

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



SUMMER MAGAZINE 2019



Above: Ernie (Meg Armes) is judged Best Puppy at the Kingsclere Dog Show

Front cover: BEAT THE BANK with Sandeep after finishing second at Royal Ascot

Back cover: LE DON DE VIE streaks clear on Derby Day at Epsom

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
THE SEASON SO FAR	3
TESSA HETHERINGTON	
2019 TWELVE TO FOLLOW COMPETITION	16
FAREWELL TO A FABULOUS FOUR	18
KINGSCLERE RACING CLUB	19
STAFF NEWS	19
BEAT THE BANK	20
SALES SEASON	21
SPILLERS AWARDS	22
RACING STAFF WEEK	22
BERKSHIRE EQUINE	23
SUMMER PARTIES	23

Editor: Tessa Hetherington

Design: Adrian Hodgkins

Photography: Michael Harris, Hugh Routledge, Denis Murphy, Francesca Altoft, Megan Ridgwell, Alan Wright, Nigel Bowles, Stephen Davies, Sam Stephenson, Tabitha Ridley-Thomas, Tessa Hetherington, Jonno Balding, Ffos Las Racecourse
Contributors: Tessa Hetherington, Andrew Balding, Nathaniel Barnett

© 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

Horse racing has always been unpredictable and in many ways that is part of its attraction. It can provide fantastic high points but then have the opposite effect on one's emotions a moment later.

Saturday 13 July was one of those days. Having enjoyed the thrill of watching Pivoine win one of the season's most important handicaps, closely followed by Beat The Bank battling back to win a second Summer Mile, the ecstasy of victory was replaced in a split second by a feeling of total horror with Beat The Bank suffering what could immediately be seen to be an awful injury.

Whilst winning races is important to everyone at Kingsclere, the vast majority of people who work in racing do it because they love horses and there is nothing more cruel in this sport than losing a horse, whether it be on the gallops or on the racecourse. Beat The Bank was a wonderful racehorse and a great character and will be remembered with huge affection by everyone at Park House.

Whilst losing equine friends is never easy it is not as difficult as saying goodbye to two wonderful friends in Lynne Burns and Dr Elizabeth Harris. Lynne was a long time member of the Kingsclere Racing Club and her genial personality and sense of fun endeared her to everyone lucky enough to meet her. Dr Harris owned horses at Kingsclere for over thirty years and her last horse, Dungannon, gave her great pleasure in her final years. She was a warm and affectionate person who really loved her racing.

By and large the 2019 flat season has been a successful one to date. It was particularly gratifying to send out two winners at Royal Ascot, one for our longstanding supporters Mick and Janice Mariscotti who had earlier recorded their 50th winner as owners with the yard on Derby Day at Epsom. Having reached the £2m mark in mid-August, the foundations have been laid for a record year for the yard. We currently have nine horses in Timeform's top one hundred three year olds and, with more than a handful of exciting two year olds still to make their debuts, we should be set for an exciting climax to the season.



An impressive turnout for the Kingsclere Bake Off

THE SEASON SO FAR

by Tessa Hetherington

With 89 winners and over £2million in prize-money on the board at the time of writing, this season has already been one to savour, with the majority of the horses in consistently fine form from March onwards and some major achievements already under our belts. We shall not be resting on our laurels, however, and with many of an exceptionally strong team of three year olds still unexposed and the two year olds only just beginning to find their stride, there is much to look forward to for the rest of the season.

OLDER HORSES

Beat The Bank has been at the forefront of these reports for the last three years and this edition is no exception. He kicked off his five year old campaign with a typically gritty victory in the Group 2 Bet365 Stakes at Sandown under Silvestre De Sousa, grinding it out after hitting a flat spot when first asked to extend. We had high hopes for him in the Group 1 Lockinge Stakes at Newbury but, as last year, he failed to shine at our local track. Things were very different at Ascot, however, when he put in a career best performance to go agonisingly close in the Group 1 Queen Anne Stakes at the Royal meeting, going down by

just a neck to old rival Lord Glitters. It was a great riposte to those who had begun to doubt that he could be a major player at the very highest level, and one which raised our hopes for the rest of the year. Beat The Bank then returned to Ascot for the Group 2 Summer Mile but in recording his second win in the race he sustained a very serious pastern injury which proved fatal. A fuller tribute to this wonderful horse appears elsewhere in these pages, but it is a great sadness to all connected with him that he will no longer feature in this magazine or in the yard's fortunes. We miss him very much.

Beat The Bank's second in the Queen Anne was one of a number of near-misses for King Power Racing during Royal Ascot, but in the final race of the meeting **Cleonte** came up trumps, scoring an emotional victory for the team at the meeting that the late Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha had held in such high esteem. Cleonte had run well in both previous starts this term, when third in the Group 3 Sagaro Stakes at Ascot in May and when sixth in an attritional Chester Cup, and he was sent off second favourite for the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Ascot, the longest race of the meeting over two miles five and a half furlongs. With stamina in abundance he travelled well into the race under Silvestre



CLEONTE secures an emotional victory at Ascot for King Power Racing

De Sousa and powered up the hill in the final two furlongs, scoring decisively to the delight of the King Power team. Since a respectable third over two miles in the Listed Coral Marathon at Sandown, he will next have a tilt at the £1million Ebor before potentially heading down under for the Melbourne Cup or to France for the Prix du Cadran. Sadly he will not be joined in those races by fellow stayer **Montaly**, who failed to handle the terrible conditions in the Chester Cup but then picked up a career-ending injury when looking better than ever at home. A happy retirement awaits our former Chester Cup hero, who will continue to be represented in the yard by his half-sisters Havana Jane and an as yet unnamed Dunaden filly.



MORANDO after running away with the Group 3 Ormonde Stakes at Chester

King Power's **Morando** was another to run a blinder at Ascot, finishing fourth in a strong renewal of the Group 2 Hardwicke Stakes on ground that had by the end of the week become quicker than ideal for him. Now six, he has continued to improve with age and when he gets his conditions he is a serious horse, as he showed with an eight length victory in the Group 3 Ormonde Stakes at Chester's May meeting, beating last year's St Leger winner Kew Gardens. He ran rather flat in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot on his latest start and is being freshened up for a trip to Germany at the end of this month where he will target the Group 1 Grosser Preis von Baden. Scheduled to join him on that jaunt is former Goodwood hero **Here Comes When**, who gave himself a knock when finishing fourth in the Group 3 Brigadier Gerard Stakes at Sandown on reappearance (his first attempt at a mile and two furlongs) but is now back in full work. He is likely to contest the Group 2 Oettingen-Rennen over a mile – a race he won back in 2014.

Sprinter **Donjuan Triumphant** is another who relishes a softer surface and he ran very well at Haydock in June, splitting Group 1 winners Brando and Sands Of Mali in a Class 2 Conditions race that was really a Group 1 in all but name. Ruled out of Royal Ascot by the quick ground, he put in another good performance in the Group 3 Hackwood Stakes at Newbury before giving Silvestre a rather torrid time in the Group 3 Lennox Stakes at Goodwood when very keen in the early stages before getting badly hampered in

the final furlong. He too could head to Germany next, for the Group 2 Golden Peitsche over six furlongs at the start of the big Baden-Baden meeting.

By champion Australian sire Redoute's Choice, **Pivoine** handles quick ground well and, after some solid efforts in Group company and failing to get home in a strongly run Duke Of Edinburgh Stakes at Royal Ascot, he returned to York, the scene of his triumph in the Sky Bet Handicap last year, this time for the prestigious John Smith's Diamond Jubilee Cup. Ideally positioned by jockey Rob Hornby throughout the race, he loomed up on his rivals in the home straight and powered home for a clear win over the extended ten furlongs. Raised to a career high mark of 110 as a result, he ran a creditable fifth in the Grade 1 Arlington Million on his latest start and should make his mark in stakes company. **Genetics** also prefers a faster surface and he has also been on his travels, giving his connections a lot of fun when fourth in the Gran Premio de Madrid at La Zarzuela in Spain, staying on well under Martin Dwyer. He went agonisingly close to a second victory in the Shergar Cup Challenge at Ascot on his latest start and remains in great form. The wonderful mare **Lorelina** had less luck at the Shergar Cup but has continued to perform with credit this season, notably when fourth on reappearance in the Listed Daisy Warwick Stakes at Goodwood and when again fourth in a Class 2 Handicap at Newbury on her penultimate start, beaten only half a length and unlucky to have been bumped in the closing stages.

Lorelina seems as good as ever as a six year old but several other talented mares have given us sufficient indication that they would now rather be producing the next generation of racehorses than producing the goods on the track. Former Stewards Cup heroine **Dancing Star** had no luck on reappearance at Lingfield where she hit her head badly on exiting the stalls, and after a below par effort at York in May connections decided to call time on a stellar career, which is given fuller treatment elsewhere in this magazine. She has been joined in the paddocks of Littleton Stud by **Fair Cop**, who notched up a second career win when scoring over the minimum trip at Chepstow in May but was unable to build on that next time at Redcar. Listed winner **Belle Meade** has retired to the paddocks of nearby Mildmay Stud, whilst Barbara Keller's **Wingingit** is enjoying life at Tweenhills Stud, having been put in foal to Australian sire sensation Zoustar.

The marvellous homebred **Intransigent**, flagbearer for the yard and Kingsclere Racing Club for the past seven seasons, has also been retired. His wonderful career is expanded upon later in the magazine but if Carlsberg made racehorses, they would probably bear a close resemblance to him. Unfortunately, we will not get to train his offspring as he was gelded back in 2010(!), but we may yet see him on the gallops as he remains an excellent lead horse. He is currently enjoying a holiday in a paddock with fellow Kingsclere legend Breakheart, and in the meantime his

mantle as lead horse extraordinaire and regular ride of Head Lad Dylan Holley has been taken up by **Zwayyan**, who reminded us all that he is still a talented horse in his own right with victory in the Lincoln Trial at Wolverhampton in February and a creditable fourth at Class 2 level on quick ground at Bath in April. He again ran well to be third in the Shergar Cup Mile on his latest start.

