

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Principal sponsors Weatherbys Private Bank; Owners' Hospitality 2016; win a voucher worth £3,000, courtesy of Zip Travel; Chairman's comment; World Young Horse Championships at Le Lion D'Angers; Annual Awards.

Steering a clear path to Olympic success

In his position as the British Equestrian Federation's (BEF) Performance Director, Dan Hughes is responsible for the UK Sport National Lottery funded

World Class Programme (WCP) and Equestrian Team GBR'. He also fulfils the mission of the BEF's World Class Programme; identifying talent, maximising potential, and delivering success with the aim to develop systems that will win more medals for Great Britain now and in the future on the international stage through a 'no compromise' approach.

Dan works closely with the three BEF Olympic Member Bodies; British Dressage, British Eventing, and British Showjumping, as well as British Carriagedriving, British Reining, British Vaulting, and Endurance GB when their teams compete on the world stage.

Here he answers questions about his role at the helm of the World Class Programme.

What have you learned during your first nine months as the BEF's Performance Director?

The programme is extensive and covers a lot of ground – the three Olympic disciplines, Paralympic-dressage, and the non-Olympic disciplines (such as Vaulting, Endurance, Driving and Reining). Each discipline and area is unique; one size definitely doesn't fit all.

The programme has been successful in recent years, but the bar continues to be raised, and we can never stop evolving. As we look ahead to Rio 2016 there is no room for complacency; every bit of success will have to be earned the hard way – by consistently producing medal-winning performances.

Ultimately, I am accountable for maximising the impact of public and National Lottery funding in elite equestrian sport, and for creating a high performance environment in which our top athletes, coaches and staff have the opportunity to realise their full potential.

What is the secret to developing and sustaining a high performance environment?

There are no 'silver bullets', but amongst the many factors I could choose, I will pick the following four:

1. Having clearly defined objectives – what is to be achieved, how it is to be achieved and how it is to be resourced.
2. Finding the right people – with character, integrity, judgement, and an ability to make decisions under pressure.
3. Doing the basics well – consistently performing the fundamentals to a high standard under stress.
4. Relentlessly pursuing excellence – through a culture of honest appraisal, addressing failures and weaknesses, a culture of continuous improvement, and even constructive dissent. Alex Ferguson of Manchester United has said that dealing with and reacting to failure was one of the most important leadership challenges during his career, and enabled him to win six league titles after the team had been written off in the previous season.

What is in your in-tray at the moment?

I am conducting a full Strategic Review of the programme – peeling back the layers to get at the heart of the programme. I am writing the Performance Strategy for the Tokyo Cycle – which will secure funding for 2017-21. I am also targeting investment towards making marginal gains and finding performance advantages before Rio 2016.

The Olympic Games are looming large on the horizon and will pose a variety of challenges. Rio is an exciting but very complex city and there is still a lot to do by the Rio 2016 Organising Committee in terms of infrastructure, particularly the transport links. There are many people in the WCP whose only Olympic experience is of a Home Games (London 2012), and some who are first-timers like me. An Away Games is a very different prospect.



Dan Hughes, British Equestrian Federation's Performance Director

There are a host of logistical and other challenges that will need to be overcome; plus the language barrier, security, bio-security, accreditation and accommodation.

What are the challenges and opportunities for equestrianism, and particularly Eventing, that exist beyond Rio 2016?

Firstly, I don't think the status quo can be maintained in Eventing, which I know many people will feel uncomfortable with.

Secondly, we must broaden the appeal and accessibility of Eventing to new and existing TV and social media audiences, new nations, new participants, new fans, and new owners.

Thirdly, and without losing the traditional values that make it special, we must address the criticisms that some have levelled at the sport. They include 'two medals for one effort', drop scores, a format that is not easily understandable, excessive costs to stage, not TV-friendly enough, safety concerns for horse and rider, not enough nations or 'flags'. We cannot carry on regardless and should be at the vanguard of efforts to move things forward.

