



Labrador Retriever Kennel Club

Forward

It seems we are hurtling our way through 2018, with our first Open Show and AGM out the way, Crufts has come and gone and the field trial season is in full swing, with the LRKC having hosted our annual trial at the end of April. This edition of our Bulletin includes results from our Summer Open Show and the 48th Annual Field Trial of the LRKC. We also announce the winners of the Club's annual awards that were presented at the AGM.

The Kennel Club (UK) has passed certain changes to the Labrador breed standard and we include a write up on these changes and their impact on conformation. The inclusion of bolo pads in the new Standard is a welcome addition for many of our exhibiting members and the story of the namesake for these "white spots", Dual Ch Banchory Bolo, follows in the Bulletin.

Bolo was famously captured in various paintings by well-known artist, Ward Binks. Bolo's owner, Countess Howe, collected many original Binks paintings which represented an array of famous Labradors from various kennels in England in the interwar years. This collection was then preserved virtually in its entirety by another very wealthy lady and Labrador enthusiast in the USA, Mrs Elizabeth Clark. Upon Mrs Clark's death in 2017, the collection moved from her home to the National Sporting Library and Museum for public viewing.

Countess Howe rated Bolo as the best she owned but history credits Bolo's great-grandson, Dual Ch Bramshaw Bob with this honour. Bob won Best in Show at Crufts in both 1932 and 1933. In total, he won thirteen champion show Best in Show awards and was a field trial champion too. We leave you with this photo which is perhaps a lesser known, but absolutely beautiful, painting by Ward Binks of the famous Dual Ch Bramshaw Bob from Mrs Clark's collection¹.



¹. ***For further reading: Dog News Magazine, 2017-12-15, Volume 2, Issue 49, pg's 90,90 and 161; © 2016 Oyster Bay Publications***

Membership

A **warm welcome** to Mrs Hestie Barnard-Gerber who has just joined the Club! *Remember, the best way to introduce yourself, meet fellow Labrador enthusiasts and become part of the LRKC is to attend our events!*

EVENTS TO DIARISE

- **LRKC Second (Winter) Open Show, Saturday 23rd of June 2018 at Goldfields Show Grounds. Judge Mrs Tania Edwards;**
- **WODAC, 20-22nd of July at Gallagher Convention Centre, Midrand. Come and visit us at the Gundog Stand in Hall 4;**
- **51st Championship Show, Saturday the 22nd of September 2018. Judge (and Patron) Mrs Patricia Harrison.**

LRKC 1st OPEN SHOW (SUMMER OPEN SHOW), 10 February 2018, Goldfields Show Grounds



The Club's first breed show of the year was held on Saturday the 10th of February and was judged by Mrs Timmy Ursula Ralfe. Mrs Ralfe is a Senior Best in Show qualified judge and has Level 4 (championship level) licences in four groups, including Hounds, Working, Herding and Gundogs. Mrs Ralfe has also judged in numerous Countries abroad and it was a privilege to have her preside over our event. The show was well attended and it was super to see some new youngsters making their debut on the show scene! A special thank you, as always, to our generous sponsors – Wuma! dog food.

Left: Best Puppy and Best Junior in Show, Mr Kevin Pott's Craginair Black Hawk, pictured with judge Mrs Timmy Ralfe.

Here is a summary of the main winners. For detailed results, please consult the website where you will also find many more photos of the class winners, thanks to our photographer, Renier Jansen van Vuuren.

MAIN RESULTS, LRKC SUMMER OPEN SHOW, 10 FEBRUARY 2018, JUDGE MRS TIMMY U. RALFE		
PLACING	DOG'S NAME	OWNER
JUNIOR SECTION		
Best Junior Dog	Craignair Black Hawk	J Pott
Res Junior Dog	Lethanwood Bare Necessity	A Parker
Best Junior Bitch	Craignair Private Dancer	J Pott
Res Junior Bitch	Lethanwood Mustang Salli	G Alberts
BEST JUNIOR IN SHOW	Craignair Black Hawk	J Pott
Res Best Junior in Show	Lethanwood Bare Necessity	A Parker
Best Baby Puppy	Craignair Special Titan	M van Tonder
Res Baby Puppy	Tapeatom Jack Pot	D Malcolm
BEST PUPPY IN SHOW	Craignair Black Hawk	J Pott
Res Best Puppy in Show	Lethanwood Bare Necessity	A Parker
SENIOR SECTION		
Best Senior Dog	Ch Dolbia Louboutin of Bunnichem (Imp: Poland)	A Jansen van Vuuren
Res Senior Dog	Ch Sumany Just A Star of Tapeatom	G Alberts
Best Senior Bitch	Ch Craignair Picture Perfect	J Pott
Res Senior Bitch	Adamasdor Game of Thrones	R Jansen van Vuuren
BEST SENIOR IN SHOW	Ch Craignair Picture Perfect	J Pott
Res Best Senior in Show	Adamasdor Game of Thrones	R Jansen van Vuuren
SA Bred Challenge	Adamasdor Queen's Gambit	R Jansen van Vuuren
Veteran Challenge	Ch Tapeatom Flight Of Fancy at Craignair	J Pott
OVERALL BEST IN SHOW CHALLENGE		
BEST IN SHOW	Ch Craignair Picture Perfect	J Pott
Res Best in Show	Craignair Black Hawk	J Pott
NEUTER AND VARIETY CHALLENGES		
BEST NEUTER	Ch Ailsacraig White Shuma	B Dumbrill
BRACE CHALLENGE 100	Adamasdor Queen's Gambit / Adamasdor Game of Thrones	R Jansen van Vuuren
BREEDERS CHALLENGE 101	Ch Craignair Picture Perfect	J Pott
PROGENY CHALLENGE 103	Ch Craignair Destined to Be	J Pott
TEAM CHALLENGE 104	Ch Adamasdor Drop of Jupiter, Lethanwood Mustang Salli, Lethanwood Bare Necessity	G Alberts

