



April 2021
Bulldog Breed Council
Gazette
Issue 008

BULLDOG BREED COUNCIL

Promoting healthy Bulldogs, carefully bred to
the Kennel Club Breed Standard

<http://www.bulldogbreedcouncil.co.uk>

As we slowly pull out of the worst pandemic any of us has ever experienced, the 16 Bulldog Breed Clubs which make up the Bulldog Breed Council are busy organising breed specific shows and events for everybody to enjoy.

This newsletter gives all the details of these events, which are open to anyone who has an interest in pure bred Bulldogs, carefully bred to the Bulldog Breed Standard.

Come and join us. All Secretaries' contact details are on the Bulldog Breed Council website. We look forward to welcoming you.

Please join the Bulldog Breed Council Education Station

Facebook Group:



BULLDOG 'Britain's National Breed'

Contents:

BULLDOG CLUBS NEWS

Exercise and your new Bulldog Puppy

Highlighting the:

EAST MIDLANDS BULLDOG CLUB

Why Are We so Colour Conscious?

A Judge's Perspective:

Head Qualities (3)

An Artists View

Judging Bulldogs and Applying the Breed Standard

BWG—What Is It?

SIMPLY GENETICS

BULLDOG BREED CLUBS AND SHOWS 2021

Club Secretaries details are on the Bulldog Breed Council website:
www.bulldogbreedcouncil.co.uk

Bath & Western Bulldog Club 2021

Champ Show: Monday 2nd August Judge Mr D McHale (Kelloe)

At Bath Canine Society show Three Shires Field, Bannerdown BA1 8EG Bath

Open Show: Sunday 26th September 2021.

Judge Mrs Hayley Dodwell (Asharlo)

Venue: Westwoods Centre, North Leach, GL54 3QJ



Birmingham & Midland Counties Bulldog Club

Champ show: Sunday 18 July 2021

Judge Mrs Petra Grell-hansohm.

Venue: Wednesbury Leisure Centre, High Bullet, Wednesbury, WS10 7HP.

Open Show: Sunday 5 December 2021

Judge: Kimberly Nealings

Venue: Willenhall Chart WV13 2NS



Blackpool & Fylde Bulldog Club 2021

Outdoors Open Show: Friday 21st August 2021.

Judge : Sarah Macdonald

Venue: Following Blackpool Championship show Redwood Park, Pinfold Lane, Inskip Nr Preston

(Covid Restrictions: it will be out doors, marquee with open sides, people must take their own chairs and follow all the restrictions and rules wearing masks)

Open Show: Sunday 10th October 2021

Judge: Mr Phil Jones (Everbull)

Venue: Venue: Whiston Town Hall Old Colliery Road Whiston L35 3QX

Subs for 2021 are now due, we will be looking to welcome you all back. We will put out schedules in April when the state of the tiers will be known hopefully



Bulldog Day UK

UNFORTUNATELY THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Annual event for all Bulldog lovers with profits going to Bulldog Rescue and Rehoming Trust. Fun classes, doggy shopping experience and advice. But most of all FUN with your Bulldog



The Club Secretaries will be able to give you the address or send you a 'Schedule'. The schedule gives all the details of the show, including the judge. Secretaries' details are on the Bulldog Breed Council website under 'Contacts'.

All the Bulldogs exhibited at the shows are bred to the Kennel Club Standard. They are judged for health and conformance against the Standard. You can find the Standard on the Bulldog Breed Council website and the Kennel Club website. This is the very best way of learning about Bulldogs.

Where it says 'TBA', the clubs are waiting for Kennel Club authorisation for their proposed shows.

British Bulldog Club

Open Show & Gold Medal Puppy Competition: 11th July 2021

Open Show Judge: Mrs V Eaton (Ricatori)

Gold Medal Puppy Competition

Judges: Mrs D Bishoprick (Pheorm), Mr Chris Bracken (Bradiebe)

Venue: Shirland Village Hall Main Road Shirland Derbyshire DE55 6BB

Championship shows:

20th/21st November 2021

The British Bulldog Club will be holding a huge weekend celebration of Bulldogs in November 2021 with **TWO Championship shows** Judges will be Mr Kevin Davis (Saturday) and Ms Elizabeth Hugo Milam (Sunday).

On Saturday night, (20th November) there will be a memorial evening, remembering all our wonderful Bulldog friends who have recently died.

Venue: Royal Court Hotel, Tamworth Road, Coventry, CV7 8JG

Membership subs are now due, £8.00 overseas, £6.00 joint, £5.00 single. Payment via Paypal: secretary@britishbulldogclub.com or by cheque to Secretary.



Bulldog Club Incorporated

J Taggart will now judge the 2021 open show.

Details of Championship show will be on the club website in due course.

Bulldog Club of Scotland 2021

Open Show

8th May 2021

Judge: Thomas McCash (Taybull)

Venue: Richard Greenhow Centre, Central Ave, Gretna DG16 5AQ

Championship Show

23rd October 2021

Judge Carol Newman (Wencar)

Venue: SRUC Barony Campus College, Parkgate, Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland, DG1 3NE

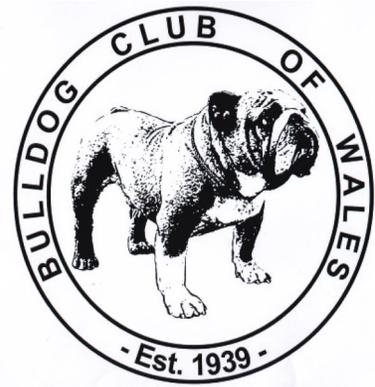


Bulldog Club of Wales

Open show Saturday 13th November 2021

Judge: Gail Westmoreland (Gailbulls)

Venue: Caerwent Community Centre, Lawrence Crescent,
Caerwent NP26 5NS



East Midlands Bulldog Club

Open Show: Sunday 3rd October 2021,

Judge: Mrs J Smith (Saintrosemil)

Venue: War Memorial Hall, Dorothy Avenue, Glen Parva, Leicester
LE2 9JD



Junior Bulldog Club

Championship Shows:

Unfortunately our May show has been cancelled

16th October 2021.

Judges: Dogs: Mrs S Garside (Iceglint)

Bitches: Mrs A Van den Heuval (Beefeaterbulls)

Venue: Brackley Leisure Centre, Springfield Way, Brackley,
NN13 6JJ



Subs are now due. £5.00 single £9.00 joint. Payment can be made by Paypal: paypal@juniorbulldogclub.co.uk

London Bulldog Society

Championship Show: Sunday 13th June 2021

Judge: Mr Paul Reynolds (Biddle)

Venue: Bracknell Sports & Leisure Centre Bagshot
Road, Bracknell RG12 9SE

Limit Show: Sunday 24th October 2021

Judge Richard Eaton (Ricatori)

Venue: Larkfield Village Hall, New Hythe Lane, Ayles-
ford ME20 6PU

For obvious reasons, sadly we are unable to hold our Championship Show in January however, we are pleased to announce that we have rescheduled.

