



The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.



# The Phoenix



*Autumn/Winter  
2023*







## Your Club

*Cover : Images from the Championship show*

### Patrons

Tom Couchman

Jocelyn Croad

**President** Michelle Parker Brien

**Vice President** Ashleigh Barber

**Secretary** Jannelle Tremenheere [nevaending@hotmail.com](mailto:nevaending@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer** Matt O Sullivan

**Editor** Michelle Parker Brien - [mbrienparker@yahoo.com](mailto:mbrienparker@yahoo.com)

### Committee

Assistant Secretary Responsible for:

Membership & Griffon Buyer Registrar- Sharyn Wood

[sharynwood54@gmail.com](mailto:sharynwood54@gmail.com)

Victoria Mercer

Terri Odell

Sarah Peddie Mc Guirk

Claire Parker OSullivan

Marousa Polias

### Events Committee

Victoria Mercer (Chair)

Tom Gregory (Sydney)

Club Website -griffonsnsw

Club Face Book Page – Griffons NSW

### Show Committee

Michelle Parker Brien -Show Manager

Claire Parker OSullivan– Show Secretary

Sarah Peddie Mc Guirk – Trophy Manager

Matt O Sullivan- Treasurer

Jannelle Tremenheere- Secretary

[nevaending@hotmail.com](mailto:nevaending@hotmail.com)

### Non Committee Positions

Rescue Officers- Adam and Jannelle Tremenheere

### Honorary Life Member

Denis Montford

Jocelyn Croad

Tom Couchman

### Life Member – In Memorium

Kerri Taylor

### The aims of the club are:

To promote the Griffon Bruxellois and Petit Brabancon breed.

To highlight the versatility of the breed as a loving and loyal pet, and a show and performance dog

To promote good sportsmanship and good fellowship among members at all times

To show respect and courtesy to all members in an atmosphere free of bullying and intimidation

To support responsible and ethical breeding practices of Griffons

To provide advice and support for Griffon owners

To support and recommend testing of health issues relevant to Griffons based on genuine scientific research, both local and international.

To provide a rescue service for Griffons

To promote friendship and social activities among all Griffon owners

To educate Griffon owners about grooming, training and responsible ownership

To work in partnership with other responsible Griffon Bruxellois Clubs of Australia and internationally for the betterment of the breed

## Celebrations



*Ros and Dave  
Finch celebrated  
Australia Day  
with the  
Griffons*

*Billy, George  
and Porthos  
Wood  
celebrated the  
Coronation*





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### Paint me like those French Girls

Morty, Ronald and Minerva-  
preparing their Tinder photos







## Presidents Report

The first half of the year has been busy for the club and exhibitors with Sydney Royal, our own club double show, a Griffon meet up and planning for Dog Lovers later this year.

The Championship shows were highly successful and saw a strong entry of 40 Griffons. We have a number of highly dedicated breeders in NSW and the quality of Griffons exhibited was very high and consistent, giving the judges a challenge to

find a winner. We were also happy to welcome some first- time exhibitors and hope that they enjoyed the experience.

All ethical breeders and Griffon owners have been concerned to see that a small group of NSW puppy farmers are now planning to breed dilute coloured Griffons, despite all the research that indicates potential health issues. These people clearly have no respect for breeds or the long term welfare of the dogs that they breed as they also produce multi coloured dogs of other breeds and take delight in announcing that they have 'pocket' versions of these breeds. This is the behaviour of people who only breed for money.

This type of unscrupulous breeding has been occurring in Europe, the UK and USA for sometime and as a club we can only hope to educate Griffon owners and buyers so that they won't be taken for suckers by these greedy breeders.

Our club will be working with the Victorian Griffon Bruxellois club to educate and advise buyers and owners to help them avoid future heartache

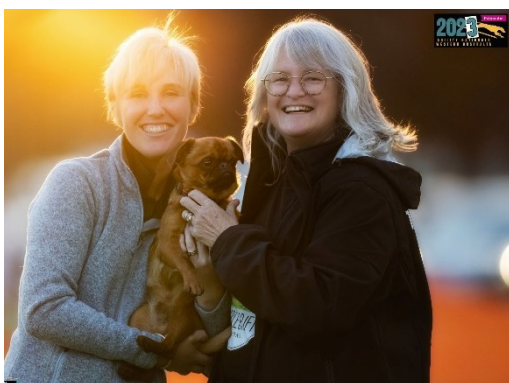
We can only urge people to ensure that they get their Griffon from a reputable breeder and contact the clubs for information before committing any money.



## From the Editor

This is a large issue, combining news from Australia and overseas. We have some important articles on the health issues connected with breeding dilute colours and also research on cleft palates.

The club will be having a breed stand at the Dog Lovers Show in Sydney and the information on the show and how to volunteer is also available. As well we have the usual reports on shows, point scores, gatherings, birthdays and Griffon activities. I hope you enjoy reading it.



One of the great things about our Griffon community is that it brings people together from all walks of life to share our love of Griffons

### Meet Some Members

*From Western Australia- Alex Deasey ,  
Tango and Kelly Pilgrim Byrne*

*From Queensland- Jocelyn Croad-  
International All Breeds judge*



*From New Zealand – Fern Fever*

*From Russia- Olga Baranova and  
Vasilina Rostomova*







# What Does Our Club Do?

Showing isn't even half of it!

## EDUCATE



The general public about the pro's & cons of Griffons, and how to find a responsible breeder.

## ASSIST



Potential Griffon owners to find a responsible breeder, and assist existing Griffon owners with any issues they may be having with their Griffon.

## PROMOTE



The health and protection of the breed and responsible breeding and purchasing practises

## RESCUE



Griffons in need whom often require extensive veterinary and rehabilitation work



[www.griffonnsw.com](http://www.griffonnsw.com)

## Support Responsible Breeders





## Griffon Corner

It has been a busy time for babies with some of our club members. Congratulations to long time club members, **Terri and Grant Odell**, who became proud grandparents for the first time when daughter Kelly presented them with a baby boy, Charlie.



Also proud first time

grandparents are **Tania and Danny Wilson**, who now have a grand daughter, Stevie. Freddie the Griffon approves of his new family member



Other Griffons have also been happy to welcome a two legged sibling to the family



*Nergal checking out his new sister*

*Igor approves of his new sister*



*Esme inspecting her new baby brother*

*Tiffany Barlogie welcomed Hudson into the family*







The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.

Some of our members have also been on the sick list and we send them best wishes for a speedy recovery

Sending our best wishes to **John Meads**. He and Sandie were having a wonderful European holiday when he was knocked over in a London street and fell breaking his pelvis. He is now in St Thomas Hospital undergoing treatment. Get well soon



**Fern Feaver** has been out of action with a tear in her leg muscle. Hoping that she is up and about soon



**Dave Finch** has been in and out of hospital with pericarditis, a reaction to his 5<sup>th</sup> covid booster. I am happy to say that he is now on the mend and recovering



And on a happier note:

Our Assistant Secretary, **Sharyn Wood**, has been traveling to Japan.

I don't think she will be replacing her Griffons with any other dogs in the near future







## **Vale Tom Couchman**

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Tom Couchman, Patron and Life member of our club, at the beginning of June 2023.

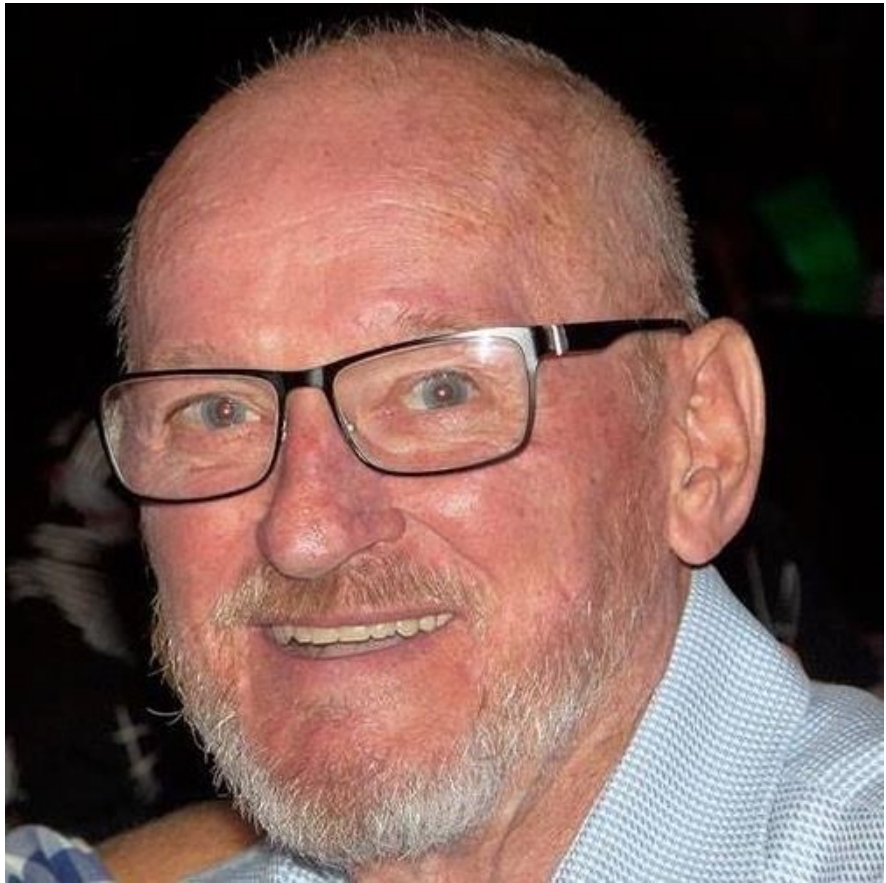
The club owes a debt to Tom and without his support and advice, over 10 years ago when the club was torn apart by a few toxic people, the club would not exist.

It was Tom who suggested our point score, which is still well supported today. And it was Tom who provided support and advice to get the club established to become the success it now is.

Tom was always willing to assist and printed out catalogues for every championship show, free of charge to the club. Sadly, the catalogues he printed for 2023 are the last ones.

His knowledge of ANKC constitutional rules was legendary and he was a vast source of knowledge that he was always willing to share

Tom did not want a funeral or any fuss when he died but I print below the eulogy written by his brother. Our sympathies go to his family and his husband of over 50 years, Tony White.



### ***Notice of the passing of Tom Couchman by his brother Phil (my cousins)***

***Phil Couchman III was with Tom Couchman, Tony White, Vicki Ann and Carole Couchman***

*My brother Tom Couchman lost his 8 month battle with multiple cancers last night. The Couchman family are grateful to Vicki Greening (Vicki Ann), his sister, for her selfless act in being with Tom for the past week as this moment approached.*

*We particularly think of his husband Tony White at this time as we know just how much Tom contributed to their 52 year partnership and how much Tony will miss him. We also think of our sister Carole Couchman (Jannuzzi) in Sorrento, Italy, knowing how much she adored Tom and our brother Stewart in Adelaide currently suffering from a nasty respiratory infection rhinovirus.*

*If you read nothing else of this tribute please ensure you read the paragraph commencing "One amazing thing that Tom did.....".*

*Whilst Tom did not want any fuss made over his passing or any form of gathering I think it is important to mention just a few things that many of you will not know that will give you a better appreciation of the inherent goodness of this man and of his impressive intellect.*





*Tom and I both passed the examinations to be admitted to Erskineville Selective Primary School and Canterbury Boys Selective High School. Tom followed me 1 year later in each class and he was 3 years behind John Howard, one of Australia's most famous Prime Ministers.*

**Tom and his husband, Tony, earlier this year**



*Tom left Canterbury before he was due to sit for his Intermediate Certificate which was disappointing at the time given his abilities proven later in life with Mitsubishi Australia Ltd and also his post retirement activities. He then moved into various roles before joining Mitsubishi in his late 20's. It should be emphasised that this was the parent corporation not the subsidiary, Mitsubishi Motors. Tom rose in the ranks to be Deputy Managing Director and Company Secretary by the time he retired as the highest ranked Australian in the company world-wide.*

*When he retired he turned his considerable talents to Dogs NSW in the course of which he was elected to the committee eventually becoming chairman for a number of years. He also became the secretary of multiple clubs, ran numerous dog shows and was a steward then ultimately a judge. His incredible attention to detail and managerial abilities were evident in all his actions. There were hundreds of messages sent to Tom after his condition became known expressing gratitude for his help both on a personal level as well as on an administrative level. These surprised Tom but I assured him that these messages were simply evidence of how much his hard work had helped and influenced people in the dog world. On behalf of the family thank you for your kind words and particularly to the Gunnedah Kennel Club members for the plaque they have prepared in his honour .*

*There was a period when Tom stepped away from the dog world, due possibly to burnout, but he returned to running shows and cataloguing for a few years until the disease became evident. We as a family noticed during the break that he had the time to be much more involved with us and we were grateful for that.*

*One amazing thing that Tom did over recent years was to set up the Central Coast Coronavirus Info group on Facebook. This group had 19,000 followers, He put his investigative talents to work on researching the multitudinous changes that were continually occurring Australia wide, updating people and helping them to negotiate the minefields of conflicting information that were confusing us during those difficult years. The local Member of Parliament recorded a video in the NSW State Parliament building expressing her appreciation to Tom for his work stating that his work had definitely saved lives.*

*He faced the disease and his various treatments just like he faced everything else – head on. We were tremendously grateful that, despite having a large brain tumour that had to be surgically removed twice plus 8 other brain lesions that needed radiotherapy, Tom retained his intellect and ability to handle his affairs until just a couple of weeks ago. Tom would have hated his faculties being impaired so that was a real blessing to him and us.*

*I apologise for the length of this tribute but I can assure you that I have tried to confine myself to just a few important things.*

**RIP Tom Couchman**





The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.



