

# SCRAPS

July 2012

Official Newsletter of the Western Province



Photo: Helen Matthew

# WHO'S WHO

2012

## WPBC COMMITTEE



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## From the Editor

Hello Everyone,

Big apologies for the late appearance of this Scraps. Due to serious work pressure your editor just could not get it finished in time to reach you before the end of June. Unfortunately keeping the wolf from the door has to come first - or as Ken Hull says - trying to keep the bugger out of the kitchen....

Have a look at our events calendar on page 4. A number of exciting events are coming up during this second half of the year.

Most important is the Club's 60th Anniversary, which we will celebrate with a very special evening championship show and dinner. Please put Wednesday 17th October 2012 in your diaries in BOLD print now! We are hoping for a bumper entry for our eminent UK judge - Tim Hutchings of the world famous WINU-WUK BOXERS - to go over that night. But even if you do not have a show prospect at the moment, do come and join us for a good meal and even better company.

Also coming up soon is our annual champagne breakfast and walk. Hope to see you all with your Boxers at this fun social get-together.

Our Boxers have been making very sure that everybody sat up and took notice of them at Aptitude Tests. The club's next test is coming up in September and this is a great opportunity for you to enter your Boxers and earn the coveted APT qualification, which will be placed on successful participants' KUSA record and registration certificates.

The local open and championship shows are all coming up and we are also trying to squeeze in a Boxer Breed Assessment before the end of the year.

Lots to look forward to!

Marlien Heystek  
Editor



# WHAT'S ON?

## calendar of events

	CLUB	TYPE	EVENTS	CONTACT
<b>JULY</b>				
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Working & Herding Cape	Open	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FLY	082 824 1422
<b>AUGUST</b>				
4 <sup>th</sup>	Hottentots Holland KC	Open	BR	082 521 4374
5 <sup>th</sup>	Cape Town KC	Open	BR,OB,WT,DJ,AG,FLY,HCL	021 447 7654
9 <sup>th</sup>	W P Boxer Club	Club	Breakfast Walk	071 138 4385
14 <sup>th</sup>	Liesbeek KC	Open	HCL	083 925 4350
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
1 <sup>st</sup>	Queenstown KC	CH	BR,OB,DJ,CA,AG,HCL	045 838 2962
1 <sup>st</sup>	Baakensvallei W & H	CH	BR	041 360 0853
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Grahamstown KC	CH	BR,OB,DJ,CA,AG,HCL	046 622 3050
8/9 <sup>th</sup>	WPBC	Apt	APTITUDE, DMA	071 138 4385
9 <sup>th</sup>	Breede Rivier KC	Open	BR,DJ,AG,FLY	083 374 8422
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Cape Handlers	Open	OB,DJ,AG,FLY	083 699 1415
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
6 <sup>th</sup>	WPBC	Open	OB,DJ,CA,AG,FLY,CGC	071 138 4385
13 <sup>th</sup>	Breede Rivier KC	CH	BR, HCL	083 374 8422
14 <sup>th</sup>	Cape Town KC	CH	BR	021 447 7654
17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>WPBC</b>	<b>CH</b>	<b>BR – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>	<b>071 138 4385</b>
19 <sup>th</sup>	Working & Herding Cape	CH	BR,OB,DJ,AG,FLY	082 824 1422
21 <sup>st</sup>	Hottentots Holland KC	CH	BR	082 521 4374
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Western Province KC	CH	BR,DJ,FLY	021 554 1904
27 <sup>th</sup>	Cape Town KC	CH	OB, DJ, CA, AG, FLY	021 447 7654
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
4 <sup>th</sup>	West Coast KC	Qual	BR	022 433 3360
17 <sup>th</sup>	Kennel Association	Spec	Cape Top Dog & Puppy	021 715 9758

**CONSULT OUR WEBSITE** <http://www.wpbc.co.za> or <http://www.showdogs.co.za>  
for schedules of the events listed above

**Puppy Socialization and Ringcraft Get Togethers - normally first Sunday every month, but please contact Fay Roberts at 071 138 4385 for dates and times**  
**PLEASE SEE PAGE 9 FOR A LIST OF RECOMMENDED PUPPY SCHOOLS**

**We regret that we will no longer be offering obedience training  
in Pinelands on Sundays.**

**Please see pages 8 & 9 for more information.**

## *Invitation:*

### **ANNUAL WALK AND BREAKFAST AT RHODES MEMORIAL**



**THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2012**

(celebrating Women's Day)

