

Was our photographer at your event?  
To purchase photographs from H&H  
Call 020 3148 4559

For the latest eventing news visit  
[horseandhound.co.uk](http://horseandhound.co.uk)

# Taylor's back on track

Izzy Taylor pilots Allercombe Ellie, a new ride for her this season, to third in an OI. She also won a section with Orlando



## OASBY (1), LINCOS 6-9 March

By Hilary Manners

IZZY TAYLOR restored normal service after a shaky start to the season at Isleham with a convincing win in open intermediate (OI) section J riding Orlando. Owned by Di Davies, Irene Graham and Anita Dalton, the son of Corland posted a 23.6 dressage to which he added just 1.2 cross-country time penalties. "Because of the weather, I'd not been able to do much cross-country schooling before Isleham and I paid the price, so I took a lorry load up to Somerford Park last week," said Izzy. "I'm much happier today."

"Orlando was superb, while Allercombe Ellie — who only arrived with me in February — felt very exciting."

The Jumbo mare finished third in OI section I, behind Andrew Hoy riding Cheeky Calimbo and Aoife Clark on Vaguely North.

Reason, piloted by Sarah

Cohen, looks a force to be reckoned with this season. He followed a 20.5 dressage score with a double clear. Sarah keeping her foot off the accelerator across country to drop behind Orlando. Last year's winner The Highland Prince had to settle for third place under Michael Owen. The final OI section went to Oliver Townend riding Karyn Shuter's Black Tie II. "He's come out this spring as

**Surveyor Ben Way and Galley Light on the way to an intermediate victory**



good as ever, and gave me a great ride across country," said Oliver. It was a close-fought section, with Nicola Wilson less than a penalty off the pace on second- and third-placed Annie Hoy and One Two Many.

**Amateur on top**  
CHARTERED surveyor Ben Way, 25, claimed intermediate section G riding his own and Elisabeth Collins' 11-year-old Galley Light.

"He was intended for the racetrack, but didn't take to it," said Ben. "He's very fast and an incredibly careful showjumper, but he has struggled a bit on the flat. Natalie Allen has helped me a lot over the winter and I was thrilled with our sub-30 score. "He only did his first BE90 as a seven-year-old [four years ago], so has moved up the grades pretty quickly — I'm hoping to do the three-star at Tattersalls this year. It helps that I'm an ex-point-to-point jockey — we suit each other."

With a 12-horse yard near Rugby, which he shares with girlfriend Sarah Parkes, logistics can be tricky for Ben, who has a full-time job heading up the equestrian department of Butler Sherborn. "Fortunately, they are very understanding about me taking time off to compete," he said. James Sommerville and Arco BB took the runner-up spot in this section, with Phoebe Buckley riding Jimmy Shoo third, one of just three pairs all-day to beat the optimum cross-country time.



Christiane Classen's Cheeky Calimbo tops an OI on his first run of 2014 for Andrew Hoy

The remaining intermediate section went to Piggy French, with occasional ride Baxo. The eight-year-old gelding is normally piloted by Annie Ho, but Piggy steps in from time to time. "I help Annie with her training," said Piggy. "Baxo was very careful to start with — he thought about things a bit too much — and it's worked well with us both riding him. It wasn't the plan to win today, but he dealt with all three phases better than I was expecting." Baxo's goal for 2014 is the Asian Games — Hong Kong rider Annie won the Asian Championships last year and has her sights set on a medal at the Games. Emily Pragnell and DHI

## A LIVE INNOVATION

ORGANISING company BEDE's motto, "Leading innovation — developing quality", was upheld at Oasby (1). Live scoring was on display in the secretary's tent for the first time. The brainchild of Nick Wallbridge from Amersham Equestrian Ltd and BEDE's Stuart Buntine, the system was trialled by BEDE last year. "We started with just the dressage scores and gradually added more into the system. Today is the first time that we have incorporated cross-country times to complete the final scores," said Nick.

Beaunesse were the runners-up — the same spot they occupied in a novice section here last spring. Charlotte Barber and Gran Sho completed the top three.

**Wet weather work**  
THE organisers had their work out to keep the show on the road after the recent rain. Tracking was laid down into and out of the lorry parks, and wagons were towed in and out. Extra supplies of stone were brought in and equipment hired to keep the ground rideable. Co-organiser Anna Buntine admitted that the past two spring fixtures at Oasby were probably the most testing that the Buntines' company BEDE Events

had encountered. The extra work paid off and there were few withdrawals. A new loop had been added to the track where the double of brushes (10ab) in a corner of one of the lorry parks was influential. Wills Goodhew's More Luck and Hannah Bate's Watson III were among the horses to pick up penalties here. Both Crisp Barr on Dasset Lux and Samantha Hobbs riding Jazz Time III got no further round the course. As usual, the water was the nemesis of many — invariably due to duck-outs at the skinny triple brush on the exit. Matthew Heath and Miss Grace, Gaby Cooke riding Vitalin Vigour, Daniel

## 36 the number of sections



Piggy French scores an unexpected intermediate win on occasional ride Baxo

Scott on Cherry Law and Lucy Jackson's four-star ride Willy Do were all caught out. Otherwise, faults were spread. Caroline Edwards and Baggrave Summer Sonnet ground to a halt at the new step up to angled brush at fence 9ab; Sophie Hearle and Western Rainbow parted ways at the Hedge (7), and Cool Chica had a horse fall under Andrew James at the Feeders (15ab). Andrew claimed full responsibility for taking a straight, rather than a curved, line. H&H



Oliver Townend and Black Tie II are just 1.5sec over the time for an OI win