In addition to his lead horse duties, Intransigent also gave regular opportunities for Park House apprentices to hone their skills. This role is now being performed by **Isomer**, who has been leased from Jim and Fitri Hay for the purpose. He is not the easiest horse to catch right but went very close at Lingfield in February and ran well in a big apprentice handicap at Ascot in May. He then became the regular conveyance of actor Patrick Kennedy, who rode him in the Macmillan Charity race at York in June, and although that didn't quite go to plan the pair had a lot of fun in the process! Second in the Chesham as a two year old, Isomer retains plenty of ability and should be capable of scoring again this term.



Patrick Kennedy receives instructions from Nigel Walker with a celebrity onlooker!

Max Zorin was another good two year old who was placed in the Listed Dee Stakes at three before injury kept him off the track for almost two years. He has failed to shine so far this term but has understandably taken a while to come to hand. The quality of his recent work at home suggests he is still a decent horse when things fall right.

Simoon won for us as a late two year old before picking up an injury and then spent his four year old season with Ed Walker. Returned to Kingsclere as a five year old, he won his first two starts this year, winning at Chelmsford over a mile and at Windsor over ten furlongs, both in the hands of Oisin Murphy. He has been a little disappointing since but is now returning to a workable mark and should be back in the winners' enclosure before long. **Straight Right** was in good form on the All-Weather over the winter, twice finishing runner up at Class 2 level, but he struggled in two starts at Ascot this summer and so has been given a holiday. He will return for an Autumn campaign.

FOUR YEAR OLDS

A trip to Italy in June proved a shrewd move for **Shailene**, who built on her second in the Listed Nottinghamshire Oaks to go one better at San Siro, taking the Listed Premio

Paulo Mezzanotte over a mile and three furlongs under Silvestre De Sousa. She found Group 2 company a little hot on her next start in the Lancashire Oaks but ran very well over a mile and six furlongs to be third in the Qatar Summer Handicap at the Goodwood Festival on ground that was probably firmer than her optimum. She is a wonderfully versatile filly and has plenty of options to further augment her pedigree page before the season is out. Her owner-breeder George Strawbridge has another nice four year old in **Ocala**, who had shown great promise at two and three but was blighted by injury which meant that she began her four year old season as a maiden. Thanks to skilled handling by regular rider Kayleigh Stephens and devoted groom Angela Cheshire she has blossomed this term, winning over a mile at Chepstow in May under David Probert and over the extended ten furlongs at Chester in July under Rob Hornby. A slow start did her little favours at Goodwood on her latest outing and she remains a filly of considerable potential.

Jeff Smith's homebred **Foxtrot Lady** was extremely progressive last year and was always going to find life more difficult this year, faced with the choice of racing off a high mark in handicaps or aiming for winning black type. She ran well to be fourth in the Listed Leisure Stakes at Windsor before being drawn on the wrong side in the Wokingham. She was below par in the Group 3 Summer Stakes at York in July but bounced back with a good effort at her first try at seven furlongs in the Group 3 Oak Tree Stakes at Goodwood, beaten only two and a half lengths in a decent field. That opens up further options for her and she ought to be able to score at Stakes level this year. The same is true of **Whitefountainfairy**, a talented sprinter who was Group placed at Goodwood as a juvenile (coincidentally behind Billesdon Brook, winner of this year's Oak Tree) but had a rather stop-start campaign last year. She needs a little give in the ground and for things to go her way, and although she had the former at this year's Goodwood Festival she did not get the latter, missing the break in the seven furlong handicap before finding herself short of room when coming with an eyecatching late run. She remains very well handicapped and should make amends when she gets her conditions.



SIMOON won his first two starts this season

Whitefountainfairy was a graduate of the Goffs London Sale in 2017 and this year's London Sale yielded promising middle distance performer **Johnny Drama**, bought by King Power from Ger Lyons' yard in Ireland. He didn't get home over a mile and a half in the Duke Of Edinburgh Stakes at Royal Ascot but gave a good account in the ten furlong handicap at Goodwood, running on strongly having blown the start and hit trouble in running when first asked for his effort. He remains unexposed and is an exciting addition to the team. **Stone Of Destiny** was another to run well at Goodwood, finishing eighth in the Stewards' Cup after being rather keen in the early stages. Fourth in the Group 1 Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot last year, he is a very classy horse on his day and, having strung together three commendable performances in big sprint handicaps, gained a much deserved victory in the Shergar Cup Dash under Czech jockey Filip Minarik. Jonathan Palmer-Brown's **Ballyquin** ran in the Stewards' Cup consolation race at Goodwood but, although he showed up well for a long way, he was ill at ease on the quick ground and was struck into in the closing stages. This was only the second time he has been out of the first four in eleven career starts and there will undoubtedly be easier opportunities for him. Pocket rocket **Danzan** was due to run in the Stewards' Cup, having gone close in two Class 3 sprints at Windsor this term, but frustratingly he picked up a knock in his final piece of work before Goodwood. Hopefully that will not put him out of action for too long as he possesses the golden combination of significant talent and the heart of a lion.

Similarly tough, Sheikh Juma's lovely filly **Crossing The Line** kicked off her four year old season with a typically gutsy win in a seven furlongs Conditions event at Kempton in March before finishing a creditable fifth in the Fillies and Mares' Championship at the All Weather Finals. Unable to get into the race from the rear at Chester on her next start, she picked up some valuable black type when second in a Listed event at Chelmsford behind Park House nemesis Billesdon Brook, who has since franked the form! Crossing The Line ran an uncharacteristically poor race in the Bunbury Cup at Newmarket's July meeting but may not have been quite right on that occasion, and she bounced back with a good third back at Chelmsford on her latest start.

Black type is likely to be beyond the reach of the diminutive **Imperial Act**, but she has more than justified her modest price tag at the Goffs UK December sale last year. Then a maiden on a lowly mark of 45, she has been placed in all bar one of her six starts since and has won three of them, two under promising apprentice William Carver who is enjoying a breakthrough season. By Frankel and out of a Listed placed mare, she is an attractive breeding prospect for her owner (one A.M. Balding) but she is not done with winning just yet! **Kitcarina** is another nicely bred filly, being by Shamardal and out of a Listed

winner from a lovely German family. She too was bought as a maiden in December, and also proved a shrewd purchase when winning on her yard debut at Kempton in June, making all under Oisin Murphy in the style of a filly with plenty more in hand. She probably needed the run on her next outing at Chester in July, having missed a few pieces of work with a pulled muscle, but she should give her owners Windmill Racing plenty of fun in the months to come.

Bacacarat was another to win at Kempton, taking a mile handicap in May having gone close at Chelmsford the previous month. At his best on the All-Weather, he is currently having a mid-season holiday before returning for an Autumn campaign. The talented **Caliburn**, a son of Camelot, joined us this season and made a very promising yard debut when fifth in the Jorvik Handicap at York in May on his return from almost nine months off the track.



CALIBURN scored decisively at Pontefract under Silvestre De Sousa

He duly progressed for that run and made light work of a Class 2 Handicap at Pontefract under Silvestre De Sousa on his next start, quickening clear from a decent field on soft ground. He produced another career best when second in the Bet365 Trophy at Newmarket's July meeting, behind subsequent Goodwood winner King's Advice. That run, over a mile and six furlongs and on good to firm, confirmed his versatility and he has since been sold to race in Australia. Also headed down under is **Perfect Illusion**, who had proved expensive to follow after winning his first two career starts last year but began to come back to form recently, winning well over a mile and a half at Brighton under William Carver shortly before selling at the Tattersalls July Sale.

Diocletian, another by Camelot, needs give in the ground to be seen to best effect but even he found the mudbath at Chester's May meeting too much. He bounced back with good efforts at Sandown and Chester when runner-up on both occasions, however, and can add another win on the flat to his record before switching codes and going jumping. Nigel Morris' **Lissitzky** has already made the switch to National Hunt, having rather lost his way on the flat after recording an impressive win in a Class 3 Handicap over a mile and six furlongs at Newmarket under Martin Dwyer. Sturdily built and with a great attitude, he should excel in his new career. A career over obstacles also

beckons for **Flintrock**, who has plenty of ability but does not always channel it in the right direction. He stays well, as his third at Class 3 level over two miles in soft ground at Ascot in May showed, and hopefully a few flights of hurdles might focus his mind! Kingsclere homebred **Seasearch** is also likely to be next seen hurdling, having been sold in June. A winner at Southwell in February and placed a further four times at the track, he is a relentless galloper who loves soft ground so should do well.

Fellow stayer **Maid Up** has also left the yard, but she heads to the paddocks of owner-breeders Jeffrey and Phoebe Hobby's Brightwalton Stud. A revelation last year, progressing from an opening mark of 65 to a Group 3 win in the March Stakes at Goodwood, she looked to have made great physical progress over the winter but seemed unable to capitalise on this on the track, and so connections sensibly decided to call it a day. The squad of staying four year olds has therefore been somewhat depleted but we eagerly await the return to the track of the highly talented **Berkshire Blue**. Winner of the Shergar Cup Classic last year, he has been off games since running a very promising fifth in a strong renewal of the Melrose Handicap at York in August last year, but he is back cantering and remains an exciting prospect for owner Paul Spickett. H.M. The Queen's **Natural History** is another who has had some issues and is currently enjoying a break, but he too has some excellent form from last year and was working extremely well in the Spring.

