

WINTER 2008

The KINGSCLERE *Quarter*



THE PARK HOUSE STABLES NEWSLETTER

The KINGSCLERE Quarter



The winter season is under way. **SHOW WINNER** winning at Kempton (Darren O'Dwyer) on the same day Briareus made a winning comeback. More news of the jumpers in the Spring Quarter.

Front cover: **KALHAVI GOLD**
Back cover: *Misty Morning*

CONTENTS

THE 2008 SEASON	2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
ANDREW BALDING	
DAVID BROWNLOW	7
APPRENTICE TITLE RACE ENDS IN A TIE	8 & 9
I.A.B.	
12 TO FOLLOW RESULTS	10, 11, & 12
SINGLED OUT	13
A FOND FAREWELL	14 & 15
ANDREW BALDING	
ENDOSCOPY REVISITED	16 & 17
N.H.H. KNAPP	
FIRST YEAR – KINGSCLERE RACING CLUB	18
KINGSCLERE RACING CLUB GOLF DAY	19

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Published by Park House Stables, Park House, Kingsclere, Newbury, Berks. RG20 5PY

Telephone: 01635 298210 Fax: 01635 298305

www.kingsclere.com

Printed and typeset by Joshua Horgan, Oxford

THE

The 2008 flat season was one to remember for Kingsclere with a total of sixty eight winners during the recognised turf season, the highest total of domestic victories recorded in this period since the yard was built in 1889.

Much of this success can be owed to the hard work of what is probably the best balanced work force we have assembled at Park House for many years. The mixture of experienced staff and young, enthusiastic lads and lasses have paid dividends and the atmosphere in the yard has been one of ambition and industry from the minute we started the hard work in a cold and distant January. Of course, any success in racing can only be achieved with the help of horses that are capable of winning races and we were blessed with strength and depth in that department as well.

The three year old division achieved great results throughout 2008 and were very much the backbone of what has ultimately been a hugely profitable season. **Blue Sky Basin** was a very easy winner of one of the more valuable three year old handicaps of the summer when taking the seven furlong heritage handicap at Glorious Goodwood. This was his third career success from seven starts and made him the subject of an offer to continue his racing career in Dubai which was too good to refuse.

The dilemma that evolves when offers are received for your better horses is never an easy one to address, but it has always been our policy if an offer for a horse without stud potential exceeds the sum it can realistically win in the next twelve months, then it is probably wise to accept it. Whilst every owner has their own mandate it is always nice to balance the books and under this policy we also accepted a good offer for **Jedediah** to continue his racing career in Hong Kong. He had provided us with the most valuable win of the year at Newmarket's July meeting when he propelled the considerable talents of champion apprentice David Probert into the limelight.

Donegal had enjoyed a fantastic season winning the Bahrain Trophy at the same Newmarket meeting and when running the subsequent dual Group One winner Conduit to a head in the Gordon Stakes at Goodwood. A solid third behind two very good older horses in Newbury's Geoffery Freer Stakes made his appeal as a potential top class hurdler obvious to everyone and he realised 200,000 guineas at the Horses in Training sale to embark on his new career in Ireland.

2008 SEASON

by Andrew Balding



DONEGAL winning the Listed Bahrain Trophy at Newmarket

Two horses that were a little bit harder to justify selling were **Top Lock** and **Kalahari Gold**. Neither had raced as two year olds and both had made giant strides this summer to develop into genuine Pattern Race performers and there was evidence enough that further improvement was probable. Top Lock had started the year by winning an all weather maiden at Kempton and whilst he did not win again he was placed at the highest level. Third in the German Derby, second in the Great Voltigeur Stakes and third in the King Edward VII Stakes at Royal Ascot. A strong, handsome son from the first crop of the outstanding Nayef he has potential to be a top class middle distance performer as a four year old. However potential and actually realising it are two different things and a sales price of 410,000 guineas made the decision to sell the right one.

Kalahari Gold is in himself a lesson that you should never give up hope on a horse until he has

had a chance to prove himself on the racecourse. As a two year old he was blighted with training setbacks, however when he was fit enough to exercise, he offered no indication of ability whatsoever. At three, however, he was an entirely different proposition as indicated by his impressive debut win at Salisbury. He ended the year by winning four of his five starts culminating in an emphatic win in a competitive listed race at Newbury. He was then the subject of an enormous private offer to sell to race abroad which, although accepted, fell through as he failed to satisfy veterinary requirements. This compromised his value, but, as the decision had been made to sell, he took up his appointment in the Horses in Training sale and duly made 370,000 guineas, knocked down to Shadwell Estates. He may well prove to be a top miler next season but still represented a great turn around on the Toucan Syndicate's original outlay of 20,000



DREAM EATER (Franny Norton) wins the St Leger 2yo Stakes in 2007

guineas and has provided them with the necessary funds to continue their racing interests for many years to come.