Fourthly, we should celebrate those things that make equestrian sport unique in the sporting world; the connection, communication and bond between athlete and animal; men and woman, amateurs and professionals, competing on equal terms; the longevity of athletes' careers; performance a product of years of preparation and training of both a world class athlete and a world class horse, working in synergy together.

Lastly, we must all look beyond the sport as our legacy and evaluate how we are going to inspire the next generation, not just of up-and-coming competitors, but participants, coaches, volunteers, stewards, event organisers, and supporters at all levels – including owners.

What value to place upon owners and their contribution to the sport?

In my short experience there has been much talk about doing more for owners, and many policy papers written, but it has never moved on to the next stage or got over the 'game-line'.

The question I have asked people most over the last six months has been "what is the most important factor in winning medals". The answer invariably has been something around "having the right horse with the right owner at the right time".

Therefore in my Annual Plan for 2016, one of my seven key objectives is around owners and how we can better support and look after the owners we have, and also attract new ones into the sport.

That is not to take away from the excellent work done already by organisations like British Eventing and the Event Horse Owners Association (EHOA) amongst others, but I would like to help and support them to do more.

I would like to thank the EHOA and all owners for everything they do – not just those with potential Team GBR horses – but all owners, from whichever nationality, and at whatever level. They all make an incredible contribution to the sport, which is vital, valued, recognised, and I hope, rewarded. Put simply, we couldn't do it without them.



Laura Collett riding Mr Bass

Credit: Fiona Scott-Maxwell

Seven-year-old champion

EHOA member, Nick How's initial reaction when he first saw Mr Bass proved a defining moment.

"I was so impressed with him after just one circuit of Laura's (Collett) school that I agreed to take a share with Keith Scott who had persuaded me to go and see him last February. Keith had told me he was a really exciting horse and as soon as I saw him I knew he was something special," he recalls.

The bay gelding has lived up to every inch of expectation, rewarding his trio of owners – Laura, Nick, and Keith – with the seven-year-old World Young Horse Championships at Le Lion D'Angers in October.

"When we first discussed Mr Bass, Keith said he really wanted to go to Le Lion. Not only did we go, but also Mr Bass won. Going in to the showjumping Laura was lying fourth. Mr Bass jumped clear, moving up to second place before Michael Jung came in to the ring with several fences in hand. We had already decided that we would be very happy with second place. Michael hit the first fence, but it stayed in place, and he then had three poles down," he says.

Le Lion D'Angers has proved a happy hunting ground for the Hows who have owned event horses for several years. "It's a beautiful event and there's really something quite special about France in the autumn. We first went in 2008 as my wife Lyn has a share in Oslo, who is with William Fox-Pitt. He duly won the six-year-old championships and the following year was second in the seven-year-olds," he says.

Stalwarts of the EHOA, with some ten years' membership under their belts, they have four horses each going in different directions during the season, and its hospitality tents have proved a welcome stopping place (and watering hole!)

"We're great fans of the EHOA as it's a great organisation. We have a young horse with Ibbey MacPherson, and we part own three other horses. Our daughter Rebecca came back to eventing in 2011, after having a break for four years while she completed her degree. Last year she completed the now Mitsubishi Motors Cup on her 17-year-old horse Lisha Luba. The horses are all at different levels and can be at the same event, yet compete on different days, but we really enjoy it and we go to every event possible. It's a huge amount of fun."

Last year, when the eventing season had concluded, Laura took Mr Bass to the continent to compete in the prestigious indoor cross-country competitions. While the pair didn't finish in the prize money, Mr Bass behaved impeccably taking the infamous electric atmosphere of the huge indoor arenas in his stride. "He went to Germany and Sweden and he jumped well, although he had a fence down each time. In Stockholm there was a bogey fence which caught a lot of people out apart from the Germans. We went to Stockholm and every time a Swedish rider entered the arena the spectators made a huge amount of noise. We were very impressed with the way Mr Bass coped with the atmosphere," says Nick.

This year Mr Bass's early season aim is Tattersalls in Ireland at the beginning of June where he will contest the two star. Depending on the outcome, the rest of the season will be decided on from there.

