Phil Brown, 37 GBR

Philip Brown (37) made his five-star debut at Burghley in 2022. While he was born in Yorkshire, he was based in Stamford for a few years, and was able to see Burghley House from his yard. He has now moved to North Yorkshire, however, and runs a yard near Scarborough. He described first competing at Defender Burghley as, "incredible. It's a childhood dream. Even just to arrive at the gates with a fit, sound, healthy horse ready to start is an achievement."

Phil and his ride again this year, Harry Robinson, completed in 2022 in 27th place, but retired across country at Burghley last year. They subsequently went on to complete the French CCI5* at Pau in October.

Phil is a full-time rider and coach, British Eventing-accredited, and also one of the three Youth Coaches for BE's East Midlands region.

Harry Robinson (Laytender-Jodie (Ontario) is a 16-year-old dark bay gelding owned by Orbit Electrical Services Ltd, who are based just down the road from Phil's parents, and his original base, in Yorkshire. Phil has had Harry since he was a six-year-old, bringing him on from BE100 level. Phil describes him as: "the most loveable and chilled out horse on the ground but quite full-on when under the saddle. Cross-country is his strongest phase."