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RIDER: AOIFE CLARK

HORSE:

111 MASTER CRUSOE, bay gelding, 16.0 hh, 2001, s: Master Imp, d: Slaney Cruise Diamond, *Breed: ISH, Country of Birth: Ireland Breeder: Michael Doyle*
Owners: Lily White Syndicate, c/o Middle Barton, Oxon.

Based at Hook Norton, Oxfordshire and in England for the last four years, Aoife (29) runs a professional event yard training and competing young event through the levels. She also takes horses in for schooling, pre-training and sales for clients.

Aoife has ridden since young and began hunting with the Tara Harriers, followed by pony eventing in which she was Irish National Champion in 1996 and represented Ireland twice at the European Championships. She then gained experience in several eventing and National Hunt yards including as a working pupil for Ian Stark in 2000. She graduated from University College Dublin with a first-class degree in Maths and Classics – in the same year finishing second at Necarne CCI** on Wood U Retreat – a horse she had just ridden for five weeks and on whom she went on to complete Bramham CCI*** in 2003. Aoife trains with rider Sarah Ward on the flat along and benefits from Irish Squad training from Ginny Elliot, Ferdi Eilberg and Michael Quirke.

A keen sportswoman, she once ran the London marathon in four hours and three minutes she follows NH racing and rugby. She is married to Simon (the brother of Badminton rider and entry Polly Stockton).

Vaguely North is a NZ bred Thoroughbred by the prolific sire Distinctly North. Formerly ridden in New Zealand by Vaughn Jefferies and Helen Tompkins Aoife took the ride in May last year after previous rider Bumble Thomas switched from eventing to show jumping. Master Crusoe is by Master Imp out of a mare by Cruising.

Recent results

2010 – Blenheim CCI*** 6th Master Crusoe, 14th Vaguely North
2010 – Barbury Castle CIC*** 14th Master Crusoe, 23rd Vaguley North
2010 – Bramham CIC*** 7th Vaguely North
2010 – Tattersalls CIC***W 5th Master Crusoe

Badminton

2011 – First badminton for rider and horses