



DAVIDSON

EQUESTRIAN

Hello from Davidson Equestrian

Well 2013 has been an exciting year so far having just arrived home from overseas we are straight back into it! We finished 2012 on a high having Fairbanks Cargo named Equestrian Queensland Horse of the Year and Mattea being named Equestrian Queensland Sports Star of the Year. Shane was also nominated for Equestrian Queensland Coach of the Year. It is a fantastic honor to be recognized at awards like these and we feel very grateful to all those who support us.

Whilst overseas we had the opportunity to visit some of the big name stables as well as see firsthand which successful bloodlines are coming through. Read on to find out more ...



Top: At Schockemöhle Sports with Franz Schockemöhle – A place that has every product you would ever need!
Visit Schockemöhle Sports
<http://schockemoehle-sports.com/en/home>

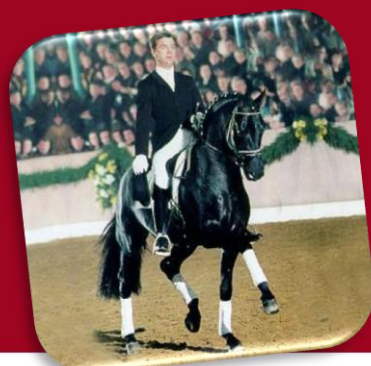
Above: At Paul Schockemöhle's farm with Lotte Schockemöhle standing on **the full length** undercover racetrack. Sandro Hit and Balou du Rouet were just a couple of the famous faces we saw while at Schockemöhle's stable.



*Left: Fairbanks Cargo – Horse of the Year
Right: Keeping warm in Germany with our CopRice beanies!*

Kasselmans

We visited Kasselmans stable, who in partnership with Paul Schockemöhle make up PSI (Performance Sales International). We were fortunate to be shown around by Ulf Muller (Left with Sandro Hit, Right with Shane) who is famous for producing young horses and was the rider of the great Sandro Hit. Ulf comes to Dressage with the Stars each year and is a very approachable, knowledgeable and friendly bloke! The horses receive first class care with a water walker, heat lamps, on-site farriers and multiple grooms!



Equestrian Queensland and Eventing Queensland Awards 2012



Well 2012 turned out to be a great year and we have to thank all our clients, sponsors and friends for their ongoing support. We had a fantastic evening at the eventing awards night – thanks again to Darren Wilson for hosting this event. Davidson Equestrian picked up the following awards:

- **Old Eventing Mare of the Year ~ Fairbanks Elle**
- **Senior Rider of the Year & International Rider of the Year**
- **National Horse and Rider of the Year with Fairbanks Cargo**

Unfortunately we were unable to attend the Equestrian Queensland Awards night as we were overseas however Mattea's parents were there on our behalf to pick up the two big awards of the night:

Fairbanks Cargo – EQ Horse of the Year

Mattea Davidson – EQ Sports Star of the Year

Visit Local Horse Magazine to read more ...
<http://www.localhorsemagazine.com.au/243-eq-awgrds-night-wrap-up>

PAUL SCHOCKEMÖHLE AND SPREHE STALLION SHOWS

There is certainly nothing like this in Australia! The shows are quite spectacular with bands, DJ's and light shows standard, along with a little German self-promotion. The halls are packed to the brim with every seat taken and tickets selling out a year in advance.

Sprehe Stud is run by the Sprehe family, which includes Kristina Sprehe who won a Bronze medal at the London Olympics, riding the De Niro/Wolkenstein II stallion Desperados. Kristina presented a freestyle with Desperados during the show which was well appreciated by the crowd and rightly so. Desperados was highly successful as a young horse winning at the Hanoverian Championships in 2004 and has produced many State Premium mares.

There were many quality stallions at the Sprehe show however our pick for dressage stallions is:

- **Fürst Wilhelm** (Furst Heinrich/Sandro Hit/De Niro)
- **Desperados** (De Niro/Wolkenstein/ Matcho AA)
- **Quartergold** (Quarterback/Paradiesvogel/Gelria/T.)

Our pick of the jumping stallions:

- **Cola** (Contender/Lasino/Corleone) and his son **Cola Zero** (Cola/Quidam's Rubin/Quattro B) who were both quite impressive over a fence.
- The standout for us was the stallion **Lloyd George** (Landprinz/Cassini I/Nec Plus Ultra De Septon) – who despite rearing up and striking his handler in the face was very scopey with a fantastic technique and just seemed to be playing with the 1.40m oxer presented to him.

The next day at the same auction hall in Vechta was Schockemöhle's stallion show, but with a change of decorations and many more staff on hand! There is no shortage of help here as it seems to be a competition between the different stallion shows as to who can set up/pack away a jump course in the shortest amount of time – it is amazing what you can do with some circus music and crowd participation! Schockemöhle's show is highly professional with quality stallions bought out one after another.

The stand out for us was **Danciano** (Dancier/ Rotspon/ Wolkenstein II) a 3 yr old dressage stallion with great mechanics, rhythm, and straightness of gaits, handing the atmosphere like a seasoned campaigner. We were unable to pick one favourite out of the jumpers but it would have to be between **Balou du Rouet** (Baloubet du Rouet/Continue/Domino) and **Diarado** (Diamant de Semilly/Corrado I/Contender). Diarado has a fantastic back end and is very clever with super scope when put in a difficult spot. Balou du Rouet is a good looking horse with a great technique and carefulness over a fence.

Are you looking to work with horses in Germany? We have many contacts with people currently looking for grooms and working pupils. Contact us at info@davidsonEQ.com for more details...

www.clipmyhorse.de

- a fantastic website which allows you to watch equestrian and breeding events live for the year.

