Health Testing provided by Dr Laura Hamilton BVM&S PgC SAC PgC SAM MRCVS

Heart Testing by Auscultation (VCS Certificate) £40 – All Breeds and

Breed Health Scheme tests for French Bulldogs, Bulldogs and Pugs and Respiratory Function Grading (BOAS) Laura is one of the Official Regional Assessors for the KC Respiratory Function Grading Scheme.

RFG – £55 per dog

Breed Health Scheme Check and RFG £60 per dog Breed Health Scheme Check, RFG and Heart (VCS) £65

Please contact Vanessa Bryant via DM on Facebook or FBCEHealth@outlook.com to book your space(s).



Heat Stroke in Brachycephalic Dogs.

Dogs are not able to cool themselves down efficiently.

Human beings can sweat to cool themselves – produce perspiration which evaporates and cools our skin, lowering the overall body temperature.

Dogs do have sweat glands on their paws and nose – they sweat and release heat in those areas.

Panting moves hot, moisture filled air in and out increasing moisture evaporation, cooling the dog from inside out.

Dogs also heat up quickly.

Brachycephalic breeds with their short nose, flat, wide skull are MORE prone to heatstroke than other breeds of dog, **in fact twice as likely to be affected by heat related illness.** (HRI).

Brachycephalic dogs have impaired thermoregulation and some dogs have been found to overheat at a relatively low ambient temperature of 21 degrees Celsius.

The adorable face has a lot crammed into a small space, this crowding of soft tissue, tongue and cartilage restricts the flow of air, which in turn affects the dog's breathing. Moisture evaporation in mucus membranes of the nasal passages, mouth and lungs are affected by BOAS and creates airflow resistance.

When it is hot French Bulldogs find it more difficult because they can't pant and breathe as efficiently to cool themselves down and as panting is the primary way to keep the body temperature down, dogs affected by BOAS will struggle and be at high risk of HRI.

If your Frenchie is over - weight the extra layer of fat acts as insulation and impedes the ability to cool down even further. The effectiveness of panting as a cooling mechanism is further impaired

Brindles and dark coloured coats also absorb more heat.

It is **important to prevent** your French Bulldog from becoming exposed to heat and humidity to prevent them suffering Heatstroke. You need to be aware of the progressive nature of Heat Related Illness – this could save your dog.

Dogs taken for Vet care during the mild – moderate stage are more likely to survive.

Heat Related Illness should be considered important and a severe effect of the welfare of the affected dog.

Some ways to prevent heatstroke;

- BE AWARE OF WEATHER AND EXPECTED VARIATIONS – ALWAYS PLAN AHEAD.

· DOGS DIE IN HOT CARS AND ON HOT WALKS

- Ensure your French Bulldog has access to water at all times – dehydration impairs effective body temperature regulation
- Do NOT leave your dog in a hot, sunny area without shade.
- Do NOT leave your dog in your car on a hot day – the inside temperature of a stationary car can reach dangerous levels quickly. Exposure to a hot environment overwhelms the dog's ability to maintain a safe body temperature.
- AVOID TRAVELLING IN THE HOTTEST PART OF THE DAY.

PEAK temperatures in the UK are between 2pm – 5pm.

- Plan ahead for journeys – make sure aircon is working, turn on and cool the car before the dogs gets in. Window shades and an extra fan will all help prevent your dog getting over heated.
- Plan for delays on the road! – access to water, shade, ventilation, fans.
- **Do NOT** exercise in hot/humid weather. Exercise causes internal heat generation, and is the most common cause of heatstroke. Be vigilant and prevent/ reduce the risk
- AVOID EXERCISING DOGS DURING THE HOTTEST PART OF THE DAY, DURING A HEATWAVE< IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT or WHEN IT IS WARM AND HUMID.
- Add ice to water bowls
- Fill a paddling pool with cold water, wet your dog's chest, head and pads of feet to cool him.
- Maintain lean body weight of the dog.
- If you have an anxious dog that barks/paces/tries to escape – ensure the dog can be cooled quickly if needed.
- Attach a lead to a harness rather than a collar. Leads that pull on a collar can compress the airway and make breathing difficulties worse and affect the dog's ability to cool himself by panting.
- Do not exercise a dog that is unwell – dehydration impairs the cooling mechanism.
- Be aware that unfit dogs exercised in warm, humid weather do not cool effectively.
- Dog walkers/Boarding kennels need to manage ambient temperature conditions to reduce the risk of heat related illness.