Best Senior and Best in Show:

Mrs Jane Pott's Int.Ch, Gr.Ch, Ch Craignair Picture Perfect



2018 Annual General Meeting

The Club's 60th AGM was held on the 17th of March at Edgecombe House in Midrand. The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports and the audited financial statements have been loaded on the website. Mrs Jane Pott was once again elected to the position of President of the LRKC. The Meeting also saw the re-election of the following Management Committee members: Alan Kloeck, Thania Rowan and Mercia van Tonder.

Sadly our Chairman, Renier Jansen van Vuuren withdrew his availability for re-election onto the Committee, citing conflicting work commitments as his primary reason. Renier has steered the Club most capably over the past 4 years and it is with regret that we bid him farewell. He did indicate that he could be available for election in time to come, so it is hoped that this is just a temporary adieu. Renier has recently qualified as a Level 3 Provisional Championship Breed Judge in Gundogs and we wish him well as he embarks on what we are confident will be a successful judging career.

We welcome three new faces to the Committee, being Mary Ann Greathead, Carl Bosman and Lesley Bosman. Mary Ann takes over from Genevieve Alberts as the Club's Secretary, whilst Carl and Lesley will be assisting Jane and Mercia with field trials and other Club events. We wish our new Committee members well in the year ahead.

The following table represents a quick reference guide to your Club's **Office Bearers** for 2017:

Mrs Jane Pott jane@tecfin.co.za	LRKC President and FTLC Representative
Mr Dwayne Malcolm dwayne@tecfin.co.za	Chairman & Treasurer
Mr Gerhard van Tonder gerhard.tonders@gmail.com	Vice Chairman
Mr Dwayne Malcolm dwayne@tecfin.co.za	Treasurer
Mary Ann Greathead maryann.g@mweb.co.za	Secretary
Ms Mercia van Tonder kloofzichtlabbies@gmail.co.za	Field Trial Secretary
Mrs Thania Rowan thania@awmining.co.za	Membership Secretary
Carl Bosman (co-opted) carlbosman@gmail.com	
Lesley Bosman (co-opted) lesley.bosman@kpmg.co.za	
Dr Alan Kloeck Alan.kloeck@merck.com	

Please feel free to get in touch with any member of the Committee. They look forward to hearing from you!

The last item on the AGM agenda, the **Annual Awards**, is always the most exciting and here are our fabulous winners for 2017:

The Annual Awards 2017

<u>Victor Ludorum</u> <i>(Top winning male Labrador Retriever)</i>	
Winner: Gr.Ch & Ch Caignair Desert Flyer of Stagmanskop Owner: Mrs D Hacking Points: 158	Runner Up: Potiphar Solo Rio of Stagmanskop Owner: Mrs D Hacking Points: 98
<u>Victrix Ludorum</u> <i>(Top winning female Labrador Retriever)</i>	
Winner: Int.Ch, Gr. Ch & Ch Caignair Picture Perfect Owner: Mrs J Pott Points: 229	Runner-Up: Ch Shork's Woodlark of Inkwa (Imp UK) Owner: Mrs J Bonthuys Points: 39
<u>Supreme Champion</u> <i>(Points scored by Labrador Retrievers with the title of Champion)</i>	
Winner: Int.Ch, Gr. Ch & Ch Caignair Picture Perfect Owner: Mrs J Pott Points: 156	Runner-Up: Gr.Ch & Ch Caignair Desert Flyer of Stagmanskop Owner: Mrs D Hacking Points: 105
<u>Ch Marsta Secret Duke Award</u> <i>(Highest placed Labrador Retriever in Animaltalk top 100 ratings – counting Group and BIS placings)</i>	
Winner: Potiphar Solo Rio of Stagmanskop Owner: Mrs D Hacking Points: 275 (placed 81 on Animaltalk Top 100)	Runner-Up: Int.Ch, Gr. Ch & Ch Caignair Picture Perfect Owner: Mrs J Pott Points: 248 (placed 89 on Animaltalk Top 100)

Ch Balrion Lord of the Manor of Breckondale Trophy*(Labrador Retriever Kennel with the highest number of points scored at the LRKC Open and Championship Shows)*