The London Bulldog Society will be holding their Championship Show on Sunday 13th June 2021 at Bracknell Sports & Leisure Centre, Bagshot Road, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 9SE

We would like to thank our judge Paul Reynolds for rescheduling for our special show as we will be celebrating **130 years of The London Bulldog Society**. We hope you will give him a bumper entry and join us to mark this special milestone.

Watch this space for further announcements!

[Manchester & Counties Bulldog Club:](#)

Outdoor Limited Show: Sunday 23rd May 2021

Judge: Emma Lee (Milasha)

Open Show: Sunday 26th September 2021

Judge: Luca Bisignano

Venue: Whiston Town Hall Old Colliery Road Whiston L35 3QX

Championship Show and Awards Evening :

Saturday 30th October 2021

Judges: Dogs Mr Paul Moody Bitches: Mrs Lorraine Watkins

Venue: Tillington Hall Hotel, Eccleshall Road, Stafford ST16 1JJ

Hope you will all join us in what will be a fantastic event

Membership for 2021 now due. £4.00 single £5.00 joint (same household) Fill in membership form on website and then Paypal payment as 'friends only': mcbcawards1897@aol.com



Northern Bulldog Club TBA

[Northern Ireland Bulldog Club](#)

Open Show: Saturday 25th September 2021

Judge: Emma Lee (Milasha)

Venue: Oakfield Community Centre

Carrickfergus BT38 7SP BT38 7SP



Northumberland & Durham Bulldog Club TBA

[Pennines Bulldog Club](#)

Championship Show: Sunday 7th November 2021

Judge: Mr Frank Kane

Venue: The Speedwell Rooms, Inkersall Road, Staveley, Chesterfield S43 3JL



[Plymouth Devon & Cornwall Bulldog Club](#)

Our May Open show is unfortunately cancelled

Champ. Show: Sunday 8th August 2021

Judge Mr Peter New (Newrock)

Venue: Utility Day Paignton & District Fanciers Association Westpoint Arena Clyst St Mary, Exeter EX5 1DJ

Membership subs are now due: Please post to our Secretary, Mr C Little, 38 Lansdowne Drive, Sutton-on-Sea, Lincs LN12

Please give us a fabulous entry & a packed ringside.



[South of England Bulldog Society](#)

Open Show: Sunday 6th June 2021

In memory of Mrs Lynn Manns (Lynmans)

Judge: Ms R Wells Stutter (Linmist)

Venue: Newbury Show Ground Following Southern Counties Champ Show

Open Show: Sunday 29 August 2021

Judge: Mrs P Freeman (Testwood)

Venue: Cobham Village Hall,

Membership subs are now due: Please post to our Secretary,



[Yorkshire Bulldog Club](#)

Open Show: Saturday 12th June 2021

Judge: TBA

Limit Show & Silver Rose Puppy Comp: Monday 30th August 2021

Puppy Comp Judge: Mrs J Booth (TBC)

Show Judge: Ms R Bonilla (Sharonbull)

Champ Show: Saturday 13th November

Judge: Mr W Goodwin (Britishpride)

Venue: Brodsworth Miners Welfare Hall, Woodlands, Doncaster.



EXERCISE AND YOUR NEW BULLDOG PUPPY

We all know how important exercise is to keep everything flowing nicely; joints, metabolism, strength, mobility and stamina. However in young puppies, their joints are undeveloped, their tendons are soft, their legs are little and their muscles still need to strengthen. **So don't overdo it:** the consequences can be pretty dire with joint damage and later arthritis.

When you bring your 8 week old puppy home, he needs to see the vet as soon as possible for his vet check and inoculations. He really shouldn't go onto public pavements until four weeks after his inoculation course, so you can practice in the garden for the first month.

First things first: get him used to wearing his collar and harness. (He must always wear a collar with your phone number on it when outside, however most people seem to favour the dog not wearing a collar indoors.) You can now gently start to lead train him in the garden. Lessons should always be short and fun. Bulldogs are not endowed with a very long attention span but they do love all of your attention and praise. So every time he does it right, loads of praise and maybe a puppy dog treat as well.

If this is done daily, by the time he is ready to walk outside he should be sensible on the lead.



Don't take him more than about 50 metres to start. There will be so much to see and smell this may take quite a while. Let him enjoy every minute of it. At this stage the experiences of the walk are more important than the amount of exercise.

Over the next few months as he grows, very gently increase the length of formal walks.

Free play in the garden should be encouraged as much as possible. Loads of Bulldogs love to play football and running after a Frisbee.

If you can, take him to Puppy Classes to socialise him with other dogs and have fun. He will get an enormous amount of attention.

Just remember to start gently and slowly increase the amount of formal exercise until as an adult he will walk a couple of miles happily at your walking pace.

Always remember that if the weather is hot and/or humid, don't walk him at all until the evening or when pavements have cooled down.



Highlighting the: EAST MIDLANDS BULLDOG CLUB

HISTORY: The East Midland Bulldog Club was formed in 1967 by an amalgamation of three existing clubs: The Notts and Derby Bulldog Club - The Leicester and County Bulldog Club - Coventry and District Bulldog Club .

At this time all three clubs were being run by Gladys and Colin Campion and due to their determination and hard work this resulted in them very ably and efficiently organising nine shows each year. Being the Headmaster of a very large comprehensive school in Derby, Colin's expertise and knowledge of organisation proved invaluable in the merging of the three clubs. Gladys having a career in banking made her the perfect candidate for Treasurer and together they worked tirelessly to build the club and increase membership.

In 1971 Vic Haynes took over as Secretary with his wife Jackie as Treasurer. 1977 saw Vic take over as Chairman and Valerie Worth as Secretary with husband Mike as Treasurer. In 1988 the resignation of Valerie coincided with Colin's retirement and once again he and Gladys took the reins as Secretary and Treasurer.



Liz Wain. Club Secretary

In 1998 Bob Wain was appointed Chairman. Also this same year Vic Haynes took on the roles of both Secretary and Treasurer up to 1999 when Julie Norris took over as Treasurer until 2004 and Yvonne Franklin Secretary until 2003 which is the year that our PRESENT DAY Secretary, Mrs Liz Wain, took over this most important role.

