

BAT EARS

SPRING 2023

The Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog Club



Editor's Foreword

Welcome to the Spring 2023 Edition of Bat Ears.

The Officers and Committee of the Midland and Northern Counties French Bulldog Club would like to sincerely apologise to members for not producing Bat Ears since May 2021.

We are looking forward to continuing our famous Bat Ears newsletter, and getting back on track with 2 editions each year.

The Committee understand how important the newsletter is for our membership, especially those who do not have access to the internet and those not attending our shows.

We are always keen to hear what topics you would like covered in the newsletter, and your contributions are most welcome.

Health and related topics are extremely important at the moment and this is the main focus of this edition.

We will continue to include the photograph and 3 generation pedigree of every champion. This is important for breed history and for your interest, and has been included in champion books produced by the club since it was formed in 1958. This feature will start in the next edition of Bat Ears.

Members are welcome to continue to place adverts in Bat Ears and show case your dogs whether they are pets or show dogs.

2023 is an important year for The Midland and Northern Counties French Bulldog Club, we are celebrating our 65th year. This anniversary is symbolised by Blue Sapphire. Officers and Committee look forward to members celebrating our special anniversary year with us.

I can be contacted via email at **batearsmncfbc@gmail.com**

Angela McInnes

Disclaimer

Please note that opinions expressed in Bat Ears may be those of contributors to the magazine and are not necessarily those of the Editor, Officers or Committee Members.

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.

I must apologise for my lack of attendance at some of our events during the last eighteen months which was due to ongoing health issues.

David our secretary keeps 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, they are some of the best I have seen in all the years I have been a member of the club.

It is worrying times for our beloved breed and it is most important that breed clubs have support from club members, breeders and "Frenchie" owners, so that we are able to fight for the breeds future if needed.

We do have great sound types winning at the Championship Shows and this can only be a good thing in helping our cause.

Having been a member of the Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog Club for over forty years, the good times and great friends that I have made will never be forgotten and I would urge "Frenchie" owners and lovers to come forward and join us and consider putting themselves forward to join our committee or to volunteer to help in any way they can. Committee meetings are now mostly on line which saves a lot of travelling.

Finally 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



Chairman's report 2022

Show numbers throughout 2022 for our breed had a slight decrease which is more than understandable bearing in mind the state of our economy with ever increasing bills across the board. Our clubs 3 shows more than held their own with regards entries with our April Open show drawing a wonderful entry of 95 and our Championship show in September drawing a fabulous entry of 167

and our December Open show a entry of 65 so thanks to you all for your continued support.

We really do have a battle on our hands to protect our breed , there are a number of groups now calling for our breed to be band from showing at Crufts with a number of vets joining forces with them stating health issues as there main point of concern. We as a breed need to be showing these groups our breed is healthy and the only way we can do that is by health testing, we owe it to our breed and there simply is no excuse for not testing. We have a fabulous health testing team in place who are doing a sterling job so please let all get behind our breed and our health team who have worked tirelessly to go out on health testing events throughout the country.

Non standard colours are still proving to be a massive problem across many breeds now which continues to be a major worry across the board. I can't really see much light at the end of the tunnel on this subject which really pains me and continues to frustrate us all with regards to them still remaining on the same registration system as standard colours.

2022 saw a number of very sad losses not only for our club but for our breed with the passing of Carole Burton who had serve our club for many many years and was club Treasurer at the time of her passing. Then we lost the Dogfather Neil Birks a life member and serving committee member of more years than I care to remember. We were then informed of the sad loss of Dr Christine Towner. All three were fabulous supporters of the Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog club and all three will be greatly missed. The Club remains in a very healthy position financially and we look forward to welcoming new and old members to our events which brings me to the very well run Breed appreciation day which was held On 23rd October and was well attended. Many thanks to Richard & Jacky Mavro and their team of helpers for such an informative event. Talking of members and membership we all need to join our breed clubs and support club events without member's support club will struggle to survive. And my final thanks go to our committee thank you all for the time and effort you all put in to making the club run smoothly as possible all your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Dean Cund

Chairman



Message From the Club Secretary – David Spencer

It is great to have Bat Ears back and we must thank Angela McInnes for all the work she has put into producing this edition.

I know from the comments I receive from members how much each edition is looked forward to.

I am pleased to return as Club Secretary, a role I have taken over from Amanda-Jayne Pike who is now the Club Treasurer following the sad passing of Carole Burton.

Since I last held the position of Secretary much has changed with now more emphasis on the health and future of our breed. With some countries seeking to ban the breeding of brachycephalic dogs it is important that we together with other breed clubs have the support of owners, breeders and lovers of our breed in order that we can make representations to the appropriate bodies.

Despite the number of registrations reaching record numbers in recent years, the memberships of Breed Clubs have not risen in the same way. It is important that we 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.

We continue to promote the breed each year 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.

Social Media now seems to be the go to place for information, our Facebook page has grown and now has over 500 followers while our website attracts many visits. The most popular page is the show page which has all details including links to entry forms and schedules for all Championship Shows and Club Open shows for French Bulldogs

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

David



Membership Information

Dear Member(s)

David and I have swapped job titles again, I can't remember how many times now. I'm now the Treasurer after the death of a dear friend Carole Burton.

We would like to thank you for your membership and hope you enjoy the benefits of being a member.

This was my first year dealing with the membership renewals and thought I'd make it easier for you by supplying details on how to pay.

Our club subscription is due for payment on the 1st of January every year.

Subscriptions

SINGLE £10.00 JOINT £12.00 OVERSEAS JOINT/SINGLE £15.00

Subscriptions may be paid by any of the following methods:

By sending the appropriate remittance

Cheque

To the Hon Treasurer, M&NCFBC

98 Main Road, Morton, Derbyshire DE55 6HH (*cheques should be made payable to Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog Club*).

OR

PayPal

**If you have a PayPal account you can pay via our website at
<https://www.mncfrenchbulldogclub.co.uk/membership-payments/4592051450> (a small fee applies)**

OR

Online banking

Quoting Payee Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog Club,

Bank sort code 60-21-50, Account Number 29586224 and your name as the reference

(most important).

