

## Horse Trials Championships.

This event was held in August at Aston-le-Walls. This year, we had only one individual who qualified – Sophie Leaney and Captain Nemo in the Open Class. Sophie has brought Nemo, who's only 15' 1" up through the eventing grades over the last few years and he was on top form for the qualifier in May – winning the section!

Sophie writes –

I arrived on the Thursday to a warm welcome, collected my goodies and signed in with Nemo, it was then the fun of unloading the lorry!!

Day One – Friday. Before the trot up and dressage, I was called to the secretary's tent to be notified that one of the Sevenoaks' members was unable to come and could I make up a team for Area 10, which I accepted.

We passed the trot up and did the dressage in the afternoon - an ok test of 35.7 which put us 25th overnight out of about 70 individuals, with the team lying 9th.

Day Two - Saturday - the fun part!! First element, roads & tracks, then onto the steeplechase which Nemo pulled me round, then carried straight on with the second part of the roads&tracks until the 10 min box, where I could catch my breath and have a drink. Nemo was still full of running and took me round the cross country inside the time and clear. This pulled us up to 10th overnight individually plus (although we were only a 3 member team) having all gone clear we went into team 3<sup>rd</sup> position.

Day Three – Sunday. Another trot up – all passed and onto the SJ. Nemo did a lovely round but sadly had just one fence down, however we finished overall 11th individually / 8th in his section and the team was 3rd.

It was a very fun weekend, there was a quiz night with band one night and disco, karaoke and hog roast the other night, everyone was friendly and there was also the European CIC 2 Star there, which was fun to watch and GB won the Gold Medal.

Thank you for Maidstone's support, where Nemo and I were pleased to have represented the club.

Many Thanks

Sophie