

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



SUMMER MAGAZINE 2016



Above: At Beverley, Rob Hornby adds donkey whispering to his CV

Front cover: IAN FLEMING winning at Chester under Eddy Greatrex

Back cover: DANCING STAR and a delighted David Probert head into the Winner's Enclosure after the Stewards' Cup

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
THE SEASON SO FAR	3
ANDREW BALDING	
2016 TWELVE TO FOLLOW COMPETITION	12
KINGSCLERE RACING CLUB	14
SPILLERS AWARDS	14
STAFF UPDATE	15
MY TOP TEN	16
WILLIAM HUNTINGDON	
SIDE GLANCE RETURNS TO ASCOT	18
LEANNE MASTERTON	
COMING UP: SALES SEASON	18
SUMMER PARTIES	19
MELVIN THE GRATE	19

Editor: Tessa Hetherington

Design: Adrian Hodgkins

Photography: GJ Multimedia, Alan Wright, John Hoy, Hugh Routledge, John Grossick, Sam Hoskins, Michael Harris, Denis Murphy, Tessa Hetherington, David Russell
Contributors: Andrew Balding, Nathaniel Barnett, Tessa Hetherington, William Huntingdon, Leanne Masterton

© Park House Stables

Published by Park House Stables, Park House, Kingsclere, Newbury, Berks. RG20 5PY

Telephone: 01635 298210 Email: admin@kingsclere.com

www.kingsclere.com

Printed and typeset by Joshua Horgan, Oxford

INTRODUCTION

Park House is always a happy place to be during the summer months but it's even more enjoyable when the winners are frequent, and we have been lucky enough to have more than our fair share of winners in June and July. Whilst it's always nice to have winners at any level, success at the bigger meetings is really rewarding for the whole yard and Dancing Star's famous victory in the Stewards' Cup capped a fantastic month in July. I feel very blessed to train such a lovely filly, whose ability is matched by a fabulous temperament and a very big heart. We are hoping that she will develop into a Group race performer and, particularly as she has so much in common with her celebrated great aunt, it will be fascinating to see how high she can climb up the sprinting ranks in the months and seasons ahead.

Another very satisfying aspect of the season so far has been the emergence of some very exciting two year olds. South Seas, Isomer, Perfect Angel, Bohemian Flame and Leontes all feature in Timeform's top fifty rated juveniles. Happily we still have a number of horses who have not yet raced or who have yet to show their true potential, so I would be fairly confident that we can add to this list by the end of the season. It is difficult not to sound too triumphant about the 2016 season but to date it has been one to savour and with another three months of the turf season remaining we will be pushing hard to make it a record breaking one, both in terms of the number of winners and the total prize money won. ■



Connections of LEONTES at Royal Ascot

THE SEASON SO FAR

by Andrew Balding

The Group 3 Diomed Stakes at Epsom on Oaks day has been a happy hunting ground for us in recent years, with both Side Glance (2012) and his sire Passing Glance (2004) triumphant in the race, and it was very special to see **Tullius** get the better of a thrilling tussle through the final furlong, getting up in the final stride.

His exploits have featured in this magazine on many an occasion, but he continues to perform on the big stage at the age of eight, this win under a never-say-die ride from Jimmy Fortune providing him with a seventh Stakes race success.

He has had some time off since, having had a busy start to the season, but he could return for the Group 3 Sovereign Stakes at Salisbury in mid-August. Longer-term, we may look to take him to Italy for a Group 1 in the autumn, as victory at the highest level would represent the crowning achievement of what has been a remarkable career.

Having endured a troubled passage in Grade 1 company in the US on her final start of 2015, **Blond Me** made the most of a drop in grade to land the Listed Conqueror Stakes at Goodwood in April under David Probert, winning in the style of a high-class filly and looking a class apart from her rivals.

Unfortunately, things have not gone to plan since, as she was first a little keen on unsuitably soft ground in the Duke Of Cambridge at Royal Ascot, and then lost all chance with a very slow start in the Summer Mile at the same course the following month.

She has done plenty of remedial work in the stalls since with the help of the renowned behavioural expert Gary Witheford, and hopefully she can get back on track next time, with the Group 3 Atalanta Stakes at Sandown or the Strensall Stakes at York both possibilities for her next outing.



TULLIUS battles to the front in the Diomed

Elbereth has long looked a useful filly in the making and, having gained black-type when reaching the frame at Yarmouth last year, she registered a significant success for her paddock value when taking the Listed Nottinghamshire Oaks in June under a well-judged ride from Oisin Murphy.

An improved performer this season, she posted a career-best effort on her only subsequent start, travelling well and finishing strongly under Ed Greatrex, only to find one too good in the John Smith's Cup at York. Though it was agonising to go so close in one of the most prestigious handicaps in racing, it was another superb run. She picked up a knock there but will be back soon and she may step up to Group company at home or abroad later this summer.

Another to go close in a valuable handicap was **Haines**, with whom Rob Hornby has forged a very successful partnership. Having registered two wins on the All-Weather at Kempton Park earlier this year, including the Queen's Prize in April, the pair were collared in the final strides in the Northumberland Vase, a consolation race for those runners balloted out of the Plate. Now 45lbs higher in the weights than when joining the yard as a three year old, he is still on the upgrade and has the ability to land a big handicap in the months ahead.

It has been very pleasing to see **Man Look** find his feet this year, making all the running to win easily at Bath in mid-June under Liam Keniry and following up with a similarly straightforward success at Chester under David Probert. Things didn't go his way on his return there next time, but he is a useful-looking sort and I am hopeful that there is another nice race in him this season.



MAN LOOK records his second success of the season, at Chester

Secret Hint is a talented sprinter on her day and she too found success on the Roodeye, missing the break but finishing with a rare rattle under David Probert to land the spoils against a field made up entirely of three year olds. I am hopeful of obtaining some black-type with her, although appalling conditions scuppered her first attempt in the Group 3 Polar Cup in Norway.

Now in the veteran stage, **Dungannon's** enthusiasm shows no sign of waning, winning at Southwell in January and returning from a short three-month break to run well

in defeat at Newmarket in June. His record suggests he is at his best when encountering soft ground in the autumn and we will be looking to return to his favourite tracks Ascot and Doncaster, where he has three wins apiece to his name.

I had high hopes for **Havisham** this year, particularly following his breakthrough win at Bath in May in second-time cheekpieces, but unfortunately he picked up a knock in the Queen Alexandra at Royal Ascot. There is a nice handicap in him off his mark when he returns later in the year.



The speedy SECRET HINT wins on the Roodeye

Rose Above won twice on the All-Weather in the spring and went very close to adding a third success of the year when runner-up at Brighton in July. She is still quietly progressive and can win again. **Hala Madrid** is an extremely tough and consistent filly who followed two place efforts this term with a deserved victory at Kempton in June under Ed Greatrex. In foal to Sixties Icon, she has now been retired to stud. **Dance Of Fire's** Chelmsford success in February was followed by a number of creditable efforts in defeat, and he has since been sold at the July Sales to go jumping with Nick Alexander.