2005 saw Mr Chris Redpath as Treasurer, this also being the year that our CURRENT TREASURER, Sue Howes, took over this position. Bob Wain's death in 2011 was a great loss to the club, he had along with his wife Liz, (our current Secretary) served the club for many years. Records show Bob was stewarding our shows way back in 1981. Our Chairman today is Mr Andrew Saxon who took over this position in 2012.

THE CLUB: In 1988 the club was granted CC's for the first time for alternate years which still remains in place today. August 1st, 1992 we held a special Silver Jubilee Show to celebrate 25 years, our judge was Mr Norman Davis (Ocoobo). At our Open Show on October 8th, 2017 we celebrated our 'Golden Anniversary', our judge was Igna van Huyck (Pride of the Woods). We hold two shows each year. We award the Bob Wain Memorial Trophy outright to the winner of a bitch class at our March show and to the winner of a dog class at our October show.

Officers and Committee at this present time are: Chairman Andrew Saxon
Vice Chairperson Julie Norris
Secretary Liz Wain
Treasurer Sue Howes
Committee: Gwen Biddle-Edwards
Cindy Preston
Lee Howard
Smith Clare Bannister
Beverley Eagle
Sonia Saxon
Livvy Preston
Jeannette Battaglia
Andrew Bannister



Andy Saxon (Chairman)
with 2018 Open Show
Judge Lorraine Watkins

Highlighting the: EAST MIDLANDS BULLDOG CLUB

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS

OCTOBER 9TH 2016

**Judge: Mrs Judith Collie
(Thornford)**

BEST IN SHOW

ANDLARE EVERHARD JW

Owned by: Mr & Mrs Bannister



OCTOBER 7TH 2018

Judge: Helena Kosig (Black Hope)

BEST IN SHOW

Bagibeli Billy Ray JW

Owners: Mr A T & Mrs S L Saxon



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY SHOW 8TH OCTOBER 2017:

**JUDGE: Igna van Huyck (Pride of the Woods)
Belgium**

BEST IN SHOW

'RAGMARTE LILLY PAD AS BLENHIEMSTAR'

Owned by: Miss S E Hanley



MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership: Joint - £5.00 ----- Single - £4.00

To join our club, please contact our Secretary, Liz Wain: Tel: 0116 278 2419 or email: bobain@madasafish.com

WHY ARE WE SO COLOUR CONSCIOUS?

There seems to be a general misconception that breeders of show Bulldogs are somehow elitist.

That could not be further from the truth.

The people who breed and show Bulldogs come from all walks of life, with just one common factor, a deep, sincere love of the Bulldog breed.

When they breed a litter of puppies they are always trying to improve: improve the health of the Bulldog and also improve the cosmetic appearance of the Bulldog, whilst retaining the wonderful Bulldog temperament.

A show person hopes that every one of the puppies he breeds will be good enough to be a Champion and that is why the puppies are bred to the Bulldog Breed Standard (this can be found on the Breed Council Website: www.bulldogbreedcouncil.co.uk).

The Bulldog Breed Standard is extremely important. It is the blueprint for the breed. It was written in 1860 after the Bulldog had been transitioned from a very fierce fighting/baiting dog and remains pretty well intact. Over the decades some changes have taken place to update the wording and remove exaggerations. The one thing that has not changed at all is the **colour**.

The puppies are proudly registered with the Kennel Club, stating the colour.

Yes. Colour. The Breed Standard states:

Colour:

Whole or smut, (i.e. whole colour with black mask or muzzle). Only whole colours (which should be brilliant and pure of their sort) viz., brindles, reds with their various shades, fawns, fallows etc., white and pied (i.e. combination of white with any of the foregoing colours). **Dudley, black and black with tan highly undesirable.**



Correct Brindle/white

Between 1830 when bull and bear baiting became prohibited and 1860 when the Standard was written, the dogs which were Black, Black with Tan and Dudley (liver coloured nose) were found to be the most aggressive. As the dogs were now being bred as companion animals or pets, this trait was extremely undesirable, and it remains so to this day.



Correct White/Red

Obviously after nearly 200 years of selective breeding, the recent introduction of black, black with tan and Dudley dogs will not immediately produce aggressive fighting dogs. **HOWEVER** Bulldog Rescue has noticed the worrying trend of a high proportion of these Highly Undesirable or Non Standard coloured dogs coming into Rescue due to temperament problems.

WHY ARE WE SO COLOUR CONSCIOUS?

About 8 years ago, the Kennel Club attended a Bulldog Breed Council meeting and said that there was no evidence of health issues regarding Non Standard Colours, and at that time that was probably true.

However, it did not take account of the history of this ancient breed and continues to register Non Standard Coloured dogs with the consequence that some are now being specifically bred for their colour alone regardless of health and temperament.

Indeed by being marketed as 'rare' or 'desirable' these dogs are commanding much higher prices than dogs bred to the Bulldog Breed Standard. They are often 'overdone' i.e.: the breed characteristics are exaggerated with legs too short, bone and heads too massive and far too much skin, all of which can cause serious health and welfare issues. These dogs are not health tested, but they are often still KC registered.

There are so many detrimental health issues associated with Merle colouring regarding ears, eyes, skin and autoimmune difficulties that the Kennel Club will not register them.

So, yes. Breeders of Standard Bulldogs are very colour conscious. They are conscious of the health issues and potential temperament issues surrounding dogs whose colour is Highly Undesirable. They are not elitist but they are very concerned indeed for the future of the breed.



Correct: White

Colour:

Whole or smut, (i.e. whole colour with black mask or muzzle). Only whole colours (which should be brilliant and pure of their sort) viz., brindles, reds with their various shades, fawns, fallows etc., white and pied (i.e. combination of white with any of the foregoing colours). Dudley, black and black with tan highly undesirable.

The following are the correct colours



RED



RED/WHITE PIED



WHITE



WHITE WITH TICK-



FAWN



BRINDLE (can be fawn brindle)

Black, Black & Tan, Black/Tan/White.
Blue. Blue & any other colour.
Dudley ie liver coloured nose, lips, eyelid, tongues and pads.
Chocolate.
AND any other colour not listed in the breed standard approved list.

THESE COLOURS ARE INCORRECT
And do not follow the Breed Standard



THE BULLDOG BREED STANDARD

FROM A JUDGE'S PERSPECTIVE

HEAD PART 3

SKULL, EYES AND NOSE

Moving down from the apex of head we come to the skull, the equivalent of our forehead which should be broad flat and square between the corners of the ears down to the front of the frontal bones.

Running your thumb across the top of the skull to the centre, you will find a slight groove that descends vertically down the skull deepening to the stop which should be deep and wide.

