

The 2nd Annual **premier** Groom

Well over 300 people attended the 2nd annual **PREMIER GROOM 2009**, which took place at The Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh on 2nd August.

BEST IN SHOW was Margit Schonauer from Austria with a Kerry Blue. Margit beat 51 other hopeful competitors to take the title. This was the first time that European competitors had entered the competition coming from Austria and Spain, which makes this an even bigger feather in Margit's cap! The competition is an annual event organised by Redcape and Groom Team England with a Best In Show prize of £1000, this year sponsored by WAHL UK Ltd + Products. A total cash and prize fund of over £5000 was up for grabs, in addition to each competitor receiving goody bags worth over £50 each.

Classes were held throughout the day judged by Umberto Lehmann, Philip Langdon and John Averis who all received a commemorative glass award. Special judges were Julie Harris and Melanie Holmes-Winters who judged the Beginners Class.

All competitors received a groomers bag filled with goodies.

All 1st Places received £50, a plaque, rosette and a Les Poochs Groomer pack and a trophy.

All 2nd Places received £30, a plaque, rosette and Les Poochs Groomer pack.

All 3rd Places received £20, a plaque, rosette and Les Poochs Groomer pack.

Beginners Class sponsored by Mikki

1st Place – Laura Stout with a clipped West Highland White Terrier (also received a DoubleK blaster and a tool kit, provided by Mikki).

2nd Place – Linda Marchena – Miniature Schnauzer (also received Mikki grooming tools)

3rd Place Emma Smith – Giant Schnauzer (also received Mikki grooming tools)

Due to the high quality of the beginners class,

three extra prizes were awarded to Vicki Oaks, Elaine Lydon and Carole De La Pole who received Mikki products goody bags.

Handstrip Class sponsored by Dial a Dog

1st place also received a Handstrip knife set by Aesculap.

1st Place – Mich Dale – West Highland White

2nd Place – Jenny Hale – Schnauzer

3rd Place – Su Eld-Weaver – Irish Terrier.

Spaniels & Setters Class sponsored by Taste of the Wild

Winners also received taste of the wild dog food.

1st Place – Amy English – American Cocker (also received 13.5 kg taste of the wild dog food)

2nd Place – Cathy Chambers – English Cocker (also received 2.5kg taste of wild dog food)

3rd Place – Gisela Serra Masso – English Cocker (also received 2.5kg taste of wild dog food)

Pure Breed Scissor Class sponsored by 2 Sharpen and Tru Sharpe.

1st Place – Margit Schonauer – Kerry Blue

2nd Place – Dion Spice – Bichon

3rd Place – Jaume Fauria Pujol – Kerry Blue

Poodle Class sponsored by Fir Tree Grooming Academy

1st Place – Linda Michelle – Miniature Poodle

2nd Place – Su Eld-Weaver – Standard Poodle

3rd Place – Denise Westbrook – Standard Poodle

Workshop Class sponsored by Look North Grooming & Training Centre Ltd.

1st Place – Chrissie Warwick – Lhasa Apso

2nd Place – Gisela Serra Masso – Cross Breed

3rd Place – Jenny Hale – Cross Breed



■ Overall winners with judges and sponsors (L to R) Jerry Knoll & Claudia Franke (Les Poochs), Philip Langdon (judge), Margit Schonauer of Austria (Best in Show) Umberto Lehman (judge), Amy English (Reserve Best in Show), Simon Cheung (Redcape), John Averis (judge) and Nicky Darling (Wahl UK).



■ The 5 judges receiving their plaques in recognition of a job well done (L to R) Tracey Harris, John Averis, Philip Langdon, Melanie Winters-Holme, Umberto Lehman.

Reserve Best In Show

Amy English – American Cocker receiving £250 sponsored by Fir Tree Grooming Academy, £100 of Requal products and a trophy.

Best In Show

Margit Schonauer – Kerry Blue receiving £1000 sponsored by WAHL, a huge selection of Les Poochs shampoos, Requal products and a trophy.

Groom Team England Special Awards, selected by the Groom Team Committee in recognition of competition potential: This award is for groomers that have shown the most potential, that with a little more tweeking they could be on the very sort after Groom Team England in the future, the winners are:

Kelly Davis, Louisa Tandy and Susan Pratt who received a certificate, a rosette and a days training at either Look North Grooming & Training Centre Ltd in Keighley, Pretty



■ Winners in the Beginners section (L to R) Emma Smith (3rd place), Alison Rogers (Groom Team England), Laura Stout (1st place), Tracey Harris (judge), Melanie Winters-Holme (judge), Linda Merchena (2nd place).

Thank you to our main sponsors



Premier groom 2009

Paws grooming & training centre in Huddersfield or More Than Mutts grooming & training centre in Atherstone.

Throughout the day the event was being photographed by Steve Collins of Momofoto and these can be viewed and subsequently purchased via the website: www.momofoto.co.uk.

Doors opened at 8:30am for registration and the competition began with pre judging at 9am. Some very nervous competitors soon settled into their stride helped by the very warm welcome from the Groom Team

England committee. They were soon put at ease by the friendly and professional manner of the judges.

Joanne Angus, Groom Team Co-ordinator, gave an opening speech thanking all the sponsors, competitors and judges and everyone else concerned for their generous donations towards all areas of the competition. Joanne also gave a brief outline of what to expect throughout the day.

The first class started at 9:30am with a frenzy of clippers and scissors and the judges observed all the competitors closely looking

for style and technique and also handling skills. At the end of the competition, after much deliberation, the judges announced their top three choices of competitors from each class, but in no particular order.

After a welcome break for lunch prejudging for the afternoon competition began at 1pm followed by another tense and exciting couple of hours. During the judging of these classes, the raffle was drawn and the winners of the silent auction and the programme draw were announced. The judges then decided, in random order, the top three competitors from each class.

Also throughout the day were various seminars and demonstrations from Groom Team members Alison Rogers, Zoe Duffy and

committee member Becki Ensell, expertly managed by Diana North. These sessions proved extremely popular with the room full to overflowing in all cases.

The trade stands were busy all day with people spending their hard earned money and taking advantage of the available expertise and some incredible product promotions from Les Poochs and Wahl.

At 4:30pm the three successful competitors from each class took centre stage in the arena to be presented with their prizes and to pose for official photographs. At 5pm, to the sound of Dambusters music, the judges were re-introduced and presented with their commemorative awards. They then observed the five class winners entering the

ring individually to rapturous applause from the audience. The tension really began to build as the judges deliberated their choice for Best In Show.

Finally the judges reached their decision. They had one final walk along the line up and as the Superman theme music reached its climax a delighted Margit from the Purebred Scissor Class was announced Best In Show with Amy English from the Spaniel & Setter Class receiving Reserve Best In Show.

The £1000 cheque was presented to Margit by Nicky Darling, WAHL UK LTD, Animal Division Manager and the product prizes were presented by Jerry Knoll of Les Poochs, Europe.

Red Cape and Groom Team England would again like to thank all those who

contributed to the competition and to the many people who gave up their weekend to help ensure the smooth running of the day and also huge congratulations to Margit Schonauer.

Redcape and Groom Team England look forward to seeing everyone at the next Premier Groom in August 2010, plans are already underway and it promises to be even bigger and better still. Due to the huge success of this years event, support and sponsorship has already been pledged and interest from many companies has been forthcoming. Please see the website for more info www.redcape.co.uk or www.groomteamengland.com



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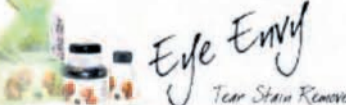


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