The ever-dependable **Dream Catching** continues to run with credit, placing at Brighton and Epsom this term, but the standard of his work at home suggests there is plenty more to come from him when things fall his way. That is also very much the case with the frustrating **Papa Stour**, who is capable of matching our very best horses at home but rarely replicates this on the track. **Young Bernie** is lightly raced and looks to be on a handy mark to make his handicap debut in the coming weeks, having run well on all three starts in novice company, whilst **Peggy McKay** was disappointing at Yarmouth last time but ought to be capable of winning from her current mark on the basis of her previous run at Windsor. **Falls Creek**, back in full work after a break, is another who has shown enough to suggest that she can add a win to her already attractive pedigree page.

THREE YEAR OLDS

We were tremendously excited by this year's crop of three year olds going into the Spring and they have certainly met expectations. Mick and Janice Mariscotti have a classy



DASHING WILLOUGHBY gives Mick and Janice Mariscotti a first Royal Ascot success

team in this division, headed by **Dashing Willoughby**, who had not been disgraced in the Group 1 Futurity Trophy on his final start as a juvenile. He ran very well to be runner up in a classy Conditions events at Newbury on reappearance and built on that when third in the Group 3 Chester Vase in May, beating the Newbury winner King Ottaker and with only Sir Dragonet (subsequently fifth in the Derby) and Norway (subsequently third in the Irish Derby) ahead of him. A solid stayer, the Group 2 Queen's Vase over a mile and six furlongs at Royal Ascot had long been the main target of this well-bred son of Nathaniel but he almost failed to make it when found to be hopping lame in his box just four days before the race. Thankfully investigations revealed the cause to be a blood blister in his foot and farrier Eugene Cullen and Kevin Hunt swung into action, tubbing and poulticing the foot round the clock over the weekend. By the Sunday he was sound and by the Wednesday he was a Royal Ascot winner, staying on gamely under Oisin Murphy to record an emphatic and deserved victory for the Mariscottis, who have been loyal supporters of the yard for many years. The enthusiastic encouragement for Dashers from his devoted groom Angie Cheshire was filmed by ITV Racing and quickly went viral on the internet, and even TV presenter Holly Willoughby joined his sizeable fan club. The form of the race has since been franked by the third, Nayef Road, winning the Group 3 Gordon Stakes at Goodwood, and Dashing Willoughby has confirmed himself a stayer of considerable talent with a fourth in the Group 2 Princess Of Wales Stakes over too short a trip and on too firm a surface, followed by a brave fifth in a stellar renewal of the Group 1 Goodwood Cup. He heads to Doncaster for the St Leger next.

King Power Racing's **Bangkok** began this season as a maiden but he had some smart form in the book, most notably when beaten a neck by Sangarius on debut. He wasted little time in getting off the mark as a three year



BANGKOK won the Group 3 Classic Trial at Sandown in April

old, winning a ten furlong maiden at Doncaster on the opening weekend of the turf season with subsequent Dante winner Telecaster in second. Stepped up in class for the Group 3 Classic Trial at Sandown in April, he showed an exciting turn of foot in forging clear of his rivals to win by just over a length under Silvestre De Sousa. Hopes were high that we might have a genuine Derby contender on our hands, but ultimately Bangkok did not handle the idiosyncratic nature of Epsom, failing to settle and never looking at ease on the undulating track. He was none the worse for his efforts and headed to Ascot a fortnight later where he ran a tremendous race in the Group 2 King Edward VII Stakes over a mile and a half, again showing impressive acceleration and finding only subsequent Group 1 winner Japan too good. He ran there as if dropping back to ten furlongs would suit and his next assignment was the Group 2 Sky Bet York Stakes, taking on older horses for the first time. Unfortunately heavy rain had rendered the ground very testing and this, coupled with some trouble in running, put paid to his chances. He will probably head back to the track for the Group 2 Great Voltigeur over twelve furlongs, and remains a horse of very considerable potential.

Raise You had been beaten a neck by the classy King Ottakar on his only start at two and was odds-on favourite to shed his maiden tag on reappearance at Newbury's Greenham meeting in April. He did not disappoint, streaking clear under Oisin Murphy to win by six lengths. This victory, over a mile, looked even more impressive with hindsight as four of the horses behind him at Newbury won next time out, and Raise You was again heavily backed when stepping up to Listed class in the Fairway Stakes over ten furlongs at Newmarket next time out. Once again he put in a dominant display, winning by almost four lengths under David Probert, with subsequent Group 2 winner Al Hilalee back in third. A trip to France followed, where Raise You attempted to emulate his father Lope De Vega and grandfather Shamardal in winning the French Derby, but he ran rather flat in what was a typically messy race on quick ground. He has been given a decent break since and ran well in the Group 3 Rose Of Lancaster Stakes at Haydock

on his return, the extended ten furlongs on heavy ground perhaps testing his stamina a little too far.

Raise You's victory at Newbury in April had been immediately preceded by a similarly commanding win in the earlier division of the race by **Fox Chairman**, who was making his racecourse debut as a three year old. By Kingman and a half-brother to Group 1 winner La Collina, Fox Chairman had always looked the part but had struggled with immaturity issues as a juvenile. He has been a different proposition this year, as he showed with a four length victory on debut. Immediately pitched in against the big boys in the Listed Dee Stakes at Chester next time out, he got very boxed in on the Roodee and looked unlucky not to have finished right up with the winner, subsequent St James' Palace victor Circus Maximus. It was a similar story in the Group 3 Hampton Court Stakes at Royal Ascot, where he was a magnet for trouble after a slow start before running on strongly to finish second to Sangarius. Thankfully he managed to find a clear passage in the Listed Steventon Stakes at Newbury on his latest start and he duly won well. At his best with give in the ground, he is clearly the real deal and will now be given a break before tackling some big prizes in the Autumn.

Another to win at the Greenham meeting, **Happy Power** had already advertised his talents at two but clearly progressed further over the winter, as he showed with a five length victory in a big Class 2 Handicap on reappearance. Raised 12lb in the handicap for that effort, he stepped up into Stakes company and, after a fair third



RAISE YOU is a very exciting prospect for Jonathan Palmer-Brown

in the Listed Spring Trophy at Haydock in May, he took advantage of his favoured soft ground at York in June to take the Listed Ganton Stakes under Silvestre De Sousa. The ground had dried up rather too much for the Group 3 Jersey Stakes at Royal Ascot and that race probably came soon enough after York, but Happy Power then surprised many, including the punters, when running the race of his life to be fourth to Too Darn Hot in the Group 1 Sussex Stakes at Goodwood despite an official going description of good. A game little horse, he is well named and seems to still be on the up. We will look at races like the Celebration

Mile back at Goodwood and the Joel Stakes at Newmarket for him next, and he would certainly be of interest in the Group 1 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes on Champions Day were the ground to turn up soft.

Fox Premier also ran well at Goodwood, finishing second in the ten furlong three year old handicap. He seems to have grown up this year and has proven very progressive, winning over ten furlongs at Chelmsford on reappearance and following up at Sandown over the same trip. He did not get much luck in the King George V Handicap over a mile and a half at Royal Ascot but shaped at Goodwood as if a return to that trip could suit. **Shine So Bright** had been slated for the Lennox Stakes at Goodwood but was not quite ready in time, having picked up a knock after a great effort in the 2,000 Guineas where he finished sixth, not quite getting home over the mile. Placed in three Group 2s over six furlongs as a juvenile, he was very impressive when winning the European Free Handicap over seven at Newmarket's Craven meeting and he looks to be back to his best at home. He is likely to go for the Group 2 City Of York Stakes at York's Ebor meeting.

Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds **Flashcard** has thrived for the step up to a mile this year. A dual winner at two before going close in the big sales race at the Curragh, he took a while to come to hand this Spring having been gelded over the winter, but progressed with each of his first three starts this year, all of which came on good to firm. By Fast Company, he is bred to appreciate a softer surface and when he got this at Ascot on King George day he flew home to land the valuable Class 2 Porsche Handicap by four lengths under Oisin Murphy. Still unexposed, he will be a force to be reckoned with in big handicaps and Stakes races for the rest of the season. We also had the third in the Porsche Handicap in the shape of **Rectory Road**, who ran a huge race on his turf debut after over six months off the track. A dual winner at Kempton over the winter, he has plenty of ability and should win again for the Park House Partnership this term.

Group 3 placed at two, **Bye Bye Hong Kong** made an excellent start to his three year old campaign, winning a Class 2 Conditions event at Chelmsford and following up in a Listed contest at Windsor, both over a mile. He did not get the run of the race against older horses in the Group 3 Diomed Stakes at Epsom, and was disappointing in the Group 3 Jersey Stakes at Royal Ascot, his behaviour there and at home suggesting that his mind was not fully focused on the job at hand. A gelding operation swiftly followed, and he should be back to winning ways before long. **Encapsulation** was another to run disappointingly last time out, having gone close in the Listed Coral Distaff at Sandown on her debut for the yard, shaping as the mile trip was on the short side. Bought out of Noel Meade's yard by Barbara Keller, she was runner up to the smart Pink Dogwood in a Listed race at Navan in April and she is

clearly better than she showed at York in July. She should pick up winning black type this season.

George Strawbridge's homebred **Be More**, a full sister to Park House Britannia winner Born In Bombay, had shaped well on her only start at two and ran well on reappearance at Wetherby before shedding her maiden tag over a mile at Goodwood in June. Unsited by quick ground at Ascot on handicap debut, she came from last to first to win a decent apprentice handicap at Chester on her latest start, relishing the testing conditions and benefiting from a very mature ride from William Carver after she missed the break. She is a lovely prospect, as is **I'm Available**, another bred by George Strawbridge. Unraced at two but out early this year, she learnt plenty in her first two starts before making all to win over a mile at Kempton in March. Unlucky at Chelmsford on handicap debut, she took no prisoners



BE MORE makes light of bad conditions at Chester to win under William Carver

when switched to the turf, winning a fillies' handicap over the extended mile at Nottingham by some eight lengths under Oisin Murphy. Just pipped at Ascot in May, she ran a little flat in the Sandringham Handicap at the Royal meeting and has been given a well-earned holiday since.

