

ZHIWAH

THE VERY VERSATILE PERFORMER

My horse Zhiwah (Platoon x Heavenly Grace) was bred by Anne Potts at Southwynd Arabians in 1992 and bought from Nick and Melanie Gaddas-Brown of Guisburn Arabians when he was 5 years old, newly gelded, backed and lightly ridden. He had previously been shown successfully in hand.



Tarporley Fun Ride 2007

Although my main interest was, and still is, endurance riding I also enjoy dressage and jumping and was encouraged to try some ridden showing by a very knowledgeable friend who assured me that Zhiwah was “built for the job”. It was this discipline that led me to join the North Staffs Group of the Arab Horse Society in 1999 in order to compete at novice level at their summer show.

It also contributed to him being the versatile Arabian that he is today and resulted in me acquiring a set of very good friends.

He started his endurance career in 1998 at novice level and progressed steadily through open to advanced in 2000 by successfully completing his first 50 mile race ride. After that he competed regularly for some years nationally at middle distance events and was selected for the NW Regional Endurance Team on several occasions.

I continued to compete increasingly successfully in ridden showing and dressage and in 2000 Zhiwah won the AHS Pure Bred Performance Award, the Dinsdale Trophy which was beyond my wildest dreams. Since then he has appeared in the top five of the winners list five times. His achievements were also recognised by the North Staffs Arab Horse Group in their annual ridden and versatility awards.

I continued to compete at dressage at a local level and ridden showing in the North-West and the results gradually improved. It was this that persuaded me to go to Malvern in 2002 where Zhiwah gained great success as Reserve Champion Novice Ridden Gelding.

What a magical moment !!!!



Res.Ch Novice Ridden Gelding 2002



North Staffs Dressage Team in 2003

Having become more involved with the North Staffs group we returned to Malvern in 2003 as a member of their dressage and jumping teams. We gained respectable results and spent a most enjoyable few days together.

Zhiwah suffered a hind leg injury in 2005 (one of the risks involved in endurance riding) and did not compete seriously for the next two years. Happily he made a full recovery and was back in 2007 enjoying life to the full.

Since then he has matured, partially settled down, and continued to achieve success in his ability to perform in a variety of disciplines.



Area 20 Dressage Qualifier 2010.

He has regularly been placed in the North Staffs Arab Horse Group ridden and versatility awards and has gained national success with Endurance GB taking third place in the Sam Weller Award for distances below 30 miles in 2009 and 2010.



Endurance GB Northern Championships Summer 2010.

In 2010 at the age of 18 he achieved second place in the Arab Horse Society Pure Bred section of the Performance Awards. To my great delight, both Zhiwah and myself will be making an appearance in the main ring at the National Show later on this years 2011, to be presented with our award. That will be another magical moment'

Another surprise awaited for me at the North Staffs Group AGM in March 2011. In the groups Points Competition, not only did we receive a 1st in the Endurance/2nd in the Performance/4th in the Pure Ridden sections but Zhiwah and myself as a 'Team' received the prestigious trophy

'THE NORTH STAFFS MERIT AWARD' for outstanding contribution to the promotion of the Versatile Arabian

Zhiwah is a feisty, strong- minded little horse; great fun to ride and I am immensely proud to own him, together we have had many magical moments.

Pat Guerin April 2011



North Staffs Arab Horse Group AGM Presentation of the Merit Award 2010