

## **Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)**

**9 / 3 / 2018**

CRUFTS IS OVER WITH FOR ANOTHER YEAR and I for one am breathing a sigh of relief! Our judge Linda Lewis was efficient in the ring but unfortunately was put under pressure by the group stewards to hurry along. This certainly marred her day which I think is unreasonable and she felt was unfair to us exhibitors. What was equally frustrating then was watching the PBGV judge who wasn't under the same pressure from the group stewards be able to spend as much time as he wanted in making shortlists and moving the dogs again. Surely it just would have been easier to have started us at 9am when all of us were there anyway to enable Linda to have enjoyed her day even more?

Anyway off the soap box - congratulations to all winners, however always remember that win or lose you take the best dog(s) home with you. Dog CC and BOB was last year's Top Dog, Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier owned by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren and he really seemed to enjoy himself in the big ring with the camera showing him smiling on the move. Reserve DCC went to Gairside Good Lord JW owned by Colin & Ann Makey. Bitch CC was a repeat of last year in Miss Magic Van Tum-Tum's Vriendjes Euro Jun Ch owned by Gwen Huikeshoven and I D Reijkerkerk. RBCC was Tarmachan Black Ice owned by Gwen. Best Puppy was Wilmit Independence Day owned by Barbara Milton and, with no Veteran Dogs present, my Ch Debucher Xfactor was Best Veteran.

It was nice to see the ringside was very well populated for the GBGV judging. Elsewhere Claire McGregor had a day off from university lectures and gained 6th in a hotly contested 17 – 24 YKC Handling under Adam Rose.

On behalf of the BGV club, may I express my thanks to everyone who manned the Discover Dogs stand over the 4 days.

Additionally at Crufts the BGV Handbook was launched – many thanks to everyone who helped make this a publication to remember. It is 196 pages of fascinating articles and fabulous adverts. If you haven't got your copy, they will be on sale at the Open show/Funday or if you contact Colin Makey directly. Talking of the open show now that Crufts is over, please do not forget to enter!

For me Crufts was marred by two things during Best n Show. Firstly the fact that the Kennel Club broke its own rules by declaring Reserve Best In Show first. The announcement that this was going to happen brought an obvious grumble and groan from those in the audience. Secondly by the stupid PETA protestors who ran in to the main ring immediately after the award was made which took the shine from the two worthy winners. What will we be talking about after next year's Crufts?

CLAIRE COOPER 07855 255287, [clairecooper81@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clairecooper81@hotmail.co.uk)