Look Around was a Listed winner at two and ran well on reappearance in the Group 3 Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket. She was far from disgraced back at HQ in the 1,000 Guineas and confirmed that she retains all her ability with a close second in the Listed Valiant Stakes at Ascot last month. Her next target could be the Group 3 Atalanta Stakes at Sandown. **Firelight** won twice last year and was fourth in the Group 2 Lowther, but after a promising reappearance at Windsor in May she has not

progressed in two further runs. A nigggle came to light after her latest effort and she is currently enjoying a break before returning for an Autumn campaign. **Dutch Treat** is another who was classy at two, but she picked up a knock after her reappearance in the Group 3 Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury. Now back in full work, she will aim to improve upon the Listed placing she achieved as a juvenile.

Wedding Blue was rather backward last year and did not run until October but showed good ability on his second start when runner-up at Nottingham. He needed the run when beaten favourite at Chepstow on reappearance but showed his class when quickening well clear of a decent field on handicap debut at Goodwood. He has since been sold to race in Hong Kong, where he will be joined by **Dudley's Boy**, another who was backward at two but showed plenty when second to a subsequent



DUDLEY'S BOY won both his starts this year before selling to Hong Kong

Listed winner on his only juvenile start. Gelded and given a decent break over the winter, he was a much more robust horse this year and ran away with novice events at Brighton and Lingfield, winning both by a margin of seven lengths in the hands of Josh Bryan. An opening mark of 94 made him an ideal candidate for Hong Kong and he will continue his career there.

We have a strong team of middle distance handicappers amongst the three year olds. **Never Do Nothing** was a leggy, gawky two year old but nevertheless managed to win twice last year. He made striking physical progress over the winter and has really flourished this year, placing in decent handicaps at Newmarket and Chester before winning well over a mile and a half at Goodwood in June under David Probert. The ground was quick enough for him at Ascot in July but he again ran well, finishing third at Class 2 level, before putting in another good performance to be second back at Ascot in the Shergar Cup Classic. Admirably consistent, he has never been out of the first three in nine career starts and he should land a decent prize this year.

Lariat is another who never runs a bad race – he was runner up on his first four starts this year, performing well in a variety of conditions over ten furlongs to an extended mile and a half. He has had a busy season and got a little tired in the closing stages at Ascot last time out, but his

form has a very solid look to it and he should soon gain a well-deserved win to add to his Ayr victory as a juvenile.

Le Don De Vie had run extremely well on debut as a two year old but then slightly lost his way, and his behaviour in the box at home indicated that gelding might be the making of him. So it proved, as he won well on reappearance at Epsom before providing Mick and Janice Mariscotti with their fiftieth Kingsclere-trained winner in the opening race on Derby day there, staying every yard of the ten furlong trip under an enterprising front-running ride from Martin Dwyer. A horse with a progressive profile, he was sold at the Goffs London Sale on the eve of Royal Ascot and fetched £460,000, a nice return on the 50,000gns he had cost as a yearling! **Good Birthday** progressed with each start last year, winning at Newbury in October, and he picked up where he left off by taking the Class 3 handicap over ten furlongs at Doncaster on the opening weekend of the turf season. Poorly drawn in the London Gold Cup at Newbury, he made impressive late headway to finish third, beaten only a length by Headman, who went on to win the Group 2 Eugene Adam on his next start. Never really involved in the Duke Of Edinburgh Stakes at Royal Ascot, Good Birthday bounced back with a good run to be fifth in the Class 2 Bet365 Handicap at Newmarket's July meeting, rallying well but wandering a little under pressure in the closing stages. He will appreciate a softer surface than he got at Newmarket and should win again soon.

Kingsclere homebred **Ranch Hand** also ran well at Newmarket in July, finishing fifth in a decent renewal of the Group 3 Bahrain Trophy. The easy winner of his first two career starts, both at Southwell over a mile and a half, he was not disgraced when fifth in the Lingfield Derby Trial to subsequent Derby winner Anthony Van Dyck. The Melrose Handicap at York's Ebor meeting is a potential target for him. The Kingsclere Racing Club have another nice middle distance prospect in **Sneaky Peek**, who shaped very encouragingly when second on debut over ten furlongs at Newbury's Greenham meeting. Her run in a Chester maiden next time out was too bad to be true, and she duly bounced back with a facile win at Redcar in May under David Probert. Twice placed in handicap company over a mile and a half since, there is likely to be more to come from this half-sister to Look My Way and Urban Aspect.

Inclyne is another homebred filly with some talented siblings, being a half-sister to Elm Park and Brorocco. Having shown progress in two starts last year, she ran well enough in a mile Newmarket maiden on reappearance before going agonisingly close in fillies' handicaps over ten furlongs at Ascot and Nottingham. Rising in the ratings for those efforts, she was diverted back into maiden company but got rather stuck in the mud at Salisbury before bumping into a good one at Chester last time out. She very much deserves to get her head in front and if she does not do so in the coming weeks it will be the fault of the trainer and racing manager rather than her own!

Jeff Smith's **Tribal Craft** is a giant filly but has the athleticism to match her sizeable frame. She has understandably taken a while to come to hand but we were very encouraged by her debut at Sandown in May and she has fulfilled that initial promise, winning easily over ten furlongs at Salisbury on her second start before scoring by twenty lengths under a penalty at Pontefract when stepped up to a mile and a half, both wins coming under David Probert. Nothing went right for her on handicap debut at Goodwood, but she is no worse for that effort and has plenty of scope for further improvement. **Pass The Gin** is one of our smallest fillies, but what she lacks in size she makes up for in effort. A winner at Chester last year, she did not look to have grown much over the winter and her mark of 79 looked stiff enough going into this season. She surprised many of us on reappearance, coming with a late run to only just be denied over the minimum trip at Sandown in April. Placed efforts at Chester, Goodwood and York followed and she very much deserved her win at Chester in July, just getting up on the line in a Class 2 Handicap over six furlongs under William Cox. She was drawn on the wrong side back over five furlongs at Goodwood on her latest start but this tough little filly should be back in the winners enclosure before long.

The beautifully bred **King Power**, by Frankel and a half-sister to Oaks winner Talent, had shaped well over an inadequate trip on her only start at two and did well over the winter. She made a very encouraging reappearance at Sandown in April when second to the smart Sparkle Roll (since third in the Group 2 Ribblesdale at Royal Ascot) and was then third to subsequent Oaks winner Anapurna in the Listed Oaks Trial at Lingfield. A trip to San Siro for the Italian Oaks followed, but a combination of searing heat, tacky ground and a very delayed start meant she was never really travelling in the race. That trip took a fair amount out of her so she has been given a decent break, but is now back in full work and should have little trouble shedding her maiden tag. **Grace And Danger** is another to have been given an early Summer break after running very flat in the Listed Height Of Fashion Stakes at Goodwood in May. Earlier that month she had run a tremendous race to be fourth in the Listed Cheshire Oaks on reappearance



TRIBAL CRAFT forges clear at Salisbury under David Probert

and the form of that has worked out well, but she ran up very light after Goodwood and clearly needed some time. She has done well for her break and, having won on soft ground at Nottingham on debut last year, should make up for lost time in the latter part of the season.

Perhaps one of the best of our three year olds is yet to run this year, as **Fox Tal**'s progress has been stymied by some frustrating immaturity-related issues. Third in the Group 1 Criterium de Saint Cloud on his final start at two, the form of his two novice starts last year has also worked out extremely well. He was working in the style of a very good horse in the early Spring and is now back in full work and looking great. We hope he can make his mark at the top level later this year. We also had very high hopes for **Bell Rock** going into the season but his preparation was not without interruptions and he has failed to shine in three starts at Stakes level. He has been gelded and given a break, and if we can get him back to the standard of his best work he too is very much one to look forward to in the latter part of the season.

Spirit Warning has been wonderfully consistent, winning four times and never finishing outside the first four in nine starts this year. He has been steadily progressive, winning at Class 2 level at Chelmsford and Class 3 level at Windsor, and may aim to give Kingsclere Racing Club a second win in the big mile handicap at York's Ebor meeting following Urban Aspect's success last year. Fellow miler **Fox Leicester** made an excellent start to the season, winning a Chelmsford novice before placing in two good handicaps at Sandown and Newmarket. He won again back at Sandown in May but since then has run very poorly twice with no obvious explanation. We will go back to the drawing board with him. **Hero Hero** had run well on his only start at two and was odds-on favourite on his reappearance at Chelmsford in April. Beaten a length into third that day, this was no disgrace as the winner Jubiloso has since won again and been placed at Group 1 level and the second has won twice. Hero Hero then justified his odds-on price at Chester when running out the eight length winner of a novice contest over the extended seven furlongs under Silvestre De Sousa. He did not quite get home over a mile in the Britannia Handicap at Royal Ascot and was pulled out of Goodwood due to the fast ground, before finding six furlongs too short in the Shergar Cup Sprint. He will surely find his conditions in the latter part of the season.

