



## JETS RICHARD DAVIS

### ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FINALISTS

#### 1. ANNABELLE ARMITAGE

**Age:** 47

**From:** York



**New Career:** Physiotherapist

**Career Development:** Annabelle became interested in physiotherapy when she needed treatment for injuries sustained as a jockey. With help from JETS and support from the IJF, she gained a Human Biology A level enabling her then to do a degree, qualifying in 2011. Since then she has progressed through the NHS, overcoming her own disability and multiple surgeries, to become a musculoskeletal physio for South Tees NHS Trust. She recently gained a junior research award to complete a research project for Teesside University and she hopes with further qualification, that in the future she may use her experience as a jockey to help patients at Jack Berry House.

**Annabelle said:** “My biggest accomplishment has been overcoming my disability. I think it actually helps when treating people with pain/disabilities that my empathy is based on true life experience and this helps immensely with their motivation. When treating sports people my racing background gives some common ground.”

**JETS Support/Training Courses:** JETS consultation, training advice and work placement. A level in Human Biology.

**Race Riding Career:** Held a Cat B Amateur licence and rode 5 winners as well as 25 Point-to-Point winners from 1992 – 2005.

## 2. NIALL HANNITY

**Age:** 36

**From:** Thornton Waltham, N. Yorkshire



**New Career:** TV presenter and Jockeys Agent

**Career Development:** Niall consulted with JETS about different career options while still riding. He attended various media training days which, along with passion for racing, his knowledge of race form and pedigree, inspired him to pursue a career in broadcasting and is now a regular presenter with Racing UK. In 2014, he also became a jockeys agent, with 9 jockeys on his books and speaks with trainers on a daily basis who value his in depth race knowledge and has achieved some big winners already with his jockeys. He also sits on a panel aiming to help regenerate Jump Racing in the North of England.

**Niall said:** “Getting paid to work in an industry which I love is something I am immensely proud of. As a jockey I never excelled to the heights of many others, which I feel makes my achievements all the more satisfying. I have worked incredibly hard, seeking opportunities which may open more doors for myself and my family in order to be the best I can.”

**JETS Support/Training Courses:** JETS consultation, career guidance, training advice and work placement assistance.

**Race Riding Career:** Conditional/Professional from 1996 – 2005, riding 100 winners.

## 3. MICHAEL NAUGHTON

**Age:** 41

**From:** Middlesbrough



**New Career:** IT Product Manager

**Career Development:** After breaking his back in a fall, Michael used JETS to enrol on an computer course which gave him the IT skills which are vital for his current role with Fine Equinity, which has developed a training and welfare IT tool (EquinlTy), incorporating a GPS system and heart rate monitor for horses. JETS also helped him gain a sales role with Red Mills prior to that. Michael has applied skills he acquired in racing such as managing teams, building relationships and communicating with owners and trainers in his new career. He is now developing new technology which has seen him travel worldwide, developing the business internationally and set up agents abroad.

**Michael said:** “JETS has given me a very positive outlook on life. I was unlucky enough to break my back while I was still riding, and JETS helped me to enrol on a European Computer Driving Licence course to help develop my IT skills. The computer skills I learned then have been invaluable in my new role.”

**JETS Support/Training Courses:** JETS consultation, career guidance and CV preparation, training advice and work placement assistance. European Computer Driving Licence.

**Race Riding Career:** Professional jockey for 15 years, riding 63 winners in both codes.