

# KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



SPRING MAGAZINE 2020



Bradley Harris (second left), runner up in the Newcomer category at the Godolphin Stud And Stable Staff Awards

Front cover: *Springing into spring...*

Back cover: *Park House from the air*

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# INTRODUCTION

As winters go, the one we have just endured has been as wet and as long as any I can remember. Being a leap year it was actually twenty four hours longer than the last one, but for myself and the long-suffering team at Park House the spring cannot come soon enough!

Getting wet is part and parcel of an outdoor job but in recent weeks snorkels and wetsuits would have been more appropriate workwear than breeches and boots. I am only thankful for the investment we have made recently in improving the Lochsong gallop – the standard of drainage on the tracks approaching the gallop and the polytrack surface itself is now so good that we have not had to miss a day's exercise in spite of the incessant rain.

Hopefully this will mean that we can hit the traps running this spring, as the vast majority of the older horses seem to be right on schedule in their fitness levels. We have been lucky enough to have enjoyed a fair amount of success on the All Weather already this year and, if we can maintain a healthy string into the summer months, there is huge anticipation in the yard for what might be achieved with a good team of talented older horses, some very promising three year olds and plenty of well bred youngsters. ■



Park House Trampolining Team!

## GOLF DAY

The Park House Golf Day will be held at Sandford Springs Golf Club, just outside Kingsclere, on Tuesday 14 July. This is always a relaxed, fun occasion, and a good opportunity to get to know Park House owners, staff and other supporters. Non-playing partners are welcome, and lunch and prize-giving will follow the 18 holes. Please email [annalisa@kingsclere.com](mailto:annalisa@kingsclere.com) if you would like to join us.



# THE 2020 SEASON

Tessa Hetherington

Rather than covering every horse in the yard, at a time when few have run this year and many do not have any firm targets, we have decided to use this piece to review the action on the track so far in 2020 and to outline the early season targets for some of the yard's leading lights.

## THE SEASON SO FAR

**Bangkok** almost had a highly successful trip to Qatar at the end of 2019, going down narrowly in the Qatar Derby to French Listed winner Pedro Cara. That was his first run for almost four months and it set him up nicely for the Winter Derby Trial at Lingfield in January, where he put in a hugely impressive performance, breaking the course record to win by 4.5 lengths under Rob Hornby. Hopes were obviously high for the Winter Derby itself and he went off odds-on favourite, but the race was not run to suit his hold-up style, with Frankie Dettori giving a masterclass from the front on the improving Dubai Warrior and Bangkok becoming rather lit up when having to jockey for position behind him. Bangkok eventually finished third, behind a horse he had trounced the previous month, and hopefully time will tell that this was just not his day. He heads to the valuable Easter Classic back at Lingfield on All Weather Championships Day, when we hope that a bigger field and stronger pace will help him. It is worth remembering that his half-brother, Matterhorn, was defeated in his prep run for the Easter Classic before winning that race by seven lengths...

**Straight Right** is another who came on for his first run after a break, finishing fifth at Newcastle on his reappearance in December before showing his trademark



BANGKOK and regular rider Maddy O'Meara

acceleration to win a Class 2 Conditions event over six furlongs at Kempton, again under Rob Hornby. Sent off favourite back over seven furlongs at Newcastle last time out, Straight Right got hopelessly boxed in and had no opportunity to use his turn of foot. He was a competitor in the mile race at the All Weather Championships last year but his impressive performance over six furlongs at Kempton means that he is likely to contest the Sprint at this year's Championships, and should go well there.

Kempton has also been the setting for some notable triumphs from our three year olds. **Stanford** got the ball rolling, providing us with our first winner of the year when taking a seven furlong novice event under David Probert, staying on well and winning despite the trip rather than because of it. Placed over a mile in both his starts as a two

year old, we really fancied him back at that trip on his next run but he could not match the finishing pace of the winner and finished runner-up. Time may well tell that that was a decent race despite its small field, and he remains a nice prospect for owner Michael Blencowe.

Two sons of Lope De Vega have made winning debuts at Kempton for us already this year. We have always thought highly of **Group One Power** and he did not disappoint when hitting the track in January, quickening clear under Rob Hornby over a mile and showing a great attitude when challenged. He repeated the feat next time out at Lingfield under a penalty and, whilst the form of his races is hard to judge at this stage, his opening mark



STRAIGHT RIGHT wins under a well judged ride from Rob Hornby



*STANFORD with his many fans after securing our first win of the year*

of 80 looks more than fair. He is likely to go to Doncaster's opening meeting for the mile handicap we won last year with Good Birthday. **Arctic Vega** is a different physical type to Group One Power despite their shared sire, but he too has always impressed at home. He also put up an eyecatching performance on debut, cruising home to win easily over seven furlongs under a hands and heels ride from Rob Hornby, who is enjoying a great start to the year. A half-brother to Group 3 winner Chilean, Arctic Vega is bred to be good and the early indications are that he will be just that. He could head to Chelmsford for a Class 2 Conditions event next.



*GROUP ONE POWER and PIVOINE working on the Lochsong gallop*

Our most decisive Kempton victory, however, came from HM The Queen's distinctive Dansili colt, **Punctuation**. Having caught the eye when only just denied on debut over a mile and a half at the track in January, he returned there in February and made mincemeat of a full field, gradually winding up the pace under Silvestre De Sousa before surging clear to win by some eleven lengths! A hugely likeable individual, he has a pronounced knee action but a huge stride (the longest I have clocked on our gallops), so staying races on soft ground should see him to even better effect. He is a lovely prospect.

**Papa Power** is a son of Nathaniel and a leading contender for the award for best looking horse in the yard. Rather all at sea on debut at Chelmsford in January, he was

a different proposition when returning to the Essex track for a ten furlong maiden in February. Making all, he put the race to bed in decisive fashion when quickening off the final bend under Silvestre De Sousa. It was a similar story at Newcastle on his next start where he cruised home under a penalty, seemingly only in second gear whilst his opposition floundered behind him. He holds a Derby entry and, whilst that is a major step up from the company he has been keeping to date, he has done everything right so far. The Derby trial at Epsom could be his next assignment.

Southwell has been a happy hunting ground for us so far this year, with Qatar Racing's **Iron Heart** winning a mile novice there in February under David Probert, despite missing the break and struggling with the kickback from the fibresand surface. By Muhaarar and out of Albany Stakes



*ARCTIC VEGA recording an easy victory on debut*

winner Kiyoshi, he is bred to be a sprint juvenile but has proven to be a later developer, who looks like he will stay further than a mile! In any event he is improving and he is one to keep an eye on this season. **Rodin** was our second Southwell winner, winning a maiden over the minimum trip in February, again under David Probert. His reaction to the fibresand was even more extreme than Iron Heart's and, sent off odds-on favourite, he reached huge odds in running as he was completely detached from the field for the majority of the race before eventually finding his stride and flying home to win by a head. His mark of 72 looks fair and he should give the Pink Hat Partnership plenty more good days in handicaps on a more conventional surface.

Nigel Morris' lovely Kodiak filly **Cwynar** made it two from two for the yard when scoring over a mile at Lingfield in January under David Probert. Raised a total of 12lbs for her two wins on the All Weather, her new mark of 66 remains workable and she should have more success this year. Lingfield was also the scene of triumph for **Elham Valley**, Martin and Valerie Slade's son of French 2,000 Guineas winner Tin Horse. Having improved with each of his two runs last year, he appreciated the step up to ten furlongs and ran on strongly after a slow start to get off the mark. His opening rating does not look overly generous but we shall see how his form works out over the coming weeks and he should score again in handicaps this term.





*PUNCTUATION has an enormous stride*

Although not yet in the winner's enclosure in 2020, **Spirit Warning** has, as ever, run with credit at a decent level in three starts this term and looks set for another good year. **Never Dark** has been runner-up twice and should get off the mark before long given the standard of his homework, whilst **Lily Like** is another three year old sprinter who has taken a while to get going but ran very well to be second at Chelmsford last time. She should also shed her maiden tag soon. **Kitzbuhel**, a son of top US sire Medaglia D'Oro, shaped very well on debut at Chelmsford recently and is a promising recruit for owners Yeomanstown Stud. **Luck Of Clover** really deserves to get her head in front, having



*PAPA POWER could go for a Derby trial next*

placed in all bar three of her thirteen career starts, including twice this year. She is a sweet, genuine filly and seems in great form at home. **Oloroso** kicked off his season with a good second at Kempton and, much more settled this year, can hopefully build on that. **Mizuki** is another who placed last time out, finishing third at Kempton over a mile and a half, and she has been given a fair mark off which to go handicapping, whilst **Purdey's Gift** has placed on two of his three starts this term and should get back into the winner's enclosure soon. **Fox Shinji** is an enigma as his homework is leagues better than his racecourse performances, but hopefully we will find the key to him, and **Sea Sculpture** should shape up in due course after

three rather disappointing runs this term. He still looks a little wintry so may just need a bit more time, as his form from last year suggests he is on a decent mark. **Morning Fury** is enjoying a break after two encouraging runs on the All Weather, whilst **Albanderi** has retired to stud. **Pempie** and **Qinwan** were sold at the Tattersalls February Sale after encouraging performances in their last starts for the yard, along with **Aldente** who has plenty of ability but has had more than her fair share of setbacks. We were very sorry to lose **Compensate** at Wolverhampton in February after he suffered a fatal injury. A bonny little horse with a big personality, he will be missed.



*IRON HEART and David Probert on their way to post at Southwell*

### THE SEASON AHEAD

Starting with the older stayers, three-time Group 3 winner **Morando** has returned from a holiday at Clanville Stud and is cantering daily. Still with a full winter coat, he currently looks a bit like a hairy yak but he has lost none of his spark and has already completed his own personal early season target which is to dump at least one of his regular riders... Our early season target for him could be the Group 3 Ormonde Stakes at Chester's May meeting (the race he won on reappearance last year), the Group 3 Aston Park Stakes at Newbury's Lockinge meeting, or the Group 2 Yorkshire Cup at York's Dante meeting. A confirmed mudlark, he will go wherever he gets his ground. Fellow King Power stayer and Royal Ascot hero **Cleonte**



*RODIN flies home at Southwell under David Probert*





*ELHAM VALLEY got off the mark at Lingfield in January*

has unfortunately suffered a setback but we hope to have him back on track to defend his Queen Alexandra Stakes crown in June, whilst King Power have augmented their team with the purchase of **Alounak**, a son of Camelot formerly trained in Germany and last seen finishing fifth to Bricks And Mortar in the Breeders Cup Turf. A Group 3 winner over ten furlongs and second in the Group 1 Canadian International over a mile and a half, we may well seek to step him up again in trip and hope that he might develop into an Ascot Gold Cup horse.

