

***WARNING – GRAPHIC IMAGES***  
***CWU "Bite-Back" Campaign***  
***Children & People***  
***Injured & Killed in***  
***Dog Attacks***

***Including Sections on Children, Adults, Postal Workers, Police and Guide Dogs.***



***"How many more children must be killed and injured by dogs before effective laws come into force?" - heartbroken mum Veronica Lynch. Mother of Kelly Lynch who was killed by dogs in 1989***

***Compiled by Dave Joyce***  
***CWU National Health & Safety Officer***

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# **Introduction**

## **DDA 1991 - History and Origin**

In 1989 an 11 year old girl, Kelly Lynch, was killed by two Rottweiler's in Scotland (See Section 2). Over the following few years a series of high profile attacks on members of the public followed by dogs alleged to be American Pit Bull Terriers. The cases of 6 year-old Rukshana Khan from Bradford and Frank Tempest from Lincoln, both of whom sustained horrific injuries in the spring of 1991 galvanised opinion that something needed to be done. The response of John Major's Government was to direct the Home Secretary, Kenneth Baker, to draft the Dangerous Dogs Act. The Dangerous Dogs Act (DDA) 1991 became law on 24 July 1991.

## **DDA 1991 - How Effective?**

How effective has the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 been? - The CWU and many others believe it is one of the worst pieces of legislation to find its way onto the statute books! It certainly provides insufficient protection for the public, for Postal workers, BT and others workers and children and it has disappointed victims when they realise what the police can effectively achieve!

Directly as a result of the CWU's 'Bite-Back' Campaign, new legislation has been passed in terms of the Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Dogs (Amendment) Act Northern Ireland 2011. In 2012 the Wales Government announced the intention to Legislate on Dangerous Dogs and published the Control of Dogs (Wales) Bill for public consultation which closes on 1 March 2013. In February 2013 Defra announced the intention to change England's Dangerous Dogs Laws but without a timetable for the introduction of the changes. For now therefore the Dangerous Dogs Laws in England and Wales remains unchanged.

The Communication Workers Union (CWU) through the high profile "Bite-Back" Campaign have been instrumental in lobbying intensively for new Dangerous Dogs Laws across the UK. The CWU with the solid support of a diverse range of organisations and stake holders, including Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), Police Federation, National Dog Wardens Association (NWDA) the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Dogs Trust, Kennel Club, Blue Cross, PDSA, Battersea Cats & Dogs Home, Guide Dogs for the Blind, British Veterinary Association and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons plus many other animal welfare charities, trade unions, professional bodies, Vets, Nurses, employers like Royal Mail and BT and others have been seeking and pressing for new revised, consolidated, effective legislation to replace the current ineffective, piecemeal situation plus better enforcement and enforcement resources.

During the 2010 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) consultation on dangerous dogs (4,500 responses), 78 per cent of respondents supported the consolidation of the legislation into one new Act. 84% supported compulsory microchipping, 97% of Key Stakeholders supported extending the Law to include Private Land but only 37% of the public supported the change.

During the 2012 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) consultation on dangerous dogs (27,000 responses), Overall support for compulsory microchipping increased to 96%. Extension of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 to cover all places, including private was supported by 93% of key stakeholders and increased to 70% of the public.

## **Breed Ban a failure! - Dangerous Dogs Act 1991**

The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, banned 4 breeds of dog and created a new offence of being an owner of a dog of any type or breed which is dangerously out of control in a public place. Out of control dogs can be seized by police or local authority officers and the owners face a fine or up to six months in prison. If the dog injures someone, the sentence can be increased to up to two years. The courts also have the power to destroy the animal if they feel it is a danger to public safety. Alternatively male dogs can be neutered. A conviction also means the owner could have to pay for the costs of destroying their dog and could be disqualified from keeping a dog. In addition to any criminal prosecution, victims can take out civil action against the owner for damages to themselves or property. Singling out 4 breeds however was the first big mistake in the 1991 Act and although the rest may sound good on the face of it - in reality however, the situation has worsened dramatically, dog attacks have increased year on year, with 250,000 people attacked and bitten by dogs in the UK every year. There are also now more Pit Bull Terriers in the UK today

than before they were banned in 1991. To single out just four breeds as the problem was totally wrong. Any dog can be aggressive in the hands of a bad owner through lack of good control, care, welfare, training and socialisation. Postal Workers are attacked by all different breeds and cross breeds. It is the 'deed and not the breed' that the law needs to focus on and primarily irresponsible owners that the law needs to centre its attention on.

### **Private Places and Criminal Law**

The lack of enforcement powers in private places is a huge gap in the present Law covering England and Wales. The new Laws in Scotland and Northern Ireland have closed that loophole. The current Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 legislation restricts the offence of having a dog dangerously out of control to Public places and Places where the dog has not got the owner's permission to be which means that on private property there is no protection what so ever provided to victims by the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and irresponsible owners are immune from Criminal Offence prosecutions!

The fact that the DDA does not apply on private property is irrational because no matter how irresponsible the dog owner, they can only be prosecuted if the attack happens on public land. This is particularly difficult for Postal workers who are legally obliged to deliver mail to every home in the country, as well as BT workers, midwives, district nurses, care workers, and other utility workers (refuge collectors, gas, water, electricity workers) and public servants generally.

### **Dogs Act 1871 and Private Places**

Although the 1871 Dogs Act applies on Private land - there is little or no protection offered by this outdated Act which merely allows the laying of a civil complaint before a Magistrate and does not hold the owner of the dog criminally accountable. The 1871 Dogs Act is not part of criminal law and there are no criminal sanctions. It only creates civil offences. The law acts against the Dog and not the owner so simply getting rid of the dog stops the action and the irresponsible owner can obtain as many other aggressive dogs as he/she likes. Ownership denials are easy with dogs moved around and so on. The Act is 'Summary Only' and can't go to the Crown Court. No compensation orders can be given (separate Personal Injury claim has to be pursued). No Fines, no prison or community service orders can be imposed. There's no power of seizure until the case has ended and the dog can remain with the irresponsible owner biting as many Postal Workers and children as it likes in the mean time.

Whilst householders should be able to defend their homes by using their dogs to protect against burglars and unlawful trespassers, the law in England and Wales must be changed to ensure that people, such as Postal Workers and children who are lawfully on private property are protected. By extending legislation in private property the police will be able to far more effectively protect the public, Postal Workers, children and workers in general. Any new law would ensure no protection for criminals.

### **Prosecutions, Penalties and Sentencing**

The number of convictions for dangerous dogs offences remains very low with official figures showing that although there has been a rise in recent years only 1,192 people were sentenced for dangerous dog offences, cases in 2010.

According to records held by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), over the first decade of the law's existence only 838 people were prosecuted and of those only 489 sentenced since 1991. In its first decade of operation between 1991 and 2002 the average fine was only £167. Only two people received suspended prison sentences and only three people were jailed with the average jail term just 3.3 months.

Between 2005 and 2011, there was a marked increase in the number of dog attacks and during this period 7 children and 5 adults were killed in UK dog attacks. Convicted adults, increased by 51 per cent from 170 in 2006 to 247 in 2010 but against the number of dog attacks the number of prosecutions remain extremely low and so do the penalties handed down in those cases reaching the courts. The proportion resulting in community sentences, Suspended Sentence Orders and immediate custody has risen - but the overall numbers remain low. In 2010, the most frequent sentence outcome was a fine, with 38 per cent of adults sentenced being fined. Conditional discharges were received by 30 per cent of adults sentenced for offences of this kind, whilst community sentences were imposed for 14 per cent of adults sentenced. In 2010. For adults sentenced to immediate custody, the average custodial sentence length imposed was just 3.2 months and for adults sentenced to a fine, the average amount

imposed was just £225. 72 per cent, of fines imposed were for £200 or less. The largest fine amount imposed was £2500.

As part of the CWU "Bite Back" campaign, the CWU pointed out strongly to the government there had never been any guidance to Courts, Magistrates and Judges on sentencing for dangerous dog related crime in the two decades since the introduction of the 1991 Dangerous Dogs Act, and presented evidence that because of the lack of guidance, this was leading to inconsistent and inadequate sentences. The Government Ministers accepted this and asked the Sentencing Council to issue guidance.

### **2012 New Sentencing Council Guideline**

The Sentencing Council definitive guideline were published both in a Crown Court version and Magistrates Court version and came into force on 20 August 2012. In a statement the Sentencing Council said that from 20 August 2012, courts in England and Wales will be adopting a tougher approach to the way those convicted of dangerous dog offences are treated as the new sentencing guideline comes into effect. With increasing numbers of convictions for offences involving dangerous dogs in recent years, the guideline will ensure courts use their full powers when dealing with offenders and encourage consistency in sentencing and appropriate sentences for owners of dangerous dogs. The sentencing ranges set out by the guideline mark an increase in sentencing levels from previous practice. The top of the sentencing range for owners allowing their dog to be dangerously out of control injuring someone has been set at 18 months' custody in order to encourage the courts to use more severe sentences when it would be appropriate to do so. Top of the sentencing range for possession of a prohibited dog has been set at the legal maximum of six months' custody to encourage courts to use the full range of their sentencing powers for the most serious cases. It means more offenders will face jail sentences, more will get community orders and fewer will receive discharges. The guideline will also help courts make the best use of their powers so that irresponsible owners who put the public at risk can be banned from keeping dogs, genuinely dangerous dogs can be put down and compensation can be paid to victims. The guideline covers six dangerous dog offences in the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991:

- owner or person in charge of a dog dangerously out of control in a public place, injuring any person;
- owner or person in charge allowing a dog to be in a private place where the dog is not permitted to be, injuring any person;
- owner or person in charge of a dog dangerously out of control in a public place;
- owner or person in charge allowing a dog to be in a private place where the dog not permitted to be which makes a person fear injury;
- possession of a prohibited dog (these are the Pit Bull Terrier, Japanese Tosa, Dogo Argentino and Fila Brasileiro); and
- breeding, selling, exchanging or advertising a prohibited dog.

### **Postal Workers:**

Many of those injured by Dogs include people who in the course of their work visit people's homes, such as nurses, midwives, care workers, council officials, utilities employees and others who provide support and especially Postal Workers. The Communications Workers Union (CWU) through the "Bite-Back" Campaign, has campaigned relentlessly on this issue. The Campaign was launched when in 2007-2008 the number of Dog Attacks on Postal Workers had peaked at 6,500 incidents with two Postmen (Sheffield and Cambridge) nearly killed in attacks. Around 70 per cent of the dog attacks on Postal workers occur on private property where there is no redress through the criminal justice system as the 1991 Dangerous Dogs Act does apply on private property. The injuries range from scratches and bites to the amputation of fingers, lacerations, broken bones, muscle, ligament and tendon damage as well as serious infections.

We need the Westminster government to follow the Scottish and Northern Ireland government's lead by extending the law to include private property and dog owner's homes so closing the loop hole which gives immunity to irresponsible owners from criminal prosecution when Postal Workers are attacked and injured on private land and premises. The Wales government will introduce a Dogs Control (Wales) Bill in 2013 following public consultation. New revised Dog Control Laws across the UK are needed without further delay because:-

- **23,000 Postmen and Women have been attacked By Dogs in last 5 years 2008-2012.**
- **4000 - 5000 Postmen and Women attacked by dogs every year.**
- **12 Postmen and Women are Attacked every day on average.**
- **2 Postmen were nearly killed in 2007 and 2008.**
- **2008 Dog attacks peaked at 6,500**
- **2008 CWU launched the 'Bite-Back' Campaign to change the UK's Dangerous Dogs Laws.**

#### **Status Dogs:**

The growth in the use of 'status' dogs by gang members as a weapon, to intimidate individuals and the community is also a concern. This is linked to gang culture, dog fighting and other illegal activities. The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) reported a rise in the number of dangerous dogs seized and have set up a Status Dog Unit to specifically address the issue. The figures tell their own story. The MPS Unit is seizing over 100 animals annually at a cost of nearly £3 million.

#### **Slow and expensive justice is the conclusion:**

In respect the current complex legislative framework with slow progression of court cases resulting in increasing costs to police forces at a time when they can least afford it. The current "Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) means police are required by the legislation to seize dogs without the appropriate discretion to assess the threat the animal poses. This can result in substantial kennelling costs to many forces with the Met for example spending nearly £3 million a year. This impacts on police budgets but also on the ability to enforce the law and on dogs welfare.

#### **Cost of Irresponsible Dog Ownership**

The RSPCA published a review in August 2010 which estimated that the cost to the taxpayer for irresponsible dog ownership was around £77 million per annum.

#### **The lack of a Preventative legal measures:**

The current legislative framework has no effective preventative measures. What is needed is a preventative approach which gives rise to early intervention when there is concern. The current legislation requires an incident or dog attack to take place before police or dog wardens can act. Many of these incidents are serious dog bite incidents that may well have been avoided if police or local authorities dog wardens had powers to act when initial concerns were raised. A New "Dog Control Notices" system is supported by the Communication Workers Union (CWU), Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), Police Federation, National Dog Wardens Association (NWDA) the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Dogs Trust, Kennel Club, Blue Cross, PDSA, Battersea Cats & Dogs Home, Guide Dogs for the Blind, British Veterinary Association and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons plus many other animal welfare charities, trade unions, professional bodies, Vets, Nurses, employers and others etc and would enable an officer or dog warden to impose a wide variety of legally enforced sanctions or controls on individual owners or keepers of dogs who they believe are acting in an irresponsible manner with their dogs - this being in line with CWU's 'Bite-Back' campaign along with the extension of the law to private property. Scotland and Northern Ireland governments have introduced Dog Control Notices. The Wales government intend to do the same. England does not as yet intend to introduce them?

#### **Conclusions:**

The public and animals are not being adequately protected and New legislation is needed to ensure effective protection and to ensure all the right tools are provided for enforcement bodies so that they can take action at an earlier stage to prevent serious incidents and injuries from occurring and potentially save public money. The onus should be put back on dog owners to be more responsible. This issue causes concern in communities and the life changing injuries being sustained result in the public having a lack of confidence that the problem is being effectively controlled.

#### **The way forward:**

The case is made out for an improved legislative framework to improve public protection, give enforcers power in private places, provide a set of effective preventative tools to allow early intervention and resolution, have a quick and cost effective process in the criminal justice system, improved animal welfare provisions coupled with an

effective education and engagement process and a clear means of identifying dangerous dogs. With so many organisations in agreement on the need for action the Government needs to seize the opportunity and work through the detailed proposals that have been put forward to significantly improve the situation in our communities.

Recent articles and statement of the position of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and Police Federation sends powerful messages to the Government, fully supporting the CWU's 'Bite-Back' Campaign objectives. Let's hope the government take notice of it! The Communication Workers Union (CWU) will continue its work with ACPO and the Police Federation along with Dog Wardens, Animal Charities, Vets, Local Authorities, Trade Unions, Employers, and other organisations in our the 'Bite-Back Campaign and the 'Campaign Coalition' and 'Microchipping Alliance' with other supporting organisations such as the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), Police Federation, National Dog Wardens Association (NWDA) the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Dogs Trust, Kennel Club, Blue Cross, PDSA, Battersea Cats & Dogs Home, Guide Dogs for the Blind, British Veterinary Association and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons plus many other animal welfare charities, trade unions, professional bodies, Vets, Nurses, employers and others, Lawyers, Local Authorities, GLA, International Institute of Risk and Safety Management and employers Royal Mail, BT and others.

#### **Bite-Back Campaign Achievements:**

- **Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010**
- **Dogs (Amendment) Act (Northern-Ireland) 2011**
- **Control of Dogs (Wales) Bill (Published 212)**  
Public consultation was concluded on 31 March 2013 To be . Introduced 2013 - date awaited.
- **Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill (Published 6 April 2013 - to extend to England and Wales if Welsh Government decide not to proceed with separate Legislation)**  
**Defra Ministerial announcement on 6 Feb 2013 was followed by the publication of a "draft" bill on 6 April 2013** - The Government to make the following changes. The laws on dog attacks will be extended to cover private property, closing the loophole which has meant that dog owners whose animals have attacked people on private property are immune from prosecution. Bringing in compulsory microchipping for all dogs from 6 April 2016. Police to be given new dog seizure powers and discretion where court action is pending.
- **New sentencing guideline for dangerous dog offences - 20 August 2012**
- **Langley Inquiry (November 2012)** - Recommendations adopted by Royal Mail Group (a) Royal Mail to act robustly in suspending delivery where there is evidence of a perceived risk to the safety of postal workers from a dog or dogs where the matter is not or cannot be quickly resolved by agreement. (b) Royal Mail to privately prosecute dog owners following attacks under the 1871 Act for so long as the criminal law remains unamended and (c) Royal Mail, CWU and others to continue to keep the issue in the public eye and pressure the Government and Defra to act.

## ***Dave Joyce CWU National Health & Safety Officer & Leader of the CWU 'Bite-Back' Campaign***

***[Acknowledgement: Thanks to Gareth Pritchard, Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) lead on dangerous dogs for his input and support on the above]***

## **USA Dog Attack Statistics 2011**

There are around 78 million dogs in the US, and every year 5 million people in the US get attacked and bitten by dogs and there are 32 fatal dog attacks each year. 900,000 of those bitten require medical attention. Nearly 400,000 of those people are seriously injured by dogs. Over 31,000 people underwent reconstructive surgery in 2006 due to dog attacks. People are most often harmed by dogs that they live with. As the number of dogs kept in the home increases, so does the risk of dog bites. Adults living with two or more dogs are five times more likely to be bitten by a dog than those without dogs at home. Adult males are more likely to be bitten by a dog than adult females. Some studies have found that, among all ages of children, the rate of dog bite accidents is highest for those between the ages of 5-9. Children are more likely than adults to require medical attention for their dog bite injuries.

In the US, the most frequent victims of dog bite attacks are:

- Children
- The Elderly
- Postal Workers

Dog bite victims account for as much as 5% of all emergency unit visits in the United States.

Twelve of the fatal dog attacks involved more than one dog, and two of the attacks involved tethered dogs.

Family dogs made up 65% of the fatal attacks.

Nearly three-quarters (74%) of the attacks occurred on the dog owner's property.

Pit Bulls accounted for 71% of the attacks. However, Pit Bulls make up less than 5% of the total U.S. dog population.

There were more than twice as many adult fatal dog bite victims as child victims in 2011. Still, seven children ages 5 and younger died after being attacked by a Pit Bull. Seven Pit Bulls killed their primary caretaker or owner.

Rottweilers were the second-most lethal dog breed. Four people were killed by this type of dog in 2011.

Between the years of 2005 and 2011, Pit Bulls killed about one person every 20 days. Rottweilers killed about one person every 88 days.

The six types of dogs commonly identified as the most dangerous or vicious dog breeds are Akitas, Chow-Chows, Doberman Pinschers, Pit Bulls, Rottweilers, and Wolf-Dog Hybrids.

Another study looked at a selection of 88 dog attacks from 2006-2008 in the United States, with results ranging from recoverable injuries to death. Of those incidents, it was found that:

- Pit Bulls, Rottweilers, and American Bulldogs were responsible for 77% of all deaths.
- Pit Bulls were responsible for 59% of all deaths.
- Pit Bulls killed more adults than children.

## **Bite - Back Campaign Objectives**

- New UK wide consolidated and strengthened Dog Control Laws, that prevents dog attacks on Postal Workers, Telecom Workers, other workers, children and the public,
- Dog Control Laws to apply everywhere including private property,
- The introduction of new preventative Dog Control Notices (DCNs) to be issued by Dog Wardens and Police Officers,
- Compulsory Microchipping and/or Licensing of all dogs,
- Compulsory Third Party Insurance cover for dogs or better compensation arrangements for those injured in dog attacks,
- Greater, resources and powers for better enforcement of dog control Law by the Police and Local Authorities Dog Wardens,
- Harsher sentences by the Courts for offending dangerous dog owners,
- Better information, education and training for dog owners,
- Raising public awareness of the serious problem in order to generate support and compliance.
- Funding for Dog Legislation Police Officers for UK's 53 Territorial Police Forces

## **Bite-Back Campaign - Further Information**

*For more information, see the CWU's "[Bite Back Campaign](http://www.cwu.org/dangerous-dogs-bite-back.html)" Web Site pages at:*

*<http://www.cwu.org/dangerous-dogs-bite-back.html>*

## **What's Needed - RSPCA**

RSPCA boss Gavin Grant was there when the Government drafted the disastrous Dangerous Dogs Act more than 20 years ago. RSPCA said then that it would not work but they did not listen. This Government is asking what should happen. It's our best chance to get it right. The RSPCA, along with CWU, police and dog wardens, have put a clear plan before David Cameron and Nick Clegg on what needs to be done. Make every dog owner accountable for their actions. Microchip every dog. Have one national registration system, like we have for cars and TVs. Cut the fees for working dogs and all those that are neutered. That tends to make them less aggressive and will help cut the vast numbers of unwanted dogs. Make sure the

law applies to private property, such as homes and gardens. Make every owner keep their dog's details updated on the register. That makes it easier to match dogs with owners and to get back your lost pet. The registration fees and fines will pay for everything, from strays to fouling to dangerous dogs.