What are the signs of heatstroke?

- Be aware of typical signs of heat related illness – monitor your dog regularly for signs of increased respiration/lethargy.
- Panting becomes louder and harsher – “rasping”, and the dog seems to be working hard to breathe.
- Panting with a wide - open mouth.
- Constant stream of drool.
- Travelling in enclosed spaces such as cars and aeroplanes carries a risk of heat related illness in any dog, it is substantially increased in brachycephalic breeds.
- Change in behaviour – disorientated, staggering – which may lead to collapse.
- If the rectal temperature is above 103 degrees call a vet IMMEDIATELY. (A dog’s normal temperature is 102 – 103 F.)
- Hyperthermia causes bleeding from any part of the body – if severe enough stops the dog’s blood clotting.
- The dog affected by heatstroke will have an increased heart rate and expanding chest. Watch how many times your dog’s chest expands and contracts over 10 seconds then multiply by 6. The normal rate is 10 – 30 per minute.
- **YOU NEED TO ACT FAST IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR DOG HAS HEATSTROKE. It can lead to tissue and organ damage and is potentially fatal.**

EARLY CARE FOR HRI WILL PREVENT PROGRESSION

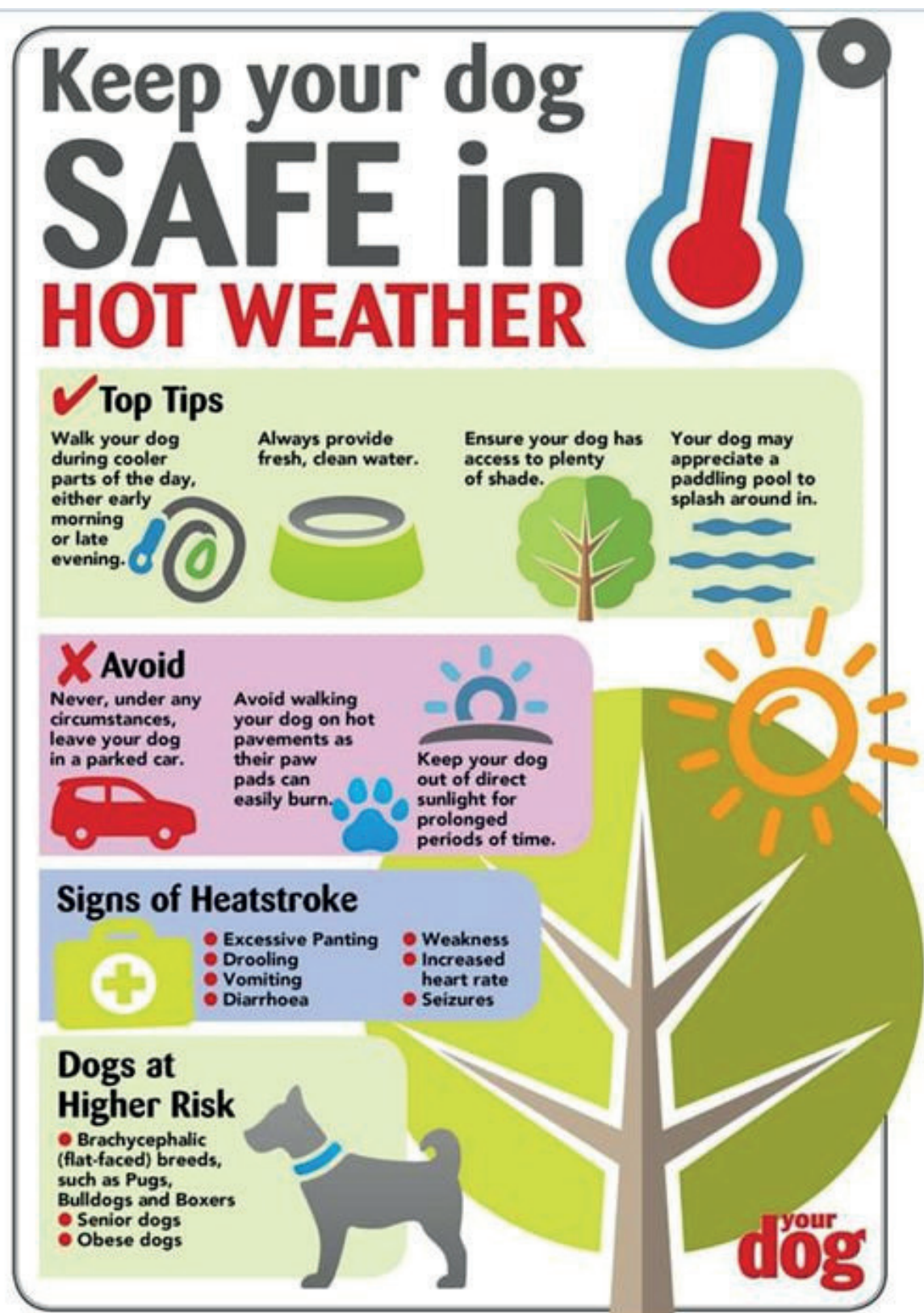
PRIORITY TREATMENT

- Remove the source of heat – stop exercising, seek shade, remove from the hot environment e.g car, ensure air movement, seek Vet advice.
- **COOL AS SOON AS MILD SIGNS OF OVERHEATING HAPPEN.**
- Use whatever water you have available provided the water is cooler than the dog
- WETTING, SOAKING the dog. The immersion in tap water is the most effective for rapid cooling – ensure the dog does not inhale any water. The rapid reduction of the dog’s body core temperature will prevent progression of HRI.

· Owners must ensure their dog is able to interact with other dogs and people, including Vets. This is part of the dog's training, socialisation and behavioural development. Dogs need to be able to adapt to situations and not become stressed. This will reduce the likelihood of anxious behaviour that could trigger heat related illness in unfamiliar situations.

· **COOL THE DOG BEFORE TRANSPORTING TO THE VET**

Angela McInnes



Forty Years of Frenchies

I had Irish Setters and Pointers and never considered a smaller breed Until I saw my first Pied French Bulldog. Her name was Hattie and she was petite in stature but had a huge “don’t mess with me” attitude. A year later her half brother Blott joined us. (He became Trucker Blott). After their day Millie and Billy joined the family. Eventually after they departed Wallace and Wilma arrived. This was still at a time when French Bulldogs were few and far between, so Wilma became the only French Bulldog I’ve owned that wasn’t Pied. As they became older and French Bulldogs were becoming more common, Susan and Nelson arrived and are still here today. Susan is coming up to 12 and Nelson will soon be 10.