The skull is covered by fine, loose flesh. You should be able to see definite wrinkles running horizontally from the furrow across the brow which enhances its shape and flatness. These should be well defined but not too heavy or ropey as to distract from the appearance of mass of head, and likewise the lack of wrinkle sometimes referred to in bulldogs as a dry head is also undesirable and untypical of the bulldog .

The eyes of a bulldog are very topical for several reasons. Firstly for health, they need to be as open and sound as possible showing no signs of defects or irritation and with the black pigmented eye rims laying on the eyeball so to clean the eye when blinking.

It says in the standard the eyes should be round, which for health reasons I can understand but assuming we are talking about the aperture and not the eyeball for me this is a slightly exaggerated term as most bulldogs, due to the formation of their skull and frontal bones, will have a more rhomboid shaped eye - neither sunken or protruding.



Diagram showing the rather flattened rhomboid shape of the eye

One wise old bulldog fancier once described the shape as a rather flattened rhomboid. (See diagram)



Diagram of bold eye

The irises should be as dark as possible almost black and the eye lids covering enough to show no white at all when he is looking directly forward.

They should be placed as low down and as wide apart as possible within the line of the cheeks and quite in front, giving a stereoscopic vision like us humans, unlike a sight hound or a horse with their eyes set slightly around the side.

This means that viewed from the front the eyes should be set horizontally and not at all oblique and so as an imaginary line could be drawn at right angles to the furrow across the four corners of the eyes and the stop.

THE BULLDOG BREED STANDARD

FROM A JUDGE'S PERSPECTIVE

HEAD PART 3

SKULL, EYES AND NOSE

The cheeks, which should be well rounded, protruding out sideways from the head and outside the eyes.

It is quite normal to see a roll of flesh above the nose known as the nose roll. This can be either full, split or non existent, as long as it's not so heavy as to interfere with the layback or eyes it's fine.

The nose should be large, broad and black with nostrils large and open and in my opinion preferably tilted back in line of layback.



Now, the distance from the centre of stop to tip of nose should be at least the distance from tip of nose to the edge of underlip.

This is a change from the original standard which encouraged the nose to sit further back to the stop but while, if we generously use their wording “**at least**” to mean “**equal**”, it still means if we judge to the Standard we have to award dogs that are either downfaced or have longer muzzles as if we have to accept a dog can be downfaced “the line of forface is lower than the line of skull then we lose layback!

If we keep the dog up-faced we keep the layback but have to lower the nose which effectively means a longer muzzle!

If you look at Hutchison's drawings you will see that even though the dog's nose is not set as high as possible, the proportions can't meet the new Standard if we want to keep the typical bulldog head as we know it.

This change was made for supposedly health reasons but recent respiratory function grading scheme tests have proved that a bulldog doesn't need a longer muzzle to breath well. The breed has worked hard to address other health issues like exaggeration, stenosis of the nares, obesity and soundness and I hope in the future for the sake of the breed the KC will be open to discussion to reverse this change.



In the meantime although I can't tell people how to judge I would hope like me they will use their discretion, intelligence and knowledge of the breed and make a good compromise.

With thanks to Mr Kevin Davis.

AN ARTISTS VIEW: Boomerang and Katerfelto

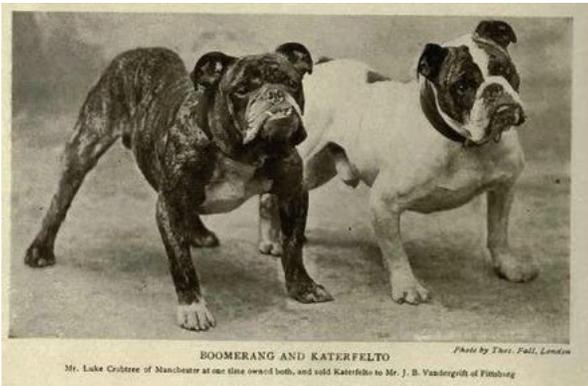
The Bulldog Breed Council Education Sub Committee is currently researching Bulldogs from the 1800s to the present day. The purpose of this is to try and establish changes in the breed over 150 years or so, during which time the Breed Standard has remained fairly intact. Interestingly, during this research, it has been discovered that many portraits pertaining to be of the same dog are very different, and the following article by Anne M Hier describes an artists view of animal portraiture. This may well go some way to explain the differences we have noticed.

“This is a response to the never ending claims (by those with an agenda who have never owned a Bulldog), that Bulldogs have somehow changed for the worse.

First of all, you can't tell anything about health from a photo.

Further, while an individual photo may show a particular dog and be considered "evidence" of what some Bulldogs may have looked like at the time, it is not representative of the entire population and has miniscule to no probative value as "proof."

Further, with slower camera speeds, many of the top show dogs of the late 1800s-early 1900s were posed in braces to spread the fronts and keep them still. The best photographers, such as Thomas Fall in England, then did their darkroom and retouch magic to create the final image.



BOOMERANG AND KATERFELTO
Photo by Thom. Fall, London
Mr. Luke Crabtree of Manchester at one time own'd both, and sold Katerfelto to Mr. J. B. Vandergriff of Pittsburg

As a result early photos are a representation but generally anecdotal.

Additionally, it is even worse to show a painting or drawing and make the same claim as to Bulldog health. As a visual artist, I can assure you, artists paint what they see, not necessarily what is there. And, if they are portrait painters, the job is to flatter, not show faults.

Unlike the majority of pet portrait artists today, most from the golden era of animal portraiture knew animal anatomy and breed standards.

"Representation" in art does not mean the image is true to the actual subject. Rather it is a RE-presentation of the subject filtered through the artist via their skill, talent and vision, or lack thereof.

By the late 1890s, however, most artists were using photos as their source material for their works, not necessarily the actual dog. In other words, older images need to be taken with a grain of salt, and the more the better to form a true picture.

Boomerang and Katerfelto are good examples. These littermates were born in 1893 and bred by Luke Crabtree. Katerfelto was later exported to the USA by J. B. Vandergriff of Pittsburgh, who, I believe, was one of the founding members of BCA.



AN ARTISTS VIEW: Boomerang and Katerfelto

Katerfelto did a fair amount of winning in the USA, but, unfortunately, contracted rabies and had to be put down. The photo of both together was taken by Thomas Fall.

I have seen some of the prints from the entire photo shoot and in several the dogs are sitting or out of position but this is the final image that was produced.