## Griffons Sleeping

*Remy and Poppy, snoozing in the garden*



*Elijah and Niklaus snuggled*

*Hart asleep with Dad*



*Zsa Zsa asleep on the table*



*Beedle and Siegfried-Griffon pillow*



*Neville and Betty, sleep together but don't touch me*

*Brax sleeping with his ribbon*



*Pansie-invisible when sleeping*







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## 2023 Championship Shows

The 2023 shows were held on April 1<sup>st</sup>, in sunshine and perfect autumn weather. We had a good entry of 40 and few absentees.

The club had the usual high standard trophy table and we are very grateful for the support of our members who so generously sponsored the



trophyes. It takes a village and we couldn't do it without you. This year we trialled a grazing table, supplied by the CNCC caterer, Cherie Bryson. It was a huge success and looked

fabulous. The club also supplied the traditional complimentary bubbly.

The shows opened as usual, with our parade of Golden Oldies, which is open to every Griffon over 10 years of age, free of charge. This year we had 7 Golden Oldies ranging from 10 years to 14 years.



### Golden Oldies-

**(L-R)** Jannelle Tremenheere with Dumbledore- Gr Ch Balliol Gellert Grindalwald (12 .5yrs), Michelle Parker Brien with Dolly- Ch Balliol Dolly Dimple (14yrs) and Gertie-Gr Ch Balliol Gertie Giggles (12.5yrs). Jillian Mathieson with Sprout- Ch Sibermoon Ms Banks to You(10.5yrs), Claire Parker O Sullivan and Henry with Ludwig, Ch/ Neut Ch Balliol Fezzywig Fever(13yrs) and Squirrel- Neut Ch Bonzabull Squirrel Nutkin (10yrs) and Ashleigh Barber Dale with Neville- Sup Ch Cricklewood Night of Magic in Paris(11yrs)





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## Silver Show- Judge Mr D Gilson



Judging Best in Show- Dog Challenge Sup Ch **Tzani Zazu Zodiac** (BIS) with Emily Bell and Bitch Challenge – Ch **Balliol Norberta Niffler** (Rup BIS) with Claire Parker O'Sullivan



The Runner Up in Show, also a repeat from 2022, was **Ch Balliol Norberta Niffler** with Claire Parker O'Sullivan. She was also Best Australian Bred in Show and Bitch Challenge



Reserve Dog Challenge and Best Junior in Show was **Nevafollo Fizzing Whizzbees**, owned by Jillian Mathieson and Ashleigh Barber and handled by Jillian



Reserve Bitch Challenge and Best Bred by Exhibitor in Show was **Nevafollo Mischief Managed**, with Ashleigh Barber Dale.







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Baby in Show was ***Nevafollo The Juan and Only***, owned by Sarah West and it was lovely to welcome some new exhibitors



Minor In Show was ***Kango Dragon Baroness*** owned by Gen Hong, another new exhibitor



Puppy in Show was ***Balliol Quentin Quisp***, owned by Jasmine Dale and Michelle Parker Brien and handled by Jasmine.



Intermediate in Show was ***Frenchgriff Follow the Sun***, owned by Victoria Mercer and handled by Tiffany Barber Dale

Open in Show was ***Ch Balliol Tilly Tonks of Raweke***, owned by Michelle Parker Brien, with Claire Parker Osullivan



Best Neuter in Show was ***Neuter Ch Kango Lady Ma Donna*** with Marousa Polias



Rup Neuter in Show was ***Ch Balliol Impish Incantation*** with Michelle Parker Brien







The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.

## Gold Show – Judge – Ms M Joyce



Judging Best in Show . Dog Challenge -Ch Balliol Nicholas de Nimsey (Rup BIS) with Jillian Mathieson and Bitch Challenge Ch Balliol Tilly Tonks of Raweke (BIS) with Michelle Parker Brien



The Gold show saw some new winners emerge and Best in Show went to the bitch- **Ch Balliol Tilly Tonks of Raweke** with Michelle Parker Brien. She was also Bitch Challenge and Best Open in Show BIS Best open BCC

Runner up in Show was **Ch Balliol Nicholas de Nimsey** owned by Jillian Mathieson and Michelle Parker Brien and handled by Jillian. He was also Dog Challenge and Best Australian Bred in Show



Reserve Dog Challenge was **Frenchgriff Follow the Sun**, owned by Victoria Mercer and handled by Tiffany Barber Dale



Reserve Bitch Challenge was **Ch Nagpuni Ginger Spice**, with Terri Odell







The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.



Baby Puppy in Show was ***Nevafollo The Juan and Only*** with Sarah West

Minor In Show was ***Kango Dragon Baroness*** owned by Gen Hong,



Puppy in Show was ***Balliol Quentin Quisp*** with Jasmine Dale

Junior in Show was ***Nevafollo Fizzing Whizzbees*** with Jillian Mathieson



Intermediate in Show was ***Nagpuni Vieux Curee*** with Terri Odell

Best Bred by Exhibitor in Show was ***Nevafollo Bertie Botts*** with Ashleigh Barber Dale



Best Veteran in Show was ***Sup Ch Tzani Zazu Zodiac*** with Emily Bell

Best Neuter in Show was ***Neuter Ch Kango Lady Ma Donna*** with Marousa Polias







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## Shots around the Ring

*Cityjack Charles – Gen Hong, Baby Puppy dog*

*Frenchgriff Black Beauty Alfie- Jessica Fouard- Aust bred Dog*



*Bitch Challenge Line-Gold show*



*Judging Veteran Dog class- Nevaending Its in the Name, Sup Ch Tzani Zazu Zodiac, Ch Raweke Toby Lannister*



*Kango Dragon Baroness with Marousa Polias- Minor Puppy*



*Judging Junior dog class Swedndreams Firefox at Lochtay and Nevafollo Fizzing Whizbees*



*Puppy bitch- Balliol Queeni Quickspell*







The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.

*Ch Raweke Toby Lannister- Veteran Dog*



*Judging Reserve Dog*

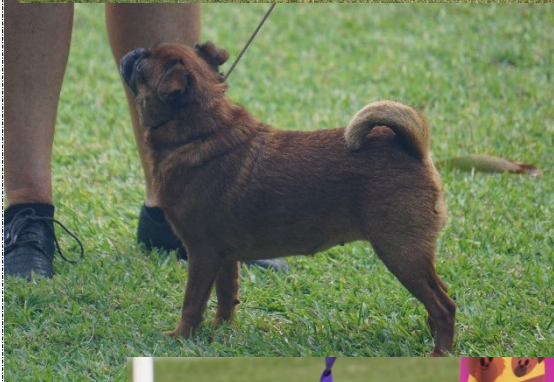
*Challenge at Silver show Ch Raweke Toby Lannister, Ch Balliol Kaptain Krum, Nevafollo Bertie Botts, Ch Balliol Nicholas de Nimsey*

*Intermediate bitch- Ch Balliol Poppy Pomphrey, Balliol Octavia Owl, Nagpuni View Curee*



*Nagpuni Midnight at the Oasis-Open Bitch*

*Ashleigh and Bertie having fun in the ring*



*Ch Balliol Kaptain Krum-Open Dog*



*Marousa and Zorro*



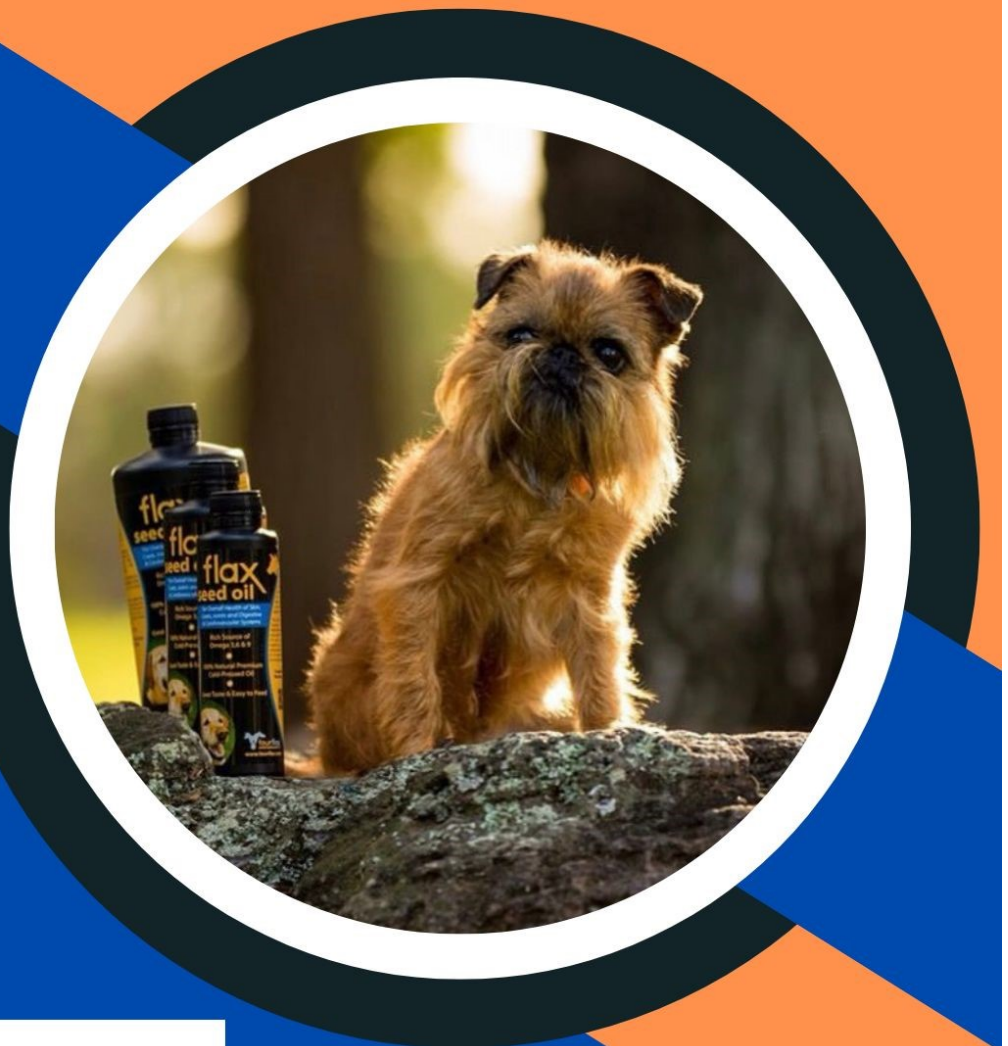




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## Sydney Royal 2023

Sydney Royal entries were down this year with only 11 Griffons entered. This was mainly due to the choice of judge, and although the Griffon exhibitors did not complain, I understand there were a number of handlers from other breeds who found issues with his judging style. That said, the Griffon entry was of quality and he appeared to be impressed because he asked several exhibitors about the breeding of their dogs. Not something that is usually done in Australia when judging.

The Best of Breed and Dog Challenge was the junior dog, **Ch Swedndreams Firefox at Lochtay**, (Ch Star Griff Northern Lights (Imp Ukraine) x Notorious Fuel To Fire (Imp Sweden) bred by K Olsson and owned by K Bell and K Olsson. Expertly handled by Emily Bell. This young dog is all European breeding with a sire from Ukraine and a dam from Sweden. He is only young and has a promising future ahead of him



Runner Up Best of Breed and Bitch Challenge was the Open bitch. **Ch Nagpuni Ginger Spice**, (Ch Raweke Toby Lannister x Ch Nagpuni Shaken Not Stirred) owned, bred and handled by Terri Odell



Reserve Dog Challenge was **Ch Krsayd Griffon Don Diego** (Ch. Shigriff Spanner In The Works x Roxbud Mookiee) Bred by Greg Egan and owned and handled by Marousa Polias



Reserve Challenge Bitch was **Nagpuni Love Is A Game** (Ch Krsayd Griffon Don Diego x Ch. Nagpuni Ginger Spice) Bred, owned and handled by Terri Odell.







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The Reserve Challenge bitch is the daughter of the BCC and the Res DCC winners so Terri and Marousa were able to get a family photo with the respective ribbons



Best Neuter of Breed was **Neut.**

**Ch. Kango Lady Ma Donna** (*Watagriffen Untouchable x Kango Kewpie Doll*) Bred by Mr G A Inifer and owned and handled by Marousa Polias



The other star of Sydney Royal was **Balliol Quentin Quisp**, owned by Jasmine Dale and Michelle Parker Brien and bred by Michelle Parker Brien. He competed in a big Puppy Sweepstakes class against dogs of all breeds and won the class.

He is Jasmine's first show dog and they



both did well in the strong competition, the crowds and the high pressure environment of Sydney Royal





The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.

**Griffons come in many lovely colours, but...**



Red



Black & Tan



Black



Belge

**Don't Buy A Lie**



**Blue, Chocolate & Liver Griffons are the result of a dilute gene linked to serious health issues. They are never bred by responsible breeders**

[www.griffonnsw.com](http://www.griffonnsw.com)

**Support Responsible Breeders  
Don't make puppy farmers rich**





## COLOUR GENETICS

This article on the next page was published in 2021 but it is even more relevant today as we have become aware that a group of puppy farmers are now deliberately breeding dilute dogs with potential health issues just so that they can get so called 'rare or unique' colours.

The chocolate/liver or blue colours are not rare. They are uncommon because ethical breeders DNA test for them and try to avoid them. This is because of the potential health issues.

A breeder who loves dogs will never breed dogs that have a high chance of becoming sick.

