

WARNING – GRAPHIC IMAGES

Children & People Injured & Killed in Dog Attacks



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

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

March 2012 Version

Introduction: Dangerous Dogs Act (DDA) 1991 - 2011 Facts

DDA 1991 - How Effective?

How effective has the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 been? - Many 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, workers and children and it has disappointed victims when they realise what the police can effectively achieve! Outside England and Wales, new legislation has been passed in terms of the Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Dogs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. But the law in England and Wales remains unchanged. The Communication Workers Union (CWU), Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) and many animal charities, trade unions, professional bodies, Vets, Nurses, employers and others are seeking a new consolidated, effective act to replace the current piecemeal situation. During the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) consultation on dangerous dogs, 78 per cent of respondents supported the consolidation of the legislation into one new Act.

Breed Ban a failure!

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 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, numbering in the thousands every year.

Prosecutions and Penalties

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.

Private Places:

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! There is little or no protection offered by the outdated Dogs Act 1871, 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 order can be given (separate Personal Injury claim has to be pursued). No Fines, prison, community service 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 as it likes in the mean time.

Whilst householders should be able to defend their homes by using their dogs from burglars and unlawful trespassers, the law should 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:

Many of those injured by Dogs include people who in the course of their work visit people's homes, such as nurses, midwives, others who provide support and especially Postal Workers. *"The Communications Workers Union (CWU) through their National Health and Safety Officer, Dave Joyce, has campaigned relentlessly on this issue and assessed that around 6,000 post office workers are injured each year by dogs, around 70 per cent of which occur on private property where there is no redress through the criminal justice system. The injuries range from scratches and bites to the amputation of fingers. Dave Joyce said, "We need the Westminster government to follow the Scottish and Irish 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."*

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 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.

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.

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 CWU, ACPO, Police Federation, National Dog Wardens Association, RSPCA, Dogs Trust, Blue Cross, Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, Kennel Club, Vets and Nurses Organisations, Trade Unions etc and would enable an officer or dog warden to impose a wide variety of sanctions on individuals 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.

Conclusions:

The public and animals are not being adequately protected and New legislation is needed to ensure effective protection for all with the right tools for enforcement bodies so that they can take action at an earlier stage to prevent serious incidents from occurring and potentially save 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:

Recent meetings with DEFRA Minister Lord Taylor attended by representatives from ACPO, the Communications Workers Union, RSPCA, Dogs Trust, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, Kennel Club, Blue Cross, British Veterinary Association and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons have projected a strong consensus and unanimity on the need for action despite these being representatives of organisations and agencies with differing outlooks. 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) sends a powerful message to the Government, fully supporting the CWU's 'Bite-Back' Campaign objectives. Let's hope the government take notice of it! The CWU will continue its work with ACPO along with the other organisations in the 'Bite-Back' Campaign and the 'Campaign Coalition' and other supporting bodies such as RSPCA, Dogs Trust, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, Kennel Club, Blue Cross, British Veterinary Association, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Trade Unions, Royal College of Nurses, Royal Mail, Kennel Club, Guide Dogs For The Blind, Lawyers, Local Authorities, GLA, International Institute of Risk and Safety Management etc and so on.

Acknowledgement: Introduction. With thanks to Gareth Pritchard, Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) lead on dangerous dogs

BITE - BACK CAMPAIGN AIMS

- 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.

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

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..
- In 2009, dog attacks on people in England cost the Health Service £3.3 million.
- 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.
- 7 Children and 5 Adults have been killed in dog attacks 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 (See Final Section of Report)

Children Killed:-

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.

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

Some of the Publicised Cases

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

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 dangerous dogs that are dangerous will be no compensation for her scars



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

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 ... Toni was attacked by American Akita



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



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.

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.



© National Pictures

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.



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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.



© Cascade News

7 years old Sky Barker

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

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

15th November 2011

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. He was attacked when his childminder Laura Tonks, 23, took him to visit a relative after picking him up from nursery.



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

Jack needed 90 minutes of emergency surgery and doctors say he was lucky not to have been blinded. The toddler's family are now calling for the pet to be put down to avoid further attacks. His mother Aimee, 21, a part-time support worker, 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. You have to come up."

'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.

'He was in surgery for 90 minutes - it was horrific. He was lucky not to have been blinded. 'Jack had to have about eight stitches in his eyebrow, another six on the left side of his lip and more inside his mouth. He was in a terrible state'



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

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'



© News Team International

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."

Devil dog did this to my Chloe



Intensive care ... Chloe Ashman following the horrific attack

19 Jun 2008

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.

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 said today. Officers were called to the Baythorpe Caravan Park in Skegness, Lincolnshire, at around 11.15am to reports that the toddler had been attacked. He was taken to the Pilgrim Hospital in Boston before being transferred to Lincoln Royal Infirmary for specialist treatment, police said. 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 have 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 attended an address at the Baythorpe Caravan site in Burgh Road, Skegness at about 11.15am today where it was reported a child had been attacked by a dog. "On arrival, 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 later today. 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."

