

# KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



WINTER MAGAZINE 2019



*KINGS LYNN wins the Weatherbys Bank £300,000 2yo Stakes at Doncaster on his second start*

Front cover: *DONJUAN TRIUMPHANT* and *Silvestre De Sousa* fly home in the *British Champions Sprint*  
Back cover: *Some snapshots of the year from our Instagram feed* (for more see @parkhousestables)

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Editor: Tessa Hetherington  
Design: Adrian Hodgkins  
Photography: Hugh Routledge, Laurence Squire, Francesca Altoft, Alan Wright, John Hoy, Megan Ridgwell, John Grossick, Tyron Mills, Sam Stephenson, Nigel Kirby, Shelby Joubert, Tessa Hetherington, Anna Lisa Balding  
Contributors: Tessa Hetherington, Andrew Balding, Nathaniel Barnett, Cornelius Lysaght, Oisín Murphy

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Telephone: 01635 298210 Fax: 01635 298305

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## INTRODUCTION AMB

**2019** has been a fantastic racing year for all of us at Park House. We have been lucky enough to reach new levels both in terms of winners and domestic prize money, which resulted in securing a top five place in the trainers' table for the first time since I started training in 2003. Horse Racing in Great Britain is as competitive as you will find anywhere, the quality of horses competing at our major festivals are the benchmark for the rest of the world and it has been so rewarding to have achieved success at the very highest level this season. These results have been achieved thanks to the hard work and professionalism of the team here. From the youngest apprentice to my senior management team, everybody in the yard has played their part.

Donjuan Triumphant's victory in the Sprint on Qipco British Champions' Day was an obvious highlight, not least because it was a landmark first Group 1 success for King Power Racing who have been such fantastic supporters of the stable. Kameko's impressive victory in the Vertem Futurity Stakes at Newcastle provides us all with something to really look forward to over the winter months. He will be joined by a strong team of pattern class performers to try and improve on this year's results in 2020.

It was with great pride that we saw Oisín Murphy win his first Champion Jockey's title and he was a most worthy winner both in and out of the saddle. As with every year, there have been less happy moments to endure. Losing Beat The Bank after his heroic win in the Summer Mile was a huge sadness to us all and we have also lost three wonderful human friends in Lynne Burns, Elizabeth Harris and Bob Michaelson.

This winter edition of the Kingsclere Magazine includes an excellent article by Cornelius Lysaght, the greatly respected former BBC racing correspondent. It is particularly concerning for all of us involved in this great sport that his role was deemed unnecessary within the BBC sporting coverage of the future. The declining interest in horse racing amongst sports editors in general is one of the biggest challenges facing us all in the coming years and the BHA should be encouraged to make the coverage we receive in the media a priority in their objectives over the next year.

Winter in a flat yard is not always that exciting or rewarding but with the group of horses we currently have in our care for next season there is a 'cheer' amongst us all that should last well beyond Christmas. ■



*CADEAU D'OR loving life during his winter holiday*



# SEASON REVIEW

by Tessa Hetherington

## OLDER HORSES

It was fitting that what has been a record breaking season for us culminated in a victory at the highest level on Qipco British Champions Day, with seasoned warrior **Donjuan Triumphant** taking the Group 1 British Champions Sprint in decisive style under Silvestre De Sousa. With the early part of his season blighted by fast ground, his second in a Class 2 Conditions race at Hamilton in June that was a Group 1 in all but name showed that, as a six year old entire, he was still operating at his best. As in previous years he came into his own in the autumn, and would probably have won the Group 3 Bengough Stakes at Ascot had he not anticipated the start and clobbered the stalls. He returned to the Berkshire track for the final run of his career but was sent off as one of the outsiders, despite his love for the testing conditions and his third place finish in the same race last year. Suited by the large field and strong gallop, he settled well but this looked to be all in vain as he struggled to find room to make his challenge and was repeatedly bumped and jostled. Ultimately, however, this rough passage seemed only to strengthen

his determination and once he finally found daylight he flew home, winning going away from a strong field which included the previous two winners of the race.

Bought as a four year old out of Richard Fahey's yard by Alastair Donald, Donjuan Triumphant was the first horse that King Power Racing had in training in the UK, and whilst it is incredibly sad that the Chairman did not witness his greatest triumph, there is wonderful symmetry in him providing King Power with their first Group 1 win. Known as 'Donald Trump' on the yard, he was a delight to have around – an equine powerhouse who barely missed a day's training, blessed with a generous nature and tremendous toughness. He has retired from racing as the winner of seven races and over £800,000 in prize money, and will stand at stud at Haras de la Barbottiere at France. We will all miss him, but none more so than his groom and regular rider Taffy Cheshire and his Head Lad Kevin Hunt, both of whom must take great credit for his achievements.

Donjuan's Ascot victory was a welcome high point for the yard and for King Power Racing after the tragic demise of **Beat The Bank** at the same track in July, shortly after



*DONJUAN TRIUMPHANT modelling his Champions Day rug*

recording his second Group 2 win of the season, the fifth of his career. Having gone agonisingly close in the Group 1 Queen Anne Stakes at the Royal meeting in June, we will always wonder what might have been for this marvellous flagbearer, and his loss is still felt keenly by many here.

Ascot has, however, provided both the yard and King Power with other high points throughout the season. **Cleonte's** victory in the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Royal Ascot was a wonderful climax to what had been a very strong but at times frustrating week for both teams, and a deserved day in the limelight for a horse who has continued to improve this season as a six year old. He confirmed his class in September when giving the imperious Stradivarius pause for thought in the Group 2 Doncaster Cup, benefitting from a highly astute ride from subsequent Champion jockey Oisin Murphy. He found conditions too testing in the Group 1 Prix du Cadran in October and ran rather flat in the Long Distance Cup on British Champions Day, his French exertions having no doubt taken their toll. He is currently on holiday at Clanville Stud and will return to tackle all of the top staying contests next season. Ascot was also the scene of another staying triumph this year, with **Morando** running away with the Group 3 Cumberland Lodge Stakes in October, routing the field to win by some six lengths. Having already opened his season with a similarly emphatic Group 3 win in the Ormonde Stakes at Chester in May, a planned attempt to repeat his 2018 win in the Group 3 Royal British Legion Stakes at Newbury was thwarted when the track became one of many forced to abandon their turf meetings this autumn. The form of his close second to subsequent Group 1 winner Technician in the Group 3 Geoffrey Freer Stakes at the track in August has, however, confirmed him one of the top stayers in the country.

**Diocletian's** taking victory in a Class 2 Handicap at Doncaster last year had marked him out as a stayer to follow but an All Weather campaign over the winter did not see him to best effect and he faced attritional conditions in the Chester Plate on his turf reappearance. Three subsequent places at a lower level saw him begin to creep back up the



*David Probert looks around for his rivals as DIOCLETIAN streaks clear at Chester*

handicap but he then made a fool of the handicapper by recording a hugely impressive victory in a Class 3 event at Chester, travelling effortlessly under David Probert for every stride of the extended fourteen furlongs and running out the winner by an eased-down eleven lengths. Raised eleven pounds for that to a career-high mark of 96, he was another whose planned seasonal swansong was kiboshed by an unusually wet October. He is enjoying a winter holiday and will return next year with the Chester Cup as his early season target.

George Strawbridge's homebred filly **Shailene** is another to have done well as a four year old, finishing second in the Listed Nottinghamshire Oaks before going one better in the Listed Premio Paulo Mezzanotte over eleven furlongs in San Siro. Too keen in the Group 2 Lancashire Oaks, she ran very well back in handicap company at Goodwood on her first try at fourteen furlongs before stepping back to a mile and a half for the Group 2 T. Von Zastrow Stutenpreis at Baden-Baden in August, where she stayed on well into third place. A horse who takes foreign travel very well, she returned from Germany in top form and showed this with a win in the Class 2 Dubai Duty Free Handicap at Newbury, displaying a good turn of foot under Oisin Murphy to quicken clear after her run was initially blocked. Her run in the Group 3 Princess Royal Muhaarar Stakes at Newmarket probably came too soon after the Newbury win, and she has since enjoyed a lengthy holiday in the paddocks here at Park House. A deep-bodied mare with plenty of substance, she will make a lovely broodmare in time but remains in training next year with a Group level win within her sights.

**Genetics** is another talented middle-distance performer who ran well abroad this year, finishing fourth in the Gran Premio de Madrid at La Zarzuela in June before coming very close to repeating last year's Shergar Cup Challenge victory at Ascot in August. He ran rather flat in two subsequent starts but retains plenty of ability and relishes quick ground.

**Stone Of Destiny** went one better than Genetics in this year's Shergar Cup, winning the Sprint under Czech jockey Filip Minarik. He is a horse that needs everything to go his way which has made him frustrating to follow at times this year but he posted good efforts in the Stewards Cup and at Ascot in July. With good form on the All Weather, he has had his holiday and will now be readied for an early start in 2020. Stone Of Destiny ran well in Qatar last February but since then the globetrotter mantle has been assumed by **Pivoine** who, following a memorable victory in the John Smith's Diamond Jubilee Cup at York in July under Rob Hornby, travelled to the USA for the Group 1 Arlington Million. Settled in the rear, he had plenty to do but was a fast-finishing fifth behind subsequent Breeders' Cup Turf winner Bricks And Mortar. Back on home soil he ran a blinder over eleven furlongs in the Group 3 Legacy Cup at Newbury, going down by just a length to Desert Encounter, before finishing the same distance behind that horse over a mile and a half in the Group 1 Canadian International



at Woodbine in October, this time finishing fourth. His latest international assignment took him to Bahrain, where he contested the inaugural Bahrain International Trophy. Dropping back in trip but hindered by a poor draw, he made eye-catching late progress from the rear but could not make it into the medals despite being beaten only two lengths. He is the ideal horse to travel and will now have a mini 'staycation' before potential races in Saudi Arabia and Qatar early in 2020.



*SHAILENE sets sail for home at Newbury under Oisin Murphy*

In the former country he may cross paths with **Simoon**, who was bought at the Tattersalls Autumn Horses In Training Sale by Saudi owner Khalid Mishref. He won three times since re-joining the yard this year, beginning his campaign with victories at Chelmsford and Windsor and ending it with a decisive win over nine furlongs at Goodwood in the hands of former Kingsclere apprentice Jason Watson. **Dream Catching** has in turn headed to Qatar, having been bought at the same sale by Armando Duarte for the Qatar operation of Park House owners M M Stables. Very sound and straightforward, Dream Catching won a claimer at Kempton this year under Will Carver and placed on a further three occasions. He was also unlucky not to score again at Kempton on his final run for us. Another to run well at Kempton on his final start was the pocket warrior **Danzan**, who franked two good runs at Windsor in the early Summer with an excellent fourth in a Class 2 Conditions event in October, running to a mark well in excess of his rating of 92. He was also sold at Tattersalls later that month but will stay in the UK as he was purchased by trainer Tim Easterby, who had previously owned him as a foal and sold him to Andrew as a yearling!

