BAT EARS

AUTUMN 2018



YEARS

The Midland & Northern Counties
French Bulldog Club

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Editor's Notes

Welcome to the second edition of Bat Ears for the 60th Anniversary Year. Firstly thank you to all the members who took the time to contact me to say how pleased they were with my first edition, your positiive comments are appreciated. I would also like to thank members who have contributed adverts again for this edition. Although savings have been made with printing costs, postage costs continue to rise and your adverts help offset those costs.

In this edition we mourn the passing of long standing member Mrs Betty Wright with a tribute from Maureen Bootle. Betty & Barry Wright were loyal supporters of our club and I join in sending sincere condolences and best wishes to Barry and family.

Once again we have a focus on health with the second of three articles on spines from Vet, Lori Hunt, and an explanation of the Kennel Club's Breed Watch. I've also highlighted the health tests available to those considering breeding. In the first 6 months of this year 17,061 puppies were registered with the KC. It is no wonder some show breeders report they are struggling to find good homes for puppies.

Thank you to Gary Bachman (USA) and Maureen Bootle for providing some interesting photos for my Frenchie Collectibles section. If there is anything you want to see included in future editions then please

email me. Any adverts and articles for the first 2019 edition need to be sent electronically as I will, once again, be in Spain when I prepare the magazine for printing. The deadline for all submissions is 15th February 2019.

I hope you enjoy this edition.

Carole Ash

caroleash75@gmail.com

Opinions expressed in Bat Ears are those of the writer and they are not necessarily those of the Editor, Officers or Committee.

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The editor reserves the right to edit or reject any articles submitted for publication.

Chairman's Report

This years AGM went very well with a sit down meal afterwards which was well supported by our members, something we should consider for the future, as it brought many of us together in a lovely relaxed atmosphere to start off our 60th Anniversary year. Our Open show started the year off well with lots of special awards on offer. I would personally like to thank all those that sponsor our shows and make them so successful.

It was so sad to hear of the passing of one of our long standing members Mrs Betty Wright. I am sure many of you will have known Betty who was such a wonderfully warm and welcoming lady. Betty was a great ambassador for our breed a lady who had time for everyone and she was always willing to share her great knowledge of the breed. Our deepest condolences to her husband, Barry, and her family. Betty will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

I would also like to thank our outgoing secretary, Mr David Spencer, for the excellent work he did for our club. David has kindly agreed to continue to help the members and committee as Membership secretary. I would also like to welcome back our previous secretary Miss Amanda Pike who did a sterling job for us in the past and I'm sure will do so again.

The club continues to grow and we want to give our members the best shows we can deliver but we can only do that with the continued support of you all. Please, if any of you have any suggestions or ideas on any improvement we can make, we as a committee are more than happy to listen, at the end of the day this is YOUR CLUB.

I would like to finish by wishing you all a great and successful year.

Dean Cund





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REMEMBERING BETTY

Mrs Betty Wright, a long time French Bulldog breeder, exhibitor and member of the M&NCFBC, sadly passed away in March this year. Those of us who were privileged to enjoy her friendship will have many happy memories of a lovely lady. I first met Betty when I returned from Sweden in the late 80s, and after meeting regularly at the shows, we gradually became friends. When one loses a friend one remembers the good times, the happy memories – and there are so many I have of Betty. We shared a passion for breeding and spent so many hours – talking about pedigrees and blood-lines. We discussed most of our planned matings at length and I think we helped each other. We also shared a sense of fun, Betty laughed a lot!

Betty did not breed much, only having a litter when she wanted something new to show, but she was, undoubtedly, a talented breeder and certainly 'had an eye' for the breed. She produced around a dozen champions, being top breeder and/or having the top dog on many occasions. I am not going to list her many champions – go to the M&NCFBC books of champions and see their photos and pedigrees there! There is however, one little Crindle girl that some of you may not know about – Ch. Foxdike Mistique at Crindle! Selected from her litter at 6 weeks, and, as a complete newcomer to the breed, Betty campaigned this gorgeous little Pug to her title, winning 12 CCs – including Bitch CC at Crufts 2003. Tilly, as she was known, was selected by NPDC to illustrate the best points of the breed in their 2003 handbook. Such a credit to Betty's skills, not just in having an eye for a good dog, but the talent to train and handle her – as she did all her Frenchies – to perfection!

The Crindles were, first and foremost, happy house pets, and had a wonderful life in their beautiful home in Morecambe. They had a delightful large garden to play in, and she was a stickler for exercise. Her Frenchies were walked daily – and always shown in tip top condition with fabulous muscle tone. She was a perfect example to newcomers on handling a Frenchie. Not for her stringing up or stacking, just a perfectly trained dog standing four-square, on a loose lead and never taking its eyes off its owner. Betty too was always perfectly turned out, tall and elegant – the envy of many of us!

Betty gave so much – to the breed and to her friends. She gave me my much loved Cebe (sister to her Ch. Xtravert) who won 2 CCs, and it was she who insisted – again on the telephone – that I went, immediately, and despite all objections, to buy Midshipman when his owner wanted to rehome him. After a very patchy start together, what joy Moley brought

to me, and what he gave to the breed – just as Betty had said he would! She used my Swedish line to advantage, producing a couple more champions. One of them was co-bred with me, and, while Barry and Betty did all the work, they never failed to give me some credit. Another dog from this Anglo-Swedish line gave them Crindle's Tender Tamblyn, a great winner in France for their top kennel, the de Landouars, owned by the Girards. He was a great producer over there and they were ever grateful to Barry and Betty.