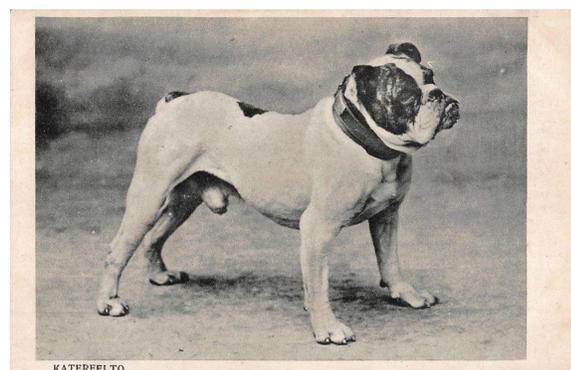
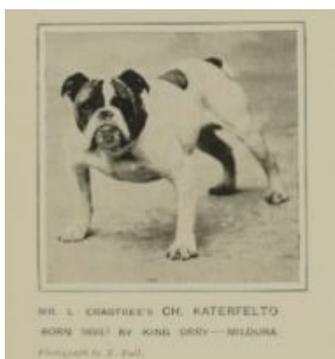
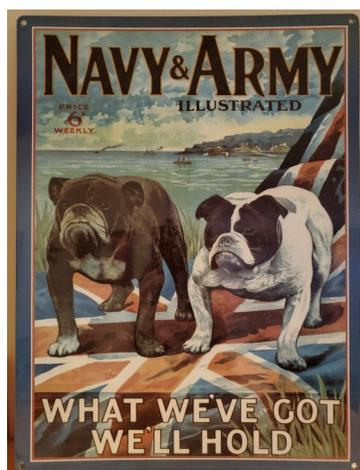
One of the pictures from the shoot of Katerfelto became quite popular and was part of the series of mugs and plates created by Warwick IOGA.



Fall's work is clearly the source material used later by Frederick Thomas Daws that was published in Hutchinson's book.

I think Daws was a fabulous animal portrait artist. (He was also a sculptor and if you have any of the Royal Doulton Champion Dog Models from 1930 through the early 1950s, the majority were created by him).

In the Daws portrait you can see how he flatters both dogs by straightening their legs and completely closing Boomerang's mouth to button him up.



Comparing the photo to the painting, you can see that Daws darkened the undercarriage on Katerfelto to make it less obvious.

Later someone took the Daws painting, isolated the dog and repainted it as a single portrait but misinterpreted the darkened area as a brindle spot, which, in the 1905 postcard of Katerfelto (and other images during his lifetime) the dog did not possess.

The Army and Navy cover illustrator clearly used the Fall photo or, perhaps, the Daws painting as source material. But, what I find interesting about that is Katerfelto seems to be missing his right hind leg!"

With grateful thanks to the author Anne M Hier.

JUDGING BULLDOGS AND APPLYING THE BREED STANDARD

The Bulldog Breed Standard is one of the most complex of the 200 Kennel Club Breed Standards, so judging this breed takes a lot of concentration and dedication to training.



Health and type are of equal importance, but the Breed Watch Document for the Bulldogs should always be foremost in your mind, the dogs that you reward with top awards will be seen as the dogs that the public and new breeders aspire to.

The way that you examine each exhibit is very important, you will have on average two minutes for each dog, including the time to move the dogs. Each dog must be given the same examination, every exhibitor treated with respect.

Approach the dog with confidence but in a gentle manner, develop your own routine for examining exhibits. Stand well back from the dog for your initial look over, your eyes are as important a tool as your hands.



Observe the dog from the front, note the expression, is it a sour expression? Look for a square front, the square should be inside the front legs, the shoulders should have the appearance of being tacked on and sloping. The brisket well let down between the legs. The front legs should be straight but with good muscle.



Move to the side of the dog, look for balance, no point so much in excess of others as to destroy the general symmetry. Look at the outline of the head, then from a well arched neck there should be a slight fall behind the shoulder whence the spine rises to the highest point above the loins then falling suddenly to the tail. This topline is a very specific breed characteristic. Note the length of the back. A dog that is either too long or too short will not appear balanced. Observe the angle of the shoulder, is the front leg below the withers and is the elbow set well away from the body? Look for a belly that tucks up in sync with the curve of the topline.

The Hindquarters: Legs should be large and muscular, slightly longer in proportion than forelegs. Hocks slightly bent, well let down; legs long and muscular from loins to hock. Stifles turned very slightly outwards away from body.

Ask yourself is the dog is well muscled? Does it look Fit for Function ?

Move to behind the dog and observe the length of tail, the shape of the body, Is it the correct Pear Shaped Body? The hind feet should be round and compact. Toes compact and thick, well split up, making knuckles prominent and high.



JUDGING BULLDOGS AND APPLYING THE BREED STANDARD

Observe the coat colour, is it a breed standard colour ?

You have already learnt a lot about the dog without putting your hands on it. So now you move closer for a detailed inspection of the finer points.

Move towards the dog with confidence, offer your hand to the dog to smell, do not talk to the dog, even the best trained dogs can get excited. If the class is age related you can ask the age of the dog.

Start at the head, the standard asks for :

Skull relatively large in circumference. Viewed from front appears high from corner of lower jaw to apex of skull; also broad and square. Cheeks well rounded and extended sideways beyond eyes. Viewed from side, head appears very high and moderately short from back to point of nose.



Forehead flat with skin on and about head slightly loose and finely wrinkled without excess, neither prominent nor overhanging face. From defined stop, a furrow extending to middle of skull being traceable to apex. Face from front of cheek bone to nose, relatively short, skin may be slightly wrinkled. Muzzle short, broad, turned upwards and deep from corner of eye to corner of mouth. Nose and nostrils large, broad and black, under no circumstances liver colour, red or brown. Distance from inner corner of eye (or from centre of stop between eyes) to extreme tip of nose should not be less than distance from tip of the nose to edge of the underlip. Nostrils large wide and open, with well defined vertical straight line between. Flews (chops) thick, broad and deep, covering lower jaws at sides, but joining underlip in front. Teeth not visible. Jaws broad, strong and square, lower jaw slightly projecting in front of upper with moderate turn up. Over nose wrinkle, if present, whole or broken, must never adversely affect or obscure eyes or nose. Pinched nostrils and heavy over nose roll are unacceptable and should be heavily penalised. Viewed from front, the various properties of the face must be equally balanced on either side of an imaginary line down centre.

Look at ear placement and shape, feel them to ensure they are thin, do they 'rose' correctly? Observe the way they are set on the skull, well away from the eyes.

Use some keys or toy to get the dogs attention, this will show the natural carriage of the ears.

The eyes should be clear and free from any obvious problems. Do the eye rims turn in or outwards?

A good indicator of unhealthy eyes is a dog that blinks excessively. Eye shape and health is very important in Breed Watch. You can gently open the eye to examine closely. The eyes should be as dark as possible and always brown.

