

EADT24**VW Wolsey**
0845 1255944For New & Used
Cars & Vans

Suffolk & Essex online

Newsdesk 01473 324732

01:42 > Friday 13th July 2007

News

Sport

Travel

Weather

What's On

Your view

E-Edition

Business

Features

Politics

Blogs

Community

Eduzone

Fun & Games

eakids

Buy & Sell

Suffolk jobs
Suffolk homes
Suffolk cars
Classifieds
Equestrian
Local business
Photo sales
Reader travel
Special offers

Contact us

Subscriptions
Advertising
Contact us

Search

Home

Site A-Z

Text only version
Set as homepage

SUFFOLK

Let's Talk!

EveningStar24

homes24

drive24

jobs24

classifieds

Mum's shock at dog attack

12 July 2007 | 08:06

YOUR VIEW SEND TO A FRIEND GOT A STORY?

WILL GRAHAME-CLARKE

A MOTHER told last night how she watched in horror as a barking Alsatian ran up to her baby daughter and then attacked a man who went to rescue the child.

The animal, which had another dog close behind it, was barking furiously in the one-year-old's face as she sat in her pram. Anthony Bird went to help her but was bitten before dragging the dog away from the terrified youngster.

Joanna Balls, of Jubilee Road, Sudbury, who said she was "frozen" to the spot during the ordeal, welcomed a court's decision yesterday not to put down the animal.

However, the mother, whose daughter Kelsey escaped injury during the incident on March 8, called for the dog, owned by Kevin Strudwick, of Suffolk Road, Sudbury, to be muzzled.

Yesterday, Strudwick, who has 10 years' experience handling rescued Alsatian-type dogs, pleaded guilty at Sudbury Magistrates Court to a charge of having a dog out of control.

David Hutson, prosecuting, said the charge against Strudwick was at the "lower end of the scale" and he would not be pressing the magistrates to order the dog to be destroyed - despite the fact it "drew blood" from Mr Bird.

Mr Hutson said the defendant's mother had accidentally allowed the dog to escape: "The dog was out of control for only a few minutes. It was not a case of someone allowing a dog to run wild."

Helen Booth, defending asthmatic Strudwick, told the court that earlier that day the 44-year-old defendant returned home with his mother and was in some distress brought on by his medical condition.

As the pair entered the house his dog, named Duke, and another dog, a younger Alsatian-cross called Ben, dashed through the open door and across the street toward Mr Bird, Ms Ball

The whole
EADT online

E-EDITION



LIVE TRAVEL NEWS



7 DAY FORECAST

Take a
break with
our free games

GAMES

Dominic
Castle's take
on modern life

BLOG OF DOOM

Suffolk homes

Find your dream home in
Suffolk - and beyond.

Suffolk jobs

The best selection of jobs
in Suffolk and Essex and
advice on how to get on in
your chosen career.

Suffolk cars

New, old, sporty or
practical, we've motors to
suit all together with
comprehensive reviews of
new and used cars and
vans.

Buy & Sell

Place adverts in our
printed titles and online,
including the chance to
advertise for free.

SEARCH

MEMBERS

Log in
Sign Up
Forgotten
password

Meet



EXAM
SUCCESS
Place your message here

FOOD&DRINK
CLICK HERE

B&G

GreenUn24

everything

and her daughter.

"The dogs were keen to see their owner and keen to see the door was open," she said. "It was an accident. These are dogs which are well cared for and controlled animals."

Helen Williams, presiding magistrate, said the court would not make a destruction order but ordered Strudwick to keep the dogs leashed in public and for him to pay £50 costs.

Speaking after the case Ms Ball said: "It was really scary. I was worried for the safety of my daughter - the dog was barking right in her face. Anthony went to protect the pram but was bitten."

However, she said the dog should not be destroyed: "I think it should be muzzled at all times. He didn't have it under control - I don't how long it took him (Strudwick) to catch it, I was just frozen to the spot."

Strudwick, also speaking after the case, said: "It was an unfortunate accident. They are friendly dogs and I'm just relieved this is over."

YOUR VIEW

Only site members can comment on this story.
Click here to join for free or, for existing members, click here to login.

NEWS

- [Biker killed in freak tree accident](#)
- [Mum's shock at dog attack](#)
- [Lake to reopen after algae scare](#)
- [Family's warning after drugs death](#)
- [Charity ball raises £57k for hospice](#)
- [Save our community hospitals Mr Brown](#)
- [Man deported after sex crime](#)
- [Family raid drama for Apprentice winner](#)
- [RSPCA concern over circus](#)
- [Racecourse revamp opened by legends](#)

POST THIS STORY

 [Del.icio.us](#)  [Digg](#)  [Newsvine](#)  [Reddit](#)

 [BACK TO TOP](#)