



THE GRANTHAM CUP

**At Belton Park, Lincolnshire
11 – 13 April 2008**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 12 March 2008

EVENTING LEGENDS GO HEAD TO HEAD AT BELTON

Some of eventing's greatest names from the last five decades will converge on Belton International Horse Trials for a unique competition on Sunday April 13th. Supported by Shearwater Insurance and Champagne Taittinger, The Belton Masters will be a showcase event in Belton's main arena with a dressage test immediately followed by a show jumping course incorporating portable cross country fences. Lucinda Green, Karen Dixon, Charlotte Bathe and Jane Holderness-Roddam are just some of the names of the 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's who've accepted the invitation to take part – in total there will be ten legends with some 40 medals between them at Olympic, World and European Championship competitions. Belton's own cross-country course designer Sue Benson will also be taking part.

Lucinda Green is one of the sport's household names and has an amazing 14 medals to her credit, not to mention six Badminton titles while Karen Dixon follows in the medal standings with eight, having won medals at Olympic, World and European level. Jane Holderness-Roddam was the first female rider in a British Team at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics- taking team gold to boot. Charlotte Bathe was a member of the famous "Golden Girls Team" who took the team title at the 1994 World Championships. Other riders dusting their boots off include Jane Wallace, Ginny Rose, Rachel Bayliss, Chris Bartle and Anne Marie Taylor.

Organiser Stuart Buntine commented; "Bringing ten of the sport's greatest riders together in one competition will be a real treat for all of us – whether you're a sporting aficionado or a relative newcomer, you can't help but being humbled in the company of such greatness. These riders are true competitors and you never ever lose that will to win so I'm sure they will provide real entertainment for the crowds."

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Running to support The Mark Davies Injured Riders Fund, The Belton Masters takes place on Sunday 13th April, day two of the event, but on Berryman's Saturday, there is also plenty to see and do at the International Horse Trials. The world's top riders and horses will be in eventing action at CIC***, Advanced, Intermediate and Novice levels while in the trade stand plaza over 80 shops will be there to tempt you including the Downtown Outdoor Living Village – a brilliant chance to get some pre-summer ideas for the garden. Plus, new this year is the Sports Zone where you can try new sports and meet sporting legends.

The Belton Box Office is open NOW and you can take advantage of pre-booking discounts via the website – www.granthamcup.co.uk

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Editors Notes:

Press Day - Belton Park International Horse Trials will host a press day at The DeVere Belton Woods Hotel on 26 March 2008. Meet Organiser Stuart Buntine, Cross Country Course Designer Sue Benson and leading British Rider Sarah Cohen plus experience a preview of the 2008 course. Please contact Winnie for more information or to confirm your attendance.

Accreditation – accreditation closes on March 28th – forms can be downloaded from the website – www.granthamcup.co.uk or email Winnie.