



old Topwood Beau led after dressage and cross-country and went into the final phase with one fence in hand. But Topwood Beau got a little onward bound and when he hit the wall as well as the third part of the combination, Italy's Giovanni Ugolotti scored his first CCI3* win instead.

"He's a very good jumper – he's just got a bit of a sore mouth today and maybe I should have tried a different bit," said Emily. "But he was mega over a proper cross-country course and these things happen."

Giovanni completed on his dressage of 53.8 on Oplitas – Nereo and Armada's youngest full-brother, whom he bought from Andrew Nicholson in September 2012.

"I'd quite like to take him to the Europeans at Blair because he is easier to ride across country than Stilo Kontika [who is aiming for Badminton] – and after this weekend, why not?" said Giovanni.

Townend takes the spoils

THE Fell family, who run Ballindenisk so hospitably, think that Oliver Townend has only once left Ballindenisk in recent years without a trophy, and this time he won the CCI2* – and also finished third and fifth in the class.

His winner was Patricia Mason's Mr Hiho, who finished on his leading dressage mark of 34.2, 4.4 penalties ahead of Piggy French and OBOS Cooley.

"He's been exceptional in all three phases here," said Oliver, who piloted Colonel Joe into third and Note Worthy into fifth.

2014 Chatsworth winner Horseware Steller Rebound, finishing on her dressage mark of 43.2, while Nicky Roncoroni was third.

Nicky said: "We scored a personal best in the dressage, and there's still improvement to come there, and that is the first time he has been inside the time across country at this level – it was nice to put the pressure on and get such a good response."

Oliver Townend took fourth on Dromgurryh Blue, while Louise Harwood was fifth. Emilie also landed sixth place on Coopers Law, and Georgie Strang leapt up from 24th after dressage to eighth.

Settling for second

BRITISH riders nearly managed a clean sweep of the CCI classes, only for Emily Gilruth to miss out on the CCI3* victory by 0.3 of a penalty.

Emily and the Beau Royale 12-year-

Britain's individual hope
Emilie Chandler tops the CCI3*
leaderboard with Gino Royale