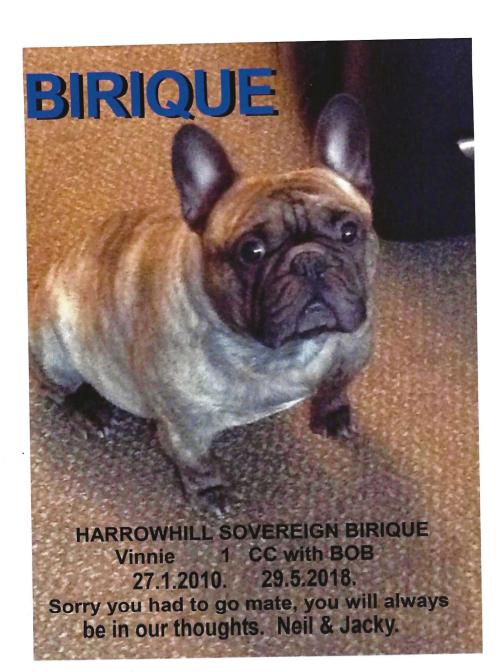
Always with her devoted husband Barry, they travelled the country in their motor home – with all the dogs, distance being no object. They were hard working and loyal members of the M&NCFBC. It was Betty who introduced hot food to the kitchen at the Penkridge shows. Barry, along

with the other gentlemen on the committee would be there early on show mornings, helping the exhibitors with their dogs and baggage across from the car park to the hall. Betty was the first President of the Pennine & Scottish French Bulldog Club and she and Barry were Founder Members. She judged the breed at championship level but I don't think she was madly keen on judging - showing of course she loved.



The last Frenchie campaigned to her title by Betty, was Ch OroAlet Anashell. JW. Owned in partnership with Mr & Mrs Conway, Oro lived with Barry and Betty, was always handled by Betty, and remains at Crindle today – Barry's devoted companion. She is shown above with Betty, in 2014 at the M&NCFBC Ch. Show, having won under judge, Frank Kane. Others share happy memories of Betty; we will all miss her, but oh, how lucky we were to have had her as a friend.

Maureen Bootle



Club Open Show April 2018



I had a wonderful day judging. Thank you to the hard working Committee for a superbly run show and to my wonderful steward Richard Mavro Michaelis who did a fabulous job. Heartfelt thank you to all who entered and brought their dogs along for me to assess. I was very impressed with the quality and condition of the dogs presented and very pleased to notice an improvement in nostrils and general soundness. I had some extremely difficult decisions to make as the quality of the dogs was superb. Judge: Ms Jane Morgan

Minor Puppy Dog: 1st Pleasance Katakia Last Man Standing. 7 month old pied boy. Sound, cobby boy full of quality and type. Lovely head shape, well used and placed ears. Good muzzle for age and very good nostrils. He had a cheeky little look in his eyes and he was very alert and knowing. Nicely arched neck leading to well laid shoulder and straight front and on to lovely tight feet. Deep brisket and well sprung rib, short loin and muscular rear. Gentle roach, correct tail set. Moved with confidence and drive. In fact he moved so well he was demanding to be looked at. Best Puppy Dog. 2nd Davis Rowendale Hobnob. 6 month old fawn boy, lovely dark mask on a beautifully expressive face. Excellent head, well sized ears, nicely cushioned cheek under dark eyes with a cheeky glint in them. Strong neck into lovely straight front, beautiful catlike feet. Good cut up, well bodied, great tail present and set correctly. Enjoyed his time in the ring and danced around full of joy, such a happy, fun filled little boy. Moved well when settled.

Puppy Dog: 1st Cassidy Chinaskys Tobias 11 month old fawn boy. Compact and sound. Good head, nicely set bat ears used well. Kind face with dark mask, gentle eye and great nostrils and nose well set in nicely developing muzzle, strong underjaw and lovely cushioned lip.Cobby body, good cut up, small tail present. Moved well. 2nd Foley Gold Sierra Felippe 11 month old dark fawn, slightly longer cast but didn't deter from sound movement. Lovely square head, dark eye and mask, defined stop and good width of jaw.Straight front, depth of brisket, well sprung rib and nice cut up. Well angulated rear and good pasterns.

Junior Dog: 1st Worrel Miamou Marvel JW. 14 month old brindle boy. Caught my eye the minute he walked into the ring. Superb outline, correct size and so well balanced. Strong, square head with the most expressive (kind, but with a lot of cheekiness too) dark, round eye. Perfect length of neck nicely arched, well laid shoulder with sound front, straight, well boned and with great feet. Gentle top-line with just the right amount of roach. Really well constructed dog who moved with drive, but also with a graceful step that drew your eye to follow him. Shown in superb condition and handled perfectly. He had a lot of work to do as he was moved on quite a few occasions but didn't tire and showed at all times with gusto and pizzaz. Best Dog and Best in Show. 2nd Oakes Boule & Onuba Revelations at Luxbear (IMP ESP) 13 month old fawn boy. Strong head, short, cobby body. Good front assembly, deep chest and well sprung rib. Short loin, nice top-line with good roach. Tail present and correctly set, nicely angulated rear. Moved well.

Yearling Dog 1st Howarth Gizyjo Sting Like a Bee. 20 month old brindle, beautifully marked. Well balanced little boy, such a kind face with a gorgeous dark eye and well set ears . Sadly he had an upset recently and it seems to have knocked his confidence so he is a little hesitant to show himself . He's a fabulous, typey boy, well built and when settled moved like a dream. A very close contender in the dog challenge. Definitely one to keep an eye on. 2nd Mott Eastonite Mott's Reality 13 month old fawn boy. Well built with lovely square head. Good width of muzzle and upsweep, well padded cheek and nicely cushioned lip. Overall body shape good, well muscled rear and moved well.

Post Graduate Dog: 1st Timms Eastonite Maui almost 9 month old fawn boy, another really well balanced dog with a great outline. Nice gentle roach and top-line that was held well on the move. Lovely head for a young boy, with a kind, appealing face. Correctly set ears that he used well at all times. Nicely arched neck, well laid, strong shoulder and deep chest. Good cut up and lovely rear angulation. 2nd Ash Coco Vialatte Satisfaction Zandaplatz (IMP JPN) 17 month old fawn boy, another nicely balanced boy, good outline, good tail present and correctly set. Square head, dark, round eye, good pigmentation. Padded cheek and dark mask. Nicely placed nose with good nostril and well defined stop. Small and compact and perfectly formed, just lacked a little sparkle on the day.

