

Townend's one-two

BURGHAM
NORTHUMBERLAND
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By Amy Young

OLIVERTOWNEND made his first visit to Burgham a winning one, taking the top two places in the advanced with Neo Du Breuil and Imperial Master.

Andrew Cawthray's 12-year-old gelding pipped his stablemate to victory by 4.4 faults, having added just 0.8 time-penalties to his dressage score of 32.3.

"I'm really glad I came," said Oliver, who is aiming the grey gelding for Blenheim. "It was a good to strong cross-country and definitely did its job."

His second-placed ride Imperial Master, owned by Val Ryan, was the only horse inside the time in this section, the wily 15-year-old enjoying his spin around Northumberland.

"I try to take him to places he doesn't know as he's less likely to nap," said Oliver.

The Master Imp gelding won the CIC3* at Ballindenis last year and, with a £50,000 bonus on offer, Oliver is hoping to contest the CIC3* this season.

Caroline Powell took third with Alan Bell's Thornfield Jones, who added 7.2 time-faults to his dressage of 32.1.

"It was a good attacking track, with a lot of questions in quick succession," said Caroline. "We've had a few ups and downs over the past few competitions, so this was pleasing."

Melody's surprise win

WILLS OAKDEN and the 10-year-old Greystone Midnight Melody



Oliver Townend pilots the Blenheim-bound Neo Du Breuil to an advanced win ahead of his stablemate Imperial Master

won the open intermediate, adding nothing to their leading dressage score of 27.3.

"That was a bit of a surprise," said Wills. "She bucked in the medium canter!"

Owned by David Kenwright, the 10-year-old mare has only rolled one pole all season and didn't add to that tally here.

"She's such a consistent showjumper and she cruised round the cross-country," said Wills.

He was also fourth with McFly, whose owner Nicola Malcolm couldn't be there to watch as she was getting married.

Second went to James

Sommerville and nine-year-old Angel Eyes, owned by Ann Stead.

"Hopefully, this will cheer her up as she has been quite poor," said James, who kept a clean sheet to finish on his dressage of 33.2.

"She's always quick on the cross-country. She's a super mare who loves her job," he said.

Anna Warnecke topped the competitive intermediate section with Chareeb King, adding 2.4 time-penalties to finish on 33.3.

"I'm extremely pleased," said Anna, who is still recovering from a broken arm sustained at Houghton. "The season didn't go to plan; I had hoped he would be competing at three-star by now.

Praise for
Burgham

PLENTY of riders praised the event and the organising team, in particular riders Martyn Johnson and Craig Anderson, who have been instrumental in keeping the event going.

"They've put in an unbelievable amount of effort to get it right," said Oliver Townend.

"The dressage arenas are fantastic, the showjumping was a decent track and the cross-country courses were spot on. They deserve full credit and a lot more competitors in future."

But he's coming together and a win every now and then makes it all worthwhile.

The 16.3hh 12-year-old will head to Blair to contest the two-star.

The intermediate caused the most drama of the day, with two horse falls, two eliminations, five retirements and a further six faulting on the cross-country. This led to quite a few holds on course, as the efficient team replaced pins and repaired fences. But 15 of the 33 starters did make it home clear, including second-placed Emily Ryder and her own eye-catching liver chestnut Zippo.

"I'm really chuffed, it was a nice round as our last run before the CIC2* at Blair," said Emily, who finished on her dressage of 35.5.

"He has been quite feisty this year in the dressage, but he was calm and much improved here."

Third were the programme cover stars, Emma Carmichael and her own eight-year-old Cooley Lucky Strike, who picked up 3.2 time-faults for going too fast.

