

Sara House

The name behind the book

With the imminent launch of her new book, Progressive Carriage Driving, we speak to Sara Howe, bronze individual FEI medal winner and this year's National Pony Team Champion

ara Howe has some three decades of experience in carriage driving and training – for two of them she has been teaching and competing at the highest level. She is the daughter of two forces in the equestrian world – Peter Felgate and Leonie Marshall, both extremely well known in their respective fields.

Besides running a successful riding school for more than 40 years, Peter has long been involved in the British Horse Society and was himself an event rider. He is perhaps better known for

his pioneering work in the RDA, both nationally and internationally. Sara pays huge tribute to her father who has provided her with invaluable business support and advice as well as keeping working at home while she has been away competing.

Sara's mother

Leonie was an

international dressage rider and judge and has written a number of successful books on this subject. She is currently enjoying carriage driving with Sara and provides immense support training Sara, while continuing to dominate the dressage phase herself.

Sara first got involved when she heard that Michael Gilbey – an early four-in-hand driver needed help at the World Championships in Ascot. She has never looked back. She then worked for Peter and Anne Munt

for eight years and pays tribute to them for laying the foundations and nurturing her passion for driving. Peter taught her to drive

a single and pair correctly and traditionally and involved her in showing, coaching, pleasure and driving trials. Anne, always a perfectionist, instilled the high standards and dedication Sara continues to strive for today.

Bronze medallist

Her credentials in horse driving trials speak for themselves. Sara has represented GB in the FEI World Pony Championships on three separate occasions, twice driving single pony Sooty, belonging to Jane MacDonald, with which she achieved a team bronze in 2005 and then driving Priceless, her daughter Phillipa's Morgan pony, with which she won an individual bronze in 2007.

Sara with her four-in-hand of Welsh Section As. Sara uses all her ponies at the driving centre as its a great way of keeping them fit