



THE BASSET GRIFFON VENDEEN CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

BREED NOTES 2019 - GBGV

4 / 1 / 2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all and your Hounds! Before the 2019 show season kicks off I think a review of the 2018 season is required. Top Dog for another year was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, they were also Top Breeder and gained Top Brood Bitch with his Mother – Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Arc En Ciel. Top Sire was Vivien Phillips' Can-can V Tum-tum's Vriendjes Debucher (Imp NLD) and Top Puppy was Yvonne Moul't's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat. Interestingly on their way to gaining Top Dog and Top Puppy both went BIS and BPIS at Hound Association of Scotland and the Houndshow respectively. Many congratulations to everyone! New Champions-wise, there was one new male champion – Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and two new females Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond and Ch Gairside Good Gracious. Please if I have missed anyone off let me know. There has been a change of judge at Lichfield CS open show to be held on 26 January 2019 – our judge will now be Janet Kay (Kaytlan). Entries are still open for a short period of time. Over the Christmas break I attended Luton Premier show with my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix and gained BOB and BP under Rachel Wray. Later in the day "Eric" was shortlisted in both the adult and puppy groups under Nick Gourley. On to Boston and the start of 2019 – please make it your new year's resolutions to actually give me some news!

11 / 1 / 2019

BOSTON WAS THE FIRST SHOW of the season and Peter Marks had an entry of 13, depleted by 3 absentees. Best Dog and Best of Breed was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM. Reserve Best Dog was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan (Imp NLD). Best Bitch was their Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond, Reserve Best Bitch and Best Puppy was Sue Marshall's Soufriere One Vision. Best Special Beginners went to Hilary Knowles' Reggaedog Frodo (imp SVK). Whilst at Boston Ann Makey informed me that she had received notification that Good Lord was Joint Top GBGV in France for 2018 – many congratulations! Schedules for the Club open show are available to download from the club website and there will be a few copies available from the Show Secretary Colin Makey so please contact him if you want one posted out to you.

18 / 1 / 2019

I LEFT FOR MANCHESER in a flurry of snow which was settling but too heavy. By the time I reached Stafford the sun was shining, however the parts of roadway which had not had the sun on them had a very icy glaze over the top. Gavin Robertson was our judge and we got into the ring not long after 11am following 39 Basset Fauves. As such anyone with a French hound fancy could just sit by the ring and get their fill as PBGV followed us. From an entry of 24 there were 2 absentees. He found his DCC (number 5) and BOB in Colin & Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM. Zebbie headed up quite a family affair as his sister Ch Gairside Good Gracious was Reserve BCC, his children Jayanel About Time Too and Jayanel A New Chapter won both puppy classes. However Best Puppy came from Junior Dog in the form of Fiona Buchanan & Michael MacLaren's Macaroni v Tum-Tum-s Vriendjes of Tarmachan (imp NLD). BCC was a first for Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day with RDCC going to Ellie Harris & Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet. Interestingly the last time Gavin judged GBGVs he gave both Indy's parents the CC at Crufts. BV was my Ch Debucher XFactor. Colin Makey was handing out schedules for both the Houndshow with Ann Makey judging and the BGV Club open show with Sue Marshall judging – please remember to enter both. We now enter the lull of no championship shows so please can you tell me any news or anything interesting that can go in these notes.

25 / 1 / 2019

APOLOGIES TO COLIN AND ANN MAKEY and of course Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM for omitting to mention that he had been shortlisted to the final 8 in the Hound group at Manchester under Editha Newton. News is very thin on the ground as was the snow that fell here during the week. The Grands certainly enjoyed "hunting" in it however the old Tibetan Spaniel has mainly retired to his bed refusing to come out on the early morning walks stating that it was far too cold! Talking about hunting, on my way back from the shop on Monday morning Poppy was ambling up the close towards home when a squirrel shot across the road and ran straight past her nose. The startled look on Poppy's face was funny as the realisation took over and full hunting cry off after the squirrel which luckily ran down a path to next door's back gate and up and over with her in hot pursuit but of course blocked by the gate. I was able to reattach the lead and drag her home (still in full hunting cry). Once through the front door she immediately wanted to check her boundaries of the garden to ensure the pesky squirrel wasn't in there. Every morning since she has been looking for it and is extremely disappointed squirrel is not on the menu at breakfast. Hounds eh?

1 / 2 / 2019

A NUMBER OF YOU were off out to open shows it seems at the weekend. I will again sound like a broken record and request that you tell me of your wins. I do not sit on Facebook all the time and whilst I see people's successes I don't see all of them as I miss things. As such the rules for these notes are simple. If you don't tell me the result, the result won't go in. It has been the same rule since we started! Championship shows are much easier to report on – not only am I more likely to be there but the results are displayed for all to see. The Notice of AGM is out, so a reminder that this will take place on Saturday 6 April (before the open show) at Weeden Bec Village Hall. Nominations for Chairman and Committee should be proposed, seconded and signed by fully paid up members of the Club, all of three years standing (Rule 5(i)). Each nomination should include the nominee's written consent and signature, together with a brief resumé of relevant experience. These must be received by the Secretary by post (NOT E-MAILED) by 2 March 2019. If there are more nominations than vacancies, a postal ballot of members will be held and the results declared at the Annual General Meeting. There are 5 committee slots up for grabs. Three of us are up for re-election and Martin Bishop who was co-opted at the end of last year took on the role of Membership Secretary so he is looking for his position to be permanent. But that could still leave one vacancy. Also a date for your diaries – the Breed Appreciation Day has been rescheduled for Sunday 3 November 2019. The speakers will be Gavin Robertson (Soletrader) and Phil Freer (Switzerland). More details will be released in due course. If you require any further information on this, then please ask me as your Breed Education Coordinator. Bear with me though as I may have to find the answer out myself due to a lot of press releases coming out at the minute. Also if anyone wishes to be mentored or assessed then these requests should also come through me. Hope you are all keeping warm in this cold snap – I was on my own for my run in -5 degrees this morning, Poppy decided she would sit that one out and stay in her bed next to the radiator – can't say I blame her. The Tibetan Spaniels took it one step further and stayed in my bed!

8 / 2 / 2019

CRUFTS ENTRIES ARE OUT, our judge Graham Hill has an entry of 33 making 34. We are second in the ring following 77/80 PBGVs judged by Linda Skerritt. At present they are still scheduled to start at 9am, however any amendments to judging orders or times have not yet been published. The second bit of exciting news – I have one reader out there! As per my pleas for open show results last week, Sue Marshall kindly let me know the following. At City of Cambridge Open

show on 26 January Soufriere One Vision (Parsnip) was Best Puppy AVNSC Hound and her mother Silvamoon Saffron at Soufriere (Saffi) was Reserve Best AVNSC Hound. Moving on to Isle of Ely Open show where it was bitterly cold (I am speaking from experience) Parsnip was again Best Puppy in Breed with her sire Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM going BOB and Ch Gairside Good Gracious going Reserve Best of Breed. These two are of course owned by Colin and Ann Makey. Judge for the breed was Paul Osbourne, with Good Lord going Group 3 under Jeff Luscott.

15 / 2 / 2019

AS I WRITE THIS (and following last week's announcement of the entries) there has still been no communication from the Crufts committee to advise if there are any early or later start times to the 9am scheduled. I will of course keep you updated. Keeping on the theme of Crufts there have been an awful lot of moanings and groanings on social media about the marketing leaflets that have hit the doormats this week. Yes it can be viewed as a waste of paper, these companies are paying large sums of money to sponsor this event, so why should they not advertise the fact? If you don't want to look at them, do what I did and put them in the recycling bin! In days gone by you used to come home from Crufts with bags and bags of free samples, but alas these days have passed us by and in times of austerity even the dog food companies are tightening their belts a little. You may have also seen from social media the frightening reports of a puppy who had parvovirus (but was showing no signs at the time) attending a dog training class at the Kennel Club building. It has since died. This is terrible for the puppy's owners and I cannot begin to imagine how they are feeling. However the KC has already undertaken two deep cleans of the venue and another one is scheduled for Monday 18 February. It just goes to show the need for extra vigilance at all times. Westminster KC has been and gone and, although the GBGV did not get placed in the group, it was the first year that they were present in the show ring. They were there last year but only on the Meet the Breed booth. From what I can see there were 7 entered and 2 absentees. Best of Breed was GCHB Am Ch Palomino Du Greffier Du Roi CM (he of course has a number of titles in Europe) owned by Jeff & Vickie Mauk, Brent Humphrey & Jolanda Huisman. Best Opposite Sex was Am Ch Blueberry Pie V Tum-Tum's Vriendjes owned by Betty Barth. Select dog was Cindy & Philip Wilt, Corey Benedict & Brent Humphrey's Am Ch Talus Sidekick Legend Of Sleepy Hollow and Select Bitch with the same owners was Sidekick Talus Spellbinder. Staying with the USA, the GBGV will now be offered the ramp for the dogs to be judged on. I wonder if this will follow over here in the UK – your thoughts and comments are welcome.

