

Horsham & District Riding Club

Dressage to Music National Championship

LOCATION:	Addington Manor	DATE:	3-4 October 2009
<p>We had 2 contenders this year for the National Dressage to Music Championship held at the prestigious Addington Manor Equestrian Centre in Buckingham.</p> <p>Max Gayler had qualified for the Elementary section and myself for the Novice section. The event was combined with the quadrille qualifier for Olympia Horse Show and was running over two days. Max was competing on the Saturday and I on the Sunday, so we decided to travel together and stay overnight – This turned out to be a jolly good idea when I discovered I had been allotted an 8.30am time!</p> <p>So 6.45am Saturday morning bright eyed (literally due the fact Max had spent the afternoon the day before at casualty with a burst blood vessel in her eye!!) we set off for Addington. With a very good run we arrived with plenty of time to get the boys settled into their stables and get Ruffy glittered up with his musical notes on his hind quarters. Little did we know that a bit of glitter is forbidden under BD rules – ooops!!</p> <p>Ruffy was on true form and warmed up beautifully. They performed a powerful and elegant routine to music from Herp Albert scoring a brilliant 69.4% resulting in 7th place.</p> <p>The rest of Saturday saw competitors in Junior sections, followed by the quadrille qualifier. We thoroughly enjoyed watching all the displays, from 'Starlight Express' to the 'Jesters'. The costumes and routines were truly amazing and so entertaining.</p> <p>After a luxurious nights sleep in 5star luxury in the back of Max's lorry, Sundays competition got underway (minus the glitter!!!).</p> <p>Joey felt a lot more confident than that of his first visit to Addington two years ago. We finished with a score of 67.2%. Unfortunately this was not good enough to put us in the top 10. But it did put us in 15th position out of a total of 38.</p> <p>We had a fantastic weekend and aim to be more creative for next year. Max started planning her new routine in lorry on the way home!!</p> <p>Michele Mallinder</p>			