

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



WINTER MAGAZINE 2015



SUMMER CHORUS, HANNINGTON and BALLYNANTY complete a treble at Lingfield in November

Front cover: RAWAKI in a cheeky mood as he contemplates his retirement

Back cover: Santa's helpers ready to make a flying start this Christmas

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INTRODUCTION AMB

The 2015 flat season was one that I will not look back on with any particular fondness. Despite winning a record amount of domestic prize money for the yard and registering a century of winners for the third consecutive season, a string of frustrating setbacks to a number of our leading lights in midsummer badly affected the stable's momentum and deprived us the chance to win a major summer prize in 2015.

Happily, however, the likes of Elm Park, Scotland, Nabatean, Montaly, Absolutely So, Rocky Rider and Husbandry should make a full recovery and be back in action on the racecourse for the 2016 flat season.

We have spent the beginning of the winter months carrying out extensive improvements to the everyday 'Lochsong' gallop. The complete facelift includes the replacement of the 'Equivia' surface as well as addressing the drainage at the end of the gallop to improve the pull up area. We have also replaced the half mile walkway from the indoor school to the start of the 'Lochsong' gallop with a soft surface which should decrease the wear on those horses wearing racing plates. All in all, we are totally committed to trying to provide the very best facilities for the horses at Park House and these latest developments ensure that we have access to a first rate all weather gallop on a daily basis, come frost, rain, snow or hail.

Looking forward to 2016, we appear to have a very strong looking team of older horses and, whilst we seem to lack an obvious classic contender for next season, we have a number of two-year-olds turning three who could develop into genuine Group performers in the fullness of time. It is probably worth mentioning that two of our top three-year-olds this year, Blond Me and Scottish, did not show any particular promise in their two year old careers, so there is always the potential for a pleasant surprise!

Our team of apprentice jockeys is once again a strong one and joining Rob Hornby, Kieran Shoemark, Eddy Greatrex and Daniel Wright are two very promising young riders, Josh Bryan and William Cox, so competition will no doubt be fierce next season!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my loyal and hard-working team of staff for all their efforts over the last twelve months. Whilst I do not really feel that they got the results they deserved in 2015 there is a huge amount of optimism that this injustice will be corrected in 2016!



Team 'BLOND ME' at Keeneland

REVIEW OF THE SEASON

by Andrew Balding

Tullius has been a real flagbearer for us in recent seasons and he gained a thoroughly deserved success at Group 2 level for the second consecutive season when taking the York Stakes in July under Philip Makin, despite the ground being faster than ideal.

Fourth in the Queen Elizabeth II on Champions Day last year on heavy ground, he was the victim of a poor draw this time around when seventh in the Champion Stakes and unfortunately the ground was against him in Italy in November, with the forecast rain failing to materialise. It hasn't been his year in that sense, but the ability and enthusiasm remain and we may look to try and aim for the Winter Derby next, with a view to qualifying for the All-Weather Finals.

It was a real shame that the Smith family's **Absolutely So** picked up an injury after his win in the Listed Cathedral Stakes at Salisbury in June, as he was forced to miss what looked set to be an exciting season. He has made an excellent recovery and will be back for a full campaign in 2016.

There will have been few bigger improvers than **Passover** last season, his four wins seeing him rise fully 40lbs in the handicap. The latest of those came in runaway fashion on soft ground at Newbury in October and he will be back next year for the Kingsclere Racing Club, with the possibility of a tilt at Listed contests abroad in the spring.

The All-Weather Championships at Lingfield Park on Good Friday offers a real incentive to owners and trainers alike and it has played a significant role in increasing the quality of flat racing over the winter months.

Having had several placed runners in the inaugural year of the Championships, I was delighted to see **Mymatechris** win the Marathon in April for owner and yard sponsor David Brownlow. He was unable to build on that win, but has since had a good break and a wind operation that will hopefully see him return to his best on turf next summer.

One potential candidate for the meeting this year is the Elite Racing Club's **Man Of Harlech**, who got off the mark for the season with a ready win at Ffos Las in August under David Probert. He has always looked a good horse in his work at home, so it was no surprise to see him acquit himself very well on his next two outings in very competitive handicaps, finishing runner-up to last year's Cambridgeshire/Balmoral winner Bronze Angel at Doncaster before running a career-best to finish a fine fourth in the Cambridgeshire. A lightly-raced four year old, he was quite impressive when winning his first start over



FIELD OF FAME heads for the winner's enclosure at Newmarket

1m2f at Lingfield Park in November and he will stay in training with a view to qualifying for Good Friday.

Cape Victoria had a fruitful season over middle distances, winning three times, including twice in July by margins of a neck and a nose. A daughter of the smart stayer Victoria Montoya and from an excellent family, she has since been retired to stud and is an exciting addition to the broodmare band at Kingsclere. One exciting filly to be returning next term is **Elbereth**, who won at Epsom on Oaks day, went agonisingly close in the Shergar Cup Challenge under Graham Lee and then went on to claim some valuable black type for her owner-breeder David Taylor when third in Listed company at Yarmouth in September. She has had a nice holiday since and there could be plenty more to come.

Collaboration made a blistering start to the season, winning his first three races, including the City and Suburban Handicap at Epsom in April. Though unable to defy a mark in the 100s in his subsequent starts, he is a

talented individual and has since been purchased by an existing owner of ours to race in Australia, where we wish him the best of luck.

Field Of Fame won well at Newmarket in August and ran with credit on his final start for the yard before being sold at Newmarket in October, while **Storm Force Ten**, an impressive winner on soft ground at Chester in the spring, has rejoined his owner Robert Waley-Cohen for a winter campaign over hurdles, though he is likely to return to Kingsclere for a tilt at the Chester Cup in May.

Hannington has done well this year, adding wins at Lingfield Park in November under Rob Hornby and Ascot in July under Kieran Shoemark to his reappearance win in May. Both he and **Breakheart** will continue to run on the All-Weather over the winter in my father's colours, with the latter looking for an eighth career success, his latest win having come at Kempton Park in the spring. Another set for a winter campaign is **Haines**, who has already won four times on the All-Weather and just needs Lingfield and Wolverhampton successes to complete a clean sweep of the AW racecourses!

I have always thought plenty of **Smiling Stranger** and it was a great relief to see him belatedly off the mark when winning at Bath in August under David Probert. The Nick Watts-owned son of Nayef had finished second on six of his previous seven starts, so the win was well overdue, but unfortunately he sustained an injury that has prevented him from running since. However, he will be back next year and remains capable of better still, as does **Priors Brook**, who won at Chepstow in June but failed to build on that in three starts back from a short layoff in the autumn. He has since gone home for a holiday, but will be back when the turf season gets underway.

Though unable to get his head in front this season, Jim and Fitri Hay's **Here Comes When** finished second on two occasions, in the Group 2 Mile at Sandown Park in April and going down narrowly in the Group 3 Supreme Stakes at Goodwood on his favoured soft ground in August. We felt he wasn't quite seeing out his races as well as he did last year and he has since had a breathing operation. If that has the desired effect, he will be a force to be reckoned with over a seven furlongs and a mile next term.