Whilst it may seem that we have sold the best of a strong three year old division, this is not necessarily the case. At the beginning of the season **Dream Eater** had stood out as the most exciting of our three year olds and whilst an injury curtailed his season he remains a top prospect for 2009. Also remaining in training next season are some exciting fillies amongst which **Amanjena** could develop into a stakes performer. She had an interrupted campaign but finished it off in fine style when winning a classified event at Ascot in the autumn and has the physical scope to progress and improve next year.

Ada River is already proven at listed level, having finished second in Sandown's Atalanta Stakes, she too has the physical scope to suggest that there will be more to come as a four year old. **My Aunt Fanny**, **Oceana Blue** and **Victoria Montoya** were consistent at handicap level last summer and they would only have to improve a small amount to be competitive at a higher level.

Prairie Storm, **Lady Brora** and **Relative Strength** were amongst the winners in 2008 and they too should make up into nice four year olds. Add to that list **Little Pete** who should be a decent sprint handicapper and we still have a strong team of four year olds for next season despite having said goodbye to five of the top performers of 2008.

The four year olds of this year were always going to be a little lightweight. An injury to **Yeamans Hall** sidelined one of our most promising performers for the entire season but the mantle of stable star was taken on by ultra tough **Buccellati**. Having racked up a hat trick of wins in the autumn of 2007 life was always going to be a little tougher for him this year but he has once again improved beyond his physical stature. His handicap victory at Ascot in August was not only visually impressive but was also an indication that he was ready for a step up to group or listed company as he made light of his welter weight and smashed his rivals out of sight. A good fourth in the very valuable Bosphorus Cup in Istanbul was followed by an excellent win in a listed race at Newmarket before beating, amongst others, two previous Group



ADA RIVER

One winners in the Group 3 St Simon Stakes at Newbury. At the time of writing he has earned himself an invitation to run in the Hong Kong Vase at Sha Tin in December, a race that will very much determine his future plans and racing career.

Hatton Flight recorded a tremendous streak of four consecutive wins in mid summer and, whilst he did not add further to this tally, he ran with great credit on several more occasions.

Sirens Gift always promised to deliver more than she actually achieved and the application of a visor brought out the best in her this autumn. Narrowly touched off into third in the Portland Handicap she also went down by the narrowest of margins in the listed Rous Memorial Stakes. She will remain in training as a five year old and certainly has the ability to land a major sprint prize in 2009 if things go her way.

Rambling Light and **Lochstar** have also hinted that there is more to come from them. Rambling Light did win this year at Windsor but he also posted some very solid placed efforts in the autumn and should be capable of winning his races next year. Lochstar was something of a disappointment given the promise



DINGAAN

he had shown when winning his maiden as a three year old. A good second at Great Leighs led to high expectations at Ascot in the Autumn, but having played up in the stalls prior to the race he ran well below form to finish fifth. He was subsequently gelded and will remain in training next season as a five year old.

If either of them can find as much improvement from four to five as **Isphahan** found this summer then they will pay regular visits to the winner's enclosure. Isphahan ran a total of ten times in 2008 winning on four occasions and finishing second on a further four. His last victory came at Ascot in September and, whilst his most valuable to date, the handicapper's reaction was not kind and he will have to step up in class again next season.

Western Roots was another older horse to register four successes in 2008. He started his winning ways at Kempton and provided his amateur jockey, Nico de Boinville, with his first ever winner at Newbury in August. He too has risen a fair way in the handicap but should be up to winning races again in 2009.

Dingaan and **Banknote** have not managed to win this season but have run well in defeat and

have recorded nine places between them this year. Banknote will be heading for some winter sunshine in Dubai in January and now off a mark of 98 he should have winning opportunities out there. Dingaan will enjoy an old fashioned winter holiday and will hopefully return better than ever as a six year old. **Holbeck Ghyll** and **Whiskey Junction** did not add to their mid season totals but contributed greatly to the general tally.