**Dashing Willoughby** proved a star for the team last year, winning the Group 2 Queen's Vase over a mile and six furlongs at the Royal meeting. His form suggests he is equally effective over a mile and a half and he is likely to start out at that trip, probably in the Group 3 John Porter Stakes at Newbury's Craven meeting. He may cross swords at some stage with new recruit **Nate The Great**, a classy juvenile who was well beaten by Dashers at Royal Ascot last year but has plenty of smart form in the book and is looking great on the gallops at home. He could be a horse for the big Ebor handicap at York in August but we will feel our way with him. Kingsclere Racing Club's **Ranch Hand** failed to stay the extended two miles in the Cesarewitch in October, having been very impressive when winning over fourteen furlongs at Haydock, and could kick off his season in the Listed Further Flight Stakes at Nottingham over that trip. He has done very well over the winter. **Diocletian** is another who went into plenty of notebooks with a taking victory over fourteen furlongs, in his case at Chester, and he is likely to return to that track on reappearance, with the Chester Cup his early season target.

**Fox Tal** had a delayed start to his three year old campaign but made up for lost time with a taking victory in a Doncaster Conditions event before running a mighty race in the Group 1 Champion Stakes at Ascot in October, finishing fourth. He is in tremendous nick at home and, as a horse who keeps himself pretty fit, could start out soon in

the Listed Magnolia Stakes at Kempton over nine furlongs before heading for something like the Group 3 Gordon Richards Stakes at Sandown or the Group 2 Huxley Stakes at Chester. Both of those races would also be on the radar of **Fox Chairman**, who was unlucky in both the Listed Dee Stakes at Chester and the Group 3 Hampton Court Stakes at Ascot before running out the easy winner of the Listed bet365 Stakes at Newbury in July. Blessed with plenty of speed, we could start him off at a mile instead, with the Group 2 Bet365 Stakes at Sandown in April a possibility for him. That race could also work for talented miler **Happy Power**, placed in the Group 1 Sussex Stakes last term, but he might well be ready to run a little earlier, with the Listed Doncaster Mile at the end of March a possibility before a tilt at the Group 1 Lockinge Stakes in May. He needs soft ground so we will be watching the weather with him.

Jim and Fitri Hay's **Bell Rock** could also be heading to Doncaster at the end of the month as he holds an entry in the Lincoln. He had a frustrating season as a three year old where he never realised the promise he had shown when winning on debut as a juvenile, but he looks stronger and more robust and should be a different proposition this year. Barbara Keller's **Encapsulation** is another who has done very well for a winter off in our paddocks and, having won the Listed Doonside Cup over ten furlongs at Ayr in September, the Group 2 Dahlia Stakes over nine furlongs at Newmarket is her likely first target.



*NATE THE GREAT is an exciting new recruit*

George Strawbridge's substantial homebred mare **Shailene**, a Listed winner in Italy last year, looks stronger than ever and could be set for a great season, with the Group 3 Bronte Cup over fourteen furlongs at York in May a possible starting point. Her programme will be similar to that of Teofilo filly **Grace And Danger**, who placed in three Listed contests last year and should gain some winning black type this term. **Look Around** was a Listed winner at two and placed in three Stakes races last year. She will probably start out in the Listed Snowdrop Stakes over a mile at Kempton, before stepping up to ten furlongs for the Group 2 Middleton Stakes at York in May. York has been a happy hunting ground for the marvellous **Pivoine**,



who won a big handicap there in 2018 before taking the valuable John Smith's Cup at the track last year. That race will be firmly on his agenda this term, with further international travel also likely following his trips to America, Canada and Bahrain last year. **Good Birthday** is another top level handicapper over ten furlongs and won the Beverley Silver Cup last year, also placing in the London Gold Cup and the Cambridgeshire. We will start him out in handicaps this season but he could well shape up into a Group level performer this term.

The diminutive **Shine So Bright** excelled last year, winning the European Free Handicap, running well in the 2,000 Guineas and then getting the better of star filly Laurens in a thrilling finish to the Group 2 City Of York Stakes. We may experiment with dropping him back to six furlongs this year, and he is a possible candidate for the Group 1 Diamond Jubilee Stakes at Royal Ascot. The speedy **Stone Of Destiny** has returned to training after his winter holiday in great order, and his main aim for the first half of the season is likely to be the Wokingham Handicap at the Royal meeting, having won the Shergar Cup Sprint at the Berkshire track in 2019.

We have a very strong team of three year olds this year but all eyes will naturally be on **Kameko**, the impressive winner of the Group 1 Verterm Futurity Stakes over a mile at Newcastle on his last start. He has stayed in light training over the winter and looks great. The 2,000 Guineas will be his first major assignment this year, and whether or not he has a prep run in a trial will be judged on his early work this spring. He looks sure to stay further than a mile but whether or not he will get the mile and a half Derby trip is a conundrum that we will have to grapple with as he moves through the season. In any event he is a seriously smart prospect and we are all very excited to see what he can do as a three year old. Paul Spickett's wonderfully straightforward **Berkshire Rocco** looks an obvious staying prospect, having placed third in the Group 3 Zetland Stakes over ten furlongs as a juvenile. His early aim will be the Group 3 Chester Vase over a mile and a half, but he may have a prep run in the ten furlongs Conditions Stakes at Newbury's Greenham meeting. **Via**



*FOX TAL is in tremendous nick ahead of his four year old season*

**De Vega** is another who is likely to contest a Derby trial, and the Listed Classic Trial at Sandown is his most obvious option, having won at the track on debut. Goodwood winner **Khalifa Sat** holds a Derby entry and could be another one for a trial, but we will know much more once he starts faster work this term.

The likeable **Berlin Tango** placed twice at Listed level last term and will seek to secure a Listed win in the Burradon Stakes at Newcastle on Good Friday. He is flying at home and had an encouraging prep run in the



*BERLIN TANGO could be set for a very good season*

valuable Conditions event over a mile at Kempton in early March. He could well shape up into a top miler this year. **Kings Lynn**, the hugely impressive winner of last year's Weatherbys Bank £300,000 2yo Stakes at Doncaster on only his second start, is more likely to stick to sprint trips. He seems in great form at home and could start in the Group 3 Pavilion Stakes at Ascot in late April. We hope that he might be a horse for either the Group 3 Jersey Stakes or the Group 1 Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot this year. Those races could also be options for **Symbolize**, who went close in the Windsor Castle Stakes at last year's Royal meeting. We are not entirely clear what his optimum trip will be but he could start out in something like the European Free Handicap at Newmarket's Craven meeting. Star juvenile filly **Shadn**, a Group 2 winner in France last year, will also aim for Ascot, most probably the Group 1 Coronation Stakes, but her initial target will be the French 1,000 Guineas. **Game And Set** has done tremendously well over the winter and could start out in the Group 3 Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury. The beautifully-bred daughter of Zoffany should be well up to garnering some black type this term to augment her already impressive pedigree. ■

# DARK HORSES FOR 2020

As an interesting exercise and to assist you with the Twelve to Follow competition, we asked some of the people who work closely with the Park House equines for a 'dark horse' to follow this season – a 3yo or older who might be 'under the radar' or might improve significantly from last year to this. Here are their picks:

**Liam Mungovan**, Barn Manager  
**Edinburgh Castle**

He's done well over the winter and I think he's on a good mark to do well in 1m4f+ handicaps this term.

**Ryan Gradwell**, Ground Staff  
**Riverfront**

He did nothing but improve last year and he's had knee surgery which should help him no end this year.

**Will Carver**, Apprentice Jockey  
**Game And Set**

I'm riding her every day at the moment and she gives a good feel – she has really strengthened up.



**Kevin Hunt**, Barn Manager  
**Sidereal**

He's new into the yard but he is very well bred (by Galileo out of Group 3 winner Starlit Sands), he's a nice type and the riders like him.

**Ross Burdon**, Yard Manager  
**Spanish Angel**

He's done really well both physically and mentally over the winter and Nathan (Cheshire) has him really settled in his work.

**Nigel Walker**, Assistant Trainer  
**Thai Power**

He was big, backward and gormless last year but he looks a different horse this year and is well handicapped.

**Lois Day**, Work Rider  
**Barossa Red**

He has a great attitude and plenty of ability, and he's got new knees!

**Andy Whitehall**, Ground Staff  
**Piper Arrow**

He did nothing wrong last year and now that he is recovered from a setback he should improve again.



**Simon Humphries**, Travelling Manager  
**Damage Control**

He did everything right last year apart from winning. He is mentally and physically stronger now and should fulfil his obvious potential.

**Charlie Richards**, Work Rider  
**Horn Of Plenty**

I rode her a bit last year and ride her regularly now – she has come on so much and I think she could be nice.

**Maddy O'Meara**, Barn Manager  
**Grove Ferry**

I'm riding him regularly and he feels great, really powerful. He did well last year but I think he'll be even better this year.



**Taffy Cheshire**, Work Rider  
**Natural History**

He had some problems last year but he's a proper horse and he should do really well this season.



**Fred Larson**, Work Rider

***Bronze River***

I ride him a lot and he feels great. He looks twice the horse he did as a two year old.



**Geoff Rigby**, Ground Staff

***Wild Hero***

I look after him and he's done well over the winter – I think he wants soft ground but he should win this year.

**Drew Wilkinson**, Work Rider

***Mahanakhon Power***

He has taken a while to get the hang of things but he is working well now and I think he'll be a nice horse.

**Rob McCutcheon**, Ground Staff

***Mon Choix***

He was big and backward last year but is the type to do well at three and looks well handicapped.

**Diana Magalhaes**, Work Rider

***Spanish Angel***

I look after him and he has changed so much over the winter – he is much bigger and stronger and he looks great on the gallops.

**Andrew Balding**, Trainer

***Cadeau D'Or***

He's a gorgeous horse who has shown plenty at home and is bred to come into his own this year.

**Sam Geake**, Travelling & Ground Staff

***Edinburgh Castle***

I think he will have a good year – he's on a good mark and stepping up in trip will help him.

