

## **Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)**

**28 / 6 / 2019**

IT HAS BEEN A WHIRLWIND OF A WEEK . . . I am still supposed to be in India however things do not always go to plan and my abrupt arrival in the UK was brought about by a dismissal gone wrong, the Indian police being called, me hiding out in the Leela Palace Hotel in Bangalore (with a mouse running across the library floor) having to get the first flight out of India to Singapore, 36 hours there before being flown home not knowing if Interpol were going to catch up with me! Luckily it appears I am no longer an international criminal and I am free to fly anywhere in the world! I landed just in time to get to Blackpool Ch Show where I piloted Hibeck Dino to Best in Show making breed dog world history for being the first Import Register breed to take this award at a General Championship Show – some people may say fate intervened to get me home!

Blackpool started off a bit chilly and damp first thing but the sun soon broke through and was cracking the paving stones (if they had any!). We were third in the ring after Beagles and Cirneco's. Luis Pinto Teixeira was centre stage and awarded 3 of the 5 major awards to Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside pack. Best Dog and Best of Breed was Ch/Bel & Int Ch Good Lord JW ShCM, Reserve Best Dog was Ir Ch Ferdinand JW and Best Bitch went to Ch/Bel & Int Ch Good Gracious. Reserve Best Bitch was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. They also picked up Best Junior with Macaroni v Tum-Tum's Vriendjes of Tarmachan. There were no puppies entered.

My avid reporter Sue Marshall kindly let me have the results of Hound Club of East Anglia which was held the day after Blackpool, they had a good entry of 9 but depleted by 4 absentees. Judge was Anne DeFaye and she found her BOB in Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM who was also shortlisted in the BIS competition. Reserve Best of Breed was Soufriere One Vision. I think I remember reading on facebook that "Freya" has achieved her Veteran Warrant as well?

This weekend takes the show circuit to Windsor – one of my favourite shows in the Queen's back garden and of course the Pimms . . . . .

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