

Kate Attlee Rider Diary.

I thought I would introduce the horses on my yard to the All Horse readers. Knowing I would write about my horses' personalities I prepared to do some deep, time-consuming research on the matter.....I turned straight to my fabulous groom Jess Jones!

She was duly asked to write three words per horses to sum them up in a nutshell but when the list arrived, it was more like an essay!

In her defence, she's dead right. It would be like trying to describe your best mate in three words 'I mean, well, she's like this, but occasionally can be like this, and don't even go there when she's like that!'

Its the same with all our horses; they're just like humans with their contradictions and complexities (well, mine are anyway!)



LOCHNESS aka Mr Charles

Owned by Sarah Outwin, Charles is a 10 year old Danish Warmblood by Limaro. He has recently come into my yard for training and competing having previously qualified with me for the Medium Summer Regional Championships 2005. He has qualified for the Winter Regional Championships at Medium and Advanced Medium level 2006.

Charles (or 'Mr C' as Sarah fondly calls him) is the gentleman on the yard: suave, sophisticated, well-educated and simply charming.....just has a slight problem with the weight, as one does.



JAZDON NERONIA aka Neo

Owned by junior rider Natalie Overall, Neo has been based on my yard for a year and a half. Rising 11 years she is by Belisar. Natalie came 2nd at the Talent Spotting Championships 2005, and won team silver at the Under 21's Home International at Sheepgate.

They have also qualified for the Summer Regional Championships 2006 at Elementry and Medium level and have been selected to ride in Ireland as a Young Rider.

Neo is the flirt of the yard and needs regular, intense pampering. She makes it extremely clear as to whether she likes you or not and is pretty opinionated about most things. She has me and Jess in stitches because she is so human!



STEIN aka Leo.

My own Dutch 7 year old bay gelding by Gribaldi. He has won the Novice Winter Regional Championships 2005 and came 6th at the Novice Summer Championships 2005. He's qualified for the Elementary Winter Regionals 2006.

He is a very intelligent horse and so consequently rather quirky and sensitive. He's laid back but sharp, willing, generous and very good looking! He knows he's the 'bees knees' and has an air of arrogance making him the perfect Milk Tray Man!



VINCENTE aka Vinnie

Shared between Trish Andrews and myself, Vinnie is a chestnut Irish Sports Horse by Skippy II. Rising 9 he has won the Novice Summer Regional Championships 2004 and competed at the Summer Championships at Novice (where he came 6th) and Medium level. He also qualified for the Winter Championships 2005 at Medium and Medium Freestyle where he came 10th.

Vinnie definitely acts like the teenager 'been there, done that, got the t-shirt'!

He needs constant reassurance and is a real character in a way that he is the big macho man but underneath is really rather sensitive, soppy and affectionate! (but don't tell anyone).



Fi PLEASURE aka Treasure

My own 10 year old coloured gelding by Branco. He has competed through all the levels and will be competing at Prix St George this season. Working towards Grand Prix at home, he is the playful puppy of the yard; happy go lucky, curious, gentle, charismatic and occasionally very hyperactive!

He adores learning tricks and loves getting a reaction from the rider (whether that's because he's been good or cheeky). When he realises he's been clever he won't live it down for at least a week! A proper show-off who is incredibly genuine.



LIMIRO aka Limmy

Owned by junior rider Megan Daley, Limy has been based at my yard since October 2004. Rising 9 years old he is by Limbo. Meg won the Talent Spotting Championships 2004 and the Medium Restricted Summer Regional Championships 2005. They are also on the World Class Longlist.

Limmy is so chilled out in his stable that he could fall over at any time! He's a cool dude that suddenly wakes up for a party, and boy does he party hard! He's almost like Fonzie from 'Happy Days', but then again, he's way too cool even for that!

Next month I'll let you know how we are all getting on with our training and competing. If you have any questions you would like me to answer about your horse and any problems you may be having or would like to leave me any feedback contact me at kateattlee@hotmail.co.uk