



Cruise turns the tide

BLOOMFIELD HORSEBOXES BRITISH SHOWJUMPING AREA 22 WINTER SPECTACULAR SOUTH STAFFS COLLEGE, STAFFS

14-16 November

By Suzanne Jones

WINNING was against the odds, but Lauren Edwards overcame her troubles to claim a magnificent hat-trick of victories. These included both the feature ISEC grand prix and Lakeside Fabrications accumulator on Cruise King.

"I had my tack stolen three nights before this show, including four saddles, a lot of bridles and loads of other equipment," said Lauren, who is based in Shropshire riding for Nigel Marmont.

"The horses have been ridden in different saddles and random bits and bridles, but they came good."

The 12-year-old Cruise King — who boasts classic Irish breeding with sire Cruising and a Clover Hill mother — was ridden in his own pelham but wore a bridle belonging to Lauren's mother Julie, from her old grade A horse, Lord Tennyson.

"It is a lucky bridle now," said Julie.

Five reached the final round of the ISEC grand prix, where fences rose from 1.30m in the first half of the course to 1.40m in the latter under British Showjumping's A10 rules. Several potential clears were caught by the final, imposing combination.

Tony French and Acoomie set the standard with a gallop to the last oxer, but they were no match for Lauren and the ever eager Cruise King. They were on top form, having already claimed the earlier Lakeside Fabrications accumulator in fine style, and clinched a second win by 0.3sec.

"We call him the bacon winner, he pays for everyone else," said Lauren, of the 12-year-old known as "Brian" at home.

Owner Nigel bought Brian last year from Tracey Barrow.

"I bought him to jump 1.30m classes, but he's jumped area trials and speed classes, he keeps finding that bit extra," said Nigel. "We thought he didn't like jumping indoors, but he's happy and liking it here — he's like the Duracell

Cruising to victory: Lauren Edwards and Cruise King defy the odds to win the ISEC grand prix



battery rabbit, he loves jumping and just keeps going on and on."

Last-to-go Charlotte Flack eased into second spot on Utopia, a 13-year-old Numero Uno daughter bought a year ago.

Lauren kicked off the day with a win in the Blue Chip dynamic B and C. She used every time-saving option to take the class with Valentinos Surprise II, another owned by Nigel.

"She turns very well — the jump-off suited her, with plenty of turn options," said Lauren about the nine-year-old.

The British-bred mare, by Renkum Valentino out of a thoroughbred mare, was purchased as a two-year-old by Nigel from Shropshire dealer Pip Lyons.

"I rode her myself at first, but I'd jump a couple of British novice classes, then turn her out in the field for six weeks. I just played at it," said Nigel, who then bred a pony foal from Surprise.

"Lauren has got stuck into her

FESTIVE TRANSFORMATION

THE indoor arena at South Staffs College's Rodbaston campus has undergone a recent revamp, with a new set of fences displayed on the Martin Collins sand surface, fitted only 10 days before.

"The groundsmen have worked hard getting the new surface bedded in with constant watering and rolling," said course-designer Sue Stevenson.

The arena was further enhanced with Christmas decorations. This three-day show celebrated the festive season early, with Nordsman fir Christmas trees, baubles and dozens of cyclamen supplied by Pipers Nurseries adorning the arena and fences (pictured, below).



Pictures by Suzanne Jones



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Area 22 Winter Spectacular



Derek Morton and
Pinheiro Beech claim
their second win in two
days, in the Blue Chip
Karma performance

this year and won several 1.30m classes, and I'm really hoping she'll be a good one for my daughter Imogen later on."

Lauren will continue this mare's education until then.

"She is still inexperienced and can go green. She may be nine but she's a six-year-old in her head,"

said Lauren.

Geoff Goodwin — second to Lauren in the accumulator on Houghton Calvador — again claimed second from the opening draw in the six-horse decider with Woody Woodstock, an 11-year-old sired by Krunch De Breve and bought four months ago.

PROACTIVE COMMITTEE

BS area 22 is one of the most hardworking, proactive committees.

Headed by Katie McCreath (pictured, right), a solicitor advocate and director of Frisby & Co who took over as area rep 18 months ago, the committee organise a range of activities.