Scotland had finished third in the King Edward VII at Royal Ascot last term and we decided to try him over a longer trip in the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot in June. We were delighted with his run, as he kept on really well in the closing stages to finish a close sixth, so it was a great shame that he picked up an injury that ruled him out of the rest of the campaign. However, he has had plenty of time to recover and is a tremendously exciting prospect for next year, when we will be looking to return to Ascot.

I am also looking forward to the return of **Montaly** and **Nabatean** next term. Both smart young stayers, they suffered setbacks earlier in the season that have required plenty of time on the sidelines, but will be back in training in the new year and have the ability to make up for lost time in due course, with the latter's second in Listed company at York in May looking strong form.

Highland Colori ran some good races in defeat in some strong handicaps this term and finished sixth in the Ayr Gold Cup in September, but it is fair to say he hasn't been at his very best over the past couple of seasons since winning the prestigious sprint in 2013. He hasn't run on the All-Weather since winning a maiden on the fibresand at Southwell in 2011, but we'll keep him in over the winter and hopefully he can find a winning opportunity, which will also be the case for **Dungannon**, who could return to Lingfield Park in December for the five furlong handicap he won there last year.

Intransigent finished an excellent fourth in the Sprint Final at the All-Weather Championships in April and the aim is to qualify him for the race once again. Hopefully he can regain the winning thread en route, with similar comments applying to **Melvin The Grate**, a dual winner last winter, and **Communicator**, who finished third in the 2014 running of the AW Marathon.

Merry Me progressed well this year despite not winning, finishing second on Oaks day at Epsom and in the Listed Pipalong Stakes at Pontefract in July. She filled the same position in the Group 2



HANNINGTON digs deep under Rob Hornby to record his third win of the year.

Oettingen-Rennen at Baden-Baden in September, a race we have won twice in recent years with Highland Knight and Here Comes When. She will be covered in the spring but is likely to race in foal for the first few months of the season.

Secret Hint was a dual winner for George Strawbridge last year and ran with credit in defeat on several occasions this term. She will continue her career at Kingsclere under new ownership, as she has been purchased by John Drew and Denis Caslon, and will be targeted at the Fillies and Mares race on Good Friday.

Havana Beat, winner of the Listed Esher Stakes last year, ran some excellent races in defeat in the spring, notably when fourth in the Dubai Gold Cup and third in the Yorkshire Cup. He has since been sold, whilst fellow stayers **Whiplash Willie** and **Rawaki** have both been retired. Though a challenge to keep sound, they were both very talented on the racecourse, winning four races apiece and reaching the first four in Listed/Group company on a further 12 occasions between them, with the former finishing runner-up in the Doncaster Cup and fourth in the Prix du Cadran in 2014. Following distinguished careers, they are now set for a very well-deserved retirement.

Also retired are **Chesil Beach**, who won five times last year and joins the Kingsclere Stud as a broodmare, and **Angelic Upstart**, who won six races in his racing career and has now begun a new vocation at the British Racing School.

THREE YEAR OLDS

Having been quite sore after his run in the Derby, the Qatar Racing-owned **Elm Park**'s return to winning ways on his reappearance in the Listed Fortune Stakes at Sandown Park in September was a great result for all the team and his owner. The drop back to a mile proved no issue and, back on soft ground for the first time since his impressive success in the Racing Post Trophy, he made all the running under Andrea Atzeni to score readily.

He made a very bold bid from the front in the Queen Elizabeth II on Champions Day but, having been quite keen in the early stages, he was headed in the final furlong and faded in the closing stages to finish fifth, two places behind the Fortune Stakes runner-up Gabriel. It was, however, a fine effort on just his fourth start of the season and the strength of the race cannot be disputed, with fellow Group 1 winners in fourth, sixth and seventh.

Though it has not been quite the season we would



ELM PARK returns to winning ways in the Listed Fortune Stakes at Sandown

have hoped for at the beginning of the year, there is no doubt that he is a top-class colt, especially when granted a soft surface. We have very high hopes for him next year, when we may look at trying him over 1m2f again, perhaps starting off in the Earl Of Sefton over 1m1f at Newmarket in April. It would be lovely to see him challenging for major honours in 2016.

Scottish has made great strides this term and he gained a thoroughly deserved first success at Listed level in the Doonside Cup at Ayr in September. Runner-up in both the King George V at Royal Ascot and the Group 3 Gordon Stakes at Glorious Goodwood in the summer, he only finished outside of the first two once this season, when things didn't go his way on very soft ground at Deauville in August.

Back on a sound surface at Ayr, he made plenty of the running under David Probert and kept on strongly to deny the challenge of the runner-up, who had previously gone close against subsequent Group 1 winner Mondialiste in the Strensall Stakes. Open to further improvement after just seven starts, he is a tremendously exciting prospect for next year over 1m2f to 1m4f.

Blond Me is a filly we have always held in high regard and she too has proved most progressive, just getting up in the final strides to win the Listed Distaff contest that precedes the Eclipse at Sandown Park in July. Runner-up in the Group 3 Atalanta Stakes on her next outing there, we then took the decision to run her in the US, where she ran a cracking race in defeat when second in the Grade 2 Sands Point Stakes at Belmont.

Things didn't go her way upped to Grade 1 company at Keeneland in October, as she was bumped at the start and then didn't have the clearest of runs up the straight, but



MAKE IT UP wins at Lingfield under Eddy Greatrex

she has proved herself a very smart filly and I am looking forward to seeing her in action next year, with the Dahlia Stakes at Newmarket the perfect starting point for what promises to be a very exciting season.

We have a strong team of four year olds for 2016, with **Duretto** another improver this term, his dead-heat in a valuable handicap at Ascot in September marking him down as a similarly progressive horse to his half-brother Nabatean. He didn't quite get home in the Old Rowley Cup at Newmarket on his final start, but the manner in which he travelled through the race suggested there is a big handicap to be won with him off his current mark. He has had a good holiday since and will be back next year.

Master Apprentice's win in the Group 3 Classic Trial at Sandown Park in April under a fine front-running ride from David Probert proved to be his last run for us as he was sold in the summer, whilst **Make It Up** quite rightly proved popular at the October Sales, having won a valuable handicap at Chester in July and a conditions contest at Lingfield Park in September. Both these wins came under Edward Greatrex, who had a breakthrough first season in the saddle that saw him challenge for the apprentice title, registering 31 winners in the process.

Also sold are **Bishop's Leap** and **Star System**, both of whom were unraced at two but developed into smart performers over 1m2f this year, winning three races apiece under David Probert before realising good sums in the autumn. Dual winner **Rocket Punch** is another to move onto pastures new, having won twice over a mile in the summer.

We have always liked **Rocky Rider** and his reappearance win at Chelmsford in March was impressive. Following a

couple of good efforts in defeat, he ran a most promising race in the King George V at Ascot, finishing fifth despite not having the clearest of runs. Sadly, he picked up an injury that has prevented him from running since, but I hope he will be ready to return in the spring and there is little doubt the son of Galileo has the ability to improve further.

