

# Kathryn & Winnie on Winning Form in July



Competing Winnie

Despite the heat, July proved to be a very successful month for leading Yorkshire-based para dressage rider Kathryn Wheelock.

Myerscough College student Kathryn, who was born with Cerebral Palsy, now represents Ireland at international level. She started the month at the Hartpury CPDI3\* International Para Dressage Championships with her schoolmaster, Indi. She achieved two 6<sup>th</sup> places and a 5<sup>th</sup> place with 70% in the Dressage to Music, close on the heels of hot competition from Norway, Belgium, Sweden and Great Britain. This was her debut riding for Ireland as she previously represented GB, and she hopes to be selected to ride in the Paralympic qualifier in Moorsele, Belgium in September as part of the Irish team.

The next week she travelled back down to Hartpury for the RDA National Dressage Championships on 15-16<sup>th</sup> July where she became RDA National Champion (Grade III) on her first outing with the 6 year old Hanoverian mare Ruxton Weihnacht (Winnie). Achieving nearly 72%, Kathryn was thrilled

with her success. "We just brought 'Winnie' as part of her education", said Kathryn, who also won the Open Dressage to Music class. "The heat in the indoor school was stifling and Winnie just ran out of steam in the kur, but still tried her best. All credit to Hayley Duxbury who helps me with Winnie at home and came with us to Hartpury as groom and trainer".

Ruxton Weihnacht is Kathryn's long term prospect and is being aimed at the Para Dressage World Championships which take place in 2007, and will hopefully compete at the Paralympics in 2008. Kathryn has owned her for nearly two years now and she has been brought on slowly with the help of Hannah Moody.

Kathryn rounded off the month closer to home with the KBIS Disabled Dressage Rider Qualifier at Myerscough College, Preston. She took both horses and was 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Debbie Criddle (reigning European, World and Paralympic champion) in the Grade III KBIS qualifier, securing a place at the Blue Waters British Dressage National Championships at Stoneleigh in September for the 8<sup>th</sup> year running. She also won the warm-up test



With Anthony Head

on Ruxton Weihnacht. Kathryn is supported by WCF Country Stores, Horseware Ireland, John Whitaker International, Airedale Horse Mills, The WW Spooner Charitable Trust

and Stuart Shopfitting Ltd. If you would like to support Kathryn telephone Jan Wheelock on 01535 636008 or 01756 700802 or email [kathryn@para-equestrian.com](mailto:kathryn@para-equestrian.com).