The two year old crop of 2008 look capable of making some impact next year and we already have a proven Group One performer in **Prince Siegfried** who finished second in the Criterium International at Saint Cloud in November. Having looked a star in the making on his debut at Salisbury he had suffered two defeats on much quicker ground in the interim. He does, however, relish slower underfoot conditions and with the step up to a mile suiting him well, he narrowly failed to take the prestigious prize, going down by only a head. Although by a sprinting sire Prince Siegfried has plenty of stamina on his dam's side and should make into an exciting three year old at up to a mile and a quarter.

An injury put paid to **Swindler's** two year old campaign but he did manage to exhibit some of his undoubted talent when second to Soul City at Newmarket on his debut. If he makes a full recovery, as anticipated, he could play a part in the top three year old middle distance races next season.

Cavera remains a maiden after three starts, but has already shown a level of form that suggests she could be capable of getting black type next season. Having finished second on her first two starts, she ran an excellent race to finish fourth in the very valuable Doncaster St Leger Sales Race.

Foundation Room missed much of the season owing to an injury sustained just before Royal Ascot, but she returned to somewhere near her best when taking a minor placing in the Watership Down Stud Stakes at Ascot in September. She is already listed placed and should be capable of adding to her CV as a three year old.

Brief Encounter could not have been more impressive when winning his maiden at Bath on his third start and looks capable of competing in the better three year old handicaps next year. **Kings Siren** showed some promise on her first two starts and improved further to win on her third start at Lingfield



PRINCE SIEGFRIED

and she too has the physical scope to improve again as a three year old.

Ben's Dream came close to winning on his handicap debut at Windsor in the autumn and whilst still a maiden he should have little trouble in opening his account next year. He looks the ideal type for the three year old sprint handicaps in 2009. **Farleigh** showed huge promise when second at Kempton on her debut. Bred to appreciate further in time, she too should have little problem in finding a winning opportunity next year. **Keep Dancing** was another filly who filled the runner's up spot on her debut and, having grown almost two inches since mid summer, she could be another to enjoy a prosperous campaign next term.

Deyas Dream, Cool Strike, Celestial Dream and Parc Des Princes all managed to fill minor placings in maidens and should all be capable of getting closer to winning races in 2009. The same could be said of **Bathwick Pursuit, Inhibition, Rapid Water, Final Victory** and **Zulu Moon**, all of whom ran with a degree of promise on their respective racecourse appearances.

Our top two rated three year olds of 2008 were both unraced as two year olds so there could well be a horse or two to follow in amongst the dozen or so horses that did not make it onto the track this year. All in all it has been an excellent season and we are greatly looking forward to the challenge of bettering it still further in 2009 ! ■

DAVID BROWNLOW – OWNER PROFILE



David began his working career with the Thames Valley Police before starting Huntswood with his partner Phillip Eaton in 1999. As the CEO the company provides specialist resources and solutions to the UK financial services industry and he has overseen its growth to incorporate over 500 senior associates. Among his other involvements he is a member of the Cornhill Club and Chairman of the Prince of Wales's Foundation for Integrated Health as well as many other patronages.

His string of horses has expanded over the last couple of seasons and with four yearlings to add to Prince Siegfried, Hatton Flight, Der Rosenkavalier and Wigrams Turn we are hoping for continued good fortune for his racing interests.

How did you first come to develop an interest in horse racing?

It really started with growing up in Southport and watching Red Rum train on the beach and then seeing him win those magnificent three Grand National victories.

What was the first horse you owned and was the venture a success?

I started by joining Thurloe Thoroughbreds, the syndicates run by James and Nicky Stafford, which as well as being a lot of fun had some terrific winners. But I wanted to get closer to the training and the development of the horses so bought my first horse, Hatton Flight, in October 2005. He is still in my team and this year had four wins on the trot under William Buick and we have high hopes for Hatton Flight next year.

How many horses do you currently own and what are your hopes / aspirations for them?

I own eight horses and, in addition, share two others. Having just sold Top Lock, everyone is looking to see which of my horses emerges on top and, at the moment, Prince Siegfried, who has already been placed in a Group 1, looks like he will lead next season.

What are the best and worst aspects of owning racehorses?

There is nothing quite like seeing your horse saddled, walked around the parade ring and then leap from the stalls. Up until that point it has been pride, after the stalls open it is pure adrenalin and the worst thing of owning a racehorse is not having your colours in the winners' enclosure.

What are your other interests?