Our record on the All-Weather last year was very good and we will once again have a few in for the winter months, with **Ballynanty** one to follow after his seven-length success in a maiden at Lingfield Park under Oisin Murphy in November. He stepped up to 1m 6f for his next outing where he was unlucky when narrowly defeated in a Class 2 handicap at Wolverhampton. A son of Yeats, the Richard Wilmot-Smith owned colt could be one for

the big staying handicaps next term. **Countermand** was another recent All-Weather maiden winner, making the most of what looked a very good opportunity at Southwell in November to win by 11 lengths. He is another who should improve with time.

Others set to have another run on the All-Weather are **Brandon Castle** and **Nortron**. The former, owned in partnership by two of our longest-standing owners, Bob Michaelson and Dr Elizabeth Harris, has done really well in recent months and followed a win at Ffos Las with placed efforts at Chester and then in a valuable handicap on soft ground at York. Placed twice since on the all weather, he can progress further. As can Maldon Racing's Nortron, who was off the mark in a three-runner contest at Lingfield Park in June and has since finished in the frame twice in handicap company.



STAR SYSTEM cruises to his third victory, at Newbury under David Probert



BALLYNANTY completes the second leg of a Lingfield treble, under Oisín Murphy

Another who looks capable of landing a good prize next year is **Arabian Illusion**, a son of Makfi and winner of a 1m2f maiden on soft ground at Goodwood in September. Third on his handicap debut in a good-quality contest at York in October, it would be a surprise if he doesn't continue to improve when he returns from a good break in the spring. I hope this will also be the case for another son of Makfi, **Hit List**. Owned by Another Bottle Racing 2, he showed a liking for soft ground when off the mark at the fifth attempt in a 1m2f handicap at Salisbury in October,



BRANDON CASTLE at Ffos Las, with David Probert and Steve Woolley

staying on strongly in the closing stages to give us our 100th winner for the season.

One who is set to wait for fast ground next summer is **High Admiral**, who defeated a subsequent wide-margin winner when taking his maiden at Newbury in good fashion in July. Though held in handicaps since, he is the type to improve significantly now that he has been gelded.

Victoria Pollard made an impressive winning debut at Newbury in April, but failed to cope with the step up to Listed company on her next two outings. Back to form when third on her handicap debut at Salisbury in August, she had a few niggles afterwards and we decided against running her again this year. She is bred to improve with time and is a nice filly for next year, as is **Heartless**, who was another to get off the mark in a Newbury maiden prior to finishing third on her handicap bow at the same track in August. An immature type, she is a close relation of Treasure Beach and looks a smart prospect. **Hala Madrid** is another filly who will remain in training next term, the daughter of Nayef having won a maiden at Wetherby in July for owner Nick Watts. A consistent sort, she will be covered in the spring and will race in foal.

Scarlet Minstrel is from a family we know very well and he is progressing nicely, belatedly getting off the mark in a 1m5f handicap at Chelmsford in November under Oisín Murphy. He is likely to have another run this year, whereas fellow stayer **Opera Lad** has gone home for a good break since struggling on soft ground at Chester in September. The Lingfield maiden winner, a close relation of multiple Listed winner Opera Gal, can win off his mark when he returns.

Dual Chepstow winner **Guiding Light** suffered a setback in the summer but he will be back next year, as will **Doctor Bong**, who failed to go on after his maiden win under Cathy Gannon at Chester in June, but he had been on the go for a long time and a good break will help him, so he could be a well-handicapped horse on his return.

Royal Normandy took time to find his feet, but a comfortable handicap success in a big field at Leicester in June was followed two starts later by a front-running win at Sandown Park, both in the hands of Liam Keniry. Owned by Michael Payton, the son of Royal Applause looks a gradual improver and is likely to stay on the All-Weather over the winter.

St Saviour and **Sheer Honesty** both won their maidens on soft ground in August before being sold at the Horses in Training sale in October, while **Scots Fern**, a well-bred daughter of Selkirk and winner of a mile handicap at Bath in September, has been retired to stud. One that recently returned from a break with a more encouraging effort is **Berkshire Beauty**, whose owner Paul Spickett has been very patient.



SCOTS FERN'S many fans after her victory at Bath in September

Havisham remains a maiden despite finishing a close fifth in the Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot and running well in defeat in some competitive handicaps subsequently. Out of a half-sister to Leger winner Kingston Hill, he has been gelded and looks open to plenty of improvement over a trip. We have high hopes for him.

A dual winner at two, **Dance Of Fire** made a promising reappearance when runner-up at Doncaster in March, but failed to build on that in four subsequent outings. He has since been gelded and looks to be on a potentially good mark for his return this winter, which I hope is also the case with **Cool Strutter**, who has also been gelded, looks attractively-handicapped on his two year old form, and will return early in the spring.

Another set for a winter campaign is **Rose Above**, who has always shown us plenty of ability at home but hasn't managed to put things together yet on the racecourse. She is another on a good mark and I will be disappointed if she doesn't shed her maiden tag in the near future.

TWO YEAR OLDS

There have been some very promising performances from the two year olds, who look an exciting group for next year.

One of many who look sure to improve with time is **Ormito**, a strong, imposing son of Mamool, who ran away with a mile maiden on soft ground at Haydock in September on his second outing. He deserved a tilt at Listed company on the back of that, and duly ran well to finish a staying-on fourth in the Listed Zetland Stakes at Newmarket. He was a shade disappointing on his only subsequent start, in the Group 1 Criterion de Saint-Cloud in November, but he was keen in the early stages that day and is certainly capable of

leaving the form behind when he returns in the spring.

Sunflower has had more than her fair share of problems this year, but there is no doubting she also possesses above average ability, as she was a ready winner on her debut at Windsor in September. She faced a very tough task in the Group 1 Cheveley Park Stakes on her only subsequent outing, but ran a good race to finish sixth. Unfortunately, she has had to have a knee chip removed since and will need to be handled carefully, but all being well she will start back in the spring and she could be high-class.

Make Fast made the perfect start to her career when winning over six furlongs at Ffos Las in September and followed that with a good effort in a valuable nursery at

Newmarket. Better still was to follow on her next outing, over seven furlongs at Newbury, where she finished a close second in the Listed Radley Stakes, though if we were to be beaten, I am glad that it was by H.M. The Queen's other filly in the race!

Unfortunately, she was unable to build on that run when sent off favourite for a Listed contest in Italy in November where we were undone by a lack of rain, as was the case with Tullius. She is only small and I hope she trains on, but there is no doubting she has shown significant ability in her career to date.