Sheikh Juma's lovely Cape Cross filly **Crossing The Line** began her season with a win over seven furlongs at Kempton and then, having run a good fifth in the Fillies' and Mares' All Weather Championships Stakes, ran to within a length of 1,000 Guineas and subsequent Sun Chariot winner Billesdon Brook when finishing runner up in the Listed Queen Charlotte Fillies' Stakes at Chelmsford. She ran well in a Fillies' Handicap back at Chelmsford and finished fifth in the Group 2 Oettingen-Rennen at Baden-

Baden but failed to shine over a mile at Lingfield in October and has now been retired to stud, the winner of six races and over £120,000 in prize-money. Other fillies heading to the breeding paddocks are **Whitefountainfairy**, who had also secured black type when placing behind Billesdon Brook, this time as a juvenile in the Group 3 Prestige Stakes at Goodwood. She had two rather frustrating seasons subsequently, running well at times but never quite realising her obvious potential. She has headed to France for a date with Donjuan Triumphant, as has **Imperial Act**, who has been something of a star this year, winning three races and placing in a further four. Her racing level was not lofty but she is an attractive filly by Frankel and out of a Listed-placed winner so she should do well. **Kitcarina** is another well-bred filly, being by Shamardal and from a good German family, and she too heads to stud having secured an important win at Kempton in June. **Falls Creek**, a beautifully bred daughter of Street Cry, is likely to head to stud as soon as she wins, but despite being in tremendous form has struggled to get into heavily over-subscribed races on the All Weather off her current mark. She should find an opening very soon.

**Ocala** has had a very solid season, winning at Chepstow and Chester and placing in all but two of her nine starts this year. She is another with a good page, being by Nathaniel and out of Park House Group 3 winner Night Carnation, and she has now retired to stud. Jeff Smith's **Foxtrot Lady** is also from a family we know well, being a half-sister to Dancing Star and a relation of Lochsong, and although she has not won this year she has shown more than enough to return to training next year, particularly as her family are known for improving with age. Fourth in the Listed Hamilton Stakes over six furlongs at Windsor in May, she ran very well on her first attempt at seven furlongs in the Group 3 Oak Tree Stakes at Goodwood (behind our nemesis Billesdon Brook!) and again when beaten only two lengths in the Listed Rosemary Stakes over a mile at Newmarket in September. **Lorelina** continued to perform with great credit in this her fifth season with the yard, her best run coming at Newbury where she was only beaten half a length in a competitive Class 2 Fillies Handicap. Out of a winning hurdler and with proven stamina and a liking for soft ground, she was sold at Tattersalls in October and will likely next be seen over obstacles in Ireland, where dual winning sprinter **Ballyquin** has also moved to continue his career. Two others to have switched into the National Hunt sphere are **Lissitzky**, a winner at Class 3 level at Newmarket in the Spring, and **Flintrock**, who placed at Kempton and Ascot this year but is likely to benefit from some hurdles to help him focus!

**Zwayyan** started the year with a win in the Lincoln Trial at Wolverhampton back in March and, although he has not won again this year, he has placed at Class 2 level over a mile at Bath, Ascot and Chelmsford and over seven furlongs at Sandown. He stays in training next year and will

no doubt continue to perform well on the track in addition to being a highly useful lead horse at home. This latter role will be shared with the legendary **Intransigent**, who has returned from a well-earned post-retirement holiday at the stud to lead the yearlings in their early forays up the gallop, a role he is relishing and performing with exceptional diligence! Fellow Park House legend and recent retiree **Here Comes When** has left the yard but has not gone far, having been taken on by his regular rider Nathan Cheshire. Stabled just down the road in Ecchinswell, Whenny has taken to his new life extremely well.

**Johnny Drama** joined the yard mid-season, having been purchased by King Power at the pre-Ascot Goffs London Sale. He ran well when enjoying no luck at Goodwood before finishing runner-up in the big Class 2 Handicap over the extended ten furlongs at York in August. His run in the Dubai Duty Free at Newbury was too bad to be true and he duly bounced back to form back at York in October, handling the soft ground well to be second to a progressive three year old in a competitive Class 2 event. A Rottweiler in the stable but a Rolls Royce on the gallops, he will return next year and should be competitive in all of the big ten furlong handicaps. In the same ownership, **Straight Right** has recently returned from a summer break in order to prepare for a campaign on his favoured artificial surfaces. Placed twice at Class 2 level on the All Weather at the start of the year, he was not disgraced when enduring a troubled passage in the All Weather Championships Mile before two lacklustre runs on turf. **Seasearch** won at Southwell in February and placed a further three times at the track before being sold in May. He was recently placed on his second start over hurdles for new connections, whilst **Havana Jane**, a winner at Wolverhampton in September, has headed to stud – her half-brother Montaly having provided her page with some valuable black type. **Papa Stour** is another whose best form came on the All Weather but he failed to replicate his excellent homework this term and was sold to Stuart Williams in August. **Max Zorin** was another to be sold in August, having never managed to reproduce the form that had seen him placed in the Listed Dee Stakes before a long lay-off through injury. **Isomer** has continued his sterling work in giving apprentices and amateur riders invaluable race experience and will return to training next year.

### THREE YEAR OLDS

**W**e were blessed with a very strong crop of three year olds this year, with no less than thirteen of them winning or placing at Group or Listed level. **Dashing Willoughby** provided a major highlight for us and long-term supporters of the yard Mick and Janice Mariscotti when winning the Group 2 Queen's Vase over fourteen furlongs at Royal Ascot. He continued to perform with credit in the latter part of the season, finishing fourth in a competitive renewal of the Group 2 Princess Of Wales

Stakes at Newmarket over a mile and a half before being far from disgraced on his first attempt at two miles in the Group 1 Goodwood Cup. Outclassed in the St Leger, he ran very flat in heavy ground at Longchamp in October and has been gelded and given a break. Versatile in terms of both trip and ground, he should give his connections plenty more fun next year. King Power's talented sprinter **Shine So Bright** began his season with a convincing win in the European Free Handicap at Newmarket in April before running well in the 2,000 Guineas, not quite getting home over the mile. He picked up a knock then which interrupted his campaign but he returned in great style, winning the Group 2 City Of York Stakes by a nose from proven Group 1 filly Laurens. The two engaged in a tremendous battle in the final furlong, with the diminutive grey just holding on



*The diminutive SHINE SO BRIGHT winning at Newmarket in April*

under a great ride from James Doyle. Early over-exertion led to him fading out of contention in the Group 2 Park Stakes at Doncaster, and his run in the Group 2 Challenge Stakes back at Newmarket was simply too bad to be true, but an issue came to light which explains that. Now well on the road to recovery, he possesses a big engine and a big heart and should put both to good use in the top seven furlong contests next year.

**Fox Tal** is another who had an interrupted campaign, his seasonal debut being delayed until September, but he made up for lost time with a hugely eye-catching win in a Class 2 Conditions Stakes over ten furlongs at Doncaster, cruising past the field under Oisin Murphy and defying his long odds. Group 1 placed on his final start as a two year old, the bold decision to supplement him for the Group 1 Champion Stakes at Ascot in October was justified when he finished fourth, only losing out on third to Japanese raider Deirdre in the final strides. This was only his sixth career start and he is a tremendously exciting horse for next year. The same can be said for **Fox Chairman**, another who has not been the easiest to train but who possesses talent in abundance. Unraced at two, he won on debut at Newbury in April before going close in the Listed Dee Stakes despite sustained trouble in running. It was a similar story in the Group 3 Hampton Court Stakes

at Royal Ascot where he was denied a run in the straight before finishing second to Sangarius. A facile win in the Listed bet365 Stakes at Newbury in July followed, but a few niggles since have prolonged a planned break and he will return next year, when physical maturity should see him a more robust horse. **Raise You** won his maiden at Newbury on the same day in April as Fox Chairman and followed this up with a hugely impressive win in the Listed Fairway Stakes at Newmarket under David Probert, beating subsequent Group 2 winner Al Hilalee. Disappointing in the French Derby in June, he ran well in the Group 3 Rose Of Lancaster Stakes at Haydock in August when third behind Addeybb, who was subsequently just pipped in the Champion Stakes. Given a decent break after that effort, we look forward to his return next year.

**Bangkok** was another who shone in the first part of the season, winning on reappearance at Doncaster (beating subsequent Dante winner Telecaster) before taking the Group 3 Classic Trial at Sandown under Silvestre De Sousa. Sent off fifth favourite for the Derby, he failed to handle Epsom's undulations but bounced back with an excellent run in the Group 2 Edward VII at the Royal meeting, finishing second to subsequent Group 1 winner Japan. Soft ground did not suit at York for the Group 2 Skybet York Stakes, but he performed much more encouragingly back on better ground at the same track when beaten a neck by Zaaki in the Group 3 Strensall Stakes over nine furlongs. Given a 'working holiday' since, he is currently in full work in preparation for a tilt at the valuable Qatar Derby this month. If he takes the travelling well there will be a host of international opportunities for him next year, but he should also be capable of competing at the highest level on the domestic stage.

Having ended his juvenile year by winning a handicap off a mark of 83, **Happy Power** has gone from strength to strength this year, running away with a Class 2 Handicap at Newbury on reappearance, placing in the Listed Spring Trophy at Haydock and then winning the Listed Ganton Stakes at York in June on his first attempt at a mile. His run in the Group 3 Jersey Stakes at Royal Ascot probably came too soon, but he then ran the race of his life to finish fourth in the Group 1 Sussex Stakes at Goodwood, beaten under two lengths by Too Darn Hot and with three Group 1 winners behind him. Third in the Group 2 Celebration Mile over the same course and distance next time out, he was disappointing in the Group 2 Joel Stakes at Newmarket but the ground had gone too quick for him. Launched back into Group 1 company but with his preferred soft ground, he ran a typically brave race in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes on British Champions Day, finishing sixth. A Group win should be well within his grasp next season and he is likely to be out early whilst the ground still has plenty of give.

**Flashcard** had impressed in all three of his juvenile starts, winning twice before finishing runner up in the big sales race at the Curragh, but he put on plenty of condition

over the winter and took a while to come to hand this season. A good second in the Class 2 Handicap over a mile at Newmarket's July meeting suggested he was close to his best and, when encountering a softer surface for the first time in his career at Ascot next time out, he ran away with a competitive Class 2 Handicap, winning by four lengths under Oisin Murphy. He looked to have his work cut out at the weights when elevated into Group 3 company at Salisbury in August but the market thought otherwise and the market was right, as he very nearly justified his joint-favouritism, going down by just half a length to Kick On and Accidental Agent. Straightforward and versatile, he has since been sold to race in Hong Kong. Another miler who will now race abroad is **Bye Bye Hong Kong**, who won at Chelmsford on reappearance before scoring at Listed level at Windsor in May. He has now been transferred to Singapore and will continue his career there.