Mid Limit Dog 1st Ash Coco Vialatte Satisfaction Zandaplatz (IMP JPN) (as 2nd in PGD) 2nd Oakes Dimas de el Mencey Loco at Luxbear20 month old dark brindle boy Fabulous head, strong, square, well domed forehead. Kind, dark round eye. Well padded cheek and broad muzzle. Nose well placed with good nostrils and great width of jaw. Strong neck and good shoulders, deep chest and well sprung rib, nice rear angulation. Took time to settle, but moved well.

Limit Dog 1st Ollier Kaybull Moniques Moon River at Deollies 3 and a half year old brindle dog. Good size and well built. Nice head with well used and placed bat ears. Wide muzzle and good upsweep. Nicely arched neck and correctly laid shoulder leading to good straight front, nice pasterns and good feet. Short and cobby with good cut up and well muscled and angulated rear .2nd Coffey Raglenary Dark Moon 3 year old brindle boy with a beautiful head. Soft, kind expression ,very thoughtful eyes. Masculine boy, yet a softness to him too. Good size and shape, nice front, straight with good pasterns. Pleasing overall body shape, was a little reluctant on the move .

Open Dog 1st Cund and Harrop Chelmbull the Aviator 22 month old dark brindle boy who flew into the ring as if he had to live up to his name .Epitomised the comedic traits of the French Bulldog. Shown in superb condition and handled perfectly. He definitely catches the eye and is equally as pleasing to go over with hands. So well built and balanced. Fabulous head, mischievous eye, good width of muzzle and jaw, well set ears. Correct length of neck nicely arched into well angled shoulder leading to well assembled front. Stands square showing nicely roached top-line and well angulated rear. Goes off like a rocket but moves so well when settled. Reserve Best Dog and Reserve Best in Show.

Veteran Dog:1st Cund Sarabar Dutch Gold at Glenlee 11 year old fawn boy with the kindest, most heart warming expression I have seen. He danced into the ring with such pride and stood with his handler knowing he deserved to be looked at. Fantastic head, broad muzzle and wide under-jaw, well placed nose, defined stop, cushioned cheeks and lips and the most knowing eyes I have seen Still well bodied and strong. He moved effortlessly round the ring. A very well deserved Best Veteran Dog.

Special Open Pied: 1st Butler Avcott Senator 11 month old pied dog. Lovely head with fabulous bat ears used all the time. Kind dark eye, good muzzle and nose, nice under-jaw. A happy little boy who enjoyed his time in the show ring. Short and cobby, well built and nicely angulated. Moved well once settled.

Special Open Brindle: 1st Ajmi Mister Beano Legend 3 year old brindle boy. Slightly larger built, but nicely made. Good square head with a lovely expression. Nice length of neck, well laid shoulder straight front. Looser pastern but that can be remedied. Nice cut up, longer in loin. Good top-line, well set tail. Shown in lovely condition.

Special Open Fawn:1st Seffer Crashkon the One for Catrelma JW 3 and a half year old fawn boy. Wonderful head, just enough wrinkle . Kind eye, broad muzzle with dark mask , nicely padded cheek and good width to jaw. Lovely straight front with plenty of bone. A well constructed dog, very masculine , but in no way overdone . Well angulated and muscular rear, moved with drive and purpose .2nd Cassidy Chinaskys Tobias (1st in puppy dog)

Minor Puppy Bitch: 1st Rowendale Issy Miyake 6 month old dark brindle girl. What a bundle of fun. She was definitely the clown of the day and you could see in her face she had mischief in her. Shown in beautiful condition. Feminine head with well used and shaped ears, round dark eye that looked as if to dare you! Lovely underjaw and muzzle, well set nose with good nostril. Right amount of neck and well laid shoulder, straight front, good pasterns and feet. Really well put together, lovely topline and rear. Moved like a whirlwind and she knew she was entertaining everyone. On any other day she would have easily been my puppy bitch winner .2nd Cheeseman Theapaul Aurora Borealis 6 month old fawn bitch. Small, cobby and well formed. Square head, large well used and shaped ears, dark round eye. Still a baby so muzzle will widen and cheeks fill. Shown beautifully

Puppy Bitch 1st Cheeseman Theapaul Indian Summer6 month old brindle girl, litter sister to 2nd in MPB. Absolutely stunning little puppy. Beautifully marked and so well built . She drew the eye from all angles .So pretty and feminine, dark eyes with just enough fill under, broad muzzle, well set and used ears (at all times). Straight front with beautiful cat like feet and good pasterns. Well ribbed, nice cut up, good topline nicely angulated rear. Gleaming coat and she was in such good condition for a tiny baby . A joy to watch on the move too, confident with just a little hint of sass. Best Puppy Bitch and Best Puppy in Show .2nd Timms Eastonite Lady Leia 10 month old fawn bitch with a lovely head. Used her well placed ears all the time. Happy, kind eye, good muzzle and dark mask. Good neck and shoulder well placed. Would prefer a little more upper arm . Deep brisket and well sprung rib, good rear angulation, handled really well.