Winner: Craignair
Owner: Mrs J Pott
Points: 61

Runner-Up: Rowania
Owner: Mrs T Rowan
Points: 30

Best Junior Dog*(Awarded to the male Labrador that scored the most points from Minor Puppy, Puppy and Junior Classes)*

Winner: Craignair Black Hawk
Owner: Mrs J Pott
Points: 47

Runner-Up: Craignair Bold Gryphon at Arondight
Owner: Mr D Malcolm
Points: 37

Best Junior Bitch*(Awarded to the female Labrador that scored the most points from Minor Puppy, Puppy and Junior Classes)*

Winner: Craignair Biyjou
Owner: Mrs J Pott
Points: 148

Runner-Up: Craignair Sweet Caroline at Lethanwood
Owner: Ms G Alberts
Points: 30

Best Veteran Dog*(Awarded to the male Labrador that scored the most points from the Veteran Class)*

Winner: Gr.Ch & Ch Craignair Desert Flyer of Stagmanskop
Owner: Mrs D Hacking
Points: 60

Runner-up: Ch Adelberg Flying Start to Klynroc
Owner: Mr R Ainslie
Points: 8

Best Veteran Bitch*(Awarded to the female Labrador that scored the most points from the Veteran Class)*

Winner: Ch Ailsacraig Crystal Topaz
Owner: Mrs B Dumbrill
Points: 27

Runner-Up: Ch Tapeatom Elegant Lady of Roseryal
Owner: Mrs M Rose
Points: 9



**Photo: Mr Kevin Pott
 presenting Mr Richard
 Hacking of Stagmanskop
 Labradors with the Victor
 Ludorum trophy for Pilot**

Congratulations to the owners and breeders of this year's winners!

Crufts 2018

There were a massive 581 Labradors entered for Crufts this year and judging was nothing short of a marathon, commencing at 08h00 sharp and finishing after 18h00, with no rest for the winner who had to hot foot it over to the Gundog ring in time for group judging!

Dogs were judged by Mr Richard Stafford of Farnfield Labradors and Mr Shaun Williamson of Sharouns Labradors presided over the Bitches. This year was an all yellow affair with Best of Breed going to the young dog Tissalian Hi Jack JW, just 20 months of age, owned and bred by Mrs Christine Bailiss. The Bitch ticket and Best Opposite Sex went to Mrs Marion Hopkinson's Sh Ch Rocheby Sweet



Sensation, who happens to be the litter sister of Crufts 2016 breed winner, Sh Ch Rocheby Sensational. The Rocheby Kennel had a terrific Crufts this year - other than their Bitch CC winner, the Best of Breed winner is sired by Sh Ch Rocheby Hornblower and the Best Puppy winner is sired by Rocheby Old Punch.

The two reserve tickets were awarded to visitors this year, with the dog RCC (and only black in the final line-up) going to the American dog and recent Westminster Kennel Club breed winner, GCHB Lakeside Memoir of Gallivant, and the Bitch RCC being awarded to the Russian beauty RUS/BLR/LT/LAT/FIN Ch Miconti You Are My Princess. Best Puppy was awarded to Mrs Judith Charlton's Classical Act at Foxrush.

Photo of Tissalian Hi Jack by Mrs Fiona Braddon

Annual Field Trial of the LRKC

The Labrador Retriever Kennel Club, hosted its 48th Annual Field Trial Event on the weekend of the 27th April to 1st May 2018. This event was hosted, run and planned by the newly elected Management Committee. The weekend boasted goodwill and camaraderie, a crucial component of a memorable trial.

A special thanks to our Main Sponsors for the event: MSD Animal Health and Wuma! A further note of thanks goes to all our other sponsors: Mike Hunt; Snowpine Kennels (Chris and Michelle Emin); Just Jordi Framing; Thania Rowan; Pets Zooz; and Bush Blinds.

As usual, Val Sports Club was our basecamp for this event and luckily enough it was a warmer than usual weekend, with the various stakes taking place on the Armatage, Reynolds and Kirslake Farms. Our senior judges for the weekends set extremely testing but interesting stakes that pushed each and every handler and dog to their full potential, and the winners of each stake are congratulated for their amazing and well-deserved achievements. The event had 67 entries and 18 dogs received certificates for their efforts with Sue Hill (Photo overleaf) and Dora winning the Open Stake, best Labrador and the Derby trophy for the highest SAHRA points.

I would like to thank each and every competitor for their entries, as well as for their support of our raffle, refreshment sales and the American Auction. Your support of the LRKC is sincerely appreciated and we hope that you had an enjoyable weekend.

The wheels and gears upon which the event runs are the human resources behind the event. Firstly the Field Trial Managers and their Assistants, the Guns and throwers, thank you very much, and then to my fantastic

Committee who pull it all together – it is no easy task to plan and run a Field Trial, and on behalf of the LRKC, I want to thank you for providing your time, knowledge and skill and often significant personal expense to make this event a success.