All of my French Bulldogs have led active lives, undertaking hikes on our local fells when they were young and fit, then still enjoying low level rambles for their remaining years. They have all been great characters, full of fun and affection.

Ann Middlemiss.

“Trucker Blott” was a regular feature in Bat Ears in the early 1990’s. This regular, light hearted contribution was enjoyed by members.

Susan is currently a social media star renowned for saving all rocks in distress in the Lake District. She has her own Facebook page – “Susan” and she gets up to some very entertaining antics.

Addit: Since submitting this article Susan passed away on Valentines Day. She was much loved at home, and by her many followers on her Facebook page.

TRUCKER



BLOTT

Forty Years of Frenchies

Ann's dogs over the years. Spot the Fawn!



For further information about French Bulldogs

Look on our Club Website for more information about French Bulldogs.

www.mncfrenchbulldogclub.com

The Club also has a facebook page

Royal Kennel Club

Look on the RKC website for the **Brachycephalic Hub**: Finding out about Flat Faced Breeds.

For more information read The Kennel Club's report

“Play Your Part: Breeding, Buying & Bringing Up Brachycephalic Dogs Better”.

Health Testing : contact Vanessa Bryant **FBCEHealth@outlook.com**



Brindle solved ... Labokolin Laboratory

The new Brindle DNA test

The new brindle test can reliably detect all variants at the **K-Locus** including brindle: **KB**, **kbr**, and **ky**

The K-Locus

Brindle dogs exhibit distinctive stripes that distinguish them from solid-coloured or other non-brindled coat patterns. Brindle stripes are typically streaks of colour, often black, interwoven within a red base coat.

The colour of the brindle stripes is eumelanin and the colour of the base is pheomelanin. This means that brindle stripes are black unless the black is modified by other genes such as blue, brown, lilac, etc. The Red base varies and can be red, yellow, sable, fawn or cream.

The **K locus** plays a crucial role in determining coat colour inheritance in dogs.

Variants at this gene locus influence how pigments are distributed within individual hairs or across the dog's body:

The Gene Variants:

- There are two primary gene variants: **KB** and **ky**.
- When combined, they lead to three known alleles: **KB**, **kbr**, and **ky**.
- These alleles have specific effects on coat colour:
 - **KB** → uniform pigmentation / solid colours
 - **kbr** → brindle
 - **ky** → expression of the typical [agouti patterns](#) (DY, SY, AG, BS, BB1, BB2, and BB3).

