

British Riding Clubs
Dressage to Music
Championships
3rd & 4th October 2009
Addington Manor Equestrian

A great result for The Solent Juniors
Justine Gwynn on Kilncopse Eclipse(Kate) 5th
Alice Walker on Wotton Superman(Percy) 9th

Justine qualified for the final at Sparsholt back in May this year, due to the number of entries at Sparsholt, Alice had to wait to hear from British Riding Clubs as to whether she had qualified? 2 weeks before the championships, Alice heard that she had, and as it could be Alice's last championship as a junior member, they decided to go at short notice.

With a few last panics over entries & stable arrangements (due to the postal strike, the paperwork had not been received) we were ready. We decided to stay over night whilst Alice & family decided to travel up on the Saturday. We arrived at Addington Manor where we were shown to our stable-Number 13? We did begin to wonder whether it would be unlucky 13, as there were also 13 competitors in their class. We had various other riding club members around us -Hampshire Rural, Chilworth, Farnham and members from Darlington, who arrived quite late after a 5 hour journey in high winds. In the front stable block we had one of the Quadrille Teams, still making costumes in their Lorries and running through their routines whilst they filled water buckets up.

Saturday 3rd - After sorting Kate and having breakfast, we had to present Kate with her Passport/Vaccination documents to the Riding club officials in the indoor warm up arena. After 2 near heart stopping moments when the lady checking the vaccinations dates miss read an 8 for a 6 and had to call another member over to clarify if the document was correct? Then miss read the vaccination batch numbers as dates! & once again called for another second opinion? ALL documents were correct, ok to go ahead and compete, that was once they had checked tack and dress code which they would do once mounted.

The Senior Elementary class was on first in the morning, we watched some of this class as Mandy Keen from Chilworth Riding club was competing. The time was now flying by and it was time to get Kate & rider ready.

Alice was first, riding to her compilation of Dance music from the films Fame and Flash Dance. Justine was next, and her music was from 100 movie favourites-Footloose, Pink panther and Lord of the Dance. Both Justine and Alice did extremely well out of 13 competitors in the 0 points section and should be very proud of themselves - *Well done to both of you..* The winning junior from Farnham Riding club rode her sweet little grey pony to music from The Little Mermaid.

Our Thanks must go to Aly Burgess who put together Justine's wonderful music, Denise Hallion, Sarah Bray for hours of practise in her school, Julia & Peter Carden for the kind use of their lorry & Mandy Keen for a plaiting lesson on the big day!

On our way out of Addington and stopping to collect our deposit for the stable, the stable manager did ask –“did the stable number 13 bring you good or bad luck?”

Karina – Justine's groom and mum!