Junior Bitch: 1st Bojarska Lady Sansa Motobule 12 month old pied bitch. Such a beautiful head and well marked to give a gorgeous expression. Used her well shaped and placed ears all the time, likewise with her eyes, she watched every move you made with a comical glint. Lovely neck and really nicely angled shoulder. Good front assembly and deep wide brisket. Nice tuck up, short loin, good topline. She moved so gracefully round the floor and was so attentive to her handler. Gave me a real dilemma in the challenge. Defitely will watch this girl. 2nd Davies Millavens Lady Penelope 12 month old brindle bitch. Another lovely profile. Well built and shown in great condition. Lovely feminine head, kind eye, good muzzle, enough fill under eye, lovely nostrils. Beautiful neck, strong well laid shoulder, straight front, great pasterns and feet

Yearling Bitch 1st Jordan Katakia Rocked It 13 month old pied bitch. What a sound little girl she is. Superb clear coat and shown in pristine condition. So feminine but strong at the same time. Such a pleasing head, well marked giving extra effect. Ears set and shaped perfectly, nicely domed forehead, defined stop dark round eye. Broad muzzle, cushioned lip, brilliant upsweep.Neck well arched into strong, well laid shoulder leading to straight front with wide, deep chest .Nicely shaped body, good cut up, short loin, gentle roach over well rounded croup. Nicely let down hocks and return of stifle. Moved beautifully and then stood herself square and proud .She thoroughly enjoyed her day and showed herself off beautifully.

Best Bitch .2nd Plominska Gabi Francuski Diabelek (IMP POL) 20 month old brindle girl. Smaller built, but well made. Lovely feminine features on square head with enough wrinkle. Good body and underline, held topline on the move.

Post Graduate Bitch: 1st Plominska Busher Pljus Nenette Vanille (Imp Rus) 21 month old pied bitch. Clear coated with brindle eye patches giving a very eye catching appearance. Good pigmentation, dark eyes and nose. Lovely well shaped ears. Good muzzle and underjaw. Straight front, muscular shoulders, well sprung ribs and good cut up, short loin. Tail present. Nicely angulated rear. 2nd Burton Labanjo Sweet Caroline 3 year old fawn bitch. Good size and with a lovely soft expression. Cobby, square, yet feminine. Lovely dark mask and fantastic nostrils. Nice deep chest, short loin, good return of stifle and neat pasterns and feet.

Mid Limit Bitch: 1st Conway Tiana Amore Anashell 3 year old dark brindle bitch. Lovely feminine head with dark eye, well set ears if only she would use them all the time. Lovely jawline and mouth. Good reach of neck into well laid, strong shoulder. Good straight front, strong pasterns and neat feet with dark nail. Firm body, well sprung rib, deep chest, short loin and nice rear angulation. Glossy dark coat, shown in perfect condition. Moved really well and when she used her ears was picture perfect, truly beautiful. Reserve Best Bitch. 2nd Conway and Chapman Norcairn Dark Eclipse almost 2 year old light brindle bitch. Such a fantastic outline, extremely well built girl. A little powerhouse yet still very feminine. Lovely head, dark eye, good muzzle and nose well placed Lovely arched neck into strong muscled shoulder (not overdone though). Perfectly straight front, good pasterns and tidy feet. Deep chest, short loin, nice cut up. Moves well when settled.

Limit Bitch: 1st Cheeseman Theapaul Dark Savannah 17 month old dark brindle girl Pretty face full of expression. Good ear set, well domed forehead, good nose placement, well defined stop, nice upsweep and width of jaw. Short, cobby build, good forechest, would prefer stronger pasterns. Lovely topline, gentle roach, good rear angulation. Moved and handled fabulously 2nd Worrel Kuredeux Flowerbomb at Miamou 2 year old dark brindle girl with one of the prettiest faces. Quality head with perfectly set ears, dark round eyes giving a totally appealing expression. Good upsweep, cushioned lip, perfect dentition.Lovely neck into well constructed, cobby body. Straight front, great feet and pasterns, dark nail. Beautifully conditioned with a super, gleaming coat.Open Bitch: 1st Smith Eastonite Xmas Holly 14 month old pied bitch. Lovely typey build. Nice head, would prefer more pigment. Good nostrils, nice broad muzzle, padded cheeks. Lovely in profile. Short and cobby, neat cut up good tail, well muscled and angled rear. Moved freely.

Veteran Bitch: 1st Conway and Chapman Ch Norcairn Dark Angel JW ShCM almost 9 year old brindle bitch. Just a stunning example of the breed, still well bodied and fit as a fiddle as she proved when she jumped over the ring fence. Very feminine, yet strong, head, well muzzled (with a few well earned silver sprinkles) with good upsweep. Kind, dark round eye and fabulous bat ears. Beautiful neck and straight front. Still in firm condition, good cut up and lovely topline. She is such a showgirl and was itching to be off on the move, which she did beautifully. She showed her comical side as well when she threw herself to the floor and rolled about gleefully without a care as to who may be watching. Best Veteran Bitch and **Best Veteran in Show**. 2nd Howarth Gizyjo Miss Fredrique 8 and 3 quarters brindle bitch. Another sassy showgirl who loved her time in the ring. Such a beautiful kind face with eyes that melted your heart. Still in fabulous condition and moved with such grace.

Special Open Pied:1st Ayriss Doreens Sweetshop 6 year old pied bitch Well marked double hooded girl. Lovely typey build balanced and compact. Strong front assembly, well sprung rib, lovely cut up . Held topline nicely on the move . Very confident and happy to be in the showring .2nd Wilkoszewska Miss Chelsea at Fragaria 26 month old fawn pied girl. Lovely pigmentation , dark eyes, broad muzzle. Short and cobby, small tail present Slightly reluctant to show.

Special Open Brindle:1st Davies Millavens Lady Penelope (2nd junior bitch) 2nd Snook Lairdstorm Sundown into Kanshim 4 year old brindle bitch. Very pretty girl, lovely coat, shown in fabulous condition. Nice square head, dark eye, cushioned cheek, good width of jaw. Lovely neck, strong front. Slightly longer in leg but nicely angulated front and rear.

Special Open Fawn: 1st Smith Eastinite Lady Annie 10 month old fawn bitch. Sound little girl, nicely built with good head, dark mask on broad muzzle, good dentition, dark eye. Nice straight front, deep brisket, nice topline. Lovely rear angulation and moved well with drive.

