

# **An Expert's Guide to the CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL**

By Juliette Cunliffe



Published as an EBook 2011

© Juliette Cunliffe (Author) & © Carol Ann Johnson (Photographer)

Sample of first 8 pages only

To purchase this EBook please visit our

On-Line Store at

[www.dogebooks.org](http://www.dogebooks.org)

# CONTENTS

<b>Introduction</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>A Peep into the Cavalier's History</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Chapter 2</b>	<b>Meet the Modern Cavalier</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Chapter 3</b>	<b>Finding Your Cavalier Puppy</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>Your Puppy Comes Home</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>Training</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Chapter 6</b>	<b>Essential Care</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Chapter 7</b>	<b>Grooming</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Chapter 8</b>	<b>Studying the Breed Standard</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Chapter 9</b>	<b>Showing your Cavalier King Charles</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Chapter 10</b>	<b>Health Care</b>	<b>60</b>

## CREDITS

**All photos by Carol Ann Johnson**  
**[www.carolannjohnson.com](http://www.carolannjohnson.com)**  
**and from the Author's archive collection**

# INTRODUCTION



As many readers of will perhaps know, I am already a well-established author with over 50 dog books published in hardback, many of them also with editions in different languages. There are several in German and Spanish, and one has even appeared in Russian, so it may come as some surprise that I have decided to publish a series of EBooks. Let me explain why...

I am a Championship Show judge of several breeds and often when officiating abroad people have asked if I have any of my books with me for them to buy. The answer is generally "No" as books are heavy to carry and I rarely keep a stock of them at home. In some countries I know dog lovers simply thirst for books, but they can be difficult to get hold of in countries where canine titles are low on the scale of publisher's priorities.

But in these days of internet technology, most things seem possible, and I hope that through this book, and others in the series, I am able to share my knowledge with fellow dog lovers throughout the world. In an EBook there is no weight, and therefore no high postage charges, and with no printing fees costs can be kept to a minimum, so it is a 'win win' situation for all of us.

Even in countries where dog books are readily available, often the book you want is not in stock. You can order it, yes, but that takes time and if you are trying to forge ahead with research about the breed you wish to obtain there is great benefit in buying on-line and receiving your book without delay.

This also means that this EBook is a perfect purchase for those who have just acquired their new puppy. Obviously owners should have read as much as possible about a breed before reaching that stage, but they may have just borrowed books from a library and it is essential always to keep breed information readily at hand.

In no way am I suggesting that having an EBook means that you should not also have at least one good hard-back book about your breed. Nothing, in my view, can compare with the feel of a book as you lovingly turn the pages, year after year. But

then I am a book collector, and I realise that not everyone feels the same way as I do. I now live in Nepal and brought almost my entire library over here by air-freight – that's how much I love books!

But compiling an EBook gives an author total control over its content. I have worked with some great publishers over decades, but sometimes they are not 'dog people', so although there is never any issue with verbal content, there can sometimes be differences of opinion as to the photos my books contain. In this respect I am fortunate enough to work with one of the world's most renowned canine photographers, Carol Ann Johnson, whose photos will pack the following pages. Added to these will be a few from my own personal archives, including some rare images you may not have seen before.

So here I leave you to absorb the pages that follow. At the close of the book you will find a list of some hard copy books that you may like to obtain in the future, and details of where you can obtain copies of the complete breed standard.

Enjoy!

Juliette Cunliffe - 2011



# A Peep into the Cavalier King Charles' History

The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is enormously popular, and for this there is a very good reason as it makes a charming pet and a super show dog.

This breed can trace its ancestors back to the small Toy Spaniels which are found in many paintings of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. These were favourite pets of royalty and nobles of the day and because of this many were depicted with their owners and with children, making for some delightful family groups.



