

# London Horse Sports

Your London and Region Directory to Everything Equine



Newsletter May 2011

[www.LondonHorseSport.ca](http://www.LondonHorseSport.ca)

## “Equestrian Spotlight”

### Daphne Smolderen-Pieterman

Daphne may be new to Canada, but she is not new to the sport of Dressage. Born in Holland, Daphne is a certified Royal Dutch Equestrian Federation coach who has brought her enthusiasm, experience as well as her young family to Bright, Ontario. Central to London, Woodstock and Kitchener, Daphne travels to her students to help with all aspects of their training. Her students would say that her teaching methods are easy to follow and very flexible, but always a lot of fun. Daphne herself has competed through the levels up to Prix St. George on her Dutch Warmblood mare Henja and hopes to begin competing locally with Henja's colt D' Angelo and 6 year old Dutch Warmblood mare Avanne.

**Favourite Horse Movie:** “Definitely The Black Stallion. I must have watched it a thousand times and still have a dvd copy of it!!!!”

**Favourite Celebrity Horse & Rider:** “Hmm... tough one. I love the way Hans Peter Minderhout rides his horses with a lot of feel and elegance but so does Edward Gal or Anky van Grunsven. My favourite horse would be the stallion Jazz for his bubbly temperament and beauty.

**First Horse/Pony Ever Ridden:** Must have been at the riding school. A grey mare named Bella Donna. I still have a picture of her.”

**Scariest Moment With A Horse:** “I was getting my training to become a coach and for that we needed to ride all sorts of horses. The private owners lent their horses to the school to be ridden by the students. I had never ridden this horse but it would either rear or back up when I got on her and it took me quite some courage to get it forward. Afterwards I was quaking in my boots.”

**Happiest Moment With A Horse:** “Even though I was quite proud when I competed at my last show in Holland amongst all the professionals (riding was just a hobby then). I placed second at Prix St. George level (this was after Henja had overcome a very serious injury and I never thought to be competing ever again, let alone on that level). I would have to say my complete moment of happiness overcame me while hacking into the bush one Friday afternoon after work. In the middle of an open field, Henja would stand still for a very long time looking at a deer that grazed off in the distance.”

**Future Goal As An Equestrian:** “Creating happy athletes and bringing the best out of horse and rider.”

## Calendar

### May 2011

- ◆ [7th](#) – Rusty Gaits Saddle Club Spring Trail Ride (Aylmer)
- ◆ [8th](#) – Prelude Hunter/Jumper Circuit Show @ Eden Ridge (London)
- ◆ [8th](#) – G.R.E.A.T. club show (Tilsonburg)
- ◆ [14th](#) – Thames Valley Riders Club Show (Dorchester Fairgrounds)
- ◆ [14&15th](#) – Area 1 Spring Roundup show (Ilderton)
- ◆ [15th](#) – London Dressage Association Show @ Eastwood
- ◆ [15th](#) – SWO Combined Test @ Twisted Pine Farm (Ayr)
- ◆ [15th](#) – Prelude Hunter/Jumper Show @ Eden Ridge (London)
- ◆ [15th](#) – Rusty Gaits Saddle Club Show (Aylmer)
- ◆ [20-23](#) – COUNTRY 95.9 Rock “n” Horse Fest @ Cidermill Farms (Harrow)
- ◆ [21st](#) – 6th High School Equestrian Team Challenge (Dresden)
- ◆ [22nd](#) – Prelude Hunter/Jumper Show @ HSE Stables (St. Thomas)
- ◆ [28th](#) – MWHS Show (Zurich)
- ◆ [28&29th](#) – SWTHJ Show @ Eden Ridge (London)
- ◆ [28&29th](#) – OBRA Open House Barrel Blast (Mount Brydges)
- ◆ [29th](#) – Oxford Trailriders Club Show (Ingersoll)
- ◆ [29th](#) – ORCHA show
- ◆ [29th](#) – Red Valley Saddle Club Show (Strathroy)
- ◆ [29th](#) – Hoofbeats Dressage Club Show (Strathroy)
- ◆ [29th](#) – Triple C Saddle Club (Shedden)

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