Dwayne Malcolm

Chairman : LRKC

Photo by Jane Pott

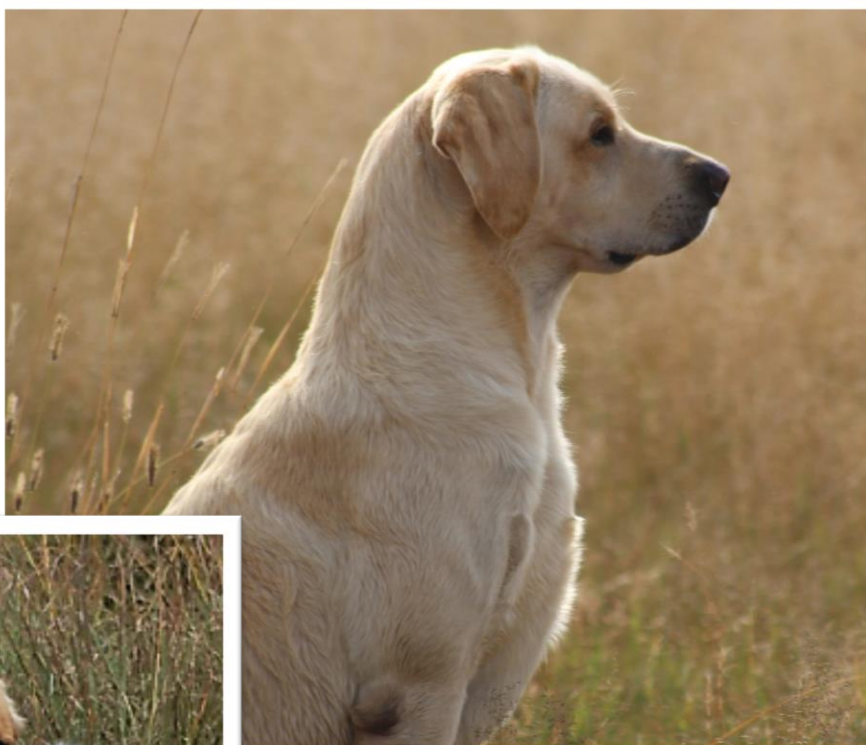


2018 LRKC FIELD TRIAL RESULTS

Stake	Placing	Name	Handler	SAHR Points	Guns Choice
Puppy					
Judges: Noleen Wilson-Taylor (Snr), Lisa Dimech, Mandy Barrett, Margaret Rose (Lnr Judge)					
	1 st	Chardale Jalapeno Twist (Twista)	K Hagger		
	2 nd	Chardale Chilli Bear of Heavenscent (Monty)	H Hallauer		
	3 rd	Chardale Cherrybomb (Kahlo)	E Trollope		Yes
	4 th	Wildwings Ayas Kady (Kady)	A Kloeck		
	COM	Wildwings Diana (Deehana)	K Le Roux		
Junior					
Judges: Noleen Wilson-Taylor (Snr), Lisa Dimech, Mandy Barrett, Margaret Rose (Lnr Judge)					
	1 st	Chardale Chilli Bear of Heavenscent (Monty)	H Hallauer	2.5	
	2 nd	Delescautlegend Harley (Harley)	J Kloeck	2.5	Yes
Maiden					
Judges: Alan Kloeck (Snr), Estene Trollope, Michelle Emin					
	1 st	Chilliwick Alfred (Imp UK) NHR (Alfie)	D Honour	2.5	
	2 nd	Bardale DB's Gift at Roseryal (Nash)	G Loxton	2.5	
	3 rd	Pareora Hat Trick Jonty NHR (Jonty)	S van Rensburg	2.5	Yes
	4 th	Walkabout Jacopone NHR (Baci)	J Daley	2.5	
	COM	Pareora High Five Dixie NHR (Dixie)	JL Smith	2.5	
Novice					
Judges: Mike Hoy (Snr), Enette van Dyk, Mandy Barrett, Margaret Rose (Lnr Judge)					
	COM	Roodehek Orions Diplomat NHR (AB)	P Jordi		Yes
	COM	Gospelash Highlander of Chardale (Imp UK) NHR (Rookie)	C Trollope		
Open					
Judges: Niel Tatham (Snr), Jane Hoar, Paula Jordi, Enette van Dyk, Sharron Brown (Lnr Judge)					
	1 st	Ravenside PandorasPromise of Highpeak FTA WHR (Dora)	S Hill	20.0	
	2 nd	Ravenside Foxy Lady FTA MHR (Foxy)	P Kempin	20.0	
	3 rd	Ch.FT Om'anam Artemis GMHR (Artemis)	K Le Roux	20.0	Yes
	4 th	Trevena Gentleman Jack FTA GMHR (Jack)	G Thomas	20.0	
	COM	Walkabout Intrepid of Tashinga FTA MHR (Major)	D Padbury	20.0	
	COM	Ravenside JustJessi FTA MHR (Jessi)	G Emerton	20.0	
	COM	Zaniri Up and Away to Pareora (Imp Can) WHR (Haley)	JL Smith	20.0	



Left: Winner of the Maiden Stake, Alfie. Below: Second Place in the Maiden Stake, Nash.



Below: Winner of a Certificate of Merit in the Novice stake, AB



Annual Field Trial Awards

The following trophies were awarded at the 48th Annual Field Trials of the LRKC:

The **Vonniejo Field Trial Trophy** for 2017 was awarded to Mr Gareth Thomas's Trevena Gentleman Jack FTA GMHR and Michelle Emin's Ch.FT Ravenside MadamFranki of Snowpine MHR, jointly. Well done Gareth and Michelle!