**Steve Woolley**, Work Rider

***Montanari***

He impressed in his work last year and his run at Goodwood was very good. I think he will do well as a three year old.

**Eugene Cullen**, Farrier

***Never Dark***

He's a nice type and the family all improve with age.

**Josh Bryan**, Apprentice Jockey

***Fox Duty Free***

We have always liked him and he has grown up a lot – I ride him every day and I think he's very well handicapped.



**Nathan Cheshire**, Work Rider

***Fox Duty Free***

His form from last year is pretty decent - he looks well handicapped, and he's much stronger this year.

**Angie Cheshire**, Ground Staff/Colour Room

***Opera Gift***

He's done really well from two to three and he's going nicely in his work at home. ■

## Kingsclere Racing Club 2020

The Kingsclere Racing Club's first event of the year takes place on Gold Cup day, which is always a very enjoyable occasion, after which we can look forward to a busy start to the turf season, with exciting older horses Ranch Hand, Sneaky Peak and Incline set to start their campaigns in April.

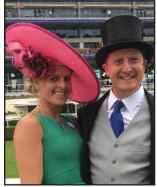
The two year olds look a lovely bunch and have been quite forward this year, with Spirit Level, a well-named son of leading first-season sire Cable Bay out of Cape Spirit, perhaps the most precocious

of the group. Mellow Magic, a Nathaniel half-sister to Elm Park and Brorocco, and Bashful, a Manduro half-brother to Swashbuckle, are two longer-term prospects already showing up well.

Our busy social diary includes 11 events during the course of the season, including racing at Newbury on Lockinge day, a summer picnic at Newmarket's July meeting and our End of Season Party on the eve of the Ladbroke Trophy in November – hopefully we will have plenty to celebrate by then! ■

# PRIMARY SCHOOL

*We thought it would be interesting for our readers to learn a bit more about the process of starting off our young thoroughbreds before they come into training at Park House, so we asked four of our main pre-trainers about what they do with the yearlings they are sent to break in and pre-train for us.*



**Chris and Claire Bonner** will be known to many of you as Chris was Assistant Trainer here at Park House for over a decade. He and wife Claire now run a yard in Baydon, near Marlborough, where they break and pre-train youngsters for many different trainers (including all our homebreds). They also take horses for rehabilitation, recuperation and remedial work.



**Jane Allison** is based in Broad Town near Swindon and has run a breaking and pre-training yard there for many years. She works for a wide variety of trainers and takes most of our purchases from the earlier yearling sales. She also starts youngsters for some of the top owner-breeders, including the Lloyd-Webbers, Jeff Smith and Normandie Stud.



**Tim Rusbridge** is a three-day-event rider who has competed at the highest level. He began breaking and pre-training racehorses around six years ago and, from his base in Gloucestershire, is responsible for breaking in all of Qatar Racing's youngsters. He has also worked with many yearlings bought at the sales by us and by King Power Racing.



**Mimi Wadham and Violet Hesketh** are both graduates of the Godolphin Flying Start programme. They set up their own business, WH Bloodstock, in 2018 and operate from Hollington Stud near Highclere. They prepare and consign yearlings at all the major sales, both their own pinhooks and on behalf of clients, and have also successfully broken in and pre-trained yearlings for us and other trainers.

## What are the main stages between getting a young horse in and sending it to the trainer?

**TR:** We give them a basic MOT when they arrive (teeth, feet, back etc) and then I give them a week to settle in before we start putting a roller on them, and then a bridle and side reins. They go on the walker every day in this kit until they are used to having the contact in their mouths and then I will start long-reining them. After about ten days of long-reining we start lungeing them and introduce a saddle, and then the riders start laying over them and getting on them in the box. Ben Poste, a National Hunt jockey, rides all of ours away, initially in the lunge pen and then in the big outdoor school, and then Lauren Smith [ex Kingsclere work rider!] works with them until they are ready to go into training. Lauren is smaller and lighter than Ben and more like the riders the yearlings will encounter in flat racing yards, so she is a good stepping stone for them.

**MW/VH:** Once they have settled in, we start them off on the lunge and get them used to having a saddle and bridle on. The sales horses have usually had a roller on already so this is quite straightforward.



We then start long-reining the horses, to establish some brakes and steering, and using the voice as well as the reins to get them to listen. Once they have mastered this we introduce a rider. We start by jumping next to the horse in the stable whilst someone holds their head, holding onto the saddle as we jump. Then we lay over the horse whilst he is walked around the stable, to get him used to the sensation of weight bearing whilst on the move. The rider will then swing their leg over and slowly sit up in the saddle, letting their legs touch the horse's sides. The handler will then lead horse and rider to the lunge pen and they will walk, trot and canter on a lunge line. Once the horse has mastered this on the lunge they will go into the school and do some





circles and figures of eights. The final stage is taking the horse out onto the gallop, initially following a lead horse but then learning to lead too.

**JA:** We give them a few days to settle in and then we start them off on the lunge, getting a roller on them and then a full set of tack with breaking bit and side reins. After three days of exercise in full tack the rider will gradually get on. For the first day they will just trot for ten minutes or so with the rider on in the lunge ring, but then we will start them going out on our round gallop with a lead horse for a hack around. Once they are settled and well behaved doing that, they will join our other more experienced yearlings for a normal exercise in a group.

**CB:** The majority of youngsters we break in are homebreds, some of which have had very little handling. Once they settle to being stabled, bitted and led in hand we introduce a roller and side reins and get them trotting in the lunge pen. We spend extra time lunging and long-reining the homebreds to help condition them and get them physically strong. After that they have full tack on and are gradually introduced to a rider. We always back and ride away horses in the lunge pen as it allows enough room for them to go forward. For us the most important thing is that at every stage the horse is given confidence, as this is the root of preparing a horse mentally for training.

#### Do you use the same process for all horses?

**JA:** Yes, pretty much. Some horses will need more time to adjust to each stage and may need a longer period of us working with them on the ground before they are ready for a rider. We have had some challenging horses but we give them plenty of time and gain their confidence.

**TR:** Every horse is different but we use a similar process for all. Some horses will pick things up very quickly and some will take a bit longer. For example the yearlings that come over from the US need a good couple of weeks to settle in. They tend to be very pumped up for the sales over there and need more time to adjust and calm down, physically

and mentally. Challenging horses will require more time and plenty of work to prevent them getting too fresh. Ben and I do all the work with those and will make sure that the trainers and their teams are fully briefed on the tricky ones when they go in!.

**MW/VH:** We use roughly the same process, but spend longer on each stage with the more challenging yearlings until they have mastered it. Sometimes you have to think outside the box - we had a filly this year that panicked whenever the rider lay over her so we ended up stacking two bags of feed on the saddle until she accepted it! If horses are reacting adversely to the process it is often because they are in pain. We get all the yearlings' teeth checked and if anything is playing up our physio will give them the once over. Ulcers can also make horses resent pressure from the rider's leg, so may need to be treated.

**CB:** The process is similar but every horse is different - some are naturally precocious and come to hand more easily than others. We treat each horse as an individual and allow them to come in their own time. If they are challenging, understanding the root of what is causing them to be difficult is usually the key to solving it.

#### Is there a big difference between horses that arrive from the sales and homebreds?

**CB:** There is a huge difference. Sales horses have much more life experience and are physically much more forward due to weeks of sales prep. They are already a fair way through the breaking process so are usually ready to have a rider introduced quite soon after they arrive. We do a lot of homebreds and they are more of a blank canvas. Some have had very little handling on arrival so there is much more ground to cover with them. We do plenty of conditioning work with the homebreds to help them become physically strong enough to cope in a training yard. They are also given more mental challenges during their time here to help prepare them for a busier training environment.

**TR:** The sales horses have usually had a lot more done to them as part of their preparation for the sales. The homebreds will catch up but our staff know to be particularly careful with them initially and to take things more slowly.

**JA:** We find the horses from the sales are generally easier to break in as they have already done a lot of the initial prep work.

**MW/VH:** Sales horses will have had a bit more education so will usually master the initial stages more quickly, and tend to be a bit more forward as

they are fitter – although this can actually make them more challenging to break in as they don't get tired!

### **Roughly how long does the process take?**

**JA:** It very much depends on the individual horse, but we would have most horses ridden away and ready to go into training within about four to six weeks.

**MW/VH:** A straightforward yearling would take us about six weeks, a more challenging horse takes longer.

**TR:** Four weeks would be the minimum, but we tend to take at least six to seven weeks, because of the period of long-reining. I think the horses really benefit from this as it gives them good mouths and educates them to listen to a rider.



**CB:** It really depends on how much they have done before they arrive, and what is expected of them when they head into training. For example, a yearling heading into a racing yard in November will be doing very different daily exercise to a youngster going into training in February as a two year old. We are lucky to have Chris here who, having worked with Andrew for thirteen years, knows exactly what is expected of anything heading to Park House.

### **What do you look for in a horse going through the process?**

**MW/VH:** For us, a horse stands out when they listen, learn quickly, want to work with you and enjoy their work. The other factor is how they move – a horse with a big stride that covers a lot of ground is what we love to see.

**TR:** You can spot the natural athletes pretty quickly. They also need to have a good brain. The very sharp, naughty ones might win first time out but they are often hard to train in the longer term. All the good horses we have had through our yard have had really good minds – they wanted to do their job, they didn't put up a fight, and they learnt quickly.

**JA:** We look for a good action, and a lovely temperament – those are the key qualities.

**CB:** A natural athlete will always stand out, as will an individual with a willing mind and good temperament. But we also try to keep a look out for a diamond in the rough!

### **Which is the best horse you have pre-trained to date?**

**JA:** It is hard to choose! The shortlist would be Stradivarius, Here Comes When, The Fugue, Lah Ti Dar, and Galileo Gold.

**TR:** Lightning Spear, Roaring Lion and Kameko were all broken in and/or pre-trained by us and they were or are pretty good!

**CB:** We broke in Urban Aspect, who is now Group 1 placed in Hong Kong as Ka Ying Star, and Mrs Danvers, who won the Weatherbys Super Sprint and the Group 3 Cornwallis Stakes as a two year old. We also broke in top hurdler Paisley Park and we've had Side Glance, Limato and Magical Memory for pre-training as older horses.

**MW/VH:** This is only our second season of breaking but last year we had a horse called Impressor, trained by Marcus Tregoning, who was a close third in a Group 3 at the end of last season and could be a nice horse this year. Another that looks to have a bright future is Bronze River, trained by Andrew for Mick and Janice Mariscotti, who has won twice from three starts. He has a lot of scope and looks like he will only improve as a three year old.