Make Fast was our second two year old winner of the year for the Queen, for whom **Husbandry** had won at York in July on his third start. It was a deserved success, as he



ORMITO won his maiden at Haydock and is an exciting prospect



The talented SUNFLOWER winning at Windsor under David Probert

had previously finished a short-head second to Gutaifan in a Salisbury maiden, who went on to win the Prix Robert Papin and the Flying Childers, whilst also finishing second in the Group 1 Prix Morny to the exceptional Shalaa. That York form looks rock solid and the son of Paco Boy and the smart racemare Humdrum is one to look forward to next season.

Kingston Kurrajong was very green on his debut and was again well-held on his second outing, but he has always shown ability at home and duly made it third time lucky with an all-the-way win at Chester in August under Liam Keniry. An unlucky second on his next outing at the track on what was his nursery debut, he was unsuited by the good to soft ground on his only subsequent start at Epsom in September. It is a measure of his ability that he was still able to finish second to a next time out Listed winner that day and he could be smart on a sound surface for his owner/breeder Richard Hains.

Another to benefit greatly from his debut run was **Zoffanys Pride**, who had beaten just one home at Leicester on his debut in mid-October but, just a fortnight later at Nottingham and racing on heavy ground, he travelled very strongly and put the race to bed in taking fashion. He looks an excellent prospect for his owners in the Axom LXII syndicate.

Owned and bred by Tim Wixted and Tony Anderson, **Lorelina** was another filly to make a winning debut, the daughter of Passing Glance coming from last to first to win at Epsom in July under Edward Greatrex. Unfortunately, she then had a

nasty experience when clipping heels and coming down on her next start at Salisbury in August. Thankfully she is now none the worse and will have benefitted from her comeback run at Kempton this month. She will get further and has a bright future.

Summer Chorus showed plenty of ability when second on her debut at Bath in October and duly went one better at Lingfield Park on her next outing for owner Sheikh Juma Dalmook Al Maktoum, shaping as though a step up to six furlongs would suit. She is a lovely filly with plenty of scope.

We have enjoyed plenty of success with our two year olds at Windsor in recent seasons, boasting a strike-rate of 37% in the past five seasons, and **Dancing Star** made it second time lucky at the track

in August, having finished fourth there on her debut in midsummer. From the family of Norse King and Lochsong, Jeff Smith's Aqlaam filly didn't handle the track at Chester on her only other outing and remains a very nice prospect.

This Is For You was our second winner of the season by Paco Boy, and he followed his ready, front-running win at Chepstow in August with a very good effort in defeat on his nursery bow at Chester in September. He was disappointing there on his next start, but has been gelded and enjoyed a good break since. He will return at the right end of the handicap.

Our most recent two year old winner, **Dream of Summer**, had time to do just that inside the final furlong at a wintry Lingfield Park in November, following in the



MAKE FAST makes a winning debut at Ffos Las



KINGSTON KURRAJONG in full flight at Chester under Liam Keniry

hoofprints of several of his peers by making all the running to shed his maiden tag in impressive style in a mile nursery. He has taken time to find his feet, but we have always liked him and I am hoping he could progress into a Britannia horse come June.

It is hard to believe **Bernie's Boy** is still a maiden, the son of first-season sire Lilbourne Lad having been beaten into second in maidens at Ascot (by a head), Glorious Goodwood and Newmarket (by a short-head)! He will come on plenty for his recent return at Lingfield Park in November and he could yet develop into a Good Friday horse. **Dark Shot** was a disappointing favourite on his return to action in November, having previously been caught on the line in a maiden at Chester in September. He'll wait until next year now and hopefully he can atone for that defeat next time.

A son of Cape Blanco, **Real Dominion** is a horse we have always liked a lot and he showed plenty of ability in three starts in maidens in the second half of the year over seven furlongs and a mile. He looks likely to stay further still and should come into his own next year, as I hope will **Ian Fleming**, who also ran very well in a Sandown maiden in August. The son of Makfi has been gelded since his last run in October and will be winning races on soft ground next year.

The Kingsclere Racing Club has several nice three year olds for next year, including Elm Park's half-brother **Brorocco**. He showed plenty of ability on his debut at Sandown Park in August and we decided to throw him in at the deep end for his second outing in Group 3 company at the same course a fortnight later. However, he didn't handle the preliminaries particularly well and the race just came too soon,

whilst he was too keen on soft ground at Nottingham in October on his third and final start. Now gelded, he will go handicapping off a very fair opening mark and remains open to plenty of improvement.

Nodachi left the form of his debut run at Newmarket well behind when finishing second at Bath in October over 1m2f, and the son of Rip Van Winkle, out of a half-sister to Group 1 winner Zahrat Dubai, will stay further and is a bright middle-distance prospect.

Make Music has finished in the frame on her last three starts and the daughter of Acclamation thoroughly deserves to find an opening before going on to better things, with similar sentiments applying to **Charmy**, who finished fifth in a Newmarket maiden in August, a race which has produced plenty of winners since. She made a bold bid from the front on her next start at Kempton in November, and she is a very nice filly with a future.

We have always held **Viscount Barfield** in fairly high regard and he showed ability in two starts in the summer. He has had a few niggles this year but will be back in the spring and is the type to find significant improvement, as is **Bluff Crag**, who now has a handicap mark following a fair effort on his third and final run in a York maiden in October. He has since been gelded and should develop physically over the winter.

A son of Iffraaj and out of a stakes winner in the US, **Able Jack** ran well enough in a couple of races in the late summer and early autumn to suggest he will be winning races next year, as will **Wynford**, who has shaped with promise on both starts this term, staying on nicely in the closing stages at Chelmsford last time.

The Thurloe Thoroughbreds-owned **Calliope** has



ZOFFANYS PRIDE looking as delighted as his owners after his win at Nottingham



SUMMER CHORUS gets off the mark at Lingfield under Oisin Murphy

shown gradual improvement in three starts to date, but her homework suggests there is plenty more to come on the racecourse and she could be a well-handicapped filly when she returns, which could well be the case with **French Legend**, the daughter of Pour Moi looking sure to progress off her low opening mark.

The once-raced **Molten Gold** looked quite raw on his debut at Newmarket, but he has been quite weak physically this year and looks the type to develop into a nice horse at three, as does Mick and Janice Mariscotti's **The Graduate**, a son of Mastercraftsman who has been backward this year but should improve significantly on the form of his two runs to date when he reappears.

Lady Blanco looked sure to benefit from the experience when finishing in midfield at Kempton in October but she is a good physical specimen and is a nice project, as is **Rock Opera**, who stayed on in the final furlong of a mile maiden at Newbury in the same month. She looks likely to improve for a step up in trip.

That is also the case for **White Poppy**, who ran to a similar level on both her starts towards the end of the turf season, finishing fourth over seven furlongs at Salisbury and then at Newmarket. She kept on well on both occasions and can progress over further.

Pickapocket is going the right way and he finished third in a nursery on his first attempt at a mile in November. There are races to be won with him next year, which is also the case with **Sir Pass I Am**, who ran very green in the early stages on his debut on soft ground at Sandown Park in September, but stayed on in taking fashion in the closing stages and will be all the better for the experience. He has since been gelded and looks the type to make up into a nice three year old. Also gelded since his last run is

Both Sides, who had shaped very well at Sandown Park on debut but failed to build on that at Chester in August. Owned by George Strawbridge, he is a half-brother to Born In Bombay, who himself was unraced at two but won the Britannia last year on his fourth career start.