The **Craignair Breeders Field Trial Trophy** for 2017 was awarded to Walkabout Labradors. Congratulations to Elaine Walker on this achievement!

Amendments to the Labrador Retriever Breed Standard

A Breed Standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function with soundness essential. KUSA is affiliated to and has agreements with a number of dog registering bodies worldwide including FCI and The Kennel Club (UK) and KUSA's policy is to honour the breed standard that prevails in the Country of origin for a particular breed. It stands to reason then that changes to a breed standard in the Country of origin should also be adopted by KUSA.

In January this year, certain changes to the Labrador Retriever breed standard were recommended by the Labrador Retriever Breed Council (UK) and adopted by the The Kennel Club. The LRKC will now embark on a process to have these same changes approved and adopted by the KUSA. The key amendments are highlighted in red as follows and the effect thereof discussed below.

Forequarters

Shoulders long and sloping well laid back, with upper arm of near equal length, placing legs well under body. Forelegs well boned and straight from elbow to ground when viewed from either front or side.

Colour

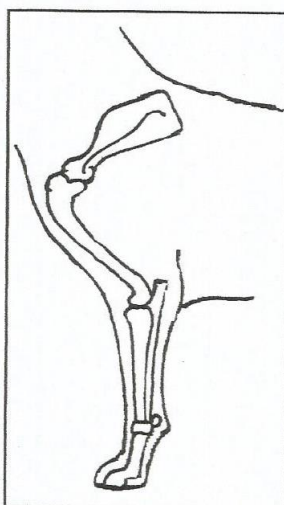
The only correct colours are wholly black, yellow or liver/chocolate. Yellows range from light cream to red fox. Small, white spot on chest and the rear of front pasterns permissible.

Any changes made to the Breed Standard must surely be to ensure that the breed remains fit for function and that its 'ideal characteristics' continue to be upheld. It stands to reason then that the changes above were made with the Breed's best interests at heart.

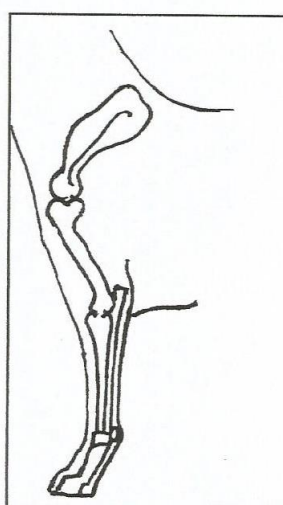
In conversation with members of the Health Sub-Committee of the Breed Council, I am told that the changes made to the description of **forequarters** were mainly to guide breeders away from a creeping tendency towards short, straight upper arms. A short upper arm (humerus) can result in insufficient front angulation which negatively impacts the dog's forward reach and therefore ability to cover ground freely. The Standard now requires that the upper arm be of near equal length to the shoulder (scapula). The amendment is designed to encourage correct front angulation and therefore optimal forward reach. To further illustrate the point, they have also inserted the requirement that legs should be placed well under the body. A dog that is short in upper arm usually also has front legs that are positioned too far forward rather than the elbows being (correctly) in line with the withers when viewed from the side. The point is well illustrated by a series of diagrams in the book entitled "Labrador Retrievers Today", published in 1993 By Mrs Carol Coode of Warringah Labradors, UK:

Mrs Coode remarks in her book that the angle formed between shoulder and upper arm should be about 90 degrees. The correct angulation gives the dog the balance it requires to carry game in the least tiring manner, with most of the weight being borne by the shoulders rather than the mouth and neck.

It is interesting to note that the Breed Council excluded the word **"well"** but this was later added by



Correct.



Incorrect: Too straight and upright.



Incorrect: Good lay, but short, straight upper arm.

the Kennel Club. The reason we highlight this is because the Kennel Club also states that if a feature or quality is desirable it should only be present in the right measure. The risk is always in the interpretation and breeding for a specific feature or quality can lead to exaggeration of that quality if one is not mindful. A member of the Health Sub-Committee warned that, in observing this amendment, we should be careful not to allow the development of exaggerated “duck fronts” or forequarters resembling a Dachshund – desirable in that breed, but not ours!

The changes made to the **colour** characteristics are, in our view, most welcome. Firstly, the word “only” is most likely a reaction to the dangerous trend in favour of “exotic” colours like silver and champagne that is creeping in. You will recall the articles on this subject that were submitted by Gill Ainslie in the 2017 edition



of Lab Lines. Secondly, the word “wholly” refers to the fact that ours is a monochromatic coloured breed, other than two notable and allowable exceptions: Firstly, a small white mark on the chest is allowed and secondly, a small white mark, or **bolo pad**, is now formally permitted on the back of the front pasterns (example left). Bolo pads have been evident on many dogs at least since the early 20th Century and although breed specialists recognise and understand them as an integral part of the history of our breed, some breed judges have been known, through ignorance, to unfairly penalise Labradors with bolo pads – hence this amendment. For more insight into the history of bolo pads, read the article on Dual CH Banchory Bolo below.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate the caveat that a desirable feature or quality should only be present in the right measure, lest it become exaggerated. This point is well articulated by Richard Edwards in his book, *The Show Labrador Retriever in Great Britain and Northern Ireland 1945-1995, Volume One*, where he laments the removal of the comparison with a Flatcoated Retriever when considering the word “broad”:

