



**PBGV MISSING!** We all dread the thought of ever losing our dog. Our heart sinks when we realise we don't know where he is. We don't know which way to look, as how do we know in which direction he has gone? This awful situation has happened to a family in Nuneaton who, last week on Wednesday 24 July, woke to find their 8mth old PBGV dog pup had disappeared from the house. A bad storm during the night resulted in a house door being wrenched open and Barney, bred by Jan Bishop, got out. The family had a little more information that most as he could be seen on their security camera for some time, trying to get back in but, with the door blowing open and shut, he was unsuccessful.

One of the family's sons found him missing at 6.30am. The camera showed that just after 5am he was clipped by a car moving at slow speed on the A5 near The Longshoot A47 junction. He ran off. A recheck of the CCTV footage then showed that, immediately after

this, a white van pulled up into a lay-by and hazard lights went on. Have searched thoroughly, including a drone being used to over nearby fields, this turned the family's thoughts to Barney being possibly stolen rather than lost. While efforts were being made to get the registration number of the van, last weekend the family reported Barney to the police as stolen and they now have a crime reference number. Enormous attempts have been made to trace Barney ranging from spreading the news on Facebook, alerting vets and shops and local volunteers have been out searching for him. His disappearance was announced on Fosse radio and there has been huge ongoing media coverage, including in the Nuneaton News. Of course, if he was taken, he could by now be many, many miles away. There has been ongoing support from DogLost and Nik Oakley has been an enormous help, also offering advice.

Barney was due to be trained as a therapy dog for one of the family's children, who has autism and, although buoyed by the support they have received from the community around them, they are not unnaturally devastated at not knowing what has happened to him.

Please help to find Barney. If anyone has any information or dashcam footage, contact Nik on 0208 950 1440 or 07976 906273 or DogLost on 0844 800 3220 or 07973 899597.

As far as I am aware, unfortunately technology has not yet reached the stage where trackers can be incorporated with microchips so, if your dog has been stolen, the first thing the person will do is remove the collar.

Microchips don't work like GPS systems. They are tiny radio frequency identifying devices, roughly the size of a grain of rice. As we all know a microchip is implanted under your dog's skin and each chip carries a unique number. A scanning device can detect this number, which is then linked to your contact information on a pet recovery database.

A tracker which is attached to your dog's collar works differently. GPS Trackers are cutting edge technology that allow you to pinpoint your dog's location in real time. You can see a history of where he has been on your device (usually an iPhone). Generally depending on type of tracker and the greater the cost, some track further than others. Some attract a monthly subscription. Radio Trackers use a somewhat dated technology and have been used for decades. Maybe 35 years ago or more I looked into the only ones available at the time. They were used to track ferrets so range was not great. On a plus side, these devices don't need a monthly subscription. Nowadays Radio Trackers are commonly used by hunting dogs and cover roughly the same distance as a walkie talkie's range.

To sum up, bear in mind that the more you spend the greater the range will be. But, if you decide to invest in a tracker, any type is only as good as when it is working, as batteries usually only last for 2-3 days until they run down.

The weather wasn't too kind in the run-up to Leeds championship show resulting in quite a lot of comments about the state of the ground at Harewood Estate. Of course, hardworking committees cannot control the elements and most dog folk are a hardy bunch and tolerate most things and the show must go on. Now with CCs, this attracted a higher entry and PBGV judge Espen Engh had 37 to go over, depleted by 4.

DCC went to Marion Hunt's Soletrader Buzz Aldrin at Bondlea, RCC to Jane Brown's Soletrader Valentino Rossi. BCC and BOB was Gavin & Sara Robertson's Soletrader Party in Paris, handled by Gavin, RCC Lynne Scott's Overbecks Kathy Tiere. BP went to Feasby's Caldewriver Wizard Of Oz at Torcarhian and Best Veteran, the only one entered, Jane Brown's Ch Soletrader Louis Vuitton.

In other classes Erin Robertson achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> place in JHA 6-11 and, in JHA 12-16, Katie O'Brien came 3<sup>rd</sup> and Elizabeth O'Brien 4<sup>th</sup>. The judge was Robin Alner. Tom Mather judged the Breeders Competition and awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Foote's PBGVs. Finally, in YKC Handling Classes Erin Robertson came 4<sup>th</sup> in 6-11, while Charlotte Dalgarno topped the 18-14 class. Judge was Olivia Busby.

As much as we would have loved to go to Leeds, rather than travel 450 miles there and back, we opted to enter a local show less than 20 miles away. Breed classes and the Group were judged by Lisa Tyler-Jackson and our Monkshams Luna Luvgood went BOB and Hound Group 4. Now out of Puppy, her daughter Memphis Belle went RBOB. Jan Bishop's Jamar Ina The Countessa was BP and Hound Puppy Group 3. Do let me know of any other open show results.

Finally, it was sad to hear of the death of Jim Nixon (Brackenacre Bassets) who awarded CCs in several hound breeds, including PBGVs. Jim was involved with Paignton Championship Show for over 40 years, rising to President. Our condolences go to Marianne.