### **Which has been your favourite Park House horse to pre-train this Autumn/Winter?**

**CB:** The Nathaniel filly out of Lady Brora [a Kingsclere homebred, now named Mellow Magic]. She was quite tricky in the beginning but super intelligent with it! She's a really athletic mover and we really enjoyed working with her.

**TR:** The Lope De Vega colt out of Moi Meme [owned by Apollo Racing & DTA Racing]. He was one of the nicest yearlings I have ever dealt with.

**JA:** The Frankel colt out of Arabian Queen [named Spirit Mixer and owned and bred by Jeff Smith] and the Pivotal colt out of Gosbeck [named Swivelstick and owned by the Park House Partnership].

**MW/VH:** The Camelot filly out of Secret Pursuit [named Secret Shadow and owned by Guy Brook] and the Paco Boy gelding out of Galaxy Highflyer [named Neenee's Choice and owned by Mick and Janice Mariscotti]. ■



# THE 2020 12 TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

This year the competition will start on **Wednesday April 1st** and will run until **Tuesday December 1st** both dates inclusive.

**Please make sure you put your name and address on your lists and fill in the list of substitutes with at least one two year old on it.** The list of horses was correct at time of going to press but many things change in three weeks and we will make substitutions for you if we know that we need to. The order at half way will be published in the Summer Magazine, and there will be more regular updates on the website, together with a downloadable version of this entry form.

## THE RULES

Each list must include at least **FIVE two-year-olds**. All runners from **April 1st until December 1st** count for scoring while they are trained by Andrew Balding this means **all flat, jumping, all-weather and foreign runners**. Entries are £10.00 each and you may submit as many lists as you like.

The pool will be divided 55% to the winner, 25% to the second, 15% to the third and 5% to the fourth and the person finishing last will have their £10 refunded. Last year's pool was £1800.00.

Scoring is as follows:-

**12 POINTS** TO THE WINNER OF A GROUP OR LISTED RACE

**10 POINTS** FOR ANY OTHER WINNER

**8 POINTS** FOR THE SECOND IN A GROUP OR LISTED RACE

**6 POINTS** FOR ANY OTHER SECOND

**5 POINTS** FOR THE THIRD IN A GROUP OR LISTED RACE

**4 POINTS** FOR ANY OTHER THIRD

**1 POINT** TO A FOURTH WHERE THERE IS PRIZE MONEY

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*Cheques made payable to:-*

Emma Balding and return to her at Park House, Kingsclere, Newbury, Berks. RG20 5PY

**LATE ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN BUT MUST NOT INCLUDE ANYTHING  
THAT HAS RUN AFTER MARCH 31st  
Reserves will be used in this case**

1. ....  
2. ....  
3. ....  
4. ....  
5. ....  
6. ....  
7. ....

TWO YEAR OLDS

8. ....  
9. ....  
10. ....  
11. ....  
12. ....

RESERVES

NAME: .....

1. ....

ADDRESS: .....

2. ....

3. ....

4. ....

# LIST OF HORSES FOR THE 2020 **12** TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

## OLDER HORSES

<b>ALOUNAK</b> 5 B c	King Power Racing
Camelot Awe Struck	
<b>BERKSHIRE BLUE</b> 5 B g	Berkshire Parts & Panels
Champs Elysees Lemon Rock	
<b>CLEONTE</b> 7 Ch g	King Power Racing
Sir Percy Key Figure	
<b>CWYNAR</b> 5 B m	Mr N Morris
Kodiac Modern Art	
<b>DIOCLETIAN</b> 5 B g	Mr R Wilmot-Smith
Camelot Saturday Girl	
<b>FOXTROT LADY</b> 5 Ch m	Mr J C Smith
Foxwedge Strictly Dancing	
<b>GENETICS</b> 6 B g	DJT
Manduro Garmerita	
<b>ISOMER</b> 6 Ch g	Mr A Balding
Cape Blanco Nimue	
<b>JOHNNY DRAMA</b> 5 B g	King Power Racing
Lilbourne Lad Quelle Histoire	
<b>MIZUKI</b> 5 B m	Mr Shapoor Mistry
Sea The Stars Bright Snow	
<b>MORANDO</b> 7 B g	King Power Racing
Kendargent Moranda	
<b>NATURAL HISTORY</b> 5 B g	HM The Queen
Nathaniel Film Script	
<b>PIVOINE</b> 6 B g	King Power Racing
Redoute's Choice Fleur de Cactus	
<b>SHAILENE</b> 5 Ch m	Mr G Strawbridge
Rip Van Winkle Snow Key	
<b>STONE OF DESTINY</b> 5 B g	King Power Racing
Acclamation Irishstone	
<b>STRAIGHT RIGHT</b> 6 B g	King Power Racing
Siyouni Sailor Moon	
<b>ZWAYYAN</b> 7 Ch g	King Power Racing
Pivotal Mail the Desert	

## FOUR YEAR OLDS

<b>AGENT BASTERFIELD</b> B g	Mr P Fox
Raven's Pass Maridiyna	
<b>BADESSA</b> B f	Farleigh Racing
Dunaden Le Badie	
<b>BANGKOK</b> B c	King Power Racing
Australia Tanaghum	
<b>BAROSSA RED</b> Ch g	Another Bottle Racing
Tamayuz I Hear You Knocking	
<b>BE MORE</b> B f	Cayton Park Stud
Shamardal Pearl Dance	
<b>BELL ROCK</b> B g	Mrs F Hay
Kingman Liberally	
<b>BYE BYE LADY</b> B f	King Power Racing
Sea The Stars Peinture Rose	
<b>CHIL CHIL</b> B f	King Power Racing
Exceed & Excel Tiana	
<b>DASHING WILLOUGHBY</b> B g	Mick & Janice Mariscotti
Nathaniel Miss Dashwood	
<b>EDINBURGH CASTLE</b> B g	Mrs F Hay
Sea The Stars Evensong	
<b>ENCAPSULATION</b> B f	Mrs B Keller
Zoffany Supercharged	
<b>FOX CHAIRMAN</b> B c	King Power Racing
Kingman Starfish	
<b>FOX LEICESTER</b> Gr g	King Power Racing
Dark Angel Pop Art	
<b>FOX PREMIER</b> B g	King Power Racing
Frankel Fann	
<b>FOX SHINJI</b> B c	King Power Racing
Iffraaj Keene Dancer	

## FOX TAL B c

Sea The Stars Maskunah	King Power Racing
<b>GOOD BIRTHDAY</b> B g	King Power Racing
Dabirsim Chica Loca	
<b>GRACE AND DANGER</b> B f	Mr N Watts/Mr D Powell
Teofilo Opinionated	
<b>HAPPY POWER</b> Gr c	King Power Racing
Dark Angel Tamarisk	
<b>HAVANA ROCKET</b> B g	Mr A Balding
Havana Gold Mawaakeb	
<b>INCLYNE</b> Ch f	KRC
Intello Lady Brora	
<b>JOHNNY KIDD</b> Ch g	Chelsea Thoroughbreds
Australia Sabreon	
<b>LOOK AROUND</b> B f	Mr G Strawbridge
Kingman Magic America	
<b>LUCK OF CLOVER</b> B f	Mr A Anderson
Phoenix Reach Diktalina	
<b>MAYNE</b> Br g	Mrs F Hay
Dansili Pink Damsel	
<b>NATE THE GREAT</b> B g	Mildmay Racing & D H Caslon
Nathaniel Theladyinquestion	
<b>OLOROSO</b> Ch g	R Hetherington/ J Carey
Fast Company Convidada	
<b>PIPER ARROW</b> B g	Lord Brownlow
War Command Zeyran	
<b>PURDEY'S GIFT</b> B c	Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum
Camelot Saphira's Fire	
<b>RANCH HAND</b> B g	KRC
Dunaden Victoria Montoya	
<b>RIVERFRONT</b> Gr g	L Register & Partner
Reliable Man Why Worry	
<b>SEA SCULPTURE</b> B g	KRC
Archipenko Seaflower Reef	
<b>SHINE SO BRIGHT</b> Gr c	King Power Racing
Oasis Dream Alla Speranza	
<b>SNEAKY PEEK</b> B f	KRC
Nayef Casual Glance	
<b>SPIRIT WARNING</b> B g	KRC
Charm Spirit Averami	
<b>STRICT TEMPO</b> Ch f	Mr J C Smith
Norse Dancer Strictly Dancing	
<b>TOP POWER</b> Ch g	King Power Racing
Le Havre Altamira	
<b>TRIBAL CRAFT</b> Ch f	Mr J C Smith
Mastercraftsman Snoqualmie Star	
<b>TUK POWER</b> B f	King Power Racing
Dubawi Soon	

## THREE YEAR OLDS

<b>ALL YOU WISH</b> B c	M M Stables
Showcasing Moment of Time	
<b>ANGEL GREY</b> Gr f	Mr J Maldonado
Gutaifan Violet's Gift	
<b>APPLAUDABLE</b> B c	Biddestone Racing
Acclamation Bahati	
<b>ARCTIC VEGA</b> Ch c	PDR Properties
Lope De Vega Childa	
<b>ASCRAEUS</b> B f	Promenade Bloodstock
Poet's Voice Sciacca	
<b>BERKSHIRE MIELE</b> Br f	Berkshire Parts & Panels
Swiss Spirit Berkshire Honey	
<b>BERKSHIRE PHILLY</b> Ch f	Berkshire Parts & Panels
Roderic O'Connor Berkshire Beauty	
<b>BERKSHIRE ROCCO</b> B c	Berkshire Parts & Panels
Sir Percy Sunny Again	



