

## A quintessentially British model

DUBARRY BURGHLEY  
YOUNG EVENT HORSE  
FINAL, LINGS

6 September

By Carole Mortimer

THERE were celebrations all round as Parkfield Quintessential again proved in a class of his own.

Last year's four-year-old winner, confidently ridden by Zoe Wilkinson, became the convincing victor of this year's five-year-old final — the fourth horse to land back-to-back titles since the series began 26 years ago.

The combination gained high marks in all four sections to secure the title with a six-mark margin. This meant the horse's breeders, Nigel and Sharon Bishop, could retain the trophy awarded to the best British-bred.

The light-footed chestnut by the modern jumping sire Quicksilver (Quattro B/Restorator) out of a Carino Sun mare has won three British Eventing (BE) events this year. He will next be competing at the young horse championships at Osberton.

"He has had a fab year," said Sharon, who has just three broodmares (sport horse special, 14 March). "But he hasn't done a lot as not only is he totally easy and straight forward, but we believe he's one for the future."

The powerful Irish-bred DHL Jet Set under Emilie Chandler gained top marks in the final section — for suitability and potential — from Ian Stark to seal second place.

"Being pulled in top of the line by Ian Stark was simply the best part of the day," said owner Ian Woodhead, who has plenty more at home by the same sire, NC Amiro (Aladin Z/Ramiro), who stands at the Ballyheerin Stud in Donegal.

**Duke Of Love** — bought at Brightwells Auction in December for £5,000 — is best of the four-year-olds for Piggy French

Two out of two: Parkfield Breeding's Quintessential records back-to-back wins under Zoe Wilkinson



Two British-breds by the same sire took the next two places. The Sport Horse Breeding (GB) graded stallion Britannia's Mail produced a great gallop with breeder Lucinda Fredericks in the saddle to secure third.

The son of her 2006 Burghley winner Headley Britannia is by the three-quarter bred sire François Jaguar Mail. He also sired the highest-placed mare, Tretawn, fourth with Sarah Cohen.

Bred by the Preci-Spark stud on similar lines to their four-star horse Treason, Tretawn is out of the Crackerjack mare Treswigga.

Tretawn was one of two to score 18 out of 20 for conformation and type from judge Jane Crofts. The other, Bumble Thomas' unplaced ride Florella Duca was also a mare by Jaguar Mail.

Another mare gained the highest jumping mark. Such was her athleticism that ninth-placed Porscher (Porsch/Cruising) almost jumped jockey Matthew

Wright out of the saddle over the surprise first cross-country fence.

The combination of the Derby-style course, coloured poles followed by several imposing cross-country fences, does pose questions that some horses find tricky to answer.

"Overall and importantly, what was most telling was that those that had star quality — that little bit extra — maintained shape, jump and attitude," said jump judge Debbie Edmundson. "The top [end of the class] was of a high standard and brought forward lovely quality horses."

Sadly for Nini French, her Primitive Proposal gelding Time For Harry — who was well in contention — had to leave the arena just before the deciding gallop after being kicked, albeit by one from the same stable.

"Up to that point he was my favourite and certainly the one I would've liked to take home," said Ian Stark. "But the two at the top were rather in a class of their own; both had presence and movement."

## Four-year-olds

PRIOR to the final decider, nothing could split the top two four-year-olds. Both German-bred geldings gained identical marks in each section and both were procured from last December's Brightwells sale (report, 13 December 2012).

In the end, it was Piggy French and Sara Fowlers' Duke Of Love who stood top of the line, with All Or Nothing II second for owner Alex Postolowsky. The first (bought for £5,000) is by the Dresemann/Weltmeyer son



The five-year-old contenders line up in front of the imposing Burghley House

Dragon Heart — now competing in dressage in England — while the second (£8,000) is by the dressage sire Alabaster.

Lucinda Fredericks found herself in familiar territory in third with Rachael Evisons' jumping-bred grey Ebolensky (Clinton/Heartbreaker), who was also the top mare of the age group.

Fourth-placed Chance In A Million, who gained 10/10 for suitability and potential, won the best British-bred prize for owner-breeder Sue Browne. The attractive eye-catcher, by Mill Law — one of two in the top 10 by him — out of the advanced Jumbo mare Cartoon Twin, has been a prolific in-hand winner from the start. As a foal he was the BEF Futurity supreme champion.

The two classes presented a total contrast to those normally assessed by Olympic dressage judge Stephen Clarke, who, with Judy Harvey, presided over the dressage phase.

"Most of the four-year-olds, bar the top two who were outstanding, were of a similar level," said Stephen. "Overall they were well presented, ridden forward into a good contact with nothing being strangled. It was great fun and I do like the format — it is simple and straightforward." H&H

> For an exclusive video on the Burghley Young Event Horse final, visit [www.horseandhound.co.uk/BYEHvideo](http://www.horseandhound.co.uk/BYEHvideo)

## Results

**Judges:** dressage S. Clarke & J. Harvey; jumping D. Edmundson & R. Woodcock; conformation & type, J. Crofts; suitability and potential, I. Stark. **5yo** — 1, Parkfield Quintessential by Quicksilver (Z. Wilkinson) 84.5; 2, DHL Jet Set by NC Amiro (E. Chandler) 78.5; 3, Britannia's Mail by Jaguar Mail (L. Fredericks) 77.4; Tretawn by Jaguar Mail (S. Cohen) 76.5; 5, Quattro Labrynth by Lancast Quantin (C. Johnstone) 74.5; 6, Morswood by Ricardo Z (P. French) 74.5. **4yo** — 1, Duke Of Love by Dragon Heart (P. French) 86.5; 2, All Or Nothing II by Alabaster (A. Postolowsky) 82.5; 3, Ebolensky by Clinton (L. Fredericks) 81.5; 4, Chance In A Million by Mill Law (E. Chandler) 79.5; Elevation B by Vallant (B. Thomas) 78; 5, Elton H by Carambole (A. Postolowsky) 77.8.