A lightly-raced but very talented six year old, **Absolutely So** was limited to just two starts last season but one of those was a win in Listed company, and he has once again shown his quality this year, finishing a fine fourth off top weight in the Wokingham in June. Unfortunately, he had a badly pulled muscle after that so we've had to take things slowly with him, but his aim is the Group 3 City Of York Stakes, a race he won when it was run as a Listed contest in 2014.

Unfortunately, **Scotland** was another to suffer a setback at Royal Ascot this year, and will be unable to run again this season. Thankfully, the long-term prognosis is good and, all being well, he will be back for next season. Sixth in the Gold Cup last year, he remains unexposed as a stayer and I very much hope he can return better than ever.

Here Comes When had no trip at all around Chester in July and was unable to take up a subsequent engagement in the Goodwood Mile due to the fast ground. A Group 2

winner in 2014, he has been in the form of his life at home recently and I hope that we can find some soft ground for him in August as there could be a big race in him in the coming months.



ROSE ABOVE rises above her opposition at Lingfield

Man Of Harlech ran a couple of cracking races in defeat in the spring, finishing fourth in the Easter Classic at All-Weather Championships in March and then a good fifth in the Lincoln. He has run once since, finishing in midfield in the Hunt Cup, but has been given a break since as we prepare him for his main target of the year, the Cambridgeshire at Newmarket in September.

Ballynanty made great strides on the All-Weather over the winter and he finished third in the Marathon contest at the Championships, briefly looking as if he might win as he challenged a furlong from home. He was lacking in match fitness on his return from a break at Sandown Park on Eclipse day, but is another for whom we have a big-field cavalry charge in mind, with the Ebor, Europe's richest handicap, his aim. I was very pleased with fellow stayer **Montaly's** fifth in the Ascot Stakes and he has since run well in defeat at Newbury. He is a lightly-raced five year old who still looks to be on the up, and he could go for the Old Borough Cup at Haydock Park before a tilt at the Cesarewitch.

Intransigent was kept busy over the winter and enjoyed a break in the spring and early summer with a view to an autumn campaign. He is easing in the handicap and there are some valuable contests for him in the months ahead, with the Challenge Cup at Ascot in October (a race he won in 2014) one possible target.

Passover racked up a quartet of wins in a busy summer campaign last year. He has acquitted himself very well off much higher marks this term and was a good second at Windsor in June and at Newmarket in August. **Duretto** recently extended his excellent record at Ascot with a fine

second in the Shergar Cup Challenge. He now has two wins and two seconds from four runs at the course, and remains on a mark off which he can win a big middle-distance handicap.

Our 2013 Ayr Gold Cup winner **Highland Colori** fully deserves to get his head in front again. His good third in a valuable mile handicap at Sandown Park in July suggested his turn may not be far away and he duly went agonisingly close at Newmarket next time. If he can go one better there would be no more popular winner amongst the team here. **Mymatechris** has recently had a third wind operation and, if that works the oracle, he will return in mid-August off a very workable handicap mark.

Communicator is another who is very well-treated on his best form, and although he has not been at his best on the racecourse so far this season he could yet bounce back off his much-reduced mark. **Priors Brook** is also capable of winning when things drop his way, having endured a horrible passage around Chester on his latest outing.

All three of **Guiding Light's** wins have come at Chepstow and he could return there in a bid for win number four at the Welsh course in September, having picked up a little knock following a good run at Ffos Las



DANCING STAR emulates her great-aunt Lochsong in landing the Stewards' Cup at Glorious Goodwood

last time. **Victoria Pollard** is likely to return at around the same time, having been given a short break since her last run in June. Though winless since her debut at Newbury last year, she retains plenty of ability and we may look to step her up in trip again.

Doctor Bong deserves to get his head in front again following two near misses at Salisbury earlier this summer, while I very much hope **Cape Spirit** can shed her maiden tag in the near future, as she is another to have found just one too good on a couple of occasions of late.

Veteran schoolmaster **Breakheart** will be back in September following a good break and can hopefully

provide another of our young jockeys with a first winner, having achieved the feat with former Kingsclere apprentices Jack Garritty and Joey Haynes, both of whom have gone on to establish successful careers.

THREE YEAR OLDS

Dancing Star hails from a wonderful family, being the granddaughter of Nunthorpe winner Lochangel and great-niece of the marvellous Lochsong, and she is developing into a high-class sprinter in her own right.

Having won her first two starts this season, she went very close to landing a valuable handicap at York, looking sure



VISCOUNT BARFIELD and Rob Hornby secure the first of two Chester victories this summer

to win a furlong from home only to be headed yards from the line. Compensation awaited in a similarly competitive Heritage Handicap at Newmarket's July meeting. Settled in midfield by David Probert, she was produced with a very strong challenge and, hitting the front in the final furlong, kept on strongly to land the prize.

The Stewards' Cup had long been a target for her, but we were forced to wait until the very last moment to see if she would get in the race. There was a palpable sense of relief when she scraped in at the very bottom of the 28 declared runners.

Well-drawn on the far side of the track, she broke well, travelled powerfully just behind the leaders, and picked up immediately once sent for home by David Probert entering the final furlong. She stayed on strongly all the way to the line for a brilliant success, 24 years on from her great-aunt's win in the same race.

It was a tremendous win in what is one of the most prestigious handicaps of the season and it confirms Dancing Star as a very talented and progressive young sprinter. The current plan is to supplement her for the Group 1 Haydock Sprint Cup, with a tilt at the Champions Day sprint should she acquit herself well at Haydock.

Real Dominion confirmed himself to be a most progressive three year old with a runaway success at Ascot in July, coming clear to win by six lengths. That was his second success of the season, having shed his maiden tag

at Kempton Park in May. He likes quick ground and ran well to be third in the Shergar Cup Classic, a race in which we have hit the frame on a couple of occasions in the past. I hope there is plenty more to come from him.

Viscount Barfield has been in great form this term, with three wins already to his name. Having won at Kempton Park off a mark of 69 in April, the son of Raven's Pass has done nothing but improve since and two successes have followed around the tight bends of Chester, both under Rob Hornby. He is not far off getting into some of the big handicaps and there are races at York and back at Chester for him in August.

Another making great strides this term is **Emperor Napoleon**, who has just needed time but also some better race placement by his trainer, having run up against a subsequent Royal Ascot winner and then a Group 1-placed colt on consecutive outings in handicap company! He gained a deserved first success at Bath under Oisin Murphy and put in a commendable performance at Glorious Goodwood on his latest start. Longer-term the Melrose at York is his target.

