

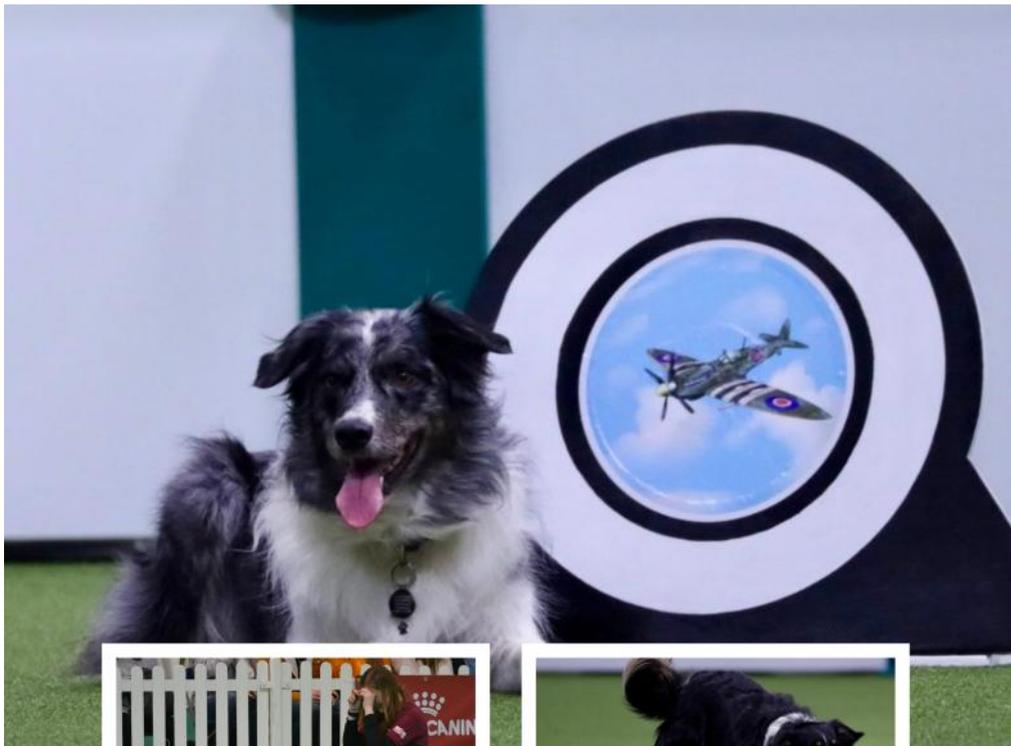
DOG SPORTS UK

Crufts 2026 Obreedience Special

5 March 2026



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE DOG TRAINING CLUBS OF GREAT BRITAIN



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The Royal Kennel Club
Obreedience Display Competition

Thursday 5 March 2026

11:45 am approx.

Obedience Main Ring - NEC Hall 5

Judge: Jacque Ashmore

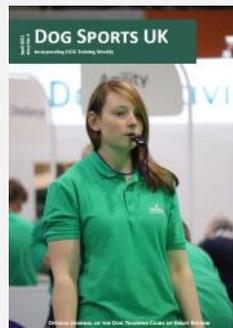


Obreedience



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DOG Sports UK

Published by
DOG Training Weekly Magazine Limited.
REGD: 09048674
Registered Office
Tower House, 269 Walmersley Road,
Bury, BL9 6NX

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Judge: Jacque Ashmore

Thank you to the Kennel Club for inviting me to judge today. I live in Stafford with my partner Leigh, our little boy Jacob, and our two dogs, Makita and Geoffrey.

I first became involved in obedience back in 1995 with a very naughty little dog called Monty. He once chased another dog right across Cannock Chase! When the owner finally caught up with us, it turned out she was a dog trainer, and she very kindly took us under her wing. Thanks to her help, I was completely hooked on dog training from that point on.

I started competing in obedience around 1999 with Monty, and later got my first Border Collie, progressing through the classes with her all the way up to Class A. I have had 5 litters of border Collies under the affix Deltamadog, with some of my puppies qualified to work Championship C, Which I am super proud of! I have thoroughly enjoyed spending my time training and working with Dogs in a few disciplines.

Makita is also my assistance dog, as I have seizures, and she alerts me when I'm about to have one, which is incredibly special and important to me.

Three years ago, I started an obreedience team, and we have absolutely loved it. I think it's fantastic for the sport and a great way to introduce new breeds into obedience.

I hope all the teams have a fabulous day today. Enjoy your dogs, remember that you all take the best dog home, and most of all, have fun.

Jacque and the Deltamadogs



Super Staffords



The Super Staffords were formed at the end of 2024.

Team members all voted for myself, Kelly Harris to be the named Team Captain, however, the team is run as a co-op.

Our team had an amazing first year whilst figuring out team dynamics & where each dog works best. We were always placed in the line-up and had many wins which resulted in us holding the top spot on the leaderboard for the entire year! Not bad for a new team!

Training together isn't always easy as we are spread across the country (High Wycombe, Forest of Dean, West Yorkshire) but when we do get together it is always full of fun, laughter... and cake!

We always go out with a view to have fun working our dogs in the ring together, but with an aim to showcase our amazing dogs, showing people how versatile the Staffordshire Bull Terrier breed can be with the correct training and input.

We are absolutely over the moon to have qualified for Crufts 2026! I couldn't be prouder of this team!

We would like to wish all teams the best of luck and, again, would like to thank all those who work hard throughout the year to make the Obreedience heats happen.

**Kelly Harris,
Team Captain.**



Handler: Ben Hill
KC Name: Kodaknott Team of Dreams
Pet name: Bridget
DOB: 11/04/2023

Bridget is preparing to make her Obreedience Final debut at Crufts - a moment that means far more to us than simply stepping into the ring. Bridget has always been the ultimate people-pleaser - the kind of dog who believes everyone she meets is already her friend. Her enthusiasm, warmth, and joy are impossible to miss, and she has a habit of winning hearts wherever she goes, often before she's even had a chance to show off her training. This appearance feels especially emotional after the journey Bridget has been on over recent months. Following surgery for a ruptured CCL in early December 2025, simply being back to full fitness was never something we took for granted. Every small milestone in her recovery felt significant, and seeing her happy, confident, and ready to work again has been incredibly rewarding. Bridget has always loved what she does, and that hasn't changed - if anything, her determination shines through even more now.

Bridget has already qualified twice for the Special Pre-Beginner Final, quietly proving her consistency and commitment along the way. As she heads towards her first Obreedience Final at Crufts, we're filled with pride, gratitude, and excitement. Whatever happens on the day, Bridget will step into the ring doing what she loves most - making friends, giving it her all, and reminding us just how special she is.



Handler: Leah Hill,
Kc Name: Blues Boy High Flyer
Pet name: Walter
DOB: 25/12/2014

Walter is an 11 year old staffordshire bull terrier. I've owned and trained waiter in obedience upto novice. He's a fantastic dog to train, always keen to work and can turn his paw to anything I ask of him. This will be our 3rd time competing at crufts in an obreedience final. This will probably be Walters last time competing at crufts as he is now semi retired from competition. He is a once in a life time dog. One in a million.



Handler: Abbie Spink,
KC Name: Staffordwill Radebe,
Pet Name: Buddy,
DOB: 02/07/2015

I have had Buddy since he was 8wks old and I was seven. Buddy is a quick learner, working through all the KCGCDS levels before he was 2yrs old.

Buddy is now 10 and has taken part in various competitions at Crufts every year since 2017, and in YKC rings this year too. He never fails to make me smile.

We train in Obedience and work at level 6 in Rally. Buddy also enjoys Hoopers and Scentwork, as well as Canine Athletics. He enjoys working and it makes me happy to see him happy and having fun.

Buddy & I love being part of the Super Staffords. It's so much fun training and competing together. We have had an amazing 3rst year as a team having so many wins & being at the top of the leader board throughout the year!

My boy is one in a million, he's my soul dog. I'm so proud of him.



Handler: Vicky Talbot,
KC Name: Sheerfire Bad Seed,
Pet Name: Callie, (owner Abbie Spink)
DOB: 16/07/2023

Callie is a 2yr old sporting Stafford. Callie has been to Crufts in previous years with the Puppy Display team and also being part of the Northern Rally team. She has completed her KCGCDS and does some agility. She has also qualified for Obedience competitions at Crufts again this year. She is always eager and always gives 100% to her training. Callie excels when she on the athletics field and has competed both in the UK & abroad bringing back medals & trophies.

Callie loves to be working but won't turn down a nice warm blanket to get snuggled up.

We have achieved more than I ever dreamed of in the time I have been working with her.

