

AGAINST THE ODDS

'Vets said she must have had a permanent migraine'

OWNER Elaine Hardy watched as Highness Helena IV (Loni, below) rewarded her for 18 months' supportive care with 73.9% and 70.16% elementary wins under Amalie Envik at Hickstead (13 June). It was the 11-year-old's first show away from her Oldenroig home.

In 2013 Liphook Equine Hospital vets performed frontal flap surgery to remove a cyst from Loni's left sinus that was pressing on her skull.

Elaine recalled: "Loni lowered her head for a veterinary nurse to flush out her wound each day. She's never lost the golden character I bought her for, despite permanent migraine the vets said she must have been suffering."

"MRI's had also revealed an ethmoid haematoma the size of a walnut in her right sinus. Laminar was too high risk as it was attached to the base of her brain, so she has formalin injections to shrink it."

With sinus problems dealt with, Loni was back on the operating table for surgery on a congenital stifle joint problem.

"Loni became a three-legged horse and has been relearning how to move correctly on four," concluded Elaine.



SOUTH-EAST: Highness Helena IV maintains her 'golden character' as she overcomes multiple health problems to claim two elementaries with Amalie Envik.