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.

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.

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.

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.

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



© Raymonds Press

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 is said to have leaped over a garden fence and attacked the terrified child. But, astonishingly, its owners have refused to put the beast down, claiming it has 'never done anything like this before'. Mauled: Niamh Webster-Guy needed three hours of surgery after the dog attack. 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.

Toddler Scarred For Life After Being Attacked In

20 May 2009

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.



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

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 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

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.

Girl, 3, may never smile again after being scarred for life in 'devil dog' attack

23rd March 2009

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 Franklyn, 3, may never be able to smile again after she was viciously mauled by the Akita outside her home. 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. Charlie Faulding was left needing 40 stitches behind a wall and padlocked gate. 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.' Tyson the Akita has now been put down by his owner after the attacks. Demi has had one operation at Bradford Royal Infirmary but may still need reconstructive surgery on her jaw. Mr Bashir, who has now had Tyson put down, was unavailable for comment. A West Yorkshire Police spokesman confirmed the dog had been destroyed and said the attack on Demi was under investigation.

Boy Savaged by 3 Rottweilers



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

17 Jan 2007

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 Michelle and stepdad Scott Amos 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. Screaming Michelle, 33, ran for cover fearing the dogs would attack Jordan's 18-month-old brother Alfie on her lap. But trained paramedic Scott, 35, bravely waded in with his fists and feet to force the beasts off. It took Scott five minutes to prise apart the jaws of the hound biting Jordan's arm, but he finally chased all three 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. Scott gave the hysterical boy First Aid and treated him for shock. But he needed nearly five hours of surgery yesterday and is due a further op tomorrow. Doctors say he will be scarred for life. The Rottweilers a dog and two bitches struck as Jordan played outdoors with the young son of the dogs' owner Yvonne Webb in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs. Mrs Webb and husband Ian were out but say they had left the hounds "secured" in their kitchen. Police were last night waiting to speak to the boys to find out how the devil dogs escaped. Mrs Webb had the male Rottweiler destroyed hours after Monday's attack. Cops will decide after a full inquiry whether to seek a destruction order on the bitches, one of which has newborn pups. Shaken Michelle, a nurse, said last night: "Jordan burst into the room surrounded by these big snarling Rottweilers. It was terrifying." Scott said: "Jordan's lucky to be alive." Mrs Webb, in her forties, said: "My dogs have never bitten anyone before."

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

12th April 2010

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 suffering more than 15 deep puncture wounds in the attack.



© National News and Pictures

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

The attack kept Skye off school for three months. Her parents, Andy and Lisa today spoke of their anger that Guinness was allowed out in front of the children. Mr Jackson, 38, a warehouse manager, said: 'It's appalling and disgusting. 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 attacked happened in 2005 and even though it went to court, it was thrown out for some reason.' But as the dog's owners, Richard and Samantha Venables, were spared jail it was revealed that Guinness had carried out a similar attack four years earlier. Judge Witold Pawlak criticised Richard Venables, 33, saying he was more interested in watching television than keeping an eye on the dog. The attack happened near her home in Edmonton, north London in February last year while Skye, now eight, was at a party with her elder sister Summer. 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, 37, said: 'I 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.

'Every time I close my eyes I can see it': Father relives moment his toddler's jaw was ripped off by family dog

24th March 2010

The father of a two-year-old girl mauled by the family dog told today how he desperately tried to wrestle the animal off his daughter. **Taylor Leadbeater** is in a critical condition and undergoing facial reconstruction surgery after her jaw was ripped from her face by the French Bullmastiff. Her father Gareth Sim, 31, described how he punched the dog repeatedly and then carried Taylor, who was bleeding profusely, to a neighbour's house to call for help.



© Chris Eades

Horrific attack: Taylor Leadbeater was mauled by a family pet, a French Bullmastiff, as she played in her bedroom. The dog attack on two-year-old Taylor Leadbeater occurred in a house on Churchbury Road in Eltham on Monday afternoon. But Mr Sim said he felt he had to go back to the house 'to sort the dog out'. 'Taylor was in her room playing with her toys. I had turned away for two seconds and heard a growl, the next thing I knew the dog had Taylor on the floor and it was biting her face. 'I punched him until he let her go. When I picked her up she wasn't even screaming - she must have been in shock. Her face was covered in blood. Every time I close my eyes I can see it.' Taylor was taken to hospital and has had 70 stitches put into her face after an operation. Her mother Charlene Leadbeater, 31, said Taylor was due to undergo another operation to deep wounds below her eye today. The girl's parents, and brother Ronnie, six, were at her side last night. Mr Sim said he wanted to campaign for all dangerous dogs to be made illegal. 'This was a dangerous dog. These types of animal should not be anywhere near children.

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.