I am looking forward to what she can achieve with the team this year.



Handler: Kelly Harris (Team Captain)
KC Name: Illori Camiyah (Beg Ex),
Pet Name: Camiyah,
DOB: 27/06/2021

Camiyah is a wild child! I had high hopes for her as a pup, then at 16 week old she fractured her leg and displaced a growth plate. In true stafford style, with recovery & rehab behind us, she throws herself into everything, generally at 100mph!

As well as obreediencia, Cams works Rally (L2), and obedience at Beginners. As a Gold Good Citizen, we have previously competed in the Good Citizen Special Pre Beginners stakes 2 years running, placing 6th both times!

Hoopers, agility and Barn Hunt are other activities we train and compete in, whilst showing in the breed ring is our least frequented activity, she placed in her class at Crufts!

In her spare time Camiyah travels the country as part of the East Anglian Staffordshire Bull Terrier Display Team showing off our tricks and training to demonstrate the positive side of our wonderful versatile breed.



Handler: Nina Hallam
KC name: Illori Azizi
Pet name: Az (owner Kelly Harris)
DOB: 30/08/2014

Az is 11 years young, still loves working but only at his own pace. This Obreediencia Final is a big deal for Az, he gets to escort his favourite aunty around the famous green carpet!

Nina has never competed in any dog sport or activity until handling Az at the Winchester heat where they achieved a score of 9 for send to bed and bring the team in at 2nd place!

Az worked his way through the Good Citizen scheme gaining gold at 17 months old. He was shown regularly in the breed ring and qualified for Crufts every year. Scentwork UK, Obedience, Barn Hunt, Rally & Hoopers are other activities he has enjoyed over the years.

Az was accepted into a Search & Rescue team as an air scenting dog where he excelled at training & loved finding his people! He also did a lot of PR & fundraising whilst meeting & greeting which I think was his all time favourite thing!

In 2018 Az joined the East Anglian Staffordshire Bull Terrier Display Team, taking part in displays showing off his tricks, having fun whilst promoting our wonderful versatile breed. We have also assisted on the breed stand at Discover Dogs, another of Az' favourite activities!

MRU



We are delighted to be able to represent our breed at Crufts again this year.

The Manchester Terrier is a vulnerable native breed with fewer than 100 puppies born last year. The team was formed to showcase our lovely dogs and to prove that even wilful, independent rat catchers can be trained. Manchester Terriers are very versatile, many of the team are also involved in other activities including showing, agility, hoopers and rally. When not competing, several of the team can be found promoting the breed at Game and Country Fairs around the country.

Getting together to train can be very challenging as the team members live many miles apart, most of the time we only get together at the heats.

We thoroughly enjoy being part of the Obreedience community and wish all the teams the best of luck for today.



Handler: Chris Harrison
KC name: Magpiebank Teal
Pet name: Teal

Homebred Magpiebank Teal, 9 yrs, is again joined in the Team by her brother and her daughter. She started out life as a successful show dog gaining her first ticket but became bored with that scene so looked for new challenges.

As well as being a regular on the MRU Team she competed successfully in Obedience and Agility during 2025 and was the top 'Beginner' dog at her local training Club, Danesford, for the second year running.

She will be appearing on the Discover Dogs Manchester Terrier Beed Stand on Sunday afternoon where she will be endeavouring to snaffle as many treats as possible. As in previous years she will be the 'Scent' dog for MRU on the big day.



Handler: Ann Harrison
KC name: Ch Magpiebank Ash
Pet name: Ash

Ch Magpiebank Ash is now 12 yrs old and gained his title as a show dog before turning his paw to other activities. Although starting Obedience late in life he has become quite the enthusiast learning from scratch along with his handler and has been in the ribbons on 3 occasions at Novice level in 2025. He has completed all the exercises during his time with MRU and is the 'Retrieve' dog for the Team this year. Being a born showman, he will love his time in the spotlight - hopefully he will stay focused and not milk the occasion too thoroughly! He will also be on the Discover Dogs Manchester Terrier Beed Stand on Sunday afternoon where he will lap up all the attention.



Handler: Chrissie Bynam
KC name: Mimbres It's Norti Nora
Pet name: Nora

Nora is a very versatile girl. She won Best Puppy in Breed at Crufts in 2019, but her ears went up and her legs grew too long so we stopped showing.

Nora loves agility and was at Crufts for the agility Novice Cup Final in 2023. This year she will also be at Crufts in 3 out of the 4 YKC agility finals. She has had a successful year at Hoopers and Rally. Despite only managing to attend 3 Rally heats she is now working at level 2.

This is Nora's second year representing Team MRU. She specialises in the Stop the Dog and Send to Bed exercises.

I am very proud of my girl. Nora always tries hard at everything I ask her to do.



Handler: Lesley Olbinson
KC name: Magpiebank Rayn
Pet name: Rain

Rain Harrison is the youngest of the team at just 3 years old. This year was her first as a full member and she has been called upon regularly, scoring full marks, to help the team finish in 2nd place in the standings for Crufts!

Rain is handled by Lesley Olbinson who trains once a week with her and says "Rain is a very complex soul, always thinking and watching what is going on around her but once she's focused she is an absolute delight to work with."

She has also dipped her paws in Rally with no training, both times getting qualified scores (one excellent), and the beginners classes in obedience, showing her versatility! It has been a tough year for this duo and will be their first time on the green carpet as part of main team.



Handler: Judy Thurlow
KC name: Erkenwyne Silver Seraph
Pet name: Tilda

Tilda is a 3rd generation, homebred 6 year old girl, who is a mum herself. She has done very well at her few entries in the show ring, but agility was her first love, until we joined the team and learnt more about obedience, so now have another love and have got the 'bug'! She has done so well, even winning the Pre-Beginner league!

Tilda also represents our breed at Discover Dogs at Crufts, and various Game and Country Fairs around the country, where she is a Lure Race Champion.

I am very proud of all we have achieved together, she is a joy to live with, she certainly lives up to her nickname of 'Wildchild' but still loves to snuggle with me, preferably under a heap of blankets!

Handler: Brenda Harrison
KC name: Rosadyva Midnight Sapphire
Pet name: Dottie

Despite being 7 years old Dottie is very much the new girl in the team. She tried her paw at showing but it wasn't for her.

Dottie's favourite activities are sunbathing in the summer and laying in front of the fire in the winter. She will pause these very important activities in order to chase any pesky pigeons out of the garden. During the summer Dottie can often be found representing the breed at Game and Country Fairs around the country.

Dottie is a reserve for the team, but if called upon she will try her very best.

Cool Cockers



This year our team relaxed our efforts a little and took the time to train and work our newbie dogs - our up and coming stars - my little Eleven and Violet's lovely rescue dog Jet.

Despite that we've still had some brilliant results, finishing our wonderful annual camping trip with a win at Solihull. It's been another fun year of travelling the country from our Southern abodes, enjoying not only Obreedience but also Allbreedience, Obedience, Rally, Agility, Flyball and even the odd fun class together. I've also had the privilege of working Harley on the Labrapaw team this season too!

The team has a new member this year in the form of black and tan puppy Ember, Caroline's new baby - this time she went for Working instead of her usual Show type!! Excited to see what the future will hold for her.

Charlie's Dizzy will soon be 2 already and is doing some incredible things in Obedience and Agility training

There's been two lovely team camping holidays this year - Hatchford Brook & Solihull Obedience shows and Somerset Obedience show (we took the dogs to explore Cheddar Gorge caves!). Caroline and Luna even entered their first agility competition at Christmas! The team has had such fun together. We are so looking forward to meeting for training and heats again in 2026!

We are very much looking forward to spending Crufts together as one big family with our Labrapaw and Spring It On pals and our wonderful reserve handler Jodie

Heather Gardner, Team Captain



Handler: Violet-Mae Murch
KC Name: Charlie Care Bear (Beg.Ex)
(RL4.Ex)
Pet Name: Charlie
DOB: 09/02/2020

Charlie is a 6 year old Working Cocker Spaniel who is at Crufts for his third year competing with the Cool Cocks.

As well as enjoying attending heats and being part of the team he also competes in a variety of other sports. He is currently working Novice in Obedience and competed in his first Class A in 2025. Charlie also won into grade 2 in Agility in 2025. He is the fastest Flyball dog in his team and qualified into Level 6 Rally last year.

At home Charlie is the cheekiest clown, he always knows how to put a smile on everyone's face and has the kindest heart.



Handler: Heather Gardner
Pet Name: Eleven
KC Name: Amelaura Lady Fallow
(AWS) (RL2.Ex)
DOB: 21/04/2021

My beautiful little charmer, who wins the hearts of anyone who has the pleasure of meeting her.

