

「经济学人」 Bullies by nature

[LearnAndRecord](#)

LearnAndRecord

微信号 learnandrecord

功能介绍 非英专研究生在读，每天持续行动学外语，日更 3000+ 天。学习记录，英语，翻译。前行路上，谢谢你的关注和相伴，让我知道我不是一个人在努力。如果哪天这里找不到我了，可以去另一公众号「英语学习社」看看。

发表于

收录于合集

Bullies by nature Britain has a growing problem with dangerous dogs

Bully XLs have killed eight people since 2021

“These dogs are my therapy,” says Darren Egan, a 12-year-old dog handler, as he straddles Indie, his 44-kilo American Bully pup. “I trust them.” Darren and his dad, Michael, have driven 17 hours from Ireland to compete in Champs Camp, a dog show run this month by the UK Bully Kennel Club. The event, in a Derbyshire field by the M1, brings together lovers of the Bully, a controversial breed known for its strength and propensity to attack. Darren admits his mother worries and calls the dogs “very vicious.”

Ms Egan is right to fret. Bullies are close descendants of pit-bull terriers, one of four breeds banned under the Dangerous Dogs Act of 1991. They were first imported from America roughly a decade ago. Bully XLs, the largest type, have killed eight people since 2021, including two this year. BullyWatch, a campaign that monitors the breed, claims the different variants of Bullies carried out 45% of all dog attacks this year. In one week in July Bullies killed seven other dogs. The Daily Mirror is campaigning for a ban.

Champs Camp’s attendees say the pups are misunderstood. At the show, even toddlers compete in handling events. Owners gush about their dogs’ gentle nature. “I’d put my baby’s hand in his mouth,” says one man. Another tells how his XL is used as a therapy dog in an old people’s home. The real problem, say the attendees, is owners who cannot control their animals. Breeding is another issue. BullyWatch suggests that 97% of breeders are unlicensed. Much inbreeding takes place, with many dogs’ lineages going back to a few imported animals. Most attendees support the idea of a register for owners and breeders.

Bully owners and others, including the Dog Control Coalition, a lobby group of animal-welfare charities, want legislation banning specific breeds to be overturned. Instead, they say, officials should target individual dogs that act dangerously. The trouble with

that argument is that some breeds, including Bullies, are by nature more aggressive, no matter the owner. Both people who were killed this year were experienced in handling dogs.

A ban on Bullies is possible. In July Chris Philp, a policing minister, said it was an option. Pressure for one mounts with news of every horrible attack. This month a Pocket Bully, a smaller variety, mauled a five-year-old girl in Stockton. At Champs Camp, there was little concern that change would come soon. Your correspondent left before a promised camp fire began, encouraged by a number of delegates who had earlier shouted at him to "beat it." Sometimes, owners are more menacing than their dogs.

This article appeared in the Britain section of the print edition under the headline "Bully by name" (Aug 21st 2023)

我没有译文，仅供拓展阅读

LearnAndRecord

2015 年 2 月 8 日

2023 年 8 月 28 日

第 3124 天

每天持续行动学外语

预览时标签不可点

微信扫一扫
关注该公众号

[知道了](#)
微信扫一扫
使用小程序

[取消](#) [允许](#)

[取消](#) [允许](#)
： ， 。 视频 小程序 赞 ， 轻点两下取消赞 在看 ， 轻点两下取消在看