

## **Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)**

**8 / 11 / 2019**

SIXTH OF NOVEMBER as I write these notes. Can I believe we are through, and have survived, yet another long spell of interminable fireworks? Of course, there may be more this weekend but it is a great relief to think that perhaps this year's distressing time for the dogs (and me in coping with their anxiety) is over. Those of you who live in rural areas don't know how lucky you are!

A friendly, well-attended Breed Appreciation Day took place at Corley Village Hall, near Coventry, last weekend. With the Club being responsible for two breeds, it is always a tight squeeze to fit both in on the same day. Breed Education Co-ordinator, Claire Cooper, thanks all those she had asked to help out on the day. Of course some may say the kitchen team of Joan Robertson and Geraldine Dodd had one of the most important jobs – keeping up the energy levels of those present with magnificent cakes supplied by Geraldine and Robert Bailey. These fortified both attendees and helpers and I gather several took some home with them.

Next on the Club agenda is the championship show, also near Coventry, on 23 November. Early information on entry numbers is 38 GBGVs in breed classes, 14 in Stakes. And for PBGVs there are 65 in the breed classes, 24 in Stakes. I hope to give you a more detailed breakdown next week.

Our Beaujons Vagabond of Monkham has his first session of an unofficial PAT dog this week. At the care home, Bond dutifully sat on a little blanket I put on a bedside armchair, so he was within reach of stroking. The remains of breakfast clearly within his sight on the overbed table worked well as they tempted him to lean over a little ....., stretch a little ..... and try and get just a bit further over, which was all good for more patting and stroking. Certainly the smile on the face of someone who has spent a lifetime with dogs and the obvious delight in seeing a four-legged friend – and a PBGV to boot - made it all very much worthwhile.

Thanks to Geraldine Dodd for November's LOD winners who are Mrs Diane Quadling with £50, me £25 and £12 to Pamela Lilley.

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