Eleven has some big boots to fill this Crufts as she takes over from my beloved Bourbon in both Obreedience and the Good Citizen Display Team in the main arena. Bourbon will be enjoying her well earned retirement having displayed with the team since 2015!

It's taken a while for my little lady to gain the confidence needed to take to the Crufts green carpet, but with Bourbon's rapidly failing faculties, Eleven has had to step up, and step up she has! Obreedience is definitely a sport that gives confidence, my girls prefer to work alongside their team mates in the ring. Eleven has gone from tucked tail, hanging back, sniffy displacement at the beginning of this season to wagging and looking up smiling, hopefully she'll be feeling confident at Crufts too, with her bestie Luna and Sister Paisley by her side!

Eleven competes in Agility first and foremost (where she's one win off Grade 4, she excels with skills and speed to die for when confident), Rally, but her passions are as a working gundog and lately I've discovered she loves trick training!

Eleven has also been on a number of modelling, advertising and feature shoots in her short years, including for a popular TV show last year. She lives at home with Paisley and Bourbon (12)



Handler: Caroline McDonnell
Pet Name: Luna
KC Name: Celestial Blue Moon
(RL2.Ex) (P-Beg Ex)
DOB: 23/03/2018

Luna is an adorable Show Cocker Spaniel aged 7. She is proud to be representing the Cool Cockers for a third year running and aiming to showcase her skills and bring her unique charm to Crufts 2026.

This past year has been filled with fun travelling from Kent to the heats throughout the country. Luna loves being part of the team in all that we do together, training, competing, camping and holidaying.

Luna also has been developing her skills in other disciplines. She has had a successful year in Obedience achieving her Pre Beginner's Excellence Title and in Rally achieving up to Level 3.

At home Luna has a strong bond with her mother, Roxy, who is 14 and in 2025 welcomed our new addition Ember.

Luna has a sweet loving nature and is a cherished companion who enjoys a pampered life filled with cuddles and affection

Handler: Charlie Blake
Pet Name: Paisley (Owner Heather Gardner)
KC Name: Paisley And Pinstripe (AWB)
(RL3.Ex)
DOB: 25/05/2014

Paisley, my wonderful rescue dog of nearly 10 years, lover of life, thief of hearts.

This year Charlie discovered the joys of working Paisley in Agility (where she giggled her way round the courses with Pais' antics!), Obedience (where Paisley came out of the attic after a large number of years to show she's still got it!) and Obreedience where she worked her in a number of heats in place of her own boy Buzz (and helped the team to some top results!) and Charlie has even requested to work Paisley at Crufts! Perhaps her final hurrah as an almost 12 year old dog, but what a way to retire!!

Watch out for this girl's flashy heelwork and rather too enthusiastic retrieve!

In multiple previous years Paisley has displayed Good Citizen at Crufts in the main arena both with myself and team mate Caroline. And also at Discover Dogs London. Paisley retired from full height in Agility competition at the end of 2025 having reached Grade 4 and will hopefully continue in Anysize (at Small) this year. Paisley still enjoys Rally, Parkour and is a fantastic working gundog. She's got character by the bucket load, everyone who knows her loves her. She lives at home with Eleven and Bourbon (12)

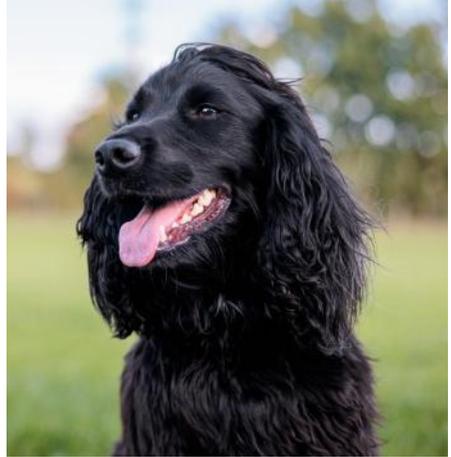


(Crufts Final 1st Reserve)

Handler: Jodie Parry
Pet Name: Buzz (Owner Charlie Blake)
KC Name: Olive Sky (AWS)
DOB: 08/11/2020

Buzz is a 5 year old Working Cocker Spaniel. 2026 will be Buzz and Charlie's third time at Crufts together. They both love being part of the Cool Cockers and enjoyed attending many heats across the country with the team last year.

Buzz also competes in agility and is currently one win off of Grade 6. Charlie and Buzz also enjoy Mantrailing and Scentwork. When they are not out and about, Buzz loves nothing better than snoozing on the sofa!



(Crufts Final 2nd Reserve)

Handler: Tracey Hinsley
Pet Name; Jet (Owner Violet-Mae Murch)
KC Name: Wildflowers In Your Own Time
DOB: 26/08/2021

Jet is a 4 year old Working Cocker Spaniel. Jet was rescued in 2024 and this will be his second time as a reserve for Cool Cockers at Crufts.

He has spent his first real year competing with the team and has really stepped up. He also competes in multiple sports including Obedience, Agility, Flyball and Rally.

Jet is the biggest bundle of energy and loves every single person or dog he meets. He really believes everyone should be his best friend. He does however have a serious side when he's working and gets on with the job at hand with full focus.

He is looking forward to cheering on his team and supporting his big 'brother' Charlie from the sidelines.

Labrapaws



The 2025 Cruft Winners!

This will be the fifth year The Labrapaws have had the honour of appearing on the green carpet of the Obreedience final. The Labrapaws were originally formed in 2019 from members of Evesham & District DTC where, Kaye Littlehales, Alexandra Turner and Tracey Hinsley teach classes.

The team have had a great time attending heats & demonstrations, meeting the other teams and enjoying the camaraderie that goes with this sport.

Generally, Labradors are known for being a biddable & reliable breed, but they do have their mischievous moments so anything could happen. They are people pleasers meaning they like to parade to an audience, forgetting all about their handler and Crufts is the perfect opportunity to do that! Anyone who watched the last few finals will now what I mean!

The team would all like to wish good luck to all the other teams, the judge and ring party. It's sure to be memorable day.



Handler: Alexandra Turner
KC Name: Tau Bonnievale at Jakkalsrooi
Pet Name: Tau
DOB: 14/11/2018

Tau, pronounced TAYOO – is my 2nd fox red, yellow labrador to join our family of three. Also known as Fruitloop or Tau Woofer, we chose Tau due to his unusual ridge down his nose. We are very proud to have been part of the winning team last year.

All my labradors have achieved GCDS awards with Tau and his brother on Gold and their sister having achieved her Bronze and working towards Silver with Evesham & District DTC.

Tau has been known to dabble in Allbreedience, BCOS, Obedience, where he has been placed and won at Beginners level, agility and rally online. Tau and his brother are part of the Labrapaw family we have qualified at Crufts since 2022 and look forward to introducing their sister Tokara in 2025/2026 to the wonderful sport of Obreedience.

He is a wonderful dog that loves to give everyone kisses and would happily try and get a cuddle at any chance he can get.

Alexandra Turner (Team Captain)



Handler: Kaye Littlehales
KC Name: Kaliture Appollo of Kayendor CDex-TDex RL6ex Pre Beg Ex
Pet Name: Richie
DOB: 06/07/2018

Richie is my first Labrador and has turned out to be my dog in a million. Originally I chose the breed as I wanted to take part in a variety of dog sports, but most of all have a companion that would be easy to live with. He has exceeded my expectations in both aspects, with qualifications various sports as well as being my best friend.

We are one of the original members of The Labrapaws and were very proud to have been part of the winning team last year.

When we're not training or competing he is just as happy to chill at home and to cuddle up on the sofa. He is my yellow boy with heart of gold.



Handler: Tracey Hinsley
KC Name: Purdey Christmas Pudding
Pet Name: Purdey
DOB: 25.12.2017

Purdey's my second Labrador, both yellow. She was born on Christmas Day, hence her name Purdey Christmas Pudding. She even answers to Pud Pud! I love the versatility of the breed and their happy temperament.

All my dogs have trained to GCDs gold standard at Evesham & District DTC, where Purdey also takes part in agility, flyball and rally. I was delighted to become involved with the Obreedience team, it's been great training with friends and gaining confidence. We have gone on to compete and been placed in obedience and BCOS.

Purdey lives happily with my other dogs, a Rottweiler and a JRT. She comes to work with me every day, working with horses, she enjoys stealing their carrots. She can even open the tack room door and help herself! She's a real character and a joy to own. In the evenings she loves nothing more than to snuggle up on the sofa with me and her toy rabbit.

