

# Fantastic result for Northwood's Dressage Team

## LONDON & SOUTH EAST NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2006  
Rosehill Equestrian, Nr Henley on Thames

### Teams:

#### Dressage:

Jackie Barker	Mr Rafferty	73.5%	1 <sup>st</sup>
Amanda Hughes	Zanzibar	66%	3rd
Tessa Baylis	Proud Possession	68.5%	1st
Linda Holmes	Belgium Boy	54%	

#### Riding Test:

Lorraine Watson	Zanzibar	130	11th
Pam Burch	Mr Rafferty	129	=13th
Tessa Baylis	Proud Possession	106	20th
Linda Holmes	Belgium Boy	105	21st

#### Official Helper:

Tony Breadmore      Riding Test Steward

What a superb day in Northwood's history with our best ever dressage result. In 2004 our team came 4<sup>th</sup> overall, but never did we think we could reach the final accolade. The weather was magnificent, clear blue sky and light breeze, making riding conditions just perfect, with all the tests ridden on sand. The classes were huge and continued all day with changes of judge at lunchtime. It was a very early start, leaving the yard at 7.30pm. Rafferty's and Zanzibar's time were both early, which meant we could take them home and drive back to be in time to see Linda and Tessa do their dressage and riding tests in the afternoon.

### Results:

Congratulations to all involved, including Linda who was a very valued member of our team. Jackie had a good idea that she had done well, when the judge stuck her head out of the judges box and complimented her on a lovely test – she scored 72.5% but then after a long wait was pipped by the very last rider who scored 73%. Fortunately, the scorers in the dressage arena had calculated the percentage score incorrectly, which was picked up in the Secretary's tent and amended to 73.5% - she won by ½ %! Amanda on Lorraine Watson's young horse Zanzibar did a super test and was third with 66%. They were both really pleased with him and he is improving all the time. Tessa was disappointed with her riding test and determined to do better. So when Martha (Proud Possession) spooked at the judges box after going past it twice perfectly well, she

whacked her. Martha was so astonished at this indignity that she forgot to misbehave, had a poo instead and allowed Tessa to get her best ever score, winning her arena with 68.5%. Linda was told she had 25 minutes before her dressage test and had wandered off on Harry (Belgium Boy). Pam was sent off to locate her and after Harry had galloped back up the hill with Pam some distance behind, he had thoroughly woken up. So when he went in to his arena, he only remembered to shy once at the judge's box and did a creditable test.

Northwood Dressage team had achieved a Score of 5, made up of 2 x 1<sup>st</sup> + 1 x 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The lowest score possible is 3 made up of 3 x 1<sup>st</sup>. The second placed dressage team had 16 points, made up of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup>. So the Northwood Dressage team not only won, but they did so very convincingly. Linda, Tessa and Jackie (Amanda couldn't stay) collected a magnificent cup which Jackie had difficulty signing for because she was shaking so much.

The Riding Test team decided to let the other teams have a chance. Lorraine and Zanzibar scored 65% to come 11<sup>th</sup> with Pam and Mr Rafferty one mark behind on 64.5% coming joint 13<sup>th</sup>. Overall, we were 10<sup>th</sup> out of 11 teams.

The whole day was very well run, with most rings running bang on time. If you are familiar with Rosehill, the only difficulty is the distance from the vehicle park to the ridden activities. Pam had already walked back and forth several times, running down and up again to find Linda, just about finished her off.

Tony did valiant work all day as Riding Test ring steward which must have been more interesting than being Car Park Steward (in the rain) the previous year. A rather worn out Pam was delighted to accept a lift from him back to the car park at the end of the day.

Thank you to everyone who took part. We look forward to defending our trophy next year.

Pam Burch &  
Jackie Barker