

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

30 / 11/ 2018

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A WEEK MAKES. This time last week we were all getting our BGVs ready for the Club championship show on Saturday, packing our vehicles and some travelling to near Ryton-on-Dunsmore to spend the night there before the show. With quite a lot of absentees in both breeds, including 10 in PBGVs, judging which started at 10am was over by late morning, Alan Curry having gone over 12 dogs and 27 bitches. One PBGV was only entered in Stakes, making the total entry of 50. DCC and BOB went to Robertson & Doherty's Ch Solettrader Magic Mike. This win gave Magic Mike his 29th CC, making him the new breed record holder, an achievement to add to his Top Dog All Breeds 2018.

It was also a good day for Chris Blake as BCC, her third, went to Vilauddens Midsummer Madness (imp Swe), who he owns jointly with Dianne Reid. RDCC went to Eaton's Linphil Kili and, from Breeders Bitch, RBCC and BP went to Robertson's Solettrader Judigarland. With no Veteran Dogs entered, BV was Osbourne's Ch Debucher Jezebel at Braego ShCM.



Lunch break followed the awarding of BOB in both rings and during that interval two presentations took place. The Club invited founder member Elaine Fayerman to cut the 40th anniversary cake. Elaine has been a strong supporter for many years attending AGMs, fun days and invariably sitting ringside at Club shows, so although she was somewhat reluctant to take centre stage, it was indeed fitting to see her helping with this celebration. Thanks go to Kim Culyer-Dawson for making the cake, in fact for making two cakes, the second one being cut by Vice-President Gavin Robertson. Gavin also received a cheque from his mother, Joan. This was for the Peek a Boo Trust, representing half of the proceeds from the Club's Steventon fun day.

With two absentees from the Junior Handling, it was a clean sweep for Erin Robertson who was awarded Best Junior Handler by BIS judge Val Jackson. After lunch it was on to BIS where the award went to Sara Robertson & Wendy Doherty's Ch Solettrader Magic Mike. Unfortunately Chris Blake had left so his newly-crowned Vilauddens bitch was not there to compete for RBIS, which therefore automatically went to the GBGV Danielle Machent & Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille. No look-in for PBGVs in the competition for BPIS which went to Fiona Buchanan & Michael MacLaren's GBGV Macaroni v Tum-Tum's Vriendjes, with RBPIS also going to the GBGV Sue Marshall's Soufriere One Vision. It was left to Paul Osbourne's PBGV Ch Debucher Jezebel at Braego ShCM to take the last main award of the day, BVIS.

Richard Bott judged the three well-filled PBGV Stakes classes, awarding firsts to Kyle Cadmore & Lizzie Greenslade's Solettrader Only in Oslo, Marion Hunt's Solettrader Buzz Aldrin of Bondlea and Paul Osbourne's Ch Nykarth's Kicking Off with Braego. ShCM. Each received £25.

Marion Gerrie marked up catalogues alongside Show Secretary Colin Makey who was kept busy. Kim Culyer-Dawson and Geraldine Dodd were also occupied all day as there was plenty to tempt exhibitors and visitors with tables packed with breed-related items to buy and yet again a groaning raffle table. Sue Marshall was equally busy taking photos, ably assisted by Tim Jennings who stepped in to take photos when Sue was in the ring. Another of great assistance was Martin Bishop who hardly sat down all day. He ensured each winner went as soon as possible to be photographed. Of course, this is always a difficult operation with exhibitors sometimes in subsequent classes and, despite arranging a buffet lunch for judges and stewards this year so they could eat at any time after midday, it seems most went off at the same time, which delayed photographing some of the main winners until they returned.

Welcome visitors to the show included Judith Robin-Smith, Rose Phillips, over from Turkey where she now lives, and the couple winning the prize for having travelled furthest, Daryll and Debbie Matthews from Australia. There were also a few who ventured in from the Nordic Show being held in the hall next door. At one stage Lynn Wood and I went into the show, concerned that our promised trade stand holders had failed to materialise and it crossed our minds they might have set up shop elsewhere. Only dog bedding and disinfectant ended up on sale for us, though I gather the man did a good trade and is keen to come again. Tony of Keen Kutz was taken quite ill just before the show and apologises profusely to everyone for being unable to attend. He hopes to be at one of our shows next year. And with the combination of a bitch in season and a poorly puppy, Jim Salmon was also absent but I am sure there will be no stopping him next time round.

One small concern before the show was whether or not the brand new flooring at the Sports Connexion was non-slip. Great discussion took place on whether matting should be used. Those who had been to the venue fairly recently said their dogs did not slip. To gain a broader view the question was even put on facebook, as where better to get opinions, and the consensus was "no problem". I phoned the venue and they too were confident it was non-slip as obviously it needed to be for sports. Had we used matting, only wide Sellotape would have been allowed to stick down the ends as any other type would leave a residue. With mixed feelings, the decision was therefore taken to go without. By and large I understand there were few difficulties, though some attributed loss of footing to chalk that gathered on the floor. Obviously this is something for further discussion as I am sure the committee will take note of any valid unease.

There are very 2019 calendars left now, so contact Sue Marshall on 01245 265828 or sue.marshall4@btopenworld.com if you want one. Similarly, Kim Culyer-Dawson is busy posting well bubble-wrapped mugs to those not at the show. Only a few remain, also leads and purses. To buy, her phone number is 01255 317415, email kimgreen2003@yahoo.co.uk.

Over the weekend Solettrader was also winning in Ireland where Robertson, Greenslade & Neill's Ir Ch Solettrader Buddy Holly gained his sixth BIS. This time is at Cloghran Championship Show under Olive Taylor, having won Group 6 under Sally Burns and breed judge Ian Finney who had only two entries.

Coming up to the final championship show of the year, at LKA there is an entry of 38 for Nick Bryce Smith.

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