22 / 2 / 2019

THE EARLY AND LATE start times are now out for Crufts and our ring will commence at 10am with the PBGV judging. A few open show wins to report on. Firstly congratulations to Amanda O'Day and "Freya" AKA Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM who went RBVIS at Portsmouth & Southsea Kennel Association under Peter Young. At Maidenhead & District CA my and Amanda Smith's Jaynael Ambiroix was Best of Breed, Best Puppy and Group 4 under Lesley Elliott and at Barrow & District Best AVNSC Hound Puppy and Puppy Group 1 under Collette Perkins went to Christine and Zac Butler and my Jayanel About Time Too. Just a reminder that the BGV Club open show entries close on 16 March 2019. There are also a number of open shows with GBGV classes on which are closing in coming weeks so keep an eye out for them.

1 / 3 / 2019

THIS TIME NEXT WEEK Crufts preparations will be in full swing. I will be at the NEC decorating the BGV breed booths for Discover Dogs which will be manned by a number of BGV owners over the four days. Of course we will be showing on Saturday 9 March but there are so many other competitions happening around the show so I hope people will keep me informed. Last Saturday a few of us had a day trip to Newark & District Canine Society where Linda Ward was judging the breed and the group. Best of Breed went to Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day. Indi later went on to Group 2. Best Veteran in the Hound group went to my Ch Debucher Xfactor, which meant a long wait for BVIS. Also on Saturday Sue Marshall let me know that she and Parsnip, aka Soufriere One Vision, had enjoyed a wonderful afternoon at Essex Top Dog making up part of the team from South West Essex Canine Association. Although she was not placed Sue writes that she showed her best and felt it an achievement to have been there. Parsnip is the first GBGV to qualify and take part in this event – so a proud owner and breeder she should be! Don't forget that entries for our club open show close the weekend after Crufts and, with the AGM taking place on the same day before the show, an announcement has been made about the judges' ballot for this year. JUDGES NOMINATIONS 2019 FOR OPEN SHOW 2021 AND CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 2022 Before last year's AGM the Judges Sub-Committee reviewed procedures and trialled a different method of selection of judges. In addition, in view of the uncertainties surrounding contracting of UK judges during the implementation phase of the Judges Competency Framework, a decision was made to select overseas judges for our 2021 championship show. As has always been done, a shortlist of names for the open show 2020 was produced by the Judges Sub Committee to be voted on and results were announced at the AGM. While this worked well, with the Judges Competency Framework still evolving the Judges Sub-Committee undertook to continue reviewing procedures. The move not to contact every A and B list judge beforehand for availability is a sound one. This cuts out one stage in the selection process where in the past judges' expectations have been raised unnecessarily when many didn't make the short-list. It also avoided the exorbitant costs of a full member postal ballot where the majority of ballot papers were not returned. The next stage has remained as it always has, where the JSC are best placed to decide who would potentially draw a better entry for the Club and pass the recommended short-list on for the ballot. Last year we vested the final decision from the short-list in the committee. To move this forward and again involve members, this year the final vote will be made by those present at the AGM.

15 / 3 / 2019

I WRITE THESE NOTES FROM ROMANIA – work needed me to come out here before the end of March. I agreed as long as it was not before Crufts. They kept their half of the bargain but sent me the day after! Back to the madness of Crufts, for me it started on Thursday morning when I and an assistant arrived at the NEC laden with bags to set up the Discover Dogs booth (with a slight headache following the Pawscars the previous night). The booth generated a lot of interest and both Poppy and Peanuts received lots of attention. I was joined by Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton for the latter part of the day. Apologies for not mentioning everyone else who manned the stand, but I haven't got a list as yet – but for those who did help thank you! Hound day on Saturday was dry for the early birds coming in but I believe was wet later in the morning. Our judge was Graham Hill, who had 4 bitches absent from his entry. Dog CC and Best of Breed went to Gwen Huikeshoven and Phil Reid's Ch/Dutch/Dk Ch Frosty Snowman. RDCC (his second from this judge) was Colin & Ann Makey's Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM. Bitch CC, her second, was Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day. RBCC was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Tarmachan Black Ice WW18. Best Puppy went to my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix (sired by the RDCC winner) and Best Veteran was Amanda O'Day's ever young Freya aka Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM. Many congratulations go to Frosty who was shortlisted in the Hound group under Frank Kane and, earlier in the week, he was runner-up in the Eukanuba World Challenge. Please if anyone has any other news from Crufts then let me know! Final reminder that the Club open show entries close this weekend – send yours to Colin Makey quickly!

22 / 3 / 2019

ENTRIES ARE OUT for the Club open show on 6 April. GBGV will be judged first in the ring at approx. 11am by Sue Marshall (Soufriere) and she has 15 entered (+ 7 NFC) this will be followed by a short break for lunch and our own Fiona Buchanan (Tarmachan) will then judge her entry of 27 PBGV (+5 NFC). Judith Robin Smith who is referee for the occasion will judge the Baby Puppy Walk in the lunch break. An early plea from the photographer – if anyone is lucky enough to win a class, please present yourself and dog to him for a photo – it would make his life easier! Lunch will be served by Yours Truly and will be a jacket (or sweet) potato with a choice of fillings which includes Peter Mark's famous chilli and hopefully there will be some delicious cakes available on the day. Bacon sandwiches will be served prior to the AGM so don't stuff yourselves with breakfast before leaving home! Over in Ireland Ann Makey travelled with litter mates Champions/Bel Chs Gairside Good Lord and Good Gracious who both received the Green Stars on both days. Good Lord beat his sister both times for Best of Breed and, at the St Patrick's Day show on Sunday, he was rewarded with Group 4.

29 / 3 / 2019

ENTRIES NUMBERS have just been released for the Hound Association of Scotland. Suzanne Metcalfe-Bilgin has 12 GBGV entered under her. As yet there are no details regarding the order of judging. This weekend sees the clocks go forward, so for those of you that are entered at the Hound Association open show at

Ryton-on-Dunsmore this Sunday don't forget as we are first in the ring, with judging starting at 10am! Then next week we have the BGV Club show, details of which were last week. As catering manager I have put out a call for people to bring their own mugs to try and reduce the plastic waste and improve our carbon footprint. Of course, if you forget to bring your own mug, Club ones will be on sale on the day. The BGV Club's e-voice was delivered this week from our new editor Sue Marshall. Thanks must go to her for making it an interesting read – I know first-hand how difficult it is to get articles for club publications. Membership Secretary Martin Bishop is aware of the few teething problems with the emailing and has already tweaked things to ensure no repeat. Entries closing for championship shows are coming thick and fast in April, so it must mean summer is round the corner. However I will do my regular plea for news to be sent to me for those attending open shows!

5 / 4 / 2019

A COUPLE OF OPEN SHOW RESULTS from last weekend with thanks to my serial notes contributor Sue Marshall! Firstly at Herts and Essex Border Canine Society Amanda O'Day went BOB with Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM, she also went all the way to Reserve Best Veteran in Show with a huge rosette and a bottle of something nice for Amanda! Breed judge was Kate Broadhead. Sue Marshall's Soufriere One Vision was Reserve Best of Breed. Then on to Hound Association Open Show on Sunday where there were no late GBGV exhibitors following the clocks going forward. Here One Vision (Parsnip) went one better and gained Best of Breed. Best Opposite Sex and Best Puppy went to my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix. Final reminder for the Club Open Show on Saturday. The AGM starts at 9am (bacon and egg sarnies on sale beforehand) and GBGV judging commences at 11am with Sue Marshall centre stage. There will be a short break for the Baby Puppy Walk and lunch when delicious jacket potatoes will be sold with a range of fillings. Then on to the PBGV judging. This will be followed by BIS, BPIS and BVIS. Please remember your own mugs, lot of money for the raffle and cakes - and of course your dogs. See you all there.

