

## **Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)**

**15 / 3 / 2019**

CONGRATULATIONS to breeders Gavin and Sara Robertson whose Ch Soletrader Magic Mike (Boom Chicago van Tum-Tum's Vriendjes ex Ch Soletrader Peek a Boo) made it all the way to the Best in Show ring at this year's Crufts. Joint owners are Sara and Wendy Doherty. BIS judge was Swede Dan Ericsson, who awarded Magic Mike RBIS. Frank Kane had put him through from the Hound Group. In the breed ring, there were 5 absent and 1 withdrawn from my entry of 80. Other main awards went to overseas exhibitors with BCC, both Reserves and BP going to the Netherlands. BCC was Gwen Huikeshoven's Bonbon de Noel vTT Vriendjes (Cookie Crunch vTT Vriendjes ex Vivace vTT Vriendjes). RDCC Bonbon's sire Gwen Huikeshoven & Bensri Sittibavornsakul's Cookie Crunch, RBCC Anouk Huikeshoven's Ned/Ger Ch Hatta Mari vTT Vriendjes (Dk/Nordic Ch Vilaudens Ronin ex Ned Ch Pumpkin Cake vTT Vriendjes). Cookie Crunch also sired the BP Gwen Huikeshoven's Meringue Lemon vTT Vriendjes (dam Sacré Coeur vTT Vriendjes). From Denmark BV went to Jette Ramvad's Dk/Int/Pol/Ger/Fin Ch Petit Heroes Canned Heat (Multi Ch Around I'm What I'm ex Dk/Int Ch Petit Heroes Blonde on Blonde).

This year saw 17 overseas exhibitors: Denmark 4, Italy 2, Netherlands 8, Russian Federation 3 and Slovakia 1. At the benches, there was a great deal of interest in the breed and I gather those on the Discover Dogs breed booths were kept busy. Thank you to everyone who helped, I hear you all seemed to enjoy the time you were there and several have already asked to help again next year.

Needless to say, TV coverage of Crufts and the RBIS win has sparked interest in the breed and I, and many others, are now getting countless emails and phone calls from would-be PBGV owners. It is up to breeders to be wary and decide whether they are genuinely keen to be lifelong dog owners or this is an "Oh I must have one" reaction. In reality there is probably little chance of anyone getting a pup in the near future as litters are few and far between. The winter 2018 Breed Record Supplement showed only 85 registered with the KC during 2018 and, of course, some of these were imports.

Thanks to Geraldine Dodd for letting me know about March's Limited Odds Draw winners – a lucky Gail Foote with £15, Chris & Deb Blake with £10 and Carolyn Dexter £5.

Final reminder – entries close Saturday 16 March for the BGVC Open Show. Just time if you haven't yet sent off your entry. If you no longer possess a cheque book, you can pay by Postal Order or by bank transfer. Ask Colin Makey for details - 01469 542260 or gairside@btinternet.com.

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