OR

Standing Order

We recognize annual payments can easily be forgotten and therefore we recommend paying by standing order. If you would like to use this facility, please email me (Hontreasurermncfbc@gmail.com) for a standing order form. Most banks also offer the facility to set up standing orders via their online banking service and our account details are

Payee: Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog Club

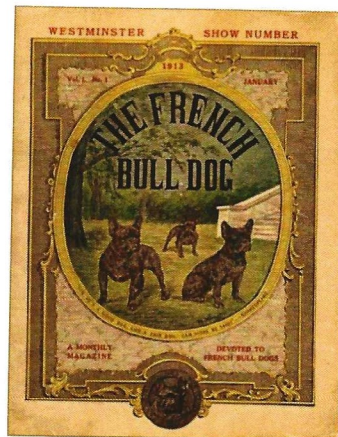
Bank sort code 60-21-50, Account Number 29586224

Please use your name as the reference (most important).

Yours sincerely,

Amanda-Jayne Pike

MNCFBC Honorary Treasurer **email: hontreasurermncfbc@gmail.com**



Show Secretary Report

All 3 shows in 2022 were very well supported. Our Easter show on 17th April drew a very respectable entry of 77 dogs making 95 entries for our judge Mr Michael Coad who found his best dog & best puppy dog and BPIS in Yvontrae Spencer Tracy owned by Ms T Gregory. Best bitch and BIS in Ch Roalice Mighty Mouse owned by Miss L Roach.

Our Championship show held on 11th September drew a lovely entry of 135 dogs making 167 entries for our judge Ms Moa Persson (Sweden) who found her Dog CC winner in Cane Guardiano Daedalus Ardhub owned by Miss L McGroarty Dog RCC winner Muggshotts Whiz Bang Wilber owned by Mrs L Bonsall. Bitch CC & BIS winner was Jafrak So Flirty winning her 3rd CC for her owner Mrs M Smith and Bitch RCC & RBIS was Catrelma Sina Rosheen owned by Ms S Seffer.

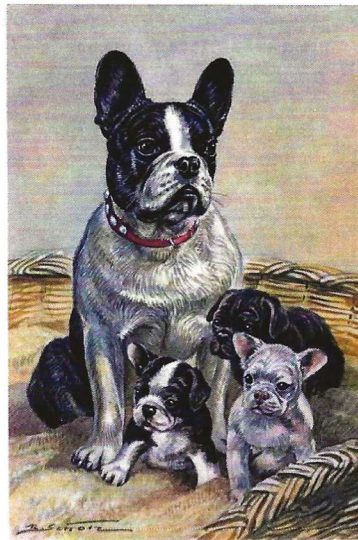
The Christmas Open show held on 18th December drew an entry of 65 dogs making 75 entries for our judge Miss Angela Pleasance who found her Best Dog in Guru Sunday at Wildax owned by Miss L Rankin and Res best dog in Ir Ch Olijah Total Knockout JW owned by Timms & Henderson. BPD & BPIS was Chelmbull Space Man owned by Hickin & Cund . BB & BIS was Rosanyos Sevillana JW owned by Tonkin & Pellow with RBB going to Gzyjo Honey Bee owned by Miss J Howarth. BPB was Poison D'acebo Mystic Symphony owned by Tonkin & Pellow.

We continue to get fabulous sponsorship from our members and exhibitors which is greatly appreciated both by sponsorship of prize money rosettes and prizes. We continue to offer free tea & coffee and biscuits at our three shows which always go down well . We look forward to welcoming all exhibitors old and new to our future events where you can all be assured of a warm friendly welcome. Why not join our club where you can benefit from savings on entries and on the plus side you get a vote on the judges you actually want instead of what your given we are the only club that you the members get to vote for the judges you want.

On that note I would like to say a big thank you to you all for your incredible support over the years and look forward to welcoming you all back next year.

Show Secretary

Abbie Cund



Please follow the Midland & Northern Counties French Bulldog Club on their facebook page.

www.mnncfrenchbulldogclub.com for more information about the club

Officers and Committee

Patrons

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

President

Mr Peter Kendrick

Vice-President

Mrs. Mary le Gallais

Committee

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Vice-Chairman

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Tel: 01773 875185 Email: hontreasurermnncfbc@gmail.com

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Mr Peter Kendrick, Mr Richard Mavro- Michaelis,

Ms Amanda-Jayne Pike, Mr David Spencer

Co-opted Members

Mr Gareth Hickin, Mrs Angela McInnes

Judges Sub Committee

Mr Dean Cund

Show Secretary

Ms Abbie Cund

email: showsecmnncfbc@gmail.com



In Memory

The Officers and Committee of the Midland and Northern Counties French Bulldog Club would like to express their condolences and sympathy to family and friends of the following valued and respected club members, who have unfortunately passed away.

Mrs Carol Burton, Mr Neil Birks, Dr Christine Towner, Mrs Jeniffer Du Cane and Mrs Margaret Souter.

Carol was club Treasurer, Patron and Committee member. Neil was Vice President, Patron and long standing Committee member. Dr Towner was a previous Committee member and long time supporter of the MNCFB. We would like to pay tribute to and acknowledge their contribution and service to the Midland and Northern Counties French Bulldog Club. We hope the following eulogy's share fond memories and bring some comfort to family and friends.

Mrs Carol Burton

The Officers and Committee of the Midland and Northern Counties French Bulldog Club were sad to hear of Carol Burton's passing in June 2022.

Carol was Treasurer of the Club, committee member and elected a Patron in 2022.

Carol grew up with different Bullbreeds and owned Boxers later on. She had her first French Bulldogs from the Wilcott kennel. Carol started showing seriously in 1999 with Jordace Dinky Dancer. We became friends around the same time, and started travelling to shows together.

Carol was devoted to the breed and despite her own ill health, she began to help with rehoming French Bulldogs through the Welfare Trust.

Carol's proudest moment in the showring was when her Frank won BOB at Crufts in 2012. He had won consistently from a puppy and gained his Champion title the same year.

BOB

French Bulldog

2012

Morvern Frank Avec Labanjo

" FRANK "

Presented by

THE KENNEL CLUB

Crufts

1st Limit Dog

CC

BEST of BREED

2012




M Conway

During the last few years Carol's health deteriorated and she didn't attend as many shows. She had become a committee member of the Midland and Northern, eventually nominated as Treasurer of the club.

The welfare of French Bulldogs was always her concern. It upset her to see the number of French Bulldogs imported to the UK and the impact this had on the Welfare Trust and sadly how some French Bulldogs suffered.

Always honest and forthright Carol will be missed by the Club and her many friends.

Angela McInnes

Dr. Christine Towner



Those who knew her will be sad to learn that Christine died on Dec 22nd 2022. She had been in care for a few years and because of Covid etc., we had not been allowed to visit her for the last 2 years. The funeral took place on January 9th.

