

GBGV BREED NOTES 2018

5 / 1/ 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU and all your BGVs. Obviously show news is very thin on the ground this week as last weekend was New Year's Eve and you were all probably too busy celebrating to think of going to a show! For those of you who did get to one, you certainly didn't let me know your results!

Advertisements are still being received for the BGV yearbook. Please let me have yours asap.

12 / 1/ 2018

THE FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW of the season was Boston, although it doesn't seem that long since LKA. I remember the days when the show season finished at LKA in December and then did not restart until Crufts in March. How times have changed!

Anyhow stopping reminiscing, Tim Jones (Eardley) judged the breed at Boston. Although we initially had classes at this show in the early days there had been a break for a number of years so it was extremely encouraging that he had a very good entry of 18 hounds entered with 3 absentees. What was also pleasant to see was the number of puppies in the ring – 7 in total, 2 males and 5 bitches. We haven't had that many puppies out in a long time!

Gaining Best Dog and BOB was Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet, Best Bitch was Barbara Milton's Ch Wilmit Fanfare ShCM. The reserves went to Colin and Ann Makey's litter mates Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and Gairside Good Gracious. Best Puppy was my Debucher Ivanka Jayanel and Danielle Machent and Barabara's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille topped the male puppies. I am not aware of any stakes class results.

The next show is Manchester where Alan Curry has 9 entered, immediately followed by the closing date for Crufts.

The deadline for advertising in the BGV Club's 2013-17 handbook has been extended to 31 January 2018 so please if you haven't already said you wish to advertise, then let me have your adverts asap.

19 / 1/ 2018

THERE IS NO UK SHOW NEWS this week, however exciting news on Facebook from the US where the GBGV has certainly made an impact on the Hound group following its recognition on 1 January 2018. Many congratulations to the US breeders who have worked hard for this and their work is certainly being rewarded. Additionally many congrats to the first US champion belonging to Jolanda Huisman (and currently residing in the US with Corey Benedict) who was Multi Ch Palomino Du Greffier Du Roi. The first bitch champion (and US bred) is Gebebas Apple Blossom who belongs to George and Betty Barth. Excellent news.

In the Netherlands, Frosty was at the Dutch dog of the year show and he won Group 6 on Sunday – Gwen also got runner up with the PBGV handled by Anouk.

Some very sad news reached me from Viv Phillips who had to report the death of her beloved "Connie" otherwise known as Debucher Bien Connue. Connie was only 6½ and after a very short illness died due to a cardiac arrest following surgery on 12 January. Connie is mother to Ellie Harris' Debucher Sartre & Bizet and Viv's Sensass. I know that Connie was a very special dog to Viv and will be greatly missed.

26 / 1/ 2018

I WASN'T AT MANCHESTER ON HOUND DAY but I am aware that the conditions of the car park got worse as the weekend went on. You do feel sorry for the committees of championship shows who put so much work into organising the event and then they get struck by weather they can't predict and all some exhibitors can do is moan. Maybe these exhibitors should go on a general championship show committee to see what work goes in to it?

Enough of my mulling it over. Manchester had 9 entries with 8 present for Alan Curry to assess. Colin and Ann Makey had a good day getting BD & BOB and BB with litter brother and sister Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and Good Gracious. Reserves went to Danielle Machent and Barabara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille and Barbara's Wilmit Independence Day. Zebbie was later shortlisted in the hound group under Tom Johnston. In the Puppy stakes under Tim Ball, Lautrec was shortlisted to the last few and Independence Day was placed 5th. Many congratulations to all and of course to Sara Robertson and Wendy Doherty who gained BIS with Magic Mike.

I am still working on the BGV handbook, so please for those of you who haven't already sent it I need your copy by 31 January. I am currently undertaking the seemingly endless task of compiling the major awards from all general Championship shows for the previous 5 years. Maybe someone would like to start compiling these going forward in readiness for the next handbook?

Schedules are now out for the BGV 40th Anniversary year open show which is to be held on 7 April at a new venue this year – Weedon Bec Village Hall, just off the A5 in Northants. Judge for the two breeds is Anders Tunold-Hanssen (Norway). There is a reduced entry fee for veterans (dogs and not owners) with a fun “afternoon” planned once judging has finished. Schedules are available to download from the BGV Club website or from Colin Makey.

2 / 2/ 2018

WE ARE IN THAT LULL TIME between Manchester and Crufts, so I beg of you that you feed me some news!

Lichfield put on GBGV classes for the first time this year and they were well supported with 9 entered for Jackie Hornby. She found her BOB in Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM who went on to Hound Group 2 under Robert Greaves. His litter sister Good Gracious was RBOB. Best Puppy was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille. Danielle's Wilmit Eclipse was placed 2nd in the AV Veteran Stakes also under Robert Greaves.

Pre-orders are now being taken for the 2013 – 17 BGV Club Handbook which is due out at Crufts. If you want to order one please contact Club Treasurer, Colin Makey. I personally can't wait for mine!!

8 / 2/ 2018

WHAT A QUIET WEEKEND, it appears even from social media that none of you attended any shows (or if you did you all kept your wins quiet)! Personally I have to admit to preferring this cold but dry weather, at least I can get the dogs out for a decent run without the whole house (and me) being swathed in mud when we get home. On our walk this morning we saw the first rabbit in a long time, needless to say the Grands saw it before me and I was dragged down the country lane to where it had crossed in front of us to give them a good sniffing. Once in the fields I suddenly owned deaf GBGVs whilst they went “hunting”!

The entry is out for Crufts. Our judge Linda Lewis has 34 to go over and our smaller cousins the PBGV have 75 entered. We are first in the ring followed by the PBGV, currently classified to start judging at 9am, however this is subject to change.

As always please let me have any news and views!

16 / 2/ 2018

AS I TYPE THESE NOTES I am sitting in an office in Cairo. I have been here for three days and I have only seen four street dogs. Unsurprisingly when the people I have met ask me what dogs I have, they have never heard of GBGV but enjoy looking at the photos and all agree that they look like they are fabulous creatures!

Again there is no news to report on from last weekend's showing, the only news really is that at Crufts judging will start at 10am in our ring with the GBGV followed by the PBGV. I personally am very glad that we are both in the same ring as I enjoy watching both sets of judging.

The BGV Club 2013-2017 Handbook is nearing completion and will soon be in its final stages before going to print, hopefully in time for Crufts. Please order your copies now by contacting Club Treasurer Colin Makey.

23 / 2/ 2018

THE ONLY RESULT I was given from this weekend was Matlock & District Canine Society which I believe was well supported for breed judge Mandy Kenna. She found her BOB in Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW who also went Hound Group 4 under Berys Brown. Best Puppy was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille who went Hound Puppy Group 1 and then Best Puppy in Show under Mr M Taylor. Many congratulations to both for flying the GBGV flag.

Crufts is fast approaching which is closely followed by the 17 March closing date for the BGV club open show. Schedules can be downloaded from www.bgvclub.co.uk or are available from Show Secretary/Club Treasurer Colin Makey.

Additionally, the Notice for the BGV Club AGM is on the www.bgvclub.co.uk. As per Club regulations the position of Secretary is up for re-election this year and Mrs Linda Skerritt has indicated her willingness to stand again. Due to loss of some committee members and the agreement at last year's AGM to increase the number of committee members from 12 to 15 there are 7 vacancies. Those up for re-election are Mrs Sue Marshall and Mr Peter Marks, while Mrs Kim Culyer-Dawson, Mr Paul Stallard, Mrs Lynn Wood seek to have their co-opted positions made formal. Any further nominations must be made with a brief resume of their life in dogs BY POST to the secretary by 17 March 2018. Any items for the agenda must be proposed and seconded and submitted by post to the secretary by 24 March. The AGM will take place at 10am on Sunday 22 April 2018 at Dry Drayton Village Hall, CB23 8DD.

As always news and views welcome.

2 / 3 / 2018

THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF OPEN SHOWS attended recently, it seems that everyone is dusting off the cobwebs before Crufts! I will start with Maidenhead on 18 February where Lisa Tyler Jackson judged the breed and awarded BOB to Hilary Knowles and Jules Metselaar-Williams' Anya Hindmarch avec Braillement and Best Puppy to Hilary's Reggaedog Frodo. Vanessa Williams-Wegmann judged the group with Anya Hindmarch getting Group 2 and Frodo Puppy Group 4.

24 February was Newark and District Canine Society, where I believe it was bitter in the halls at the Newark showground. Judge for both the breed and group there was Nicola Quadling and Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille owned by Danielle Machant & Barbara Milton was BOB and BP ending up with PG3. Barbara had a great day as she also won the Puppy Stakes (and hard cash!) under Jeff Horswell.

Also that day the East Anglian Supermatch took place. To qualify for this competition you have to have won Best in Show (or Best Puppy in Show for the puppy competition) at a qualifying open show. Zebbie, aka Gairside Good Lord JW, owned by Colin and Ann Makey flew the flag for the breed and although they were knocked out first round it appears a fabulous evening was had and it was an honour to be there.