Forseti had got off to a great start in 2019 when winning a Class 3 Handicap at Lingfield in January but had a rather stop-start spring when a wound on his fetlock took a long time to heal. After two rather below-par runs at Chester in May and June he was given a confidence boost by winning a seven furlong Leicester seller in July, and hopefully he can now build on that as he has plenty of ability. **Oloroso** was another to score on the All-Weather early in the season, winning over seven furlongs at Kempton in commanding

fashion on handicap debut. Raised eight pounds for that effort, he has found life tougher since but his last two runs at Chester and Sandown suggest he will be back winning soon. **Havana Rocket** had some smart form in defeat as a juvenile and he too won on his seasonal bow, striking impressively over seven furlongs at Newcastle under PJ McDonald. He looked stretched by the extended mile at Wolverhampton when third on handicap debut and then ran reasonably in a good race at Newmarket but injured himself in the process. Gelded whilst he was recuperating, he is now back on the move and looks great. Rather backward and lazy last year, **Piper Arrow** progressed with each of his three starts this term and beat a smart field when taking a Chelmsford novice over a mile in May. He too has needed some time off since then, but he is back in work and is an exciting prospect for owner David Brownlow.

Rux Power was also a winner at Chelmsford in the spring, surging clear over seven furlongs on her third career start. Runner-up in the big fillies' maiden at Goodwood as a juvenile, she was just pipped in a hot conditions event at Kempton on her latest start and, still unexposed, is a stakes filly in the making. **Strict Tempo** did well last year, winning at Nottingham and placing at Class 2 level. Quite highly tried early this season, she posted much better efforts on her last two starts when runner up at Salisbury and Newbury. We hope she can now build on that as her family have all progressed with age.

Once raced as a juvenile, Jim and Fitri Hay's **Blood Eagle** ran well to be second on reappearance at Lingfield and duly went one better at Wolverhampton on his next start, beating the smart Eagles By Day who has since placed at Group 2 level. Subsequently rather disappointing, Blood Eagle picked up a knock at Chester on his latest start and hopefully the enforced break will have rejuvenated him. **Paradise Boy** won well at Lingfield in January and then filled the runner up spot at Wolverhampton on his next three starts. He has not as yet been able to transfer that good form to the turf and a return to synthetics may be in order for Gerry and April Rafferty's son of Mamool. **Seesoon** was bought from the same Baden-Baden yearling sale as Paradise Boy and he too won on the All Weather earlier in the year, just holding on over the extended twelve furlongs at Newcastle under Duran Fentiman. He did not appreciate the surface at Chelmsford on handicap debut but ran a great race over the same trip at Chester on turf debut, relishing the soft ground to be third to Sam Cooke and Lariat in a Class 3 Handicap. The ground was too quick for him at Sandown next time, and then probably too heavy at Haydock on his latest start, so he has now been gelded and will return in the Autumn when the going should more consistently suit.

Sea Sculpture had caught the eye when finishing third at Ffos Las on his only start at two before doing a terrible job of jumping out of the field during his winter



STAY FOREVER gives Marie Perrault a winning first ride at Sandown

holiday. He looked similarly clueless on reappearance at Wolverhampton, blowing the start and having to be roused along by Josephine Gordon at the rear of the field, but once the penny finally dropped he flew home and won comfortably. Third back at the same track under a penalty next time, he ran well on handicap debut at Sandown but was overstretched by ten furlongs on soft ground. There will be easier opportunities for him and he should continue to do well for the Kingsclere Racing Club. The Club's most recent winner came in the form of **Stay Forever**, who broke her duck in an apprentice handicap at Sandown, providing a fairytale first ride under rules for Kingsclere's newest apprentice, Marie Perrault. Often awkward out of the stalls, Stay Forever again missed the break at Sandown but Marie did not panic and, having got her filly into a nice rhythm, coaxed her home to get up on the line. Stay Forever should remain competitive in the coming weeks.

Pempie is a gorgeous filly who has always shown plenty at home. Runner up over a mile at Windsor on handicap debut, she went one better when stepped up to ten furlongs at Salisbury in May. She did not show the progression we expected in two further starts but an overland scope revealed an issue and she has since had a wind operation. Beat The Bank's half-sister **Chil Chil** is another to have had a wind operation this summer after she too failed to shine on the racecourse having shown impressive speed at home. Her opening mark of 63 looks extremely generous if she can perform up to her best on her return.

Queen's Soldier remains a maiden but has been placed on his last five starts and deserves to get his head in front soon. The same is true of **Johnny Kidd**, who has been running consistently over middle distances but probably has not yet encountered his ideal conditions.

Barossa Red showed good form as a two year old and was placed four times on the All-Weather early this year. Freshened up by a good break at Hollington Stud, he gained a deserved victory on his return, relishing the heavy ground over a mile at Haydock. **Indomitable** won at Chester last year but is yet to find his form as a

three year old, whilst Phil Fox's **Landa Beach** is another who impressed as a juvenile, winning well at Newbury in October on his debut, but has yet to fulfil that early promise this year. Now gelded, the standard of his work has improved of late and he looks to have turned a corner. In the same ownership, **Agent Basterfield** was weak and backward last year but has done well as a three year old. Second to subsequent Listed winner Love So Deep at Yarmouth in April, he justified favouritism at Brighton on his next start, winning by thirteen lengths over a mile and a half under David Probert. He failed to handle soft ground in a match race at Lingfield in June but has since been placed in three decent handicaps and should get his head in front again in the coming weeks.

Admirals Bay has looked like a four mile chaser ever since he arrived on the yard as a two year old and, having won well at Yarmouth in May, he has now been sold to go jumping. A career over obstacles also beckons for **Unplugged**, who was bought by Mick Easterby at the Tattersalls July Sale having been placed over ten furlongs at Chepstow on handicap debut in June. Also sold in July was **Puerto Banus**, who showed promise in all three of his career starts this year, and **Strict**, who ran well to be third on handicap debut at Newbury and has joined Mick Appleby's yard. **Watch And Learn** was sold at Ascot



PEMPIE after winning at Salisbury for Thurloe Thoroughbreds

in July having run well at Windsor and Epsom, and was bought by Donald McCain who did well with her half-brother Man Look out of this yard. Fellow staying filly **Luck Of Clover** is a half-sister to Lorelina and has been placed on all seven of her starts this year, filling the runner-up spot on three occasions. She should find an opening soon, whilst **Constraint** has improved with each of her four runs and is bred to be decent, being a half-sister to Swashbuckle from the family of Passing Glance.

Geomatrician is a half-brother to Park House Listed winner Viscount Barfield and Group 1 placed I Can Fly but is still a big, raw horse. He was unsuited by the firm going at

Salisbury on handicap debut and should leave his current mark of 69 well behind in due course. **Doune Castle** is another horse who fills the eye and is on a low opening mark, having been well held in three starts over eleven to twelve furlongs. He is a classic late developing type and, now gelded, should progress well in handicaps during the rest of the season. **Sawasdee** is another who has been gelded this summer having failed to progress over middle distances in the spring. A full brother to Group 2 winner Bow Creek, he ought to do better in time. **Eagle Queen** is also well-bred, being by Dubawi and out of Park House Listed winner Opera Gal, and should be able to get off the mark now she is eligible for handicaps. **Spirit Of Nicobar** has failed to shine in two handicap starts but softer ground or a return to Southwell, where she was third in April, should see her do better.

Gallatin was a late debutant having sustained a nasty injury in the paddocks over the winter, but she has improved with each of her three starts and is capable of better still, being by Kingman out of Group 3 winner Fantasia. **Fox Shinji** was working very well in the early spring after two educational runs last year but picked up an injury which put him out of action for a while. He is back in work and has the makings of a smart horse. The same is true of **Edinburgh Castle** who had a frustrating setback when close to making his reappearance. Second on his only start at two, he split West End Charmer (now rated 100) and Durston (now rated 94) and is one to look forward to when he returns to the track. **Boutonniere** won a Lingfield maiden in March, beating a horse who has won twice since, but did not build on that in two handicap starts before picking up an injury. He can do better on his return. The same is true of **Purdey's Gift**, a gorgeous son of Camelot, who was third on reappearance at Newcastle and is now eligible for handicaps off an attractive mark.

Hat Yai, a son of Garswood, looked ready to win at Windsor in June when one of four horses withdrawn at the start after an opponent went berserk in the stalls. A gentle giant, he should get back on track soon. **Vakilita** failed to shine in two starts earlier this term but was found to be suffering from gastric ulcers and so has been given a holiday, whilst **Pot Luck** has recently returned from a break. Previously quirky with a capital 'Q', she has done well for a change of scenery and seems to have grown up a good deal. If she can translate this improved attitude to the track she should be off the mark soon. **Top Power** probably needed his recent run at Goodwood, having been off the track since February, but on the basis of his close second at Newcastle in January he can do well off his current mark. **Yellow Label** put in an encouraging effort on handicap debut at Salisbury but then ran below par twice. A knee issue has come to light and he should be up to winning once that is resolved.

We have some lovely three year olds in the late developers group who remain unexposed. **Mayne** shaped well over

seven furlongs at Chelmsford on debut this month and has shown plenty at home. By Dansili and out of a Galileo mare, he should excel over a mile or further. **Riverfront** also made his debut recently over what looked an inadequate trip, showing greenness but definite signs of ability over the extended mile at Nottingham, whilst **Aldente** stayed on well over the same course and distance on debut in May. The beautifully bred **Tuk Power** ran nicely on debut at Kempton in June but has been waiting for soft ground since.

TWO YEAR OLDS

As is often the case our juveniles are, as a group, only just beginning to hit their stride, and there are plenty of lovely prospects due to make their debuts in the next couple of months. Those that have run have been flying the flag with style, however, with some taking performances and a 21% two year old strike rate.

