

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

1 / 6 / 2018

THE DOWNSIDE of having a long spell of hot weather is that, sooner or later, the stormy weather arrives. Although Bath came in for torrential rain and flooding on Sunday, thankfully by Hound day on the Monday the water had all drained away. It was a wearing drive for many though through endless patches of dense fog but at least the weather for the well-run show was dry, if humid. With a 9am start for judging, there were no absentees from Nigel Luxmoore-Ball's good entry of 40. DCC and BOB went to Robertson & Doherty's Ch Soletreader Magic Mike, who went on to win the Hound Group under Jill Peak and BIS under Mr E M Paterson. From PD, RDCC went to a stunned Ceri McEwan's with her homebred Marunnel Orinoco (Vilauddens Isaak ex Ch/Ir Ch Maudaxi Coco Chewnel from Marunnel), who also went BP and subsequently PG4 under Mrs S J Garner. BCC went to Chris Blake & Dianne Reid's Vilauddens Midsummer Madness (imp Swe) (Cookie Crunch van Tum-Tum's Vriendjes ex Vilauddens Saga) with RBCC to Chris Blake's Orleans van Tum-Tum's Vriendjes, sired by the same dog, dam Iparla des Echos de Buzet. With Paul Osbourne's PBGVs winning both VD and BB, BV went to the dog Ch Nykarth's Kicking Off With Braego ShCM.

Some other wins at the show – under Mr P Lawless, Erin Robertson gained third place in Young Kennel Club Members Stakes with hers and Oliver Robertson's Around Zlightly Different with Soletreader (imp Swe), also a third in Junior Handling Association 6-11 under the same judge.

Fred Ellingford was judging Pharaohs on Hound day and he will be our PBGV judge there next year, having tried to get his head round it being on a Sunday, rather than the traditional Bank Holiday Monday that we are all used to. It will certainly be good though to see some of the Friday shows being rotated to a weekend day from next year onwards as it is often difficult for those at work or with children to attend midweek. So, it is at this Friday's Southern Counties, which has an entry of 19 for Dr Ian Gabriel (no CCs).

With the championship shows coming one after another at the moment, a caravanserai of BGV enthusiasts that seems to be growing in numbers is currently travelling from one showground to another. A lovely life for some!

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