

Pippa Funnell MBE GBR

British Olympic rider Pippa Funnell (53), who is based near Dorking in Surrey, is a former three-time winner of Badminton and former European Champion. She won Burghley in 2019 riding MGH Grafton Street and is therefore the defending champion. Last year she took top places in the 5* at Bicton with Burghley entry Billy Walk On 2nd,vand Maja's Hope 5th. Pippa is currently #6 in the FEI world rider ranking.

Pippa is one of the world's most successful riders and a long-standing member of the British team. In 2019, with Maja's Hope, she was a member of the British team that won silver at the European Championships in Luhmuhlen – 20 years after her first senior team appearance in 1999. She first competed at Badminton in 1988 and etched her name into the eventing history books when in 2003 she became the first winner of the Rolex Grand Slam (for consecutive wins at Kentucky, Badminton and Burghley).

Aged 16, after leaving school she based herself with trainer Ruth McMullen. In 1987 she became European Young Rider Champion with Sir Barnaby who the following year gave Pippa her first ride at Badminton. She has won team Olympic silver medals in Athens (2004) and Sydney (2000) and was crowned European Champion in 1999 and 2001. As a result she was voted the 2003 Sunday Times Sportswoman of the Year and was in the top five of the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Awards. In 2005 Pippa received an MBE.

During a few years out of the limelight, Pippa helped establish the Billy Stud with husband international show jumper William Funnell (married in 1993) – who won team gold at the 2013 European showjumping Championships – and breeder Donal Barnwell. In 2009 she returned to the top winning Bramham three-star and selection for the WEG in Kentucky with Redesigned where they gained fifth place running as individuals. In 2013 she was back in the British team and competed at the European Championships with Mirage D'Elle. She also won the Tattersalls three-day with Billy Beware. In 2015 she was a member of the British team that won silver at the European Championships and was 8th individually (Sandman 7) and the following year was a member of the team for the Rio Olympic Games (Billy the Biz).

Pippa is also a renowned producer of young horses, having won a record number of Burghley Young Event Horses classes and now helps to produce and compete young show jumpers for the Billy Stud competing to two-star grand prix.

Pippa has also written and had published a series of 22 children's story books which are being relaunched next spring. She is a patron of the charity World Horse Welfare and a mentor and trainer for The Wesko (formerly Windrush) Equestrian Foundation.

Pippa trains with husband William Funnell, Carl Hester and GB squad trainers.

Billy Walk On, owned by Nick and Barbara Walkinshaw, is a 13-year-old British-bred gelding. He was bred by the Billy Stud and is by the homebred stallion Billy Mexico out of Shannon Line by Golden Bash – Shannon Line is also the dam of 4* horses Billy Liffy and Billy Shannon, formerly long-listed for London 2012. Pippa has trained him from the start and the combination was the winner of the BE Young Horse 6-year-old championship at Osberton. In 2019 and this spring he contested Badminton but did not complete, but he took the runner up spot in the 5* at Bicton last year. He is described as the 'gentleman of the yard' and is adored by Pippa.