**Encapsulation**, a daughter of Zoffany, joined us in June having been bought out of Noel Meade's yard for Barbara Keller, with whom we enjoyed great success with Blond Me. Encapsulation made an excellent start to her time with us, finishing runner up to subsequent Group 1 placed filly Hidden Message in the Listed Coral Distaff over a mile at Sandown. Returned to an extended ten furlongs at York next time, she faded fast in the Listed Lyric Stakes but showed that this was just a blip with an easy victory in the Listed Doonside Cup at Ayr in September, forging clear



*ENCAPSULATION wins the Listed Doonside Cup with her ears pricked!*

to win by a length under Ben Curtis. She stays in training next year and should have more to offer. Kingsclere home-bred **Ranch Hand** has been here since birth but did not run at two. He made a winning debut over a mile and a half at Southwell under Martin Dwyer before following up over the same course and distance under William Carver, increasing the winning margin from one length to twelve! A good run to be fifth in the Lingfield Derby Trial (behind subsequent Derby winner Anthony Van Dyck) saw his handicap mark rise to 94 but, after a respectable effort in the Group 3 Bahrain Trophy at Newmarket, he showed that the handicapper had still underestimated him with





*RANCH HAND with proud KRC members after his Haydock win*

a striking victory in a highly competitive three year old handicap at Haydock, staying the fourteen furlongs on soft ground well. It was a bold move to choose the Cesarewitch at Newmarket as his next target, stepping him up to two miles two furlongs and taking on older horses in one of the most competitive races of the season, but he was sent off favourite for the contest. Ultimately, however, he was too keen in the early stages of the race and failed to get home. He emerged unscathed and is very much one to look forward to next year.

We fared better in the other major Newmarket handicap this autumn, with **Good Birthday** running a typically solid race to finish third of thirty runners in the Cambridgeshire, run over nine furlongs on the Rowley Mile course. A winner on his last start at two, he picked up where he left off with a handicap win at Doncaster on reappearance this year before finishing third in the London Gold Cup at Newbury, beaten just a length by subsequent Group 2 winner Headman. Disappointing at Ascot, he ran well in the ten furlong Class 2 Handicap at Newmarket's July meeting on ground that was probably a little quick. Back on a better surface at Beverley in August, he duly won the William Hill Silver Cup, showing a good turn of foot to forge clear under Ben Curtis after a slow start. His Cambridgeshire third has already been franked by the subsequent Listed win of Lord North and, now gelded, it would be no surprise if Good Birthday shaped up into a serious Group horse next year.

**Never Do Nothing** continued to be a model of consistency this year, never out of the first three in ten career starts. He added a third career win this year, at Goodwood in June, and very nearly got a fourth when runner-up in the Shergar Cup Classic at Ascot. His solid CV and scopey appearance meant that he did not go unnoticed at the Horses In Training Sale at Tattersalls in October. He will continue his racing in Ireland, having been bought by John McConnell for 135,000gns, a tidy return on the €9,000

he cost as a yearling. **Landa Beach** was another to sell well at Tattersalls, a gelding operation in May having helped Phil Fox's son of Teofilo realise the promise he had shown when winning on debut at two. Having gone close over middle distances at Haydock and Newbury he went one better when upped to two miles at Ascot, flying home from the rear under David Probert to win on the line. A confirmed mudlark, he too will now race in Ireland.

**Lariat** has also transferred to the National Hunt sphere following his sale in October, having had a strong season which saw him finish second in his first four starts, each time to a highly progressive horse - three of his assailants are now rated over 100, and one of them is a Group 3 winner! The best return of the year in

the sales ring, however, came courtesy of **Le Don De Vie** who, having won his first two starts this year including the big ten furlong handicap at Epsom on Derby Day, fetched £460,000 in the Goffs London Sale. He has continued to perform with credit for his new connections and is likely to head to Australia at some point.

**Fox Premier** also won his first two starts of the year and, after disappointing in the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot, bounced back with an excellent run in the ten furlong three year old handicap at Goodwood, finishing second to the smart Forest Of Dean who franked the form next time out. Subsequently side-lined with a setback, Fox Premier has been gelded whilst out of action and we hope that this will enable him to progress further next year, having always shown an extremely high level of ability at home. **Spirit Warning** has enjoyed a busy and productive three year old season, winning four races - three on the All Weather, including a Class 2 Handicap at Chelmsford, plus a Class 3 Handicap at Windsor in August. He was placed on a further four occasions this year, his only duck eggs coming in his last two starts when a busy season had probably taken its toll. He has had an early holiday and a tilt at the mile race on All Weather Championships Day is a possible early target.

The older milers' division will next year be without **Dudley's Boy**, who sold to Hong Kong after winning both his starts for us this year, and **Wedding Blue**, who joins him out there having won impressively at Goodwood on handicap debut in May. George Strawbridge also accepted an offer for the lovely filly **Be More** after she won well at Chester in July, but we were delighted that her purchasers, Gaynor Rupert's Cayton Park Stud, have kept her in training with us. She rewarded their decision with a third win of the season, in a Class 2 Fillies' Handicap at Newmarket in October, and stays in training next year with black type firmly on her agenda. **Dutch Treat** is another filly for whom



Newmarket proved a happy hunting ground this autumn. A winner and Listed placed at two, she disappointed in her first three starts this year but relished the give in the ground on the Rowley Mile course in October, winning well over seven furlongs under David Probert. She may head to France before the end of the year in an attempt to secure winning black type.

**Look Around** had also gained black type as a juvenile, winning the Listed Star Stakes at Sandown. A promising



*LANDA BEACH flew home on soft ground at Ascot in October*

fourth in the Group 3 Nell Gwyn on reappearance, she ran respectably in the 1,000 Guineas before finishing a close second in the Listed Valiant Stakes at Ascot and third in the Group 3 Atalanta Stakes at Sandown. A filly who prefers a firmer surface, the wet autumn curtailed her season but she has done well for her winter break and should continue the excellent record of her young sire Kingman next year.

**Grace And Danger** had a mid-season break, having run up very light after her first two runs of the season. She finished fourth in the Listed Chester Oaks on her seasonal debut (just her second career start) and duly built on that promise on her return from her break, finishing second in the Listed August Stakes at Windsor over the extended eleven furlongs, third in the Listed Stand Cup at Chester over the extended twelve furlongs, and fourth in the Listed Beckford Stakes at Bath over a mile and six furlongs. Proven on a variety of going, she should give us plenty of good days next season.

Unraced at two, **Tribal Craft** won two novice races on the bounce in June and July, the latter by some twenty lengths, and looked unlucky on handicap debut over twelve furlongs at Goodwood. She duly bounced back with a good second in a Class 2 Fillies Handicap at Salisbury, before having her chances scuppered by interference at Chester in August, and by her own keenness at Ascot in October. A big, scopey filly, she is likely to improve again as a four year old and a Listed race should be within her grasp. **Chil Chil** is a half-sister to Beat The Bank and had always looked smart at home. She failed to shine on the track in three starts last year, but a wind operation proved

the key to unlocking her potential and she duly won her first two starts with ease. Odds-on to complete the hat-trick back at Kempton, our attempt to stay ahead of the handicapper with three races in quick succession proved too much to ask and she finished third. As it turned out we needn't have worried about her handicap mark - she then flew home next time out to claim a Class 2 Premier Fillies Handicap over six furlongs at Newmarket under Oisín Murphy, showing an impressive turn of foot and suggesting there is more to come from this daughter of Exceed And Excel.

**Pass The Gin** is another who came with an eye-catching late run to win a Class 2 Fillies Handicap over six furlongs, in her case at Chester in July under William Cox. This was just reward after a string of good efforts for the diminutive homebred, but she failed to shine in her last three starts of the season and has since been sold to race on abroad.

**Rectory Road** was another to sell at Tattersalls this autumn, having won at Kempton in January and performed with credit in five subsequent starts, most notably when third behind Flashcard at Ascot in August and when filling the same spot behind two smart types at Kempton in October. **Bacacarat** won at Kempton in May and also sold at Tattersalls, the half-brother to Donjuan Triumphant having probably reached his level in the handicap system.

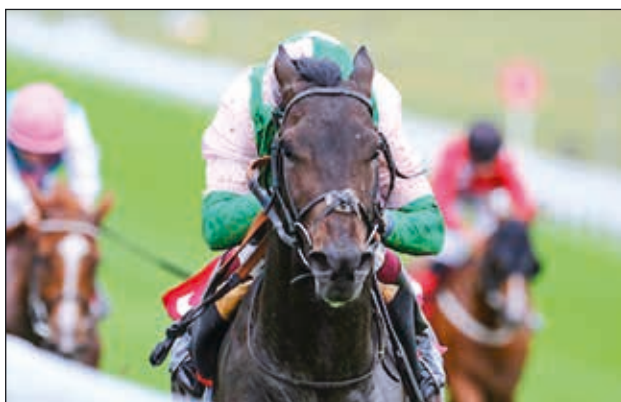
**Fox Leicester**, on the other hand, looked to have heaps of potential when winning two of his first four starts this term and placing twice at Class 2 level, but he then lost his way, finishing last on his next three outings. An overland scope revealed a wind issue which has been corrected via surgery and he should resume his progress next year.

**Barossa Red** is another to have required surgery at the end of this season, in his case to remove a chip in his knee following two excellent runs at Haydock, winning over a mile in August and then finishing runner up of seventeen over the same trip from a wide draw in September. Placed in four starts on the All-Weather early in the year, he is tremendously tough and should be back to capitalise on his preferred softer ground early in the turf season.

**Agent Basterfield** has been admirably consistent this year, winning by thirteen lengths at Brighton and placing in all six of his other starts (one admittedly a match race but on unsuitably soft ground). He had a setback late in the summer but is well on the mend and will hopefully have another productive season next year. **Paradise Boy** was another who was never out of the first four this year, winning at Lingfield in January before filling the runner-up spot on three consecutive occasions at Wolverhampton. He was sold at the Goffs UK sale in September and is now running in France. **Spirit Of Nicobar** and **Pot Luck** were sold at the same sale, neither having built on glimpses of promise in their early runs, whilst **Forseti** was sold at Ascot in August having supplemented his win at Lingfield in January with another (in a seller) at Leicester in July, both under Joshua Bryan. **Queen's Soldier** won a seller

at Goodwood in August having placed on his six previous starts and was sold at the subsequent auction to Alastair Ralph.