KB Allele:

- If the dog has at least one copy of the dominant **KB** allele (genotype KB/*), the **KB** will be expressed.
- When the **KB** is expressed, this results in a solid-coloured coat in the pigmented areas.
- The **KB** does not allow the agouti patterns (The A-Locus) to be expressed.

ky Allele:

- The recessive **ky** allele allows eumelanin (black) and pheomelanin (red or yellow) pigments to be distributed in certain patterns known as the [agouti patterns](#). The specific Agouti pattern of the dog (DY, SY, AG, BS, BB1, BB2, and BB3) is determined by the [A-Locus gene](#).
- The A-Locus is fully expressed only when the dog is homozygous for the **ky (ky/ky)** at the K-locus → expression of the typical [agouti patterns](#).

kbr Allele:

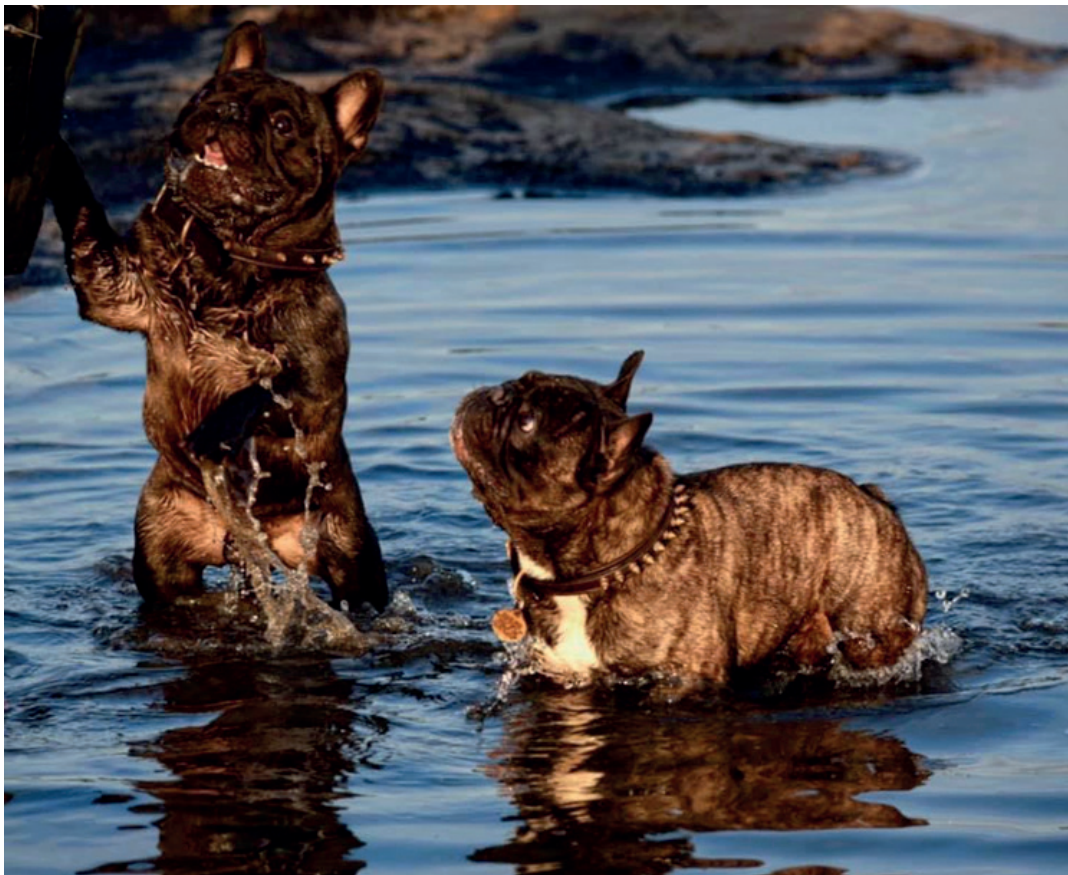
- The **kbr** allele, which is responsible for the brindle, is a heterogeneous duplication of **KB** and **ky** variants on one chromosome.
- It produces the brindle pattern: dark (eumelanin) stripes on a light (pheomelanin) base colour.
- Brindle appears only in areas where a light colour is otherwise present (e.g., black & tan markings).