Best in Show~ Miamou Marvel

Reserve Best in Show ~ Chelmbull the Aviator

Best Puppy in Show ~ Theapaul Indian Summer

Best Veteran in Show ~ Ch Norcairn Dark Angel JW ShCM

In Memory of Mr French Fancy At Maxibulz (Rolo)

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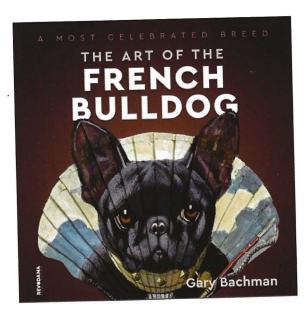


Light bulb with Frenchie insert. USA. Last time I tried it, about 40 years ago, it worked!



A rare sterling silver French Bulldog, (European), Early 20th century.

Gary's new book containing many rare and historic Frenchie items will be published later this year and will be available to purchase on Amazon.co.uk



Antiques & Collectibles

Gary Bachman

Gary Bachman is a published writer about French Bulldog antiques and collectibles. From 2000 to 2015 he contributed articles to the quarterly magazine *Just Frenchies*. In 1999 he bought his first French Bulldog and soon after he started to form a collection which is considered to be one of the world's finest. In 2006 he wrote a large chapter on French Bulldog art for Muriel Lee's book *The French Bulldog*. It was highly acclaimed and many thought it to be the most interesting chapter in the book. In 2014 he guest curated the first-ever all Frenchie exhibition at the American Kennel Club's Museum of the Dog, and visitors were astonished by the quality and variety of French Bulldog works of art.

A smoky quartz Bully with amazing ears; and a gold collar with inset diamond eyes, Asprey, London, 1920s.





A fine pastel of a French Bulldog wearing a 'badger' collar, signed by Persis Kirmse (England,1884-1955), dated 1933.

Judging The French Bulldog

Those judges who award CCs in our breed will be familiar with the Kennel Club's Breed Watch scheme. Under this scheme all breeds are placed in one of three categories:

- 1: Breeds with no current points of concern noted.
- 2: Breeds with Breed Watch Points of concern.
- 3: Breeds where some dogs have visible conditions or exaggerations that can cause pain or discomfort. (This category was previously known as High Profile)

French Bulldogs are a 'Category 2' breed.

The points of concern for special attention by judges are:

- Dogs showing respiratory distress including difficulty in breathing or laboured breathing
- Exaggerated roach in the top line
- Hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis
- Incorrect bite
- Lack of tail, screw tail, inverted tail and tight tail
 NEW 15/08/2018
- Pinched nostrils
- Prominent eyes NEW 15/08/2018
- Short neck
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds

The above is essential information for all exhibitors and breeders of French Bulldogs as well as Judges at all levels., hence the inclusion here.



1ST UK EASTONITE CHAMPION IN FRENCH BULLDOGS

WE HAVE A NEW CHAMPION

CH EASTONITE MAXWELL'S NEWS J.W. SHCM

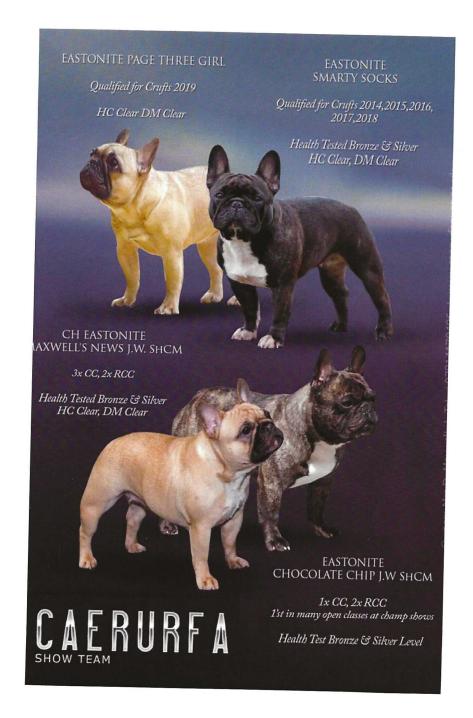
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Martha has qualified for Crufts 2018 & 2019.

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I've Got Your Back

Part 2: Back to School: Diseases, Diagnoses & Treatments Lori Hunt DVM

In this instalment, I'm going to outline some possible causes for spinal chord disease in French Bulldogs. I will also discuss some of the diagnostic testing which is available and what, if anything, can be done for certain disease processes.

Intervertebral Disc Disease:

Let's start with the obvious one. Surely if you are breeding this breed you are aware of intervertebral disc disease (IVDD). The intervertebral discs (the cushion in the space between the bones of the spine) have conditions and forces that can make them swell or rupture over time. Relatively minor spinal chord damage can lead to loss of coordination and a "drunken sailor" type of walk. Damage that is more significant leads to loss of walking or inability to move the legs voluntarily. Severe damage can lead to loss of pain sensation. This can carry a very poor prognosis for recovery.

Chondrodystrophic dogs, like french bulldogs, account for the vast majority of all disc ruptures. In these dogs, average onset of clinical signs is between 3–6 years of age, although x-rays can show the presence of calcified discs as early as 2 years of age.

Possible diagnostic testing includes, complete blood count (CBC), serum chemistry, and a urinalysis, X-rays of the spine or chest, myelogram (which is an x-ray series where a needle injects dye around the spinal cord to highlight any compression), CT scan, Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) study, and/or a spinal tap. Your Vet will determine the most appropriate tests for your pet.

Conservative treatment with cage rest, confinement, and pain medications is often the first treatment for patients with their first episode AND only if neurologic deficits are mild. Furthermore, repeat episodes or dogs who are completely "down"/paralysed warrant an emergency referral to a specialist to fully explore your options.