The following day Caroline Friend Rees judge the breed and group at Cheltenham and District. BOB and HG4 here was Vivien Phillips' Debucher Fifi. My Debucher Ivanka Jayanel was Best Puppy and, not to be outdone, her mother Ch Debucher Xfactor was Best Hound Veteran, which meant an incredibly long wait for best veteran in show!

North of the border at Catrine Canine Club Pamela and Claire McGregor's Ir Ch Claela Reaumur ShCM was Best AV Hound and HG2 under Donna Kirkwood-Emery.

Many congratulations to all winners!

9 / 3 / 2018

CRUFTS IS OVER WITH FOR ANOTHER YEAR and I for one am breathing a sigh of relief! Our judge Linda Lewis was efficient in the ring but unfortunately was put under pressure by the group stewards to hurry along. This certainly marred her day which I think is unreasonable and she felt was unfair to us exhibitors. What was equally frustrating then was watching the PBGV judge who wasn't under the same pressure from the group stewards be able to spend as much time as he wanted in making shortlists and moving the dogs again. Surely it just would have been easier to have started us at 9am when all of us were there anyway to enable Linda to have enjoyed her day even more?

Anyway off the soap box - congratulations to all winners, however always remember that win or lose you take the best dog(s) home with you. Dog CC and BOB was last year's Top Dog, Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier owned by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren and he really seemed to enjoy himself in the big ring with the camera showing him smiling on the move. Reserve DCC went to Gairside Good Lord JW owned by Colin & Ann Makey. Bitch CC was a repeat of last year in Miss Magic Van Tum-Tum's Vriendjes Euro Jun Ch owned by Gwen Huikeshoven and I D Reijkerkerk. RBCC was Tarmachan Black Ice owned by Gwen. Best Puppy was Wilmit Independence Day owned by Barbara Milton and, with no Veteran Dogs present, my Ch Debucher Xfactor was Best Veteran.

It was nice to see the ringside was very well populated for the GBGV judging. Elsewhere Claire McGregor had a day off from university lectures and gained 6th in a hotly contested 17 - 24 YKC Handling under Adam Rose.

On behalf of the BGV club, may I express my thanks to everyone who manned the Discover Dogs stand over the 4 days.

Additionally at Crufts the BGV Handbook was launched – many thanks to everyone who helped make this a publication to remember. It is 196 pages of fascinating articles and fabulous adverts. If you haven't got your copy, they will be on sale at the Open show/Funday or if you contact Colin Makey directly. Talking of the open show now that Crufts is over, please do not forget to enter!

For me Crufts was marred by two things during Best n Show. Firstly the fact that the Kennel Club broke its own rules by declaring Reserve Best In Show first. The announcement that this was going to happen brought an obvious grumble and groan from those in the audience. Secondly by the stupid PETA protestors who ran in to the main ring immediately after the award was made which took the shine from the two worthy winners. What will we be talking about after next year's Crufts?

16 / 3 / 2018

WELL AFTER THE EXCITEMENT there is very limited news for this week, except to say don't forget to do your BGV club open show entries. These close on 17 March by postmark so you need to be quick.

The open show will be followed in the afternoon by a fun event so please make sure both are well supported. Further details will appear here soon.

23 / 3 / 2018

THIS WEEKEND SEES THE HOUNDSHOW open show where Keith Young has 10 entered. Results will appear next week.

With regards to the BGV Club Open Show, there are 19 GBGV entered under Anders Tunold-Hanssen. Remember that judging starts at 0930 (show opens at 0900) with the GBGV first in the ring and the new venue is Weedon Bec Village Hall, Weedon, NN7 4QU. The venue is literally 2 minutes from the A5.

Following the Open Show there will be a brief interlude for lunch and whilst the committee turn everything round for the fun afternoon. During the afternoon will be an 8-class fun show for all breeds and other activities including guess the dog breeds, name the dog. There are numerous prizes to be won. Additionally bring lots of money for the tombola and to spend on the delicious cakes which will be on sale by me in the kitchen (don't worry I won't have baked them!).

30 / 3 / 2018

I HAVE RESULTS FROM TWO OPEN SHOWS which took place last weekend. Firstly at Herts & Essex breed judge Sue Wilkinson had 5 entered and she found her BOB in Sue Cole's Wilmit Hyacinth Bouquet and Best Puppy in Reggaedog Frodo (Imp Svk) owned by Hilary Knowles. Liz Millward was the group judge and both were placed Group 4 in their respective groups.

Sunday seemed an early start for everyone as the clocks had gone forward for the Hound Association Open Show. Judge here was Kevin Young who had 11 entered with a few absentees. BOB was awarded to Yvonne Moul's Debucher Tosca at Zamdilsa, BOS the Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW and Best Puppy to Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day. BIS was judged by Martin Sanders and Tosca (Sadie) made the first shortlist and Indie ended up Reserve BPIS. A fabulous day for all involved!

Final preparations are underway for the BGV Open Show followed by the Funday in the afternoon. All dogs are welcome to the Funday which will take place after the morning Open Show judging has taken place. Enjoy your Easter break with the dogs, let's hope the repeat Beast From The East gives us a miss.

6 / 4 / 2018

A NUMBER OF OPEN SHOWS occurred over the Easter weekend, again a plea to you all.... PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE if you have wins at shows can you let me know directly as I cannot be relied to pick them up from Facebook.

At Edwinstowe on Good Friday Danielle Machent gave Best of Breed to Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Gracious who went on to Group 3 under Barbara Milton, RBOB was my Ch Debucher Xfactor. The following day at North Lincs dog Club Pamela McKenzie-Hewitt awarded Gracie (Gairside Good Gracious) BOB and she again was G3 under Helen Wayman. Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille was Best Puppy and not to be out done Danielle's Ch Wilmit Gigi with Grandoreille won the Champion Stakes and £10! On Easter Sunday Gracie was BOB under Anne Beckett-Bradshaw and then won the Hound Group under John Walton-Hadden.

A bit further south and at Chertsey & District Canine Society Hilary Knowles Reggaedog Frodo was BOB and Best Puppy and went PG4 under Helen Geeson. At Dunstable & District Canine Society on Easter Monday Leila Tarabad judged the breed and Anya Hindmarch avec Braillement was BOB and went G4 under Eddie Webster. Frodo was again Best Puppy and Hound Puppy Group 4.

Then over the water at the Combined Shows Ir Ch Claela Reaumur was Dog Green Star, CACIB and BOB both days gaining Group 4 on Saturday and his sister Claela Avrille at Eardley was Bitch Green Star, CACIB both days and her new puppy Dit Donc du Greffier du Roi mit Claela was Best puppy both days.

If there were any other wins that I missed then I apologise – I don't sit on Facebook all day!

This weekend sees the start of the 40th Anniversary celebrations with the Club Open Show and fun day being held on Saturday 7 April at Weedon Bec Village Hall. Judge for both breeds is Anders Tunold-Hanssen from Norway. Judging starts at 09.30 and the fun event which is open to all non BGV friends takes place in the afternoon. I will be manning the kitchen with our Club Chairman and other willing helpers, with lots of tempting treats to sell. Geraldine Dodd will be on the tombola and will gratefully take any donations. Along with Chris Hill, steward Fred Ellingford will keep the proceedings going smoothly so make sure you are all on time for your classes, and bring plenty of money to spend on the various fun event games.

13 / 4 / 2018

ANDERS TUNOLD-HANSSEN had an entry of 19 hounds on paper but with 8 absentees, only 11 were present on the day for him to go over. However the GBGV did reign supreme taking BIS and BPIS!

Best Dog, Best of Breed and ultimately Best in Show was Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM, Reserve Best dog was their Gairside Ferdinand JW ably handled by Jenna Betts. Best Puppy Dog was Viv Phillips Debucher Kasper. There was a clean sweep in bitches for Viv Phillips with Best Bitch going to Debucher Fifi and reserve to Debucher Letitia who at her first show was Best Puppy and Best Puppy in Show. Best Veteran was my Ch Debucher Xfactor.

The other main awards were - Reserve Best in Show the PBGV Soletrader Bobs Your Uncle, Best Opposite Sex in Show the PBGV Fox's Nightmare Jessica Biel at Maudaxi (Imp Rus), Reserve BPIS the PBGV Beaujons Vagabond at Monkams and Best Veteran in Show the PBGV Culdaws Diesel from Marunnel. Thanks to the photographer Tim Jennings, all the class winners and major winners photos are now on the website!

Following the show there was a brief break so the stewards (and committee members) could have some lunch, where Peter Marks' chilli and Geraldine Dodd and Jan Bishop's cakes went down a storm and on to the fun show. There were 8 classes judged by Dawn Green. Unfortunately I don't have a list of winners but I have never seen as many wagging tails as in that ring, nor have I ever seen so many poor sausage catches in the BGV fraternity. I think they worked out early on in a joint meeting that if they failed to catch the sausage they still got to eat it and then had a number of other chances to "catch" the sausage - very sensible of them in my opinion! Best in Show was an interloper in the shape of Jules Metslaar-Williams' Deerhound, Ash, who won a beautiful sash that I know is pride of place. Everybody needs to put the dates of 21 July and 30 September for the next fundays in Scotland and England in their diary!

It was good to see Judith Robin-Smith enjoying the judging at ringside and for those on social media it is fascinating to see the old pictures of when the BGV show was last at Weedon Bec in 1992!