Shadn was streaks ahead of our other juvenile fillies in the spring and had to do all her early work with the colts. A naturally buzzy filly, we were careful not to overtrain her early on and this strategy has reaped rewards. She still looked rather wintry when making her debut over six furlongs at Kempton in early June but defied her odds of 9/1 to fly home under Oisin Murphy, winning by three and a half lengths. We opted to drop her back in trip at Royal Ascot for the Group 2 Queen Mary Stakes but in hindsight this was the wrong choice as she was outpaced early before staying on well. Back up to six furlongs next time in the Listed Rose Bowl Stakes at Newbury, she showed a great attitude to beat the colts, quickening clear in the final furlong under Oisin and winning with a bit in hand. By No Nay Never and out of Listed winner Amethyst, she was a shrewd purchase by agent Billy Jackson-Stops who manages for her owners Al Rabban Racing. She could head to the Group 3 Prestige Stakes at Goodwood or the Group

3 Dick Poole Stakes at Salisbury next, but looks sure to stay seven furlongs in time which opens up plenty of options for this exciting filly.

Symbolize was another who had shown plenty at home and he was very professional in winning on debut at Salisbury in May, showing a good turn of foot over the minimum trip under David Probert. He then ran extremely well over the same trip at Royal Ascot, finishing fourth in the Listed Windsor Castle Stakes, beaten only a length in a



SYMBOLIZE was impressive on debut at Salisbury and has done well since

typically large and classy field. Stepped up to six furlongs at Goodwood, he ran well to be fifth in the Group 2 Richmond Stakes and is likely to head next to the Gimcrack at York. By Starspangledbanner and out of a half sister to Fillies' Mile second Treat, he should continue to do well for owner Sheikh Juma this year. **Kameko** is by top American sire Kitten's Joy and was bought at the Keeneland yearling sale by the Qatar Racing team. Scopey and athletic, he was very impressive when winning on debut over seven furlongs at Sandown under Oisin Murphy and there should be plenty more to come. He could head back to Sandown for the Group 3 Solario Stakes next.

Martin and Valerie Slade have a nice juvenile on their hands in **Grove Ferry**, who needed the experience on debut at Newmarket but put that to good use next time at Salisbury, winning comfortably over six furlongs under David Probert and handling the soft ground well. He faced only three rivals at Epsom on his latest start but it was a classy field and he did well to win again under a penalty, appreciating the step up to seven furlongs and looking like he would stay further still in time. He should capitalise on the softer surfaces in the Autumn. **Berlin Tango** looked for a moment like winning on debut at Salisbury in July but was green under pressure. He had no such wobbles next time out at Ffos Las, making all and scoring decisively under



SHADN after winning the Listed Rose Bowl Stakes at Newbury



KAMEKO won well on debut and has the scope to progress

Oisin Murphy over the extended seven furlongs. Better things await for George Strawbridge's Dansili colt and he could target the Group 3 Acomb Stakes at York next.

Paul Spickett's **Berkshire Rocco** has impressed on two starts in classy company, finishing fourth over seven furlongs on debut at Ascot and then filling the same spot at Goodwood. By Sir Percy and out of a Shirocco mare, he should progress with time and distance and is a lovely prospect. In the same ownership **Berkshire Savvy**, a son of Mukhadram, was very green on debut but was not disgraced and duly improved to finish a close second at Windsor next time out. He should win soon. **Game And Set** wandered right across the track on debut at Newmarket but still finished second, before coming up against some very smart opposition at Ascot when third last time out. Bred by her owners Coln Valley Stud, she is the first foal of Park House winner Grace and Favour and is therefore closely related to multiple Group 1 winner Fame And Glory. She is bred to improve with racing and should be hard to beat next time out.



GROVE FERRY has won twice already and looks a smart juvenile

King Power Racing's **Fox Duty Free** is also beautifully bred, being by Kingman and out of a Group 3 winner, and this gorgeous colt was a real eyecatcher on debut at Newbury, running on well after being badly bumped at the start. He won't be long in winning. The same is true of **Montanari**, a scopey son of Sea The Moon who was plunged into the deep end on debut, sent to the Listed Chesham Stakes at Royal Ascot having impressed in his

work at home. He ran well for a long way there before being hampered and struck into in the closing stages. Now fully recovered from that scrape, he should get off the mark easily in lesser company.

Spanish Angel also faced a tough task on debut when taking on three smart horses at Newmarket on Guineas weekend. He was not disgraced and then shaped with great promise when a close second at Goodwood on his next start, the first two well clear of the rest and the winner subsequently Listed placed. His latest run at Chester was too bad to be true and we hope this attractive son of Gutaifan can bounce back next time as he works like a very nice horse at home. Also by Gutaifan and also owned by Javier Maldonado, the diminutive **Angel Grey** went into many notebooks after her debut run at Newbury in July, making smooth progress in the final two furlongs before meeting trouble in running. She ran well at Newmarket next time



BERLIN TANGO won well at Ffos Las and could step up into Stakes company next

and gained a deserved win over six furlongs at Windsor on her third start, quickening nicely under Oisin Murphy to win by three lengths. **When Comes Here** also made a highly encouraging debut when just beaten at Salisbury, and he again filled the runner-up spot at Brighton on his third start, the winner going in again next time. He could not make an impression in the big seven furlong nursery at Goodwood last time out, but should be able to win in novice company back at six furlongs soon.

Wild Hero is a half-brother to classy Park House filly Merry Me, and progressed on his second start when not beaten far over seven furlongs at Epsom. He should continue to improve, particularly up in trip and with more give in the ground. **Hold Fast** ran very well on debut in the big seven furlong fillies' maiden at Goodwood and should have little problem getting off the mark in lesser company, whilst **Sorteo**, **Kalsara**, **Machios** and **Qinwan** all ran nice races on debut and should know much more next time. We had high expectations for **Mon Choix** on debut at Salisbury as he has shown plenty at home but he is a big, scopey horse and on reflection probably needed a bit more time. He has been given this now and should make up into a smart colt. ■

THE 2019 12 TO FOLLOW

COMPETITION

At the halfway point of the competition young Barney Bonner leads the field by a narrow margin and the trainer's godson looks to have a strong team going into the Autumn.

Assistant Racing Secretary Tabitha has obviously been studying the form from her desk in the office, whilst Lois Day rides and looks after two of the top-scoring horses and sensibly put them in her squad! As ever much can change in the second half of the season with many of the two year olds yet to run, but we shall all be hoping that A.M. Balding does not climb the leaderboard any further!

1. Barney Bonner	161	36. Selim Aqbal	108	70. A Whitehall	89
2. Tabitha Ridley-Thomas	156	37. Nigel Walker (A)	107	70. Peter Box	89
2. Lois Day	156	38. Roger Mackinnon	106	73. Emma Balding	87
4. Matthew & Emily Slade	155	38. John Crofts	106	73. Reece Senior	87
5. AM Balding	149	38. Simon/Bob Humphries (B)	106	73. Hugh Teacher	87
6. Sooty Michaelson	146	38. Anderson King	106	73. April Rafferty	87
7. Martin Slade	141	38. David Hall	106	77. Daisy Mackinnon	86
8. Nicholas Jones	138	43. Bradley Harris	105	77. Mark Hutchinson	86
8. Jose Carlos Costa	138	44. Fiona Hutchinson	104	79. Emma Baldwin/ Richard Wilmot-Smith	85
8. SA Bettaney	138	45. Dwayne Pettitt	103	79. Emma Baldwin/ Richard Wilmot-Smith	85
11. Steve Woolley (A)	136	45. Sharon Woolley	103	79. K Derbyshire/S Cornwell (A)	85
12. Jamie Mackinnon	134	45. John Smith	103	79. Billie Robinson Gay	85
12. Simon Gee	134	45. Joshua Gay	103	83. Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (B)	84
12. Angela Cheshire (D)	134	45. Lorraine Whitehall	103	84. Gary Richards	83
15. Angela Cheshire (C)	130	50. Steve Woolley (B)	102	84. Shaun Berry	83
16. Angela Cheshire (A)	129	50. David Mackinnon	102	84. Nigel Walker (B)	83
17. Betty & Missy Clarke	128	52. Kingsclere Stud	101	87. Ronnie McWilliam	82
18. Sue Gay	127	52. Simon Humphries (B)	101	88. Jonno/Toby Balding (A)	81
19. Valerie Slade	125	52. Mick Mariscotti	101	88. Simon/Bob Humphries (A)	81
20. Tessa Hetherington (B)	124	52. Rex Paris (A)	101	88. Clive Stansby	81
21. Simon Humphries (A)	123	56. Gerry Rafferty (C)	100	91. Jonno/Toby Balding (B)	80
22. James Oldham	121	57. Mac	99	91. Sally Phipps Hornby	80
22. Leanne White	121	58. Peter Lumley	98	93. Ed Lyle	79
24. Martyn Needham	119	59. Julia Reardon Smith	97	93. Barney's All Blacks	79
24. Jon Rea	119	60. Alan Rae Smith	96	93. Megan Armes	79
26. Will Carver	118	60. G Bounds/A Johnson	96	96. DF Powell (B)	78
27. Tessa Hetherington (A)	117	60. Jenny Arlington	96	96. Sam Gay	78
28. Angela Cheshire (B)	116	60. Adrian Hodgkins (A)	96	96. Angie Cheshire (E)	78
29. Jamie Richards	115	64. K Derbyshire/S Cornwell (B)	94	99. Alex Lyne	77
30. Charlotte Clarke	114	65. Mac & Boris Balding	93	99. Michael Senior	77
31. Janice Mariscotti	112	66. Jeremy Carey	92	99. Leigh Spickett	77
32. Ella Mackinnon	111	67. Michael Ross	91	99. Ray Horne (D)	77
32. Charlie Richards (A)	111	67. John Gale	91	99. Alysoun Carey	77
34. Florence Balding	110	69. Anna Lisa Balding	90		
34. Catha Hoare	110	70. Andy Tolhurst	89		