Christine had Frenchies for several years before she started to show, keeping them purely as pets while she led a very busy life running one of Surrey's largest hospitals. She had her first show boy from me in the late 70s, when her work load became lighter. He was Tommyville Tamine and she won a CC and res CC with him, and they did very well in Obedience at Open show level too. Christine was the first person to work in Obedience in the breed since Muriel Walker and the Lancefield Frenchies

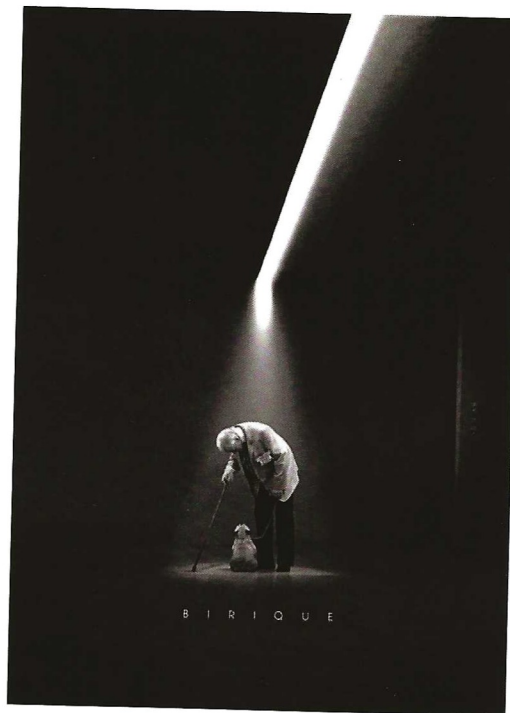
in the 50s and 60s. The show ring kept her attention too, and her next brindle boy, had a very successful career, becoming Ch. Tommyville Top Hat in the early 80s.

In the late 80s she co-owned Ch. Allaynes Dutch Girl at Tommyville with me, and in the 90s she imported a pied male from Carol and Michael Hawke in America and showed him, Sonlit Jubilee Year, with a lot of success. Christine was a member of the Committees of the FBCE and M&NCFBC at various times, and always worked hard for both clubs. She was breed correspondent for Our Dogs for many years, taking over from me in the 1980s when I moved to Sweden. She enjoyed her judging appointments too – especially her final one, Crufts 2008, where she made Ch. Prinzessin BOB.

She was a great friend, and I miss her – as I know others do too.

Maureen Bootle

Mr Neil Birks



I met Neil and Jacky back 1982 when they started in our breed. They previously owned a variety of dogs including Poodles and Great Danes, and Neil had, apparently, spotted a French Bulldog waddling into the ring at a local show. They very soon acquired a couple of Frenchies. A Quattbaby came first, and I remember Neil telling me how Jacky made him sign a document promising that

Sophie would not be shown or bred from. He agreed, on condition that if she didn't eat well, Sophie would have a companion to encourage her. Of course, very quickly she was joined by Suki, from Dick and Margaret Bowgen, her breeders. Both girls were shown locally with some success and, soon, going to more and more shows. Birique was registered as their prefix, and the line was established. At shows, the Bowgens and I, who had been in the breed for a couple of decades, were benched next to Neil, and he and I shared a passion for studying pedigrees and regularly spent hours discussing breeding and blood lines.

We can't forget that Neil was a very talented hairdresser, as Margaret and I soon discovered. Shows were a little different back then, and he often shunted us into a quiet corner, out came the scissors from his top pocket and we had hair-cuts! Eventually I started to drive to his salon in Stoke whenever I could. This was another enjoyable part of life. Neil's salon, where he was often helped by his brother Andrew and Lee, was always full of happy clients, chatting and laughing. On a few occasions we enjoyed the company of a Frenchie too. For most of my life this continued, going to his home after he sold the salon. When I was no longer able to drive, Jacky insisted on driving Neil from Stoke to Northampton and the routine of his doing my hair continued in my home. I am just one of many long-standing clients who will be ever grateful for their help and thoughtfulness.

Back to the dogs -

Neil joined the breed clubs, and worked very hard for the M & N club, eventually being elected to the Committee and later becoming Chairman. This was a position he hated and retired from as soon as his term was over.

Being an Officer at any level was not for him. I remember the 80s and 90s as a particularly successful period for the club, with a very large membership, both pet owners and exhibitors. We had wonderful gatherings, always with upwards of 70 people present at the seminars, shows, lunches, garden parties, talks and other super events. Neil was always amongst the hardest workers, and Jacky made sure the kitchen was well supplied with super sandwiches etc.

Neil was a very keen judge of the breed, and was always welcomed into the ring centre in this country. He was also a very popular judge in Scandinavia. On one occasion Neil and Jacky went on a cruise around Norway and left the ship at Stavanger for a day's break on land. To their great surprise and delight, they were met on the docks by a group of Frenchies with their owners. The Norwegians, had been told in advance about their trip, and were so thrilled to be able to plan a get-together.

Whenever Jacky and Neil had a holiday, or for any other reason they needed the dogs cared for - I was the lucky victim. For many years they came to stay at Tommyville, and were totally at home with my family. Some of this time was the era when their beloved Sassie (Ch Birique Prinzessin) was being campaigned, and I am relating this story, not to boost my ego, but to show those of you who weren't around to see it, that Sassie's character and behaviour matched her outstanding beauty!

If you remember Sassie and Neil in the ring, you will remember the little star who paced herself alongside Neil, hardly ever taking her eyes off him for any reason, and doing everything in perfect harmony with him no matter how his disabilities were affecting him at the time. On one occasion she was entered for a show while Neil and Jackie were away, and so I was allowed to handle her. For the only time ever, she pounded round the ring like a naughty puppy. She did twirls of delight at the corners of every triangle, jumped up and down when she thought the judge wasn't looking, and

bounced again, as we shared our joy in holding the CC and Best of Breed cards. Several people, including the judge, did not recognise her, and asked me who the lovely bitch was. Many of us still agree she was the best ever.

The sharing of our dogs wasn't one sided. Neil often took a newly born litter for me, when my work didn't blend in with several nights puppy-watching. Neil insisted, saying he often sat in a chair all night to find comfort, and wanted to baby-sit my new litters. I was able to repay on a few occasions when he found the bending difficult while weaning his litters. As a result of this litter sharing 2 Biriques stayed with me forever. Cassie, Birique Kazalette, never shown, but Top Dog of my gang for 13 years, and Ch. Tarquin, our treasured Quinnie. Neil bred a total of 26 litters, from his A litter to the Zs, and bred 8 champions and many other CC winners.

