



Celebration Centenary of The Belgian Sighthound Club

Veterans



The Afghan Hound
Ch Orience du Menuel Galopin
BIS Day 1, #3 BIS Day 2



The Scottish Deerhound
Ch Cobby Chloe
of Dirty Mind
BIS Day 2, #2 BIS Day 1,
and BIS overall



The Saluki
Ch El Hamrah Riwaya
#2 BIS Day 2



The Scottish Deerhound
Multi Ch Aghadarragh Caelin
Veteran in Show, Day 1



The Irish Wolfhound
Gaeltarra Eireann The Ultimate
Junior in Show, Day 1



The Whippet
Boxing Helena's
Artlover of Nevedith
Puppy in Show Day 1,
sorry no photo of Puppy In
Show Day 2, the Borzoi,
Rubicon's Sun and Shadow



The Irish Wolfhound
New Manannan MacIlyr
della Bessa Pase
Junior in Show, Day 2



The Afghan Hound
Multi Ch Bocaccio El Aryana Shalym
Veteran in Show, Day 2

Some of the competitors
in braces, groups and teams



Salukis



Whippets



Sloughis



Italian
Greyhounds



Borzoi

I must admit that, as a former member of the committee and as a Saluki enthusiast, the club did a great job in organising its centenary. A congress was organised on Thursday and Friday by the separate sub-committees. On Saturday and Sunday a show was held, awarding a CAC title. On Thursday there was also an International Coursing event with CACIL. Unfortunately, due to other obligations, I was unable to be there, although coursing has always been very special to me, being the first one to organise a Coursing event in Belgium for the KBWC (Koninklijke Belgische Windhonden Club or Belgian Royal Sighthound Club). Centenary means that the club is founded a century ago.

Although the in 1880 a five-day show was held in Brussels, where 24 Sighthounds were exhibited, the club was only founded in 1902. Its first president was the very famous Comte Henri de Bylandt. This man became famous amongst dog fanciers as the writer of the first dog encyclopaedia, a work that in its original form is worth a fortune by now, as it is illustrated with numerous etchings and provides the breed Standards in 3 different languages.

But in 1902 the name of the club was still "Club Belge du Collie et du Barzoi"; changing into "Club Belge du Levrier et du Collie" in 1903, only to get its contemporary name after the First World War.

Belgium has always been known for its Borzois with many imports from Russia, including directly from the Duke's Kennels. Probably this is the reason why the logo of the club has 3 Borzois in its shield and no other sighthound breed. In 1923 the UICL (Union International des Clubs de Levriers) was founded in Ghent. Again Belgium was taking the initiative to unite all sighthound clubs internationally. Few among us know that the FCI is a Belgian initiative too and has its head office in Belgium.

It was decided to organise the show in open air on the vast sportsfields in Erembodegem nearby Aalst. The showground seemed convenient and the weather was ideal,