**I'm Available** won a Novice at Kempton and a Fillies' Handicap at Nottingham before running respectably in the Sandringham Handicap at Royal Ascot. Freshened up with a mid-season break, she made an encouraging reappearance in very testing conditions at Epsom in September but failed to fire on her next two starts and has been retired to the breeding paddocks. Also set for broodmare duties is the impeccably bred **King Power**, a daughter of Frankel and a half-sister to Oaks winner Talent, who secured valuable black type when third in the Lingfield Oaks Trial in May. Although she placed on four of her subsequent five starts, the maiden win proved elusive and her connections have sensibly decided to call it a day. The same is true of **Rux Power**, who recorded a facile maiden win at Chelmsford in March before running a great race to be second in



*EDINBURGH CASTLE is unexposed and should be one to follow next year*

a Class 2 Conditions event at Kempton in April. The Kingsclere Racing Club have had two fillies sell to become broodmares – **Stay Forever**, who provided Marie Perrault with the perfect first ride when winning at Sandown in July, and **Constraint**, who failed to get off the mark in six starts this year but who is a fine big filly from the family of Passing Glance and Hidden Meadow. The KRC will continue to be represented by two lovely fillies, however, in talented middle-distance performers **Inclyne** and **Sneaky Peek**. As highlighted in the last magazine, Inclyne was the victim of some sub-par placing by her trainer and racing manager early in the season but thankfully she got the job done next time out with a commanding performance over twelve furlongs at Kempton in August. She ran well to be second over eleven furlongs at the same track in September before finding it difficult to quicken on very soft ground at Chester later the same month. A half-sister to Elm Park and Brorocco, she remained a slight filly this year and could well improve further as a four year old. The excellently-named Sneaky Peek, a daughter of Casual Glance and therefore a half-sister to Urban Aspect (now four times Group placed in Hong Kong as Ka Ying Star), won her maiden at the

third attempt, scoring decisively at Redcar under David Probert, before impressing again when placed in handicaps at Goodwood and Ascot. The form of the latter run has worked out extremely well, with the winner and fourth now Listed placed and the second a Listed winner.

**Bye Bye Lady** has had more than her fair share of setbacks and did not make her debut until October, finishing fifth at Kempton over eleven furlongs. She swiftly made up for lost time by winning over twelve furlongs at Wolverhampton on her next start, under Silvestre De Sousa. A daughter of Sea The Stars out of a half-sister to Peintre Celebre, she is bred to win the Arc and, although that seems unlikely (!), she should have more to offer next year as her work at home is of a high standard. **Strict Tempo** was a winner at two and has been unlucky not to add to her tally this year, bumping in to a progressive filly when runner-up on four occasions this year, most notably when second to Alrajaa at Lingfield in October, who beat her off 82 and is already now rated 109! From a family that improves with age, Strict Tempo should be winning again next year. **Firelight** is another who shone as a juvenile, winning twice and placing in the Group 2 Lowther Stakes at York, but she too has failed to score this term. She missed a chunk of the summer through injury but ran very well on reappearance at Kempton before facing a very stiff task at the weights in a conditions event at Lingfield. By Oasis Dream and out of a Listed-winning Galileo mare, she has now been retired to stud.

**Edinburgh Castle** had showed plenty of promise in his sole run at two and duly got off the mark on his belated reappearance this year, winning over ten furlongs at Epsom by some four and a half lengths. He ran respectably under a penalty at Chelmsford next time out in a race not run to suit and, now gelded, is a lovely prospect for next year. Also owned by the Hays and also by Sea The Stars, **Blood Eagle** won his novice over twelve furlongs at Wolverhampton in April, beating the subsequently Group 2 placed Eagles By Day, but failed to build on that in four runs before pulling a muscle at Chester in June. His second at Wolverhampton in September after a break was more promising and he then sold at Tattersalls in October, along with Jeff Smith's **Indomitable**, who had been a good juvenile but failed to shine this year. **Purdey's Gift** was another who had an interrupted season, picking up a knock after a promising reappearance run at Newcastle in April. He looked well handicapped on his work at home and won easily over twelve furlongs at Wolverhampton in October under Rab Havlin. He endured a rather torrid passage when unable to justify favouritism back at Kempton last time out but he looks sure to have more good days over the winter and beyond.

**Boutonniere** won his maiden at Lingfield in March but then got tired at Beverley having got loose on his way to the start. He faced unsuitably quick ground at Bath in May and then required an extended break having picked up a knock,





*RIVERFRONT won at Windsor on his third start*

but returned with a highly encouraging run at Chelmsford in September and was bought by US trainer Leslie Young at Tattersalls in October. He will now go jumping, as will Yarmouth winner **Admirals Bay**, who looked like a four mile chaser from the moment he arrived on the yard as a two year old! **Seusoon** is another whose future lies over obstacles. He won at Newcastle in March and ran very well to be third in a Class 3 handicap at Chester in May, but rather lost his way after that. He stays well and should find his niche.

**Havana Rocket** was another to win at Newcastle, getting off the mark over seven furlongs in January after some smart placed form as a juvenile. He ran well at Wolverhampton on handicap debut but then picked up a significant injury at Newmarket in May which put him out for the rest of the season. He is now back cantering and looks great. **Sea Sculpture** showed promise in his only start at two and won on reappearance at Wolverhampton under Josephine Gordon despite running very green for most of the race. Fourth at the same track under a penalty, he then ran very well to be fifth in a competitive handicap at Sandown, the form of which looks very solid. He will run on the All Weather over the winter. **Oloroso** also won on reappearance and looked impressive in doing so, running away with a seven furlong handicap at Kempton under Josh Bryan. He has been a little frustrating since but placed efforts at Beverley, Sandown and Salisbury have led connections to keep the faith, for the time being at least!

**Piper Arrow** progressed with each of his starts this spring, winning third time out over a mile at Chelmsford and beating some smart types in the process. He has been out of action since but is making good progress and remains unexposed. **Riverfront** also won on his third start, relishing the step up in trip when cruising home over the extended eleven furlongs at Windsor under David Probert. The form of that win is working out well (the second horse won next time out by some sixteen lengths!) and he is a very nice prospect for next year.

**Bell Rock** looked very smart when winning his maiden on debut at Newmarket last October and impressed in

his early work but failed to shine in three starts at a high level this term and has had a few niggles which probably prevented him showing his true ability. Now gelded, he will be a more mature horse next year and we hope he can flourish as a four year old for his owners Jim and Fitri Hay. The Hays have another nice four year old in **Mayne**, who improved to be runner-up on his second start (to a horse which has won again since) and filled the same spot behind another smart type at Chester in September. Now gelded and enjoying a holiday, he should have little difficulty in getting off the mark next term.

**Sawasdee** is a full brother to Bow Creek who placed three times over middle distances but never lived up to his pedigree. He has been sold by King Power Racing but they have retained **Top Power**, a big-striding son of Le Havre who, whilst still a maiden, has placed in five of his seven starts this year (including at Class 3 level) and looks sure to progress further now he has been gelded. **Fox Shinji** has also been retained – he has required plenty of patience but looks a well handicapped horse on his homework, whilst Chester winner **Hero Hero** has been transferred to race for the team in Singapore.

The mighty **Doone Castle** was a contender for the best looking horse in the yard and, a big baby, he began to get the hang of things late on in the season, finishing well to be second over two miles at Kempton in October. A relentless galloper, he was sold at Tattersalls and has gone to Ireland to pursue a jumping career. **Geomatrician** is another who is likely to switch to the National Hunt sphere, having been bought by young trainer Olly Murphy at Tattersalls. He is very well-related but failed to build on early promise in maidens and will likely do better as a more mature gelding in his new role. He is joined at the Murphy yard by **Hat Yai**, a fine big horse who was plagued by niggles but showed clear ability in his homework and when fourth at Nottingham on his second start. Chelsea Thoroughbreds' **Johnny Kidd** has shown real promise this year, most notably when splitting two horses now rated 96 and 97 in an eleven furlong Goodwood maiden in June. He very nearly got off the mark when upped to two miles at Kempton on his latest start, and has plenty more to give once back on track after a setback.

**Cwynar** is a lovely filly who joined us mid-season and for whom a drop back in trip proved the key - she won at Wolverhampton in October over the extended mile having lost her form over longer trips. She remains potentially well handicapped. **Pempie** looks a very well handicapped filly on her best work, having failed to progress from her win in a ten furlong classified event at Salisbury in May. She needed her first run back after a wind operation but showed more on her latest start. **Badessa**, a half-sister to Montaly, ran very promisingly on her belated debut in September but picked up an injury on her next start. She should get off the mark without much trouble next term. **Gallatin** failed to win this year but showed enough to

convince that she could and this, coupled with her lovely pedigree (she is by Kingman, out of a Group 3 winner and a half-sister to three smart horses including our talented juvenile Berlin Tango) meant that she sold well at this month's Tattersalls Mare Sale. **Eagle Queen** is similarly well-bred but could not make an impression on the track this year and has been retired to stud, but we hope that **Tuk Power**, a fellow daughter of Dubawi, can do better. She has had more than her fair share of issues but ran well enough on her only start at Kempton to suggest that she can enhance her page with a win.

## TWO YEAR OLDS

**W**e have been blessed with a good crop of two year olds this year, spearheaded by Qatar Racing's **Kameko**. Having done everything right at home, he looked impressive when winning his maiden at Sandown on debut in July and was beaten only a nose by the classy and more experienced Positive when returning to the same track for the Group 3 Solario Stakes the following month. A short-priced favourite for the Group 2 Royal Lodge Stakes at Newmarket next time out, he was a little free early on and was worn down by Royal Dornoch in the final strides, going down by a neck. He therefore went into the Group 1 Vertem Futurity Stakes (held at Newcastle after Doncaster's abandonment) as the winner of only a maiden. But for a matter of inches he could have been a dual Group winner, but he was lukewarm in the market. In the race, however, his true class showed as he cruised clear under Oisin Murphy to win by over three lengths. This was a just result for many reasons – Kameko had been the only horse declared to take on the Ballydoyle battalion in the original declarations for the Doncaster race, which had won him plenty of popular support and, in a year where

the Qatar Racing team had been hit by the tragic loss of their star Roaring Lion, a Group 1 victory with another son of Kitten's Joy bought at Keeneland seemed both fitting and deserved.

Kameko has the physical scope to progress as a three year old and, whilst the 2,000 Guineas will be his early season target, we are sure that he will stay further and hope that he might stay the mile and a half Derby trip. In any event, to finish the season with Timeform's second highest rated juvenile in the country is both a fantastic achievement and a source of great excitement.

