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Quicklook has her eyes

BRIGSTOCK INTERNATIONALAT ROCKINGHAM CASTLE NORTHANTS

2-4 May

By Ellie Hughes

GEMMATATTERSALL and Quicklook V delivered the big win they had been promising when they headed ClC2* section K, run for the second year under the banner of the event's principal sponsor King West.

Having led the dressage in the same class at Burnham Market two weeks previously, and not pushed the mare across country, this time Gemma had her eye on the prize.

"I felt the ground at Burnham was a bit firm to really let her bowl on, but here it was absolutely perfect," said the 29-year-old. "To come here and reproduce that form — then go on to win — was awesome."

Even more impressive was the fact that Quicklook V had been busy doing her bit for modern reproductive technology in the lead-up to the event — as had her stablemate Dinky Inky, who finished third in CIC2* section J.

"We flushed an embryo from Quicklook on Thursday morning," revealed her rider." I jumped her later that afternoon, then she came here and did a beautiful dressage test on Friday."

The planned foal, by Chilli Morning, will be the mare's third, but her first by embryo transfer.

Dinky Inky had a Saturday night date with Arundel Equine Hospital vet Ed Lyall.

"She's right in season and we



wanted her Al'd [artificially inseminated], so Ed had been a saint and agreed to meet us at the yard at 11pm when we got home," she added.

Gemma was left on tenterhooks until one of the very last riders of the day, Oliver Townend, set off across country. The latter's first phase score of 42.2 was just 0.2 of a penalty ahead of Quicklook's, but when ODT Ghareeh applied the brakes at the log into water (fence 6a), Gemma's victory was sealed.

Oliver had been enjoying a thoroughly fruitful day until that point. He headed CIC2* section J with Sandiman II and finished fourth with Cooley Master Class, a winner at Ballindenisk CIC3* last time out.

Linda and William Bowen's charming dun Sandiman lay second to his stablemate going into the cross-country. But while Cooley Master Class racked up 6.4 time-penalties, the winner stopped the clock just inside the 5min 46sec optimum.

"We love watching them go across country," said Linda. "When Yogi [Breisner] first noticed the horse at an event a few years back, he asked us how we enjoyed being owners.

"I told him that we loved it, but that we wished we could run faster round the cross-country so that we could see more of him. He smiled and told us that he wouldn't be a very good horse if we could do that!"

we could do that!" 'Mr Perfect' scores a win ZOE WILKINSON recorded her

first international win with the precocious double Burghley young event horse winner Parkfield Quintessential in CIC* section I.

Sharon Bishop's six-year-old,





ctures by Peter Nixon and Tim Wilking