**Martigny, 5 September 2023**

**A busy end of the summer at the Barry Foundation**

**The Barry Foundation boasts two world champions and seven new puppies. First, “V’Barry” and “Lio” were crowned world champions at the World Dog Show in Geneva, then the breeding dog “Roxy” became a mother for the second time** **at the famous Swiss national dog kennel. You can already admire the puppies via webcam and then, from mid-October, at Barryland in Martigny (VS).**

At the end of the day on Monday 28 August 2023, “Roxy van de Burggravehoeve” alerted the entire kennel in Martigny that her puppies were due. She bravely endured the heat of recent days and now the puppies were ready to be born. The kennel staff present that day came to assist her in this long-awaited event in the ready prepared nursery. She gave birth to two males and five females in the evening, and both mother and pups are doing just fine. They will have a pedigree and be given names starting with the letter “R”. From the age of six weeks and depending on their development, the puppies can be admired at Barryland in Martigny (VS). In the meantime, the litter can be observed via webcams that broadcast their first steps live on our website www.fondation-barry.ch.

The Barry Foundation owns the world’s oldest breeding kennel for the Swiss national dog, with the aim of perpetuating the over 300-year-old breeding tradition in the home of the St. Bernards and preserving this special breed of dog at the Hospice. “Roxy,” a perfect representative of the breed, has an excellent character. Gentle and friendly, she was born in Belgium before moving to Valais to live at the foundation. The breeding dog has also completed a basic training to become a social dog. She will be responsible for accompanying people on various social missions. The father of the puppies, “Rigoletto de la Maison des Tartarin,” lives in France, near Paris.

**World Champions**

“V’Barry du Grand St. Bernard” was crowned World Champion at the World Dog Show in Geneva on Saturday 26 August. He was judged best of his breed out of no fewer than 25 dogs in the running. Having already won several awards, this title represents the crowning achievement for “V’Barry”, the highest honour a dog can be awarded in the world of breeding and racing. His victory also acknowledges the diligent work carried out upstream by our breeding team, who constantly strive to improve the St. Bernard breed through informed selection and careful monitoring of the well-being of each dog, while continuing our tradition of excellence in the world of dog breeding. For her part, the young “Lio du Grand St. Bernard”, aged just one and a half years, won the world title in the Young category. Manuel Gaillard, head of breeding at the Barry Foundation, considers her to be “very promising”.

**About the Barry Foundation**

Following its creation in 2005, the Barry Foundation acquired the famous St. Bernard kennel from the Canons living on the Great Saint Bernard Pass. Since then, it has owned the world’s largest and oldest breeding kennel for the Swiss national dog. This not-for-profit organisation is committed to ensuring the survival of the famous and legendary dog of the Great Saint Bernard Hospice, Switzerland’s national dog. The foundation has also set itself the task of bringing joy to as many people as possible through encounters with the St. Bernards. In doing so, it actively contributes to improving relations between humans and dogs. Around 30 St. Bernards live full-time at the Barry Foundation, with an average of 20 or so pedigree puppies born at the kennels every year.

**For further information please contact:**

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