

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



SUMMER MAGAZINE 2015



Above: First pair up the left hand side, I.A.B. and Toby

Front cover: MASTER APPRENTICE winning the Group 3 Classic Trial at Sandown

Back cover: Park House Stables from the air

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INTRODUCTION

We are enjoying another good year at Park House, with 81 winners and over £1,175,000 in domestic prizemoney on the board so far. This puts us ahead of our totals at this time last year, despite lacking a bit of luck on some of the big occasions and being hit by frustrating injuries to some exciting horses. Summer was rather a long time coming but then arrived with a vengeance, meaning that our two year olds were rather slow in coming into their coats, and then unable to get much-needed educational work on the grass gallops. Now that many have got a run under their belts they are beginning to show their true ability, and we look to have some very nice horses amongst our youngsters.

Young stars at Park House are not confined to the equine inhabitants, with our Huntswood-sponsored apprentices enjoying a fantastic season. Eddy Greatrex only had his first ride in February but has quickly established himself as a serious young jockey, losing his 7lb claim in July and currently sitting in fourth place in the apprentice championship. Rob Hornby has also flourished this year and lies seventh in the championship, whilst Kieran Shoemark has really begun to hit his full stride in the past few months.

The apprentices are part of an exceptional team of staff who are committed to enabling all the horses to realise their potential and, with many of our top horses preferring softer ground, we are looking forward to an exciting autumn and hoping for another record-breaking year. ■



HM The Queen's HUSBANDRY was our first 2yo winner of the season

UPDATED WEBSITE

We have recently updated our website with new text and photos, and also an excellent new video showing the yard and gallops. The video was made by RSA films whilst shooting an advert here for Investec. We are very grateful to both RSA and Investec for allowing us to use the footage, much of which was shot using state of the art equipment including an overhead 'drone' camera.

In addition to information on Kingsclere's facilities and history, the website also includes details of all horses in training, a monthly review from Andrew and all entries and results (updated daily). Please do take a look – any feedback gratefully received!

www.kingsclere.com

THE SEASON SO FAR

by Andrew Balding

With our Group 1-winning globetrotter Side Glance now retired, the year younger **Tullius** has led the way for the older horses, winning the Listed Doncaster Mile Stakes in the spring and adding the second Group 2 win of his career in the York Stakes in July, both achieved on ground that was faster than ideal.

The Listed win was a wonderful way for us to start the turf campaign, coming on the curtain-raising Lincoln card at Doncaster, though Jimmy Fortune was required to display his usual strength in the saddle to get Tullius home in front on the unsuitably fast ground.

Defeats in the Gordon Richards Stakes, the Diomed and the Eclipse all followed and, with good to firm ground on the Knavesmire for the Group 2 Sky Bet York Stakes, we left the decision to run as late as possible. Thankfully, it was the right call as Philip Makin, replacing the injured Jimmy

Fortune, wove his way through from the rear to get up in the final strides, beating a strong field that included last year's Prix Du Jockey Club third Prince Gibraltar and dual Group 2 winner Custom Cut.

Tullius has plenty of options in the coming weeks, with the ground likely to determine where he goes next, but now that he has winning form over an extended 1m2f, we may look to the Champion Stakes in October as his longer-term target. After an unusually hot summer, I can only hope that there is rain to come in the autumn!

Following a year on the sidelines through injury, **Absolutely So** made up for lost time in 2014, his two wins including a Listed success at York last August. Gelded over the winter, he looked as good as ever when finishing third on his return to action in the Group 3 John Of Gaunt at Haydock Park in May. Though he is a better



Kingsclere stalwart TULLIUS bags his second Group 2, winning the Sky Bet York Stakes under Phillip Makin

horse with some give in the ground, the Listed Cathedral Stakes at Salisbury the following month looked too good an opportunity to miss. Although the drop back to six furlongs was a slight hindrance, Absolutely So displayed a good attitude in getting the better of a prolonged duel with the eventual runner-up. He has had a little break since and looks set for an exciting autumn campaign.

The AW Championships is a brilliant initiative that has added a new dimension to flat racing over the winter months and, having had a second and two thirds on the inaugural Championships card in 2014, I was delighted to see **Mymatechris** win the Marathon contest this year. He had improved markedly during the winter campaign, going up 23lbs in the weights and, given a well-judged ride by David Probert, he defeated what was a strong field of stayers.

Upped a further 11lbs in the handicap, he has been unable to translate that form to turf, finishing down the field in two big handicaps, but remains a very useful stayer and I hope he can return to form in the coming weeks. Longer-term, we will certainly look to prepare him for a repeat success on Good Friday next year.

One to have risen even further in the handicap is **Collaboration**, who made a winning return at Windsor in April under Oisin Murphy and followed that with a wide-margin success in the historic City And Suburban handicap at Epsom later that month. While both those wins came on good ground, he showed what he is capable of on a soft surface by recording the hat-trick in great style at



ABSOLUTELY SO winning the Listed Cathedral Stakes at Salisbury

Chester's May meeting, running away with what had looked a very competitive handicap. Up 27lbs since his reappearance, he finished in midfield in the Wolferton and at Glorious Goodwood, prior to struggling in Listed company last time. He could yet find further progress on his favoured soft ground this autumn.

Storm Force Ten was another to win at Chester's May meeting, making all the running in testing conditions under then 7lbs apprentice Ed Greatrex, who is enjoying a brilliant first season in the saddle.

Placed in good company over hurdles over the winter, Storm Force Ten has been given a break but looks set for a further success both on the level and over hurdles in the coming months.

Nabatean made an impressive reappearance on the All-Weather at Chelmsford in April and followed that with a good second on his first start in Listed company in the Grand Cup at York in May. A really likeable and progressive stayer, he unfortunately sustained an injury that will keep him off the track for the remainder of this season.

Elbereth is a very progressive filly and that encouraged us to run her from out of the handicap in a valuable



David Brownlow's MYMATECHRIS wins the marathon at the All-Weather Championships

contest at Epsom on Oaks day. 5lbs wrong at the weights, Elbereth made light of the marked step up in grade to score narrowly, providing Ed Greatrex with a winner at the course on his first ride there. Following a very good run in defeat in the Old Newton Cup at Haydock, Elbereth was denied by a whisker in the Shergar Cup Challenge and she looks capable of picking up some valuable black-type this season.

Another filly progressing nicely is **Cape Victoria**, who shed her maiden tag at Wolverhampton in April under Rob Hornby, another Park House apprentice enjoying a breakthrough season. Further wins for Cape Victoria came at Brighton and Ffos Las in July, both by narrow margins. Out of the useful stayer Victoria Montoya, herself a half-sister to Passing Glance, she is bred to progress further with time and distance.