© North News & Pictures Ltd

Mauled: Two-year-old Natasha Marriett was visiting a relative's home with her mother when she was savaged by a Staffordshire bull terrier, leaving her with horrific injuries



© North News & Pictures Ltd

On the mend: 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. She is now recovering after leaving hospital on Tuesday

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. The dog was not put down after the attack and no charges have been made.

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. In this instance that has meant 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."

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 was today preparing to leave hospital just 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, will leave Birmingham's Diana, Princess of Wales Children's Hospital within the next few days, her mother, Diane Reynolds, said. Mrs Reynolds, whose daughter is back on her feet after three operations, said: "I don't think she's realised they have bitten her. She keeps saying 'Are the dogs gone, are the dogs gone?'" "When they return to Wolverhampton in the next two days it will not be to the home in Hawksford Crescent, Low Hill, where the attack took place. Mrs Reynolds said she was letting Leah talk about the events in her own time. "She has been through enough, I haven't mentioned anything about it to her," she said. "I will let her come out with it in her own little way." She added that, in the fullness of time, she may campaign for a change in the law governing dangerous dogs. "I am not going to sit back and let that carry on. I am going to do something about it." "It's not just the dogs is it? 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 the 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." Mrs Reynolds, who has four other children, said of Leah: "She's doing wonders, I just can't believe her - she's amazing." Referring to a break-in at her home which occurred after the dog attack, the 28-year-old said: "I haven't mentioned anything to her (Leah). She has been through enough. I don't want anything else to upset her. "I can't believe there's people out there who would do something like that knowing what we have gone through." Mrs Reynolds said she and her family were looking forward to getting back into a routine and life returning to normal.

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.

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

28th September 2010



Ordeal: 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. **Megan Walker's** family say a friend's bull mastiff cross went berserk when it heard barking on a Nintendo DS game. It dragged Megan, nine, off a sofa as she played the virtual pet puppy game 'Nintendogs'. The dog sank its teeth into her face, bit her several times and ripped off her top lip. 'The police went in the house and found the lip. Quick-thinking police officers put the piece of lip on ice and surgeons were able to sew it back on. The girl's grandma Jean Taylor said 'This game should carry a warning, not to play it when there are dogs around.' 'Megan was playing at a friend's house in Bolton when the attack happened. 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. Megan had turned on the game station at around 10am on Sunday, September 19, while Saracen was asleep in the living of the house. The Nintendo game barked and the startled dog attacked the little girl dragging her off the couch by a foot. Megan's friends mother Ms Melville started kicking the dog in a bid to save the child. One of Ms Melville's daughters ran to get help. Megan was in surgery for two hours and spent five days in hospital. It is hoped that her lip will heal. She could have to have more plastic surgery in the future. ***'Inspector Phil Spurgeon said: 'This was a really nasty incident but one which falls outside of the law. The dog in question was not a banned breed and the incident happened in a private address, not in public. 'The owner signed the dog over for destruction and it has now been put down by a vet.'***

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

4th August 2011

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.



Incredible bravery: Amaya Hess enjoys a swim as she waits for her 57th operation

Now, 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. Her mum, Bobbie Tomlin, said this surgery was special because Amaya had specifically asked for it. '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.



Picture of innocence: Amaya before the brutal attack which has left her face severely disfigured



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

Her mother said she's not angry anymore about the attack that changed their lives forever. But she said she will not take Amaya to parks or neighbourhoods where dogs aren't on leashes. 'Amaya is not as scared of dogs as I am because she was asleep when it happened,' she said. The pit escaped from a neighbour's garden and grabbed Amaya from her buggy 'Our life changed and I can't say I would change it back. I've learned that at two years old, 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 on Monday night. The youngster will return on Friday for more treatment. George's grandmother Denise Western, 52, said 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," she said " 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. My daughter had to lift his face up so the ambulance crew could hold it together. "Poor George is on morphine for the pain and we are all devastated. He has looked at himself in the mirror and says he looks like Spiderman. I am just pleased he is alive." The dog was put down following the attack, but Ms Western 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," she said. "**The police said they were powerless to prosecute as the incident was on private land.**"

