

People of the year

Raise a glass to the equestrian stars who have beaten the odds, broken records and continued to work their magic in 2015



AP McCoy

IN April at Sandown Park (above) the 20-time champion jockey bid farewell to the weighing room and a career spanning 25 years. He announced his retirement to a shocked television audience live on *Channel 4 Racing* after riding his 200th winner of the 2014/2015 season. The 41-year-old claimed a historic 4,357 career wins including triumphs in both the Grand National and Cheltenham Gold Cup.



Michael Jung

THE German eventing sensation reached new heights in 2015 when he won his first British four-star, taking Burghley on his debut. Although he fell with FischerRocana FST, he made sure of victory on La Biothetique-Sam FBW, despite

competing with a broken bone in his ankle from his earlier fall.

The following week, Michael claimed his fifth individual gold in six years at the European Championships at Blair — still with his broken ankle. He was also riding the youngest horse there, the eight-year-old FischerTakinou.



William Fox-Pitt

THE season ended with the eventing world holding its breath as William suffered a serious fall at Le Lion d'Angers and spent three weeks in hospital in France.

William's Badminton triumph in the spring was sensational. His second victory here was a long time coming despite his many accolades, and he made history by piloting the first stallion to take top honours, Chris and Lisa Stone's Chilli Morning.



Oliver Townend

OLIVER headed British Eventing's top-100 rider list this year by more than 800 points, a testament to his consistency across the board. This was the second consecutive season he has claimed pole position.

Despite his successes, Oliver will remember 2015 as an "if only" year — he was just a crucial run-out away from an individual silver medal at the European Championships with Fenyas Elegance. But his formidable team of horses will surely pay dividends with championship medals in the future.

Carl Hester

THE master of British dressage has continued to work his magic this year. As well as coaching Charlotte Dujardin and Valegro to double gold at the Europeans,