“...the opening paragraph of the 1916 standard concerning general appearance included the phrase....“Compared with the Wavy or Flatcoated Retriever”. Now while it may not be the most positive way for describing a Labrador, it does give the standard a context, thus the Labrador does not have a wide head but, compared to the Flatcoated, the Labrador’s head is wider, thus the Labrador is wider through the chest and ribs when compared to a Flatcoated. The essence is that the context is vitally important since the present standard has no point of reference and can be used to justify all sorts of exaggerations. A massive headed dog, far away from the needs of the shooting field, can be justified on the grounds that the present standard calls for breadth of skull. There are plenty of other examples.”

The Story of Bolo

(English Dual CH Banchory Bolo 1915-1927 - First Dual Show & Field Champion)



Dual CH Banchory Bolo was the first dog to earn a dual championship by winning both the bench Championship title 'CH' as well as becoming a Field Trial Champion in England. Each of his litters produced either a Field Champion or a Show Champion. Bolo was originally named Caerhowell Bully. The breeder was Sir John Banner and Bolo's parents were CH Scandal of Glynn and Caerhowell Nettle. He was a very noteworthy dog of his time but was almost lost to history due to a bad start in life with some field trainers. He was almost put down in 1918 at the age of not

quite three. The book by Richard Wolters called "The Labrador Retriever History" reports the story by combining information from Lorna Countess Howe's book "The Popular Labrador Retriever" and from Roland John in his book "Dogs You'd Like to Meet". Lady Howe became the third president of the British Lab Club.

The article from Richard Wolters book The Labrador Retriever, The History...The People...Revisited, Dutton Books, 1981, 1992 ISBN 0-525-93360.-3 reads: "In her book, Lady Howe wrote "Whilst I am writing about training and teaching to train I cannot leave out my Dual CH Banchory Bolo. I think it is only fair to such a great Labrador that he should be paid tribute to and be made known as a dog who could train and handle human beings, because through my intimate knowledge and personal devotion to him I certainly learnt more from him than he did from me."

Dual Champion Banchory Bolo became one of the most important dogs of his era. Lady Howe was a staunch believer in the dual purpose dog and her Bolo was the first to achieve this mark.

Bolo came to Lady Howe in 1918, when he was a bit more than two years old. Heartbroken about the loss of her first Labrador, Scandal of Glynn, she had decided to find the only male pup that Scandal had sired. When finally found, he'd been through several trainers and all had given up on him. (Lady Howe said that in human terms "he had a really bad police record.") She was offered the dog for nothing with the proviso that if she did not want him later on, he should be destroyed. In his book, Dogs You'd like to Meet, Roland John, a popular dog writer of the 1930's, picks up the story from there.

Bolo arrives Liverpool Street eleven-five. Lady Howe looked at her watch and saw that there was just time to motor over to the great London railway terminus and meet the dog: the "wild, unmanageable, stupid dog" whom nobody wanted, despite his wonderful pedigree. His first owner had given him away, because he had come back from some trainers of field-dogs with an evil temper which seemed to be hopeless in one who had been bred for sport. He had in consequence been presented as a free gift to one who erroneously thought he could "make something of him." This owner had now offered to give him away again and said that if Lady Howe did not like him she was free to have him destroyed.

And here he was at Liverpool Street Station a Labrador Retriever, a rebel and a failure. On his nose and in his ears were sores; his coat was unkempt, and when he was spoken to, even in a kindly way, he growled in a surly and ill-tempered manner. But for his muzzle it looked as if there might be serious trouble in getting him into the motor-car, with grievous damage to those who touched him. Lady Howe looked at him dubiously. To be sure he was of good birth, but his temper! Should he be sent back, or should she have

him destroyed immediately? A decision had to be made quickly, and Bolo's attitude was not helpful: He did not seem to care whether he lived or died. He looked so miserable and seemed so unhappy that she was inclined to take a risk and try to put a little sunshine into his life. Lady Howe made her decision. She resolved that she would take him down to the Banchory kennels and give him a chance of life and happiness.

Bolo made a bad start in his new home. He always started badly. As soon as he arrived he was taken into a spacious room and the muzzle and chain were taken off him. After a few minutes of liberty he was called, but refused to come. Offers of food did not appeal to him and when an effort was made to catch him he dodged. He seemed to suspect and hate everyone in human form, and it was more than an hour before he could be caught, when he was placed in a kennel. Some days later he was let loose out-of-doors, and again proved ill-tempered and refractory, and for two hours he eluded recapture.