Tracey Hinsley (Team Captain)

Handler: Samantha Woods
KC Name: Quinn Jet
Pet Name: Harley
DOB: 25.12.2017

I have been part of The Labrapaw team since 2022, when I was asked to join by team member Tracey as Purdey is her litter sister, what could go wrong.

Harley is a very special member of our family as first and foremost she is a trained assistance dog for my autistic son. She has also completed the Good Citizen Awards through to Gold level with the Abingdon Dog Training Club, where I also teach classes at all levels.

We have had a great time attending heats this year, especially as my daughter is also part of the team and will be her today as reserve member with Harley daughter. It will be especially memorable to share this day with them.

I would like to wish everyone good luck in the final and an enjoyable day with your lovely dogs.



Handler: Gracie Goldsmith
KC Name: Karmaristol Neive
Pet Name: Cali
DOB: 12/04/2021

Cali is my first dog that took me into the world of obedience, I never got her with the intention of competing; we always trained as we both very much enjoyed it and she gained her Bronze KCGCDS.

However, one day we ventured out to our first Kennel Club open show. From here, we have qualified and competed at Crufts in the YKC Obedience every year since 2023 and have been very fortunate to qualify again this year - a special memory for us was when we joined in on a display in the main arena at Crufts 2025!! We were very grateful to be asked to join the Labrapaws team in August 2025.

We have competed in two heats with the team and have loved every second of it. When we're not competing, Cali loves to snuggle up on the sofa, go on an adventure, or learn new tricks! She is my once in a lifetime kind of dog.



Handler: Faith Woods
KC Name: Ravens Wings
Pet Name: Raven
DOB: 29/03/2020

Raven is my first dog I have owned. My mum bred a litter from Harley and I could not resist Raven as my keeper. She is very exuberant, but we have managed to attain our bronze, silver and gold Good Citizen training awards.

I have been part of The Labrapaws team since 2022 and since then have been attending heats and demonstrations. I've had a great time travelling with my mum and meeting other team members and competitors.

Raven also enjoys Rally, Obedience, Hoopers and Scent work. She is a typical labrador except she hates to swim.

She is a bit of a wild child, although she is slowly calming down. I'm sure she will be as excited as I am to be on the Crufts green carpet again this year.

The Russellers



Team Captain. Sian Leanne Rees & Little Miss Tiny Temper (Mable)

The Russellers was formed in 2016 by Julia Bodsworth. I have been part of the team since 2017, where I worked my very own dog called Mable (Little Miss Tiny Temper) and have deputised as Captain when needed for many years to support Julia and the team.

I am pleased to announce that as of the 1st Jan 2026, I was officially made Team Captain, my predecessor, Julia who led the team from its infancy has stepped down to concentrate on her own life goals after a strong 10 years. I'm hoping to carry on the team's success moving forward into the future. Julia and her dog Lottie are still very much part of the team and long may it continue.

My dog Mable is 14 years old, she officially retired back in 2024, She has not competed this year. Since then, she has been cheerleading for her teammates from the sidelines. Now in her golden years she leads life very much in the slow lane, her main past time is Mantrailing, however she does still love to train obedience to keep her mind active.

I'd like to introduce to our squad for 2026; Anne Shuker and Scally, Kirsty Stuart and Phantom, Louise Dexter and Izzy, Lorraine Gardner and Willow, Charlotte Wilde and Toad and finally Helen Chetwynd and Barney (owned by Anne),





Handler: Anne Shuker
KC Name: Scally's Skullduggery Swag:
Pet Name: Scally
Age: 12 yrs

Scally (Scally's Skullduggery Swag) is a twelve-year-old Jack Russell who is an original member of the Russellers team in Obreedience. He has competed in obreedience competitions and at Crufts as a member of this team since Jack Russells were first recognised by the Kennel Club in 2016. However, this will be his last Crufts competition as at twelve years old he should retire (even though he'll disagree). His two favourite individual exercises in Obreedience are 'scent' and 'retrieve'.

He lives on our farm, with three other dogs, where he enjoys the freedom of the fields and hunting vermin in true Jack Russell style. He has a lovely nature and is very friendly to all people and dogs. He enjoys swimming, ploughing through the water like a little water rat with his tail sticking up like a periscope.

In addition to Obreedience he also competes at advanced level in Heelwork to Music and intermediate level in Freestyle, where he puts in a cheeky performance. As well as competing we enjoy giving demonstrations. This year he has also entered obedience at beginner level and done very well.

We really enjoy the teamwork of Obreedience. The Russellers are very supportive of each other and always remain positive and cheerful. As we live far from each other, practicing together is a very rare thing, so we are extra proud of our wonderful dogs when we do well.



Handler: Kirsty Stuart
KC Name: Fedsig's Phantom Menace:
Pet name: Phantom
Age: 1.5 yrs

Fedsig's Phantom Menace (Phantom AKA Phat Man) is the third generation of the same family that Kirsty has worked on the team.

His Great Uncle Feds and his Aunt Ghost were on teams that finished 2nd and 1st respectively. At 18 months old he's the New Boy on the team, last year was his first year in competition.

He's a very good Pub Dog and is a regular in his two locals, Hilal and The Woodman.

He's also dipped a toe into the acting world, being Co Star to Leading Man Toad (Rogue Hero) in a recent Dog's Trust commercial



Handler: Louise Dexter
Pet Name: Our Own Little Izzy Whizz
Pet Name: Izzy
Age: 6 yrs

Izzy is a 6-year-old Jack Russell Terrier, bred by a family member and lives on our farm. She loves to say hello to anyone who looks at her.

Izzy has passed her KCGCDS up to and including Gold. And has taken part in previous Crufts Obedience Displays.

We compete in British Competitive Obedience Society (BCOS), KC Obedience and of course Obreedience.

Izzy is happy to chill at home or go on exciting walks with her doggy friends.



Handler: Lorraine Gardner
KC Name: Wee Whirlwind Willow
Pet name: Willow
Age: 4 yrs

Willow is 4 years of age and was gifted to me in April 2023. She had led a sheltered life and was extremely energetic in the house but a nervous wreck in the outside world. She is indeed a high energy bundle of fun who struggles to stay still. We have gradually and gently increased her exposure to normal, and not so normal, life which has paid off enormously as she has developed into an amazing little firecracker!

Along with long walks, she needs to be mentally stimulated, and training meets this need. We were delighted to be invited to join The Russeller's in 2025 and thank all the team members for their excellent representation of the breed over the past 10 years! Up to this point, Willow had done very little formal training, however, she is a smart little dog and has done some filming/photography jobs, including styling the M&S dog jumper 'Best Friends' and appeared, along with her canine buddy, with Pete Wicks, for his first series of 'For Dog's Sake'.

Willow is very enthusiastic; we set about doing some specific training as we were keen to be helpful members of the team.... However, dogs in general and Jack Russells in particular, are fun loving so things don't always go quite to plan! We love our training and it's really enhancing our relationship. Going forward, we hope to compete in Obedience and Rally, but most importantly, continue to have fun!



Reserve: Helen Chetwynd
KC Name: Barnes Wallis Bouncing Boy:
Pet name: Barney (Owner: Anne Shuker)
Age: 13 yrs

Barnes Wallis Bouncing Boy (Barney) has been a long serving reserve on the Russellers team, being called on to compete a few times each season and always plays his part well. His favourite exercises are retrieve and stop although he can turn his paw to any.

Barney was rescued from Ashbourne Animal Welfare when he was just 1 year old. Anne is his 4th (and final) home. He came totally untrained, not even house trained and reactive to other dogs. Anne and Barney worked through all the KCGCDS levels when he was 2 and he has been taught Heelwork to Music in which he has successfully competed occasionally. However, he is really supposed to be Anne's husband's dog! There are three dogs in his home pack, one of which is Scally, also a Russeller.

Barney has come a long way from his early day, he is lovely with all people, but we are still watchful amongst other dogs on his home turf. Barney is handled by Helen Chetwynd as reserve for Crufts 2026. Helen and Barney first stepped in and worked at an Obreedience heat a couple of years ago and Helen says that Barney is an absolute joy to handle.



Reserve: Charlotte Wilde
KC Name: Rouge Hero
Pet Name: Toad
Age: 5 yrs

Toad joined us from rescue in November 2021; he very quickly settled into the Wilde family way of life and found himself on film sets shortly after.

He'll pop up regularly on the big screen, recently in Jay Kelly with charming George Clooney, Hamnet with talented Paul Mescal and daily on TV in the Chaser idents.

His KC name came from his appearance as Withers in the popular TV series SAS Rogue Heroes. He is very much our cheeky little Rogue Hero.

