

## SIDE SADDLE DRESSAGE AT PORT ROYAL

What a day we had at Port Royal Equestrian Centre at Holme on Spalding Moor, East Yorkshire on 3/10/2021.

Huge congratulations to the 9 side-saddle ladies and their horses of SSA Area 19, who came to compete at The Port Royal EEC Summer Dressage Championships, riding side-saddle in the main championships and also in the bespoke Side Saddle Championships. A big thank you to Michelle Bainbridge of Port Royal for running and sponsoring this inaugural event. Michelle's support and encouragement and that also of both the BD judges, Tracey Hepworth and Caroline Lockie, was so appreciated.

Michelle and her BD judges have been hugely supportive and encouraging of side saddle riding (dressage, show jumping and showing) over the last 7 years, including providing facilities in the last year for side-saddle teaching clinics, held on a monthly basis.

The sun shone, there was an occasional rainbow too. There were smiles all round and every rider overcame personal hurdles to get to Port Royal and compete and every single rider achieved.

Riders came from a 50 mile radius to the venue. All had had to pre-qualify at a Port Royal Dressage Competition, from April to September this year, by attaining at least 60% in competition at their preferred level. All competitions are judged by BD judges. On Championship Day, each rider had to ride 2 tests at their qualified level. So, with a total of 52 riders, each riding 2 tests, with 2 arenas running side by side it, it was a very comprehensive day.

Grateful thanks to Kate Chester (Area 19 Chair) and the riders 'behind the scenes' support teams, who ensured we were all in the correct arena, at the correct time, with the correct bridle number, riding the correct test and that we hadn't forgotten our gloves!

One Area 19 member even lending her horse box at the 11th hour when a flat tyre could not be repaired in time. Thank you, Sandra.

Results:

In the Side Saddle PYO class (Combined Intro/Prelim/Novice/Elementary)

1st Elise Bradley & Finnigans Gold

2nd Jackie Harrison & Dunlop

3rd Kaitlyn Beattie & Jimbob

4th Gill Greenwood, riding Daniel Greenwood's Iceford Two Tone (standing in for a sidelined Storm)

5th Tatty Barwick & Vicarage Painted Lady

6th Harriet Heaton & Perrygrove Diamond Pearl

7th Kaitlyn Beattie and Memphis Belle

8th Gemma Clapham on her new 17.2 horse Billy Border 9th Charlotte Wrightson SSA newcomer on Brynmelys Tomos Twose Many Congratulations ladies on a great performance. The judges were particularly impressed by everyone's turnout and elegance and smiles.

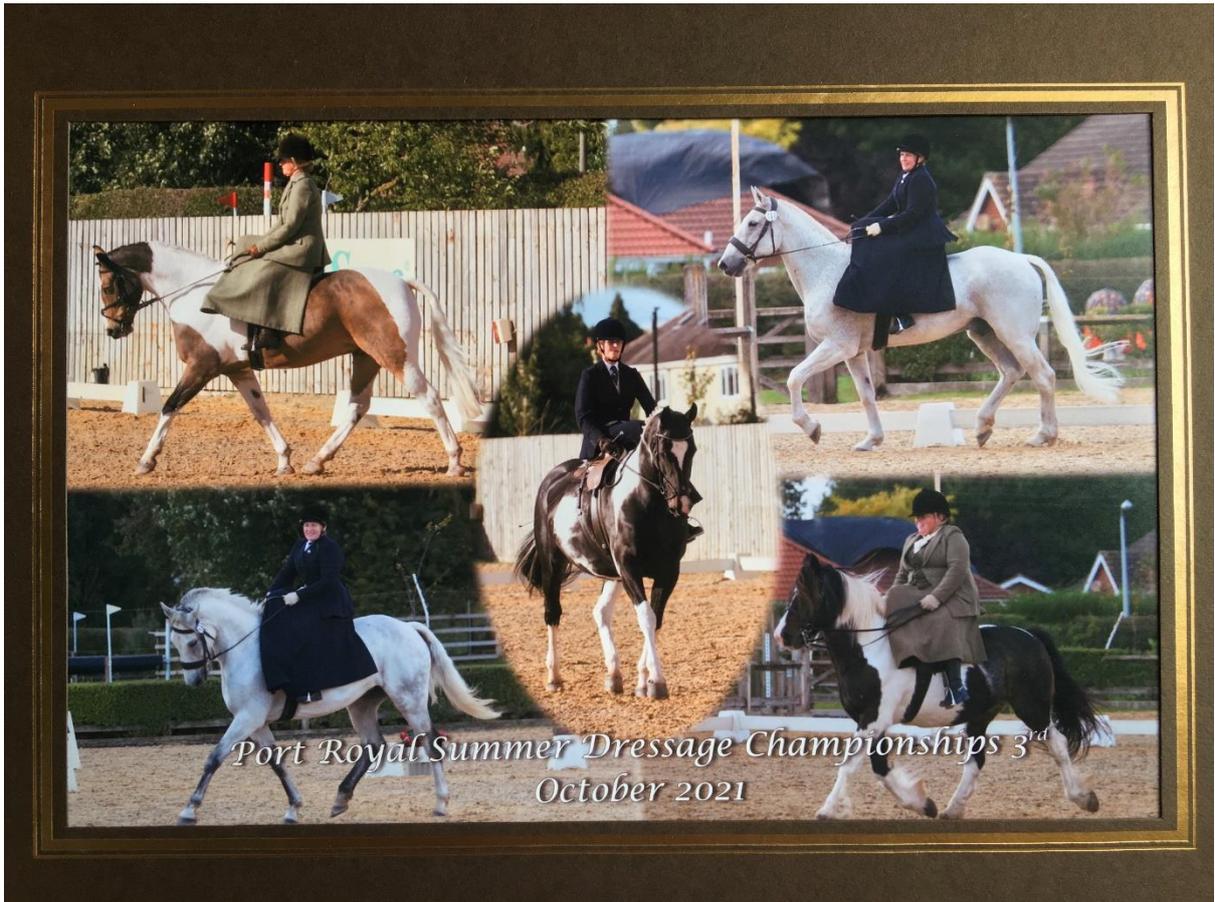
Further Congratulations to both Elise Bradley (3rd in Prelim champs) and Gill Greenwood (2nd in Elementary champs), both ladies riding side-saddle in very hotly contested astride championship classes.

Also, to Martha Lindley, aged 8, who rode her first ever solo Intro astride dressage tests on Iceford Two Tone, coming 6th in the junior section. Martha has competed in the lead rein SSA on-line equitation competition and online dressage competitions during 2021, however, Martha is very understandably concentrating on her solo astride riding at present. Martha is very much part of the Area 19 team and wore her SSA badge with pride on her 1950s vintage Moss Bros tweed jacket.

The team were there from 9.30am to 6pm riding at Intro, Prelim, Novice and Elementary level. A fabulous day of team work, camaraderie, commitment and enthusiasm, thank you ladies 😊

NB next Port Royal Side Saddle Championships are on Good Friday 15th April 2022.

*Gill Greenwood – Area 19*



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