

# Arena - March

Editor: Sibylle Gussmann, Sheba Zager, Alex Parry

## **A selective group**

We are happy to announce that the selectors for this year's teams are as follows:

### **Adults**

Bev Franklin  
Petronella Clark  
Ute Schutz

### **Juniors**

Judy Vertue  
Caroline Potts  
Clare Bailes

### **Pony Riders**

Erica de Groot  
Sheba Zager  
Eva Sydow

This is, most often, a thankless task so we extend a HUGE thank you to the selectors for being prepared to take on this task. It is often anything but easy and in addition very time consuming.

## **Judging from that ...**

Sadly Carissa Wessels resigned from the judges' panel as she is emigrating in April. Carissa, we will miss you as a judge and as a very entertaining person with a sharp sense of humour! We wish you a successful new start abroad and lots of happiness!

We welcome the following people who have just joined the dressage trainee panel:

Andrew Bird  
Any Hunter  
Sabine Lloyd  
Helen Minty  
Carla Molenaar

## **Moving on up**

Although we did include upgrades for October and November 2009 we don't want to forget about the previous months (August and September 2009) since we now have all the data. Congratulations therefore to all riders and horses listed below!

## **Upgrades for August 2009**

Burning Heart and Claudine Martin - JN to JE  
Avion Hill and Neil Henry – AN to AE  
EC Cailleach and T Williams – AN to AE  
Stalvoerman's United and Deborah A Holden - AN to AE  
Galway Emerald Miz Ellie and Alexandra Lynch - AN to AE  
Mandala and Coleen Frew / Andrea Harrison - AE to AEM  
Desert Fox and Michelle du Plessis-Hay - AE to AEM  
Hakahana Acacia and Alexandra Becker - AE to AEM  
Agrado La Luna and Matthew Oldnall - AE to AEM  
Dancing Queen and Cara Frew - AEM to AM  
Winslow Chelsea and Ingeborg Sanne - AEM to AM  
Mister John and Delmon Mining & Civils (Pty) Ltd / Jenny Neill – AM to ADV

### **Upgrades for September 2009**

Bobaas Sjarmant and Chiara Myburg - CN to CE  
Mambo N and Shelby Kleynhans - CEM to CM  
Beachhaven Wishing Well and Claire Otgaar - JE to JEM  
Brandenburg La Scala and Ross Hughes - JN to JE  
Uron M and Mandy Schroeder - AE to AEM  
Connington Raja Baba and Charmaine Watts - AEM to AM  
Wow's Winchester and Paula Lasersohn - AM to ADV

### **Upgrades for December 2009**

None! Which is to be expected as it was HOLIDAY time!

Watch this space for the movers and shakers in 2010!

### **GHS Awards**

The annual GHS awards evening was held end of January and we would like to extend our congratulations to all the successful dressage riders who received trophies and awards! Well done!

### **On course with Adriaan van Wyk**

Thanks to Adrian who took time to share news of his pending visit to Europe

"I am on the brink of fulfilling a dream: competing at the Sunshine tour in Spain and Portugal! Packed and ready to go I will leave the warmth of Africa for the sub-zero temperatures of Europe.

In October 2009 I purchased a Dutch Warmblood named 'Othello' and I am extremely happy with our partnership. Andreas Hausberger, from the Spanish Riding School, has been a pillar of strength, giving me inspiration and confidence. I am also grateful to the Werndl family, from Aubenhausen, for their continuous support over the past year.

The adventure will start with a long journey from Germany to Spain, with the company of some of my friends! I am excited at the prospect of competing at Grand Prix Level in Europe. What makes the Sunshine Tour so special is the fact that for 3 weeks I can train and compete the horse at the same venue under the same circumstances. I will not be fortunate enough to have a groom but the upside is that I will have plenty of time to spend with 'Othello'.

I think the most difficult part is that I will be by myself for the first two shows – a little daunting on a horse I have never competed on before! My pupil Danielle Hau will be there too but she herself is also competing on a new horse. For the both of us it is a journey that continues to be a journey.

Last not least I would like to thank my sponsors Mondi, Barrows, Shave & Gibson, Golden Era and Zinto. I also would like to thank my clients for their loyalty and understanding of my ambitions and for their moral and financial support, Lilian Moller, Fiona Mackenzie, Janet Bebington, Heather Partner, the Hau Family, the Werndl family, Tobias & Bianca Wild-Blatt, Naomi & Andy Taylor and everybody else for their moral support."

Adriaan, go for it!

We all wish you lots and lots of fun and success with 'Othello'! Keep us posted.

On the international note: Heather Partner, after her return from Europe, is planning to hold a video/diary session about the Sunshine Tour with Adriaan .... watch this space.

### **Dressage Forum**

The Dressage Forum that was set up for Wednesday, 17 February, unfortunately had to be cancelled. We were informed that a big eventing fundraising event was being held on the same date which meant we had to reschedule – we will let you know about the new date shortly.

### **Grow Dressage**

We continue to grow the number of venues at which we will hold our Grow Dressage days so that we can accommodate as many of our colleagues as possible. Keep your eyes peeled for venue updates in ARENA as well as in the GHS newsflashes!

### **Appeal to everybody**

Please remember that anything that goes into each month's Arena newsletter is submitted at a specific deadline date. It takes from submission deadline until YOU receive the printed Arena about 4 ½ to 5 ½ weeks. On the GHS website the Arena is of course available earlier and may also contain more info than the printed version which is space restricted. This still means that any important, urgent information that we receive at short notice and that needs to be disseminated to the dressage community quickly can only be communicated via the GHS Newsflash that is e-mailed out to GHS members at least once a week.

We therefore urge everybody who is a MEMBER of GHS but does NOT receive the GHS Newsflash to please contact Agnes Phiri on [membership@ghsinfo.co.za](mailto:membership@ghsinfo.co.za) so that your e-mail address can be updated/added to the GHS database mailing list.

Please also consult the SANEF website regularly for the web version newsletters and any other info that pertains mainly to national matters.