

# *Strictly Come Dressage*

Was held for the 2nd year at Oldencraig Equestrian Centre in Aid of the Emile Faurie Foundation. Kindly hosted by Ian and Vicky Thompson Winfield and organised by Mary-anne Horn a full day of Qualifying rounds resulted in the Finals in the evening.

The Gala evening was full of Razz ma Tazz and Entertainment. The finals were judged by panel of judges Emile Faurie, Vicky, Steven Geer (Professional Dancer) and Drew Ackroyd (Theatre Director). There Acts by Professional Riders who displayed their Dressage skills in attire probably not seen before and amusing long reining demo with panto horse!! Competing for Mirrorball Trophies, Theatrical Trophies, Rugs, stunning rosettes and sashes the competition comprised of individual, Pas De Deux and Quadrille classes.

The overall Champion who was awarded 10s by some judges went to Nicola Whiteman riding Spring of Glory dressed as Mary Poppins on her Carousel Horse complete with Carousel pole above and underneath her horse!! The Pas De Deux Champions were Jayne Robinson and Janice Powell whose theme was Jedward X Factor!! Quadrille Champions was Oliver Twist performed by the Manford Gang!

Stunning Costumes and huge amounts of effort from all involved on the evening raised just over £5,000 for the Emile Faurie Foundation which already funds over 2000 underprivileged children through the UK to have riding lessons and this will help to fund two new projects in Newcastle and Leicester.

Emile said ' I was astonished at how much effort everyone had made with their costumes and performance. A great success which helps to raise awareness of the work the Foundation is doing. A huge thank you to Ian and Vicky and to all involved in the evening'