Owner recognition on a wider stage is vital

The EHOA's chairman Cathy Butler looks back over a busy and successful year for the EHOA and forward to another year when the highs and the lows will be shared by all who love eventing



Cathy Butler

They say time doesn't sit still, I sit here contemplating where the last 12 months have gone!

2015 was an exciting and busy year for us all in the EHOA. Many projects and initiatives have taken shape and working alongside others in the sport has enabled us to represent Owners at all levels, both nationally and internationally. Now I finally get the sense that many of those influencing the sport see Owners as the 'key' to the future of our sport. I thank those who have worked tirelessly with us and on our behalf in getting us to this point.

In my speech at our Annual dinner and awards in November I took the opportunity to thank all our sponsors; they are integral to our operation, without whose support we would certainly not be in the position we are today. Weatherby's Private Bank, our principal sponsor, joined us at the start of 2015. We are delighted to be working with them again in 2016.

Looking forward with Rio 2016 in our sights and all the excitements this brings, I am quite sure that each one of us has our own 'Olympics' to focus on so I wish you all the very best for whatever goals you are striving towards for the coming year.

Whilst preparing for the oncoming season a number of significant points have been raised. I would like to draw attention to a few of these which you may or may not be aware of and thought it worth highlighting before the start of the season:

• Entry Forms

PLEASE check with your riders that when they fill out the entry forms on your behalf as Owners that they have all your correct information down. So often commentators and organisers are criticised for not reading the correct owners' information out! In some cases there is no owner information at all. Commentators can only read out what they are given.

• Competition Series

In the last few years a number of 'series' have popped up and I am sure both owners and riders are thrilled at the opportunities these

bring to our sport, not only in showcasing those at the top of the sport but also our younger up and coming horses and riders. I urge you however as owners to understand the nature of these series and before the start of such a 'series' have a chat with your rider to discuss and agree on the specific owner and rider prizes and the percentage apportioned to each party if you win. It is advisable to have an agreement in place so that both parties are fully in the picture.

• BE FEI Admissions Policy for Owners

A very useful paper has recently been circulated by BE on Owners Admissions to Events. These are very good guidelines and clarifies entry and ticket admissions to the 3 and 4 star events. Please do refer to this paper posted in the PDF column on our website, www.ehoa.org

It remains for me to say that I suspect most owners are in this sport, certainly not for financial gain, but just because we love what the sport brings to us, the horses, the people, the passion, the dedication and above all the spirit in which it is played out. We share the highs and lows together and give support when needed. We look forward enormously to seeing you in our hospitality tents again this year and sharing with you all that it brings. Please do inform us of any issues you would like raised at BE Sport's Committee meetings. The very best of luck for 2016.

Cathy Butler

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providers please
visit our website
www.ehoa.org



EHOA board member Adrian Taylor, left, with Francis Whittington

Adrian Taylor joins Board of Directors

We are delighted to welcome Adrian Taylor to our Board of Directors. Adrian is a Partner in the firm Taylor Made Financial Planning LLP (TMFP), a long-term sponsor of the event rider Francis Whittington's East Sussex yard. TMFP also sponsored the live stream at this year's Blenheim International Horse Trials.

Adrian said: "I am delighted to have been appointed to the Board and am very much looking forward to being involved with the EHOA. Without owners there would be no sport of eventing and the EHOA does a super job recognizing this and the role owners play. I hope that I will be able to bring forward some of my entrepreneurial expertise as well as a range of new ideas to give something back to a sport that has given me many good years enjoying days out with my family."

Adrian's wife and daughter are both keen equestrians and avid supporters of Francis and eventing. Adrian has become increasingly involved not least through his sponsorship of Francis and through sharing a common love of the sport with Francis's wife Sam, who is a Relationship Manager at TMFP, previously having been an Independent Financial Adviser in her own right.

Adrian said: "I don't think you can beat the ambience in any other sport and when I go along to an event I always have a lovely day out, meeting new people and friends. I think there is a lot of scope to introduce more people and businesses to the sport."

