

Smartly Strikes it lucky

Daisy Berkeley and Strike Smartly produce a textbook double clear to land the open intermediate



the following day, having just graduated in economics from Bristol University.

Selina Milnes' veteran campaigner Dunkery Boy matched Daisy's first phase score of 27.7, but 2.4 time-faults dropped them to third.

Emily King headed the under-21 open intermediate with Cooley Currency, ahead of Amanda Brieditis (Boleybawn Fernhill) and Francesca Sargent (Leamore Hightale). Cooley Currency was produced by an amateur in Ireland and Emily has had the ride since last autumn.

"He's a big, strong horse, but he's also spooky which can make him tricky to ride," explained Emily. "The showjumping is his weakest phase at the moment but he's just fantastic across country. I am taking my time with him as I really think he's an exciting one for the future."

The undulating parkland terrain posed some interesting questions, the first of which was

a tricky combination at 8abc, a brush, to diamond, to brush.

The yawning drop at 11 down a steep hill to the skinny chair at 12 caused plenty of problems, as did the influential double of turtles on one stride before the water.

New partnerships score
GIOVANNI UGOLOTTI headed intermediate section J with

'He's a big, strong horse, but he's also spooky which can make him tricky to ride'

Emily King
on Cooley Currency

Jane Sewell's Cos I Will, having only ridden the horse a handful of times. He has been competed by Lucinda Fredericks for two seasons, but she suggested to Jane that he might suit a man better.

"He's a powerful horse and at 17.1hh there's a lot of him," explained Lucinda. "I'm not too proud to say I think someone else could do a better job and all credit to Giovanni for such a good result in a very short space of time."

Harry Dzenis (Cruise A Crosstown) posted a win in intermediate section K, as well as the runner-up spot in section J with Star Striker. Though



New partnership: Giovanni Ugolotti and 17.1hh Cos I Will bag an intermediate

Whitehead Vizard Wilton, Wilts

30-31 July

By Louise Calverley

D AISY BERKELEY kept her foot to the floor to head the open intermediate section at Wilton. As only one of three to make the time, Daisy produced a textbook double clear with Fred and Penny Barker's Strike Smartly.

"He's stepped up to advanced this year and jumped clear at Bramham in the CIC3", so I thought it would be good for him to have a nice intermediate run here.

"He enjoyed the cross-country – there were some tricky questions and some

short distances, but even though he's big [17hh] I can shorten him well," said Daisy. "The skinny chair [12] had one flag tilted in so we had to breathe in and the shield at 14b had no flag – luckily he's very straight."

Laura Normand took second with her father Anthony's Vardigo, despite having only ridden the horse twice since returning from holiday.

"My mum is my saviour," smiled Laura. "She's kept him going beautifully and I think he actually comes out better when he's not done much. I knew the time was tight so I didn't touch him – I just let him go in his own rhythm."

Laura was due to start her first job in banking in London