

December 2004

8th Richard Davis Award goes to Finnegan



From L to R: Terry Boothby (Griffins), David Finnegan, Glen Sparkes, Tony McGlone

The eighth annual 2004 Griffins Richard Davis Award has been won by former conditional jockey, David Finnegan. The Awards were once again presented on the Sunday of The Open meeting at Cheltenham by Terry Boothby representing sponsors, Griffins of Newbury.

The Awards are presented to those former jockeys who are judged to have shown the most effort, initiative and forethought in developing a second career after race riding. This is the eighth year of the Griffins Richard Davis Awards which were established in memory of the late Richard Davis who had the foresight to start planning for his future, before this was tragically cut short when he suffered a fatal race fall in 1996.

This year's winner is 29 year-old David Finnegan who is in his second year of an apprenticeship as a farrier in Hereford.

"David has shown great initiative and hard work in gaining his place with an approved training farrier. In order to enrol, he had to overcome dyslexia to complete a year-long course in Mathematics and English and while

training he is only on a basic wage," explained JETS Manager, Lisa Delany.

David was awarded £2,000 to spend on career development and plans to invest it in paying his college fees and in a vehicle for work.

"I was stunned but very happy to hear I had won. I still feel I have so much more to do as it will be another two years before I complete my apprenticeship," he said.

The runner-up is former Luca Cumani and Clive Brittain apprentice, Glen Sparkes, 25, who received a prize of £750. Glen moved on from race-riding (having had 40 winners from 700 rides) as a result of a serious spinal injury, and is now an instructor for The British Racing School, following rapid promotion from his initial role as their part-time recruitment officer:

"I really enjoy being able to pass on my knowledge to the young trainees and watching them improve through their riding careers," said Glen.

Former Flat jockey, Tony McGlone took the £500 JETS Special Recognition Award. Following his retirement from race-riding, Tony became a professional work rider for Godolphin in Newmarket and Dubai for three years. Tony trained in IT skills and worked hard as a jockey to maintain an immaculate disciplinary record, standing him in good stead to fulfil his ambition to become a Stewards' Secretary. Tony's determination paid off and he began training for his new post last February.

"Each year the calibre of candidates for our Richard Davis Awards gets higher and higher and the careers they are choosing more varied. What is impressive now is that, through their own motivation, backed by the support of JETS' training and advice, our jockeys are becoming sought-after employees in a wide variety of roles, both in and outside the industry," commented Lisa Delany for JETS.

JETS would like to thank sponsors Griffins, Cheltenham Racecourse, SIS and Simon Tindall for their support. More photos at www.jets-uk.org



David at work

JETS – A NATIONAL SUCCESS STORY

The Jockeys Employment & Training Scheme has collected one of the country's most prestigious National Training Awards.

JETS Manager and Career Coach, Lisa Delany, was awarded a trophy by BBC presenter Sue Barker at the South East Training Awards Dinner at the Winchester Guildhall in October.

Nearly one thousand entries had been assessed nationally for the awards by 150 judges. JETS' National Award was one of only five presented to organisations in the South East to reward the scope and impact their training has made on a national level.

Dr Graeme Hall, Acting Chief Executive, UK Skills said:

"The finalists are an inspiration; they have used training to deliver exceptional results for themselves, their communities and their businesses."

JETS fought off stiff opposition from more than 20 other highly commended and regional winners in the South East across industries and organisations which included Vodafone plc, B&Q plc, Tourism South East.

"This Award recognises the success and hard work of both the jockeys themselves and all the people who have been involved with JETS

since its inception in 1995; including Sue Mills, Bob McCreery, Michael Caulfield and former JETS Manager, Dana Mellor," ends Lisa.



Lisa receives JETS' award from Sue Barker

WHO'S TRAINING NOW

Here are just a few jockeys who have recently trained, or are currently training, in new skills with the help of JETS:

NAME	JETS ASSISTANCE
Danny Allen	NVO in Plumbing (Year 2)
John Bryan	Garden Design
Richard Forristal	BA Degree Course
John Kavanagh	IT Skills
Neil Kennedy	Catering (NVO)
Ricky Lake	IT Skills
Tom McLaughlin	IT Skills
Laurence Squire	Marketing Skills
Brian Storey	Business Skills for Racehorse Trainers (BHEST)
Martin Taylor	Computer Installation and Maintenance

DON'T FORGET The Lesters

Saturday 8 January 2005,
The Grosvenor House Hotel,
London

Current jockeys qualify for
heavily discounted tickets.

Call The Jockeys Association
on 01635-44102



Tom George

Thumbs up to:

Trainer, **Tom George** who gave much support and encouragement to his conditional jockey, **Zoe Owen** in her bid to undertake a Foundation Degree in Equine Studies while continuing to work in the yard.

Zoe had time to consider her options when recently injured and decided that this would build on her current skills. The degree is delivered by distance learning which means she can study around her current race-riding and yard commitments.

Both Tom George and his owners really got behind her efforts and

even helped towards the costs of training.

"It is wonderful when we hear about trainers like Tom who support their staff in a positive way with their personal development like this," said Lisa Delany.

JETS ON-COURSE

Lisa will be based in the Weighing Room before racing on the following dates:

December 8th	Newmarket – The British Racing School
December 15/16	Middleham area/Catterick
January 12	Newbury
January 13	Southwell
January 18	Towcester
January 26	Wetherby

Jockeys are welcome to make advance appointments or stop by for an informal chat on the day. Watch out for other and later dates in The Racing Post and future issues of The JETS Journal.

First JETS Scholarship goes to Forristal

Former conditional, **Richard Forristal**, who moved on from race riding a year ago, is the first to benefit from a JETS scholarship and is in his first term of a three year Arts Degree at University College Cork in Ireland.

The new JETS scholarships are designed to help candidates wanting to plan long-term or residential courses and who therefore need more help with funding.

"After I handed in my licence, I felt stuck in a bit of a rut; not knowing which way to go. After initial guidance from JETS, I felt that taking this degree would give me a new challenge and will provide a great foundation of skills and learning from which to move on to all sorts of careers. It's been a big leap for me and it has taken me time to settle in. There's no way I would have been able to do it without the financial assistance and support of JETS," said undergraduate Richard Forristal.

Richard is considering the option of becoming a journalist and is currently contributing to the racing desks of The Irish Independent and The Irish Field.



Richard Forristal.
Photo by Ray Wright

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Rupert Wakley, who started work for Knight Frank as an estate agent in August. He is thoroughly enjoying his new role and is still managing to fit in some part-time media work, notably for Cheltenham Racecourse Radio.

David Frodsham, who has completed his three-year training course in Equine Muscle Release Therapy and is starting to practise in the Newmarket area.



David Frodsham

Jockeys looking for further information on JETS can visit www.jets-uk.org or request a complimentary copy of the JETS video

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The Jockeys Employment & Training Scheme aims to help jockeys achieve a secure future

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