

# KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



SUMMER MAGAZINE 2020



Above: Promising 2yo KNIGHT SALUTE scores for Sheikh Juma at Sandown

Front cover: The new normal: Facemasks at the racecourse as Classic Trial winner BERLIN TANGO heads out to the track at Royal Ascot

Back cover: Kingsclere Apprentices: Marie Perrault, William Carver, Bradley Harris, Callum Hutchinson, William Cox and Joshua Bryan

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# INTRODUCTION

**2020** has been a difficult year for so many people, we have to put racing's trials and tribulations into perspective. Compared to the huge personal tragedy that COVID-19 has brought to many, our own inconveniences have thankfully been limited to just that.

The return of racing in June was welcomed with open arms and great credit must go to all those on the resumption of racing committee, which included representatives from the BHA, racecourses and many others. On the home front, our own 'Covid Committee' of Tessa, Anna Lisa and Nigel did a fantastic job of ensuring that we could continue to train the horses pretty much as normal whilst adhering to all the government guidelines. Regular temperature checks have always been in practice amongst Kingsclere's horse inhabitants but are now the norm for the staff as well and this, combined with other precautions, has helped make the workplace as safe as practicable in the circumstances.

During the lockdown period it was business as usual on the gallops but the uncertainty as to when racing would be permitted to resume caused problems in planning the work programme for the horses. Happily we managed to find the right balance and when racing did finally start the majority of the horses were ready and raring to go. Kameko obviously led the way with his fabulous victory in the 2,000 Guineas and, whilst it was a strange feeling to be celebrating such a momentous win with no owners and spectators present, it was still a deeply rewarding feeling to train another classic winner. Of all the images of this strange time there are none more striking than the photograph which fills the centre pages of this magazine. It shows the vast expanse of the Rowley Mile, the deserted grandstand and, to the right of the winning post, an isolated figure jumping for joy. That is Marie Perrault, who has cared for Kameko since his arrival at Park House, and her unbridled joy as he passed the winning post was shared by all connected with the yard and the horse, in a safely socially distanced way! ■



TACTICAL wins the Windsor Castle Stakes at Royal Ascot with an excited trainer in the background!



# THE SEASON SO FAR

by Tessa Hetherington

## OLDER HORSES

We had to wait a while for the start of the turf season in 2020, but once it began we had to wait only six days for its major highlight, namely the victory of **Kameko** in the 2,000 Guineas. Having signed off in 2019 with a Group 1 victory in the Vertem Futurity Trophy, Kameko had developed over the winter from a light and leggy teenager into a strong and substantial adult and had impressed in his work during lockdown. Nevertheless, it looked a decent renewal of the first classic of the season and, with none of the traditional prep races to gauge the progress made by other leading lights, we went to Newmarket with hope rather than expectation. Our confidence grew as Kameko travelled sweetly through the early stages of the



*KAMEKO with a triumphant Oisin Murphy, Marie Perrault and Simon Humphries*

race under Oisin Murphy before being switched inside to make his challenge, using the electric turn of foot we had seen at home to scythe through the field. There was a moment of anguish when it looked like his passage might be closed off by Wichita and Military March, but Oisin did not panic and as the two horses straightened their course Kameko surged through to win, going away from the field and in the fastest time in the race's history.

The racecourse may have been eerily quiet in the absence of spectators but the noise in the flats and cottages around Park House Stables was deafening. To win a classic was the best possible tonic after several months in lockdown, and it

was particularly special to do so with such a lovable horse, ridden by a former Kingsclere apprentice and owned by a long-time supporter of the yard in Sheikh Fahad. Kameko received a hero's welcome on his return to the yard that evening and the day will live long in the memories of all of us, including his devoted groom Marie Perrault, regular rider Taffy Cheshire and Head Lad Kevin Hunt.

Going to the Derby was not an entirely straightforward decision given Kameko's natural speed and mixed messages in his pedigree as to his stamina. His temperament and balance were major plus points for the challenges of Epsom, however, and he was the only horse with a Group 1 win to his name in the final field. He went to post as favourite, but ultimately the race was run in a way that put paid to the chance of any horse with stamina queries and for whom chasing down the freewheeling Serpentine in the middle stages of the race was too risky an option. Kameko was far from disgraced in fourth, beaten just a nose for third, but there will always be a sense of what might have been in a more conventionally run race.

Things did not go Kameko's way next time either. Back at a mile in the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood, he and Oisin found themselves hemmed in on the rail, repeatedly denied the opportunity to make their run. The winner, Mohaather, also met trouble and was seriously impressive in forging clear round the outside, but there would undoubtedly have been a proper 'duel on the Downs' had Kameko been blessed with a clear passage. Happily, he has come out of the race in fine form and remains a tremendously exciting horse. He will step back up in trip to ten furlongs in the Group 1 Juddmonte International at York next. By the same sire as Qatar Racing's much-missed champion Roaring Lion, who thrived on racing and improved throughout his three and four year old seasons, there is every reason to believe that the best is yet to come from our classic star.

The Derby may not have been run to suit Kameko but it played to the strengths of our other runner, **Khalifa Sat**, who ran a tremendous race to finish second on only his fourth career start. From the first crop of Prince Of Wales Stakes winner Free Eagle, Khalifa Sat had always impressed at home and showed a great attitude when winning his maiden at Goodwood last September. He returned to the Sussex track on his reappearance in June and, despite being the outsider of the field, won the Listed Cocked Hat Stakes in good style under Tom Marquand, fighting off a prolonged challenge from Emissary in the final furlong. A relentless galloper who enjoys racing prominently and handles tricky tracks, Khalifa Sat led the pack behind Serpentine at Epsom and retained that position at the finish, defying odds of

50/1 and cementing his credentials as a young stayer to follow. Unable to dominate next time out at Goodwood, he remains a very exciting prospect for owner Ahmad Al Shaikh.

Paul Spickett's **Berkshire Rocco** had at one stage entered the Derby reckoning, having built on his third in the Group 3 Zetland Stakes at Newmarket in October with a second in the Listed Derby Trial at Lingfield on reappearance behind leading Derby hope English King. Ultimately, however, we opted to head to Royal Ascot for the Group 2 Queen's Vase, run over one mile six furlongs. Berkshire Rocco ran another excellent race there, overcoming a severe bump at the start to finish runner-up to subsequent Irish Derby winner Santiago. Wonderfully straightforward and with proven stamina, Rocco has had a break since but is slated to return to the track in either the Group 3 Geoffrey Freer Stakes at Newbury, the Group 2 Great Voltigeur at York, or the Group 3 March Stakes at Goodwood.

