

SOUTHERN BOSTON TERRIER CLUB

NEWS LETTER



Winter 2026- Edition 8

Welcome from the newsletter editor- Lucy Wheatley



Dear Members,

Happy New Year to all our members and friends of the Southern Boston Terrier Club, and welcome to our first newsletter of the year. As we step into a brand-new year, it's also a good moment to reflect on the year just gone and look ahead with enthusiasm.

During 2025, the club welcomed the new changes to the Boston Terrier breed standard, an important and positive development for the future of our breed. It was encouraging to see the support, discussion, and shared commitment from our members as these changes were embraced.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting year in store, with a great line-up of open shows planned and more social events in the pipeline. These occasions give us the chance to celebrate our Boston Terriers, catch up with friends, and strengthen the sense of community that makes our club so special. We look forward to

seeing you throughout the year and sharing many enjoyable moments together.

Lucy Wheatley

The Editor

Southern Boston Terrier Club Newsletter

Changes to the Breed Standard (November 1, 2025)

By now, I am sure that you all will have seen the changes to the Breed Standard that came into effect last year. For convenience or for those who may not have seen the changes, please see the new breed standard below:

General appearance

A small, smooth-coated, square-headed, compactly built, short-tailed and wellbalanced dog. Body rather short, well knit, and square in appearance; limbs strong and neatly turned; tail short and no feature so prominent that the dog appears badly proportioned. Dog must convey an impression of strength and activity without heaviness, with a style of a high order and an easy and graceful carriage. A sturdy dog, with bone and muscle in proportion so as to not appear to be either spindly or coarse. Style, body proportion, and basic shape consistent across the weight range.



Southern Boston Terrier Club

Important Proportions

Length of body from point of shoulder to point of buttock equal to height at withers. Depth of chest equal to half of height at withers. Length from stop to tip of nose approximately one-third of length of skull.

Temperament

Lively, intelligent, determined and strong willed.

Head and skull

Skull square in appearance, flat on top, free from wrinkles; cheeks flat; brow abrupt with depth of foreface, stop well defined. Muzzle relatively short, square, wide, and deep; filled under eyes with no tendency to taper to muzzle and in proportion to skull; free from wrinkles; shorter in length than in width and depth. Stop to tip of nose approximately one-third of length of skull; width and depth of muzzle carried out to end; muzzle from stop to end of nose on a line parallel to top of skull; nose black, wide with well-defined line between nostrils. Nostrils open. Jaws broad and square. Clean lip of good depth but never pendulous and completely covering teeth when mouth closed. Size of head to be in proportion to size of dog.

Eyes

Set wide apart, relatively large, round, dark in colour. Eyes set square in skull and forward facing, outside corners on a line with cheeks when viewed from the front. Excessively prominent eyes highly undesirable. Expression alert, kind and intelligent.

Ears

Small, thin, triangular in shape with height slightly greater than width, tapering to tip. Mobile but carried erect and upright when alert, outer edge is situated as near corner of the skull as possible.

Mouth

Teeth short and regular, bite even, or sufficiently undershot to square muzzle.

Neck

Of fair length, displaying an image of balance to the whole dog, slightly arched, carrying head gracefully, and neatly set into shoulders.

Forequarters

Shoulders sloping and well laid back, legs straight when viewed from front, set moderately wide apart on line with point of shoulders; well-muscled; pasterns short and strong. Elbows turning neither in nor out.

Body

The length of back just short enough to square the body and the length from point of shoulder to point of buttock should equal height at withers. Level topline with croup that curves slightly to the set on of the tail. The chest is deep, well filled, and with good width; ribs deep and well sprung, carried well back; loin short and muscular; flank slightly cut up.

Hindquarters

Legs set true, well-bent stifle; hocks well let down; turning neither in nor out; thighs strong and well-muscled.

Feet

Round, small, compact, turning neither in nor out; toes well arched.