I have always thought plenty of **Kingston Kurrajong** and last year's Chester maiden winner has been in good form this summer, winning in good company in soft ground at Windsor before a fine effort in a valuable handicap at Ascot. He is quietly progressive and there is more to come, possibly upped to 1m2f. **Both Sides** got off the mark over that trip at Chelmsford in the spring and has been very unlucky not to get his head in front in handicap company



EMPEROR NAPOLEON and his many fans after success at a rather soggy Bath

since, getting no luck in running at Sandown Park before losing out on the line at Nottingham on his latest outing. He still looks to be going forward and deserves compensation in the near future.

Ian Fleming made giant strides in the first half of the campaign, winning in maiden company at Wolverhampton and then in a good handicap at Chester. The winning margin on both occasions was just a nose – finely-judged rides by his jockey Ed Greatrex! A good third on his final start for us in a valuable handicap at Goodwood in May, he

has since been sold to Hong Kong and we wish his new connections plenty of luck with him.

The wonderfully-named **Lord Huntingdon** is another to have been sold, having progressed from his ready maiden win on the fibresand at Southwell to reach the frame twice in handicap company. The talented filly **White Poppy** recorded two wins from three starts this season, the second in a competitive fillies' handicap at Salisbury. A lovely, scopey filly, she looked very progressive and it was a major blow that she lost her life in a freak incident and so will not realise her obvious potential.



THE GRADUATE scores at Sandown under Jimmy Quinn

Loaded is off the mark, having won his maiden over an extended seven furlongs at Ffos Las under Oisin Murphy, despite the ground being on the quick side for him. With stamina on his dam's side, he should stay a mile and is a nice type to go handicapping with give in the ground. **The Graduate** has won three already this term, at Salisbury under Ed Greatrex, at Sandown under Jimmy Quinn, and most recently a Class 3 at Newbury under David Probert. He is a stayer on the up.

Able Jack was another to get his head in front at Sandown Park, sporting a first-time visor to get off the mark in good style in July. Things didn't go to plan at Epsom on his next outing after missing the break, but he has been dropped back to a mark of 80 and should be able to win off that. **Dark Shot** won a soft-ground maiden by six lengths at Windsor in June and is now off the same mark as Able Jack. He has finished fourth back in handicap company on his last two starts and should be capable of winning of this mark.

Fort Jefferson had started the year off on what looked a good mark. It took a couple of goes for him to get his head in front but when he did it came by a very wide margin, with an 11-length success in heavy ground at Leicester! The winning distance was far less spectacular on his next outing at Newbury, getting up on the line to win by

a short-head, but that was a tough ask just nine days later and, having had a break since, he can continue to progress when he returns.

It was a relief to see **Brorocco** off the mark at Newmarket in July under a good, patient ride from Jimmy Quinn, who currently boasts a 50% strike rate for Park House with three winners from six rides this season! Brorocco has always worked like a very good horse at home, but has been difficult to settle and hadn't been finishing his races. He has been progressing this summer and, now that he has got his head in front, I hope there is a good deal more to come.

Another dual winner to be rewarded with some summer grass is **Make Music**, for whom a series of narrow defeats are now a distant memory following two wins at Lingfield Park in June, the second of them on the All-Weather under Oisin Murphy. She will be brought back later this year and I am minded to try and qualify her for the AW Championships, though she will need to improve again when she returns for that to become a realistic target.

St Mary's is a horse named after my own heart and she looks a smart filly in the making, having progressed with each of three runs to land a mile maiden at Thirsk under Ed Greatrex, despite getting carried across the track by the eventual runner-up. She has more progress to make physically but has a bright future, as

does the beautifully-bred **Great And Small**. She was also off the mark at the third attempt, winning over a mile and a half at Chester in the hands of Rob Hornby. Closely-related



ABLE JACK shows his ability at Sandown

to the top-class, multiple Group 1 winner Fame And Glory, that win will mean plenty for her paddock value, but she will stay in training this year and we will bid to find further opportunities for her.

We have changed a few things at home with **Lorelina** and she is really thriving of late, following up her Chepstow win in soft ground in June with a cosy success at Epsom the



A happy crew: FORT JEFFERSON'S connections at Newbury

following month, on both occasions ridden by Ed Greatrex. She lost her confidence last year after taking a nasty fall on her second start, but is in great shape at present and should make a bold bid for the hat-trick.

Brief Visit is another improving filly, and the daughter of Fastnet Rock shed her maiden tag at the fourth attempt when successful on her handicap bow at Leicester in July under a well-judged front-running ride from Liam Keniry. She has plenty of scope and, being out of a Listed-winning filly, there is every reason to hope for further success this term, especially as she is starting from the right end of the handicap.

Success at the eighth attempt for **Bernie's Boy** at Kempton Park in March brought to an end a hugely frustrating run, during which he had finished second on five of his previous six starts. He has returned from a break in great shape, twice running well in defeat at Sandown Park, and hopefully he will not be long in getting his head in front once again. **Summer Chorus** is another to have returned from a break of late, having won twice on the All-Weather at Lingfield Park over the winter, and she too should be able to find an opening soon.

In contrast, **Vanishing Point** is now enjoying a short summer break, having had four relatively quick runs, getting off the mark on his latest outing in a 1m3f maiden at Carlisle. He is a very well-bred son of Pivotal and can progress further in the autumn, as can **Swashbuckle**, who was another to make it fourth-time lucky when shedding his maiden tag at Ffos Las in July under an astute front-running ride from David Probert. Out of a half-sister to Passing Glance, he looks a promising young stayer.

Bluff Crag won his first race in handicap company at Newbury in June, but things didn't fall his way on his subsequent outing at Thirsk. A fine, scopey individual, he needs some give in the ground and a big, galloping track to be seen to best effect. A daughter of Cape Blanco, **Lady Blanco** hails from a good American turf family and she got off the mark on fast ground at Bath in July. She seems to like fast ground so a return to that track is in the offing.

French Legend won twice at Brighton and Beverley

in midsummer and has since been sold at the July Sales. Sadly the likeable **Hit List**, who provided the yard with its hundredth winner last season, suffered a fatal injury after his win at Chelmsford in the spring.

Ormito has shown very useful form in defeat this term, finishing third in the Listed Cocked Hat Stakes at Goodwood in May and, following a disappointing effort at Royal Ascot, he ran a fine race to finish second the Listed Glasgow Stakes at Hamilton last time. There is more to come from him and the Group 3 Geoffrey Freer Stakes is his target.

Make Fast is another to have finished runner-up in Listed company, not getting the clearest of passages before staying on strongly in the Surrey Stakes at Epsom on Oaks day. She has gone home for a holiday at Sandringham but will be back for an autumn campaign, as she goes well with give in the ground.

A winner on the All-Weather last term, **Dream Of Summer** has been knocking on the door this time around, finishing second at Sandown Park last time despite taking a keen hold. He could go for the Brighton Mile handicap in August and should not be long in winning again, which I hope will also prove the case with **Zoffanys Pride**, who has not built on his impressive maiden win at Nottingham last October in three starts this term. He has been gelded and we hope he can recapture his form.