<b>BERKSHIRE SAVVY</b> B g	Berkshire Parts & Panels	<b>PAPA POWER</b> B c	King Power Racing
Mukhadram Zubova		Nathaniel Mosqueras Romance	
<b>BERLIN TANGO</b> B c	Mr G Strawbridge	<b>PERFECT SUNSET</b> B f	Dr Drew & Partners
Dansili Fantasia		Iffraaj Perfect Star	
<b>BRONZE RIVER</b> B g	Mick & Janice Mariscotti	<b>PUNCTUATION</b> B c	HM The Queen
Archipenko Avon Lady		Dansili Key Point	
<b>CADEAU D'OR</b> Ch g	John & Anne Soul	<b>QUICKSTEP LADY</b> B f	Mr J C Smith
Le Havre Hill of Grace		Australia Strictly Dancing	
<b>CASTLEINTHESAND</b> Ch f	Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds	<b>REALITY OF DREAMS</b> Ch f	Mrs Barbara Keller
Footstepsinthesand Portico		Gio Ponti Escape to Victory	
<b>CHILD STAR</b> B f	Qatar Racing Ltd	<b>RICK BLAINE</b> B g	Chelsea Thoroughbreds
Charm Spirit Stybba		Ruler of the World Saturday Girl	
<b>COLTRANE</b> B c	Mick & Janice Mariscotti	<b>RODIN</b> B c	Pink Hat Partnership
Mastercraftsman Promise Me		Mayson Moon Goddess	
<b>DAMAGE CONTROL</b> Ch g	Mick & Janice Mariscotti	<b>ROMAN KNOWS</b> B g	Greenwood/Michaelson
Zoffany One So Marvellous		Holy Roman Emperor Entre Nous	
<b>DREAM ROUND</b> B f	Thurloe T/breds XLVIII	<b>SHADN</b> B f	Mr Katsumi Yoshida
Gleneagles Mythie		No Nay Never Amethyst	
<b>ELHAM VALLEY</b> Gr c	Martin & Valerie Slade	<b>SIDEREAL</b> B c	Miss K Rausing
Tin Horse Dame Du Floc		Galileo Starlit Sands	
<b>FOX DUTY FREE</b> B c	King Power Racing	<b>SORTEO</b> B f	Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum
Kingman Bugie d'Amore		Invincible Spirit Sweepstake	
<b>GAME AND SET</b> B f	Coln Valley Stud	<b>SPANISH ANGEL</b> Br g	Mr J Maldonado
Zoffany Grace and Favour		Gutaifan City Dazzler	
<b>GROUP ONE POWER</b> B c	King Power Racing	<b>SPRING GLOW</b> Gr f	Rainbow Racing
Lope De Vega Lady Aquitaine		Mukhadram Spring Dream	
<b>GROVE FERRY</b> B g	Martin & Valerie Slade	<b>STANFORD</b> Ch c	Mr M Blencowe
Excelebration Rebelline		Zoffany Almost Always	
<b>HERODOTUS</b> B g	Mrs F Hay	<b>STONY LOOK</b> B f	KRC
Iffraaj Merry Me		Passing Glance Chesil Beach	
<b>HOLD FAST</b> B f	Mildmay Racing & D H Caslon	<b>SYMBOLIZE</b> Ch c	Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum
Fastnet Rock Rohain		Starspangledbanner French Flirt	
<b>HORN OF PLENTY</b> B f	Mildmay Racing & D H Caslon	<b>TABLE MOUNTAIN</b> B f	KRC
Golden Horn Gaze		Phoenix Reach Cape Victoria	
<b>IRISH TWEED</b> B f	KRC	<b>THAI POWER</b> B c	King Power Racing
Roderic O'Connor Lady Brora		Kingman Roscoff	
<b>IRON HEART</b> B c	Qatar Racing Ltd	<b>TOP DROP</b> Ch g	Another Bottle Racing
Muhaaarar Kiyoshi		Tamayuz Solandia	
<b>ISAAC MURPHY</b> B c	Mr R Wilmot-Smith	<b>UGANDA HEIGHTS</b> Ch g	Mrs A Ruggles
Makfi Compose		Free Eagle Uvinza	
<b>KAFEE</b> B c	Mr Abdullatif M. Al-Abdulrazzaq	<b>VIA DE VEGA</b> Ch c	PDR Properties
Make Believe Dream Date		Lope De Vega Via Milano	
<b>KALSARA</b> B f	Mr J Oldham	<b>WILD HERO</b> B g	Mrs F Hay
Muhaaarar Kalsa		Zoffany Thought Is Free	
<b>KAMEKO</b> B c	Qatar Racing Ltd	<b>X EIGHT</b> B g	King Power Racing Ltd
Kittens Joy Sweeter Still		Exceed & Excel Chortle	
<b>KASHI</b> B g	Greenwood/Dodds-Smith/Homburg	<b>XXX</b> Ch c	PDR Properties
Manduro La Ville Lumiere		Lope De Vega Party	
<b>KHALIFA SAT</b> B c	Ahmad Al Shaikh	<b>XXX</b> Ch c	Mr Al Thani
Free Eagle Thermopylae		New Approach Gainful	
<b>KITZBUHEL</b> B c	Mrs Annette O'Callaghan	<b>XXX</b> B f	Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum
Medaglia d'Oro Nebraska		Showcasing Tiana	
<b>KING'S LYNN</b> B c	HM The Queen	<b>XXX</b> Ch g	Mr A Balding
Cable Bay Kinematic		Bated Breath Lake Palace	
<b>LA HULOTTE</b> Ch f	Mrs M E Wates	<b>TWO YEAR OLDS</b>	
Lope De Vega Vakiyla		<b>ALCOHOL FREE</b> B f	Mr J C Smith
<b>LARKSPEED</b> B f	Dr. B Drew & Partners	No Nay Never Plying	
Al Kazeem Perfect Delight		<b>AURIFEROUS</b> B c	Mick and Janice Mariscotti
<b>LILY LIKE</b> Gr f	Mr G Strawbridge	Golden Horn Sequester	
Kodiac Lixirova		<b>AYO GORKHALI</b> B c	Mr P Fox & Mr P Elson
<b>MACHIOS</b> Br g	Lord Blyth	The Gurkha Trip To Glory	
Maxios Astragal		<b>BASHFUL</b> B c	KRC
<b>MAHANAKHON POWER</b> B c	King Power Racing	Manduro Inhibition	
Gleneagles Lady Éclair		<b>BATED WEDDING</b> B f	Mr G Strawbridge
<b>MEDIKA</b> B f	Rifa Mustang Ltd	Bated Breath Wedding Morn	
Australia Weeping Wind		<b>BERKSHIRE TREACLE</b> B f	Berkshire Parts & Panels
<b>MIA DOLAN</b> B f	L. Register	Hot Streak Berkshire Beauty	
Hat Trick Kazam		<b>BONNYRIGG</b> B c	Mrs F Hay
<b>MON CHOIX</b> B g	Mr Al Thani	Zoffany Impressionist Art	
Pivotal Privacy Order		<b>BRIGHT DEVIL</b> Gr c	Hillwood Racing
<b>MONTANARI</b> Ch c	Mick & Janice Mariscotti	Dark Angel Avenante	
Sea the Moon Pax Aeterna		<b>BRISLE BOY</b> B c	KRC
<b>MORNING FURY</b> B f	Morning Fury Syndicate	Cityscape Victoria Pollard	
Bated Breath Midnight Sky		<b>CAROLUS MAGNUS</b> B c	Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds
<b>NEVER DARK</b> B c	Mr J C Smith	Holy Roman Emperor Izola	
No Nay Never Dark Missile		<b>CHOSEN TARGET</b> B c	Ahmad Al Shaikh
<b>NYAH</b> B f	Mrs L Alexander	Golden Horn Handana	
Assertive Dyanita			
<b>OPERA GIFT</b> B c	Mr J C Smith		
Nathaniel Opera Glass			

