

Burrows Court Petplan Equine Area Festival



WHO SAYS HUNTERS CAN'T DO DRESSAGE?

TWO horses who are regulars on the hunting field were first and second in the 38-strong prelim 19 class.

Nuala Dunne, a consultant anaesthetist, scored 70.57% to win on Mr Delicious (below, left), just beating Sarah Barnard and Mister Pinkerton (below, right) who scored 70%. The winner hunts with the Duke of Beaufort's and the runner-up with the North Herefordshire.

A knee injury while skiing meant that Nuala couldn't ride with short stirrups last winter, so she took up dressage and registered with British Dressage for the first time this year. Her eight-year-old Irish sport horse by Royal Concorde had been used as a stallion in Ireland before she bought him as a green five-year-old.

"He's fabulous, but has got a ginger temper," said Nuala, who didn't think she would make it to Burrows Court.

"I broke a bone in my foot recently and the horse was kicked a week ago — both of us were lame!" she said.

Nuala gives much of the credit to her trainer, Amanda Ganley, who won the open novice 38 on Porscha with 72.82%.