

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

6 / 12 / 2019

HARD TO BELIEVE we are now into the final month of the year. LKA is approaching fast with a good entry of 40 for PBGV judge Linda Lewis. However, I have been hearing of quite a few dogs with kennel cough so fear some entries will be decimated. Bear in mind that we all declare we will not bring to a show any dog which has contracted or been knowingly exposed to any infectious or contagious disease during the 21 days prior to the show. Kennel cough, or Bordetella, can usually go away on its own – most cases will clear up within three weeks and shouldn't need any treatment at all. For treating at home garlic is a great addition to your dog's diet, as is organic unrefined / virgin coconut oil which possesses amazing immune-enhancing properties. And raw honey is a great natural treatment that helps soothe the throat. If you have a young pup, older dog or one that is unwell with a weakened resistance, you may need a visit to the vet for antibiotics to target the bacteria. However remember to stay outside the waiting room until called. This is very contagious; it spreads in the air, by contact with infected dogs and in the environment.

Two weeks on from our recent club championship show and our PBGV judge-elect, Paula Heikkinen-Lehkonen, who withdrew after suffering concussion and skull fractures in an accident in Estonia, is now back in Finland and in hospital in Lahti. It seems that teddy bears arriving there are helping her recovery.

Yesterday I received a phone call from a lady who had just lost her old PBGV. He died two days short of his 17th birthday, a wonderfully long life and surely some sort of record. His name was Tanafei Kaviar, bred by Carol & John Symonds. The litter will be remembered of course for Kaviar's brother, Kipling, who went to Lesley Cooper. There he sired two litters, the first when mated to her Monkams Elise.

Into the new year and on-line entries for Boston, where Ceri McEwan is judging PBGVs, have been extended to closing on 8 December. Although a championship show, it is a pity that only two of the 19 scheduled Hound breeds receive CCs. Those for Manchester close on 11 December. Fran Mitchell is the PBGV judge, giving CCs for the first time. And, with the flurry of activity surround Christmas, don't forget that postal entries for Crufts close on 6 January, on-line 20 January. Entry fee per dog is now £31. We have an expensive hobby!

LINDA SKERRITT, 01375 673922, monkams@outlook.com