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RIDER: ANDREW NICHOLSON

HORSE:

5 AVEBURY, grey gelding, 16.2 hh, 2000, s: Jumbo, d: Memento, *Breed: TBx, Country of Birth: United Kingdom Breeder: Andrew Nicholson*
Owners: Mark & Rosemary Barlow, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Andrew (49) is probably the most prolific event rider ever and last year finished top of the BE rider rankings for a record 12th time. In a usual year he has over 200 competitive rides and last year had 11 advanced horses. He has been selected for six Olympic Games winning team silver 1992 & team bronze 1996. He won team gold at the 1990 WEG and last year was a member of the NZ team that won bronze at the WEG in Lexington where he also won individual bronze with Nereo – his first individual medal. He has also won Burghley twice 1995 & 2000 but has yet to win Badminton.

Andrew the third of six children was brought up on a dairy farm in Kihikihi, North Island. Riding was an everyday activity on the farm and the children regularly competed at local shows and pony club competitions. After leaving education Andrew joined his brother who was retraining racehorses as well as riding for local racehorse trainers. He came to England in 1980 aged 19 and his first job was grooming for Mark Todd and Southern Comfort at Badminton – which they won. Within four-years Andrew had two Badminton horses and was selected for the NZ team at the Olympic Games.

Armada and Nereo by the Thoroughbred Fines and out of a mare by the Hanoverian Golfi are full brothers bred by former rider Ramon Beca in Spain.

Avebury, by leading British sire Jumbo and a full brother to Andrew's advanced ride Tristar, was bred by Andrew. Avebury owned by Andrew's long-standing owners Mark and Rosemary Barlow was originally produced by partner Wiggy Channer with who Andrew has two young children. The couple is based near Marlborough. Andrew has two older children.

Recent Results

2010 – Burghley CCI**** 14th, Barbury Castle CIC*** 3rd, Luhmuhlen CCI**** 10th Armada
2010 – Burghley CCI**** 22nd, Hartpury CIC*** 2nd, Avebury
2010 – WEG Lexington 3rd, Hartpury CIC*** 4th, Aachen CICO*** 1st Nereo
2009 - Saumur CCI*** 1st; Aachen CCI*** 7th; Blenheim CIC*** 8/9 2nd (Avebury)
2009 – Gatcombe CCI***W 9th; Bramham CCI***1st; Barbury Castle CIC*** 2nd (Nereo)

2009 – Pau CCI**** 13th; Burghley CCI**** 21st; Barbury Castle CIC*** 7th (Armada)
2009 - Winner Mitsubishi Motors Stately Homes accumulator Challenge
2008 – Burghley CCI**** 8th; Bramham CCI*** 3rd (Armada)
2008 – Saumur CCI*** 4th Nereo
2008 – Olympic Games Elim Lord Killingham
2004 – Olympic Games 61st
2000 – Burghley CCI**** 1st Mr Smiffy
1996 – Olympic Games team bronze
1995 – Burghley CCI**** 1st Buckley Province
1992 – Olympic Games 16th Spinning Rhombus; team silver
1990 – WEG team gold
1984 – Olympic Games 28th Kahlua

Badminton

2010 – 11th Nereo, 27th Avebury
2009 - 23rd (Armada)
2008 - ret'd (Armada)
2007 - 5th (Lord Killingham) 8th (Henry Tankerville)
2005 - 4th (Lord Killingham)
2004 - 2nd (Lord Killingham)