12 / 4 / 2019

THE BGV OPEN SHOW and AGM took place on Saturday 6 April. At the AGM there were lengthy discussions regarding the ballot for judges with some displeasure shown that the vote was only open to those who had physically made it to the AGM. The Officers and Committee are already looking into ways to offer a full membership ballot for next year. That aside votes were cast and, for the Open Show 2021 Kim Culyer-Dawson came out on top as GBGV judge and for the Championship Show 2022 it will be Jenna Betts. Finally the points trophy winners were read out which are as follows:

GBGVs CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS DOG OWNER FLAMBEUR TROPHY – TOP GBGV CH/IR CH TARMACHAN CARTIERFIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLARENJACLIN COASTER – BOSCH TARMACHAN ICE DIAMONDFIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLARENGAIRSIDE SALVER –RESERVE MALETIOGA LAUTREC WITH GRANDOREILLEDANIELLE MACHENT & BARBARA MILTONMILTON CUP –RESERVE FEMALECH GAIRSIDE GOOD GRACIOUSCOLIN & ANN MAKEYDEBUCHER BGV CLUB SHIELD TOP PUPPYWILMIT INDEPENDENCE DAYBARBARA MILTONHOOTSMON TANKARD- RES TOP PUPPY ZAMDILSA TRICK OR TREATYVONNE MOULTDEBUCHER TROPHY – TOP SIRE IR CH TARMACHAN ALBANWRFIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLARENDUNTECH TROPHY –TOP DAMCH/IR CH TARMACHAN ARC EN CIELFIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLARENJACLIN TROPHY –NON-CC WINNERWILMIT INDEPENDENCE DAYBARBARA MILTONGBGVs OPEN SHOWSDOGOWNERZADAL TROPHY JOINT TOP GBGVch GAIRSIDE GOOD LORD JW ShCMCOLIN & ANN MAKEYJOINT TOP GBGVIR CH CLAE LA REAUMUR ShCMPAM & CLAIRE MCGREGORMAUDAXI QUAICH JOINT TOP MALECh GAIRSIDE GOOD LORD JW ShCMCOLIN & ANN MAKEYJOINT TOP MALEIR CH CLAE LA REAUMUR ShCMPAM & CLAIRE MCGREGORRESERVE TOP MALE-----NOT AWARDEDZADAL TROPHY TOP FEMALECh GAIRSIDE GOOD GRACIOUSCOLIN & ANN MAKEYWILMIT TROPHY RESERVE TOP FEMALE-----NOT AWARDEDBGVC TROPHY – TOP PUPPY SOUFRIERE ONE VISION SUE MARSHALLBGVC TROPHY RESERVE TOP PUPPY DIT DONC DU GREFFIER DU ROI MIT CLAE LAPAM & CLAIRE MCGREGOR

The Open Show kicked off just after 11am with Sue Marshall judging GBGVs. She found her Best Dog and Best of Breed in Colin and Ann Makey's Ch / Bel Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and his sister Ch / Bel Ch Gairside Good Gracious was Best Bitch. Reserve Best Dog was Hilary Knowles' Reggaedog Frodo (Imp SvK) and Reserve Best Bitch went to Vivien Phillips' Debucher Letitia. Best Puppy at her first show was Anita Roberts' Tioga Opihr with Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM going Best Veteran. It was a clean sweep for the GBGV in the major awards. The referee Judith Robin Smith chose BIS to go to Good Lord (Zebbie), Reserve Best in Show and Best Opposite Sex in Show was the PBGV Paul Osborne's Braego Gladys Aylward ShCM. Best Puppy in Show was Opihr with RBPIS Linda Skeritt and Jenna Betts' Monkham's Memphis Belle, Best Veteran was Sweet Sapphire (Freya) with RBVIS to Steve & Lynn Wood's Beaujons Tickled Pink ShCM. Congratulations to all winners!

19 / 4 / 2019

HOUND ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND was held over the weekend and a merry band of exhibitors from both sides of the border gathered in Edinburgh. From an entry of 12 there were 4 absentees for Suzanne Metcalfe-Bilgin. We were third in the ring and there was a slight delay in the Basset Fauve de Bretagne judging whilst a replacement table was found as the one provided broke (luckily without a dog on it). Best Dog and ultimately Best Junior in Breed was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Macaroni v Tum-Tum's Vriendjes of Tarmachan with Reserve Best Dog going to my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix who was also Best Puppy. Best Bitch and Best of Breed was Fiona and Mike's Tarmachan Black Ice WW18 with Reserve Best Bitch to my Debucher Ivanka Jayanel. Best Veteran was the mother to the two reserve best of sexes – Ch Debucher X Factor. Straight after judging Fiona and Barbara Milton partook in stakes judging. Fiona and Macaroni won the Buddies Yearling Stakes under Jim Richardson meaning that he qualifies for the final next year – interestingly his cousin won the same class last year at the same show. Barbara competed in the Hounds for Heroes Open Stakes with Wilmit Independence Day under Eddie Webster. These are very well supported classes and are judged in heats throughout the day. The winners of the five heats compete for the final placings. Indi ended up coming 2nd overall and winning £75 (nearly as much as BIS at Crufts prize money!). Moving on to the different groups, first in was Best Junior in Show judged by Kevin Young where "Mac" was competing and ended up as Reserve Best Junior in Show. Towards the end of this group the Veteran Group was called meaning a mad dash by me to find Phil Reid to be stand in handler, as I was in the Junior ring with the PBGV. He needed to get XFactor ready for the Veterans under Albert Wight where she was shortlisted to the final 8. There was a brief interlude whilst the Best Special Beginner in Show was held. Best in Show was then called, judged by Maggie Holder who was judging the group for the first time and here "Ice" was shortlisted to the final eight. On to Best Puppy in show again judged by Maggie where "Eric" ended up Best Puppy in Show. Although bred and shown by me, he lives with Amanda Smith who is currently on holiday, so it was a very loud phone call when I finally got hold of her and her family! In other show news, Colin and Ann Makey's Ch / Bel Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM was Group 2 at Wellingborough & District open show, and their Ir Ch Gairside Ferdinand JW ShCM ended up Reserve Best Veteran in Show at Mountsorrel. As always news and views always appreciated.

26 / 4 / 2019

EASTER WEEKEND was gloriously bright with the sun shining on all parts of the British Isles. It was so enjoyable spending some time in the garden with the dogs sunning ourselves. I had Eric to stay and on our walks he spent the entire time playing in the stream, the pleasure on his face was a joy but not so on the Tibetan Spaniel's faces when he came charging out of the stream straight at them! There were a number of shows over the Easter break – I know the results of two of them, one as the judge sent them to me and the other as I was present! Please send me any show news you have. Good Friday was Edwinstowe held at Newark, Fred Ellingford had 5 present. His Best of Breed was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch/Bel Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM who went on to Group 2. Reserve Best of Breed was Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day. Easter Monday was Dunstable held at Keysoe. Here Richard Bott had 7 present. Best of Breed was Hilary Knowles Anya Hindmarch at Braillement with my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix Reserve Best of Breed and Best Puppy ending up Puppy Group 2 under John Purnell. Championship show closing dates are coming thick and fast, before we know it the summer will be in full swing!

3 / 5 / 2019

WELKS DOES NOT HAVE BGV CLASSES however there was a large presence of both BGV breeds in the AVNSC, with Anya Hindmarch Avec Braillement owned by Hilary Knowles best Special Beginners under Frank Kane. WELKS unfortunately was hit by Storm Hanna on the day before Hound day so all judging on Saturday and Sunday was undertaken inside. There has been so much negative feedback on social media about this, however sometimes we need to think about the committee and helpers who all give up their time to put on the show for us. When Storm Hannah hit a tent was lost, however it was not one containing dogs, it was a marquee for a flower show which was to be held during the week. One tent was evacuated for approx. 30 minutes whilst the experts secured it a little

more and ended up tying it to an 18 tonne articulated lorry and a bin wagon to give it more stability. In all honesty I was there on the Saturday and the show went on, nobody moaned and above all everyone was kept safe! Enjoy your bank holiday weekend, unfortunately it is not forecast to be as pleasant as the last one. But if you do venture out to any shows please tell me your wins.

10 / 5 / 2019

THE EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY was a complete contrast in weather to the Easter Bank Holiday the fortnight before. Although there were patches of sunlight it was bitterly cold with a biting wind. I did however count us lucky when I heard on the news that some festival goers in France were treated for hypothermia due to it snowing! As I write these notes it is pouring with rain and certainly doesn't feel that we are at the back end of Spring! I am sure there was more than one show over the bank holiday but I am again grateful to my roving reporter Sue Marshall who reported that at Chelmsford Open show Parsnip – Soufriere One Vision – was Best of Breed under Ann Makey and Group 2 under Geraldine Dodd, with her mother Silvamoon Saffron at Soufriere Reserve Best of Breed. She tells me this was a repeat of a win (without the group placing) of at Chertsey and District Canine Society, which was on Good Friday. Good luck to all of you that have entered The National on Saturday. I will be thinking of you as I pedal from London to Portsmouth on my way to Paris!

