



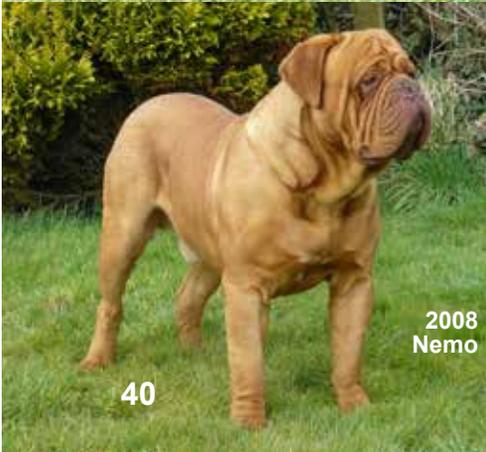
2003 - Truffles



2005 - Lazer



2006 - Freddy



2008 Nemo

# MY DOGS, MY LIFE

by Alison Darley, Cymrygold

Dogs have played a major part in my life since my teens, we always had a family dog, but my interest in Dog shows started when I got my own Beagle, my first kennel name was registered in 1979 'Kathrow' from my parents names Kathleen and Rowland.

In the early 1980's I started Obedience competitions with my working Sheepdog 'Gemma' she took me from beginners to Open C, Obedience dominated my life for the next 18 years! I competed 3 times in the Crufts Obedience Championships 1987, 1994 and in 1995 I gained 4th place with my Border Collie OB CH Teika of Kathrow.



In 2004 I bought my first Dogue De Bordeaux 'Truffles' and 'Twiggy' I registered 'Cymrygold' as my kennel name in 2005, for 6 years I travelled from my home in Wales to compete in Ireland to campaign the Bordeaux's I was breeding, gaining 5 Junior Champion Titles and 5 Full Champion Titles, [all with different dogs] including Annual Champion's 'Lazer' in 2007 followed by his Grandson 'Nemo' in 2010.

I have always Health tested my dogs, [Teika had a Hip score of 7] my Bordeaux's consistently score well below the breed average with my best results being litter mates Int CH Noah, Int CH Nemo and Junior CH Neulah who ALL scored a fantastic total score of only 4!

My males have gone to other kennels that have campaigned them to win many International Champion titles, as well as being added to their breeding programmes, when needed I have bought in dogs as an out cross to my Cymrygold line, In March 2015 I selected a 6 week old Male, choosing to name him 'Kenzo' I reared him and started



2011 - Murray & Venus



2015 - Bruno



2017 - Nessa

## DOGUE DE BORDEAUX

### MULTI CH CERISIER KENZO 'Kenzo'



Dutch CH ~ Belgian CH ~ German CH ~ Luxembourg CH  
International CH ~ 2 x Group Winner ~ 2 x CCGs

Thanking all Judges that have made this possible

Owned by

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**BEST OF BREED ~ CRUFTS 2017**



*Xiaolong of Cymrygold - Dynasty*

his show career by qualifying him for Crufts 2016 where he won Junior Dog. At Crufts 2017 he won Limit Dog going onto take the CC and Best of Breed!

This being the pinnacle of my achievements with my Bordeaux's, it gave me the final push to make the decision to bring The Chinese Chongqing Dog into the UK. I had been researching this unique Breed for most of 2016 and I am excited by the opportunity to give these special dogs a strong foundation, .... Thus making Crufts 2018 the last time I will be showing my Bordeaux's!



In 1987 Archaeologist's found sculptures of an unknown breed of dog in a number of tombs dating back to the time of the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD)

China's Aristocracy kept dogs as a status symbol, it is known that different breeds of dog lived in the Han Court, small lap dogs, hunting dogs and large guard dogs.

Dogs were found in the surrounding area that closely resembled the statues in the tombs, they were agile hunting dogs that lived with their owner's family, people that had moved from the rural area's into Chongqing City had taken their dogs with them, In the year 2000 the breed was named The Chinese Chongqing Dog, to avoid confusion as it was called by different names in the more isolated regions, e.g. Chuandong Dog, East Sichuan Hunting Dog, Bamboo Ratter though in essence they were all the same dog .... The Chinese Chongqing Dog has been close to extinction more than once in its long history and to date it is still rarer than the Giant Panda!

The unique look of the 'Chongy', ....prick eared, erect tail with a single coat of sparse, harsh hair.... has evolved through natural selection! Only dogs that could hunt while coping with the environment's rough terrain and stifling heat were bred from, no consideration was given to the look of these dogs! Likewise the dogs that lived in the City were selected for their calmer

temperament to cope with City life, the City dog evolved into a stocky lazier dog with a shorter muzzle and more wrinkles on the head.

As more people from outside China became interested in the Breed, the Chinese Kennel Union [CKU] worked with the owners that had formed the Chongqing Dog Club, to create two standards to give breeders of their preferred type a blue print to work to, in 2017 the Standards were published along with the names to distinguish between the two types, Chuandong Hound [original hunting type] and Chongqing Dog [city type]

I was fascinated by the history of this unique breed, I chose my male and three females as pups using pictures and video's sent from the Conservation Centre in Chongqing, Chongy's can live up to 20 years of age! And have no inbred health issues. I have had my dogs Hearts and Eyes tested, as well as being Hip, Elbow and Patella scored!



In December 2017, I was lucky enough to breed the first ever litters of Chuandong Hounds to be born in the UK! I am looking forward to the future with this wonderful breed.

**Alison Darley**

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