

# *Bramham Horse Trials Trip*

*Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017*

Bramham International Horse Trials is one of the Europe's leading three-day events, taking place every June at Bramham Park, near Wetherby in Yorkshire. The event attracts around 60,000 spectators over four days of competition. The event first ran in 1974 under the direction of George Lane Fox, owner of Bramham Park and was won by American rider Bruce Davidson from a field of only 25. The horse trials have grown considerably over the years, gaining international status in 1982.

The horse trials is a 3-star level international event and hosts four classes: CCI\*\*\* senior; CCI\*\*\* British Under 25 Championship; CIC\*\*\*; and Event Rider Masters CIC\*\*\*.

A host of other arena classes are held alongside the main event. These include British Show Jumping classes; hunter and young stock classes; Burghley Young Event Horse competition; and a stallion parade.

Students who have been studying towards a level 1, 2 or 3 in Horse Care/ Management attended on the Friday which allowed us to spectate the following: CCI\*\*\*, CCI\*\*\* U25 and CIC\*\*\* dressage, Burghley Young Event Horse competition. Students were able to watch a range of abilities from young horses starting off their eventing career to the world's top horses and riders.

We set off at around 9am and arrived approximately 11.00am. Whilst on the bus journey we played a few games and brought lots of goodies to eat on the way. Once we arrived we reminded the students of what we expect of them regarding representing the college and set them a few horse related tasks/questions to find out throughout the day.

Along with all the horse classes to watch there are hundreds of stalls to browse in from feed merchant's, equine equipment, jewellery, vet related, horse boxes etc (you name it, it was there!) with lots of bargains. Some students even managed to have a go on a mechanical horse.

Although all students thoroughly enjoyed the day, it was particular good to see how much the level 1 student's enjoyed it as many had not been to this kind of event before.

On behalf of all the students who attended and myself I would like to thanks all the members of the Friends of Kirkley Hall as without your funding this trip would have not been possible!

I would also like to apologise for the late entry of this report especially since the funding was push through as last minute. I am new as course team leader and will ensure that it does not happen again and follow the correct steps in future.

Thank you again!

Emma John

Course Team Leader Level 2 Equine