17 / 5 / 2019

BIRMINGHAM NATIONAL is the first outdoor show of the season for us, centre stage was Jeff Bunney, he only had 1 absentee from his entry. Dog CC and Best of Breed was a first for dog (and possibly owners Bailey & Yates) Tarmachan Ice Cool handled on the day by Fiona Buchanan. Fiona and Michael MacLaren also picked up the Reserve Dog CC with Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan. Bitch CC, her third, was Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day JW – all three CCs have been this year at only three shows that have tickets available. Barbara also picked up the CC with Jenny in Dandie Dinmonts so a fabulous day for her. Reserve CC was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch / Bel Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM. They were also Best Veteran with Ir Ch Gairside Ferdinand JW ShCM, who went Veteran Group 4 under John Walton Haddon. Best Puppy was Anita Roberts Tioga Opuhr. I also see that the Tarmachan hounds picked up a win in the Hound Breeders competition under Frank Kane. Many congratulations to all concerned. I was not at The National as I was undertaking this year's charity bike trek from London to Paris, 270 miles in 3 days of sunshine, laughter and a bit of desired language! See some of you in Scotland.

24 / 5 / 2019

I SAY IT EVERY YEAR, but Scotland is a long way away! SKC had 14 hounds which had been depleted by a few absentees for Rod Price to judge. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren had a successful day (even though Michael was at home fixing the van!) winning DCC, BCC and BOB. DCC was a first for Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan with Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond taking Best of Breed. Reserve Dog CC was Ir Ch Gairside Ferdinand JW ShCM owned by Colin and Ann Makey who was also Best Veteran. In Bitches it fell to the newly crowned Ch Wilmit Independence day owned by Barbara Milton. Best Puppy was Amanda Smith's and my Jayanel Ambiorix who also went Puppy Group 2 under Steve Hall. Interestingly Rod Price's Dog CC this time was sired by his Dog CC from the last time he judged (Tarmachan Cartier) and his Best Puppy this time was out of the Bitch CC the last time he judged (Debucher XFactor) something he was pleasantly surprised about. Andree Weymouth proudly wrote to me to tell me that Sidney aka Soufriere Now I'm Here at Woollybassets won AVNSC Junior and went on to Best AVNSC Hound at Coventry and District Kennel Association Open show under Louise Tope. Current standings in the Top Dog and Top Puppy rankings are out. Current top dog is Ch Wilmit Independence Day JW and current Top Puppy is Jayanel Ambiorix. This week also saw the KC AGM which again (as in recent years) had a number of "controversial proposals" being made. The biggest one to affect me personally is the postponement of the JCF. As we go to press the Breed Education Coordinators have been told that we are to continue with business as usual and we are awaiting updates!

31 / 5 / 2019

FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER Bath has always scheduled the Hounds on Bank Holiday Monday, however this year as it had received the status of an all-breed show and thus having to rotate its dates we found ourselves on the Sunday which really confused us. Sitting outside the cider tent the day before in glorious sunshine you could start to think that summer was round the corner, however Hound day at Bath reminded us of the changes in British weather as it was bitterly cold, blowy (at times the gusts of wind were quite strong) and a strong drizzle. Thank goodness for the in/out tents that were provided. In typical British weather style, by the time the groups were in the sun was shining and it was a very pleasant end to the day. We were second in the ring after Sue Cole had judged her entry of Irish Wolfhounds, poor Sue had dressed for the British Spring weather of the previous days, but luckily she had a thick coat with her! Dog CC (number 2) was awarded to Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Macaroni v Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan (imp NLD), Reserve DCC was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Ch Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille. Bitch CC and BOB was Ch / Bel Ch (and now INT CH) Gairside Good Gracious with Res BCC to Barbara's Ch Wilmit Independence Day JW. Best Puppy was my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix with Best Veteran going to Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM. Whilst Michael was holidaying in Bath, Fion went off to Holland where Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier and Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond picked up the CACs making "Fergus" a Dutch Champion. Colin and Ann Makey proudly told me that the International Champion certificates had arrived for litter mates Gairside Good Gracious and Good Lord. Congratulations to all of you! Mid-week saw Amanda O'Day judge at Reading show held on the Newbury showground and from what I could see was an attraction for those who are spending time in a caravan at Bath and Southern Counties. I see that Ch / Bel / Int Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM was awarded Best of breed and Group 3. Good luck to you all at Southern Counties, please don't forget me being stuck in India... Sue Marshall enjoy your birthday cake and make sure you save me some!

7 / 6 / 2019

SOUTHERN COUNTIES TOOK PLACE at the weekend with Jeff Horswell being centre stage. We were second in the ring following Jeff judging an entry of Afghans. Dog CC (his 3rd from three shows) was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's now Ch Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan (imp Ned). He was also BOB. Bitch CC was Fiona and Mike's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine who was also BVIB. Reserve in Dogs went to Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet and in bitches to Colin and Ann Makey's Ch/Bel Ch Gairside Good Gracious, who is also now an Int Ch. Best Puppy was my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix handled ably by his "Grandad" Colin Makey. In the big ring Macaroni, who was also Best Junior in Breed, was shortlisted in the Junior group under Jill Peak, and Ambiorix was shortlisted in the Puppy group under Howard Ogden. Exciting news – I have another reader! Many thanks to Fiona Buchanan who gave me a report on her eventful journey to Holland. Not only was Fergus (Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier) made up to a Dutch and International Champion, his niece Breagha (Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond) also became a Dutch champion on the trip. Many congratulations! I know these wins made up for the continuing van issues Fiona has been experiencing. On this trip she returned to the van after the overnight crossing to find it had a flat tyre, as such she had to navigate off the boat with the flat tyre in a new van she was not used to in order to get to dry land to change it. This weekend sees both Three Counties and the National d'Elevage, hopefully the results of both will find their way to me in India and I can report on them next week!

14 / 6 / 2019

BEING IN INDIA WITH A LITTLE CLOUD is nothing compared to the weather in the UK at present. I am seeing from social media that it is raining heavily just about everywhere so I hope you and your hounds are staying dry. Michael MacLaren was centre stage at Three Counties, where I believe it rained heavily all day with some storms. The shows held at Malvern are certainly not having any luck this year what with Storm Hannah at WELKS. He had an entry of 19 with 6 absentees. He found his Best of Breed in Colin and Ann Makey's Ch/Bel (and now Int) Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM, Reserve Best Dog was Karen Bayliss' Arapelo Darude. Best Bitch was Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM. They did not award a Best Veteran which is a shame. Reserve Best Bitch and Best Puppy was Anita Roberts' Tioga Opuhr. At the same time as Three Counties the Club Du Griffon Vendéen was holding its National d'Elevage, where from the Champion Female class Gwen Huikeshoven's Tinkerbell van Tum-Tum's Vriendjes went Best of Breed. I hope someone will be able to supply the remaining results to me in order to give you a full report next week.

28 / 6 / 2019

IT HAS BEEN A WHIRLWIND OF A WEEK.... I am still supposed to be in India however things do not always go to plan and my abrupt arrival in the UK was brought about by a dismissal gone wrong, the Indian police being called, me hiding out in the Leela Palace Hotel in Bangalore (with a mouse running across the library floor) having to get the first flight out of India to Singapore, 36 hours there before being flown home not knowing if Interpol were going to catch up with me! Luckily it appears I am no longer an international criminal and I am free to fly anywhere in the world! I landed just in time to get to Blackpool Ch Show where I piloted Hibeck Dino to Best in Show making breed dog world history for being the first Import Register breed to take this award at a General Championship Show – some people may say fate intervened to get me home! Blackpool started off a bit chilly and damp first thing but the sun soon broke through and was cracking the paving stones (if they had any!). We were third in the ring after Beagles and Cirneco's. Luis Pinto Texeira was centre stage and awarded 3 of the 5 major awards to Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside pack. Best Dog and Best of Breed was Ch/Bel & Int Ch Good Lord JW ShCM, Reserve Best Dog was Ir Ch Ferdinand JW and Best Bitch went to Ch/Bel & Int Ch Good Gracious. Reserve Best Bitch was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. They also picked up Best Junior with Macaroni v Tum-Tum's Vriendjes of Tarmachan. There were no puppies entered. My avid reporter Sue Marshall kindly let me have the results of Hound Club of East Anglia which was held the day after Blackpool, they had a good entry of 9 but depleted by 4 absentees. Judge was Anne DeFaye and she found her BOB in Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM who was also shortlisted in the BIS competition. Reserve Best of Breed was Soufriere One Vision. I think I remember reading on facebook that "Freya" has achieved her Veteran Warrant as well? This weekend takes the show circuit to Windsor – one of my favourite shows in the Queen's back garden and of course the Pimms.

