



media release

Friday 4 November 2011

AND THE WINNERS ARE... The Animal Health Trust UK Equestrian Awards

More than 400 people from all walks of the equestrian world attended the Animal Health Trust's United Kingdom Equestrian Awards at the Lancaster London on Thursday 3 November.

Awards were presented in eight categories – Racing, Dressage, Show Jumping, Eventing, Equine Vet, Equine Scientific Achievement, Voluntary Service, along with the Special Award.

The **Animal Health Trust Special Award** was presented to The Lord Kirkham CVO in recognition of his 25 years supporting the charity. During this time Lord Kirkham has brought passion, commitment and drive to the Trust enabling the charity to continue its groundbreaking research and make a vital contribution to animal welfare across the world.

Other winners included:

The Duralock Racing Award – Prince Khalid Abdullah

The Dressage Award – British Gold Medal Team comprising of Carl Hester, Laura Bechtolsheimer, Charlotte Du Jardin and Emile Faurie

The British Showjumping Award – Nick Skelton

The Jacksons (C.I.) Limited Eventing Award – Mitsubishi Motors

Petplan Equine Vet of the Year – Chris Pearce from Dorset

The Litovet Equine Scientific Achievement Award – Dr Peter Clegg from the University of Liverpool

The South East Essex Insurance Brokers Voluntary Service Award – Bunny Roberts

Desi Dillingham, Chairman of the Equestrian Awards Organising Committee, said:
“The Equestrian Awards is a fantastic showcase of the equestrian talent in the UK. 2011 has been a wonderful year for our equestrian sports and the awards really do celebrate all of the incredible achievements.

“We’re particularly grateful to all those who sponsored either an award or part of the evening and helped us raise a fantastic sum of money which will enable the AHT to continue its very important work.

“With London 2012 fast-approaching we’re incredibly excited about next year’s event and hope to have several equestrian athletes to honour!”

Figures are still to be finalised but it is hoped that the annual fundraising event has raised more than £50,000 for the Newmarket-based veterinary charity.

Ends

For further information, please contact:

Farrah Stevens, AHT press office, 01638 555602

Photographs and broadcast-quality footage:

Photographs to accompany this press release are available from the AHT press office on 01638 555602 or email farrah.stevens@aht.org.uk

If requesting after Monday 7 November, please contact Christine Gird on 01638 555648 or email christine.gird@aht.org.uk

A group photograph showing all the winners is available on request. From left to right, pictured are:

Back row: The Lord Kirkham CVO, Phillip Mitchell (representing Prince Khalid Abdullah), Lance Bradley of Mitsubishi Motors

Front row: Dan Skelton (representing Nick Skelton), Bunny Roberts, Chris Pearce and Emile Faurie

Unfortunately Dr Peter Clegg had to leave straight after collecting his award so isn't pictured.

Additional notes:

- The Animal Health Trust is an independent charity, employing over 200 scientists, vets and support workers. It aims to improve the health and welfare of horses, dogs and cats through research. It also provides specialist referral services and continuous education to vets