Killer dog that refused to die

Sunday 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 police marksmen arrived, they initially fired a 50,000-volt Taser gun in a vain attempt to stop the frenzied attack by three-year-old family pet Mitch. They then emptied the entire clip of a Glock 17, 9mm pistol into the dog before it finally collapsed and died. "They fired 17 times but Mitch kept getting up and wouldn't die," said owner Michael Andrea, 30. "Eventually he slumped on the ground and was dead. It was a nightmare." Miraculously, his son Nicholas had to stay in hospital only overnight. The three officers were from Scotland Yard's CO19 specialist firearms squad. And the attempts to kill Mitch in Woolwich, South-East London, were a far cry from the "shot of excellence" that CO19 officers are trained to use to dispatch would-be suicide bombers - a single bullet that severs the spinal cord and prevents a bomber detonating his explosives. But a Scotland Yard spokeswoman said last night: "The officers used 17 shots because the dog stayed alive that long. They fire and then assess if the threat is still there - and this animal was still alive and they had to fire again. "It's not something that is going to stay still the minute it is shot. No one can say what impact a bullet will have on a human or an animal - and the animal was still a threat. The officers did what they were trained to do. Unfortunately, that's what it took to kill the dog. The officers had no option." The horror began when Mitch turned on little **Nicholas Andrea** downstairs at the family home as his four-month-old sister Maria was sleeping upstairs. His mother Sherry, 23, said: "The dog had him by the back of his head and wouldn't let go. He was throwing Nicholas around like a rag doll. There was blood everywhere. If Nicholas had not covered his face with his hands, he could have been scarred for life." Husband Michael said: "I kicked Mitch to get him off Nicholas. Then I ran into the kitchen, grabbed a bread knife and stabbed Mitch four times with it. The dog ran round the front and Sherry hit him with a broom." Nicholas escaped briefly by climbing on to a car in a nearby car park. But the dog pulled him back and attacked him again, blacking his eye and biting him on his legs and body."By this time, a neighbour had called the police and there were 13 police cars outside," said Mr Andrea."The police dog-handler couldn't snare Mitch. They called a vet to give him a lethal injection but the vet didn't want to know."That's when the police armed response vehicle turned up. They got me to sign a statement saying I approved of them shooting Mitch."His wife added: "This was every parent's nightmare. The dog just went crazy. We are very lucky that Nicholas is still alive." The family still have Mitch's brother Vinnie, an almost identical bull mastiff they intend to keep for the time being."Mitch had been a good dog but something just made him go mad," said Mr Andrea. "We were careful before but we will be even more careful now to protect the children."

Scarred for life: Boy, 6, savaged by bulldog as he visited grandmother's grave

13th September 2010

A boy of six has been horrifically mauled by a bulldog as he visited his grandmother's grave. Michael Brown was with his grandfather on a visit to Everton Cemetery, Fazakerley, Liverpool, 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.

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.

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

16th June 2011

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 park at Poole Harbour, Dorset. The attack was especially shocking as Labradors are known for having an excellent temperament and are friendly around children and other dogs, according to experts.



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

The youngster was left covered in blood, and needed 40 stitches to the wounds on his face after the shocking attack, which happened as his mother bent down to stroke a puppy. The Labrador was not thought to be the puppy's mother. Logan had been at the park with his mother Lara Slingsby, baby brother Eithan and his grandparents when they spotted a woman with a puppy and a black Labrador.



Shock: The Labrador pounced on the little boy without warning

Miss Slingsby had walked over to stroke the puppy when the Labrador jumped on the three-year-old without warning, savaging the right side of his face. The 22-year-old carer, from Colehill, near Wimborne, said: 'The whole thing was just and was like something out of a horror film. Logan has had nightmares about it and has woken up saying "bad doggy, naughty doggy". 'If a dog does something like that to a child then it's likely to do it again.'

An ambulance was called to Whitecliff Park and his mother tried to stem the blood with Eithan's muslin. 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. Miss Slingsby and her children had gone to the seaside park with her parents, Tricia, 45, and Paul, 46, to enjoy the sunshine. She said: 'We had been in the park for a family day out as it was lovely and sunny. 'We had a picnic and Logan had just got off the swings in the park because his granddad had gone to the car to get his kite. 'We saw a lady sat down about 40 feet away. She had the dog, which looked like a Labrador, and a puppy with her. 'It wasn't a pitbull or a Staffordshire bull terrier that you would think would be dangerous. 'She saw us and smiled so we walked over to her. Logan was a couple of steps behind me. The dog was off the lead and right next to a children's park so I assumed it would be fine. 'I put my hand up to the Labrador dog and it sniffed my hand and then I went over to the puppy. 'I didn't see what happened but Logan wasn't running or shouting and didn't do anything to provoke it. 'The next thing I knew I heard growling and screaming. I looked around and saw Logan lying on the floor. The dog was just getting off him. 'The woman grabbed hold of the dog and started apologising. 'I picked Logan up and took him to the nearest bench. My dad came running over and a lady nearby called an ambulance. Vicious: The attack was especially shocking as Labradors are not known for being dangerous (file photo) 'Logan's face was covered in blood, it was everywhere. His T-shirt was covered in it. He was screaming and he went into shock. 'It was hard because I just wanted to break down, but you don't want to worry them. They know something is wrong if mum's crying. 'He had two big gashes on his lip and another gash below his nose. His lip swelled right up. 'It was devastating and I was terrified.' Miss Slingsby said that the woman owner of the Labrador - which was called Sammy - apologised to the Logan's mother and handed over her phone number. She added: 'Logan is recovering now and is back running around and playing and his face has healed. Because he is so young his skin should heal but he is definitely going to have some scarring.' She also said that after the attack the woman owner called a man who arrived minutes later and took the dog away. She said she wants the dog, which is about one-year-old, destroyed, adding: 'You cannot trust the owner to keep it on a leash or a muzzle.