The small but mighty **Shadn** has flown the flag for the juvenile fillies this year, winning her maiden easily at Kempton in June before going on to take the Listed Rose Bowl Stakes at Newbury in July. She was then Group placed against fillies in the Group 3 Prestige Stakes at Goodwood, and against the colts in the Group 2 Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury, before securing a well-deserved victory in the Group 2 Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte in October, handling the very soft going with ease under man-of-the-moment Pierre-Charles Boudot. Despite being a relatively inexpensive purchase for Al Rabban Racing she has a good pedigree to complement her talent, and was bought by Katsumi Yoshida after her French win and before travelling to Santa Anita to contest the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf, stepping up to a mile. She did not have the clearest of runs in what was a rough race and performed better than her ninth place finish suggests. We are delighted that her new owners have decided to keep her in the yard to prepare for a tilt at Royal Ascot, where she will have a variety of options.

H.M. The Queen's **King's Lynn** has only had two career starts but nevertheless makes it into our top ten earners thanks to his victory in the Weatherbys Racing Bank £300,000 2yo Stakes at Doncaster in September. Beaten by a short head on debut at Windsor the previous month, he put that experience to good use when forging clear in a twenty runner field under Oisin Murphy. By leading first season sire Cable Bay and out of Park House winning speedster Kinematic, he has the physical scope to progress next year and is an exciting prospect. The same is true of Sheikh Juma's **Symbolize**, who won well on debut at Salisbury under David Probert before finishing fourth in the Listed Windsor Castle Stakes at Royal Ascot, beaten only a length by two horses racing on the other side of the track. Fifth in a strong renewal of the Group 2 Richmond Stakes at the Qatar Goodwood Festival, he picked up an injury which shortened his campaign but is now fully recovered. He will never be a big horse



*All smiles after KAMEKO's impressive victory in the Group 1 Vertem Futurity Stakes*





*BERKSHIRE ROCCO won at Chester and secured black type at Newmarket*

but looks much stronger now and should do well over sprint distances.

**Berkshire Rocco** was another to run well at Goodwood, finishing fourth in a typically strong maiden over seven furlongs, having filled the same spot at Ascot on his debut. He duly got off the mark at Chester on his next start and then ran a blinder when stepping up to ten furlongs in the Group 3 Zetland Stakes at Newmarket in October, finishing third. He looks a smart staying prospect for owner Paul Spickett next year. **Berlin Tango** is also a winner and Listed placed, having finished third in both the Listed Stonehenge Stakes over a mile at Salisbury and in the Listed Flying Scotsman Stakes over seven furlongs at Doncaster. Highly consistent and bred to do even better as he matures, he should give owner-breeder George Strawbridge some good days next term.

**Grove Ferry** already has two wins to his name, having won over six furlongs at Salisbury in June on his second start and following up under a penalty over seven furlongs at Epsom in July, both wins coming under David Probert. He picked up an injury at Epsom but is fully recovered and, having been gelded, is enjoying a holiday in the paddocks. He should get the mile with ease next year and there will be plenty of options for this talented and straightforward son of Excelebration. **Bronze River** could not have been described as straightforward during his initial training, but the combination of a gelding operation and some expert piloting by Bradley Harris has settled him down. He won on debut at Kempton under William Cox before garnering a second victory on his third start, at Chelmsford under William Carver and for new owners Mick and Janice Mariscotti. A half-brother to Drochaid, who did well at three for the same connections, he is a lovely prospect.

**Khalifa Sat** marked himself out as a horse to follow with a taking victory in a Class 2 Maiden over ten furlongs at Goodwood on his second start. A good-moving colt by first season sire Free Eagle, Khalifa Sat holds a Derby entry and has already made great physical progress over

the winter. **Via De Vega** does not have a Derby entry but shaped like a very smart colt when flying home over a mile at Sandown on debut. Things did not go his way on heavy ground in the Group 1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud next time out but his home work suggests he is much better than that performance. **Game And Set** is another who travelled abroad this year, contesting a Group 3 at Baden-Baden's August meeting. Whilst she was unable to make an impression there, she had shown good ability when winning over six furlongs at Newbury on her third start and this daughter of Park House winner Grace And Favour (a half-sister to Group 1 winner Fame And Glory) will have plenty to offer next year. The same is true of **Kalsara**, a daughter of crack sprinter Muhaarar who, having finished fifth in a hot fillies' maiden at Newbury on debut, went on to win at Kempton before finishing second in a Class 2 Conditions event back at Newbury, finding only subsequent Group 1 Fillies' Mile winner Quadrilateral too good.

Javier Maldonado had two juveniles by first season sire Gutaifan this year and both have won. **Angel Grey** showed promise on her first two starts and duly got off the mark next time out at Windsor, winning by three lengths under Oisin Murphy. She ran extremely well to be a close third in a good Class 2 Fillies Handicap at Goodwood in September before being a little keen in the big Tattersalls Sales Race at Newmarket in October, but has done very well for her time in the paddock and should win again next year. **Spanish Angel** faced a tough task on debut in a Newmarket maiden on Guineas weekend but almost won on his second start, beaten only by the subsequently Group-placed Dream Shot. He was disappointing at Chester but bounced back to win over the extended five furlongs at Brighton on his final start of the year. Since gelded, he had an early holiday and an All-Weather campaign is on his agenda.

Owners M M Stables have also had two juveniles win this year from Park House. **Strait Of Hormuz** joined us mid-season after one start and made a highly encouraging yard debut when second at Chelmsford over seven furlongs. Sent off favourite at Chester next time, he got



*KHALIFA SAT was impressive when winning at Goodwood on his second start*

the job done with ease, handling the soft surface to quicken clear under David Probert. The second horse that day won his next start by some six lengths and Strait Of Hormuz sold well at Tattersalls in October. M M Stables' second two year old winner was **All You Wish**, who had always shown good speed at home but was all at sea on debut at Salisbury. He was ignored in the market on his second start, over seven furlongs at Kempton, but won well under a good front-running ride from David Probert. Blessed with a great attitude, this son of Showcasing and Park House filly Moment Of Time should do well next year.

**Berkshire Savvy** progressed well with racing and won over seven furlongs at Wolverhampton on his third start despite still looking a little green and awkward. He ran respectably in a Class 2 Nursery Handicap on his final start of the year and his form is working out well. **Montanari** is yet to win but already has some strong form in the book. He was thrown in the deep end on debut, running in the Listed Chesham Stakes at the Royal meeting. He could not make an impression there and was struck into during the race, but once recovered from that ran extremely well in a hot conditions event at Goodwood, finishing a close second to Celtic Art, who is now rated 101. A solid and scopey son of Sea The Moon, he looks every inch a three year old type. His owners the Mariscottis have another nice prospect in **Damage Control**, who was second to subsequent Listed-winner King Carney over a mile at Nottingham on his third start before wandering late on at Newmarket last time out. He has been gelded and should get off the mark without much trouble next term.

**Stanford** has had just two starts, both at Kempton, and has run well on both occasions, finishing third on debut and second next time out. His form looks very solid and this grandson of champion race-mare Ramruma will likely be out early in the New Year, when he should soon shed his maiden tag. **Fox Duty Free** is another with good form in defeat, having run a close third when hampered early on debut at Newbury. He was disappointing in the Convivial maiden at York in August but bounced back with a good run at the same track in October, finishing second in a Class 3 novice, beaten just a neck. By Kingman and out of an Italian Group 3 winner, he is a gorgeous horse who looks sure to progress next year. **Mon Choix** also catches the eye at home but is yet to show his true ability on the track. He needs to mature both physically and mentally but is enjoying a good break after his gelding operation and looks a well handicapped horse for next year. **Thai Power** is another who was a big baby this year but has



KALSARA with her owner-breeders the Oldham family at Kempton

the makings of a very nice horse and will benefit from the experience of his two runs as a juvenile.

**Wild Hero** looks to be on a very fair mark, having run respectably in maiden company at Epsom and Chester, but he had little chance on handicap debut at Windsor when he stumbled badly on leaving the stalls. Now a gelding, he should win next year. Like Wild Hero, **Herodotus** was bred by his owners Jim and Fitri Hay and is out of Wild Hero's half-sister Merry Me, who was Group 2 placed for Park House. Second at Brighton on debut in September, Herodotus has also been gelded which should help him settle and progress next year. **When Comes Here** was second at Brighton in June, following placed efforts at Salisbury and York. He was highly tried at Goodwood and Doncaster but was disappointing at Chepstow and was sold at the Goffs UK sale in September.



STRAIT OF HORMUZ won well at Chester in September



**Elham Valley** has faced atrocious conditions on both his starts this year, but showed a great attitude when improving to be fourth at Newbury on his latest run. He has been kept in ridden work and will aim to lose his maiden tag on the All Weather early next year. **Machios** is another who progressed to fill fourth spot on his second run, this time over a mile at Salisbury. A half-brother to four-time winner Simoon, he has been gelded and is bred to be better at three and beyond. **Rodin** got stuck in the mud at Windsor on debut but ran well to be fourth over six furlongs at Wolverhampton last time out and should put that experience to good use early next year. **Hold Fast** ran well on debut in the big fillies' maiden at the Goodwood Festival before finishing runner-up back at the Sussex track later the same month to a smart Godolphin colt. She is a nice prospect, as is Jeff Smith's homebred **Never Dark**, a son of Wokingham winner Dark Missile who was third on debut at Kempton this month.



*ANGEL GREY was an impressive winner at Windsor*

**Ascreaus** and **Perfect Sunset** are both sizeable fillies with plenty of ability. They showed improvement in two starts this year but are likely to progress significantly as three year olds. Likewise **Quickstep Lady**, the half-sister to Dancing Star, Foxtrot Lady and Strict Tempo, who has a serious engine and shaped well in a Class 2 Fillies' Maiden at Salisbury on her second start. **Sorteo** is a daughter of Invincible Spirit and a half-sister to Group 3 winner Broome, and should enhance her page with a win next term, having run respectably twice this season.

Kingsclere Racing Club's **Stony Look** showed promise when fourth on both her first two outings. She was a little disappointing last time out but should be capable of winning off her opening mark of 60, and it is worth remembering that she is the daughter of Chesil Beach, who began in handicaps off the same mark and ended her career as a five-time winner rated 88. The Club's **Irish Tweed** is a half-sister to Elm Park and Brorocco who has shown good ability at home but was very green on debut, although she looked professional compared to fellow homebred **Table Mountain**, who did a good impression

of a pinball on debut at Chelmsford but can only know more next time!