5 / 7 / 2019

WINDSOR, whilst warm, was thankfully a lot cooler than the preceding days where temperatures were in the low to mid 30s. At least we had a temperature of about 25 degrees with a cooling breeze. Even though it was so hot and had been known it was going to be hot for a number of days preceding the show, there were still calls going out regarding dogs in cars. Surely the KC and show societies need to act with stronger punishments for those who are guilty of this? Our ring was probably the worst on the showground. Whereas the others had luscious green grass ours looked like a truck had driven through it. Chatting to our judge Jenna Betts after judging she said she was glad it had not been wet conditions, as she felt the ring would have become unsafe. Anyway down to business - we were third in the ring following Bassets and Basset Fauve de Bretagne. Colin and Ann Makey took the double with litter mates Ch / Bel / Int Chs Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and Good Gracious, with Good Lord claiming Best of Breed. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren picked up the two Reserve CCs with the newly titled Macaroni v Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan and Ch / Ned Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Best Puppy was Anita Roberts' Tioga Opahr with Amanda O'Day picking up Best Veteran with Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM. In this month's KC Journal three judges have been announced: Houndshow 2020 Mrs Sue Pocock (first time CC appointment), Birmingham National 2021 Mr Martin Sanders (first time CC appointment) and Bath 2021 Mrs Barbara Milton. Also received this week was a communication to all Breed Education Coordinators regarding the imminent review surrounding the JCF. We will continue with the Breed Appreciation Day planned for 3 November, however we are open for suggestions as to other educational events you might like to see.

12 / 7 / 2019

I (LIKE MANY) arrived at East of England prepared for the summer weather and only at the last minute picked up a jumper on the way out of the house and thank goodness I did as the weather was cool, dull and raining. GBGV were second in the ring following 95 Rhodesian Ridgebacks and our judging finished just shortly after the PBGV judging who were second in the ring following 45 Wolfhounds. David Knights was centre stage, his entry of 13 was depleted slightly and 10 were present for him to judge. Best Dog was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch / Bel / Int Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM, Best Bitch, Best of Breed and Best Veteran was the evergreen Freya, Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM owned by Amanda O'Day. Hilary Knowles picked up both Reserve Best of Sex awards with Reggaedog Frodo avec Braillement (imp SVK) in dogs and Anya Hindmarch avec Braillement in bitches. There were no puppies entered. I see no stakes results, however Lilly O'Brien was placed 4th in the YKC 12-17 years handling with Ch Debucher XFactor. This weekend is Houndshow where for the second year in a row all judging will take place indoors and then we have a short break before Leeds. Unfortunately my bank balance is not having a break with no less than seven Championship show entries closing within July. Talking of Houndshow, as I was in India for my birthday I will have some cake and possibly fizzy pop (!!) after judging to celebrate my belated birthday – hope to see some of you there.

19 / 7 / 2019

THE HOUND ASSOCIATION held its Houndshow with Anita Roberts awarding CCs for the first time. When we arrived we found our ring (and the PBGV ring) in complete darkness as there seemed to have been a fuse blown in that part of the hall. A man arrived with his ladders and a toolbox and the lights came on and off and on and off and on and off and then on, in order to allow judging to commence. Judging was then halted at 10am for approx. 5 minutes for for them to undertake further work for the lights to continue to be on for the rest of the day. Back to judging. Anita Robert's entry of 27 was somewhat depleted by 7 absentees, the majority being bitches. She awarded Dog CC, Best of Breed and Best Veteran to Fergus – Ch./ Ir / Ned Ch Tarmachan Cartier who picked up CC number 36. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren also collected BCC number 9 for Ch / Ned Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond, and bred Reserve Dog CC Tarmachan Ice Cool, owned by Bailey and Yates (apologies gents as I am rubbish at names so please do remind me of your first names!) Reserve BCC was Vivien Phillips' Debucher Letitia handled by Ellie Harris. Best Puppy at her first show was Karen Bayliss' Arapelo Fontainebleau and Best Special Beginners was Miss Rutter's Tu Vois Bien Du Greffier Du Roi. Later in the day Ken Sinclair took centre stage and shortlisted Fergus in the Best in Show competition and placed him 4th in Best Veteran in Show. Colin and Ann Makey won the Veteran Stakes with Ir Ch Gairside Ferdinand JW under Jenny Startup. My roving reporter Sue Marshall wrote to me "We went to the East of England Ladies Kennel Society Open Show where Parsnip (Soufriere One Vision) was Best of Breed under Penny Sands. It was a new venue for the society at Huntingdon racecourse as they had previously used Wood Green On arrival there was a massive queue of traffic for a car boot sale but thankfully we had been issued yellow car park passes so the parking marshalls could wave us out of the queue. We had a quite a distance to drive after we left the queue on a bumpy gravel road then we were directed to park behind the trees – OK if you were the first to arrive but a long walk if you were later. The rings were massive (dare I say too big) and weren't utilised fully by the smaller breeds. There were moans and groans by some about the length of the grass which was a fair point if you were showing a short-legged breed as they got lost making it difficult to assess movement. There were only two ladies' loos so some waiting at times but, on the whole, the society did a good job with their new venue. Not sure how it would have been had it rained though..." Thank you Sue – keep up the good work! This weekend sees the BGV fun day in Scotland on Saturday run by Claire Gilluley. From Facebook I see there are lots of good prizes to be won. Additionally, if you read these notes before 9pm on 18 July you will still have a chance to bid on some great auction items in aid of the cause.

26 / 7 / 2019

THE WEEKEND GONE BY was a spare weekend in the summer – what did you all do with yourselves? I took myself up to Perth in Scotland and spent a weekend training 30 junior handlers as part of the SKC/YKC summer camp. It was a fabulous weekend with the kids getting involved in a number of different disciplines and some team building activities. Some of you were out and about at open shows. Roving reporter Sue Marshall writes: We went to Kingston with predicted weather of 26 degrees, as such we parked ourselves under a big tree with other PBGV people to protect ourselves from the sun - and froze! The sun made a few guest appearances but it was decidedly chilly due to a breeze under the tree, however it was perfect weather for the dogs. The judge was Tara Jenkins Jago from Ireland, and BOB was Soufriere One Vision with RBOB going to Silvamoon Saffron at Soufriere. Following this there was a long wait until 5pm to get in the group! Whilst we were down south Andree Weymouth was at the Norfolk & Norwich show under Lloyd Cross gaining Best of Breed with Soufriere Now I'm Here at Woolybassets. The other open show news I spotted was that Karen Bayliss went to Bakewell Premier Open show and gained Best of Breed, Best Puppy and Puppy Group 4 with Arapelo Fontainebleau. The Scottish BGV club fun day looked like a good day. Best In Show for the second year running was Pam and Claire MacGregor's "Hugo". Many congratulations to the team up in Scotland for putting on a successful day and raising around a staggering £850 for BGV health and welfare! A number of judges have been announced in this month's kennel gazette as follows: Windsor 2020 – Colin Gillanders, WKC 2020 – Sue Hewart Chambers; Darlington 2020 – Vivien Phillips; LKA 2020 – Linda Skerritt; Manchester 2021 – Sue Virgo; SKC (May) 2021 – Jill Peak; Bournemouth 2021 – Ann Makey.

2 / 8 / 2019

AFTER THE BAKING TEMPERATURES of 38 degrees on Thursday dropping to a slightly cooler high 20s on Friday, Leeds on Saturday was 18 degrees and pouring with rain ALL day which did nothing for the Tibetan Spaniel's coats. However on Sunday when we woke it was mizzly, the day remained dry and extremely muggy. The tent itself was full of all sorts of bugs and I know of a number of exhibitors and some dogs who were either bitten or stung. Our judge Espn Engh was doing all the French hounds and we followed the Basset Fauve de Bretagne in to the ring. his entry of 17 was depleted by 3 absentees. Dog CC (number 5) was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan (imp NLD). Reserve to him was Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet. Bitch CC and Best of Breed was a first for Pam and Claire McGregor's Ir Ch Claella Avril at Eardley, reserve Fiona and Michael's Ch / Ned Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Best Puppy was Graydon & Fuell's (apologies I do not know your first names) Tioga G'vine and Best Veteran went to my Ch Debucher XFactor. Half way top awards have been published. Half way Top Dog is Macaroni and half way Top Puppy is my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix. In the paper he is listed as having 8 points, where he actually has 12 – this has been confirmed by Our Dogs and been amended on the online listing. My roving reporter Sue Marshall has been out and about again... "On Sunday 28th July we attended SWECA open show under Lisa Tyler Jackson, here Parsnip (Soufriere One Vision) was Best of Breed and Group 3 and her mother Saffie (Silvmoon Saffron at Soufriere was Reserve Best of Breed. The show was very slick and the majority of groups and stakes classes were completed by 2pm!" Thank you Sue and keep up the good work! We now move to the two most southerly shoes... Paignton and Bournemouth. See some of you there.

