

NATION NEWS

Akita attacks granny

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ANOTHER Akita attack. The latest victim, 53-year-old Doris Phillips, of Doughlin Road, Weston, St James, was bitten three places on the right arm and the bone punctured, leaving the arm swollen. She was also bitten on the left wrist.

The incident took place last Wednesday, almost two weeks after another Akita severely injured a four-year-old girl and also bit her six-year-old brother at Goodland, St Michael. That dog, which was injured by rescuers, was subsequently put to sleep.

Phillips said she had dropped off her three-year-old grandson at a nursery and was going to the home of her daughter at Porters, St James, when she noticed a dog in the yard. She walked past the dog and thought it had not seen her, but it followed and pounced on her from behind.

Phillips said she screamed, attracting the attention of a woman at the nearby bus stop who also screamed. The commotion that followed scared away the dog.

Phillips was treated at Sandy Crest Medical Centre in Sunset Crest, St James, and the bill was paid by the dog's owner, Glenville Clarke. The attack was reported to the police.

When contacted, Clarke said the dog was now "properly reinforced", adding that "the dog cannot get away at all".

Inspector Wayne Norville of the Royal Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals said it was against the law for a dog to be in a public place unsupervised, adding it was strange the dog attacked Phillips because she was not a threat.

"She was backing the dog; it does not seem right. It was not protecting its territory because it does not live there," he said.

Norville said if dogs were not socialised from early, by the time they were six months old their tolerance level was very low.

"Those dogs are close to the wolf family. When you tie them up, they become monsters. It's unfair to the animals. There is no way a dog should be under that stress."