**MEET AT RHODES MEMORIAL PARKING AREA AT 8.45 am**

**WALK WILL START PROMPTLY AT 9.00 am**

**BREAKFAST AT 10.0 am AT THE RHODES MEMORIAL RESTAURANT**

#### **MENU**

##### **ENGLISH BREAKFAST – R75**

Beef sausages, bacon, grilled tomato, mushrooms  
scrambled, fried or poached eggs, toast, jam, butter  
coffee or tea (one cup filter coffee or Rooibos/Ceylon tea)

and for the little ones or little appetites:

##### **ON THE RUN BREAKFAST – R52**

Two fried eggs, bacon, tomato, toast, jam & butter, cup of filter coffee/tea

WPBC will provide the champagne and orange juice

##### **PLEASE CREDIT W P BOXER CLUB**

*Nedbank*

*Milnerton Branch Number 109309*

*Account Number 1093047224*

*Please use name and "Breakfast" as reference*

**EFT & RSVP BEFORE 5th AUGUST PLEASE**

**Fay 071 138 4385**

**Proof of payment with breakdown of names, numbers attending  
and which breakfasts ordered**

**to [merpro@iafrica.com](mailto:merpro@iafrica.com)**

#### **REGRET NO CANCELLATIONS OR REFUNDS**

*Please bring water and pooh bags. Dogs to be on lead at all times*



# Gala Event!

Our Club  
will be celebrating its  
**60th Anniversary**  
with  
a championship show  
and dinner  
to be held in the  
Edgemoor Community Hall,  
on 17th October 2012  
starting at 19:00.



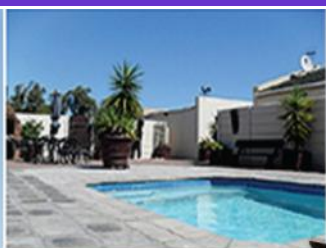
The judge will be **Mr Tim Hutchings** of the world famous  
**WINUWUK BOXERS** in the UK.



An opportunity not to be missed  
and we look forward  
to receiving a record number of  
entries.

More details closer to the time,  
but be sure to enter the date in  
your diaries now!

# PET—FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION



Cape Town – South Africa



## Viola & Owl Cottages



### BLOUBERGRANT/TABLE VIEW, CAPE TOWN

Two tastefully furnished and equipped Pet Friendly/Safe Cottages situated in a quiet residential area just 5 mins from the beach overlooking Table Mountain and Robben Island. Close to all amenities.

Each Cottage has its own private, high walled garden with braai, table, chairs, loungers – 100% secure for pets.

Interaction between visiting dogs impossible.

Gated access to Pool for owners' peace of mind.

Secure off road parking for vehicles and trailers.

Bedding and towels provided and changed during stay.

There is a Veterinary Clinic at the bottom of the road.

For further information and photographs, please take a look at our website:

**[www.violacottage.co.za](http://www.violacottage.co.za)**

and see for yourself the many complimentary comments from previous guests.

*If it's good enough for Buddy the Toyota Boxer,  
then it's good enough for you!*



Contact Helen on 021 557 2899 or 082 698 1244

email: [helen@violacottage.co.za](mailto:helen@violacottage.co.za)

# *Thank you,* **REX!**



Very few people involved in dog obedience in South Africa will not know Rex Koning. Rex is one of the most experienced and respected obedience trainers and judges in the country and so, we at the WPBC, count it our privilege to have had Rex handling this aspect of the Club since 2007.

Unfortunately, following the pattern of obedience training around the world, there has been a decline in this discipline in our Club. Rex has given the Club his time and devotion faithfully through all this time often without the support he deserved. After seven years of faithful

service to the Western Province Boxer Club, Rex has decided that he is moving on and has resigned as trainer and from the Committee.

We will miss his presence at our committee meetings and his excellent work on Sunday mornings. Rex was always a “hands-on” man and I could rely on him fully to assist with erecting show rings (even when obedience was not involved), attending to braai fires and all sorts of other tasks for which we thank him most sincerely. I for one will definitely miss his willing contribution.

Rex is one of those rare people who understands the meaning of “committee” – one who is committed. Thank you for that true commitment Rex, you will always be a welcome and honoured guest at any of the Boxer Club’s events. In fact, take this as an open invitation!

Ken Hull  
Chairman



# LIST OF RECOMMENDED PUPPY SCHOOLS AND TRAINING CENTRES

Cape Handlers Dog Club, Theo Marais Park, Koeberg Road, Milnerton  
Sunday mornings (ring 021 811 6933 Sunday am only) [www.chdc.co.za](http://www.chdc.co.za)

Cape Province Dog Club, Saturday mornings  
Ring Julie 082 376 7367 [www.capeprovincedogclub.co.za](http://www.capeprovincedogclub.co.za)