Next, prevent cruelty and attacks by giving the police and dog wardens power to issue warnings when people aren't doing the right things for and with their dogs. All of us who rescue or work with dogs are signed up to this plan and it's great to have The Sun joining us in standing up and saying let's deal with irresponsible and criminal dog owners.

[Acknowledgement: With thanks GAVIN GRANT, Chief Executive of the RSPCA]

## **Key facts and figures**

- There are approximately 8-10 million dogs in UK.
- In England in 2008/09, there were over 6,000 hospital admissions resulting from being bitten or struck by a dog. However this excludes many thousands of more people treated in GP surgeries, minor injury units (MIU) or accident and emergency (A&E) departments, without being admitted to hospital as an inpatient - no records are kept of these..
- Dog attacks are now costing the National Health Service a mammoth £9.5 million a year.
- Estimate of 6,000 dog attacks on postmen/women each year.
- The number of dogs dangerously out of control continues to increase.
- Police, local authorities and animal welfare groups work together in a few areas to promote responsible dog ownership on a voluntary basis.
- 10 Children and 6 Adults have been killed in dog attacks since - 15 (9 & 6) since 2005.
- Hundreds of children have been attacks and received life changing injuries and disfigurement during the same period.
- Enforcement action and the number of prosecutions remain low.
- Court penalties remain low.

## **Those Killed in Dog Attacks in the UK - Total 16**

(See Section 2 of this Report)

### **Children Killed (10):**

26.03.13 Jade Lomas-Anderson (F), 14 years, Wigan - 2 Bull Mastiffs and 2 Staffordshire Bull Terriers.

20.11.12 Harry Harper (M), 8 days, Ketley - Jack Russell

17.04.10 Zumer Ahmed (F), 18-months, Crawley, American Bulldog

30.11.09 John-Paul Massey (M), 4 years, Liverpool, Pit Bull Terrier type

07.02.09 Jaden Mack (M), 3 months, South Wales, Staffordshire Bull Terrier & Jack Russell

28.12.07 Archie-Lee Hirst (M), 1 year, Wakefield, Rottweiler

01.01.07 Ellie Lawrenson (F), 5 years, St Hellens, Pit Bull Terrier type

23.09.06 Cadey-Lee Deacon (F), 5 months, Leicester, 2 Rottweilers

11.07.05 Liam Eames (M) 1 year, Leeds, American bulldog

20.12.89 Kelly Lynch (F) 11 years, Scotland, 2 Rottweilers

### **Adults killed (6):**

30.10.12 Gloria Knowles, (F), 71, Morden, London - 2 French Mastiffs, 2 American bulldogs and a mongrel

23.01.12 Leslie Trotman (M), 83, Brentford, London, Pit Bull Terrier

23.12.10 Barbara Williams (F), 52, Wallington, Surrey, Belgian Mastiff

01.05.09 Andrew Walker (M), 21, Blackpool, 2 Alsations

20.01.09 Stephen Hudspeth (M) 33, Bishop Auckland, Staffordshire Bull Terrier

27.01.08 James Redhill (M), 78, Plaistow, London, Rottweiler

## ***Section 1 - Dog Attacks on Children - Some of the Publicised Cases***

# **Mum calls for tougher dog laws**

### **No Prosecution because dog attack was on private property**

10th February 2012



#### **Savaged- Five-year-old daughter Millie-Jo Wyeth almost lost the sight in her eye**

A MUM whose five-year-old daughter was scarred for life by a relative's dog has welcomed Government microchipping plans – but wants the law to go further. Belinda Wyeth's daughter Millie-Jo Baker, now six, was attacked and savaged by her great aunt and uncle's Border Collie in their Bicester home last year on 19 August 2011. Five-year-old Millie-Jo had a piece of flesh the size of a golf ball ripped from her cheek and her ear almost torn off. She spent three-and-a-half hours in surgery and her injuries were so extensive it took two surgeons to reconstruct her face, save the sight in her eye and re-attach her ear. Doctors said if the bites had been any higher she would have lost her sight — and any lower and she would have lost her life." Millie-Jo has been left scarred for life and over the next few years will have to have more reconstructive surgery. Mother Belinda and her partner Neil Baker were on a rare weekend away and trusted relatives were looking after Millie-Jo and her 11-year-old brother at their home in Oxfordshire when they got a call saying Millie-Jo had been "nipped" by their border collie and said paramedics were taking Millie-Jo to hospital. At the hospital Millie-Jo's nightie was covered in blood and as a doctor peeled back the bandage covering her face, Belinda saw the full horror of what had happened. She says: "I stood outside in total shock. It broke my heart to see her perfect little face like that." It was six months before Millie-Jo could remember what had happened to her that terrible day. She told her mum she had been trying to tuck a toy into the dog's collar when it had gone for her. Belinda has since learned that, under the Dangerous Dogs Act, the animal would have to be a banned breed, or out of control in a public place, for a criminal offence to have been committed. Belinda said "Dangerous Dogs law should be in place to make owners accountable and police need to be more aware of where dangerous dogs are and there needs to be more information for owners to understand how to make their dog safe. I think the Government's microchipping plans are a step in the right direction. We couldn't do anything to stop Millie-Jo's attack but I want to turn what happened into something positive. When she is older I want to show her we fought to have the law changed, that something good came out of what happened to her." Miss Wyeth, 29, backed the new microchipping plan, adding: "This way it will be easier to trace the owner of a dangerous dog and hold them responsible but police should have the power to seize a dog and have it put to sleep if it hurts someone, regardless of where the attack happened. It is happening too much, people clearly aren't taking responsibility for their own dogs. My daughter is very lucky because she survived. **The police could not prosecute because the attack was on private property.**" **The dog now lives with another relative in Bicester.**

# **Toddler's terror: Neighbour's dog tears off ear and nose of boy, 2**

**No-one will face charges over toddler attack as it was on private property**

5 June 2012

**Keiron Guess was savaged by Staffordshire bull terrier while playing near his Swindon home. He suffered horrific eye and head injuries when mauled by a neighbour's dog and was lucky to survive after needing hours of surgery to rebuild his face. The Dog's 15-year-old owner Shovell King said 'I couldn't give a toss' !**



**Little miracle: Keiron Guess recovering from the attack at home with his mother Stacey**

A toddler underwent seven hours of reconstructive surgery after his nose and left ear were ripped off and an eye was left hanging out by a neighbour's dog. Keiron Guess, two, also suffered horrific eye and head injuries when he was mauled by a neighbour's vicious Staffordshire bull terrier. He had injuries from his forehead and chin and there were holes in his face. The toddler was given a 50/50 chance of surviving the savaging. His granddad Dave Guess, 49, heard the boy screaming and was bitten on his arms and hands as he helped rescue Keiron and undoubtedly saved his life. The boy was put into an induced coma as he recovered. The attack happened when Keiron wandered into a neighbour's garden. Distressed parents Anthony Guess, 23, Stacey Drury, 22, kept vigil at his hospital bed. Surgeons reconstructed his face and ear but it's not yet known how his eyes will be affected. He has scars all across his face. He was also bitten across the legs and he had to breathe with the aid of a ventilator whilst recovering. The boy, from Swindon, Wilts, was savaged on Sunday 3rd June at 6pm. The dog was owned by a 15-year-old neighbour Shovell King who's father Gary King heard squeaking and went outside to see blood everywhere. He helped separate the dog from the baby, holding him above his head until Keiron's family arrived. A Police Officer was bitten by a dog at Gary King's home last year on a drugs raid at the property. No further action was taken. After the attack on Keiron, the dog was handed to police by its owner and destroyed. Dog owners Garfield King and Shovell King cannot be prosecuted under the Dangerous Dogs Act because the attack took place in a private garden, rather than on a public street. Keiron's parents have called for action to close this 'loophole' in the Dangerous Dogs Act. **Unlike in Scotland or Northern Ireland, the law in England allows 'devil dog' owners to escape prosecution in cases such as this because the attack was on private property.**

# ***Girl, 13, savaged by German shepherd puppy which left her needing 50 stitches***

13th December 2011

A teenage girl was savagely attacked by her own German Shepherd after the dog 'suddenly flipped', tearing off part of her face. **Iona Manson** from Birmingham, needed two hours of facial reconstruction surgery and more than 50 stitches after the mauling, which tore a chunk out of her nose. The 13-year-old, who had raised the dog (Fidden) from a pup, is mystified why her 13-month-old pet suddenly attacked her. Plastic surgeons managed to piece together Iona's face and she's made a good recovery from her terrifying attack. But her mother Mhairi Manson, 39, said she was still struggling to sleep after witnessing the ferocious incident. 'It was horrific,' said the former ambulance worker. 'Iona just bent down to give him his plate of food and he just went for her. 'He just flipped, even afterwards when we put him in a cage he growled and barked angrily every time one of us went near him, something had changed in his mind.



**Attacked: Iona Manson, 13, needed more than 50 stitches after was mauled by her pet German Shepherd**

## ***Schoolgirl had her face sliced off by fighting dog*** 29th May 2008



Savaged ... dog maul victim **Zoe Stenton**

29th May 2008, 9-year-old **Zoe Stenton** needed five hours of reconstructive surgery after her face was torn apart by a cross-bred Japanese Akita/Alsatian dog attacked her without warning whilst she was at a children's party in Castleford, West Yorks. The dog was destroyed. The attack left her cheek hanging off. Brave Zoe had to go through hours of reconstructive surgery at Pinderfields hospital, Wakefield, followed by plastic surgery. But she will always be scarred. Dad Wayne, 37, said: "You just don't know when dogs like that might attack. Something needs to be done." MP Norman Lamb branded the Dangerous Dogs Act "ineffective". Animal attacks on people have soared to record levels with 25 victims badly bitten or mauled every day, NHS figures revealed yesterday. Injuries caused by pets or farm beasts saw 9,295 Brits hospitalised last year, a rise of 26 per cent in four years. More than half of the incidents involved vicious dogs. And 1,828 of the victims were under 16.

## ***Five-year-old girl was left scarred for life after being savaged by her family dogs.*** 22 Aug 2009

A five-year-old girl was left scarred for life after being savaged by her family dogs. Little **Lauren Jenkins** was attacked by the two French Mastiffs as she played with a friend while her parents were out in Edington, Wilts. She suffered "serious injuries" and was last night "stable" after emergency surgery on her torso.

## ***Four-year-old has emergency surgery after a neighbour's bull mastiff bit off part of her cheek***



***Teoni Fletcher, four, was bitten on the cheek by a mastiff***

In August 2002 four-year-old **Teoni Fletcher** had emergency surgery after a neighbour's bull mastiff dog bit off part of her left cheek. That the incident proves it is not just so called 'dangerous dogs' that are dangerous will be no compensation for her scars

## ***Dog attacks 2-year-old boy in Skegness***

23 January 2007

A two-year-old boy was taken to hospital with serious facial injuries after being attacked by a dog. Police Officers were called to the Baythorpe Caravan Park in Burgh Road, Skegness, Lincolnshire, at around 11.15am where it was reported a child had been attacked by a dog. He was taken to the Pilgrim Hospital in Boston before being transferred to Lincoln Royal Infirmary for specialist treatment. His injuries are not thought to be life threatening. The dog was seized and taken to Skegness police station where he will be examined by a vet. It is not clear at this stage what breed the dog is, but it is thought to belong to a relative of the child. Police cordoned off the area where the attack took place while scenes of crime officers carry out a forensic examination. A Lincolnshire Police spokeswoman said: "Police Officers confirmed a two-year-old boy had sustained serious facial injuries as a result of the attack by the dog. The dog was taken to Skegness police station and is due to be examined by a veterinary surgeon. It has not been confirmed what breed the dog is although it is believed to belong to a relative of the victim. Police inquiries into the incident are continuing and the area where the attack took place has been cordoned off."

# ***Toni is Scared to look in the Mirror***

2 Sep 2010

A TRAUMATISED schoolgirl mauled by a fighting dog has been left too scared to look in the mirror - after the snarling beast ripped open her face in the savage attack in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire. Little **Toni Clannachan** was pinned to the ground by the vicious American Akita before the brutal animal shook her in its powerful jaws. The ten-year-old was rushed to hospital where she is now recovering from her terrifying ordeal.



**Horror - ten-year-old Toni Clannachan was attacked by an American Akita**

## ***Dogs maul girl in Dundee street***

30 August 2010



10-year-old **Rhianna Kidd** underwent emergency surgery after being attacked by two Rottweiler dogs while riding her bike in Dryburgh Street Dundee at 1100 BST on Sunday. Rhianna underwent three hours of reconstructive surgery to pin a fractured jaw on Sunday night and is also receiving treatment for bites to her arms and legs. The two dogs pinned her down and began to savage her.

# ***Vicious attack by grandparents' 'timid' collie leaves boy, 2, scarred for life after needing 200 stitches***

10th September 2010

A toddler needed 200 stitches in his face after being horrifically injured by his grandmother's collie. Two-year-old **Joshua Mann** underwent emergency surgery but will still be scarred for life following the attack. Joshua will have to endure further surgery before he can go home to Brockworth, near Gloucester. His mother, Lisa Mann, 23, spoke of her shock at seeing her bloodied son in hospital. 'I thought he was going to die. He looked in so much pain,' she said.



Savaged: Little **Joshua Mann** was gently stroking the normally-timid pet when it suddenly lunged at him and clamped its jaws on his face. He underwent emergency surgery but faces being scarred for life. The youngster was attacked by a sheepdog while he was at his grandparents' farm near Cheltenham. Joshua was stroking the normally-timid pet when it suddenly lunged at him and clamped its jaws on his cheeks



Two-year-old **Joshua Mann** - needed 200 stitches after mauling by his grandmother's Collie

## ***Boy, 5, 'scalped' by Rottweiler in horror attack***

26th February 2010

A five-year-old boy has been left permanently scarred after he was 'scalped' by a Rottweiler. **Rhys Webb**, who will never be able to grow hair on parts of his head, needed 87 stitches after the random attack. But the owner of the dog called Rocky escaped prosecution because the animal wasn't in his care at the time. Attacked: Five-year-old Rhys Webb has been left permanently scarred after he was 'scalped' by a Rottweiler Rhys was playing with his two brothers in a communal garden in Rainham, Essex, when the Rottweiler charged around a corner, sank his teeth into the boy's head and shook him from side to side.



Five-year-old Rhys Webb - 'scalped' by a Rottweiler

## ***Dog attack girl has 17 stitches***

6 November 2009

An eight-year-old girl has had 17 stitches in her face after being mauled by the family dog. **Courtney Charlesworth** was stroking the pet at her home in East End Park, Leeds, when it turned on her. Her mother said she was "very lucky" not to have been blinded as one bite narrowly missed the schoolgirl's eye. Courtney's parents, who bought the animal for £20 to save it from being abandoned, have warned other families to be more careful when getting a dog. The schoolgirl's father, Christopher Charlesworth, said he offered to take the dog in after hearing it was going to be tied to a tree and abandoned by its owner. 'No indication' He said the animal, who the family had for a month, got on well with his three daughters and there had been "no indication" that it would attack.



Courtney Charlesworth said she was "very frightened" during the attack

## ***Girl, 8, requires 175 stitches in her face after being mauled in horrific dog attack***

21st August 2010

An eight-year-old girl needed 175 stitches in her face and head after she was mauled by a dog having been told by its owners it was safe for her to stroke. **Sky Barker** was playing in Rastrick, West Yorkshire, last Thursday evening when she asked the owner of a fearsome Japanese Akita if she could pet the animal. However horror struck when the dog - which was tied to a wall - leapt forward and grabbed her head in its mouth as she approached.



8 years old Sky Barker

## ***Dog drags girl, 7, down the street by her head, leaving her with horrific eye and face injuries***

14th August 2010

A girl of seven has been left with appalling facial and eye injuries after being mauled by a dog while playing out just yards from her home. **Maleeka Smyth** was dragged along the street by the Staffordshire bull terrier, which tore skin close to her eye and caused two puncture wounds to the back of her head. Last night the youngster had plastic surgery to repair damage to her face.



7 years old Maleeka Smyth mauled and dragged along the street by the Staffordshire bull terrier

# ***Devil dog did this to my Chloe*** 19 Jun 2008



## **Intensive care ... Chloe Ashman following the horrific attack**

PRETTY **Chloe Ashman** lies lifeless in intensive care after a horrific attack by a Staffordshire bull terrier which ripped away half of the six-year-old's throat. Chloe is winning her fight for life but may NEVER speak again because of damage to her voicebox. Her father Lee, who released the shocking snap said: "The surgeons can't believe my Chloe is alive! The dog clamped down on her neck and tossed her around like a rag doll. I want to make people aware of what these dogs can do so this doesn't happen to anyone else." Chloe was playing in the garden at home in Folkstone, Kent, with her two-year-old brother Samuel when the pet dog struck.

# ***Boy, 11, savaged by dog*** 29th December 2010

A boy of 11 was savaged by a dog just days after his father had taken the stray in off the street. Finn O'Mahoney's cheek was ripped open by the five-stone Chinese Shar-Pei dog, which attacked him while he was watching television on Christmas Day. The terrified boy was only spared worse injury when his dad wrestled the dog to the floor.



11 years old **Finn O'Mahoney**, attacked by five-stone Chinese Shar-Pei dog

# ***Schoolgirls Face Ruined By Dog Attack***

12 June 2012



Ten stitches - Shannon Rennie aged 7

## ***Schoolgirl, 7, has face mauled by Japanese Akita in another horrific dog attack***

A 7-year-old schoolgirl was set upon and had her face mauled by a Japanese Akita dog called Kalo while playing at a friend's house in Radford, Nottingham last month. Shannon Rennie had to have more than 10 stitches to her face after the unprovoked dog attacked her while she was enjoying herself in the garden. The Japanese dogs are not classified as dangerous under the Dangerous Dogs Act, but Shannon will be left with scars for the rest of her life. Shannon's mother, Sharon Scholes, was delivering leaflets when she heard screaming coming from the house where her daughter was playing and has been left traumatised by the sounds ever since. She found Shannon in the garden lying on the ground covered in blood. She was screaming and there was blood pouring from five different wounds. Mum Sharon said she felt sick and couldn't stop shaking.

"She was really badly injured. She had bites under her eye, some skin had come off on her nose and her chin was really bad too."

**Because the attack took place on private property, no criminal prosecution can be made against the owner and apparently the owners of the dog have shown no concern for Shannon's well-being nor have they apologised for their pet's behaviour.**

# ***Toddler, 2, rushed for emergency surgery after being mauled by Alsatian***

15th November 2011



## **Scarred: Jack Ayton needed 20 stitches when he was attacked by an Alsatian while with his childminder**

A toddler has been scarred for life after being mauled by an Alsatian while in the care of his childminder. Two-year-old **Jack Ayton** needed 20 stitches in his face after the dog sank its jaws into his nose, lips, cheek, and eyebrows. Jack needed 90 minutes of emergency surgery and doctors say he was lucky not to have been blinded. He was attacked when his childminder Laura Tonks, 23, took him to visit a relative after picking him up from nursery. The toddler's family are now calling for the pet to be put down to avoid further attacks. His mother Aimee, 21, said: 'I had a phone call from the childminder to say "I'm so sorry, we're in A&E. Jack's been attacked by a dog. I was in total shock, we rushed up there to see what had happened. I expected the worst, but it was more awful than even that. - it was horrific." 'Jack had to have stitches in his eyebrow, lip and inside his mouth. He was in a terrible state.

# ***Eight-year-old boy 'lucky to be alive' after Border Collie mauls his head***

16th June 2011

***'We were close to having to go to his funeral'***



Horrific: **Cameron Whithers** was left with serious wounds to his head, arm and cheek after being horrifically mauled by a Border Collie Miss Edgington added: 'He is still in pain but his big brother is looking after him and we have been given creams to rub into his scalp to ease it. It is horrific.' The mother, who is separated from 29-year-old Mr Whithers, said she was upset that no action was being taken against the dog involved.

***"The Police said that Because the incident took place on private land there is nothing they can do and Wayne's aunt does not want to give up the Border Collie dog so it is just carrying on as normal."***

# ***Girl, nine, needs 100 stitches to reconstruct face after dog attack***



## **Niamh Webster-Guy needed more 100 stitches after being mauled by a dog - 4th February 2009**

A schoolgirl needed more 100 stitches during a three-hour operation to reconstruct her face after being mauled by a dog. **Niamh Webster-Guy**, nine, will be scarred for life after the giant Bullmastiff tore her cheek and lip apart as she waited outside a friend's house. The animal leaped over a garden fence and attacked the terrified child. But, astonishingly, its owners have refused to put the beast down. Describing the horrific attack, the victim's mother, Cheryl Webster, said: 'I was absolutely terrified - Niamh's face and lip were just hanging off. 'She was on the pavement outside her friend's house when the dog came bounding out. It put its paws on the fence, then went straight for her face. 'There was a big loss of blood and they had to completely reconstruct her lip - she had to have over 100 stitches, which is awful.' But Miss Webster, 39, said she was horrified when investigating police officers told her the owners had refused to put the dog down. 'The police spoke to the owners but, apparently, they don't want to put the dog down because they say it's never done anything like this before.

