

## Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)

30 / 11/ 2018

CLUB SHOW WEEKEND HAS BEEN AND GONE which means we are hurtling towards the last show of the season, LKA. Indeed entry closing dates are looming for the first shows of 2019!

At the Sports Connexion, Linda Mackenzie started judging our breed at 10am (same as the Petits, but then there was a long hold up as it was decided she should wait to award Best of Breed at the same time as the PBGV Best of Breed was being awarded. This was followed by Sue Marshall taking pictures of the PBGV main winners, but immediately after that the judges were whisked off for lunch meaning the GBGV main award winners had to be quickly photographed after BIS and before the stakes classes could start. Why are we always treated as the poor relation?

Anyway on to the dogs. Linda Mackenzie awarded DCC (his second) and Best of Breed to Danielle Mächent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille, Reserve Dog CC to Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet. BCC (number 6) was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch Gairside Good Gracious, with Reserve Bitch CC going to my Ch Debucher XFactor. Best Puppy was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Macaroni V Tum-Tum's Vriendjes of Tarmachan with my XFactor going Best Veteran.

Val Jackson judged the Junior Handling and BIS. She awarded BJH to Erin Robertson. BIS was the PBGV Ch Soletrader Magic Mike who took the PBGV CC record from his mother on the day. Reserve BIS was the GBGV Tioga Lautrec (Louie) – interestingly he was Reserve BPIS at this show last year. BPIS was Macaroni and Reserve BPIS was Sue Marshall's GBGV Soufriere One Vision. Best Veteran in Show went to the PBGV Ch Debucher Jezebel at Braego ShCM.

Imogen Clarke then judged the GBGV stakes classes which were well filled. She awarded the Junior dog/bitch class to Pam and Claire McGregor's Dit Donc Du Greffier Du Roi Mit Claela. There was only one entry in Post Graduate dog/bitch who was absent (in season at home!) and she awarded Open dog/bitch to my XFactor. I must say my mum was very grateful for the enhanced prize money in these classes donated by Phil Freer and Gavin Robertson as the £25 Poppy won paid for her fuel down – I however was not impressed that I didn't get to take it home!

Having the Nordic show next door it was nice to see a number of visitors pop in to watch some of the judging who normally wouldn't make it to the show. Also it was good to see Judith Robin-Smith appreciating the judging. Gavin and Sara Robertson had cake and fizz to celebrate Magic Mike being Top Dog All Breeds 2018 so it was apt he also broke the breed record as it meant a double celebration for them.

The two 40th anniversary cakes were cut prior to Best In Show by one of the founder members of the Club accompanied by Gavin Robertson and all exhibitors were invited to enjoy a piece. Thanks go to Kim Culyer-Dawson for baking the two cakes. A special mention must also go to Sue Marshall for taking the pictures all day, ably assisted by Tim Jennings when Sue needed to be in the pictures. Finally thanks to the four stewards who gave up their Saturday in order to ensure the show went on smoothly and Marion Gerrie who undertook the task of marking up official catalogues.

So that's it – our 40th anniversary celebrations are over. After last year's 30th anniversary championship show next year will be quiet in comparison!

We are getting to the time where we go into hibernation, as such I beg you that if you do venture out to a show you tell me what happens, merely placing it on Facebook and hoping I will see it will not guarantee you a mention in these notes!

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