This Is For You won a Chepstow maiden last August and has been placed on three occasions in handicap company this season without getting his head in front. However, he is coming down to a mark off which he really should be winning. **Verne Castle** is bred to be useful and shows



VANISHING POINT makes the long journey worthwhile with a win at Carlisle

plenty of speed at home but frustratingly doesn't finish off his races in the manner required. He has been freshened up with some time in the paddock and hopefully can show renewed verve on the track in the coming weeks.

Nodachi has plenty of ability and looked a winner-in-waiting when denied by just a short-head at Goodwood



BLUFF CRAG wins at Newbury on handicap debut

in June, only to suffer a little setback afterwards. He has gone home for a break but is a talented individual who will be winning races in time, as I hope will **Hairdryer**, who suffered an injury on his only start for us at Wolverhampton in March but is now back cantering and will return for an autumn campaign.

Rehearse is going the right way having been green on his first two starts. His fourth at Salisbury in June gives us plenty to work on and the son of Big Bad Bob looks on a nice mark to go handicapping. **Mr Andros** is another now qualified for handicaps after three runs in maidens in the spring and he is a really nice type who should make his mark when he gets some give in the ground.

A series of little niggles have held us up with **Bingo George**, but he has been given a chance by the handicapper and has more ability than both his recent form and his current mark would suggest. **Touchdown Banwell** is a fine, big sort who disappointed on soft ground last time but can leave the form of that handicap debut well behind in time.

Faction is related to plenty of winners and has shown promise in his three runs on a sound surface. Now qualified for handicaps, the son of Champs Elysees will be back for some soft ground in the autumn and can make an impact off a fair opening mark. This is also the case with **Sir Pass I Am**, who has had a holiday since the last of his three runs in maidens in June. He looks the type to improve plenty

with experience, as is often the case with his sire Passing Glance's progeny.

Atalante is another very well-bred filly, being a daughter of Cape Cross and half-sister to two Group 1 performers. She finished third at Yarmouth in July and looks sure to make her mark in fillies' handicaps, as I hope will **Three Loves**, though she needs to improve on the form she has shown so far this term.

A half-sister to Group 1 Prix Jean Prat winner Havana Gold, **Deep Dream** is a promising filly and showed ability on her only start at Kempton Park last February. She can leave that form well behind when she makes her racecourse return, while I hope owners' patience can also be rewarded with **Wensara Dream**, who finished fourth on her belated debut at Salisbury in July and certainly looks capable of winning races, having had a few little niggles that had prevented her from running previously.

Shongololo almost lost his life to colic last year and so it has been hugely heartening to see him out on the track this season. He ran his best race to date when third at Lingfield Park in July and the form of that race suggests he can be very

competitive in handicap company this summer. **Iberica Road** is another who has improved with racing, posting an excellent effort over a mile at Newmarket on his latest start. He is now eligible for handicaps and looks capable of continued improvement, perhaps over a little further in time.

Isaak has looked in need of the experience on his two starts so far this term and hopefully the penny will drop with him this autumn, while **Wynford** got very tired on his belated return in July but had shown more than enough in three starts last term to suggest he can get his head in front.

Signal Hill got a little jarred up on his most recent outing at Bath, so we have given him a break with a view



LADY BLANCO powers clear at Bath under David Probert

to an autumn campaign, while **Lord Aslan** is another to qualify for a mark and will now be gelded before returning in September.

TWO YEAR OLDS

Our two year olds look a really good group this year and, while they have been more forward than has been the case in recent seasons, we also have some very exciting prospects that have yet to run.

South Seas created a very favourable impression indeed when winning by eight lengths on his debut over six furlongs on soft ground at Windsor in June. He defied a penalty in ready fashion under the same conditions at Haydock Park the following month, on both occasions ridden by Oisin Murphy.

We will now look to step him up in grade, with the Group 3 Solario Stakes at Sandown Park a possibility. He may well only have one more run this year, but whatever happens he looks the type to improve next year and is a tremendously exciting colt. He clearly handles soft ground very well, as many of his sire's progeny do, but I don't think it is by any means essential.

Isomer made a very promising start to his career with a narrow defeat on debut at Newbury, failing only narrowly to hold off Cunco, the first of the great Frankel's progeny to hit the racecourse. It was a fine effort and one which marked him down as a talented two year old, which was confirmed on his next outing in the Chesham at Royal Ascot, where he stayed on strongly in the final furlong to finish runner-up once again, beaten half a length. The winner has since won in Group 3 company and Isomer's Newbury conqueror was back in third, so it was an outstanding effort.

A straightforward win back in maiden company at Salisbury followed, but his subsequent sixth in the Group 2 Vintage Stakes suggested that he already needs every yard of the mile. Whilst there are more options for him this term, he is another for whom it is very much all about next season.

Bohemian Flame is a very speedy individual and he defied his inexperience to make a winning debut at Salisbury in May under David Probert, despite looking very green. An excellent run in the Listed National Stakes at Sandown Park followed, so we were a little disappointed with his run in the Group 2 July Stakes, where he finished some way adrift of the winner Mehmas, who

had been one place in front of him at Sandown. However, a foot infection has since come to light and I am confident that he can bounce back in a good race when he returns, as he is a very useful individual.



SOUTH SEAS is a tremendously exciting prospect

The Plus 10 scheme is an excellent initiative and the progressive **Leontes** landed the bonus by a short-head over six furlongs at Hamilton under P J McDonald, showing a good attitude in what was a protracted duel with the eventual runner-up. He followed up in good style in a conditions race at Chester at the end of July, also a Plus 10 race! A well-bred son of Paco Boy, he looks likely to get further in time.

Night Law is a lovely individual, and the first foal of Night Carnation, who was a Listed winner at Sandown Park for us in 2011. She followed in her mother's hoofprints

when winning on her third start there in July, blazing a trail against the far rail and holding off the late challenge of a well-bred rival who already had good form to her name. She has been given a very fair opening mark so we'll go the nursery route with her now.

Berkshire Boy was our first two year old winner of the season, coming with a late surge under Oisin Murphy to land the spoils at Bath in May, despite looking likely to finish last for much of the race. He has a good deal of ability, but proved completely intractable on his next two starts later that month and he has since been gelded. He has also been worked on (and hopefully cured!) by Gary Witheford and we may look to



BOHEMIAN FLAME with Patrick Grant at Sandown

the big sales race at Doncaster with him when he returns to the track.

Farleigh Mac got off the mark at the second attempt, securing a particularly meaningful win in the Toby Balding Memorial stakes at Salisbury. He was unable to handle the step up in grade to Listed company on his only subsequent start, but is a nice type who will improve with time and can make his mark in nurseries this summer.



