

The story of Dornroeschen - 4-Year-Old Shearwater Reserve Champion

Local 4 Year Old Shearwater Reserve Champion, Dornroeschen, ridden by Andrew Gould, has had an exciting start to her life and at four years she has already proven her star quality in the competition ring.

Dornroeschen is owned by local breeders and dressage enthusiasts Dave and Marcelle Ward of Chichester, West Sussex, Dornroeschen was only backed 8 months ago and she is already considered one of Great Britain's exciting future prospects. This stunning young mare's story started when Dave and Marcelle purchased a breeding mare from Germany who had been put in foal to De Niro.

The broodmare they had bought was called Rosenchenee, and is by Royal Diamond and she had two foals prior to Dornroeschen. Dave and Marcelle moved her back to their small yard in West Sussex and on the 20th February 2006 a very large chestnut filly was born whom they named Dornroeschen (known as Briar at home).

As soon as she was born Dave and Marcelle knew she was going to be special as she was feisty and bold and showed big extravagant paces. They were very

excited and pleased as Dornroeschen was the first foal they had bred at their home.

When Dornroeschen reached eight months of age she was taken to the Oldenburg branding where she was awarded a premium grade. Then as a two year old she returned to the BEF Futurity Show receiving the highest regional score and then subsequently she went on to compete in the final where she was the second highest scoring filly in the country.

In the winter of 2009 Briar was backed by Marcelle and then turned away due to Marcelle's work commitments. Then she was re-started in January 2010 and she entered her first competition in March, where she successfully qualified for the Badminton Young Horse Final.

Andrew Gould who had helped Marcelle with her early training took on the competitive ride in May 2010 and they have enjoyed a fantastic season together this summer. They won the 4 year old young horse class at Wellington Premiere League and were Reserve 4 year old Champions at



the Shearwater Young Horse Championships in July, only 0.14 marks behind the winner Farouche. They have also qualified for the National Championships, which will take place in September.

Talking enthusiastically about the young mare Andrew said: "I am so pleased for Dave and Marcelle, they do everything they can for Dornroeschen, she is a true local success story. Their commitment and belief in the mare go to prove that you don't need million pound budgets to produce top quality sports horses and I am delighted to be able to compete her."

Dave and Marcelle said: "We have always had a keen interest in breeding, and we have been impressed by Rosenchenee's quality as a broodmare, so we have managed to acquire Rosenchenee's first foal Ronja (by Sandro Hit) and we currently have Mum and two daughters, so lets see what we can produce with them!"