Lord Aslan was green on his debut at Kempton Park, but he shaped fine and will be seen over further next year, as will **Le Tissier**, a once-raced son of Sir Percy who looks a horse with a future over a trip, having shown ability on his racecourse bow at Salisbury. **Bingo George** qualified for a mark back in the summer, but suffered an injury in the nursery at Glorious Goodwood that has just needed time. He is fine now and will be back as a gelding off what looks a fair

mark next term.

Verne Castle had looked a very nice two year old at home, so we were most disappointed by his run at Nottingham in September on his second outing. However, the son of Nunthorpe winner Lochangel has since been gelded and much better is expected next year. That is also the case with **Rehearse**, who was very green on his debut at Sandown Park in September but looks sure to leave the run well behind when he returns next term.

Lord Huntingdon, a son of Lord Of England and out of Marajuana, ran nicely on his debut on the All-Weather in November and he will most likely have another run before the year is out, whereas **Loaded** has been given a good break since his only run at Newbury in September, where he finished sixth in a soft-ground maiden. He has shown plenty at home, but is an immature sort and should be all the better for the experience.

Lady Perignon is a filly we like, but unfortunately she sustained an injury after her run at Goodwood in July that ruled her out for the remainder of the campaign. She will be back next year and is a nice filly, as is **Moon Over Mobay**, who finished fifth at Kempton Park on her second outing and will now have a break before returning over further.

Montague Way has proved a challenge to train and even more of one to ride. He is a handful, but the ability is there and, if we can iron out the difficulties, he will be winning races, while **Mystic Blaze** is a good, honest sort who has improved with each of three starts and he should stay further than the mile over which he was second on the fibreglass at Southwell on his latest outing. He is now eligible for handicaps, as is **Fort Jefferson**, who ran his best race to date when sixth at Newmarket in October and has since been gelded. ■

THE 2015 12 TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

This year was a close run contest. The winner, Mervyn Harmon, managed to select a full squad of decent point-scorers – a particularly impressive feat for someone whose only connection to the yard is that he is its bank manager! Angie Cheshire should also be congratulated on a brilliant effort to finish second and third. Passover would have been the second highest scoring horse but was not included in the competition, for reasons which are explained on page 16!

The prize money is divided as follows:-

1st £1122 2nd £510 3rd £306 4th £102 Last place £10

1 HARMON, MERVYN 233
2 CHESHIRE, ANGIE (A) 222
3 CHESHIRE, ANGIE (C) 198

4 Reis, Paul	181	27 McPhee, Angus	154	47 Garnet/Andy Johnson	133
5 Mariscotti, Janice	179	28 Balding, A	151	47 Clegg, D.	133
5 Sharpe, Chris	179	29 Powell, D. F. (A)	149	52 De Paiva, Ben (A)	132
7 Hall, David (B)	177	30 Broughton, T.	147	53 Horne, Ray	131
8 Trussull, Steve	176	30 Wain, Julian	147	53 Aeberhard, Werner	131
9 Burns, Danny (B)	174	32 Balding, Florence	146	53 Conroy, Clifford	131
10 Hodgkins, Adrian	173	32 Read, Ian	146	56 Gardiner, Carolyn	130
11 Woolley, Steve (B)	172	34 Hall, David (A)	145	56 King, Anderson	130
12 Hyde, M.	170	34 Clayton, Danny	145	58 Fisher, Ted	129
13 Lumley, Peter	168	36 Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (A)	144	59 Balding, Jonno	128
14 Plumbly, Simon	165	37 Thompson, Linda	142	59 Jones, Nicholas	128
15 Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (D)	163	38 Brown, Thomas	140	59 Kent, Emily	128
15 Watson, H.	163	38 Burns, Danny (A)	140	62 Gardiner, Nancy	127
15 Richardson, J.	163	40 Hetherington, Tessa (A)	138	62 Keniry, Liam	127
18 Tucker, Mrs M.	162	40 Hannaford, Chris	138	62 Felton, Peter	127
18 Williams, Tony	162	42 Boyce, I. D. (B)	137	62 Sutherland, Evan	127
20 Gordon, Suzie (A)	161	42 Cousins, Rose	137	66 Mahoney, Mick	126
21 Mackinnon, Roger	160	44 Stillings (Rambo), Mark	136	66 Sewell, David	126
22 Plummer, Ann	159	45 Hetherington, Tessa (B)	135	66 Dangar, Richard	126
23 Fowler-Watt, D.	158	46 Stansby, Clive	134	66 Friend, Terry	126
23 Doherty, T.	158	47 Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (C)	133	70 Burns, Lynne	125
25 Cheshire, Angie (B)	157	47 Richardson, Johnny (A)	133	70 Balding, Anna Lisa	125
26 Box, Peter	156	47 Gay, Susan E.	133	70 Arnold, Pam	125