Following twenty months on the sidelines through injury, it has been a pleasure to see **Passover** go from strength to strength in recent weeks, recording wide margin wins at Nottingham, Epsom and Sandown Park, on the first and last occasion under the excellent amateur Hugo Hunt, who has recently left Park House to join Nicky Henderson as his stable amateur. Already up 18lbs in the weights for those wins, there could yet be more to come when Passover steps up in trip from 1m2f and his recent successes are a real credit to all the team that have nursed him back to the racecourse.

Haines improved markedly on the AW over the winter and recorded two further wins in the spring to complete a four-timer. He has been a little quiet since returning to the turf, but he remains capable off his current mark and will



COLLABORATION wins at Chester under David Probert, completing a Spring hat-trick

now have a short break before returning for the autumn and another All-Weather campaign.

We have always liked **Man Of Harlech** and he has hit form in the past month, looking a little unlucky at Kempton Park on his penultimate outing in a race that wasn't run to suit, before gaining the second win of his career with a ready success at Ffos Las under David Probert. A very well-bred individual and still lightly-raced, there could be plenty more to come from him.

We are fortunate to have so many excellent young riders in the yard at present and Kieran Shoemark is another apprentice doing very well, showing his skills to great effect by getting **Hannington** home in an apprentice contest at Ascot in July. That was the second win of the campaign for the son of Firebreak, who remains relatively lightly-raced and open to improvement.

Chepstow has been a very good hunting ground for us this year and **Dandy** is now three from four at the course, benefitting from a very well-judged front-running ride by Cathy Gannon in June. Given his liking for the track, he is likely to be back later this season in search of further success.

Though one win down on the above, **Mime Dance** remains unbeaten at Chepstow, those wins coming by a short head and a nose on his two visits to Wales this summer. He has run creditably in defeat since and is a tough, consistent performer who deserves to get his head in front again this term.

Priors Brook was unfortunate to come up against a well-handicapped improver on his return from a break at

Windsor in June, but he gave that rival a scare and pulled clear of the remainder, so it was no surprise to see him win off the same mark on his next outing under Liam Keniry. A son of Champs Elysees, whose progeny appear to really progress with time, he should not be long in winning off his revised mark.

Desert Command has not always found winning easy, but he responded very well to the fitting of a first-time visor at Salisbury in June, making all the running to win in good style. Ridden with restraint on his next outing at Epsom, he ran well to finish second in a competitive handicap but has since been sold for 38,000gns at the July Sales.

A sister to three black-type performers including the five-time Group 1 winner Fame And Glory, **Grace And Favour** deservedly shed her maiden tag at the fifth attempt on her seasonal reappearance at Chepstow in May under Oisin Murphy. Upped 10lbs in the weights for that success, she was unable to add to it in two subsequent outings, but she is a nice filly and the win will have done her paddock value no harm.

Breakheart and **Perfect Mission** were both on the mark on the All-Weather in the spring, and have provided outstanding service as schoolmasters for our young apprentices and amateurs. While Breakheart will return



The ever-game ELBERTH wins at Epsom on Oaks Day

after a short break, Perfect Mission has now been retired, having won four times for our apprentices and given many more plenty of invaluable experience.

Though he has yet to taste success in 2015, last season's dual Group 2 scorer **Here Comes When** has run some excellent races in defeat, especially given he has yet to encounter his favoured soft ground this term.

Runner-up on his seasonal reappearance in the Group 2 Bet365 Mile at Sandown Park, the rain failed to arrive for his subsequent Lockinge bid, so it was another very good run to finish sixth in a highly competitive renewal. Not at his best at Royal Ascot, I was delighted with his run in the

Sussex Stakes at Glorious Goodwood. That may have taken more out of him than we realised as he ran rather flat in the Hungerford Stakes at Newbury but looking further ahead, Champions Day at Ascot is his aim.

Havana Beat had rounded off a successful 2014 with a trip to the US, where he finished a good third in the American St. Leger at Arlington. His two runs at Meydan in the spring yielded two fourth places, the second of them coming in the Group 2 Dubai Gold Cup, but his career-best effort came on his return to the UK, finishing a close third behind Snow Sky and Brown Panther in the Group 2 Yorkshire Cup.



DESERT COMMAND completing one leg of a treble on the card at Salisbury

He didn't quite see the trip out in the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot, but it was a shame he was unable to give his running when sent off favourite for a repeat success in the Esher Stakes on Eclipse day, just racing too keenly in the early stages. He has had a little time off since and he deserves to get his head in front in the coming months.

Following defeats at Newbury in the John Porter and Aston Park on his first two starts of 2015, I was very pleased with **Scotland's** performance in the Ascot Gold Cup, as he was doing his best work in the closing stages and, at the age of four, there remains plenty more to come from him, especially considering that was his first start beyond an extended 1m6f. The Long Distance Cup on Champions Day is one possibility, but I am hopeful that he can develop into a genuine contender for the top staying prizes in 2016.

Rawaki showed in two starts in May that he remains as good as ever at the age of seven, failing to get a clear run when fourth in Listed company at Ascot before just losing out in the Tapster Stakes at Goodwood. He has had a couple of minor issues since, but is a better horse with give in the ground and will now be fresh for an autumn campaign. Having won a race in each of the past four seasons, he is another who thoroughly deserves further success.

Rawaki's half-brother **Spectator** is another to prefer some cut and it has therefore been a slightly frustrating

summer for him, as he has been limited to four starts and has not yet been able to show his best form. That said, he didn't quite look to get home over two miles at York and, when we do get some rain, he looks the type to win a nice middle-distance handicap.

Intransigent enjoyed a thoroughly successful season in 2014, winning twice in Listed company and taking the very valuable Challenge Cup Handicap at Ascot. A good fourth in the AW Sprint Championship contest, he has since placed three times in Listed company and ran much better than his finishing position suggests when fifth in his bid for a second successive win in the Queensferry Stakes at Chester. He is at his best in the late summer/autumn, with all seven career wins coming between August and November, and there are plenty of options for him in the weeks ahead.

Dungannon is another to hit top stride in the autumn months and he will be prepared for a valuable sprint handicap at Doncaster on Racing Post Trophy day, a race he has won for the past two years, whilst there has been plenty of encouragement to draw from fellow veteran and 2013 Ayr Gold Cup winner **Highland Colori**, whose performances on a couple of occasions this term suggest he will not be long in getting his head in front again.

A dual winner in 2014, **Montaly** has so far been unable to add to those successes in three starts this year and unfortunately he has sustained an injury that will not see him return to the track until 2016.



SCOTTISH, seen here winning at Newbury under Jim Crowley, is a horse on the up

Melvin The Grate also enjoyed plenty of success in 2014 and ran well in defeat on the AW at the turn of the year. Back from a break, he shaped nicely in a hot handicap at Sandown Park in July. **Chesil Beach**, who racked up a five-timer last year, has run with credit both in handicap and Listed company in recent months and both horses can win races off their current marks.

That **Smiling Stranger** remains a maiden is very frustrating, given he has always shown us plenty at home and continues to run very well. Sent off favourite on his

three outings this term, he has found one too good on each occasion. Finally, however, he entered the winner's enclosure at Bath and hopefully will do so again before the end of the season.