Last year's Queen's Vase winner, **Dashing Willoughby**, has made the best possible start to his four year old season. We perhaps failed to campaign him optimally after his Ascot win last year but, gelded over the winter, he has bounced back to sparkling form this term for Mick and Janice Mariscotti. Starting out in the Listed Buckhounds Stakes over a mile and a half at Newmarket, he made all under Oisin Murphy to record an easy success, before proving his stamina with a gutsy victory over two miles in the Group 3 Henry II Stakes at Sandown. As genuine and tough as they come, he is an obvious candidate for the Melbourne Cup and New Zealand-based Go Bloodstock have now acquired a majority share in him with this aim in mind. His next run is likely to be in the Group 2 Lonsdale Cup at York, following which he will enter quarantine for his antipodean adventure.

**Berlin Tango** was another to go into the notebooks of many bloodstock agents after he kicked off his season with a win under David Probert in the Group 3 Classic Trial, held this year at Kempton rather than Sandown amidst the COVID-related reshuffle of the pattern programme. The form of that was franked when the second, Pyledriver, won the Group 2 King Edward VII Stakes on the first day of the Royal meeting, and Berlin Tango ran with great credit in the Group 3 Hampton Court Stakes the following day, making a bold bid for victory in the penultimate furlong and finding only two lower-weighted rivals too good by the line. Since sold to race in Hong Kong, he is much missed here but we are lucky to have his two year old half sister (by Lope De Vega and named Fantalope) to represent the family for owner-breeder George Strawbridge.

Mr Strawbridge's older fillies have been running well this year, with **Look Around** placing in the Group 3 Hoppings Stakes at Newcastle and the Group 3 Valiant Stakes at Ascot, and **Shailene** running a blinder to finish second in the Summer Handicap at Goodwood, a race in which she finished third last year off a lower mark. That should set her up nicely for a tilt at the Ebor, whilst Look Around could head to Sandown for the Group 3 Atalanta Stakes before possibly heading to Germany for the Group 2 Oetingen-Rennen.

**Be More** is another filly who could have a European jaunt on her agenda, having run well in three handicaps this term including a win at Class 2 level at Sandown last month. A three-time winner over a mile last year, she has relished the step up to ten furlongs and this increases her options in her quest to secure some black type in the Autumn for owners Cayton Park Stud. **Foxtrot Lady** has also been very consistent this term, placing in three Listed races over a mile. A gorgeous filly, she should be up to winning at that level before retiring to the breeding paddocks.

**Happy Power** has continued to be a solid performer for the King Power Racing team, placing in the Listed Spring Trophy at Haydock, the Group 3 Criterion Stakes at Newmarket, and in a Conditions event back at Haydock. The current heatwave has prevented him getting his preferred softer surface in recent weeks but he proved that this was no barrier to success with a ready win in a Class 2 Conditions event at Salisbury under Silvestre De Sousa on his last start. He could head for the Supreme Stakes at Goodwood next. In the same ownership, **Fox Chairman** was rather keen on reappearance in the Group 1 Queen Anne Stakes at Ascot but has since got back on track over ten furlongs. He was a close third in the Listed Gala Stakes at Sandown and then ran very well to be second in the Group 2 Skybet York Stakes,



*DASHING WILLOUGHBY strikes for home at Sandown under Oisin Murphy*



finishing ahead of Group winners Lord Glitters, Telecaster, Regal Reality and Elarqam. A Group win is well within his considerable ability, and he is likely to head for the Group 3 Winter Hill Stakes at Windsor next.

**Alounak** is a new recruit for King Power this year, having previously won a Group 3 in Germany and placed at Group 1 level in Canada, and he advertised his credentials with an excellent second in the Group 2 Hardwicke Stakes at Royal Ascot. He was rather keen at Newmarket on his next start and found the ground too quick at Goodwood, but he is a top-level performer and should find his conditions as we move into the Autumn. **Papa Power** had impressed in the winter with two facile wins at maiden and novice level. He was disappointing in the King Edward VII Stakes at Ascot before travelling to Rome for the Italian Derby, where he ran very well under a ride which is difficult to describe in terms suitable for this publication. He has returned in good nick and looks sure to have his day soon.

As a juvenile, **Symbolize** had won on debut, finished fourth in the Listed Windsor Castle Stakes at Ascot and fifth in a very strong renewal of the Group 2 Richmond Stakes at Goodwood, but he was ignored by the punters when making his reappearance in the Group 3 Jersey Stakes at this year's Royal meeting. He showed this to be an error when finishing third at 40/1, staying on over seven furlongs despite being keen in the early stages and handling the soft ground well. He got lit up early when bumped in the Listed Charles II Stakes at York next time out, but the stamina he showed at Ascot brings targets over a mile into play and he has plenty of options in the coming weeks. Fellow sprinter **Shine So Bright** had piled on the pounds over the winter and, although he had done plenty of graft before his reappearance, he faded quickly in the Group 1 Diamond Jubilee Stakes at Royal Ascot. He got back on track with placings in the Listed Surrey Stakes at Epsom and the Group 3 Hackwood Stakes at Newbury. His best form is over seven furlongs and he is likely to revert to that trip next, probably at York where he secured his memorable victory over Laurens in the Group 2 City Of York Stakes last year.

Jim and Fitri Hay's lovely **Bell Rock** had shown great promise when winning his only start at two but a series of niggles had interrupted his training last year and that had shown in his results. A different horse this year, he returned to the scene of his juvenile triumph on reappearance at Newmarket and once again came with a late rattle up the hill to steal the spoils, this time in a Class 2 handicap over a mile. He then ran well in the Royal Hunt Cup at Ascot before finishing third in the big ten furlong handicap at Goodwood, staying on well and beaten just a nose for second. The Cambridgeshire, run over nine furlongs back on the Rowley Mile, looks made for him and is his main aim. **Good Birthday** finished an excellent third in last year's Cambridgeshire and made a promising start to his four year old season when third back at Newmarket on reappearance. He disappointed on his next two starts

but ran better back at Newmarket on his latest outing and could return there in September for another crack at the Cambridgeshire.

