

JOHN F. LASSETTER FABRS BHSI BITC

John started riding from an early age and was a very active member of the Pony Club in the New Forest as well as having a great deal of success in the show ring. John started his professional training at Porlock Vale under Lt Col Crawford FBHS. Here, John evented, point to pointed and later became Chief Instructor of the Centre.

His dressage training intensified with the help of Capt Tibor Demko de Belenski, formerly of the Hungarian Spanish Riding School and also at the Sivewright's Talland School under Major Bolternstern, Swedish Olympic Gold medallist. Next John travelled to Germany to train with Herr Egon von Neindorff. On returning to England he studied with Robert Hall at Fulmer and then became Chief Instructor at Crabbet Park under Brian Young F.B.B.H.s.

It was from here in 1969 that John became the first long term student in 14 years to be accepted into the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, by the late Col Handler. He spent 13 months at the School working under the famous Director and Ober Bereiters Wahl and Lauscha, Bereiters Kottas, Tschautscher, Eichinger and Ernst Bachinger whom became a close friend.

Then, he was invited by Colonel de St Andre to study at the Cavalry School in Saumur under Baron de la Doucette and Patrick le Rolland. John stayed at the school about 6 months.

He returned to Vienna and ran a private dressage centre, Reitzentrum Markhof for 5 years. He returned to run Porlock Vale and then moved to Goodwood with five Lippizanners. With the support of the Duke and Duchess of Richmond he has developed a highly successful dressage yard.

Since being at Goodwood John has competed internationally on Twister being placed in Small Tour classes in Rennes and Goodwood and well as at the National Championships. Later he competed Famos in Grand Prix at internationals in the UK and Denmark. He was a member of the winning Castle Classics team, was placed at the National Championships and was long listed for the Atlanta Olympics. Sadly, respiratory problems cut Famos's dressage career short.

He has also helped many Young Riders up to Grand Prix and to the Young Rider European Championships these included Sonia Webster, Carla Terrill and Otti Kawabe. He has riders training up to Grand Prix in both the UK and USA and has been team trainer for National Pony Club Dressage champions, Chiddingfold PC.

John is also renowned for his thespian talents giving some of the best lecture demonstrations in the world. He has been asked to perform all over the UK, the USA, Canada, Jumping Amsterdam with Anky van Grunsven and the verden Elite Auctions.