Only a puppy farmer does that because they only care about money, not the dog's welfare.

Don't let them play you for a sucker with the hype.

### Things the Puppy Farmer will say

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The colour is unique or rare</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Its not. It is a dilute gene that has always existed</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It will open up or broaden the gene pool</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It won't. It is a dilute version of the genes that already exist in the gene pool. It just carries more potential health problems so will not contribute anything positive to the gene pool</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are no health problems. My pups are all healthy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The skin issues rarely show up in pups. Often, they don't occur until the dog is 3 years old and then steadily worsen. The earlier they do show up the worse they will be See the next article which explains it</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are no health problems with the chocolate/liver colour only the blue. I am only breeding the chocolate/liver</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes the blue has more serious health problems in the first cross generation. <b>BUT</b> research is showing that when breeders deliberately double or triple up on the liver/chocolate gene the potential for health problems increase. See the next article which explains it</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Breeders are just snobs when they complain about the colours.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Breeders who love dogs care about the long- term welfare of all dogs. There is nothing snobbish about wanting to avoid suffering</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some registered breeders have bred from chocolate dogs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On very rare occasions a knowledgeable breeder has bred from a chocolate but it has been a first cross only and the breeder has not only had a detailed understanding of colour genetics but they have then DNA tested all offspring to ensure that the dilute gene is not doubled.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They are my dogs and I will breed what I want. My dogs are healthy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The inheritance of colour is complex. Puppy farmers don't know or care about the complexity of genetics. They breed to make money. They will only stop if they cannot make a profit.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• My friend/son/ daughter etc has a chocolate /blue and it is healthy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sometimes, you may be lucky and get a dog without skin problems. But you never know in advance. Is it a risk you are prepared to take?</li></ul>

**Support Responsible Breeders**  
**Don't make puppy farmers rich**





## Why are some Colours Unhealthy ?

Colour Dilution Alopecia (CDA) is a genetically inherited condition that causes patches of hair loss or thinning, and may also include itchy or dry skin. This condition is usually connected with individuals who have 'dilute' colour.

Blue Dog Syndrome is another name for Colour Dilution Alopecia (CDA). This condition is inherited and it is more common in dogs that have **been bred for diluted coat colour**. It is also considered to be a form of follicular dysplasia. This condition is often found in dogs with a blue coat or with a fawn coat when the coat colours have been diluted from coats that are red, blacks, and black and tans.

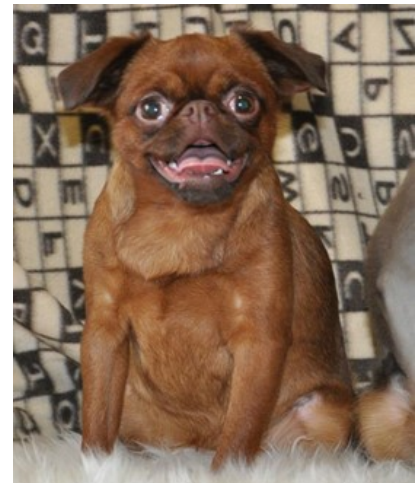


### CDA Introduction

CDA is typical to dogs who have a dilution of normal coat colours as well as various other body parts.

Alopecia is a specific disorder that causes permanent and complete hair loss, resulting in a patchy appearance. (2) This

condition has various names pending on the breed affected and is also known as : Blue or Fawn Doberman Syndrome, Fawn Irish Setter Syndrome, Blue Dog Disease, Blue Balding Syndrome, Blue



Doberman Syndrome, Color Mutant Alopecia, and Congenital Alopecia. It occurs in Griffons Bruxellois.

This disorder directly affects the hair follicles that are located at the level below the dog's skin. This direct influence makes the growth of new hair impossible. Hypotrichosis is often mixed with alopecia.



However, the main difference is that with the first condition (hypotrichosis) the loss of the hair coat is not total. Colour Dilution Alopecia (CDA) causes patchy hair loss and numerous skin problems, including itchy skin and scaliness. In addition, it can present recurring bacterial infections.

*Dilute with weak bones and feet turning out*

### CDA Symptoms

Alopecia means hairlessness. Dogs that are affected with this condition will have a patchy and poor coat that can usually progress until the permanent hair loss. There are even some abnormalities of the hair follicles and uneven clumping of pigment (melanin) granules in the hair shafts that can be seen in affected areas, observed from a cellular level. It is not obvious in puppies but as the dog gets older the thinning develops and becomes more obvious





The most common signs of a dog with this condition are:

1. Hair Loss – this is usually the first sign when it comes to identifying colour dilution alopecia in dogs. However, this usually doesn't appear until the dog is six months old at least. In some cases, it will not appear until the dog is three years old.
2. Broken Hairs – this effect is also known as stubble alopecia that can be seen in scaling skin, papules (swollen bump not producing pus), and pustules (a small blister or pimple producing pus)
3. Dry and flaky skin – this is one of the most common signs that there is an underlying problem with your furry buddy. This can become very itchy.
4. Recurring bacterial infections – this sort of infections is usually seen on your dog's back. In most cases it can be identified by infected hair follicles, looking like tiny bumps.
5. Pruritus – an infection can lead even to pruritus (severe itching).



This condition can affect many breeds, although it is known that it can affect only certain dogs within specific breeds.

These 'special', or individual dogs are recognized by the colour of their lips, eye rims or even their noses. They may be lavender, blue-gray, blue, or flesh coloured. In addition, their coat may vary from bronze, fawn, blue, blue-fawn or taupe.

*Dilute puppy, skin looks normal for the first 6 months to 3 years so puppy buyers do not realise the problems*

#### **Causes**

**The first and primary reason that leads to CDP is an inheritance,** although dogs with this condition are born with a healthy looking coat and just after a few months you can diagnose this condition. Some believe that the amount of dilution in the dog can lead to the severity of the alopecia.

Any disbalance in D-Locus gene can lead to hair loss, as D-Locus gene are responsible for the vibrancy of your dog's coat. The initial cause for colour dilution alopecia is not entirely understood.

Therefore, it is difficult to occur when fractured hair releases its formation of colouring which is in most cases deadly to the hair follicles.

As mentioned before CDP can be a cause of the underlying problem and therefore a number of parasites, bacterial or fungal infections, as well as allergy and hormonal disease or any sort of hormonal imbalance can contribute to alopecia.

If a dog is being evaluated for alopecia it is important to its age of onset (congenital or acquired), pattern (focal, multifocal/patchy or diffuse/symmetrical), location, duration, degree of pruritus and whether complete (no hair at all) or partial (stubble/broken hairs) alopecia exists.

Colour Dilution Alopecia (CDA) is a **genetic defect** that can affect the proper way of pigmentation. Basically, it affects the way pigment is distributed in the hairs of affected dogs. Therefore, dogs with unusual coloration such as fawn or blue are its primary target. Melanin which is known as abnormal pigment clumps up in the hair shafts and subsequent changes towards light refraction's which are responsible for the unusual coloration.

**In Griffon Bruxellois, colour dilution occurs in two colours – blue and liver (chocolate).** The dilute gene has occasionally occurred in the past 100 years and reputable breeders have not bred from dilute dogs.

Liver dilute dogs have not had health issues when bred from non-dilute dogs and have lived normal





lives.

Blue dilute dogs when occurring from non-dilute breedings have had health issues and have shown CDA. Breeders and Griffon clubs have been aware of the health concerns with dilutes so when drawing up breed standards, they have not recognised these colours. This has been the case for over 100 years, even though back then they did not fully understand the genetics.

### Modern Breeders

Today, with scientific advances, a DNA test is available and reputable breeders will DNA test dogs to ensure that they do not breed dilutes.

However, there is a disturbing recent trend, where modern commercial breeders are not following the ethics of breeders from the past. A minority of unscrupulous commercial breeders have started



to deliberately breed dilute coloured Griffons so that they can fool buyers by marketing them as a 'rare' colour. Not only are they deliberately breeding dilute but to get more money for them they are breeding dilute to dilute, thus increasing the genetic colour combination of the dog.

*Blue dog showing severe CDA (alopecia)*

While in the past liver or chocolate dogs from non-dilute dogs have had not skin issues, it



now appears that liver dogs that have been produced by deliberate dilute breeding are starting to show the same issues with CDA as the blue dogs.

*A liver dilute under 12 months of age showing obvious thinning of the coat on the chest and abdomen, with both wet and dry coat  
This dog is on Instagram and the owner appeared unaware of the issue*



Anyone who is wanting to buy a Griffon puppy needs to be aware that a breeder who deliberately breeds dilute colours is, by

definition, an unethical breeder. No reputable or ethical breeder would deliberately breed a dog that will have skin conditions for most of its life. This is not the action of a caring breeder.

Alarm bells should ring if you see any breeder advertising 'rare' or 'unusual' colours in Griffons. This is a clue about the ethics, or lack of ethics, of the breeder.

In Australia there have been very few dogs that carry the dilute gene. In the few cases where dogs are carrying the dilute gene, the reputable breeders are aware of it and are DNA testing to ensure that they do not increase these genes.

There are large numbers of breeders in Russia and the USA who are deliberately producing these double or triple dilute dogs and selling them for high prices as rare. It now appears that some unscrupulous Australian puppy farmers are importing these dogs to breed.



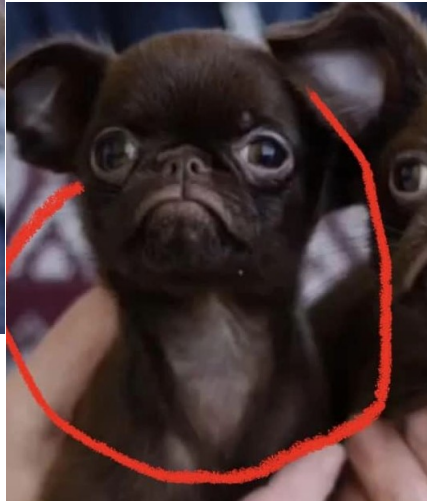


Many of these dogs appear on Instagram or Facebook pages. Usually, the puppy farmer breeders only post photos of very young pups or adults wearing coats so the body cannot be seen. It is important to educate yourself so that you know exactly what you are looking at. So many people think it is cute or sweet without realising that they are looking at a dog with health problems.

The following photos were taken at random from social media. I do not know who the dogs are and I do not wish to identify them or even the country but they are useful here as a teaching aid.



*A photo of two young chocolate/liver pups. The close up shows that one of them is already starting to show coat thinning under the throat and the lip*



*More subtle this time. The dog is coated so the body cannot be seen but the head shows small round spots that are indicative of the CDA pustules*



*An older pup with coat thinning on the loin, obvious bald patches on the foot and pastern and thinning on the tail*







The dogs shown are a result of deliberate breeding of dilutes and the intensifying of the dilute gene. Even though there are few health issues in Liver /chocolate dilute when they come from a non dilute parent, once the dilute gene is intensified, the liver/chocolate also has problems as can be seen in these examples

Please be aware that no matter what these breeders say, or how they try to justify their actions, they do not really care about the breed or the individual dogs and they are breeding for one reason only – to make money.

## Polygenic traits

A polygenic trait is a trait that is caused by a combination of genes. Because of the complexity of polygenic traits, it is difficult for DNA tests to be devised for them. It is also more difficult to ascertain the form of inheritance of these traits.

SM/CM is a polygenic condition which is why, despite 10 years of research, they still do not understand how it is inherited

The following extract is from Dr Malcolm B Willis – canine geneticist, scientist author, judge, breeder.

### ***A little more on Polygenic traits:***

There are some simple inherited traits in dogs, e.g. coat colour, coat length, ear carriage, presence or absence of hind dew claws, eye colour, some diseases and the like. When dealing with simple traits then you can make reasonably accurate predictions as to what will happen when breeding. However, many of the most important traits are not inherited in this simple fashion. Traits like fertility, temperament, breed type, height, weight, shoulder angle and several defects and diseases are complex in their mode of inheritance and are frequently affected by the type of environment in which we rear the dog. If, for example an Irish Setter is genetically red, then he will be red in coat colour regardless how well or how badly we feed him. But the kind of temperament he inherits may be modified by the way we socialise and rear him – such that he could finally exhibit a character very different from that which might have been expected. The same is true of his height and weight, badly reared he could be so drastically altered in conformation as to appear quite different from what he was bred for. Such characters are known as “polygenic traits”. They are essentially produced by a series of genes which individually have a very slight effect, but which together make for very large differences. Not all polygenic traits are equally controlled by genetics. Some are more a question of environment, others more a question of genes and others fall between the two. Reproductive traits like litter size are basically genetic, but have a very high environmental component such as the size and the age of the dam, the type of nutrition, the stage of mating and a host of other things will all influence the eventual litter size. The extent to which a character is under genetic control is called acrogllossia. Unfortunately, very few canine traits have had their heritabilities assessed for them, therefore we must make some educated guesses for them based upon our knowledge from other species. Genetically traits, litter size, puppy viability, for fertility itself are likely to be low in heritability - less than 25 % and probably more like 10%.

Things like Hip Dysplasia are 25% - 40 % under genetic control.

(Excerpt - written in 1977 by Dr M B Willis)







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26 AUG AT 09:30 – 27 AUG AT 17:00

# **Dog Lovers Festival, Sydney 2023**

Public · Event by Dog Lovers Festival and Cat Lovers  
Festival



## **Sydney Showground**

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Griffons**

**Volunteers and Griffons required to help half a day on the stand**

**Contact Victoria Mercer**

[victoriamercer56@gmail.com](mailto:victoriamercer56@gmail.com)







## Versatile Griffons

Griffons are highly intelligent little dogs and they love to take part in dog sports and activities with their owners. They often surprise people with their ability as the not only participate but they frequently win.