The Kingsclere Racing Club have had a solid start to the turf season, with **Inclyne** winning well at Newmarket in June and Club star **Ranch Hand** finishing fourth in the Group 3 John Smith's Silver Cup at York, raising his rating to one that will get him a run in the Ebor later this month. The Club's biggest success to date, however, came in the slightly unexpected form of **Table Mountain**, a daughter of Phoenix Reach and KRC winner Cape Victoria. Wayward and down the field on her only start last year, she had shown little at home in the meantime and made her reappearance at Newbury at odds of 100/1. Flashing her tail when asked for her effort, she nevertheless consented to make one for her pilot Raul Da Silva and finished fourth,



*TABLE MOUNTAIN and Raul Da Silva come home in splendid isolation at Ascot*

suggesting that she did indeed have a light previously well hidden under a bushel. The light went back there on her next start but, reunited with Raul Da Silva for her handicap debut at Ascot and stepped up in trip from a mile and a half to two miles, she ran an excellent race and would have won but for wandering around the track in the closing stages, tail flashing all the while. An inspired bit of race planning by the boss then saw her take her chance in the Class 2 Brown Jack Handicap back at Ascot, five pounds out of the handicap and the only three year old in the race. This time her tail stayed down, she did not wander, and she and Raul cruised to an impressive four and three-quarter length victory. Raised a total of 21lbs for her last two runs, she now holds a lofty rating of 91 and there looks plenty more to come.

Raul Da Silva has been riding out here every day since March and has become a real asset to the team. In addition to his partnership with Table Mountain, his patience and connection with tricky fillies has also been shown in his work with fellow homebred **Irish Tweed**, who is quirky with a capital 'Q'. A half-sister to Elm Park and Brorocco, she has plenty of ability but struggles to settle, and this has seen her finish last on three of her four starts. Raul has been her

regular rider at home and managed to conjure a win out of her, over six furlongs at Lingfield in June. With that important victory on her attractive pedigree page, she is now likely to head to the breeding paddocks where she should find it easier to relax!

**Spanish Angel**, a winner at Brighton last time, has performed consistently this year, winning over the minimum trip at Windsor in June and placing on four further occasions. He relishes quick ground and should have more winning opportunities this summer. **Never Dark** was also a winner over five furlongs, scoring at Kempton under David Probert in the first week after racing's resumption. Mid-division in the big five furlong handicap at Royal Ascot, he ran well over six furlongs at Chelmsford last time out and could step up in trip again in the apprentice handicap at York next. **Rodin** won his maiden over five furlongs at Southwell in February but has thrived for stepping up in trip, winning over seven at Lingfield in June before putting in two excellent performances to finish second at Kempton and Newmarket, the latter in Class 3 company. A dour battler, he stayed on well up the hill at Newmarket and could well improve further at a mile, with big handicaps at York and Sandown on his radar towards the end of this month. Similar races will be on the agenda for **Grove Ferry**, a dual winner last year who sparked in his homework this Spring before finishing a close third on reappearance at Lingfield in June. A minor setback has kept him off the track since, but he is now back in full training and is working as well as ever.

**Mon Choix** is another who is capable of laying up with the best at home. He had not managed to replicate this on the track, despite going close in his first two starts this term, so it was gratifying to see him bolt up over the mile at Windsor earlier this month under Oisin Murphy, putting some seven and a half lengths between him and his nearest opponent. Turned out just four days later under a penalty at Sandown, it was a similar story as he cruised to victory by another big margin, again under Oisin. He obviously relishes a quick turf surface and should provide more reward for the patience of his owner Mr Al Thani in weeks to come.



*MON CHOIX has been a revelation on quick turf this summer*



*KAFEE won well at Windsor under David Probert*

Windsor has been a lucky track for us this year, and **Kafee** was another to score over the mile there, winning his maiden under David Probert on his third start. He was disappointing next time when not helped by a wide draw, but he shows plenty at home and is on a feasible mark. **Berkshire Savvy** was another Windsor winner, scoring over the extended eleven furlongs there under Oisin Murphy in July. He had been far from disgraced in the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot prior to that, and confirmed his progressive profile when third in the Class 3 handicap over eleven furlongs at the Goodwood Festival. A winner on the All-Weather at two, he is straightforward and versatile and should have more good days this term. **Herodotus** gave us a quick double that evening, winning the next race on the card, a claimer over ten furlongs. He was claimed by young trainer George Boughey and has already run with credit for his new connections.

**Stanford** had done well over the winter, winning at Kempton in January and finishing runner-up on his next two starts. He won at Windsor on his reappearance and turf debut, showing courage to forge through a gap on the rail under an inspired ride from Oisin. Never out of the first three in six career starts, he has since been sold to race on in America. American-bred **Kitzbuhel** made the reverse journey as a yearling and has progressed with each of his three starts since joining us in the winter. By top US sire Medaglia d'Oro and out of a Street Cry mare, he looks a winner in waiting. The same is true of **Quickstep Lady**, who has also been placed on all three of her starts this year. A daughter of Australia and a half-sister to Dancing Star, Foxtrot Lady and Strict Tempo, she is bred to keep improving and seems sure to score for owner-breeder Jeff Smith in the coming weeks. **Sidereal** has run well on his two latest starts and Kirsten Rausing's son of Galileo has the makings of a lovely horse, whilst the gorgeous **Punctuation** has also been placed on his last two runs following an impressive win on the All Weather in February. **Horn Of Plenty** has placed twice in novice company and is on a workable mark to move into middle distance handicaps. **Kashi** very nearly got the job done on debut at



Kempton in June (Oisin following the instructions of regular rider Toby Balding to the letter) but was just pipped at the post. He was unsuited by Lingfield's tight track next time out but his time should come soon.

Jeff Smith has another handy filly in the sizeable shape of **Tribal Craft**, a scopey daughter of Mastercraftsman who won twice last year. Having bumped into a well-handicapped rival on reappearance at Newmarket, she went one better at Kempton next time, making virtually all over a mile and a half. She struggled in Listed company at Newbury last time but remains on a workable mark and is likely to head for a fillies' handicap next, with more improvement possible as she continues to mature. **Thai Power** is also a big unit and he too won over a mile and a half at Kempton, cruising home in June under Silvestre De Sousa for the King Power team. Runner-up on all three of his starts since, he is coping well with his climb up the weights and should be in the winner's enclosure again soon.



