

Haggas, William John

Address Somerville Lodge
Fordham Road
Newmarket
Suffolk
CB8 7AA
England



Licence: Flat

First Licence: 20th November 1986. Previously 2 years with Sir Mark Prescott & 4 years with John Winter

Horses Flat: 70

Best Horse: Shaamit, Yeast, Bog Trotter, Chorist, Majestic Missile, Superstar Leo, Count Dubois, Dupont

2004 Flat winners: 45

2004 prize money:597,087.02

Racing Background

Although his family has owned racehorses in the past, only William has become involved in the sport professionally. William's first winner was Tricky Note at Newmarket's Craven Meeting in 1987. The best horse he has trained since is Shaamit, who quite remarkably won the 1996 Vodafone Derby on his first race as a three-year-old. William regards this as one of his greatest training feats.

Another of his notable training achievements was gaining Group 1 success with Count Dubois – the horse was particularly challenging to train, as he was often lazy. One of William's favourite horses has been Yeast, a horse who won plenty of races during his career. He was very tough and genuine as well as being a very enthusiastic worker.

William has great respect for the champion trainer, Sir Michael Stoute, whom he describes as a genius and all-round "good man". During his free time, William likes to play golf and cricket, especially cricket. He also enjoys getting away on holiday when he finds the opportunity. William is a keen supporter of Burnley FC. If he could be anyone else in sport, William would choose to be top golfer Ernie Els. He admires him for always being relaxed and happy despite the intensity of his sport.

William's star-sign is Leo. He enjoys listening to music by Elton John and his favourite film is 'The Sound Of Music'. Outside the racing world, William has great admiration for Margaret Thatcher, when she was at the peak of her career as Prime Minister.