Multiple surgical procedures exist, depending on the surgeon and the location of the disc. Surgical decompression of the spine by removal of the bone over the spinal canal (hemilamenectomy) is nearly always

recommended. Postoperative recovery following surgery may include, bladder expression 3–4 times daily, physical rehabilitation for muscle strength and flexibility, and exercise restriction or "crate rest" for at least 4 weeks. Life style changes may include weight loss, switching to a body harness instead of neck lead, and minimising jumping off furniture. Postoperative complications can include the following: Seizures in the first 24 hours after myelography, incisional infection, continued wobbly walk or dragging hind toes. Prognosis varies significantly with the degree of injury and the location of the injury. Most disc ruptures that present in dogs, still walking, have an excellent chance to return to walking. However, if the pet has lost the ability to sense pain in their legs before surgery is performed, they may never walk again. It's important to note that many dogs suffer another disc herniation later in life.

Spinal stenosis

Spinal stenosis is an abnormal narrowing of the spinal canal. This narrowing causes a restriction to the spinal canal, resulting in a neurological deficit. Symptoms include pain, numbness, paraesthesia, and loss of motor control. The location of the stenosis determines which area of the body is affected.

Diagnosing spinal stenosis in a dog requires assessment with a complete physical and neurological exam. A medical history will be taken to determine the likelihood of a differential diagnosis or precipitating factors. Radiographs are often taken to assess the spine and pelvis; and while such scans can show narrowing of the spinal column this is not always enough to diagnose spinal stenosis. Therefore, many dogs may need further testing, such as myelograph or MRI.

Typically, the course of treatment for spinal stenosis will depend on the severity of the condition, its progression, the dog's age, activity levels and overall health, and financial ability of the owner.

Dogs with mild stenosis and symptoms may respond well to rest for around two months, alongside treatment with prednisone or other anti-inflammatory medication. One may also consider spinal fusion following decompression. Success with this procedure depends largely on the neurologic status of the dog prior to surgery.

Degenerative myelopathy

Degenerative myelopathy is a progressive disease of the spinal chord in older dogs. The disease has an onset typically between 8 and 14 years of age. It begins with a loss of coordination (ataxia) in the hind limbs. The affected dog will wobble when walking, knuckle over or drag the feet. As the disease progresses, the limbs become weak and the dog begins to buckle and has difficulty standing. The weakness gets progressively worse until the dog is unable to walk. The clinical course can range from 4 months to 1 year before dogs become paralysed. DM is not believed to be a painful disease.

New research has identified a gene that is associated with DM. Dogs can test clear, carrier or at risk. 'At risk' means exactly that, that two copies of the gene means the dogs is at risk for developing degenerative myelopathy.

Degenerative myelopathy is a diagnosis of exclusion. We look for other causes of the weakness using diagnostic tests like myelography and MRI. When we have ruled them out, we end up with a presumptive diagnosis of DM. The only way to confirm the diagnosis is to examine the spinal cord under the microscope when a necropsy (autopsy) is performed. There are degenerative changes in the spinal cord characteristic for DM and not typical for some other spinal cord disease. There are no treatments that have been clearly shown to stop or slow progression of DM.

Syringomyelia

Syringomyelia (SM) is an extremely serious condition in which fluid-filled cavities develop within the spinal cord near the brain. One of its common signs is scratching in the air near the neck. This is one of the newer diseases discovered to affect French Bulldogs.

The back half of a dog"s skull, with SM, typically may be too small to accommodate all of the brain's cerebellum, which may also be too large, and so it squeezes through the foramen magnum (the hole at the back of the skull) partially blocking the flow of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) down the spinal cord. The variable pressure created by the abnormal flow of CSF is believed to create the SM cavities – called syrinx – in the spinal cord.

Pain is the most important clinical sign of the disorder. Symptoms may vary widely, but the earliest sign often is that the dog feels a hypersensitivity in its neck area. Then usually follows severe pain around its head and/or neck, causing it to yelp or scream. As the disease progresses, it destroys portions of the spinal chord, and is so painful that the affected dog may contort its neck and even sleep and eat only with its head held high. The dog's legs may become progressively weaker, so that walking becomes increasingly difficult. Some dogs deteriorate to the point of paralysis.

The only accurate way of confirming diagnosis of the disease is through the use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanning.

Treatment options for SM are very limited. Before the disease progresses to its severe form, the use of cortisteroids or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs may relieve the symptoms but not the deterioration. Anticonvulsants have been used in some more severe cases. Drugs which reduce the production of cerebrospinal fluid, including proton pump inhibitors and diuretics, may be useful, but clinical data on their use and effectiveness is lacking.

Surgery to allow the cerebrospinal fluid to flow normally may be necessary to reduce the pain and deterioration. In some cases a shunt is installed. Although surgery often is successful, it is very expensive, and many dogs either have a recurrence of the disease or still show signs of pain and scratching.

Spondylosis

Spondylosis in dogs is a chronic condition in which bone spurs form on the spine due to progressive disk degeneration and / or hemivertebrae. This condition can range from imperceptible to debilitating. As your dog ages, you may see a diminished capacity to run, jump and turn. Finally, trauma can snap the bridges of bone fusing the vertebrae, causing pinched nerves.

Controversy persists over whether Spondylosis is passed from dog to dog genetically. Proponents of this theory posit that the vertebrae in dogs genetically predisposed to develop Spondylosis are born with weaker vertebrae, unable to withstand even the smallest traumas without injury. In French Bulldogs, I believe we see an increased incidence of spondylosis due to hemivertebrae.

Your vet will probably x-ray your dog if Spondylosis is suspected. However, in order to rule out other conditions, your vet may want to perform other tests.

The treatment for Spondylosis includes administering non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs and sometimes surgery is an option.