EHOA's principal sponsors Weatherbys Private Bank

Weatherbys are delighted to continue their support of the EHOA as principle sponsor this year.

The Weatherbys team will be present at various events with the EHOA over the course of the year, and very much look forward to meeting members.

For over 245 years the Weatherbys name has been synonymous with horse racing. More recently its reputation has been built on banking.

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For more information, please contact Justin Deacon on 0207 2929029 or email jdeacon@weatherbys.co.uk



Eventing moments captured in time

Fiona Scott-Maxwell's imagery is renowned within the equestrian world. From iconic action shots to more candid images sharing private moments between horse and rider, she is a much loved and respected photographer who has been a familiar face at events up and down the country for the past 25 years.

Fiona 'fell into' Eventing photography after buying herself a decent camera some time after leaving her job of many years at the Foreign Office and moving to Gloucestershire. Largely self-taught, she photographs instinctively, capturing images of Eventing, a sport she has been passionate about since she was a child.

Here Fiona shares some of her favourite photographs.

Supreme Rock

My all-time favourite horse who won back-to-back Badminton in 2002 and 2003 and consecutive European titles in 1999 and 2001. Pippa and Rocky were part of the silver medal-winning team at the Sydney Olympics in 2000 and they, with the excellent Primmore's Pride, won the most valuable Eventing prize of all time, the Rolex Grand Slam in 2003.



Supreme Rock and Pippa Funnell

Keep your Discount Provider Card on you at all times. There are great discounts to be had through EHOA membership.

Stately Homes

Great Britain's wonderful houses lend themselves to the most amazing backdrops.



William Fox-Pitt and Ballinoola, Badminton 2006

Photographing greys

Greys are always good to photograph as they lighten the image.



Andrew Nicholson and Avebury on a lap of honour at Burghley

Candid shots

Last year's European Championships at Blair Castle were memorable for the atrocious, unrelenting rain on cross country day. Here, Pippa and Kitty chatting to each other on the podium with their hard earned Silver medals.



Kitty King and Pippa Funnell

Fun images

In this image Piggy French and Seapattrick Dark Cruise at Aston 2014 suddenly seeing me sitting in the long grass.



Piggy French and Seapattrick Dark Cruise

All EHOA members receive a £15 TRAINING VOUCHER. Visit www.britisheventing.com/training and enter your unique EHOA code prior to payment to receive the reduction.

Skiing, riding, and some vintage coats

Amy Martin admitted she was shocked and surprised when she heard she had won the Darby's Rider Award, selected from candidate riders nominated by EHOA members, "But I was so pleased to win as I am a true amateur with just one horse to ride," she said.

Amy is currently enjoying a ski season in Klosters, Switzerland, guiding and hosting guests, before she returns to England in March to commence her 2016 eventing campaign.

A graduate of the University of Bath, where she read Sport and Exercise Science, 23-year-old Amy will spend the 2016 eventing season competing her 12-year-old ex-racehorse Sparky's Reflection, who this year took her around Wellington, Burgham, and Blenheim

Palace three star events going clear across country each time.

"He's a lovely horse and I am so lucky that Shirley Bailey gave him to me when he came out of training with Henrietta Knight. He's like the family Labrador as he is so affectionate its ridiculous. I'd like to gain more experience on him at three- star level with the ultimate goal of riding in a four-star. But I am only an amateur with one horse, so I need more mileage on the clock," she said.

While Amy hones her skills eventing, she will also be helping to build Vintage Martha Riley, a company she has set up with her mother Sally, which sells upmarket faux fur.

"My granny is Martha Hill and she was a fashion designer and my mum used to model and that's where the interest comes from. I was very lucky to do the photo shoot with Sparky, wearing some lovely coats," she said.



Amy Martin riding Sparky's Reflection

Outstanding contribution for globe trotting Wendy

Wendy Rea has made an incredible contribution to eventing, which has seen her fence judge across the globe. At the annual awards dinner she was presented with the Shearwater Owner Award in recognition of her commitment to the sport.