There are so many activities that you can do with your Griffons that give the dog fun and mental stimulation, help you bond with the dog, are exciting and give you a hobby that is very enjoyable. These include:

- Obedience training
- Rally Obedience
- Agility
- Scentwork
- Tricks Training
- Dances with Dogs
- Heelwork to Music
- Barn dog work (*in some states*)

- ✚ Did you know that Griffons on Limited Register can take part in all these activities
- ✚ Did you know that even if your Griffon has no papers, you can still register them with the ANKC as an Associate Register Dog and they can participate in all these activities (*Dog Needs to be desexed*)  
Cross breed dogs can also be Associate Register Dogs

We are happy to share the successes of Griffons around Australia who are having fun and doing so well in these activities

### Agility Griffon

The first star to be recognised is **Tango- Ch Nagpuni Mr Bigg**, (*Ch Balliol Kaptain Krum X Ch Nagpuni Shaken Not Stirred*). Bred by Terri Odell, he is owned and trained by Alex Deasy in Perth. Tango competed in the National Agility competition in Perth at the end of May. This competition is a test not only of the dog's Agility skills but also the level of fitness and stamina. It is a gruelling week of competition with three heats during the week, culminating in the finals runs on the weekend. Tango competed in the Novice Jumping Dogs class.

Despite being one of the smallest dogs competing, and having to jump in the 300mm class, Tango won all three of his heats and in doing so gained his Novice Jumping Dog title.

*Tango, very proud with some of his prizes*

Tango and Alex then fronted up again on the weekend for the Grand Finals and Tango became Reserve Champion, narrowly beaten by larger and leggier Manchester Terrier. The course was a demanding international standard course and Tango didn't miss a beat







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Alex said, "Well we have a novice jumping reserve champion in the house tonight ★

We stepped up to the start line feeling a little crusty in the afternoon sun, so it felt pretty amazing to thump around an international judges course knowing we really gave it our all. I really don't think myself or Tango could have given anything more for this run.

Tango has been incredible this entire week – nothing has phased him. A



friend mentioned that my resting bitch face has been a smile, so I think that reflects how much of a joy it's been to be part of such a cool event. "



Congratulations to Alex Deasy and Tango-  
Ch Nagpuni Mr Bigg JD



### Tricks Griffon

On the same weekend that Tango was trialling in WA, on the other side of Australia, in Sydney, another Griffon bred by Nagpuni, was also achieving in a different field.

#### **Coco- Nagpuni Coco**

**Christobelle** teamed up with Shirley Tulk at a Tricks competitions at the Dogs NSW grounds. They competed in Novice and Coco





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needed her last qualification to get her title.

She gained second place with 76 points out of 80 beaten by one point for first place in the Novice event.

Coco had trialled in Rally in her younger years and has her Rally Novice title.

She now has her Tricks Novice title as well and is possibly the first Griffon in Australia to gain this title.

What is more remarkable is that Coco is 10 years old and is blind in her left eye.

Shirley is 83 years young, so it shows that dog activities are for everyone

Congratulations Shirley and Coco, **Nagpuni Coco Christabelle RN TKN**

### Scent work Griffons

Last year we were pleased to report that Sid, **Conamoore Sidney Swain SWN**, was the first Griffon in Australia to be awarded his Novice Scent work title.

Sid, bred by Bruce Moore, is owned and trained by Kelly Pilgrim Byrne in Perth. I am pleased to say that Sid is now trialling in Advanced Scent work and is



having the same success. He recently competed in a Trial and passed Advanced Exteriors and searched wonderfully in a confident, quick search. He was last to run in a very big field for Advanced Vehicles and although he didn't pass in the difficult conditions, he showed a lot of promise

*Sid working in his search in Exteriors.*

Kelly, actually trialled 3 dogs in the Scentwork trials and each dog did two searches. Kelly's dogs gained 5 out of 6 possible passes. As well as Sid, she







also trialled her girl Kenzie- **Armorgriff Highway Star**, bred by Robyn Morse, in her novice scent trials. Kenzie passed Novice Exteriors and Novice Vehicles. She now only needs a Novice Containers and she has her title



Kelly's 3<sup>rd</sup> dog is her token

Griffon, a smooth Collie, called Seamus and her friend, Sheree, handled him as you cannot trial two dogs in the same class. Seamus also gained two passes and he and Sid are now racing to the title

***Kelly and Sheree with the three successful scent work dogs***

Meanwhile on the other side of the continent in NSW, The Newcastle All Breeds Dog Training Club held a large Scent work trial and it was amazing to have three Griffons entered at the trial. One was an ANKC registered Griffon and the other two were on Associate Register. All dogs are welcome at these events.



Jillian Mathieson trialled **Roy- Nevafollo Fizzing Whizzbees**, bred by Ashleigh Barber Dale, who received his second novice qualifying certificate – this time in containers with a very good clear indication!

***Roy at work in the trial***







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Jillian said "he tried really hard on exteriors, but didn't convince her that he had found the odour (silly mum). But it was tricky in cool windy weather. We love scent work and Morty can't wait to start having his turn."

**Roy and Morty, who can't wait for his turn**

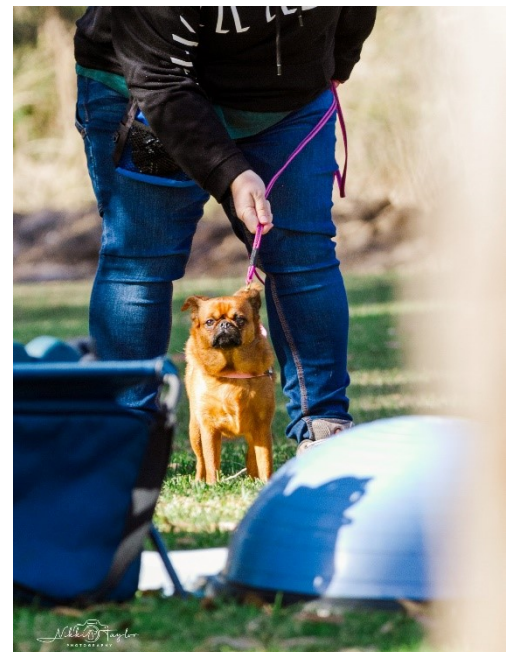
**Floss with her certificates and title gained ribbon. She deserves to look proud**

**Little Miss Floss**, trialled and owned by Lisa Heeley, gained two passes in the trial and they were the final passes she needs for her Scent work Novice title. This makes Floss the second Griffon in Australia to gain a Scentwork title and the first girl. She can now be known as **Floss SWN**



The third Griffon to compete was **Evee**, owned and trained by Kaz Hutchings. She gained two qualifications and came third in the containers trial, beating a number of the more traditional scent breeds.

**Scent Trial working photos courtesy of Nikki Taylor Photography**



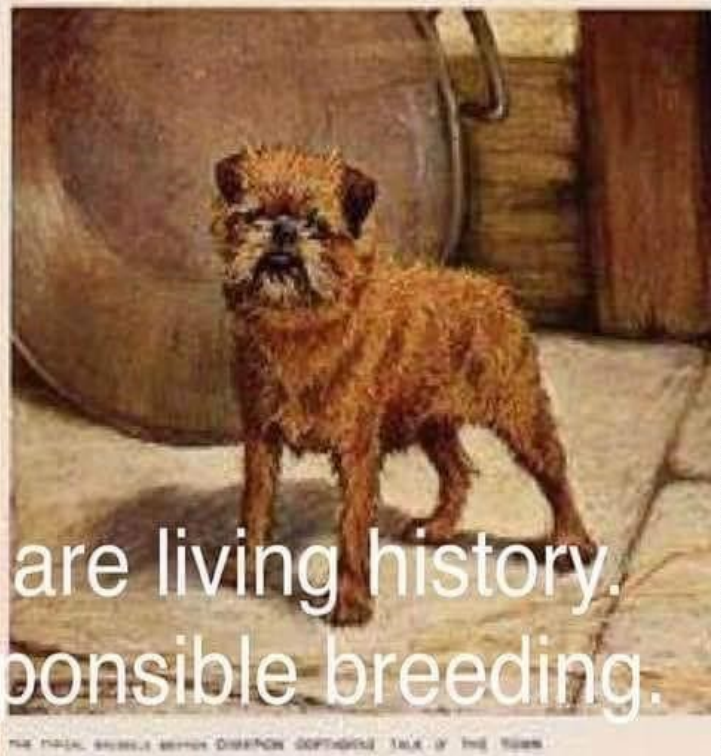




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If you wouldn't knock  
down a historic  
building...

Don't knock down a historic breed.



Pure bred dogs are living history.  
Support their responsible breeding.

THE NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION (NADC) IS A PART OF THE AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMISSION (AOC)





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## 2023 Point Score Competition

The 2023 shows are:

04/02/2023 Wollongong & District Kennel Club Inc AM Saturday Wollongong Southern	04/03/2023 Children's Cancer Charity Dog Club Orchard Hills Saturday Sydney	06/05/2023 Albion Park ABKC Saturday AM Albion Park Showground Southern	02/6/23 Newcastle Toy and All Breeds Saturday AM Hillsborough Hunter	22/07/2023 North of the Harbour All Breeds Kennel Club Orchard Hills Sydney	12/08/ Medowie KC Saturday AM Hillsborough  Hunter	02/09/2023 Spring Fair Saturday AM Orchard Hills Sydney	21/10/2023 Southern Highlands Kennel & Obedience Club Inc Saturday AM Berrima Southern	18/11/23 Norwest Canine Assoc Saturday AM Castle Hill Sydney	02/12/2023 Wyong Shire KC Saturday AM Hillsborough Hunter
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### 1. The Wollongong Show

The Wollongong show saw the first point score show for The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW.

Best of Breed and Dog Challenge was **Ch Swedndreams Firefox at Lochtay**. Owned and shown by Emily and Kerry Bell



Runner Up Best of Breed and Bitch Challenge was **Ch Nagpuni Ginger Spice**, owned, bred and shown by Terri Odell



Reserve Dog Challenge was **Ch Krusayd Griffon Don Diablo**- owned and shown by Marousa Polias



Reserve Bitch Challenge was **Gr Ch Tzani Giggie Mc Dimples**- Owned and shown by Kerry and Emily Bell







Junior In Group was **Nagpuni Love is a Game**, owned, bred and shown by Terri Odell.

Best of Breed  
Neuter and  
Bitch Challenge  
**Neuter was**  
**Neuter Ch**  
**Kango Lady Ma**  
**Donna**- owned  
and shown by  
Marousa Polias



## 2. The Childrens Cancer Council Show



Best of Breed and  
Bitch Challenge was  
**Nagpuni Love is a**  
**Game** -Terri Odell

Runner Up Best of  
Breed and Reserve  
Bitch Challenge  
was **Ch Nagpuni**  
**Ginger Spice** Terri  
Odell



## 3. The Albion Park Show



Best of Breed and Dog  
Challenge was **Ch**  
**Swedndreams**  
**Firefox** at  
**Lochtay** (Bell)

Runner Up Best of  
Breed and Bitch  
Challenge was **Ch**  
**Nagpuni Shaken Not**  
**Stirred** (Odell)







The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.

Reserve Dog Challenge was **Sup Ch Tzani Zazu Zodiac-(Bell)**



Reserve Bitch Challenge was **Ch Nagpuni Ginger Spice (Odell)**



Best of Breed  
Neuter was  
**Neuter Ch Kango Lady Ma Donna-Polias**

Two other  
Griffons also  
did well at  
the Albion  
Park shows.



Darcie- **Ch Nagpuni Shaken Not Stirred (Odell)**  
was placed in Veteran Sweepstakes

Bertie- **Frenchgriff Bertie Beetle (K Pound)**  
was second in the 3-6 months sweepstakes







## 2. The Newcastle Toy and All Breeds Show



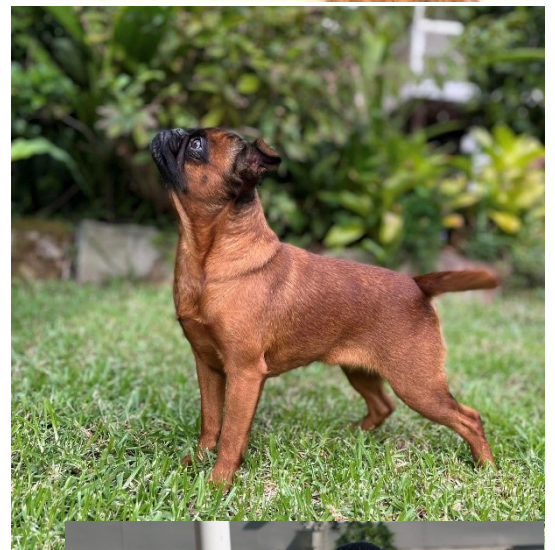
Best of Breed and Dog Challenge was **Ch Krusayd Griffon Don Diego** (Marousa Polias)

Runner Up Best of Breed and Reserve Dog Challenge was **Ch Balliol Quentin Quisp** (Dale/ Parker Brien) plus he won Puppy in Group Puppy in Group



Bitch Challenge was **Ch Balliol Tilly Tonks of Raweke-** Michelle Parker Brien

Reserve Bitch Challenge was **Ch Balliol Poppy Pomphrey-** Michelle Parker Brien



Best Neuter of Breed was **Neuter Ch Kango Lady Ma Donna**



At the present time the leading dogs in the competition are:

1. Nagpuni Love is a Game	25
2. Ch Nagpuni Ginger Spice	21
3. Ch Swedndreams Firefox at Lochtay	20
4. Ch Krusayd Griffon Don Diego	18
5. Ch Balliol Quentin Quisp	15
6. Ch Nagpuni Shaken not Stirred	8
7. Ch Balliol Tilly Tonks of Raweke	6
8. Ch Tzani Giggle Mc Dimples	5
Ch Balliol Poppy Pomphrey	5
Sup Ch Tzani Zazu Zodiac	5

The next point score show is at North of the Harbour on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July AM show <https://schedules.easydogs.com.au/954b46d2.../schedule.pdf>





The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.



