

# 2023 EVENT PROGRAMME

Celebrating Equestrian Excellence





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As Founder of The Equestrian Business Awards, I warmly welcome you to the third year of the awards and extend my thanks for joining us on this special evening.

When I founded The Equestrian Business Awards, I had no idea that it would receive the overwhelming response and support from horse owners, riders and highly regarded equestrian brands. Our winners have since received recognition as a result of the awards from figures across the horse world, including Clare Balding and HRH Princess Ann. This is a testament to all the hard work, resilience and compassion that has been shown time and time again throughout our industry, despite the ups and downs that the past few years has held.

Congratulations to our finalists who were selected out of a huge 18,870 across 3,137 professionals and businesses. It is a privilege and honour to ensure you receive the recognition you deserve.

I would also like to thank our sponsors, advertisers, Judges and host, Sam Gerrard-May. Without your support, expertise and help, none of this would have been possible and The Equestrian Business Awards would not be the success it is today.

Katy Wright, Founder.















## TO ALL THE FINALISTS **AND WINNERS**

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## Meet the Judges



Katy Wright first started riding at the age of 11. When the pandemic began, she was inspired by how the equestrian community had pulled together to help one another. Katy felt strongly about providing a platform for equestrian businesses to be celebrated and recognised as well as to boost morale and promote businesses in any way she could, so The Equestrian Business Awards sprang to life! She is also interested in business development, marketing and sustainability.

Katy still works as a primary school teacher on an army base alongside running The Equestrian Business Awards, as well as Chair for Curriculum & Assessment Governing Body at a local school and member of the Public Advisory Group for the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Samantha Osborne is a North Yorkshire based freelance rider, equestrian journalist and equestrian influencer (representative of brands including: Fairfax and Favor, Harry Hall Equestrian, Dakota Equestrian, Blue Chip Feed, Pine Vet Physiotherapy, Treehouse Sporting Colours, Richmond EC etc). In 2014, she won the TSM BETA International award for Amateur Sponsored Rider, for help relationship with Equilibrium Products. Following this win, she began to write for a range of national magazines, including: Horse, Showing World and Native Pony. In recent years, she has modelled for companies including Couronne Equestrian and Synovium Supplements. On spare weekends around her full



time position as a secondary school English teacher, you may spot her with a camera working for Amy Griffiths as an event photographer!



Melanie has been in business, training horses, since 1985, in Skidby, East Yorkshire. She is a leading light in the UK for modern and ethical horse behaviour modification using applied behavioural science, learning theory and LIMA principles (least invasive, minimally aversive). Branded Instinctive Horse Training, Melanie is the UK's very first professional training yard to adopt force free training based on marker (clicker) Counter conditioning and systematic desensitising training as the base of

retraining complicated and traumatised horses, and introducing all young horses into the world of ridden work via positive reward.

Alongside the bricks and mortar yard work, Melanie provides home visits across the North of England. Furthermore, she works cross species with a variety of different zoo animals. She also provides behaviour consultations remotely mentors horse owners across the world. Melanie provides talks, training seminars, presents at conferences and runs workshops for horse and pet owners, animal trainers, zoos, veterinary students and regularly guest lectures at various universities and colleges across the UK.

If you are interested in inviting Melanie to speak at one of your Business Networking events, Charity fundraisers, Education centres, riding clubs, dog training clubs or anywhere else, then please feel free to contact her on:-

Email melanie@instinctivehorsetraining.co.uk Website www.instinctivehorsetraining.co.uk Facebook page www.facebook.com/instinctivehorsetraining



A saddle fitter based in Yorkshire, Sarah Rymer is one of the first people in the UK to hold both recognised saddle fitting qualifications, with The Society of Master Saddlers and also Master Saddle Fitting Consultant:



- Dip MSFC Qualified Saddle fitter Master Saddle Fitting Consultant
- · SMS QSF Qualified Saddle fitter Society of Master Saddlefitters

Sarah has a passion for rehabilitation work and works closely with rehab yards, vets, physiotherapists, chiropractors and body workers.



James Arkley is a British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) and British Veterinary Dental Association (BVDA) Qualified Equine Dental Technician, a Member & Chairman of the British Association of Equine Dental Technicians (BAEDT). He has over 30 years exposure of owning and working with horses. Previous experience includes backing and

breaking of young stock, racing, competing and teaching (ex-military Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment and BHS AI instructor).

James is experienced in British Eventing and was selected to ride in the Rural Riders British Event Team who competed at the European Championships to help achieve 2 Bronze medals for Great Britain. Since leaving the Army James has run a successful Equine Dental business in Lincolnshire for the past 15 years.