Secret Hint is a talented filly and she has reached the frame on her last two starts, so hopefully her turn is not far off. The same applies to **Royal Warranty**, who was in good form earlier in the summer and remains on a competitive mark. She has just returned from a break in readiness for an autumn campaign. A very progressive filly



All smiles after BLOND ME's win in the Listed Coral Distaff

last term, **Merry Me** was only just denied in the Investec Mile handicap at Epsom on Oaks day and went on to finish runner-up again at Pontefract on her next outing, reaching the frame for the second time in Listed company. Her best runs last term came with give in the ground and she looks set for a successful second half of the season and is a possible candidate for the Balmoral Handicap on Champions Day.

Following a spell over hurdles, **Communicator** returned to us recently but failed to give his running in the Shergar Cup Stayers on what was his first run since March. Now a seven year old, he is down to a very good mark if rediscovering his best form.

Angelic Upstart and the lightly-raced **Field Of Fame** have both run very well in defeat on occasions this term, the latter on his return from missing the whole of 2014 through injury, and both are capable of winning a nice handicap.

Zanetto is on a frustrating losing run at present, but he is a very talented individual on his day and has shown enough in defeat at Windsor and Goodwood in recent months to suggest he can bring that to an end, particularly when the appropriate headgear is deployed. **Kokovoko**, a son of Trans Island, was placed on both his starts last term but hasn't yet managed to find his form this time around. He is lightly-raced and open to progress.

THREE YEAR OLDS

Runner-up to a high-class middle-distance prospect on his reappearance at Newbury in April, **Scottish** went one better at the track on his next start to shed his maiden tag at the third time of asking under Jim Crowley, before a fine run in defeat to finish second in the King George V Handicap at Royal Ascot on his first attempt at 1m4f.

That run was followed by another excellent effort on his first foray into Group company in the Group 3 Gordon Stakes at Glorious Goodwood, which confirmed that he is a fast-improving colt with the ability to win races at Pattern level, with another step up in trip looking likely to unlock further progress.

Master Apprentice looked a very nice two year old last term and he confirmed that impression by winning the Group 3 Classic Trial at Sandown Park on his reappearance, benefitting from an excellent front-running ride from David Probert. He has since been sold out of the yard, but we were delighted to record that prestigious win.

Sandown Park was also the venue for the improving **Blond Me's** biggest success to date, as she built on her ready maiden win at Salisbury in June by getting up in the final strides in the Listed Coral Distaff on Eclipse day. A daughter of

Tamayuz, she looks likely to stay further than a mile and is a very exciting prospect.

We have enjoyed another successful season so far at Chester and **Make It Up**, a smart two year old last term,



HEARTLESS shows great heart to score at Newbury under David Probert

posted a career-best there in July to land a valuable prize under Ed Greatrex, whose claim has been very useful indeed in these competitive handicaps. Make It Up had been quite ill at the turn of the year, so it was a well-deserved win that was greatly enjoyed by us all. Out of a half-sister to the Derby winner Authorized, he remains a

colt of some potential after just seven career starts and I hope he can go on to prove himself at Group level in due course.

Another to make great strides this term is **Rocky Rider**, who ran away with a 1m2f maiden at Chelmsford on his reappearance before finishing a close third in the Tattersalls Millions 3-Y-O Trophy at Newmarket, making the running and only giving best late on. A little below-par in the Listed Newmarket Stakes on his next outing, he showed what he is capable of when a fine fifth in the King George V Stakes at Royal Ascot.

A half-brother to Nabatean, **Duretto** looks similarly progressive at this early stage of his career and he brought his form to a new level when coming clear under Jim Crowley for a ready win in a small-field handicap at Ascot, taking the step up to 1m4f on soft ground in his stride. He is a really likeable individual and looks the type to win a nice handicap this autumn.

Bishop's Leap has quickly made up into a useful young handicapper, following up a hard-fought maiden success on the polytrack at Lingfield Park with a win on his handicap debut over 1m2f at Newbury in July before completing the hat trick at Windsor in August. A backward type, he only made his debut in June and is bred to be a sprinter, but he is really getting the hang of things now and is one to follow in the coming months.

Rocket Punch is another to have wasted little time since making his debut earlier in the summer, winning on his second outing over a mile at Goodwood under Andrea Atzeni and following up over the same trip at Kempton Park on his handicap bow under Oisin Murphy. He was all at sea on soft ground at Ascot on his latest outing and is an immature sort who is some way short of being the finished article, but he is a very good prospect and looks likely to continue to progress.

Victoria Pollard is a half-sister to this year's triple winner Cape Victoria and the daughter of Sir Percy made

an impressive winning debut in what is traditionally a good maiden at Newbury in April. She failed to give her running in two subsequent outings in Listed company, so it was a relief to see her come back to form on her return from a short break at Salisbury earlier this month in first-time cheekpieces, travelling strongly throughout before getting a little tired in the closing stages. She is a filly with a future, as is **Heartless**, who was another to win her maiden over 1m2f at Newbury, staying on strongly to suggest she will cope with a step up in trip. Closely related to Irish Derby winner Treasure Beach, she should handle cut in the ground and could be set for an exciting autumn campaign.

Hala Madrid deservedly got off the mark at the sixth attempt in a mile maiden at Wetherby, providing us with a first winner on the new flat course. She should get further in time. That could also be the case with **Farletti**, who won well over a mile at Chepstow in June. A half-sister to stablemate Montaly, she is progressing along the right lines.

We enjoyed a 45% strike-rate on the fibresand at Southwell last year and, though we have had just a handful of runners there so far in 2015, **Star System** maintained our healthy strike-rate with a debut maiden success in March, which was followed by a winning handicap debut at Ripon in May, where he suffered trouble in running and was value for considerably more than the winning margin. An encouraging fourth on his latest outing, he is capable of winning races off his mark.

Sonnolento shed his maiden tag on the All-Weather at Kempton Park in May, the son of Rip Van Winkle winning on his first start beyond 1m2f. He missed the break badly on his only subsequent outing at Goodwood in what was a good three year old handicap and shouldn't be long in regaining the winning thread.

High Admiral is a horse we have always liked and he got off the mark at the second time of asking and on his return from a six-month absence when successful over 1m2f at Newbury in July. An opening mark of 85 looks fair and he should make his mark over middle distances in the months ahead.

Nortron is another to have always shown us plenty at home and he posted an overdue win at Lingfield Park in June under Oisin Murphy, making all the running to justify odds-on favouritism. There should be plenty more to come from him off his current mark, which is also the case with Chester maiden scorer **Doctor Bong**, who was a little keen on his subsequent handicap bow at Sandown Park. Currently on marks of 78, both have the ability to rate higher in time.

