

The area dressage qualifier was a team event, made up of four riders, two of them riding Prelim 18 and two riding Novice 24. Keysoe had two Senior Teams and one Junior Team entered as follows:

Senior Team 1:

Prelim: Liz Mitchinson and Sue Squirrel

Novice: Alice Dove and Kate Newell

Senior Team 2:

Prelim: Angie Heeley and Kelly Dickson

Novice: Luisa Mattei and Kit Hore

Junior Team:

Prelim: Tom and Oliver Barrett

Novice: Annabell Bates and Emily Woodhead

It was an early start to the day for most of the senior prelim riders, with test times only a little after 8am. Unfortunately it did not start off too well for Senior Team 2, even before the day, the horse that Kit had borrowed to compete on went lame and in the last couple of days before the competition she was offered another horse to ride which she took on, only having ridden him a couple of times, so well done Kit for giving it a go! The next set back was for Angie, as on having her horse's vaccination records checked it turned out that one of the initial vaccinations a couple of years ago was out by 2 days and even more annoying was that Angie had competed in the summer for a qualifier and it had not been noticed then. However, rules are rules and Angie was only allowed to compete HC but also a cut to her horse's leg the night before had caused the leg to swell so poor Angie and Monty headed back home. I'm pleased to say things got better for the Seniors as the day started with Liz gaining a 5th individual placing, Sue not too far behind her with an 8th place and later in the day for the Novice riders with Kate getting 12th place and Alice a 1st place, competing with Moon Beam (Magnus), lovely to see he is in good working order again! This gave our Senior Team 1 an overall placing of 4th=

The Junior Team had quite an eventful day, of ups and downs, with Tom gaining an individual 6th place, and Annabelle a 4th place. Emily's pony manage to injure itself and damage their trailer by trying to climb over the breast bar and getting caught up in his haynet, but luckily he got off lightly with a few scrapes and minor cuts, managed to compete and got 10th place, I hope he was ok and not too stiff the next day! Oliver was 12th which gave the team an overall 10th place.

Thank you to everyone that took part, it was a long day and apart from the sad and stressfull parts I enjoyed it. I would also like to say Thanks to Anna and Kelly Attwood who, when asked at short notice, came and wrote for the judges and also to Alice for transporting Emily's pony back home.