

Equestrianism

Rockingham rocks

BY JULIA DUNGWORTH

Rockingham Castle Horse Trials took place over the weekend of May 21 and what a great start to the summer it was, with only one day of rain – which seems to be somewhat of a record with the season being a bit of a washout so far.

The Burghley Young Event Horse classes ran on the Friday with local rider **JP Sheffield** taking the four-year old section on Horatio. He was also third on First Kiss in the five-year old section, qualifying them both for Burghley.

There was BS jumping, arena eventing and Pony Club jumping in the main rings over the rest of the weekend, with the main classes being the CICs. **Kitty King** again was on top form and took one of the big 2** on Vendredi Biats and **David Britnell** took the other on Continuity. **Izzy Taylor** took the first 1* riding SFS Legacy, with local rider **Alexander Tordoff** finishing seventh on Cool Jack. **Roberto Scalisi** took the second 1* on Topaze Du Plain.

Local riders fared well with a few minor placings too. It's easy to forget but the now local (Somerby) **Andrew Hoy** also won the Advanced Intermediate on Cheeky Calimbo.

The 148th Rutland County Show ran on June 5, on probably the hottest day of the year so far. The show had a superb shopping area and



Above
Angus Smales competing at Rockingham

so much for everyone to see and do with a lot of very well supported showing classes including working and ridden hunters. One of

the highlights was the show jumping which was slightly oddly not run in the main ring, although they had a very respectable turnout with a lot of the bigger local show jumpers coming to support.

Holly Gillot had a great day winning the Polly Phillips Memorial Trophy in the 1.25 on Grennastown Sarco Luxhill, beating **Andrew Saywell**. **Holly** also had a first and second in the Foxhunter and a second in the Newcomers, beaten by **Robert Smith** riding Black Label.

Victoria Branson riding Captain's Delight won the Discovery and **Mikki Bailey** on Rhydcedan Reflection won the British Novice. **Vere Phillips** was also there supporting his most local show, coming second to **Mikki** in the British Novice on Avalon Sunset B and also third in the Discovery on Optimist I.

Claire Robertson also had a great day on the four horses that she took, qualifying both Easy and Ezar for the Game Fair.

Lauren Williams has also been having a great time show jumping at the moment. She finished eighth in the six-year old class at the CSI** at Arena UK in June on Elle Van Overis, whom the Williams family produced from a youngster and they are bound to have a great future together.

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