In common with Dandy, **Guiding Light** is now three from four at Chepstow,



FARLETTI was one of three winners on the card at Chepstow in June

adding to his two year old maiden success at the course by winning there in June under David Probert and following up with a wide-margin victory a month later on soft ground under Ed Greatrex. Runner-up since off his new career-high mark, the son of Acclamation is continuing to improve and further success awaits.



A worthwhile trip to Wetherby for HALA MADRID

Cosmic Ray doubled his career tally when making all under Oisin Murphy at Lingfield Park in July and has since run creditably in defeat. The son of Phoenix Reach can add to his tally before the season is out, as can the progressive **Royal Normandy**, who is already a dual winner on turf this season, both wins coming over 7f in June and July under Liam Keniry. He has been a slow learner but is now really beginning to thrive, though he will now have a short break before returning in the autumn.

Red Rubles has been sold since winning his maiden on the All-Weather at Lingfield Park, but **Opera Lad**, a winner there over 1m4f in February, recently returned to action at Sandown Park after a five-month break and the half-brother to the dual-Listed winner Opera Gal showed enough to suggest he can win races off his current mark. **Whitchurch** and **Man Look** were both successful on the All-Weather at the turn of the year, but have taken time to find their feet in handicap company on turf since returning from short breaks. Both remain capable of better and should be up to winning this term.

Looking back to **Elm Park**'s reappearance in the Dante in May, it is ever more apparent that he ran an excellent race in defeat that day, with the first and second, Golden Horn and Jack Hobbs, filling the same places in the Derby and both winning their subsequent races with great authority, the former looking an exceptional colt in the Eclipse and the latter running away with the Irish Derby.

Unfortunately, the rain we had hoped for failed to materialise on Derby day and nothing went right for Elm Park in the race itself, as he was too keen in the early stages and never settled into a rhythm. He was also quite sore after Epsom and has been given plenty of time since as we assess his options for the remainder of the season.

While his pedigree offers contrasting views as to what his optimum trip should be, he did shape like a mile and a quarter horse at York and he could well run over that trip next time, with the Listed Doonside Cup at Ayr in September currently under consideration. From there, the target is very much Champions Day at Ascot and, while the Champion Stakes is the likeliest option at this stage, he also holds a QEII entry and that certainly hasn't been ruled out just yet.

Though still a maiden, **Havisham** is a young stayer with a good deal of ability and he has steadily progressed since making his debut at Kempton Park in March. Out of a half-sister to the St Leger winner Kingston Hill, he ran a fine race to finish fifth in the Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot on just his fifth career start and has since run well in defeat on two occasions at Ascot before a below-par run in the

Shergar Cup Classic. It is only a matter of time before he is off the mark and he remains a fine four year old prospect.

A close relation to Aussie Rules, **Mr Quicksilver** has improved with racing this term and has run very well in defeat in maidens on his last two starts at Sandown Park and Doncaster. He has been unfortunate to bump into some well above-average individuals but looks the sort to continue to improve with time and there could be a nice handicap in him further down the line.

Infantry was a winner on his debut in France last year and, having finished runner-up there on his only subsequent start, was purchased at Newmarket last



SONNOLENTO (David Probert) scored a decisive victory at Kempton in May

October. He looked a very nice prospect in his work prior to making his seasonal reappearance in Listed company at Ascot in April, where he showed plenty of promise, but he was unable to build on that on his only subsequent outing. Off since and gelded in the interim, the son of Rail Link could be set for an exciting autumn campaign.

A dual winner last term, **Dance Of Fire** returned with a close second at Doncaster in March, but unfortunately he has failed to improve on that seasonal reappearance, racing too keenly on several occasions. If he can learn to settle, he is a well-handicapped horse and hopefully a recent gelding operation will have helped him.

St Saviour ran very well at Windsor on his return in a race that has worked out well, but hasn't run to the same level in two subsequent starts. He is not yet the finished article and the son of Danehill Dancer can make his mark in due course, as can **Countermand**, who was another to run well when second in a Windsor maiden early in the campaign but has not been out since again finishing runner-up to a useful prospect at Bath in May.

Arabian Illusion and **Stealing The Show** are two sons of Makfi to have shown plenty of ability this term, the former making a belated reappearance in July and going down by just half a length on both starts, and the latter finishing an encouraging third on his only start to date at Salisbury. They are bred to improve further and are very nice prospects.

Munstead Pride is from a family we know very well, but he has just taken time to find his feet in handicaps so far this term. A winner on the fibresand at Southwell in November, he looks sure to improve with time and can win races off his mark, which can also be said for **Scarlet Minstrel**, who has been off since May but has done well for the break and is now back in full work and nearly ready to return. **Cool Strutter** only joined us recently but has progressed with each of three runs since doing so, finishing third at Chepstow last time and suggesting his turn is not far away.

Kinematic, who broke the course record when winning at Chester last term, was too keen to do herself justice on her recent return at Sandown Park, but she looks sure to come on for that and should find winning opportunities in the coming weeks, as I hope will the strong traveller **Brandon Castle**, who went close at Chester in July. **Rattling Jewel**, a winner at Lingfield Park last October, was a little fractious in the stalls on his belated return at Salisbury in July but that will have brought him on and, after just four starts, his best days remain ahead of him.

Ballynanty, a son of Yeats and third in a small-field maiden at Chepstow on his debut, has looked a nice horse

in his work at home and he can find a maiden before going on to better things, which should also be the case for **Snoozing Indian**, who was very green on his only start to date, at Southwell in April, but ran with promise to finish second. The well-bred son of Sleeping Indian is now back in after a break.

Sheer Honesty has progressed with each of three runs in maidens, finishing runner-up at Ffos Las on her latest outing. She is a nice filly with a bright future, while **Hit List** is another now qualified for handicaps and I am confident he can make his mark in the autumn.

Lady Pinnacle showed sufficient ability last year to suggest she can win races and that was confirmed at Goodwood in May, where she finished a close fourth.



Late developer **ROYAL NORMANDY** records his third win of the season at Sandown

Unable to reproduce that form in two starts since, she can find a race this season, as can **Cape Spirit**, who finished runner-up on her penultimate outing and wasn't disgraced at Haydock on her latest start. **Rose Above**, a daughter of Yeats, is another lightly-raced filly with the scope to improve, the half-sister to the smart Roserrow is not yet looking the finished article after four starts.

Berkshire Beauty was found to have a very minor issue after her latest run in June but hopefully, with that now resolved, she can start to build off her low mark. **Kind Of Hush** will now head into handicaps after her three maidens runs with a similarly low rating and she can make an impact, which should also be the case with **Scots Fern**, who has only had two starts this term, but showed promise in maiden company and has time on her side.

Kingston Mimosa and **Kingston Sassafras** have both shown enough at home to suggest they can win races and, while the former can progress after just four starts, the handicapper is also relenting with the latter and I hope the pair of them can get their heads in front before the end of the season.