"He was mint, flying round," Emma said. "It was a typical blonde moment. I was wearing a watch as well." H&H



Anna Warnecke, back from a broken arm, takes the intermediate on Chareeb King

Results

Adv. — 1, Neo Du Breuil (O Townend) 32.3, 0.0, 8-33.2; 2, Imperial Master (O Townend) 37.5, 0.0, 37.5; 2, Thornfield Jones (O Powell) 32.1, 0.72=39.3. **Ol.** — 1, Grey Stone Midnight Melody (W Oakden) 27.3, 0.0, 27.3; 2, Angel Eyes (J Sommerville) 33.2, 0.0, 33.2; 3, Coopers Lavin (E Chandler) 29.6, 0.5, 2=34.8. **Int.** — 1, Chareeb King (A Warnecke) 30.9, 0.2, 4=33.3; 2, Zippo (E Ryder) 35.5, 0.0, 35.5; 3, Cooley Lucky Strike (E Carmichael) 30.5, 4.3, 3=37.7. **Nov sec A.** — 1, Colonel Joe (P Burgess) 32.5, 0.0, 32.5; 2, Simply Smart (H Towers) 36.0, 0.36; 3, Rednagh Ramon (J Adams) 32.0, 4.8=36.8. **sec B.** — 1, Kilmannon Coolguy (J Adams) 28.5, 0.0, 4=28.5; 2, Queens Diplomacy (D Scott) 29.0, 0.0=29.0; 3, Spion Sensation (C Powell) 28.5, 4.0=32.5. **sec C.** — 1, Mellifluous Mix (A Young) 26.5, 0.0=26.5; 2, Foxglove Skylark (C White) 26.5, 0.0=26.5; 3, Spring Revolution (L Broad) 33.5, 0.0=33.5. **BEUDO sec F.** — 1, Wile Max (J Sommerville) 21.0, 0.2=21.2; 2, Foxwood Brown Sugar (A Lumley) 23.0, 0.0=23.0; 3, Flying Frida (N Eschione) 17.5, 0.7=24.5. **sec G.** — 1, Ricardo Breez (S Bowe) 30.0, 0.0=30.0; 2, Laird Of The Mill (E Galbraith) 30.5, 0.0=30.5; 3, Uni Star II (T Stewart) 33.5, 0.0=33.5. **sec M.** — 1, Zolla (E Galbraith) 25.5, 0.0=25.5; 2, Hugo Light

(J Blackshaw) 28.5, 0.0=28.5; 3, Kitealy Bowe (L Soley) 27.4, 0.31. **sec N.** — 1, Harlequin Apollo (E Parker) 33.0, 0.33; 2, Ricanto (F Stourton) 34.0, 0.34; 3, Cuffesgrange Cut The Past (A Agnew) 35.0, 0.35. **Spec.** — 1, Captain Levide (J Sommerville) 21.5, 0.0=21.5; 2, Rich Junior (K E Stockler) 28.0, 0.28; 3, Borderline Mexico (D Richardson) 33.0, 0.33. **BEUOpen.** — 1, Aston Spring (H Anderson) 36.5, 4.0=40.5; 2, Mr McGinty (J Thompson) 34.8, 0.42; 3, Ad Kingum Van Loosche (W Wark) 44.0, 0.4=44.4. **BE9 sec H.** — 1, Dysart Rebel (J Wareing) 33.5, 0.0=33.5; 2, Luoken Ryan (L Graham) 34.5, 0.0=34.5; 3, Denis W (S Murray) 35.0, 0.35. **sec L.** — 1, Cairnside Ambrosion (G Crawford) 27.5, 0.0=27.5; 2, Country Top Top (B Palmer) 28.0, 0.28; 3, Water Valley Diamond Guy (J Wood) 29.0, 0.29. **sec J.** — 1, Dublin Boy King (A Agin) 27.5, 0.0=27.5; 2, Just Kitty (A Trafford) 30.0, 0.30; 3, My Lady Lusty (A Frary) 34.0, 0.34. **sec K.** — 1, Silver Sox (M Burridge) 27.5, 0.0=27.5; 2, Nobleman One (K Allen) 28.5, 0.0=28.5; 3, Double Deal III (I Riley) 30.0, 0.30. **Ayo.** — 1, Kingspark Picasso (S Bowe) 23.5, 0.0=23.5; 2, Silvermoor Ollie (J Wood) 28.5, 0.0=28.5; 3, Miss Rosemary (G Morrison) 38.0, 0.38.