

STUBBING COURT TRAINING LTD.

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025TO ALL APPRENTICES, PARENTS & EMPLOYERS





MASTERCLASS WITH WILLIAM WHITAKER



To do your best, it helps greatly to learn from - and be inspired by - the best. SCT continually gives its Apprentices and employers unparalleled opportunities to gain knowledge and skills from world-class riders and coaches such as international showjumper William Whitaker. William gave an exclusive Masterclass to nine groups of SCT Apprentices and employers at Parklands EC. Sheffield, on 17 October. His pupils ranged from young people taking their first steps in riding to professional riders who are dedicated employers of SCT Apprentices, and all were highly enthusiastic about the day. William Whitaker, a member of Britain's most famous showjumping family, is a long-time supporter of SCT and its work to give young people the solid foundations they need to build a successful, long-lasting and satisfying career in the equestrian world. He said: "We had such a good day - it was great to see familiar faces from past Masterclasses and to see the progress the riders and horses have made since I last taught them. It was also great to see many new Apprentices starting on their careers with horses, all showing fantastic enthusiasm for learning.'



SCT's Chief Executive Belinda Turner MBE said: "We are so grateful to William for taking a day out of his very busy international schedule to coach our Apprentices and employers. His horsemanship, professionalism, communication skills and enthusiasm for helping others make him an excellent role model for anyone wishing to develop a career in any part of the horse world. As well as being a brilliant rider, he is a first-class coach. "A lot of new Apprentices and employers were attending their first Masterclass, and SCT received outstanding feedback from them about their day and about being given opportunities like this." Access to this sort of invaluable training is just one of the many benefits offered by East Midlands-based SCT that enrich and inspire young people in seeking a lasting and well-rewarded career with horses. SCT has outstanding contacts with a vast range of employers, from the world's top riders and trainers to livery yards, rehab centres and studs. An Apprenticeship offers a thorough, broad-based and remunerated training with first-class support and guidance, resulting in experience and qualifications that employers really want. The next in SCT's acclaimed Masterclass series, which is exclusive to SCT Apprentices and employers, is with FEI world number one event rider Harry



LIBBY PACE - WORK EXPERIENCE AT SOVEREIGN EQUESTRIAN...

I recently completed a three-day work experience placement at Sovereign Equestrian, and it was an incredibly valuable and eve-opening experience. A big thank you to Stubbing Court Training for arranging the opportunity, and to the whole team at Sovereign Equestrian for taking the time to show me how their yard operates on a daily basis. Throughout my placement, I was involved in a wide range of yard duties including mucking out stables, filling water buckets, preparing haynets, tacking up horses, un tacking and washing off horses after they had been ridden. I also bathed and groomed some of the younger horses. It took a bit of time to get used to their routine, but everyone was welcoming and supportive, which made it much easier to settle in and get stuck into the work. I tried my best to be helpful and learn as much as I could from the experience. Overall, I'm really grateful for the opportunity and everything I learned during my time at Sovereign Equestrian.



LIBBY PACE - GROOMING AT MY FIRST INTERNATIONAL EVENT!!

I recently had an amazing experience at Ballindenisk International in County Cork, Ireland, where my employer Evie Gaskell competed in the 4 Long event*. I was away for a week in total, and my main job was to make sure that Scampy, our horse, was well looked after and presented to a high standard so he was ready to compete at his best. This was Scampy's first international competition in another country, so we weren't sure how he would handle the journey—but he was absolutely brilliant! During both ferry journeys, I checked on him regularly to make sure he was comfortable and not too hot or cold. I also offered him water and a recovery mash to help him stay hydrated.

Each day started bright and early at 6:30 a.m., as I was responsible for all of Scampy's care. This included mucking out, giving him hay and water, hand-grazing, and making sure he had breakfast, lunch and dinner. I tried to keep his normal routine as consistent as possible, even in a different place, so he stayed calm and relaxed. At the event, I put studs in his shoes when he was ridden on grass to prevent slipping, and I tacked him up correctly for each discipline so he passed the FEI checks. After cross-country, I had buckets and ice boots ready to help him recover properly. It was such a brilliant week that gave me a real insight into what it's like to be a competition groom. We were stabled next to some of Harry Meade's team, which was really exciting and a great learning opportunity. I also got to know lots of new people from different teams and made some great contacts, which will be really useful for the future.

The atmosphere at Ballindenisk International was amazing—everyone was so friendly, and the organisers even put on evening events in the restaurant and bar, which made it a fun and welcoming place to be. The Ballindenisk App was also really handy, giving us all the latest times and results throughout the week. Overall, it was such a rewarding and enjoyable experience, and I loved every minute of being away, looking after Scampy and meeting so many great people. I came home with lots of new knowledge, friends and memories—and a real appreciation for how much teamwork goes into competing at a top-level international event.







WHERE ARE THEY NOW? MEGAN PEACOCK...



I'm delighted to be back working with Stubbing Court Training supporting careers and recruitment — visiting schools, attending careers events, and inspiring young people to explore the fantastic equestrian opportunities that SCT offers. The rest of my week, I am a teacher at a primary school in Chesterfield.

I completed my Level 2 and 3 apprenticeships with SCT, which gave me the confidence and skills to care for my own horse, groom to a high standard, and support others in developing their abilities. The experience taught me patience, communication, and resilience — all of which I now use daily in the classroom, especially when supporting learners with additional needs.



Top 3 things I enjoyed most:

- 1. Working with horses every day.
- 2. Learning from brilliant mentors.
- 3. Making lifelong friends.

Top 3 things I learnt:

- 1. Resilience and responsibility.
- 2. How to support and motivate others.
- 3. That horse skills can be transferred into other careers!

My future plans: I aim to continue combining my love of horses and teaching, while helping others find their path through apprenticeships.

Top tips for success: Be open to learning, stay organised, and believe in yourself - confidence comes with every challenge you take!



LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS!!!!!

Apprenticeship: Lexie Dawes-Hollely, Faith Stones, Annie Dickinson,

Summer Taylor

Advanced Apprenticeship: Ruby Thomson, Evie Revell

Distinction: Mia King



MASTERCLASS WITH WILLIAM WHITAKER...



RILEY FROST: APPRENTICESHIP WITH ADAM TAYLOR



I am a level 2 apprentice working at Jump Elite located in Eaton, near Retford. Jump Elite is a competitive show jumping yard that competes all across the UK. Since I've joined the apprenticeship program everyone has been very welcoming which allowed me to fit straight into the team. My time at Jump Elite so far has been nothing but extraordinary I have developed new skills and knowledge that will help further my studies. Whilst being at the yard for the past three months it gave me the opportunity to value the time and dedication that goes into the horses to allow them to achieve the best possible outcome at shows, it has also allowed me to work with a variety of horses from youngster to schoolmasters to stallions.

Throughout the last few months, I have gained a great level of appreciation for competitive yards and the hard work that goes into preparing for shows this includes cleaning tack, bathing, packing the horseboxes with tack and other vital items. I have been lucky enough to experience a wide range of activities from a Masterclass with Olympic coach Chris Bartle to training days at Speetley Equestrian Centre all the way to regular shows at Willow Banks.



WELCOME TO:

Eve Jessop, Alana Webster, Lacey Frith, Hope Spatcher,
Lucy Walker, Paige Gray, Ellie Bower, Charlotte Sykes,
Lucy Randall, Anya Mangham, Macey Dawson, Amelia McKenzie-Garbutt,
Emma James, Amelia Green, Libby Travis, Holly Kidd.