Monthly showjumping coaching with Alec Trickett takes place throughout the year, as well as occasional training with Geoff Billington, and flatwork clinics with eventer Linda De Matteo and dressage rider Samantha Morrison. Area 22

members Richard Seals and Abbi Griffin are currently BS level 2 coaches and working towards higher levels.

Members also enjoyed the first three-day camp with more than 80 attendees. They benefited from coaching, a talk from chiropractor Genevieve Joyce, a talk from Spillers Feeds and a dental lecture demo from locally-based EC Straiton's Veterinary Surgery.

"Hands-on was the byword. The vets got everyone involved — all were putting hands in horses' mouths to check teeth," said Katie.



Pinheiro steps up

DEREK MORTON landed the top spot in the Blue Chip Karma performance on Beech House Stud's homebred Pinheiro Beech. The pair had won the newcomers the day before.

"We decided to give him a run at a higher level today and it didn't

faze him at all. I'm chuffed with him," said Derek, who is cautious with the gelding in the warm-up.

"He's scared of other horses in the collecting ring, but he's improving all the time and he's ready to go on and prove himself."

The five-year-old gelding is by Its The Business, an international

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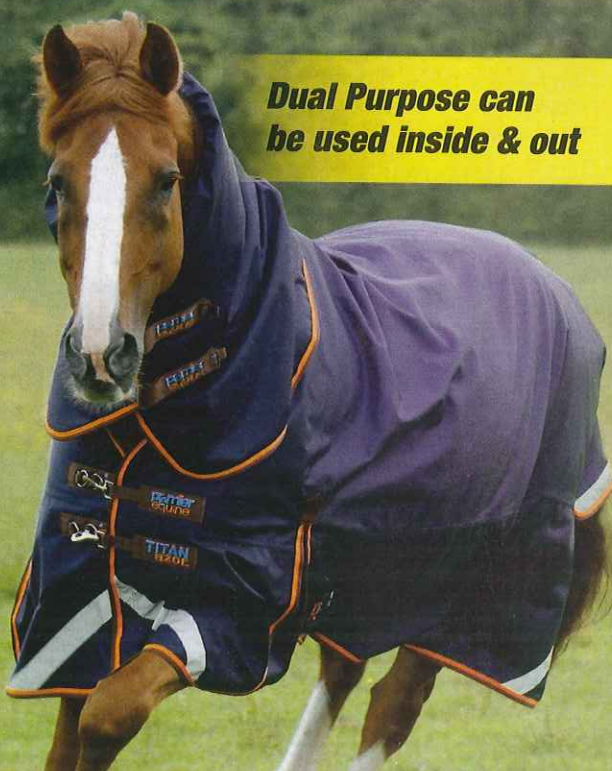
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Alec Trickett wastes no time to win the Straiton Vets 1.25m on board One Two Watch II

star for Pinheiro's joint-owner Geoff Glazzard, out of a Canturo mare.

"I bought the mare from Johnny Greenwood for breeding after she was injured and she has produced four foals, all by Its The Business," said Geoff, who rates Pinheiro Beech.

"I like his ambition and attitude." Derek was riding injured after a fall at Addington a week earlier.

"I've got cracked ribs and a lot of bruising on my leg, but I'm still going," he said.

Nikki Freeman took second with the German-bred eight-year-old Lady Maria, the 2013 Hickstead winter novice champion, for owner Jamie Fry.

Fresh from the field

ALEC TRICKETT, fourth in the ISEC grand prix, found the shortest route to take victory in the Straiton Vets 1.25m on One Two Watch II, winning with an early, daring turn.

"I was the only one to turn inside to the second fence, everyone else went round," said Alec, who jointly owns this eight-year-old, by Calvaro Z and out of a Darco mare, with Keith Shore.

"He's straight and strong, and this was a nice sweetener for him after jumping the grand prix at Aintree."

The gelding spends the majority of his time turned out in the field.

"It suits him. He spends all summer in the field. He is stabled in the winter at night, although he's out each day come rain or shine," said Alec.

Katie Shaw's smooth but incredibly quick round on the homebred Fools Business secured the Clarendon Stud 1.15m grand prix.

"He's naturally quick off the ground and especially around corners," said Katie about the

13-year-old who is shared with her sister Emma Sargeant.

