

SUN SHINES ON HUISH CHAMPFLOWER FETE

September 3rd, 2018 – People turned up in their hundreds for Huish Champflower's late summer fête and dog show last Saturday (September 1st).

Sheep racing and Whack-a-Rat added new dimensions to the festivities, as did Mike White's 1927 Packard, fresh from North America and looking straight out of Al Capone's car fleet. The dog show was as popular as ever, attracting over 120 entrants across ten classes, as well as a dog agility contest in the second ring. The usual stalls selling books and bric-a-brac did a roaring trade in the September sunshine and profits from the event exceeded £2100, with proceeds going to local charities, including the Village Hall and St. Peter's Church.



Prize winners were:

Murdoch Cup (most points overall) – Gill Fleming; Crabtree Cup (cookery) – Gill Fleming; Coombe End Cup (produce) – Kim Chapman; Rose Bowl (flowers) – Gill Fleming; Gormley Cup (Children's classes) – Bea Martin; Craft Cup – Bea Martin.

In the Dog Show, Sarah Shepherd's 8-month old Golden Retriever Charlie was overall champion, whilst Reserve Best in Show was Freya Sealey's 10 year old German Shorthaired Pointer, Poppy. Poppy also took the red rosette for Best Rescue and (with Freya, aged 9) Best Child Handler, whilst Charlie was judged Most Handsome Boy.



The organisers were grateful to three dog show sponsors this year - WH Hendy, who provided the prize rosettes, Skinners Pet Foods who again supplied the delicious (for dogs) food prizes, and Verm-X Natural Animal Health Products, who provided cash awards for the winners as well as Verm-X prizes. Thanks were also due to the judges – Paul Yates of Deane Vets, Wiveliscombe in the show ring and Animal Behaviourist/Dog Trainer Janet Auton, who set up and managed events in the agility ring.

Other dog show category results were:

Best Working Dog - 1st Prince (Ollie Power), 2nd Lily (Rosie Hayward), 3rd Lily (Simon Bailey), 4th Badger (Margaret Hill).

Best Terrier – 1st Pudding (Peter Goodwin), 2nd Rolo (Steven Foxwell), 3rd Spotty (Luke Wescott) 4th Sage (Naomi Hurford).

Best Puppy – 1st Hank (Joe Humphries), 2nd Charlie (Lorna White), 3rd Cooper (Tracy Pearce), 4th Spotty (Jess Westcott).

Best Child Handler - 1st Freya Sealey (9) with Poppy, 2nd Naomi Hurford (5) with Sage, Maisie Kidner (10) with Bean, 4th Billy Thomsett (12) with Willow.

Best Six Legs on Display – 1st Honey and Susan Bailey, 2nd Rusty and Bob Williams, 3rd Lily and Rose Power, 4th Sage and Naomi Hurford.

Prettiest Girl – 1st Fly (Joe Humphries), 2nd Snowflake (Margaret Hill), 3rd Poppy (Freya Sealey), 4th Bridget (Sam Armstrong).

Most Handsome Boy – 1st Charlie (Sarah Shepherd), 2nd Bertie (Pat Fox), 3rd Hank (Joe Humphries), 4th Ollie (Mandy Tenbeth).

Most Inspiring Veteran – 1st Pudding (Peter Goodwin), 2nd Lily (Susan Bailey), 3rd Hugo (Peter Krijgsman), 4th Clover (Nicola Warner).

Best Rescue – 1st Poppy (Jo Sealey), 2nd Rusty (Bob Williams), 3rd Ellie (Linda Sharp), 4th Millipede (Maggie Gill).

Dog Most Like His/Her Owner – 1st Meteor (Sarah Shepherd), 2nd Bertie (Pat Fox), 3rd Rolo (Steven Foxwell), 4th Sage (Naomi Hurford).

Overall winner of the agility competition was Bob Williams from Oxford with Rusty, who completed the course in 16.35 seconds. Runners up were Hobbs (Emma), Toodle (Rachel) and Bean (Lucy Kidner). The good handling award went to Jess Westcott with Spotty.

Fete coordinator John Moore declared the event to be one of the best ever, helped by the good weather but most of all by enduring local enthusiasm for the event.

“We would like to say a big thank you to our sponsors, volunteers and visitors for making this such an enjoyable day,” he said.