A spokesman for Dorset police said: 'On May 31 we received a report from the ambulance service that a child had received a dog bite to the face at Whitecliff park. 'The child was taken to hospital. Officers are investigating.'

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 up to seven other people had attacked another boy this year. The American pitbull cross, named Asbo, broke loose from its home yesterday 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, according to the London Evening Standard.



Asbo: Witnesses said it took a police marksman five shots to bring down Asbo the bull terrier, who savaged an 18-month-old baby

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 attack. 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. It also lunged at Mrs Santos's daughter on her bike before attacking a number of others. 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. 'Her sister Trisha Greene claimed the family was told 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. She said: 'Stella was really angry. She complained to the police but we have not heard from them. The dog should have been destroyed months ago.' A 29-year-old woman arrested for having a dog dangerously out of control has been bailed until next month. A spokesman for the Met said it was investigating the earlier

Girl, 13, savaged by German shepherd puppy which left her needing 50 stitches (but she still loves dogs)

13th December 2011

A teenage girl was savagely attacked by her own German Shepherd after the puppy '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. And the 13-year-old, who had raised Fidden since he was nine days old, is still 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.



© Anita Maric/newsteam - NTI

Attacked: Iona Manson, 13, needed more than 50 stitches after was mauled by her pet Fidden, who she had raised



© Anita Maric/newsteam - NTI

Iona Manson, 13

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.

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.



© SAM FURLONG /
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.



© Copyright Cavendish Press

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 passers-by began battering it with a branch and ramming it with a bike. Park walkers had to batter and pull 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 was not with an owner or wearing a muzzle and bounded over, knocking Tegan's aunt Kerryann, 17, who was holding her, to the floor. As they got up, the dog pulled off Tegan's welly and biting Kerryann's wrist. Sharon said: "I was terrified. I knew one of us was going to get attacked because of the way the dog was charging. "As my sister's boyfriend took hold of Tegan, the dog went for her again. "We were pulling her because her legs were locked in its mouth, but the dog was so strong when I pulled her I was only left holding her jumper." The terrified mum, from Wickford, Essex, who was also with Kerryann's boyfriend Ray and her other daughter Sophie, five, began screaming. Two men ran to help and began beating the dog in a bid to get it to let go. When it finally released Tegan, the family hid in the public toilets and waited for the police to arrive and secure the Rottweiler. The owner has now promised 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 last week, leaving one needing a dozen stitches in his arm. Joe Elston, ten, was taken to Chase Farm Hospital, in The Ridgeway, 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, last Wednesday, 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 kerb really quietly, holding his arm. It looked terrible, though luckily it hadn't hit a vein. "He was really upset and in a lot of pain, and one of the other little boys was so upset he was sick." "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, with two primary schools in the area, 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: "I think he knew I was going to call the police. While I was looking for my phone, I saw him running off towards Forty Hall." "Tommy kept asking me: 'Mummy, have I been naughty?' If he'd been any nearer to the river, he could've been knocked in." "Pit bulls are covered by the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, which forces owners to keep their dogs muzzled and on leashes at all times in public, but there are no rules governing Rottweilers and Staffordshire bull terriers. However, Klare Kennett, RSPCA spokeswoman for the south-east, advised owners of all potentially aggressive dogs to abide by the legal guidelines. She said: "It is not an issue of animal welfare, but of public safety. I would advise everyone with a dog that is at risk of biting people to keep it muzzled and on a lead when out in public. Then they can be reassured it will be safe." "Also, they could take it to a dog behaviourist to train it to behave in a more socially acceptable way." Ms Kennett stressed that it was the owners, not the dogs, who should be termed "dangerous". "Ideally we would prefer to see dogs with responsible owners who look after them properly," she said. "With owners who treat them correctly, these dogs can be very good, very gentle, very docile."

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

16th April 2009

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 recently. She was attacked as she picked up her little pup Jerry in case the dog attacked him. A BAYSWATER woman is 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. "I was so shocked. It didn't really register what happened," the Fairhills High School student said. The dog was one of two German shepherds, a Rottweiler and golden retriever in the pack, she said. Her mum, Jenny, who requested the family surname not be published, reported the attack to Knox Council the next day and was told an officer would be in contact with her immediately. But one week later, Jenny said she had heard nothing. A council officer finally called her back late last week - one hour after Knox Leader questioned the council on its lack of response. She said the officer told her the council was investigating. "I said 'how can it be under investigation? You haven't even called me. If the Knox Leader hadn't been in contact I still wouldn't have heard anything'," 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 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 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. It then apparently bit the little girl. She suffered facial injuries, but it isn't life threatening. 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."