TWO YEAR OLDS

We have yet to really unleash the majority of our two year olds, but there have already been some very encouraging performances, not least from **Husbandry**, who finished third on his debut and was unlucky to bump into Gutaifan on his second start, going down by just a short-head to that rival, who went on to win his next two starts, most recently the Group 2 Prix Robert Papin.

Winning in good style on his latest outing, over six furlongs at York in July, the son of Paco Boy is a very exciting prospect.

Though **Lorelina** was sent off at long odds on her debut over seven furlongs at Epsom, she had always shown ability in her work and it was a pleasant surprise to see her overcome a tardy start to win under Ed Greatrex, especially as she was the only debutante in the field. She can improve on that success and, with an opening mark of 74, is likely to go down the nursery route.

Bernie's Boy is very unfortunate to still be a maiden after four runs to date, finishing third on his debut over six furlongs in June before finishing a close second in three big-field maidens over a furlong further, including a valuable contest at Glorious Goodwood. Out of a half-sister to an Italian 1,000 Guineas winner and a Northumberland Plate winner, he is a very nice individual who can win his maiden before stepping up in grade.



LORELINA belies her inexperience to win on debut at Epsom under Eddy Greatrex

Dark Shot ran with great credit on his debut over six at Ascot in July, the second foal of Wokingham winner Dark Missile looking a surefire improver, whilst there was a good deal of encouragement from both **Brorocco** and **Real Dominion** on their respective debuts over seven at Sandown Park.

The former, a half-brother to Elm Park, missed the break quite badly and was very green early on, but he quickened up in taking style to join the leaders in the straight prior to

fading a furlong out, while the latter was also slowest away on his racecourse bow and didn't get the clearest of runs before staying on very nicely to finish fourth. They are both very exciting colts for the future.

Another son of Paco Boy to show good promise is **This Is For You**, who has improved with each of four starts to date, winning his maiden over five furlongs at Chepstow las time in fine style. He will now head into nurseries and should continue to improve.

Charmy is a lovely filly by Yeats and she ran a very encouraging race to finish fifth on her debut over seven furlongs at Newmarket. She should have little trouble in winning her maiden in due course before stepping up in grade. **Lady Perignon** made some late progress on her debut at Glorious Goodwood, taking a little time for the penny to drop. By Poet's Voice, she is out of a half-sister to a Group 1 winner and has a bright future.

I was very pleased with **Both Sides'** debut run at Sandown Park in June and those either side of him have won since. He was awkward at the start at Chester on his only subsequent start and can be forgiven that run and is a nice type for the autumn. **Viscount Barfield**, who has shown ability on both starts. The well-bred son of Raven's Pass, out of a half-sister to French 2,000 Guineas winner Landseer, was just a little keen on his second start.

Bingo George showed gradual improvement in his maidens, but he didn't handle the track at Goodwood on his nursery bow, hanging throughout, and that run is best ignored. Judged on his Epsom fourth in July, he can win races this year.

I was pleased to see **Burmese Whisper** take a big step forward on his second start to finish third at Brighton and he can go on again, as can **Kingston Kurrajong**, who was very green on his debut at Ffos Las but duly built on that with an encouraging run at Salisbury last time.

Dancing Star made good late headway to finish a promising fourth on her debut over five furlongs at Windsor and the daughter of Aqlaam, from the family of Lochsong, followed up over six furlongs at the same track in eye-catching style. The same can be said for **Ian Fleming**, who ran a very nice race on his debut in what was a hot conditions race at Chester. Out of a half-sister to an Irish Oaks winner, he is an excellent middle-distance prospect.

Calliope and **Dream Of Summer** both shaped as if they would benefit considerably from their debuts. By first-season sires Poet's Voice and Canford Cliffs respectively, they have both shown a good level of ability at home and are likely to leave that form well behind in time, which will also be the case with **Montague Way**, who has been very green on both his starts to date. He looks the type to make his mark in nurseries this autumn. **Able Jack** was another who looked in need of the experience on his first start, at Newmarket in August, and the son of Iffraaj out of a US stakes winner will certainly improve for that. ■

THE 2015 12 TO FOLLOW

COMPETITION

These are the scores up to and including August 8th.
There is still plenty of time for things to change, although
Angie Cheshire's performance to date is particularly impressive!

1. Cheshire, Angie (A)	133	42. Balding, Anna Lisa	83	81. Richardson, Andy (A)	69
2. Cheshire, Angie (C)	125	42. Conroy, Clifford	83	81. Paris, Rex (B)	69
3. Harmon, Mervyn	121	42. Cheshire, Angie (B)	83	81. Walker, Roy	69
4. Hall, David (B)	116	45. Cole, Paul	82	86. Burns, Richard	68
5. Williams, Tony	110	46. De Paiva, Ben (A)	81	86. Mac, Jamie	68
6. Burns, Danny (B)	109	47. Fisher, Ted	80	86. Stratton, Larry	68
6. Trussull, Steve	109	47. Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (D)	80	86. Mackinnon, Bridget	68
8. Lumley, Peter	106	47. Weedy, Kathryn	80	86. Stewart, Graham	68
9. Friend, Terry	105	47. Woolley, Steve (B)	80	86. Kent, Emily	68
10. Reis, Paul	103	51. Kingsclere Farriers (A)	79	86. Hall, David (A)	68
10. Watson, H.	103	51. Arnold, Pam	79	86. Read, Ian	68
12. King, Gail	101	51. Hutchinson, Fiona	79	94. Fearne, John (Paddy)	67
13. Hetherington, Tessa (A)	99	51. Broughton, T.	79	94. Hoare, Iris	67
13. Powell, D.F. (A)	99	51. Walker, Nigel (B)	79	94. Stansby, Clive	67
15. Sharpe, Chris	98	51. Sutherland, Evan	79	97. Kingsclere Farriers (C)	66
16. McPhee, Angus	97	57. Balding, Emma	78	97. Cullen, Noel	66
16. Plummer, Ann	97	57. Gay, Susan E.	78	97. Chamings, Patrick/Philippa	66
18. Balding, Florence	96	57. Stillings (Rambo), Mark	78	100. Balding, Mack & Boris	65
18. Hodgkins, Adrian	96	60. Register, Layton	77	100. Sooty	65
18. Doherty, T.	96	60. Balding, Andrew	77	100. Keniry, Liam	65
18. Richardson, Johnny (A)	96	60. Stokes, Deborah	77	100. Michaelson, Roger	65
22. Aeberhard, Werner	94	60. Derbyshire & Chivers (A)	77	100. Cole, Hilary	65
22. King, Anderson	94	60. Cousins, Rose	77	100. Derbyshire & Chivers (B)	65
22. Burns, Danny (A)	94	65. Goldsmith, Sam (B)	76	100. Woolley, Steve (A)	65
25. Richardson, J.	93	65. Mahoney, Mick	76	107. Swallow, B.G.	64
25. Measures, Charlie	93	65. Gordon, Suzie (A)	76	107. Boyce, I.D. (B)	64
27. Hannaford, Chris	92	65. Bullion, Barbara	76	107. Boyce, I.D. (A)	64
28. Hetherington, Tessa (B)	90	65. Felton, Peter	76	107. Derbyshire, Mrs D.	64
28. Balding, Jonno	90	70. Balding, Ian	76	107. Richardson, Andy (B)	64
28. Brown, Thomas	90	71. Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (C)	75	112. Gardiner, Nancy	63
28. Clayton, Danny	90	71. Garnet/Andy Johnson	75	112. Balding, Toby	63
32. Hoskins, Sam	89	73. Gordon, Suzie (B)	74	112. Goodchild, Andy	63
33. Mariscotti, Janice	87	73. Hutchinson, Mark	74	112. Thompson, Linda	63
33. Fowler-Watt, D.	87	75. Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (B)	73	116. Gardiner, Carolyn	62
33. Hyde, M.	87	75. Tucker, Mrs M.	73	116. Mackinnon, Roger	62
36. Burns, Lynne	86	77. Horne, Ray	72	116. Walker, Nigel (A)	62
37. Box, Peter	85	78. Gardiner, Andrew	71	119. Soul, John	61
37. Plumbly, Simon	85	78. Rafferty, Gerry (A)	71	119. Gardiner, L., T. & R.	61
37. Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (A)	85	78. Wain, Julian	71	119. Elson, Pip	61
37. Dangar, Richard	85	81. Payton, Michael	69	119. Lumley, Sue	61
41. Clayton, Philip	84	81. Broughton, B.	69	119. Simpson, Felicity	61