Tail

Set on low; short, fine, tapering, straight or curled; devoid of fringes or coarse hair, never carried above horizontal.

Gait/movement

Easy and graceful. Sure-footed straight-gaited, forelegs and hindlegs moving straight ahead with perfect rhythm. Each step indicating grace and power.

Coat

Short, smooth, lustrous and fine in texture.

Colour

Brindle: being a mixture of any shade of brown and black with white markings; brindle must show throughout body distinctly; black or seal with white markings acceptable but brindle with white markings preferred. Seal appears black except it has a red cast when viewed in bright light. Ideal markings: white muzzle connected to an even white blaze between the eyes, white collar, breast, part or whole of forelegs, and hindlegs below hocks. A representative specimen should not be penalised for not possessing ideal markings.

Any other colour or combination of colours unacceptable

Size

Weight not exceeding 11.5 kgs (25 lbs) divided by classes as follows: Lightweight: under 6.8 kgs (15 lbs); Middleweight: 6.8 kgs (15 lbs) and under 9.1 kgs (20 lbs); Heavyweight: 9.1 kgs (20 lbs) and under 11.4 kgs (25 lbs).

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

Note: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

Crossword competition winner:

In our last Newsletter we set members a challenge of completing a specially designed crossword of Boston Kennel Affixes and promised a surprise gift for the winner.

We're delighted to announce our member, Cheryl Grange was the first to respond with the correct answer and was gifted a bespoke coaster designed and produced by Fiona, our secretary, whose work is sometimes for sale at our shows.



Figure 2- Bespoke coaster designed by Fiona King using Cheryl's own dog

Facebook Sales:

Our Southern Boston Terrier Club Facebook page continues to be a fun and meaningful way for members to support the club while picking up some wonderful Boston-themed treasures. From time to time, we offer items for sale and run special auctions, with all funds raised going directly back into supporting club activities and initiatives.

A great example is the festive Halloween item pictured here, recently purchased by member Anne Kennedy, and proudly shared with us. Not only does it showcase the creativity and charm of the items that pop up on our page, but it also highlights how every purchase helps give back to the club.



Figure 1- Club Chairman Brian King presents winner Cheryl Grange with her prize



If you haven't already, we encourage you to like and follow our Facebook page. It's the best way to stay up to date on upcoming sales and auctions and take part in supporting the Southern Boston Terrier Club in a fun and engaging way. You never know when the perfect Boston find might appear!

Presenting our Judges

for the multi-show event we've got
planned on

Saturday, 4 April 2026

at Normandy Village Hall, Glaziers Lane,
Normandy GU3 2DT

*Whether it's to show, spectate or support,
please join us!*

Michael Western (Havasu)

Morning Show



I was born into a family who had bred and exhibited champion pedigree animals for generations, including horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and of course dogs. My maternal grandmother owned and bred cockers with stock

from the Lloyds; famous "of ware" kennels as well as black pugs and latterly Labradors based on the famous "Sandylands" kennels of the late Gwen Broadley.

My paternal grandparents bred Pokes, working gundogs and Border Collies. It was through the Labs that I got my first taste of showing and at a young age I caught the bug. At 15yrs I was allowed to pick my own breed and to my parent's initial horror, I chose the breed that was to become the love of my life, the Borzoi. My first dog went on to do very well in the ring for me, he was a great introduction to the breed, and I was hooked! In the following 30+ years I bred or owned numerous champion Borzoi's, champion Saluki's, Whippets, Black Pugs, Sealyhams and West Highland White Terriers and, of course, Boston Terriers.

I have also handled champion Irish Wolfhounds, Pharaoh Hounds and Beagles. We currently have at home: three champion Borzois, three champion Sealyham terriers, seven Boston Terriers and a new venture; a champion Kerry Beagle, which is sadly a

rare breed, even here in Ireland. She has become the youngest champion in breed history and the only bitch in the breed to have won a championship show Group 1.

