

AREA HORSE TRIALS

3rd July Larkhill

Although this was on the same day as our Annual Show, we had 5 members entered, combinations as follows:

Novice Senior Ind

Nikki Eustis	Smokey Joe II
Kelly Jensen	Hectors Valentine

Senior Open

Nikki Williams	Kings Fiddler II
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Junior Novice

Alice Francis	Marvellous May
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Junior Int

Lizzie Boswell	Carnaval News
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3 senior and 2 juniors travelled expectantly to Larkhill on a perfect summer's day. Lindsay Hills and her Bourne Valley team ran the event as efficiently as ever and a good day was had by nearly all our members.

We started the day with the two senior novice competitors, Kelly Jensen and Hector and Nikki Eustis and my Spooks. Hector did a fair dressage test, just rolled one rail in the show jumping and Kelly went down to the cross country saying she thought this might be Hector's swansong as he is 19. She came back having sailed over everything, her only problem lack of brakes and wondering whether the circle she had to take might have penalised her! Luckily it didn't and she came 5th and was thrilled. We might still see Hector on a cross country course if he continues to tell Kelly how much he enjoys himself!

Spooks excelled himself in the dressage, leading his section and like Hector he rolled a pole in the show jumping so Nikki went down to the cross country happily. However Spooks had other ideas and said he could not cope with a ditch and hedge and had two run-outs.

Next came our junior Alice Francis and Marvellous May; the juniors competed over the same course as the seniors and Alice did really well with a fair dressage test and a clear round show jumping and clear cross country with a few time faults and she came 8th and was of course very pleased.

Next came Lizzie Boswell on Carnaval News who was doing the Junior Intermediate. She did a fair dressage test, one pole rolled in the show jumping and a lovely clear round in the time cross country. This ensured that she won the class and has qualified for the Championships at Aston le Walls in August! Well done Lizzie!

Finally Nikki Williams and Kings Fiddler had entered the open class. Nikki wasn't quite sure he had done enough work but his dressage was excellent, he jumped a beautiful clear round and then flew round the cross country course inside the time and won the class! This is the third consecutive year that Nikki has qualified for the Championships and the 5th time overall. This is a wonderful record of consistency and many congratulations to both horse and rider.

Good luck to both Nikki and Lizzie.

Alison Russell