Our next club event is the AGM on 22 April at Dry Drayton village hall - I hope to see a lot of you there. Hopefully by then we will have seen a little more of that rare yellow thing in the sky that I have heard rumours is called the sun!

20 / 4 / 2018

AS I CYCLED TO WORK this morning wearing shorts in the sun (yes the sun!) it got me pondering about what a difference a day makes, the world looks a better place in the sunshine and with all the daffodils in bloom and the blossom finally on the trees let's hope the winter is finally behind us and we can look forward to the summer show season.

Anyway, Hound Association of Scotland saw an entry of 9 with 1 absentee for Ed Casey. He found his Best Dog and Best of Breed in Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Reserve Best Dog was their Tarmachan Ice Cool Glenariff and Best Bitch was his sister Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine. Reserve Best Bitch and Best Puppy was Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day.

In the stakes classes the GBGV were highly respected with Ice Diamond placed 2nd in the Junior Stakes under Irene McManus, Gordon Haran judged the Puppy Stakes where Independence Day was third and the Yearling Stakes where Ice Cool won the Dog class and Ice Diamond was 4th in the Bitch class. Irene McManus judged the Breeders class which was topped by the Tarmachan Hounds.

But then to crown a fabulous day Pam Marston-Pollock judged BIS and awarded it to Fergus! A fabulous achievement. In fact it was an entire French scent hound line up as the PBGV Ch Soletrader Magic Mike was runner up, in third position was the Basset Fauve Whistlewood's Arran Pilot for Shiroblam and fourth the Griffon Fauve Hibeck Dino - a first for an import register dog to be placed in the group! Not to be outdone Independence Day was shortlisted in the BPIS competition.

On behalf of these breed notes I send my congratulations to Fiona and Mike for a day of dreams and I hope they have finally come back to earth!

This weekend sees the BGV Club AGM to be held on Sunday 22 April at Dry Drayton Village Hall commencing at 10am. There were no counter nominations for the Secretary post which was due for re-election this term, as such Linda Skerritt remains in post. And, with only 1 nomination for committee and due to increasing the size of the committee last year, there remains 1 vacancy. I hope to see some of you there.

27 / 4 / 2018

APOLOGIES TO GAIRSIDE GOOD LORD JW ShCM and his owners Colin and Ann Makey for omitting last week that at Wellingborough and District he had gone Best of Breed under Debbie Ellrich and subsequently Hound Group 1 under Melanie Dunn. He topped this again at the weekend by going Best In Show at Humberside Hound show. Here Matt Garnham judged the breed and Alan Curry Best in Show.

The BGV Club held their AGM on Sunday 22 April and had much less attending than usual with a number saying it was too far to go just for the meeting. The move this year was to make way for the anniversary fun event on the same day but the good news is next year the AGM will again be in conjunction with the Open show. During the meeting the Club's annual points trophies were announced and the winners were as follows:

GBGVs CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS	DOG	OWNER
FLAMBEUR TROPHY - TOP GBGV	CH/IR CH TARMACHAN CARTIER	FIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLAREN
JACLIN COASTER - BOS	CH/IR CH TARMACHAN FLORENTINE	FIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLAREN
GAIRSIDE SALVER - RESERVE MALE	GAIRSIDE GOOD LORD JW ShCM	COLIN & ANN MAKEY
MILTON CUP - RESERVE FEMALE	GAIRSIDE GOOD GRACIOUS	COLIN & ANN MAKEY
GAIRSIDE SHIELD - TOP PUPPY	TARMACHAN ICE DIAMOND	FIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLAREN
HOOTSMON TANKARD- RES TOP PUPPY	TARMACHAN NICE OVER ICE	FIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLAREN
DEBUCHER TROPHY - TOP SIRE	CH/IR CH TARMACHAN ALBANWR	FIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLAREN
DUNTECH TROPHY - TOP DAM	CH/IR CH TARMACHAN ARC EN CIEL	FIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLAREN
JACLIN TROPHY - NON-CC WINNER	WILMIT ECLIPSE	DANIELLE MACHENT
GBGVs OPEN SHOWS	DOG	OWNER
ZADAL TROPHY (LARGE) - TOP GBGV	GAIRSIDE GOOD LORD JW ShCM	COLIN & ANN MAKEY
MAUDAXI QUAICH - TOP MALE	GAIRSIDE GOOD LORD JW ShCM	COLIN & ANN MAKEY
RESERVE TOP MALE	IR CH CLAELE REAUMUR ShCM	PAM & CLAIRE MCGREGOR
ZADAL TROPHY (SMALL) - TOP FEMALE	NOT AWARDED	N/A
WILMIT TROPHY - RES TOP FEMALE	NOT AWARDED	N/A
BGVC TROPHY - TOP PUPPY	TIOGA LAUTREC WITH GRANDOREILLE	DANIELLE MACHENT
BGVC TROPHY - RESERVE TOP PUPPY	NOT AWARDED	N/A
CRUFTS 2018 GBGVs	DOG	OWNER
DEBUCHER SALVER - BOB	CH/IR CH TARMACHAN CARTIER	FIONA BUCHANAN & MICHAEL MACLAREN
DUNTECH SHIELD - BOS	MISS MAGIC VAN TUM TUM'S VRIENDJES	GWEN HUIKESHOVEN & IRIS REIJERKERK

This weekend sees the first outdoor show of the season, and although WELKS does not schedule classes for us, I know a few GBGV have entered in AVNSC under Frank Kane. Let's hope that the rain stays away.

4 / 5 / 2018

THE FIRST OUTDOOR SHOW of the season was WELKS and the Malvern Hills were covered in rain for the two days that I was there. I understand that limited judging took place outdoors on the Sunday, however all judging was indoors on Friday and Saturday. Being in Hall 5 on the Friday it was bitterly cold as all the doors were wide open and there was no heating on so it was with trepidation that I arrived in Hall 5 on Saturday for the Hounds. Although there was still no heating, the majority of the doors were at least shut. The only time the heating was put on was in the main ring just as the groups were going in!

There were no BGV classes scheduled, however there was a good entry of GBGV and PBGV in the Any Variety Hound classes for Frank Kane to judge. Of the three GBGV entered, Best Puppy went to Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille in his last Puppy class. Best Special Beginners was Hilary Knowles' Anya Hindmarch Avec Braillement. With BOB, BOS and Best Puppy Bitch all being awarded to PBGV, overall the BGV swept the board. Many congrats must go to Sara Robertson & Wendy Doherty for Best In show with Ch Soletrader Magic Mike.

This weekend I am heading off to cycle 300 miles in aid of Breast Cancer Care from Saint Pancras (London) to Amsterdam via Sint Pancras (The Netherlands). I will happily accept sponsorship via www.justgiving.com/fundraising/pancrassaintsc or alternatively hard cash at a show! I wish everyone else a fun filled, good weather bank holiday weekend and I will see some of you at National Dog show on Friday 11 May where Jill Peak has an entry of 26 and we are third in the ring after Deerhound and PBGV.

11 / 5 / 2018

JUST A FEW WORDS this week due to having not long stopped cycling!

I see from Facebook that Colin and Ann Makey had a sunny bank holiday weekend in Ireland with Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and Gairside Good Gracious picking up the main awards between them.

I will do a full report from Birmingham National for the 18 May notes.

18 / 5 / 2018

BIRMINGHAM NATIONAL was a bit cool underneath the outdoor tents, in fact I think it was warmer out of the tents! Hound day was a complete contrast to the day before when the sun shone brightly. Our Judge Jill Peak judged outdoors on both days and remarked that the day before she had been too hot and on Hound day too cold!

There was a respectable entry of 27, which was marred by 9 absentees. DCC and BOB went to Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch /Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, RDCC (his first) was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille (Ch Debucher Matisse ex Tioga Dot to Dot) bred by Anita Roberts. BCC, her second, was Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Gracious so it is now a race between her and her brother to see who gets made up first! RCC was Fiona and Michael's Tarmachan Ice Diamond,. BP Barabara's Wilmit Independence Day. Later in the day under Mark Coccozza Cartier was Group 2 . Many congratulations!

I only know of one stakes result which was 5th in the Special Beginners stakes for Yvonne Moul't's Debucher Zamba under Phil Freer.

This weekend sees us traveling over the border to SKC, it is also the weekend of the Elevage, the French national show - hopefully I will have results of both these for you in the next notes.

As always news and views welcome!

25 / 5 / 2018

EVERY YEAR I moan about my long journey to SKC and again I take my hat off to those Scottish exhibitors who undertake the journey regularly!

This year the sun shone brightly in Scotland which meant it was a shame to be indoors in the dull halls. Marita Rodgers was our judge, although we were only second after 38 Basset Hounds so did not get into the ring until gone 12.30. We had 18 entered minus 2 absentees. Dog CC and BOB was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, RDCC Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille. Bitch CC was Danielle's Ch Wilmit Gigi with Grandoreille, RBCC Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Gracious. Best Puppy (and shortlisted in the Puppy Group under Jill Peak) was Barbara's Wilmit Independence Day. Best Veteran went to Danielle's Wilmit Eclipse. The Tarmachan hounds also won the Hound Breeders competition under Anne MacDonald.