- **kbr** is recessive to **KB** but dominant to **ky**.
- The expression of brindle varies, from isolated stripes to nearly completely dark dogs.
- It is not yet possible to determine the extend of these variations by genetic testing.

Notes about kbr:

- In the classic [K-Locus](#) test, which detects only **KB** and **ky**, if the dog is brindle, the result will always come back as **KB/ky**, however, not all dogs with the genotype **KB/ky** are brindle.
- Dogs tested **KB/ky** in the classic K-Locus test can be brindle, brindle carriers or non-carriers. This can only be detected by this new Brindle Test (8893).
- Therefore testing these **KB/ky** dogs for the new Brindle Test (8893), will reveal if the dog has any of the following genotypes:
 - **KB/ky**: the dog does not carry the brindle.
 - **KB/kbr** (Carrier) brindle is not expressed but it carries the brindle and can pass it on to its offspring.
 - **kbr/kbr** : the dog is homozygous for the brindle variant and will pass the kbr to its entire offspring.
 - **kbr/ky**: the dog is heterozygous for the **kbr** and the **ky** alleles and will pass the **kbr** to its offspring with a probability of 50%.

Depending on the breed and / or the colour of the dog, the classic [K-Locus](#) test may be sufficient (breeds which are not known to have brindle), however, in breeds which are known to have brindle, this new Brindle test (8893) is recommended.



Brindle dogs exhibit distinctive stripes that distinguish them from solid - coloured or other non brindled coat patterns.

Brindle stripes are typically streaks of colour, often black, interwoven with a red base coat

Colour in French Bulldogs

The only correct colours are: **Brindle; Fawn; Pied;**

Brindle – Colour pattern caused by a mixture of black hairs and fawn hairs. White markings permitted provided that brindle predominates. Eye rims, eyelashes and lips black.

Fawn – Clear, self-coloured fawn with or without a black mask. White markings permitted, provided that fawn predominates. Cream and red shades less desirable. Eye rims, eyelashes and lips black.

Pied – Brindle Pied: White predominates with brindle patches. (The brindle as defined above).

Fawn Pied: White predominates with fawn patches.

Whites are classified with Pieds for show purposes.

In Pieds, eye rims, eyelashes and lips should preferably be black.

Any white in the above colours should be clear with no ticking or spots.

All other colours highly undesirable, including solid black, black and white, black and tan, mouse, grey/blue, liver/chocolate and all patterns of these colours.

However, if a dog possesses a feature, characteristic or colour described as undesirable or highly undesirable, it is strongly recommended that it should not be rewarded in the show ring.



The Benefits of Colloidal Silver.

Colloidal Silver is a liquid made of nano sized silver particles suspended in ultra pure water. This natural product can help with a lot of health conditions in humans and animals.

It was used frequently until the discovery of Penicillin in the 1940's. Silver has been used as a natural treatment since the Ancient Greeks used a silver coin in water to stop bacteria growing. WW1 soldiers used silver leaf to treat infected wounds.

It is currently used to fight infection in hospitals and water systems. Silver is used in burns units on wounds (Flamazine). It is used in dressings to treat wounds infected by MRSA. Silver has regenerative properties which help to facilitate healing. Legionnaire's Disease is caused by a bacteria found in water. Silver is used in the water systems of public buildings to prevent the bacteria.

Colloidal Silver can enhance your body's immune system and also as a first aid remedy to naturally fight infection.

It is brilliant to use as a gargle if you have a sore throat and for fighting off colds.

As well as being produced as a liquid, topical products are available. These make the perfect First Aid kit for your dogs for ears, eyes, skin, wounds.



Jim Peach

Mr Peach is the judge for our Championship show being held alongside Birmingham National General Championship Show in May 2024.

With his wife Betty, they are the owners of the Rosdyke Kennel.

Jim and Betty became involved with Shetland Sheepdogs in 1974, later Japanese Spitz and then French Bulldogs. In 1999 they welcomed Roozrick Denzil Donut At Rosdyke from Ruth Castle. Betty showed him and he was made a Champion in 2001. Jim and Betty both went onto award CC's in French Bulldogs. This is Jim's 6th time awarding CC's in French Bulldogs. Jim feels this will be his last judging appointment in view of his age, and he can't think of a better show to end his judging career in Frenchies at.

Jim and Betty have both been regular stewards at Crufts and other general championship shows and are well known and respected among the dog showing fraternity.