**Iron Heart** and **Kafee** both shaped well on debut in the same big-field Newbury maiden in October and Iron Heart has since placed at Kempton, whilst **Dream Round**, an attractive daughter of Gleneagles, also showed promise in a good fillies' maiden at Newmarket in September. The gorgeous **Cadeau d'Or** ran well on his only start at Sandown and has impressed at home, whilst **Pedal Power** has made great progress of late and should be able to build on his recent debut next time out. **Logan Roy** had his first run on the same card at Chelmsford and showed some promise. He is a half-brother to our Group 1 performer Elbereth and has a great attitude which will see him in good stead. **Tamao** and **Medika** also made their debuts late this season and will have gained invaluable experience from doing so, whilst **Compensate**, **Berkshire Philly** and **Qinwan** are already into handicap company and should find openings in that sphere. ■



## PARK HOUSE PARTNERSHIP

We are running an expanded Park House Partnership for 2020/2021. The syndicate will own ten horses (all currently yearling colts) with 1% shares available for **£8,500** on an **all-in deal for two seasons**. It is envisaged that all the horses will then be sold at the autumn sales in 2021 and their prize money and sales proceeds divided between the shareholders.

For more details see the Horses For Sale section of our website ([www.kingsclere.com](http://www.kingsclere.com)) or email [php@kingsclere.com](mailto:php@kingsclere.com). First come, first served!



# THE 2019 12 TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

**Not for the first time in recent years we have a junior winner of the competition, with Barney Bonner claiming the spoils by a wide margin. The godson of the trainer and the son of the former assistant trainer, Barney prefers racing cars to racehorses but had a strong team of older horses bolstered by crack juvenile Shadn, who appeared in the selections of each of the top three finishers. Well done to all the prize winners!**

**The prize money is divided as follows:-**

**1st £984.50      2nd £447.50      3rd £268.50      4th £89.50      Last place £10**

**1 BONNER, BARNEY      268**  
**2 WHITE, LEANNE      257**  
**3 MICHAELSON, BOB      243**

|                             |     |                             |     |                              |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----|
| 4 Cheshire, Angela (D)      | 242 | 33 Hoare, Catha             | 188 | 64 Gay, Joshua               | 163 |
| 5 Ridley-Thomas, Tabitha    | 236 | 35 Agbal, Selim             | 187 | 64 Rae Smith, Alan           | 163 |
| 6 Day, Lois                 | 231 | 36 Slade, Valerie           | 185 | 64 Smith, Stephanie          | 163 |
| 7 Mackinnon, Jamie          | 227 | 36 Clarke, Missy/Betty      | 185 | 67 Paris, Rex (B)            | 161 |
| 8 Costa, Jose Carlos        | 220 | 36 Woolley, Steve (B)       | 185 | 68 Dr M J/Mrs D O'Brien (B)  | 160 |
| 9 Needham, Martyn           | 211 | 39 Slade, Martin            | 184 | 69 Hale, Barry               | 159 |
| 10 Slade, Matthew/Emily     | 210 | 40 Dr M J/Mrs D O'Brien (C) | 183 | 70 Mackinnon, David          | 157 |
| 11 Bettaney, S A            | 208 | 40 Hetherington, Tessa (B)  | 183 | 70 Spickett, Leigh           | 157 |
| 12 Walker, Nigel (A)        | 206 | 42 Cheshire, Angela (B)     | 182 | 72 Richards, Gary            | 156 |
| 13 Gee, Simon               | 205 | 42 Gay, Sue                 | 182 | 73 Payton, Michael (A)       | 154 |
| 14 Balding, A M             | 203 | 42 King, Anderson           | 182 | 73 Rafferty, Gerry (C)       | 154 |
| 15 Rea, Jon                 | 202 | 42 Harris, Bradley          | 182 | 75 One Plus One Equals Three | 152 |
| 15 Crofts, John             | 202 | 42 Balding, Anna Lisa       | 182 | 75 Richards, Jamie           | 152 |
| 16 Humphries, Simon/Bob (A) | 201 | 47 Tolhurst, Andy           | 181 | 77 Hutchinson, Mark          | 151 |
| 16 Cheshire, Angela (C)     | 201 | 48 Smith, John              | 180 | 77 Ross, Michael             | 151 |
| 16 Clarke, Charlotte        | 201 | 48 Balding, Florence        | 180 | 79 Cheshire, Angie (E)       | 150 |
| 20 Armes, Megan             | 199 | 50 Cornwell/Derbyshire (A)  | 178 | 79 Balding, Jonno/Toby (B)   | 150 |
| 20 Oldham, James            | 199 | 51 Phipps Hornby, Sally     | 176 | 81 Elson, Pip                | 149 |
| 20 Carver, Will             | 199 | 51 Hetherington, Tessa (A)  | 176 | 81 McGuire, Bernie           | 149 |
| 20 Lyle, Ed                 | 199 | 53 Hutchinson, Fiona        | 175 | 83 Bounds/Johnson (B)        | 147 |
| 24 Powell, D F (B)          | 198 | 53 Balding, Emma            | 175 | 84 Horne, Ray (B)            | 145 |
| 25 Humphries, Simon (A)     | 196 | 55 Richards, Charlie (B)    | 173 | 84 Whitehall, A              | 145 |
| 26 Humphries, Simon/Bob (B) | 195 | 56 Mac                      | 172 | 86 Horne, Ray (D)            | 144 |
| 27 Cheshire, Angela (A)     | 192 | 56 Whitehall, Lorraine      | 172 | 86 Baldwin, Emma/            |     |
| 28 Walker, Nigel (B)        | 191 | 56 Richards, Charlie (A)    | 172 | Wilmot-Smith, Richard        | 144 |
| 28 Lyne, Alex               | 191 | 59 Mariscotti, Janie        | 170 | 86 Baldwin, Emma/            |     |
| 30 Box, Peter               | 190 | 60 Arlington, Jenny         | 169 | Wilmot-Smith, Richard        | 144 |
| 31 Mackinnon, Ella          | 189 | 61 Watson, Sue              | 166 | 89 Gay, David J              | 142 |
| 31 Hodgkins, Adrian (B)     | 189 | 62 Kingsclere Stud          | 165 | 89 Campbell-Gray, James      | 142 |
| 33 Jones, Nicholas          | 188 | 62 Woolley, Sharon          | 165 | 91 Cheshire, Nathan          | 141 |



|                                  |     |                              |     |                              |    |
|----------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|----|
| 92 Rafferty, April               | 140 | 128 Paris, Rex (A)           | 122 | 168 McPhee, Mina             | 82 |
| 92 Mackinnon, Roger              | 140 | 128 Spickett, Laura          | 122 | 169 McPhee, Stuart           | 80 |
| 94 Mackinnon, Daisy              | 139 | 132 Feane, John              | 121 | 170 Conway, John             | 77 |
| 94 Stansby, Clive                | 139 | 132 Holmes, Rachael          | 121 | 171 Lees, Jan                | 76 |
| 94 Robinson Gay, Bille           | 139 | 134 Plumbly, Helen           | 120 | 172 Smith, Jeff              | 75 |
| 94 Lumley, Peter                 | 139 | 134 McWilliam, Ronnie        | 120 | 173 Dr M J/Mrs D O'Brien (E) | 73 |
| 94 Beasant, Pete                 | 139 | 136 Palmer, Anne             | 117 | 174 Robinson Gay, Maggie     | 72 |
| 99 Humphries, Simon (B)          | 138 | 137 Gay, Sam                 | 116 | 175 McWilliam, Ruth          | 70 |
| 100 Balding, Jonno/Toby (A)      | 137 | 137 Powell, D F (A)          | 116 | 176 Bullion, Barbara         | 69 |
| 101 Measures, Charlie            | 136 | 139 Hall, David              | 115 | 177 Michaelson, Roger        | 52 |
| 102 O'Driscoll, Mike             | 135 | 139 Vincent, Christine       | 115 | 178 Rhoades, Gary            | 46 |
| 102 Wellman, John                | 135 | 141 Barney's All Blacks      | 114 | 179 Berry, Charlie           | 37 |
| 104 Senior, Michael              | 134 | 142 Dr M J/Mrs D O'Brien (A) | 110 |                              |    |
| 104 Pettitt, Dwayne              | 134 | 142 Spickett, Paul (A)       | 110 |                              |    |
| 106 Tucker, M                    | 132 | 144 Cornwell/Derbyshire (B)  | 108 |                              |    |
| 106 Payton, Michael (B)          | 132 | 144 Plummer, Ann             | 108 |                              |    |
| 106 Hall, David                  | 132 | 146 Palmer, W.               | 106 |                              |    |
| 106 Michaelson, Bob              | 132 | 147 Simpson, Felicity        | 105 |                              |    |
| 110 Horne, Ray (C)               | 131 | 147 Jennick, Bryan           | 105 |                              |    |
| 110 Brook, Guy                   | 131 | 149 Oates, Des               | 104 |                              |    |
| 110 Reis, Paul                   | 131 | 149 Jinks, Sally             | 104 |                              |    |
| 113 A'court, Peter               | 130 | 149 Broughton, B             | 104 |                              |    |
| 114 Teacher, Hugh                | 129 | 152 McPhee, Angus            | 102 |                              |    |
| 114 Balding, Mac/Boris           | 129 | 152 I A B                    | 102 |                              |    |
| 114 Richardson, Andy             | 129 | 154 Carey, Alysoun           | 101 |                              |    |
| 117 Berry, Shaun                 | 128 | 155 Broughton, T             | 100 |                              |    |
| 118 Mariscotti, Mick             | 127 | 156 Rafferty, Gerry (A)      | 98  |                              |    |
| 118 Carey, Jeremy                | 127 | 157 Fenton, D R              | 96  |                              |    |
| 118 Bettaney, M A                | 127 | 158 Cousins, Rose            | 96  |                              |    |
| 118 Dillon, Batt                 | 127 | 158 Lumley, Sue              | 96  |                              |    |
| 118 Gale, John                   | 127 | 160 Hodgkins, Adrian (A)     | 92  |                              |    |
| 123 Spickett, Paul (B)           | 126 | 161 Dangar, Richard          | 91  |                              |    |
| 124 Senior, Reece                | 125 | 162 Gee, Mary                | 90  |                              |    |
| 125 Reardon-Smith, Julia         | 124 | 163 Jinks, Laurence          | 89  |                              |    |
| 126 Berkshire Parts/Panels Staff | 123 | 164 Rafferty, Gerry (B)      | 88  |                              |    |
| 126 Woolley, Steve (A)           | 123 | 164 Plumbly, Simon           | 88  |                              |    |
| 128 Horne, Ray (A)               | 122 | 166 Finlay, Rosemary         | 87  |                              |    |
| 128 Bounds/Johnson (A)           | 122 | 167 Dr M J/Mrs D O'Brien (D) | 86  |                              |    |



## TOP SCORING HORSES

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| IMPERIAL ACT   | 49 |
| SHADN          | 44 |
| SPIRIT WARNING | 42 |
| CHIL CHIL      | 41 |
| SHAILENE       | 40 |