Until 2013, Wendy, who lives in Dorset, fence judged with her late husband David, and then carried the mantle on her own, continuing to attend a huge number of events, from Pontispool in Somerset to Kentucky in the USA.

"I've been doing it for 25 or 30 years and continued after my husband died. We've been to two Olympic Games – Sydney and London, Adelaide 4* twice, Rolex Kentucky about ten times and various Europeans. It's a great sport for making friends and I enjoy driving so the distances are never a concern," she says.

Last year's European Eventing Championships at Blair Castle were a highlight where excessively damp conditions did little to dampen spirits. Tricks of the trade have been picked up along the way and although she admits she was soaked to the skin, those all important papers stayed dry, thanks to her picnic box-cum-table top which sits on the back of her Volvo's tailgate that's parked in the opposite direction of the wind.

She explains: "I don't like sitting in the car and will always fence judge outside and I can usually manage to keep everything dry."

Wendy owns a share in William Fox-Pitt's ride Oslo that keeps her involved both as an owner and a volunteer. "I really enjoy eventing. You go to such lovely places, meet lovely people, talk to the riders as they walk the course and make great friends. I'd recommend it to anyone," she concludes.

Committed to the eventing cause

There is a saying 'If you want something done, ask a busy person' and that statement could aptly be applied to Tamsin Drew, winner of the Shearwater Owner/Rider Award.

Not only does Tamsin work full-time in London as a business manager in investment banking, but she also events her horse Ziggy and runs the popular social media network, #twittereventing, which she co-founded with two other riders three years ago.

She juggles all three, with early starts and late nights ensuring her horse is ridden daily and #twittereventing is updated regularly.

She explains: "It started as a conversation on Twitter and expanded from there. Through my own experiences I wanted to start a support network, as I go eventing on my own and it is good to have a buddy there. It makes eventing much more social and friendly and you have support behind you if anything does go wrong." Running #twittereventing takes commitment and passion. Through the social media platforms of Facebook and Twitter, riders, owners, and volunteers share their eventing news. They also use the platform to seek advice on any equestrian matters. "I love seeing so many members enjoying the benefits of the group, and I especially love reading members' eventing reports.

"With members having the opportunity to trial new equine products, receiving equestrian product discounts, as well as purchasing #twittereventing branded clothing, there's lots of behind the scenes work to keep me super busy."

Tamsin also finds time to ride her horse Gorsehill Ziggy, who she keeps at livery in Hertfordshire, every day.

She acquired Ziggy last year and developing their partnership is a priority. "I'd like to get in as much training as possible before the season starts when we'll do a couple of 100s and then progress to novice with the ultimate aim being qualification for the amateur championships at Gatcombe. The £500 prize for winning the award is fantastic as I will put that towards my training."

Tamsin is an avid supporter of the EHOA as are her family who are also members.

"My mum is very horsey and my sister Anelli is racehorse trainer John Gosden's travelling head girl, which she loves, and so my mum has split interests!

My mum and her friends are also members and it's really great as you can go into the marquees at events. Our favourite is at Burghley, which is situated right near the finish and you get to meet so many other owners and riders.

"It's a really good way of meeting people. And being a member you get really good discounts as well."



Tamsin Drew and Ziggy at Keysoe (Image Hoof Prints Ltd)

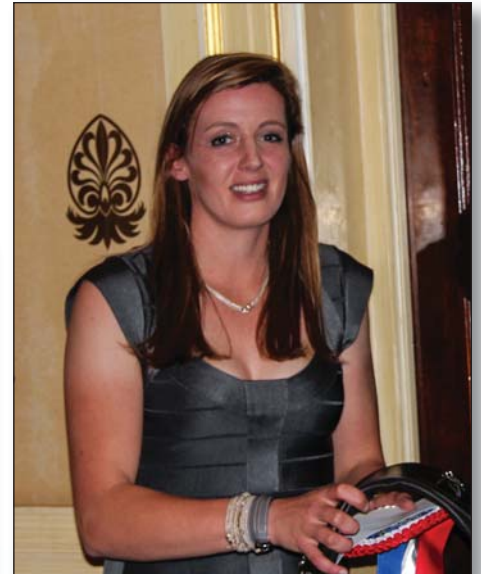
For a
full report
on the
evening, visit
www.ehoa.org