The Its The Business son has enjoyed a mini break since Horse of the Year Show, where Katie was close to winning the 1.10m section — the pair's fastest time was marred by a falling pole to deny them victory.

"He knows his job inside out and we don't do much with him outside of shows, just a bit of hacking," said Katie, who briefly handed the reins over to Emma three weeks ago.

"Emma rode him at Field House EC and qualified for the Halsall Electrical 1.25 at the Blue Chip championships — it was her first show after the birth of [her second daughter] Sophie four weeks earlier." **H&H**



'He knows his job inside out': Katie Shaw and Fools Business claim the Clarendon Stud 1.15m grand prix with a stylish round

MINI MAJOR

A fun mini major pairs relay proved entertaining and competitive, with commentator Norman Proffitt egging on riders with encouragement and wit.

Senior riders were joined by young pony riders who have benefited from training through BS area 22.

"The minis were all non BS members when they started training, and they have gradually moved up to affiliated level and are now committed competitors," said area representative Katie McCreath.

Victors were Charlotte Hall, 13, and her nine-year-old coloured gelding Calusa, who are now jumping at pony discovery level, and Sam Wall on Claire Ward's homebred seven-year-old Mr Majestic daughter Birchenase Girl.

"Charlotte did some amazing turns, it was all down to her," said Sam, who went on to win the concluding Freestep 1.10m.

Both were awarded sashes and rugs, with Charlotte receiving a goodie bag from the Old Fashioned Sweet Shop.

"Sam got the biggest bottle of gin raided from my mother Sue's wine cellar," said Katie.



Little and large: teamwork pays off for pairs relay winners Charlotte Hall and Sam Wall

Results

Pipers Nurseries 1.05m. — 1, Quetzal Du Graint (C Dusacre); 2, Woodlander GF (D Morton); 3, Cyloma Z (E Sargeant).
Equestrian Clearance.com newcomers. — 1, Pinheiro Beech & Dat Junke (D Morton); 2, Roscoes Amour (C Crow). **Lancyl Stable 1.10m.** — 1 & 3, Blaencwm Jester & Pipe Dream III (F Adams); 2, Bukie (J Trickett).
H&H Foxhunter. — 1, Kinsale Houdini (T French); 2 & 3, Bowman 6 & Lauter Boy (L Edwards). **Straiton Vets 1.25m.** — 1, One Two Watch II (A Trickett); 2, Dancer II (C West); 3, Jericho (C Flack). **Clarendon Stud 1.15m.** — 1, Fools Business (K Shaw); 2, Bukie (J Trickett); 3, Code Of Honour (N Freeman). **Blue Chip Karma performance.** — 1, Pinheiro Beech; 2, Lady Maria (N Freeman); 3, Chaplin W (A Barton). **Blue Chip dynamic B&C.** — 1, Valentinos Surprise II (L Edwards); 2, Woodstock (G Goodwin); 3, Z Johnny Boy (Z Henshall). **Lakeside Fabrications accumulator.** — 1, Cruise King (L Edwards); 2, Houghton Cavalier (G Goodwin); 3, Carrasca B (O Poole). **ISEC 1.30m gp.** — 1, Cruise King; 2, Utopia (C Flack); 3, Acoome (T French). **D&H 85cm amat.** — 1, Oakleys Ace (G Dickens); 2, Toetie (C Bossons); 3, Kiers Rumour (S Taylor). **KBIS British nov.** — 1, Emora Karla SL (M Cornock); 2, Clowning Around (M Stowe); 3, Griggy (C Freeman). **Bloomfields Horseboxes 1m.** — 1, Mazzi Andolo (I Bradley); 2, Helms Tolu (G Dickens); 3, Maggy Mae (E Brown). **D&H 1.05m amat.** — 1, Jivetime Rules Of Engagement (D Watson); 2, Cassandra Van Het Vondelhof (K Doody); 3, Cider (J Hoare). **D&H 1.10m amat.** — 1, Belregazo (F Jervis); 2, Quetzal Du Graint; 3, New York Fairytale (Pearson). **Freestep 1.10m.** — 1, Birchenase Girl (S Wall); 2, Pipsqueek T (L Parrott).