<b>CLASSIC LORD</b> Ch c			
Lord of England Classic Diva	Park House Partnership		
<b>CLIP</b> B f			
Iffraaj Concise	Freedman & Stone		
<b>COVER DRIVE</b> B c			
Mukhadram Perfect Cover	Park House Partnership		
<b>DAISY WARWICK</b> B f			
Kingman Our Poppet	Hot To Trot Racing		
<b>DAMNED ELUSIVE</b> B f			
Sir Percy Cape Victoria	KRC		
<b>DANCE AT NIGHT</b> B c			
Dark Angel Strictly Dancing	Mr J C Smith		
<b>DEJAME PASO</b> B c			
The Gurkha Bergamot Orange	Mr N Watts		
<b>DESERT RAVINE</b> B c			
Tamayuz Hidden Valley	KRC		
<b>DISCOMATIC</b> B c			
Estidhkaar Allthrightmoves	Park House Partnership		
<b>DUNADINA</b> Ch f			
Dunaden Dauphine	Lord Blyth		
<b>EXPERT OPINION</b> B c			
Worthaad Calypso Choir	Mr J C Smith		
<b>FANTALOPE</b> B f			
Lope de Vega Fantasia	Mr G Strawbridge		
<b>FLYIN' HIGH</b> B c			
Siyouni Zee Zee Top	Castle Down Racing		
<b>GOLDEN CRUSADER</b> B c			
Golden Horn Ihsas	Relentless Dreamers Racing		
<b>GYENYAME</b> B c			
Nathaniel Lizzie Tudor	Mrs K Gough		
<b>HENRIK</b> Br c			
Gutaifan Ibecke	Park House Partnership		
<b>HEY TEACHER</b> B c			
Fascinating Rock See Emily Play	Park House Partnership		
<b>HIMYAN</b> B f			
Muhaarar Fort Del Oro	Al Rabban Racing/Ballylinch Stud		
<b>IMPERIAL FORCE</b> B c			
Camacho Cafetiere	Mr M Blencowe		
<b>JUAN DE MONTALBAN</b> Ch c			
Lope De Vega Abilene	Mick & Janice Mariscotti		
<b>LION HUNTER</b> Ch c			
Hunter's Light Lightning Debut	Mr B McGuire & Partner		
<b>MAY NIGHT</b> Ch c			
Mayson Dream Melody	Mr M. Payton		
<b>MELLOW MAGIC</b> B f			
Nathaniel Lady Brora	KRC		
<b>MONEYKENNY</b> Gr/Ro c			
Kendargent Divine Touch	Park House Partnership		
<b>NAPPER TANDY</b> B c			
Mukhadram Diktalina	Mr A Anderson		
<b>NEBULOSA</b> B f			
Archipenko Nimiety	Miss. K Rausing		
<b>NEENEE'S CHOICE</b> B c			
Paco Boy Galaxy Highflyer	Mick and Janice Mariscotti		
<b>OO DE LALLY</b> B c			
Vadamos In Dubai	J Palmer-Brown & Partner		
<b>PRETTY ONE</b> Gr f			
Dark Angel Dolled Up	Mr B Hayes		
<b>RECOVERY RUN</b> B c			
Nathaniel Regal Splendour	Another Bottle Racing		
<b>RIVAL</b> B c			
Iffraaj Pamona	Highclere Racing		
<b>SCOOP</b> B f			
Belardo Kapria	Mr B Hayes		
<b>SEA THE CORAL</b> B f			
Sea The Moon Coral Wave	Mr G Strawbridge		
<b>SECRET SHADOW</b> B f			
Camelot Secret Pursuit	Mr G Brook		
<b>SHE IS FIERCE</b> Ch f			
New Approach She Is Great	Al Adiyat Racing		
<b>SPANISH COLT</b> B c			
Kodiac Fairywren	Javier Maldonado		
<b>SPICE STORE</b> Gr f			
Mastercraftsman Night Carnation	Mr G Strawbridge		
<b>SPIRIT LEVEL</b> B c			
Cable Bay Cape Spirit	KRC		
<b>SPIRIT MIXER</b> Ch c			
Frankel Arabian Queen	Mr J C Smith		
<b>STAG PARTY</b> B g			
Rajsaman Invitee	Mr L L Register		
<b>SUNFLOWER SEED</b> Ch f			
Showcasing Sunflower	Coln Valley Stud		
<b>SUNSET SALUTE</b> B c			
Twilight Son Hill Welcome	Park House Partnership		
<b>SWIVELSTICK</b> Ch c			
Pivotal Gosbeck	Park House Partnership		
<b>TACTICAL</b> B c			
Toronado Make Fast	HM The Queen		
<b>TANGLEWOOD TALES</b> Ch c			
Nathaniel Camdora	Lord Blyth		
<b>THE KODI KID</b> B g			
Kodi Bear Dat Il Do	Park House Partnership		
<b>TOUCHET BERET</b> Ch f			
Helmet Perfect Blessings	Mildmay Racing		
<b>TWILIGHT TROUBLE</b> B c			
Twilight Son Poly Pomona	Relentless Dreamers Racing		
<b>VALLEY FORCE</b> B c			
Dansili Lixirova	Mr G Strawbridge		
<b>WINTERWATCH</b> B c			
Lord of England Wildlife Lodge	Park House Partnership		
<b>WITHOUT ENVY</b> B c			
Lope De Vega Purple Pearl	Mr R Gorrell & Mr N Botica		
<b>YOUTH SPIRIT</b> B c			
Camelot Rocana	Ahmad Al Shaikh		
<b>XXX</b> B f			
Cityscape Sweet Mandolin	JC. & SR. Hitchins		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Kingman Spin	King Power Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Zoffany Starfish	King Power Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Dark Angel Tamarisk	King Power Racing		
<b>XXX</b> Ch c			
Australia What A Treasure	King Power Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Awtaad Dame Hester	King Power Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Frankel Promised Money	King Power Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Golden Horn Lombatina	King Power Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B g			
Nayef Preveza	Mr M Pendarves		
<b>XXX</b> B f			
Australia Pivotalia	Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Sir Percy Shadow Dancing	Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Free Eagle Set Fire	Mrs Susan Roy/D Burke		
<b>XXX</b> Ch c			
New Approach Mu'ajiza	Qatar Racing & K2 Bloodstock		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Lope De Vega Qushchi	Qatar Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Sea The Stars Ignis Away	Qatar Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
American Pharoah Topic	Qatar Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Territories Lorient	Mrs F Hay		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Shalaa Noelani	Mrs F Hay		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Sea The Moon A L'Anglaise	Al Rabban Racing & Partner		
<b>XXX</b> B f			
Iffraaj Queens Dream	Sir Alex Ferguson		
<b>XXX</b> B f			
Zoffany Fontley	Thurloe T/breds Royal Marsden		
<b>XXX</b> B f			
Acclamation Scots Fern	Mrs P Veenbaas & Partner		
<b>XXX</b> Ch c			
Lope De Vega Moi Meme	Apollo Racing & DTA Racing		
<b>XXX</b> B c			
Lope De Vega Rosie Cotton	Apollo Racing & PDR Properties		
<b>XXX</b> Ch c			
Lope De Vega Queen of Power	Apollo Racing & PDR Properties		



# 12 TO FOLLOW 2-y-o POINTERS

Tessa Hetherington

**M**y annual task of selecting the Park House 2yos most likely to excel as juveniles does not get any easier, not least because this season's crop seem a particularly nice bunch, almost all of whom are thriving on their early work. Nevertheless I have done my best to pick out those who, on pedigree, physical type and response to early training, seem most likely to be amongst our more precocious two year olds.

## **Carolus Magnus B c**

*Holy Roman Emperor / Izola*

This colt's sire won his debut in June of his two year old season before winning two juvenile Group 1s (Phoenix Stakes and Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere) and finishing runner-up in two more (National Stakes and Dewhurst). A solid sire of mostly milers and middle-distance horses, he gets 2yos but his progeny progress well. Izola placed twice at two before winning over nine furlongs in France as a 3yo. She is a half-sister to Brick By Brick, who made his debut in April of his juvenile season before winning at Listed level the same year, and the family includes Group 3 winning and Group 1 placed 2yo Fantastic View. Bought for €38,000 at the Tattersalls Ireland yearling sale, this colt looks sharp and racy.

## **Dark Angel / Tamarisk B c**



This colt is by superstar stallion Dark Angel, who was a top class juvenile sprinter himself (winning the Group 2 Mill Reef Stakes and the Group 1 Middle Park Stakes) and is an excellent source of speedy 2yos. This colt is out of the unraced Tamarisk and is therefore a full brother to Happy Power, who won twice as a juvenile for Park House before

going to to win at Listed level and finish fourth in the Group 1 Sussex Stakes last year. The family also includes good 2yos Cairns (winner of the Group 2 Rockfel Stakes) and Wannabe Grand (winner of the Group 1 Cheveley Park Stakes). A more impressive physical specimen than his brother at the same stage, this colt is taking everything in his stride and looks an early type. His looks and page saw him fetch 425,000gns in Book 1 of Tattersalls.

## **Frankel / Promised Money B c**



A 475,000gns purchase for King Power Racing in Book 1 at Tattersalls, this colt's sire needs little introduction, having been unbeaten in fourteen starts since winning on debut in August of his juvenile year. He has made an excellent start at stud and can get a good 2yo (such as last year's Group 1 Fillies Mile heroine Quadrilateral), albeit that they tend to appear in the second half of their juvenile year. This colt could buck that trend, as he is out of mare who won in May of her juvenile year and was a Listed winner and Group 3 placed the same season. She is also a half-sister to the Listed winning 2yo Beldale Memory. This colt is a ball of power and looks every inch a two year old type.

## **Himyan B f**

*Muhaarar / Fort Del Oro*

This filly's sire was an early runner, winning on debut in May of his juvenile season before taking the Group 2 Gimcrack Stakes and placing in the Group 1 Middle Park. As a 3yo he won no less than four Group 1 sprints in succession. His first crop of 2yos hit the track last year, and whilst they did not include a superstar it is still early days for this



son of Oasis Dream. Fort Del Oro did not race at two but she went on to win three Listed sprints and she is out of the highly precocious Gilded, who won five times as a two year old, including the Group 2 Queen Mary Stakes at Royal Ascot. Bought in Book 1 at Tattersalls by Billy Jackson-Stops for Al Rabban Racing (the team behind last year's star 2yo filly Shadn), Himyan is compact and balanced and could well follow in her granddam's footsteps.

## **Imperial Force B c**

*Camacho / Cafetiere*



Bought for 72,000 gns in Book 2 at Tattersalls in October, this colt's sire won on debut in July of his two year old year and is known as a solid source of speed and precocity. Cafetiere made her debut on 30 March of her juvenile season and won in May. Her half-sister Percolator first ran on 28 March as a two year old and was a Listed and Group 3 winner that same year, whilst their dam, Coffee Cream, also won at two. Cafetiere has produced two previous foals, both of whom ran at two with one winning as a juvenile. This colt is an outstanding physical specimen and, although currently very laid-back at home, has the pedigree and substance to be one of our earlier representatives on the racecourse.

**Lope De Vega / Moi Meme Ch c**

A dual winner and Group 1 placed at two, Lope De Vega excelled at three but has sired a number of good juveniles, including Group 1 Dewhurst winner Belardo and Group 3 winning 2yos Phoenix Of Spain and South Seas. This colt's dam was unraced at two but a Listed winner at three, and the granddam, Di Moi Oui, won at two before winning two Group 3s as a three year old. The family is not replete with precocious two year olds but it is full of black type performers, and this colt's athleticism and the enthusiasm with which he has tackled his early work suggests that he is more than capable of making his mark this year. His pedigree and looks are reflected in the fact that he fetched 325,000 gns in Book 1 at Tattersalls last October.

**May Night Ch c**

*Mayson / Dream Melody*



This imposing colt is a son of top sprinter Mayson, who won and was Listed placed as a juvenile before winning the Group 1 July Cup as an older horse. He is capable of siring a decent 2yo, his progeny including True Mason (Group 1 placed at two) and Global Applause (Listed winner at two) and Laugh A Minute (winner of the Weatherbys 2yo Stakes at Doncaster). This colt's dam won as a 3yo in Sweden but is a half-sister to winning juvenile Kasseopia (also Grade 3 placed in the USA at two) and from the wonderful Cheveley Park family of Echelon and Integral. Bought for £22,000 at Doncaster's Premier Yearling Sale, May Night should give owner Michael Payton plenty of fun this year.

**Sea The Stars / Ignis Away B c**

An exceptional stallion who himself won a Group 2 as a juvenile, Sea The Stars would not be known for producing 2yos, but quite a few of his progeny are sufficiently precocious to win in the latter half of their juvenile season before progressing as three year olds (for example Cloth Of Stars, a Group 3



winner at two, Taghrooda and Fox Tal). Ignis Away did not set the world on fire as a racehorse but she is a half-sister to the brilliant Danedream, who won and was Group placed at two before going on to win five Group 1s in subsequent years. Ignis Away has produced one previous foal, a filly by Australia who won on debut at two in September last year. This colt, bought for €400,000 at Arqana in October, is a compact, racy type who looks ready to win this year.

**Shalaa / Noelani B c**

This colt is from the first crop of top sprint juvenile Shalaa, who first won in May of his two year old season before taking the Group 1 Middle Park and the Group 1 Prix Morny. The dam was a Group 3 winner at three and four but was unraced at two. She is, however, a half-sister to Group 1 winning sprinter Namid, who was a Group 3 winner as a juvenile, and to Mandama and Natalis, both of whom won and were Stakes placed at two. Noelani has already produced a black type horse in Sufranel (Group 3 placed in Italy). This colt looks speedy and athletic and should make his mark this year. He fetched €130,000 at Arqana in October.

