

HUIISH CHAMPFLOWER FETE 2019

September 7th, 2019

The sun shone, steam engine whistles blew, dogs barked: it could only be the Huish Champflower late summer fête and dog show; and it was a cracker.

Old favourites such as the golden bucket (which reached a prize value of £48), skittles, find-the-fiver and Whack-a-Rat were joined by a new addition in "Play Your Cards Rights". This was situated between Daisy the cut-out cow, on whom visitors could polish their milking technique, and a defibrillator training tent where they could learn to save lives. (The Village Hall at Huish hosts one such device, donated by the British Heart Foundation and available 24/7.)

Books, bottles, plants and bric-a-brac stalls did a roaring trade, while hundreds of fête-goers kept the kitchen volunteers busy for three hours, serving tea and yummy jam scones. They also cleared the WI table of its delicious homemade cakes, pickled eggs and other produce. Mike White's steam engine rides delighted those brave enough to sample the complex pleasures of old-style travel, complete with squirts of oil and ear-piercing shrieks from the whistle. "Hair-raising," was one comment.

Competition prize winners were:

Murdock Cup (most points overall) – Sue Biss;
Crabtree Cup (cookery) – Joe Lewis;
Coombe End Cup (produce) – Sue Biss;
Rose Bowl (flowers) – Thomas Kennen and Caroline Adams;
Gormley Cup (Craft) – Alan Cooke;
Children's Cup – Eva Cooke.

In the Dog Show, Arnie Priest's 2-year-old Patterdale Terrier Maggie was overall champion, with Reserve Best going to Rachel Hurford's 5-year-old Spaniel, Toodles. Maggie was also named Prettiest Girl and Best Terrier, while Toodles came top in the agility and won the red rosette for Most Handsome Boy. Tommy Pincombe and Kerry Pincombe led the judging in the main ring, with Caroline Green and Jo Hutter running the agility classes. The dog show was sponsored by Skinners Pet Foods, WH Hendy and Verm-X Natural Animal Health Products.

Winners were:

Best Working Dog - 1st Lily (Paul Power), 2nd Toodles (Rachel Hurford), 3rd Keddie (Tiffany Jobson), 4th Kim (Di Shepherd).

Best Terrier – 1st Maggie (Arnie Priest), 2nd Sage (Leonie Hurford), 3rd Raddy (Michael Winterton) 4th Beau (Jay Lawley).

Best Puppy - 1st Sidekick (Joe Humphries), 2nd Red (Emma Bettridge), 3rd Honey (Melissa Clark), 4th Tolly (Paul Tam).

Best Child Handler - 1st Leonie Hurford (6) with Phoebe, 2nd Heidi Wilkinson (5) with Duggy, 3rd Scarlett Humphries (7) with Fly, 4th Jake Perry (10) with Tann.

Best Six Legs on Display - 1st Molly and Alison Bagley, 2nd Toodles and Rachel Hurford, 3rd Gessie and Noel Terry, 4th Mia and Ellie Reed.

Prettiest Girl - 1st Maggie (Arnie Priest), 2nd Lily (Paul Power), 3rd Annie (Di Shepherd), 4th Mia (Ellie Reed).

Most Handsome Boy – 1st Toodles (Rachel Hurford), 2nd Henry (Peter Moran), 3rd Sidekick (Joe Humphries), 4th Ambrose (Emilie Hardy).

Most Inspiring Veteran - 1st Sage (Leonie Hurford), 2nd Bo (Molly Abel), 3rd Beau (Jay Lawley).

Best Rescue – 1st Molly (Alison Bagley), 2nd Hazel (Tiffany Jobson), 3rd Pami (Jos Krijgsman).

Dog Most Like His/Her Owner - 1st Teddy (John Morrod), 2nd Mia (Ellie Reed), 3rd Tann (Kat Perry), 4th Sidekick (Joe Humphries).

Rachel Hurford and Toodles won the agility competition, completing the course in 32 seconds. Runners up were Hazel (Amy and Daniel Jobson) and Tann (George and Kat Perry).

Fête coordinator John Moore said, “I would like to thank all of our visitors, sponsors and volunteers for making it such an enjoyable day.”