Wendy Rae, winner of the Shearwater Owner Award presented to an owner who has made an exceptional contribution to the sport



Saddlers Hall



Flora Harris, second in the Britannia League



Kitty King, winner of the EHOA Award for a professional rider who has had an outstanding season



Danni Evans, winner of the Britannia League Trophy with Nigella Hall (left) and Vanessa Fairfax



Darby's Rider Award winner Amy Martin with Helen Niebuhr of Darby's

Tamsin Drew, winner of the Shearwater Owner Rider Award with Susan and Jeremy Lawton from Shearwater Insurance



Luana Edge (left) owner of Smart Time, the winner of the Britannia League Trophy with Nigella Hall & Vanessa Fairfax (right)

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Zip Travel's Ian Dennis with Mary King

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Darbys acquired by regional law firm Knights

Our long term sponsor Darbys Solicitors has been acquired by the law firm Knights and we are looking forward to continuing our association.

The EHOA and Knights are currently working together to review documents relating to the different types of Ownership agreements.

The aim is to produce a concise brief alerting owners and riders to the issues they need to consider and also to assist owners to the type of agreement they would like.

Following the acquisition, Knights is the fastest-growing commercial law firm in the UK and one of the UK's top-70 law firms.

As part of Knights' plans to grow its national team by a further 100 professionals this year, 50 new recruits will be based in Oxford.

David Beech, CEO at Knights, said the acquisition of Darbys is the first in Knights' journey to create a firm that can thrive in a competitive sector and become a leading regional professional services business in the UK.

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Advertising Feature

A wealth of expertise for Event Horse Owners Association members - managing your wealth through the generations

Further to our support of Event Horse Owners Association over recent years, I am delighted to continue sponsoring your highly effective and important association during 2016.

By way of background, I have worked in the private wealth sector for over 30 years and in 1992 became a Founder Member of the J. Rothschild Partnership which subsequently became St. James's Place Wealth Management.

In my role as Principal Partner of the St. James's Place Wealth Management, I provide a comprehensive advice-based approach to private client and corporate asset management, in conjunction with a wide range of related products and services, including advice on estate planning, including the establishment of onshore and offshore trustee investment structures and consultation on the ever changing arena of pensions and retirement planning.

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Beckett helps Lucy keep her word with a place at the Mitsubishi Motors Cup

Meet Lucy Jones, our blogger for 2016, who will be giving us an account of her preparations as the countdown begins for the Mitsubishi Motors Cup which precedes this year's Badminton Horse Trials and takes place on Tuesday 3 to Wednesday 4 May.

Lucy lives on the Somerset Levels and qualified for the championships at Port Eliot in Cornwall. Her enthusiasm for eventing is palpable if not a little contagious and five minutes in her company will have you tacking up your horses and striving to achieve your own goals.

Not only did she rack up a string of consistent results last season, but when she's not in the saddle, she lends her support to the EHOA, helping to host owners' hospitality tents at Aldon and Nunney.

Her milestone half century birthday has been and passed but with her super horse Becketts Word proving a wonderful conveyance she is enjoying every minute of her eventing career.

"I bought him four years ago from Sami McCloud who did all the ground work with him and did a super job. He's a really nice horse for me to have some jolly good fun on," says Lucy.

She began riding as a small child riding a 12.2hh Dartmoor pony called Saucy until a career beckoned and she went to catering college before becoming a catering manager with Letherby and Christopher, now part of the Compass Group. However, with long hours to work and long distances to travel for the course she jacked the career in and these days



Becketts Word

can be found working on a local farm tending to an array of animals from cows and horses to dogs and chickens which has freed up her time to ride.

She has no aspiration to go beyond BE100 level, the onus being on having fun. Last year she set out to win the South West Rider Rankings and she duly did so, picking up the veteran's prize too. This year's goal is a win at the Mitsubishi Motors Cup no less!