The same day as SKC the French Elevage took place and I must thank Anouk Huikeshoven for sending me the main results. The judges were Mr Couvert and Mr Oustrieres (Juniors, Champions & Veterans). Junior Dog and BOB Junior was Mingrand's Frozen Flakes owned by Gwen Huikeshoven and bred by Hanna Leinonen in Finland. CAC Male and BOB was from the Open Class, Milord Des Genevriers du Creusot bred and owned by Robert Galy. Working Males was won by Leon De La Terre Courage owned and bred by Patrick Puig. Champion Males was won by Frosty Snowman owned by Gwen and bred by Phil Reid.

In the Bitches Junior was won by Balloon Race Van Tum-Tums Vriendjes bred by Frans Huikeshoven and owned by Gwen. Bitch CAC and BOS came from the Open Class with Tinkerbelle van Tum-Tums Vriendjes owned and bred by Gwen. Champion Bitch was won by Daisy Duck Van Tum Tums Vriendjes. Working Bitch was won by Mont Joly Van Der Viersenhoeve who won RCAC. Unfortunately I do not have the results of the Veteran classes.

I hope you all enjoy your bank holiday weekend and the sun keeps shining.

1 / 6 / 2018

BATH SEEMED TO HAVE ALL EXTREMES OF WEATHER. I stewarded on the Sunday (day before Hounds) and at about 9.45am we had the mother of all thunderstorms directly above us and the heavens opened. Rain was pouring off the tents and the loud thunder did put some of the dogs (but mainly the handlers) off, and puddles soon formed. However by 1pm the sun was cracking the paving flags and the ground soon dried out.

Hound day greeted us with a heavy mist which soon lifted, however the sun didn't break through causing the day to be rather humid.

Sue Ergis had an entry of 9 hounds and we followed the PGBV and BFdeB in the ring so the French hound enthusiasts didn't have to move far. Best Dog and Best of Breed was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Reserve Best Dog Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM. They also picked up Best Bitch with Gairside Good Gracious. Reserve Best Bitch was Fiona and Michael's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine. Best Puppy was Hilary Knowles' Reggaedog Frodo (imp Svk) and she also got Best Special Beginners with Anya Hindmarch Avec Braillement. Anya was later placed 4th in the Special Beginners group under Jean Lawless – many congratulations. A special mention must go to Sara Robertson and Wendy Doherty for getting Best in Show with Ch Soletrader Magic Mike which was a repeat of his win the weekend before in Scotland.

Good luck to all of you at Southern Counties, I will be thinking of you all whilst I am at work.

8 / 6 / 2018

ANNE MACDONALD was our judge at Southern Counties and from an entry of 14 she had 12 present. Dog CC and BOB was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Bitch CC was Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM who was also Best Veteran. Reserve CCs went to the litter mates Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and Gairside Good Gracious owned by Colin and Ann Makey. Best Puppy was Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day. Indy also gained 5th in the AV Hound or Toy Puppy Bitch Eukanuba Pup of the Year Stakes under Anne MacDonald.

Although we are in the thick of the show season there doesn't seem to be much news out there... please remember to share your open show wins with me or in fact any information about anything would be nice.

15 / 6 / 2018

MARK COCOZZA JUDGED the GGBV at Three Counties and, from an entry of 18, there were 3 absentees. Continuing his run of success, Dog CC and BOB was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier. Reserve Dog CC went to Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet. Bitch CC and her all important third one was Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Gracious, who subject to KC confirmation can carry the title of Champion. Reserve Bitch CC and Best Puppy was daughter of the BOB, Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day.

Fergus went on to take Group 3 under Sue Ergis who had recently given him BOB at Bath. Barbara also had a good show as she got the CC and BOB with her Dandie Dinmont Jenny who was also shortlisted in the group following her break from the ring on maternity duties.

I believe a number of people supported the Hound Club of East Anglia where the sun shone gloriously all day. The judge was Glen Dymock and BOB went to Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM who was shortlisted in the competition for BIS under Sue Cole and also won best overall veteran. Best Puppy and Reserve Best of Breed was Yvonne Moul's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat.

Good luck to all of you venturing north of the border to Kelso for Border Union this weekend. It will be the first time in many years I will miss this show, it is certainly one of my favourites of the year!

22 / 6 / 2018

IT WAS A SHAME to miss Border Union this year as I always find it a relaxing show set just outside the idyllic town of Kelso. I believe from my roving reporters that the weather was distinctly better on Hound day than the day before with judging able to be held outdoors. I did feel for the committee as two days prior to the start of the show the Borders were battered with up to 60mph winds and the scaremongers were soon on facebook with a picture of a damaged tent. However others were soon jumping to the defence stating that the marquee contractors had acted quickly and undertaken the repairs needed.

Our judge for the day was Fran Mitchell of Bronia Dachshund fame. She last judged us without CCs at Leeds last year so that maybe affected the entry which was just 8 and all were present. BD & BOB was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Reserve BD was Pam and Claire McGregor's Ir Ch Claeala Reaumur ShCM. BB was Fiona and Michael's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine, Reserve BB their Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Best Puppy and shortlisted in the puppy group under Nick Gourley was Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day.

A reminder that information is on the BGV club website about the BGV Club Scottish fun day which will take place on Saturday 21 July at Carnock & Gowkhall Community Centre, Dunfermline. There is a vast array of classes and it is well sponsored with goody bags and rosettes for all places in the classes.

29 / 6 / 2018

BLACKPOOL WAS SLIGHTLY OVERCAST but still very warm however and by the time the Groups went in the sun was shining. The days prior to and following Hound day were glorious back to back sunshine. There was a bit of excitement on the Friday when a dust storm/mini tornado passed over the show ground whipping up a steward's box taking with it prize cards and CCs, it was so eerie standing there watching it and then suddenly grabbing on to umbrellas as they tried to take off.

Martin Sanders had a fabulous entry of 20 with only 2 absentees without CCs which was a vast improvement on last year's 6. BD and BOB was the unbeaten for 18 months Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier with his sister Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine Best Bitch, both are owned and bred by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren. Reserve Best Dog and Best Junior in Breed was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille, Barbara also won Reserve Best Bitch and Best Puppy with Wilmit Independence Day.

Cartier was shortlisted in the Hound Group judged by Mike Gadsby. There was a little confusion as the steward asked Fiona to use the ramp normally reserved only for the Basset Hound as Mike Gadsby had recently undergone an operation. Thankfully "Fergus" seemed to take it in his stride and ambled up the ramp after a little persuasion. The only result I know about in the stakes classes was Yvonne Moul't's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat who was 5th in the Special Beginners Bitch Puppy Stakes under Robin Searle.

6 / 7 / 2018

WINDSOR IS A GLORIOUS SHOW with the castle in the background and the spacious in/out of tent layout. The grass is always short, however this year due to our summer it did look a bit scorched in places. The weather for all 4 days was absolutely glorious but unfortunately there were still calls about people having left dogs in vehicles. I just cannot understand the mentality of people who do that especially as Windsor was allowing spectator dogs on to the showground. I know that a number of GBGV exhibitors took advantage of the well utilised campsite by the river. The only thing missing this year was the Pimms stall (as noticed by Ray Milton)!

Our judging took place on Thursday by Eddie Webster who was awarding CCs for the first time in the breed. Dog CC and BOB was Fiona and Mike's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Reserve Dog CC was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille. Bitch CC went to Colin and Ann Makey's newly crowned Ch Gairside Good Gracious with Reserve Bitch CC and BP going to Barbara's Wilmit Independence Day. Best Veteran was Danielle's Wilmit Eclipse. Macey (Eclipse) was shortlisted in the Veteran Group under Dr Andreas Schemel. Many congrats also to "Indi" who won the day's Bitch Puppy Stakes under Graham Hill.

All of you should have by now received your copy of The Voice magazine, within which you will find a health questionnaire, please complete and return it as it will provide valuable information for the wellbeing of our beloved breed.

13 / 7 / 2018

THE SUMMER CONTINUED FOR EAST OF ENGLAND where luckily there was a bit of breeze blowing through the outdoor tenting. The rings were large with plenty of shade and the majority of the grooming areas were also in the shade under tenting. The committee had placed a number of paddling pools or large buckets around the showground to be able to dunk the dogs in once they had finished. I always think it is a shame here that the BIS ring is indoors where it appears much duller.

Steve Jepson (Eardley) had a good entry of 16 over 5 classes with 11 present on the day. Best dog was Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM, Reserve Best Dog Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille. Best Bitch and BOB was Danielle's Ch Wilmit Gigi with Grandoreille, Reserve Best Bitch and Best puppy Vivien Phillips' Debucher Letitia who was short listed in the Puppy Group under Glenn Davies. Best Veteran was Danielle's Wilmit Eclipse.

I see from one of the GBGV groups on Facebook that Jolanda Huisman posted that Mr Hubert Desamy had passed away aged 98 years. He was the grandson of Paul Dezamy who created the "type" of GBGV that we mainly see in the ring today. Our condolences to his family.