99. MA Bettaney	77	130. Christine Vincent	66	155. G Bounds/A Johnson	51
99. One plus one equals three	77	131. John Wellman	65	156. John Conway	49
106. Charlie Measures	76	131. Sally Jinks	65	156. Guy Brook	49
106. Barry Hale	76	131. Michael Payton (A)	65	158. Rose Cousins	48
106. Michael Payton (B)	76	134. Anne Palmer	64	159. Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (D)	47
109. Pete Beasant	75	135. DF Powell (A)	63	160. Roger Michaelson	44
109. Charlie Richards (B)	75	136. Stephanie Smith	62	160. Barbara Bullion	44
111. Paul Reis	74	136. Bernie McGuire	62	162. Angus McPhee	42
112. Rosemary Finlay	73	136. Nathan Cheshire	62	162. Rex Paris (B)	42
112. David Gay	73	136. Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (C)	62	164. Paul Spickett (A)	40
112. Sue Watson	73	140. Gerry Rafferty (B)	61	165. Ming McPhee	38
112. John Feane	73	141. Andy Richardson	59	165. Mary Gee	38
116. James Campbell-Gray	72	141. Peter A'Court	59	167. Jeff Smith	37
116. Laura Spickett	72	143. IAB	58	167. Jan Lees	37
116. Ray Horne (A)	72	143. Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (A)	58	169. Richard Dangar	36
116. Ray Horne (B)	72	145. Mike O'Driscoll	56	169. Maggie Robinson Gay	36
116. Ann Plummer	72	145. Batt Dillon	56	171. W Palmer	35
116. David Hall	72	147. Des Oates	55	171. Adrian Hodgkins (B)	35
122. Simon Plumbly	71	148. Sue Lumley	54	173. Paul Spickett (B)	34
122. B Broughton	71	148. Rachael Holmes	54	173. Gary Rhodes	34
124. Laurence Jinks	70	150. Bob Michaelson	53	175. Stuart McPhee	32
124. DR Fenton	70	150. Berkshire Parts &		176. T Broughton	29
126. Helen Plumbly	69	Panels Staff	53	177. Ruth McWilliam	25
127. Gerry Rafferty (A)	68	150. Ray Horne (C)	53	178. Charlie Berry	17
127. Bryan Jennick	68	150. Pip Elson	53	179. Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (E)	16
127. M Tucker	68	150. Felicity Simpson	53		



TOP SCORING HORSES

IMPERIAL ACT	37
FOX CHAIRMAN	35
AGENT BASTERFIELD	33
BEAT THE BANK	32
SPIRIT WARNING	32



SELECTION OF THE LEADERS

BARNEY BONNER		TABITHA RIDLEY-THOMAS		LOIS DAY		MATTHEW/EMILY SLADE	
Pivoine	11	Beat The Bank	32	Fox Chairman	35	Constraint	5
Shailene	24	Maid Up	0	Good Birthday	4	Inclyne	16
Bangkok	20	Lariat	25	Spirit Warning	32	Pass The Gin	24
Bye Bye Hong Kong	23	Flashcard	16	Dream Catching	14	Queen's Soldier	22
Flashcard	16	Crossing The Line	8	Never Do Nothing	28	Ranch Hand	10
King Power	11	Fox Chairman	35	Dancing Star	0	Sneaky Peek	26
Shine So Bright	12	Good Birthday	4	Flashcard	16	Spirit Warning	32
Fox Duty Free	4	Fox Duty Free	4	Game And Set	10	Grove Ferry	20
Thai Power	0	Shadn	22	When Comes Here	13	Irist Tweed	0
Spanish Angel	8	Kameko	10	Montanari	0	Pedal Power	0
Shadn	22	Lily Like	0	Isaac Murphy	0	Stony Look	0
Game And Set	10	Never Dark	0	Fox Duty Free	4	Table Mountain	0

FAREWELL TO A FABULOUS FOUR

By the middle of the season it is often clear that some horses have, for various reasons, reached the end of their racing careers.

The wonderful homebred Intransigent has been a flagbearer for the yard and for Kingsclere Racing Club for the past eight seasons. Having won on his second career start as a late two year old, he was a good three year old but flourished as an older sprinter. Particularly fond of the turning tracks at Kempton and Chester, he won the Listed Queensferry Stakes on the Roodee, the Listed Golden Rose Stakes at Lingfield and the valuable Class 2 Challenge Cup at Ascot. He placed a further five times at Listed level and eleven times at Class 2 level. Although winless during his six and seven year old campaigns he continued to run with credit and bounced back to win at Kempton as an eight year old and at Chester as a nine year old, the latter



INTRANSIGENT won over £225,000 in prizemoney

as part of our 'magnificent seven' in September last year. Phenomenally tough, he ran over nine times in each of the years 2012 to 2018 but this year a few physical niggles began to appear and, although his work remained of a high standard, he seemed to have fallen out of love with the racecourse. He was retired at the end of June. The winner of 9 of his 80 starts, he earned over £225,000 in prizemoney and was much loved by all here, particularly his groom Melvin Rhodes and regular rider Dylan Holley. He is currently enjoying a well-deserved holiday at the stud.

Fellow old boy Montaly also won on his second start as a late two year old before proving very progressive as a three year old. Injury shortened his four year old season and he was winless at five but still showed plenty of ability as a stayer and the patience of his owner-breeder Sir Charles Hobhouse was rewarded when he won the prestigious Chester Cup on reappearance as a seven year old, having nearly decapitated Anna Lisa in the parade ring beforehand! He then placed in the Listed Coral Marathon at Sandown before taking the Group 2 Lonsdale Cup at York. Saddled with a Group 2 penalty and a high mark, last season was always going to be a challenge for him but he looked to be at his very best at home this year when



MONTALY won the Chester Cup and Lonsdale Cup for the yard

injury sadly called time on an illustrious career. Notoriously grumpy and handy with both his teeth and his hindlegs, he was nevertheless adored by his Head Lad Kevin Hunt, groom Nathan Cheshire and a series of regular riders, most recently Maddy O'Meara and Megan Fox. He remains on the yard whilst he recuperates and continues to terrorise unsuspecting visitors to the Chairman's barn!

Bred by owner Jeff Smith, Dancing Star was another to win at two on her second career start. She then rose sharply through the ranks as a three year old, winning three times before sneaking in to the Stewards Cup at the bottom of the weights and recording a memorable success in that race under David Probert, some twenty four years after her great-aunt Lochsong had completed the same feat. As a four year old she contested the Group 1 Diamond Jubilee Stakes at Royal Ascot but was almost brought down in the race, and connections wisely gave her a long break after that. She returned better than ever at five, placing three times at Listed and Group level before securing a



Stewards Cup heroine DANCING STAR with regular rider Lois Day

richly deserved Group 3 victory in the Sceptre Stakes at Doncaster. She looked magnificent as a six year old this Spring but could not replicate her excellent home work on the track and so has been retired to join the broodmare band at Littleton Stud. Nicknamed 'Princess' by her devoted groom and regular rider Lois Day, we are sure she will continue to be treated like royalty in her new setting.

If Dancing Star's progress as a three year old was impressive, that of Maid Up was nothing short of meteoric. She began her handicap career on a lowly mark of 67 but won three middle distance handicaps on the bounce before finishing agonisingly close in the Group 2 Lillie Langtry Stakes at last year's Goodwood festival. Returned to Goodwood for their August meeting she gained deserved compensation when taking the Group 3 March Stakes under Rob Hornby, who rode her in all her races bar the first two, and then ran with credit in the Group 1 St Leger at the end of the season. We were all very excited to see what she could achieve this year, but ultimately it



MAID UP made meteoric progress last year

seemed that she had lost her enthusiasm for the game and so she has been retired to Brightwalton Stud, home of her owner-breeder Jeff Hobby. Blessed with the sweetest nature, she is much missed by her groom Lauren Smith and regular rider Marie Perrault and will make the most lovely broodmare. ■

Kingsclere Racing Club

The KRC are enjoying another fine year on the racecourse, with 11 winners already on the board, so our record of 14 winners in a year, set in 2014, is within sight!

Spirit Warning has led the way with a quartet of wins, whilst Ranch Hand has emerged as an exciting young stayer, winning twice and running very creditably in both the Lingfield Derby Trial and the Bahrain Trophy at Newmarket's July Meeting, where we had a picnic on the day and a fascinating tour of the National Horseracing Museum at Palace House.

Lynne Burns, who was a tremendously popular member of the KRC for many years, tragically passed away in June after a short illness. Lynne was a wonderful person, a passionate supporter of the Club and a great friend to many at Kingsclere. Our thoughts are with her husband Richard and children



William and Sarah. We will remember Lynne with an inter-Club competition, the winner of which will be awarded the Lynne Burns Cup at the KRC's End of Season Party in November. ■

STAFF NEWS

Many congratulations to our newest Apprentice Marie Perrault who made her first ride under rules a winning one, showing a cool head and good judgment to get Stay Forever up on the line in an Apprentice Handicap at Sandown. Marie has made huge progress since joining the yard from the Northern Racing College, and we are sure this is the first of many victories to come!



Charlie King

Soon to also make their racecourse debuts as riders are Claudia Metaireau and Megan Fox, who have both secured their amateur licences. We wish them all the best of luck in their future careers in the saddle!

We are delighted to welcome Charlie King as our new Pupil Assistant. She has made an excellent start on the yard and we are sure she will be a real asset in the months to come. ■

BEAT THE BANK



This has already been a very good season and may yet yield further highlights but, whatever the final roll call of achievements in 2019, this year will sadly always be remembered as the one in which Beat The Bank, one of the true stars of the game, lost his life.

