

Words from the Wookie!

At the last Briard Championship show in 2014 I was handled by Kayla (proper name Michaela – see humans have pet names as well as kennel names) while my Mum was stewarding and she was very good. Kayla had handled my older brother at Crufts the year before and won 3rd place.



Now we can't escape Kayla as she got into the shop in the middle of October with an opening date of November 1st. Dad, Mum, Kayla, her Sister and her Uncle all rolled up their sleeves so that we were ready for our opening party on the Thursday evening! Sam and I weren't invited and there were plenty of people who could have given up a cuddle and a bit of Kayla's Mum's vol-au-vents.

Mum and Dad went off skiing in January and Kayla came to stay to look after us. She brought Baloo with her (her new puppy) as you can see not a proper dog like a Briard but we play nicely with him because we know that we Briards have a reputation to maintain about being good with puppies and small children. He takes ages to eat pig's ears so I have to help him with that.



Towards the end of February I had to go in for my wash and brush up because Mum was taking me to the BBC Open Show to remind me what I had to do for Crufts. I looked pretty good although it took 3 hours. I was very good and resisted the temptation to bite the blower when it was pointed at my face but Kayla is always very patient and kind with Sam and I and even tidies up round our male bits and pieces carefully so it doesn't bring tears to our eyes!.

Then it was Crufts. Kayla was too busy in the shop to come with us so Toni Wescott-Smith, who has handled me before, took me in. I know that I have to behave with Toni so I did exactly as I was told and did my best to keep up with her long legs. Then the judge called me out first and I had to go up for the Challenge – well, as this was my second win at Crufts, I knew the routine and I also knew Mum would go silly with Toni when she came back with me and my rosettes.

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My moment of fame and glory was short-lived though because Mum's friend Elaine had her two Borzois groomed by Kayla and Anya (Angelina Spirit of the Czar Endeavour) won her class at Crufts as well so she and I have to share pride of place on a photograph on the shop wall.



That's what's so great about Kayla – she can do puppies, show dogs, nervous dogs and matted dogs with equal skill and send them all out looking like Crufts winners!

Big licks to you all – dictated by the Wookie (aka Beaugency Bugatti ShCM)