*Oisin thanks TRIBAL CRAFT after she wins well at Kempton*

**Coltrane** made his debut over a mile and a half at Kempton but was sent to the track with limited expectations, having shown little at home. As can sometimes be the case with staying types, he was a different horse when given a full twelve furlongs to get organised, and stayed on strongly under Rob Hornby to finish second, finding only the son of Dubawi and Taghrooda too good! A respectable fourth back at Kempton on his second start, he was then reunited with Rob at Chepstow in July, where the pair justified short odds to win easily over the mile and a half trip. By Mastercraftsman and out of a half-sister to two smart hurdlers, Coltrane relished the step up to a mile and six furlongs at Newmarket on his latest start and justified his short odds to win going away from the field under William Buick. He is a fine prospect for Mick and Janice Mariscotti. The Mariscottis teamed up with Rob Hornby for another Chepstow maiden winner in **Damage Control**, who put almost five lengths between himself and his rivals over ten furlongs in June despite stumbling and hanging across the track in the closing stages. Not disgraced in the Group 3 Bahrain Trophy at Newmarket (finishing just

behind subsequent German Oaks winner Miss Yoda), he ran well in handicap company at Goodwood last time out and is capable of winning a nice prize this term. **Bronze River** is another Mariscotti three year old to have run with credit this year, placing over ten furlongs at Newmarket on reappearance under Oisin and at Leicester and Sandown when piloted by Will Carver, who does a great job with him at home. He stayed on well at Sandown so a step up in trip to a mile and a half seemed in order, and he ran well once again, finishing fourth in a competitive handicap at Ascot.

**Fiesta De Vega** is the biggest horse in the yard and understandably took a while to strengthen and mature. Unraced at two, he has come into his own this year and won on debut over ten furlongs at Haydock, staying on well to repel the challenge of a more experienced rival. A minor issue has kept him off the track since but he is back in full work and is a lovely prospect over middle and staying distances. **Iron Heart** was also something of a late developer, perhaps surprisingly given his pedigree (by Gimcrack winner Muhaarar and out of Albany winner Kiyoshi), but he shed his maiden tag over a mile at Southwell in February and has run well since resumption, placing over ten furlongs at Goodwood and over a mile and a half at Newmarket. He can continue to progress, as can **Machios**, who showed his true colours when winning well at Lingfield under a great ride from David Probert last time out. **Wild Hero** had always worked better than his racecourse performances last year and he too has found his stride as a three year old, placing at Newmarket on reappearance before winning a Leicester maiden under Will Carver and just being denied back in handicap company at Sandown last time out. He is a solid, likeable little horse who should continue to do well.

**Oloroso** had won last year at three but lost his way towards the end of a busy season. A winter break in the paddocks did him the world of good and he has done well this year, bookending lockdown with two placings at Kempton and then winning in great style over a mile at Newbury in July under Josh Bryan. Turned out quickly under a penalty, he ran with credit at Haydock to be fourth. He



*BERKSHIRE SAVVY was another Windsor winner and has proven progressive this year*



*HOLD FAST provided us with a dream start when racing resumed*

has since suffered a life-threatening injury when puncturing a coffin joint but thanks to the Herculean efforts of Jamie Knapp and Kevin Hunt he is still with us and we have everything crossed that this remains the case.

**Ascraeus**, a daughter of the late Poet's Voice, won her maiden over seven furlongs at Wolverhampton in June before having a nightmare trip when trapped wide over a mile at Chelmsford. She ran much better when third at Windsor on her last start and should be back in the winners' enclosure soon. The same is true of **Hold Fast**, who was our first runner post lockdown and got us off to the best possible start, winning her maiden over ten furlongs at Kempton and showing a great attitude under David Probert. She works very well at home and we felt she was worthy of a place in the Group 2 Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot, but that proved too great a challenge and she has been hard to get right since. Her work has picked up again of

late, however, so hopefully she is coming back into form. **Chil Chil** was a revelation after a wind operation last year, winning three times and rising some 22lbs in the handicap. She took a long time to get fit this Spring but signalled that her progression was not over with an excellent second at Bath on reappearance. Sharpened up by that, she duly made light work of winning a good Class 2 handicap over six furlongs at Ascot this month, and there looks to be plenty more to come from this immensely likeable half-sister to Beat The Bank.

The fillies' division will be without one of its stars for the rest of the season as **Shadn** has been retired to stud. A very precocious juvenile, she won three races last year including the Listed Rose Bowl Stakes and the Group 2 Criterium de Maisons-Lafitte, but this year her opposition have rather caught up with her physically and connections have sensibly decided to call it a day. A strong, pretty filly with the most wonderful temperament, she will make a lovely broodmare but we will miss her very much.

## TWO YEAR OLDS

We have been blessed with a bumper crop of two year olds this season, with some really nice types amongst the juvenile squad.

H.M. The Queen's **Tactical** has undoubtedly been the leader of the pack. By top miler Toronado and out of the Makfi filly Make Fast, who was Listed placed from Park House, he has stood out from the day he stepped onto the yard – strong, precocious and very professional up the gallop (if initially rather cheeky everywhere else!). He made an eyecatching debut at Newmarket in the first week of racing, staying on strongly over the minimum trip to be third, having been hampered in the final furlong. Whilst that run suggested he might benefit from stepping up to six furlongs, the decision to keep him at five for Ascot and aim



*OLOROSO surges clear under Josh Bryan at Newbury*



for the Listed Windsor Castle Stakes paid off. Settling nicely in the hands of James Doyle, he came with a strong run up the rail to record a memorable Royal victory at the Royal meeting. Three weeks later he marked himself out as one of the top juveniles in the country with an easy victory in the Group 2 July Stakes at Newmarket, cruising home under William Buick and coping well with the softer ground. His next assignment will hopefully be the Group 1 Prix Morny at Deauville later this month. This is shaping up to be a stern test, but we are confident that he is up to the challenge!

In addition to Khalifa Sat, Ahmad Al Shaikh has another classy performer in **Youth Spirit**, who won well over seven furlongs at Newmarket on his second start before finishing third to the impressive Battleground in the Group 2 Vintage Stakes at Goodwood. By Camelot and out of a half-sister to good juveniles Blaine, Bogart and Byline, Youth Spirit has plenty of scope to keep progressing and a Group level win is well within his compass. Stakes company is also on the agenda for Sheikh Juma's **Knight Salute**, a son of Sir Percy who has always caught the eye at home. Just touched off by a more experienced rival on debut at Wolverhampton, Knight Salute responded well to pressure at Sandown on his next start, fending off the challenge of Forever Forward with the pair well clear of the third. He is likely to step up to a mile and head to Salisbury for the Listed Stonehenge Stakes next.

