

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

26 / 1/ 2018

LIKE ME you are probably getting pretty fed up with this weather. As I write these notes, I am watching the trees bending under the strong winds and the rain tipping down. My lawn is once again going under water. Not that the PBGVs mind it. It doesn't prevent them from chasing each other round the garden, splashing through the pools of water and getting thoroughly grubby. And we don't talk about my conservatory and kitchen floors. I seem to spend all day mopping.

With no show news to report, looking ahead we have Crufts on the horizon where our judge is Per Knudsen (Denmark). Per's association with the breed goes back to 1978 when, with Philip Haas, he imported Mignonnette de la Belle Musique from France. She became a Danish champion in three shows. Per subsequently took over Mignonnette and Jomil Hotspur also arrived from England. He won his Danish title the same year. The following year, a mating between Hotspur and Mignonnette resulted in the first Morebess litter being born. One of the two kept by Per, Morebess Raymond le Rebelle, will be remembered forever as you can see his likeness on the PBGV Club of America's logo. One of the last Morebess PBGV's to be shown successfully in Denmark was Dk/Fin Ch Morebess Gazelle de Tour (Lamy des Rives de la Garonne ex Morebess Reine de Longchamps) who, having been shown initially by Per, was campaigned into her veteran years by Karina Stenå. Born in June 1996, Zelle died in 2010 having achieved many BIS and group wins.

Some of you are still in touch or will remember Pat and Trevor Mellor. Trevor showed their GBGV and Pat was our show photographer. I received the news recently that Trevor had suffered a heart attack. He is now back home again and we have had a long chat. Although the NHS has come in for much criticism of late due to understaffing, he cannot praise them highly enough. Both first responder and ambulance were with him within just a few minutes and, rather than take him to the local hospital, they went direct from near Bedford to Papworth, Cambs, where he was treated swiftly and had a stent inserted. Pat is now having to slow him down and stop him from trying to put their fence back up that has blown down in the wind.

Someone else who has praised the NHS is Chris Blake, who had an argument with one of the new kitchen knives that wife Debs had bought. He said he received great treatment at Southmead Hospital, Bristol.

With the 31 January deadline creeping up fast, most adverts are now in for the club handbook, which is now well under way. However if yours is not yet completed, make sure Claire Cooper is aware. You can contact her on clairecooper81@hotmail.co.uk For information on pricing go to www.bgvclub.co.uk/club-publications.

January's lucky LOD winners are Mrs Iain Moody with £15, Mrs K Smith £10 and Tracy Presswell £5.00.

LINDA SKERRITT, 01375 673922, monkhams@aol.com