

# Jack Dunn - a legendary character in the Annals of 'The Stafford'



## CHAMPION THORNHILL PRIDE

'Thornhill Pride' - the King of Jack Dunn's New Street, Quarry Bank, Kennels when he was 'At Stud' (fee 5 Guineas). Born on May 9th, 1948, his vital statistics (as noted on Jack's 'Stud Card') were - Weight - thirty-seven and a half lbs. - Height - fifteen and three-quarter inches - Skull - eighteen and a half inches. Details of his illustrious Show ring career, also noted on his stud-card, read as follows...

Champion 'Thornhill Pride' is generally acknowledged, by all the leading Judges, as the perfect 'Stafford' of today. His record is as follows - up till October 1950...

Bournemouth Ch. Show (17.8.49) Judge - Mr. A Payton Smith - C.C. winner and Best of Breed.  
Bingley Hall Staffs. Bull Terrier Club Ch. Show (3.9.49) - Judge - Mr. F. Holden - C.C. winner and Best of Breed...

Olympia National Terrier Ch. Show (8.12.49) - Judge - Mr. W. Boylan - C.C. winner and Best of Breed...  
Olympia Croydon Ch. Show (30.5.50) - Judge - Mr. R. Servat - C.C. winner and Best of Breed...

Chester Ch. Show (7.6.50) - Judge - Mr. W. Boylan - C.C. winner and Best of Breed...  
Bingley Hall Staffs Bull Terrier Club Ch. Show (29.7.50) - Judge - Mr. A. Demaine - C.C. winner and Best dog...

His other awards include K.C.'s Junior Warrant

Southern Counties Staffs Bull Terrier Clubs Ch. Show (15.10.49) - Judge H.N. Beilby - Res. C.C.  
Blackpool Ch. Show (22.6.50) - Judge - Mr. H. Pegg - Res. C.C.

Birmingham Bull Terrier Club Open Show (26.5.49) - Judge - Mr. G. Dudley - 3 Firsts...

Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club Open Show (19.4.49) - Judge - Mr. A.P. Smith - 6 Firsts and Best Exhibit...

Brewod Open Show (1.8.49) - Judge - Mr. R. Tearne - 2 Firsts and Best of Breed...

His total awards at Open and Ch. Shows number 52 at the age of 2 years 5 months

48, New Street, Quarry Bank, may not be as well-known as 'The Old Cross Guns' in the lore and legend which surrounds our Black Country's most famous canine breed - The Staffordshire Bull Terrier - but it is at that address where 'Gentleman Jim' - the most famous of them all - was bred by Jack Dunn...

Legend has it that Joe Mallen who kept 'The Old Cross Guns' at Five Ways, Cradley Heath bought the pup off Jack for a mere quid. They both worked at William Griffins chainworks and were founder members of The Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club which came into being, under the secretaryship of Joe Dunn (no relation to Jack) in 1935 at Cradley Heath.

### Best Exhibit at Crufts in 1936!

In the following year, Joe Mallen took his dog 'Cross Guns Johnson' to Crufts to win Best Exhibit in the breed but it was not until 1939 that The Staffordshire Bull Terrier was granted Challenge Certificates. By that time, Joe Mallen was the proud owner of 'Gentleman Jim' - and Joe's famous dog emerged the fully-accredited breed's first Supreme Champion. Joe's original investment in the Quarry Bank pup was repaid many times over, for in addition to providing splendid canine companionship to his owner and family 'Gentleman Jim' was to command well over a thousand pounds in stud-fees in the ensuing years.

### Jack Dunn's Thornhill Pride!

There must have been times when Jack Dunn regretted not keeping the pup - but he had other Champions 'up his sleeve'. 'Thornhill Pride' (pictured left - with full details of his show accomplishments) was to father many splendid 'Stafford' whelps, himself. His own pedigree was detailed on Jack Dunn's stud-card, as

follows. Parents - Brigands Bos'n (sire) - Clipper of Bodenham (dam) - G/parents - Brindle Bill & Firedancer... Jolly Rodger & Judy of Bodenham - Gt. Gt. Grandparents - Brindle Mick & Sunny Lady... Tyndal Rip & Vindictive Vixen... Son o' Tim & Lou's Pal... Vindictive Montyson & Pride of Beau...

(Our thanks to Wynford Ashman of Quarry Bank (Jack Dunn's grandson) for the photographs, stud-card & details of Thornhill Pride's pedigree and attainments reproduced above...)



Above - Jack Dunn and his wife, Flo, in their younger days...

Below - Chainmakers at William Griffin's (Cradley Heath) in 1918 - Joe Mallen is pictured extreme left and Jack Dunn third from the left, standing...



Jack Dunn and family - Jack (second from left) and his wife, Flo (extreme right) pictured with their children - left to right - Clifford, Nellie and Wynford...

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