



STUBBING COURT TRAINING LTD.
Wish all Apprentices and Employers
a Very Merry Christmas!!
NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2013



SCT MASTERCLASS WITH WILLIAM WHITAKER



Stubbing Court Training Ltd (SCT)'s apprentices and employers were given a rare opportunity to learn from one of showjumping's rising stars recently - William Whitaker. The final session in SCT's acclaimed Masterclass Series for 2013 took place on 15 November at Parklands EC, Sheffield. An impressive 45 of SCT's apprentices and employers took part in the Masterclass - William kindly taught all day from 9am to 5.30pm to give as many people as possible a chance to benefit from his knowledge. William, a former under-21 gold medallist and now a member of Britain's senior Nations Cup teams, said: "The SCT Apprenticeship programme gives great opportunities to young people who are already established riders to take their skills further, and also to the less experienced riders to get ideas and advice as to how to improve. The groups of riders I worked with had good attitudes - not just when things were going well, but also when things didn't go to plan, which I think is very important." All the participants went home inspired to further their training and improve their skills. "It was a very well planned day, and William was positive, encouraging and motivational," said one participant. "What a wonderful opportunity for the apprentices to have coaching from a trainer as well qualified as William Whitaker."



These masterclasses are exclusive to SCT and are only possible due to its excellent and varied contacts in the horse world. The aim of the masterclasses is to offer equine apprentices the opportunity to have training from a world-class professional as a reward for making exceptional progress, showing commitment and dedication to their training and producing work of the highest quality. Their employers are also invited to participate as a reward for the part they play in delivering top-class training and support to their apprentices throughout their qualification.

SCT are extremely grateful for the support of the Sampson family, and all the team at Parklands for providing great horses and facilities, and all the employers and apprentices who attended.



EMPLOYER SEMINAR - 14 OCTOBER 2013



SCT Ltd held an extremely well-received Employers' Seminar at the Twin Oaks Hotel, Chesterfield. Seventy of SCT's employers attended the day. They listened to four presentations, the first of which was by Spencer Moore, former Head of Strategic Development for British Swimming and a non-executive director of the British Equestrian Federation (BEF). He said: "In the end, all business operations can be reduced to three words - people, product and profits. Unless you've got good people, you can't do much with the other two." This ethos is at the heart of what SCT does; working to provide the horse world with well-trained, capable and positive young people and supporting both them and their employers in ensuring the working relationship is as beneficial as possible to both sides. He discussed the difference between "good" and "great" coaches and instructors, and advised employers on the capital funding available for equestrian businesses to develop. Mr Moore said that the BEF, which is the governing body for the Olympic equestrian sports in Britain, is keen to work more closely with SCT in 2014 and beyond. Keith Lawson from Peninsula Business Services gave an important update on employment law - key issues and legal requirements, including recent changes, and good practice. Anna Goodley from Lycetts Insurance Brokers talked about equine business insurance, and Sarah Hamlyn, an Ofsted inspector and one of British Eventing's regional directors, discussed best practice in training. Belinda Turner, SCT's chief executive, said: "We are excited to launch SCT's work with the BEF on innovations in coaching, safeguarding and equestrian facilities development, and delighted so many employers supported the Seminar."



What new things have you learnt today?

- The duty of an employer to provide the best working environment possible
- Upgrade of employment laws
- The importance of having up to date insurance
- Insurance for travelling horses and also people on the yard
- Legislation aspects and also employers liability insurance information
- Employment Law and insurance requirements and BEF
- Too many to mention!!!
- BEF's place in the industry
- Expectations of the employer and insurance information
- Obligations when employing individuals
- Importance of contracts and policies for employers
- Changes in the employment law
- BEF and how much can be asked of them for our industry
- Employee contract requirements
- All of the day • SCT talk
- The need for accurate written documentation
- New techniques for training apprentices
- The owners of a horse you ride are sometimes not under your insurance
- Discrimination in adverts
- Employment law and funding
- Tips on improving coaching and teaching
- Exciting ideas for apprentices
- Statutory rights to look at
- The role of the BEF and potential industry developments through SCT
- Statutory and employment rights

What was the most useful part of the day?

