



World champions Ros Canter and Allstar B claim top spot in a CCI4*-S, posting the event's best-ever finishing score of 21.7

"HUGE PRESSURE"

AHEAD of Piggy and Izzy in CCI4*-S section M was Ros Canter, on Caroline Moore's and

her own Allstar B, who delivered the best-ever dressage test at Burgham (and of the rider's career) with a 19.7, as well as the event's best-ever finishing score of 21.7.

It seemed an unsurprising result for the world champions, but this belied the fact Ros had had a rollercoaster day and that the short format is not this pair's strength.

"To be honest, I've felt a huge amount of pressure this week and can't say I've really enjoyed it," Ros admitted candidly, pointing out this was her first time testing herself in top-class company since

her world gold in September 2018 and the birth of her daughter Ziggy last July.

"Alby" is a bit of a lazy old man so lockdown has not been the best for getting a good feel from him, but he was on fire in every phase here. He's really a three-day horse – he's a big lad and it takes time for his body to get into shape for some of the jumps so it suits us better when there's more space between fences – so I'm very proud of him."

Ros's day started with a heavy fall when Pencos Crown Jewel was "a little over brave" at the Castle House Saddlery Table at eight.

"I'm not the bravest cross-

country rider, so I had to give myself a talking to afterwards," she said. "I had to get straight on a first-time four-star horse [Rehy Royal Diamond] but he rose to the occasion and Chris Bartle didn't give me a choice about going inside the time on Alby."

Hopefully Chris forgave her for finishing two seconds outside the target.

Ros also won the weekend's only long-format section, the Newton Hall CCI2*-L, after two-phase leaders Laura Collett and Moonlight Chарmer had the final showjump down. Many of the contenders in this class were

bagging qualifications for Le Lion d'Angers world young horse championships, including the winner, Alex Moody and Ros's Izilot DHI, who was British six-year-old champion last year.

"He's pure class, one of the most talented horses I've ever sat on," said Ros. "He's been quite a sharp young horse – he's an extravagant mover and jumper, but he can be a bit extravagant with extra movements too."