Anders Tunold-Hanssen's open show critique is now on the club website. This weekend sees the Houndshow on Saturday with notices already going out that all judging will take place indoors due to the excessive heat - a bold move by the committee. They have also communicated a zero tolerance on dogs in cars, so please if you do have to bring additional dogs with you visit the secretary's office to register them as spectator dogs. Then on Sunday I will be attending the KC Breed Education Coordinator (BEC) training day as the BGV BEC - I will give you a run down on both in next week's notes.

20 / 7 / 2018

LAST WEEKEND SAW THE HOUNDSHOW on its earlier date in July. Prior to the show they had put a notice out to state that all judging was to take place indoors due to the excessive heat that was forecast. We were based in the Prestwood centre and, whilst the ring was large and there were spacious grooming areas, the hall was stifling hot with no air whilst judging took place. At one point I even went outside to cool down!

Alan Mease started promptly at 9am0 with the GBGVs. He had an entry of 24 with 4 absent on the day. Dog CC and Best of Breed was a first after a number of reserves for Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille, reserve to him was his father, Ch Debucher Matisse owned by Vivien Phillips and Claire Cooper. Bitch CC was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine with the reserve going to Barbara's Wilmit Independence Day. Best Puppy was Yvonne Moul't's Zamdilsa Trick or Treat (Ivy) Best Veteran Danielle's Wilmit Eclipse and Best Special Beginner went to Hilary Knowles' Anya Hindmarch Avec Braillement.

Group judging was called for at 2.30pm and yet at 6pm we were still going. However this did not matter to Yvonne as Ivy went all the way to BPIS under Marie Bryce-Smith. Many congratulations to Yvonne as Ivy is her first homebred Grand.

In the stakes classes Indi was 2nd in the Junior Stakes under Graham Hill and Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM won the Bred by Exhibitor Open Stakes under Nick Bryce-Smith. Many congratulations to everyone.

On Sunday I got up early to attend the Breed Education Coordinator (BEC) information day. From the 183 breeds approximately 150 BECs attended the day. Although it was hard going with a lot of information packed in, I found it incredibly useful. I now think I fully understand the new judging process and am confident that I can undertake the role successfully, however it will need an awful lot of assistance and support from you guys as GBGV owners, breeders and judges. What was also useful is the KC provided us with an article around the BEC and the new system which can now be seen on the club website at bgvclub.co.uk/judges-competency-framework.

27 / 7 / 2018

A NUMBER OF OPEN SHOW WINS to report on as there were no Championship shows last week. At Alfreton & District Canine Society Yvonne Moul't's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat (Ivy) won Best AVNSC Hound Puppy and Puppy Group 2 under Anouska Simpson, and then at Frecheville - Sheffield & District Canine Society Ivy was again Best AVNSC Hound Puppy under Zara Boyle and then Puppy Group 1 under Mr S Atkinson. Many congrats.

Colin and Ann Makey had a trip over the channel to Liege where on both days Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM was Dog CAC, CACIB and BOB with his litter sister Ch Gairside Good Gracious picking up Bitch CAC, CACIB and BOS.

I hope you and your hounds are staying cool in this wonderful weather.

3 / 8 / 2018

THE WEATHER CERTAINLY CHANGED FOR LEEDS. Those of you with gardens would say for the better, however it did feel as if it went from one extreme to the other. Bert Easdon was our judge and out of 15 entered he had 13 present. Best Dog and Best of Breed was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier who was later shortlisted in the Hound Group under Mike Caple. Reserve Best Dog was Pam and Claire McGregor's Ir Ch Claella Reaumur ShCM. Best Bitch went to Colin and Ann Makey's recently crowned Ch Gairside Good Gracious, with Reserve Best Bitch and Best Puppy going to Yvonne Moul't's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat. It is good to see that the judge's critique is already live on the Our Dogs website.

In conjunction with Leeds was Border Counties Hound Club, where Ilex Whiting judged the breed and Colin Woodward BIS. Colin and Ann Makey love this show as for the third time in succession BIS was awarded to Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM. Best Puppy and BPIS4 went to Yvonne's Ivy. Many congrats to everyone.

The World Show will be quickly upon us, there are 9 GBGV entered at the Benelux Winners show, 5 at the Group 6 specialty and 15 at the World Show.

10 / 8 / 2018

IT SEEMED STRANGE THIS YEAR ambling down to Paignton on the Saturday afternoon rather than dashing down following completion of judging at the Houndshow as has been the case for the past few years. The weather was certainly scorching, and as we were third in the ring behind Whippets and Basset Fauve De Bretagne most GBGV exhibitors set up in shaded areas away from the ring (as it was extremely difficult to reach earlier in the day) and slowly moved towards the ring as the Whippets moved out.

Our judge for the day was Tom Johnston giving CCs for the first time and, from an entry of 19, he had 4 absentees. Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren gained 4 of the 5 major awards with Ch /Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier winning DCC and BOB, Tarmachan Ice Diamond winning her all-important third BCC and therefore can now call herself a champion, RBCC was her mother Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine and their new puppy at 6 months and a few days Macaroni V Tum-tums Vriendjes Of Tarmachan (imp Ned) gaining Best Puppy. RDCC went to Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet.

The Group was being called as the DCC was handed out, as such when she got BOB Fiona loaded Fergus in to a cage on the trolley and ran him from the far tent in to the hall where the group ring awaited. He seemed more than happy with that mode of transport, where as poor Fiona was a bit hot and flustered. I only saw one stakes result and that was Wilmit Independence Day owned by Barbara Milton gained 3rd in the Junior Stakes under Martin Sanders.

In conjunction with Paignton was the South West Hound Club where our judge was Mike Denny. Unfortunately I don't have a catalogue but I think he had an entry of about 10 over 2 classes. Here Best of Breed was Danielle Machent's and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille and Best Puppy was Yvonne Moul't's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat. I believe that there was a bit of controversy for BIS at this show, as the judge (who I understand was foreign) did not individually assess all the dogs, but merely placed a hand on them all prior to picking 4 out (which is often how continental judges judge a group).

I am off now to the World Show in Amsterdam, only with the Tibetan Spaniels, but I am looking forward to watching the GBGV judging and enjoying the basset breeds' party which is scheduled for Friday where visitors

from around the world from all the basset breeds are invited to celebrate our dogs. I will give a full report next week. Finally good luck to all those entered at Bournemouth where Judith Robin-Smith has 12 entered.

17 / 8 / 2018

THERE WILL BE ONE WORD that sums up the World Dog Show – Frosty!!!

First an overview. It all kicked off on Thursday 9 August with the Benelux Winners Show. Organised chaos springs to mind when thinking of the parking (it took us 1 hour to get in to the car park). I didn't get to see any GBGV judging until the World Show day but thankfully, due to the online catalogue and pretty much instantaneous results, I could keep an eye on the proceedings. The judge was Janusz Opara from Poland and the results from 9 entries were:

Dog CAC, CACIB & BOB (later Group winner and BIS 3) Frosty Snowman, owned by Gwen Huikeshoven and Phil Reid, bred by Phil Reid.

Reserve Dog CAC & CACIB Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier owned and bred by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren.

Bitch CAC & CACIB Tarmachan Ice Diamond owned and bred by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren.

Reserve Bitch CAC & CACIB Tinkerbelle Van Tum-Tums Vriendjes owned and bred by Gwen Huikeshoven.

Best of Breed Junior Mingrands Frozen Flakes owned by Gwen Huikeshoven and bred by Hanna Leinonen in Finland. He was also Junior Group 2.

Best Minor Puppy (4-6 Months) Black Majesty My Trouble Only owned and bred by Iva Raic from Croatia.

The Group 6 speciality show was judged by Jose Luis Payro Duenas from Mexico who again had 9 entered and the results:

Dog CAC and BOB was Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier – this win made him eligible to be a Dutch Champion as at all three shows it was a double CAC awarded and he had gained the CAC the previous day due to Frosty already being a Champion.

Reserve Dog CAC was Eneossens Alvar Aalto owned and bred by Catrin Hulten from Sweden.

Bitch CAC was Miss Magic Van Tum-Tums Vriendjes owned and bred by Gwen Huikeshoven.

Reserve Bitch CAC was Tarmachan Ice Diamond.

Best Puppy was Sunflower Van Tum-Tums Vriendjes owned and bred by Gwen Huikeshoven.

Best Junior was Enemossens Heart Of Iva Owned and bred by Catrin Hulten.

Best Working was Plaisir Du Coeur Van de Viersenhoeve owned and bred by Karin van Viersen.

The World Show saw Jan Coppens from the Netherlands centre stage and he had an entry of 15:

Dog CAC, CACIB and BOB went to Frosty Snowman.

Reserve Dog CAC, his son Mingrands Frozen Flake.s

Reserve dog CACIB Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier

Bitch CAC & CACIB Tarmachan Black Ice owned by Gwen Huikeshove, bred by Fiona Buchanan and Mike MacLaren.

Reserve Bitch CAC & CACIB Black Majesty Farondole owned and bred by Iva Raic from Croatia.

Best Minor Puppy was Black Majesty My Trouble Only.

Best Puppy was Forget Me Not Van Tum-Tums Vriendjes owned and bred by Gwen Huikeshoven.

Best Working was Plaisir Du Coeur Van de Viersenhoeve Owned and bred by Karin van Viersen

Best Veteran was Black Majesty Farondole who was Best Veteran in Show.