## Griffon Birthdays

*Happy Birthday to all these Griffons*



*Evee is two years old*

*Billy at his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday party*

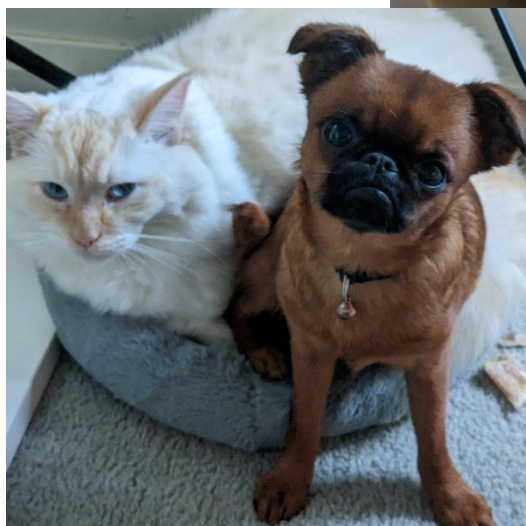


*Ha Chi is two years old*

*Stan is one year old*



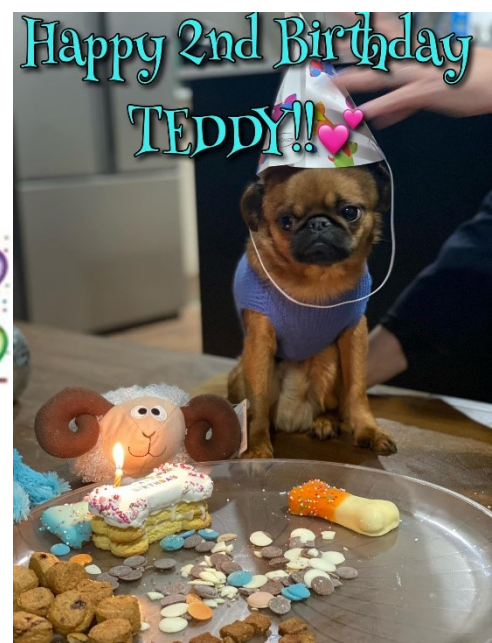
*Dolly is 14 years old*



*Teddy is two*



*Nina is one*







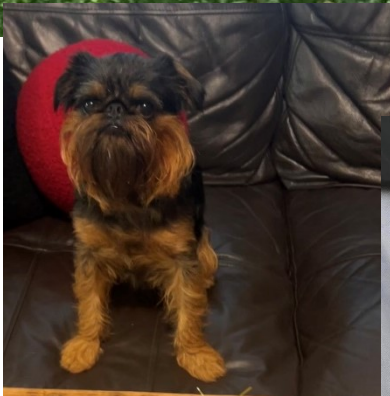
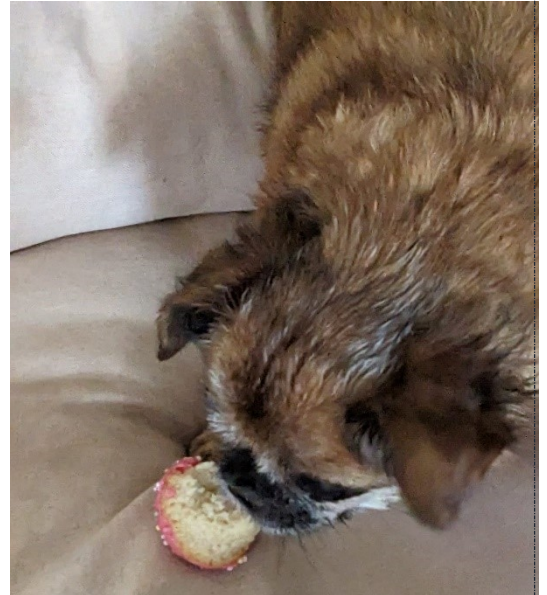
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*Pansie is 13 years*



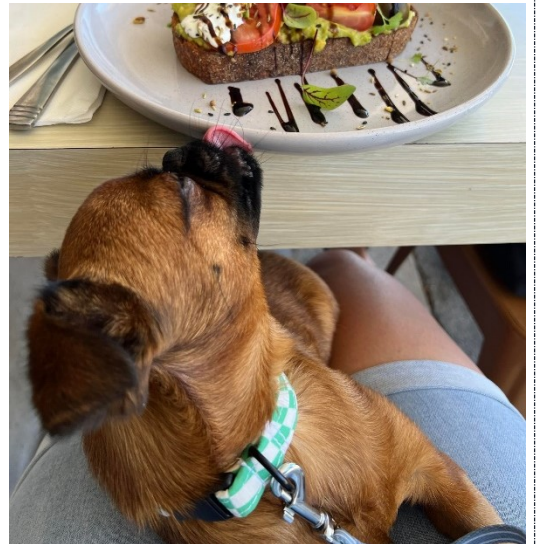
*Ludwig is 13 years*



*Zorro is two years*



*Wizz is 8 years*



*Ronald is one year*

*Audrey is one*



*Tango is two years*



*Hermione is 10 years*







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#### Griffon Bruxellois - Judge: Mr S H Seymour

##### Dog Challenge Certificate

17815 - Donzeata Royal Agent (Mr N & Mrs J Martyn)

##### Reserve Dog Challenge Certificate

17813 - Multi Ch Manticorns Gently (Mr J & Mrs L Lundgren & Andersson)

##### Bitch Challenge Certificate

17788 - Am Ch Harpersband Poison (Mrs O Baranova)

##### Reserve Bitch Challenge Certificate

17809 - Swe Ch/fi Ch/no Ch/dk Ch/nordic Ch/int Ch Hierners Lady Stardust (Mrs J Hierner)

##### Best of Breed

17815 - Donzeata Royal Agent (Mr N & Mrs J Martyn)

##### Best Puppy

17837 - Aprtick Dolly Mixtures (Mrs A S Suggitt)

##### Best Veteran

17796 - Int/lv/lt/ee/balt/fi/nl Ch Shevilan Fanfan La Tulipe Ww18 Euw19 Ww21 (Mrs Z & Mrs I Drobisheva & Shevska)

## Crufts

Crufts saw an entry of 67 Griffons for Judge Mr Steven Seymour, a respected Griffon afficianado.

The entries were not only from the UK but from a variety of European countries, creating a mixture of type, grooming styles and handling methods.

The winners reflected the various countries entered



Mr Seymour found his Best of Breed winner in the UK bred, red rough dog, **Donzeata Royal Agent**, bred by David Guy and owned and handled by Mrs J Martyn.



Bitch Challenge was the Russian bred red rough bitch **Multi Ch Harpersband Poison**, owned and bred by Olga Baranova and handled Vasilina Rostomova



Reserve Dog Challenge was another red rough, this time from Sweden. **Multi Ch Manticorns Gently**, owned by Jimmie Lundgren and Linda Andersson and bred by Bodil Andersson





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Reserve Bitch Challenge was another Swedish dog, this time a black and tan smooth bitch, **Multi Ch Hierners Lady Stardust**, owned bred and handled by Julia Heirner

The veteran winner was a black rough dog from Latvia, **Multi Ch Shevilan Fan Fan La Tulipe**, bred by Ilana and Alex Shevsky and owned by Zanna Drobishiva and Ilana Shevsky

The puppy winner was a UK bred Griffon, **Aptrick Dolly**

**Mixtures**, owned by Mrs Suggett but I was unable to find a photo of her

Full results of all classes can be seen on FosseData on the following link

[Results For Crufts 2023 on Thursday, 9 March 2023 \(4 day show\) \(fossedata.co.uk\)](https://fossedata.co.uk)



## Westminster

This year Westminster moved to The USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows–Corona Park in Queens, New York City. It is America's second longest continuously run sporting event. In previous years it was always held at Maddison Gardens but covid forced them to look at other venues. This is the first time it was held at the Tennis centre

There were only 13 Griffons entered but they were among some of the top winning Griffons in the States. The majority were American bred dogs but there were a couple of European dogs entered The winners were:

Best of Breed CH Joval Ewok Network  
Best of Opposite Sex GCHG CH Seagryphs Oh Shucks  
Select Dog GCH CH Hilltop's Don'T Fence Me In  
Select Bitch CH Alvin Farms Redsky Delight For Kenna  
Award of Merit GCHG CH Wishing Well Bobcat's Peace, Love & Pixie Dust  
Award of Merit GCHB CH Pamelot's No Deposit – No Return



Full results and video can be seen on the link

<https://www.westminsterkennelclub.org/breed-results?id=brus&season=2023>





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## Griffons in Charge

No wonder Griffons homes work so smoothly with all the little supervisors

*Teddy on surreptitious Supervision*

*Neville – on the road to make sure the jobs done properly*



*Boots on window cleaning duty-  
"You missed a spot"*



*Eddie and Freddie supervising the chef*

*Hart supervising the stall at the market*



*Tango and  
his gang-  
taking  
their  
mother for  
a bush  
walk*



*Griswold the gardener and flower arranger*







The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.

***Sarah O' Sullivan is  
offering a specialised  
minding service to  
Griffon Owners and  
members***

*Located in the Sydney  
Eastern Suburbs area*

*Griffons are cared for in  
the home as a loved pet*



## **Sarah's Specialised Griffon Minding**

***For further Information***

**Contact Sarah O Sullivan – 0411742301**

**Email [sarahaosull@gmail.com](mailto:sarahaosull@gmail.com)**







# Health

## Cleft Palates

*This article appeared in an issue of The Phoenix in 2012.*

*Eleven years later, cleft palates are still an issue and appear to be increasing in other breeds. I have heard of Basenjis, Golden Retrievers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers and Rhodesian Ridgebacks, to name a few. There is nothing more heartbreaking than having a strong healthy puppy with a severe cleft palate*

*There is still no definite proof of what causes the problem and no DNA test. The issue occurs in people as well as other animals.*

*A lot of breeders speculate on the cause and blame the sire, blame the dam, blame the combination of sire and dam. Some vets also take this simplistic approach but it is not as simple as that. Cleft palate pups are either euthanised at birth, die or are not bred from so if it was a matter of simple genetics then these genes would be removed from the gene pool.*

*Whatever genetic component may be involved, it is obviously far more complex than just a sire/dam issue.*

*WE cannot overlook the impact of environment and the increasing use of pesticides and herbicides in our everyday life. These are hidden poisons and are frequently underestimated.*

*The following article by Fred Lanting, taken from this website is very useful in discussing cleft palates and their causes. I hope it will be useful to breeders.*

<http://www.lowchensaustralia.com/health/cleftpalate.htm>

### BIRTH DEFECTS: CLEFT PALATE WHY AND WHEN

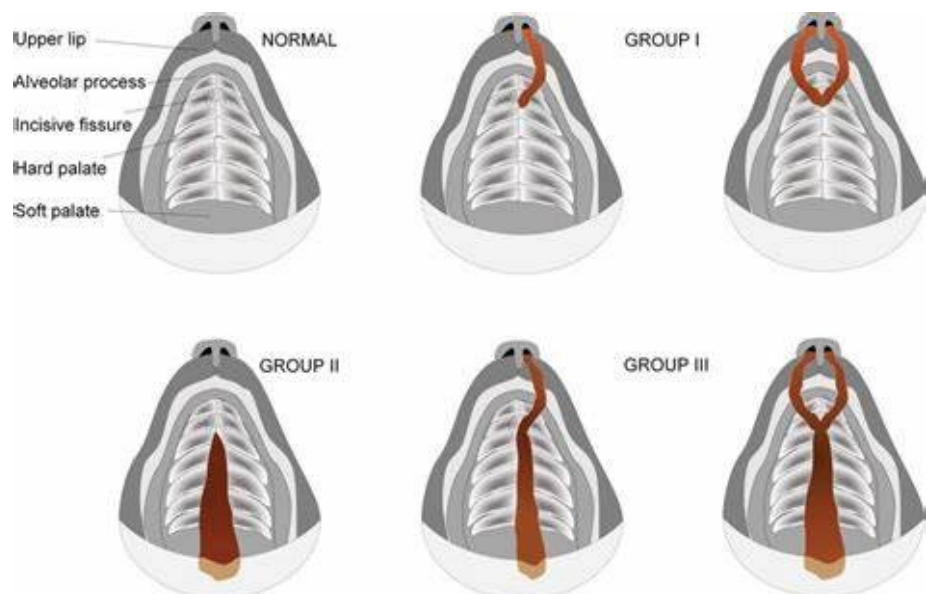
by Fred Lanting

*Fred Lanting is an internationally respected show judge, approved by many registries as an all-breed judge, has judged numerous countries' Sieger Shows and Landesgruppen events, and has many years experience with SV. He presents seminars and consults worldwide on such topics as Gait-&-Structure, HD and Other Orthopedic Disorders, Anatomy, Training Techniques, and The GSD. He conducts annual non-profit sightseeing tours of Europe, centred on the Sieger Show (biggest breed show in the world) and BSP. Check out his website: [www.MrGSD.com](http://www.MrGSD.com)*

I hope that you never have a litter with cleft palates. But if you do, this may explain the cause of at least some cases.

