



## TEAMS – CHAMPIONSHIPS NEWS September 2015

### **BRC Animalife National Horse Trials Championships 2015**

Well done to the Elstead senior team of Heidi Reed (Ilar Vincent), Tish Harwood (Taz), Melanie Lusted (Keeshen Jazmine) and Freya Lawes (Bunowen Jewel) who were placed 10th in the BRC HT80 championship held at Swalcliffe Park Equestrian near Banbury in Oxfordshire on Friday 7th August. Elstead juniors Emily Weeks (Shanbally Lady), Charlotte Smith (Ronaldo Firecracker) and Isabel Bailey-Collins (Solero Spirit) competed in the national BRC HT90 championship which was run as a two day event, with the dressage and show jumping phases taking place on Saturday 8th August and the speed and endurance (roads and tracks, steeplechase and cross country) on Sunday 9th August. Emily was placed individual 8th in her arena.

### **BRC NAF National Championships – Lincoln 2015**

A great weekend at Lincolnshire showground on 5th & 6th September – lots of fun and rosettes plus three championship wins! Saturday was senior day and included the Team of Six dressage (now open to both seniors and juniors) and Sunday was junior day.

The first result of the weekend was the individual Senior Medium Dressage in which Elstead member Caroline Bradshaw riding Womble was 5th.

The Elstead team of Karen Merrifield (Togher Tourist), Holly Stuart (So Sue Me), Melanie Lusted (Keeshen Jazmine) and Emma Kampa (Nyton Master Joker) was 10th in the Senior Prelim Dressage, with Holly individual 3rd and Melanie individual 8th in their respective arenas.

The senior riding test was somewhat disappointing for Elstead as we thought all four team members (Melanie, Emma, Susanna Milton on Dougal and Sara Malpass on Wootton Basil) and Holly competing as an individual all rode lovely tests but didn't finish in the top ten.

Clara Jollands (Lily X) riding as an individual was very unlucky not to come home with a rosette in the senior novice show jumping. Clara jumped two lovely clear rounds but unfortunately two time faults in the second round put her just outside the top ten.

The senior intermediate show jumping team of Holly, Caroline, Helen Klein (Limerick) and Suzi Stanner (Out Of Your League) finished outside the top ten but Helen jumped clear in both rounds to put her into the individual jump off in which she was placed 9th.

The Elstead senior style jumping team of Holly, Helen, Clara and Jenny Dutton (riding Freya Lawes' Bunowen Jewel) was unplaced but Jenny was individual 6th in the 75cm section of this championship.

The last competition on the Saturday was the Team of Six Dressage. Congratulations to Charlotte Smith (Ronaldo Firecracker), Helen Klein (Limerick), Susanna Milton (Dougal), Emma Kampa (Nyton Master Joker), Sara Malpass (Wootton Basil), Melanie Lusted (Keeshen Jazmine) and chef d'équipe Penny Jann who are the 2015 National Team of Six Dressage Champions.

Elstead members returned to the presentation arena on Sunday morning once the first results were announced.

Congratulations to the Elstead team of Charlotte Smith, Lucy Collecott (IPW A Bit Of Banter), Emily Weeks (Monta Mystic Clover) and Jazmine Merrifield (Togher Tourist) who are the 2015 Junior Team of Four Champions. While these four (plus Jenny Dutton who commanded the test) were being presented with their awards, the junior riding test results were announced – another win for Elstead!

Congratulations to Lucy Collecott, Emily Weeks, Hannah Jackson (Brownbread Raven) and Emily Baigent (F Pilot) on winning the 2015 Junior Riding Test championship. All four also went home with individual rosettes: Emily W was 1st in arena one, Hannah was 3rd in arena four, Lucy was 6th in arena two and Emily B was 8th in arena three. There were more cheers from the Elstead supporters when it was then announced that Emily Weeks was the overall individual junior riding test champion 2015, having had the best score across all five arenas (using the BRC rule book formula to evaluate this).

Charlotte and Jazmine were 3rd in the Pairs Dressage Championship. Their freestyle test didn't go quite as smoothly as it could have done, no doubt caused by the excitement of knowing moments before going into the pairs arena that Elstead had won the Team of Four Dressage and both were wanted in the presentation arena, the other side of the showground, as soon as they had finished their pairs test!

Elstead was represented in the junior dressage championship by a team – Hannah (Raven), Emily B (F Pilot), Grace Jackson (Sweet Opposition) and Jess Harridge (Clonguish Ricochet) – plus Charlotte (Ronaldo Firecracker) and Emily W (Monta Mystic Clover) riding as individuals. All rode different tests and were in different arenas. The dressage tests were new BRC ones: D1, D2 and D3 were prelim level tests and D10 a novice test. The Elstead team was placed 4th in this championship. Emily W was individual 2nd in D10/arena 14), Grace was individual 2nd in D2/arena 8, Emily B was individual 5th (D1/arena 7), and Jess was individual 6th in D3 in arena 9.

The Elstead junior style jumping team of Isabel Bailey-Collins (Solero Spirit), Jess Harridge (Bunowen Jewel), Emily Weeks (Shanbally Lady) and Lucy Collecott (IPW A Bit Of Banter) was placed 6th, with Lucy individual 6th and Emily individual 10th in the 85cm section.

Emily W (on Lady) and Jess (on Bunny) were also part of the Elstead junior novice show jumping team that qualified for these championships but as the other two team members were unable to go to Lincoln they both jumped as individuals. Both went well but four faults each put them out of an individual place.

In the junior intermediate show jumping all the Elstead members jumped well but finished outside the top ten. Team members were Isabel, Grace, Hannah (riding Caredarco) and Emily W (Monta Mystic Clover), with Charlotte riding as an individual.

Thank you to all the Elstead competitors, supporters and helpers who made these 2015 championships so much fun.