Flakes won the Junior Group and returned on the final day to become reserve Best Junior in Show, Frosty won Group 6 and then won BIS under Rony Doedjins. On behalf of us all I send congratulations to Gwen Huikeshove and Phil Reid. Phil himself was a big winner as his and Dianne's Ch Maudaxi Jimmy Choo won BIS Progeny at the World Show.

With all this excitement I must remember that Bournemouth took place. Judith Robin Smith was centre stage on what I gather was a wet day so all judging took place under cover. From an entry of 12 Best Dog and BOB was Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW SHCM. They also gained Best Bitch with Ch Gairside Good Gracious. Val Jackson and Peter Marks picked up both reserves with a mother son duo, Duntech Georges was Reserve Best Dog and also Best Puppy, with Coco Chanel at Duntch Reserve Best Bitch. I see that Hilary Knowles won the Special Beginners class with Anya Hindmarch Avec Braillement so I presume that she was Best Special Beginner even though it isn't stated on Higham Press.

The summer madness moves on to Wales (which will be my fifth country in less than a week!) See you all there!

24 / 8 / 2018

ALTHOUGH THE SUN WASN'T SHINING so brightly for Welsh Kennel Club the whole weekend was predominantly dry and judging took place outdoors for most, although we were in a tent.

Pam Aldous-Town judged the breed which was her first appointment since Birmingham National in 2012. She had an entry of 18 – 5 males and 13 bitches present, with 1 from Veteran Bitch absent. Her dog CC was the all-conquering Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier owned by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren who also won the

Bitch CC with new Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Reserve Dog CC was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille, and Barbara picked up the Reserve Bitch CC with Wilmit Independence Day.

Best Puppy at her first show, aged 6 months on the day, was Sue Marshall's Soufriere One Vision, handled in the breed by Lesley Jones and in the Puppy Group by Sue. This was judged by Espen Engh. Best Veteran and shortlisted in the Veteran Group under Christina Chapman was Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM.

I only know of one stakes class result which is that Independence Day was second in the Junior Bitch Stakes under Keith Pursglove.

Schedules are now available for the upcoming Club Championship Show, these are available at www.fossedata.co.uk, www.bgvclub.co.uk/club-shows and from Show Secretary Colin Makey. Judges are Linda Mackenzie undertaking the breed and Imogen Clark doing the Stakes Classes. Val Jackson is the Best in Show and Junior Handling judge. The show is on Saturday 24 November at the Sports Connexion, Ryton on Dunsmore, and entries close by post on 29 October and online at midnight on Monday 5 November 2018.

31 / 8 / 2018

EVERY TIME I CROSS THE BORDER to SKC I take my hat off to the Scottish exhibitors who do the trip week in week out!

Robert Greaves was our judge and from an entry of ten he had 9 present (5 dogs and 4 bitches). Dog CC (number 35) and Best of Breed was Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier owned by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren. He was later shortlisted in the group under Phil Freer who has given him a CC previously and mentioned him in the recent Kennel Gazette article on the breed. Reserve DCC was Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debcher Bizet. Bitch CC (number 6) was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch Gariside Good Gracious, with Fiona and Michael picking up Reserve BCC with Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine. Best Puppy was Vivien Phillips' Debucher Letitia.

Many congrats to our smaller cousins who gained Hound Group 1 and Best in Show for Magic Mike, a Hound group veteran win for Ch Tangaer Rhapsody at Callydena ShCM and a third in the Hound puppy group to Afterglow Agnes Gru avec Jayanel.

Over in Ireland the GBGV flag was flown by Pamela MacGregor on the Irish circuit. These shows used to be so popular with the British exhibitors and it is a shame to see only three entered at each show. From the results I found on the internet, Ir Ch Claela Reaumur picked up 3 Green stars, 2 Best of Breeds and 1 group 3. Claela Avrille at Eardley picked up 3 Green stars and 1 reserve green star with 1 Best of Breed, and their puppy Dit Donc Du Greffier Du Roi picked up 1 green star, 1 Best of Breed and 2 reserve green stars. Many congrats.

As always news and views welcomed.

7 / 9 / 2018

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM was judged by Ben Reynolds-Frost, who had 19 entered with one absent. Team Tarmachan owned by Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren swept the board with BD and BOB going to Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier, Reserve Best Dog and Best Puppy to Macaroni V Tum-tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan, BB going to Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond and Reserves BB to Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine.

Best Veteran was Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM and Best Junior went to Barbara Milton's Wilmit Independence Day. The following day Barbara picked up the DCC and Best Puppy with her home-bred Dandie Dinmont Terrier Roger (Wilmit Chindit).

Previously it had been published that GBGVs would have 14 sets of CCs in 2019, so when both Heidi Allenby's and Frank Kane's names appeared in the Kennel Journal for giving CCs respectively at Bournemouth and Paignton next year, this sparked a lot of confusion as they were shows listed as having no CCs. Not to be feared our efficient club secretary Linda Skerritt was on to the KC who have now confirmed and GBGV actually have 16 sets of CCs in 2019-2021, the additional 2 sets being at Bournemouth and Paignton.

This weekend sees Richmond which has no GBGV classes scheduled, so if any of you are in AVNSC Hound there or at an open show be sure to tell me your results.

14 / 9 / 2018

A FEW NOTES FROM ME while Claire Cooper flies off to warmer climes for a well-earned break. There were just ten present in AVNSC Hound at Richmond, no GBGVs. This event is now the only general championship show of the year not to schedule GBGVs alongside PBGVs. The last time was in 2011 when the judge was Anthony Rees. Only two were entered with BB and BOB going to Amanda O'Day's Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire and RBB to Sue Marshall's Kandecx at Last at Soufriere so it is hardly surprising the classes were dropped. However, over the years a breed population can change substantially in any area of the UK and it seems a great shame that Richmond does not join the other shows and mount classes again. Despite the downside of location of venue, they might be pleasantly surprised.

At Darlington Tim Jones awarded BD and BOB to Fiona Buchanan & Mike MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier with RBD going to their Macaroni V Tum-tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan (Imp NL). BB and BP was Yvonne Moul's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat, RBB Buchanan & MacLaren's Tarmachan Ice Diamond, who recently became a

champion at Paignton. BV went to Danielle Machent's Wilmit Eclipse. And it was a thrilled Yvonne whose Ivy (Trick Or Treat) went second in the Hound Puppy Group judged by Simon Parsons.

Not entered at Darlington, Sue Marshall flew the flag for Grands at Sheringham & DKA show held at Frettenham, near Norwich. With breed classes judged by Graham Osborne (Beaters), her 7mth old home-bred Soufriere One Vision (Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM ex Silvamoon Saffron at Soufriere) went BOB and Hound G4, also topped the Hound Puppy Group under Maggie Holder (Mascotts).

The AHT recently provided information on their researches into whether PBGV height is correlated with genotype. In other words, were the POAG affected and/or carriers slightly shorter than the clear/normal dogs. The POAG mutation is in a gene called ADAMTS17. Humans that have mutations in this gene are invariably of short stature, as the gene also affects bone development. This of course had raised the question of whether there was some substance in this theory, as the slightly taller GBGV has never been affected even though GBGVs and PBGVs were originally born in the same litter (until early 1970s in France). Curiously, even though today we can have a GBGV on the lower end of the height range that is the same as a PBGV on the top end of the height range, there has been no evidence of any Grand being affected by POAG.

With this knowledge, the AHT did not consider it useful to take on board a comparative study. They say that, from researches, it looks like there are lots of other genes that also control height as well as ADAMTS17, so it is likely there is some variation of other genes within the PBGV and GBGV populations.

Onto a lighter subject, not long now to the third BGV Club fun day of the year which takes place on Sunday 30 September at Steventon Village Hall O13 6RR. Joan Robertson is masterminding the day and she can be found on 01235 851914 or joaniws71@gmail.com. What I can tell you is that she has been working hard contacting sponsors, who have been generous in donating all manner of prizes. After deduction of outgoings, proceeds of the day will be shared between the BGV Club's Welfare & Rescue fund and the Peek a Boo Trust. Entries for the fun classes will be taken from midday, with judging at 1pm. £5 gives a dog entry to any number of classes, which are 1. Puppy – up to 12 months old, 2. Prettiest bitch, 3. Most handsome dog, 4. Best sausage catcher, 5. Best rescue, 6. Best six legs, 7. Golden oldies – over 7 years old, 8. Child handling – up to 15 years of age, 9. Waggiest tail, 10. Best in Show – selected from the winner of each class. Club members are invited to bring friends and dogs with them, the more the merrier.

21 / 9 / 2018

I WRITE THESE NOTES FROM A SUN LOUNGER in Portugal listening to the news that parts of the UK are again being battered by high winds. I hope you and all your hounds are safe!

Following on from last week's notes, one more result from Darlington was Fiona Buchanan & Mike McLaren's "Mac" (Macaroni v Tum-Tum's Vriendjes) who was third in the Reserve Best Opposite Sex winners stakes under Ian Blackshaw behind Mike's favourite other dog, my Tibetan spaniel Pilsner.