# ***Dog rips off 11-year-old girl's top lip in savage attack***

27 June 2012



**11-year-old Jacklyn Tucker pictured, is in hospital had her top lip ripped off by 2 dogs..**

Jacklyn Tucker was at a friend's house when the family's Jack Russell Terrier and English Bulldog cross attacked her, ravaging her face. Plastic surgeons managed to reconstruct Jacklyn's nose and upper lip, using skin grafts. The friend's father and owner of the dog told authorities he picked Jacklyn's lip 'off the floor' after the savage attack, and gave it to emergency services. One hundred stitches later, plastic surgeons at St Mary's Hospital managed to reconstruct the girl's nose and lip using skin grafts. But she remains in the hospital undergoing two two-hour sessions of hyperbaric oxygen therapy a day, which helps her wounds heal by boosting the oxygen in her blood as well as blood flow to the injuries. Doctor David Rankin said it was the worst dog bite he'd ever treated. It's going to be weeks of initial acute recovery followed by potential multiple surgeries to get her back as normal as possible, he said. The dogs have been surrendered to be put down. Jacklyn said she had been lying on the couch at her friend's house before the dog pounced.

# **Toddler Scarred For Life After Being Attacked In**

20 May 2009

## ***Dog attack on my boy was like a murder scene" – said mum***

Barbara Osborne heard her son's screams as he was savagely attacked by a dog outside their home in Dalkeith. Barbara, alerted by the youngster's horrific screaming, rushed outside to find her young son covered in blood.

**Andrew Osborne**, was playing just outside his home in Easthouses, Dalkeith, Midlothian, when the dog lunged at him – tearing a gaping wound in his right cheek and lip. Five year old Andrew is still recovering and has been left with horrific scars on his face. The stray dog ran off after the attack. Yesterday mum Barbara welcomed the Control of Dogs (Scotland) Bill being presented to the Scottish Parliament. It focuses on a need to acknowledge that owners need to take more responsibility for their dogs, which is something that Barbara agrees with. She said: "It's good that this means owners have to take more responsibility. It includes measures to control dogs that are dangerously out of control, including compulsory micro-chipping so that the authorities can keep track of their movements. The new Law will also makes a dog attack illegal no matter where it occurs – currently the legislation only covers public places. Surgeons were forced to insert 34 stitches in the little lad's face as they expertly repaired the damage.



**Andrew Osborne** savagely attacked by a dog outside his home in Dalkeith

# **Boy's face torn to shreds by neighbour's dog**

Sunday Sep 4 2011



## **Erfan Ali suffered deep wounds to his face**

THIS was the horrific scene as tiny Erfan Ali lay screaming in agony after being savaged by his next door neighbour's dog. The six-year-old had been in his own garden in Cardiff helping his mother bring in the washing when the beast – believed to have been a Rhodesian Ridgeback – leapt over the garden fence. The animal, named Tyson, ripped at the youngster's face tearing huge chunks from each cheek. Erfan's right hand was also bitten in the attack. He and his mother Monowara fled into the house. But Monowara and her 12-year-old daughter Masudah could not stop the dog – not a breed banned in the UK – forcing its way past the door. The one-and-a-half-year old animal then carried on attacking Erfan in the kitchen until it was finally wrestled out of the house by the owner. Erfan's dad, Dilwar Ali, said: "The dog was really getting my boy badly, it bit the right and left cheeks and his left hand has been damaged as well. The blood was everywhere," said Dilwar. The lad was raced to Cardiff's University Hospital of Wales before being taken for specialist treatment at Swansea's Morriston Hospital.



# ***Girl, nine, has face 'ripped to shreds' in savage attack by 10-stone Rottweiler***

7 January 2008



© ROSS PARRY

## **Chloe Grayson, aged 9 attacked by a savage Rottweiler**

A nine-year-old girl has been left scarred for life after being attacked by a savage Rottweiler. **Chloe Grayson's** face was ripped to shreds by the 10-stone dog named Bully at a party at a neighbour's house. The Rottweiler was roaming freely around the house when it struck, plunging his teeth deep into the terrified youngster's face and leaving her covered in blood. Devastated mum Nicola said Chloe had narrowly avoided being blinded in the vicious attack on the left side of her face. Chloe, of South Anston, near Sheffield, has undergone plastic surgery at Sheffield Children's Hospital but her family has been warned she will be permanently disfigured. Nicola, 33, has called for the dog to be destroyed and called for a ban on the breeding of Rottweilers as pets. The dog has been removed from his owner's care pending further investigations but the owners are said to want their pet kept alive. Chloe had been playing upstairs with her sister and two other children and had just come downstairs for a drink when the dog snapped. Her mum said: "She came into the kitchen to ask me for a drink and the dog was standing next to her, then it just pounced and went for her face, starting at her hairline and then dragging its teeth down her face until they sunk into the fleshy part of her cheek. "The dog then shook its head, ripping her cheek open and narrowly missing her eye. She has some nerve damage and is scarred for life. "I just can't believe this and dread to think what would have happened if I hadn't just been one foot away from Chloe when the dog struck. "I knew the family had a dog and because of the death of the young boy in Wakefield, who was killed by a Rottweiler, I asked the children to keep away from it and they did. "Time and time again Rottweilers are proving to be killers and Chloe is another sad statistic of their nature and what they can do. "Something positive has to come from this and I am going to use Chloe's experience to campaign for changes to the Dangerous Dogs Act so that nobody else has to go through this.

***"The owners are said to want their pet kept alive".***

# **Toddler has three hour face operation after being mauled by vicious dog**

5th May 2011

A toddler has been forced to undergo reconstructive facial surgery after being mauled by a vicious dog. Two-year-old **Natasha Marriett** was visiting a relative's home with her mother when she was savaged by a Staffordshire bull terrier. The little girl was nearly blinded after the animal sank its teeth into her face, just centimetres from her right eye. Natasha required three hours of surgery after she was left with a broken nose and had two teeth removed so surgeons could stitch wounds inside her mouth. Natasha's nine-year-old sister Rachael watched in horror as the dog pounced and started biting into her on Sunday evening at a relative's home in Downhill, Sunderland.



**Mauled: Two-year-old Natasha Marriett was visiting a relative's home when she was savaged by a Staffordshire bull terrier, leaving her with horrific injuries. She is now recovering after leaving hospital.**

A young relative attempted to pull the dog away before Natasha's mum, Margaret Baxter, 41, rushed to her assistance. The toddler was taken to Sunderland Royal Hospital for treatment. Ms Baxter, of South Hetton, Sunderland said: 'It all happened so quickly. 'The kids were playing with the dog in the dining room and we were in the kitchen when we heard a noise like someone falling down the stairs. 'It was a crashing sound and then just loads of noise. We went through and saw them trying to pull the dog off Natasha. 'I flew over to where she was and stayed with her while we waited for the ambulance. 'It was horrendous and difficult to believe what happened.' Natasha was finally discharged from hospital and allowed back home on Tuesday. A Northumbria Police spokeswoman confirmed 'Officers attended the scene where the girl was taken to Sunderland Royal Hospital to be treated. 'Her injuries are not life-threatening.'  
**Police Said the dog was not put down after the attack and no charges have been made as the attack was on private property."**

# **Staffordshire Bull terrier mauls girl, 7, chewing off her eyelid and exposing her skull in vicious attack**

23rd April 2011

A girl of seven suffered horrific facial injuries after being attacked by a friend's Staffordshire bull terrier. **Phoebe Meredith's** face was cut to the bone and she is likely to be left with deep scarring and a drooping eyelid. She needed more than four hours of surgery after the attack by the dog which chewed away part of her eyelid and left her with seven cuts to her head, exposing her skull, and with a hole in her cheek and a damaged ear.



**Phoebe Meredith aged seven needed more than four hours of specialist surgery for facial injuries after a savage dog attack leaving her lacerations across her face and an ear torn off**

The normally bubbly schoolgirl, who has become quiet and withdrawn and is now terrified of dogs, faces spending weeks indoors to make sure she avoids infection. The schoolgirl was playing in a friend's garden near her home when the attack happened. 'We were playing in a tent and the dog came for me,' said Phoebe, from Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire. 'I couldn't escape. Luckily my friend was able to kick the dog away and her dad heard the screams and came rushing out of the house. 'I think the dog was mean and ferocious. People should not be allowed to keep them as pets.' She had surgery at Hull Royal Infirmary but is now back at home. Yesterday her stepmother urged other parents to be wary about the dangers of letting their children play near dogs. Claire Pedersen, 30, said: 'I couldn't believe the amount of blood coming from my little girl – she was covered in it. 'I just feel people should know about dangerous dogs. I didn't think anything of it until it happened to Phoebe.' A Humberside police spokesman said the incident had been reported to them and appropriate action had been taken. The dog has been put down.

# ***The two-year-old girl who had her eyelid bitten off in savage attack by West Highland Terrier Dog***

29th July 2011



**Savaged: Icy Thomas-Day lost her eyelid when she was savaged a by a neighbour's West Highland Terrier dog**

The small pet went for terrified toddler **Icy Thomas-Day** as she bent down to feed it a dog biscuit. The seemingly-friendly pooch, named Alfie, ignored the treat and mauled the youngster, biting off her left eyelid and clawing her face seven times. Icy screamed out in agony and was left covered in blood. Parents Jessica and Paul rushed her to hospital where she underwent surgery to repair the wounds. But she has lost part of her eyelid and will need plastic surgery to replace it. Her parents are waiting to see if there is any lasting damage to her sight and she will be scarred for life. The little girl had been attending the dog's birthday party when it attacked her in the village of Portesham, near Weymouth, Dorset. The family are now demanding the dog's owners have the pet destroyed after the police told them there was nothing they could do as the attack took place on private property. The dog jumped up and lunged at her and tore and bit into her face, biting at her six or seven times. A chunk of her left eyelid had been ripped off. It won't grow back again and she will have no eyelashes on that eye. Parents Jessica and Paul rushed their daughter to hospital but her eyelid could not be saved. The family were shocked the police or local council have no powers to have the dog put down. Mrs Thomas-Day said they had now fallen out with their neighbours after they refused to follow the police advice and have Alfie destroyed. She said: 'It's disgraceful that the authorities are powerless to act over this. Dogs have more rights than humans. 'Everybody thinks West Highland Terriers are cute, little fluffy things. 'But this one went for Icy without warning or provocation.

***"The police told them there was nothing they could do as the attack took place on private property."***

# **Brave girl, 7, prepares for 57th operation after her face was torn apart by a pit bull**

4th August 2011

## **The brutal attack which has left her face severely disfigured**

A seven-year-old girl whose face was savaged by a vicious dog is excited about the prospect of regaining the sight in her eye as she prepares to undergo her 57th operation. **Amaya Hess** suffered appalling injuries five years ago when she was mauled like a rag doll by a pit bull terrier. The animal tore apart her ear, eye and nose, and ripped off her scalp, leaving the two-year-old in a coma for three months. After 56 operations to reconstruct her face, she is making a remarkable recovery and is due to go under the knife again to repair her right eye. Pulling the eyelid back up off the eye will give her the opportunity to regain her vision after five years. She wants it and she's super excited to get it. Amaya said, "mummy, I want a new eye". In 2006, Bobbie was walking Amaya to the park in a pushchair when the pit bull got loose from a neighbour's home and grabbed the toddler.



**Amaya was in a coma in hospital for three months after the attack.**



**The seven-year-old has needed 56 operations so far to repair her terrible injuries. she waits for her 57th operation** Her mother will not take Amaya to parks or where dogs aren't on leashes. The dog grabbed Amaya from her buggy. Her mother said " my daughter could have been taken away from me and I could have never had her back and I fought for her and she's still here. She puts a smile on my face every day."

# **Boy, 4, needs 200 stitches after savage bulldog attack**

16 August 2006



## **George Brown received 200 stitches after the dog attack**

A four-year-old boy needed 200 stitches to his face after he was attacked by an American bulldog while out playing near his home in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, when he was mauled by the dog. The youngster will return to Hospital for more treatment. It had been a terrifying experience for the youngster. "About 10 children were playing outside when suddenly the dog ran out of its owner's house and went straight for George," said his grandmother. It just grabbed him and threw him around like a rag doll. A neighbour managed to drag the dog off but it had taken a massive bite out of the side of his face. His face was hanging down by his arms. His mother had to lift his face up so the ambulance crew could hold it together. George was put on morphine for the pain and his family are all devastated. He has looked at himself in the mirror and says he looks like Spiderman. His family say they are just pleased he is alive. The dog was put down following the attack, but his mother said it was dangerous and action should have been taken sooner. About nine weeks ago it bit George on the leg and it bit about five other children.

**"The police said they were powerless to prosecute as the incident was on private land."**

# ***Boy of six horrifically mauled by a bulldog as he visited his grandmother's grave.***

13th September 2010

Michael Brown was with his grandfather on a visit to Everton Cemetery, Fazakerley, Liverpool, when he was attacked. Thomas O'Loughlin, 53, today told how he managed to drag the animal off his grandson, but it had already gashed the right side of Michael's face and gouged a deep wound in his chest.



**Mauled: Michael Brown with his mother Leah in Alder Hey Children's Hospital following a shocking dog attack**

The bulldog is not on the official dangerous dogs list, but its owner, a 53-year-old man who has not been named, was arrested and bailed. Mr O'Loughlin said: "I had seen the guy around and talked to him because his mum is buried next to my wife. 'He seemed OK and even came into my cafe to show me his dog, saying how nice it was.' 'We were talking about 15 yards away and the next thing it just went for Michael' 'There was blood everywhere. It ripped into his face and gave him a big cut on his body.' Before the attack: Michael Brown was described as a popular outgoing lad but has become very withdrawn since having been savaged by a stranger's bulldog 'I couldn't do anything. It stopped when we ran over. The guy was shouting 'I'll have it put down!' I just said 'it's you who wants putting down, mate'". 'Michael is going to be scarred for life. It has totally ruined his life. It pretty much ripped his cheek off.' 'We got to the hospital and within five minutes the police were there, saying they had arrested the guy and taken the dog, but they cannot destroy it because it is evidence.' After the attack on Thursday evening, Michael, known to family as Mikey, was taken to Alder Hey hospital, where he underwent emergency surgery on his wounds. He is now recovering in the neurosurgery ward. His mother Leah Brown, 27, of Tuebrook, said: 'I have no idea how many stitches he had. They said they could not tell me because there are so many.' He is going to avoid plastic surgery but they thought he would need it on Thursday. "They had to put him in surgery. He has stitches inside his mouth, outside his mouth and on his face. "He looks 10 times better now than he did then. "When I first saw him, I thought "Oh my God". I thought it had gone for his throat. That is what some dogs do. "He's damaged muscles in his face and it might take up to eight months for them to be repaired. Until then, his face will be like a stroke victim's.' Ms Brown said Michael had changed since the attack, which happened at 7.30pm on Thursday. A Merseyside police spokesman said: 'We can confirm a six-year-old boy was bitten by a dog in a cemetery on Thursday September 9 at 7.30pm.' 'The dog was harnessed to the back of its owner's van. While both adults were talking, the six-year-old approached the dog. "The dog bit the boy on the right side of his face.'

# ***Girl, 4, savaged after being attacked by father's new Rottweiler***

8 April 2008

A four-year-old girl needed 20 stitches to her face after being savaged by her father's new dog. **Sophie Willis** was attacked by the Rottweiler, Kaizer, which has now been destroyed, at her Cardiff home. Her father, Rob Willis, had bought Kaizer from Cardiff Council's dogs' home, on the city's Penarth Road, after it was picked up and taken there as a stray. A council spokesman said the dog had a good temperament and had been walked by both adults and children during its two months at the home.



## **Four-year-old Sophie Willis needed 20 stitches after being attacked by her father's new Rottweiler**

He said: "We are of course extremely concerned to hear about the incident, which we understand happened when Kaizer was left alone with a young child, and wish the child a speedy recovery." Mr Willis, 47, who previously trained as a dog handler, said he bought the dog to work alongside him in his current job as a security guard. The dog would then return home with him to Halliard Court, in Cardiff Bay, where he lives with his wife Caroline and two daughters - Sophie, and nine-year-old Rebecca. Mr Willis told the South Wales Echo: "Caroline and I are quite shocked by this. "I checked on more than one occasion the animal would be OK around children. I explained that I wanted the dog for work but that I also had two children." He said that before the attack, Kaizer appeared to be settling into the family's flat. The council spokesman said: "Kaizer had been at the dogs' home since February this year after being brought into the kennels as a stray. "Although he was microchipped, staff had been unable to locate his previous owners as they had apparently moved on. "He was used to being around people and had been walked by adults and children during his time at Cardiff dogs' home. "He had a good temperament and had not given staff any cause for concern." The spokesman added that if a dog brought to the home was not deemed suitable for re-homing, or was aggressive or in ill health, then it will be put to sleep on the advice of kennel staff or the vet. He said: "Anyone who wishes to re-home a dog will be questioned and information provided on the dog's background where this is known. "Advice on caring for their new dog as well as what type of dog would best suit their home environment is offered, but it is also the responsibility of the new owner to select a dog they feel would best suit their living arrangements." South Wales Police are currently consulting with the Crown Prosecution Service to establish what, if any, offences have been committed.

# ***Boy, three, left with horrific facial injuries as Labrador savages him while his mother strokes puppy***

16th June 2011



© BNPS.CO.UK

**Scarred for life: Logan Trim suffered horrific facial injuries when he was attacked by a dog.**

A three-year-old boy could be scarred for life after he was savaged by a dog during a family picnic. **Logan Trim** was left with horrific facial injuries when he was mauled by the black Labrador in a seaside park at Poole Harbour, Dorset. The youngster was left covered in blood, and needed 40 stitches to the wounds on his face after the shocking attack. Logan had been at the park with his mother Lara, baby brother Eithan and his grandparents. Logan's mother had approached a Woman with two dogs off the lead, right next to the children's play area and assumed they would be fine. As Logan's mum stroked the younger dog the Labrador jumped on the three-year-old without warning, savaging the right side of his face. An ambulance was called to Whitecliff Park and Logan was taken to Poole Hospital where he underwent surgery for his wounds. Stitches were sewn into his face from the bottom of his eye to the middle of his mouth, and his cheek swelled to the size of tennis ball. He now faces being scarred for life. The woman owner grabbed hold of the dog and started apologising. Logan had two big gashes on his lip and another gash below his nose. It was devastating and terrifying said his mum. She said she wants the one-year-old dog destroyed. Dorset police are investigating.'

## **Boy, 9, left needing plastic surgery after being mauled by Japanese Akita dog** 10th July 2009



### **Billy Ray Thomas, with dad Frank, will need plastic surgery after being attacked by a Japanese Akita dog**

A schoolboy has been savaged by a Japanese Akita dog in an attack so vicious that it could have killed him. Billy Ray Thomas was attacked by a family friend's pet as he tried to feed the dog a piece of cake when it pounced, pinning him to the ground and mauling his face and head. The attack left the nine-year-old needing five hours of surgery to repair the side of his face. He will be scarred for life and now has no nerves in part of his face. He will need plastic surgery in the future as he gets older. Doctors said that he could have been killed.' Billy Ray was taken to Walsall Manor Hospital and transferred as an emergency to Birmingham Children's Hospital, where he had a five-hour operation to stitch his face together. The dog has been destroyed but the family are not pressing charges.

## **Seven-year-old lad savaged by dog at his school gates** 3 Mar 2011



### **Jude recovering at home with his sister Cara**

A BOY of seven suffered horrific head and eye injuries in a savage dog attack outside his school. Jude Keir was set upon by a Staffordshire bull terrier just seconds after he left the playground with pals. He went to pet the animal, which suddenly pinned him to the ground and attacked. Last night, his parents said Jude could have been killed. They thanked hero parents for dragging the dog off the youngster who may have otherwise lost an eye or been killed. Jude was pinned down and screaming. Jude's eyelid was totally split, but surgeons are hoping for a full recovery. Parents and children were left traumatised by the attack outside Woodhead Primary School in Hamilton where one minute things were normal and the next all hell broke loose with savage snarling and growling and ear-splitting screams coming from the boy. The dog was out of control. It was barbaric said a witness. Jude was rushed to Wishaw General Hospital, then transferred to Yorkhill Sick Kids Hospital in Glasgow. He needed 40 stitches put in a horrendous eye wound. Police charged a man and two women.

# ***Dog tears young girl's face apart in horrific attack***

5 April 2012

A FIVE-YEAR-OLD girl has been scarred for life after having her face savagely torn apart by a dog. Abbie Varrow, of Ploughmans Lane, Great Notley, Braintree, Essex was playing on the trampoline at a friend's house when the neighbour's German Shepherd jumped at the same time as she did and latched onto her face.