Let's start at the beginning, with a short review of the birds and the bees. The sperm cell, with half the chromosomes needed for a new pup (and a little less than half the DNA it will get) penetrates the ovum (egg) and triggers cell division, with the

multiplying cells having the right number of chromosomes, and characteristics from both families. After a while, these cells are seen to start segregating some in groups that will later form intestines, some groups that will become heart tissues, others destined to end up as reproductive organs, etc.







It takes a while, so part of the way through the process, you might have a club whose members act alike for a time, but then, like Southern Baptists, split into splinter groups that become increasingly different from the cells whose division formed them. Some chromosomes in any one group go dormant, while others take over the job of activating the DNA and RNA that determine whether the cells are skin or hair cells, whether they express pigment, and a multitude of other inherited things. Chromosomes that deal with how a dog barks do not function in cells that make up the skin, even though all the chromosomes with their genes are in all the somatic body cells.

After the first few divisions of the fertilized egg, the mass is called an embryo. Like a seed or acorn that contains all the leaves, bark, roots, growth patterns, disease resistance, and more, the animal embryo can be thought of as the grown dog and its descendants in future tense.

In some lower animals, the segregation of tissues in the embryonic urogenital tract never is completed, the way we understand it in mammals, where the genitals are near but distinct from the urinary organs. You can think of them as having an interrupted or halted development compared to the higher animals.

However, the closer to the time of conception and early division, the less the differences in embryos



of worms, frogs, Chihuahuas, water buffalos, and pterodactyls. The differences become apparent as the cell groups continue to specialize, which is an ongoing process up to and even after birth.

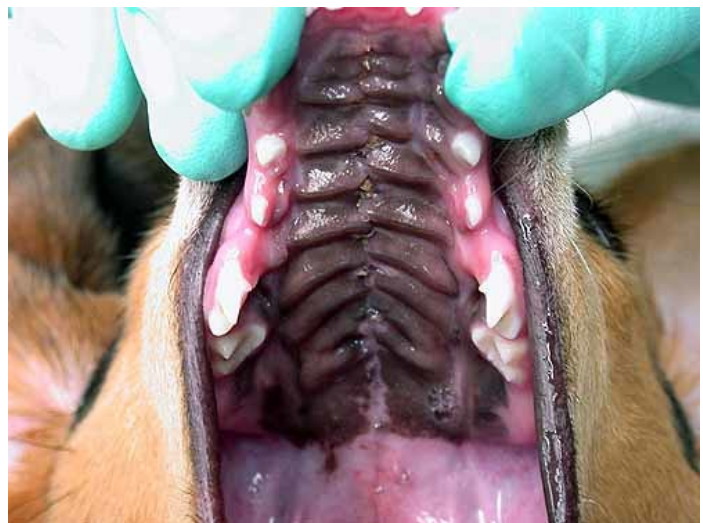
Sometimes something goes wrong during the embryonic development of structures on their way to completion. If development is halted or damaged, the part of the body that should be normal later, just isn't. The example we are looking at here is the development of the central dorsal line of the body. Early embryos in that area look a little like flat worms or pancakes, and as they (we, too) grow, the edges curl or fold up and are supposed to unite along the top.

#### ***Severe Cleft in a Boston Terrier Puppy***

the dough together in order to fuse it and keep the contents from falling or leaking out, until you can bake it. The spinal cord is the ravioli filling, and the finished vertebral column is the baked shell. If the phone rings before you pinch the dough, and your darling toddler daughter puts the half-completed job into the oven and cooks them before you get back, the contents are exposed. A similar thing can happen in the moulding of the body if embryonic development is interrupted.

#### ***Hard and soft Cleft palate in a dog with a longer muzzle length***

Premature babies are at higher risk because some of them haven't finished the process of closure before they are popped into the oven known as the world outside of the womb. Incomplete frontal skull bones, spina bifida, and hemivertebra are examples of the defects that can occur along the dorsal midline.







Midline closure defects are expressed in a variety of ways; in German Shepherd Dogs, I have seen incomplete closure to the midline of the scalp, incompletely formed tails, skull defects, spina bifida, and cleft palates.

I believe them to be related in most cases.

Sometimes other midline abnormalities are found; some would include umbilical hernias, and although they may be an embryo defect of another sort, I doubt those are related to the others.

Cleft lip (harelip) is probably caused at a different time during gestation than cleft palate or the other disorders named above. As we say in good obedience training and many other things, "Timing is everything."

#### **What is a Cleft Palate**

Cleft palate is a condition in which, for genetic and/or environmental reasons, the hard surface of the roof of the mouth and the softer palate behind it fail to close completely.

The first sign something is wrong (if you don't examine your pups immediately after delivery) is usually milk bubbling out the nose when the newborn attempts to nurse.

In addition to strictly genetic cause, there are numerous other cases of **environmentally-mediated** cleft palate.

- It is a frequent defect found in offspring of diabetics.
- It has been produced experimentally by vitamin A imbalance whether too much or too little
- It is often a result of poisons and steroids taken or produced by bitches in the first three weeks of gestation. Such corticosteroid production increase frequently can be associated with unsound character and/or a severe scare (fright).
- In canines, a deficiency of vitamin B-12 has also been identified as a cause.
- Antihistamines given early in pregnancy, at least in some doses, are also suspect.
- Viral infections at that stage, or certain other chemicals have also been determined to cause cleft palate.

I believe natural or synthetic hormones and steroids are potentially very dangerous if given to bitches during pregnancy; most of the time, cleft palate is a steroid caused birth defect. Cortisone and similar steroids can also facilitate spontaneous bleeding, which is more perilous during whelping and surgical convalescence than at other times.

#### **Possible Problems In The First Three Weeks**

While some deaths and other difficulties are genetically controlled or otherwise out of the breeder's power to prevent, many are avoidable if the midwife/pediatrician is knowledgeable and careful. Generally speaking, if you pay heed to the subjects of genetics, nutrition, sanitation, disease prevention, and management, you'll increase your chances for a normal, healthy, successful litter growing to adulthood.

*Griffon with hard cleft palate and hair lip*

**Start with the bitch**, for a healthy female will make for a healthy litter in most instances.

- Some drugs or excessive vitamin A administered during pregnancy have been identified as causing cleft palate, reduced litter size, mummified fetuses, and nervous system disorders, as well as eye, ear, and heart defects in the pups.
- Exposure to too much carbaryl (Sevin is the most common tradename)







insecticide may produce deformities in intestines and abdominal-thoracic fissures; other insecticides may cause skeletal deformities in pups if the pregnant bitch has been exposed to very high levels.

Be sensible in your use of these, and your dam will likely be safe. A friend of mine tragically dosed his bitch with 10% Sevin dust (the concentration used for garden pests) instead of far less of the 5% dust used for fleas and ticks, when she was newly delivered of a litter of pups. It killed both her and all of the puppies. It was the wrong time to use it, and he used far too much.

During the first week of a pups life, the combination of the dam's carelessness and failure to lactate account for the greatest losses in neonatal deaths, and the latter may be partly due to the breeder's carelessness in the area of sanitation and prevention of infection.

Statistically speaking, the less common causes of death in that first week include cleft palates, which are probably found in less than 3 percent. Such pups either are euthanized on the second day or die soon after from aspiration pneumonia due to the milk they suck going through the nasal passages into the lungs.

*Griffon puppy with hair lip and normal sibling*

Harelip is a split in the front portion of the palate, extending up the centre of the front lip between where the middle incisors would later come in, and as far as the nose bulb in most cases. It is caused by a disruption in the embryo development at a slightly different time than cleft palate is.



Sometimes, if the psycho-biochemical disruption has continued for a longer period of time than an instantaneous trauma, you may find both conditions in the same pups. You may have met people with both. Although it is surgically treatable in humans, it is not, or at least is not worth the effort, in dogs.

### **Brief Selections from Case Histories**

Several years ago an Ohio dog club member had a small litter of puppies born with cleft palates. One puppy had the cleft palate alone, another had the malformed lip/mouth, and another puppy was born with all its internal organs outside its body. This is an instance of where midline closure defect is expressed on the ventral portion of the dog as well. All pups in the litter died.

She found out, through some detective work, that it was due to a chemical ingested or inhaled. Nothing in her house or yard would have caused this and so she asked around the neighbourhood if anyone sprayed any yard chemicals (pesticides, insecticides, herbicides). Nobody did, or at least in her neighbourhood.

She finally figured out that when she was visiting her son at a new neighbourhood park that her dog had been exposed to chemicals sprayed on the grass, and she then found out that a neighbour of his across the street had in fact had the famous-name company spray their yard, but took the flags down as soon as they were finished. So her dog was exposed to the lawn chemicals by absorption through the very porous pads as well as possibly by inhaling for a day or two. This was at the critical





point in her pregnancy and pups' embryo development when this exposure would most likely cause this problem. The first trimester is the time of greatest risk.

I once bred a bitch who was hard as nails to a great show dog named Hein, noted for pigment and hips, and my litter had one somewhat flighty, spooky bitch pup whose temperament characteristics did not immediately show themselves.

When that bitch grew up, the owners bred her. During the first trimester, this bitch had a sudden and traumatic fright. Even though it lasted only a few minutes, and her nervousness was at a peak for a few hours or more, the repercussions followed at parturition. Her litter all were born with cleft palates. A couple had harelip as well. All were euthanized. She never had any pups with cleft palate afterwards. The male that I bred my bitch to was of normal temperament, but produced more than his share of nervous offspring. One all-black son of his, bred by the owners and named Phantom, produced many spooky pups and a great deal more were produced by his offspring, in turn.

Such changes from the norm of midline closure are possible through that psychophysical route, such as a bitch in that stage of pregnancy being badly frightened or startled. Her own hormonal chemicals act the same way that administered steroids could. Of course, the always-flighty or nervous bitch is far more susceptible to such an unusual event than a stable bitch is.

When I had mentioned this observation in a magazine article, someone wrote to me- "How could that theory account for the marked association of facial cleft with brachycephaly?"

Short-faced bitches are more nervous and flighty perhaps? Or could it be genetic, I wonder! No, as I had written, there are more causes than this one.

Nervous temperament can be and usually is very strongly genetic, as would be any unusual or "touchy" reaction to steroidal imbalance. Plus, brachycephalic dogs, however lovely in the eyes of owners, are short-faced because of abnormal pituitary/hypophysis glands. This "master gland" affects all other endocrine glands and all hormones, directly or indirectly including those that affect cleft palate.

Perhaps the defect that causes a Bulldog face with pushed-in nose and undershot jaw is side-by-side with the defect that directly or indirectly interferes with normal midline closure in the embryo just before birth or earlier in gestation.

Although kennel-blind fanciers of Lhasa Apsos and other short-faced breeds have claimed that this opinion is not supported by anything we know about endocrinology or genetics, I have studied enough biology and genetics to disagree.

It is generally assumed that the growth patterns such as shape of head (some breeds such as Saints, Newfies, etc. retaining "juvenile" looks) are related to the function of the pituitary/hypophysis, and growth hormones interacting with other hormones. I learned a long time ago that the pituitary/hypophysis of breeds with Pug/Peke/Bulldog-type faces are physically different than those in breeds with "ancestral" type heads (GSDs, wolves, Malamutes, Spitz, etc.)

I leave it up to the naysayers to come up with a better explanation as to why these brachycephalic breeds have the look of a dog that ran 35 mph into a brick wall.

A Westie breeder wrote to me: "We also one time had a whole litter of clefts. There was no history of clefts in either the line of the dog or the bitch. In fact, we had bred both sire and dam previously with no clefts at all. We spoke to various veterinarians about this. And they determined it was from a viral infection that I had when the puppies were in the critical period of gestation"

Could be- Environmental irregularities can make for somatic irregularities. That same correspondent later wrote, Thank you! This explains the cleft palate puppy we had last year after our two bitches got into a fight. Dusty was at the critical time for palate development. And my other bitch lost her whole litter! Hormones! Ugh!

To avoid midline closure defects, there are several steps you should take.

- Naturally, the first is to be careful about your choice of breeding pairs.
- After insuring the genetic component as much as feasible, make sure that the environment is one that promotes good health and avoids toxins and psychological traumas. Don't let your bitch roam, especially during the first 3 weeks of pregnancy. Make sure you do everything to favour full-term gestation.





- If you have brachycephalic (especially toy) breeds such as Pokes, Pugs, Bulldogs, Bostons, and the like, research the ancestors and siblings for any problems before you breed your own dog.

### **CAUSES OF CONGENITAL CLEFT PALATE**

There are several possible causes for congenital cleft palate:

#### ***Genetic cause***

An hereditary basis for the disease is suspected for congenital clefts but the mechanism has not yet been determined. Any such genetic trait is thought to be multifactorial recessive, polygenic and dominant with partial penetration.

#### ***Excess vitamin A intake during pregnancy***

In 1967 Wiersig and Swenson reported that 125,000 IU of Vitamin A per kilogram body weight given to Beagle bitches on days 17-22 of gestation resulted in cleft palate developing in their puppies.

Vitamin A is an essential nutrient for normal growth and defects in bone growth are seen with insufficient as well as excessive dietary intake. Vitamin A has a controlling influence over both the osteoblasts and osteoclasts in epithelial cartilage and so there is a rational explanation as to why excessive vitamin A intake might result in cleft palate.

In addition, commercially prepared complete pet foods contain more than sufficient available vitamin A yet breeders and owners frequently supplement their pet's ration with vitamin supplements

High vitamin A content is also a feature of many natural food sources including liver and fish oils. Cod liver oil is a very popular nutritional supplement with pet owners and it contains 18000mg per 100ml (4000 IU per gram). Some vitamin injections contain as much as 500,000 IU of vitamin A per ml.