Seven-year-old boy savaged by hunting dog was 'saved from death' by hero dad

9th June 2008



© Ross Parry Agency

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. The former horse-trainer said: 'The first thing I knew about it was when Chrissie came running in screaming. I could hear the other children screaming and knew something terrible was happening.' The brave father told how he 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 he ran 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. Dad Mark, a former Akita owner, does not believe Charlie was injured before the attack. He now thinks dog licensing laws should be reviewed.

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.

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, 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. Under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 police can only take action to seize the animal if the attack occurs on public land. The Act says: "If a dog is dangerously out of control in a public space, or a private place where it is not permitted to be, the owner; and if different, the person for the time being in charge of the dog, is guilty of an offence. "If the court is satisfied that a dog is dangerous and not kept under proper control, it may make an order for it to be controlled or destroyed." 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: "Fair enough, Courtney shouldn't have gone in the neighbour's garden, but 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, it was kept in by a 3ft fence and didn't have a muzzle on." Courtney was playing close to her home in Dukinfield, Greater Manchester,

when she went into the neighbour's garden where she was attacked. The young girl was taken to Booth Hall hospital, Manchester, where she was treated by doctors before being discharged. Mohammed Saleem, the dog's owner, claims Courtney surprised the dog by grabbing hold of the two-year-old bitch as she was eating. A friend of the Saleems said the family was devastated by what happened to Courtney but were not legally bound to have it put down because it was not out of control in a public place. Tracy Riley, a family friend, said: "If for one minute we thought the dog did it maliciously we would have it put down. "Mr Saleem has three children so if it was a danger he would've got rid of it. We're really sorry about what has happened to the little girl but Mr Saleem had told her before to ignore the dog when she was eating. It's been labelled a vicious dog because of its breed." A spokesman for 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."**

Police unable to seize dog that savaged little boy

October 27, 2009



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 Benchill, 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 of the dog had promised to destroy the animal. Kaydon is 'recovering well' at home and hopes to return to School after the half-term break.

Toddler, 2, left scarred for life after being mauled by eight-stone family dog

21st January 2011



Mauled: Two-year-old Lewis Oliver

Two-year-old Lewis Oliver was seriously ill in hospital last night 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 was undergoing plastic surgery yesterday and may be scarred for life after the dog, Kona, attacked him as he played with her. He was rushed hospital and his family said he was 'doing well' yesterday. His horrified parents, Reme Keightley, 30, and Dean Oliver, a builder, who also have a 13-year-old daughter, Chelsea, voluntarily handed Kona to police and the dog was destroyed immediately. They plan to give up their second Akita, called Patchie, up 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 pats him and pulls at him and he is always fine and not like this at all. It's horrible. 'Reme and Dean just can't face having either of the dogs in the house after what has happened and Reme is absolutely distraught. Japanese Akitas are not banned under the Dangerous Dog Act. They were bred to be highly intelligent and fiercely loyal hunting and guard dogs for Japanese Shoguns. However they were more recently bred with fighting dogs and need a lot of stimulation or they can become destructive when bored. Some campaigners have called for them to be banned, saying they are prone to erratic behaviour and occasional violence. Inspector Tony Wakefield, of Wealden Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: 'Although this was clearly a traumatic incident for the child and his family this appears to be an isolated incident which occurred within the family home. The family home in Hailsham, East Sussex, has these ominous posters warning of dangerous dogs in the window. The Akita's have been owned by Lewis's parents, since they were puppies. A Sussex Police spokesman said no offences had been committed and no charges would be made.

Boy, 9, left needing plastic surgery after being mauled by Japanese Akita dog

10th July



2009 © Express and Star

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 the dog, a pet of a family friend as he tried to feed the dog a piece of cake when it pounced, pinning him to the ground and biting his cheek. The attack left the nine-year-old needing five hours of surgery to repair the side of his face after the animal pinned him to the ground and mauled his face and head. He now has no nerves in part of his face and will need plastic surgery in the future. Billy Ray's father Frank, 51, who also has a daughter, Cassie, said: 'He will be scarred for life and will need surgery as he gets older. 'The 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 and although the police were informed, the family are not pressing charges.

Evie Smith had most of her ear bitten off in a dog attack in Chingford on Saturday

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". Andrew and Sarah Smith said the animal circled their daughter Evie like "a shark attack" before it struck. The little girl was in Pole Hill, Chingford, north east London, with her parents and three-year-old brother when the attack happened. Mr Smith said the first time the children saw the dog was when it "charged towards them". Mr Smith said the family were visiting Pole Hill so they could view the sights of London with the telescope they had given Evie for Christmas. He said: "As we were packing up to leave, a dog suddenly ran up to our family and immediately attacked Evie, injuring my wife who was instinctively trying to protect her. "Our children had been nowhere near the dog previously - the first time we saw it was as it charged towards them. "The children were very frightened and tried to run to the safety of Sarah and I. Evie told me after that she had run as fast as her feet could carry her. "This was a totally unprovoked and savage attack." Mr Smith said the dog attacked on multiple occasions, adding: "At one point, circled Evie and my wife in what looked like a 'shark attack' that you would see on TV. "Our son, who is very close to his big sister, witnessed the entire incident." He added: "I hit the dog a number of times, trying to make it let go of my beautiful little girl and wife but the dog continued to attack her, despite our best efforts to protect her. "The dog was not on a lead and there was no obvious sign of the owner at first." 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 has 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. Paying tribute to his daughter, Mr Smith said: "Evie is a remarkable little girl who is very popular and full of life and loves to sing and dance. "We are reading her stories and trying to keep her upbeat. She understands what has happened to her. "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." The family asked for privacy to allow their daughter time to heal and recover.