James spends his spare time with his partner Kat who administers the business and his two young sons. The whole family ride horses and the boys are members of the Belvoir Hunt Pony Club so weekends are mainly spend competing, riding and watching the boys play rugby.

Ashley Berry DipWCF is a fully qualified and experienced farrier, previously based in Oxfordshire and more recently, the UAE and owner of AB Farriery Ltd.

When he was younger, he spent a lot of time with his uncle who was a farrier, giving him a deep insight into the trade. This inspired him to train as a farrier straight after leaving school and since then, has never looked back. Ashley has spent most of his career working within the thoroughbred industry, from foals to racing on the track to rehomed racehorses. He has a wealth of experience in relation to remedial shoeing, working with a variety of vets.



His main achievements include working with several high profile race winners around the world from the Dubai World Cup to Royal Ascot. Ashley is keen on studying and working with the latest techniques. In his spare time, Ashley enjoys playing golf and dining out with his wife and friends.



Sam Gerrard-May is an equestrian commentator having commentated at famous events including the Longines Global Champions Tour and Horse of the Year Show. Sam also ran the popular Full Course Showjumping Podcast through lockdown and currently heads up Equestrian Sport UAE Podcast. He has qualifications in Equine and Business Management from the UK's leading equestrian college and university Hartpury. Sam is also the host for the evening at The Equestrian Business Awards' gala.



@steddyneddys



### We aim to:

- Raise awareness of mental health in the horse world
- Showcase how horses help us get through our stresses and strains
- Help stamp out on bullying in our sport and hobby.



Laura Szuca is the UK Sales Director for Equilibrium Products. A horse owner with a passion for creating long term mutually beneficial relationships with her customers. Laura believes that Equilibrium Products offers product to the consumer that are trusted, quality and great value – and wants to make sure retailers across the UK are offering these products to their customer base. Of being a judge for the Equestrian Business Awards for the Retailer of the Year Category, Laura said, I am



excited to hear from the entries that have been short listed, there is a clearly lots of retailers delighting their customers and I can't wait to find out all about their plans, customer service and what makes them different.'



Sarah Bayliss became qualified from the College of Animal Physiotherapy in 2017 as an Equine Sports Massage Therapist. Sarah then went on to study Equine Thermography with Equitherm, the world leading experts in Equine Thermography and qualified as an Equine Thermographer. Theraplate was also added to the services to complete the business and offer a range of treatments. Her business, Peak Performance Therapies was founded in 2017.

Over the last 6 years Peak Performance has flourished and has become a well known and reputable business in Oxfordshire and surrounding counties. Peak Performance was recognised by The Equestrian Business Awards and are proud winners of our Equine Therapist of the Year award 2021.

Andrew Wallace BSc BVSc CertEP CertAVP(EL) PgDipVPS MRCVS is director and veterinary surgeon at Buckingham Equine Vets, a first opinion and medicine referral practice in central England. He graduated from the University of Liverpool in 2003 and subsequently moved into mixed then equine-specific veterinary practice. In 2011 he co-founded Buckingham Equine Vets which is currently a six vet team and one of nine equine vet practices in



the UK recognised as 'outstanding' by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. He is a RCVS certificate holder in Equine Practice and Equine Lameness; and holds a postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Professional Studies.



Amanda has worked with horses for over forty years, and manages the family farm and busy livery stables outside Beverley in East Yorkshire where she is also involved with the rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming of animals. One of the first graduates from the Northern Racing College, she has been both an accredited re-trainer of racehorses and an Assistant Trainer. A specialist with veteran horse, she has also shown in-hand at the highest level, taking her 31 year-old 'Toffee Boy' to Olympia in 2011 –

a horse that she also bred. She set up her own equine transport business in 2009 with private and corporate clients including RSPCA, World Horse Welfare, The Donkey Sanctuary, Hull City Council and PRP Rescue and recommended transporter for Rainbow Equine Hospital in Malton. Amanda was voted Horse Transporter of the Year in 2021 in the inaugural year of The Equestrian Business Awards and was a Regional Finalist in the Countryside Alliance Awards in the Rural Enterprise category in 2019.

She lives in Yorkshire with her daughter Savannah, who is an Assistant Trainer, and her fiancé Dillon who is a photographer

Having contracted a virus, Transverse Myelitis at just 14 months old, Natasha Baker OBE was left with permanent nerve damage, severe weakness in her legs, loss of balance and sensation. Natasha's childhood dream of winning gold at the Paralympics became a reality when she triumphed with a double gold on Cabral in front of her home crowd at the London 2012 Games, which was recognised when she was awarded an MBE by the Queen. The Rio 2016 Games saw Natasha and Cabral obtain their third gold. Tokyo 2020 was Natasha's third Paralympics however this time she was riding her new partner Keystone Dawn Chorus. After a relatively short time together they delivered and brought home gold in the



Team Competition and double silver Individually. In 2021 Natasha was recognised in the New Years Honours List and was awarded an OBE by the Princess Royal for her services to Equestrianism.