#### ***Cortisone***

Administration of cortisone during pregnancy can lead to the development of cleft palate in the fetus

#### ***Hydroxyurea***

Administration of the cytotoxic drug hydroxyurea (hydroxycarbamide) is reported to cause cleft palate.

***Acquired cleft palate*** is common following falls from a height, and less commonly following road traffic accidents.

#### ***Cleft Palate or Cleft Lip Complex, Occlusal Anomalies, Tongue Anomalies***

**Cleft Palate or Cleft Lip (Harelip) Complex:** This is due to a disturbance of the processes that form the jaw and face during embryonic development. Cleft of the lower lip is rare and usually occurs on the midline. Clefts of the upper lip, usually at the junction of the premaxilla and maxilla, may be unilateral or bilateral, complete or incomplete, and often are associated with clefts of the alveolar process and palate. The defect may also involve the palate alone.

Developmental anomalies affecting other organ systems can occur in ~8% of affected dogs and cats. The defect commonly occurs with other defects in large animals as well, such as arthrogryposis, which is inherited in a simple autosomal recessive manner in Charolais cattle.

In small animals, incidence is higher in the Beagle, Cocker Spaniel, Dachshund, German Shepherd Dog, Labrador Retriever, Schnauzer, Shetland Sheepdog, and Siamese cats.

Brachycephalic breeds can have up to a 30% risk factor.

In large animals, cleft palate/lip complex has been reported in cattle, sheep, goats, and horses. The primary etiology is hereditary, although maternal nutritional deficiencies, drug or chemical exposure, mechanical interferences with the fetus, and some viral infections during pregnancy have also been implicated.

Ingestion of toxic agents may also play a role; for example, ingestion of lupines ( *Lupinus sericeus* and *L. caudatus* ) during the second and third months of gestation in cattle can potentially result in "crooked calf disease," of which cleft abnormalities may be a component.

Initial signs include difficulty suckling, dysphagia, and evidence of milk dripping from the nostrils when the newborn attempts to nurse. Respiratory infection due to aspiration of food is common and





a grave consequence with a poor prognosis. Examination of the oral cavity generally readily reveals the defect, except in foals having only a cleft of the soft palate that may be difficult to see.



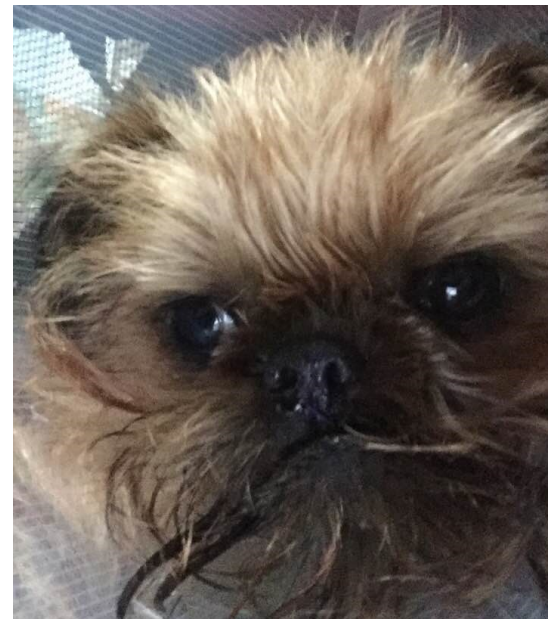
*Tube feeding a cleft rescue puppy of mixed breed*

### ***Care of Cleft palate offspring***

Initial management requires intensive nursing care, including hand or tube feeding to ensure daily nutritional and caloric requirements are met, as well as the occasional need for appropriate antimicrobial therapy to treat for secondary infections of the rhinarium or lower respiratory tract.



*Hair lip/hard cleft palate puppy before and after surgery*



**Surgical correction** is effective only if the defect is small and is usually done at ~6-8 wk of age in small animals, before their general health is compromised. Various surgical techniques, ranging from simple closure to the need for sliding grafts or prosthetic implants, are used, depending on the severity and location of the defect.

More severely affected animals may require multiple surgeries for successful correction. Surgical repair should be attempted only after ethical questions have been addressed, and the affected animal should be surgically sterilized or removed from breeding stock to prevent reproducing the anomaly in future offspring.

*(Current thinking in Australia- 2023- Surgery needs to be done by a specialist vet, ideally after 6 months if the puppy can manage. If not, further surgery may be required as the dogs head grows)*





**Occlusal Anomalies:** Brachygnathia (overshot, short lower jaw, or parrot mouth in horses) is manifest when the mandible is shorter relative to the maxilla. It can be found to varying severity and incidence in all species of animals.

In cattle, it is inherited as a polygenetic factor and can be associated with other anomalies such as impacted molar teeth and osteopetrosis (Osteopetrosis) in Angus calves and Simmental cattle, or with chromosomal aberrations such as trisomy, which is lethal.

In small animals, mild forms may be of no clinical significance; however, more severe forms may result in trauma to the hard palate or the restriction of normal mandibular growth secondary to erupting adult mandibular canine teeth. Diagnosis is through careful oral examination.

Treatment varies from none to various orthodontic or endodontic procedures, depending on severity. In small animals, the mandibular canine teeth are often removed or shortened, with concurrent pulpotomy or root canal.

A range of occlusal defects in sheep, from brachygnathia to mandibular aplasia and agnathia, is reportedly inherited as a simple autosomal recessive. Craniofacial dysplasia of Limousin cattle is characterized by a convex profile of the nose, short lower jaw, deficient ossification of frontal sutures, acroglossia, and a large tongue; it is thought to be due to homozygosity of a simple autosomal recessive gene.

**Prognathia** (undershot, or monkey or sow mouth in horses) is found when the mandible is longer relative to the maxilla. It is identified on oral examination by finding the mandibular incisors in contact with or rostra to the maxillary incisors.

In brachycephalic dogs and Persian cats, it is considered a normal breed characteristic. Despite being seen to varying degrees, it rarely requires any specific treatment.

**Tongue Anomalies:** Ankyloglossia or acroglossia refers to incomplete or abnormal development of the tongue. It is often referred to as “bird tongue” in dogs and may be a component of the fading puppy syndrome.

Affected puppies have difficulty nursing and do poorly. Oral examination reveals missing or underdeveloped lateral and rostral thin portions of the tongue that result in prehensile and motility disturbances. It is generally lethal.

#### **LINKS TO ARTICLES ON OTHER SITES**

- [Folic Acid, Cleft Palates and Whelping Problems](#)
- [Cleft Palate and Vitamin or Fish Oil Supplements](#)
- [Congenital Cleft Palate and Vitamin A](#)
- [Soft and Cleft Palate Problems in Dogs](#)
- [Cleft Palate](#)
- [Cleft Palate Puppies](#)
- [Cleft Palate](#)
- [Cleft Palate in Cocker Spaniels](#)
- [Cleft Lip/Palate](#)
- [New Cleft Palate Treatment in the Works](#)
- [Cleft Palate or Cleft Lip \(Harelip\) Complex](#)
- [Cleft Palate in Puppies](#)
- [What is Cleft Lip/Palate?](#)
- [How Are Defects Inherited?](#)
- [Care and Feeding of Cleft Palate Puppies](#)
- [Genetic Diseases and Problems That Run in Breeds](#)
- [Birth Defects: Cleft Palate Why and When](#)





# Don't Buy A Lie...

Beauty is more than skin deep. A Griffon's appearance can give strong indicators of it's current & future health.

Bright, dark eyes, without white showing, mean eye conditions and injuries are less common.



A even bite, without teeth or tongue showing means, a Griffon is less likely to suffer from dental or eating issues



Healthy Griffons should have a thick, lush coat. A sparse, dull coat is often a sign of skin issues and illness.



Large, wide open nostrils are far less likely to suffer from any breathing issues



Strong solid bone makes breaks and joint injuries less common



Griffons should be sturdy, solid dogs. Thin and weedy Griffons are more likely to suffer injuries.



[www.griffonnsw.com](http://www.griffonnsw.com)

## Support Responsible Breeders





## New Titles Gained

Congratulations to the following members on gaining titles with their Griffons. It is particularly pleasing that two people are first time exhibitors with their first show dogs

# Congratulations!



### Champion Title

#### Balliol Quentin Quisp

(Sire- Sup Ch Cricklewood Night of Magic in Paris  
Dam- Ch Balliol Norberta Niffler)

Breeder- Michelle Parker Brien

Owner-  
Jasmine  
Dale



### Champion Title

#### Balliol Octavia Owl

(Sire- Ch Balliol Kaptain Krum  
Dam- Raweke Baileys Luxe)

Breeder- Michelle Parker Brien

Owner-  
Bernadette Bull



### Novice Jumping Title and Reserve National Jumping Reserve Champion

#### Ch Nagpuni Mr Bigg

(Sire- Ch Balliol Kaptain Krum  
Dam- Ch Nagpuni Shaken Not Stirred)

Breeder- Terri Odell

Owner- Alex Deasey

# Congratulations!

### Novice Tricks Title

#### Nagpuni Coco Cristabelle

Breeder- Terri Odell

Handler – Shirley Tulk

# Congratulations!







# Congratulations!

## Wins in the Ring



*Congratulation to our members who have achieved the following wins this year*

### **Ch Swedndream Firefox at Lochtay (Bell / Olsson)**

Has won a BIS and Rup BIS at the ACT Toy Show  
Plus 2 Runner Up In Group, 4 Puppy in Group, 2 Puppy in Show,  
2 Junior in Group, 2 Junior in Show and 1 Aust Bred in Group  
awards

### **Ch Balliol Quentin Quisp (Dale/Parker Brien)**

Has won 1 Runner Up in Group  
Plus 3 Minor Puppy in Group  
2 Puppy in Show and 8 Puppy in Group awards



### **Ch Nagpuni Ginger Spice (Odell)**

Has won 2  
Runner Up in Group, 1  
Open in Group and 3  
Australian Bred in Group  
awards



### **Ch Krusayd Griffon Don Diablo (Polias)**

Has won 3 Intermediate in Group  
awards



### **Sup Ch Tzani Zazu Zodiac(Bell)**

Has won a specialty Best in show  
and a Runner Up In Show



# Congratulations!





The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.



**Ch Balliol Tilly Tonks of Raweke** (Parker Brien) has won 1 Specialty Best in Show and a Runner Up in Group

**Neuter Ch Kango Lady Ma Donna**(Polias) won 3 Specialty Neuter in show, 1 Runner Up Neuter in AB Show, 13 Neuter in Group and 11 Runner Up Neuter in Group awards



**Ch Balliol Nicholas de Nimsey** (Mathieson/Parker Brien) won Runner up in Specialty show

**Nagpuni Love is a Game** (Odell) won a Junior in Group



**Balliol Octavia Owl** (Bull/Parker Brien) won 2 Open in Group awards

**Ch Nagpuni Mr Bigg** (Deasey) won an Intermediate in Group award



**Tenayshus Doras Gidget** (Brown) won 3 Baby Puppy in Group and 1 Puppy in Group award



**Congratulations!**





The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.



**Ch Amanecer Bu Eno (Hooper)** won Runner Up Neuter in Group

**Ch Balliol Norberta Niffler (Parker OSullivan)** won a Runner Up in specialty Show



**Ch Nevaending Sinners and Saints (Tremenheere)** won an Intermediate in Group

**Krusayd Kool Moondoggie (Brown)** won Baby Puppy in Group



**Nevafollo Fizzing Whizzbees (Mathieson/Barber Dale)** won a Junior in group award

**Ch Balliol Poppy Pomphrey (Parker Brien)** won Intermediate in group



*All information taken from the Dogzonline pointscore*

**Congratulations!**





The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.

# The Griffon Buyer Register

The Griffon Buyer Register exists to help people obtain a Griffon, either a puppy or an older dog. This rules and requirement of this register and the forms to be completed can be seen on our club website at the link

<http://www.griffonnsw.com/breeders-directory.asp>

We are a very large club and most of the Griffon breeders in NSW are members of our club. We also have members who are breeders in Victoria, Queensland and New Zealand.

Our members also all follow a Code of Ethics and do all they can to breed healthy well socialised Griffons so that you have the best chance of getting a healthy and happy new family member

If you are interested in getting a Griffon please look at our register and complete the forms which

can be downloaded there and we will do everything we can to help you get your new Griffon friend and companion

We are very pleased to say that we have so far assisted a number of members to get a new Griffon family member.

If you have filled out a Griffon Buyer Form and would like to change or update your information please contact our

Assistant Secretary: Sharyn



Wood at [sharynwood54@gmail.com](mailto:sharynwood54@gmail.com)

## Please Note

*The following information is important*

There have not been many litters born to members over the past few months so any members registering need to be aware that they may face a 6 – 12 month wait for a puppy.

If you want a specific coat or gender then you may have a longer wait, depending on the type of pups born. Eg. if you specifically want a rough coat male, you can be sure that Murphy's Law will ensure that the next litter has smooth coat girls etc.

The more flexible you are in your choice the sooner you may get a pup.



**Please inform the club if you have registered to get a Griffon but no longer want one.** Recently the Registrar has contacted several people only to be told that they have gotten another breed and no longer want a Griffon. It helps us keep our paperwork up to date if we know that you do not require a Griffon any longer









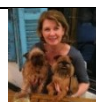





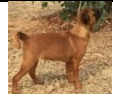









The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc.