Wagtails

Breed: Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Group: Toy

The Wagtails are overjoyed to be returning to the big ring for our sixth year. The team was formed in 2017 and our first Crufts final was in 2019 - where to our amazement and joy we were placed third. We repeated this in 2021 and then in 2023 we achieved the ultimate goal and came FIRST. We were elated, over the moon and the dogs' tails never stopped wagging. It was several weeks before we came down from Cloud 9.

Sadly this year will be the first time our Crufts team will not include any dogs from our founding team. We sadly lost Buddy (McKenzie Cepheus RL4 Ex), owned and handled by Janette Ross, the day after Crufts last year. It is hard to believe after his performance doing the 'Retrieve' exercise that he would no longer be with us the following day. We were all in shock, as was the Obreedience world and other disciplines he competed in. Life in the team is not the same without him and Janette leading the team out in our heelwork. Buddy's only stipulation to the dog behind was "no sniffy bums".

This year we welcomed two new team members and they have both made an outstanding contribution to the team. Karen Chelsey with Flo will be doing the 'Send to Bed' exercise and Danni Cash with Koda is a reserve. Their addition has resulted in a Crufts team of five tri-colours and one Blenheim. For a breed with four registered colours that is quite amazing.

Jen Dearlove and Riker make their second

Crufts team appearance this year. Riker will be doing the 'Stop on Recall' exercise. Joining them is Ann Fawcett with Stuiie who will be doing the 'Scent' exercise. This will be Ann and Stuiie's third appearance with the team at Crufts and they were in the winning team in 2023.

Our second reserve is Autumn. Autumn has been with the team since 2021. She is owned by Kathy Hargest who kindly loans her to the team whenever we need an extra dog. She is trained and chauffeured by Jen and handled during this past year by Bev Boughton and Jayne Crowther. Our thanks go to both Bev and Jayne; without their help we would have missed a lot more heats.

Autumn is also the mother of our final team member, Daisy-Mae. Daisy-Mae was a reserve last year and this year has earned a slot in the main team. She will be doing the 'Retrieve' exercise.

Finally I need to mention team members Mark Branch and Katie Barlow. Not part of the Crufts team this year but were major players in our Obreedience Demo team at Edition Live in 2025.

The Wagtails wish all our fellow competitors good luck in the big ring and, regardless of the outcome, let's have lots of fun with our dogs!



Handler: Ann Fawcett
RKC Name: Vonnysle Ice Lord RL2 Ex
Pet Name: Stuie
DOB: 22/7/2017

This is Stuie's third time competing in the Crufts Obreedience final, which includes the winning Wagtail team in 2023. Stuie was one of only three dogs to achieve a perfect score of 10 for the 'Stop on Recall' exercise. Stuie can do all four exercises, he loves to do the retrieve and scent exercise with his little orange pumpkin. This year Stuie is doing the 'Scent' exercise.

Stuie loves a variety of things including Agility, Scent and RKC Rally where he has gained RL2Ex. He has had the honour of being part of the Crufts Rally demo team for the last two years and has been invited again in 2026. I was so proud of Stuie, he was a little star. He enjoyed meeting lots of the public.

Stuie is loveable little dog who will give you his all. He loves to relax by sleeping on my left shoulder.



Handler: Jen Dearlove
RKC Name: Kathysgirls Riker
Pet Name: Riker
DOB: 7/5/2021

Riker is a tri-colour Cavalier and is 4 years old. Riker loves his time with the Wagtails. His exercises are Send to Bed and Stop on Recall. Retrieve and Scent are a work in progress. He has his RKC Good Citizen Gold award. During 2025 he represented the Wagtails in all of the heats the team entered. At home Riker loves being in charge and bossing over his doggy brother and sisters.



Handler: Sue Pinkham
RKC Name: Kathysgirls Daisy Mae at Pinkadees
Pet Name: Daisy-Mae
DOB: 21/07/2023

The first time I saw Daisy-Mae I knew she was for me. I wanted a tri-colour girl who was bright and fearless. She needed to be fearless to come home to a couple of Manchester Terriers (MT). The fact that she was born on my birthday clinched it for me. I have not been disappointed with my decision.

Daisy-Mae is eager to learn; she has her silver KCGC and enjoys competing in Obreedience, Obedience and Rally. She has loved being part of the Wagtails team. I think she enjoys being with her own kind and having some time-out from her MT pack. Daisy is not new to Crufts having been the team's reserve dog last year. She was also in the Good Citizen Puppy Foundation Display in 2024 and has represented the breed in Discover Dogs. She will be there again this year. Daisy-Mae is very loving and gives great hugs. She's always getting into mischief and hiding under the bed with forbidden treasure. She is a little gazelle always wanting to be up high. In her downtime she joins her MT family at breed stands at Country Fairs and has dipped her paw into a bit of Terrier Racing. She also loves a good paddle in the sea.

We are hoping her debut for the team doing the 'Retrieve' exercise will go well and we have lots of fun but not too much mischief.

Handler: Karen Chelsey
RKC name: Featherfalls Florence AW(G)
Pet name: Flo
DOB: 7/9/2019

Flo is no stranger to Crufts either as a team member of the KCGC Gold Display Team or showing off her Grade 7 and Champ level agility skills in the agility demo team. She also holds her Gold Agility Warrant.

Flo is a newcomer to Obreedience and this is her first year proudly competing with the Wagtails at Crufts.

Flo is a pocket rocket who loves chasing tennis balls and playing tug. She certainly loves to keep everyone on their toes!

Away from agility and Obreedience Flo also loves going on long, muddy walks with her big sister Ellie and afterwards curling up in her bed - which is quite fortunate as her favourite exercise is Send to Bed!

Funny, loyal and loving, Flo brings us so much joy and once again I will be so proud to be standing alongside her at Crufts the greatest dog show in the world.



Handler: Danni Cash
RKC Name: Little Bear Koda
Pet Name: Koda
DOB: 08/05/2022

This is Koda's first year with the Wagtails team and his first time at Crufts. His two exercises are 'Send to Bed' and 'Stop on Recall' and this year he is the reserve.

Koda has completed his KCGC gold and loves his regular swimming. He's a proper foodie and will do anything for a treat. And if you're not careful he's very good at launching very wet kisses when you're not looking!

Koda's favourite thing is running around on the beach and splashing through the sea. Throughout the year you'll catch us exploring the wonderful beaches across the UK and trekking around national treasures.

We called him Koda as it stands for 'Friend' - just what we needed - and he's certainly lived up to that. He's a darling boy who we love dearly with all our hearts



Handler: Bev Boughton
RKC Name: Kathysgirls Hazel
Pet Name: Autumn
Owner/breeder: Kathy Hargest
DOB: 16/11/2018

Autumn is a tri-colour Cavalier who is owned by Kathy Hargest and loaned to the team when needed. She lives with a large family of Cavaliers. Autumn has been with the team since 2021 and is trained and chauffeured by Jen Dearlove. She loves joining the team at heats and when we train.

Originally Autumn was handled by Jen and she was part of the winning Wagtails team in 2023. She then took that year off for maternity leave before returning to the Wagtails squad. Two of her daughters, Jasmine and Daisy-Mae, are in the Wagtails squad. Daisy-Mae is in the Crufts team this year.

Now Jen is working two other dogs in the squad, Autumn is happy to be handled by Bev Boughton or Jayne Crowther. This year she's a reserve and her team exercise is 'Send to Bed'.

Diamonds in the Rough



As a dog trainer and behaviourist, I am passionate about training and working with our dogs. The Rough Collie is a dignified breed and can be perceived as reluctant to work but they are eager to please and genuinely can do anything. As a team we hope to help introduce this breed to a new audience of people who love them as much as we do.

I had been competing in both agility and rally for a few years when I heard about obediendence from a fellow collie agility competitor who had competed in the smooth collie obediendence team. I put the word out via social media and there was some interest but I had a litter of puppies to rear and there wasn't quite enough active interest to get a team going. Coincidentally, I met Claire at Discover Dogs at Crufts a couple of years ago and she mentioned the obediendence and said she'd be really keen to give it a go. Motivated by this I posted again on social media and we managed to get a small team together for United Spaniel Association in 2025 – our first show. We were all quite nervous, we had never even met each other, let alone practiced together and we all got quite a bit wrong BUT we ended the day in 8th place with 3 points and, more importantly we had caught the obediendence bug!

