



Washington Riding Centre rider returns home victorious from RDA National Championships

RDA National Championships 13-15 July, Hartpury College, Gloucestershire

Tracy Steel, competed in the RDA National Championships last weekend.

She returned home with a number of rosettes, having competed in the Dressage over the weekend



It was a fantastic weekend with Tracy being placed 1st in the Grade 4 Freestyle Dressage to Music and 2nd in the Grade 4 Championship Dressage Test.

Tracy also took part in the SEIB Search 4 A Star RDA Showing competition whilst at Hartpury, coming 1st and qualifying for the National Championships at Addington Manor in Buckinghamshire at the beginning of September.



Tracy, who was competing at her 14th National Championship said “ I was absolutely thrilled with this weekend. It just goes to show that hard work and perseverance eventually pay off.”. She went on to say “I would like to thank everyone at the centre for their support, and my coaches, Jane Cherry, Judith McCowie and Heather Finlay for their encouragement. Also to my driver Sharon Howe-Jones and to my horses owner, John Hackett, for allowing me to take him to the Championships.”

The group took to the road on their 520-mile round trip to Hartpury College in Gloucestershire, supported by a travel grant made possible thanks to players of People’s Postcode Lottery.

The Groups Administrator said “we are delighted to have been able to take our rider this year thanks to the players of People’s Postcode Lottery. We were grateful when we heard we were being awarded a grant which allowed us to travel our horse, rider and coach up to Gloucestershire for the three days.”

The RDA National Championships is the biggest event of its kind, this year attracting over 500 competitors for all over the UK. It is held over three-days at Hartpury Equestrian featuring events across a range of disciplines including Carriage driving, Vaulting, Dressage and Show jumping. In the past, the event has provided a competitive starting point for

Paralympian's including Sophie Christiansen, Natasha Baker and Lee Pearson – all of whom started as riders with the RDA and continue to support the charity.

Thanks to the players of People's Postcode lottery, 24 groups for disabled riders and drivers and 105 participants have been able to attend another successful RDA National competition.