



Oliver Townend keeps up his run of good form by winning the CIC\*\* on Kathleen and Rachel Wilkinson's Eldmire Foxy Lady, a new ride for him this season

# Townend Foxes the opposition

*Oliver Townend and Piggy French dominate, taking seven of the top eight spots in the CIC\*\* and open intermediate. Judith Draper reports from Scotland*

**T**HE CIC\*\* at the 13th running of this Scottish Borders event turned into an Oliver Townend/Piggy French "benefit", with Oli claiming the top spot on Sally Swiers's former ride Eldmire Foxy Lady, Piggy finishing second and third and Oliver in the frame again in fourth.

Oli is in such scintillating form at the moment that, although he had been riding Eldmire Foxy Lady for only a few weeks and had no prior knowledge of Floors, he clocked up the second fastest cross-country and had such a commanding lead after the dressage that he could easily afford the four show jumping penalties he accrued.

"We normally go to Rolleston this weekend," he said, "because it's so close to home, but when it was cancelled we rerouted here."

Although it was unseasonably cold much of the time, the weather in Roxburghshire was a good deal kinder than elsewhere in the country, the rain holding off until just before the show jumping. The going on this attractively presented

course — designed as usual by organiser Jamie Innes with, this year, input from Ian Stark — was just about perfect and Oli said the track rode brilliantly.

Riders have quickly got the hang of the two >>>



Piggy French clocks up the fastest round in the CIC\*\* to take second on Sue Crane's Chicago II