Mrs M Spronson, St Francis Vet., Main Road, Diep River  
083 357 4080

Mr Jan Buchner, Wynberg Military Camp, Victoria Hill, Wynberg  
083 442 4940

Mr Jan Meyer, Sun Valley Shopping Centre, Sun Valley  
021 786 1165

Roses Puppy School, Gordonsbay/Somerset West, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday. 082 553 0747 [www.friendsofthedog.co.za](http://www.friendsofthedog.co.za)

Tygerberg Animal Hospital Puppy Socialisation, Karen Forsdick  
021 919 1191

Dog Dynamix Centre for puppy/training, Brommersvlei Road, Constantia, (on the Riding for the Disabled property)  
072 797 9533 [www.dogdynamics.co.za](http://www.dogdynamics.co.za)

SUPER PUPS is an independent certification programme for puppy trainers, with a comprehensive on-going education programme exclusively for certified members. Super Pup recognizes skills and knowledge and promotes this to the public. Read more on [www.superpup.co.za](http://www.superpup.co.za)

Nicole Alers, Newlands, 074 189 2824, [animalantics@olive.com](mailto:animalantics@olive.com)

Louise Botha, Hermanus, 083 264 2912, [info@caninecapers.co.za](mailto:info@caninecapers.co.za)

Gill Painter, Stellenbosch/Joostenbergvlakte,  
072 464 0404, [gillpainter@mweb.co.za](mailto:gillpainter@mweb.co.za)

# WESTERN PROVINCE BOXER CLUB

## APTITUDE and DOG MENTALITY ASSESSMENT TESTS

08/09<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012 (Saturday & Sunday)

Licence No 17/2012/NC/WC

**STARTING TIME:** 08:00 each day

(Participants should arrive at least one hour before their allocated time to watch previous test)

**VENUE:**

Groot Fisantekraal Wine Estate, Durbanville (R302)

**ENTRIES CLOSE:** 24<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2012

**ENTRY FEE:** R200.00 per dog

**TEST LEADERS:** Mr Mike Eisler (KZN) / Mrs Edith Gallant (KZN)

**JUDGES:** Ms Sarah Gee (WP), Ms Marlien Heystek (WP), Mr Selvin Lewis (WP), Ms Lulu Maree (WP)

**MARSHALLS:** Ms Angie Brooke, Mr Osman Damon

In the event of the non-availability of any test leader/judge/marshall the club reserves the right to appoint another.

**Minimum age at time of testing:** **APTITUDE:** 22 months on day of test

**DMA:** 12 months on day of test

No bitches in season permitted

Only dogs in good health will be tested.

Aptitude testing provides dog breeders with an effective tool to determine the inherent natural mental potential of dogs used for breeding. It assesses, inter alia, approachability, drive to hunt, nervous stability, defensive behaviour, aggression and the ability of the dog to work off and calm down quickly after being exposed to stressful situations. It was developed in the 1960's for the *Svenska Brukhundklubben* (Swedish Working Dog Association) by a team of canine ethologists (*ethology = the scientific study of animal behaviour*) and is based on the principles of canine psychology as explained by Konrad Lorenz. It is open to all dogs, but is aimed mainly at working breeds. However, many herding, hunting or utility dogs are also able to successfully complete the test.

Dogs are not trained for this test - it is aimed at evaluating the inborn instincts and drives of the dog. During the test the dog must solve a number of problems and cope with stressful situations by itself, without any assistance or commands from its handler. It has already been applied to many thousands of dogs and has been proven to be a valuable indicator of the innate mental attitude, temperament and steadiness of a dog.

The test is recognised by KUSA and the "Apt" or "Apt Ex" qualification may be added to the registered name of a dog that has passed the test. Qualifying Certificates are however only awarded to dogs registered with KUSA or canine control bodies recognised by KUSA.

**ENTRIES (on KUSA entry form) with proof of payment to:**

WPBC, P O Box 11550, Bloubaerg, 7443 (postal)

[info@wpbc.co.za](mailto:info@wpbc.co.za) (e-mail)

086 568 4530 (fax)

**Please indicate day and time preferred**

**BANKING DETAILS:** Nedbank - Milnerton Branch No 109-309

Account No 1093047224- W P Boxer Club

*No postal orders or post dated cheques please*

*Please add R16.00 to each cash deposit to cover bank charges*

**ENQUIRIES:**

Fay Roberts: Tel: 071 138 4385, e-mail: [merpro@iafrica.com](mailto:merpro@iafrica.com)