My love of Frenchie's started nearly 14 years ago when my daughter bought a puppy and decided that she wanted to show him. A few months later, and entered at our local show we realised very quickly that he was too big, but this didn't deter her; so a brindle bitch from people who showed and from lines that she admired was brought home. She wasn't shown extensively as she had trouble keeping her weight. A year on two puppies arrived from the Jafrak kennels, a fawn boy and a brindle sister, Mabel achieving a RCC, and Dexter a few best puppies. Other frenchies followed that won consistently.

We went on to have a litter from this fawn boy and our older bitch which produced a fawn lad Khanin Dexy's Midnite Runner (Lennie) who came to live with me and achieved 2 CC's and 2 RCC's top Junior dog and a first at Crufts under Mr Van Raamsdonk. I retired him when he became apathetic for showing. Another boy, a pied, was campaigned by my daughter achieving many 1sts at champ level, a CC with BOB and a few RCC's, but was also retired early.

Our pride and joy is Enid, Champion Jafrak so Flirty at Khanin, who to date has achieved 7 CC's and two RCC's, 1 BIS and 1 RBIS at the Midland and Northern FBC on consecutive years; 2 BOB's at general Championship Shows. She gained 1CC with BOB and 1 RCC only weeks after maternal duties and we now have her lovely son, Khanin Gunner Make It, who we hope will go on to emulate his mother.

My first love though is Great Danes and in 1967 when my future husband took me to introduce me to his parents and his two Gt Danes, it was love at first sight. One of them came to live with us at our first home. After Joe died, we bought a blue puppy from a local breeder who happened to show... the seed was sown, I officially became someone 'who showed' and over the years we were owned by some 20 odd Great Danes, I lost count! During this time entries for Danes were over 200 dogs or more but I did manage to do very well with them and attained a few CC's and RCC's along the way, and I have given tickets in the breed for several years now.

Having no Danes to show and gifted from a friend of a GSD puppy I turned to the obedience, agility and working side of the dog world, after 6 more GSDs later and competing for 'fun' for a few years I returned with my daughter to show the Frenchie's, but I had never completely left the show scene. I stewarded at Champ shows including Crufts (and still do), was a committee member of a local society, now deregistered...but I am proud to say I am still a member of the committee, and the President of the East of England Gt Dane Club (1986), a club I was a founder member of.

In April 1978 just before my first Gt Dane litter was due my Affix Khanin was granted by the KC, made up from the names of my first two show Danes, Khan and Nina. Later when the French Bulldogs came along my daughter and her husbands names were added to it and a partnership ensued. We are now part of the 'frenchie' family and humbled at the support they have given us in our campaign with Enid. Thank you.

I am so looking forward to judging the funny, loving and stubborn breed, the French Bulldog, that I have come to love, at the M&NCFBC in September '24.

Jean Pratt



Champion Rischale Henrietta at Ellouab JW

LB Graphics

*Bred by Tessa Smith
&
Kate Watt
Owned and loved
by Dawn Smith*

Best Puppy - Driffield 2022
RCC - Midland Counties 2022
CC& BOB - Three Counties 2023
RBIS - West Lancs 2023
Reserve Best Junior Bitch & RBIS - S.T.A.G 2023
CC - Buba 2023
CC - Manchester 2024

Bullecourt



Spirit

BORN 25.04.2011

OWNED & LOVED BY ANGELA MCINNES

Bullecourt Dignity



BORN 11.11.2012

OWNED & LOVED BY ANGELA MCINNES

HELPING US TO HELP THEM

I Support The
French Bulldog
Welfare trust



Support The French Bulldog Welfare Trust

For further information contact the Welfare Trustees

Chair Person/ Secretary - Mr Mick Gordon 0191 2809177

Treasurer - Amanda -Jane Pike 01773 875185

Trustee/Administrator - Mrs Irene Stansfield - 0128 2870901

frenchbulldogwelfaretrust@gmail.com

#1

DOG
PUPPY
BREEDER
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CHELMBULL

DON'T BE *afraid* TO
REACH FOR THE *stars!*

At The Pod

Ch Esp Ch
CHELMBULL ROCKET MAN WW

Top Utility 2023 | Top Frenchie 21, 22, 23 | 40 CCs | Breed Record Holder
10 Group Wins | 3 All Breed BIS | 4 All Breed RBIS

At 3 years old Elton has took us on a journey that would see records broken and new ones made. A heartfelt thank you to all his judges.

Artwork by Pro Paw Design