



Lassban Diamond Lift shows his promise, claiming CIC2* victory under Bill Levett

Levett has a future Diamond

**Whatley Manor
Gatcombe (2), Glos**
11-13 September
By Louise Calverley

BILL LEVETT held his nerve in a reverse-order final showjumping phase to take the CIC2* with his promising young horse Lassban Diamond Lift. They jumped a speedy clear to seal the win, their task made easier after dressage leader Emily King went for an early bath at the water with Dargun.

Lassban Diamond Lift was bought at the Monart sale in 2013 as a five-year-old and this is his second season eventing.

"He's just got better and better this year," said Bill. "He was a bit buzzy in the showjumping - I try to keep a nice rhythm but you have to just ride what's underneath you and go with it."

"My dressage trainer Gareth Hughes said from the start that he has good basic paces and should score fine. He is very good in the mind and I think as he keeps developing he could score into the 30s. He is a phenomenal cross-country horse - light and quick - everything you want."

Second-placed Chuffy Clarke and Winnetou M were one of few combinations to make the water complex look easy, riding smoothly over the log into water,

to the tricky rail on top of the bank and finally back into the water to the boat. They were also one of only three who made the tight time.

"He is very strong across country but he was great and it felt controlled today," said Chuffy,

who is based with Rodney Powell.

"This season has been all about building our partnership [the horse was previously ridden by Sammi Birch]. I got halfway around the course and thought I could press on because he was listening."

Chuffy Clarke and Winnetou M make it look easy for CIC2* second



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