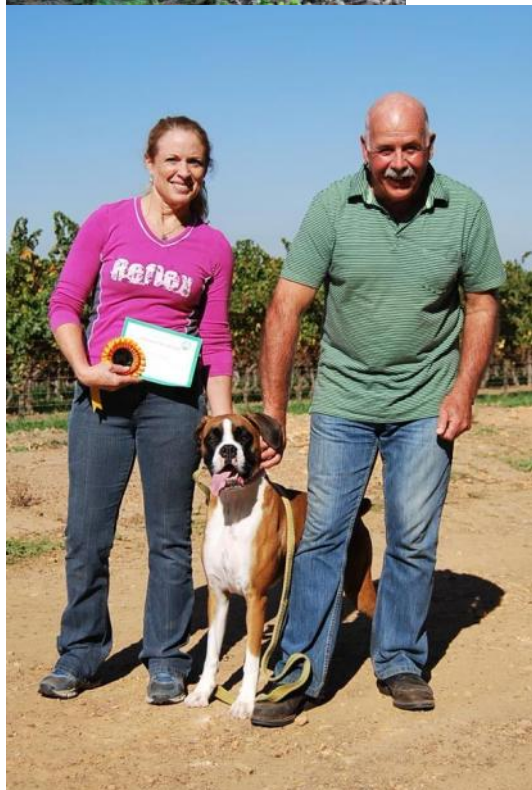
Marlien Heystek: Tel: 083 717 4120, e-mail: [jakkalsdans@telkomsa.net](mailto:jakkalsdans@telkomsa.net)

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- DOGS MUST NOT BE FED FOR 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE TEST.
- No movement in or leaving of the test area permitted during a test. Once started no one may leave the actual test area at all. Only the participating dog is allowed in the test area and no dogs may be exercised or run off-lead.
- All participants/handlers are personally responsible for the control of their dogs at all times and shall be personally liable for any claims which may be made in respect of injuries/damage which may arise or be caused by their dogs.
- The 50km/hour speed limit must be strictly observed by all while on the estate.
- Please park in the designated parking area.
- Refreshments will be on sale but please bring chairs for yourself and water for your dogs.



Abigail (Tanyati All Fired Up for Stanwix) owned by Jacqui Verrinder notched up a fantastic qualifying score of +178 in Aptitude. Shown here standing her ground while Percy the Sledge approaches relentlessly and confronting the Ugly Man without giving an inch!



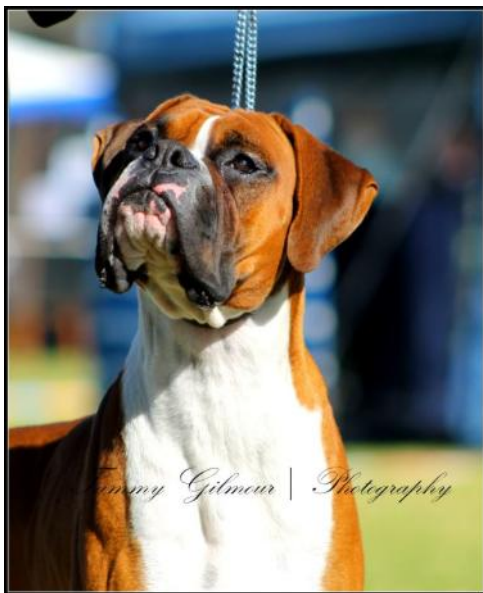
Above Abigail checks out the Headless Man that popped up from nowhere. On the left she smiles with Jacqui and Mike Eisler (one of the Test Leaders) after completion of the test. (Photos: M Hodgkinson)

**APTITUDE TEST**  
DOBERMANN CLUB OF THE CAPE  
12/13 MAY 2012, DURBANVILLE





**MONTALA RAY OF LIGHT AT GENELTO**



A few of Tammy Gilmour's stunning photographs taken at the

**OUTSHOORN WEEKEND**



**CH TORTUGA JUMPIN JACK FLASH OF STANWIX**





**GEORGE KC CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - 9 JUNE 2012 - JUDGE: JOY MACFARLANE**

<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DOGS</b>	<b>OWNER</b>
JUNIOR	1 <sup>st</sup> Montala Ray of Light at Genelto	Tommy Smith
GRADUATE	1 <sup>st</sup> Tanyati Headline News	Monique Hodgkinson
OPEN	1 <sup>st</sup> Polgara Curtain Call for Jakkalsdans	Marlien Heystek
CC	Montala Ray of Light at Genelto	Tommy Smith
RCC	Tanyati Headline News	Monique Hodgkinson
CHAMPION	1 <sup>st</sup> Ch Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix	Jacqui Verrinder
<b>CLASS</b>	<b>BITCHES</b>	<b>OWNER</b>
PUPPY	1 <sup>st</sup> Montala's Eternal Flame	Wayne Streak
JUNIOR	1 <sup>st</sup> Tanyati I'm Familiar Too	Monique Hodgkinson
CC	Tanyati I'm Familiar Too	Monique Hodgkinson
RCC	Montala's Eternal Flame	Wayne Streak
BEST PUPPY 1 <sup>st</sup> PUPPY GROUP	Montala's Eternal Flame	Wayne Streak
BEST OF BREED BEST JUNIOR 1 <sup>st</sup> JUNIOR GROUP 2 <sup>nd</sup> WORKING GROUP	Montala Ray of Light at Genelto	Tommy Smith
RESERVE BEST OF BREED	Ch Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix	Jacqui Verrinder