A son of crack sprinter Muhaarar and out of a Verglas mare who was a Listed winner at two, Qatar Racing's



*YOUTH SPIRIT won well at Newmarket and is destined for better things*

**Politics** is as speedy as his pedigree suggests. A sluggish start prevented him from winning on debut at Pontefract but he pinged the gates at Sandown for Oisin next time out and won over five furlongs with plenty in hand. He looks destined for better things. The same is true of **Mystery Smiles**, a breeze-up purchase for King Power Racing who overcame a slow start to bolt up over the minimum trip at Windsor on debut under Silvestre De Sousa, before another easy win in a strong conditions event at Chester. By first season sire Mehmas, who has made an excellent start at stud, Mystery Smiles is a gorgeous colt with plenty



*A triumphant TACTICAL with James Doyle and Nathan Cheshire after his Royal Ascot win*



*MYSTERY SMILES is two from two and has a bright future*

of substance and should have a bright future. **Night On Earth** was another juvenile to win over the minimum trip at Windsor, making all on his second start to score by almost four lengths. He was unable to make an impact in the Group 3 Molecomb Stakes at Goodwood but should have plenty of good opportunities throughout the rest of the season for owners M M Stables.

Bred by his owners Jim and Fitri Hay, **Bonnyrigg** is small but strong and racy. He ran well on debut at Newmarket, finishing second, before putting up a really gutsy display to go one better at the same track on his next start, battling





## KAMEKO (USA)

2017 b/br colt, Kitten's Joy (USA) / Sweeter Still (IRE) (Rock Of Gibraltar (IRE))

Owner: Qatar Racing Ltd    Trainer: Andrew Balding    Jockey: Oisin Murphy

Groom: Marie Perrault    Breeder: Calumet Farm

Bought: Keeneland September Yearlings 2018 by David Redvers

WINNER: QIPCO 2000 GUINEAS, Newmarket, 6 June 2020





*NIGHT ON EARTH and Oisin at the start before winning at Windsor*

all the way to the line under James Doyle. His opening mark looks fair and he will ply his trade in nursery company next, with a step up from six furlongs likely to yield further improvement. At the other end of the size spectrum is **Henrik**, a tall, leggy son of Gutaifan who looks nothing like a typical two year old but somehow manages to run like one. Very green on debut at Lingfield, he was much more streetwise next time at Chepstow and won well under William Cox, before finishing second in a better race at York, splitting two well-bred youngsters. He will only improve as he matures physically and is a fine representative for the Park House Partnership.

**Bright Devil** was one of the first to come to hand at home and won on debut at Newmarket in the first week of racing, making all under Oisin Murphy to head a classy field which included the subsequent winner of the Coventry. Bought by Team Valor and Gary Barber after that success, he was undone by soft ground at Royal Ascot but disappointed in the Group 2 Superlative Stakes at Newmarket's July



*BONNYRIGG battles to victory at Newmarket under James Doyle*

meeting. He will head to Canada to continue his career there, where he should do well. **Imperial Force** was another to run well on the first day of racing at Newmarket, finishing second in the other division of the six furlong maiden. He relished the softer surface at Royal Ascot and put up a fantastic performance to finish third in the Group 2 Norfolk Stakes, staying on well. His next run, in novice company at Haydock, was too bad to be true, but nothing came to light afterwards so hopefully we can just put a line through it. He may well head to Doncaster next, for the big two year old race we won last year with King's Lynn.

Now that the mile races are appearing in the juvenile calendar the next wave of youngsters will have their chance to shine, and **Recovery Run** did just that when stepping up in trip at Sandown on his third start. Runner-up on both his previous outings, he showed a tremendous attitude to fend off his challengers and get off the mark under Oisin Murphy. The second and third cost 500,000gns and 2,300,000gns respectively, which makes Recovery Run's €38,000 price tag look like reasonable value for his owners Another Bottle!

**Scampi** made his debut in the race won by Recovery Run and made notable late progress to finish fourth. By



*HENRIK scoots clear under William Cox at Chepstow*

Nayef and from the family of German classic winners Mystic Lips and Malinas, he is bred to be a later developer so this was a most encouraging debut. Others to have advertised their talent at Sandown on debut include **King Vega**, second to a more experienced rival over seven furlongs this month, and **Flyin' High**, a son of Group 1 winning parents in Siyouni and Zee Zee Top, who was fourth over the same trip in July.

Others to have shown up well on the track to date include **Rival**, a good second at Haydock on debut before struggling on quick ground there last time, **Spanish Colt**, placed on his last two starts, and **Juan De Montalban**, fourth at Haydock on debut after a rather bemused start! Others have needed the experience on debut, as is often the way, but should do better in time, whilst we have plenty of nice youngsters waiting in the wings for their chance to shine. Exciting times ahead! ■

# THE 2020 12 TO FOLLOW

## COMPETITION

**The absence of distraction during lockdown obviously led to much studying of the form and work-watching on the gallops on the part of the Park House team, who fill the first eight places on the leaderboard. As of 7 August Travelling Head Lad Sam Geake is in pole position, but there is plenty more racing to come and the later-developing juveniles could yet transform the rankings!**