My partner and I work hard in business so spending time on our narrow boat and switching off is important to us. In addition, I am an avid ballet and opera goer and so far all my horses are named after these three interests.

Do you have a favourite racecourse? And... what would be your least favourite be?

Like many people I enjoy watching at Epsom Racecourse as the horses turn Tattenham Corner and race for the finishing line. So Epsom is up there with my favourites as is a day at Goodwood in the gentle summer sunshine. I do not really have a least favourite but I still need convincing about Ascot, I like the track but the Royal Enclosure seems to have lost some of its magic.

APPRENTICE TITLE RACE ENDS IN A TIE I.A.B.

It would not be a unique occurrence for the Apprentice Championship to end in a tie, but for the joint winners to hail from the same stable almost certainly is. That is what happened in the 2008 flat race season.

William Buick, who had finished quite a close third in the title race in 2007, would have been the hot ante post favourite at the start of the season. David Probert – a year younger than William – and a year behind him in terms of starting his riding career, had only ridden one winner before the start of the 2008 season and would have been any price to win the title.

Battle commenced at the end of March and on one evening at Kempton William won on Holbeck Ghyll and two hours later David won on Oceana Blue. William at this stage was claiming three pounds and David naturally the full seven. Right then their trainer, Andrew, realised that he had two outstanding talents

on his hands and that not only must he take full advantage of their ability, but also he must try to give them both equal opportunities. From then on William rode eighteen more winners for the stable and from slightly fewer rides David rode fifteen more.

By the end of July, William had ridden thirty eight winners with David on twenty and the betting was very one-sided. However, as so often happens in racing, the luck for William turned against him. He had a nasty fall at home on Prince Siegfried and fractured his pelvis in two places. This fall kept him on the sidelines for three and a half weeks and as a consequence during the month of August, which would normally have been productive from a winner's



William gains his 50th victory of the year on BUCCELLATI in the G3 St Simon Stakes at Newbury



JEDEDIAH gives David his biggest win at Newmarket

point of view, he didn't have a single victory. Having by then lost his claim he was in addition competing with the likes of Frankie Dettori and Ryan Moore on level terms. An eight day ban in early September was also no help, so by the end of September, William had forty two winners to his name and David, who had had two really profitable months, was on thirty nine and closing fast.

By mid-October David was four winners in front and, with his five pound allowance, was in great demand from many trainers and would then have been hot favourite to win. William somehow managed to claw those winners back and going into the last few days they were level on fifty winners each. Odds at this stage were in favour of David as William could not ride the last two days of the season due to yet another infuriating ban.

The luck which had turned against William in late July now turned against David in a dramatic way. He was due to ride Benlech for David Simcock at Kempton one evening, but sadly took the wrong road on his drive down from an afternoon meeting at Nottingham and arrived less than a minute too late to take the ride. A former Kingsclere apprentice, Martin Dwyer, stepped in for the winning ride and needless to say David was shattered. Then finally in the last apprentice race of the season over a mile and a half at Doncaster, David looked to have a good chance on a

horse called Cornus. He timed his challenge perfectly and took up the running inside the final furlong. Just as we were all saying 'David has won the title' – a horse came out of the blue to pip him in the very last stride.

It seemed almost like divine intervention, but in truth a tie was a perfect result to an exciting and dramatic contest. Happily William had gone up to Doncaster even though he was unable to ride and thus Kevin Darley was able to present the coveted trophy to both young jockeys.

It should be said that for David three winners each on stable veterans Western Roots and Ispahan were crucial to his year. For William an exciting victory on Amanjena at Ascot in late September and three big race wins on his favourite horse, Buccellati, were critical. However there was one magical day at Newmarket's July meeting that for me, and I am sure for Andrew also, will live long in the memory. William rode a masterly race to just get up and narrowly win the listed Bahrain Trophy on Donegal. Exactly an hour later David also swooped late on Jedediah to carry off the very valuable Ladbrokes Heritage Handicap.

Great thanks and congratulations should go to their agents Simon Dodds and Sara Metcalf, but this one day at Newmarket demonstrated the faith that the trainer had in both boys and how they repaid his confidence in them in the best possible way they could. ■

THE 2008 **12** TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

For the first time since the inception of this competition none of the prize winners work at Kingsclere and in fact only one person in the top ten is employed in the yard.

Jonno Balding finishes ahead of his father which is pretty amazing also.

