

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)

10 / 8 / 2018

IT SEEMED STRANGE THIS YEAR ambling down to Paignton on the Saturday afternoon rather than dashing down following completion of judging at the Houndshow as has been the case for the past few years. The weather was certainly scorching, and as we were third in the ring behind Whippets and Basset Fauve De Bretagne most GBGV exhibitors set up in shaded areas away from the ring (as it was extremely difficult to reach earlier in the day) and slowly moved towards the ring as the Whippets moved out.

Our judge for the day was Tom Johnston giving CCs for the first time and, from an entry of 19, he had 4 absentees. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren gained 4 of the 5 major awards with Ch /Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier winning DCC and BOB, Tarmachan Ice Diamond winning her all-important third BCC and therefore can now call herself a champion, RBCC was her mother Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine and their new puppy at 6 months and a few days Macaroni V Tum-tums Vriendjes Of Tarmachan (imp Ned) gaining Best Puppy. RDCC went to Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet.

The Group was being called as the DCC was handed out, as such when she got BOB Fiona loaded Fergus in to a cage on the trolley and ran him from the far tent in to the hall where the group ring awaited. He seemed more than happy with that mode of transport, where as poor Fiona was a bit hot and flustered. I only saw one stakes result and that was Wilmit Independence Day owned by Barbara Milton gained 3rd in the Junior Stakes under Martin Sanders.

In conjunction with Paignton was the South West Hound Club where our judge was Mike Denny. Unfortunately I don't have a catalogue but I think he had an entry of about 10 over 2 classes. Here Best of Breed was Danielle Machent's and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille and Best Puppy was Yvonne Moults Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat. I believe that there was a bit of controversy for BIS at this show, as the judge (who I understand was foreign) did not individually assess all the dogs, but merely placed a hand on them all prior to picking 4 out (which is often how continental judges judge a group).

I am off now to the World Show in Amsterdam, only with the Tibetan Spaniels, but I am looking forward to watching the GBGV judging and enjoying the basset breeds' party which is scheduled for Friday where visitors from around the world from all the basset breeds are invited to celebrate our dogs. I will give a full report next week. Finally good luck to all those entered at Bournemouth where Judith Robin-Smith has 12 entered.

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