



All the fun of The Festival

New British Champions were crowned under blazing sunshine at a truly British day out at the 2016 Festival of British Eventing at Gatcombe Park, presented by the British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA). Meet your new Champions



BRITISH OPEN INCORPORATING THE EVENT RIDER MASTERS 1

Oliver Townend became the first British rider for five years to win The British Open Championship, with a brilliant piece of riding on the talented but quirky Cillinbradden Evo, owned by Sally-Anne Egginton. The competition, which incorporated the fourth leg of the new Event Rider Masters series, built to a thrilling climax as riders faulted under the pressure of the occasion and the lead rapidly changed hands.



Oliver adds this title to a total of two wins and five top five placings at Gatcombe over the weekend.



It was Oliver's 96th international run over a 12 month period. EquiRatings are monitoring the rest of the season to see if Oliver will become the first event rider in history to break 100 international runs in a 12 month period.

Smith & Williamson

BRITISH INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP 2

Alexander Whewall celebrated the biggest win of his career when he triumphed in the Smith & Williamson British Intermediate Championship. Somerset-based Alexander, who partnered Lisa Coward's Chakiris Star, turned in a dressage score of 29.7 before posting a foot-perfect double clear for just eight time penalties.

"He's only little and he's not flash, but he tries so hard. He was spot on in all three phases today; I couldn't fault him," added Alexander, who is 28 and keeps his string of 13 horses at his parents' yard near Bristol.



Alexander was a finalist in the 2016 Mark Todd Bridging the Gap Scholarship



WHERE TO WATCH

BETV caught up with all the GB champions - go online www.britisheventing.tv to find out what the freshly crowned winners had to say.

Watch Oliver contest the ERM class via the watch again service on eventridermasters.tv