9 / 8 / 2019

PAIGNTON HOUND DAY was a deserted show ground with just 650 dogs entered that day – not all of the rings in the main hall were in use and one of the tents stood empty (to be used by South West Hound Club open show). The area with the trade stands looked like the Mary Celeste and I did overhear one trade stand owner ask another "does it get any better on Monday?" I also see from one of the dog groups on social media the question as to whether this should be a 2 or 3 day show going forward. Looking at it, now the Houndshow has moved their date, there does not seem to be the need to have us on our own on a separate day. However on a positive note the group judging began at 3pm! Results – Frank Kane had an entry of 20 dogs depleted by 3 absentees, he found his Dog CC in Ch / Int / Bel Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM, the Reserve (his first card) to Karen Bayliss' Arapelo Darude. Speaking to Karen, she nearly turned home as she had come to a grinding halt on the M5 at Junction 1 and was unsure she would make it on time – I am sure she was glad she persevered! Bitch CC and BOB was Ch / Int / Bel Ch Gairside Good Gracious doing the double with her brother again! And Reserve CC was Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Best Puppy at his first show was Tarmachan Mr Myosotis. South West Hound Show had Helen Wayman judging, here Ice Diamond was Best of Breed (and I believe shortlisted in the BIS competition). Mr Myosotis was Reserve BOB and Best Puppy and went on to win Best Puppy in Show, again under Helen Wayman, so not a bad start to his career! The camping crews are now at Bournemouth, where the showground is forecasted to be battered by up to 52mph gale force winds for the Friday and Saturday – good luck to all camping there and to Bournemouth show that everyone is safe. Hopefully see some of you there.

23 / 8 / 2019

APOLOGIES FOR THE LACK OF NOTES last week but I was in Wales with a mobile phone which my network providers had decided to cut off due to an unpaid bill which was due to the bank cancelling the wrong direct debit. All is now sorted but was rather annoying at the time! Bournemouth show was battered by high winds on the Saturday and there were a number of campers affected. However the show went on and I know there was an awful lot of praise for the show committee with judging only being delayed by 15 minutes or so on the first day whilst benching tents were secured. The new in/out layout was popular, however to be critical had it rained the in bit of the ring was not big enough to show the dogs in and it was somewhat crowded around the rings as the grooming areas were rather small, and you could not be 6ft away from the ring with your cage if you tried. Heidi Allenby was awarding CCs for the first time. She had 14 hounds present from her entry of 17. Dog CC, Best of Breed and Best Veteran was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Reserve Dog CC went to their Ch Macaroni v Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan. Bitch CC was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch / Bel / Int Ch Gairside Good Gracious, Reserve BCC Anita Roberts' Tioga Opihr, with Best Puppy going to Fiona and Michael's Tarmachan Mr Myosotis. Stakes results, Mr Myosotis was second in the Puppy Dog stakes under Helen Wayman, and Ir Ch Gairside Ferdinand was second in the Veteran stakes under Jeff Luscott. Moving on to Welsh Kennel Club where there was torrential rain for most of the day and young Zac Butler thought was great to play in the puddles! Pam Marston Pollock's entry of 19 was depleted by 5. Again Cartier picked up the Dog CC, Best of Breed and Best Veteran, Reserve Dog CC was Ch / Bel / Int Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM, Bitch CC Good Gracious, Res Bitch CC and Best Puppy Tarmachan Miss Impatiens. In the groups "Fergus" was placed Group 2 under Robert Greaves and Veteran Group 4 under Tony Allcock. Miss Impatiens also won the Minor Puppy Bitch stakes under Tom Johnston.

30 / 8 / 2019

I SAY THIS EVERY TIME but Scotland is a long way! I take my hat off to the regular exhibitors who trek down south week in week out to attend shows. The alarm went off at 1am, and I was on the road by 2.15am – yuk! This year, loss of CCs for GBGVs from the SKC August show coupled with the end of the Irish circuit saw a disappointing 6 Grands entered for Janet Kay. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren having five entered understandably took home the majority of the awards. Best Dog, Best of Breed and Best Puppy was their Tarmachan Mr Myosotis, Reserve Best Dog Ch Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan, Reserve Best Bitch and Best Veteran was Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine. Best Bitch went to my, Lilly and Katie O'Brien's Jayanel A New Chapter. In the groups Otis was shortlisted in the Puppy Group under Toni Jackson and his mother Flora was Veteran Group 2 under Martin Phillips. There was a bit of confusion at SKC as all groups were pre-judged (in tiny breed rings – it was very interesting trying to see the large Gundog Group move in the squashed ring) but with no calls for the pre-judging or what group was happening you had to have your wits about you. They started with Terrier pre-judging, which happened to be the last group to go in! Also the Group winning Whippet nearly missed the actual Group in the main ring as there were extremely limited (and muffled) calls for them to the collecting ring. Having won a Best of Breed I think it was a bit of a disappointment not being in the main ring to show your achievement off to the audience – but what do I know! My roving reporter has been at it again, so thank you Sue Marshall – over the bank holiday weekend she was off to Horley at Ardingly South of England showground, where Soufriere One Vision was awarded Best AVNSC Hound and to go even better won the Hound group, both of these awards were from Sue Finnett. Sue writes it was the icing on the cake of a fabulous week, as earlier I had received confirmation from the Kennel Club of Parsnip's Junior Warrant. Many congrats to Sue and Parsnip – and a special mention to hubby Nick, who although mainly seen resting his eyes at shows has supported Sue and Parsnip! I hope to see some of you at City of Birmingham, where we can have a French hound extravaganza has Basset Fauve de Bretagne are first in the ring followed by PBGV then GBGV.

13 / 9 / 2019

APOLOGIES FOR THE DELAY in the City of Birmingham results – last week just ran away with me and life, work, dogs and a failed MOT got in the way of everything! Brian Foster was centre stage following his completion of the PBGV judging. from his entry of 18 there were 6 absentees. Best Dog & Best of Breed was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch/Int/Bel CH Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM with Reserve BD and Best Puppy going to Fiona Buchanan and Mike MacLaren's Tarmachan Mr Myosotis. Best Bitch and Reserve Best Bitch went to their daughter and mother, Ch/Ned Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond and Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine who was Best Veteran. Best Junior went to my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix. In Veteran stakes Ir Ch Gairside Ferdinand JW ShCM was 5th under Derek Smith. In the groups, Flora was 2nd in the Hound Veteran group under Steve Hall, Otis was 4th in the Puppy group under Mary Deats and Eric was shortlisted in the Junior group under Patsy Hollings – so the Grands definitely flew the flag! We then moved on to Richmond where the breed lost their classes over 10 years ago. I note from the catalogue that there was one GBGV entered in AVNSC but he was absent on the day. There are numerous rumours flying around about shows moving venues and others moving dates, a Boston committee member took to social media to clarify that the East of England showground was remaining booked until the mid-2020s for them, so we can only assume it is the case of East of England also. The rumour mill was rife that Richmond was moving to Newbury, however another rumour was that it is to move to Stoneleigh. The other one I have heard is that Leeds is also moving from its position at Harewood House. We can only wait and see. On to the topic of prices of food at shows now, some of you may have seen the moans and groans on facebook about the price and quality of the food at Richmond. I have to say it was probably the most expensive for food this year and there was extremely limited choice. However I was chatting to one of the vendors on Sunday morning and she explained that Richmond did not charge "rent" for the pitch, they charged £100 for

the electricity and 30% of the takings from the entire weekend from the till roll so, for every £5 bacon roll, Richmond was taking £1.50 – you can see why the prices were high!