Entries for South Wales, where Linda Skerrett is judging, are 17/22 which is considerably up on last year's eight. Certainly the venue and time of year aren't conducive to a high entry. So many people think back longingly to the days when SWKA was held not far from the Severn Bridge. Meanwhile have fun at Driffild where the entry is 20 for judge Stuart Mallard. I'll be thinking of you from the sun lounge.

28 / 9 / 2018

DESPITE SOME OF THE SCAREMONGERING WEATHER REPORTS on Facebook, I believe that the worst of the weather passed over on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Some of the trade stands suffered substantial damage but the show itself had a new layout and seemed to be unscathed. I understand that the weather was bright, breezy but with a definite autumnal chill. There was a party atmosphere for Danielle Machent who was celebrating a special birthday with a fabulous GBGV cake and some fizzy stuff.

Stuart Mallard was the judge and from an entry of 20, he had 2 absentees. To add to the party atmosphere, he awarded the Dog CC, his third after a rather large number of RCCs, to Colin & Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM, Reserve went to Fiona Buchanan & Michael McLaren's Ch / Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier. Bitch CC and Best of Breed was Fiona and Michael's Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Reserve BCC and Best Puppy was Yvonne Moul's Zamdilsa Trick Or Treat. Ice Diamond was shortlisted in the Hound Group under Dr Ron James.

Two reminders – firstly this weekend sees the BGV Club Funday on Sunday 30 September at Steventon Village Hall, Steventon, OX13 6RR. Entries for the fun show will be taken from 12 noon and judging starts at 1pm. There will be a number of other activities to keep you entertained, lots of prizes to be won, raffles to join in so take lots of pennies with you.

Second reminder – schedules are available for the BGV Club championship show, entries close on 29 October 2018 by paper and online on Monday 5 November 2018. Judges for GBGV are Linda Mackenzie with Imogen Clark undertaking the special stakes classes.

Finally plans are well under way for the first Breed Appreciation Day (BAD) with Multi Choice Exam (MCE). This will be held on Saturday 10 November at Corley Village Hall, Corley. Breed speaker will be Gavin Robertson. The day will commence at 09.30 with the PBGV and the GBGV in the afternoon starting at 1300.

This event is now advertised on the club website and BGVC's facebook page but, for more information please contact me. Booking form and further information will soon be available on the club website.

5 / 10/ 2018

THERE WERE BREED CLASSES but no entries for the second year running at Belfast. There were only two PBGVs entered and just one presented itself for inspection. Belfast is an extremely costly show for people from the mainland to travel to, my return ferry crossing costing me £350 and, as entries were significantly down in all breeds, it appears that many people took the cost factor in to consideration. However, it does make me consider how expensive it is for our Irish counterparts if they want to show in the UK week in, week out.

Whilst I was at Belfast, the BGV Club continued with its 40th Anniversary celebrations with a fun day held at Steventon Village Hall which I believe was extremely well attended. Pictures of the funday can be found on the BGVC website and the BGVC facebook page. Many thanks to Tim Jennings for being there on the day to take them for supplying them so quickly. Many thanks also to Joan Robertson and her team of helpers for organising the day and to Professor Peter Bedford for judging the fun show. By the pictures he had an array of entries presented under him.

A quick reminder that if you go to an open show and you have success, please let me know about it directly, as I would love to boast about it on your behalf in these notes.

This weekend sees the first indoor show of the season at South Wales and I hope to see some of you there.

12 / 10/ 2018

SOUTH WALES WAS BITTERLY COLD. Awaking the morning of a show to heavy rain always fills me with dread however it did brighten up as the day progressed. The following morning in Wales was even colder, with a need to scrape the windscreens before setting off.

Linda Skerit was centre stage, from an entry of 17 all were present. She found her dog CC (number 4 and hot on the heels of number 3) in Colin and Ann Makey's Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM which made the celebrations for his Champion party a little sweeter for them I am sure. Reserve Dog CC was awarded to Danielle Baston and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille. Bitch CC and BOB (number 6?) was awarded to Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Reserve Bitch CC and Best Veteran was Amanda O'Day's Ch Silvamoon Sweet Sapphire ShCM. Best Puppy was Fiona and Mike's Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan. "Mac" was shortlisted in the puppy group under Mark Coccozza.

Another weekly reminder about two things: firstly entries for the BGV Club show are being taken and close on line on 5 November 2018. Judges are Linda MacKenzie and Imogen Clark doing the Stakes which have increased prize money this year.

Secondly the BGV Breed Appreciation Day takes place on 10 November. This includes the multi choice exam which will be required going forward to judge the breed(s) at open show level.

In these quieter days of no Championship shows please do keep me updated with open show wins.

19 / 10/ 2018

THERE IS A CURRENT LULL in championship shows, so I beg you to please let me know your successes at open shows going forward.

The only news I caught a glimpse of on Facebook over the weekend was that Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren had ventured to the Hound Association of Scotland open show where Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond ended up Reserve Best in Show under Hannah Wayman and Macaroni v Tum-Tums Vriendjes at Tarmachan was shortlisted in the Best Puppy In Show competition. They have had a good run at this show this year as of course Ch /Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier was Best in Show at the championship show in April.

26 / 10/ 2018

WE ARE AT THE TIME OF YEAR where I am scratching around for news and none of you are being very forthcoming if you are venturing out in the world of open shows. However, Barbara Milton did ring me very excitedly last weekend as she had gone BPIS two days running with two different Dandie Dinmont puppies - many congratulations to you!

Also many congratulations to breeder Vivien Phillips whose 3yr old Debucher Yezebel (Ch Debucher Matisse ex Debucher Charisma) was third in the French hunting dogs league table. Winner of this was Frederic Mayeur's Marvel Du Levant De La Vielle Marne.

Last weekend was Discover Dogs based at the Excel in London -a big thank you to all and especially the dogs who took time out to be there at the breed booth over the weekend. I am not aware of any GBGV taking part in the competitions held at this event. However a big well done to Erin Robertson who competed in the Junior Handling final with her PBGV "Sophie". Erin was the youngest handler in the final, so what an experience for her. The final was won by Min Witheyman, who handled one of Diane and Phil Reid's PBGVs.

2 / 11/ 2018

MIDLAND COUNTIES saw Rachel Barney judging an entry of 8 (with 1 repeat). She found her Best of Breed in Vivien Phillips' Debutcher Letitia, who was handled by Rebecca Ellrich. Reserve Best Bitch and Best Puppy was Yvonne Moul's Zamdilsa Trick or Treat (earning a well received £20!) Best Dog was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille, Reserve Best Dog Mr & Mrs Kobuta's puppy Duntech Gilbert. Many congratulations to you all.

Entries close on Monday 5 November at midnight (online) for the BGV 40th anniversary year Championship show. Our judges this year are Linda Mackenzie for the breed and Imogen Clark judging the well sponsored stakes classes - these cost £3.00 to enter and first place can bag you £25.00. A worthy investment I feel! Also I need to mention that there will be stalls at the club show - one of which is Keen Kutz, so if you need any scissors or blades sharpening remember to bring them to the show.

Also on sale will be some mugs depicting the BGV club logo - £6, a GBGV(or PBGV) - £8.



Plus various colour leads at £6.50 and purses £10 each.



To pre-order any item, contact Kim Culyer-Dawson on 01255 317415 or kimgreen2003@yahoo.co.uk.

Also a number of BGV related items which were donated by Rose Phillips and much more so bring the cash. As always prizes for the raffle will be gratefully received.

Another thing to note is that there will be forms to complete to include your affix on a new BGV Club tablecloth. All the current ones used are now full so time to get your kennel name on the new one. This is at a cost of £15 and will be down in Club history for a lifetime.

Finally a reminder also that the BGV Club is holding its breed appreciation day on Saturday 10 November at Corley near Coventry, so if you haven't booked yet, please do so! Contact me for information.

9 / 11/ 2018

TWO SETS OF CLUB NEWS - firstly the Breed Appreciation Day has been postponed until a date to be confirmed (although it is likely to be towards the end of March). Please keep an eye on the Club website, Facebook page and of course these notes for more details.

Secondly, entries have been published for the forthcoming BGV Club championship show. Linda Mackenzie (Limier) has drawn an entry of 32 (including 3 NFC) and Imogen Clark has drawn an entry of 14 in the Stakes classes. More details about the show in the coming weeks.

I for one am glad that bonfire night is over and I count myself lucky that the fireworks around me only went on for 5 days. I have one dog who cannot stand them, gets so anxious and stands barking every time they go off which sets the younger male off as he is trying to protect him! There were only a few rather loud bangs that woke the GBGV up!

Entries have now closed for the final show of the year, LKA, and I see Crufts entries are now open. Before we know it, it will be the middle of the show season again!

While on the subject of championship shows, Linda Skerrett let me know that, despite her sending her South Wales GBGV critique to Our Dogs just over a week after the show, it hadn't appeared, either on the website or in the newspaper. She took this up with them yesterday and they replied "Like others, it is in a queue. We have masses of reports both Champ and General and all are getting in as soon as we can. Your report is placed in the issue dated 16.11.18". She said that didn't explain why it wasn't on the website and their further reply was "They only go on once we have dealt with the report, your report has only just been dealt with so will be on the website very shortly. We have about 500+ reports coming at us weekly and once the height of the dog showing season starts we get swamped". Linda says, miraculously, it has now appeared on their website but she does wonder whether it would had she not chased them. Someone else had commented that, if they cut back on their reports of overseas shows, this would allow for more UK critiques to get printed soon after the show. Everyone nowadays expects communication to be instant, so it is hardly surprising judges are looking to other ways to get their critiques published in a more timely fashion.

