



Mary Sharman and DHI Wohler win at advanced medium, unfazed by a nearby lorry crash

won the Dodson & Horell Novice Open on 71.66%.

"I didn't know if we had enough 'wow' to win, but obviously the judges liked it. She was very consistent, didn't make any glaring mistakes, kept a nice rhythm and stayed relaxed," said Lorna.

Alison Barten won the restricted equivalent on Tio II.

Judge Linda Whetstone said: "He's really soft, forward and fluent — you can see the good training."

Claire Parker won the NFU Mutual Prelim with 68.75% on Donnimo, following up her Petplan

Area Festival novice win at Wix, Essex.

"He's very chilled about everything," said Claire. "He spends eight hours a day sleeping. He eats his breakfast and grazes lying down. We didn't think we'd get him up in time for our 4am start today."

The five-year-old 18hh Westphalian is by Donnerhall's sire, Dollman, and was bought by Claire from Garry Williams a year ago.

She said: "My trainer Paul Hayler nags me constantly about accuracy and says not to look for expression until he's seven or eight."

"I'm afraid he's still growing. He was 17.2hh

Demi-Jour wins eastern title



THE Eastern regionals NFU Mutual Prelim title has passed to runners-up Sondra Darmborough and Demi-Jour. The previously recorded winning combination, Stephen Urwin and High Fidelity, were ineligible. Sondra was also third in the novice restricted on Jane McGarel-Groves and Mette and Michel Assouline's five-year-old.

Sondra (pictured above), a former show jumper, moved to Britain five years ago from Canada and was the Assoulines' head girl for two years. She now works for an equestrian centre in Buckinghamshire.

"I return to Mette and Michel each week on my day off to ride Demi-Jour and other horses and continue training," said Sondra.

when I got him and he's already 18hh and hasn't yet levelled up."

Claire recently swapped her career as a primary school teacher in London to work full-time in horses.

"I was spending too much time commuting. My lovely boyfriend said, 'Do it now before we have a family'," she said.

Andrew Gould won the Bates Intermediaire I on Cadre Noir.

Judge Sue McMahon said: "The highlight was the canter pirouettes — he really takes the weight back and sits." H&H



Andrew Gould triumphs in the intermediaire I, riding Cadre Noir



Cath Creemer wins the elementary open on Umjari with 69.58%