

# **Rider Profiles**

Zephanie Blasi ----- Joanne Clay ----- Carla Haines Claire Oakley ----- Natasha Barry ----- Gretel Warner Abigail Van Twisk



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## **WELCOME**

With WXC World Racing Team, we want to put mountainbiking at the top of cycle sport in the UK, and develop a creditable team to challenge at the top of the world stage.

We are able to do this by providing space for young, mainly British, talent to develop. Since the start of our existence, we have achieved great success, as can be seen in our palmares which has become better than our wildest dreams, as the team has helped developed some of the country leading international and Olympic riders. It would seem that talent can flourish quickly within the safe, professional sphere of this mountainbike team.

The more experienced riders in the team have also done themselves proud, and made significant headway, with no exception, in the international arena as well as continuing to produce outstanding results and medals in the UK.

The fact that we are speading our wings and also working towards reaching the top at an international level has resulted in us being the home to 3 different nationalities. The latest being Zephanie Blasi from Tuscon, Arizona in the USA. Zephanie has just finished the US Pro series finishing sixth overall, with an outstanding second placing in round 4.

2013 sees us take our next giant step forward, and with all the success the London Olympics has promoted our beloved sport, the goal for WXC World Racing is to work towards making a significant contribution to this continuing.

Trevor Brown Team Manager WXC World Racing





# **WXC World Racing**

# **LEADERSHIP**

## **Trevor Brown**

Team Manager

During the last nine years, Trevor has been fundemental in developing and sustaining four of the UK's most important Women's Cycling teams – Raleigh/ERV Pro Cycling (2005-2007), AKO Ducati Corsa (2008-2009), the WXC Mountain Bike Team UK and presently the UCI registered WXC World Racing Professional Mountain Bike Team.

These teams have accumulated a significant medal tally, National titles, and more importantly laid the stepping stones for some of the most exciting female athletes to emerge in the sport in the last few years including the 2012 Olympic rider, Annie Last.

## **Team Support**

Keith Loveday — Assistant Manager
Ian Brown — Mechanic
Keely Bunton — Rider welfare/Youth Development

## **PALMARES 2004 - 2012**

#### 1 WORLD TRACK TITLE

#### **1 EUROPEAN TRACK TITLE**

33 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

**8 NATIONAL MOUNTAINBIKE SERIES TITLES** 

1 NATIONAL CYCLO CROSS SERIES TITLE

**2 SCOTTISH MONTAINBIKE SERIES TITLES** 

3 IRISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE 1 IRISH NATIONAL MARATHON TITLE 1 IRISH NATIONL JUNIOR CYCLO-CROSS TITTLE 1 IRISH MONTAINBIKE SERIES TITLE

1 SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

**6 WCRA CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES** 

**BERYL BURTON TROPHY WINNERS** 

**ISLE OF MAN YOUTH TOUR WINNERS** 

**SLEEPLESS IN THE SADDLE TEAM WINNERS** 

**ENDURO 6 WINNERS** 

**2 MOUNTAIN MAYHEM 24 HOUR SOLO WINNERS** 

**SET TO RISE 12 HOUR SOLO WINNERS** 

2 BONTRAGER 24/12 – 12 HOUR SOLO WINNERS BONTRAGER 24/12 – 12 HOUR TEAM WINNERS

> 3 SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES 3 SOUTHERN SERIES TITLE

2 UK 24 HOUR SOLO CHAMPION EUROPEAN 24 HOUR SOLO CHAMPION 1 MOUNTAIN MAYHEM 24 HOUR TEAM WINNERS

1 SOUTH WEST CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES 2 SOUTH WEST SERIES TITLE

**2010 TRANS WALES SOLO WINNERS** 

**3 BRIGHTON BIG DOG 6 HOUR WINNERS** 

**246 WINS** 

356 PODIUM

**451 TOP TEN PLACINGS** 





### Zephanie Blasi

Before signing for WXC World Racing at the begining of 2012 Zephanie rode for the No-tubes Pro Team in the States where she stood on the podium on a number of occasions, winning 4 State XC championships and 2 D/H Championships as well as a being a winning team member World Champion in the 24 hour of Adrenilian World Championships.

Zephanie is a strong leader of the Team and brings inspiration to our young riders with her professional aproach.

Residence: Tuscon, Arizona, USA

Born: 08.08.1976

Height: 157cm Weight: 50kg

Relationship: in one :)

Started with biking: 1998

Favourite food: Pizza and sushi

Favourite drink: water

Hobby: Taking care of my pets
Study/work: Professional cyclist

Best result ever: 2nd place at the USA National series event and

6th overall in the series with missing an event

Season goal: Better performance at World Cups...not getting pulled.

Podium on all British Series. Consistent training and

proper nutrition.

#### Joanne Clay

In her first year as an elite rider, Jo has consistently finished in the top five in the National Series and National Championships. Jo tasted the experience of top level World Cup racing this season and has the commitment to become one of the UK's top mountainbikers.

Residence: Leek (Great Britain)

Born: 30.05.1985

Height: 168cm Weight: 60kg

Relationship: in a relationship

Starting with biking: Downhill mtb after accident on a motocross bike then

changed to xc racing 2yrs ago

Favourite food: lasagne or chocolate!

Favourite drink: Pint of bitter!