1 Sam Geake	152	34 Nigel Walker (A)	101	71 Andrew Balding	72
2 Nathan Cheshire	148	37 Tessa Hetherington (B)	100	71 Ray Horne (B)	72
3 Emma Balding (A)	147	37 D.F. Powell (A)	100	73 M.A. Bettaney (B)	70
4 Angela Cheshire (D)	138	39 Tessa Hetherington (C)	99	73 Liam Mungovan (B)	70
5 Simon Humphries (B)	133	40 Jeremy Carey	98	75 Paul Spickett (A)	69
6 Will Carver	131	40 Angela Cheshire (E)	98	76 R. Wilmot-Smith/E. Baldwin	68
7 Ben Corke	127	40 Gary Richards	98	76 April Rafferty	68
7 Bradley Harris	127	43 Bob Humphries (A)	97	76 Julia Reardon Smith	68
9 Sue Gay	123	44 G. Bounds/A. Johnson (B)	96	76 Anne Soul (B)	68
9 Stephen Woolley (B)	123	45 Marie Perrault	94	80 Roger Michaelson	67
11 Toby Balding	122	46 Clare Balding	93	81 A. Johnson/G. Bounds (A)	66
12 Leanne White	120	46 John Knight	93	81 M.A. Bettaney (A)	66
13 Phil Rodgers	119	48 Jamie Richards	92	83 Gary Boon	65
14 Angela Cheshire (A)	117	48 James Rimmer	92	83 Carl Conroy	65
14 Tessa Hetherington (A)	117	50 Cassia Cooper	90	83 Avril Elson	65
14 Jamie Mackinnon	117	50 Janice Friend	90	86 Barry Hale	64
17 Fred Larson	116	50 Lisa Pearce	90	86 Shannon James	64
18 Charlie Measures	115	53 Diana Magalhaes	89	86 David King	64
19 Anderson King	114	54 John Soul	88	86 Jonathan Palmer-Brown	64
20 Ray Horne (D)	112	55 Liam Mungovan (A)	87	86 Gerry Rafferty (A)	64
21 James Stafford	111	56 I.A. Balding	85	86 Sharon Woolley	64
21 Becci Thompson	111	56 Bob Humphries (B)	85	92 Alice Arnold	62
23 Anna Lisa Balding	110	58 Richard Dangar	84	92 Barney Bonner	62
23 Angela Cheshire (C)	110	58 Felicity Simpson	84	92 Laurence Jinks	62
23 Charlotte Fane	110	60 Paul & Lisa Spickett	83	92 Stephen Woolley (A)	62
23 Charlie King	110	61 Angela Cheshire (B)	82	96 Sally Jinks	61
23 Charlie Richards (A)	110	61 Lois Day	82	96 Stuart Mcphee	61
28 Stuart Friend	109	61 Georgie Ducker + Ryan	82	98 Ray Horne (C)	59
28 Rupert Hetherington	109	61 Liam Mungovan (C)	82	99 John Gale	57
28 Jack Osborne	109	65 Angus Mcphee	81	99 Ray Vickery	57
31 Nigel Walker (B)	106	66 Rob Bettaney	78	101 Des Fenton	56
32 Jonno Balding	102	66 Gerry Rafferty (C)	78	101 Martyn Needham	56
32 Charlie Richards (B)	102	66 Stephanie Smith	78	103 Bob Humphries (C)	55
34 Flora Balding	101	69 Simon Humphries (A)	76	104 Martin Slade	54
34 Missy & Betty Clarke	101	70 Bryan Jennick	73	104 John Smith	54



106 Rex Paris (B)	53	118 Scott Mcjarrow	41	130 Paul Spickett (B)	31
107 Pip Elson	52	119 Rex Paris (A)	40	131 Yasmin Rudkin	29
107 Rachael Holmes	52	119 Laura Spickett	40	132 Anne Soul (A)	27
107 Clive Stansby	52	121 D.F. Powell (B)	39	133 Batt Dillon	26
110 Des Oates	49	121 Gerry Rafferty (B)	39	133 Matthew & Emily Slade	26
111 Valerie Slade	48	123 Mina Mcphee	38	135 Alysoun Carey	25
112 Charlotte Clarke	47	124 Michael Payton	37	136 Michael Fowler	23
113 Terry Friend	46	124 Joshua Rudkin	37	137 Jenny Arlington	22
113 David E. Gay	46	126 Flora Hetherington	36	138 Mac & Boris Balding	21
115 W. Aeberhard	45	127 John (Paddy) Fearne	34	139 Ray Horne (A)	17
116 Emma Balding (B)	44	127 Jon Rea	34	140 Sue Watson	5
117 Sally Phipps Hornby	42	129 Suzanne Woolley	32		



MON CHOIX

## TOP SCORING HORSES

MON CHOIX	30
TACTICAL	28
THAI POWER	28
DASHING WILLOUGHBY	24
RODIN	23



THAI POWER

## SELECTION OF THE LEADERS

### SAM GEAKE

Edinburgh Castle	5
Mon Choix	30
Khalifa Sat	20
Papa Power	0
Fox Tal	0
Thai Power	28
Happy Power	14
Tactical	28
Youth Spirit	16
Calcutta Cup	1
Bright Devil	10
She Is Fierce	0

### NATHAN CHESHIRE

Foxtrot Lady	11
Quickstep Lady	14
Kameko	14
Alounak	8
Mon Choix	30
Damage Control	16
Via De Vega	0
Tactical	28
King Vega	6
Imperial Force	11
Star Caliber	0
Bright Devil	10

### EMMA BALDING (A)

Dashing Willoughby	24
Fox Chairman	13
Berkshire Rocco	16
Berlin Tango	17
Bronze River	11
Grove Ferry	4
Kameko	14
Bright Devil	10
Henrik	16
The Kodi Kid	0
Recovery Run	22
Rushmore	0

### ANGELA CHESHIRE (D)

Dashing Willoughby	24
Hold Fast	10
Opera Gift	0
Kameko	14
Spanish Angel	19
Berlin Tango	17
Montanari	0
Mellow Magic	0
Star Caliber	0
Tactical	28
Bonnyrigg	16
Bright Devil	10

## SALES SEASON

Yearling sales season is fast approaching and, COVID-permitting, we will have representatives at the following sales: Goffs UK (1-2 Sept), Baden-Baden (4 Sept), Tattersalls Ascot (8 Sept), Fairyhouse (21-22 Sept), Goffs Orby (21-22 Sept) and Tattersalls Book 1 (6-8 Oct), Book 2 (12-14 Oct) and Book 3 (15-16 Oct). Please get in touch if you are interested in purchasing a yearling this year.



KHALIFA SAT was bought for €40,000 at the Goffs Orby sale and finished second in this year's Derby

# Common Fractures Experienced in the Training of Flat Racehorses

Simon Knapp LVO, MRCVS & Jodie Dalglish MRCVS (NEH)



**F**racture is one of the most common causes of days lost from training in racing thoroughbreds. When a fracture does occur, prompt diligent care and attention by experienced staff and appropriate fracture support has a profound effect on the outcome and the prognosis for a return to competitive activity. At Kingsclere, staff training has been undertaken to ensure good support bandaging and the application of a state-of-the-art compression boot in an appropriate and timely fashion. The use of a small horsebox with a shallow ramp also aids retrieval from the gallops.

Fractures can be divided into two broad groups. First, they may be the result of an external force or trauma, such as a kick, a fall or even becoming cast in the box. Secondly, they may occur due to the repetitive stress applied to the bone during training. This is the most common group found in flat racehorses and,

despite years of intensive research, the ability to predict the likelihood of fracture in the individual remains beyond us.

