

Bassets Griffons Vendéens (Petit)

30/06/17

THERE WERE QUITE A FEW RED-FACED JUDGES AT BORDER UNION. No, not from embarrassment but from spending hours judging in full sun. What glorious weather exhibitors were treated to at this show, which has always been a favourite of mine. Such a shame that we lost CCs there, with the last ones being awarded in 2011. Nonetheless, Jette Vind Ramvad (Denmark) had an excellent entry of 20, with just one absent. Thanks to show helper Fred Ellingford, who kept me updated on progress of judging of GBGVs, I was pleased that I finished judging Fauves and Bassets just in time to sit and watch the Petits. Jette, who several later complimented for her extremely nice manner going over the dogs, found her BOB in Sara Robertson & Wendy Doherty's Ch Solettrader Magic Mike. He later went Hound G1 under Pam Marston-Pollock then RBIS the following day under Colin Reed. BB went to Steve & Lorna Wyllie's 9yr old Ch Tangaer Rhapsody at Callydena, with RBB going to her daughter, Callydena Toffee Bon Bon, also owned by them. Her sire is Debucher Quel Chance avec Tangaer. Returning to PBGVs after an absence of some 15 years or so, it was good to see Marion Hunt in the ring. RBD and BP went to her Solettrader Buzz Aldrin at Bondlea (Swe Ch Rainstone Habile ex Ch Solettrader Peek a Boo).

In the AV Gundog/Hound/Terrier Ch Stakes Paul Osbourne's Ch Nykarth's Kicking Off with Braego was placed 2nd by judge Mrs Bridgette Bodle (Kitarn) and Lorna Wyllie's Ch Tangaer Rhapsody at Callydena went into first place in the Good Citizen Dog Scheme Stakes under the same judge. In the Junior Handling Association 12-16yrs Stakes Katie o'Brien came third with Caldewriver Despicable Me. The judge was Mrs Elaine Newton (Drumsheugh).

Leaving the showground, on the way to Jedburgh, with my car air conditioning not working, I found a novel way to keep cool. I drove past a field just as a gigantic farm water sprinkler reached the end of its run. It chucked a tsunami of water over the hedge onto my car. The windscreen wipers went at double speed and I can only describe it as like having about ten bath loads of water hit the car; and I had all the windows and sun roof open. I leave the rest to your imagination.

Down south but at an equally scorching venue, at the Whitstable show at Maidstone, Steve & Lynn Wood's Beaujons Whisper (Suton Crepu Visage Love from Roxy to Gemshorn ex B Tickled Pink) had a successful day going BNSC Hound and Hound G1, both under Elizabeth Watson (Carresmar).

Now into the second half of the year and, at East of England, there is an entry of 36 for Stuart Mallard.

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