"I'm so excited about going to Badminton. It's where every amateur wants to go. There's a while to go yet, but fingers crossed we will get there. Becketts Word is a fantastic horse and does everything. We hunt with the Blackmore and Sparkford Vale, he team chases, and we do riding club competitions."

Help from UK level 2 coach Ed Hobbs has also proved invaluable.

"I don't have an arena and just rent a field with a couple of stables nearby so I do all my schooling on the road while I am hacking. Regular lessons with Ed have really paid off and he has been a tremendous help. I'd say to anyone just go for it. Do the training, get some help and set your goals. I can't wait to go to Badminton. Fingers crossed we get there!"

True amateurs are rewarded at Bricky



Sarah Helfer riding Chilly Boy

We were delighted to support last year's Bricky Farm Horse Trials in West Dorset, where we presented an engraved glass Pimms jug to the best placed amateur in each section. We wanted the prizes to be presented to riders for whom the sport is a genuine hobby.

Congratulations to last year's winners - Roxi Foster from Newquay finished 12th in an intermediate novice section riding her 11-year-old Dalsaans Hasty Prince and Sarah Helfer from Wareham was second in a novice section riding her nine-year-old gelding Chilly Boy.

Both riders embody the spirit of true amateurism. Sarah, 19, works full-time milking cows as a contract milker and will put in 12-14 hour days before riding her horse. "It is very hectic but very rewarding. At the beginning of the season I will plan my events and do plenty of training to make sure we're definitely ready to go up to the next level. Last year Chilly Boy was brilliant at novice level and this year we'll go up to intermediate novice," said Sarah who added: "It's great that the EHOA recognizes amateurs. I would say to anyone to get out there and do it. You can do so much training but actually competing helps you get experience and helps calm the nerves!"

For 23-year-old Roxi eventing means a six hour round trip every weekend so that she can ride her horses in Cornwall and continue her training as a chartered surveyor in Bristol during the week. Mum Jane Hawkey, who keeps the horses fit, said: "She really is a true amateur. Once she gets qualified she will be able to move one of her horses closer to Bristol. She didn't want to give up eventing, but like so many youngsters in Cornwall, it can be very difficult to base yourself in the county and find a job that means you can afford to keep horses. The travelling means it's a massive effort - even Bicton in Devon is two hours away - but it's worth it and we really enjoy it. Winning the EHOA award meant such a lot to Roxi as it recognised the effort that some amateurs have to go to in order to event."

Well done to both Sarah and Roxi, with very best wishes for the season ahead to both them and all our sport's amateur riders.

Shearwater Insurance Services Ltd will again be sponsoring the EHOA's prizes at the Mitsubishi Motors Cup 2016 at Badminton Horse Trials for both the BE90 and BE100 sections. All EHOA members competing in these classes will be eligible for the prizes. Riders competing in the Mitsubishi Motors Cup are welcome to join the EHOA with the deadline for membership Monday, April 18.

News in Brief

Cumbria Horse Trials Series Membership

A new membership scheme run by Cumbria Horse Trials Series will enable members to follow and support its seven affiliated events held during 2016.

There are many benefits for members including member and guest badges, car passes, ringside seating, access to a marquee with free tea and coffee provided all day, a free official programme, e-newsletters, live scores on TV screens, ticket offers for the annual Awards Autumn Ball and the option to pre-order a light lunch.

Relaxed fun and new friendships are guaranteed with eventing enthusiasts able to enjoy the sport from the comfort of the hospitality tent. The cost for BE members is £48 and for non-BE members £65.

Cumbria Horse Trials Series Dates

Eden Valley (1)	2-3 April
Warwick Hall (3)	9-10 July
Dalston Green (1)	30 April - 1 May
Dalston Green (2)	10-11 Sept
Warwick Hall (1)	21-22 May
Eden Valley (2)	1-2 October
Warwick Hall (2)	18-19 June

For further information please visit <http://www.cumbriahorsetrials.com/members-club-2016>.