## SELECTIONS OF THE LEADERS

### Barney Bonner

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Pivoine           | 20 |
| Shailene          | 40 |
| Bangkok           | 28 |
| Bye Bye Hong Kong | 23 |
| Flashcard         | 21 |
| King Power        | 18 |
| Shine So Bright   | 25 |
| Fox Duty Free     | 10 |
| Thai Power        | 1  |
| Spanish Angel     | 18 |
| Shadn             | 44 |
| Game And Set      | 20 |

### Leanne White

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| Fox Chairman   | 35 |
| Cleonte        | 28 |
| Ocala          | 38 |
| Lorelina       | 6  |
| Chil Chil      | 41 |
| Fox Shinji     | 0  |
| Landa Beach    | 22 |
| Berlin Tango   | 20 |
| Damage Control | 7  |
| King's Lynn    | 16 |
| Shadn          | 44 |
| Quickstep Lady | 0  |

### Bob Michaelson

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Beat The Bank      | 32 |
| Donjuan Triumphant | 27 |
| Angel Islington    | 1  |
| Flashcard          | 21 |
| Inclyne            | 33 |
| Le Don De Vie      | 20 |
| Raise You          | 27 |
| Kameko             | 38 |
| Shadn              | 44 |
| Sorteo             | 0  |
| Coltrane           | 0  |
| Applaudable        | 0  |

# THE SEASON IN NUMBERS

1st January 2019 – 1st December 2019

|                | WINS       | RUNS       | SR        | 2NDS       | 3RDS       | 4THS       | WIN £            | TOTAL £          |
|----------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>UK</b>      | <b>126</b> | <b>842</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>117</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>115</b> | <b>2,343,511</b> | <b>3,598,810</b> |
| <b>FOREIGN</b> | <b>2</b>   | <b>16</b>  | <b>13</b> | <b>1</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>115,135</b>   | <b>222,906</b>   |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  | <b>128</b> | <b>858</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>118</b> | <b>101</b> | <b>117</b> | <b>2,458,646</b> | <b>3,821,716</b> |

## MONTH BY MONTH

| MONTH     | WINS | RUNS | SR |
|-----------|------|------|----|
| January   | 6    | 40   | 15 |
| February  | 2    | 25   | 8  |
| March     | 12   | 33   | 36 |
| April     | 15   | 81   | 19 |
| May       | 20   | 143  | 14 |
| June      | 14   | 111  | 13 |
| July      | 15   | 98   | 15 |
| August    | 14   | 115  | 12 |
| September | 18   | 102  | 18 |
| October   | 9    | 75   | 12 |
| November  | 1    | 18   | 6  |

## GROUP BY GROUP

|      | WINS | RUNS | SR |
|------|------|------|----|
| 2yo  | 21   | 123  | 17 |
| 3yo  | 73   | 444  | 16 |
| 4yo+ | 32   | 274  | 12 |
| TURF | 82   | 585  | 14 |
| AW   | 44   | 256  | 17 |
| 5-7f | 38   | 272  | 14 |
| 8f+  | 88   | 569  | 15 |

## TOP TEN EARNERS

|    |                    |          |
|----|--------------------|----------|
| 1  | Donjuan Triumphant | £356,152 |
| 2  | Beat The Bank      | £265,104 |
| 3  | Shine So Bright    | £172,048 |
| 4  | Dashing Willoughby | £160,248 |
| 5  | Kameko             | £157,837 |
| 6  | King's Lynn        | £148,560 |
| 7  | Pivoine            | £143,705 |
| 8  | Happy Power        | £133,176 |
| 9  | Bangkok            | £116,552 |
| 10 | Morando            | £115,696 |



MORANDO is our highest rated older horse

## TOP TEN JOCKEYS

|   |                    | WINS | RUNS | SR |
|---|--------------------|------|------|----|
| 1 | Oisin Murphy       | 36   | 185  | 19 |
| 2 | Silvestre De Sousa | 25   | 114  | 22 |
| 3 | David Probert      | 22   | 206  | 11 |
| 4 | Joshua Bryan       | 10   | 53   | 19 |
| 5 | William Carver     | 7    | 27   | 26 |
| 6 | Rob Hornby         | 6    | 86   | 7  |
| 7 | Martin Dwyer       | 3    | 27   | 11 |
| 8 | William Cox        | 2    | 32   | 6  |
| 8 | Ben Curtis         | 2    | 4    | 50 |
| 8 | James Doyle        | 2    | 10   | 20 |
| 8 | Josephine Gordon   | 2    | 10   | 20 |

## TOP TEN TRACKS

|   |                     | WINS | RUNS | SR |
|---|---------------------|------|------|----|
| 1 | Kempton (A.W)       | 14   | 79   | 18 |
| 2 | Chelmsford (A.W)    | 10   | 63   | 16 |
| 3 | Wolverhampton (A.W) | 9    | 39   | 23 |
| 4 | Ascot               | 8    | 62   | 13 |
| 4 | Chester             | 8    | 51   | 16 |
| 6 | Newbury             | 7    | 50   | 14 |
| 6 | Sandown             | 7    | 37   | 19 |
| 8 | Goodwood            | 6    | 48   | 13 |
| 8 | Newmarket           | 6    | 39   | 15 |
| 8 | Windsor             | 6    | 36   | 17 |



### TOP TEN TIMEFORM (2yo)

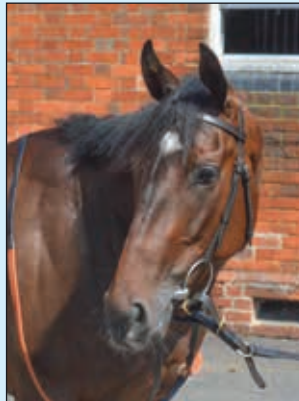
|    |                 |     |
|----|-----------------|-----|
| 1  | Kameko          | 120 |
| 2  | Shadn           | 106 |
| 3  | Berlin Tango    | 104 |
| 4  | Berkshire Rocco | 99  |
| 5  | Kings Lynn      | 96p |
| 6  | Via De Vega     | 94+ |
| 7  | Symbolize       | 94  |
| 8  | Khalifa Sat     | 92p |
| 9  | Montanari       | 89p |
| 10 | Grove Ferry     | 87p |
| 11 | Game And Set    | 87  |

### TOP TEN TIMEFORM (3yo+)

|    |                    |      |
|----|--------------------|------|
| 1  | Morando            | 123  |
| 2  | Beat The Bank      | 122  |
| 2  | Donjuan Triumphant | 122  |
| 4  | Fox Tal            | 121  |
| 5  | Fox Chairman       | 119p |
| 6  | Bangkok            | 119  |
| 7  | Shine So Bright    | 118  |
| 8  | Happy Power        | 117  |
| 9  | Pivoine            | 116  |
| 10 | Dashing Willoughby | 115  |

### BUSY BEES – MOST RUNS

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Stone Of Destiny | 13 |
| Imperial Act     | 13 |
| Spirit Warning   | 12 |
| Dream Catching   | 10 |
| I'm Available    | 10 |
| Isomer           | 10 |
| Ocala            | 10 |
| Oloroso          | 10 |
| Pass The Gin     | 10 |
| Pivoine          | 10 |
| Stay Forever     | 10 |



SHADN tops the 2yo fillies



STONE OF DESTINY ran 13 times



## AWARDS



The latest winners of the Spillers 'Employee Of The Month' Award are:

**Attila Teglas** for continued hard work as a key member of our groundstaff team and for looking after winners Zwayyan, Berkshire Rocco and Barossa Red.

**Alexandra Toth** for her devoted care of all her horses, including winners Bye Bye Hong Kong and All You Wish, and for her work as a rider including with Landa Beach.

**Shelby Joubert** for her continuously improving riding, and for her work with Via De Vega (in the saddle) and Cadeau D'Or (on the ground!)

**Cassia Cooper** for making an excellent start to her time at Park House and for looking after and riding multiple winning fillies Imperial Act and Chil Chil.

Well done to the winners and many thanks to Spillers!



Attila Teglas



Alexandra Toth



Shelby Joubert



Cassia Cooper

# RACING AND THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA

*Cornelius Lysaght*

Some of you may have read that I am leaving the BBC in 2020 after a few months short of 30 years. For nineteen of those years I have been the BBC's Racing Correspondent.

The departure is a chance for me to pursue a few projects and ideas I've had in mind for some time, but which wouldn't be possible to do as a BBC person. All good things come to an end, you might say.

But I think there's more to it. Though the Corporation says horseracing will still be covered I'm not sure that there are any plans to directly replace me, so there's also a chance that this is the latest example of what is an increasingly uneasy relationship between racing and the mainstream media.

While dedicated racing and betting websites and podcasts seem to be going pretty well, as are the two specialist television channels, and ITV's audience numbers are encouraging, things are perhaps not so healthy elsewhere.

And it's in that 'elsewhere' where it's important to hold a decent position to attract a new following, but on non-racing platforms that can generate much interest there's often hardly a mention.

And to those who insist it's a case of 'consumption' of media changing, I think it's fair to say that newspapers, for example, may not be being purchased in quite the same way, but their complementary websites are thriving.

For my part, it's been a struggle recently to get airtime to really get fully into the sport's string of wonderful stories, from 18-year-old Khadijah Mellah winning the Magnolia Cup charity race at Goodwood wearing a hijab to the ever-engaging Oisin Murphy running away with his first – I'm sure of many – flat jockeys' championships. (Though, to be fair, there have been plenty of words on the BBC Sport website.)

The Times, once home to the unmissable writings of Michael Seely and Alan Lee, no longer has daily coverage. The Sun – for whom Claude Duval, The Punters' Pal, sniffed out good stories galore for decades – made its principal correspondent redundant in the summer of 2019, and it's a long



time since racing could make a grab for a 'captive audience' of non-regular followers during inevitable delays on London's commuter trains with editorial in the Evening Standard, for many years written by the insightful Christopher Poole.

Elsewhere, I know that pressroom colleagues have felt the skill of fingertip-clinging increasingly being forced into their repertoire. The Guardian continues to have a stable containing two reporters, but I can't be the only one that's wondered how long that will continue to be the case.

Obviously racing's powers-that-be can't order the BBC or The Times to increase their coverage, but it is a tiny bit disappointing that despite overtures as long ago as December 2018 nobody has been in touch with any of us to discuss the situation or offer support.

Had anyone come for a chat, no 'silver-bullet' solution would have been offered, but instead they'd have heard a variety of theories passed on. Those revolve principally around welfare, betting, perceived complexity, corruption and maybe the historic caricature of 'poshness' that has never been entirely shaken off. I wonder if any other walk of life – let alone sport – ever found itself at the junction of so many issues of such tangled intricacy.