119. Gee, Mary	61	151. Hale, Barry	51	179. French, Clare	43
125. Slade, Valerie	60	153. Dillon, Batt	50	179. Slade, Martin	43
125. Sewell, David	60	153. Rees, Lindy	50	179. Cheshire, Nathan	43
125. Rafferty, Gerry (B)	60	153. Wilson, Simon	50	179. Grant, Eileen	43
125. Clegg, D.	60	153. Gay, Joshua	50	179. Gay, David J.	43
129. Lees, Jan	59	157. Donovan, Brian (A)	49	185. Goldsmith, Sam (A)	41
129. Brown, David	59	157. Donovan, Brian (B)	49	186. Smith, Jeff	40
129. Beasant, Pete	59	157. Knight, Russell	49	186. Conroy, Gloria	40
132. Dwayne	58	157. Friend, Stuart	49	186. Spickett, Lisa	40
132. Michaelson, RPB	58	157. Newbery, Karen	49	189. Palmer, W.	39
132. Richardson, Adrian	58	162. Soul, Anne	48	189. Holmes, Rachael	39
132. Balding, Clare	57	162. Powell, D.F. (B)	48	191. Oates, Des (A)	38
136. Palmer, Clare	56	162. A'Court, Peter	48	192. Vickery, Ray	37
136. Webb, D.	56	162. Knight, John	48	192. Robinson-Gay, Maggie	37
136. Gale, John	56	162. Friend, Janice	48	194. Mackinnon, David	34
136. Jones, Nicholas	56	162. Spickett, Paul	48	195. Finlay, Rosemary	33
136. Andy Johnson/Garnet	56	168. Bacon, Chris. P.	47	195. Reardon Smith, Julia	33
136. Gee, Simon	56	168. Irving, Lee	47	197. Read, Teresa	32
142. Arlington, Henny	55	170. Arnold, Alice	46	198. Massam, S.	31
142. Paris, Rex (A)	55	170. Mariscotti, Mick	46	199. Oates, Des (B)	30
144. Kingsclere Stud	54	170. Jones, Cherry	46	199. Plumbly, Helen	30
145. Watson, Sue	53	173. Routledge, Hugh	45	201. Kingsclere Farriers (B)	29
145. McPhee, Stuart	53	173. Rafferty, April	45	202. Holmes, Drew	28
147. Lane, Angela	52	173. Conroy, Carl	45	203. Green, Marion	23
147. De Paiva, Ben (B)	52	173. Wellman, John	45	204. Chinner	21
147. Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (E)	52	173. Richardson, Johnny (B)	45	205. Palmer, Anne	2
147. Woolley, Sharon	52	178. Oury, Gerald	44		
151. Scott, Georgina	51	179. King, David	43		

TOP SCORING HORSES

ROYAL NORMANDY	32
HALA MADRID	30
PASSOVER	30
SCOTTISH	30
BLOND ME	28
MIME DANCE	28

SELECTION OF THE LEADERS

ANGIE CHESHIRE (A)		ANGIE CHESHIRE (C)		MERVYN HARMON		DAVID HALL (B)	
ELM PARK	5	ELM PARK	5	HAVANA BEAT	5	ABSOLUTELY SO	17
SCOTTISH	30	HERE COMES WHEN	9	MERRY ME	14	DESERT COMMAND	17
MR QUICKSILVER	18	TULLIUS	14	SECRET HINT	16	TULLIUS	14
CRITICAL SPEED	0	SCOTTISH	30	ELM PARK	5	HIGHLAND COLORI	5
VICTORIA POLLARD	14	SECRET HINT	16	HANNINGTON	22	ELM PARK	5
BLOND ME	28	MR QUICKSILVER	18	DURETTO	11	FIELD OF FAME	11
ABSOLUTELY SO	17	MASTER APPRENTICE	12	BLOND ME	28	GUIDING LIGHT	27
HUSBANDRY	20	GONE GIRL	0	HUSBANDRY	20	DARK SHOT	0
BLUFF CRAG	0	DARK SHOT	0	ABLE JACK	0	GALLEY BAY	0
IAN FLEMING	0	HUSBANDRY	20	DARK SHOT	0	HUSBANDRY	20
DARK SHOT	0	BLUFF CRAG	0	IAN FLEMING	0	ABLE JACK	0
REAL DOMINION	1	REAL DOMINION	1	SUNFLOWER	0	MAKE MUSIC	0

KINGSCLERE'S STALLIONS

PART TWO

by Tessa Hetherington

In this, the second part of three pieces about horses currently or recently standing at stud who

raced from Park House, we look at two more stable stars who have gone on to stallion careers.

Tagula

Owned by the Robert and Elizabeth Hitchins and trained by Ian, Tagula is by Group-placed sprinter Taufan out of the Standaan mare Twin Island, herself a half-sister to dual Breeders Cup Mile winner Da Hoss. As a two year old he captured the Group 3 July Stakes before taking the Group 1 Prix Morny and finishing third in the Dewhurst. The following season he was third in the French 2,000 Guineas and fifth in the Irish version, before winning the Group 3 Supreme Stakes over 7 furlongs at Goodwood. In his two-year racing career he won or placed in nine of his twelve starts (ten of which were in Group races).

As a sire, Tagula has produced over 180 winners on the Flat but is best known as the sire of outstanding miler Canford Cliffs, winner of the Coventry, Irish 2,000 Guineas,

St James' Palace, Sussex Stakes, Lockinge, and Queen Anne (and no doubt much more had Frankel not rocked up). Now a sire himself, Canford Cliffs' first crop are two year olds this year, and we have two very nice colts in training at Park House.

