



Dressage leader Piggy French keeps a clean sheet to win the CCI** on Lemington Lets Dance. The pair only meet at events, but have excellent form this year

Let's Dance to victory

*Piggy French wins CCI** for the third year running, while Jo Prestwich also sees an amazing pony take the CCI* and Emily Llewellyn and Sienna Myson-Davies lift the under-21 and JRN crowns*

TWELVE months on from Piggy French's biggest payday — when she scooped the £25,000 Shropshire Slam — the Leicestershire-based rider returned to Weston Park to repeat her win in the Rookery Park Stud CCI**.

This time she won on Judy Bradwell's Lemington Lets Dance. These two meet only at events, with Judy doing the groundwork in between.

"He's got better and better as the year has

gone on," said Piggy.

The British-bred Lemington Lets Dance, a son of Court Crooner, was bought as a four-year-old from his breeder, Elsa Pease. He and Piggy finished second in Houghton's CCI** and won Thirstane CIC** earlier this year.

"When I first rode him he felt quite 'ponyified', but now he feels like a little tiger and he was class yesterday round the cross-country — he galloped and jumped for fun."

Runner-up Pippa Funnell had a much happier time than on her last visit 10 years ago, when she was dragged unconscious out of the Kidney Pool by the medics after going head first into the water. She took second spot on the MacIntyres' 2005 Windsor winner Blue Horizon. The 11-year-old Skyliner gelding has had only a handful of outings this year.

"He took the first few fences to go going," said Pippa, who was the penultimate competitor of the 250-plus to go round Janet Plant's two tracks on Saturday. "I think he was ready for his supper, but once he got going he gave me a great ride."

Piggy French's boyfriend, Oliver Townend,

filled third with Throstle Nest Saddlery's Irish-bred gelding Golden Hue — "and he is proper Irish breeding, by Golden Cliff out of a Clover Hill mare," said Oli.

The gelding did the CCI*** at Blair, but a couple of novice mistakes made Oli decide to bring him to Weston.

"He's still relatively low mileage, but he felt a class act yesterday and found it very easy," said Oli. "It was probably not the strongest CCI** track, although it caused enough trouble."

He's a supreme athlete and the nearest thing to Tamarillo I've seen

Mark Corbett

on his pupil Sienna Myson-Davies's Tambourine

JRN championships

LEMINGTON Lets Dance's owner Judy Bradwell has also played a part in the success of KBIS junior regional novice (JRN) championship winner

Tambourine, whose clear round brought tears of joy from all the connections, including rider Sienna Myson-Davies.

Judy imported the Dutch-bred gelding as a three-year-old, with Sienna buying him a couple of years later.

"He's never done anything this big, but he got into such a fabulous rhythm," said Sienna.