I currently judge all breeds in FCI Groups 3, 4, 6 and 10 internationally along with BIS. I have had the pleasure of judging throughout Europe at International, National and Specialty level. Alongside this, I'm also an international equine confirmation judge.

Lesley Dearn (Roxxilu)

Afternoon Show



My journey in the dog show world began in the 1980s as a teenager, showing Staffordshire Bull Terriers. In 2007, we welcomed our first Boston Terrier into our lives – a breed that quickly captured our hearts and has brought us tremendous joy

and success. We've had the honour of making up two champions and are incredibly proud of our stud dog, Roxxilu American Gentleman, who has sired seven champions and left a legacy in the breed. One of our proudest achievements was breeding top Boston Terrier and top Boston Terrier Puppy in 2019. My passion for the breed has taken me across the Atlantic to the USA on several occasions to watch Boston Terriers in their homeland and to deepen my understanding and appreciation of this wonderful breed.

It is a true privilege to be invited to judge, and I am genuinely excited and honoured to assess your dogs. I look forward to seeing the dedication, passion, and quality that exhibitors bring to the ring.



It's a new venue:

**Light food and refreshments
available on the day**

**online entries will be on Fosse Data
in January 2026
Saturday, 4 April 2026**

Winter Walk 2025



Late on in the year we held a meet-up and walk in Cherry Orchard Way Country Park in South-East Essex. Recently the weather had been bad and forecasts for the day weren't good, but we were very lucky and the rain held off. This is a local venue for me, and I quite often take my dogs around these tracks for their daily exercise.

I've never come across any other Bostons on my walks around the park until this day, so it was going to be interesting to see if any others turned up. I took two of our Boston's with me on the day, Jelly (Beebeemi Snowstorm at Kingsline 8) and Moss (Kingsline Musketeer 5). I arrived at the east entrance car park at 10.30am in good time for the 11am departure and was delighted to see a couple of people already waiting and a good number of Bostons arriving with their owners, most of whom I hadn't met before. A total of eight other Bostons joined me!

Star of the day was young Johny, he was the youngest at just 4 months, but this didn't detract from his enthusiasm at meeting the others as he trotted confidently alongside everyone. All the dogs behaved impeccably, and we walked at a leisurely pace whilst chatting about Bostons the whole way around the circular route taking us around the lake and back to the car park. Only a couple of those who joined us were members of SBTC, the others having picked up the invite from shared social media postings, so we have more work to do to advertise and spread the word about the Club and grow our membership.

Despite the cold and wet weather, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and I agreed to host another walk on a warmer day, probably sometime in late spring, so watch this space!

Membership Dues Notice!

The committee of the SBTC would like to thank everyone for their support over this past year. As a club we try and put on events for all Boston owners and like to think we bring together both showing and non-showing members; getting together with non-members with events such as the popular meetups and producing a Newsletter and providing access to our informative website:

<https://www.southernbostonterrierclub.org.uk/>

Membership for 2026 is due from January 1st, hopefully you agree the membership fee of £7.50 represents good value and helps you stay connected to a Boston owning society!

SBTC Bank Details:

Account Number: 59537663

Sort Code: 30-98-97

Link to membership information and joining forms [Membership - Southern Boston Terrier Club](#)

Our fantastic website, which is full of Boston information, now has a section accessible only by paid members, so I'd encourage you to renew your membership and help us by encouraging others to do the same. If any member needs information or a reminder of their unique password to access the member only sections on the website please contact Andy on:

webadministrator@southernbostonterrierclub.org.uk

2026 is going to be a busy time for the club as we are putting on a number of events early on in the year just to get everyone into the spirit:

- March: 2026 AGM Online members only- date TBC
- April 4th: Normandy Village Hall, Glaziers Lane, Normandy, Guildford, GU3 2DT. 2 x Club Shows / 2 Breed Judges / Schedule and Entries online at Fosse Data in January

Regards,

Chris Mewse

membership@southernbostonterrierclub.org.uk

www.southernbostonterrierclub.org.uk



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