Results

- 2022 Barbury Castle CCI4*S 2nd Billy Walk On ret Billy Wonder
- 2022 Badminton CCI5*L EL MGH Grafton Street ret Billy Walk On
- 2022 Lexington CCI5*L 6th Maybach 14th Majas Hope
- 2022 Thoresby Park CCI4*S 10th Maybach 14th Billy Walk On
- 2021 Blenheim CCI4*L 8th Maybach
- 2021 Bicton CCI5*L 2nd Billy Walk On 5th Majas Hope
- 2021 Hartpury CCI4*S 5th MGH Grafton Street 6th Majas Hope 7th Billy Walk On
- 2021 Bicton CCI4*L 13th Billy Walk On 14th Maybach
- 2021 Aston-le-Walls CCI4*S 6th Maybach 10th Billy Walk On 17th Majas Hope
- 2021 Burnham Market CCI4*S 7th Billy Walk On 13th Majas Hope 33rd MGH Grafton Street
- 2019 Blenheim CCI4*L 6th Billy Walk On 20th Billy The Biz
- 2019 Burghley CCI5*L 1st MGH Grafton Street
- 2019 Luhmuhlen CH-EU-CCI4*L 22nd Majas Hope
- 2019 Hartpury CCI4*S 3rd MGH Grafton Street 5th Billy The Biz 33rd Maybach
- 2019 Gatcombe Park CCI4*S 8th Billy Walk On
- 2019 Barbury Castle CCI4*S 5th MGH Grafton Street
- 2019 Bramham CCI4*L 17th Billy Walk On
- 2019 Tattersalls CCI4*L 11th MGH Grafton Street
- 2019 Badminton CCI58L 16th Majas Hope ret Billy Walk On
- 2019 Burnham Market CCI4*S 10th Billy Walk On 15th MGH Grafton Street
- 2019 Belton CCI4*S 5th Billy Walk On 87th MGH Grafton Street
- 2018 Boekelo CCIO3*-NC 14th Maybach
- 2018 Blenheim CCI3* 6th MGH Grafton Street 50th Billy Walk On
- 2018 Blenheim CIC3* 8/9yo 7th Maybach
- 2018 Burghley CCI4* 13th Majas Hope
- 2018 Luhmuhlen CCI4* ret Billy Beware
- 2018 Bramham CCI3* 14th Billy Walk On ret MGH Grafton Street
- 2018 Tattersalls CCI3* 12th Majas Hope
- 2018 Badminton CCI4* ret Billy Beware
- 2017 Blenheim CCI3* 44th Majas Hope
- 2017 Barbury Castle CIC3* 8th Majas Hope
- 2016 Burghley CCI4* El Second Supreme
- 2016 Rio OG 27th Billy the Biz
- 2016 Ballindenisk CCI3* 1st Billy the Biz
- 2016 Ballindenisk CICO3* 1st Mirage D'Elle
- 2015 Burghley CCI4* w/d after dressage Second Supreme
- 2015 Badminton CCI4* 12th Redesigned, 23rd Second Supreme
- 2014 Badminton CCI4* 6th Billy Beware, El Redesigned
- 2013 Ballindenisk CIC3* 1st Second Supreme
- 2013 Burghley CCI4* 17th Redesigned
- 2013 Malmo CH-EU-3* 40th Mirage D'Elle
- 2013 Tattersalls CCI3* 1st Billy Beware, 3rd Billy Landretti
- 2013 Badminton CCI4* 56th Redesigned
- 2011 Burghley CCI4* 28th Mirage D'Elle, 30th Pure Addiction

- 2011 Barbury Castle CIC3* 1st Billy Landretti, 36th Pure Addiction
- 2010 Lexington WEG 5th Redesigned
- 2010 Burghley CCI4* 15th Mirage D'Elle
- 2010 Bramham CCI3* 1st Redesigned
- 2005 Windsor CCI2* 1st (Blue Horizon)
- 2005 Badminton 1st Primmores Pride
- 2004 Blenheim CCI3* 1st (Viceroy III)
- 2004 Athens OG 3rd (Primmores Pride)
- 2003 Punchestown Eu-Ch-CCI3* 3rd (Walk On Star)
- 2003 Blenheim CCI3* 3rd (Viceroy III)
- 2003 Burghley CCI4* 1st (Primmores Pride)
- 2003 Lexington KY CCI4* 1st (Primmores Pride)
- 2003 Badminton 1st Supreme Rock
- 2002 Jerez WEG 13th (Supreme Rock)
- 2002 Bramham CCI3* 1st (Walk On Star)
- 2002 Badminton 1st Supreme Rock
- 2002 Punchestown CCI3* 3rd (Supreme Rock)
- 2002 Saumur CCI3* 1st (Jurassic Rising)
- 2001 Pau CH-EU-CCI3* 1st (Supreme Rock), team gold
- 1999 Badminton 6th Supreme Rock
- 1999 Fontainebleau EU-CH-CCI3* 1st (Supreme Rock), team gold
- 1997 Burghley CH-EU-3* 33rd Bits and Pieces
- 1997 Badminton 9th Bits and Pieces
- 1992 Badminton 14th Sir Barnaby
- 1990 Badminton 5th Sir Barnaby
- 1988 Badminton 27th Sir Barnaby