NIGHT LAW emulates her mother with victory at Sandown

Perfect Angel had shown considerable promise with her debut second on soft ground at Newbury in June, and the daughter of Dark Angel proved her potential with a battling success in a fillies' maiden over six furlongs at Glorious Goodwood under David Probert. She has a good attitude and, out of a half-sister to a filly that reached the frame in the Oaks, I hope she can take another step forward next time.

Galactic Prince is beautifully bred, being by the excellent Dubawi and out of the Galileo mare Opera Gal, who won three times in Listed company for us. He was a little green on debut over six furlongs at Ascot but followed up by winning in good style over seven furlongs at Salisbury. He has developed into a lovely horse and I hope he can go on to even better things.

A son of first-season sire Born To Sea, **Naval Warfare** has made a very bright start to his career, finishing a good fourth on debut at Sandown Park in July before finding only one too good at Ffos Las later that month. A half-brother to multiple Group winner Gregorian, he looks sure to progress and should make a lovely three year old, as will **War Of Succession**, who didn't perform to expectations on debut at Newbury in May but is a very nice individual and has been given plenty of time since.

Drochaid just missed out on landing a Plus 10 and Tattersalls Book 1 bonus in one go at Newcastle in July on his third start, looking sure to win a furlong from home before losing out by a nose. He made amends on his next start, winning well at Haydock under Oisin Murphy to secure both bonuses. He is very much one for next year.

A son of Acclamation, **Mucho Applause** was only just beaten on his debut in soft ground at Newmarket in June, and it transpired that he had pulled a hamstring when disappointing on his next outing at Windsor the following

month. He is a lovely big horse, looks sure to appreciate a bit of give in the ground and I very much hope he can win his maiden this term before going on to better things as a three year old. **Manolito De Madrid** has run well in defeat on all three starts to date, finishing runner-up at Epsom in June before a midfield run at Glorious Goodwood. He can shed his maiden tag in the coming weeks and is a lovely prospect.

Native Prospect ran well in a good Salisbury maiden on soft ground in June on his second start, but is still a bit weak and he found his third race of the summer at Sandown Park in July a step too far. He is well-treated off his opening mark and has a bright future. **Georgio** ran his best race in maidens on his third start and finished to very good effect on his nursery debut in a strong contest over seven furlongs at Glorious Goodwood, having not had the clearest of runs. He will get further in time and there is plenty more to come.

The once-raced pair **He's A Lad** and **Horseplay** showed plenty of promise on their racecourse debuts in July, both keeping on in taking fashion in the closing stages of what were well-contested maidens at Windsor and



FARLEIGH MAC wins the Toby Balding Memorial maiden at Salisbury

Ascot respectively. The former looks likely to appreciate some soft ground and should be winning races this year, whilst the latter is a well-bred daughter of Cape Cross and is a lovely filly with plenty of scope to progress.

Rosie Briar wasn't beaten at all far on her only start, over the minimum trip at Windsor in June, and the daughter of promising first-season sire Mayson can make her mark on soft ground later this summer and into the autumn.

Intimate Art took a giant leap forward from his first to second start in the space of 12 days, beating just one home on his Newbury debut, before just failing to land a Ffos Las maiden under a fortnight later. Out of a half-sister to a Grade 1 winner in Canada, the son of Dutch Art looks sure to find further improvement. **Hidden Stash** was another to improve vastly on his second start, winning easily at Brighton under Liam Keniry for the Kingsclere Racing Club. He should improve again, and that also applies to the twice-raced **Makkadangdang**, who has been green on the racecourse but has shown plenty at home. ■

THE 2016 12 TO FOLLOW

COMPETITION

These are the scores up to and including 29 July. This has been a particularly high scoring year, thanks to the precocity of many of the two year olds. It is, however, a five year old who tops the table at the halfway stage – well done Flora!

1. Balding, Flora	198	37. Raferty (B), Gerry	116	73. Goldsmith (A), Sam	92
2. Cheshire, Nathan	196	38. Balding, A M	114	73. Bryan, Joshua	92
3. de Paiva (B), Ben	194	38. Richardson (A), Johnny	114	75. Soul, Anne	91
4. Burns (C), Danny	190	40. Mackinnon, Roger	113	75. Dillon, Batt	91
5. Burns (B), Danny	171	41. Grant, Patrick	110	75. Gardiner, Carolyn	91
6. McCutcheon, Robert	169	42. Burns, Lynne	108	78. Ford Fuels, Andy Draper	90
7. Hetherington (B), Tessa	165	43. Friend, Stuart	107	79. Jeremy & Rosie Lowry	89
8. King, Gail	159	44. Lane, David	106	79. Phipps-Hornby, Sally	89
8. Clarke, Charlotte	159	44. Powell (A), D F	106	79. Reardon-Smith, Julia	89
10. de Paiva (A), Ben	157	46. S Hoskins & R Lowry	105	79. Feane, John	89
11. Hetherington (A), Tessa	155	46. Balding, I A	105	79. Gee, Mary	89
12. Rix, Oliver	151	46. Smith, Graham	105	84. Paris (A), Rex	88
13. Balding, Emma	150	46. Finlay, Rosemary	105	84. Measures (C+E)	88
14. Hawke, Zoe	146	50. Cheshire (A), Angela	104	86. Palmer, W	86
15. Stansby, Clive	144	51. Cheshire (B), Angela	103	86. Gay, Sam	86
16. Robinson-Gay, Maggie	142	51. Mackinnon, Daisy	103	86. Slade, M & E	86
16. Plumbly, Simon	142	51. Hutchinson, Fiona	103	86. Hale, Barry	86
18. K Derbyshire & R Chivers	138	51. Richardson (B), Johnny	103	86. Simpson, Felicity	86
18. Mariscotti, Mick	138	55. Cox (B), Tom	101	91. Watson, Sue	84
20. Humphries, Simon	136	55. Burns, Richard	101	91. Gay, David	84
21. Box, Peter	132	55. Conroy, Clifford	101	93. Corrine & Philip Robertson	83
22. Smith, Lauren	131	58. Richardson, Andy	100	93. Spickett, Laura	83
22. Rea, Jon	131	59. Goldsmith (B), Sam	99	95. Soul, John	82
24. Price, Geoff	128	59. K Derbyshire & R Chivers	99	95. Gee, Simon	82
25. Mariscotti, Janice	127	59. Reis, Paul & Lisa	99	97. Palmer, Anne	81
26. Hall (A), David	125	59. Hancock, C E	99	97. Horne (B), Ray	81
27. McPhee, Stuart	123	59. Rodgers, Phil	99	97. Kennick, Bryan	81
28. Hurt, Emily	121	64. Mackinnon, Roger	98	97. Balding, Clare & Toby	81
29. Aeberhard, W	120	64. Hall (B), David	98	101. Burns (A), Danny	80
30. Bedford, Peter	119	66. Cheshire (C), Angela	97	101. Richardson, Adrian	80
31. Teacher, Hugh	118	66. Oury, Gerald	97	101. Gardiner, Andrew	80
31. Smith, Jeff	118	68. Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (A)	96	104. Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (E)	79
31. Balding, Mac & Boris	118	69. Chinner	95	105. Powell (B), D F	78
31. Hodgkins, Adrian	118	70. Straton, Larry	94	106. Tolhurst, Andy	77
35. Boyce (B), I D	117	70. Robinson-Gay, Billie	94	107. Dangar, Richard	76
35. Chapel, Bury	117	70. Fowler-Watt, Donald	94	108. Cousins, Rose	75