Then something happened which changed the world for Bolo. His physical strength left him and he became seriously ill. No longer was he the rampant, self-sufficient Tartar of the past, but a quiet, helpless dependent, very near to death. During those days he was always gentle and responsive to kindness and as he was nursed back to strength by Lady Howe he became devoted to her. At last he seemed to have found someone whom he could trust; someone who understood him and was ready to accept him for what he was. When he recovered his health he was always at her side, and it seemed possible to hope that his life would henceforth be one of serene peace and unalloyed happiness.

Autumn had now come and the guns were out, so that his mistress took Bolo out with her one day in order to see how he shaped as a sporting dog. There were many things for which he had to thank his forbears. He had inherited a natural love of retrieving, an excellent nose, and a perfect mouth. Bolo had plenty of dash. If it had been a rabbit-shoot he would have been an immensely popular dog, but it was apparent that he needed no little education in the direction of field-work with birds. Hares and rabbits had for him an attraction which was magnetic and dismaying, and he did not seem to understand that his energy and enthusiasm in coursing them was misdirected zeal.

So that it was a question of applying all the arts of training to the making of Bolo. He had the right stuff in him, but a lot of wrong stuff mixed with it needed weeding out. How was it to be done? By beating him? A moment's reflection was enough to show that this was the wrong way, for there were signs that Bolo's nature had been turned sour by chastisement, and, apart from the obvious cruelty of it, there was a danger that he might revert to his former wildness if he were so mishandled. Therefore, the rod was spared and the dog not spoiled.



Everything was going well, he was taking to his training and then it happened on the evening before the field trials took place and caused Bolo to behave like a volcano in eruption. He was always haunted by the

demon of fear, and now he was at its mercy. Not paralyzed into inaction but precipitated into reckless, unreasoning flight from the terror which had almost ruined his life.

The sudden breaking-back to this was caused by a stable-boy, who cracked a heavy whip close to Bolo. What recollections it aroused in the mind of this sensitive dog may well be imagined, for he lost all control over himself and made a lightning dash for the gateway. The gate was closed and was high, with iron spikes at the tip; but Bolo, under the impelling influence of fear, lost all caution and sprang up with a tremendous leap. In a panic he fled.

Countess Howe finished the story in her book. "Finally at midnight I gave up the search for him and went to my room, leaving the front door open. At 5am Bolo came into my room and got into his basket. When I was about to go to my bath an hour later I was horrified to see big splashes of blood on the floor. On examining Bolo I found he had two very deep wounds on his chest, a tear three inches long in his groin and his hind leg and hock torn so badly that the bone was visible. I was urged to have him destroyed but this I could not do. The nearest vet lived eight miles away and there was no telephone, so with the kennel man I put twenty-three stitches into Bolo. He was so good and lay perfectly still until it was all finished."

Once again Bolo became Lady Howe's patient. He seemed to understand that he was safe from harm with her. Field trials were out of the question that year, but the following fall he took a prize in his very first event. Within the next few weeks he accomplished the impossible by winning two first places and becoming a champion. He fared equally well on the show bench and became the first Labrador to earn the title of Dual Champion.

Bolo was not used at stud often because he was the constant companion of Lady Howe, but in every litter he produced either a show or field trial champion. The Field wrote of Bolo: "If ever evidence were needed of the character of a great dog, and of his influence on the generations following him, it was to be found at the Retriever Championship Trial held at Idsworth December, 1932. Out of fourteen dogs that gained prizes eight were descended from Banchory Bolo."

Bolo's ancestry traces directly back to the Malmesbury Kennels at Heron Court through Malmesbury Tramp (1878) and Malmesbury Juno (1878) who whelped Buccleuch's Avon (1885). The line goes directly through Lord Knutsford's Munden Sixty (1897) to the first great field trial champion Peter of Faskally (1908) to Bolo's Sire Scandal of Glynn and then to Dual Champion Banchory Bolo.

Bolo tended to throw a trait of having white hairs on the bottom of the paws which became known as Bolo Pads. You can still find markings on today's Labradors which undoubtedly trace to Bolo. He also is a key dog in tracing the transmission of the recessive chocolate colour gene to today's Labrador Retrievers. Bolo is not unique to just the chocolate Labrador. He was a very notable Lab of his time and much sought after as the first Lab to be both bench and field. Most Labs that can trace their ancestry back far enough are likely to find both Bolo as well as his ancestor Buccleuch Avon.

Reproduced with thanks to Ken and Lori Dollevoet of Lorken Farms, Fremont, USA

Photos and the reproduction of Ward Binks' painting of Bolo from Richard A. Wolters book, The Labrador Retriever: The History. The People. Revisited, published in 1981.



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DOGS AND CHILDREN AT EPWORTH

(A Social Responsibilities Program of Transvaal Midlands Kennel Club)

I don't remember introducing Mirain Dynamo to the children. He was 9 months old when he came to stay with me. It was probably so fraught with trepidation that I have blocked it out! Abused children will often hurt those smaller than themselves in a bid to regain a little of their power and/or as a Negative Attention Seeking ploy. What if the children never bonded, what if they hurt Dynamo?