The Prince of Wales (Charles II), Prince James (James II) and Princess Mary. By Sir Arthur Van Dyck (1599-1641)

The first picture in England which depicts the breed is one of Queen Mary I with her husband, Philip of Spain, a pair of small spaniels lying at

their feet. It was painted in 1554 by Antonio Moro. Well-respected artists such as Titian, Van Dyck, Stubbs, Gainsborough and Reynolds all showed similar small dogs with flat heads, high-set ears and a slightly pointed noses.



*Cavaliers with daughters of George I*

A little black and white toy spaniel hid beneath the skirts of Mary Queen of Scots at her execution in 1587. Even after her death it would not leave its dead mistress, for it was recorded, *"Then one of the executioners, pulling off her garters, espied her little dogg which was crept under her clothes which could not be gotten forth but by*

*force, yet afterwards would not depart from the dead corpse, but came and lay between her head and her shoulders...".*

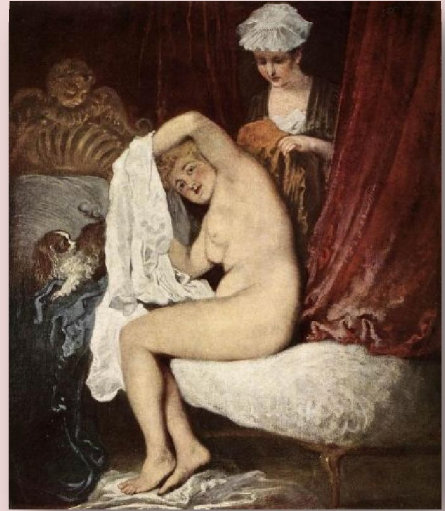


*'Group of Three Children by Sofonisba Anguisciola (1535-1626)*

Small Spaniels were highly popular as ladies' pets in Tudor times (1485 - 1603), and under the House of Stuart (1603 - 1714) they were actually given the name King Charles Spaniels. King Charles I was accompanied by a small spaniel when a fugitive at Carisbrook Castle and after he had been executed his dog, Rogue, was paraded round the city by a Roundhead, though the fate of the little dog is not known. But it was really thanks to King Charles II that the breed took its name.

Charles II was a great devotee of the breed and was almost always seen with some of his small canine friends at his heels and Samuel Pepys made many references to them, showing dismay that the King played all the while with his dogs rather than

minding business affairs. The King even decreed that these spaniels were to be allowed in any public place, including the Houses of Parliament, somewhere in which dogs were not usually permitted.



*The Toilette (1716-1719) by Jean-Antoine Watteau*

King James II was also fond of the breed, and there is record of him giving orders during a bad sea storm that the men were to *"save the dogs! ... and the Duke of Monmouth!* One can only wonder if there was any significance in his mentioning the dogs before the Duke! Undoubtedly spaniels of this kind were much in favour in many of the European courts, but although the red and white variety bred at Blenheim Palace retained its popularity, the others seemed to go somewhat out of

fashion. This was thanks largely to the accession to the throne of William and Mary, their favourites being Pugs.



*St James's Park by George Morland  
(1763-1804)*

The merry toy spaniels which had scampered about the palaces and had appeared on numerous state occasions but were demoted by the House of Orange, the Pugs taking their place. Some believe that it was because of the new-found popularity of the Pug that some enthusiasts of King Charles Spaniels decided that a certain change in the breed's features would perhaps be an improvement.



During the early years of the nineteenth century the small spaniel once again rose in the popularity stakes for the Duke of Marlborough used small spaniels as shooting companions. These were a little larger than the Cavaliers known today. In 1820 his dogs were described as "*very small or carpet spaniels*". They were red and white, with very long ears, short noses and black eyes. Still today, what is known as the lozenge spot on the head of some Cavalier King Charles Spaniels is highly prized and there is a delightful story as to how this came about. The Duchess of Marlborough had one of these spaniels as a much-loved pet which kept her company whilst her husband was away at war. At anxious times she had the habit of pressing her thumb on her dog's head whilst awaiting news of her husband and when the bitch produced a litter of puppies the head of each was marked with her thumbprint.