Seven-year-old lad savaged by dog at his school gates

3 Mar 2011



Jude recovering at home last night 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. And they thanked hero parent Chris Hemming and a mum who managed to drag the dog off Jude. Dad Derek, 37, said: "If it had not been for them, my son could have lost his eye or been killed. We can't thank them enough. "Jude was pinned down and screaming. We know we have been very lucky. "The hospital had a worry with his eyelid being totally split, but we are hoping he can make a full recovery." Parents and children were left traumatised by Tuesday's attack outside Woodhead Primary School in Hamilton. Last night, hero dad-of-two Chris, 34, told how he and an unidentified mum fought to get the dog off the youngster. He said: "One minute things were normal, the next I heard really savage snarling and growling. I looked over and the dog had pinned something to the ground. "I thought it was another dog, but then I saw it was a boy and heard ear-splitting screams. "I ran over and yanked at the lead. The dog was out of control. It was barbaric. I had to use my full strength. "I remember thinking that if its jaws had locked I could be doing more harm than good, but I had no choice. "I finally got the dog off and the boy was covered in blood. I couldn't see how bad the injuries were. It was horrific." Chris, whose daughter Kimberley, six, had left the school seconds earlier, said: "A woman in her 20s with fairish, red hair had been with the dog. It happened so quickly and without warning that it got away from her." Seconds after the attack, dad Derek arrived. Chris said: "I thought he was going to go for me because I was standing with the dog on the lead by that time. This has rattled everyone. What happened will live with me forever." Another mum who witnessed the attack said last night: "If that man and the other woman had not been there to help, that wee boy would have been killed. "It was not going to stop." Jude, who celebrated his seventh birthday just 10 days ago, had been walking out of school when the dog - which was on a lead but not muzzled - ran to him. The owners later told other parents they had only had the animal for a day. 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. Last night, he was recovering at home with dad Derek, his mum Kelly-Anne, brother Jay, 10, and sister Cara, two, Derek said: "We're really grateful to the guy who jumped in. I almost went for him because he was standing with the dog when I arrived. We're so thankful to him." Kelly-Anne, 32, said: "Those who ran to help saved Jude. And the staff at the hospitals were absolutely brilliant. "He's a resilient wee boy, but they calmed him down so much he was soon sitting up watching cartoons of dogs on TV. "We know the school has no control over what happens just outside the school gates. "But why do parents bring dogs into a situation where young children are leaving for the day, particularly if this one had been with its owner for just one day? It's madness." The dog has been reported to police and officers revealed that a man of 50 and two women, aged 24 and 26, would be the subject of reports to the procurator fiscal.

Three giant dogs mauled me before killing my pet: Wealthy owner found guilty over attack, despite being abroad

23rd November 2011

A woman needed plastic surgery after she was mauled by three dangerous dogs owned by the wife of a wealthy wine merchant. Kate Hancock was walking her German Shepherd-cross Cassie in woods when she was set upon. She was knocked to the ground and bitten on the face, neck, head and arms by the Anatolian Shepherd dogs, a large muscular breed that has the strength to take down lions.



Horrific: Kate Hancock suffered terrible bites to her head and arms as her nine-year-old dog was savaged to death next to her. She is pictured in hospital after the attack which took place in woods in Weston-super-Mare. Painful: Mrs Hancock needed plastic surgery to her face after the attack. Cassie her dog was savaged to death during the attack in Wrington Woods, North Somerset. The three dogs, from a breed which can weigh more than 10st, had escaped from the country home of Sarah and John Avery, who were on holiday at the time of the attack. But despite being abroad, Mrs Avery – as owner of the dogs – was told to pay £10,000 in costs and ordered to carry out 40 hours of unpaid work after being found guilty of being the owner of a dog causing injury while ‘dangerously’ out of control because the person she had left in charge had failed to supervise them. Mrs Hancock told Bristol Crown Court: ‘It was horrifying. Initially one of the dogs attacked and latched on to my arm the other two dogs started to attack me and my dog. They were so big it came up to my waist, just knocked me over and started biting my face, neck and the back of my head. They attacked and killed my dog and I realised there was nothing I could do to save her. ‘I was in fear for my life. God knows what would have happened if a child had been with me.’ The trial heard that Avery and her husband were in New Zealand at the time of the attack and the dogs in the care of a tenant, renting an annexe attached to their house. 18 months earlier one of the dogs had escaped and bitten a man. The Judge said These dogs should not be kept in England’



Sarah Avery, pictured here with two of her dogs. Three of her dogs escaped from home while she was on holiday

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 tissue damage after the bull mastiff ripped into her hands.

