

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

21 / 07/2017

ALL IS NOW SET for the Scottish BGV Fun Day this weekend, which is being held at Cochrane Hall, Alva, West Stirling Street, Alva, Clackmannanshire, Scotland FK12 5LJ. The event starts at 12 noon. Gail Foote says everyone is looking forward to a good day and they are hoping the sun has his hat on. Thanks to the lovely local businesses that have pledged support this promises to be a fantastic day. All are welcome and they are looking forward to meeting many old and new friends. For more information go to <http://www.bgvclub.co.uk/diary-dates> or contact Gail on rymndft@aol.com.

Contrary to the statement on the cover of the Hound Association schedule that there would be extension of closing date, they did extend to 17 July, so entry figures are not yet known at time of writing. It seems, however, that some exhibitors are going straight on from Houndshow to Paignton as Colin Gillanders has a good entry of 33 PBGVs there the following day, set against 21 at last year's show.

After years of dithering and peering into countless vehicles in dog show car parks, to the extent that it had become a joke within my family that I would never change my car, I have finally bought a new(ish) one. My reliable Peugeot has done me proud through 117,000 miles, most of which has been to dog shows, but I have finally taken the plunge in the knowledge that I had to go slightly larger or slightly smaller as the size car I have into which everything fits perfectly no longer exists. I now have two cars sitting in my driveway while my brain gets used to coping with one that tells me when and how to start the engine and parting with one that has been my familiar mode of transport for 12 years now.

I imagine, like me, many who have personalised number plates have been through the trials of putting the number on retention with the DVLA to enable the transfer to a new car. What no-one warns you about is the additional hard work involved in sorting out problems when computers can't make simple, rational decisions. This ranged from notifying a re-allocation of original 2004 registration number on my Peugeot for the local residents' Dartford Crossing discount to coping with a change of car insurance cover. Three e-mails and two phone calls later, I have extricated myself from having *two* Peugeots registered for the Dartford Crossing because their computer couldn't cope with showing a change of registration number on the one car. They now keep contacting me thanking me for opening a local residents' discount account, when I have had one for over 2 years but, as they have given me 50 free crossings, I am letting that one ride. It then took three phone calls to my car insurance provider before I could get them to transfer the cover to the new car, with temporary cover on the Peugeot. This allows time for re-allocation of the personalised number. And then, oh joy, when I get the V5 from DVLA, I have to go through the same process all over again – notifying Dartcharge and the car insurance of a change of car on the personalized number. And then there is the car breakdown cover, which is another story. And don't talk to me about how much this has all cost.

Having a medium size breed makes it somewhat easier to put more than one dog in a car but downsizing very slightly makes all that much difference. Put in simple terms, having gone marginally smaller, I have to reconfigure! New dog show trolley, new crate in the back – just a thousand or so more. If anyone wants any advice on changing their car, come to me as I am now an expert.

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