Fractures occur most frequently during fast work and manifest themselves by a sudden onset of acute lameness. Fractures below the elbow and hock require immediate, appropriate and effective stabilisation using bandaging or a compression boot followed by careful transportation to the veterinary unit for diagnosis, appropriate support and referral to a specialist orthopaedic unit.

The most common limb fractures in the racing thoroughbred are:

- Distal cannon bone (condylar fractures).
- Long pastern.
- Third carpal bone (knee)
- Third tarsal bone (hock)

Other common fractures of the skeleton involve the pelvis, the tibia in the hindleg or the humerus in the foreleg.



*A compression boot can stabilise a lower limb fracture*





*Complete fracture of distal cannon bone*



*Surgical repair of fracture using screws*

Distal cannon bone fractures can be divided into three groups: incomplete fractures which extend into the shaft but are stable; complete fractures which create separate bone fragments and are often unstable and may displace; and spiral fractures which are normally stable in the short term but carry a significant risk of progressing into a catastrophic fracture.

Overall, about 65% of these fractures are complete, whilst 36% are classified as incomplete. Lateral condylar fractures (see photographs above) make up approximately 75% of these fractures and the medial hindlimb fractures represent 95% of the spiral fractures seen.

Long pastern fractures make up approximately 50% of the fracture burden, 75% of which occur in the forelimb. These fractures are more common in two year olds, and can be incomplete or complete. If displaced, they are known as split pasterns.

Third carpal bone and tarsal bone fractures occur predominantly in two- and three-year olds in training. These are usually displaced and inevitably require surgical repair to stabilise the fracture.

Approximately 11% of all fractures diagnosed in racing in the UK have been attributed to pelvic stress fractures. Young female horses are the most at risk, and they occur most commonly in horses under four-years-old. There appears to be an increase in horses trained on all weather surfaces.

Tibial stress fractures are repetitive strain injuries and predominantly affect naive two year olds in training. They

may be bilateral (in both hindlegs) and occur at three typical sites. Scintigraphy (bone scanning) is often required to diagnose these injuries as there may be little to see radiographically in the early stages. These fractures also occur more frequently in horses training on synthetic surfaces.

The gold standard approach to fracture repair is to achieve accurate reduction and complete stabilisation. When a joint is involved, accurate alignment of the fracture without incongruities in the joint surface is vital in optimising a successful outcome. Although some fractures can be repaired with

a horse standing under sedation and with local anaesthesia, a more accurate repair can be achieved by manipulating and reducing the fracture under general anaesthesia. The accuracy of alignment can be facilitated using computer tomography (CT scan) which will improve the prognosis for a return to successful athletic activity.

Following surgical repair of a distal limb fracture, the leg is encased in a fibreglass cast, which remains in situ for 2-3 days. This aids recovery from anaesthesia and gives immediate support for the first few days. Horses are typically confined to their box for 30 days, and if follow up radiographs are satisfactory, hand walking exercise commences. The intensity of this controlled exercise is increased incrementally leading to trotting starting in 6-8 weeks and cantering in approximately 12 weeks. In the case of a lateral condylar fracture, the mean time for a return to the racecourse is 9 months.

Stress fractures of the humerus and tibia are managed conservatively, employing strict box rest and deep bedding, providing the lameness is minimal. In the case of pelvic fractures and severe tibial fractures associated with significant lameness, horses are cross tied to prevent them lying down – lying down may cause propagation of the fracture which would result in a life-threatening scenario. In the case of simple humerus and tibia fractures, walking can be resumed in 1-2 weeks when they are comfortable. This reduces the risk of bone resorption in young thoroughbreds being box rested. This walk regime is increased incrementally with a view to trotting in 6 weeks and cantering in 8-12 weeks. In severe cases box rest must be extended from 4 to 6 weeks and this will extend the recuperation period to 12 weeks or more before cantering can be resumed. Pelvic fractures inevitably require a longer convalescent period.

Results following fracture repair depend on the fracture location and its complexity. In racing thoroughbreds, success is judged by the rate of return to racing, however in many cases, horses that undergo fracture repair may retire

#### **Crib Sheet**

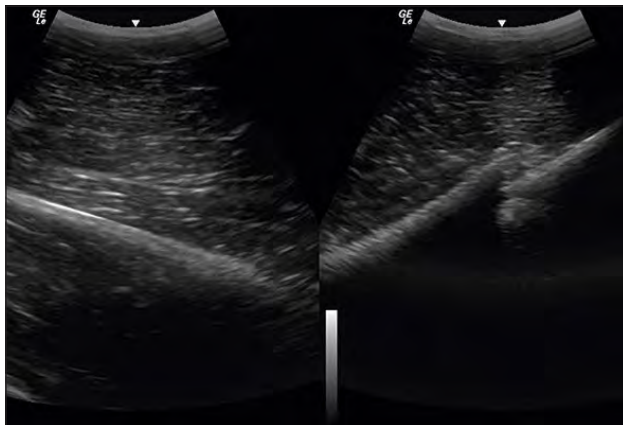
**Medial:** closer to the midline of the body

**Lateral:** away from the midline of the body

**Proximal:** closer to the main mass of the body

**Distal:** away from the main mass of the body

to stud or be rehomed to enjoy a less demanding activity. Although figures do not tell the whole story, returns from Newmarket Equine Hospital report a success rate, based on return to racing, of 70% of incomplete fractures and 58% of complete lateral condylar fractures, which falls to 55% in the case of medial condylar fractures which are often spiral. Long pastern cases have a 58% success rate rising to 77% only if the 2-year-old case load is included.



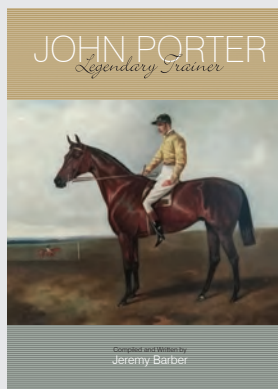
*Pelvic Fracture*

Short incomplete pastern fractures have a 92% success rate whilst complete fractures show no better than a 50% rate of success. In the case of comminuted fractures (multiple bone fragments) the prognosis for a return to racing is hopeless, however salvage can be achieved if there is a single column of bone present. On a positive note tibial stress fractures, providing they are not displaced, carry an 80% success rate.

In this current anomalous season the number of fractures seen in racing thoroughbreds this year is above average, especially in 2 year olds. The reason for this is unclear, although ground conditions and adapted training regimes may play a role.