Hobby: Snowboarding/horse riding

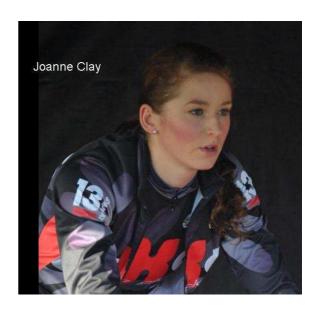
Work: Horse rider/groom

Best result ever: 5th at Sherwood, 1st ever race at elite level, was

not what I expected!

Season goal: To finish top 3 nationally and top 50 world

Dream goal: To compete in World Champs and Olympics Rio 2016





#### **Carla Haines**

Carla is what the Team is all about. She has been with the Team since she was fifteen years old. Now in her last year as an Under-23, she has already won the National Championships and intends to repeat that in her last year. At 21, she is one of our most experienced World Cup riders.

Residence: Plymouth (Great Britain)

Born: 04.05.1991

Height: 157cm

Weight: 53kg

Relationship: single

Started with biking: seriously 2009

Favourite food: Chicken Chorizo Paella

Favourite drink: Rose or Red Wine

Hobby: Surfing and Camping

Study/work: Swimming Teacher/Gym instructor/Lifeguard & Cyclist!

Best result ever: 2011 Gold Medal U23 National Championships
Season goal: Gold Medal in U23 National Championships

Dream goal: To be the best I can ever be.

#### Claire Oakley

Now a first year Elite/Under-23 Claire has won everything at Junior level in Ireland, including MTB National Championship, Road Championships and Track Championships. She has a great future ahead of her with sights set firmly on Rio 2016 as Ireland's number one.

Residence: Newtownards, Co Down (Ireland)

Born: 10.05.1993

Height: 170cm

Weight: 60kg

Relationship: Single

Started with biking: Aged 7, Friend Got Me Started.

Favourite food: Pasta Bake

Favourite drink: orange

Hobby: dog walking

Study/work: Professional cyclist

Best result ever: Junior National mtb champ

Season goal: Podium Elite Champs

Dream goal: Olympics Rio 2016





#### Natasha Berry

Enduro/marathon rider of the Team, with a great victory and podium in 2012, and a second place in the 7th stage MTB race Tour of Wales by just 20 seconds.

Residence: Portsmouth (England)

Born: 21.10.1980

Height: 162cm Weight: 55kg

Relationship: married

Started with biking: 2005
Favourite food: nutella

Favourite drink: vanilla shake

Hobby: Horde riding and golf

Study/work: Radiographer

Best result ever: Brighton Big Dog Champion 2012

Season goal: XC Marathon Champion

Dream goal: Compete in World Marathon Champs

#### **Gretel Warner**

Another one of the Team's young development riders coming through from an early age. Now a first year Junior, this is a massive year as she looks on the world's best Juiors as well as taking on our own national series and championships.

Residence: Swanley, Kent (England)

Born: 07.06.96
Height: 157cm
Weight: 44.5kg
Relationship: single

Started with biking: When I was 4 years old Favourite food: Chicken fajitas or pasta

Favourite drink: water

Hobby: Mountainbiking

Study/work: Sixth Form and Life Guard

Best result ever: National Schools Champion

Season goal: Podium at NPS

Dream goal: National Campion and top ten in

World Cup



## Abigail Van Twisk

Abigail is Trevor's latest discovery. A very talented young rider in both mountain biking and cyclo-cross, Abigail is looking forward to competing in the colours of WXC World Racing with the National Series and Champs as her season's goals.

Residence: London (England)

Born: 01.03.1997 Height: 162cms Weight: 43.5kg Relationship: single

Starting with biking: 3 1/2 years old, cycling to school

Favourite food: Lasagne
Favourite drink: Lemonade
Hobby: Cycling!
Work: School

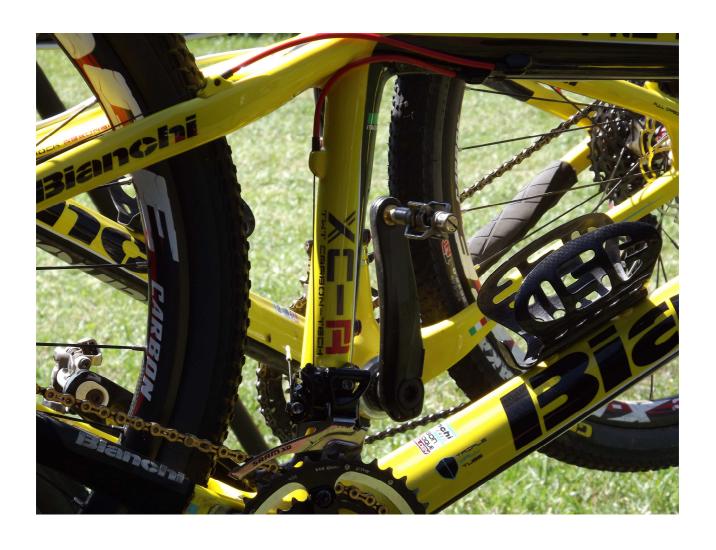
Best result ever: 3<sup>rd</sup> in first MTB National

Season goal: Improve my results in National Series and

Championships

Dream goal: Compete for GB









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