Beat The Bank was bred in Nottinghamshire by Mick and Fiona Denniff but began his racing career in Ireland, having been bought as a yearling by Curragh trainer Darren Bunyan for some 30,000 gns. He was unraced at two but won impressively on debut in the February of his three year old year and caught the eye of bloodstock agent Alastair Donald, who had previously bought his useful half-brother Salt Island as a yearling. Al purchased Beat The Bank privately as part of a trio of horses for new owner Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha, and he arrived in Kingsclere in the spring of 2017, shortly after Donjuan Triumphant and Cleonte.

The fact that Beat The Bank had been gelded before hitting the track gave some clue that he might not be the quietest ride, and after some rather wild displays at the bottom of the gallops on his first few days he was allocated top horseman Josh Bryan as his regular rider. This was a partnership which remained constant for the rest of Beat The Bank's career and undoubtedly played a major part of his success. He was also allocated a highly experienced groom in the form of Sandeep Guaravaram, who had previously looked after Frankel and formed an instant bond with Beat The Bank, and was placed in the barn of Kevin Hunt, where he

quickly became a favourite of his seasoned and diligent Head Lad.

Never the best mover in his slower paces, Beat The Bank did little to catch the eye in his regular exercise at home, but the first time he worked on the grass up on the Downs he was a revelation, forging clear of some smart work companions with ease. We were, therefore, quietly confident when he made his yard debut at Newmarket and he did not disappoint, winning a Class 3 Conditions Stakes at the Craven meeting and providing Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha's then fledgling racing operation with its first success. He became the natural flagbearer for the King Power operation, igniting the Chairman's enthusiasm for British racing and maintaining it with comprehensive victories in the Listed Henry Cecil Stakes at Newmarket, the Group 3 Thoroughbred Stakes at Goodwood and the Group 2 Joel Stakes back at HQ that season. He had only two blots on his copybook as a three year old – in the Jersey at Royal Ascot where a subsequent dirty scope revealed him to be not at his best, and in the Group 1 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes on Champions Day which came at the end of a busy season.

On his reappearance at four Beat The Bank was too keen in the Group 1 Lockinge Stakes at Newbury, but he was back at his best in the Group 1 Queen Anne Stakes at the Royal meeting where he was desperately unlucky not to be closer than sixth, having met sustained trouble in the closing stages. He again got boxed in back at Ascot for the Group 2 Summer Mile but showed



Josh on BEAT THE BANK

the bravery that was characteristic of his racecourse performances when forging through a narrow gap to take the race by a neck from Lord Glitters. Unsuitied by a steady early pace in the Group 1 Sussex Stakes at Goodwood, he endured another rough passage when finishing a creditable fifth to Lightning Spear. Back at Goodwood for the Group 2 Celebration Mile, he again showed tenacity in battling through horses to take the race, jockey Oisin Murphy commenting afterwards, "He has the character to win when things don't go right."

That character was greatly appreciated by his owner, for whom Beat The Bank remained the clear favourite amongst the now sizeable King Power string. The Chairman would always spend time with Beat The Bank at the races and on visits to the yard, feeding him mints and handling him with great affection, and one of the many sadnesses associated with the Chairman's tragic death in a helicopter accident last Autumn was that he would not be able to witness the continued achievements of his dearest horse.

Freshened up over the winter after a fruitless trip to Hong Kong and now the mount of King Power's retained jockey Silvestre De Sousa, Beat The Bank began his five year old campaign in fine style with a win in the Group 2 Bet365 Stakes at Sandown in April this year. By now his supporters were unphased by seeing him hit a flat spot in the second half of the race, knowing that this phenomenally tough horse would keep fighting to the line, doggedly seeing off his opponents in a war of attrition. We thought we had him in his best ever form for the Lockinge but he never travelled in the race and many began to question whether he had the calibre to be a true Group 1 performer. Sent off at 20/1 for the Group 1 Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot, he silenced those doubters in style, just losing out to his old foe Lord Glitters in a tremendous battle and securing his first Group 1 placing.

A return to Ascot for a second Group 2 Celebration Mile followed – an intended prep run for another tilt at the Sussex Stakes. Sent off favourite, Beat The Bank produced yet another tough performance and was forging clear when



BEAT THE BANK with the Chairman after winning at Newmarket in 2017

he sustained a pastern injury just yards before the line. It was entirely typical of the horse and his incredible courage that he continued to battle on and won the race. He had the character to win not only when things didn't go right, but also when they went very badly wrong. The news that the injury had proven fatal was truly devastating for all those close to him and particularly for the Srivaddanaprabha family and for Al, Andrew, Nigel, Josh, Sandeep and Kevin. His death was also mourned well beyond the confines of Park House and King Power, his consistency and tenacity having captured the hearts of many industry insiders and racing fans. He lost his life doing what he did best – fighting right to the line, and our thanks go to Simon Knapp and his team at Ascot racecourse for their swift and exemplary care of him after his injury, ensuring that he did not suffer in his final moments.

A winner of nine of his eighteen career starts, five at Group 2 level, Beat The Bank may never have achieved the Group 1 success he so deserved but he will go down in the records as one of the truly great racehorses trained at Park House. Mornings here are not the same without the familiar sight of Banky and Josh leading the string up the Lochsong in the early light, and the horse will always be remembered with great fondness for what he did for the yard and for King Power Racing at a pivotal time in the development of both operations. He was a star. ■

SALES SEASON

The yearling sales are fast approaching... Members of the Park House team will be on the lookout for future stars at the Goffs UK Doncaster Sale (27–28 August), the Premier Yearling Sale at Baden-Baden (30 August), the Tattersalls Ascot Yearling Sale (10 September), the Tattersalls Ireland sale at Fairyhouse (24–25 September), the Goffs Orby sale (1–2 October) and Books 1, 2 and 3 of the Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (7–19 October).

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



AWARDS



The whole staff team has been doing a fantastic job in what is undoubtedly our busiest season yet, but special recognition goes to the following in the form of a Spillers Award for Employee of the Month:

Abdul Adam for his continuously improving skills as a rider and groom, his positive attitude and his care of exciting juvenile filly Shadn.

Lois Day for her continued great work as a rider and groom, especially with her quartet of winners Fox Chairman, Spirit Warning, Good Birthday and Oloroso.

Shannon James for her great efforts as ground staff member in the Blond Me barn and for her dedication to her horses including recent winners Be More and Stay Forever.

Jose Costa for his sterling work in the saddle and on the ground and particularly for his work with reformed character and talented performer Never Do Nothing.

Congratulations to all award winners, who receive £100 and a bottle of Spillers Prosecco, and many thanks to Spillers for their continued support of this much-valued initiative.



Abdul Adam



Lois Day



Shannon James



Jose Costa

RACING STAFF WEEK

This year's Racing Staff Week saw the inaugural Park House Stables Dog Show and Bake Off – both hotly contested affairs as you might imagine!

The Dog Show was judged by Kennel Club judge Sue Huntingdon and consisted of five well-supported classes. Dog the Judge Would Most Like to Take Home went the way of Powder (Leanne White) and ultimately that combination took the overall title of Best In Show, whilst Toby (Callum Venn-Hutchinson) triumphed in the dog races!

The Bake Off was judged by TV presenter Mark Durden-Smith who did sterling work in taste-testing all of the entries, some of which looked distinctly less appetising than others... The coveted title of Best Baker went, fittingly, to Charlotte Clarke, who cooks for the lads in the hostel each day!

The evening ended with a barbecue and rounders match and all entry fees went to Racing Welfare. Many thanks to our judges for giving up their time and to Anna Lisa for organising such a fun event. ■



BERKSHIRE EQUINE

There have been some changes recently in our veterinary arrangements, although as far as the horses are concerned it is very much business as usual!

Simon Knapp, who has been our vet here at Park House Stables for over thirty years, has joined forces with his son Jamie in a new practice, Berkshire Equine. Jamie graduated from Liverpool's Institute of Veterinary Science before gaining valuable experience with Cliffe Equine Vets in Lewes, Fethard Equine Hospital in Tipperary and with Scott Dunn's Equine Clinic in Berkshire.

Simon will continue to provide veterinary care to all our horses but will now be assisted by Jamie, who lives very locally and so can provide an even more regular



veterinary presence on the yard. Simon and Jamie are in turn supported by experienced equine veterinary nurse Laura Perkins and administrator Nikki Hobson, and the team have arrangements with local veterinary practices for minor surgeries and with Newmarket

Equine Hospital for more complex operations.

Simon also continues his role on the British Horseracing Authority's veterinary committee, as veterinary advisor to the Racecourse Association and as racecourse vet for Ascot, Sandown, Epsom and Kempton. Simon and Jamie are at the forefront of equine veterinary knowledge and industry developments and we are delighted that they also remain at the forefront of the Park House Stables team! ■

Summer Parties

As is now traditional, the eve of the King George and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot saw the annual Kingsclere summer party, and owners and staff got together in the garden of Park House for a fun evening with great food, music and company. Cornelius Lysaght conducted a highly entertaining charity auction of a framed set of breeches signed by Silvestre de Sousa, and almost everyone took to the dancefloor once Tom Bradley and his excellent band started playing. Reports suggest that neither of our vets jogged up well the following morning... Our thanks go as ever to Anna Lisa for her brilliant organisation of this event.

The previous evening saw well over a hundred guests

attend Park House for "Passing The Batten", a charity evening to raise money for the Batten Disease Family Association. Batten Disease is highly debilitating and places an enormous strain on the sufferers and their families and carers. Many young people with the disease are cared for locally at Heather House in Tadley. This fundraising evening involved afternoon tea and a parade of horses under saddle followed by a tour of the yard, champagne reception and a Goodwood preview from Andrew and jockey Martin Dwyer. It was wonderful to introduce so many people to the yard, including a group from Heather House, and overall the event raised £6,500 for the charity. ■