108. Paris (B), Rex	75	132. Brotherton, David	63	156. Campbell-Gray, James	47
108. Jones, Nicholas	75	134. Slade, Martin	62	156. Holmes, R	47
111. Lumley, Sue	74	134. Swallow, B G	62	159. Lees, Jan	46
111. Spickett, Lisa	74	136. Cheshire (D), Angela	61	159. Rafferty (A), Gerry	46
111. Gay, Joshua	74	137. Donovan (A), Brian	60	161. Jones, Cherry	45
111. Richardson, Jill	74	137. Johnson/Garnet Bounds (B)	60	161. Spickett, Paul & Lisa	45
115. Scott, Georgina	73	139. Gardiner, Nancy	59	163. Mackinnon, Bridget	44
115. Spickett, Paul	73	140. Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (B)	57	164. Wellman, John	41
117. Drew/Holmes	72	140. Cox (A), Tom	57	164. Newbery, Karen	41
118. Friend, Terry	70	140. Oates, Des	57	164. Plumbly, Helen	41
119. Dwayne	69	143. Lumley, Peter	56	167. Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (C)	38
120. Gale, John	68	143. Rafferty, Jamie	56	168. Conroy, Carl	37
120. Hutchinson, Mark	68	145. Clegg, D	55	169. Palmer, Claire	35
120. A'Court, Peter	68	146. Rafferty, April	54	170. Watson, Hen	34
120. Thomson, Linda	68	147. Ford Fuels, Ted	53	171. Harris, Patrick	31
120. Jonno & Alice	68	147. Hyde, Janet	53	172. Johnson/Garnet Bounds (A)	27
125. Mahoney, Mick	67	149. Slade, Valerie	52	173. Ford Fuels, A Goodchild	24
126. Hannaford, Chris	66	149. Arnold, Pamela	52	173. Friend, Janice	24
126. Friend, Neil	66	151. Tucker, Margaret	51	175. Conroy, Gloria	21
128. Masterton, Leanne	64	151. Donovan (B), Brian	51	176. Mackinnon, Ella	13
128. Horne, Ray	64	151. Gay, Sue	51	177. Harris, Wendy	11
128. Gardiner, L, T & R	64	154. Hyde, Maurice	50	178. Bullion, Barbara	9
128. Rafferty, C & P	64	155. Mackinnon, Jamie	49		
132. Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (D)	63	156. Boyce (A), I D	47		



TOP SCORING HORSES

DANCING STAR	36
FORT JEFFERSON	30
DARK SHOT	30
REAL DOMINION	28
MAKE MUSIC	28



SELECTION OF THE LEADERS

FLORA BALDING		NATHAN CHESHIRE		BEN DE PAIVA (B)		DANNY BURNS (C)	
DURETTO	6	KINGSTON KURRAJONG	11	ABSOLUTELY SO	1	HEARTLESS	0
SCOTLAND	8	REAL DOMINION	28	BLOND ME	12	BLUFF CRAG	14
BLOND ME	12	EMPEROR NAPOLEON	24	DANCING STAR	36	BOTH SIDES	26
BROROCCO	21	IAN FLEMING	14	ELBERETH	19	DREAM OF SUMMER	7
MAKE MUSIC	28	DURETTO	6	LADY BLANCO	14	EMPEROR NAPOLEON	24
REAL DOMINION	28	MOLTEN GOLD	4	MAKE FAST	8	THE GRADUATE	27
FORT JEFFERSON	30	FORT JEFFERSON	30	WHITE POPPY	26	REAL DOMINION	28
ISOMER	24	FARLEIGH MAC	10	SOUTH SEAS	20	BOHEMIAN FLAME	15
MANOLITO DE MADRID	6	BOHEMIAN FLAME	15	ISOMER	24	ANCIENT FOE	0
BOHEMIAN FLAME	15	ISOMER	24	LEONTES	23	NATIVE PROSPECT	5
DROCHAID	10	BERKSHIRE BOY	10	NIGHT LAW	11	SOUTH SEAS	20
FARLEIGH MAC	10	SOUTH SEAS	20	STREET CRY/SATULAGI	0	ISOMER	24

Kingsclere Racing Club

The Kingsclere Racing Club's string have been in fine form this summer, with two winners in June followed by a trio of three year olds shedding their maiden tags in July. With nine winners on the board and over three months of the season left, we have already exceeded last year's total of winners.

Fort Jefferson currently leads the Club standings for the year with wins at Nottingham and Newbury to his name, but Brorocco's Newmarket win promises plenty more to come. The same is true of the maiden success of St Mary's and the winning handicap debut of Swashbuckle,

the last-named being the second foal of KRC winner and Listed-placed mare Inhibition.

We have already seen our first two year old in winning action on the racecourse and we hope to see more of the juveniles making their debuts in the weeks ahead. Ones to watch out for include Elm Park and Brorocco's Passing Glance half-sister Highland Pass, who could be out in early September, and Hidden Steps, the first foal of KRC winner Hidden Valley, herself the last foal of Kingsclere Stud's wonderful broodmare Spurned.

Social events so far have included an evening's racing in a hospitality box at Windsor, prefaced by an analysis of the card by Oisin Murphy which was highly entertaining, if not highly profitable to follow! Most recently Club members enjoyed a picnic in a gazebo on the lawn at Ascot on King George day, a really fun and unique way to spend an afternoon's racing. ■

The KRC is fully subscribed for 2016, if you are interested in hearing more about the KRC or would like to join the waiting list for 2017, please contact Nathaniel Barnett on 07890 672435, or by email, admin@kingsclere.com.



Fine weather for a picnic: KRC members at Ascot on King George day



Our thanks go to Spillers for continuing to support the 'Stable Employee of the Month' awards here at Kingsclere.

The recipients so far this season are as follows:

CHARLOTTE CLARKE, for her excellent work in keeping the hostel shipshape, feeding its residents, and keeping the young ones in line!

ELLIE-MAY BUCKLAND, for her farriery work as Eugene's apprentice during these exceptionally busy summer months.

KAREN PEIPPO, for her work in riding Stewards' Cup winner Dancing Star at home.

