

HARRY HAYNES

Harry Haynes (as well as his brothers and sister), was a member of Petersfield Branch of the Pony Club until 2003 riding his 14.2hh pony - a piebald called 'Blackie' - who could jump like a stag!

Harry says : "When I was young, both of my parents had ponies and by the time I was eight or nine I knew I wanted to be a jockey. I started cantering horses for John Bridger [in Hampshire] when I was 10 and before long I was riding work with the rest of them. I loved every minute."

Aged 13, he was working at John Dunlop's Sussex yard; the next year he was at Paul Nicholls' stable in Somerset. "All the time, building up experience. I basically had contacts through either my Dad or my Mum or whoever I could speak to. You'd go away for a week or two and meet new people and that's how the doors open. He began his racing career by completing the NVQ Level 2 here at the British Racing School. He took his amateur licence out in 2005 and then switched to conditional in 2008.

Harry's first winner was aboard Mythical Charm at Goodwood in the amateur Bollinger Champagne Series back in 2005 when he was 16. Once he became conditional, it didn't take Harry long to ride a big winner; he has won both the Scottish National Bumper and a 130 rated handicap chase at Carlisle.

In 2011 Harry had a crashing fall, resulting in being admitted to hospital. Eager to get back in the saddle, Harry passed a concussion test and was cleared to ride at Wetherby eight days later. As he now admits, he was still feeling the effects of the Aintree fall when he lost his balance and was unseated by a fairly ordinary mistake.

Suddenly, a promising run of form ended with a bed-bound spell at his mother's house, where he grew increasingly frustrated by daily visits from doctors. "It does your head in because you start to think, 'Maybe this is normal now. Maybe this is as good as I'm ever going to feel,' but for the first month or so the headaches were just so bad. I can't really describe it. I just slept and slept. "But then, just as I was beginning to wonder, after it had been going on for a couple of months, I did start to feel better. Once it did come right, I knew it was right."



Almost as soon as Haynes was able to resume his riding career, he faced the blow of losing his job as stable jockey to the Langholm trainer James Ewart. "It was pretty amicable and I have ridden for him since. But even so I wasn't quite sure where I stood, suddenly." Thanks in part to the intervention of his fellow jockeys James Halliday and Dougie Costello, Harry landed a new job with the Malton-based trainer Malcolm Jefferson and the association has since been sealed by repeated success.

Harry **WON** riding 'Attaglance' at the Cheltenham Festival in March. Harry says "I can't actually remember most of what happened on the day because it just went like a blur but it was a feeling I'll never forget. A lot of jockeys go through their whole career and never get to ride a Cheltenham winner."

Sadly, Harry did lose his ride - 'According to Pete' - in the Grand National, in April, whom he thought an awful lot of, but again had a WIN with 'Attaglance'. AND, almost a week later he went on to come **THIRD** on 'King Fontaine' at the Scottish Grand National.

Harry & 'Attaglance'

Harry, whose celebrations are restricted to a quick drink in a local pub, is so committed to his career that he has ridden morning work at stables the length and breadth of the country, developing contacts and building associations from Sussex to Scotland.

Harry is continuing to have a successful 2012.