**Sir Percy / Shadow Dancer B c**

This colt's sire was a very precocious juvenile, winning in May before going on to take the Vintage Stakes and Dewhurst Stakes the same year. Whilst best known as a source of older stayers he also gets plenty of good 2yos. Shadow Dancer won at 2 over a mile before going on



to win at Listed level over the extended eleven furlongs and to place third in the Oaks. Whilst her progeny have not to date been early performers, this colt is strong and athletic and relishes his work, really catching the eye on the gallops. Bought by owner Sheikh Juma at Book 2 of the Tattersalls October Yearling Sale for 98,000gns, he was an obvious addition to this list.

**Spanish Colt B c**

*Kodiac / Fairy Wren*



Bought privately as a foal, Javier Maldonado's colt is a son of leading sire Kodiac who, despite only running once at two himself, is an excellent source of speedy juveniles. This colt's dam was unraced but is a half-sister to the classy Sandiva, who won three times at two (including on debut in May) and placed second in the Group 2 Albany Stakes at Royal Ascot, and two other decent juveniles in Wentworth and Irish Cliff. This cheeky colt is small and racy (typical of his sire) and skips up the gallop with ease.

**Spirit Level B c**

*Cable Bay / Cape Spirit*

Bred here at Kingsclere Stud, this colt is by 2019's stallion sensation Cable Bay, who topped the first season sire tables on both prizemoney and black-type performers. A son of Invincible Spirit, Cable Bay won as a young 2yo before placing in five Group contests that year, including when finishing runner-up in the Group 1 Dewhurst. His excellent start at stud has seen his fee treble from what it was when this colt was conceived, and he should bring some precocity into this colt's genetic make-up. Cape Spirit ran only once at two and was rather frustrating to follow on the racecourse, but she hails from a lovely family which includes top 2yo (and subsequent Classic winner) Rodrigo De Triano. Strong but light on his feet, this colt catches the eye at home.



**Spirit Mixer Ch c***Frankel / Arabian Queen*

Bred by his owner Jeff Smith, this colt is by superstar racehorse and stallion Frankel, who was a Group 1 winner as a juvenile in addition to his exploits as an older horse. The dam, Arabian Queen, is best known for springing a big surprise when beating Golden Horn in the Group 1 Juddmonte International as a 3yo but she was no slouch as a 2yo either, winning on debut in May and taking the Group 2 Duchess Of Cambridge Stakes that same year. This colt is her first foal and looks to have the physical attributes to be an earlier type and the athleticism to match his wonderful pedigree.

**Sunflower Seed Ch f***Showcasing / Sunflower*

Bred by her owners Coln Valley Stud, this attractive filly is by Showcasing, who won the Group 2 Gimcrack Stakes at two and was placed in the Group 1 Middle Park. He has made an excellent start at stud, producing speedy and precocious horses including Advertise, Quiet Reflection, Tasleet and Soldier's Call. Sunflower was trained at Park House and won on debut in September of her two year old year. We thought sufficiently highly of her to run her in the Group 1 Cheveley Park Stakes that year and, although she never quite lived up to our expectations, she was a talented filly. Sunflower Seed is her first foal and bears a strong physical resemblance but seems to have a much more tractable personality, which is a relief! She is the most forward of our fillies and is already sitting upsides with the colts.

**Swivelstick Ch c***Pivotal / Gosbeck*

Bought for €45,000 at the Goffs Orby Sale and now part of the Park House Partnership, this colt is a son of the excellent Pivotal, who is a good source of 2yos despite only winning in October of his juvenile season before going on

to win the Group 1 Nunthorpe Stakes at three. The dam did not run at all at two (she won over ten furlongs at three and over fourteen furlongs at four), but she hails from the family of top German 2yos Smooth Operator and Anna Paola. Whilst this colt's pedigree does not make him an obvious inclusion in this list, he has done tremendously well physically since we bought him and he is showing plenty of promise in his early work.

**Tactical B c***Toronado / Make Fast*

Bred by his owner, H.M. The Queen, this impressive colt is by young sire Toronado, who won on his racecourse debut in June of his juvenile year before taking the Group 2 Champagne Stakes. He progressed into one of the top milers of his generation, winning the Sussex Stakes and the Queen Anne and going close in three other Group 1 contests to stellar opposition (Dawn Approach, Kingman and Charm Spirit). Make Fast was trained at Park House and was a winner and Listed placed as a 2yo over sprint trips, emulating her own dam who was a Group 3 winner at two. Tactical is her first foal but is very strong and powerful and looks a racy type.

**Twilight Trouble B c***Twilight Son / Poly Pomona*

This chunky colt is from the first crop of crack sprinter Twilight Son, who won at two before taking the Group 1 Haydock Sprint Cup and Group 1 Diamond Jubilee Stakes in subsequent years. His first



yearlings looked early types at the sales and this colt was no exception. The dam did not run at two and did not win until she was four but she is a half-sister to Rudolf Valentino, a winner and Group placed at two, and from the family of Kutub, In The Limelight and On The Nile, all of whom were juvenile winners. The dam has already produced a winning two year old and, bought for £26,000 at the Tattersalls Ascot Sale, this colt looks like he could well be her second.

**Youth Spirit B c***Camelot / Rocana*

A Group 1 winner at two before winning the 2,000 Guineas and the Derby at three, Camelot is best known for



producing older middle distance horses (such as Irish Derby winner Latrobe and Moonee Valley Gold Cup winner Hunting Horn) but he can sire a good two year old, having produced Chesham winner Arthur Kitt and Criterium de Maisons-Lafitte winner Fighting Irish. Rocana was unraced but is a half-sister to three good juveniles in Blaine (won Group 2 Gimcrack), Bogart (won York sales race and Redcar 2yo Trophy) and Byline (won at two and seventh in Gimcrack). This is her first foal and he looks to have inherited all of the family's precocity. Bought for €48,000 at Arqana in France, he is a lovely prospect for owner Ahmad Al-Shaikh. ■

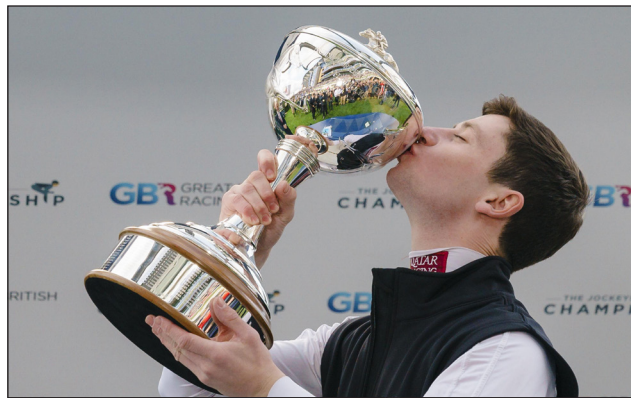
# APPRENTICES – RULE CHANGES

by Andrew Balding

As of the 28th of March this year, new rules will come into effect which change the financial relationship between trainers and apprentice jockeys. Under the old rules, the trainer who held the licence for an apprentice jockey would receive 50% of that jockey's riding fee whilst he or she was a 7lb claimer, 45% whilst a 5lb claimer and 20% whilst a 3lb claimer. The trainer would also receive 50% of the apprentice jockey's prizemoney share, irrespective of the rider's claim. In return, the trainer would be responsible for 50% of all the apprentice jockey's expenses (travel, equipment etc). Under the new rules, which mirror those for conditional jockeys in the National Hunt sphere, the trainer will receive 20% of the riding fee for all his or her apprentices, irrespective of their claim. He or she will receive 20% of the prizemoney share of 7lb and 5lb claimers, reducing to 10% for 3lb claimers. Apprentice jockeys will become responsible for 100% of their expenses.

Much has been written and said about these changes, and it is my view that they will have a detrimental impact on the number of quality jockeys that British racing will produce over the coming years. Whilst the evidence of this is only likely to become apparent when the current executive law makers have long left the BHA, it is my opinion that the board's decision is based on a flawed analysis and that board members have been misled into voting for a motion that might appear popular in various sections of the press but will be to the detriment of the industry in the longer term.

In an article in an earlier edition of this magazine (Winter 2018), racing journalist Colin Russell noted that the system for training young jockeys in this country lags well behind the equivalent in other sports such as football, where there is a nationwide framework of youth and reserve teams where youngsters can learn their trade, sheltered from the betting public and the media spotlight, and where clubs recoup significant rewards for nurturing talent as they either retain their home-grown stars or can sell them on for huge sums. He noted that, whilst there have been advances in the training provided by the racing schools and in the introduction of jockey coaches, the main task of developing young riders still falls to individual trainers, who can be instrumental in developing a top class apprentice jockey only for him or her to be snapped up by another yard on shedding their



*Oisín Murphy was Champion Apprentice from Kingsclere and is the current Champion Jockey*

claim, with no recompense to the trainer.

The cost of developing a young rider is difficult to quantify. An 'audit' by the BHA which formed the basis for the rule change made a stab at quantifying the trainers' share of travel expenses under the existing arrangements but used only a very small sample size (seemingly six or seven riders) and came to only very vague conclusions, without

showing any workings. The figures presented to the BHA Board for expenses are not much easier to understand. The audit also gave a nod to the fact that apprentices are paid a full-time wage, even when they are not in the yard because they are race-riding (whether for their own trainer or for another trainer), but made no attempt to assign any figure to this cost or to factor it into their calculations, an omission apparently not remedied at any point before the BHA Board considered the situation, despite protestations from the National Trainers Federation.

Furthermore, in order to give all apprentices opportunities to ride in races you need to keep at least one horse as a dedicated apprentice ride. At times we have had up to five such horses, either owned by us or trained at a discounted fee for an owner as long as they were willing to use our apprentices. In addition to feeding and housing that horse, you need staff to look after it, transport to get it to the races, etc. Again, the BHA's audit mentioned this in passing (by quoting one trainer who said he had bought horses for his apprentices) and the NTF raised this before the BHA Board, but the BHA did not appear to probe further into this element of support, let alone cost it up and build it into their financial analysis.