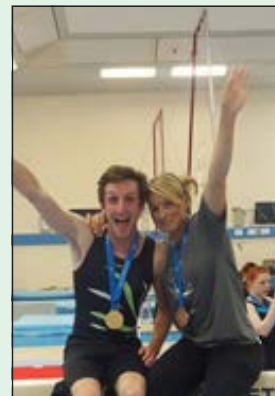
KIAH ADAMS, for looking after the winners Secret Hint, Leontes, Isomer and Berkshire Boy (also regularly riding the first two), and for taking Secret Hint to Norway for the Polar Cup.

Congratulations to the winners, who receive £100 and a bottle of champagne, and many thanks to Spillers for their continued support of this valued initiative.

KINGSCLERE GYMNASTS

Two of our work riders, Karen Peippo and Matti Penrice, recently competed in gymnastics at the British Veteran Championships. The pair achieved fantastic results, with Karen taking overall bronze in

the over 30 novice category and Matti achieving overall gold in the over 18 novice. A late call-up for Rio is surely on its way! ■



STAFF UPDATE

As is often the case as the season approaches its close, we will be saying goodbye to a few faces over the coming weeks/months. Assistant Racing Secretary, Georgina Scott has been with us for two years and has been an excellent addition to the team in the office. She is moving on to take up the post of Racing Secretary with Charlie Longsdon, and we wish her every success. Her shoes will be filled by Lily Blunt, who comes from an eventing background and is keen to transfer her skills to racing. Our pupil assistant Oli Rix has completed his year's placement and has been a huge help to Nigel and Chris and all of the team on the yard, so much so that he is being replaced by two people, with Megan Arms and Georgie Jones joining us from Oxford Brookes for the coming year!

Kiah Adams and Danny Wright are heading to the USA for a stint as work riders for the impressive Stonestreet Farms in Florida (producers of US stars such as Curlin and Rachel Alexandra), whilst Benario de Paiva and Sam Goldsmith are heading down under to join leading trainer Chris Waller in Sydney, and will be followed to the southern hemisphere by Maddy O'Meara. All excellent riders and longstanding members of the Park House team, they will be very much missed but will gain invaluable international experience from some of the best in the business, and we wish them the very best of luck.

As ever we have some promising young staff moving up through the ranks and Michael Coles, who has been with us for three years now, has recently secured his licence as an apprentice jockey. He awaits his first ride under rules with great anticipation. ■



STABLE STAFF WEEK

This summer saw the inaugural 'Stable Staff Week', a welcome industry initiative to recognise and celebrate the hugely important contribution made by stable staff up and down the country. Here at Park House we marked the week with a sweepstake to win an additional week's annual leave, and the lucky winner was Melvin Rhodes, one of Park House's most longstanding staff members. ■



MY TOP TEN... *Foreign Racecourses and Restaurants*

Andrew's uncle William Huntingdon was, as most will know, a successful racehorse trainer for 22 years, and was adventurous in his campaigning of horses on the international stage. William has also been an authority on fine food and wine for much longer than 22 years.

Here he gives us his top ten foreign racecourses, together with his recommendations for eating out should you find yourself with a runner at one of them!



Le Cagnard, Cagnes-Sur-Mer, France

1. CAGNES-SUR-MER, FRANCE

We started having runners at Cagnes in my third year of training (1979) when we sent three horses there and managed to win with Jagatek, who ran in the colours of the well known Argentinian artist Adriana Zaefferer. Before the days of All-Weather courses, Cagnes gave opportunities for flat winners in late January and February, and overall we managed twenty six winners down there including Indian Queen, Starlet and Mongol Warrior, who all went on to win multiple Group races. We ate well locally and would treat ourselves to a meal at Le Cagnard after a winner.

2. DEAUVILLE, FRANCE

Deauville is easier to get to than Cagnes, but harder to win at. We won two amateur races there with Hills Treble and Mr Pintips, whose next start was a close second to Ibn Rey in the Irish St Leger. On a nice summer's day there is no better place to be and restaurants are not hard to find, though they may be difficult to get into. Two favourites, near the market, are Chez Herve and Le Spinnaker. We often stay across the river in Trouville and favourites there are La Coupole near the Casino, L'Inattendu in Rue des Bains, and Bon The Bonheur in Touques.

3. LA TESTE, FRANCE

La Teste, the summer racecourse of Bordeaux, is near the seaside town of Arcachon. We managed to win four consecutive runnings of the Criterium de Bequet before Jean-Claude Rouget (former pupil assistant at Kingsclere) started farming it. We won with Sharp Prod, Straight Arrow, Wren and Prince of India. The last named had already won a Group 1 race, as Indian

Queen was carrying him when she won the Ascot Gold Cup. When in Arcachon you should eat fish and particularly oysters, and one of the best places to indulge is La Cabane de L'Aigillon overlooking Le Bassin, which has a delightful terrace.

4. MILAN, ITALY

We were quite lucky in Milan as many of our runners managed to win Group races there, and get paid the prize money.... Snow Princess, Straight Arrow, Wren, Storm Warning, Indian Queen and Melpomene all got black type there. The place to eat, close to the racecourse and San Siro Stadium, is the Ribot. If you were unlucky, like me, you got to buy Lester Piggott lunch or (slightly cheaper) a very good ice cream. If you were lucky, like my travelling head lad John Robinson, your Italian owner Pietro Somaini picked up the tab.

5. SAN SEBASTIAN, SPAIN

In the heartland of the Basque Country and on the border of South West France and Spain, this is where a lot of Madrid-based Spaniards spend their summer holidays. We had a few runners there and our best winner was Enharmonic in the Royal colours. One of the standout restaurants is Arzak in the Avenida Alcalde Jose Elsegui.



Would you trust this man's taste? William (right) with Park House owner Neven Botica at Ascot.

6. LA ZARZUELA, SPAIN

Mongol Warrior, a horse who earned plenty of European travel miles, won the Gran Premio Memorial Duque de Toledo at La Zarzuela. His owner Henryk de Kwiatowski (also owner of Danzig and Calumet Farm in Kentucky) won a huge silver cup. I won a silver key ring. Sadly the owner of the course Enrico Sarasola (who also owned Arc winner Helissio) went bankrupt so there was no prize money. The place to eat here is La Cabana Argentina, where the steaks are memorable.

7. DEL MAR, CALIFORNIA, USA

On the Pacific coast just north of San Diego, Del Mar was founded by Bing Crosby, Gary Cooper, Oliver Hardy and partners. "Where the turf meets the surf" is the best of Californian racing and, since the demise of Hollywood Park, has seen a big increase in fixtures and horses trained there. We had a 100% strike rate there as Individualist, bought by Richard Duggan out of Michael Jarvis' yard after winning the Bunbury Cup, won an allowance there in our name. He had to do a timed gallop on Lord Derby's private ground beforehand to satisfy the stewards (American runners have timed workouts published for the benefit of the



Pamplemousse, Del Mar, California, USA

betting public). Tony Jakobson, Warren Hill of the Sporting Life, held the watch and recorded the time as an independent adjudicator. There are plenty of good restaurants near Del Mar. My favourites would be Pamplemousse (top end) and an excellent Peruvian restaurant, Café Secret (much more reasonable prices).