Is the position of the eye in the skull correct and are they well set apart ?

The nose roll, whether whole or split should not interfere with the eyes or nostrils, a heavy nose roll should always be penalised. Gently lift the roll to ensure it is clean and free from infection.

JUDGING BULLDOGS AND APPLYING THE BREED STANDARD

You need only to look at the nostrils to see if they are open, if the dog is making excessive respiratory effort you will hear it and see the area around the nostrils sucking in and out. No dog showing respiratory distress or breathing noisily should ever be rewarded.

Nose and eye pigment should always be black. Liver or red pigment is highly undesirable.

The under jaw should be upturned and in the shape of an inverted u, but not so upturned that the dog appears dish faced, You should open the mouth using the thumb and forefinger of each hand to lift the top lip and lower the bottom. All bulldogs are undershot but not so much that there is an excessive difference in length between upper and lower jaws. The lower teeth should be in a straight line, two large canines with 6 straight teeth between. Are the jaws parallel to each other, or is there a twist giving the dog a wry jaw ?



The head should be brick shaped with a good length of skull. Have another overall look at the head, is it balanced with light wrinkle and no point to excess? Does it possess the qualities described in the standard ?

Move down to the dogs forequarters.



Examine the shoulders, they should be broad, sloping and powerful, they should feel solid and muscular, the brisket should be deep and wide .

Are the forelegs stout and strong, well developed, set wide apart, thick, muscular and straight, bones of legs large and straight, not bandy nor curved? Do not confuse muscle on the outside of the foreleg for a 'bandy' front.

The pasterns should be strong, straight and upright.

Are the feet straight and turning very slightly outward; of medium size and moderately round and free of any obvious skin conditions ?

Move to the side of the dog. Feel the width of the rib, is it deep and barrelled ? Is the brisket deep, below the elbows and curving towards the belly before the rib ends ?

Are the hindquarters muscular, look at the length of hock, it should be relatively short and at a 90% angle to the ground. The stifle should be round and slightly turned outwards from the body.

The tail set should be low set with the tail jutting out rather straight and then turning downwards, devoid of fringing, rather short than long and never carried above back, you will see this more when the dog is moving. Gently move the tail from side to side at the root, this is enough to assess for a free moving tail.



JUDGING BULLDOGS AND APPLYING THE BREED STANDARD



Bulldog movement is very specific and often misunderstood. The description in the standard is very limited. The bulldog walks with width and you should view the dog moving from the front, whence the dog should not 'Toe In' with the front feet coming in or crossing over, from the side and from the rear. The Bulldog Breed Council has extended the movement description to help with judges training.

“Appearing to trot with short, quick steps on tips of toes, front feet landing just inside width of shoulders, hind feet not lifted high, appearing to skim ground, moving in a semi- circular motion from the inside to outside, and tracking virtually behind the front feet. The body weight is transferred from side to side creating the distinctive bulldog roll. When trotting and viewed from the side correct topline should be maintained. Soundness of movement is of the utmost importance. Understanding the movement is vital, an incorrectly constructed dog will not move properly.”

Run your hand over the coat, it should feel short and soft and smooth, harsh only from shortness and closeness, never wiry. Check for any obvious skin conditions.

What colour is the dog, is it a breed standard colour?

Whole or smut, (i.e. whole colour with black mask or muzzle). Only whole colours (which should be brilliant and pure of their sort) viz., brindles, reds with their various shades, fawns, fallows etc., white and pied (i.e. combination of white with any of the foregoing colours). Any other colour is highly undesirable.

We cannot weigh a dog whilst judging, so you must use your eyes and hands to assess that the dog is a healthy and standard weight.

23kg for a bitch and 25kg for a dog.



Only dogs of a suitable quality should be rewarded. Any dogs thought to be lacking in merit should not be rewarded, this advice can also apply to the judging of non breed standard colours if the judge feels they are lacking in merit. The Kennel Club have issued this advice :

Judges are required to judge dogs against all elements of the breed standard, it is a balanced view. Judges cannot ask for a dog to be withdrawn due to colour – the term withdrawn relates to temperament and canine health and welfare issues (Regulation F(1)21o refers). Similarly a judge cannot exclude a dog from competition due to it having a non-standard colour

(Regulation F(1)21n refers). Colour is only one part of the breed standard and judges must judge dogs against all elements of the breed standard and then weigh up the merits of each dog and place accordingly. Of course awards can be withheld if there is a lack of sufficient merit in an exhibit and/or class and it is possible that reference to non-standard colour could be considered within this general term.

When you have selected your class winners and these dogs have come back to challenge for Best Of Sex / Breed, it is important to move each dog again, it could have been several hours since you saw the dogs, you will need remind yourself and also be sure that the dogs are still moving correctly.

When writing a critique, make it precise, using breed specific terms, applicable to the dog concerned, and cover the whole dog. Write it in the order that you would go over the dog.

With thanks to Lorraine Watkins



BWG—THE BRACHYCEPHALIC WORKING GROUP

What is it?

Five years ago, there was a petition started up by a journalist/ vet, who wrote for the Telegraph Newspaper which was signed by email in huge numbers across the world, drawing attention to the dogs with Brachycephaly head shapes to be improved at the least, but the overall majority wanted to see restrictions leading to banning the breeds. It has not gone away. It has recently been rehashed to ask Vets and Nurses to join in a 'Vets against Brachycephalic campaign' on Twitter.

A meeting was called, and the Kennel Club hosted it. It was attended by 15 organizations made up of Scientists, Veterinarians, Charities and Breed Club Health representatives. To be honest I was glad the Kennel Club Chairman Steve Dean was putting across more moderate actions that could be taken other than banning.

Quite strong opinions came from around the table including suggestions of banning and changing breed standards significantly.

The problem is as always, yes, there are unhealthy bulldogs bred out there but if they are not all KC registered, their breeders do not conform to the standard and belong to the breed clubs, this is an area of people we have little hope of influencing. The Breed Council Education sub committee started attending many Pet events to spread the information, but Covid stopped that going on. It is hoped to re-start when allowable.

Unfortunately, Social Media is where these people are getting their influencers from; celebrity owners presenting these dogs on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter .

It was decided we should form a working party and try to bring ideas and improvements to be discussed that would make a difference to the health of Brachycephalic dogs.

Composition of the Brachycephalic Working Group (BWG) includes representatives of all major stakeholders in dog welfare in the UK. These include:

Academia – Royal Veterinary College, University of Cambridge

Dog breed health co-ordinators – Bulldog, French Bulldog, Pug

Veterinary profession – British Veterinary Association (BVA), British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA)

Dog registering body – The Kennel Club

Animal charities – Dogs Trust, PDSA, RSPCA

Owners, Breeders, Veterinary surgeons



There are four meetings a year and being truthful the first meetings were dire One of these we spent talking from 11 am till 4pm and I can honestly say we did not manage to find one bit of common ground which we could move forward with. I left crying tears of frustration on my way to the tube .