70 King, Gail	125	117 Donovan, Brian (A)	103	163 Bullion, Barbara	87
70 Scott, Georgina	125	117 Brown, David	103	163 Richardson, Andy (B)	87
75 Hoskins, Sam	124	117 Goodchild, Andy	103	163 Conroy, Carl	87
75 Paris, Rex (B)	124	117 Garnet/Andy Johnson	103	166 Gale, John	86
77 Gardiner, Andrew	121	122 Stewart, Graham	102	166 Friend, Janice	86
77 Burns, Richard	121	122 Derbyshire & Chivers (B)	102	168 A'Court, Peter	85
79 Mac, Jamie	120	124 King, David	101	169 Soul, John	84
79 Lees, Jan	120	124 Bacon, Chris. P.	101	169 Oury, Gerald	84
79 Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (E)	120	126 Arnold, Alice	100	169 Cheshire, Nathan	84
79 Measures, Charlie	120	126 Rafferty, Gerry (A)	100	172 Routledge, Hugh	83
83 Webb, D.	119	126 Richardson, Andy (A)	100	172 Conroy, Gloria	83
83 Walker, Nigel (B)	119	126 Balding, Ian	100	174 French, Clare	82
85 Register, Layton	117	126 Newbery, Karen	100	175 Powell, D. F. (B)	81
86 Sooty	116	131 Boyce, I. D. (A)	99	175 Vickery, Ray	81
86 Cole, Paul	116	132 Holmes, Rachael	97	177 Spickett, Paul	80
86 Hutchinson, Fiona	116	132 Chamings, Patrick/Philippa	97	178 Slade, Martin	79
86 Clayton, Philip	116	134 Kingsclere Farriers (C)	96	179 Paris, Rex (A)	78
90 Stokes, Deborah	115	134 Cullen, Noel	96	179 De Paiva, Ben (B)	78
90 Gee, Mary	115	136 Dwayne	95	181 Palmer, W.	76
92 Derbyshire, Mrs D.	113	136 Goldsmith, Sam (A)	95	181 Rees, Lindy	76
93 Walker, Roy	112	136 Stratton, Larry	95	181 Friend, Stuart	76
94 Goldsmith, Sam (B)	111	136 Jones, Cherry	95	184 Finlay, Rosemary	75
94 Donovan, Brian (B)	111	136 Wellman, John	95	185 Green, Marion	73
96 Fearne, John (Paddy)	110	141 Watson, Sue	94	185 Richardson, Johnny (B)	73
96 Hutchinson, Mark	110	141 Knight, John	94	187 Massam, S.	72
96 Weedy, Kathryn	110	141 Broughton, B.	94	187 Hale, Barry	72
99 Payton, Michael	109	141 Derbyshire & Chivers (A)	94	189 Arlington, Henny	69
99 Woolley, Sharon	109	145 Gordon, Suzie (B)	93	190 Mackinnon, David	68
101 Balding, Mack & Boris	108	145 Plumbly, Helen	93	190 Spickett, Lisa	68
101 Simpson, Felicity	108	147 Lane, Angela	92	192 Reardon Smith, Julia	67
101 Woolley, Steve (A)	108	147 Walker, Nigel (A)	92	192 Grant, Eileen	67
104 Swallow, B. G.	107	149 Gardiner, L., T. & R.	91	192 Kingsclere Stud	67
104 Slade, Valerie	107	149 Balding, Toby	91	195 Beasant, Pete	66
104 Lumley, Sue	107	149 Dillon, Batt	91	195 Gay, David J.	66
104 Knight, Russell	107	152 Mariscotti, Mick	90	195 Robinson-Gay, Maggie	66
104 Rafferty, Gerry (B)	107	152 Holmes, Drew	90	198 Rafferty, April	65
109 Michaelson, RPB	106	152 Michaelson, Roger	90	199 Oates, Des (A)	61
109 Elson, Pip	106	152 Cole, Hilary	90	200 Smith, Jeff	59
109 Read, Teresa	106	152 Dr & Mrs D. O'Brien (B)	90	201 Kingsclere Farriers (B)	55
112 Balding, Emma	105	152 McPhee, Stuart	90	202 Irving, Lee	50
112 Hoare, Iris	105	158 Kingsclere Farriers (A)	89	203 Oates, Des (B)	46
114 Balding, Clare	104	158 Palmer, Clare	89	204 Chinner	34
114 Mackinnon, Bridget	104	158 Richardson, Adrian	89	205 Palmer, Anne	27
114 Gay, Joshua	104	161 Wilson, Simon	88		
117 Soul, Anne	103	161 Gee, Simon	88		

SELECTIONS OF THE LEADERS

MERVYN HARMON

BLOND ME	44
DURETTO	22
ELM PARK	17
HANNINGTON	33
HAVANA BEAT	10
MERRY ME	22
SECRET HINT	20
ABLE JACK	7
DARK SHOT	16
IAN FLEMING	12
HUSBANDRY	20
SUNFLOWER	10

ANGIE CHESHIRE (A)

BLOND ME	44
CRITICAL SPEED	0
ELM PARK	17
MR QUICKSILVER	34
SCOTTISH	42
VICTORIA POLLARD	14
ABSOLUTELY SO	17
BLUFF CRAG	1
DARK SHOT	16
IAN FLEMING	12
HUSBANDRY	20
REAL DOMINION	5

ANGIE CHESHIRE (C)

ELM PARK	17
HERE COMES WHEN	17
MASTER APPRENTICE	12
MR QUICKSILVER	34
SCOTTISH	42
SECRET HINT	20
TULLIUS	14
BLUFF CRAG	1
DARK SHOT	16
GONE GIRL	0
HUSBANDRY	20
REAL DOMINION	5

LEADING HORSES

BLOND ME	44
SCOTTISH	42
BRANDON CASTLE	40
ROYAL NORMANDY	38



Top point scorer BLOND ME with her groom and regular rider Molly

THE SEASON IN NUMBERS

10th November 2014 – 7th November 2015

	WINS	RUNS	%	2NDS	3RDS	4THS	WIN £	TOTAL £
UK	102	725	14	96	75	90	891,963	1,570,872
FOREIGN	0	8	0	1	0	2	0	121,609
TOTALS	102	733	14	97	75	92	891,963	1,692,481

TOP TEN EARNERS

1	Blond Me	£105,087
2	Tullius	£99,051
3	Mymatechris	£95,167
4	Here Comes When	£93,375
5	Scottish	£86,162
6	Elm Park	£67,789
7	Havana Beat	£59,406
8	Duretto	£55,081
9	Collaboration	£51,204
10	Make It Up	£51,204

TOP TEN JOCKEYS

1	David Probert	40-318	13%
2	Oisin Murphy	14-95	15%
3	Edward Greatrex	12-51	24%
4	Liam Keniry	6-56	11%
5	Rob Hornby	5-40	13%
6	Andrea Atzeni	3-14	21%
7	Jim Crowley	3-29	10%
8	Hugo Hunt	2-5	40%
9	Cathy Gannon	2-15	13%
10	Thomas Brown	2-19	11%

TOP TEN TRACKS

1	Lingfield Park	16-63	25%
2	Chepstow	9-38	24%
3	Newbury	7-39	18%
4	Ffos Las	5-15	33%
5	Chester	5-35	14%
6	Chelmsford	5-43	12%
7	Sandown Park	5-48	10%
8	Epsom	4-29	14%
9	Windsor	4-38	11%
10	Salisbury	4-40	10%

TOP TEN TIMEFORM (3yo+)

1	Elm Park	118
2	Absolutely So	117
2	Scottish	117
2	Tullius	117
5	Here Comes When	116
5	Make It Up	116
5	Scotland	116
8	Nabatean	113+
9	Intransigent	112
10	Havana Beat	109+

TOP TEN TIMEFORM (2yo)

1	Ormito	99
2	Make Fast	97
2	Kingston Kurrajong	97
4	Sunflower	93p
4	Husbandry	93p
6	Bernie's Boy	87
7	Dark Shot	82
8	Real Dominion	82p
9	Brorocco	81p
9	Make Music	81p

CELEBRATING PASSOVER

The impressive achievements of Passover this season have been noted elsewhere in these pages, but we felt it appropriate to share his back story, which is remarkable.

By Passing Glance out of the Selkirk mare Floriana (a three parts sister to Intransigent), Passover was bred here at Kingsclere by Andrew's mother Emma. Izzy Monk, who works on the stud, remembers him well as a foal as he was one of the first youngsters she handled after starting the job. 'I nicknamed him Gucci as I could only afford to give a 'Passing Glance' to a Gucci handbag, and I loved him from the start – he was the most friendly and easy-going of the bunch.'

Passover was broken in here by Taffy, and entered training as a yearling in 2012. He ran three rather ordinary races in the autumn of his two year old year, and was given a modest rating of 57 as a result. He was, however, bred to improve with time, and he had showed some talent at home, so hopes were reasonably high as he prepared for a three year old campaign.