In addition to elements which could be quantified financially (but largely were not, in the BHA's analysis), there is a whole range of support provided and risks assumed by trainers with apprentices which cannot be put into figures. An apprentice's claim is a huge bonus when they are riding to a standard that makes them value for their claim, but this takes time and tuition. As a trainer it is your decision when a young rider is ready to ride his or her first piece of work, when they have enough skill to lead a piece of work on the grass or when they are capable of holding a strong puller or surviving a badly behaved lot. You also have to decide when they are ready to ride safely on the racecourse, and when they are ready to ride for a full fee-paying owner. There is no manual for this and there is no way of really knowing for sure when each stage



of competence has been reached. Each time you make that call you are assuming a risk, whether it be to your horses, to your other staff, to your relationship with your owners, or to your reputation. These are essential risks if riders are to improve, but they are borne by the trainers and they cannot be removed by any amount of sessions on an equiciser with a jockey coach.

It is against this backdrop that trainers have been provided with some incentive to take on and develop young jockeys via the previous apprentice jockey agreement which, as outlined above, permitted trainers to recoup a significant percentage of the apprentice's riding fee and prizemoney share. Kingsclere has long enjoyed a tradition of producing top apprentices who have gone on to enjoy very successful careers as professional jockeys. Phillip Waldron, John Matthias, Martin Dwyer, Liam Keniry, William Buick, David Probert, Rob Hornby, Oisin Murphy and Jason Watson are all familiar names to anyone with even a passing interest in the sport of horse racing.

Of course, when a trainer gets a top flight apprentice, their financial contribution to his yard can be considerable and a significant bonus. In addition to the top jockeys who have come through this yard, however, there are scores of other names, too many to list, that have benefitted from the apprentice scheme we have developed at Kingsclere and are still employed within the industry as work riders, grooms, travelling head lads and indeed trainers. The fact that they are still involved in racing may be in some part due to the fact that they were given an opportunity to ride in races

at a point in their lives and careers when they needed that sort of level of involvement to entice them into the industry or to keep them in it. These apprentices are unlikely to have brought in much to the yard's coffers and, indeed, once all the factors outlined above are taken into account, some will have cost us money. I have always felt, however, that we have had good years and bad and when the whole thing evened up it was a worthwhile thing to do, not least because I felt we were contributing to the industry by trying to produce riders who had skill both in and out of the saddle. In recent years I have allowed some riders who have taken more than three years to lose their claim to keep all their outside earnings as 3lb claimers, and in some cases I have suggested to 5lb claimers that they might get more opportunities in another yard and our investment in getting them going has become someone else's profit. There are wins and losses like in everything,

but it is a system that has worked for both parties for many years.

In recent years, flat trainers have been much more successful in producing young riders than their jump racing counterparts, and in fostering talent from a wide variety of backgrounds. My analysis of the jockeys' tables for both codes suggests that, of the top thirty jockeys in the National Hunt sphere, 54% of those who came through the conditional route are closely related to trainers, whilst for the top thirty flat jockeys, only 37% of those that came through as apprentices are closely related to trainers. Similarly, if one looks at the past thirty champion apprentices, only 16% are closely related to trainers, whilst the equivalent figure for the last thirty champion conditionals is 40%. There are bound to be several factors at play here, but it is hard to escape the conclusion that nepotism plays a greater role in the jumps domain because trainers are less incentivised to take on and nurture young riders without some family connection.

My fear is that the new system will further inhibit those aspiring jockeys who do not come from affluent backgrounds. Their start-up equipment costs alone will amount to several hundred pounds. Furthermore, many of our apprentices got going by forging relationships with small trainers, often in the north of England, and travelling up and down the country for a single ride, usually an outsider in a low-grade handicap, unlikely to win any prizemoney. How will they be able to finance 100% of their travel and other expenses on their work rider wage without external financial support?

It is all very well to say that



*Former apprentice Rob Hornby and current apprentice Will Carver riding work on the Kingsclere Downs*

apprentices can get a lift to the races in the horsebox but we often do not have runners at the meetings where our apprentices have rides, and in any event one has to wonder whether it is a good use of an apprentice's time to arrive at a racecourse three hours before the first runner and to sit in the weighing room twiddling their thumbs, rather than riding work at home and improving their skills.

The impetus for the rule change came from the discovery that some trainers were not paying their apprentices the expenses to which they were entitled under the agreement. The BHA's audit looked at twelve apprentice jockeys and found that seven of them were not having their expenses correctly reimbursed by their trainers. This is obviously a concern, and indeed it was the main concern raised by the apprentices interviewed as part of the BHA's investigation into the trainer/apprentice relationship. Those who received their expenses had no desire to make changes

to the current structure, and of the four who favoured a change to the conditional jockey model, two were happy to retain the current system if they received their expenses. None of the twelve trainers interviewed were in favour of the changes which have now been voted through, and three of them said they would have to consider no longer taking apprentices under a conditional jockey model (a view echoed by myself and several other leading trainers when the changes were first mooted).

Whilst the BHA's audit did note that enforcing the obligation to pay 50% of apprentices' equipment costs could easily be addressed by changing the rules under which Weatherbys operate, scant consideration seems to have been given to alternative models for dealing with apprentices' other expenses. These could include apprentices submitting all their expenses directly to Weatherbys (perhaps using the PJA or even jockey coaches as intermediaries) and the trainers' 50% being deducted from the trainer's riding fee and prizemoney share before it was paid out. Alternatively correct payment of apprentices' expenses could be made a condition of each trainer's licence and policed by the BHA via spot checks or annual audits.

Furthermore, the incentives to use inexperienced apprentices do not have to be as basic as a riding fee or prizemoney split. For example, if an apprentice could claim an extra allowance when riding for his or her own stable in the early stages of their career then it would certainly be

more attractive to use novice apprentices and would make the concurrent costs and risks more worthwhile.

Instead of investigating these options, however, the BHA approved a change to the rules which goes well beyond fixing the mischief at which it was aimed, and which was advocated by only two of the twenty four individuals approached as part of the audit commissioned following the initial media coverage. The BHA made this change in the knowledge that it could lead to a number of trainers, including leading employers of apprentices such as myself, Richard Hannon, Richard Fahey and Mark Johnston, refusing to take on apprentices in the future. There does not appear to have been any analysis of the long-term impact this might have.

Once the BHA had ruled in favour of the new changes I felt compelled to write to Nick Rust to confirm that under the new arrangements I did not feel it was viable to take on any new apprentices. His reply was so dismissive and inadequate that I felt it necessary to share my letter publicly. This caused much debate but I remain steadfast in my view that the issue has not been scrutinised in enough detail and that the conclusions reached are misguided. Only time will tell what the impact of removing any real incentive to give young apprentices the appropriate start in their career will be in the long run but I fear that by the time it becomes apparent it will be too late for a whole group of aspiring young jockeys. ■



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# STAFF UPDATE

We were delighted that Bradley Harris secured the runner-up prize for the Newcomer Award at the Godolphin Stud And Stable Staff Awards (see photo on page 2). One of just three finalists in his category, he and his family enjoyed the awards evening at London's UnderGlobe Theatre and we were very proud to be represented there by such a promising and enthusiastic young member of the team.

We are very glad to have William Cox back riding for us, both at home and on the track, after he completed a stint in America in the Autumn. Based at Tampa Bay Downs in Florida for top US trainer Graham Motion, Will rode up to six horses out on the track each day and also had three race rides for the team. Riding in the States can be very different to riding here and the experience will have given Will a broader range of skills to put into effect back at home.



*Will and Cieran Fallon Jr in Florida*

Will is not the only jet-setter in our ranks. Maddy O'Meara has taken over the mantle of international travel from Leanne White and, in addition to doing a top-notch job of looking after our horses when they race abroad, the excellent content she has produced for social media has earned her an award from GBRI. Her videos from her travels give a real insight into the process of flying horses to race around the globe and have been extremely well received by a wide audience. Well done Mads!

Apprentice Josh Bryan is back race-riding and has been honing his fitness with preparations for the London Marathon, which he runs on Sunday 26 April in aid of Racing Welfare. Running a marathon is no mean feat, even for a fit jockey, and he would very much welcome your support in raising money for a great charity. See <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JoshBryan5>. ■

## MELVIN RHODES

We said goodbye to Melvin Rhodes in December, when he retired following almost fifty years of service at Park House. Melvin arrived in Kingsclere in 1970 as a fifteen year old, and began a five year apprenticeship to I.A.B. He had just one ride under rules, on Paul Mellon's Aldie at Newbury in 1973, but when his five years were up he stayed on in Kingsclere as a work rider and groom.

In time he took responsibility for much of the travelling of horses to the races, a role he held for many years. I.A.B. was a bold campaigner of his horses on the international stage and



Melvin went in charge on many foreign trips, including with Dashing Blade, Tagula, Lochsong and Pay Homage.

When his health called time on riding out in 2011, Melvin became a member of the ground staff team and took on responsibility for looking after the Guvnor's hacks – an important role and one he performed with great diligence. He also looked after fellow Park House legend Intransigent, both whilst he was racing and when he too graduated to the hacks boxes. Knowledgeable, skilled and reliable, Melvin is much missed, particularly by I.A.B., Intransigent and Isphahan! ■

## FAVOURBROOK

### ***Favourbrook partners with Kingsclere for a new Royal Ascot collection***

As the Official Licensee of Royal Ascot 2020, Favourbrook – London's premier destination for men's and women's formal and occasionwear – has this year created a very special menswear collection featuring traditional charcoal morning dress in superfine merino cloth and a selection of matching silk waistcoats, pocket squares and ties. More notable however is the inclusion of a navy 'Furlong' morning suit, which will be permitted into the Royal Enclosure for the first time in the event's 309-year history.

The tradition of formalwear at Royal Ascot can be traced back to the influence of the notorious 19th-century dandy Beau Brummell who once famously decreed that 'men of elegance'



should attend the race meet wearing 'waisted black coats and white cravats with pantaloons.' Interestingly, Brummell himself favoured the Montem-inspired blue-and-bluff combination of dress as opposed to the stark black and white style that would become standard evening dress.

Partnering with Kingsclere for the second year running, Favourbrook is delighted to offer a 10% discount to Kingsclere owners, offering contemporary morning dress and waistcoats of the highest order for gentlemen, and exquisite handmade dresses and embroidered coats for ladies. Head to 16-17 Pall Mall to be fitted by Favourbrook's formalwear experts and to enjoy your best-looking Royal Ascot yet. ■