Luckily I was able to attend the M & N championship show just a few weeks ago. I greeted Neil and Jackie on arrival. Neil looked at me, put his hand in his shirt pocket and greeted me with 'I've forgotten my scissors! We spent the day sitting near the judges table where we could see the dogs easily, and the time passed, just as it did some 40 years earlier, while we discussed the Frenchies. It was to be Neil's last show.

So, after just a few of the many happy memories, we remember now, at last, Neil is free from pain. Maybe we can say thank you for the fun and laughter you brought into our lives Neil. We miss you so very much, and can only sympathise with your family who miss you the most.

We know how much he adored and cared about you. I know he will be very close to you all, and smiling on a very special day next July. God bless....

Maureen Bootle

The Enigma known as Neil Birks

It is with deep regret that we find ourselves putting these words together as that means we have lost our mentor and more importantly to us our friend. For those of you that knew Neil, the words "shrinking violet", "I have nothing to say" "diplomacy" "beating around the bush" are all things that clearly could never be put into the same sentence with Mr Birks name. For those who never had the fortune to meet this man, you have missed one of the world's great characters and what Neil did not know about French Bulldogs could be written on a postage stamp.

My own first experience of Neil was somewhat enlightening. We had literally just started in the world of showing with our wonderful first Frenchie Rio (still with us at almost 11 years young). I was on the outside of the ring at the club championship taking some pictures of Rio (proud dad) and I also started to wave at her to let her know I was there watching. At this point the enigma approached me and very politely made me aware of a no no that this could be constituted as double handling, I thanked him kindly for making me aware of my potential indiscretion. He then proceeded in going around the room with camera in hand snapping away, with the camera of course.

My wife's first real introduction to Neil was via his ever so lovely and constantly embarrassed wife Jacky. She did her utmost to prepare us both for our very first meeting with Neil, informing us that Neil may appear to be a little blunt at times but he does not mean anything by it, she was not wrong.

If anyone asked Neil what he thought of their dog they may have got a shock as he said it exactly like he thought with both barrels, he always finished on a positive note though. Neil and technology was something I experienced when listening in on MNCFBC meetings. Almost everyone would be up and running with video and sound for the meeting to start, with the exception of one person. About 10 to 15 minutes in there would be the sound of an individual telling us he had joined the meeting after failing to get in the same way as everyone else he would fall back to the faithful phone method. There were some giggles from the rest of those already participating but Neil was unperturbed. In the time we have known Neil he has been every bit the gentleman and made us laugh so many times with his directness of opinion while sitting around the ring camera in hand as usual. His one regret in the show dog world I believe was that he never got to judge at Crufts.

Gone but will never be forgotten by Mike and Ann-Marie Hunter.



Photo
MRS. HUBERT ROBERTS' FAMOUS FRENCH BULLDOG,
CH. L'ENTENTE GAYROUH.
"The Dog World."

French Bulldog Health Scheme

We are facing the most important time in our breed history for all owners, breeders and enthusiasts to be actively involved to promote a healthier French Bulldog.

The Kennel Club and Breed Health Scheme need your support and participation to make a difference to the health and future of our breed.

BASIC HEALTH CHECK - CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION.

The breed specific examination covers Ears, Eyes, Heart, Breathing, Skin, Basic Conformation, temperament etc.

BRONZE LEVEL CERTIFICATE

You must have obtained the **BASIC HEALTH CHECK** and participated in the official **Kennel Club Respiratory Function Grading Scheme**. Heart result with a normal grade.

SILVER LEVEL CERTIFICATE

To have the Bronze Level Certificate with the following results.

Respiratory Function - Grade 0 or 1

Nostrils Graded - Open or Mild (Depending on Vet's comments exceptions can be made for moderate stenosis).

Putnam Patella Test - Grade 0 or 1

Heart test with normal grade - result must be within the last 12 months

Hereditary Cataract clear - either by DNA (HC HSF4) or hereditary clear

GOLD LEVEL CERTIFICATE - open to breed standard recognised colours only

The dog must be over 2 years of age.

To have the Bronze and Silver Health Certificate

Respiratory Function Grade 0 or 1 (result taken over the age 2)

Heart Test with normal grade (taken over the age of 2)

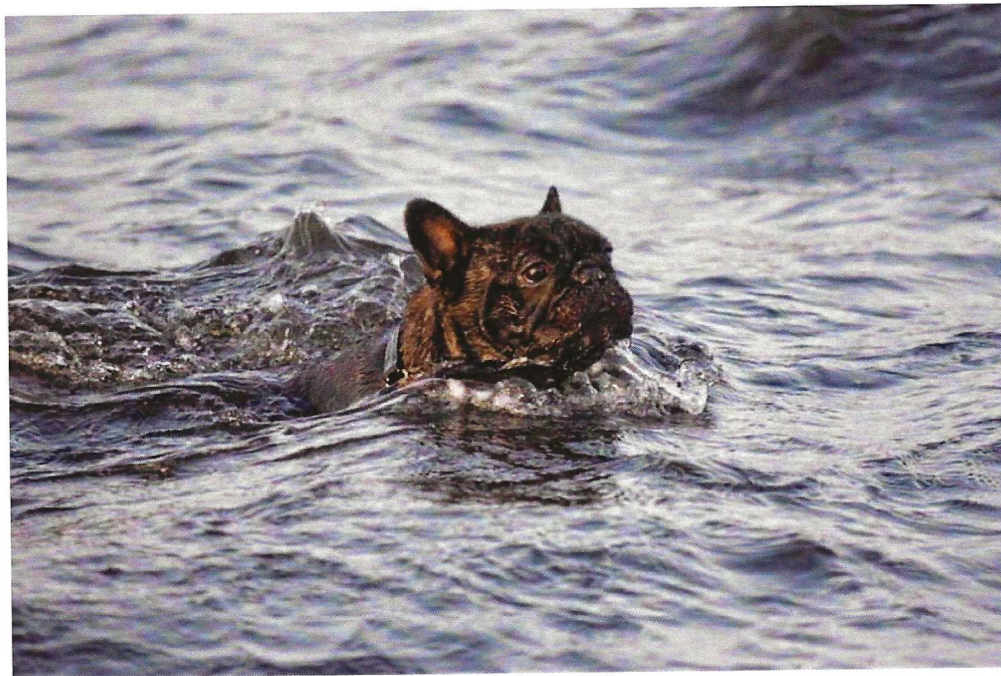
Spine x ray and evaluation

Other recommended tests:

Participation in the BVA Eye Scheme

DNA test for Cystinuria Type 3, Degenerative Myelopathy, Hyperuricosuria (HUU).