**MONTALA ETERNAL FLAME**

**OUTENIQUA KC CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW - 10 JUNE 2012 - JUDGE: MAURICE BAKER**

<b>CLASS</b>	<b>DOGS</b>	<b>OWNER</b>
JUNIOR	1 <sup>st</sup> Montala Ray of Light at Genelto	Tommy Smith
GRADUATE	1 <sup>st</sup> Tanyati Headline News	Monique Hodgkinson
OPEN	1 <sup>st</sup> Polgara Curtain Call for Jakkalsdans	Marlien Heystek
CC	Tanyati Headline News	Monique Hodgkinson
RCC	Montala Ray of Light at Genelto	Tommy Smith
CHAMPION	1 <sup>st</sup> Ch Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix	Jacqui Verrinder
<b>CLASS</b>	<b>BITCHES</b>	<b>OWNER</b>
PUPPY	1 <sup>st</sup> Montala's Eternal Flame	Wayne Streak
JUNIOR	1 <sup>st</sup> Tanyati I'm Familiar Too	Monique Hodgkinson
CC	Montala's Eternal Flame	Monique Hodgkinson
RCC	Tanyati I'm Familiar Too	Wayne Streak
BEST PUPPY 2 <sup>nd</sup> PUPPY GROUP	Montala's Eternal Flame	Wayne Streak
BEST JUNIOR 1 <sup>st</sup> JUNIOR GROUP BEST JUNIOR IN SHOW	Montala Ray of Light at Genelto	Tommy Smith
BEST OF BREED 1 <sup>st</sup> WORKING GROUP	Ch Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix	Jacqui Verrinder
RESERVE BEST OF BREED	Tanyati Headline News	Monique Hodgkinson



**TANYATI HEADLINE NEWS**

# RESULTS: OPEN SHOWS

## BREEDE RIVIER VALLEI KC OPEN SHOW - 15 APRIL 2012 - JUDGE: JOHN WARREN

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST OF BREED 1 <sup>st</sup> WORKING GROUP RESERVE BEST IN SHOW	Ch Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix (Dexter)	Jacqui Verrinder
RESERVE BEST OF BREED	Polgara Curtain Call for Jakkalsdans (Macduff)	Marlien Heystek
BEST PUPPY 3 <sup>rd</sup> PUPPY GROUP	Mazarat Genius Top Deck	Thys van Huyssteen
BEST JUNIOR	Tanyati I'm Familiar Too (Mika)	Monique Hodgkinson
BEST VETERAN 1 <sup>st</sup> VETERAN GROUP	Ch Bovan Magic Moments at Dawkendale (Chickie)	Ken & Dawn Hull

## WORKING & HERDING CAPE OPEN SHOW - 13 MAY 2012 - JUDGE: YVONNE BOULS

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST OF BREED 1 <sup>st</sup> WORKING GROUP RESERVE BEST IN SHOW	Ch Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix (Dexter)	Jacqui Verrinder
RESERVE BEST OF BREED	Tanyati Headline News (Jamie)	Monique Hodgkinson
BEST JUNIOR 2 <sup>nd</sup> JUNIOR GROUP	Tanyati I'm Familiar Too (Mika)	Monique Hodgkinson

## CAPE TOWN KC OPEN SHOW - 3 JUNE 2012 - JUDGE: JOHNNY MARQUES

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST CHAMPION 1 <sup>st</sup> CHAMPION GROUP BEST IN SHOW	Ch Tortuga Jumpin Jack Flash of Stanwix (Dexter)	Jacqui Verrinder
BEST JUNIOR BEST OF BREED 1 <sup>st</sup> JUNIOR GROUP 4 <sup>th</sup> BEST JUNIOR IN SHOW 3 <sup>rd</sup> WORKING GROUP	Tanyati I'm Familiar Too (Mika)	Monique Hodgkinson
RESERVE BEST OF BREED	Tanyati Headline News (Jamie)	Monique Hodgkinson

## SWARTLAND KC QUALIFYING SHOW - 8 JULY 2012 - JUDGE: NICKY ROBERTSON

AWARD	BOXER	OWNER
BEST OF BREED 2 <sup>nd</sup> WORKING GROUP	Polgara Curtain Call for Jakkalsdans (Macduff)	Marlien Heystek
BEST JUNIOR RESERVE BEST OF BREED 1 <sup>st</sup> JUNIOR GROUP BEST JUNIOR IN SHOW	Tanyati I'm Familiar Too (Mika)	Monique Hodgkinson