As a team, I feel we have got better and better throughout the year and, I hope, we will continue to improve, maybe we will hit our peak at Crufts 2026?! We have had a few hiccups along the way – I broke my leg in April 2025 – fortunately Stacy was able to take over in the competition the following weekend and we got a 3rd place! Two weeks later I was back competing in a cast – that was interesting for the heelwork! We also struggle with limited numbers in the team and huge distances between the members, which makes any practice outside of competitions a logistical nightmare! However, the team are hugely motivated, practice lots individually, travel miles to get to shows and, most importantly we all enjoy each other's company and have a lovely time when we meet up. Lots of the team have also either started to compete in obedience and rally or continue to compete with amazing results. I know that being a member of the Diamonds in the Rough team has been fantastic for me and Baby and Flora and we can't wait for the challenge of Crufts 2026!
Team captain Jane Spendelow



Handler: Jane Spendelow
KC Name: Uffspring Undreamed Of RL2Ex
Pet Name: Baby
DOB: 27/04/2020

Baby was bred by me right in the middle of the covid lockdown – a particularly difficult litter as, although her mum Lily was an amazing mum to the litter, she had no milk. It was a very good job they were born during covid as they had to be hand reared and feeding 8 puppies was no mean feat! Baby was nicknamed Baby as she was the last puppy to be born so, although she is actually called Amber, the name Baby just stuck!

What an amazing dog she has been! She has always excelled at training and I used her both to demonstrate in training classes and to act as a 'stooge' dog when working with reactive or anxious dogs – she completely ignores them! We started competing in rally a few years ago – starting with video rally and then competing at show. She is now competing at level 5 and 6 in video rally and level 3 (she needs 1 more excellent score) in live rally. She is also a registered Pets as Therapy dog and goes into a local SEND school to work with the children. She is so calm she really excels at this. She loves everyone but, especially, she loves food!

In 2024, Baby gave me a lovely litter of 2 girls – Flora is following in Baby's footsteps, having learnt all the set exercises for obreedience and I'm hoping to have a go at obedience with her in the future. Primrose has already started to compete in rally with great results. I hope all three of them will have an exciting future in competitions and, of course, as my best friends at home.



Handler: Claire Walton
KC Name: Corydon Blaze of Gold
Pet Name: Blaze
DOB: 16/12/2022

Blaze is my 2nd Rough Collie having had Shetland Sheepdogs as well.

Blaze is a very chilled dog although somewhat kooky. He loves to sing mostly his own compositions! Although I'm hoping his talents will lie in his dog sports. As well as Obreedience he is starting to enjoy competing in Obedience, Dog Agility and Heel Work to Music.

He has completed all 3 Good Citizen Tests; Bronze, Silver and Gold and has also attained his APDT Advanced Award.

He's quite the 'poser' always catching someone's eye, on holiday in Scotland and young lad called him Majestic which I think is very fitting of this breed.

On a personal note, I am really looking forward to competing at Crufts with all my teammates. It is such a joyful competition with all the teams getting behind each other and showcasing our beautiful graceful breed at their best.



Handler: Kathryn Notley
KC Name: Jotars Amazonian Tango
Pet Name: Jax
DOB: 22/01/2021

Jax was our first rough collie and the best introduction to the Rough Collie breed you could ask for. He's keen to please, has a lovely temperament and is happy to learn.

We had never competed prior to joining the Diamonds in the Rough and since then we have competed in 6 obedience classes including special pre-beginners, introductory and ABC. It's been a great learning experience for us both. When at home Jax likes to keep watch on his garden and only gets vocal when he sees a cat or hears a plane going over his house too low! He also loves long walks with plenty of things to sniff, he'd rather be sniffing than playing with his doggy friends.

One of the first games I remember us doing together was getting him to find my car keys, unfortunately not the best game to get him started on as he pointed to them but didn't actually bring them back! He has spoiled me for a first dog as he was keen to learn but I didn't know what I was doing so I've made a lot of mistakes along the way, as we all do. We're so proud to be helping the team represent Rough Collies and show that they aren't just all looks.



Handler: Stacy Steven
Pet name: Barra
KC name: Cambrogan's Blissful Barra
DOB: 21/3/2024

Barra is my second generation home bred rough collie and she lives at home with her mum Brooke, Grandmother Bella and Grandfather Brodie. All 4 have completed their good citizen gold awards. Primarily show dogs, I also dabble in sports, competing in agility with Brooke who achieved her bronze warrant and grade 3 within 1 year before injury struck and now we do hoopers which is low impact. Barra is my first obedience dog and the most intelligent of all 4. We started obedience classes in February 2025 and attended our first obedience heat a couple of months later when she was just 12 months old. We also took part in our first obedience competition that day. Throughout 2025 We attended 7 shows and came home with rosettes for the KCGC pre beginners' special class, pre beginners and beginners' classes almost every time. Barra is a fun-loving young lady who adores playing with her toys and chasing her ball. She thinks that she is a professional squirrel hunter in her spare time. I am a mountain climber so all my dogs are Munro baggers and Barra will be starting out this year on the big climbs now her grandfather retired on 90 Munros at 10 years old. I am very keen on breed promotion as these dogs capable of a lot more than many people think. We have recently been on tv showcasing the breeds fantastic attributes. I am proud to represent the Rough Collies at Crufts.



Handler: Tara Clare
KC name: `Ingledene Nitesky of
Skyshelm (P-BEG EX)
Pet Name: Briar Rose
DOB: 07/04/2016

Briar Rose aka 'Princess' and I have been competing in Obreedience since Diamonds in the Rough's first competition in January 2025. We have taken part in 6 competitions, with Briar taking on the scent activity. She loves doing this as it involves her favourite piggy toy. Briar and I used to compete in conformation shows but started obedience competitions in the summer of 2024. Since then Briar has achieved her Obedience Excellent Qualification certificate and qualified for the KCGCDTS final at Crufts 2026. When she is not at competitions Briar lives for playing with her toys, eating as much food as she can and cuddling on the couch. By the time Crufts comes around Briar will be just a couple of weeks shy of her 10th birthday. I cannot be prouder of my funny, fluffy princess. We are so excited to be part of the Obreedience team at Crufts 2026 and will be proudly cheering on our team mates on the day.



Handler: David Barnett
KC Name: For Whom the Bell Tolls
Pet Name: Isi
DOB: 30/03/2020

Isi (pronounced icy) joined the Diamonds in the Rough as a reserve and has helped get the team valuable points over the year with us coming home with rosettes whenever she competed. So, she is a bit of a lucky charm.

She loves to go training weekly and gets a little sulky if we don't go! She is working towards doing rally and hoopers alongside her obedience pursuits. She loves to go to the field with her favourite ball and watch squirrels. She lives at home with teammate Jax and a younger rough collie called Merlin.

Isi didn't have the best start in life coming to us at 18 months old in a rehoming situation. She was very nervous when she first arrived but has built confidence and our dream goal initially was to get her to Kennel Club Good Citizen Gold and at first, I wondered if it would ever happen, as of 2025 it happened and now she's on an obedience team representing her breed. I'm hoping she will inspire others to aim high and know that anything is possible if you have the right mindset. She is a typical old man's collie as she will always, on lead or off, walk 2 steps behind you, the kind of dog you take to the pub; she's old school and proud!

Dachtastic



Introducing our fabulous Obreedience team: Lillie (TL) and Ignatius, Sarah and Mizzle, Faye and Moose, Cheryl and Ripple and our reserve Kate and Stretchy G. Together, we're not just a team, we're family.

All our dogs are Ripple's incredible puppies, and they've inherited her brilliance and her cheeky charm and sass! As the only hound team in the competition, we're here to show the world that working Dachshunds can hold their own with flair, style, and bags of personality.

The last two years have been nothing short of extraordinary for us. From countless laughs to unforgettable achievements, we've grown stronger as a team and closer as friends. For me, these amazing ladies and their wonderful dogs have been my saviour's during one of the most challenging years of my life. Their unwavering support, humour, and shared love of our dogs have meant everything, and I couldn't ask for better teammates.

Our motto says it all: We ARE having fun! And we can't wait to strut our stuff on the iconic green carpet at Crufts 2026. This journey has been about more than competing; it's about celebrating the joy, connection, and resilience that make our team so special and unique. Bring it on, Crufts, we're ready!

Team Members

Lillie Abbott - Team Leader with Ignatius

Sarah Roper with Mizzle and owner of Ripple

Faye Cook with Moose

Cheryl Brooke-Donovan handling Ripple

Katie Howarth with Gordon (Reserve)

Kayleigh Hipkiss Reserve Handler



Handler: Lillie Abbott (Team Leader)
KC Name: Idirsholas Ignatius Ay I
Pet Name: Ignatius

Ignatius firmly believes he is the most important dog here today!

Short legs, big attitude, and zero intention of apologising for any of it

Ignatius is a fully qualified assistance dog, which means he is highly trained, very capable... and fully aware of how clever he is

He brings confidence, flair, and a generous helping of sass to his performance with a splash of enthusiasm, precision, and the occasional 'yes, I know, I am brilliant' and 'yes I will do what I want to'

He is a wonderful reminder that Obreedience is about partnership, communication, and having a fun time together

As part of the only hound team in the competition, Ignatius is here to challenge expectations and stereotypes, proving that working dogs come in all shapes, sizes, and levels of sass!