## **Abbie Varrow, 5 years old, needed 60 stitches after dog attack**

A young girl needed 60 stitches to her face after being hospitalised following a vicious dog attack. Abbie Varrow, five, was playing on a trampoline in a friend's back garden in Ploughmans Lane, Great Notley, Braintree in Essex when she was attacked by a neighbour's dog at around 5pm. She was bitten in the face by the dog and was rushed to Chelmsford's Broomfield hospital for treatment and surgery. Although Abbie is now recovering at home, she has suffered significant scarring across her face as a result of the attack. Her dad Tony Varrow, 39, said: "She has severed nerves in her nose and we don't yet know the full extent of the problem." Abbie was on the trampoline, jumping up and down and the dog was jumping on the other side of the fence when it jumped up at the same time as her and bit her on the face. Abbie said "The dog got hold of my face and it was painful," Covered in blood, Abbie was rushed to hospital where her face was sewn together, leaving her with more than 60 stitches after two hours of surgery. Mother Alyson said: "I dread to think what would have happened if the dog had got completely over the fence. She wouldn't be here now and nor would her little friend Harry. It doesn't bear thinking about." Father Tony said: "We don't blame the dogs at all but we 110 per cent blame the owners. It's affected everybody in the area and the amount of support we have had has been overwhelming." The Crown Prosecution Service have decided not to charge the dog's owner, 42-year-old Darren Bartlett. The dog has been returned to its owner.

# ***Girl, five, left with horrific scar after neighbour's dog bit her face as she played in the garden***

10 April 2012

***Police say they will take no action because attack happened on owner's private property***



**Five-year-old Haley Turner, from Otley, West Yorkshire, was left disfigured by the dog attack**

A girl aged five was attacked by a Jack Russell terrier after reaching down to stroke the pet in a neighbour's garden. The neighbour's dog lunged at Haley Turner and tore a gaping wound in her cheek. With blood pouring from her face she was taken to Leeds General Infirmary hospital for emergency surgery where doctors spent 90 minutes stitching the horrendous wound. Haley may need skin grafts and could have a scar on her cheek for life. The dog was not put down as it was not deemed to constitute a danger, a decision Haley's mother condemned. The attack had left Haley withdrawn, shaken and no longer her 'bubbly little girl'. Mrs Turner, of Otley, West Yorkshire, is now campaigning for a change to the law. Under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 it is an offence to allow a dog to be dangerously out of control in a public place, or in a private place where it is not allowed to be. But this does not apply to private land where the dog belongs. If the animal is on its own property and bites someone, police are not required to take action. In Haley's case, officers will take no further action as the incident took place on private property. Mrs Turner said: 'We want the law changed so it extends wherever the dog is, even if it's on its own property. Any dog who bites a child should be put down.'

***"Police say they will take no action because attack happened on owner's private property"***

## **Girl age 6 in dog hell**

11th June 2012



### **Mauled ... Rebecca Learmouth, six was bitten on the face**

A TERRIFIED six-year-old girl was left with blood pouring from her face after a crazed dog savaged her. Rebecca Learmouth was playing with friends near her home when she walked over to a man and asked if she could stroke one of his two dogs. She was told to stay away from a male Staffordshire bull terrier so instead stroked the owner's other dog — a bitch. But the male — which was on a lead — suddenly sank his teeth into her face. Mum Louise Cavanagh was distraught when a neighbour came to her door cradling her blood-soaked daughter. Louise said: "I never thought there could be so much blood — it was all over the floor." Rebecca was rushed to hospital and had surgery for wounds around her eye, nose, cheek and mouth. Louise said: "She could have lost an eye." The family, from Byker, Newcastle, have reported the attack to police. Mum Louise said "Rebecca was bitten by a dog on a lead — it doesn't mean it is safe."

## **Terrified schoolgirl, 9, has top lip ripped off by dog after it heard barking on her Nintendo DS**

28th September 2010



### **Ordeal: 9 years old Megan Walker had her top lip bitten off by a Bull Mastiff**

A terrified schoolgirl had her top lip torn off by a dog as she played with a computer game. A friend's bull mastiff cross was startled and went berserk when it heard barking on a Nintendo DS game, attacking the little girl, dragging her off the sofa. Megan was playing at a friend's house in Bolton when the attack happened. The dog sank its teeth into her face, bit her several times and ripped off her top lip. The dog, named Saracen, was put down. Megan was rushed by ambulance to Manchester Children's Hospital, where doctors managed to re-attach the lip, stitching it back on. Megan was in surgery for two hours and spent five days in hospital. It is hoped that her lip will heal. She will need more plastic surgery in the future. **'Police say 'No Prosecution as the incident happened in a private address'**

# **Boy in attack by dog**

8th June 2012



## **Mauled ... Jonathon Harwood 8**

Jonathon Harwood, eight, from South Shields was rushed to hospital after the Staffordshire Bull Terrier turned on him. He suffered a broken facial bone and nerve damage and will be scarred for life. Mum Lisa Patterson, 32, said: "One minute we were stroking the dog and the next it pounced and went for Jonathon's face. He could have been killed." Lisa, who dragged the dog off, added: "He's terrified of coming home." Cops destroyed the animal in Marsden, Tyne and Wear. It belonged to a neighbour of Lisa's who got it from a rescue centre last month. .

## **Parents' fears over dog attacks in Walton Hall Park**

Aug 18 2012



## **Sarah Williams, 25 with 6 years old son Jack Williams**

A COUPLE whose six-year-old son was attacked by a dog say they fear a child will be killed if the animal is not caught. Sarah Williams, 25, was walking with son Jack and 16-month-old daughter Summer-Rose in Walton Hall Park on July 31 when the brown and white bull mastiff came "from nowhere" to attack the youngster. Her description of the dog and its owner match that released by Merseyside Police after an eight-year-old boy was taken to hospital following an attack on Tuesday. Sarah, from Walton, says she is still having nightmares after the incident. She said: "When I close my eyes, I can just see Jack's face and how scared he was." Jack was taken to Alder Hey Hospital after the attack which left him with part of his finger hanging off as well as cuts and bruises. A man with a first aid kit bandaged his finger and stopped Jack from losing a lot of blood.

# ***Girl, six, savaged by Rottweilers in attack at holiday chalet***

23 August 2007

A six-year-old girl has had plastic surgery after being savaged by two Rottweilers while on holiday in Northern Ireland. Sophia Kimpton was left "caked in blood and screaming" after being attacked by the dogs outside a holiday chalet in County Antrim. The girl sustained 17 injuries, including lacerations and puncture wounds to her head, arms and back before her frantic mother managed to save her.



**Sophia Kimpton was badly mauled in the attack by two Rottweilers.**

Natasha Kimpton said: "They were just attached to her head. They were just shaking her around like a rag doll. "I used myself as a human shield. The blood was just pouring out of her." She said her daughter would have been killed if the attack had lasted any longer. All they wanted to do was just to kill her, they just wanted to kill her. She was just caked in blood and screaming. All her flesh was hanging out of her arms." Sophia's father, Lawrence, attempted to kick the animals off before the farmer who owned the dogs shot them. The family, from London, were staying at a holiday chalet on a working farm near Dervock, outside Ballymoney.

## ***Dog hell for 2 young children***

13 Jun 2008

TWO children have been left scarred in separate horror dog attacks. **Amber Churm**, five, was mauled on the face and arm by a Staffordshire Bull Terrier just yards from her home. She was saved by her sister Jade, eight, who kicked the dog away in Thurnscoe, South Yorks. Mum Kelly said: "Amber is traumatised." **Jonathan Makengo**, 11, cannot walk after an American Pitbull crushed bones in his foot with its powerful jaws. Neighbours Eddie Crump, 39, and wife Kelly, 32, beat the dog off with a spade in Ilford, East London.

# ***Boy left with serious injuries after South London dog mauling - But Owner escapes prosecution due to Private Land 'loophole'***

11 June 2012



**Louise Clark with her nine-year-old son Harry Dennard, who is recovering following a horrific Rottweiler attack**

Harry Dennard, nine, from London suffered huge gash on arm and chest injuries and has been left scarred for life after an unprovoked dog attacks. Nine-year-old Harry Dennard was left screaming in pain after a Rottweiler tore into his arm and left a gash as 'wide as an open book'. In young Harry's case he will not see the dog's owners brought to justice because the attack happened at his friend's house, rather than a public place. He had knocked at a friend's door in Mottingham, south London, when the dog ran out of the house and lunged at him. After the attack, the owners chose to have the animal put down, but police said they were powerless to take any other action. The legal loophole in the Dangerous Dogs Act has enraged Harry's mother, Louise Clark, who rushed to his side following the attack on May 30. Harry suffered a massive gash in his arm, wounds to the chest and needed to spend a weekend at St Thomas's Hospital in London following a two-hour operation to remove infected tissue. Ms Clark, a 32-year-old care assistant, said: 'The police said it was not a dangerous dog because it bit Harry on the owner's property, which I think is ridiculous. 'The owners were very upset and apologised. They were distraught. But it should not have taken Harry to get bit for it to be destroyed. It could have been prevented. 'It was a bomb waiting to happen.



***"Private Land Attack - Owner Immune from Prosecution under antiquated Law"***

# ***Dog owner escapes prosecution after girl, four, is savaged by Rottweiler because attack happened on private land***

30 August 2012

A dog owner has escaped prosecution after their Rottweiler mauled a four-year-old girl's face. Megan Fortune had to have 12 stitches and was left traumatised after the savage attack at her grandmother's home in Suffolk. But because the attack happened on private land, the law deems no offence was committed, so its owner will not be brought to justice.



Four-year-old girl's face. Megan Fortune was savaged by a Rottweiler.

Brutally savaged: Megan Fortune, 4, had to have 12 stitches after a Rottweiler attacked her in the face but the dog's owner will not face prosecution. Megan is pictured above is recovering in hospital after the attack which happened while she was staying at her grandmother's house. Currently owners can only be prosecuted if a dog attack occurs on public land as opposed to private property but this is set to change under new rules proposed by Defra, the government's environment agency. The girl's mother, Elizabeth Fortune, 25, is demanding an immediate change in the law. She said: 'I just find it hard to believe that a dog can do that, let alone to a child, and there are no repercussions.' The dog, believed to be a Rottweiler-German Shepherd cross, bit her while she was staying at her grandmother's home in Felixstowe. Her grandmother, Mary Hockley, was looking after the dog for a friend when it suddenly mauled the toddler. Megan suffered a horrifically injured eye. She also had to have 12 stitches. Miss Fortune reported the incident to the police but she was told that because the animal was in a private place, no offence had taken place under the Dangerous Dogs Act. Miss Fortune said: 'I think it's ridiculous. I would absolutely love a change in the law. Even if it said the dog would need to be muzzled near children, I believe there needs to be something changed because I find it amazing a dog can do that and nothing can be done about it.' She added: 'He has always been a lovely dog. We have had a lot of contact with him over the past four years. He has never shown any sign of aggression which is why it came as such a shock - we were just completely gobsmacked.' Distraught Megan was taken in agony to Ipswich Hospital and cosmetic surgeons had to be brought in to tend to her wounds. It took them more than an hour to try and repair the damage. Megan had to have stitches above and below her eye and on her jaw line and had to stay in hospital overnight. Megan is now making a good recovery but Miss Fortune said she was traumatised after she was savaged. The dog's owner refused to comment.

## ***'Dog owner escapes prosecution because Rottweiler attack happened on private land'***

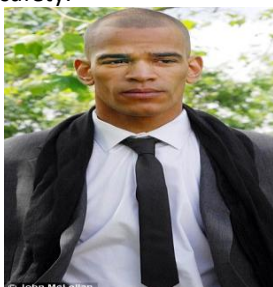
# ***Rottweiler owner is jailed after his own Mother shopped him to police following dog's attack on a seven-year-old child***

26 June 2012



**Victim: The seven-year-old boy needed 60 stitches and three operations after being attacked by a Rottweiler**

A dog owner who watched his pet Rottweiler savagely maul a seven-year-old boy has been jailed for 16 months after being recognised by his mother fleeing the scene in seafront CCTV footage posted on YouTube. Rowan Diedrick, 29, was walking his two pet Rottweilers off the lead along Southend seafront in Essex when one attacked a young boy as he was paddling in the sea and dragged him underwater. Diedrick fled the scene immediately on 5 August 2011 prompting a six-month police campaign to track down the mystery dog owner. The young boy - who cannot be named for legal reasons - was rescued by his grandmother and needed 60 stitches after suffering multiple wounds to his left arm and shoulder during the attack. He has since endured three separate operations and will be offered plastic surgery when he reaches the age of 18 due to the extent of his injuries. Diedrick, an unemployed builder, from Enfield, North London, was eventually arrested in February after mother identified him to police. Diedrick was sentenced to 16 months in prison having pleaded guilty in March to being in charge of a dog which was dangerously out of control in a public place and causing injury. Judge Owen Davies QC said: "The fact that the boy did not drown or was not mauled to a greater extent was down to the heroic and selfless actions of his grandmother." "You didn't help, you allowed your dogs to roam off the lead without muzzles on a public beach. The behaviour you displayed after the event shows a callous disregard for the welfare of the victim." "Your only interest was in escaping without being brought to account." "Thanks to the vigilance of others on YouTube that you were traced." Diedrick was banned from keeping dogs for the 10 years and a destruction order was made for his Rottweiler. After sentencing the family of the boy said: "We can never say enough how grateful we are that we still have our grandson and that he seems to be recovering well despite his injuries." "We are pleased with today's sentence and feel it was completely irresponsible of the defendant to take two large dogs onto a beach without being able to control them on leads." "All dogs of that stature and aggressive nature should be on a short lead with a muzzle when out in a public place." "If people want to own dogs like that they must understand the responsibility they have to others' safety."



**Jailed: Rowan Diedrick, 29, was sentenced to 16 months in prison**

# ***Owner of devil dog that bit a hole through toddler's cheek in 'horrific attack' fined just £250***

18 September 2012



**Lucy Harris, two, was helping her mum Heidi, 26, clean the family car when the Labrador /Collie cross charged at her and clamped his jaws around her face and ripped open her cheek on 22 July 2012.**

The parents of a toddler mauled by a dog that ripped a hole in her cheek have slammed magistrates after the beast's owner was fined just £250. Little Lucy Harris, two, was helping her mum Heidi, 26, clean the family car when the Labrador collie cross charged at her and clamped his jaws around her face on July 22. Distraught Heidi rushed to Lucy's aid and managed to prize the youngster from the beast's jaws as it pinned the helpless little girl to the ground. Lucy's dad Gary Barratt, 43, rushed her to hospital after he checked her bloodied face and shockingly found her tongue sticking out of a hole in her cheek. Medics needed more than 30 stitches to stop the bleeding and piece the fragile tot's face back together. But there was nothing doctors could do to stop the permanent scar now etched on her cheek. Her family say Lucy has been deeply traumatised by the attack, which has shattered her confidence and made her terrified of strangers and any animals she sees. They believe Lucy would have died if her mum hadn't been there to rescue her from the dog's snapping jaws. The animal, called Dobbie, had belonged to the family's neighbour Margaret Wright who had been saying goodbye to a friend when the creature dashed out her front door.

Unbelievably, Wright, who lives a few doors away, claimed her pet was not violent and said the animal only bit the girl because she touched his sore ear. Careless Wright, 60, admitted to her dog being out of control in a public place and could have faced up to two years behind bars, or a fine running into £1,000s. But instead she was ordered her to pay £250 in compensation and £45 legal costs following a hearing at Cambridge Magistrate's Court on Friday. The young girl's family said they felt "sickened" by the soft sentence they say won't stop other dangerous dog owners letting their beasts run wild. Full time mother-of-three Heidi, who lives in Cambridge, said: "The attack was so horrific. "It had been a lovely day we were outside cleaning the car. I then heard this almighty scream and saw the dog biting my daughters face. "She had a chunk of flesh torn from her face it was the worst thing I have ever seen "She has not been the same since the attack, she gets very shy and seems to have no confidence and what's more she might have permanent scarring on her face.

***Owner of vicious dog which mauled girl, two, so badly her tongue was left poking out of her CHEEK escapes with just a £250 fine***

- ***Girl was helping mother clean car when Labrador clamped jaw on her face***
- ***30 stitches were needed to stop the bleeding and piece face back together***
- ***Family 'sickened' by 'soft sentence' which 'won't deter other dog owners'***
- ***Dog, which owner said had a sore ear, was put down after the attack***

# ***10-year-old girl attacked by dog***

**3 Aug 2012**



## ***10-year-old girl attacked by dog***

The police have appealed for witnesses after a little girl suffered serious arm injuries when a dog attacked her in Bedfordshire on Sunday. The 10-year-old was walking with her sister and a friend when they passed the dog - thought to be a Rottweiler - and his owner on the street. The animal began barking at the trio, and then launched at the girl, biting her arm and pulling her to the floor. The owner eventually dragged the beast off the child, and fled the scene. The injured girl was taken to Luton and Dunstable Hospital where she was treated for three serious puncture wounds in her upper arm and severe grazing to her legs where the dog had dragged her to the floor. PC Matt Garfitt who is investigating the incident said he was keen to locate the owner of the dog or hear from anybody who may have witnessed the attack or seen the owner leaving the area afterward. The man is described as a white, in his mid 20s, skinny, and wearing a white tracksuit and white cap. PC Garfitt said the attack was 'terrifying' for the girl. "This was a terrifying attack on a young girl who was looking forward to enjoying the summer holidays with her siblings and friends. Instead, she has ended up with some really nasty injuries and has been left distraught by the whole incident. "It is extremely important that we locate the owner of this dog and stop him from allowing the animal to cause further harm to anyone."I'd like to hear from anyone who was near the parade of shops in Hillborough Crescent at the time of the attack or anyone else who may have information – however small or insignificant they think it is – that could help us. Don't dismiss your information as unimportant – even tiny details which don't seem relevant now might become useful later on in the investigation." PC Garfitt can be contacted in confidence on the non emergency 101 number, or by text on 07786 200011. Information can also be given confidentially to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

# **Schoolgirl, 11, mauled by Rottweiler needs 30 stitches after dog 'launched at her face' as she sat on a garden bench** 18 June 2012



© Wales News Service

## **Schoolgirl Courtney Nurden 11 needed more than 20 stitches after being clawed and bitten by the Rottweiler dog**

A pretty schoolgirl has been left scarred for life after her face was savaged by a 'dangerous' Rottweiler as she sat on a garden bench. Courtney Nurden, 11, needed 30 stitches to wounds on her cheek when she was bitten and clawed by the vicious animals in Newport, South Wales. The schoolgirl's mother told how the animal came up to Courtney and 'launched at her face' in the attack last week. Terrified Courtney needed stitches after being left with puncture wounds to her left cheek. Her mother Claire, 37, said: 'The dog came up to her and suddenly launched at her face. 'She fell to the ground and started screaming which brought neighbours running. 'They wrestled the dog away from Courtney and she ran home. Courtney's wounds needed internal and external stitches and she has lost feeling in the left side of her face. She was sent home but an infection developed and Courtney was re-admitted to hospital. Courtney underwent surgery to open the wound and clean it out. The schoolgirl, from Newport, South Wales, will have to wait for the wounds to heal before she can be seen by a cosmetic surgery specialists. Police were yesterday investigating the attack but the dog has not been put down because it happened on private land. Mother Claire said: 'It's a dangerous dog and should be destroyed before it bites another child.

# Mother whose son, 9, was savaged by dog calls for law change after police say they can't prosecute because attack was on private property

4 October 2012



## Keiran Goddard (9) bears the scars of a horrific dog attack

A mother whose son was mauled by a dog today called for a change in the law after police said they could not take any action because the attack happened on private property. Mother-of-four Alana Chambers, 32, was horrified when Keiran, nine, was savaged by the German shepherd cross at a friend's house. The dog clamped its jaws around the boy's face before tearing a chunk out of his top lip and slashing his cheek with its paw. Alana reported the incident to Cambridgeshire Police, but was told they were powerless to act because the incident occurred on private property. Currently, police can only prosecute owners of dogs who harm people if the attack happens in public and they can only forcibly remove illegal dogs. On October 4, Keiran was rushed to hospital where he was put under anaesthetic for an hour and needed several stitches to his face. Mrs Chambers slammed Cambridgeshire Police for 'not caring' about her son and called for an immediate change to the law. Keiran's mother ) is calling for a change in the law which at present does not make dog attacks on private property a criminal offence. She said: 'The law is ridiculous. It basically means that if a dog attacks someone on private land nothing can be done! The attack was 'completely unprovoked'. Kiran was rushed to hospital where he was put under anaesthetic for an hour and needed several stitches to his face. She added: 'The way the police treated us was disgusting. They would not even come out to see us to make sure he was OK. 'They did not care about my son and just said there would never be a law change because they would get too many calls from postmen ! Under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, dog owners cannot be prosecuted if their animal attacks someone on private property. However, Defra are considering a change to the law to give courts the power to jail dog owners for two years or impose a £5,000 fine if animals cause injuries while 'dangerously out of control' in their own homes.