It was a high scoring year as could have been expected and our thanks to Nathaniel Barnett for doing the scoring for us, which we have taken as correct, so if there are any complaints please forward them!

**1st £569.25 2nd £258.75 3rd £155.25 4th £51.75
Wooden Spoon £5 refunded**

The full results are:

1 BAYS, ANDREW	229
2 O'BRIEN, DR M J (B)	221
3 SLADE, VALERIE	216
4 GORDON, SUZIE (B)	208

5 SLADE, MARTIN	207	21 O'BRIEN, DR M J (C)	159
6 FEANE, PADDY	203	22 BROUGHTON, B	157
7 DERBYSHIRE & CHIVERS (B)	201	22 JOHNSON, ROLF	157
8 BURDETT, ADAM	194	22 MCPHEE, STUART	157
9 GRUBB OLIVER	192	25 BALDING, ANDREW	156
10 PAYTON, MICHAEL	184	26 DILLON, BATT (B)	155
11 WALKER, GILLY	177	27 POWELL, DAVID	151
11 WOOLLEY, STEPHEN	177	27 GAY, SUSAN	151
13 EVANS, MALCOLM	168	27 REIS, PAUL	151
14 SHADOW, R	165	30 PALMER, CLARE	150
15 MOULSON, LEE	164	31 OATES, DES	147
16 DONOVAN, BRIAN (A)	162	32 GRUBB, GEORGIA	143
17 KINGSCLERE STUD	161	33 APPLEBY, MICK	142
17 MACKINNON, ROGER	161	34 DANGAR, RICHARD	140
19 STANSBY, CLIVE	160	35 HOWSON, GEOFFREY	139
19 BALDING, JONNO	160	36 JOHNSON, ANDY (B)	137

36 MCPHEE, MINA	137	71 BALDING, IAN	112
36 MORRIS, CHERYL	137	72 KOOROS, LEILA	111
39 LUMLEY, SUE	136	73 SUTHERLAND, EVAN	109
39 GEE, MARY	136	74 CHESHIRE, ANGELA (A)	108
41 WILLIAMS, P	135	74 PETTITT, DWAYNE	108
42 BALDING, ANNA LISA	133	76 KING, GAILY	107
42 WATSON, GREG	133	77 ALLAN, MRS S	106
44 BACK, DAVID	132	77 ARNOLD, PAMELA	106
45 MCPHEE, ANGUS	131	77 JOHNSON, ANDY (A)	106
46 RAE-SMITH, MRS M.A	129	77 WALKER, TIM	106
47 OSWALD, MICHAEL	126	81 BONNER, CHRIS	105
47 PALMER, ANNE	126	82 BAVEYSTOCK, HOWARD	104
49 O'BRIEN, DR M J (D)	125	83 GREEN, MARION (A)	103
49 BALDING, EAMB	125	84 BEASANT, PETE	101
51 FINLAY, ROSEMARY	124	85 HALL, DAVID (B)	99
51 GEE, CHAS	124	86 ALLAN, BRIAN	95
51 SOPP, MRS M.J	124	86 FISHER, TED	95
54 BALDING, MOLLY & RUBY	123	88 GOVER, TONY	93
54 GAY, DAVID	123	88 MICHAELSON, ROGER	93
54 HYDE, MAURICE	123	90 CHESHIRE, NATHAN	92
54 PARIS, REX	123	91 CHESHIRE, ANGELA (B)	90
58 BROUGHTON, T	122	92 MOUCLIAN, DOMINIQUE (B)	89
59 PALMER, CECILIA	121	93 MOUCLIAN, DOMINIQUE (A)	85
60 HODGKINS, ADRIAN	120	94 COUSINS, ROSE	84
60 DILLON, BATT (A)	120	95 GORDON, SUZIE (A)	83
62 BOX, PETER	119	96 DONOVAN, BRIAN (B)	82
62 GEE, SIMON	119	97 DERBYSHIRE & CHIVERS (A)	81
62 GRUBB, PETER	119	98 LUMLEY, PETER	80
65 BEDFORD, PETER	118	99 BISHOP, TREVOR	79
65 KNOWLES, SHIREE	118	100 LEE-ROBINSON, NICK	75
65 NEWBERY, KAREN	118	101 GRUBB, SARAH	72
68 O'BRIEN, DR M J (A)	117	102 HALL, DAVID (A)	69
69 PALMER, W	114	103 GALE, JOHN	43
70 GREEN, MARION (B)	113	104 O'BRIEN, DR M J (E)	23