Spina bifida

Spina bifida is a rare neurological disease of dogs. It is a developmental anomaly where a cleft forms due to failure of fusion of the halves during embryogenesis. This anomaly may be accompanied by protrusion of the spinal cord or its membranes or may be simply an incidental finding on routine radiographs. Spina bifida occulta is characterised by a bony defect without visible protrusion of enclosed vertebral canal structures and is usually associated with smaller defects in the lamina. This would be the kind seen as an incidental finding on X-rays. Other midline defects, such as hydrocephalus, hemivertebrae, cleft palate, cleft lip and/or ventral septal defects may also be present in affected dogs.

Diagnosis is based on presenting clinical signs, obvious deformation and radiography.

Treatment of mild cases is usually unnecessary as it is often a subclinical condition and an incidental radiographic finding. Severe cases usually require euthanasia.

In conclusion, this is certainly not a complete listing of spinal chord issues in the breed. However, I feel it gives the highlights of the mostly commonly seen and frequently devastating diseases.

In the third and final segment, I will present less fact and proffer more opinion on spines and how we as breeders can improve the backs of our beloved French Bulldogs. I plan to discuss my personal theories and share some anecdotal evidence. I've developed some strong opinions over the last almost 18 years of being involved with this breed. As a breeder, a veterinarian, and student and a steward of this breed, I plan to share those opinions and my findings with you.

This article was first published in The French Fancy Magazine and I am grateful to Lori Hunt DVM for allowing me to republish it here.

Lori is a successful breeder and exhibitor of French Bulldogs in the USA as well as being a skilled Veterinarian and Judge.

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Epitomises the words 'Clown Like' this precocious youngster has the true Frenchie temperament. She has been lightly shown this year and has 4 CCs and 3 RCCs. She was the Top Puppy in the UK 2017. Chudney is sired by Ch Le Bijou Circuit at Wildax and her dam is the delectable

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ROWENDALE ISSEY MIYAKE

(photo at 6 months)

We are delighted that Issey is the current UK Top Puppy. Bitch CC and Best Puppy - Three Counties Ch Show at just 8 months of age.

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Litter brother to Issey.

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Web site: www.rowendale.com

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DAM SHOEBRIDGE SANCERRE

PETERAN IN BREED 2017
JETERAN WINNERS SHOW LEIPZIG 2017

SHOEBRIDGE VOUVRAY

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The Midland and Northern Counties French **Bulldog Club Points Scheme**

For many years the M&NCFBC has awarded cups to those of its members whose dogs have earned the most points obtained at qualifying dog shows during a calendar year. The awards are presented at the Club's Annual General Meeting in the following year.

In 2017 the Club's committee decided to simplify the award scheme. The award scheme now operates in the way described here.

M&NCFBC members only and their dogs are eligible for awards.

Awards are given in four categories: top winning dog: top winning Lich, top willing puppy; top winning veteran.

To determine a winner, points are attributed to a dog for its successes at qualifying shows, that is all the general championship shows with French Bulldog classes and the three French Bulldog breed championship shows.

Points are awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a class first
- 2 points for a class second
- 1 point for a class third.

Further points are awarded as follows:

- 25 points for Best of Breed or Best in Show
- 20 points for Dog or Bitch CC (but is not BOB or BIS)
- 10 points for Reserve Dog or Bitch CC
- 5 points for Best Puppy
- 5 points for Best Veteran.

The dog with the most accumulated points across the year in a category is determined the winner. All points accumulated count towards the top winning dog or bitch categories, whether or not won in adult, puppy or veteran classifications. Only points won in puppy or veteran classifications count towards puppy and veteran awards.

The 2017 Roll of Honour was:

Top Winning Dog

Top Winning Bitch

Top winning Puppy

Top winning Veteran

Jafrak Finger Of Fudge

Wildax Chudney Ross

Wildax Chudney Ross

Shoebridge Vouvray

The award scheme will operate again in 2018.

Richard Mavro Michaelis



President Peter Kendrick presents the winners with their trophies at the AGM.

KYOMI



Kyomi Blackberry

Bindee

6-11-06 - 29-5-2018

Remembering you is easy, I do it everyday But missing you is heartache that never goes away

Medina Patrick

Breeding For Health

Carole Ash

We all like to think we are responsible breeders and certainly members of the Breed Clubs abide by a code of ethics, but is there more we could be doing? Present day breeders are the 'Guardians of the breed' and hold the breed's future in their hands. We owe it to the future of our breed and all new owners to produce the healthiest puppies we possibly can.

What health tests are available?

Unlike many of the fad colour breeders members know there is more to health testing than simple DNA testing for two testable conditions ie Degenerative Myelopathy (DM) and Juvenile Hereditary Cataracts (HC). If you are considering breeding from your female or offering your male dog at stud these are the tests available to you:

BOAS testing preferably by the Cambridge Vets team for consistency of test conditions.

Annual eye examinations by a canine ophthalmologist. The DNA test only covers one type of hereditary cataract and other types have been found in French Bulldogs. The annual eye test can pick up other conditions too.

Annual heart testing by a cardiologist. Often Breed Clubs will organise heart testing sessions at discounted rates.

Spine X Ray and evaluation. This can be done by your own vet, with your dog sedated.

Hip Scoring Maybe do this at the same time as the Spine X Ray but these need to be sent to the BVA for scoring. (Hip Dysplasia has been found in several French Bulldogs)

Patella scoring. Your vet can do this using the Putnam Scalewhich is downloadable from the internet.

DNA testing for all available conditions (DM, HC, HUU, CMR1).

With the quantity of French Bulldog puppies being bred at the moment members need to stand out from those breeders who are only interested in profiting from our breed.