# **Boy, 3, needed 100 stitches after dog attack**

10 Jan 2013



## **Three-year-old Trafford-James Jackson-Poole left scarred for life after he was attacked by a Japanese**

A three-year-old boy needed 100 stitches in his face and suffered a fractured eye socket after he was mauled by a Japanese Akita dog in his family's local pub in Newbold, Derbyshire. Trafford-James Jackson-Poole could be left scarred for life. His distraught mother Gemma Jackson says that her young son was lucky not to lose an eye and is now calling for the dog to be destroyed to prevent similar attacks. Gemma, told how the family were getting ready to leave their local pub when their son wandered into another room and was attacked by the Akita. "I heard a barking noise and then Trafford-James came in holding his face. He was screaming and covered in blood. The Akita had literally ripped a chunk out of his face. It all happened so quickly and the first thing I thought was 'is he going to die? I was in complete shock.'" The boy was kept in hospital for 24 hours after needing immediate surgery on his left cheek and treatment for a fractured eye socket, and he will need a further operation on to correct his damaged skin. Gemma, of Newbold, Chesterfield, added "I was told that the same dog attacked another child. This should never have been allowed to happen and to ensure this doesn't keep happening, the dog needs to be destroyed." Doctors are hopeful that Trafford-James has not suffered nerve damage following the bite, but won't know until the swelling on his face goes down. A Derbyshire police spokesman said of the most recent attack: "A child was bitten on the face in the Nag's Head on December 30 and inquiries into the incident are ongoing." Marston's, the brewery which owns the Nag's Head, said: "This matter is currently in the hands of the police." Japanese Akitas are powerful dogs that can grow to weigh more than nine stone. They are not included in the Dangerous Dogs Act, but there has been several attacks by the breed.

# ***Girl, 10, lost her foot after being savaged by pet dog***

19 December 2012



Millie-Anne Hemley 10

A mum has described the agonising moment she was forced to give doctors permission to cut her 10-year-old daughter's foot off after she was savaged by the family dog. Millie-Anne Hemley suffered horrendous injuries after being attacked by her pet Staffordshire bull terrier, called Rory. Millie-Anne's injuries were so horrific that doctors told her mum, Paula Warren, 32, they would have to amputate. Paula said: "They said if she was left with that bit of her leg, the foot would be useless. But I was just hearing, 'we're going to cut her leg off'. "It must have been the slowest I have signed my signature ever." Milly-Anne recalled how Rory grabbed her leg when she screamed as he tried to bolt through an open front door. She said: "He just didn't let go and he shook me. "I remember my whole body shaking, I was hugging his back and saying, 'it's only me, Rory'. "My brother pushed him against the stairs and got him off me. He came at me again and bit my other leg, but they pushed me into the living room and shut the door." Milly-Anne was left with just skin and bone holding her right shin together and surgeons fought to save the limb. But just two hours later they asked mum Paula Warren to give permission to amputate. Milly-Anne spent Christmas in hospital after losing her leg at the shin on December 19 and has been learning to walk on crutches. She will be fitted with a prosthetic after her leg has healed. Paula, from Long Buckby, Northants, was working during the attack and had left the eldest of her four children, Braydon, 15, in charge. She said: "I blame myself entirely because I'm a mother and I wasn't there. When I got home it was so horrendous. It was just gone, it was just a piece of bone. "I watched her leg turn from pink to blue to white, you could see there was no blood getting there." Rory was put down but Paula told how he had never shown signs of aggression. She added: "This proves that you just don't know your own dog - we don't know why he did it, we'll never know."

## ***Girl, 3, may never smile again after being scarred for life in 'devil dog' attack*** 23rd March 2009



**Demi Franklyn, 3, may never be able to smile again after she was viciously mauled by the Akita outside her home.** Three years old Demi Franklyn may never be able to smile again after being viciously mauled by a dog. The youngster was playing with the powerful Japanese Akita fighting dog, called Tyson, outside her home when it suddenly turned on her - breaking her jaw and leaving her with horrific head and neck wounds. The damage to her facial muscles and nerves is so severe she cannot form a proper smile and doctors cannot say if they can be repaired. Demi's family are even more furious that the Akita, a breed so savage they have been called devil dogs, was allowed near children unmuzzled because months earlier it had attacked a seven-year-old boy, leaving him scarred for life also. Charlie Faulding was left needing 40 stitches. Demi's mother, Mary Davies, 39, said she did not know the dog had a violent history. The mother-of-five, of Shipley, West Yorkshire, said: 'That animal had a taste for blood and nothing was done about it. It beggars belief. I just want to know why that dog wasn't put down after the first attack. Something wasn't done that should have been and it is my daughter who has paid the price.' The Akita has now been put down by his owner after the attacks.

## ***Toddler's jaw was ripped off by family dog*** 24th March 2010



**Horrific attack: Taylor Leadbeater was mauled by a family pet, a French Bullmastiff, as she played in her bedroom.** The father of a two-year-old girl mauled by the family dog told how he desperately tried to wrestle the dog off his daughter. **Taylor Leadbeater** was in a critical condition and underwent facial reconstruction surgery after her jaw was ripped from her face by the French Bullmastiff. Her father Gareth Sim, 31, punched the dog repeatedly and then carried Taylor, who was bleeding profusely, to a neighbour's house to call for help. The dog attack on two-year-old Taylor occurred in the family home in Eltham. 'Taylor was in her room playing with her toys. Her father heard a growl, and the dog had Taylor on the floor biting her face. After fighting off the dog he picked her up but she wasn't screaming and was in shock. Her face was covered in blood. Taylor was taken to hospital and has had 70 stitches put into her face after an operation and is due to undergo another operation to deep wounds below her eye.

# Boy Savaged by 3 Rottweilers

17 Jan 2007



**Attacked ... Jordan Gillon age 9, inset left, was bitten by owner Yvonne Webb's devil dogs**

A PETRIFIED schoolboy was savaged by a neighbour's three Rottweilers in the lounge of his own home. The baying hounds escaped from a property three doors away and chased nine-year-old **Jordan Gillon** up the driveway of his parents' house. They caught up with him as he ran inside and attacked before he burst into the sitting room, where his mum and stepdad were watching TV. One had clamped its jaws round Jordan's right arm, another was biting his legs and the third had its front paws on his shoulders and was trying to chew his Neck. Brave stepdad Scott, 35, waded in with his fists and feet to force the beasts off and after a five minute struggle prise apart the dogs jaws and chased the three dogs outside before dialling 999. Jordan had been bitten 16 times on his back, thighs, buttocks, legs and face. Bone and ligaments on his right arm were exposed. Jordan needed five hours of surgery and is due for further operations. Doctors say he will be scarred for life. The Rottweilers owner Yvonne Webb of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs who was out when the dogs escaped from her kitchen said. "My dogs have never bitten anyone before." One Rottweiler was destroyed and Police were seeking destruction orders for the other two, one of which has newborn pups.

## **Dog that savaged girl at birthday party 'had been spared after previous attack on child'**

12th April

2010



**Scarred: Skye Jackson was bitten a Staffordshire Bull Terrier called Guinness.**

A dog which savaged a six-year-old girl at a children's birthday party had escaped being put down after mauling another child three years ago. **Skye Jackson** was scarred for life when she was attacked by the Staffordshire bull terrier, called Guinness, in front of 14 friends. She needed more than 100 stitches and had two rounds of plastic surgery after the attack and was off school for three months. Parents, Andy and Lisa today spoke of their anger that the police didn't want to do anything about it initially, but I wouldn't let it go. 'I had heard rumours that the dog had attacked a little girl in a lift before this. The first attack happened in 2005 but it was thrown out of court. The dog's owners, Richard and Samantha Venables, were spared jail. Judge Witold Pawlak criticised Richard Venables, 33, saying he was more interested in watching television than keeping an eye on the dog. Skye, now eight, was at a party with her elder sister Summer in Edmonton North London. The horrific attack lasted several minutes before parents dragged the dog off Skye. Her arm was mauled and she was in hospital for a week. Lisa, had asked if the dog was safe around children and Mrs Venables answered, "Absolutely, yes". Venables and his 38-year-old wife were each given a 10-week suspended jail sentence and banned from owning a dog for two years at Wood Green crown court on Friday. The dog has been put down.

## ***Pet dog mauls 11-month-old baby*** 4 October 2006

A baby boy was recovering at home today after being savaged by a Staffordshire bull terrier. The 11-month-old boy was attacked by a family pet at a house in Barrhead, East Renfrewshire, at teatime on Sunday, police said. The child, who has not been named, suffered facial injuries and was taken to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley after the attack at Divernia Way. He was later transferred to Glasgow's Yorkhill Hospital but was discharged yesterday. The pet was put down following the attack, Strathclyde Police said. A spokeswoman for NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde said: "We can confirm that an 11-month-old boy was brought to the Yorkhill Royal Hospital for Sick Children to be treated for a dog bite. "The child has now been discharged from the hospital." It is understood the baby boy was staying at his grandmother's house when the attack happened. The baby's mother, Michelle MacKenzie, lives across the road from her mother in Barrhead's Divernia Way. One of Michelle's neighbours said she had lived in the flat for about five years and her son spent most weekends across the road with his grandparents and uncle, to whom the dog involved in the attack belonged. He said: "I was away on Sunday but I know Michelle usually takes the boy over to her mum's. "I see them walking the dog up and down but it's never let out on its own." The attack comes in the wake of the death of a five-month-old baby girl who was savaged by two Rottweilers at a bar in Leicester last month. She was mauled by the guard dogs in the living quarters of the Rocket pub in the New Parks area of the city. Three days later a toddler needed more than 200 stitches after being attacked by his grandmother's Rottweiler at Middleton-on-Sea, near Bognor Regis, West Sussex. Doreen Graham, of the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said: "This is really out of character for a Staff. They are usually fantastic with children and are known as the 'nanny dog'. "There's a temptation to target specific breeds that aren't covered by the Dangerous Dogs Act. "But the bottom line is all dogs are dangerous in the hands of an owner who doesn't know how to handle them or if the dog feels threatened." Ryan O'Meara, editor of K9 Magazine, said: "We need far more education on what provokes dog attacks, which is why we want the Government to bring in a suitability certificate, or a 'doggy driving licence'. "That would require dog owners to sit a basic exam to show they are aware of their responsibilities towards the animal and other people."

## ***Dog savages girl outside school gates*** 14 October 2006

A seven-year-old girl was savaged by a dog as she played at her school, police said today. Hannah Russell had approached the animal, which was tied to a gate outside Woodfield Junior School, in Cam, Gloucestershire, when it leapt at her face and attacked her. The large black and grey dog - believed to be a collie-cross - bit the youngster on the cheek and shook her violently from side to side, before she fell to the ground. Hannah was left covered in blood after the attack, which was witnessed by several other children waiting for their parents at the school gate. She was taken to Berkeley Hospital to be treated for facial injuries. Gloucestershire Police confirmed today that they were investigating the incident and would be speaking to the child's parents this afternoon. Inspector Les Pritchard said: "We had a report from the child's mother yesterday. Apparently the dog, which is believed to belong to the parent of another child, was tied up outside the premises. "It then apparently bit the little girl. She suffered facial injuries, but it isn't life threatening." He said the force would have to await the outcome of the investigation before deciding on whether the animal should be put down. The attack happened at 3.30pm yesterday as the children left school for the day. Sharon Mills, whose son and daughter witnessed the dog mauling the schoolgirl, told the Gloucester Citizen: "She was bitten really quite badly. There was blood everywhere, all over her face and down her jumper. "My son said when Hannah fell over the dog went for her again and tried to bite her legs." Mike Russell, Hannah's father, insisted the dog should never have been left unattended outside the school "I know it was an accident, but it was a silly place to leave a dog tied up." He added: "They took Hannah to Berkeley Hospital straight away, but she is going to be transferred to Gloucester's accident and emergency department soon. "The dog caught the inside of her cheek and mouth, and they need her to go to Gloucester to be treated." The attack comes just one month after five-month old baby Cadey-Lee Deacon was mauled to death by two Rottweiler dogs in Leicester.

# ***Killer dog Shot 17 times after attacking little boy.***

9 April 2006

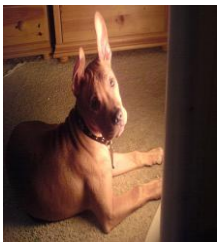


Pic: Ian McIlgorm

Police marksmen called to save a two-year-old child from the jaws of a bull mastiff had to pump 17 bullets into the dog before it would die. The animal had already been stabbed four times with a bread knife by its owner in a desperate effort to make it drop his son. When three police marksmen arrived from Scotland Yard's CO19 specialist firearms squad, they initially fired a 50,000-volt Taser gun in a vain attempt to stop the frenzied attack by family pet Mitch. They then emptied the entire clip of a Glock 17, 9mm pistol into the dog before it finally collapsed and died. "The dog kept getting up and wouldn't die," said owner Michael Andrea, 30. His son Nicholas was taken to hospital. The horror began when Mitch turned on little **Nicholas Andrea** at the family home. The dog had him by the back of his head and wouldn't let go, throwing Nicholas around like a rag doll. There was blood everywhere. Michael was kicking the dog to get him off Nicholas and then grabbed a bread knife and stabbed Mitch four times with it. Mum Sherry was hitting him with a broom. Nicholas escaped briefly but the dog pulled him back and attacked him again, biting him around his eye, on his legs and body. Neighbours called the police and a police dog-handler couldn't snare Mitch. Then the police armed response vehicle turned up and shot the dog. "This was every parent's nightmare" said Michael Andrea. "We will be even more careful now to protect the children."

## ***18-month-old baby attacked in the street during two-hour rampage by bull terrier named Asbo***

9th October 2008



A dog shot dead after mauling a toddler and seven other people. The American pitbull cross, named Asbo, broke loose from its home and dragged 20-month-old Amir Santos around 'like a rag doll'. It then attacked bystanders who tried to beat the animal off with sticks. The dog had savaged 14-year-old Kelvin Oduro near his home in the Pollards Hill Estate, Mitcham in May and police were warned by his family that the animal was dangerous and should be destroyed. Kelvin needed stitches for bite wounds in his arm and thigh and was left terrified of dogs. But despite pleas from his mother Stella for Asbo to be put down, the family claims police allowed its owners to keep the animal. Mrs Oduro, 42, today said the latest attack should have been prevented. The powerful 10-month-old dog broke loose from its home in Lindsey Close, Mitcham, yesterday and went berserk in nearby South Lodge Avenue attacking eight people during a two-hour period. Witnesses described how it grabbed Amir from his mother's arms and dragged him around 'like a rag doll' for 10 minutes as she desperately tried to stop it, screaming 'help my baby. Father Edvaldo Santos, 25, said: 'My son really is lucky to be alive.' Two off-duty bus drivers saved the toddler's life as they beat the animal with sticks but were then attacked themselves. Jackie Haggis, 38, said she saw one-injured victim's face 'flapping all over the place'. Police marksmen shot the dog two hours after it first attacked, tracking Asbo by helicopter through the surrounding streets. Today Mrs Oduro, whose son knows the 12-year-old owner of the dog that attacked him, said: 'This should never have happened. The dog was obviously dangerous after what it did to my son. 'I told police they should take it away. I wanted the dog put down. I thought one day it could kill a child. Now it has attacked again The dog should have been destroyed months ago.. Police had been to see the mother of Asbo's owner and told her to make it wear a muzzle when in public but let her keep it. A 29-year-old woman arrested for having a dog dangerously out of control in a public place and has been bailed until next month.

# ***Toddler narrowly survives Rottweiler attack***

27 September 2006



## **Tyler the Rottweiler savagely attacked toddler Harvey**

A toddler savaged by a Rottweiler came within a hair's breadth of death after the animal sunk its fangs into his neck, it has been revealed. **Harvey Lawrence**, 2, suffered severe scarring on his face neck and legs after the dog's frenzied attack missed a vital artery in his neck by a fraction of an inch. He was only subdued after a brave neighbour battered him on the head with a hammer during the attack in Middleton on Sea, West Sussex. Neighbours described the Rottweiler, called Tyler, as a menace that terrorised the neighbourhood. The attack is the latest to involve the muscular attack dogs, coming just three days after five-month old Cadey-Lee Deacon was mauled to death by two Rottweilers in Leicester. Harvey had been playing in the drive of the £500,000 detached home of his grandmother, Gwendoline Briaris when Tyler attacked. His other grandmother, Lyn Carey, of Gosport, Hants called for Rottweilers to be banned by placing on the Dangerous Dogs List. Speaking outside St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, where Harvey is being treated she said: " Tyler was just intent on savaging the boy, and it was just so strong she couldn't fight it off. He has so many injuries. They thought he might have to go to Southampton hospital because the dog's tooth went through the back of his neck. The dog's owner, Richard Cullen, a former police officer agreed to have the dog destroyed.

# Hero kills dog as it mauls woman

2 June 2006



## **Christopher Davis had to stab the Bull Mastiff in order to stop it mauling a woman**

A woman was saved from the jaws of a bull mastiff by a man who stabbed the dog to death. The creature leapt on Kayleigh Thornton while she waited at the door of a friend's house. The dog knocked the 20 year old to the ground and chased after her when she tried to run away. It then launched a savage attack, locking its jaws around one of her arms. Her screams were heard by Christopher Davis who was working in his home nearby. The 23 year old ran at the dog with a metal pole but failed to prise it off Miss Thornton. He then went back to his house to arm himself with two 10-inch kitchen knives. He repeatedly plunged the blades into the dog's back and head until it died. One of the blades broke off in the animal's body. Miss Thornton was recovering in hospital last night with what were described as 'horrific' bite wounds to her arms and legs. "One of her arms was so badly cut I could see the bone" said Mr Davis. "Everyone was screaming and I just kept going. Eventually I'd stabbed it so many times it just rolled over and died." Mr Davis was left with cuts to his hands after the rescue and was given an emergency tetanus jab. The dog escaped from the garden of the house Miss Thornton was visiting in Plymouth. "The girl walked up to the door and rang the bell and the dog suddenly ran out and attacked her." "It was horrible. There was blood everywhere." said a witness. Miss Thornton was taken to the city's Derriford Hospital where she underwent emergency surgery. A friend she was with was also injured in the arm and taken to hospital. Bull mastiffs are powerful guard dogs. They are known, however, for attacks on humans, especially children. They grow to 2ft high and can weigh more than 130lbs. They are not classed as dangerous under British law.

## ***Six-year-old son of England rugby star Lawrence Dallaglio mauled by family dog in savage attack***

19 May 2008

The young son of ex-England rugby captain Lawrence Dallaglio is recovering after being savagely mauled by the family's pet dog. Six-year-old Enzo suffered facial wounds in the attack last week at the Dallaglio home in West London. Doctors have said he will make a full recovery although they warned several scars may take some time to heal. The youngster spent two days in hospital. The dog, a Rhodesian ridgeback named Como, has been destroyed. Mr Dallaglio said: "I feel guilty about it because I brought Como into our family."



**Attack: Lawrence Dallaglio, pictured with wife Alice, and son six year-old Enzo, who was savagely mauled.**

## ***Family's border collie leaps into car and mauls baby, 7 months, who nearly loses a leg*** 22nd June 2010

A baby of seven months was mauled by his family's pet sheepdog after it jumped through an open car window and on to his booster seat. **William Jaundrell's** leg was almost torn off when border collie Bill attacked him on the driveway of his grandparents' farm. His mother Patricia had left her son in the Vauxhall Vectra estate for a matter of minutes while she popped into the house when the dog jumped in. His parents rushed out after hearing William's screams and the six-year-old dog was wrestled off the baby. The infant was airlifted to hospital, where surgeons considered amputating his leg before carrying out emergency surgery to save it. The 'freak' attack happened at the farm in Peplow, near Market Drayton, Shropshire.



Scene of the attack: Seven-month-old William and his parents were visiting his grandparents when the dog jumped into a car and savaged him

## ***Bull terrier drunk on Stella Artois mauls boy of ten... but court spares 'good-natured' pet - Uncle of owner's girlfriend gave Stella lager to the animal because it was panting, the court heard*** 24th October 2011

A boy of ten could be scarred for life after being mauled by a dog which had been fed strong lager. Joseph Pickering was bitten in the face by the Staffordshire bull terrier moments after a can of Stella Artois was poured down its throat because it was thirsty. The boy ran in tears to his mother with blood pouring from the wound. He needed a skin graft repair it.



# ***Toddler needs 50 stitches and nearly loses an eye after being savaged by family terrier***

22nd October 2010

A toddler needed 50 stitches to her face after a family pet turned on her in a horrific attack. Lilly Llewellyn, 16 months, was savaged by Cairn terrier Smokey, described by breeders as 'the best little pal in the world', after she accidentally stepped on his tail. The eight-year-old pet sank its teeth into Lilly's face and tossed her around in the attack which nearly cost her an eye. The terrier has been put down and yesterday the toddler from Beddau, South Wales, was recovering after a another painful operation to repair her scarred face. Her father Lyn Llewellyn, 40, said: 'The attack came from nowhere. We would never have expected it from Smokey. 'The lesson is that you should never leave any young child alone with a dog.'