ISPHAHAN

LEADING HORSES

ISPHAHAN	66
KALAHARI GOLD	43
HATTON FLIGHT	40
WHISKEY JUNCTION	40
VICTORIA MONTOYA	38
BUCCELLATI	36
TOP LOCK	34
DINGAAN	34
SHOW WINNER	34
MY AUNT FANNY	32



KALAHARI GOLD

SELECTIONS OF THE LEADERS

ANDREW BAYS

BUCCELLATI	36
DARK MISSILE	14
DINGAAN	34
HATTON FLIGHT	40
KALAHARI GOLD	43
OCEANA BLUE	30
YEAMANS HALL	
BENGAL TIGER	
BRANDY BUTTER	
BRIEF ENCOUNTER	20
KINGS SIREN	12
RED HOT PEPPER	

DR M J O'BRIEN (B)

ADA RIVER	19
AMANJENA	26
BLUE SKY BASIN	30
FLYING INDIAN	16
MY AUNT FANNY	32
TOP LOCK	34
VICTORIA MONTOYA	38
BRIEF ENCOUNTER	20
CHERRY PLUM	
DEYA'S DREAM	6
INHIBITION	
YEOMAN BLAZE	

VALERIE SLADE

BORDER MUSIC	7
BUCCELLATI	36
DREAM EATER	5
ISPHAHAN	66
JEDEDIAH	10
MY AUNT FANNY	32
TOP LOCK	34
BRIEF ENCOUNTER	20
CHERRY PLUM	
RAPID WATER	
THE DESERT SAINT	6
WARRANTS ATTENTION	

SUZIE GORDON

DREAM EATER	5
HATTON FLIGHT	40
ISPHAHAN	66
LOCHSTAR	6
LOCH VERDI	8
OLLIE GEORGE	25
SIRENS GIFT	20
BRIEF ENCOUNTER	20
KINGS SIREN	12
TASMAN GOLD	
RIVERDASH	
THE DESERT SAINT	6



HATTON FLIGHT

WOODEN SPOON



WHISKEY JUNCTION

SINGLED OUT



Angela Cheshire came to Kingsclere in the early 1990's having served her time as an apprentice to trainer Jack Holt. During this time she rode 7 winners which was a notable feat for a female rider at this time. We all admire the way she manages to cope

with three children, three dogs and an extra big kid called Taffy! Her domestic duties are of course all in addition to the considerable contribution that she makes to the yard on a daily basis. Angie's horse to follow next year is **King's Siren** a filly that she looks after herself and who broke her maiden at Lingfield in impressive fashion this autumn.



Siobhan Miller is a relatively new recruit to the Kingsclere team having come from the Northern Racing School last year. Siobhan has made an immediate contribution to the yard and is one of a great group of young riders currently working at

Park House. Having left her native Scotland she still keeps a careful eye on the football results north of the border as her uncle is none other than Walter Smith the Rangers manager. Siobhan's horse to follow in 2009 is **Celestial Dream** who she looks after and rides out on a regular basis.



Lindy Rees plays a pivotal role at Park House as Andrew's secretary. This is a role she has played since her arrival in 1994 and the efficient manner in which she takes care of all entries, accounts, wages, travel arrangements and countless other aspects of the

business make her one of the most important people on the place! Lindy's horse to follow next year is Bourgainville (A former yard favourite who is now enjoying being thoroughly spoiled in retirement by Lindy) whether or not she we will be riding him herself is yet to be confirmed! If she had to chose another horse that is actually in active service then it would be **Cavera** who showed so much promise in her three starts as a two year old.



Jimmy Ferry has worked at Kingsclere for the last two seasons and whilst he has enjoyed a long career in racing which started with Colin Tinkler in Malton his role now has more to do with tractors and hammers than bridles and hoof picks. Jimmy

is the ultimate odd job man and is adept at most things thrown his way that may vary from broken doors to cutting lucerne in the summer! Jimmy's horse to follow for next season is the very exciting **Swindler** whose only run as a two year old was a second to Soul City at Newmarket's July meeting.

A FOND FAREWELL

by A.B.

It is always sad when we have to say goodbye to some familiar friends and particularly ones that have contributed so much to the success of the yard over the past few seasons.