The Health Scheme is administered by the breed's parent club; The French Bulldog Club of England.



Full details of the scheme can be found on the website

www.frenchbulldogclubofengland.com

**VANESSA BRYANT is the Breed Health Coordinator who can be contacted at
FBCEhealth@outlook.com**

French Bulldog Health Conditions

In general French Bulldogs are quite fit and healthy, and long lived.

It is important to do a general check on your dog and give them regular care.

This may help avoid some of the more common problems French Bulldogs are prone to, such as ear infection, over grown nails, skin infection.

Breeders now have the luxury of being able to screen their dogs for a number of genetic conditions, rather than breeding "blindly".

There is a Health Test Scheme relevant to French Bulldogs, more information can be found in this newsletter. The Kennel Club website has links to all health resources.

There are some conditions where no test is available and these may be hereditary.

The following is a list of some French Bulldog breed issues.

Birth Defects/ Congenital Deformities

Cleft Palate

The failure of the hard and soft palates in the roof of the mouth to close during the dog's embryological development.

Hare Lip

The palate does not fuse together and leaves a hole between the cavities of the mouth and nose.

More frequently seen in Brachycephalic breeds.

It is a simple autosomal recessive disease- an affected puppy has inherited one mutant copy of the gene from each parent.

Hemivertebrae

The spine develops abnormally and creates a twisting wedge in what should be a straight spine. Butterfly shaped vertebrae also appear, which have the potential to cause pressure on the spinal cord.

This is a congenital abnormality of the vertebrae in short backed, brachycephalic, screw tailed breeds.

The abnormality is commonly seen in the thoracic chest area – these generally do not result in severe spinal cord deviation or become a major problem for the affected dog.

Defects in the lumbar area of the spine with kinking and twisting of the spine are more likely to have serious effects on the spinal cord as the dog develops. This is likely to be compression which will cause the dog to be in pain.

Excessively short bodied puppies tend to have more defects than longer bodied dogs.

It is recommended to x-ray all French Bulldog spines prior to breeding – so the breeder is aware what level of Hemivertebrae is present and screen out severe defects.

X-ray around 12 -15 months of age.

Dogs with severe defects should not be bred from.

Bone Disorders

Hip Dysplasia (Screened for in Australia).

Issues with hips are shallow sockets and loose ligaments which will affect the dog's movement and potentially cause pain.

Knees/ Stifles Luxating (Slipping) Patella is usually seen in combination with straight stifles and loose ligaments. Health grading is available – Putnam Patellar Luxation Grading System.

Back Problems In French Bulldogs 5 years plus

Intervertebral disc problems which can cause hindquarter paresis (incoordination, scraping of hind feet). In severe cases the hindquarters are totally paralysed. Most dogs respond to rest and arthritis medication without requiring surgery.

Spondylosis

A degenerative change in older dogs – generally responds well to treatment.

Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome (BOAS)

Combination of long soft palate, narrow nostrils which cause respiratory distress – very noisy breathing, reduced exercise tolerance, heavy snoring are all common symptoms.

Heart Defects

Uncommon to rare in French Bulldogs. In old age French Bulldogs seldom require heart medication.

Eyes

Cherry Eye

Rollled out 3rd eyelid exposing the gland underneath – secondary to loose eyelids and inflammation of the eye. Incidence is low, occurs 6 weeks – 6 months.

Corneal Ulcers

Not uncommon due to prominent nature of relatively large eyes. Treated promptly ulcers respond well to treatment.

Pannus

Black pigment on the cornea with subsequent dry eye. Seen in older Frenchies - 8 years plus.

Responds well to treatment – eye ointment to keep the cornea moist. Can be related to Hypothyroidism.

Thyroid

Hypothyroidism is a reduction in the dog's metabolic state leading to unexplained weight gain, bilateral hair loss, reduced energy, low fertility.

Treatment replaces the missing thyroid hormone.

Skin Conditions

Grass allergy can cause the dog to bite and chew at the feet. This seems more common in Pied colours. Allergies can also be caused by foods including grain and preservatives.

Epilepsy

Does occur but the incidence is low. Usually appears over one year of age, and more common in males. This is a chronic condition which causes the dog to have repeated seizures.

Reproduction

French Bulldogs overall have a good fertility rate. Average litter 4-5 puppies each litter.

Problems associated with whelping with a significant proportion of bitches requiring a caesarean section to deliver the pups. These problems are due to the large head and shoulders in puppies combined with the tapering body shape of the bitch.

Testicles

Male puppies can be affected by Cryptorchidism One or both testicles fail to drop down into the scrotum.

Tumours

French Bulldogs are not high on the tumour list and usually not under 8 years of age.

More common tumours seen – Haemangioma of liver or spleen, Skin – Mast Cell Tumours, Melanoma

Bone tumour – rare. Mammary tumour affects all dog breeds, seen in older non desexed bitches.

Desex your bitch to decrease the risk of mammary tumour and remove the risk of pyometra.

Angela McInnes

This list is not exhaustive. Reference - Willis Genetics of the Dog.

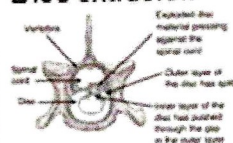
IVDD in French bulldogs

IVDD (Intervertebral disc disease) is an inherited condition that is common in French bulldogs. Like us, dogs have disc between the bones of their spine. These discs degenerate early in dogs with IVDD, and one or more of them may eventually rupture and put pressure on the spinal cord. Some French bulldogs also have congenital vertebral malformations (abnormally shaped vertebrae) which can make it more likely for them to get IVDD.

