

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

29 / 11 / 2019

IT IS GRATIFYING that the BGVC committee has received so many congratulations after the 32nd championship show, which was held at Ryton on Dunsmore last Saturday. Just one said "I popped in briefly on Saturday and watched some of the judging and thoroughly enjoyed your championship show. It all seemed so calm and running smoothly. Having run both all breed open shows and breed club champ shows I know the work involved prior to make that happen". Lots of planning and work over the year before ensures getting the show on the road, as does working together on the day. With no prior warning that we would be in the rear half of the Cricket Hall, getting matting, mats, ring fencing and posts, raffle prizes and shop items into the hall was made rather more difficult. However, thanks to all the hard work, of both committee and stewards, the show went seamlessly. One special mention goes to Sue Marshall, our photographer, who as usual sacrificed seeing much of the show as she was kept busy in her photographic area taking photos of all the 1st and main winners. These are in the club's Winter Voice, which is going to print this week. They will also be on the club website shortly.

The show was opened by Vice Chairman Peter Marks, who held a minute's silence for former committee members, Audrey Herring and Diana Sadler, who had died during the year. And, as our show took place, the nominated PBGV judge Paula Heikkinen-Lehkonen from Finland was still in hospital in Tallinn, Estonia. Good wishes had been sent for her speedy recovery from an accident which resulted in her hitting her head. Phil Freer, who had kindly stepped in as replacement judge at very short notice, said he really enjoyed his day. There were 5 absent from his entry of 65 and his CC winners were both Soletrader breeding, with the DCC and BOB going to Gemma McCartney's Soletrader Freddie Mercury and BCC to Gavin & Sara Robertson's Soletrader Judigarland. This was her third CC so a special thrill for handler Erin Robertson. Reserves went to Kyle & Lizzie Cadmore's Ch Soletrader Only In Oslo and Soletrader Dancing In Deli. From MPD, BP was Joan Hutchings' Tangaer French Romance and BV was our Ch Beaujons Ugly Betty of Monkham's JW ShCM.

It was good to see many visitors to the show – those keen to get a BGV puppy, those who already have one and came to look round, those who wandered in from the Nordic Show in the adjacent hall. One person who also deserves a mention is Tracey Mayou, back from living in Spain, where I last saw her at the Granada show in 2012. Her Nykarth bitch, now 9yrs old, was looking good! Geraldine Dodd has said that, thanks to everyone's generosity the raffle, which some said looked amazing and was the best ever, raised a fantastic £205.

Our guest judge, Renaud Buche, from France having judged the Grands, BIS was judged by Sue Virgo. She too commented that the show had a lovely atmosphere all day and she was sure the wealth of prizes and specials on offer were well received. Her choice for BIS and, consequently, BVIS went to 7yr old GBGV Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine, owned by Fiona Buchanan & Michael MacLaren. RBIS and BOSIS went to the PBGV Freddie Mercury. BPIS was Joan Hutchings' PBGV Tangaer French Romance, with RBPIS going to McGregor's GBGV Claela You And I Are A Team; and RBVIS to our PBGV Betty. Best Junior Handler went to Erin Robertson.

There was a bumper entry for the stakes classes which followed and, in the PBGV classes judged by Jackie Hornby, 1sts went to Linda Lewis' Tangaer French Wine, Gilluley's Caldewriver Legally Blonde of Ballencreeff and Foote & McAulay's Ir Ch Erylan Hebe La Fille Jeune Ir Jun Ch.

The following day Hound Club of East Anglia took place at St Ives, where Nikki Skinner was the judge. She awarded BOB to our Monkham's Memphis Belle and RBOB to our Beaujons Vagabond of Monkham's. Two very long but enjoyable days!

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