GENIUS



MIKA



CHICKIE



MACDUFF

*All the pictures above submitted by  
Thys van Huyssteen*

DEXTER GOING  
BEST IN SHOW  
(CAPE TOWN KENNEL CLUB)  
JUDGE: DOREEN POWELL

**OPEN SHOWS**



# THE BOXER - 60 years ago

From "ARISTOCRATS OF THE SHOW-RING IN SOUTH AFRICA"

By Lt.-Col. A. V. Stevenson

Published by Juta & Company in 1953

An animal, whose fearlessness, strength and agility made him a favourite German war-dog through two world conflicts, and at the same time the most loyal and even-tempered of companions and a child's tenderest guard – that is the Boxer. How he got his name nobody quite knows: the most probable theory is that the Germans translated the English "prize-fighter" as "boxer" and so called him in tribute to the fighting qualities he has at demand.

A descendant of the early bull-baiting dog, the Bullenbeisser, hunter of the wild ox that once roamed Europe, the Boxer also owes much to the English Bulldog – and the first Boxer officially presented at a dog show, in Munich in 1895, had a white bulldog for sire. Britain took no interest until 1932, but America was importing Boxers fifty years ago, and at the end of the last war undoubtedly had the best in the world.

In America and on the Continent Boxers' ears are cropped, which in Britain is illegal. In South Africa cropped-ear Boxers can be exhibited providing they are imported, but home-bred dogs, if to be shown, must have their ears left in the natural state.

The popularity of this most debonair breed has been increasing in the Union of recent years by leaps and bounds, thanks to the enthusiasm of such keen breeders as Mrs. E. Duff and Mr. R. H. Ritter of Pretoria, Mr Maurice Vane, Mr B. L. Vogelnest and Mr Kelvin B. Clegg of Johannesburg and Mr Graham Cherrington of Uitenhage among others, who have imported first-class specimens from America and the Continent and in show after show have challenged for or won the supreme Grand Challenge award.

A good Boxer should be squarely built, with strong limbs, his well-defined muscles rippling under his sleek, short coat as he strides along on small, cat-like feet, the short back gently sloping down to sturdy hindquarters. Males should measure 22 to 24 inches at the withers, bitches 21 to 23 inches, and a male around 23 inches should weigh over 66 lbs, a bitch an inch lower about 62 lbs.



The most distinctive feature of the Boxer is the head, which should be broad with a slightly convex skull, the ears small and high-set, a slight wrinkling appearing on the forehead when the dog is alert. The length of the black-masked muzzle, in front of the dark, deep-set eyes, should be one third of the total length of the head, and must show no tapering towards the broad nostrils. The stop should be clean and wide and form almost a right angle when viewed in profile.

The lower jaw of the Boxer protrudes beyond the upper, with as much width as possible between the canine teeth in both jaws. The incisor teeth of the lower jaw should show a straight line, the upper incisors curving a little outwards - giving the dog the maximum of grasping and holding power. You will see all good judges at shows examining closely for this essential "Boxer bite".

While the first Boxers of Germany were nearly all white, with brindle markings, the only colours permitted today are fawn (from pale fawn to rich red) and brindle. White markings are permissible provided they do not exceed one-third of the whole.

**NOTE:**

*This chapter is from a book based on a series of articles written for the Sunday Times. It is illustrated with this photo with the following caption:*

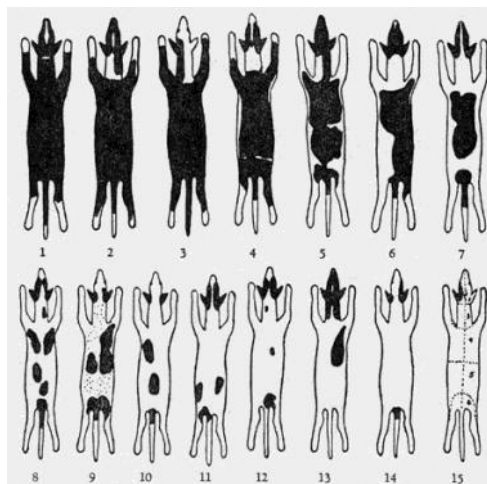


*Champion **NDuna's Herald of Blossomlea** owned by Messrs Kelvin B Clegg and E Cohen of Houghton, Johannesburg. "Herald" was made best male Boxer on show by all three overseas judges visiting the Union in 1952, Mr W Macdonald Daly (Britain) and Capt and Mrs Will Judy (U.S.A.)*

*Submitted by Dawn Hull*

# WHITE MARKINGS IN THE BOXER

Compiled by Marlien Heystek



*Progressive Reduction of Pigmented Areas  
(after G M Allen)*

During fetal development cells called melanocytes migrate out from the spinal cord to other areas of the body. These melanocytes produce the pigment that colours the dog's coat and skin. Areas where the melanocytes do not reach during and shortly after fetal development remain without pigment, causing areas of white hair and pink skin. The areas most commonly white in dogs are the last areas that are reached by the melanocytes: the chest, tip of the tail, and the toes.

