

## **World Class Development Programme Newsletter Update –February/March 2008**

### **World Class Development Eventing Programme**

The World Class Start riders took part in a 2-day squad training session at The Unicorn, where Kenneth Clawson and Peter Murphy concentrated on show jumping training. Jeanette Brakewell and William Fox-Pitt also took a cross-country schooling session at Chedworth Eventing Centre with the riders.

Jennie Killilea worked with the riders on mental preparation for the season, Andy Thomas the physiotherapist worked on any physio issues the riders had, Carys Jackson from the EIS worked with riders individually on their own fitness programme and Jenny Hall discussed veterinary and fitness issues with riders individual horses. Russell Guire from Equianalysis provided video coverage of all the ridden sessions.

Amy Young, who was one of the three British riders who rode in the Good Luck Beijing – 10th Anniversary Cup CCI2\*, last August in preparation for the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games gave a presentation on the event.

A training day was held at Weston Lawns Equitation Centre, where Nick Burton worked with the riders on practicing specific movements and Kenneth Clawson and Peter Murphy worked on show jumping training in preparation for the season.

In the JAS final at Addington Equestrian Centre, Georgie Spence and Mayfly Magic won the pre-novice championship.

The event season started at Isleham and Piggy French was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the OI riding Chase The Moon and won a novice section with Loughshore Comedy Act.

At Poplar Park, Piggy won the AI section riding Boherdeel Champion and led from start to finish to head an intermediate section with ODT Raphael. Piggy was runner-up in the OI section riding Cast Away II and captured a novice section riding Ballyraggett.

The experienced partnership of Amy Young and Highville won the OI section, with the fastest cross-country round in the section.

At Barroca d'Alva in Portugal, Gemma Tattersall won the CCI\*\* on Nyali Beach, leading from start to finish with a dressage score of 43.5. In the CCI\*\*\*, Lucy Wiergersma was the best of the British finishing 11<sup>th</sup> on Granntevka Prince.

Reigning Junior European Champion Laura Collett riding Rayef won the OI U21 section at Lincolnshire one-day event. The combination, with a dressage score of 28.3 led from start to finish.

Ruth Edge has been competing in pure dressage and won the medium freestyle at the north-west regionals with Shadowfax, who had to settle for second in both the elementary open and music at the Scottish Winter regionals, but won the Biotal Equine Gold Medium Open and British Horse Feeds Open Advanced Medium with Paper Tiger, who also events at Novice level.

## **World Class Development Show Jumping Programme**

Paul Barker was in devastating form at Rowallan Premier show in Ayshire, Paul, riding Quinton III won the Winter Grades A and B Grand Prix and was highly placed in a number of classes throughout the competition. Paul credits his success at this show with the training he has received from John Whitaker and says it not only got him focused for Rowallan, but for the shows abroad that he is about to contest.

At the recent Atlantic Tour in Portugal, Paul was first and third on Quinton and Temple Ryefield in a 1.45m two-phase

On the Spanish Sunshine Tour, Jemma Kirk celebrated a big tour victory on Athos in a table C class and Matt Sampson was second in a two-phase class.

Daniel Neilson, riding High Tone Z won a 1.40m class in Villeneuve Loubnet CSI\*\* France, and was also in the ribbons with Ionesco Du Moulin, a six-year old. Daniel, riding his Olympia champion Ungaro claimed a 1.35m class. Daniel rounded off a successful tour with a second in the grand prix, over a big and difficult track on High Tone Z, missing victory by just 0.26 sec.

Hannah Paul was in the frame throughout the Hasselt CSI\*\*\* show in Belgium. Hannah riding Saffier Van De Brandkreek headed the 1.45m speed class by almost 5 sec, whilst claiming second and fourth places in table C classes with Lucky. Her exciting young horse Sirius III was third in a 1.45m jump-off class, which delighted Hannah.

