**Addington High Profile Show, January 2015**

What a fabulous show and such a great start to 2015! I took both Rio (Donna Summer) and Darcy (Don Carissimo) and rode 5 tests over the three day show.

I started on Friday morning with Darcy in the Advanced Medium 98 and had a very fresh horse! We had some mistakes and some tension but still managed to come 2nd with 69.737%. I then had a very long wait until my first competitive senior Inter 2 as Rio and I weren’t on until 9.30pm! Rio was a complete dude and gave me a wonderful ride and I was thrilled to come 2nd with 69.825%. I was completely buzzing with our result and contacted Carl Hester to give him our news! He then told me to get on and do the Grand Prix!

Still buzzing, I had a really early start on Saturday with Darcy, in the PSG at 8.30am! He was still quite fresh and we did have quite a few mistakes ending up 9th on 67.763%. After a discussion with Anne and Steve Keen, Darcy’s owners, we decided to enter him into the Inter 1 despite me never having ridden some of the moments on him! With Darcy now in the Inter 1, I bit the bullet and moved Rio into the Grand Prix!

Darcy and I warmed up for the Inter 1 and he was just amazing. He felt so balanced and with me. In the test he gets a bit tense but I was so proud of him having never done the test before and we came out with 68.640% and 10th place.

I then had to wait until 7.38pm to ride Rio in our first senior Grand Prix! I was so excited! We got ready and went up to the working in arena and took a look at the scores! I was somewhat concerned when I saw them as at that point, no one had got over 60% with the three International judges! We went in and did our thing, Rio was a star! There were some mistakes with some tension in the Piaffe and the passage needs to be more developed but I was over the moon with him. We waited for our score to come up and I just couldn’t believe it when I saw we had gone into the lead with 65.600%. It was beyond all my expectations and I just love my horse to bits. There were still some excellent riders to come but we ended up in 4th place, what a start to our GP career.

On the last day of the show I had planned to compete Rio in the PSG freestyle but I withdrew him as he had done enough and nothing could have topped the GP! My last test of the weekend was the Advanced medium freestyle. I didn’t have any music for Darcy but I had taken my Junior European music and reworked the floorplan to suit Darcy. I was really pleased with him and despite a couple of mistakes through tension, we had another 2nd place with 74.583%.

It was such an amazing show and I am just so excited to see what we can produce through the rest of 2015. Onwards and upwards!