This year we will say farewell to the magnificent VANDERLIN who will be retiring to the British Racing School in Newmarket. In a career that has spanned the last eight racing seasons VANDERLIN has run sixty two times, winning on eight occasions and filling the silver and bronze places on a further twenty five, amassing almost £380,000 in prize money. The highlights of his long and distinguished career were his Grade 2 victory in Canada's leading seven furlong race, the Play The King Stakes, at Woodbine and his narrow defeat in the Grade 1 Shadwell Mile at Keeneland.

VANDERLIN excelled on the tight turns of Chester's Roodeye and only this year he was narrowly denied a third course victory when bidding to win the seven furlong Heritage Handicap for the second year running. Having raced in England, Ireland, France, Germany, Canada, America and Hong Kong VANDERLIN can definitely regard himself as a true globe trotter and we all hope he will have a long and happy retirement.

IRONY has also raced for eight consecutive seasons, although the first of those was for Jamie Osborne for whom he was a Royal Ascot winner. In total "RONNIE" had sixty starts winning seven of them and gaining £113,341 in prize money. He was a real character and very much a favourite within the yard. He will no doubt have a very spoiling retirement at Alan and Helen Mobley's home in Warwickshire.

DARK MISSILE's Wokingham victory was one of the highlights of the 2007 season and whilst she started this season off in good style she never managed to build on it. It was ultimately a disappointing season for her but in twenty five career starts she managed four wins and six places, winning £169,814 in prize money. Her narrow defeat in the Diadem Stakes was probably her best racecourse performance.

LOCH VERDI never quite matched the glorious achievements of her mother LOCHSONG, but her listed win in last season's Flower of Scotland Stakes was nearly



VANDERLIN



DARK MISSILE wins the Wokingham Handicap at Royal Ascot in 2007

added to when she was second in the Scarborough Stakes at Doncaster. Both she and DARK MISSILE will retire to the paddocks at Jeff Smith's Littleton Stud and we look forward to hopefully welcoming their offspring in future years.

OLLIE GEORGE was the model of consistency

throughout his racing career and his battling nature saw him win or be placed on fourteen of his twenty starts. Sadly a tendon injury has prematurely ended his racing career, but he will no doubt enjoy a long and happy retirement on the HEROS retirement and rehabilitation scheme. ■



OLLIE GEORGE points his toe at home

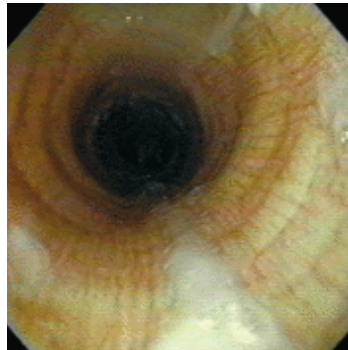
Endoscopy Revisited

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The flexible endoscope is an essential part of an equine veterinary surgeon's diagnostic armoury, allowing visualisation of the nasal chambers, pharynx (throat), larynx (voice box) and the trachea (windpipe). The endoscope is well tolerated by horses and enables the anatomy and movement of the respiratory structures to be studied, while direct observation of the windpipe confirms the presence or absence of blood, pus or mucus.

The horse's airway is a dynamic structure designed to allow optimum oxygen intake with the least resistance. Oxygen is the fuel necessary for movement in all animals, and efficient breathing is essential for optimum performance. To ensure the patency of the airway, all respiratory structures must be dynamically stable. The term dynamic collapse refers to failure or instability of the airway during strenuous exercise, similar to a straw collapsing when sucking on it vigorously. Thus, when determining the integrity of the airway in a racehorse, examination of these structures at exercise is essential.

The flexible endoscope is the cornerstone of the initial investigation of the respiratory tract for vets in practice. It is used as a crude filter to identify and manage horses with obvious anatomical abnormalities. Equally importantly, endoscopes are routinely employed to assess the presence of infection in the form of pus, inflammation in the form of mucus and exercise induced haemorrhage (EIPH) in the case of blood. These secretions can be sampled by performing a tracheal wash and analysed in the laboratory giving vital information regarding the degree and significance of the inflammation, the type of bacteria present and the effective antibiotic



Mucus in the Trachea

regime to overcome the problem. Although an effective early warning sign for health, such examinations should always be looked at in context. Horses at home are not exposed to the stresses of racing, and unexpected poor performance on the racecourse which does not correlate with the work at home should trigger an endoscopic

examination after racing. This is best performed in the window of opportunity between 20-40



Post race scoping

minutes post race. This service is available on the racecourse and gives valuable information. There are numerous instances of horses being endoscoped at home with no untoward findings only to exhibit significant amounts of mucus or haemorrhage not previously noted post race.