## Breeder and Club Directory

 <p><b>Rosndae Griffons (NSW)</b> Roslyn &amp; David Finch <a href="mailto:rosndae@bigpond.com">rosndae@bigpond.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Lochtay Griffons (NSW)</b> Kerry &amp; Emily Bell <a href="mailto:lochtay@bigpond.net.au">lochtay@bigpond.net.au</a></p>	 <p><b>Raweke Griffons (QLD)</b> Jocelyn Croad &amp; Shane Thomas <a href="mailto:raweke@bigpond.com">raweke@bigpond.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Majomarc Griffons (Qld)</b> Ven Grasso <a href="mailto:majomarc kennel@gmail.com">majomarc kennel@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Dilkare Griffons (NSW)</b> Donna &amp; Jason Murphy <a href="mailto:jdmurphy73@optusnet.com.au">jdmurphy73@optusnet.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>Balliol Griffons (NSW)</b> Michelle Parker Brien <a href="mailto:mbrienparker@yahoo.com">mbrienparker@yahoo.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Bokson Griffons (WA)</b> Brian &amp; Sue McKie Perth, Western Australia Ph: Sue - 0407 070 051 Brian - 0417 902 648 Email: <a href="mailto:bokson@bigpond.net.au">bokson@bigpond.net.au</a></p>	 <p><b>Dalisay Griffons (NSW)</b> Mr C Tobias &amp; Mr M White <a href="mailto:Cohen@dalisaykennels.com">Cohen@dalisaykennels.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Nevaending Griffons (NSW)</b> J Tremenheere <a href="mailto:nevaending@hotmail.com">nevaending@hotmail.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Nagpuni Griffons (NSW)</b> Terri O'Dell <a href="mailto:terri@petsonthepark.com.au">terri@petsonthepark.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>Beaufox Griffons (NSW)</b> Jane Wistuba &amp; Sharyn Wood <a href="mailto:beaufoxk@bigpond.com">beaufoxk@bigpond.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Shigriff Griffons (NSW&amp; SA)</b> Caroline Elder &amp; Michelle Gurney <a href="mailto:shigriff@outlook.com">shigriff@outlook.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Paris Griffons (NZ)</b> Sandie Meads &amp; Fern Feaver Ph: 0064212515776 <a href="mailto:sandfeaver@hotmail.com">sandfeaver@hotmail.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Tiroroa Griffons (NZ)</b> Jocelyn Walker <a href="mailto:jossw@xtra.co.nz">jossw@xtra.co.nz</a></p>	<p><b>Briary Griffons (WA)</b> Hilary Swain Ph: 0893984476 <a href="mailto:briary@tpq.com.au">briary@tpq.com.au</a></p>
 <p><b>LaFolie Griffons (NSW)</b> Claire Parker O'Sullivan &amp; Matthew O'Sullivan <a href="mailto:lafoliepbqv@yahoo.com.au">lafoliepbqv@yahoo.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>Budinni Griffons (NSW)</b> Tiffany Barlogie. <a href="mailto:tiffanybudini8@gmail.com">tiffanybudini8@gmail.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Nevafollo Griffons (NSW)</b> Ashleigh Barber <a href="mailto:nevafollo@hotmail.com">nevafollo@hotmail.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Tigndor Griffons (Qld)</b> Lysanda <a href="mailto:Tigndor@gmail.com">Tigndor@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW</b> <b>Contact Information</b> Club Website- <a href="http://griffonsnsw.com">griffonsnsw</a> Club Face Book Group- Griffons NSW Club Face Book Page – The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Instagram - @griffonsnsw</p>	 <p><b>Frenchgriff Griffons (NSW)</b> Victoria Mercer <a href="mailto:victoriamercer56@gmail.com">victoriamercer56@gmail.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Krusayd Griffons (NSW)</b> <a href="http://www.krusayd.com">www.krusayd.com</a> <a href="mailto:Mythical@tsn.cc">Mythical@tsn.cc</a></p>		 <p><b>Nimblegriff Griffons (WA)</b> Kelly Pilgrim Byrne Contact via FB</p>
<b>Other Griffon Club Contact Information</b>		
<p><b>The Griffon Bruxellois Club of Victoria</b> President: Beth Canavan Secretary: Robin Simpson Treasurer: Marina Looker <a href="http://www.griffonclubvic.com/">http://www.griffonclubvic.com/</a></p>		<p><b>The Griffon Bruxellois Club of New Zealand</b> President- Chris Graham Secretary/Treasurer- Janet Ritchie</p>





## The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW Inc Breeders Code of Ethics and Conduct

The guidelines are as follows:

- Pre mating testing of prospective parents. Tests to be carried out if validated as a proven scientific screening method and if the evidence indicates that such testing is required in the breed due to scientific validated evidence that indicates a breed concern.  
DNA tests to be carried out if available and relevant. (Note: The only DNA tests available for for Griffons at the present time are for colour inheritance and parentage. There are **NO** DNA health tests available for Griffons)
- Subject to veterinary advice, no mating where tests indicate inadvisable
- Microchip puppies prior to sale
- Puppy microchip numbers to be included in the Application to Register litter.
- Presale veterinary checks on puppies with written report by veterinary surgeon if required
- Copies of parent's test results and puppy vet check results to be made available to prospective purchasers if requested
- Prospective purchasers can, prior to purchase, view puppies with mother where litter was born and raised. (This will not occur until the pups are vaccinated and protected)
- Provide detailed information on puppy care and welfare to purchasers (All relevant documentation connected with the puppy including inter alia, advice on feeding and care, registration documents, (if already issued) details of vaccinations etc are handed over to the purchaser at the time of sale. When an appropriate contract is available it should be signed by both parties. If registration documents are not available at the time of sale the breeder must comply with Dogs NSW Regulations Part 1 – Register and Registration Clauses 13.9 – 13.11)
- To observe proper standards of management in regard to the housing, health, exercising and socialising of all dogs on the premises managed by the registered breeder. (It is strongly recommended that Accredited Breeders follow the guidelines contained in the NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice "Breeding Dogs and Cats").
- To ensure that all pups are raised in a home environment and are treated as a member of the family. They are not kennelled outside or kept exclusively as kennelled dogs. The mother is also not a kennelled dog but is a member of the household and is treated as such.
- To keep all pups until **10-12** weeks of age and to ensure that they are socialised prior to leaving.
- To ensure that the breeder is completely honest with the puppy buyer regarding any health issues that may occur
- To ensure that the breeder provides the new owner with detailed information on maintaining the Griffons health and welfare- including information on:
  - the dangers of overexercising in the first 12 months,
  - the dangers of allowing a pup to jump on and off furniture or run up and down stairs,
  - the dangers of early desexing
  - the need for a correct and nutritionally balanced diet to ensure that the pup grows into a strong and healthy adult

### Explanation of Terms for Breeders Scheme

*Pre mating testing of prospective parents.*

*Note: Disease testing means:*

*Testing for health conditions which are notified by the breed club, ANKC or Dogs NSW as relevant to the breed, and for which scientifically validated, reliable, readily available and cost effective screening procedures are available.*





*DNA tests for hereditary diseases that are available in the relevant breed.*

At the present time the most recent comprehensive health survey on the Griffon Bruxellois internationally was carried out by The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW in 2016.

This survey of over 9,000 Griffons identified the most common health issues as;  
Slipping Patellas, Cleft Palates and undescended testes.

At the present time there are no DNA tests available for Griffon Bruxellois.

The CGBC of NSW recommends veterinary checks of all breeding dogs prior to breeding. However, we do not recommend the unnecessary use of anaesthetic to test for conditions that are rare or non-existent in the breed or if the dog does not show any symptoms.

The CGBC of NSW believes that all health testing should be done with the welfare and quality of life experienced by the dog as the prime consideration and the terms of the Accreditation: *scientifically validated, reliable, readily available and cost-effective screening procedures are available* should at all times be kept in mind

In reference to the health conditions identified by the Health Survey we have the following comments:

**Cleft Palate** – The majority of pups born with this condition are euthanised at birth. Some pups are able to be hand reared by breeders. Breeding not supported

**Undescended Testes**- This is not a life threatening condition and dogs are usually castrated and live normal healthy lives. Breeding not supported.

**Patella Luxation**- This condition has various grades of severity. A vet can diagnose the condition in a normal physical examination. Further testing/grading available if a condition is identified. Breeding not supported. Pups have loose ligaments that slowly tighten in the first 12 months of life.

Permanent grading cannot be done until the dog is over 12 months.

**Anasarca**-a condition that commonly affects brachycephalic breeds. While linked to a specific phenotype there is insufficient research to indicate if it is hereditary. If the pup lives, we would expect the breeder to be guided by veterinary advice.

**Inguinal/Scrotal Hernia**- this can be diagnosed by a normal veterinary examination. It can be a life-threatening condition and can be hereditary. Breeding not supported

*(Please note this is not to be confused with an umbilical hernia which is usually not a problem)*

**SM/CM** – The CGBC of NSW supports the research into this condition and supports breeders who have assisted the research by getting their dogs MRI'd. We acknowledge that at the present it is still very much in the research stage. This procedure so far does not meet with any of the definitions for testing at the present time as it is not yet *scientifically validated, reliable, readily available or a cost effective screening procedure(s)*.

MRI's are still a diagnostic process, not a screening process and a permanent grade for a Griffon cannot be issued until the dog is 3.5 years or over.

There are guidelines for breeding published by Claire Rushbridge (UK) which the club recommends members follow as far as is possible but at the present stage it is not essential that members MRI their dogs in order to be accredited as this is still in the research phase.

However, we do recommend that breeders are fully familiar with the genetic lines behind their dogs and take all precautions, including diagnosis, to ensure that they do not breed dogs with this condition.

**Other Conditions:**

**Hips**: There is limited evidence that a condition such as H.D is a major issue in the breed in this country.

The club recommends hip X rays with formal, recognized grading if the breeder, after veterinary consultation, feels it is necessary.

The club does not recognize any diagnosis carried out by a vet which is not formally graded under the approved CHEDS grading scheme.

<http://www.ava.com.au/cheds>





**Eyes.** We recommend that the eyes are checked during the usual annual veterinary examination. If symptoms of an eye problem are identified by the vet then we recommend a visit to a canine ophthalmologist but do not consider it necessary if the dog does not display symptoms.

**Stenotic Nares.** In a limited number of cases we are aware that Griffons have been born with Stenotic Nares. Whilst it is possible that these dogs can have the nostrils enlarged to enable them to breathe we do not support the breeding from affected animals and members who have done so would not be accredited.

Equally we do not support breeding from Griffons who have required surgery for elongated soft palates or narrowed tracheas if these issues are diagnosed as hereditary.

*Presale veterinary checks on puppies with written report by veterinary surgeon*

*Copies of parents test results and puppy vet check results to be made available to prospective purchasers*

Puppies are vaccinated and checked by a vet at 6-8 weeks of age.

Accredited breeders keep the pups until 10 -12 weeks when they are again vaccinated and vet checked. These check-ups can be considered as a pre- sale vet check. It is not necessary to have an additional vet check prior to sale.

The normal veterinary certificate is sufficient if the pup is healthy and free of health problems.

However, if the pup is diagnosed with a health problem the CGBC of NSW expects that breeders will fully inform the prospective purchaser prior to sale.

The CGBC of NSW believes that our member breeders have the love of the breed and the welfare of the breed as their number one priority.

### **Buyers Rights and Responsibilities**

- The majority of breeders do not ask for a deposit. However if a breeder requires one-NEVER pay a deposit until after the puppies have been born or there is a puppy available or you have visited the litter. Deposits are refundable under Australian Consumer Law unless you change your mind. The dam may not conceive or there might not be enough puppies born. Alternatively, your circumstances might unexpectedly change because of ill health, a work transfer or other unexpected event.
- If you buy a puppy with purchase conditions about future breeding or showing called “breeder’s terms”, make sure these are spelled out in a written contract, which both breeder and buyer sign and retain respective copies of. Be clear about the conditions and contact The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW if you are concerned or do not quite understand the terminology. This will avoid disagreements later. The breeder should explain every aspect of the agreement.
- You should view the Certificate of Registration and Pedigree for both the dam and sire before paying for the pup. The registration should be ANKC and the pups will be Limited or Main register. See further information -Choosing a Breeder.

### **If there is a problem - a consumer’s right to a remedy**

- If you have purchased a pet and something goes wrong, you may have rights against the seller if they failed to meet one or more of the consumer guarantees. Many breeders will sell with a written contract that detail this. Please read carefully and contact The Country Griffon Bruxellois Club of NSW if you are unsure
- Generally, you are not entitled to a remedy if you change your mind about a purchase or if the problem is due to something beyond the seller’s control. However, if the seller provided an ‘express’ warranty or an additional promise about the quality, condition, performance or characteristics of the item purchased, they must uphold that guarantee.





- Your entitled remedy will depend on the issue and whether the problem can be classified as major or minor. Effectively, a major problem is when you wouldn't have bought the pet if you had known the nature and extent of the problem prior to purchase; for example, an animal has a terminal or serious health issue.

In this case, the consumer has the right to choose which remedy the seller will provide. This will either be to:

- have the problem with your pet corrected for example, with veterinary treatment and/or medication;
- return your pet to the seller and have it replaced with another one; or
- return your pet to the seller and have your money refunded.
- When the problem is minor, the seller can choose which remedy they will provide.
- It is recommended that you attempt to negotiate an outcome that both you and the seller can agree to.

If there continues to be a disagreement, Consumer Protection can provide advice and help you resolve the dispute.

(Note: it is the buyer/consumer who has the right to choose which remedy – such as a refund - if there is a problem with the health of a puppy).

**It has come to our attention  
that some breeders may be  
falsely asserting their  
involvement with our club.  
Please contact us directly to  
check any breeders  
involvement with us.**