



Oliver Townend has claimed his third Burghley title, two of which came with this year's winner, Ballaghmor Class



OLIVER TOWNEND said he was "incredibly proud" of the superstar Ballaghmor Class, as the combination took their second Burghley title, six years after their first.

Oliver and Karyn Shuter, Angela Hislop and Val Ryan's gelding, who won there in 2017, tipped the last showjumping fence on Sunday (3 September), but when Tim Price and Vitali, leaders after the cross-country, picked up 12 faults, Oliver and "Thomas" took the title.

A Class win

Oliver Townend and Ballaghmor Class have picked up a second Defender Burghley Horse Trials win

"I'm incredibly proud of this horse," said Oliver. "Of course, he has won here before and we had a good run after that, then last year we had a dry spell and thank God we've got it back.

"Thank you to the team at home. It's down to their incredible management and the time they spend on my horses that these results keep coming."

Oliver said such wins mean more as time passes.

"Every Burghley win is nearer to the end for me, so they become more special," he said. "I won my first one without really even knowing it.

"This is the greatest event in the world and if anyone wants to know what eventing is about this is it."

David Doel took second with Galileo Nieuwmoed, and Harry Meade third with five-star debutante Cavalier Crystal

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