Advances in diagnosis of dynamic airway collapse have been achieved following the development of the high speed treadmill. This has allowed horses to be examined whilst at exercise producing a range of new diagnoses associated with the visualisation of the "airway in motion". It has shown that horses often suffer from multiple sources of obstruction, but the most frequent form of dynamic airway obstruction relates to malfunction of the soft palate. Studies



Treadmill diagnosis

performed on the treadmill have highlighted a disparity between the assessment of laryngeal function at rest and at exercise. This has obvious implications for the interpretation of laryngeal function at rest. The treadmill has highlighted the importance of audible inspiratory noises at exercise which, regardless of laryngeal function at rest, always accompany dynamic laryngeal collapse.

The high-speed treadmill is obviously of great benefit in the diagnosis and assessment of dynamic airway compromise, but with only 6

centres in the U.K. it has restricted availability. Furthermore horses have to travel to the centres and require training to perform on the treadmill, hence making it an expensive exercise. With the presence of a treadmill at Kingsclere, there appears to be an opportunity for in-house treadmill evaluation just around the corner – with a little persuasion!!

The future for endoscopy is bright. Both Glasgow and Bristol Universities have developed a portable over ground endoscopic system which allows horses to be examined on the gallops whilst being ridden. Mark Johnson has trialled this at Middleham and some interesting results have come to the fore which may change our views and interpretation of finding both at rest and on the treadmill. This system is without doubt the way forward and will revolutionise the diagnosis of dynamic airway collapse in the racehorse. Within 10 years it is likely that the majority of equine practices involved with horses in training will have access to this technology, benefiting the horse, the trainer and indeed the owner. ■

FOR SALE

2006 chestnut colt by Firebreak ex Sukuma



First crop of the Group 1 Hong Kong winner FIREBREAK and out of a good German family this colt looks a two year old. There are three quarter shares for sale at £4,000 each + V.A.T. He is broken and cantering and can be seen in action. Please contact Andrew Balding on 01635 298210, 07774 633791 or email admin@kingsclere.com

FIRST YEAR



Kingsclere Racing Club



The Kingsclere Racing Club was launched this year with the aim of bringing together established owners and racing 'novices' into an exclusive syndicate with a team of 12-16 horses predominately bred at the Kingsclere Stud. The mix of proven, high-class older horses such as Border Music and Albinus, along with potential stars such as Victoria Montoya and Inhibition (both daughters of Spurred, dam of former stable star Passing Glance, and seven other black-type performers) afforded KRC members the chance to share in the success of a fine group of racehorses without the normal costs that come with speculating in the notoriously unpredictable world of bloodstock.

Albinus set the tone for the year by winning at Doncaster in January, and his subsequent efforts, along with wins for Victoria Montoya, the prolific-winning Whiskey Junction, Ericarrow, two year olds Advertise and Peking Prince (sons of the first-season sire Passing Glance) and a Royal-Ascot fourth for Border Music in the Buckingham Palace Stakes, firmly established the Kingsclere Racing Club as one of the top Racing Clubs in the country in just its first year, with 11 winners from 40 runners at a strike-rate of 28%.

The success of the KRC horses on the track has been mirrored in the gallop mornings and Club social events away from the racecourse, which have proved hugely enjoyable and, with regular tours of the Stable and the Stud, have provided all members, but particularly those with less experience of racehorse ownership, with a real insight into the sport.

The KRC team for 2009 is once again formed mostly of horses bred at the Kingsclere Stud, and includes old favourites Albinus and Border Music, useful stayer Victoria Montoya, along with a host of potentially useful three year olds and six two year olds who could yet be anything.

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KINGSCLERE RACING CLUB GOLF DAY



The inaugural Kingsclere Racing Club Golf Day took place at Sandford Springs Golf Club on September 16th. Ten teams battled it out in a Texas Scramble four ball for the coveted honour of being the first ever KRC golf champions. The format of the competition ensured a level playing field for golfers of all



abilities and the competition was won by a team consisting of Roger Dalzell, Simon Bevan, Nigel Cox and Bobby Boyce all members of the Racing Club.

It is hoped that the competition will now become a regular fixture in the diary and, whilst it is unlikely that any of this years competitors are likely to make it on to the next Ryder Cup team, we would like to think that the general standard of play was acceptable enough for Sandford Springs to allow us back next year. ■