THOSE KILLED

in Dog Attacks in the UK

Children Killed:-

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.

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

Mum screamed in terror as Zumer Ahmed, 18 months, savaged to death by uncle's American bulldog^{26/11/2010}



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, an inquest heard. 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. Coroner Penelope Schofield said: "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. Mr Nazir and Mr Stanczyk eventually pulled her limp body clear and the pair backed out of the family's home. Zumer was still breathing, but died in hospital soon afterwards. The builders used a towel, 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, 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. Artur dragged the girl out and the other child out and slammed the door shut. '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. I just did what anyone would have done. The dog looked crazed. It was like it had a blood lust. 'Neighbours said the dog owner Mr Urfan Ahmed, a mechanic, bred and sold dogs and kept them in the garden. He was away at work when the killer dog got in the house and attacked Zumer. 'The dogs lived in a specially built shed in the garden and they were not allowed in the house. The dog's owner and victim's uncle Urfan 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, not involved in the incident, a pit-bull type, bred for fighting. He was banned from keeping dogs for five years. Game and the other dog 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.

Boy, four, dies after dog attack in Liverpool

30 November 2009



© bruce adams



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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.

13 Month-old killed in Savage Rottweiler attack

28 December 2007



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

Baby Archie-Lee, 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



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.



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.'

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 Tinshill, 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.

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 to her head and neck when she was attacked by the Neapolitan mastiff at her home just before last 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 35-year-old Alex Blackburn-Smith from Croydon has 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 in Demesne Road, Wallington, south London, causing her fatal injuries. 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 called Ruby, 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. Blackburn-Smith will be sentenced at Croydon Magistrates' Court on January 3 next year. 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.

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



Alex Blackburn-Smith was ordered to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work Dog' owner spared jail after 'ferocious' pet mauled woman to death

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.

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.

DOG KILLS OWNER IN HORROR ATTACK

Monday January 28,2008

A pensioner was "dragged like a doll" through the street in a fatal attack by his dog. Witnessed looked on in horror as railway engineer James Rehill, 78, was savaged by his Rottweiler in Newham, east London. Residents armed with baseball bats 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 Aziz Rahman, 32, said dogs like Rottweilers should not be allowed out in public. He said: "It was like something you see in a TV 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 over him, licking and biting him. He looked like a doll, the dog was pulling at him. From what I saw, it looked like he was attacking the man. There was blood all over his face." Mr Rahman said the man was treated "like a piece of meat" and described the police officers who rescued him as "heroes". He added: "My wife could not believe it. She got frightened. Now she's thinking it's fairly scary to go to the local shops on her own."

Grandfather mauled to death by his pet Rottweiler after he collapses in the street

1 February 2008

A grandfather was mauled to death by his Rottweiler after he collapsed in the street.

The man, believed to be James Rehill, 78, fell to the ground while he was taking the dog for a walk.



Savage: The last steps of the victim before his demon dog launched the fatal attack At first, the animal tried to revive its master by licking and pawing him, witnesses said. But it became more and more agitated and started biting and mauling him. Passers-by tried to scare the dog off by sounding car horns and banging sticks. But it took no notice and continued to maul the retired labourer's face and hands. The ten-minute attack, in Newham, East London, on Sunday, ended when a policeman fired a fire extinguisher at the dog. It was later destroyed by police marksmen. The father-of-two was taken to the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel but died on Sunday evening. It is thought the dog was wearing a muzzle but that it somehow came off or broke. Aziz Rahman, 32, saw the attack, which took place outside his house. He said the dog threw Mr Rehill around like a "rag doll". "At first, the dog was trying to wake him up, licking him, but it became distressed when he didn't get up and started to bite him."

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.

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.

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



Kelly Lynch was killed by dogs in 1989

Exclusive: How many more children must be killed by dogs before effective laws come into force, demands heartbroken mum

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 harmless the animals 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 for a crackdown on devil dogs after four-year-old John-Paul was killed by his uncle's pitbull. And last night, 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," Veronica said. "But I hadn't even heard of a Rottweiler. I didn't even know what one looked like." "Dogs were the first love of Kellie's life. She had her own, Jody, which was a mongrel-border-collie type. "Her older brother Kevin used to have a paper round, and she would go with him and drop the papers off at all the houses with dogs. She wasn't at all scared of them." 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: "They didn't tell me at once exactly how Kellie had died, which was right, because I couldn't have taken it at the time." I knew it was to do with dogs, but 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.