The first clear memory I have of any of the children and Dynamo was coming around the corner of the house where I worked and finding Siphos* sat with Dynamo. Siphos is HIV Positive and suffered from open sores on his arms and legs. He was pushing Dynamo's head away from him. When I asked him what he was doing his words were "he is licking my sores, Auntie Julie. I don't want him to get sick and die like I'm going to." I pray that you never hear words of dying from a 7-year-old's mouth like I did that day! I

explained that Dynamo has special stuff in his mouth that makes open wounds better. With Dynamo's attention and a tweak in the medication Siphos is receiving, he has not had a sore since. His devotion to Dynamo and the fact that the two of them are known on the village as "The Teddy Bear Killers" has helped this young man through some tough times, the teasing after failing Grade 1 and the fact that he will be going to a Remedial School in 2018 are just two such times.

My children don't all touch or hug regularly or readily, understandable when you think of their backgrounds. This is part of being "Tactile Defensive". One time that amazed us all was when Rossi (Ch Oakglen African Lad of Mirain) came to stay with us. I had told them that he was coming, just not which day. Friday I was working in the reception and had Rossi with me, having left Dynamo at home. When the children started arriving home from school they dashed in to greet "Dynamo". "This isn't Dynamo!" they would state. "How do you know?" I would ask. He doesn't smell the same. He doesn't lick the same. His hair doesn't feel the same. Each one of these statements contradicted the Tactile Defensive "Label" given to the children. The Psychologists I told were gobsmacked. All it had taken was a few months of unconditional acceptance from one small canine. Just think what we will accomplish with two dogs!

On the more practical side, Epworth is always short on funding. If there is any way you can help, please visit our website below. When they aren't dishing out unconditional love at Epworth, Rossi and Zhunan (Ch Berrakaw Golden Zhunan) can also be seen in the show ring at Goldfields, Johannesburg.

JULIE BLACKBURN

Resource Centre Coordinator

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E Mail

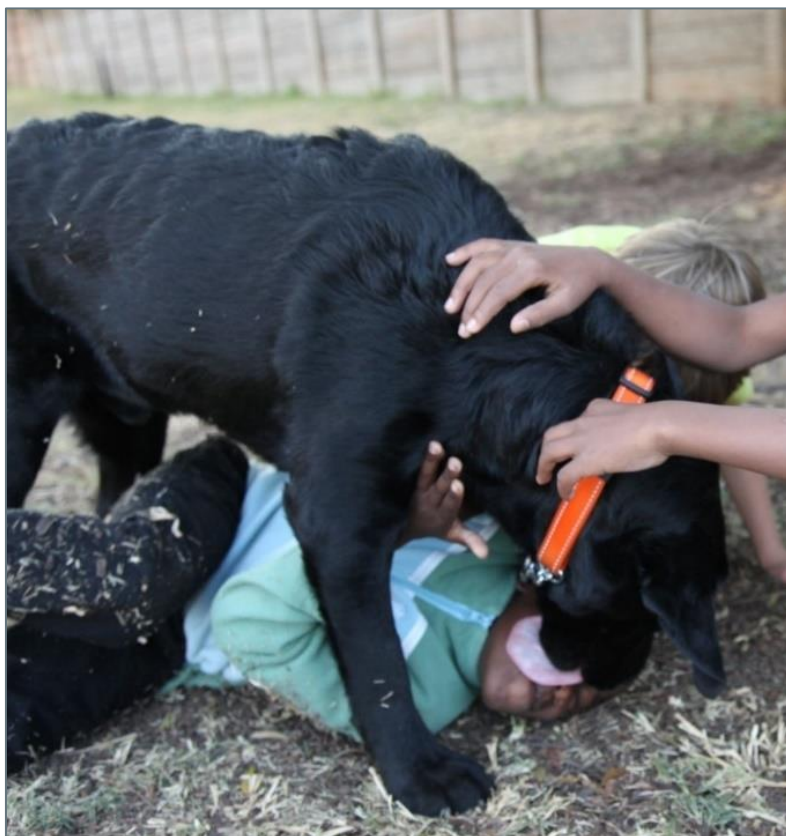
resourcecentre@epworthvillage.org.za

Further information about Epworth can be found on our website:

www.epworthvillage.org.za.

***Sipho is not his real name. As these children are Wards of the Court, they are entitled to protection of their privacy.**

Thanks to Mirain Kennels for all the assistance received.



Labrador Rescue

Sharon, Ricki, Ruth, Jane and Marion continue to do sterling work finding forever homes for our Labradors that require re-homing due to people's changing circumstances or sadly, due to neglect. Although people give generously to this cause, the coffers do have a limitation as some people are not in a financial position to assist with the true costs of this operation and in times such as these, we have to rely on donations from members and the general public. We therefore make a plea to all our members to dig deep into their pockets to assist this worthy cause.

Banking details: Labrador Rescue SA, Standard Bank, Rivonia Branch, Branch Code 00-12-55, Account number 22 00 26 610

Reference: YOURNAME/DONATION

Over and above financial assistance, if there is any other assistance that you could offer these wonderful Ladies, please do get in touch with them on their Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/messages/#!/pages/Labrador-Golden-Retriever-Rescue/272787116094225>

Website: <http://www.labrescue.co.za/>

Bulletin written and compiled by Genevieve Alberts