20 / 9 / 2019

DARLINGTON started off with a heavy dew on the ground but soon warmed up and ended up being a beautiful afternoon with the sun shining on the righteous. Our ring was extremely lumpy and I know a lot of the handlers were affected but the dogs appeared to take it in their stride! Our judge for the day John Thirlwell was giving CCs in the breed for the first time. His entry of 21 was depleted by 3 absentees. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren took the majority of the main awards home with Dog CC (number 38), BOB and Best Veteran to Ch/Ir Ch/Ned Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Bitch CC to Tarmachan Ice Diamond and Best Puppy to Tarmachan Miss Impatiens. Reserve Dog CC was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch/Bel Ch/Int Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and Reserve Bitch CC Vivien Phillips' Debucher Letitia. Later in the day Fergus was shortlisted in the Hound Group under Espen Engh and Miss Impatiens was shortlisted in the Puppy Group under Frank Whyte. She also gained second in the Minor Puppy Bitch Stakes under Stuart Milner. Good Lord was placed third in the Hound Male Reserve Best of Sex Stakes under Irene Glen and his kennel mate Ir Ch Gairside Ferdinand won the Veteran Stakes under Irene McManus. My, Katie and Lily O'Brien's Jayanel A New Chapter was placed third in the YKC Stakes under Irene Glen. This weekend is Driffield – with Chairman Keith Pursglove being supervised by his wife's Shona, aka Wilmit Fanchonat Roguesmoor, it is sure to have a great show and we can only hope that the weather gods look favourably on Driffield this year as they have been awfully unlucky as late.

27 / 9 / 2019

WHAT A DIFFERENCE IN WEATHER – I am writing these notes with the rain hammering down, however at Driffield the sun shone and a few of us sported red cheeks! Speaking to Keith Pursglove he said his knees were sore as he had been on them praying every night for the good weather since June. It appeared to work with rain only arriving on the last day. Our judge was Stuart Milner awarding CCs in the breed for the first time. His entry of 17 only had 1 absentee, however a change to the normal trend, 11 of those present were males with only 5 bitches entered. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren either owned or bred 5 of the 6 main awards. Bitch CC and BOB was Ch/NL Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond, Reserve BCC and Best Puppy Tarmachan Miss Impatiens. Best Veteran was their mother Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine (ably handled in the challenges by Clare Butler). Dog CC was Tarmachan Ice Cool owned by Bailey and Yates – this was his 2nd CC. The only non Tarmachan winner was my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix who picked up Reserve DCC. In the Stakes classes Ann and Colin Makey's Ch/Bel/Int Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM was 3rd in the champion stakes under Mrs F Kaye. Finally, at the end of the day "Breagha" (Ice Diamond) was awarded Group 4 under John Walton Haddon. We now have a few weeks of rest – Belfast is this weekend and although classes are offer there are no GBGV entered. During this quiet time I would appreciate any news! News about the Breed Appreciation Day – due to the ongoing review of the Judges Competency Framework, we are offering a limited number of places for individuals to undertake the old style "hands on" exam. These places will be restricted to aspiring judges who have previously taken the written assessment or are looking to move on to the A3 list. If you are interested in undertaking this exam, please contact me directly on clairecooper81@hotmail.co.uk or 07855255287 for further details and to book your place.

4 / 10 / 2019

THERE WERE NO GBGV ENTERED AT BELFAST but many congratulations to the solitary PBGV entered Ch Soletrader Magic Mike who ended up BIS. I was on holiday last weekend, so apologies if I have missed any open show results – if I have the best way to get them to me is to let me know directly. As the Championship show season dwindles, I suppose it is the start of my regular pledges to let me know your news! Schedules are available for the BGV club Championship show which is held on 23 November 2019. Judge for GBGV is Renaud Buche from France with the stakes classes being judged by Mandy Dance. Best in Show and the Junior Handling will be judged by Sue Virgo. Entries close on 28 October (postmark) and can be made online up until midnight on 4 November 2019. Schedules are available to download from Fossedata, the club website or directly from show secretary Colin Makey.

11 / 10 / 2019

NO SHOWS LAST WEEKEND and nobody contacted me with news from any exploits. However I did see via facebook that Fiona Buchanan and Pam MacGregor made their way to Ireland for the 2 day International Show. On the first day judge was Mr Knight, DGS, BOB and winning the group was Pam and Claire MacGregor's Ir Ch Claeala Reaumur ShCM, Reserve Green Star Bailey's Tarmachan Ice Cool, BGS Fiona and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ned Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond, Reserve Green Star Claire and Pam's Dit Donc Du Greffier Du Roi. BP went to Claire and Pam's Claela You And I Are A Team. On the second day Grands were judged by Mr R Oliveira, DGS (and gaining his Irish title) was Ice Cool, Reserve GS Reaumur, BGS and BOB (gaining her International title) was Ice Diamond who also gained Group 3, and Reserve GS to Dit Donc. BP was again You And I Are A Team. Although not on the official results page I believe the puppy won the puppy group. Many congrats to both exhibitors on a successful trip. Linda Skerritt has gone all Miss Marple on us and writes the following: "I've been doing some investigating into missing critiques, one of which is for GBGVs at Border Union where Jolanda Huisman didn't realise she had to write a critique. Although in the initial contract it does seem that, nowadays, with the absence of Our Dogs envelopes and a note placed in the judge's folder, some overseas judges who are unfamiliar with our KC requirements have no reminder of the need to produce a written critique on the first two places. Another was Frank Kane's for GBGVs at Paignton this year. He told me he handed it into the Our Dogs trade stand at the show. Although OD said they hadn't received it, Sue Marshall solved the mystery. The critique was printed in their 16 August edition but under Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit). It was never included on their website as there they published the PBGV critique twice. At the time of writing, this has still not been amended."

18 / 10 / 2019

THE DRIVE TO BUILT WELLS was undertaken in the rain which at times was very heavy. The hall we were in was a tad chilly but it was a wet miserable day in Wales so what can we expect! Rachel Barney had 7 GBGV entered and all 7 were present for her. She found her Best Dog in Pam and Claire MacGregor's puppy dog Claela You And I Are A Team, who was entered in Junior. Reserve Best Dog went to obert Bailey and Andrew Yates' Tarmachan Ice Cool. Best Bitch and Best of Breed was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine with Reserve Best Bitch and Best Puppy going to her daughter Tarmachan Miss Impatiens. In the stakes classes Pam and Claire gained a third in the Minor Puppy Stakes under Melanie Reed Peck and second in the Puppy Bitch stakes under Tony Allcock with Claela No Looking Back. We now have a short break in the championship show proceedings prior to Midland Counties, so please if you are at any open shows in the meantime do not forget to send me your news as my roving reporter Sue Marshall regularly does! Sue writes: "On Saturday Parsnip and Saffi represented the breed at Discover Dogs, the day was manic from doors opening to doors closing with a lot of interest in the breeds, it seems to get busier every year. On Sunday we were once again up with the larks to attend Hitchin and DCS Open show. The judge was Professor Elise Cartmell and Parsnip (Soufriere One Vision) was Best of Breed and Saffi (Silvamoos Saffron At Soufriere) Reserve Best of Breed". May I take this opportunity on behalf of the BGV Club to extend our thanks to those who volunteered on the Discover Dogs booths over the two days.

25 / 10 / 2019

YOU HAVE ALL BEEN VERY QUIET recently and as such I have no news to report. The weather is certainly telling us that Winter is arriving and when the clocks go back on Sunday the nights will draw in quicker. Working as I currently do with India and Singapore whose clocks do not change I am currently faced with the quandary of whether I start work an hour earlier or have less working hours with my team. The Breed Appreciation Day is well supported with 20 people booked to learn more about our breed, a mixture of breed specialists and non-breed. We are still taking bookings so if any of you wish to attend and undertake the MCE then please let me know. Also, next week will be your final reminder to enter the BGV Club Championship show as entries close at midnight on Monday 4 November.

1 / 11 / 2019

SATURDAY MORNING SAW TORRENTIAL RAIN whilst driving up to Stafford for Midland Counties. The spray on the motorways was blinding and, listening to the traffic news, I heard of a lot of cars that had aquaplaned and a number of roads that were closed due to flooding. Once off the motorway the main road to the

venue was flooded near the police headquarters leading to queues but once on the showground the parking attendants were making sure that you were parked on hard standing (or extremely close too) to ensure that you could get off easily. Due to all of this judging was delayed by 30 minutes. GBGV were third in the ring behind Border Collies and PBGV. Jenny Startup was our judge without CCs and from an entry of 17 she had 13 present. Best Dog and Best of Breed was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch/Bel/Int Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM with reserve going to his son, Amanda Smith and my Jayanel Ambiorix. Best Bitch was Claire and Pam McGregor's Ir Ch Claela Avrilie at Eardley and Reserve BB Karen Bayliss' Arapelo Fontainebleau who was also Best Puppy taking £20 prize money. There was only one result in the stakes classes, Claela You And I Are A Team was 5th in the Hound puppy stakes under Michael Forte. This weekend sees the BGV Club Breed Appreciation Day – we have 23 people booked in over the two breeds. It is fantastic that so many people want to find out more about our breed/s. Postal entries have now closed for the BGV Club Championship show, but you can still enter online up to midnight on Monday 4 November so remember to enter now!