In June 2014, when close to making his reappearance, Passover pulled up acutely lame on the gallops. He appeared to have torn a muscle, but quickly spiralled into a decline, losing condition and muscle tone and showing symptoms consistent with nerve damage within his sacrum. Within a matter of weeks he was in a very bad way, and with Simon Knapp's advice that 'Dr Green might help', the decision was made to send him back to the stud to recuperate. By this stage, what hopes there had been for his racing future were very much diminished.

Back in the care of Pete, Izzy and Margo, Passover had to be handled with kid gloves, and was turned out for short but gradually increasing periods in the small 'nursery' paddock next to the stud buildings where he had started his life. He had lost all his appetite and so had to be fed little and often and tempted to eat with sugar beet and other succulents.

Progress was slow, and expectations low, to the extent that when the Horses In Training list was produced for the 2015 Twelve To Follow competition, Passover was not even on it. Izzy maintained her faith and selected him



PASSOVER on his holidays, with Izzy

in her entry, only to be told that she could not include him as he was not on the list!

Steadily, Passover regained condition and vitality, and Emma was keen to give him another chance to be a racehorse – he was the last foal from Floriana, who had died in a freak field accident, and his full brother Constant Contact had won three times on the flat and gone on to be a useful hurdler for Donald McCain.

In March 2015 Passover was ready to begin ridden work, and moved from the stud to Chris & Claire Bonner's yard, where Clairey began re-building his muscle and fitness. As she explains, 'he had lost almost all of his muscle behind, so I wanted to teach him to use himself properly in his ridden work, carrying himself correctly and 'working through' from behind. This would help build up his top-line and would ensure that when he returned to training he would continue to build muscle. He had no idea how to do this when he first came in, but once he cottoned on and started using his back-end to power himself along he did it very naturally.

As a sensitive horse, it was also good for him to work by himself, away from distractions and sources of stress.'

After a few months, Passover was ready to return to training. Initially he found this hard to cope with, struggling to settle in the school with the rest of the string, and going off his food as a result. Thanks to further examples of patience from his riders and Kevin, his

head lad, he came through these initial hiccups and made his reappearance in June of this year.

Unsurprisingly rather 'fizzy' after such a long break, Passover ran an encouraging race on his return. Subsequently, however, he has been a revelation, winning four times (all by significant margins), and defying the handicapper over and over again. In just 4 months he has risen 40lbs in the official ratings to a mark of 97, and had he been included in the Twelve To Follow competition, he would have been the second highest scoring horse – something Izzy is not going to let Mrs B forget! Now back on the stud for a well-deserved holiday, we hope that he may pick up some black type next season. His achievements are a huge credit to all those who have played a part in his recuperation, and particular thanks go to Izzy and Clairey for their work with him. ■



PASSOVER scoring his fourth win of the season, at Newbury in October



HUNTSWOOD APPRENTICES

The Kingsclere Apprentices have been generously supported by our yard sponsors Huntswood for a further season, and the group have enjoyed another successful year, spearheaded by the meteoric rise of new apprentice Edward Greatrex and the breakthrough season of Rob Hornby. This year, the apprentices have ridden in over 775 races at 35 different racecourses, including at the major racing festivals and televised weekend meetings. They have won 91 of those races, their mounts picking up almost £800,000 in prize money.



The Huntswood Apprentices

Edward Greatrex

Edward (Eddy) Greatrex joined the team this year, and wasted no time in getting off the mark, winning in February with only the third ride of his career. Stylish but strong in the saddle, he was soon noticed by trainers and racing analysts, but hit the headlines when riding the Kingsclere-trained



Eddy winning at Epsom on Elbereth

Elbereth to win a valuable handicap at Epsom on Oaks day. This was particularly notable as it came on his very first ride at the famous but idiosyncratic track. Eddy continued to garner praise and attention throughout the season, forming successful relationships with trainers Joseph Tuite (5 winners) and Sylvester Kirk (4 winners) in addition to Park House, for whom he has ridden 12 winners including the valuable Apprentice Handicap at Chester on Make It Up. Eddy rounded off his season in style with a win on British Champions Day, taking the £250,000 Balmoral Handicap on Musaddas in the famous Godolphin silks. He finished the season in fifth position in the Apprentice Jockeys' Championship a phenomenal achievement particularly as he missed several weeks following a fall at Salisbury.

Rob Hornby

Rob's career has really taken flight this year, with his 38 wins representing a more than five-fold increase on last year's total. Rob's excellent horsemanship has been combined with increased strength in a finish and his admirable commitment to his career has seen him



Rob representing Great Britain in Brazil

regularly travelling all over the country for rides. He has formed excellent working relationships with a number of trainers, riding 6 winners for Richard Guest and 4 apiece for Pam Sly and Simon Hodgson, whilst he has done particularly well with unfancied horses – a £1 stake on each of his rides this year would have yielded a return of £83.88! Rob finished seventh in the Apprentice Championship

this year, and his empathetic riding and conscientious approach has seen him invited to represent his country in the Apprentice World Championships, travelling to France, Brazil and Abu Dhabi.

Kieran Shoemark

Kieran spent six weeks of last winter in Australia, based with trainer Danny O'Brien, and enjoyed great success, riding 10 winners from 50 rides, including two trebles and a double. His UK season has been quieter but solid, with 13 wins to his name and a continued good partnership with Park House's Angelic Upstart, on whom he was third in the big Apprentice handicap at Glorious Goodwood (a race the pair had won in 2014). Kieran has just returned to Australia for the winter, where he should get excellent opportunities to further develop his skills.

Thomas Brown/Hugo Hunt/Danny Wright

Whilst Danny Wright's first ride is due very soon, Thomas Brown and stable amateur jockey Hugo Hunt added four wins to the total (all on Park House horses) before moving to pastures new. An exceptionally gifted horseman, Hugo's height was always going to limit his options on the Flat, and so he has joined top National Hunt trainer Nicky Henderson as an amateur jockey. Tom's claim had reduced to just 3lbs, making it difficult for him to compete for rides with the 5lb claimers in the yard, and so he has joined smaller trainer Ismail Mohammed where he should get more opportunities.

Both are much missed but their places amongst the apprentices are to be filled by two exciting young riders in Josh Bryan and William Cox. Both nephews of trainers (Peter Bowen and Clive Cox respectively), these two young men have risen through the ranks in pony racing, both being crowned Champion Rider in 2014 (Josh in the Racetech Point-to-Point series, Will in the Charles Owen Racecourse series). They have settled in well at Park House, already proving to be hardworking and talented riders, and look to have extremely bright futures in the industry. ■

KINGSCLERE'S STALLIONS

PART THREE

by Tessa Hetherington

Passing Glance



PASSING GLANCE wins at Goodwood at 3yo

Passing Glance was bred by Emma here at Kingsclere, the result of a mating between top sprinter/miler Polar Falcon and Kingsclere super-mare Spurned. Trained by Ian and Listed placed, Spurned was put into Kingsclere ownership towards the end of her racing career as payment for training fees – a deal which proved astute given her subsequent performance as a broodmare. Spurned has produced no less than 10 winners for Park House, including six black-type horses in Scorned, Hidden Meadow, Kingsclere, Victoria Montoya, Overbrook and Passing Glance. She has certainly earned her happy retirement in the field at the end of Ian and Emma's garden.

