

Graham Lovegrove  
& Pandur



Daniel Moseley & Larinall



ROYAL WINDSOR

John Whitaker & Uniek



# ROYAL WINDSOR 2010

THERE WAS A MASTER CLASS ON DISPLAY IN FRONT OF WINDSOR CASTLE. JOHN WHITAKER SHOWED JUST WHY HE IS ADMIRABLE THE WORLD OVER AS HE GUIDED UNIEK TO AN UNASSAILABLE GRAND PRIX VICTORY.

In front of a packed grandstand, seven conquered course-designer Bob Ellis's 1.60m track to access the jump-off, and were faced with a series of twisting turns before a long run to the final vertical.

Dan Moseley has quickly established a partnership with Carol Toliver's Kepi D'Elle and was the first to post a jump-off clear, but they were quickly bettered by Charlotte Platt and Paulien.

This active mare has bounced back into competition following a 12 month break due to a leg injury, and easily wiped three sec from the time.

But John smoothly moved Uniek up a gear and negotiated three crucial turns before taking a stride out to the last to land the £4,100 by half a second.

Since taking over the ride on Andy and Alo Brake's Uniek at the beginning of the year, John has gradually moved the Concorde son up a level.

"He was regularly second and third in the Spanish Sunshine Tour's bigger classes, but he wasn't ready for the grands prix" said John, who finds the nine-year-old is happiest in a simple snaffle bridle.

The plan to build up Uniek's experience to grand prix level has maintained a steady climb since. They celebrated victory in Newark and Notts feature Mattie Brown Stakes the week before.

John's horsemanship was again on show when Tadmus, a stallion son of Calvados owned by Beth Gillespie, spooked before the final double when in contention. However, John's quick reactions saw the scopey 10-year-old clear the double with inches to spare and clinch the Martin Collins International grade A class.

Second here, James Fisher claimed his own victory in

Sunday's speed stakes with his homebred mare Lowriver Queen Z, a 10-year-old out of James's former International ride Bowriver Queen.

"She's not quite ready for the grand prix, but confidence is everything and I'm building her up to the bigger classes" said James, "and it's great to win here at my local show."



Tim Stockdale & Fresh Direct Kalieo Bay.

A winner here in 2009, Colin and Ann Garrett's Fresh Direct Kalico Bay showed his liking for Windsor by winning an early Grade A class in a 12 horse jump-off under Tim Stockdale.

"Last year it was his biggest win, he's gone on to win £38,000" said Tim, who had allowed the nine-year-old to kick his heels the day before, "He had a day in the field yesterday, which he loves, and he was beautiful to ride today."

Dan Moseley, now established as William Funnell's stable jockey, claimed a double of wins, and headed the A and B two-phase from the outset with the German nine-year-old Larina III.

"There were some tricky fences in the second phase

which caught out some careful horses" said Dan, 20, "but I just aimed to keep it smooth."

His second victory came in the accumulator as the sun set on Saturday evening. One of only four who gained the maximum 44 points, Dan ensured a win by angling the penultimate fence for a time-saving run to the Joker on Billy Buttercup, a Vechta/Clover Hill daughter.

"She's so careful, I knew I could do that" said Dan.

After an 11 hour journey home from Balmoral, Graham Lovegrove sacrificed sleep to compete at Windsor, and was rewarded with the Land Rover Eraser Stakes, an unusual competition which wipes four faults from any fence on the course if the final 'Eraser Fence' is cleared.

"I really enjoy Royal Windsor and always try to compete here" said Graham, who had survived on just two hours sleep.

Graham, however, had no need to utilise the eraser fence on Pandur, and the pair finished an amazing five sec in front of John Whitaker and Uniek.

"Pandur is so quick across the ground" he said.

Louise Pavitt was in the frame with Brendon Stud's stallions. The top two places of the Walwyn Novice went to two six-year-olds, with the rangy, 17hh Don VHP Z, a son of Diamant De Semilly, wresting the title from stable-mate and long-time leader El Thuder by half a sec.

"Don VHP has been slower to develop as he's so big, but I think he's catching up now" said Louise, who also topped the Land Rover B and C aboard Warrior.

And the seven-year-old Warrior looked to double up in the A and B jump-off, but Geoff Luckett had other ideas.

Always regarded as a danger against the clock, Geoff pinched half a sec with Old Lodge's speedy Brickfield Boy to take the class.