Tagula's other achievements at stud include fathering the indomitable sprinter Tax Free, who ran a staggering 95 times and picked up four Group races and four Listed contests along the way. Tagula is currently most notably represented by Limato, unbeaten as a two year old last season, winner of the Group 3 Pavilion Stakes at Ascot in the Spring, and runner up in both the Group 2 Sandy Lane Stakes at Haydock and the new Group 1 Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot this summer.



TAGULA winning the Group 1 Prix Morny at Deauville

Closer to home, Tagula was responsible for Pentecost, also owned by the Hitchins family and winner of the Britannia at Royal Ascot and the Shergar Cup Mile (twice) for Andrew. Tagula also sired the much-loved home-bred Taglietelle, who won two races whilst at Park House but

has bettered that by winning five times (to date) over jumps for Gordon Elliott, including the Grade 2 Hurdle at Aintree in April.

Tagula stands at Rathbarry Stud in Ireland for a fee of 4,000 Euros.

Nicobar

By the sprinter Indian Ridge and out of the staying mare Duchess of Alba, Nicobar was bought by Ian for 45,000gns and raced, like Tagula, for Robert and Elizabeth Hitchins. A winner at two, Nicobar graduated to black type races with style at three, taking the Listed Surrey Stakes at Epsom's Derby meeting by seven lengths and repeating that feat with another Listed win over the same course and distance in September. He took another step up in class as a four year old, winning the Group 2 Masai Mile at Sandown (now the Betfred Mile) and the Premio Emilio Turati, also a Group 2, over a mile at San Siro. He finished his European racing career with a fourth place in the Group 1 Prix de la Foret before being sold to race in America, which he did with success for three more seasons, winning just one race (an allowance at Hollywood Park) but being placed a further six times, including in two Grade 2 contests.

Lacking an obvious stallion's pedigree and without recent European Group successes to his name, Nicobar struggled to find a place at stud and ended up at Les Ecuries de la Daudaie, an equestrian centre better known for breeding

and dealing in sports horses. His biggest book of mares came in 2005 when he was visited by just fourteen thoroughbreds.

With such limited opportunity one might have expected Nicobar's name to disappear from the General Stud Book fairly rapidly, but its prospects of longevity have improved dramatically thanks to the exploits of Dunaden. Son of the by-now obscure Nicobar and with his first five dams all maidens, Dunaden went through the sales ring as a yearling for just €1,500. By the end of his career he had won three Group 1s and been placed in a further five, netting over £5m in prize money. Shrewdly purchased by David Redvers and Sheikh Fahad as a decent four year old French handicapper and sent to Mikel Delzangles, Dunaden's most famous triumph came in the 2011 Melbourne Cup but his other achievements prove his quality over shorter trips.

Every bit as tough as his father, Dunaden received his first mares this year at Overbury Stud, where he stands for £3,000. ■



NICOBAR with a young IAB, a young Kevin Darley and an even younger Melvin!

Kingsclere Racing Club – the season so far

The Kingsclere Racing Club enjoyed an unprecedented level of success in 2014 and it was always going to be hard to maintain the record, but the Club's horses have won seven races already and there are still some exciting prospects for the remainder of the season.

The four year olds Cape Victoria and Passover already have three wins apiece to their name and, while the daughter of Victoria Montoya has had to battle for narrow victories the last twice, Passover's last two wins have

both been by seven lengths! Both look capable of further success in the coming months.

Cape Victoria's sister Victoria Pollard created a good impression when making a winning debut at Newbury in April and there have been some excellent performances in defeat too, with Club stalwarts Intransigent and Rawaki both reaching the frame in Listed company and looking set for further success in the autumn.

The Club's involvement with Elm Park was an incredible experience for us all and one which we will not forget.

The replacement relations for him and Side Glance are Brorocco and Paris Bound, both of whom will need a bit of patience and time but will hopefully mature into worthy candidates. We look set for a busy few months with Club runners as we try to chase down last year's brilliant total of 14 winners. There is also plenty to look forward to off the racecourse, with the Golf Day at Sandford Springs our next event in September. ■

If you would like further information on the Kingsclere Racing Club or to join the waiting list for 2016, please contact Club manager Nathaniel Barnett on 07890 672435 or by email, krc@kingsclere.com.



GJ Multimedia

PASSOVER romping home at Epsom under Eddy Greatrex



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

The winners so far this season are:

NATHAN CHESHIRE, for riding and looking after Master Apprentice in preparation for his win in the Sandown Classic Trial and subsequent sale;

CHETAN SINGH, who does both Absolutely So and Tullius and always has his horses and himself turned out beautifully at the races;

ANGIE CHESHIRE, for looking after rising star Scottish and for her tireless work in organising the ground staff team, a challenging task particularly during the busiest weeks of the season;

KAYLEIGH STEPHENS, for her work with debutant 2yo winner Lorelina;



Chetan Singh



Left to right: Angie Cheshire, Kayleigh Stephens, Kay Scriven of Spillers, Emily Kent, Nathan Cheshire

EMILY KENT, for continued hard work in her role as Assistant Head Lad, and for rising to every challenge with a smile!

Congratulations to all the winners, who receive £100 and a bottle of champagne.

A DAY IN THE LIFE – KEITH BETTRIDGE

Keith Bettridge has worked in racing since 1968 and came to Kingsclere as an Assistant Head Lad in 'about 1994'. When Andrew was allocated a barn of horses by his father in anticipation of taking over the licence Keith acted as Andrew's Head Lad, and he then took charge of the newly built Casual Look barn in the early years of Andrew's time at the helm. Over time Keith accumulated additional duties including swimming horses in the pool and driving the forklift to deliver hay, feed and paper to the various yards. After I.A.B.'s first experiment with the new treadmill almost ended in disaster, it was decided that Keith should also take charge of this piece of kit before any more damage was done!

We spoke to Keith to find out what his role involves these days.

I come in before 7am and check the board in the tack room to see which horses Andrew wants to swim or go on the treadmill that morning. I may have up to six horses for the treadmill, and sometimes a few to swim too, although we do the bulk of the swimming in the afternoons. I will also check the mucking out board to see which order to do the treadmill horses in, as the ground staff try to muck out whilst the horses are out of their boxes. Then I will fetch the first horse and put him on the horse-walker to warm up before he goes on the treadmill.

Horses will use the treadmill for a variety of reasons. Some are recovering from injury and so need to do controlled exercise on an even surface, some might have a sore mouth or back or some other issue that means they cannot be ridden for a period, some might need to work on an incline to build up particular muscles, and some might have got a little sour or keen on the gallops and the treadmill gives an alternative way of keeping them fit. Plenty of good horses have used the treadmill over the years – recent examples include Whiplash Willie, Tullius and Dungannon.

