

Park Life at Compton Verney Weekend

Area 5 were honoured to be asked to put on a display at the beautiful Compton Verney in Warwickshire on 25th June 2016. Compton Verney is an independent national art gallery and a 120 acre 'Capability' Brown landscape located nine miles from Stratford-upon-Avon.



The setting was made for the elegance of side saddle riding with the landscaping having been designed by Capability Brown, this was extra special as 2016 celebrates the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown and the display was part of the Park Life Big Weekend event which aimed to give visitors a feel of the spirit of Brown's era and the opportunity to learn more about the life and times of those who lived at the house and those that worked the land after Brown had completed his landscaping project.



Area 5 felt that they had brought the Downton Abbey effect to Compton Verney! The display riders were Katie Gulliver on Sweet William, Amanda Thomson on Lily, Sharon Garley on Welford BB and Liz Rogers on Fresco Depot. Commentary was conducted by Ginny Oakley Pope.



On a beautifully mown part of the garden next to the house, the Ladies showed the art of side saddle riding in two displays. The horses and their riders managed magnificently in the arena which sloped down towards the lake. Their habits and clothing intrigued the audience as many are involved with recreating history in costume within the grounds and house.



Although plagued by dreadful and persistent horse flies we only had one rain storm just at the end of our first display!



Area 5 wish to extend their thanks to Compton Verney for their kind invitation and hospitality.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAM DIGBY