The Chairman, Dan O'Neil knew that the meeting had not gone well for us all and as Frenchie's and Pugs had two Breed club health reps attending, suggested I bring an assistant who now accompanies me .

BWG—THE BRACHYCEPHALIC WORKING GROUP

The Kennel Club and all the stake holders have equal status in the meeting. None of the participants are the owners of the meeting: we are equal partners in the discussions. We are the BWG, the KC only provides a meeting room for us although during the pandemic the meetings have been online.

As the Breed Council's PR representative, I was asked to join their COMMS subcommittee. This has been an interesting learning curve as the charities and vets' societies have professional PR departments and this has been extremely interesting. I learn from every meeting.

It has also helped that through this subcommittee the French bulldogs and Bulldogs get to see what is suggested as public campaigns. We have an input, which has been greatly beneficial to the messages that get put out as BWG statements, some of which we could not agree with. We raised concerns and more moderate wording has ensued.

Aims of the Brachycephalic Working Group (BWG)

The BWG comprises leading UK dog welfare organisations, veterinary organisations, the Kennel Club, scientific & social researchers, and relevant breed club representatives. The group aims to improve the health and welfare of brachycephalic (flat faced) dogs by working to improve the conformation-related health of individual dogs as well as also reducing the current trend towards rising demand for these dogs. These aims will be approached by developing a series of action plans that target the brachycephalic welfare issue at several points. These actions have been defined in a detailed Framework Document, which is updated annually and can be seen on their website.

The BWG has actively approached companies and asked them to limit the use of Brachycephalic dogs in advertising. Especially to not use them in promoting things that were unrelated to the breeds: for example acceptable for specialist foods made for Brachycephalic dogs, but not for Carpets, Cars and various household products.

This is based on increasing the popularity by people seeing them. The numbers of French bulldogs have been overtaking the Labrador numbers the usual top dog, our Bulldogs have not risen by the same degree.

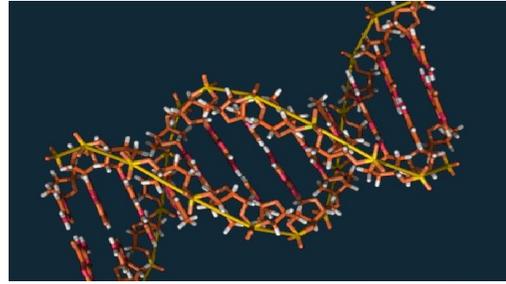
Vets are seeing more Brachycephalic dogs because there are more in pet ownership than ever before. I think this is significant because of the numbers around this does not indicate these breeds are becoming unhealthier which is suggested by numbers; this has fuelled some lively debates .

As a breed we need to Health test, take part in the RFGS, BVA heart and eye tests .These test results get sent directly to the KC and our breed health scheme provides data to show when we are achieving good consistent health improvements in the Bulldog.

Please owners, think if you can help the Bulldog. It does not matter if you own a bulldog that he is just your pet, you do not breed or stud him, the Health Scheme gives us information on the health of all bulldogs in the UK which we can present to the BWG to show progress which will help the breed .

With thanks to Vicky Collins-Nattrass Bulldog Breed Council Health Co Ordinator

UNDERSTANDING GENETICS—SIMPLY



Genetics is a field of biology that studies how traits are passed from parents to their offspring. The passing of traits from parents to offspring is known as heredity, therefore, genetics is the study of heredity. This introduction to genetics takes you through the basic components of genetics such as DNA, genes, chromosomes and genetic inheritance.

Genetics is built around molecules called DNA. DNA molecules hold all the genetic information for an organism. It provides cells with the information they need to perform tasks that allow an organism to grow, survive and reproduce. A gene is one particular section of a DNA molecule that tells a cell to perform one specific task.

Heredity is what makes children look like their parents. During reproduction, DNA is replicated and passed from a parent to their offspring. This inheritance of genetic material by offspring influences the appearance and behaviour of the offspring. The environment that an organism lives in can also influence how genes are expressed.

DNA is the cornerstone of genetics and is the perfect place to start for an introduction to genetics. DNA stands for deoxyribonucleic acid and it is the molecule that holds the genetic information for a cell and an organism. A DNA molecule contains a code that can be used by a cell to express certain genes. Specific sections of a DNA molecule provides the information to build specific proteins which can then be used by a cell to express the desired gene.

A DNA molecule is a nucleic acid, one of the four molecules of life. It comes in the form of a long, linear molecule referred to as a strand. Each strand of DNA is bonded to a second strand of DNA to form a DNA double helix. In eukaryotic cells, DNA is found in the nucleus as a tightly coiled double helix.

DNA molecules are replicated during cell division. When a cell divides, the two new cells contain all the same DNA that the original cell had.

A gene is a specific segment of a DNA molecule that holds the information for one specific protein. DNA molecules have a unique code for each gene which codes for their specific protein. Some organisms can have more than 100,000 different genes so they will have 100,000 unique sequences of DNA 'code'.

Genes are the basic unit of heredity. The genes of an individual are determined by their parent or parents. A bacteria that is born by one parent cell splitting into two cells has the exact same genes as their one parent cell.

A human or dog, on the other hand, has two copies of each gene – one set from their mother and a second set from their father. Different forms of the same gene are called alleles. For each gene, a human can have two different alleles or two of the same alleles – one from each parent.

Physical traits such as eye colour or height are often determined by the combination of multiple genes. The environment an individual lives in also impacts how genes are expressed.

UNDERSTANDING GENETICS—SIMPLY

A chromosome is a structure made from tightly packed strands of DNA and proteins called histones. Strands of DNA are tightly wrapped around the histone proteins and form into long worm-shaped structures called 'chromatids'. Two chromatids join together to form a chromosome.