Signs of IVDD can include:



Disc extrusion



pain

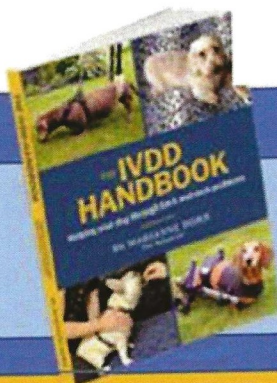
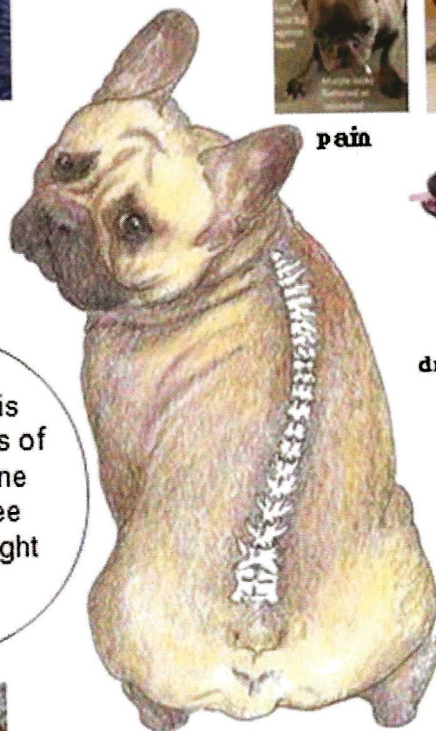


knuckling their paws



dragging their hindquarters


If your dog is showing signs of IVDD, confine them and see your vet straight away



The IVDD Handbook


- ✓ clear practical guidelines
- ✓ setting up a crate or pen
- ✓ how-to guides for everything from sling-walking to home exercises
- ✓ notes on when to contact your vet
- ✓ includes nearly 500 colour photos
- ✓ index and colour-coded chapters to help you find information fast.

See TheRehabVet.com for more details



French Bulldog

LABOKLIN
LABORATORY FOR CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS



Genetic tests:

- Canine Multi-Focal Retinopathy (CMR)
- Chondrodystrophy (CDDY with IVDD Risk) and Chondrodysplasia (CDPA) NEW
- Congenital Hypothyreosis / hypothyroidism (CHG)
- Progressive Retinal Atrophy (cord1 / crd4-PRA)
- Cystinuria (CY)
- Degenerative Myelopathy (DM) KC
- Hereditary Cataract (HSF4) + KC
- Hyperuricosuria (HUU/SLC)
- Lafora Disease (LAF / LD) / Myoclonic Epilepsy NEW
- Malignant Hyperthermia (MH)
- **French Bulldog DNA bundle**
DM Exon 2 KC + HSF4 KC + CHG + CY + CMR + IVDD
- **French Bulldog KC DNA bundle**
DM Exon KC + HSF4 KC + HUU / SLC
- Coat Colours: Loci A, B, C, D, E, I, K, M and S
- Cocoa Coat Colour
- **Coat Colour bundle** NEW Loci A + B + D1 + E1 + I + K + S
- Coat Length (mutation I and II)
- **Genetic Fingerprint**
- DNA Profiling (ISAG Standard)
- Premium DNA Profiling (ISAG 2020) with Heterozygosity Index NEW
- Parentage verification

www.LABOKLIN.co.uk

* partner lab

KC: Official Kennel Club DNA testing Scheme

Huge thanks to Laboklin for providing the Midland and Northern Counties French Bulldog Club Championship show in 2022 with a French Bulldog DNA bundle as a prize.





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.

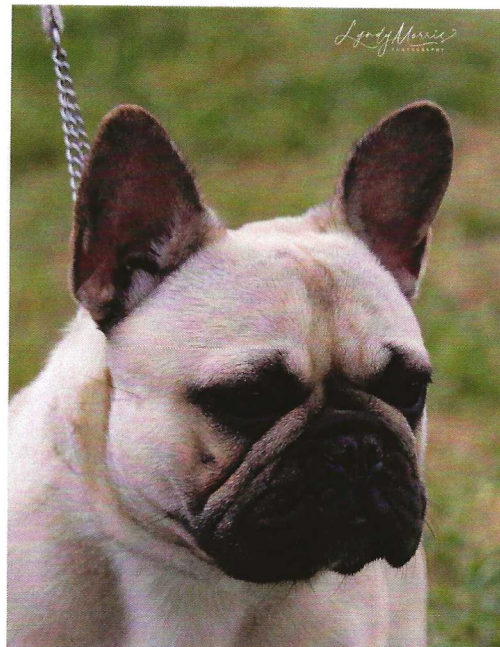
However, if a dog possesses a feature, characteristic or colour described as undesirable or highly undesirable, it is strongly recommended that it should not be rewarded in the show ring.