8. ARLINGTON, CHICAGO, USA

We produced a real "tall poppy slayer" in Unknown Quantity to win the Group 1 Arlington Handicap. The run was meant to be a prep race for a later allowance race (in which he was beaten). As a complete outsider he beat Frosty the Snowman and Blushing John. Stewart Young, then a star apprentice and now a Godolphin employee, took both him and Individualist.



Stary Dom, Warsaw, Poland

All credit to Henry Carnarvon, the Queen's racing manager, for encouraging us to accept Dick Duchissois' quiet pressure to run. Dick is in his nineties now and one of Arlington's flagship races, the Beverly D, is named after his late wife. The place to eat at Arlington, four miles from the track, is Cooper's Hawk Winery and Restaurant.

9. SLUZEWIEC, WARSAW, POLAND

David Young, Stewart's brother, was in charge of traveling the horse to one of our strangest targets, a Polish Group 2 race at Sluzewiec. L'Etat C'est Moi had won a maiden at Wolverhampton and her lead up race was top weight in a handicap there. The race was run on Arc Sunday and the course was every bit as wide and splendid as Longchamp, plus in Poland the starter is taken to the start in a horse drawn carriage. Henryk de Kwiatowski was the owner/breeder and as Polish-born we decided that, whatever the outcome, the filly would be donated to the Polish National Stud. She won, but I then had a lengthy telephone battle to convince Henryk to stand by his word and leave her in Poland (after all, she was by Danzig Connection rather than Danzig). The restaurant to eat at, not far from the course, is Stary Dom.

10. FLEMINGTON, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

We were lucky enough to be at the start of the European invasion of the Melbourne Cup with Drum Taps, but unlucky to run into Vintage Crop. To be fair, any attempt to match Dermot Weld's recitation of The Man from Snowy River would have left me gasping for air. We returned with Arabian Story who put in a great effort to finish under four lengths behind the front-running winner, Might And Power, in sixth place. Arabian Story passed the winning post in last place on the first circuit – perhaps not Frankie Dettori's finest ride. Eating opportunities in Melbourne are manifold. My two favourites are Longrain in Little Bourke Street and the Tea House in the Chifley Hotel. ■

SIDE GLANCE RETURNS TO ASCOT

by Leanne Masterton

On King George day at Ascot this year Side Glance, 'Sidey', had his first outing since retiring from racing when he took part in the Retraining of Racehorses parade at Ascot.

After retiring in May 2015, Sidey had 10 months turned out and unwinding in the care of my very good friend Sarah (his non-racing Mum). Sarah already had an ex-Park House racehorse in the shape of Pentecost, who won the Britannia at Royal Ascot and the Shergar Cup Mile twice. Sarah has drag hunted and team chased Pentecost since he retired from racing in 2007 and given him a fabulous home, and he and Sidey are now the best of friends.

We very quickly found out that Sidey loves mud more than a hippo does! In fact he loves it so much he won't allow a rug to come between himself and the swampiest patch he can find in his paddock. He also likes to help Pentecost out of any rugs, hoods, fly masks, over reach boots and just about anything we dare to put on them....

Sidey has let down fantastically well and has now started his retraining for the show ring. Although I lend a hand on Sundays and when racing allows in the week his retraining is being done by Sarah who will be in the saddle in the show ring, and she has done an amazing job. The first time she sat on Sidey she



SIDE GLANCE



PENTECOST

had him leg yielding across the road, whilst I am having to have lessons just to get me sitting up straight! We are blessed that Sidey has an active mind and has enjoyed the challenge of being asked to work in an outline and carry himself properly. He has taken everything in his stride, other than the cress beds of Letcombe Regis. Mud yes, water no!

The parade at Ascot was designed to showcase the diverse second careers that racehorses can have, and featured ex-racers who are now show horses, eventers, dressage horses and polo ponies. Side Glance and Pentecost were invited to take part, and I was allowed to ride Sidey, looking the smartest I've ever looked on a horse thanks to Sarah's very expensive new showing jacket, which I managed to pop a button off! At the ripe age of 17 we were hopeful that Pentecost would be a calming influence on Sidey, but in the end Sidey was the calmer of the two! He behaved beautifully, helping me out by carrying himself well while I concentrated on holding 2 reins (he has to wear a double

bridle in the show ring). Sidey seemed to love being back at the place where he was third to the mighty Frankel in the Queen Anne, and I was so proud to be in the saddle this time. He really is a legend. ■

COMING UP: SALES SEASON

Yearling sales season is fast approaching and as ever we will be scouting for new stable stars.

This year members of the team will be at Baden-Baden (2 September), Fairyhouse (20 to 21 September), Goffs (27 to 28 September) and at Tattersalls for Books 1, 2 and 3 (4 to 14 October).

If you are interested in purchasing yearlings at the sales, please contact Andrew (ab@kingsclere.com).



LEONTES, a 33,000gns purchase, has already picked up almost £40,000 in prize money and Plus 10 bonuses this season

Summer Parties

The month of May saw two parties at Park House. The first was hosted to raise funds for the National Horseracing Museum, which is in the process of moving to a fantastic new site at Palace House Stables in Newmarket. The revamped museum will include a gallery of sporting art and will also house a number of ex-racehorses, enabling the public to interact with real racehorses and to learn about their retraining for new careers. We were

very pleased to be able to support such a worthwhile and exciting initiative, with the party including a parade of some of our stable stars, tours of the yard and an auction.

The museum party was followed by our annual Owners' Party, and we were blessed with good weather for a hog-roast with Claude Duval as after-dinner speaker. This was as ever an entertaining evening and a chance for everyone to catch up and plan the forthcoming season's campaign! ■



PHOTOGRAPHY

Tyron Mills is a longstanding Kingsclere resident and has recently changed career to take up equine and sports photography. As you can see from this shot of Park House horses on the Downs (left to right: Rose Above, Rehearse and Lord Aslan), he has made a pretty good start! tyronmills@hotmail.com.



MELVIN THE GRATE

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of yard favourite Melvin The Grate, who sustained a life-ending injury at home in July. Having come to the yard as a yearling owned by



Stef on Melvin

Stef on Melvin Jim and Fitri Hay, he won at two and three before spending the summer of his four year old season with Johnny Murtagh in Ireland. He was then bought at the sales by Andrew and brought back to Park House, a move that proved shrewd as he picked up three good handicaps that autumn for his new owners, Fromthestables, and followed this with a host of creditable efforts in big handicaps over the next two seasons. He had become almost part of the furniture here at Kingsclere and will be much missed by us all but particularly by Ben de Paiva, who looked after him, and his regular rider Stef Higgins. ■