Although this thing about racing being too hard to follow used to have some merit, it doesn't nowadays. BBC Sport led the way in ensuring that jargon is used as little as possible – I remember when Clare Balding joined me in the mid-1990s our mantra was to keep language 'simple but not simplistic' in order to engage with as wide an audience as we could. I think that a bigger problem is that many editors have played sport in their time, and it is more likely that they have taken part in football or rugby, cricket or golf than anything to do with racing.

The biggest reason, however, that the sports media's movers and shakers are not as in love with racing as once they were. They have joined, I suspect, in a fashionable squeamishness about welfare standards, even though it's widely acknowledged that these are high and they should actually be shouted about from the rooftops.



They are squeamish too about betting, which, like it or not, runs neck and neck with racing – a friend involved in charitable trusts says gaming is now rated as toxic as tobacco and armaments on the list of areas of investment to be swerved. There's nothing at all wrong with responsible, controlled betting on sport, but the tarnished reputation of particularly Fixed Odds Betting Terminals has spread far and wide, and that may take some time to settle.

These issues need to be addressed. Meanwhile, I will soon have a different editor to whom to answer – myself. The projects and ideas that I have in mind for the future still very much involve racing, so hopefully we'll meet again soon. Judged by the way in which the Kingsclere team generally roared through 2019, and by the confident noises being made about the future, that looks, if you don't mind me saying, odds-on. ■

# Kingsclere Racing Club

It was an action-packed year for the Kingsclere Racing Club, our tally of 13 winners representing our second-best total in the 11 years since the KRC's inception. Furthermore, we achieved the significant milestone of 100 winners since the Club first started, as well as breaking through the £1.5 million prize-money mark in that time.

Ranch Hand was the star of the show, winning three times (including a £100,000 handicap) and starting favourite for the Cesarewitch – a hugely exciting day, despite not getting the result we had hoped for!

We bade a fond farewell to Intransigent, bowing out at the age of 10 after nine consecutive seasons of racing. He has been an absolute star for the Club and we were delighted to see him enjoying his new role on our latest visit to Park House, leading the yearlings on the gallops.

Our End of Season Party was a tremendously enjoyable evening, for which we were joined by Racing TV presenter Tom Stanley. Many congratulations go to Martyn Needham, who became the first winner of the Lynne Burns Cup.

With six two year olds joining the Club next year and some lovely prospects amongst the three year olds and older horses, 2020 promises to be another very exciting season for the KRC! ■

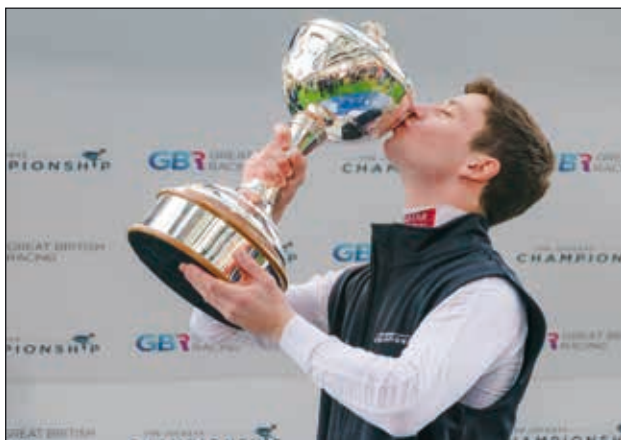


*Martyn Needham and Richard Burns*

## SAVE THE DATE: GOLF DAY

The Park House Golf Day will be held on  
Tuesday 14 July at Sandford Springs Golf Club.  
Further details will follow in the Spring Magazine.

# ANY QUESTIONS with OISIN MURPHY



This year's Champion Jockey began his career at Kingsclere and remains an integral part of the team. We grabbed five minutes with him to ask a few burning questions.....

**1. When did you first sit on a horse and what was your first pony like?**

I think it was around September 1999 so I was four – I went to a little riding school in County Kerry, about ten minutes from my house, and had my first lesson. My first pony was called Rusty. He was very bold and one of the naughtiest ponies I ever had. I used to fall off him every day but he kept me interested and I had him for about three years. I remember my Uncle Jim [Culloty, Cheltenham Gold Cup and Grand National winning jockey] trying to school him and he came off him three times, which amused me greatly.

**2. Who has been the biggest influence on your career to date?**

Realistically I think it would be Andrew [Balding]. He has been my boss since I came to England, he kept me on the straight and narrow and helped with every career decision I had to make. I was apprentice to him and rode out my claim from Kingsclere. He advised me to take the Qatar job and has never stopped supporting me. The yard has grown from 100 horses when I started to about 200 now, so it has gone from strength to strength and that has been a big part in my progress too.

**3. What has been your best day's racing to date?**

That's really hard to answer. The main contenders would be my first Group 1 win, on Aclaim in the Prix de la Foret, my first Group 1 for Andrew, on Blond Me in the E.P. Taylor at Woodbine, Benbatl winning the Group 1 Dubai Turf, and obviously Roaring Lion was a very special horse so all of his wins last year were really memorable. I was over the moon to win the Japan Cup last week. The two races I have wanted to win since I was a child are the Derby and the Arc, but I haven't managed that yet and I'm under no illusion as to how difficult a task it is.

**4. What ride were you most proud of in 2019?**

Kameko winning the Group 1 Vertem Futurity Trophy for Andrew and Sheikh Fahad and the rest of the Qatar Racing team. He is by the same sire as Roaring Lion, in Kitten's Joy, so there is a link to that great horse there. I had made a mistake at Newmarket the time before [in the Royal Lodge] because he was lovely and relaxed and I switched out to follow Frankie as I thought he'd take me further into the race, but in doing so I lit Kameko up and he over-raced for about five furlongs and wasn't able to show his class at the end. Thankfully I learnt my lesson and he was able to prove how good he is at Newcastle. I think he could be a special horse. It would be brilliant if he could thrive as a three year old - nothing would make me happier.

**5. Which is your favourite track to ride, and which is your least favourite?**

York and Doncaster have been very good to me. I have had plenty of winners at both, including trebles and four-timers, and I was leading rider at York last year. My least favourite track over the last few years would be Brighton. I don't think I ride it very well and, although I endeavour to do my best, however much homework I put in I never seem to get the results I should.

**6. If you could change one thing about racing in Britain, what would it be?**

I know we all like to complain about prizemoney, but there wouldn't be an issue with prizemoney if we attracted more people to the sport. To do this we need characters and we need to better publicise the historic ties between man and horse and the very high levels of care and love our racehorses receive. I read a brilliant article by Donna Brothers recently [available at [www.paulickreport.com](http://www.paulickreport.com)] which explains this really well.

**7. If you were a big owner, which current jockey would you retain to ride for you?**

I think I would want to support a young, up-and-coming jockey. There are lots of good lads coming through and



Oisín and VIA DE VEGA after winning at Sandown



most of the ones I rate highest were once Kingsclere apprentices. Kieron Shoemark is top quality and really focussed now, Jason Watson is a rising star, and Rob Hornby is getting better and better. It depends what you are looking for but those three are doing really well and I'm so pleased for them.

**8. What is your most embarrassing racing-related moment?**

I rode my first winner on a horse called Imperial Glance who was owned and bred by David and Sandie Newton, and several years later I rode a horse called Sir Pass I Am at Ffos Las for them. We were well clear when I pulled up on him about half a furlong before the line because I was looking at the screen and the screen was delayed. I didn't want to win by too far but due to my mistake I only held on by a neck. Had I been beaten it would have been completely my fault. You don't want to be making mistakes like that.

**9. We read that you can speak four languages. Is that true? What are they?**

The media love to go a bit wild. No. I can speak German pretty well, I read French and can speak bits and pieces – I used to be a lot better as I did it for five years at school. I wanted to be a showjumper when I was younger so I concentrated heavily on those two languages. I also speak Irish, and a little bit of English.

**10. What is the last book you read?**

It was actually a book about the history of Isis and how it evolved from Al Qaeda. I read it in Japan whilst I was sweating every weekend. I have to do 54kg here so I need to be 53.2kg and it kills me, so I got through that in the sauna.



*Oisin winning the jockeys' showjumping challenge at Newmarket's Open Weekend*

**11. If you weren't a jockey, what would you be?**

I'd try and be a showjumper. It's a very hard sport and very competitive, but I love watching it and I spent a lot of time as a child dreaming about being a showjumper.

**12. What are your plans for the rest of the winter?**

I'll stay in Japan until the end of January and then hopefully I'll ride a bit in the Dubai World Cup Carnival, bits and pieces in England and then Saudi Arabia have their big meeting and there might also be a few trips to Bahrain and Qatar.

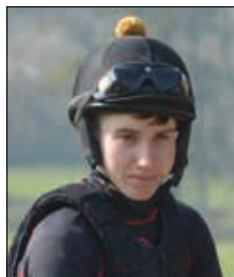
**13. Can you give us three horses to look out for next year?**

I love Via de Vega. I was very disappointed with his run in France and I think he could be very good. I've never ridden a horse on the grass at Kingsclere that gave me the same feel, so I hope I'm not wrong. Kameko is an obvious one, and I think Bangkok can do very well next year. He's not the biggest horse but he's kept improving with time and I hope he can make his mark at the next level. ■

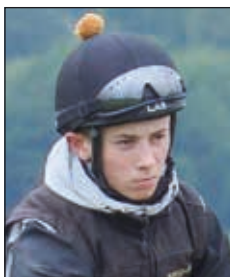
# STAFF NEWS

At the end of this year we will say goodbye to Melvin Rhodes, who is retiring after almost fifty years of service at Park House. A fuller write-up of Melvin's long career at Kingsclere will appear in the Spring magazine, but in the meantime we thank him for all he has done here and wish him all the very best.

We are also very sad that Meg Armes has moved on from Park House, having been pupil assistant and then Assistant Head Lad for the past three years. She has been a total star and we wish her all the best for the future. In her place we have been joined by Chavez Selvaratnam as pupil assistant. Chavez grew up at Jebel Ali racecourse in Dubai where both his uncle Dhruva and father Gopi have trained. In addition to assisting them he has also spent time with Jim



*Bradley Harris*



*Callum Venn-Hutchinson*

Bolger in Ireland and has recently completed a degree in entrepreneurship. He has made an excellent start to his time here, especially as the English winter must be a bit of a shock!

We are very proud that Kevin Hunt and Bradley Harris have been shortlisted for the Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards this year, Kevin for the Dedication Award and Bradley for the David Nicholson Newcomer Award. They are both key members of the team and richly deserve this recognition.

Bradley has had a good month as he and Callum Venn-Hutchinson have also secured their apprentice jockey licences, having passed their course with flying colours. Bradley scored 100% on his fitness test (apparently a record) and Callum 96%, so all their evening training has paid off! ■



