

David Pincus, talented trainer and outspoken critic of British equestrianism, is the subject of this month's Christopher Lee interview



Above: David puts his theories into practice and regularly competes at the highest level. Main picture: Serena Morgan, David's partner, with Sheepcote's successful stallion Cassander.

TUCKED away at Bartestree in the glorious Herefordshire countryside, is one of our most gifted equestrian trainers and dedicated breeders of competition horses. One who is, at the same time, among the most outspoken critics of British equestrianism.

From his Sheepcote Equestrian Centre, David Pincus and his partner, Serena Morgan have launched a stream of talented pupils onto the competition scene. Names like Leslie and Graham Law, Claire Osman, Vanessa Ashbourne, dressage riders, event riders and European champions. David competes himself at the highest level and Serena has recently been acclaimed when, among many other successes, she rode her stallion Cassander to win the Badminton Horse Feeds, Winter Medium Championship.

Sheepcote is a busy yard with 30 boxes, a staff of enthusiastic working pupils and up to 25 horses in training at any one time. There is a constant stream of visitors, pupils, breeders and participants in the regular Sheepcote competitions.

But David is also well-known as an outspoken critic of many

aspects of British equestrianism. And he is probably one of the people most qualified to point out that much of our British training and horse breeding is still without method and focus.

Good Fortune

David's career was set off by the most unpredictable piece of good fortune. As a young man, in his native Israel he learnt to ride under the eye of Leopold Brustein, a former Russian Cavalry officer who had trained under the legendary James Fillis, riding master to the Imperial Russian Court. Then,

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