

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Is it time to take up hunting?



LAST weekend's Bramham International Horse Trials was a little like a rerun of Badminton — action-packed, exciting and definitely not a dressage competition.

As has become the norm with Ian Stark's cross-country courses, they exert a massive influence, and this year's was no exception. However, an extra factor came into play — the mud. And the course-designer himself felt that many riders, especially members of the younger generation, just didn't know how to ride in such conditions. This is a worrying comment. If the sport is to follow the Badminton trend and crank up some of its courses several notches we have to face the fact that riders not trained to handle these conditions will get injured, as will their horses — or worse. Cross-country schooling courses close their doors when mud becomes an issue. A lot of events cancel so the obvious place to get more practice is in the hunting field. Hopefully we will see more eventers following hounds over the winter.

In the meantime, riders staying away at events should beware thieves who may target their empty yard. It is devastating to come home and find your tackroom empty — as happened to Vittoria Panizzon when she was at Bramham (see page 5).

JULIE HARDING

Prolific medallist retires

PARDON Me II, who took Emily Llewellyn from Pony Club level all the way to four-star, has been retired aged 17.

The Dutch-bred gelding, by Landwind II, was found by Cindy, Emily and friend Liz Howes in Holland in 2005.

"We hoped that he might have the potential for us to bring on and maybe do juniors with Emily but 'P' has exceeded all of Emily's dreams," said Cindy.

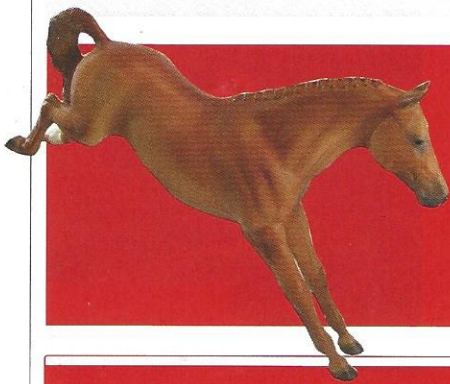
P won the Pony Club Eventing Championships with Emily in 2006. The following year the pair captured team gold and individual bronze at the Junior Europeans, while in 2008 they took team and individual gold at the Young Rider European Championships.

Emily and P followed that with team gold and individual bronze in 2009, the year they also won the Under-25 CCI*** at Bramham.

In 2010 and 2011 they completed Badminton and Burghley, plus they represented Great Britain on two senior Nations Cup teams, at Fontainebleau and Houghton.



Emily Llewellyn and Pardon Me II won at the Young Rider Europeans



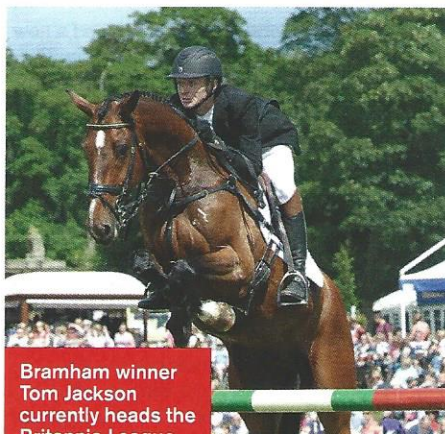
WIN TICKETS TO UTTERLY HORSES HULLABALOO

EVENTING has teamed up with model horse festival Utterly Horses Hullabaloo to offer five lucky readers the chance to each win a pair of tickets worth £60 to the family event on 29-30 August. Held at the National Stud in Newmarket the festival will feature three full days of fun with model horses and real equines. The highlight this year will be a talk given by former Olympic eventer Sharon Hunt, who will be officially launching a model of her great four-star partner Tankers Town (left). For more information visit www.utterlyhorses.com. To enter send your name, address and a daytime telephone number to Utterly Horses Tickets, Eventing, 8th Floor, Blue Fin Building, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SU. The closing date is 11 July 2014.

IN BRIEF

► **THE four riders** who won sections at the inaugural Warwick Hall Horse Trials currently lead the Cumbria Riders Challenge leaderboard. John Thornton, Denise Richardson, Natalie Ireland and Rebecca Thompson each have eight points in the Robinson Udale Accountants-sponsored league which offers £500 to the best Cumbrian-based rider at the end of the season.

► **BRAMHAM under-25 CCI*** winners** Tom Jackson and Waltham Fiddlers Find, owned by Tom plus Ian and Sara Jackson, are heading the Britannia League leaderboard. Jodie Amos and Wise Crack are in second place and Hector Payne with Blue Moonshine is third. A bursary of £5,000 will go to the leading rider at the end of the season, with £3,000 for the second-placed



Bramham winner Tom Jackson currently heads the Britannia League

► **TEN Pony Club** event riders have been selected for the Rider Development Pathway (RDP) Camp at Somerford Park EC where they will receive coaching from former British team member Gary Parsonage.

The riders who will benefit from the scheme, supported by the BEF Excel Talent Programme with the aim of aiding the development of Pony Club members, are: Alicia Wilkinson, Andrew Winn, Charlotte East, Chloe Mariani, Coco Taylor, Fran FitzHerbert, Harry Harding, Justine Harding and Xanthe Goldsack.

At the end of the camp a final six riders from all disciplines — dressage, show jumping and eventing — will be selected to be part of the Pony Club Rider Development squad and they will receive further specific guidance on future