In 1957 Charles Little suggested that most spotting patterns in dogs (other than merle and harlequin) were caused by four different alleles of the S locus with a system of incomplete dominance to explain the range from solid-coloured dogs through partially white spotted dogs, to completely white dogs. These alleles were:

**S** = (solid), the dominant allele, responsible for self-coloured dogs

**s<sup>i</sup>** = (Irish spotting), white undersides, often a white collar, sometimes white facial markings

**s<sup>p</sup>** = (piebald), random white spots on the body of the dog

**s<sup>w</sup>** = (extreme white), dog is almost entirely white, but sometimes with some colour on the head

Little (and all other authors) maintained that solid-coloured was dominant to spotted, with **s<sup>i</sup>** recessive to **S** but dominant to **s<sup>p</sup>** and **s<sup>w</sup>** the most recessive.

In Boxers one homozygote (**S/S**) had virtually no white markings and the other homozygote (**s<sup>w</sup>/s<sup>w</sup>**) was virtually all white. The heterozygote was the "flashy" Boxer with white muzzle and blaze, white collar and undersides. This fitted a co-dominant inheritance pattern. Little referred to this as "pseudo-Irish" markings that looked similar to the Irish spotting pattern but were **S/s<sup>p</sup>** heterozygotes. However he seemed to contradict himself later, suggesting **S**, **s<sup>i</sup>**, and **s<sup>p</sup>** all existed in Boxers.

He also discussed that plus and minus modifiers may explain extreme white as an extreme case of piebald and that on the other hand dogs with minimal white markings on the toes, for example, could still have an **S/S** genotype with minus modifiers.

Little's theories however does not fit that well with new DNA studies. A gene called MITF was the first gene that causes at least some spotting patterns in dogs to be identified and described in 2007. Furthermore potential mutations causing some forms of spotting have been identified in this gene. However, these mutations do not account for all the white patterns found in canines and in some dogs the mutation does not follow the expected

pattern, indicating additional genes at work. MITF is a critical gene in the pigmentation pathway.

Recent studies did in fact suggest that what was thought to be caused by an allele,  $s^w$ , is instead the result of dogs being  $s^P/s^P$  (homozygous piebald). The piebald pattern (at least in the breeds studied) has been found to correspond with a mutation in the MITF gene and is inherited as a recessive to **S**. Dogs that are  $s^P/s^P$  exhibit either a piebald or an extreme white pattern. The piebald pattern typically has some blotches of color on the body, with a solid head and base of the tail. Extreme white may be almost completely white or retain some colour on the head. The extreme white pattern has been known to cause deafness. This is thought to be caused by the lack of pigment in the inner ear and is also seen in some splashed white horses. The differences in expression between piebald and extreme white are most likely the result of white boosting or suppressing genes and are well within the range of expression for known white patterns in other species.

The Irish spotting is a separate mutation and is also recessive to **S**. In some breeds, specifically Boxers, it has been found to have a co-dominant inheritance relationship with  $s^P$ . Meaning that when a dog is  $s^I/s^P$  (flashy) it has more white than it would if it was  $s^I/s^I$  (Irish spotted) but less white than if it was  $s^P/s^P$ . Irish spotting generally takes colour from the legs, chest, and underbelly but does not put white spots on the body. The type of Irish spotting found in Boxers is also a MITF mutation. But some patterns labeled Irish spotting in other breeds appear to be caused by a separate mutation that is likely not located on MITF. It is also possible that other white causing mutations exist, but have yet to be identified.

A study presented by Karlsson on behalf of the Broad Institute and the University in Uppsala, Sweden, focused primarily on Boxers. They have shown that the MITF is the gene causing the solid, flashy, and virtually white forms in Boxers and Bull Terriers. They suggest that two mutations in the promoter region of the MITF form that works in the pigmentation pathway (MITF-M) are necessary for white in these breeds. One of these is called a SINE (short interspersed nucleotide element) and the other is a string of repeated alleles that varies in length in different spotted dogs, which they call a LP (length polymorphism). Their data suggest that the LP is found to be longer in dogs with white markings than in dogs with no white.