Lilly has had facial surgery following the attack. She is pictured here with her mother Leanne Austin and paramedics Steven Roberts (left) and Dave Brock who first treated the toddler

## ***Two-year-old girl recovering in hospital after being savaged by a Rottweiler dog.***



### **Toddler 'poorly' after dog attack**

A two-year-old girl is recovering in hospital after being savaged by a Rottweiler dog. **Charlotte Hall** suffered serious head injuries in the attack which happened at a pub in Yorkshire. Her condition is described as "poorly". The dog attacked the child as she was being carried by her father, David Hall. The 20-stone animal clamped the child around the head with its jaws and pulled her away. The attack happened at the New Tavern pub in the north Yorkshire village of Stokesley where Mr Hall works as a chef. The dog was used to guard the premises. The child's mother, Deborah Hall, said her husband fought the dog with his bare hands to rescue Charlotte. "He was on the floor fighting with the dog, his knees round the dogs neck and pulling on the dog's choker to get the dog's jaws released from her head," said Mrs Hall.

# ***Toddler left in wheelchair after Rottweiler mauling in park***

5 November 2007



A two-year-old girl has been left in a wheelchair after she was mauled by a Rottweiler. The dog ripped into little Tegan's leg as she went for a walk in the park with her family. It only let go when two men passing by ran to help and began battering it with a branch to make it let go and pulled the dog off the helpless two-year-old. But the terrified tot was left with torn calf muscles and faces skin graft operations, physiotherapy and up to eight weeks in a wheelchair. Her angry mum Sharon, 26, who did not want to give her last name, said she tried in vain to pull the beast off of her daughter. She said: "My daughter has got to grow up with her leg scarred for life. "She is mentally scarred too, and has been suffering nightmares." The dog attacked as they left their car at the Norsey Woods Country Park in Billericay, Essex. It wasn't with an owner or wearing a muzzle and rushed over, knocking Tegan's aunt Kerryann, who was holding Tegan, to the floor. As they got up, the dog attacked Tegan's foot and bit Kerryann's wrist. Sharon said: "I was terrified. I knew we were going to get attacked because of the way the dog charged at us. Tegan's legs were locked in its mouth, but the dog was so strong and when I pulled her I was only left holding her jumper." The terrified mum, from Wickford, Essex, who was also with her other daughter Sophie, five, began screaming. When it finally released Tegan, the family hid in the public toilets and waited for the police to arrive and capture the Rottweiler. The owner agreed to have the dog destroyed. Police are investigating

# ***Two young boys suffer savage dog attacks in Enfield***

15th September 2009

TWO young boys were viciously attacked by dogs in Enfield, leaving one needing a dozen stitches in his arm. Joe Elston, ten, was taken to Chase Farm Hospital, after being attacked by a Rottweiler in Swan and Pike Road on September 5. Three-year-old Tommy Bennett was walking home from Forty Hall with his mother Sarah, 28, when he was knocked over by a large black Staffordshire bull terrier, which scratched him below his eye. Speaking about the first incident, Jayne Elston, 38, of Brunswick Road, said: "Joe was playing with his brother and friends when they started talking to this man, who had two Rottweilers on leashes. He asked the man if they bit people, and he said no. But as soon as he said that, one of them just went for Joe. I ran over immediately and found him sitting on the, holding his arm. It looked terrible. He was in a lot of pain. All I can do is warn people that these dogs do bite, and to be aware that you should never approach them, even if they are on a lead." Meanwhile Mrs Bennett, of Tynemouth Drive, said her three-year-old son Tommy was left shaken after last Wednesday's attack. She said: "The dog just came speeding up to us and knocked him over. I'm not very tall, but I tried holding Tommy as high up as I could. The dog kept barking, though, and trying to get to my little boy. The owner came strolling along and it took him 15 minutes to control the dog. In the end he had to sit on it. It wasn't until I was bathing Tommy later that I realised he had a scratch on his cheek and another by his eye." Mrs Bennett expressed concern that, other children might be at risk. However, she said the police were unable to take any action because she did not have the man's name or address. She added: "He knew I was going to call the police and ran off". Clare Kennett, RSPCA spokeswoman advised owners of all potentially aggressive dogs to abide by the legal guidelines and everyone with a dog that is at risk of biting people should keep it muzzled and on a lead when out in public."

# ***Girl, 2, has ear torn off in brutal attack by family dog***

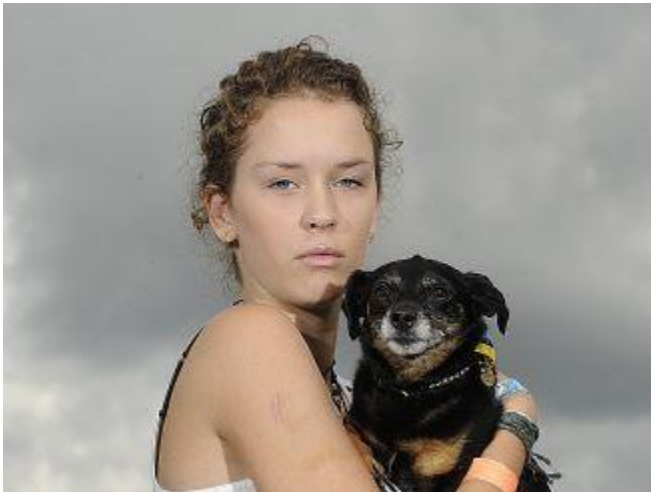
16th April 2009

## **No charges say Police as Attack happened on private property**

A two-year-old girl has had an ear ripped off in a savage attack by her 'out of control' family dog. The Staffordshire Bull Terrier cross went berserk at the family home and brutally attacked the child. A neighbour said: 'They'd only had that dog for two years but you could tell it was out of control. Every day you could hear it howling and barking. It didn't get taken out much and when it was, the owners struggled to keep him under control. It was a scary-looking dog. A few times the dog managed to get out from the house and when they tried to get the dog back in, it didn't listen. It just ran around wildly. 'Their daughter is a lovely little girl and we just can't believe this has happened. It's terrible.' The pet has been destroyed and the toddler is recovering at her mother's council flat on the Little England estate in Chippenham, Wilts. The girl's mother, who is aged in her early 30s, refused to comment on the vicious attack. Wiltshire police said it would not be bringing criminal charges against the owners of the dog because the attack happened in their own home on private property. The family gave their permission for the dog to be put down and police took it to Chippenham Police station, where the RSPCA attended and destroyed the animal.

# ***Bayswater girl scarred by dog attack***

13 April 2010



## **Tayla, 15, was attacked by one of four off-lead dogs**

Tayla has a scar on her arm after being bitten by an off-lead dog in Bayswater. She was attacked as she picked up her little pup Jerry in case the dog attacked him. Her mother was appalled Knox Council ignored reports her teenage daughter had been mauled by an off-lead dog. Tayla, 15, was attacked by one of four off-lead dogs as she walked her pet fox terrier Jerry through Sasses Recreation Reserve in Bayswater on March 29. The German shepherd pounced as Tayla swooped down to protect Jerry from the much larger dog. The teenager was left shaken and suffered scarring on her upper arm in the attack, which drew blood. The dog was one of two German shepherds, a Rottweiler and golden retriever in the pack, she said. Her mum, Jenny, reported the attack to Knox Council who are investigating. Jenny said. She now fears one of the dogs may strike again, with more dire results. Council laws allow dogs to be off-lead in public parks and recreation reserves across Knox, provided they remain under the owner's effective control - something Tayla said this owner failed to do. Mark Dupe, council director of corporate development, said council officers wanted to speak with the dog's owner and were trying to locate the dogs. The council has received 40 reports of dog attacks this year.

# ***Dog savages girl outside school gates***

**14 Oct 2006.**

A seven-year-old girl was savaged by a dog as she played at her school, police said **Hannah Russell** had approached the animal, which was tied to a gate outside Woodfield Junior School, in Cam, Gloucestershire, when it leapt at her face and attacked her. The large black and grey Collie bit the youngster on the cheek and shook her violently from side to side, before she fell to the ground. Hannah was left covered in blood after the attack, which was witnessed by several other children waiting for their parents at the school gate. She was taken to Berkeley Hospital to be treated for facial injuries. Gloucestershire Police confirmed today that they were investigating the incident. The dog belongs to the parent of another child and was tied up outside the premises where it attacked and bit the little girl at 3.30pm as the children left school for the day. She suffered facial injuries and was bitten quite badly. There was blood everywhere, all over her face and down her jumper. Other children fell over the dog as it went for the girl again and tried to bite her legs. Mike Russell, Hannah's father, insisted the dog should never have been left unattended outside the school and said it was a silly place to leave a dog tied up. Hannah went to Berkeley Hospital straight away, but was transferred to Gloucester Hospital to be treated.

# ***Seven-year-old boy savaged by hunting dog 'saved from death'*** 9th June 2008



**Savaged: Seven-year-old Charlie Faulding needed more than 40 stitches to his head and leg.**

A seven-year-old boy was rescued from the jaws of a powerful hunting dog by his father. Charlie Faulding was left with 40 stitches to his head and legs after the Japanese Akita attacked him while he tried to retrieve a football from his neighbour's garden. The boy's father, Mark Faulding, 36, fought off the dog in a dramatic rescue after he found his son lying face down in a pool of blood and unconscious. He said he believed his son would have died if he had not stopped the attack. Charlie's distraught sister Chrissie, 12, who was playing with Charlie, alerted Mr Faulding, running in screaming. "I could hear the other children screaming and knew something terrible was happening." The brave father ran out and seeing his son's lifeless body instinctively jumped over the fence. 'It was standing over him growling just inches from his face,' he said. 'I grabbed it and threw it across the yard. I don't know where the strength came from but he flew across to the other side. 'Straight away the dog came back at me so I grabbed a stick and started swinging it at him but then he went for Charlie again and got hold of his legs.' Mr Faulding said he tried to hit the dog to make it let go of his son but nothing was stopping it. A teenage girl, on the other side of the fence, then passed him a shovel and he hit the dog three times on the back making it finally release its grip. The dog backed into a corner, still bearing its teeth, but allowed Mr Faulding to pass the still-unconscious Charlie over the fence to neighbours before he was able to escape. Despite the boy's injuries, West Yorkshire Police said no offence had been committed because the 18-month-old dog was secure, surrounded by a high wall and behind a padlocked gate on private property. Dad Mark, thinks dog laws should be reviewed.

# ***Police unable to seize dog that savaged little boy***

27 October 27, 2009

**Police Officers powerless to act after dog incident on private property.**



**Kaydon Johnson 5 with mum Amanda**

A MUM whose young son was savaged by a dog says police told her they were powerless to seize the animal. Kaydon Johnson, five, needed 40 stitches and spent four days in hospital after being attacked as he played at a friend's house in Wythenshawe, Manchester. The dog, a bull mastiff/ great Dane cross, bit his ear and back, leaving him with serious cuts. His mum Amanda White, 28, believes he was lucky to survive but he is now suffering from haunting flashbacks of the incident. Amanda, from Baguley, immediately reported the attack to police, but she says **police officers told her they were powerless to seize the dog as the incident happened on private property.** She is now considering taking legal action against the dog's owner. She said: "I felt sick when I saw Kaydon lying there in the hospital. I am totally disgusted and sickened that an animal could do this to him. "I couldn't stop crying and my little boy kept saying he thought he was going to die. "He must have been petrified but I feel he is lucky to be alive and I dread to think what might have happened had the dog carried on for another couple of minutes." She added: "This dog attacked my son and I fear that it could do the same again but next time the outcome could be even worse. "It just staggers me that a dog can do this and the police can't take it away to stop it from doing the same again. "In my view, the dog should be put down before it kills a child." A police spokeswoman confirmed that a report of the attack had been received and the owner agreed to destroy the animal. Kaydon is 'recovering well' at home.

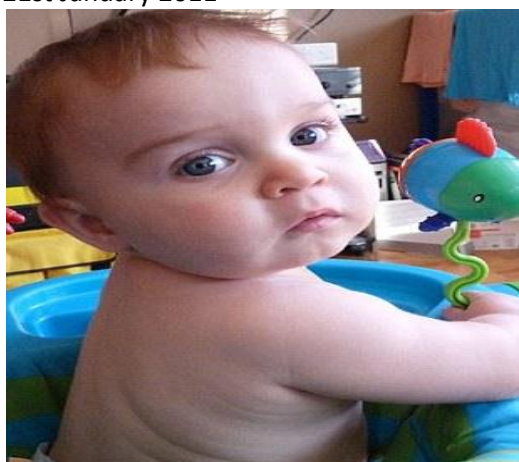
# ***Police powerless to destroy dog after savage attack on child***

10 June 2006

A vicious dog that savaged a young girl and left her scarred will not be destroyed because of a bizarre legal loophole. **Courtney Walker**, nine, of Dukinfield, Greater Manchester suffered dreadful injuries when she had her face ripped open by a bull mastiff as she played with friends near her home. The youngster was rushed to hospital where she was seen by plastic surgeons before having stitches to close the gaping wounds in her lower left cheek. But because Courtney was attacked by the dog after wandering into a neighbour's garden, the animal will not have to be destroyed. The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 doesn't apply on Private land and police are powerless to act. The little-known loophole will mean Courtney will have to play with her friends just yards from the dog that mauled her. Her mother, Tracy Walker, said, the attack on her daughter was unprovoked and is outraged the dog will not be destroyed. She said: "Courtney was playing in a neighbour's garden because she is friends with the little girl who lives there and you don't expect dogs to be so vicious. That dog wasn't secured and didn't have a muzzle on." The young girl was taken to Booth Hall hospital, Manchester, where she was treated by doctors. Mohammed Saleem, the dog's owner, claims Courtney surprised the dog by grabbing hold of the two-year-old bitch as she was eating. He said he is not legally bound to have it put down because it was not out of control in a public place. Greater Manchester Police said: **"This was a vicious attack but within the confines of the law we've not been able to prosecute the owner of the dog because the incident happened on private property."**

# ***Toddler, 2, scarred for life after mauling by eight-stone family dog***

21st January 2011



## **Mauled: Two-year-old Lewis Oliver**

Two-year-old Lewis Oliver was left seriously ill in hospital after his family's eight-stone Japanese Akita dog turned on him in the home in a savage attack. The toddler had his face ripped open. Little Lewis has undergone plastic surgery and may be scarred for life after the dog attacked him as he played with her. He was rushed hospital. Horrified parents, Reme Keightley and Dean Oliver handed the dog to police and it was destroyed immediately. They also gave up a second Akita for re-homing. 'Lewis was bitten in the cheek and a flap of skin was hanging open and he was bitten on the arm. An aunt said that Lewis plays with the dog and he's always been fine. It's horrible. 'Reme and Dean just can't face having dogs in the house after what's happened. Japanese Akitas are not banned under the Dangerous Dog Act. They are highly intelligent and fiercely loyal hunting and guard dogs. Some campaigners have called for them to be banned, saying they are prone to erratic behaviour and occasional violence. A Police spokesperson said: 'Although this was a traumatic incident for the child and his family this appears to be an isolated incident which occurred within the family home in Hailsham, East Sussex. A Sussex Police spokesman said no offences had been committed and no charges would be made.

## ***Girl has most of her ear bitten off in a dog attack in Chingford*** 23 January 2012

### ***"Shark attack" style dog mauling of girl, 6, has left family "totally devastated"***

The parents of a six-year-old girl who had most of her ear bitten off when she was savaged by a dog say the attack had left them "totally devastated" and in "a state of shock". The little girl was with her parents Andrew and Sarah Smith and three-year-old brother visiting Pole Hill Chingford, north east London when the attack happened. Mr Smith said "the first time the children saw the dog was when it charged towards them." The dog circled their daughter Evie like "a shark attack" before it struck.. Mr Smith said "As we were packing up to leave, a dog suddenly ran up and attacked Evie, injuring my wife who was trying to protect her. The children were terrified and ran as fast as they could to the safety of Sarah and I. This was a totally unprovoked and savage attack. The dog attacked on multiple occasions" Our son, who is very close to his sister, witnessed the entire incident." He added: "I hit the dog a number of times, trying to make it let go of my little girl and wife but the dog continued to attack, despite our best efforts to protect her. The dog wasn't on a lead or muzzled and there was no sign of the owner." Mr Smith said he and his wife ended up on the ground as they fought the dog. He said the animal "ripped the majority of Evie's right ear off". He added: "Sarah lay across Evie to try and protect her and as a result suffered multiple injuries to her arms. There was a lot of blood." The little girl was taken to hospital and later transferred to a specialist unit. She will continue to be treated, Mr Smith said. "Evie is a remarkable little girl who is very popular and full of life and loves to sing and dance. " We're trying to keep her upbeat. We are a very close and loving family and this has totally devastated us. We are all in a state of shock about what has happened and thank people for their concern and wishes."

## ***Mother fights off bull mastiff with her bare hands as it rips puppy to pieces and attacks daughter's buggy*** 23rd August 2011

A mother took on a berserk dog with her bare hands after the snarling bull mastiff threatened her two young children in a park. Karen Greaves, 31, suffered horrific injuries as she grabbed its jaws to save terrified youngsters, Dylan, five, and four-month-old Amelia, who had already seen the dog rip to pieces their King Charles spaniel puppy, Molly. Their ordeal happened just after Mrs Greaves and the children had enjoyed a picnic in the park. She said: 'Out of nowhere, with no warning, this huge dog appeared and attacked Molly pretty much straight away, Mrs Greaves was repeatedly bitten in the attack in Platt Fields, south Manchester, and had to undergo surgery on her hands. The bull mastiff was being walked by its female owner, but not on a lead, when it launched its attack. Mrs Greaves and her husband Jonathan, 37, of Withington, Manchester, now want all dogs banned from public parks to ensure children are protected. She said: ' I don't want any other families to go through this.'



Scarred for life: Karen Greaves needed surgery for serious injuries after the bull mastiff ripped into her hands.

## ***Dog bite girl leaves hospital*** 21 May, 2002



**Leah Preston with her mother Diane Reynolds**

A five-year-old girl who was savaged by two dogs has left hospital two weeks after suffering horrific bite wounds to her legs. **Leah Preston**, who was attacked as she played in the front garden of her home in Low Hill, Wolverhampton. Leah is back on her feet after three operations, She keeps saying 'Are the dogs gone, are the dogs gone?' Leah and her mum Diane will not be returning to the home in Hawksford Crescent, Low Hill, where the attack took place as it may be too traumatic. Diane said she may campaign for a change in the law governing dangerous dogs as she is not going to sit back and let it carry on and wants to do something about it. "It's not just the dogs - it's the owners as well that can't control these kind of dogs," she said. Consultant plastic surgeon Hiroshi Nishikawa said: "Leah's injuries were life and limb-threatening but a team here at Birmingham's children's hospital, including surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and physiotherapists, have successfully treated her and we are delighted that she can now go home to her family." Leah has made a remarkable recovery and is now making good progress walking. She is a brave little girl. "Due to the severity and extent of Leah's injuries, she will be permanently scarred and she may require reconstructive plastic surgery on her legs in the future.