Sophie has been involved in horses all her life, from a young age she's always had a passion for the sport and knew early on she wanted a full-time career in the industry. After graduation from Loughborough University with a degree in BSc Geography & Sports Management, she soon started her career at one of the biggest equestrian centres in the UK. She began her career as part of the events team running and organising high profile national and international events, soon promoted to head up the business's social media and deatal marketing strategy.

At the end of 2022 Sophie started working at Cavago, a new entry into the equestrian technology market. Sophie now heads up the UK and global business development team, with her role being centred around driving growth on the platform.

With a BSc in Equine Sports Science and a Veterinary Physiotherapy qualification, Vicky acts as Therapy Manager for Equilibrium Products. With a huge passion for improving the wellbeing of the ridden horse Vicky is an advocate for the Equilibrium Massage Pad and works with other therapists who use and recommend the brand. Vicky also has a keen interest in the scientific testing of products and plays a big role in ensuring that the Equilibrium Product range is really put through its paces before coming to market.





Rachael has been working professionally within the equestrian industry for the past 3 years and has developed a highly successful business drawing horses, animals and people all over the world. Rachael began her journey when her daughter was 6 weeks old and was on maternity leave from her career as a Zookeeper. At the time she had undiagnosed post-natal depression and anxiety, she now openly discusses her experiences with her following to help support others with their own struggles.

Rachael has been riding since the age of 9 and began working at riding schools before studying Equine Breeding at Myerscough college which landed her a job as a professional groom role with a top showjumper on ponies. Before starting her business in 2020, Rachael was a zookeeper at Colchester Zoo working with a large variety of species including rescued horses from World Horse Welfare. Her career developed her vast knowledge of animals with up-to-date husbandry and welfare guidelines across the industry. Rachael won the Equine Service of the Year Award in 2022 and was shortlisted as a finalist for Digital woman of the year 2022 and Wildlife Artist of the year 2022.



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**SCAN ME** 

# Order of the Evening

18:00 - Bar opens for Welcome drinks

19:00 - Doors open

19:30 - Dinner is served

21:00 - Presentation begins

22:30 - Evening entertainment

01:00 - Carriages

Please note that timings may be subject to change.



#### STARTER

Bruschetta, vine tomatoes, grilled peppers, basil pesto

Melon, mango, passionfruit and comegranate stack, passionfruit dressing (v)

#### MAIN

Chicken fillet, crushed new potatoes, carrots, beans broccoli, tarragon beurre blanc

Sweet Potato & Red Pepper Frittata, feta, asparagus, rocket salad (v)

### DESSERT

Warm Apple & Blackberry Crumble Tart, custard (v)

Cream Filled Profiteroles, chocolate sauce (v)

# FARRIER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

Craig Whitehead DipWCF



Thomas and Neal Bradbury DipWCF

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### SADDLE FITTER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

Liz Pears

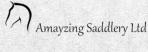
Emma Hallam Lauren Knott

Laura Nickel









## EQUINE DENTIST OF THE YEAR **FINALISTS**

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Chris Lee **BAEDT** 

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**SCAN ME** 

# EQUINE THERAPIST OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

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# GROOM OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

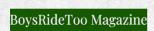








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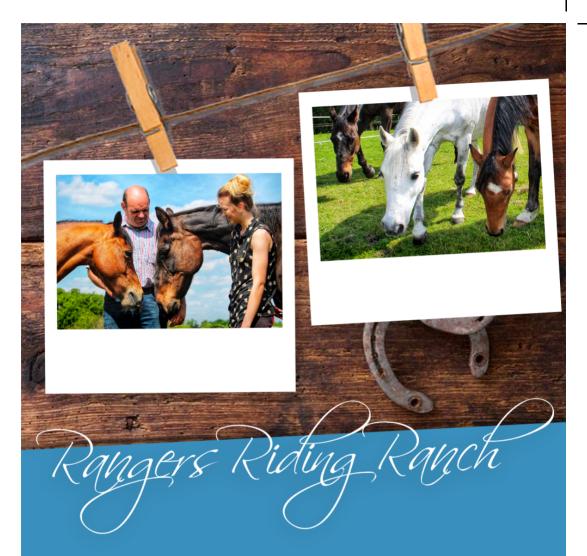




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