All dogs that were homozygous for the SINE had white markings that either covered at least the ventral surface (mantle pattern) or most of the body (piebald or extreme white spotting). In most breeds, dogs heterozygous for the SINE insertion were solid-coloured or had minimal white, such as on the toes, but in some others, heterozygotes had white undersides, often with a white collar in the pattern called pseudo-Irish by Little. However, none of the dogs of breeds in which all individuals have markings known as Irish spotting had the SINE insertion. These breeds are fixed for the Irish spotting pattern of white undersides, a white band around all or most of the neck and a white muzzle and/or blaze. This included Australian Shepherds, Boston Terriers, Caucasian Mountain Dogs, Corgis and Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers.

Although Boxers and eg Boston Terriers may therefore appear to have the same white spotting pattern, the white markings in Boxers are caused by both the SINE and the LP mutations of the MITF gene, while Bostons do not have the SINE insertion.

## SOURCES:

[http://jhered.oxfordjournals.org/content/100/suppl\\_1/S66.full](http://jhered.oxfordjournals.org/content/100/suppl_1/S66.full)  
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## LEXI

In September last year Rescue started looking for a new home for Lexi and Abby, two sisters whose owner had lost her home and had nowhere to go. After a short stay in kennels, they were driven to the airport by Michelle, where they were loaded into their travel crates, (each with a duvet and a blanket)! They were then flown to Johannesburg en route to their new home with Chareen Kriel Swanepoel and her two children in Potchefstroom. Sadly, Lexi died on 2<sup>nd</sup> June this year of tick bite fever contracted while Chareen was away, leaving the dogs in the care of a housesitter.

Chareen wrote the following about Lexi:

*Lexi and her sister Abby were our solace in our emotional recovery from an eleven year abusive marriage. My children Xiandre (10) and Hunnter (8) needed extra love and companionship, to give love and be loved in re-*

*turn - and that is what Lexi gave.*

*She gave so much more than what a human friend could give. She left her imprint very deeply in our family. Wonderful memories, all of laughter and incredible love. She was always around the children, jumping with them on the trampoline (on which she would nap when they were not around), splashing with them in the pool, committing the evil act of kidnapping (and often beheading) one of Xiandre's teddies and insisting that playing ball with her would be much more fun for me, than to hang up the washing.*

*Her passing is still unreal. I still stand at the door calling the three of them for their morning biscuit treats, then realizing that there are only two woofs. Lexi is not here.*

*As an adult I know the world will look upon me with a frown when I say this, but I know she is in doggy heaven, prancing around with a toy or whatever odd thing she can get hold of, being her happy self. We miss you Lexi. Goodbyes are not forever, goodbyes are not the end - they simply mean we will miss you until we meet again.*

## Animal Angels



*"Our Pets are much more than just animals....They become part of our families. A departed family member can stop by once in a while to comfort us, or simply say hello - Perhaps now, as you walk, an invisible shape follows you close by"*

*Submitted by Helen Matthew*



# BOXER RESCUE

Max (2 years old) is exceptionally loving and friendly. He was surrendered to Swartland & West Coast SPCA a seriously ribby boy. For 2 days he found what he thought would be a forever home, but was returned because the new owner could not afford to fence his property. He would be ideal on a farm or as a jogger's buddy. He loves life and wags his tail, wanting to play, with all the other dogs standing in their cages at the SPCA.

If you are prepared to give him a loving home, please contact:

Stephanie

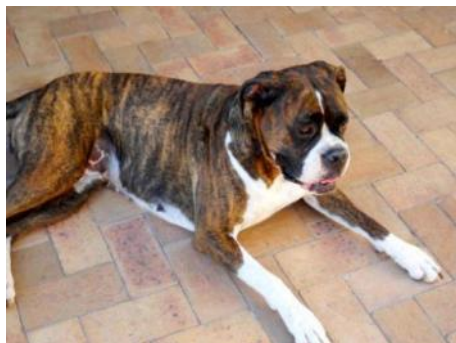
Tel: 022 492 2781 Cell: 082 414 7153



Jessie is 8 years old and has been spayed. She is a well-trained 'house dog' who is accustomed to sleeping indoors. She has a bit of a hip problem but is very loving. She is not micro-chipped and has not been vet-checked or vaccinated for 2 years. Her owners can no longer keep her due to reduced financial circumstances. Please email [sharon.bonthuys@brevityms.co.za](mailto:sharon.bonthuys@brevityms.co.za)

The owners of Roxena are moving to an estate where her habit of chasing other animals means she cannot go with. She is 4,5 years old and will be spayed. She is more used to being indoors than outdoors and is not good with other dogs, although she loves children and is not aggressive to people.

Please contact: Edna 074 138 4426 or [Edna.Duggan@virginmobile.co.za](mailto:Edna.Duggan@virginmobile.co.za)



## BOXER RESCUE

**Michelle Martin 082 738 5926**

**[shampooched@mweb.co.za](mailto:shampooched@mweb.co.za)**