

## Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

20 / 12 / 2019

CONGRATULATIONS TO GEMMA MCCARTNEY whose young Soletrader Freddie Mercury gained his third CC at LKA at just 14mths old. He also went BOB, with the BCC going to Sara, Oliver & Erin Robertson's Soletrader Vocal in Venice, handled by Gavin Robertson. Reserves went to Jane Brown's Soletrader Valentino Rossi and Ceri McEwan's Marunnel Miss Adelaide. BP was Phil & Dianne Reid's Maudaxi Candy's Caning It and BV, the only one present, Jane Brown's Ch Soletrader Louis Vuitton. There were 10 absent from the entry of 40 for judge Linda Lewis.

Bemoaning our fate, we reluctantly stayed away from Saturday's LKA having had three dogs suffer from kennel cough. Despite them all being well over it, we adhered by the declaration that we undertake not to bring to the show any dog which has contracted or been knowingly exposed to any infectious or contagious disease during the 21 days prior to the day of the Show. Just as well as PBGV number four started coughing on Sunday. This does rather highlight that, even though exhibitors may think their dog is over the kennel cough, it is highly contagious and bringing a dog into an area where it can infect others is not the wisest move! selfish.

Meanwhile the biggest dog show in America, the only one organised by the American Kennel Club, has just taken place. The National Championship in Orlando, Florida, ran over two days and was the finale of a week-long circuit of all breed and specialty shows. Donna Bruce, Juli Lacey-Black & Jill Neuschaefer's Monkey, GHCS/ Am Ch Lacey's Not My Circus (Am Ch Fanta's Brand N Lacey's Nuff Said ex Am Ch Lacey's Sweet Annie) had a successful time going BOB, Best Bred By and Bred By Group 4. BOS was Patty Opperman, Jan Zigich, B Tezel & Ross Litman's Mirepoix's Kate Spade (GCH/Am Ch Mirepoix's Son Of A Duck ex Am Ch Clementine's A Touch Of Prada of M&M). The judge was Dr Donald Sturz Jr. This followed on from Monkey's BOB at the PBGVCA specialty judged by Barbara Pepper.

Unusually, this year's Amsterdam Winner Show is being held the weekend before Christmas on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 December, in a joint venture with Nijmegen KC. And there is a change of location with it being held at the Eventhall Gorinchem. This Christmas Show will be a pilot for evaluation afterwards, to see if this new organisation structure has lived up to expectations.

I have received the news that Sylvia Probert (Kasani) died peacefully on Tuesday following an illness. I am sure my co-author, who was a good friend of Sylvia's, will forgive me for lifting an extract from our PBGV book: "The friendly breed enchanted Sylvia Probert at the 1980 East of England Championship Show, Peterborough and her three foundation bitches (Wakelyns Annette, Vendric Vanessa and Jomil Revelry) soon attracted others, notably Mrs Cynthia Mair and John and Adele Walton-Haddon, who had litter-mates Kasani Clochard and Charité, born March 21 1983 (Jomil Larbi of Varon - Vendric Vanessa of Kasani). A mating between Jomil Rigolo and Wakelyns Annette of Kasani produced on August 20 1983 the "D" litter, including Sylvia's Dramatique; then the following year Vanessa produced a litter by Varon Zorro, having gone BIS at Luton Show that March.

In 1985 Sylvia became Acting Club Secretary when Richard Gilbert's professional commitments prevented him from continuing. She became Secretary in 1986. Being keen to improve her own stock and increase the small gene pool in the country, Sylvia imported Salto's half-sister, Ristourne de Crislaure (Noiro de l'Égalité - Nanouche de Crislaure), in whelp to Dan Ch Ursins des Rives de la Garonne. From the resulting litter, born in quarantine on November 20 1984, Gaffeur went to Audrey Benbow's Sirhan kennels in Canada and Gamin to Colin and Dianne Poole (Peterstown). Sylvia kept two - Galaxie who, by December 1988, was a champion and Gambit, who earned two CCs and became an influential stud in his short life, siring Champions Kasani Karelia and Korister, born October 10 1987 (- Twinrivers Hortense of Kasani). In 1988 litter brother Kraftsman joined Valerie Link in the States.



*Sylvia Probert in 1990 with Dunarden Clairon of Kasani*

In 1987 Sylvia's other import, Chouan Katzenjammer Kid of Kasani, born May 2 1986 (Dan Ch Chouan Hen's Dream - Dan Ch Morebess Nadia de Cahors), arrived from Danish breeders Gunnar Nymann and Holger Busk. Shown sparingly, in July 1989 she passed to Nicky Hunt and subsequently had two litters.

Whilst living in Gloucestershire, Sylvia supported the hunt and her own Rabbit Trapper of Kasani (Chantalle's Officer - Future Amnesty) joined Nick Valentine's pack for a while. Subsequent ill health forced her to temporarily withdraw from breeding and showing but, thanks to Helen Bamforth who took on her Kasani stock, the line has continued. Improved health came with a move to Surrey in 1996, with Sylvia renewing her lively interest in the breed and, in 1998, being voted back on the Committee".

Sylvia returned to the BGV Club committee in 1998 and, in 2002, became Acting Chair on the death of Evan Roberts. She assumed the post of Chair for 2003-04. During this time, rather unusually she also covered the post of Secretary when Yvonne Dean became ill. Sylvia subsequently became a Vice-President, a position she relinquished in 2009.

The schedule for our next Club show, the Open Show on 4 April 2020, is now on the club website. If you would like a paper copy, please contact Colin Makey 01469 540260 or [gairside777@gmail.com](mailto:gairside777@gmail.com). Entries should come to me.

Have a good Christmas!

LINDA SKERRITT, 01375 673922, [monkhams@outlook.com](mailto:monkhams@outlook.com)