- Hearing about how insurance companies can work in all situations
- Information on grant applications and successful submissions and the updates
- Ways to train apprentices
- Networking with other employers and learning techniques for training apprentices
- All of the day was informative
- Insurance aspects
- BEF talk and Sarah Hamlyn on best practice
- Update on CPD
- Insurance information and contract compliance
- Employers and employees statutory rights
- Learnt a little from all of the speakers that will help with the day to day running
- Useful information that will hopefully improve my business!
- Insurance liability explained in more detail
- Hearing from the variety of speakers on different subjects
- Employment law and insurance information
- Employment law, insurance, funding from the BEF
- Hearing about training tips that can make training sessions outstanding quality
- More knowledge on employment law



WELCOME TO:

Laura Saxton, Savanagh Kearns, Lucy Lane,
 Rebecca Patchell, Konnar Bedworth, Daniel Kennedy,
 Kimberley Musson, Georgia Brereton, Danielle Soden



BECKY PICKLES - APPRENTICE WITH WILLIAM WHITAKER

Becky Pickles, 16, is an SCT apprentice who has landed her dream job. She works for William and George Whitaker in their highly successful showjumping yard in Huddersfield. She travels with the horses to shows all over Europe - she has recently been to Millstreet in Ireland and is off to Spain and Germany in the next few weeks. "I have always wanted to work with horses," says Becky. "But because I am young, it would have been very hard to get a job like this and I wouldn't have achieved it without being part of SCT's apprenticeship scheme. "I've always found it much easier to learn in a practical way, rather than just being handed a bit of paper at school, so an apprenticeship - where I learn on the job while getting amazing help and guidance from both the Whitaker family and SCT - is perfect for me." She says that working for members of showjumping's most famous family is inspiring. "You see how hard you have to work to do well and how important it is to pay great attention to every detail," says Becky. She thoroughly recommends becoming an apprentice, but warns: "You've got to really want to do it and to be prepared to work hard." Alison Whitaker, who manages the yard for her sons, says: "I wouldn't have picked just any 16-year-old to do this job, but I know that the apprenticeship scheme offers both Becky and us a lot of support and training." Alison's son George, double gold medallist and former winner of the "SCT Apprentice of the Year" title, said "I wanted George to learn the vitally important basics of best equestrian practice in a way that suited him, and the practical approach and support of the apprenticeship scheme worked extremely well for him".



HEALTH & SAFETY

9 January, 4 February at Derby College
4 February at North Notts College, Worksop

LIMITED PLACES for all SCT employers, apprentices and their employees. Please contact SCT for more information on 01246 566193

FIRST AID

13 January, 30 January,
12 March, 27 March at Derby College
10 December 2013, 14 January, 11 February
at North Notts College, Worksop

LIMITED PLACES for all SCT employers, apprentices and their employees. Please contact SCT for more information on 01246 566193



LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS!!!!!! **Intermediate Technical Certificate:**

Amy Lawson-Croome



Apprenticeship: Daniel Barker, Joseph Shaw, Frankie Marriott, Jessica Adams, Freya Coombes, Zoe Clayton, Leah Warburton, Rebekah Park, Emma Suter, Jake Key, Emma Watkinson, Jessica Bidewell, Jenny Gladman, Lucy Hellewell, Bethany Pierson

Advanced Apprenticeship: Lucy Wright, Nicola Biddle, Jessica Hallam, Lacie Hawkes, Noah Brook

Level 1: Kerry Cope

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS EXTERNAL TESTS

Mathematics Level 1: Amy Lawson-Croome

English Level 1: Amy Lawson-Croome, Katie McMahon, Grace Sheard, Yazmin Robinson, Anja Farmery, Chelsea Fletcher, Jonathan Pickard, Diana Jones, Jake Key

English Level 2: Lacie Hawkes

SUMMARY OF MASTERCLASS FEEDBACK

Aspect 1: What was the most useful aspect of the day?

- Knowledgeable trainer and good advice
- Socialising my young horse
- The warm up over the single jump and poles before and after the jump
- Riding a different horse and applying different riding methods
- It gives the apprentice a purpose to work towards. Preparing their horses, travel arrangements etc
- Experience for my apprentice
- Listening to William Whitaker telling his knowledge
- Being able to jump a short course and receive feedback
- Being given the chance to be on the Masterclass, and given advice on my riding
- The exercise before jumping which helped straighten up the horse
- Today was the fourth time I have seen my daughter jump and I can see a great improvement
- Listening to William's view of my horse
- Riding new horse - gain experience, got to jump higher than I've jumped before
- Good ground work
- Keeping my horse calm and relaxed
- Having William's point of view as to how to ride my horse
- Seeing my son riding to his full potential, I was amazed!!
- Bringing my own horse away from home to learn different tips to increase my work and my horse's work for the future
- Being able to experience the Masterclass with William Whitaker
- Lesson helped me understand how to slow my horse down without fighting him as well as how to keep him relaxed
- Listening to William's advice to the students
- Watching good confident riders who jump a lot, doing basic pole work to improve their overall position
- Having a professional's view point, helping me to improve my skills
- Seeing work done on basics and simple things even the top professionals do
- Lack of any complexity - easy to understand - the basic standards
- So many apprentices and employers having the opportunity to have training from a world class professional
- Meeting the apprentices and having their feedback
- Learning how to use corners when jumping
- Working on rhythm and relaxation of a young horse
- One to one information
- Working on keeping my horse in a rhythm

Aspect 2: What was the most enjoyable aspect of the day?