16 / 11/ 2018

VERY LITTLE to report this week – it appears we have all gone into hibernation before the club show! Talking of which, judging starts in both rings at 10.00am, with the Stakes classes following BIS. There is another event on at the Sports Connexion that day – the Nordic Show, so please make sure you are in the correct hall. We are (as usual) in the Cricket Pavilion.

Geraldine Dodd wrote with the bumper November Limited Odds Draw where the winners were as follows: £50 Lynne Scott, £25 Dianne Reid and £12 to Sue & Nick Marshall.

23 / 11/ 2018

CLUB SHOW WEEKEND is upon us, a reminder about what is available on Saturday:

Linda Mackenzie is judging 29 GBGV commencing at 10 am. Alan Curry has approx. 50 PBGVs, again starting at 10am. There are 3 Junior Handlers for BIS judge Val Jackson to go over at lunch time. Following Best in Show Imogen Clark has 12 entered in the GBGV stakes classes and Richard Bott has 20 in the PBGV stakes.

As it is the final event in the 40th year celebrations I hear rumours that there may be cake available. Stalls wise, Kim Culyer-Dawson will be manning a stand selling lots of BGV memorabilia which has been donated by Rose Phillips, additionally available will be Club mugs, breed related ones, dog leads and purses. Also Keen Kutz will be available for all your sharpening needs, there will be dog bedding on sale and, for all your Christmas present shopping, clever Jim Salmon will have his ever popular stall there. All of which are keen to take your cash from you!

Additionally a reminder if you want your affix recorded in Club history, you can get it embroidered on to the new Club table cloth for the reasonable price of £15 – so please remember to fill in the forms available.

I hope to see you all there – remember to bring lots of spare cash as I will also be stealing it from you for the raffle tickets, talking of which all donations will be gratefully received.

30 / 11/ 2018

CLUB SHOW WEEKEND HAS BEEN AND GONE which means we are hurtling towards the last show of the season, LKA. Indeed entry closing dates are looming for the first shows of 2019!

At the Sports Connexion, Linda Mackenzie started judging our breed at 10am (same as the Petits, but then there was a long hold up as it was decided she should wait to award Best of Breed at the same time as the PBGV Best of Breed was being awarded. This was followed by Sue Marshall taking pictures of the PBGV main winners, but immediately after that the judges were whisked off for lunch meaning the GBGV main award winners had to be quickly photographed after BIS and before the stakes classes could start. Why are we always treated as the poor relation?

Anyway on to the dogs. Linda Mackenzie awarded DCC (his second) and Best of Breed to Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille, Reserve Dog CC to Ellie Harris and Amelia Theodorou's Debucher Bizet. BCC (number 6) was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch Gairside Good Gracious, with Reserve Bitch CC going to my Ch Debucher XFactor. Best Puppy was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Macaroni V Tum-Tum's Vriendjes of Tarmachan with my XFactor going Best Veteran.

Val Jackson judged the Junior Handling and BIS. She awarded BJH to Erin Robertson. BIS was the PBGV Ch Soletrader Magic Mike who took the PBGV CC record from his mother on the day. Reserve BIS was the GBGV

Tioga Lautrec (Louie) – interestingly he was Reserve BPIS at this show last year. BPIS was Macaroni and Reserve BPIS was Sue Marshall's GBGV Soufriere One Vision. Best Veteran in Show went to the PBGV Ch Debucher Jezebel at Braego ShCM.

Imogen Clarke then judged the GBGV stakes classes which were well filled. She awarded the Junior dog/bitch class to Pam and Claire McGregor's Dit Donc Du Greffier Du Roi Mit Claela. There was only one entry in Post Graduate dog/bitch who was absent (in season at home!) and she awarded Open dog/bitch to my XFactor. I must say my mum was very grateful for the enhanced prize money in these classes donated by Phil Freer and Gavin Robertson as the £25 Poppy won paid for her fuel down – I however was not impressed that I didn't get to take it home!

Having the Nordic show next door it was nice to see a number of visitors pop in to watch some of the judging who normally wouldn't make it to the show. Also it was good to see Judith Robin-Smith appreciating the judging. Gavin and Sara Robertson had cake and fizz to celebrate Magic Mike being Top Dog All Breeds 2018 so it was apt he also broke the breed record as it meant a double celebration for them.

The two 40th anniversary cakes were cut prior to Best In Show by one of the founder members of the Club accompanied by Gavin Robertson and all exhibitors were invited to enjoy a piece. Thanks go to Kim Culyer-Dawson for baking the two cakes. A special mention must also go to Sue Marshall for taking the pictures all day, ably assisted by Tim Jennings when Sue needed to be in the pictures. Finally thanks to the four stewards who gave up their Saturday in order to ensure the show went on smoothly and Marion Gerrie who undertook the task of marking up official catalogues.

So that's it – our 40th anniversary celebrations are over. After last year's 30th anniversary championship show next year will be quiet in comparison!

We are getting to the time where we go into hibernation, as such I beg you that if you do venture out to a show you tell me what happens, merely placing it on Facebook and hoping I will see it will not guarantee you a mention in these notes!

7 / 12/ 2018

NEWS IS VERY THIN ON THE GROUND. Now I know that some of you are going off to open shows, so please drop me a quick line and let me know how you are all getting on.

The weather here is grim – Poppy is loving running in the field in the rain and wind, getting muddy chasing pheasants. I am not so keen as the steam mop is coming out very regularly to collect the dry mud that falls off her and the washing machine is over loaded. Hopefully we will start getting crisp frosty mornings back with no rain!

I gather there are now only a couple of GBGV mugs remaining so, if you want to buy one, contact Kim Culyer-Dawson on 01255 317415, email kingreen2003@yahoo.co.uk.

Tonight is our work Christmas party and Christmas tunes are playing in the office. It is scary to think that in just over two weeks it will all be over!

14 / 12/ 2018

I JUDGED THE BREED at South Yorkshire Hound Society on Saturday 8 December. From an entry of 7 I had 6 present. Best of Breed and later shortlisted in Best in Show under Robert Greaves was Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille. Reserve Best of Breed was Colin and Ann Makey's Ch Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM and Best Puppy was Duntech Gilbert. Good Lord also won the Junior Warrant stakes under Robert Greaves and the Reserve Best of Breed competition under Richard Bott.

I must say it was my first time at this show and it was an enjoyable day out, held at Elsecar Heritage Centre it certainly catered for all. A nice gesture from the show society was all Best of Breeds won a Christmas Pudding, Best Puppies won some shortbread biscuits and all the judges were presented with a box of chocolates!

The last show of the season is upon us – LKA, without the snow which fell last year. Then I am off to sunnier climes – Cairo for work!

21 / 12/ 2018

I AM WRITING THESE NOTES FROM CAIRO – business and not pleasure!

LKA saw the last show of the season. It was a long wait before we got in the ring, the judge before us had 50 dogs present in two breeds. Judging started at 9am and the GBGV finally got into the ring at just before 2pm, that averages at between 5 to 6 minutes per dog. However we must be grateful as the Norwich Terrier did not make the Terrier group due to them still being judged as the places were made. The late start did however mean that Fiona Buchanan had plenty of time to go in to the May Pacey Memorial Puppy Stakes with Macaroni V Tum-Tums Vriendjes of Tarmachan and win Puppy Dog under Espen Engh.

Our breed judge was Nigel Luxmoore-Ball who awarded an early Christmas present in the shape of a third and crowning CC to Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec with Grandoreille. All of his CCs have come this year and he was bred by Anita Roberts. Reserve CC and Best Puppy was Macaroni. Bitch CC was Fiona and Michael MacLaren's Ch Tarmachan Ice Diamond. Reserve Bitch CC was Barbara's Wilmit Independence Day and my Ch Debucher Xfactor was Best Veteran.

All that is left for me to say is enjoy your Christmas, ensure the hounds have fabulous presents and if you do venture to any shows let me know.

28 / 12/ 2018

WELL THE BIG DAY IS OVER - I hope you and your BGV had a wonderful day whatever you were doing.

Sue Marshall let me know that Parsnip aka Soufriere One Vision won Puppy of the Year at South West Essex Canine Association qualifying her for the Essex Top Dog competition. Many congratulations, good luck and don't forget to keep us updated!

Last week I forgot to mention the results of the Amsterdam Winners Show and the Holland Cup. At the Holland Cup, Best of Breed and Group 2 went to Gwen Huikeshoven's Mingrands Frozen Flakes. Incidentally Gwen won Group 6 and Best in Show with her PBGV Cookie Crunch Van Tum-Tum's Vriendjes. At the Winners Show, Best of Breed, Winner of Group 6 and ultimately reserve Best in Show went to the multi-titled Frosty Snowman. Many congrats to Gwen on a very successful few days of showing.

Enjoy the New Year celebrations.

CLAIRE COOPER 07855 255287, coopsy1981@icloud.com