

## World Class Development Newsletter

### October/November

Selection has now been completed for the Development programme 2009-2011. Full details are available [here](#).

Charlotte Platt, riding Paulien was the best placed British rider in the Grand Prix at the Samsung Super League Final in Barcelona, finishing seventh and just lowered a single fence in each round in the Nations Cup final.

Hannah Paul and Sirius III were second in the Ugar grand prix World Cup qualifier in Slovenia, and also achieved some good results with her young horses, Villou and Belle Dame D. Hannah acted as anchorman in the young British squad who traveled to Zagreb to take sixth in the Nations Cup, and gain featured in the World Cup qualifying grand prix for the second week in a row.

On a roll after her major places in two World Cup qualifiers, Hannah descended on HOY's and scooped the young riders championship of Great Britain with her second string Saffier Van De Brandbreek.

After 16 months being based in Holland, Hannah has returned to her yard in Hemel Hempstead.

Runner up in the young riders championship at HOYS was Jemma Kirk riding Wexford.

Laura Collett, riding Fernhill Sox won the under-21 national title at Weston Park, adding nothing to her dressage score – this was Laura's fourth win at Weston Park and second with Fernhill Sox, who won the CCI\* in 2005.

At the recent British Eventing Ball, Georgie Spence was presented with the Edy Goldman Trophy, which is awarded to the British rider who has gained the most points and is under 21. Georgie finished the season on 434 points and finished number 21 in the overall British Eventing rider rankings.

Pre-start rider, Sienna Myson-Davies was presented with the Hubert Allfrey Trophy, which is awarded to the highest placed British competitor in the European Junior Championships.

## **Other News**

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

Emily Baldwin, riding Drivetime, took one of the two advanced sections at Burnham Market Horse Trials, leaving in her wake, the likes of William Fox-Pitt, Zara Phillips and Pippa Funnell. According to Emily, since the recent discovery of Drivetime's stomach ulcers and the subsequent medication, he seems to have more stamina and be able to go faster.

Piggy French dominated the intermediate classes, coming second and third with Direct Approach and Lemington Lets Dance in the OI section and winning an intermediate section with Wild South, a 12 year-old that had been show jumped by Ellen Whitaker.

Piggy came second in the advanced section that was won by Bettina Hoy and Ringwood Cockatoo, riding the 15 year-old What A Performance, with the fastest cross-country round in that section.

At the South of England International Horse Trials, Kitty Boggis riding Boondoggle finished third in the OI section, and notched up a win in an Intermediate section, riding Fernhill T Scarlett, a catch ride, who she had only sat on two days beforehand.

Three Development Programme riders have been training with two of the world's finest three-day event riders:

Piggy French has recently spent three weeks with Pippa Funnell, whilst Georgie Spence and Ben Hobday have benefited from spending time with William Fox-Pitt.

### **World Class Dressage Programme**

Lisa Hopkins partnered Walkman BC to lead the advanced medium class at Addington EC, after finishing second in a high-scoring medium qualifier. The eight year-old by Wie Weltmeyer is still green and after gaining more miles on the clock will be aimed at small tour.

Henry Boswell took part in the demonstration at HOYS that featured Katie Price and Andrew Gould and said, "I have never ridden in an atmosphere like it – it was incredible".

A six-monthly review for all the riders on the Dressage Programme was held at the BEF offices that involved riders discussing their previous set targets and objectives with Caroline Griffith – Dressage Discipline Co-ordinator, who was assisted by Joce Brooks.

Andy Thomas and Carys Jackson were also present to work with the riders on strength and conditioning.

Mosaique Design Agency attended this session to present to the riders a website project they had been working on with the Development Programme that has facilitated a commercial driven venture to enable all riders on the Programme access to an individual website, which will allow these up and coming riders an opportunity to develop a commercial awareness as they progress to becoming professional athletes.

In preparation for the Selection trials, riders have been training with their individual trainers, as well as taking part in squad training session at Vale View EC, where the Dutch Olympic trainer, Francis Verbeek worked with the riders on an individual basis, as well observing the tests they will be performing at the selection trials. Other support services at the training session were Sports Psychologist, Jennie Killiliea, Dietician, Liz Purcell, 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

John McEwen discussed veterinary and fitness issues that rider's had with their individual horses and Vicky Spalding, equine physiotherapist treated each horse on an individual basis.

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

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

The Para-Equestrian dressage riders attended an 'on foot' training day at Ferdi Eilberg's yard, where they watched Ferdi, Marie and Michael train both horses and riders and discussed training techniques. The World Class Coaches and the rider's Home Coaches were invited to a training day with National Coach, Michel Assouline. The day covered topics such as training different types of horses and choosing suitable horses for the lower grades as well as preparing riders for competition. Michel also gave feedback from what had been learnt in Hong Kong and how this could be applied for future championships.

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

Paul Barker managed a second place in the competitive Grandstand classic competition at HOYS, with his own and Sue Clarke's Elegant C, who had improved throughout the week, after taking a couple of days for her to adjust jumping indoors.

Daniel Neilson produced the sole double clear from the first draw to claim the Tri-Zone Newcomers Championships class at HOYS, riding Jason and Katrina Moore's Chauvinist.

At Giffordstown in Fife, Paul Barker took his fair share of prize-money from this venue. His biggest win came courtesy of Quinton II who took the £850-to-the-winner 1.35m class, also taking second spot with Elegant C. Paul also won the power and speed 1.20 and 1.25m classes with Sonybanta.

Still in Scotland, at the Ingliston Development Classic in Renfrewshire, Paul Barker won the 1.25m class with Sonybanta, while Jemma Kirk won both 1.30m classes with Tosca and Pieter respectively, and was third in the 1.40m class with Tosca, which was won by Paul riding Elegant C.

A squad training session was held at Solihull with riders being coached by Henk Nooren, working with the riders in pairs, concentrating on correct flatwork and attention to detail in the rideability of the horses and correct balance and position of the riders, taking this through to the jumping.

Pam Gilpin, EIS Lifestyle Performance Manager discussed with the riders on an individual basis the skills required to cope with the special demands of being an elite performer whilst maintaining an environment necessary for their success.

Physio, Andy Thomas was present to work with the riders on any physiotherapy issues they may have.

TV Presenter, Steven Wilde worked with the riders on TV and Media Interview Techniques, and Rebecca Rawson from Wallace PR attended the session to present to the riders the website project that Mosaïque Design Agency had been working on to enable all riders on the Programme access to an individual website, it is believed that this particular support service will encourage them to develop a commercial angle to their long-term careers in equestrian sport.

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