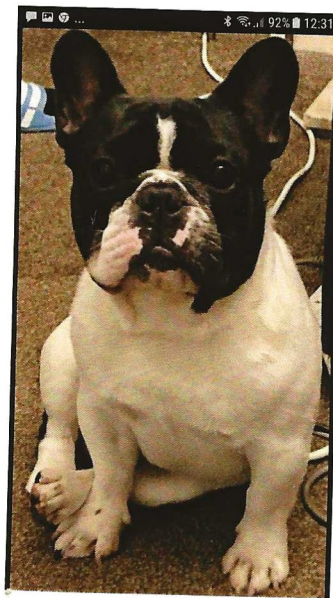
French Bulldog Colours Illustrated



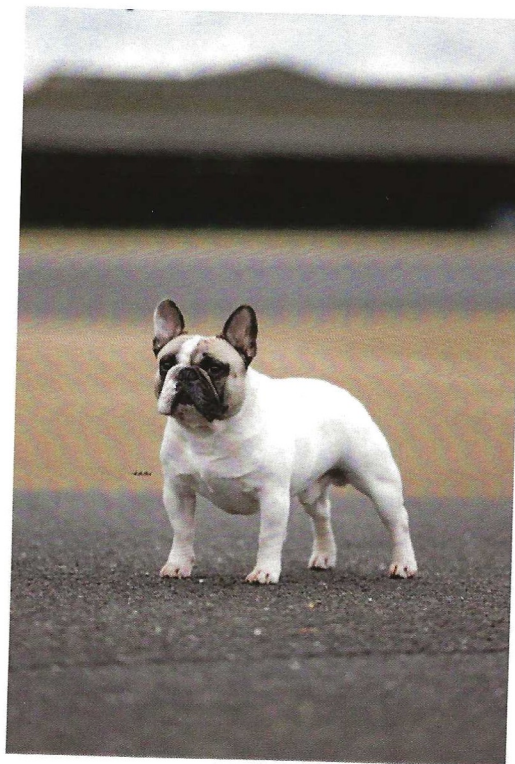
BRINDLE



FAWN



BRINDLE PIED



FAWN PIED

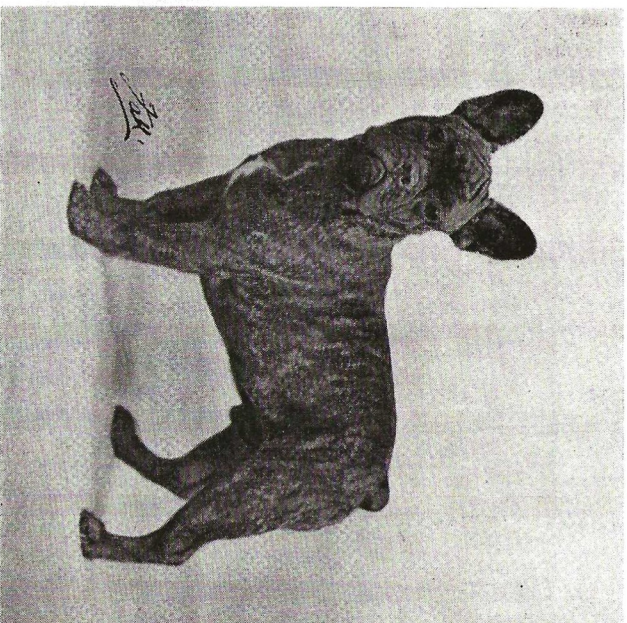
OF MILLHOUSE FRENCH BULLDOGS

HERE displayed is Ch Mornington of Millhouse—to whom most of the winning dogs of today owe their origin. At 10 months old he shows his outstanding make-up, splendid bone, front and line of shoulder, dark eyes, perfect ear carriage of his well shaped ears. His great asset is a short back with roach—inherited by his progeny.

Morney was best in show at 10 months old at the Southern Counties 75 class show, under Mr Fred Cross, 1st yearling dog under Mrs Peacy, Windsor, QD and Junior Champion at 16 months, 1st Bull Terrier, Hastings and St. Leonards, under Mr Warring Hill. He is a lovely mover and always a pleasure to show. His progeny include: Best; Ch Manuel of Millhouse, sired; Ch Marjia of Millhouse, Ch Hovet, Miranda, grand daughter; Ch Moussta, grand child, sired; Ch McAlister, Ch Bluegrades Broderick (nine



[Photo by]
MISTLETOE OF MILLHOUSE (best puppy
Autumn Club show)



[Photo by]

CH MORNINGTON OF MILLHOUSE

MISS G LOSEBY

THE MILL

ALBOURNE • HASSOCKS



[Photo by]
CH MANUEL OF MILLHOUSE *[Cooke]*

CCs now retired); Ch Chasewood Chatfield (nine CCs retired); Ch Bomlitz Edwardbear (12 CCs).

Ch Manuel of Millhouse is outstanding in beauty of head and expression and greatly resembles the late Pearless Ch Mischia of Millhouse. Ears well carried, short back, good bone and front, large dark eyes, close fine coat, alert—a showman. These qualities are represented in his debutante daughter, Mistletoe of Millhouse, who won best puppy at the autumn club show. Her litter sister was 2nd. Again the short back, darkest eye, real bat ears, well carried. Judge Mr Ihon Nilsson predicts a promising future.

All these dogs are direct descendants through the famous of Slipho line to Ch Pasque, USA and to Ch Berbay le Boy, imported by Mrs Coleman. They have no German blood in their origin.

H F BLAKE

IS ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY OF OUR BREED?



FBCE Show Catalogues. 1960s to date, plus many from 59, 58, 54, 48, 47, 46, 40, 36 and 1929.

M&NCFBC Show Catalogues Most of 60s and 70s then up to date.

KC Breed (FB) record supplements, in 2 x A4 loose-leaf scrapbooks. Some from 1930s and 40s, most from 50s and 60s, then up to and including 2015.

A4 loose leaf scrap book of **FB kennel reviews** from early 1900s to 1975

10 x A4 loose-leaf folder **scrapbooks containing all the FB breed notes (many talented writers), and judges show reports** from the weekly dog papers (Our Dogs, and Dog World until it ceased publication) From early 70s to date, plus most from 50s and 60s, many others back to early 1900s, including the report of the first show FBCE 7-4-1903 Offers



A collection of M&NCFBC Bat Ears magazines.

In the early days of the club, the 60s Bat Ears was a small size publication as it is today, but typewritten and photocopied. Publication continued on and off, although for several years in the 70s and 80s it was a typed A4 size, duplicated, and up to 50 pages. Again in the 80s and 90s it was a superbly produced A4 effort with around 80 pages. They had outstanding and fascinating articles, not only by breeders, but some by professional writers and talented pet owners too.

For example, one of the 60s issues has a fascinating piece from Miss Hart JP telling us how, as a child, she saw a Frenchie for the first time, on the Titanic. Her father sadly drowned, but fortunately Eve and her mother survived, and Eve spent the next forty plus years longing to be a Frenchie owner. She was finally joined by her adored Huffle-Puffle, and they both enjoyed our Club events.

Many other superb features. Offers

Many duplicates of some of the larger, interesting issues, over the years. 10 p each.

FBCE Handbooks. 1978 to date (several copies for most years available) 50p to £1 each

M&N Club books of champions, photos, pedigrees and kennel reviews. 1958-1982 £2,
and 1983-88, 89-93, 94-98 and 99-2008 50p each.

800 French Bulldog post cards - dating back to the start of the 1900s - **need to be seen!**

Dozens of books on the breed, by A. Jones, Jan Grebe, Steve Eltinge, Muriel Lee, P. Rankine-Parsons, Lisa Ricciotti, Kathy Dannel and many others.

Excellent condition -as new. 50p to £3.

Also some very **collectable early books**, and Bulldog books which include details of the formation of the FB breed.

Hundreds of old French Bulldog collectables, from **early Japanese kitsch** to **superb bronzes**,

lots of **pottery and top quality porcelain**.

Paintings, prints and pictures.

Prices from 20p to £2,000.

The above are available by collection only, from my home in Northants, close to an M1 junction. Please phone for an appointment; everyone welcome, even if you only want to look. Please don't wait too long; any left-over goods will be going to the tip!

Maureen Bootle

01327 342494

Breed Appreciation Day

The Kennel Club requires all Breed clubs to have involvement with a Breed Appreciation Day (BAD) once every two years. The main purpose of the day is to educate both potential show judges, show exhibitors and breeders in the KC Standard for a given breed.