What a horse does on the treadmill will depend on



their reason for using it and their level of fitness etc. - I will speak to Andrew and if necessary to Simon our vet before devising a programme for each horse. Horses in full work will trot for five or six minutes and then do two canters on an uphill gradient, cantering at a speed of about 30km an hour and over a distance which depends on the trip they usually race over. I make a record of what each horse does each day so that we can track their progress.

When we are first introducing a horse to the treadmill I will have plenty of people to assist as the horses often need encouraging to walk onto the treadmill and to keep walking once the

belt starts moving. On the first day the horse will just get used to coming onto and off the treadmill (which is raised off the ground) and walking on the moving belt. The next day we will try trotting, and once this is established they will canter if this is part of their programme. After the first week, provided the horse has taken to the treadmill well, I can manage without assistance. Most horses are quick to adapt to the treadmill and seem to quite enjoy it.

Once a horse has done their exercise on the treadmill I will wash them down and then put them back on the horse-walker to cool down whilst the next horse is on the treadmill.

Exercising the horses on the treadmill will usually take most of the morning, but if I get time I will get out on the forklift truck. I am responsible for ordering the feed and hay for the horses, and the shredded paper which is used as bedding. This is all delivered to a centralised store, and then I use the forklift to deliver smaller amounts to each of the yards and barns to keep their supplies topped up. I keep a record of all the deliveries, and keep samples and batch numbers so that if there is any problem we can check which batch is the source of it.

In the afternoons I finish my deliveries and then we will swim horses. As with the treadmill, horses will swim for a variety of reasons. Because swimming is non weight-bearing exercise it is useful for horses with leg problems or who are recovering from injury. It is also good for improving fitness and keeping the weight off some of our 'good doers' – these horses might be ridden in the

morning and then swim in the afternoons. Good horses who have trained in the pool include Cesarewitch winner Top Cees, Shergar Cup Stayers winner Bernie The Bolt, and Whiplash Willie.

How much a horse does in the pool will depend on their reason for swimming and what they have done in the morning. As a general rule the most any horse would do is 6 laps in one direction and then, after a breather, 6 laps in the other direction, although Top Cees used to do 9 laps each way, twice a day. You occasionally get a horse who struggles to swim in one direction but is fine going the other way, and very occasionally we have had horses who just cannot (or will not) swim at all. Most horses swim with a rope attached to each side of their head-collar but a few of the 'pros' swim with just one rope. Bernie The Bolt always had one rope as he used to launch himself into the pool at such speed that the second person couldn't get across the bridge onto the island in time!



Keith with WHIPLASH WILLIE

Once the swimmers have all cooled down on the walker and are back in their boxes I will see if any of the Head Lads need a hand in finishing up. I also stand in as a Head Lad one weekend in every three, feeding round and checking legs etc. on the Saturday afternoon and the Sunday. ■

GOLF DAY



The annual Park House Golf Day will be held on Tuesday 10th September, at Sandford Springs Golf Club in Kingsclere, with a shotgun start at 10am.

Price per person is £55 (KRC members go free), which includes coffee and a bacon roll on arrival, 18 holes and lunch.

Please email Anna Lisa (annalisa@kingsclere.com) if you would like to take part – all welcome!

COMING UP: SALES SEASON

The yearling sales season will be upon us before we know it, and the Park House team will be heading out looking for stars of the future. Purchases in recent years have included Listed winners Havana Beat, Zanetto, Blond Me and Goldoni, together with multiple winners Signposted, Collaboration, Mymatechris, You Da One, Mysterious Man and Expense Claim.

This year members of the team will be at Baden-Baden (3 September), Fairyhouse (22 to 23 September), Goffs Orby Sale (29 to 30 September) and at Tattersalls for Books 1, 2 and 3 (6 to 16 October).

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

Farewell to Three Favourites

This summer we have said a fond farewell to three longstanding stable stars, with Side Glance, Chiberta King and Perfect Mission having been retired.

Kingsclere born and bred, Side Glance won eight of his forty starts, including the Group 3 Diomed Stakes at Epsom, the Group 3 Sovereign Stakes at Salisbury, and the Group 1 Mackinnon Stakes at Flemington in Australia.

Of Side Glance's forty starts, 50% were made at Group 1 level and 75% of those were made internationally. He placed in no less than eleven Group 1 races, including two Dubai World Cups, with his best efforts including a gallant third to Frankel in a sparkling renewal of the Queen Anne Stakes in 2012 and a close fourth behind Adelaide in the 2014 Cox Plate. He retired as an 8 year old, having earned over £1.7m in prize-money, and is now enjoying life on a private yard in Oxfordshire where he is looked after by Sarah Friend. Sarah has already provided an excellent home for past Kingsclere star Pentecost, and plans to try a bit of everything with Side Glance once he has fully recovered from the leg injury which put paid to his racing career.



CHIBERTA KING winning the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Ascot

Whilst Side Glance won first time out as a two year old, Chiberta King had a less auspicious start. Well beaten on each of his three starts at two, he started his three year old career with a BHA rating of 67. Once switched to longer trips, however, he was a revelation, and won his first two starts at three before placing in several big handicaps including the King George V at Royal Ascot.

Chiberta King won the Listed Coral Marathon as a five year old (finishing third in the same race in two subsequent years), whilst as a six year old he was Group 3 placed in the Henry II Stakes. At seven he continued to flourish, starting the year with a win in a Novice Hurdle at Newbury (beating this year's Ryanair Chase winner Uxizandre) before winning the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Royal Ascot and finishing fourth in the Cesarewitch. A tendon injury meant that Bertie missed most of 2014 and, although he recovered and ran five more times, he was never the force of old



Best mates already: SIDE GLANCE and PENTECOST with Leanne

and a recurrence of the injury led to his retirement at the grand old age of nine. He ran a total of forty five times and at his peak was rated 108. He is currently finishing his recuperation at Chris Bonner's yard and, as a super mover with proven jumping ability, we should have no trouble finding him the excellent second home he deserves.

Sidey and Bertie are much missed by all at Kingsclere, but most of all by their devoted grooms Leanne Masterton and Dylan Holley.

Perfect Mission may not have hit the heights of Side Glance and Chiberta King in terms of his achievements on the racecourse, but he has been an invaluable servant to Park House. After three starts as a two year old in 2010, Perfect Mission added a win to the Park House tally in each of the next five seasons. His most significant contribution, however, has been in developing the careers of Kingsclere apprentices and amateurs, who rode him in no less than 30 of his 43 runs. He provided Jon Willetts, Hugo Hunt and Eddy Greatrex with their first wins, and contributed to the racing experience of Dan Muscutt, Kieran Shoemark, Thomas Brown and Molly Nash-Steer. Retired home to his owner Dr Bridget Drew's Mildmay Stud, he will be much missed by all past and present apprentices but also by the many riders to whom he gave confidence (and the occasional lesson in the dangers of complacency) at home. ■



PERFECT MISSION giving Ed Greatrex his first win

