

news



Julie Guvercin from Swindon, with James the Top Puppy.
(Photo by Richard Hill)

James, the Perfect Gentleman

The top puppy in the UK is James (Ch Glebeheath The Gentleman) who was selected from an entry of 9000 to become the UK's top pup in the 26th annual Pup of the Year Competition.

James, a Chinese Crested Powderpuff pup, and his owner Julie Guvercin, were awarded the accolade at the finals staged in London last month.

James, from Swindon, was one of the thirty-one finalists at the event, all of which had earned their place by winning at heats held nationwide at championship shows. James qualified by winning his heat at the UK Toydog Championship show last year. Runner-up Pup of the Year was Mardi (Ch. Thelbern Mardi Gras), a Pomeranian from Shropshire.

Making a special guest appearance was last year's Pup of the Year winner Sh. Ch. Boduf Pistols at Dawn with Afterglow, the American Cocker Spaniel who subsequently went on to be Reserve Best in Show at Crufts '97.

This was the 26th annual Pup of the Year competition, this year sponsored by Spillers Beta Petfoods and Dog World. 'All the dogs here today are top class', said Beta Senior Brand Manager Judy Hollidge, 'with promising futures ahead of them.

'In the past great champions have started their showing career winning this event so we'll be watching James' progress very carefully'.