There is provision for a multiple-choice breed exam (MCE) to be taken. The MCE must be passed by those who wish to judge the breed in the future to JEP level 2.

The exam is conducted under the auspices of the KC appointed Breed Education Coordinator.

On 23rd October 2022 The M&NCFBC held a French Bulldog BAD. at the Peace Memorial Hall, Penkridge, Staffordshire. It was attended by nine participants, supported by a number of club members and their dogs.

The main event of the day was a seminar on the French Bulldog breed and its KC Standard led by judge Jackie Mavro-Michaelis, using specially prepared presentation material. The participants then took part in small groups to examine particular aspects of the Frenchie breed using actual dogs as examples, giving them "hands on" knowledge. These aspects were:

General Construction led by Dean Cund; Heads led by Abbie Cund and Movement led by Jackie Mavro-Michaelis. In addition, Angela McInnes gave a short talk on her approach to the judging process. After a buffet lunch prepared by Denise Hopewell the MCE was taken by those participants who had chosen to do it. It was invigilated and marked in accordance with KC requirements and certificates were awarded to all.

Immediate feedback suggested that all the participants had both enjoyed and benefited from the Day.

Thanks are due to all those who took part and made it a successful day.

Richard Mavro Michaelis



Gizyjo



Gizyjo Honey Bee

Princess pictured at 20 months winning **Reserve Best Bitch & Reserve Best In Show** at MNCFBC

Special thanks to judge Angela Pleasance, also thanks to Michelle Smith & Charlotte McNamara for
Res Best Bitch awards at The Pennine and Scottish FBC Open shows.

Gizyjo



Gizyjo Sting Like A Bee

(Sire of Princess)

Princess is Silver Health Tested RFG o

Her sire and dam are also Silver Level Health Tested

Princess is my 8th Generation descended from my first litter in 1998

GIZYJO's are loved family members, not disposable stock

JOAN HOWARTH

joanhowarth111@gmail.com

ASHSTAFF *Secret Whisper* FOR BACLAUDI JW

BITCH CC WINNER CRUFTS 2023 - *Melanie Reed-Peck*
RCC - JKA - *Charlotte Swartledge*
MULTIPLE BPIS, ALL BREED CHAMPIONSHIP
PUPPY GROUP 2'S AND 1ST PLACES

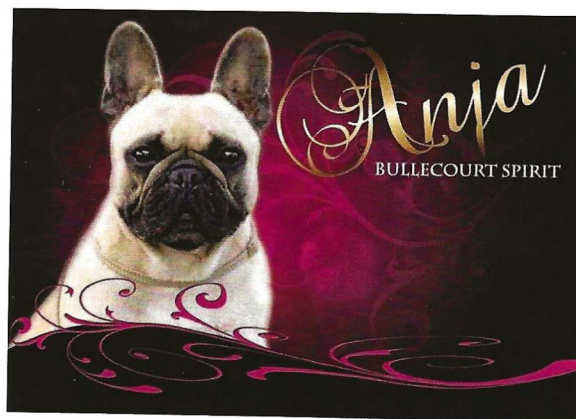
BITCH CC

2023

photo by bino omato

BRED BY DONNA & STUART MCCALLUM
LOVED, SHOWN AND ADORED BY DOM HOGAN





Angela McInnes

angiesfrenchies@gmail.com



Jacob & Moussa

Beloved Bullecourts

Angela McInnes

angiesfrenchies@gmail.com

BULLECOURT

FRENCH BULLDOGS

*Puppy In Show at the
French Bulldog Club of NSW
on her way to her title*

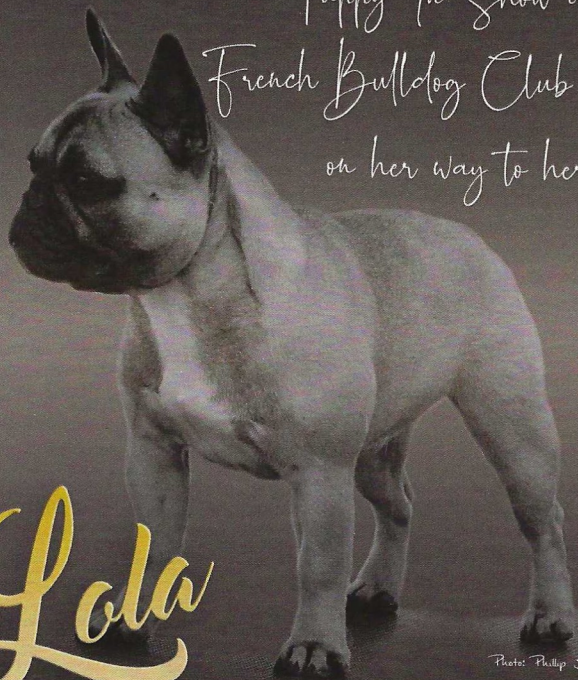


Photo: Phillip Stenop

Lola

BULLECOURT BEERSHEBA

Angella McInnes | Wodong, Vic | P: (02) 6056 7284
E: angiesfrenchies@gmail.com | W: <http://bullecourtkenel.weebly.com>



CH GLENLEETWO
MOONS AT CHELMBULL



CH CHELMBULL
MOON PILOT



CH CHELMBULL
THE AVIATOR



CH CHELMBULL STARRY
SEAS FOR OLIAH



CH CHELMBULL
ROCKET MAN



CH CHELMBULL
ETERNAL FLAME

CHELMBULL

HOME OF THE
BREED RECORD HOLDER
& HISTORY MAKING
BEST IN SHOW
FRENCH BULLDOG



CH APRIKA SLEEPLESS IN
SEATTLE AT CHELMBULL



CH CHELMBULL
ON A MISSION

Approved By Fox Fan Bulletin

HELPING US TO HELP THEM

French Bulldog



Welfare trust

Registered charity No 287420

Support The French Bulldog Welfare Trust

For further information contact the Welfare Trustees

Chair Person/ Secretary - Mr Mick Gordon 0191 2809177

Treasurer - Mr Rupert M Stansfield -0128 2870901

Trustee/Administrator - Mrs Irene Stansfield - 0128 2870901

frenchbulldogwelfaretrust@gmail.com

Labanjo

*Sweet
Caroline*
(bumble bee generation)

Owner: Carol Burton
Email: carolburton3@ntlworld.com

LABANJO