Confident, charismatic, and completely convinced the ring belongs to him, Ignatius perfectly embodies the team motto... he IS having fun

Handler: Sarah Roper
KC Name: Idirsholas Mist and Drizzle RL2ex
Pet Name: Mizzle

Mizzle is 3 and a half but a true puppy in both looks and her mentality - forever a cheeky clown! She has really progressed with her confidence being a part of the team, she's the 3rd generation home bred (as are Moose, Gordon and older brother Ignatius). The is following in her grandad Moss's and great Uncle Stanley's paw prints representing the breed in Obreedience and I am so proud.

This girl has been and still is a challenge but also the most loving girl once you are one of her peoples, her circle of peoples is ever growing with each competition! She also loves competing in KC Rally and enjoys Mantrailing

I was team leader for the original Dachtastic team, we competed between 2016 and 2018, being fortunate enough to be placed in the top four at crufts both years. It has been an absolute pleasure being a part of this team over the last two years, with the main aim of having fun with our dogs - we have smashed it and we plan on having more fun on the sacred green carpet together this craftsmas!



Handler: Cheryl Brooke-Donovan
KC Name: Rippling Brook for Idirsholas RL2ex
Pet Name: Ripple
(Owned By Sarah Roper)

Mum to the rest of the team, and where they all get their sass from! A true handler trainer! She has been handled by Cheryl for the most part this season and last, though she has also been handed by Sarah Pedley (a reserve handler) and Faye's Son Matt at heats this last season. Ripple will be retiring from Obreedience at Crufts this time around but I am sure she will go out with a bang (one way or the other). Here is what Cheryl has to say about the little madam -

I am so incredibly excited to announce that I'll be heading back to Crufts 2026 as part of the Dachtastic Obreedience Team! This year is particularly special as I'll once again be handling the incomparable Ripple. Ripple isn't just any Dachshund; she's the "Queen Bee" of our team and the proud mother of the other competing members. It's truly a family affair on the green carpet!

I want to extend a huge thank you to my dear friend, Sarah Roper, for trusting me with her special girl for the second year in a row. It is a massive honour to be behind the lead of such a talented, spirited dog.

(Continued on page 38)



Handler: Faye Cook with
KC Name: Idirsholas Purple Moose
Pet Name: Moose

Moose came to me unexpectedly after the sudden loss of my 8 years old collie, Mo. I had been contacted about a possible puppy from Sarah a few weeks earlier and when my only dog 'Jasper' was visibly grieving for Mo, I decided it was time for another puppy.

Moose and I took part in the Good Citizens puppy display team in 2022, was our first experience as a team, and we loved it.

This group of ladies are not just my team mates, they are my support network, people to rely on and mental health support. When I was approached to join Dachtastic I never imagined how important these ladies would become. We all have battles in life, but Obreedience has made us laugh at the darkest times, with our wonderful team of little dogs with big attitude.

Moose still loves his cuddles, finding socks (clean or dirty), and barking at the pigeons who dare to sit on the fence at the bottom of the garden. Life with a Daschund is never boring or dull, they like to keep us on our toes and guess what's next. We are here to entertain and throw a little obedience into the mix. Myself and Moose will be gracing the green carpet together again, with our usual gusto and joy and who knows what will happen, but it will be fun !



Handler: Katie Haworth (reserve)
Kc Name: Idirsholas Son of the Sea
Pet Name: Gordon aka Stretchy G
Age: 3 and a half year old

I have always loved and admired the breed since working in a dog grooming parlour which was my first job and was very happy to have met Sarah at a horse show in 2016 to find that she had a pack of MLHDs.

I was over the moon to be asked to be one of Ripples assistants at Crufts shortly afterwards.

In 2022 I lost my beloved Cairn x Sky terrier and was very stressed about choosing my next dog. After worrying about breed types, traits which breeder to chose etc my mind was put at rest by Lillie who mentioned that there may be a chance that there may be one of Ripples puppies (which hadn't be born at this point) which could be the perfect dog for me. We went along to the scan and there were six puppies. I was really keeping everything crossed for a Black and Tan dog which Ripple very kindly gave me and he has been the perfect companion for me since!

We spent 2022 going to classes and learning lots of skills including Good Cits and Scentwork. We were lucky enough to be chosen to take part in the Good Cits Puppy Display in 2023 and then in 2024 we took our Bronze Test at Crufts.



Stretchy-Gs main sport has been Hoopers which he has had a successful season in 2024 including qualifying for the Bath and West Final 2025. He also enjoys Mantrailing and Scentwork.

We are very much looking forward to being Reserve for Dachtastic at Crufts 2026!

Cheryl Brooke-Donovan(Continued from page 37)

Ripple is a seasoned professional who absolutely loves the spotlight—she's famous for "flicking her toes" on that iconic green carpet as if she owns the arena (which, let's be honest, she does). However, we are hoping for a slightly "smoother" performance in the exercise this year! Last year, I made the grave error of throwing the dumbbell a bit too enthusiastically. As it kept rolling and rolling across the carpet, Ripple stopped, stared, and gave me the most legendary "filthy look" a dog has ever delivered. She was thoroughly disgusted by my lack of precision, and I have solemnly promised her that I will never make her walk that far for a piece of wood ever again! We've been training hard, the toe-flicking is on point, and we can't wait to represent Dachtastic and show everyone what these Dachshunds can do.

Spring It On

This is Spring It On's second year competing in Obreedience and will be our second time at Crufts, finishing just outside the placings in 5th last year.

We have had an incredible year competing as a team and have had a lot of fun showing what our amazing dogs can do.

We have had new members join us this year and sadly lost one of our dogs Belle who was alongside her handler Debbie an important member of our team.

We are hoping to show off what our amazing dogs can do and have fun whilst doing it.



Handler: Sarah Jones
KC Name: Beatrixpotter Sacredoak
Pet Name: Potsy
DOB: 30/01/2017

Beatrix Potter, affectionately known as Potsy to her friends, is a nine-year-old Springer Spaniel and one of the kindest dogs you could meet. She adores people and will happily sit with anyone for hours, provided there is plenty of affection involved. Her gentle nature and love of human company make her a joy both at home and at training.

She lives in the heart of the New Forest, sharing her home with five other dogs, a cat, and seven horses. Although Potsy has always been an active and enthusiastic spaniel, she only began her obedience training a few years ago when her handler, Sarah, joined Winchester Dog Club. From the outset, it was clear that Potsy genuinely enjoyed having a job to do and took pride in her work.

Potsy officially began her obedience career in 2024 and progressed quickly through the lower levels, winning out and being awarded the Winchester Dog Club Starters Award in 2025. She also competes in Canine Rally and holds her Gold Good Citizen Award, reflecting both her training and her wonderful temperament.

Alongside obedience, Potsy enjoys all aspects of gundog work and scurry, where her natural instincts and enthusiasm shine. In 2025, she and Sarah also had their first opportunity to compete as part of the Spring It On Obedience Team, an experience they both thoroughly enjoyed and are proud to continue building upon. →



Handler: Jeanna Gwilliam
KC Name: Fleekform Explorer of Amienko
Pet Name: Dora
DOB: 04/06/2016

Dora is the sweetest Springer Spaniel, calm, thoughtful and loyal. Her favourite activities are cuddles, swimming, sniffing and doing media work. Although retired from competitive Obedience after winning out of Novice, Dora now enjoys Obreedience with her springer team.

Potsy is well known at training for her sense of humour and her habit of riffling through people's bags in search of a toy, which she will proudly deliver to her handler in exchange for a treat. Her favourite pastime is walking in the forest, where she can often be found disappearing into the bracken flushing game, reliably returning thanks to her whistle training.

The Springer Spaniel is a truly versatile breed, and Potsy is a wonderful example of this. Sarah is immensely proud of how far she has come in a short time and feels she is a true credit to her breed and her sport.



Handler: Mali Tinney
KC Name: Preseliedge Oak
Pet Name: Oakley
DOB: 13/02/2021

Oakley is a 5-year-old Springer Spaniel and my absolute dream dog. He's my first dog, and I couldn't have asked for a better companion. I brought him home as a 10-week-old puppy from Mid Wales and since then, he has opened up so many new opportunities for me. We began obedience training at the start of 2024 and quickly joined the Spring It On team, where Oakley thrives. He loves being part of the group and gets visibly excited whenever we arrive at a show.