# ***THOSE KILLED***

***in Dog Attacks in the UK  
Total 16  
10 Children & 6 Adults***

**Children Killed (10):-**

26.03.13 Jade Lomas-Anderson (F), 14 years, Wigan - 2 Bull Mastiffs and 2 Staffordshire Bull Terriers.  
20.11.12 Harry Harper (M), 8 days, Ketley - Jack Russell  
17.04.10 Zumer Ahmed (F), 18-months, Crawley - American Bulldog  
30.11.09 John-Paul Massey (M), 4 years, Liverpool - Pit Bull Terrier type  
07.02.09 Jaden Mack (M), 3 months, South Wales - Staffordshire Bull Terrier & Jack Russell  
28.12.07 Archie-Lee Hirst (M), 1 year, Wakefield - Rottweiler  
01.01.07 Ellie Lawrenson (F), 5 years, St Hellens - Pit Bull Terrier type  
23.09.06 Cadey-Lee Deacon (F), 5 months, Leicester - 2 Rottweilers  
11.07.05 Liam Eames (M) 1 year, Leeds - American bulldog  
20.12.89 Kelly Lynch (F) 11 years, Scotland - 2 Rottweilers

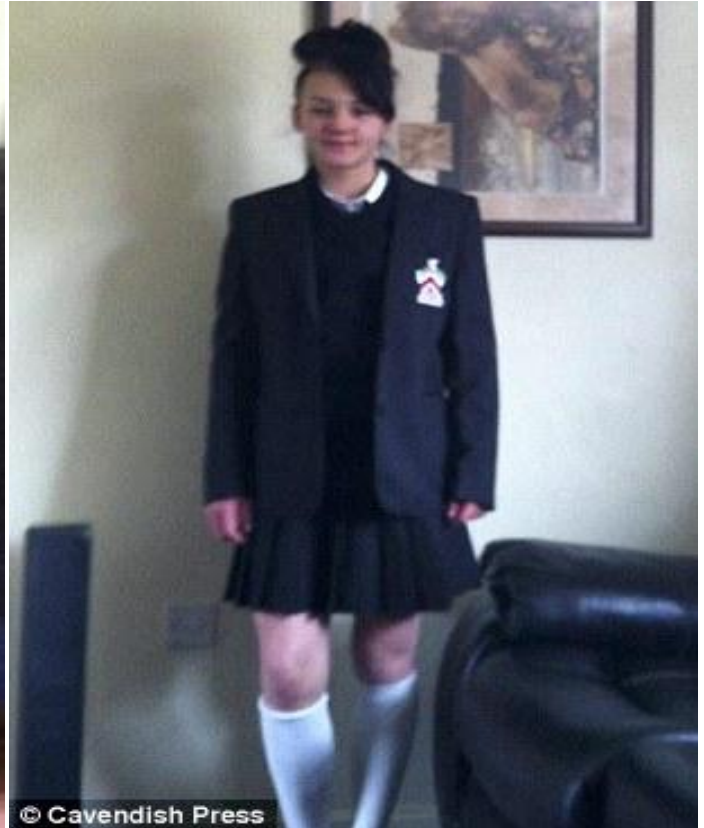
**Adults killed (6):-**

30.10.12 Gloria Knowles, 71, Morden, London - 2 French Mastiffs, 2 American bulldogs and a mongrel  
23.01.12 Leslie Trotman (M), 83, Brentford, London - Pit Bull Terrier  
23.12.10 Barbara Williams (F), 52, Wallington, Surrey - Belgian Mastiff  
01.05.09 Andrew Walker (M), 21, Blackpool - 2 Alsatians  
20.01.09 Stephen Hudspeth (M) 33, Bishop Auckland - Staffordshire Bull Terrier  
27.01.08 James Redhill (M), 78, Plaistow, London - Rottweiler

**Jade Lomas-Anderson**

# ***Girl Dies In House of 'Out Of Control' Dogs***

26 March 2013



## **Jade Lomas-Anderson 14 - Mauled to death by 4 dogs owned by her best friend's mother**

Teenager Jade Lomas-Anderson was found dead in a house in Atherton, near Wigan, Greater Manchester by police who were confronted by four "aggressive and out of control" dogs. Police, said the 14-year-old suffered terrible injuries having been attacked by the four dogs. The youngster was visiting the house of and nobody else was present when she was attacked. Armed police officers killed the four dogs. A police spokesman said two of the dogs were Bull Mastiffs and two Staffordshire Bull Terriers. Jade's best friend Kimberley Concannon shrieked for help after she found her 14-year-old best friend lying covered in dog bites on her kitchen floor after the savage attack. Jade had slept over at her friend Kimberley's home and they were celebrating the start of their Easter holidays on Tuesday and had been about to eat their lunch when Kimberly's mother's dogs pounced on the schoolgirl in a frenzied attack. The schoolgirl had carried a meat pie into her friend's kitchen when the dogs attacked her, inflicting fatal injuries. At lunch time the two school friends went round to a neighbour's house to ask her to warm some pies up for them in her oven. Jade returned first with her pie ahead of Kimberly and is understood to have gone into the kitchen on her own where she was suddenly set upon by the four dogs. The smell of the food she was carrying may have led to the attack. She was jumped on by the dogs and was savagely mauled. She had bites all over her body, including catastrophic fatal injuries to her neck and throat. When Kimberley went back into the house, following Jade with her pie, she found Jade on the floor dead. She screamed and ran back to the neighbour's house shouting "She's dead, She's dead". The neighbour called police and they came rushing to the house. Desperate attempts were made to save the schoolgirl but she had died from her injuries. The dogs involved were covered in blood. Armed Police shot the dogs with nine shots. Bev Concannon, a jobless single mother of five children living on benefits and the Owner of crazed killer dog pack, is not expected to be prosecuted because the legal loophole in the discredited Dangerous Dogs Act that does not cover attacks on private property. Neighbours on estate described her as an 'atrocious neighbour' and said they kept their children away from her council maisonette where the aggressive dogs would rush at the fencing or gates with a terrifying snarling and barking. Jade's family were completely devastated by her tragic death.

***Mum's horror as her eight-day-old son is killed by family's Jack Russell dog - Dog 'crushed skull with a single bite'*** 20 Nov 2012



© newsteam

**Eight day old Harry Harper died after being bitten by a Jack Russell dog while staying at his grandparents' house in Ketley, Shropshire**

A frantic young mother ran screaming from her parent's house after her week old son was killed by the family's pet dog. in the living room of the family's home in Ketley, Shropshire. Eight-day-old Harry Harper suffered a crushed skull after being bitten by the Jack Russell-cross. He later died in hospital. The animal has since been destroyed. Mother, Mikayla Bell 19, pleaded with paramedics to save her newborn son. Baby Harry was rushed to hospital but died of his injuries soon after. The pet, named as PJ was one of two dogs kept at the three-bedroom semi where Miss Bell lived with her own parents and younger siblings. Police yesterday said Harry's death appeared to be a 'tragic accident'. Officers are examining the possibility that the dog may have attacked the infant after becoming jealous at his introduction to what the animal considered to be its territory. Police believe that Harry Harper, pictured, died as a result of the single dog bite, but are awaiting results of a formal post mortem.

**Zumer Ahmed**

# **Mum screamed in terror as Zumer Ahmed, 18 months, savaged to death by uncle's American bulldog**

26 November 2010



## **Zumer Ahmed died after being attacked by a dog at her home in Crawley**

A mum screamed in terror as her baby daughter was savaged to death by the family dog. Tiny Zumer Ahmed, 18 months, was playing in the kitchen of the house in Broadfield, Crawley, West Sussex, with her sister, mother and grandmother when she was attacked by her uncle's pet, a powerful American bulldog called Game. It burst into the kitchen when Zumer's two-year-old brother opened the back door and it sank its teeth into her head. She didn't stand a chance. Two workmen, working on the house next door, battled to save the tot and eventually managed to rescue her from the animal's jaws after hearing mother Saira, 32, and grandmother Naseem's cries following the attack on April 17, 2010. Builders Saquib Nazir and Artur Stanczyk ran from the terraced house next door when they heard the screams and fought in vain to pull Zumer's head from the dog's jaws as it was growling and shaking her violently. They eventually pulled her limp body clear, backed out of the family's home and slammed the door shut. Zumer died in hospital soon afterwards. The builders used a pipe bender and spirit level to hit the dog to get it off her and force it away. Mr Nazir said: 'Everybody was screaming. The kitchen was filled with blood. 'It was awful – like a scene from a nightmare. The dog destroyed her face. 'The mother was shouting 'help me, It's got my baby'. 'The dog continued to shake the girl like a rag doll and then dropped her on the floor and picked her up again. 'I held the girl until the ambulance arrived. She was breathing heavily but I could feel her life was leaving her. She was losing so much blood I was soaked. 'I wasn't able to sleep because it's in my mind. I keep seeing the dog standing over her growling with blood dripping from its jaws. It has been so horrendous. 'I cannot believe how it turned on such a defenceless child. The dog looked crazed. It was like it had a blood lust. The Dog's owner and victim's uncle, Urfan Ahmed, a mechanic, bred and sold dogs and kept them in shed the garden. He was away at work when the killer dog got in the house and attacked Zumer. Ahmed, was arrested on suspicion of manslaughter but that charge was later dropped. He eventually did not face prosecution under the Dangerous Dogs Act over the fatal incident as the attack was on private property. He was charged under the Dangerous Dogs Act with possessing another dog, a pit-bull type, bred for fighting. He was banned from keeping dogs for five years. Both dogs were put down. After the hearing, **Det. Chief Inspector Trevor Bowles of Sussex Police called for a crackdown on dangerous dogs.**

**Footnote: In July 2011, the killer-dog's owner Urfan Ahmed 33 was fined for breaching the dog keeping ban. He admitted the charge at Haywards Heath Magistrates' Court, and was fined £500 plus £250 costs and ordered to pay a £15 victim surcharge after police found five dogs at his Crawley address. He had been banned in July 2010 for a breach of the Dangerous Dogs Act. That conviction followed the death of his niece, Zumer Ahmed, who was mauled by another of his dogs in April 2010.**

*John-Paul Massey*

# ***Boy, four, dies after dog attack in Liverpool***

30 November 2009



© bruce adams



© ENTERPRISE NEWS AND PICTURES

## **Killed: John-Paul Massey, four**

John-Paul Massey was mauled to death by his uncle's pit bull terrier in Wavertree, Liverpool whilst at his gran's house. John-Paul Massey was killed, by a pitbull-type dog owned by his uncle, Christian Foulkes, 21. The powerful pit bull threw John-Paul about like a rag doll, gripping him mercilessly. John-Paul's granny Helen risked her own life to drag the dog off him but he died of horrific head and neck injuries. Police marksmen shot the dog in the garden of the house. Locals said it was notorious in the neighbourhood. Foulkes was jailed for four months concurrently, for the three charges under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

# ***Baby mauled to death in dog attack.***

7 Feb 2009



**Jaden Mack, the baby who was killed by 2 dogs in Ystrad Mynach, South Wales Photo:**

A three month old baby boy was killed after being viciously attacked by two family pet dogs while in the care of his grandmother. The dogs snatched him from a dining table while his grandmother slept, an inquest heard. Three-month-old Jaden Joseph Mack was staying with his grandmother, at her home in Ystrad Mynach, south Wales, while his parents went out last Friday night. The grandmother dropped off to sleep and upon waking found Jaden had been taken from the table, apparently by the two dogs, and sustained serious injuries. Jaden was taken to the Prince of Wales hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, where he was pronounced dead shortly after midnight on Saturday. Post-mortem findings indicated Jaden died from the injuries inflicted by the dogs, a Staffordshire bull terrier and a Jack Russell, which were later destroyed.

*Archie-Lee Hirst*

# **13 Month-old killed in Savage Rottweiler attack**

28 December 2007



**13-month-old Archie-Lee Hirst - the victim of a savage attack by the family's Rottweiler.**

Baby Archie-Lee Hirst, 13 months, was savaged to death by a ten stone Rottweiler in December 2007 at his grandparents' home in Wakefield, West Yorkshire. The dog, a family pet, snatched the little boy from the arms of his seven-year-old aunt and mauled his head. The girl's 16-year-old sister fought desperately to save Archie-Lee but she was unable to prise Archie-Lee from its jaws and he died later in hospital. Police shot the Rottweiler dead a few hours after the attack.



**Mum Becki Hirst holds up her son 13-month-old Archie-Lee - the victim of a savage attack by the family's Rottweiler.**

# ***Ellie Lawrenson was killed by uncle's dog - on New Year's Day 2007***



© NICHOLAS RAZZELL

## **ELLIE LAWRENSON**

ANGEL-FACED tot was only five when her uncle's pitbull savaged her to death at her granny's house on Merseyside in 2007. The uncle, Kiel Simpson, 24, had been warned his dog was a menace. He was jailed for eight weeks for owning an illegal breed. Ellie's grandmother Jacqueline Simpson, who let the dog into the house, was cleared of manslaughter.

*Cadey-Lee Deacon*

# ***Rottweilers kill baby girl***

25 September 2006



Five-month-old Cadey-Lee Deacon was savaged by two Rottweilers and died at around 4pm on Saturday afternoon at the Rocket Inn on Leicester's New Parks estate. She had been staying there with Miss Deacon, 24, and her new partner Lee Burchell, also 24. Mr Burchell's mother Lesley Glaze is licensee of the pub and he is the manager. The dogs, which belonged to him, were well-known for patrolling the flat rooftops either side of the building. Miss Deacon, Mr Burchell and two friends were moving furniture from the living quarters to new premises when the attack happened. Police said Cadey-Lee was in a Moses basket in the living quarters when the Rottweilers, called Bruno and Bess, pounced. Chief Superintendent Steve Pitts, of Leicestershire police, said: "It appears that a fire escape door was left mistakenly open and allowed the family's dogs access to the living quarters. The dogs then made their way to the bedroom in which Cadey-Lee was sleeping. By the time Amy, Lee and the relatives who were helping them move realised what had happened the dogs had attacked. Miss Deacon found her daughter on the roof. She and Mr Burchell told of their devastation at Cadey-Lee's death. In a statement issued through police, they said: "Words cannot express our devastation at what has happened. We just cannot believe Cadey-Lee is gone. She was such a beautiful little girl. We loved her so much, and we just can't accept that something like this could have happened-How do you come to terms with such a tragedy?" The couple said they had been overwhelmed by the outpouring of public grief and support from the local community. They added: "People have been incredible. We would just like to say a heartfelt thank-you to all those people. Your love and support is a comfort to us during this terrible time. We now need time to grieve for our little girl in peace."The dogs have been destroyed, but police say no one can be prosecuted in relation to failure to control them as the mauling took place on private property.

***'Police say no one can be prosecuted in relation to failure to control them as the mauling took place on private property.'***

*Liam Eames*

# ***Baby killed by pet bulldog***

13 Jul 2005

THE mother of a tot mauled to death by their pet dog was left soaked head to foot in the baby's blood as she battled to save him, it emerged yesterday. Year-old **Liam Eames** was shaken "like a rag doll" when the American bulldog clamped its jaws over the back of his head in the family's garden. Mum Jackie could not overpower it, and shouted in desperation: "My baby ? please someone save my baby." The beast, called Mitzy, released its grip only when the family's second dog attacked it, trying to defend Liam. Neighbour Peter Franquernie-Derham said: "It was absolutely horrible. It was like someone's worst nightmare. "There was blood everywhere you looked ? over the floor, walls and all over Jackie." Another tearful neighbour, who did not want to be named, said: "The dog grabbed Liam like a rag doll. He had no chance." Jackie and Liam had been enjoying the sunshine when the dog attacked at 1.25pm on Monday in Tinsill, Leeds. Jackie's husband Christopher was thought to be at work at the time of the incident and was told by a neighbour.



Sad scene ... pram at the house, where toys still lay in garden The couple's other son, five-year-old Ben, was at school. Both dogs were locked in a downstairs room and continued to fight until they were removed by council wardens. Mitzy was destroyed at Jackie's request. Liam, who had his first birthday two weeks ago, was declared dead at Leeds General Infirmary.

Tragedy ... Liam's home Yesterday Liam's grandfather, who did not want to be named, returned to the house to scrub away blood from the paths and walls of the three-bedroom semi-detached home. Jackie and Christopher, in their late 20s, were too distraught to comment. A lone white rose was left on the family's doorstep.

**Kelly Lynch**

## **KELLIE'S LAW WOULD BRING BACK LICENCES AND VET THE OWNERS**

***"How many more children must be killed by dogs before effective laws come into force" Veronica Lynch, heartbroken mum.***



**Kelly Lynch was killed by dogs in 1989**

KELLIE LYNCH loved the dogs that killed her. Just days before the 11-year-old was ripped to pieces by two Rottweilers owned by her pal's father, she told her mum on the phone how wonderful and harmless they were. The doctors and the police didn't want Kellie's mum Veronica to see what the Rottweilers had done to her daughter. But she insisted on going to the mortuary to see Kellie, and the memory still haunts her more than 20 years later. Veronica recalled: "When I went to see her, I was told I couldn't touch her. "It's very hard to say this, but her body would have fallen apart if I had touched her." Since Kellie's death, Veronica has had to read about a string of similar tragedies. John-Paul Massey, Ellie Lawrenson, Archie-Lee Hirst - all defenceless children savaged to death by dogs they thought were their friends. Veronica, of Dundee, called continues to call for a crackdown on dangerous dogs and on the eve of what would have been Kellie's 32nd birthday, she vowed never to stop fighting until all Britain's kids are safe. Tearful Veronica said: "It's too late for Kellie and little John-Paul. "But we'll continue to read these horror stories until something positive is done about these lethal dogs and their owners." Veronica last saw Kellie alive at the start of the Easter holidays in 1989, when she waved her off on a holiday with her school pal, Lorraine. The two girls were going to stay with Lorraine's dad, Brian Simpson, at his hotel in Dunoon, Argyll. Veronica recalled: "It was her first holiday without the family and I was very reluctant to let her go. "I agreed to one week, but her friend was staying for two weeks and there was a problem about getting Kellie home, so I finally let her stay for two. "It was the biggest mistake of my life." For Kellie, Simpson's pets were the best thing about her break. "I remember her phoning home and telling us about those wonderful dogs," "Dogs were the first love of Kellie's life. She had her own, Jody, which was a mongrel-border-collie type. She wasn't at all scared of dogs." Simpson's Rottweilers seemed docile and friendly and Kellie and Lorraine took them for walks on their own every day. But on the day Kellie was due to go home, they turned on her. The two girls were walking the dogs half a mile from Simpson's hotel when Kellie had to relieve herself. She squatted beside a tree, and the dogs bounded forward and began licking her face. Kellie giggled, and the dogs started to nip her. She started to panic, and they attacked. The dogs weighed a total of 12 stone - eight stone more than Kellie. She never stood a chance. Lorraine tried to pull them away but she couldn't move them. By the time Lorraine had run to the hotel and returned with an adult, it was too late to do anything for Kellie. Both dogs were destroyed. The police arrived at Veronica's door a few hours after the horror. She said: "I'd never heard of a child being savaged to death by dogs before. "I wanted to go to the funeral parlour to see her, but they didn't want me to." The funeral director called my GP, who came and tried to persuade me not to go." "I said, 'Would you want to go if it was your child?' and he said he would. So I said I was going. "I did make the right decision. I won't allow myself to dwell on the injuries. I can't." "I want to keep the memories of Kellie when she was alive." At the fatal accident inquiry, Veronica and their family came face to face with Brian Simpson who ignored them. A year later he killed himself just days before the anniversary of Kellie's death, possibly wracked with guilt over Kellie's death. He had also gone bankrupt, was drinking heavily and his partner had left him for another man. Despite her grief, Veronica put herself in the forefront of the campaign for tougher laws against dangerous dogs. And when she called for Rottweilers to be added to the list of banned breeds, she suffered a horrifying backlash with hate mail less than a month after Kellie's funeral. Veronica recalled: "There was a newspaper photo of Kellie, and they had written 'ha ha ha' across her face in red ink. "There was also a note that said, 'Stop your campaign now, or you'll be next to suffer the same fate as your bitch Kellie.' But the brave mum - supported by husband John and her two surviving children - refused to be silenced by the hate campaign.

**Barbara Williams**

## **52 Years Old Woman Mauled To Death in Dog Attack**

**Barbara Williams**, 52 was savaged to death by a dog at her home in Wallington, south London. She suffered multiple serious head and neck injuries including a severe haemorrhage when she was attacked by the Neapolitan mastiff just before Christmas and was pronounced dead at the scene, in Demesne Road, Wallington, near Sutton, Surrey. She bled to death at the scene. The Dog's owner and Landlord 35-year-old Alex Blackburn-Smith from Croydon pleaded guilty at Croydon Magistrates' Court to failing to ensure the dog's welfare, as well as being in possession of another dog, a banned pitbull terrier. Blackburn-Smith's pet, called Debo, attacked Miss Williams when she was lodging at his former home, causing her fatal injuries. Mrs Williams, who rented a room from Blackburn-Smith at the time of the attack was a teaching assistant at St Elpheges Roman Catholic Junior School. In relation to her death, the circumstances in which the Neapolitan Mastiff was kept had led, in part, to the incident as the dog was being kept in a cramped cage, far too small for him and which would be a very uncomfortable. Police had to fight off the animal with riot shields before the dog was shot dead by police marksmen, shooting it five times and it took four policemen to carry the dog away. Another dog, a pitbull puppy was also removed from the property. Blackburn-Smith was charged with breaching the Dangerous Dogs Act for the possession of an illegal fighting dog, the pitbull terrier. The case was adjourned for pre-sentence reports, but magistrate Brij Kalia warned Blackburn-Smith he could face a custodial sentence. He also banned the defendant from owning any animal, or having anything to do with keeping or transporting animals. The magistrate also ordered the pitbull to be put down.

## **Fatal Croydon attack dog's owner avoids jail - Case highlights need for tougher dog laws.** 3 January 2012

**Dog' owner spared jail after 'ferocious' pet mauled woman to death**



### **Alex Blackburn-Smith was ordered to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work**

A former Army paratrooper whose dog fatally mauled a woman at her home in south London has avoided jail. Barbara Williams 52 suffered a severe haemorrhage to her head and neck when she was attacked. Ms Williams had gone into the Kitchen when the dog burst out of its cage and attacked her. Because of the current Law the Police were not able to charge owner Alex Blackburn-Smith with Dangerous Dog offences for Ms Williams death and instead could only charge him with dog welfare offences in relation to the dog that killed her. Blackburn-Smith, 35, from Croydon, pleaded guilty to failing to ensure the dog's welfare at his home in Wallington, Sutton. Magistrates' ordered him to carry out 150 hours of community service and to pay costs of £3,340 and he was banned from owning any animal, or having anything to do with keeping or transporting animals.

### **Stricter controls on dogs and tougher laws**

The Neapolitan mastiff, described by one police officer as large and ferocious had to be contained with riot shields before it was shot dead by police marksmen after the savage attack. Another dog, a pit bull terrier found at the address has also since been put down.

### **Sutton Council Call For Law To Be Tightened**

Sutton Council has called for the law to be changed by the Government, to stop future attacks and has called for stricter controls of dogs following the hearing, saying the government should make it an offence to allow a dog to be dangerously out of control in a private place saying the Dangerous Dogs Act needed to be overhauled and that a new dog control regime that promoted responsible dog ownership should be introduced.