Event Rider Masters Series

Recently launched on February 19, 2016 - an exciting new series with unprecedented prize money and a goal of showcasing the sport of Eventing to a new global audience. The launch of this series has come about through a collaboration of progressive owners, riders and organisers. The series legs are: Chatsworth House, Bramham Park, Barbury Castle, Festival of British Eventing at Gatcombe Park, Blair Castle, Blenheim Palace. Di Brunson and her team have developed the concept over the last 18 months. The successful business team of Christopher and Lisa Stone, themselves event horse owners, saw real commercial potential in the Event Rider Masters and intend to support and develop the business model through their wealth of experience in both the sporting and financial spheres.

Shearwater Insurance Tri-Star Grand Slam

Launched on January 28, the Shearwater Insurance Grand Slam has a refreshingly tempting £50,000 'winner takes all' prize for any rider who can win three of the five CIC3* events at Burnham Market International, Belton International, Houghton International, Hopetoun International and Burgham International. This has come about thanks to generous sponsorship from Jeremy Lawton of Shearwater Insurance Services Ltd.

Follow the EHOA on

@Event_HOA and

/EHOA-The-Event-Horse-Owners-Association

OWNERS' HOSPITALITY 2016

The EHOA warmly welcomes owners of competing horses and its members to enjoy the hospitality marquees during the eventing year.

Please do check our website for new additions www.ehoa.org.

1. **Barefoot Estates Burnham Market International Horse Trial April 1-3**
Location: North Norfolk
www.musketeer.co.uk
2. **Belton International Horse Trials April 15-17**
Location: Lincolnshire
www.belton-horse.co.uk
3. **Bicton Arena International April 22-24**
Location: Devon
www.bicton-arena.co.uk
4. **Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials May 5-8**
Location: Gloucestershire
www.badminton-horse.co.uk
5. **Dodson & Horrell Chatsworth International Horse Trials May 14-15**
Location: The Peak District, Derbyshire
www.chatsworth.org
6. **Houghton International Horse Trials May 26-29**
Location: Norfolk
www.houghtoninternational.co.uk
7. **Pontispool Horse Trials May 28-30**
Location: Somerset
www.pontispool.com
8. **Equi-Trek Bramham International Horse Trials June 9-12**
Location: West Yorkshire
www.bramham-horse.co.uk
9. **Gillespie Macandrew Hopetoun Horse Trials June 16-19**
Location: West Lothian
www.hopetounhorsetrials.com
10. **Nunney International Horse Trials Sponsored by Kingairloch Highland Estate June 17-19**
Location: Somerset
www.nunneyhorsetrials.co.uk
11. **Barbury International July 7-10**
Location: Wiltshire
www.barburyhorsetrials.co.uk
12. **Bicton Arena July 9-10**
Location: Devon
www.bicton-arena.co.uk
13. **Burgham International Horse Trials July 29-30**
Location: Northumberland
www.burghamhorsetrials.co.uk
14. **The Festival of British Eventing at Gatcombe August 5-7**
Location: Gloucestershire
www.gatcombe-horse.co.uk
15. **Bicton Arena International August 19-21**
Location: Devon
www.bicton-arena.co.uk
16. **Atholl Estates Blair Castle August 25-28**
Location: Perthshire
www.blairhorsetrials.co.uk
17. **Wellington International Horse Trials August 27-29**
Location: Hampshire
www.wellingtonhorsetrials.co.uk
18. **The Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials September 1-4**
Location: Lincolnshire
www.burghley-horse.co.uk
19. **Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials September 8-11**
Location: Oxfordshire
www.blenheimhorse.co.uk
20. **Pontispool Horse Trials September 11-12**
Location: Somerset
www.pontispool.com
21. **Osberton International Horse Trials September 29-October 2**
Location: Nottinghamshire
www.osberton-horse.co.uk
22. **Aldon International Horse Trials October 20-23**
Location: Somerset

The EHOA warmly welcomes its members to enjoy its marquees during the eventing year

For up to date news and a full list of hospitality dates please visit our website www.ehoa.org

