

# Horsham & District Riding Club

## *BRC/Amtrust Dressage Championships*

<b>LOCATION:</b>	Royal Windsor Horse Show	<b>DATE:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> May 2011
<p>3am is not a time to want to get up! However this is the time I had to get up in order to get to Royal Windsor HS for my dressage time of 8:12am at the BRC/Amtrust Championships!!! We loaded Iris, my 14.3HH welsh cob mare, into the trailer along with everything we would ever need and set off. Not many cars are on the road at 5:30 but by the time we reached the motorway the sky was beginning to lighten and traffic was flowing. Lots of lorries jostling for position but we got to Windsor with plenty of time to spare. Had breakfast in the car park then unloaded Iris.</p> <p>We tacked up and went off in search of the warm up ring. We reached the ring with out any problem and Iris just walked calmly round taking it all in. Because of our early arrival I now had over an hour to warm up. As I walked round more and more people started arriving in the warm up, mostly big showing horses, and at about 7:30 other juniors started to arrive. Gulp, they looked very good and my chances of winning beginning to slash (I'm always very competitive!). Then all too soon it was my turn in the arena. The test went wonderfully and I didn't miss out anything, although Iris had been a bit tense.</p> <p>We whisked Iris back to the trailer and gave her a drink and some grub then put her away and went to entertain my brother with all the army stands. Checked my score, 61.7% which isn't bad for us, but sadly discovered I was already out of the top 3 (1<sup>st</sup> was a score of 70%!!). By now we'd been up for about 7hours and lunch was calling. Our lunch was a very nice burger and while my brother and I finished up Mum went to find the results. Soon she was running back across the show ground waving her arms at us saying I'd come 6<sup>th</sup> and the <i>mounted</i> presentation was in 15 minutes!!! We rushed to the trailer, tacked up and got back just in time!! We all lined up and went in the ring to be presented with our rosettes. Afterwards Iris had a graze then back into the trailer and now we didn't have to worry about the championship in the afternoon we had time to shop! The stands at Windsor are great, and as most shops have a show discount its well worth looking around!!</p> <p>I hope that any other Horsham members who were lucky enough to compete there were just as, and if not more, successful as me and Iris. If you weren't competing then I hope you enjoyed watching the events!</p> <p>Charlotte Exley-Edwards</p>			