

# 14 riders to watch

## Dressage: Alex Baker

HIGHLIGHTS of Alex's season last year include a highly respectable grand prix test at the Rotterdam-Hickstead challenge in July and a new best of 70.6% at the level in November, with her Jazz gelding Dutchman (Jack, pictured right). The ambitious 24-year-old, who competes for Ireland, has also been busy with her day job, backing and training youngsters at Anna Ross's Devon yard.

"Every time I go down the centre line, I think, 'This is what I've always wanted to do,'" says Alex, who is aiming for a 70%-plus international score in 2021 and a team place. "Jack is quite spooky but his talent is starting to come out now that he's at grand prix. Anna keeps us going, setting us new goals. I'm enjoying every step of the way."

## Dressage: Lewis Carrier

LEWIS has been based with both the Eilberg family and Anna Ross, so can boast a top-notch training pedigree. And with another two years in under-25 grand prix to play with, he's hoping to build on a positive outing with Diego V (pictured, below) at the under-25 European Championships in Hungary – and a hat-trick of under-25 wins at Keysoe International – by stepping up to some senior competition.

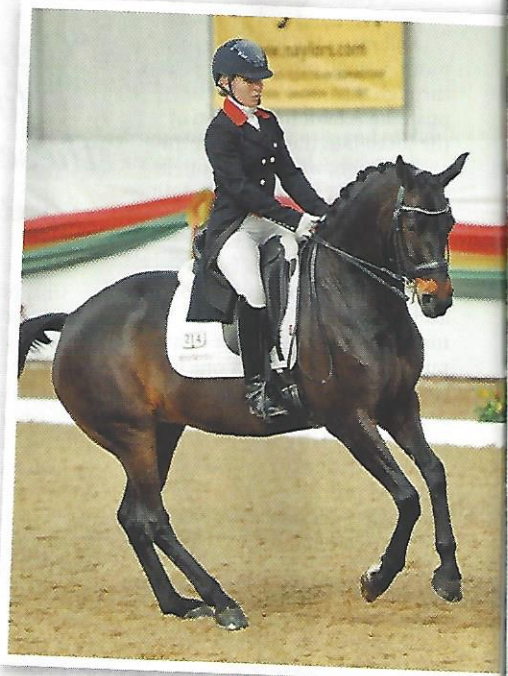
"Diego is starting to come through at grand prix," says Lewis, who has set up his own training and backing yard in Norfolk. "He was naughty as a youngster, but we've learned together and he is now putting that energy into his work. I'm looking forward to making progress with him and the other young horses."



## Dressage: Amy Woodhead

IN an awe-inspiring year, Amy topped the scoreboards across the levels. She left Carl Hester's yard four years ago but still regards him as a mentor as she develops an enviable string at her family base in Lincolnshire. Pre-lockdown, Amy, 28, enjoyed multiple wins at Myerscough College Premier League. She was second in the prix st georges with MSJ Top Secret (pictured, right) at Keysoe International in October, then dominated at Vale View High Profile with winners including Ivan Carlos, Mount St John Kom Fairy Tale and U-Genius.

"I was particularly proud to win the four-year-old championship at the British Dressage Young Horse Championships, with Mount St John Diamonds Are Forever," she adds. "I'm in the strongest place I've ever been, with a great team."



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AMY WOODHEAD

