

Ben Bick rides Uragan to triumph in the Dazzler 1.20m grand prix. He was also second on Kenzo 51



This jump-off reminded me of Jamie's pony riding days and that was 28 years ago. Back then he rode quality ponies and now he has quality horses

Peter Gillespie course-designer, on Joint RFL Power winner Jamie Fry

is a massive confidence booster for me in aiming for the young rider classes."

Tina Fletcher came back with a close-run challenge on Lady Pauline Harris' Ursula for fourth place and then Sam made his move from penultimate draw.

"Our turn into the second to last was crucial," he said. "Lancelot's had a couple of weeks off and I'm really pleased with the way he's come back. It's been the perfect warm-up for Addington, where I'm aiming to win the grand prix."

Abi also has Addington in her sights.

"I want to qualify Olympia [for the young rider championships] and need to pick up enough points in the young riders at Addington to secure my place," she explained.

Fleur blooms

A trio of young horses came to the fore in the Karma Performance qualifier, spearheaded by Abi on her mother Fiona's six-year-old Fleur Van Overis.

Peter Gillespie tested control in the jump-off of this two-phase competition.

"Dad [Tony Newbery] told me to keep turning and moving to avoid making it a gallop," said Abi. "I had to go inside the black-and-white fence to win and Fleur made the turn easy for me. I love her because she's scopey, naturally quick and so easy to adjust."

The daughter of Calvados was spotted by Fiona and Tony at last year's Scope Festival, where she

finished third in the five-year-old final.

"We bought her off Sally Lane after watching her at Scope," explained Tony. "She seemed brave for a five-year-old; nothing fazed her and she looked a nice one for Abi to produce. Abi's getting a lot more competitive against the clock and, taking my advice, she was quick but not stupid."

Abi said: "I've been busy with young riders and haven't had time to push her on, but looking to the future, it's better to bring her on slowly."

Eurig Eynon finished a fraction off the winning time with his home-bred seven-year-old Mr Business. This 15.2hh son of It's The Business is out of a Tinka's Boy mare.

"I've taken him slowly as I think a lot of him," said Eurig. "He's answering all the questions and always wants to leave the jumps up. I'm enjoying him while we've got him, but if someone comes along he'll have to be sold."

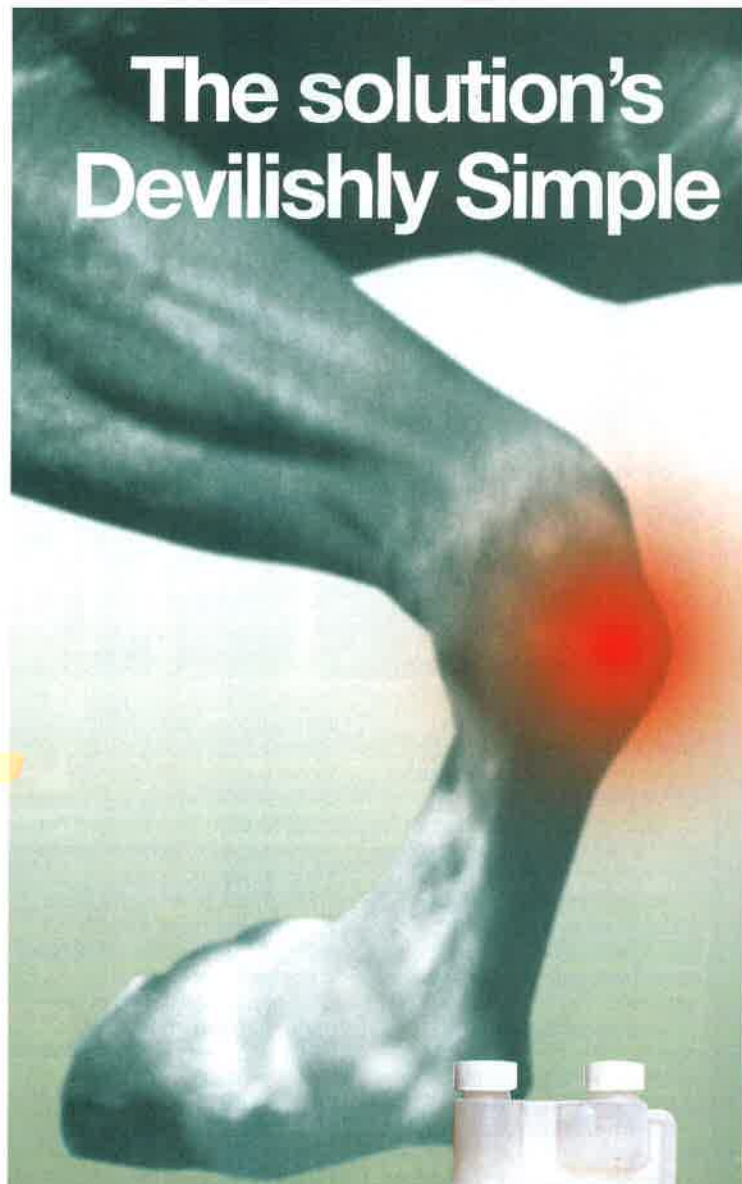
Nigel Thorpe secured the third-placed ticket on his seven-year-old Harmonie D.

"I've changed to a hackamore and it's making all the difference," said Nigel, who juggles his busy job as a hospital porter with competing.

A 'naturally careful' mare

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