# Fresh calls for change in law after great-grandmother 'mauled to death by daughter's dogs' in back garden

30 October 2012



**Gloria Knowles, 71 was savaged to death by her daughter's 5 dogs.**

Fresh calls were made for a change in the law today after a great-grandmother was mauled to death by her daughter's dogs in her back garden. The five dogs pounced on Gloria Knowles, 71, after she went into the garden to give them their evening meal as a favour to her daughter, Beverley Mason. The widow was badly injured when the dogs – two 'giant' Bordeaux French mastiffs, two American bulldogs and a mongrel – suddenly turn on her. She was found dead at the scene in Morden, South London on Tuesday night. Police and paramedics were called after neighbours described hearing 'hysterical screaming and barking' from Mrs Mason's garden. Five dogs were later seized from the semi-detached property, and it was revealed that Mrs Knowles had had a heart attack as the animals set on her. Currently, police can only prosecute owners of dogs who harm people if the attack happens in public - and they can only forcibly remove illegal dogs. However, today further calls were made for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to change the law to allow dog control rules to apply everywhere. The Communications Union CWU, which represents postmen, is campaigning to change the law and said the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 is failing to protect both dog owners and attack victims. The private property issue is again highlighted in this case. If a person is killed by dogs on private property there is almost no chance of prosecuting the owner and getting compensation for victims, regardless of the recklessness of the dog owner and the viciousness of the attack.

## 83-year-old dies after dog attack 9 Feb 2012



**Leslie Trotman: 83-year-old man from Brentford, west London, died from dog attack injuries**

An 83-year-old man has died after being attacked by a pitbull-type dog that had escaped from a neighbour's garden, Scotland Yard said. A man in his 30s was arrested on suspicion of manslaughter yesterday, following the attack on Leslie Trotman in Brentford, west London. Mr Trotman suffered bite wounds to his right leg in the attack on January 23, receiving further injuries when the dog knocked him over. He was taken to hospital and released later that day, but his son found him dead at his home on January 29. The incident was reported to police shortly after it happened, and officers spoke to Mr Trotman following his release from West Middlesex Hospital. Scotland Yard decided to treat the matter as manslaughter after a post-mortem examination on February 2 revealed that Mr Trotman had died from a haemorrhage, caused by a ruptured spleen. A police spokesman said: "Officers believe these injuries were sustained during the attack by the dog." The matter has now been taken on by the force's homicide and serious crime command under Detective Chief Inspector Charles King. Mr Trotman had been in his back garden in Rowan Road when he was attacked by the dog. It is not clear how the animal managed to escape and enter Mr Trotman's property. Police arrested the suspect yesterday before releasing him on bail, pending further inquiries. Three dogs have now been seized from an address in Rowan Road. Scotland Yard is asking anyone with information to contact them on 020 8721 4054 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

# **Grandfather mauled to death by his pet Rottweiler**

28 January 2008

## **DOG KILLS OWNER IN HORROR ATTACK**



**Savage: The last steps of the victim before his demon dog launched the fatal attack**

A grandfather was mauled to death by his Rottweiler after he collapsed in the street. Pensioner James Rehill, 78, fell to the ground while he was taking the dog for a walk and was attacked. Witnesses said he was "dragged through the street and thrown around like a rag doll" in the fatal attack by his own dog. Witnesses looked on in horror as the former railway engineer was savaged to death by his Rottweiler in Newham, East London. Passers-by tried to scare the dog off by sounding car horns and residents armed with sticks desperately tried to free Mr Rehill as the dog inflicted horrific injuries to his face and head. It was only when police officers arrived and discharged six fire extinguishers that the dog was distracted and released its owner. Paramedics took the seriously injured man to Royal London Hospital after the incident at about 7am on Sunday but he later died. Armed officers, who were called to the scene to protect the public, found the dog a short distance away and shot it. Metropolitan Police Commander Nick Bracken said: "This is a very tragic incident and our thoughts today are obviously with the family and friends of the deceased man. This was a difficult situation to deal with but officers, fearing for the safety of other members of the public, dealt swiftly to contain the dog - putting their own lives at risk in doing so." The attack, in New City Road, Newham, has reignited the debate around the ownership of potentially dangerous dogs. One witness said "dogs like Rottweiler's should not be allowed out in - It was like something you see in a TV horror programme. I heard some banging on the door. I looked out of my bedroom window. There was a man lying on the floor and a dog was all over him, biting him. There was blood all over his face. At first, the dog was trying to wake him up, licking him, but it became distressed and started to attack him. The Police were heroes."

***Stephen Hudspeth***

## ***Father dies after being mauled by Staffordshire Bull Terrier***

9th February 2009



Father Stephen Hudspeth died after being attacked by a Staffordshire Bull Terrier, similar to this one, on the way to work. A devoted father of two died from suspected blood poisoning after being attacked by a dog on his way to work. Stephen Hudspeth died days after a Staffordshire bull terrier locked its jaw onto his arm, causing an abscess on his elbow which became infected. The 33-year-old was bitten on January 20, but fell ill and was taken to hospital days later with suspected blood poisoning. Surgery and medication failed to save him and he died at Darlington Memorial Hospital. Wife Rachel and her two sons who lived with him in Bishop Auckland were in shock after the loss of a 'fun-loving joker' who brought laughter to their lives.

**Andrew Walker**

## **Man, 21, bled to death after Alsations bit him 51 times**

4th December 2009



**Victim: Andrew Walker lost half his blood after an attack by Alsations.**

A young man was savaged to death by two Alsations whose owner had been allowed to raise them despite a conviction under the Dangerous Dogs Act. Andrew Walker, 21, bled to death after the dogs bit him 51 times when he tried to stop the animals fighting one another. The dogs belonged to Jason Bloor, 37, who seven months before the attack had admitted allowing his three Rottweilers to attack a woman and kill her poodle. Bloor had been given a 12-month supervision order, sent on an offending behaviour scheme and had to pay £250 compensation, but crucially had not been banned from owning dogs. He went on to buy three Alsations, two of which attacked his friend Mr Walker, of Stoke-on-Trent, who was lodging with him at his Blackpool home while working at the town's Pleasure Beach. The dogs, called Lennox and Nico, were being exercised in the back garden when they began to fight and Mr Walker tried to separate them. But instead they both turned on him, biting him repeatedly until Bloor, who was inside the house, ran outside and dragged the dogs off him. By the time paramedics arrived Mr Walker had lost four pints of blood and they were unable to save him. Police initially investigated whether the dogs had been set on Mr Walker or had been goaded into fighting, but no charges were brought.

## ***Section 3 - Dog Attacks on Postal Workers***

### **Anthony Quinn**



Barrow postman **Anthony Quinn** lost the top of his finger when a dog bit him from the other side of the letterbox as he was delivering mail in Lancaster in October 2011. "There was no sound from inside to warn me of a dog's presence and as I pushed the letter in I was bitten," Anthony recalls, adding: "It was the first time I'd ever done that round. "That particular day would have been my day off, but I was one of a team helping out in Lancaster."

After being rushed to hospital in nearby Preston, doctors told him that they would have to amputate below the nail root of the small finger of his left-hand. "I had that operation the next day and since then I've been back four or five times to my local hospital to have the dressing changed," Anthony explains, adding that he will be seeing a specialist soon to discuss his longer term treatment programme. Anthony, who returned to work on letter sorting and other duties in the delivery office, sees the union's campaign for new laws as "absolutely vital." "I'd urge everyone to sign this Downing Street petition so that we can get the new legislation that we need," he concludes. As if to prove one of the CWU's key arguments that dog laws must tackle the "deed not the breed,"

### **Patricia Prew**



Postwoman **Patricia Prew's** extensive bruising and deep flesh wound were inflicted on her by a Golden Retriever, which attacked her as she entered the front garden of a house in Devon. Patricia was delivering mail in the coastal town of Budleigh Salterton and had just come through the gate when the dog "came running from the side and just ran up and jumped. "It just grabbed hold of me and pulled me down and then it bit me so deeply that it took a chunk of my muscle from that part of my arm," she recalls. "I've been off work for six weeks now and I've never been off before, but I'm hoping to get back to work in another couple of weeks - although I've been told it'll probably be on light duties."

## Andrew Berge



In August 2011, Postman **Andrew Berge** suffered severe damage to his left-hand ring finger and tendon when a dog bit him at an address in South West London. "As I posted an item through the letterbox, a dog bit and held on for four to five minutes," says Andy, who, despite suffering extreme pain, gathered up the mail that had fallen from his hand and his shoulder satchel with his uninjured hand before going to hospital and insisted on ensuring that his remaining undelivered mail was put back safely into the Royal Mail system via a Post Office, whilst on his way to Hospital.

## Stuart Hughes



Postman **Stuart Hughes** almost lost his earlobe in autumn 2010 after an Alsatian rushed out of a Gwynedd home and bit him in his jaw, ear and throat. The resident had seen her postman arriving and opened her front door in the north west Wales town of Fachwen to receive her mail when her dog came out and suddenly attacked Stuart. "In casualty, the nurse told me they don't know if they could save my earlobe. I had to see a facial injuries specialist and they managed to stitch up my ear and throat with about 20 stitches," he recounts. "I'm back on normal duties now, but there are still scars, some tendons were damaged and I get ongoing problems with my neck, so I'm attending regular physiotherapy. "Dog attacks are no joke," insists Stuart "and the Government must do something."

## John Allanby



**John Allanby** Postman from Leeds, is now back on normal duties after last year's attack by a German Shepherd left him with a deep wound to his hand and arm left him out of action for several weeks. "At this address, there is an open drive, with a gate to the back garden, but the gate had been left open and the dog ran out and attacked me," explains John. "I can still feel it now. I can't remember how many stitches they put in at the hospital, but it was quite a few and the wound still hurts sometimes and the scar's still there. "The law should protect us and it should apply everywhere - they've got to take action."

## Paul Coleman



Postman **Paul Coleman** was nearly killed in a 2007 dog attack. In 2008, dog owner Jamal Richards was jailed for nine months after his two pitbull crossbreed dogs mauled him in a sustained attack. Paul, a delivery postman from Sheffield, was s delivering Christmas mail in December 2007. According to witnesses, the animals grabbed a leg each, dragged him to the ground and subjected him to a horrifying prolonged attack. Paul suffered serious leg, arm and chest injuries and lost a significant amount of blood. Paul was in hospital for six days, undergoing skin grafts and plastic surgery. At one stage, doctors feared that he could lose his right arm, in which significant nerve and muscle damage occurred. Surgeons managed to save it, but Paul has permanent scarring and suffers reduced mobility along with lifelong disabilities.

## Alan Smith



**Alan Smith:** Milton Keynes postman Alan needed over 100 stitches to his face after being bitten by a German shepherd dog in February 2008, which attacked him after its owner's son opened the front door as the postman walked up the front path leading to the house. As in the case of Mr Davies, the owner of the dog was not punished by the law because of where the attack took place, i.e. on private property.

## Elaine White



**Elaine White:** Postwoman Elaine had the top of her finger bitten off while delivering an item of mail in Wakefield, Yorkshire, in April 2008. While an ambulance took the postwoman to hospital, police arrived at the scene and, having gained access to the house, were able to recover the severed finger. However, although the officers rushed the digit to the hospital, it had been damaged so severely that surgeons were unable to reattach it leaving Elaine with a stump where her finger had been.

## Glynn Page



**Glynn Page**, a Postman based at Heathfield Delivery Office in East Sussex parked his Royal Mail Van in the driveway of a customer's house and got out to deliver the Mail. As he started walking towards the front door suddenly the side gate burst open and a dog ran at him and viciously attacked him locking on to his left hand. He fell to the ground with the weight and force of the dog's attack and was shouting for help whilst the dog continued biting his hand. The owner then came out of the house and restrained the dog, pulling it off and ending the attack.

## John Grainger



On August 11 2011 Chelmsford Postman **John Grainger** had finished his Delivery Round and was returning to collect his cycle in Chelmsford Town Centre. As he bent down to unlock his cycle an unleashed Staffordshire Bull Terrier dog being walked with its owner rushed over and savagely attacked 62 year-old John ripping a chunk out of his face and bottom lip. John had to undergo extensive facial reconstruction plastic surgery as a result of being savaged. A series of operations. A patch of skin was taken from behind his ear to reconstruct his lip damaged in the dog attack. The dog owner, 49 year-old Joseph Bowers had casually walked away from the scene without stopping to check on the injured and heavily bleeding postman victim. However the attack was seen by the council's CCTV operators who alerted the police and moved quickly to capture dog owner Bowers. In December 2011 dog owner Joseph Bowers received a 9-month jail sentence, suspended for 18 months and was ordered to carry out 180 hours of unpaid community work. He was also banned from owning dogs indefinitely and a Destruction Order was issued for his dog.

## ALAN JACK



Postman **Alan Jack**, from Stirling suffered serious facial and nose injuries after being attacked and bitten on the face by a dog. He suffered a horror wound to his nose in the attack as he did his rounds. Alan was bitten in Riverside's Abbey Road. He received treatment at Stirling Community Hospital before being sent to the Plastic Surgery Unit at Glasgow General Hospital for surgery. Royal Mail suspended deliveries to the property and were continuing to monitor the situation.

## Kenneth Auld



Rothbury Postman **Kenneth Auld** was left bleeding, required hospital treatment and was off work for a week after the judge's German Shepherd bit him on the leg as he was delivering mail to her next door neighbour's home at Whitton, near Rothbury, Northumberland. However the Judge escaped prosecution over an incident when Crown Prosecution Service decided to take no further action against Judge Beatrice Bolton because the incident happened in a private garden and not in a public place. Judge Bolton can't therefore be prosecuted under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991. The decision left an angry Mr. Auld, 54, feeling "amazed and flabbergasted" after receiving a letter from the CPS. Ken was coming down the steps after delivering mail when the two dogs came out of the judge's back door and attacked him, one of them badly biting him on the leg before Judge Bolton came running out and got control of them. He was treated at Rothbury hospital and the incident was reported to Rothbury police. Ken was in lot of pain from the injury. The police took photos of the wound and a statement, before a letter from the CPS said they would be taking no action because if a postman is bitten by a dog on anyone's private land, the owner can't be prosecuted. "I'm trying to do my job and I don't expect to be attacked by dogs and not be protected by the law."

## ***Section 4 - Dog Attacks on Police***

# **Dog mauls five police officers during raid which went horrifically wrong**

22 March 2012 |

Five policemen were in hospital after being savaged by a dog, and were said to have 'life-changing' wounds as serious as those seen after a shootout. One officer had his arm broken between the animal's jaws, while others had chunks of flesh torn from their legs and arms. Some will require plastic surgery, and one could lose several fingers. All five were said to be in a stable condition at the Royal London Hospital.



**Under attack: The officer continues to struggle against the violent dog as his colleague who has clambered on a garden wall for safety can do nothing but look on in terror. Two houses down the road a stunned local resident also perches on a wall as the police officers are savaged by the animal yards away.**

A 9am swoop on the property was part of Operation Big Wing, a major Scotland Yard purge on wanted suspects across the capital. The 48-hour operation saw hundreds of officers carrying out searches for people wanted by police or who had failed to appear at court. Scotland Yard had failed to pick up on intelligence that the animal lived at the property. The Officers broke down the door of a terraced house, searching for a wanted man and came under sustained attack from the dog which continued out on to the street as the animal pounced on the policeman biting their arms and legs in a ferocious attack. One Officer tried to fight the dog off by grabbing at its neck but the animal was too strong. At one point, it clamped its jaws so tightly around an Officers limb that it was lifted off the ground when he tried to shake it off and he received a broken arm. Other Officers were seen climbing on to walls and a onto a neighbours car to escape the dog's jaws. The dog was finally cornered by a dozen back-up officers who arrived from a nearby station armed with riot shields to restrain the dog. Officers from the Metropolitan Police's CO19 armed response unit then arrived and brought the carnage to an end, shooting the crazed animal dead with four shots.

Neighbours in Albert Square revealed that the dog has attacked before and they had reported the animal, described as a brown Doberman/pitbull cross called Poison, to the Newham council repeatedly on several times but no action had been taken. They said it was responsible for other attacks, including one in which a builder was pulled from his bicycle and mauled so badly 'it looked like he was being eaten alive'. When the paramedics came they had to cut his trousers off to get to it. It was a big wound. Resident Dennis Clarke, 71, said he called Newham Council to register his fears about the dog but was told officials could not do anything until the dog bit someone. After the dog was shot dead, the residents said they were glad it had finally gone.

Newham Council admitted the council investigated a complaint that the dog had bitten a cyclist in Albert Square and the case had been discussed by police and the council in June 2011.

Pierre Robinson, 25 has been charged with possession of a pit bull type dog, contrary to the Dangerous Dogs Act and allowing the dog to be dangerously out of control outside a house in Albert Square, east London. He is also accused of kidnapping and GBH with intent, relating to an incident on March 14 in Newham, police said.



**Mauling:** Neighbours heard screams and voices shouting for help just after 9.30am in the morning as the crazed dog savaged five police officers. The attack took place on a residential street in Stratford, East London, where patches of dried blood remained visible along a 30ft stretch of the road.

## Owner charged over savage dog attack on two Police Horses

31 January 2011



The owner of a dog which savaged two police horses has been charged in connection with the incident. The 34-year-old woman, who has not been named, will appear before magistrates next month to face a charge of having a dog dangerously out of control in a public area. Bella needed stitches for puncture wounds to her shoulder and body and Biscuit suffered a deep cut to his leg and needed stitches from hoof to elbow following the attack by the dog. Police horses Bella and Biscuit were injured in the attack while on patrol in Chelmsford in Essex earlier this month. A spokesman for Essex Police said: 'Both riders, PC Frank Pallett and PC Sarah Fiske, were thrown from the horses but were uninjured. The woman has been released on police bail to appear before magistrates in Chelmsford on February 9.' Bella needed stitches for puncture wounds to her shoulder and body and Biscuit suffered a deep cut to his leg and needed stitches from hoof to elbow. Both horses are now recovering well from their ordeal on January 12. Their handlers gave them a week off to recuperate.

## ***Section 4 - Dog Attacks on Guide Dogs***

### ***Attacks on guide dogs hits new high.***



**Guide Dog Norman lost part of his ear and had injuries to his side and needed emergency surgery as a result of the attack**

Dog attacks are of great concern to Guide Dogs and their owners. Dog attacks can have a devastating impact on both the people and dogs involved. The Guide Dogs Charity, which campaigns for blind and partially sighted people, the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association (GDBA) say that an attack on any dog is frightening, but for a guide dog owner it is much worse. When a guide dog is attacked by another dog, it puts both guide dog and human in immediate danger. For someone who is visually impaired and relying on the services of a guide dog, the terrifying experience of coming under sudden unexpected attack is hard to imagine. The incident will firstly startle the blind person and then cause a person to experience fear, disorientation panic and of course the attack may result in serious or life-threatening injuries to both victim guide dog and it's owner. An attack can lead to a vulnerable person being left alone with an injured dog and in need of assistance or medical care.

As well as physical injuries, each dog attack leaves a deep psychological scar for both the owner and the guide dog. In the worst cases guide dogs that have been badly attacked may be so traumatised that they can no longer provide service to an owner and sadly have to be permanently withdrawn and retired early. Others are left unable to work for a significant amount of time and have to be assessed to see if they are able to continue working as Guide Dogs. The other major impact is that blind and partially sighted people are left without a guide dog, their mobility aid, and become housebound until they can be matched with a suitable replacement dog.

Some guide dog owners have been left too frightened to go out as a result of a dog attack. One guide dog owner wanted to move house due to the response of the owners of the attacking dog, who in some cases used verbal abuse against blind and partially sighted people. Some appeared to be under the influence of drink or drugs, and in one case, the owner of an aggressive dog laughed at a guide dog owner during an attack on his guide dog.

As a result of the attacks many guide dogs needed veterinary care. In one in five cases, either the handler or a member of the public sustained injuries, including scratching, bruising, and bites to the hands, arms, legs or head. In many cases medical attention is required.

Attacks on guide dogs by other dogs have reached a new all time high in the UK of more than eight attacks a month, the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association (GDBA) has reported. The charity said attacks had risen consistently in recent years. Latest research shows the number of reported attacks on guide dogs has risen from three a month to over eight dog attacks a month within a 24 month period from 2010 to 2012. In most cases the cause of the attack was unprovoked, and the aggressor dog was uncontrolled and off the lead.

The GDBA trained over 850 guide dog partnerships in 2012. Nearly 100 Guide Dogs and Owners were subjected to a dog attack in 2012. If the guide dog has to be retired prematurely then the economic consequences are even more serious as the cost of training and caring for a Guide Dog from birth to retirement is £50,000

Ultimately, the GDBA wants the Police to be given the power to treat an attack on a guide dog like an attack on a person - as an 'aggravated offence' and strongly favours Compulsory Microchipping of Dogs for better identification of dog and owner. The CWU fully agrees with and supports the GDBA position and has worked with the GDBA as part of the "Campaign Coalition" campaigning on the "Bite-Back" Campaign objectives and as part of the "Microchipping Alliance"



