

## **World Class Start & Potential Press Release**

### **DOUBLE PARALYMPIC DRESSAGE MEDALLIST RETIRES FROM TOP LEVEL COMPETITION**

Paralympic dressage rider, Liz Stone from Bishops Itchington in Warwickshire has taken the decision to retire from top-level Para Dressage and hence the World Class Potential Para Dressage programme, exactly 10 years after winning two medals at the Atlanta Paralympic Games.

Liz has produced some excellent results at both National and International level, and was part of the GB Paralympic Dressage Team at the Atlanta Paralympic Games in 1996, where she won a team gold medal and an individual silver medal. Liz has also represented GB at 3 Paralympic Dressage World Championships 1991 in Denmark, winning a silver medal in the Kür 1994 at Hartpury winning team and individual gold medals and in 1999, when they were held again in Denmark.

In 2002 Liz teamed up with a new horse, Pogues Mahone, with whom she won the KBIS Disabled Dressage Grade II Class at the British Dressage National Championships in 2002, and was short-listed for the Athens Paralympic Games in 2004.

Vikki Underwood, World Class Start & Potential Manager said, "Liz has been an integral member of the World Class Potential Para Dressage Programme for three years and I have valued the contribution that she has made during that time as a rider, mentor to the younger riders and team player. Liz will be sorely missed"

Liz is not retiring from riding altogether and will continue to ride and compete locally and says, "I have had the most fantastic sporting career and to compete in the Atlanta Paralympic Games was truly a highlight, and I would like to say a big thank you to the many people who have made it all possible."

The World Class Start and Potential Para Dressage programme is Lottery funded through UK Sport.

For more information please contact: Victoria Underwood, World Class Start and Potential Manager: Tel: 02476 698876. Email: [Victoria.underwood@bef.co.uk](mailto:Victoria.underwood@bef.co.uk)