

Clever care reaps rewards

AUSTRALIA'S Bill Levett led the dressage on 37.5 and showjumped clear in the Scottish open championship CIC3*, but then withdrew as Improvise is Burghley bound.

Dressage runner-up Flora Harris capitalised by adding just 0.8 of a time-penalty to her 42 dressage for a comfortable win.

Flora's ride Bayano, a 10-year-old son of Contendro II owned by the rider's mother Caroline and Rebecca Salt, won Bramham CCI3* last year, but then had a poor run at Aachen, which resulted in him losing his place for the Blair Europeans.

"We discovered he was prone to becoming quite anaemic, which we hadn't grasped before," said Flora. "Now we manage him quite differently. He's only half thoroughbred but we don't murder him with fitness work. He works hard five days a week – being ridden twice a day sometimes – but always has two days of rest in the field."

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