Chromosomes are formed in the nucleus of a cell when a cell is dividing. It is possible to see chromosomes under an ordinary light microscope if the cell is in the right stage of cell division

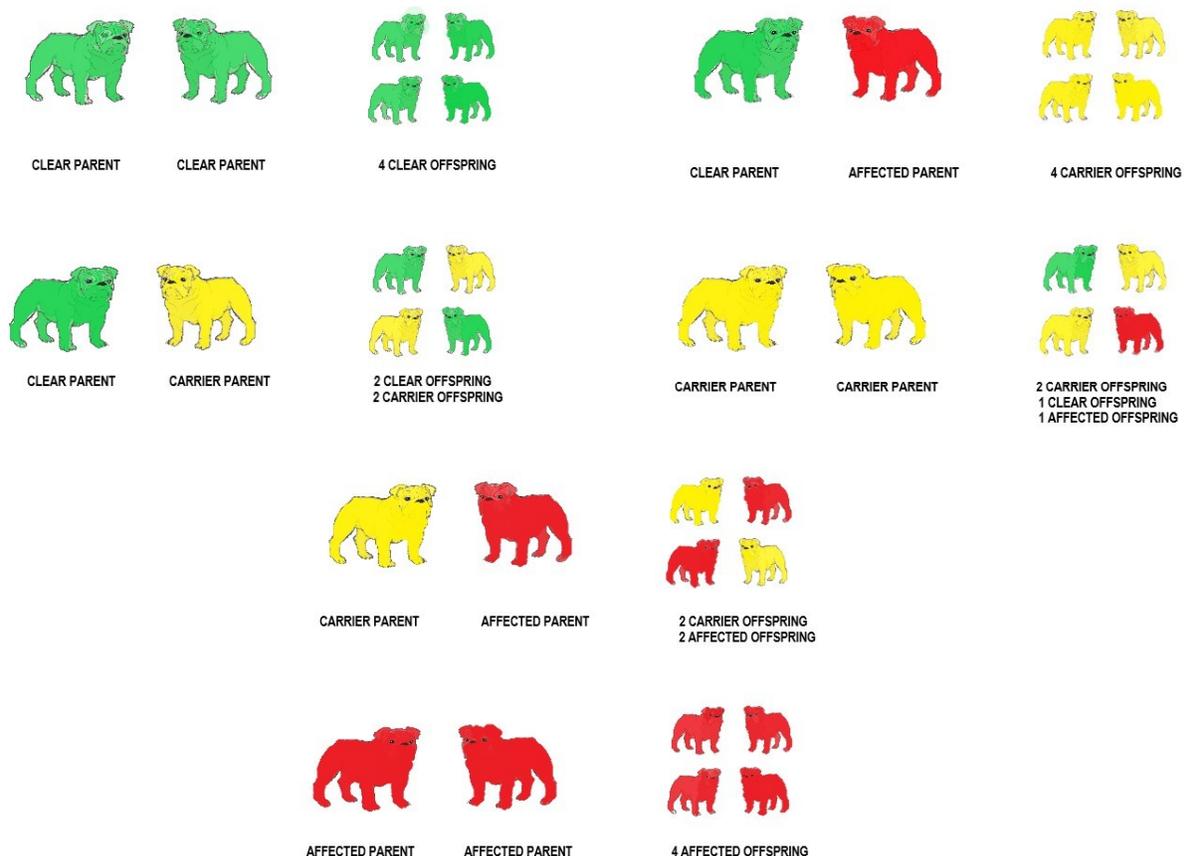
The number of chromosomes varies between species. Humans have 46 chromosomes. Some species can have many more than 100 chromosomes while others can have as little as two.

Long before DNA had been discovered and the word 'genetics' had been invented, people were studying the inheritance of traits from one generation to the next.

Genetic inheritance occurs both in sexual reproduction and asexual reproduction. In sexual reproduction, two organisms contribute DNA to produce a new organism. In asexual reproduction, one organism provides all the DNA and produces a clone of themselves. In either, genetic material is passed from one generation to the next.

This is clearly not a PhD dissertation, and to compound matters, genes can be either dominant or recessive. It is the recessive genes which cause an enormous amount of problems because they are usually hidden. This means that if both parents are carriers of a recessive gene which no-body is aware of, the offspring may well be affected. It is therefore really important that you keep a record of any problems associated with all puppies borne by your bitch or sired by your dog. That way you will become aware of recessive genes in your line and can avoid 'doubling up' when mating your dog.

The graphic below describes the effects of HUU genes in the offspring





ADOPT DON'T SHOP!!

We are always looking for good, secure responsible homes for our rescue bulldogs. We endeavour to match each bulldog to the right home. We give complete rescue back up and support to every family. All our bulldogs are spayed/neutered, flea'd, vaccinated, wormed & microchipped before rehoming. As our bulldogs become available they are posted on our website ready for applications. We also have a Facebook group where you can keep up to date with everything EF...

WE RELY SOLELY ON PUBLIC DONATIONS TO CONTINUE OUR WORK.
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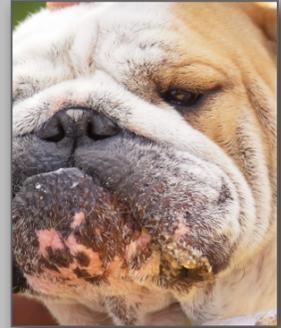
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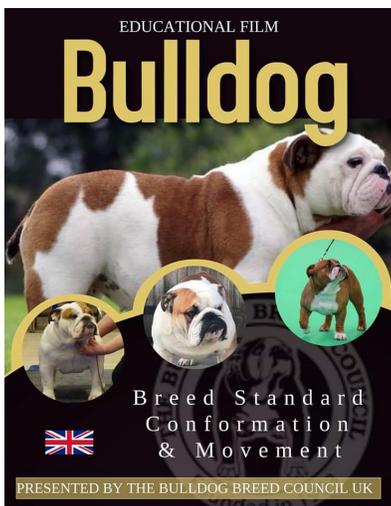
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**HELPING
BULLDOGS IN
NEED.....**



**Join the Bulldog Breed Council Education Facebook Group:
EDUCATION STATION**



The Bulldog Breed Council DVD is available through the website.

An educational film explaining all the points in the Bulldog Breed Standard.

www.bulldogbreedcouncil.co.uk

Have you ever considered Rescue and maybe rehoming a Bulldog.

We have 2 Bulldog Rescue Charities:

Bulldog Rescue

Edward Foundation.

Both of these charities do amazing work on behalf of the Bulldog Breed. Unfortunately this year, their fund raising activities have been severely disrupted due to the Covid pandemic.

For details on how to contact them, or to make a donation, please go directly to their websites.



Do you need specific advice about a condition or problem your bulldog displays?

Bulldog Rescue are putting together a Bulldog Guide, aimed primarily at those that adopt dogs from us with specific issues, it's hoped that this section of our web site will go a long way to help all bulldog owners around the world. This Free Guide will be updated with articles on a regular basis and we want to know what you want to know.

In the pipeline

- Living with an epileptic Bulldog
- Living with an incontinent Bulldog
- Our Guide to avoid your dog being stolen

What would you like to add? Just go to the Bulldog Rescue site, and let them know.