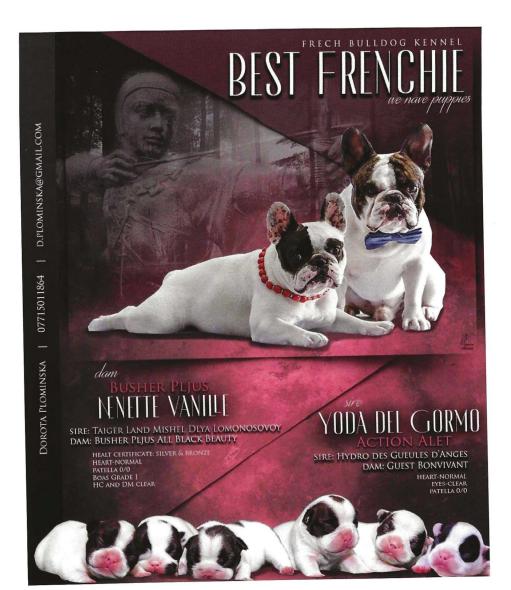
Ensure you provide copies of all test results to new puppy owners and explain to them the significance of the tests.

Health Scheme:

In 2009 a sub committee of the French Bulldog Club of England was established to develop a breed specific health scheme. The idea for this scheme came from Lesley Partridge and Tina Jopling, who had visited the French Bulldog Club of America National Specialty in Tennessee the previous year. They saw the work being done to improve the health of French Bulldogs in the USA. The outline for the scheme was presented by Tina and Lesley at the FBCE 2009 AGM. I have also presented the details of the scheme at a Kennel Club Health Seminar at Stoneleigh. The scheme continues today and is administered by the FBCE President & Chairman.

NB: In England from October 2018 anyone who breeds more than two litters per year or makes money from selling just one litter may need to be licensed by their local authority. Check out the exact details with your own local authority to ensure you are breeding within the new law.





Gizyjo



Gizyjo Sting Like a Bee (1RCC)
'Buzz'

Silver Level Health Tested HC / DM Clear

Thank You To All Judges That Have Appreciated My Dogs

Gizyjo



Gizyjo Miss Fredrique 'Winnie'

Pictured At 9 Years Young Silver Level Health Tested

Gizyjos are loved family members and not disposable stock

Miss Joan Howarth 0161 627 1085

2018 New Champion Ch Chelmbull The Aviator

Owners: Mr D Cund & Mr & Mrs Harrop



Sire Ch Chelmbull Moon Pilot	Ch Daulokkes Renoir Le Blance	Midland Moor ArmaniCode
		Daulokkes Korinne La Blance
	Ch Glenlee Two Moons At Chelmbull	Rosdyke Monsieur Alphonse Foe Glenlee
		Hetana Jordan At Glenlee
Dam Chelmbull Rumour Has It	Busher Plus Memory Game Of Frustyle	Joghurt Dart Azart Gyvybes Ziem
		Busher Plujs Mazarati
	Ch Glenlee Two Moons At Chelmbull	Rosdyke Monsieur Alphonse Foe Glenlee
		Hetana Jordan At Glenlee

2018 New Champion Ch Eastonite Maxwells News JW ShCM

Owner: Denise Maxwell



Sire Instant Karma's Judicious Jamie Eastonite	A'vigdors Enfant Terrible	Honore De Tamaran
		A'vigdores Agiotage
	Instant Karmas Famous Farah	Giovanni V Marvers Fortuna
		Funny V Marvers Fortuna
Dam Eastonite Crumbs	Bullhill I am Pierre Avec Lordsbarton	De Eastonite Du Terroir De Fontfroide
		Mandy's Crystal Maze in Bulhill
	Do Eastonite Du Terroir De Fontfroide	Ushuaia Du Terroir De Fontfroide
		Tamera

2018 New Champion

Ch Wildax Chudney Ross

Owner: Ann Wildman



Sire Ch Le Bijou Circuit At Wildax	Le Bijou Baner	Ch Musashi of Singer JP
		Ch Le Bijou Heat Up
	Ch Noblige Cuantro	Ch Exquisite de La Parure
		Ch Noblige Bjork
Dam Wildax Diana Ross	Eastonite Diamond Geezer At Rowendale	Ch Friend De La Parure
		Do Eastonite Du terror De Fontfroide
	Byrock Silver Bangle To Wildax	Quatt Comic Of Bredwardine
		Byrock Silver Gem

2018 New Champion Ch Celticlibrid Breakthru JW

Owner Natalie Weir



Sire Ch Jafrak Pistols At Dorn	Birique Yungun	Babybulls Quantum Tommyville
		Birique Treacle Pudding
	Tommyville Tauna Dora Jafrak	Ch Birique Tarquin Tommyville
		Tommyville Thimbling For Cartia
	Rus Ch Sormadi Kristofer	Rus Ch Sormadi Civic
Dam		Rus Ch Yuzhana
Celticlibrid Breaking Dawn	Zolotoj Telets Trinity Cash	Ukr Ch Sharle
		Zon Mirekl Penelopa

Word Search

Frenchie Affixes ~ From past and present

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ACIREMA

BOMLITZ

CRINDLE GLENLEE

NOKOMIS

TOMMYVILLE

WILCOTT

BIRIQUE

BUMBLEDOR

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QUATT

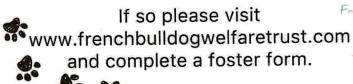
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Ch Chembull

CC & BOB Mr M Cocozza group shortlist

CC & BIS Mr G Corish

CC & BOB Mrs T Urek

CC & BOB Mr D Roberts group shortlist

CC & BOB Mrs J Ferneaux, Group 1 Mrs J Peak,

KENNEL CLUB

MENTEL CLUB

MENTE

RBIS Mr E Paterson at Bath Ch Show

CC & BOB Dr G Bodegard group shortlist

CC & BOB Mr M Gordon group shortlist

CC & BOB Mr T Mather group shortlist

CC & BOB Mr G Godfrey, Group 1 Mr D Roberts

RCC Mr G Drummond

RCC Mrs E Drummond

RCC Miss M Persson Crufts.

Puppy Group 2 Mrs E Peach

Puppy Group 3 Mr Martin Freeman

Eukanuba Puppy Stakes day winner & runner up Mr T Mather

Thank you to all the judges who have thought so highly of Morgan, and making our dreams come true!