8 / 11 / 2019

FIRSTLY EXCITING NEWS about the upcoming championship show to be held on 23 November at the Sports Connexion, Ryton on Dunsmore. Our judge Renaud Buche has drawn an entry of 38 GBGV, and Mandy Dance has attracted 14 entries in the stakes classes. Paula Heikkinen-Lehkonen has 65 PBGVs to judge and Jackie Hornby has 24 in the stakes classes so it will be a busy day for all. Sunday saw the BGV Club's first Breed Appreciation Day and it was anything but BAD! The day started at 8.45 with participants (and helpers) arriving at 8.45 for coffee and croissants (home made by me via Tesco) ready for a 9am presentation on the PBGV by Gavin Robertson. Following a short break was the Multi Choice Exam for which huge thanks to ex teacher Lynne Ellingford who ensured that things went smoothly. Upon completion there was an A3 assessment for a limited number of people and the remainder undertook informal mentoring sessions with Vivien Phillips and Gavin Robertson and were able to go over two dogs under their watchful eyes. Following lunch (thanks Peter Marks for the chilli) and plentiful cakes (thanks Geraldine Dodd and Robert Bailey) we commenced with the GBGV at 1pm. Everything was going smoothly until part way through the presentation we had a power cut which caused an electrical surge and blew all the sockets and thus the presentation went down. Gavin (and Fergus) ever the professionals continued with the breed talk whilst others of us frantically tried to get the sockets working! Once completed again Lynne took over for the exam, followed by the GBGV A3 assessment and mentoring sessions with Michael McLaren and Barbara Milton. The event was well supported with 24 candidates over the 2 breeds (interestingly there were more who attended the GBGV session than the PBGV one!), and once again I want to say a massive thank you to the volunteers, helpers, mentors, assessors and handlers who gave their time on the day. Big thanks go to the dogs for their patience and from me to Mike McLaren who was my right hand man both on the run up to and during the day! Luckily we don't have to plan another one now for 2 years. Results of the bumper November Limited Odds Draw are : £50 Diane Quadling, £25 Linda Skeritt and £12 Pamela Lilley, congratulations to you all! Hopefully the weather will dry up and you can enjoy a bright weekend with the dogs!

15 / 11 / 2019

SAD NEWS reached us this week that Diana Sadler passed away following a short illness. Her passion lay with the PBGV and Diana served on the BGV Club committee for a number of years. She was the Welfare & Rescue Co-ordinator 2007 to 2013 and, as such, a number of GBGV will have been grateful for her efforts. Our condolences go to her family at this time. Her funeral takes place at 9:30am on Tuesday 19 November 2019 at Fenland Crematorium, Knights End Road, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0YJ and donations in her memory may be made via this link <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SomeoneSpecial/DianaSadler> with proceeds going to Dogs Trust. . Very little dog show news to report this week – if anyone has ventured out in their arks to go to a show they are not telling me about it! Luckily yesterday was a bright yet cold day, but alas I woke this morning to hear the rain lashing at the windows again. One of the Tibetan Spaniels looks at me as if it is my fault it was raining whenever she goes out and is in a serious mood with me as I won't make it stop! Poppy Grand couldn't care less what the weather is like and insists on walking straight through all the puddles, the muddier the better. Thankfully as I write these notes news is filtering through that Fergus aka Tarmachan Cartier has made his way home following an overnight walkabout. I am sure that it is a massive relief to Fiona and Michael. They were assisted by Drone SAR for Lost Dogs UK which I would be interested to find out more about. Any news and views always appreciated.

22 / 11 / 2019

THIS WEEKEND sees our breed club Championship Show – with two rings in operation, judging starts at 10am with emergency replacement judge Phil Freer going over the PBGVs, followed by Renaud Buche judging GBGVs at 10.30am. Junior Handling will be during the lunch break, then Best in Show when breed judging is completed.. Once Best in Show has been declared the special award classes will be judged. There will be a heaped table of raffle prizes (contributions most welcome), and Geraldine Dodd will also be on hand to take any Limited Odds Draw monies you may want to give her for next year. Similarly, Martin Bishop will happily take 2020 membership fees from you. Not just that but if you wish to be on the 2020 Breeders Directory payment is due shortly and Linda Skeritt will be glad to take your payment. There will also be merchandise available for reasonable prices with Kim Culyer-Dawson in charge. I hope you all have a fantastic and successful day.

29 / 11 / 2019

LAST WEEKEND saw the BGV club championship show where Monsieur Renaud Buche had 33 GBGV present to go over. He found his Dog CC, BOS and RBOB in Karen Bayliss' homebred Arapelo Darude which was his first CC. He was in the limit class. Reserve Dog CC was Fiona Buchanan & Michael McLaren's Ch Macaroni V Tum-Tum's Vriendjes of Tarmachan. BCC, BOB and BV was Fiona & Michael's Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine from Veteran. Reserve CC was Vivien Phillips' Debucher Letitia from Limit. Best Puppy went to Pam & Claire McGregor's Claela You And I Are A Team. Under the BIS judge Sue Virgo, Flora was awarded BIS and BVIS, with the puppy awarded BPIS. Reserve BIS and BOSIS was awarded to Gemma McCartney's Soletrader Freddie Mercury and BPIS was Joan Hutchings' PBGV Tangaer French Romance. Sue Virgo also judged the Junior Handling and Best Junior Handler went to Erin Robertson who won the 6-11 age group. Lilly O'Brien won the 12-16 which was a good way of celebrating her birthday. In the lunch break both Lilly and Robert Bailey celebrated their birthdays so there was cake a plenty. Following BIS judging Mandy Dance judged the GBGV special award classes with 11 present and her class winners were: Junior d/b Anita Roberts' Tioga Opahr, PG d/b Sue Marshall's Soufriere One Vision JW and Open d/b Colin & Ann Makey's Ch/Bel/Int Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM. Many of you may have seen from the catalogue that there will be an additional BGV Club show next year – we will be holding an open show in conjunction with Border Union Agricultural Society, the judge for both breeds will be Bill O'Laughlin. We now have a lull before LKA where Marion Hunt has 19 entered, please let me know if you attend any open shows. I will be in India for the next two weeks so will likely miss a post on Facebook.

6 / 12 / 2019

IT IS 4AM UK TIME and I am sat in the office in India – the sun is shining and it is a tropical 25 degrees, a far contrast to the -2 temperatures I walked the dogs in on Monday morning. There is no news to report this week, although I know some of you are going to shows, so please why don't you tell me about the results? That way I can feature them here and let other people know about your success. Or what about anecdotes? We all know our hounds do silly things at times, or have they been a hero and rescued the local cat (unlikely I know), but what I am trying to say is these are your notes, not mine! For those of you at South Yorkshire Hound on Saturday – good luck and let me know the results!

20 / 12 / 2019

THE LAST CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW of the season has been and gone, Marion Hunt had drawn an entry of 19 at LKA, however it was depleted by 7 absentees. DCC and BOB went to Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier owned by Fiona Buchanan and Michael McLaren. This was Fergus' 40th CC – a great achievement. Bitch CC, back from maternity leave, was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch/Bel/Int Ch Gairside Good Gracious. The Reserve CCs went to Tarmachan Ice Cool owned by Andrew Yates and Robert Bailey and Fiona and Mike's Tarmachan Miss Impatiens. Best Puppy was Pam and Claire McGregor's Claela You And I Are A Team, Best Veteran was of course Fergus. I did not see any results in stakes classes, however Fergus was shortlisted in the Hound Group by Rachel Barney. All that is left to say is I wish you and your hounds a very merry Christmas.

27 / 12 / 2019

I HOPE YOU AND YOUR HOUNDS had a lovely and relaxing Christmas. It was a gorgeous Christmas Day here, the sun shone and bright blue skies, however Boxing Day was back to rain. I took Poppy out with two tibs and did a road walk to try and keep them clean. That didn't happen! She got a lovely scent of something and ran half a mile through mud and puddles before she got bored. Only good thing was it was up a very steep hill so excellent exercise for her! The confirmed Top Dog and Top Puppy standings have been in the paper. Many Congratulations to Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren with Fergus aka Ch/Ir/Ned Ch Taramachan Cartier who is Top Dog and to my and Amanda Smith's Jayanel Ambiorix who is Top Puppy. I will announce Top Sire and Brood Bitch once they are confirmed. Have a very Happy New Year wherever you are and I hope to see you all in 2020!