The take home message regarding fractures must be that rapid and appropriate support and careful transportation followed by accurate identification and specialist orthopaedic repair where appropriate, will achieve favourable results for a successful return to racing or alternatively, allow the horse to undergo an alternative career outside racing. It must be stressed that in this day and age, with modern techniques, fractures are by no means a death sentence and in many cases, horses will have a happy, useful and enjoyable life following injury. ■

## JOHN PORTER, LEGENDARY TRAINER



If anyone would like to delve into some Kingsclere and racing history, Jeremy Barber has produced a fascinating book detailing the career and legacy of the great trainer John Porter, who designed Park

House Stables and trained no less than twenty three Classic winners from the yard. He also founded Newbury Racecourse and played an important role in the development of racing during the Victorian era. Detailed and beautifully presented, this book is available to order online, with all net proceeds going to the Injured Jockeys Fund. ■

## Kingsclere Racing Club



*Newmarket winner INCLYNE*

In this strangest of seasons the Kingsclere Racing Club has nevertheless managed a launch morning (pre-lockdown) and a socially distanced gallops morning (post-lockdown). We have had plenty of action on the racecourse with wins from Inclyne, Irish Tweed and the hugely progressive Table Mountain, and with much of the season left and all of the Club's two year olds yet to run, there is much to look forward to over the coming months. KRC members are now starting to venture out to the racecourses but in the meantime there have been hotly contested tipping competitions for the major racing festivals and an active WhatsApp group to keep everyone occupied! ■



# LIFE IN LOCKDOWN

As for everyone around the world, 2020 has been an odd year in Park House Stables, with the usual build up to the turf season replaced by a new regime of social distancing, disinfecting and temperature taking. In many ways we were very fortunate as the horses, blissfully ignorant of the global pandemic, provided a much-needed level of normality and meant that we were all kept occupied and able to have at least some social contact. We were also lucky to have our squad of riders augmented by some top-notch pilots, with flat jockeys David Probert, Rob Hornby and Raul da Silva coming in every morning, along with jump jockeys Page Fuller and Lilly Pinchin.



Rob Hornby and David Probert



Lilly Pinchin



Page Fuller



Raul da Silva

Finding things to do outside of working hours required a bit more imagination but everyone made the most of the beautiful walks in the area (the Kingsclere dogs have never been fitter) and, as the rules relaxed, golf and fishing became regular pastimes in the absence of the pub. The newly founded Park House Cricket Ground has now held two matches, featuring stellar performances from Rob Bettaney, Marcus Bird, Nathan Cheshire and Jonno Balding in particular. Some rather shaky understanding of the rules was exhibited by new players (Liam went out to bat with his pads on upside down, whilst Abdul took a swipe at a ball being thrown back to the bowler), and Tess' scoring was a little creative at times, but great fun was had by all



Nate the Great by Cassia Cooper

(except perhaps the fiercely competitive Andrew, who has been on the losing side on both occasions).

We also ran a series of yard competitions and challenges, including quizzes, lip-sync videos, a dance compilation video, and an art challenge judged by artist Jo Taylor and won by Cassia Cooper with her painting of Nate The Great – the best of a large set of entries which showed an incredibly high standard of artistic talent amongst our staff team! The tables in the hostel dining room were taken over by a series of increasingly fiendish jigsaw puzzles, and facebook and whatsapp groups kept everyone connected.

The resumption of racing was a huge relief to us all but came with its own set of challenges, with additional forward-planning, paperwork and preparations required before every meeting. Charlotte Clarke has done sterling work providing picnics for all racing staff until racecourse canteens reopened, whilst Angie Cheshire has ensured that all racing kit is cleaned and packed in compliance with the new rules and that everyone has the requisite face mask and hand sanitiser for their trips



Caption competition winner Rob

to the track. Anna Lisa has sourced all the kit needed to keep everyone safe and has been up bright and early every morning to take everyone's temperature, whilst Tess has tried to make sense of the stream of guidance from the Government and the BHA, keeping everyone informed of developments.

We are not out of the woods yet and we cannot be complacent, but we are very proud of the way our staff team has approached the challenges of the past few months, supporting each other and showing understanding and maturity in often difficult circumstances. Good work, gang! ■

We are very grateful to Spillers for continuing to support our Employee Of The Month awards, and the latest deserving recipients are:

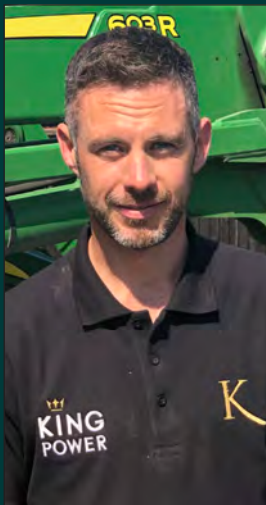
**Tim Fewster** for his excellent work in keeping the grass gallops and the whole Downs area in tip-top shape.

**Reece Senior** for continued top-class work, particularly as groom and regular rider of Derby second Khalifa Sat.

**Diana Magalhaes** for continuously improving her skills in the saddle and especially for her work with Youth Spirit and Shailene.

**Ellie Morrison** for good progress in her riding over recent months and for continued good work on the ground.

All winners receive £100 and a bottle of Spillers prosecco. ■



*Tim Fewster*



*Reece Senior*



*Diana Magalhaes*



*Ellie Morrison*

## STAFF NEWS

We have been joined, pre and post lockdown, by two key members of staff in Head Lad Ben Corke and Pupil Assistant Marcus Bird. Ben, who previously worked for Epsom trainer Simon Dow, joined us in March and has taken over the management of the Selkirk and Mill Reef yards from Dylan Holley, who



*Ben Corke and Marcus Bird*

now has responsibility for all tack and other yard equipment. Marcus graduated from Bristol University in 2019 and has stud experience both in the UK (at Glebe Farm Stud) and in New Zealand (at Windsor Park Stud). He joined us in late May to learn more about the racing side of the industry and works alongside Charlie King who is now in her second year as Pupil Assistant. Both our new recruits have settled in quickly and are reliable and popular members of the team.

Callum Hutchinson had his first ride under rules last month and did a fabulous job, finishing third on Isomer at Newbury, whilst Bradley Harris is due to have his first ride in the next week or so. Josh Bryan is just a handful of wins away from losing his claim, whilst William Cox had a big win at Goodwood on Glamorous Anna and William Carver continues to impress and make excellent progress. ■