MARCH 2013

A student of ours Anna MacMillan is currently working over at Hayley Beresford's barn in Germany so we asked her to give a little run down about what she has been doing...



Check-In

(Cordalmé Z/Lord Pezi/Ile De Bourbon)

Böckmann Stables

Gilbert Böckmann needs little introduction having won many International Championships and recently being involved with the Australian Showjumping Team. The Bockmanns run a busy stallion station as well as being well known for their horse trucks and trailers. We were given a tour of the stallion barn with many famous names of previous stallions listed at the entrance. **Check-In** is a seriously talented horse with fantastic technique and three correct paces making him suitable as a Showjumping and Eventing sire. We definitely recommend watching him online – he is a jumping machine!

The other favourite of ours was **Christian** with the Cartani line including the jumping greats Carthago and Landgraf I. Christian is a leggy, elegant young type of stallion with a lethal back end over a fence – another one to look at!

www.boeckmann-pferde.com

Christian

(Cartani/Lord Liberty/Zymbal)



It's always been an aspiration of mine to jet myself off to a stable in Germany to learn from the best in order to further my riding and give myself that extra German touch. There certainly was no time for me to settle in as I arrived in Germany at 7pm on Sunday and then started work at 6:30am the next morning. They went easy on me at first and then as one worker left I discovered what real work is. Needless to say I can now do 4 sawdust boxes immaculately in less than an hour. Pain is also not welcome in 'Hayley land' and therefore my struggling muscles were told to just get over themselves. I also had to wrap my head around about how quick and clean everything had to be. I thought working at the Davidson's was fast but boy does over here take the cake. I don't think I can be called 'granny' when I get back. As I started to learn the routine and earn more trust, the responsibility and the care of very important and expensive sport horses was sent my way. The pressure of handling such horses was hard to handle at the start but as I got to know the horses, I quickly learnt the do's and don'ts. Needless to say the standard of horses and riding here blew my mind for quite a while. All I wanted to do when I arrived was sit down and watch the horses be worked. It is definitely hard to pick a favorite! Each day I get to ride and Hayley or Bella Robson give me a hand. Even though the days are fast paced and long (work hours are from 6:30am till 6-8pm and I still don't find time to eat a sandwich) there hasn't been a day yet where we haven't had a few hysterical laughing sessions. I was privileged after my second week to accompany Hayley and the great stallion Bellissimo to a stallion show in Munster. Now this really did blow my mind. Not just the standard of horses or how cold it is, but also the fact that they have a lolly shop full of Haribo lollies. For a small scale stallion show, it was still pretty impressive. Bellissimo was last to go out and rocked the show like always. Needless to say team HB is full of amazing, hard working and incredibly entertaining people. I'm not sure if we are as funny as we think or if we are just delusional after 14 hours of work. It is definitely becomes obvious once working here that we are really an Australian stable in Germany and sometimes we feel like we are the naughty Australian soldiers being a little mischievous around the stables.

Gerd Sosath

Shane worked for Gerd Sosath back in the nineties which was run on a much smaller scale to the current enterprise it is today. Sosath's is a busy stallion station, producer of young horses and seller of horses internationally. The property is quite impressive with a new indoor arena and stabling facilities. Sosath made a name for itself with the famous stallions **Landor S** (Landadel/Godehard/Furioso II) and **Lordanos** (Landos/Ahorn Z/Calypso I). Landor S was bred by Sosath's and was Bundeschampion (Champions Young Horse for Jumping) as a 6 year old. He has produced multiple successful offspring including 'Blue Lloyd' a Bronze medal winner at the London Olympics.

Left: The bar at the end of Sosath's arena – an essential part of every German arena! Right: The stunning indoor arena.



Dutch Stallion Classification ~ KWPN

This is definitely an event that is worth going to if you find yourself in Holland. The general idea of classifying the stallions is so that high quality horses with rich bloodlines are used by breeders so that the overall quality of progeny continues to improve. The stallions are classified as a three year old before being broken in under saddle and standing at stud. If your stallion does not pass the classification then they are not commercial for breeding and the offspring cannot be registered in that particular stud book. These events are held in big convention centers with the arena's and base bought in for the event. There are thousands of people who attend right from teenage girls and boys right up to the old 'farmers' as they call them who breed the horses. Breeding horses over there is a little like breeding cattle in Australia! On the first day at the show there were more older gentlemen in the crowd than anyone else – and let me tell you they are not shy in expressing their opinions. The jumping stallion **Quality Time** (Quantum/Cantus/Mowgli) had all his three sons approved which were out of Damiro, Diamant de Semilly and Heartbreaker mares. The other popular jumping stallion sires were **Ukato** (Stakkato/Literat/Fernando H), **White Snake** (Cavalier keur/Corofino/Leuthen II) and **Carambole** (Cassini I/Concerto II/Sir Shostakovich xx). Out of the dressage stallions, **Jazz** (Cocktail/Ulster) and his son **Wynton** (Jazz/Matador II/Rubinstein I) were successful with their sons being approved as well as **Bordeaux** (United/Gribaldi/Donnerhall).



Above: Mattea standing next to a statue of the great stallion Donnerhall in Oldenburg.

Below far left: The crowds at KWPN Classification.



Pictured right: Shane and Sambucca D (Scolari/Gelriano) a 3 year old stallion at his first competition – he even took home a blue ribbon with 74.44%. We look forward to his first crop of foals in 2013.



A very big thank you to our sponsors **CopRice**, **Saddleworld** and **Waterview Park** for their continued support of Davidson Equestrian. Please visit the sites below for more information on their products.



www.saddleworld.com.au



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'What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven't happened yet'. (unknown)