- Jumping at different heights and doing different exercises
- Everything, it was 'Ace'
- Well organised, good, knowledgeable lesson, all the riders listened and improved and thoroughly enjoyed
- Watching my daughter in the lesson
- Jumping/learning difficult jumps
- Learning new exercise we can use at home
- Being given expert advice on my riding
- Jumping the course and bending round the jumps
- Riding a different horse and meeting William and overall experience gained
- Having the chance to be trained by an international show jumper
- Good progress made throughout the lesson
- Jumping a course in an even rhythm
- Having the opportunity of being trained by a top class professional and hearing what he had to say
- Seeing all the apprentices and horses having fun together and working as a team
- Seeing the improvement in my horse as she jumped more and seeing my daughter improve the horse she rode
- Being able to have an outing from the yard, general all round
- Having a lesson with a professional show jumper
- Watching my apprentice over achieve!
- Watching the improvements with both horses and riders
- Quality of the lesson
- Overcoming the problem and achieving
- Hearing the positive feedback from family, apprentices and employers
- Jumping bigger than I have ever done before
- Being able to jump a short course in a relaxed environment and still get a lot out of it
- Seeing the riders grow in confidence
- Watching trainee improve and enjoy a new experience - seeing confidence gained
- Seeing the huge improvements in competence and confidence after the sessions
- Seeing the improvement and hearing the obvious enjoyment from apprentices

Aspect 3: What will you do now to improve your work and progress?

- Keep building horses confidence
- Ride my horse positively
- Try to find a school to hire so I can jump my own
- Practice and work on my position and either holding or pushing for the strides
- Apply different riding methods to different horses
- I will carry on with and expand the lesson
- More warming up time
- Take my time when riding, look at what I can do to improve my course
- Go home and practise what I have been advised to help me improve
- Explain how the Masterclass has helped me in a diary sheet
- Work on using the whole arena
- Keep practising and keep up to date with my work
- Carry on doing exercises as William advised
- Keep work up to date and push myself harder
- Use more poles
- Keep the horses relaxed and slow down if needed
- Work on my position like William said when at home, and do exercises similar to what I did today
- To approach jumps in a straight line and to use corners effectively
- More committed to practising jumping
- Complete riding units 373, 375 & 376
- Keep training and be the best I can be
- Keep pushing boundaries
- Work on rhythm and corners
- Continue to do as William advised
- Keep my horse in a rhythm and sit up tall
- I need to get more riding done and have a lesson in flatwork and more pole work - and get jumping!
- Continue on the points suggested by William to improve my confidence
- Carry on the way I am doing and continue with the course work
- Grid work
- Upload worksheets and diary sheets to moodle before assessor comes out so that she can talk through the work
- Keep my approach calm and keep the horse quiet
- Continue to work my horse in a rhythm and not allowing him to rush

Aspect 4: Do you have any other comments about the quality of Masterclass?

- Good trainer and useful comments
- It was really well planned and the trainer was very helpful
- Very high quality, enjoyed it!
- It was well organised and well run
- A very enjoyable experience with good tips to help improve my riding
- Really interesting and has helped me with being able to ride an unknown horse
- Need to do more jumping
- Good advice from William and other staff friendly and helpful
- Incredibly professional and an excellent experience
- Really enjoyed it, William gave me a lot of confidence and helped me realise I do need to jump more often to be able to make the most from the future Masterclasses
- Well structured lesson with good advice for my pony
- William had a lovely calm manner and achieved good results
- William was very positive and encouraged all the riders to jump at comfortable heights
- I liked getting analysed by other people about my riding because I am keen to improve
- William very encouraging without over facing anyone
- Smoothly run, well timed - great day!
- Super, well done, thank you!
- Excellent trainer - extremely encouraging and motivational. Extremely well organised and a very good, friendly atmosphere
- A wonderful opportunity for the apprentices to have tuition from a trainer as qualified as William