

CHARITY SIDE SADDLE RACE

October 2015

Wincanton Racecourse hosted the historic first side saddle race at a Jockey Club Racecourse in a charity partnership with the Southern Spinal Injuries Trust and the "Dianas of the Chase" race series on Sunday 25th October 2015.

The winner of the race was Side Saddle Association, Area 5 Member and a previous Rider of the Year Lizzie Harris.



11 lady jockeys elegantly dressed in the traditional sidesaddle attire of a bygone era, galloped one mile, two furlongs in a dash to the winning line.



The jockeys taking part had wealth of point-to-point, hunting and sidesaddle experience and included the successful point-to-point jockey Clare Gundry, sidesaddle devotee Philippa Holland and a number of female work riders.

The ladies rode thoroughbreds, largely ex racehorses and were led down to the start by the legendary Big Bucks ridden by Lucy Tucker. Prizes were presented by TV personality and President of the British Horse Society Martin Clunes and his wife Philippa.

Speaking on her win Lizzie said "To have the opportunity to promote side saddle and to do it at a professional race course was amazing. The horse I rode is our own horse Lough Inch who my partner (Tommy Morgan) and I have owned for 3 years. He has won 7 point to points for us and is our true family horse as Tommy's sister rides him in his races. He was a true gent under side saddle and had it on a few times before the race. He has been doing his normal training as we would for a race as we plan to run him at the first meeting this season at Cottenham at the end of November. I think Loughy found the race quite easy as it was half the distance of his normal races. He has an amazing turn of foot and as we came off the final bend he just quickened for me and the power was amazing - such a gorgeous horse"