In addition to obedience, Oakley has shown a real talent for agility. He qualified for the Final of the 2025 Starters Cup, competed in the Young Kennel Club Graduate Agility Final at Crufts 2025. This past year has been full of adventures, from shows to holidays, and I'm beyond grateful to have my best friend by my side through it all. At home, Oakley is the perfect mix of playful and laid-back. He's usually curled up on someone's lap, napping on his bed or sneaking into the kitchen for a snack. One of the most charming things about him is his routine. Every night at 9 p.m, Oakley heads to bed on his own, ready for a good night's sleep.



Handler: Aimee Gardiner
KC Name: Barecho Cover Girl of Svenjak
Pet Name: Leah
DOB: 4/10/2021

Leah (Barecho Cover Girl of Svenjak (Imp Swe)) is a show type English Springer Spaniel. born in Sweden, she is actively shown and has achieved several first places, a Reserve Challenge Certificate, and Best in Show at an open show. She has her stud book number and is Crufts qualified for life.

Alongside showing, Leah takes part in obedience and obreedience and also enjoys recreational agility and scentwork in her spare time. Leah particularly enjoys spending time outdoors. She loves running through woodland and along the beach and making the most of any opportunity to explore new environments. She loves bird watching, although she prefers a much more hands on approach to this, true to her breed. She also enjoys following scents and hunting in the woods, but also enjoys her creature comforts, choosing only the comfiest places to sleep.



Reserve Dog 1:

Handler: Jodie Parry
Owner: Violet-Mae Murch
KC Name: Run Archie Run
Pet Name: Archie
DOB: 08/11/2019

Archie is a 6yo Springer Spaniel and is my first spaniel and the dog who started my obsession with the breed, resulting in me currently owning 6. Archie is a rescue who got brought into the vets I work at by his breeder at just 10 weeks old to be euthanised because he was deaf and blind. After a visit to the ophthalmologist and checks he was found to be fully blind in his left eye and partially in his right and potentially has some reduced hearing. That doesn't stop him though. Archie currently competes in flyball, obedience and rally and although he isn't the fastest flyball dog or the fanciest obedience dog, he is incredibly reliable and can be handled by anyone. Last year he had 4 different flyball handlers as well as me, all of which he had never practiced with but went straight into competition like a pro. He just gets on with the job at hand and gives it his best shot. At home he is the most chilled out spaniel you will meet and loves to spend his time sleeping but will happily turn on the energy when it's needed. He also loves his canicross and going out doing gundog work. He really is an incredible little dog and he's out here everyday proving that every dog deserves a chance and that his disabilities don't stop him having the best life.

Reserve Dog 2:

Handler: Violet-Mae Murch
KC Name: Ziggys Tangled Ivy
Pet Name: Ivy
DOB: 23/06/2023

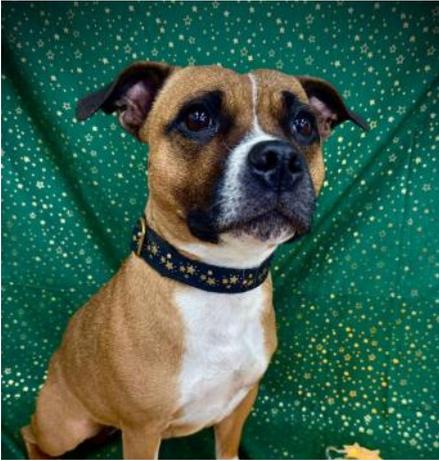
Ivy is a 2yo rescue springer who spent the first 6 months of her life locked away. This left her very nervous of people, noise sensitive and with behavioural problems such as circling and shadow chasing. In the 2 years that we have had her she has come leaps and bounds and in this year alone she has gained so much confidence and is blossoming into an awesome little dog. Ivy competes in obedience, flyball and rally and has just started her agility competition journey this year. She is an absolute perfectionist in everything she does and is showing huge potential in all sports but now just needs the confidence to match. This will be her second time as a reserve at crufts and I am sure she will step up and try her best if needed. At home she is the youngest of my 6 spaniels and the only girl but that doesn't stop her bossing her older 'brothers' around. She is Miss independent but loves a cuddle if she's in the mood. She rarely stops and is always on the go looking for something fun to do or something to carry around the house. I am so lucky to have welcomed this perfect girl into my life.

Stafford Stars



The Stafford Stars entered an exciting new era last year, reforming with a fresh team of dedicated members after the previous group evolved into a new venture, with only the original team captain remaining. This new line up has brought enthusiasm, teamwork, and a renewed sense of pride to the team.

While we may not always take home the top spot, every appearance is a chance to learn grow and showcase the true spirit of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier. The team is committed to improving with every performance, celebrating progress just as much as results. With strong foundations and a bright future, the Stafford Stars continue to shine-proving that passion and unity and a love for the breed matter most. Good luck to all the teams competing at Cruft 2026, but most of all enjoy the day and make wonderful, kind memories to cherish for the future.



Team Captain: Tracey Robbins
KC Name: Jakataffs Summer Song
Pet Name: Bird
DOB: 04/06/2020.

Jakataffs Summer Song, pet name Bird is now 5 years old and has been with the team since the beginning but has for the second time took time out last year to produce her second litter. The first litter many of whom are in the team today. The second litter has produced some lovely puppies and two more have gone on to be autism support dogs of which I am extremely proud. These dogs are much more than just pets to these families. Bird is my support dog as I am a type 1 diabetic and she is always so aware of what my blood sugar is doing. So, when she is working in the ring she is still being my guardian angel so you could say she is multi-tasking. So if she takes her eye of the ball doing the exercises she usually has good reason. Thank you Bird for all your hard work in and out of the ring.



Handler: Janina Dangerfield
KC Name: Crown Princess
Pet Name: Maya
DOB: 09/10/2017

Maya an 8yr old rescue and a firm part of our family pack loves life and all her pack mates. I've done the usual basic training and we've touched on Agility which she loves a bit too much!! We joined the Stafford Stars last year and oh boy what a learning experience we've had, we are far from perfect but have met some great people and the fun for us and the dogs has been awesome. I'm so proud of the way Maya has really tried her best with all the new challenges and I feel she has come on leaps and bounds being involved in this great activity has given Maya and myself an activity we do together she loves to learn. We are both looking forward to this coming year and hopefully scoring a few more points.



Handler: Alice Gardner
KC Name: Jakataffs Saffron
Pet Name: Bea
DOB: 20/07/2023

We have been part of the Stafford Stars for just over a year now, completing our first year of competitions in 2025. Bea and I have loved every second, even when my health has been against me, she has shown amazing consistency and a love for the Obreedience ring. She has made me so proud in how far she has come in the last year, her progress really showing from one heat to the next. Of course, in true Stafford style we don't always get it right! But one thing is for sure, we always have the best time with our dogs, teammates, and we all take the best dogs' home.

It has been an absolute pleasure competing over the last year, getting to know all the other teams, making new friends and being a part of a truly wonderful community.



Handler: Emma Makin
KC Name: Jakataffs Chilli
Pet Name: Daisy
DOB: 20/07/2023

I first went to see Daisy when she was only a few weeks old purely as a proud grandparent as i own her grandad Waystaff Moon Shine. I was smitten from the start as she was the only pied in the litter and grandad is pied.

Having only ever gone down the show route,. With Arthur obtaining both a reserve cc and a cc, we made the decision to go down the obedience route with Daisy and she loves it.. She has completed her Good Citizen puppy foundation Bronze, silver and gold. Whatever i ask of her, her tail is always wagging so i know she is enjoying our journey together



Handler: Sue Palmer-Tarburton
KC Name:- Miss Lexi-Lou RL2-EX
Pet Name: Lexi
DOB: 04/02/2014

From the moment Lexi arrived, she has been a fun-loving whirlwind. At 17weeks she managed to break her front leg, this has never slowed her down, even now at 12 years old she still acts like a puppy. Lexi has gained her KC Good Citizens Bronze, Silver & Gold awards and also enjoys obedience Rally. We joined the Stafford stars in April 2025 and are thoroughly enjoying the experience and being part of the team.



Handler: Estelle Vickery
KC Name: Jakataffs Lakota
Pet Name: Keeper
DOB: 17/05/2017

I'm new to the team and borrowing the lovely 8-year-old Jakataffs Lakota, pet name Keeper. I fell in love with Keepers happy go lucky, laid back, give it a go attitude when she attended my training classes and was drawn to the breed and what they can do. I'm looking forward to working this little lady and learning and laughing along the way. As a dog trainer myself it will be both interesting and challenging working someone else's dog but I'm sure Keeper will look after me. Keeper took the place of Bird while she was on maternity duties last year for her owner Tracey..

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