William Whitaker and Richard Robinson were competing at Bremen CSI\*\*\* show and were part of the British team that took part in the Euroclassics Competition, which finished fourth in this Nations Cup style-format class.

William started the defense of his WCD U23 Championship crown, with a win in the qualifying class at Arena UK Premier show with Loxley 57, and is one of the 17 qualified riders to compete in the final at the British Open Show Jumping Championships at the NEC in April.

Ben Maher produced two magical clear rounds in the FEI Nations Cup in Wellington, Florida.

Ben riding Daniel Paul's ten year-old bay mare Rolette was the last of the British quartet to go, and ended up being one of only two combinations in the entire competition to jump double clear rounds.

The British team finished in fifth place, which also included Charlotte Platt riding Lacanda who had nine penalties in the first round and thirteen in the second.

## **World Class Development Dressage Programme**

Natalie Allen and Domino D won both the Elementary classes in fine style at Abbey Dressage earlier this month.

Natalie began the day by winning the Elementary 42 with 68 % and then went on to win the Elementary qualifier with an impressive 79%.

Becky Moody was the star of the North East Winter Regionals at Willerby Hill with three wins. Becky's first and second wins came on Furswten Hit in the Blue Chip Novice Open and the Imenex Elementary Open, and then took the British Horse Feeds Advanced Medium with Wallenstein.

Sarah Millis has taken a number of horses on the CDI Spanish Sunshine Tour, and in the FEI Six-Year-Old Young Horse Preliminary class Sarah rode Cappuccino to seventh place with 74.20%. Sarah has started campaigning Korenbloem O'Neill in the big tour and finished eighth in the special in the first week.

Lara Griffith traveled to Germany for a week's training with Jurgen Koschel. Lara took Warlock her sixteen year old gelding working at Inter 1 level, and who Lara has been on the Junior European Team. Lara felt the trip has benefited her in so many different way and has improved her riding through being more confident, and learning to keep her bodyweight back and sit in the saddle so that she has constant connection with the saddle. Lara has also been taught techniques to improve her riding and exercises to improve softness and suppleness within the collected movements. With the time that Lara spent training with Jurgen, it has taught her an incredible amount and feels that she will be able to apply what she has learnt to all types of horses in the future.

Following Lara's return from Germany, Lara competed in the Inter 1 qualifier at Addington and won with a score of over 70%.

At the forthcoming CDI/YR/J/P competition at Addington, World Class Development is supporting the YR Freestyle class and the following riders will be competing in the Young Rider classes: Charlie Hutton, Natalie Allen and Lara Griffith and in the Junior classes: Keri Bates

### **World Class Development Para Equestrian Dressage Programme**

At Berkshire College, Erin Orford riding Nirvana won the grade II team test and was third in the grade III test, which was won by Daniel Manning and John Baptist.

At Patchetts Para competition, Natasha Baker took the top spot in the grade II team test riding Waldminor with 73.33%, this combination has also been competing in able-bodied classes at novice and elementary level, Natasha also finished third on her new horse Lazardo, In the grade III team test Toby Pawson, riding Oyster II scored 71.15% to win the class from Erin Orford with Nirvana on 69.23%, with Daniel Manning and John Baptist third with 67.3%.

At Oldencraig, Natasha continued her good run of form by coming first and second in the grade II team test, scoring 70.47% with Waldminor and 69.52% with Lazardo.

Felicity Couthard scored the highest percentage of the day at Vale View Equestrian Centre, earning 84.7% in the grade II team test with Roffelaar.

A 2-day squad training session was held recently at The Unicorn, which focused on video feedback in regard to rider performance from the World Para Dressage Games, test training and riding with coaches, Nina Venables, Erik Theilgaard and Anglea Weiss, physiotherapy sessions with Joyce Sheriff and Helen Mathie, individual rider fitness with Carys Brunner and lifestyle performance with Pamela Gilpin from the EIS.

Russell Guire from Equianalysis provided video coverage of all the ridden sessions.