Raced by Kingsclere Stud and Michael Wates and trained by Ian and then Andrew, Passing Glance won his maiden at Salisbury as a 2yo but improved with age, picking up his first black type as a 4yo. In that season he won the Listed

Sovereign Stakes at Salisbury and the Group 2 Oettingen-Rennen at Baden-Baden, also placing in Goodwood's Celebration Mile. He raced on as a 5yo, taking the Group 3 Diomed Stakes at Epsom before retiring to the National Stud, where he spent a year before moving twice more before settling at Pitchall Stud. He currently stands there at £2000 alongside Midnight Legend.

Unnoticed by many breeders, those who have remembered Passing Glance's toughness and longevity have been rewarded with winners over a variety of distances under both codes. He has 47% turf winners to runners. His greatest success as a sire has come via his original connections – 42% of his winners on the flat have been bred by Emma and 57% trained by Andrew. His first crop included Peking Prince and Advertise, both dual winners for the Kingsclere Racing Club. Advertise was out of Averami, a mating which was repeated the following year and produced Group 1 winner Side Glance, who needs little introduction in these pages. Averami went back to Passing Glance in 2010 and produced Spectator, thus far a progressive 3-time winner for the Club. She has a yearling colt by Passing Glance this year.

Another loyal to Passing Glance is Kingsclere owner Sandie Newton, who sent Juno Mint to him in successive years to produce Hint of Mint and Imperial Glance. The latter was a winner for Park House and the former a decent hurdler with Nick Williams, having been placed behind The New One and Faugheen last season. Passing Glance's record as a National Hunt sire shows 33% winners to runners and includes the highly rated and 6-time winning chaser Attaglanche.



PASSING GLANCE winning the Group 2 Oettingen-Rennen at Baden-Baden



FIREBREAK after winning the Group 3 Prix de Cabourg at Deauville in 2001

Firebreak

A 27,000 guineas yearling by the Queen Anne winner Charnwood Forest, Firebreak was trained by Ian here at Kingsclere but from the yard supervised by Andrew. He raced for Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds until the end of his two year old campaign. During that year he won 4 of his 6 starts, including the Group 3 Prix de Cabourg and the Group 2 Mill Reef Stakes, and placed in the other two (the Coventry and the Prix Morny). Sold to Godolphin at the end of his juvenile campaign, his achievements saw his value soar by almost half a million guineas to 525,000.

For Godolphin, Firebreak was a staunch performer in Dubai, beaten just a nose in the UAE 2000 Guineas at 3yo and winning two Godolphin Miles at 4yo and 5yo. He was also a valued servant at home, winning the Supreme Stakes at Goodwood and (like his father) the Challenge Stakes at Newmarket, placing in the Lockinge and Park Stakes, and finishing his career with a Group 1 win, in the Hong Kong Mile.

Firebreak stands at Bearstone Stud in Shropshire, from where he has produced many winners. His most notable progeny are Hearts Of Fire, winner of the Group 1 Gran Criterium at San Siro as a 2yo (beating Vale Of York by a neck), Fire Ship, winner of the Group 3 Lucien Barriere at Deauville. The wonderful sprinting racemare Caledonia Lady, who won the Listed Rosebery Stakes and placed in the Queen Mary, Lowther, Flying Childers and Cornwallis as a juvenile, took the Group 3 Coral Charge as a 3yo, and most recently finished a close second in the Group 3 Prix de Serie-et-Oise at Maisons-Laffitte last year. Also Asphan Sam the tough and consistent handicapper. He has produced 40% winners to runners on the flat. Andrew has done well with the offspring of Firebreak, with the winners Daylight, Geordan Murphy and Hannington all having been trained at Park House.

Dream Eater

Dream Eater is the newest kid on the block as far as Kingsclere stallions go. By Night Shift out of the Simon Du Desert mare Kapria, Dream Eater was bought by Jeff Smith as a foal for 40,000 guineas. He went on to be placed in 21 of his 34 starts, including 10 Group races. The winner of the Listed City of York Stakes over 7 furlongs, he was third in the Queen Anne at Royal Ascot ahead of Rip Van Winkle and several other classy performers and beaten only three-quarters of a length by Paco Boy in the Sandown Mile.

Standing at Vauterhill Stud in Devon for a fee of just £800, Dream Eater's first crop are now two year olds and we look forward to tracking their progress on the racecourse next year and beyond.



DREAM EATER winning the sales race at Doncaster's St Leger meeting as a 2yo

A DAY IN THE LIFE – HENRY THE LABRADOR

Henry has been part of the family at Park House for 5 years now. He is also very much part of life on the yard, so we thought he would be an ideal candidate for a 'Day In The Life' piece. Here, he explains what his average day holds.

My day starts at about 7:15am, when Andrew picks me up from my dog room and we head out for first lot.

If Andrew is not paying attention (he's usually on his phone) then I dive down the alleyway by the hostel and have a quick nosey round the hostel bins. Wednesday is bin day so Tuesday is the best time for this, and with a bit of a nudge I can often knock some rubbish to the ground and seek out any scraps.

Whilst Andrew watches first lot in the indoor ride I slope off and see if there are any empty stables in the Selkirk yard – these can be a good place for a spot of breakfast. If I'm lucky I'll find the clods which the lads have picked out from the horses' feet – shredded paper, droppings and hay, all squashed into a delicious biscuit. Yum!



The Three Trainers: Henry, Andrew & Chris

Once the horses have finished trotting it's time for me to accompany Andrew and Chris out onto the gallops. Although this happens every morning I still find it wildly exciting, so I bounce round in circles barking like a lunatic. Once we are out on the gallops I will try and find a good stick to chew whilst we watch the horses cantering or, even better, something nice and smelly to roll in.

After first lot it's back to the house and time to loiter in the kitchen whilst the children have their breakfast, in case they happen to spill any Rice Krispies. For second and third lot we often have owners in to see their horses. Owners are excellent targets for a bit of begging, although Anna Lisa gets cross if I drool on their shoes.

During the middle of the day I hang out in the house, helping Lindy in the office and barking at the postman and any other visitors (security is one of my key responsibilities). If Andrew is not racing then we will go for a long walk in the afternoon and work through the plans for upcoming runners. Lots of people say that Andrew is good at placing his horses - he isn't bad at it, but sometimes I have to exert



Enjoying a moment with Taffy

a bit of influence, giving him a quizzical look when he comes up with one of his more outlandish ideas.

After our walk the kids will be back from school, so I might help Flora do some drawing or join the boys for a spot of football. Sometimes they leave the garden gate open so I can nip out for a quick sweep of the bins or pay a visit to my friends Mack and Boris

over at Wroughton House. I also check up on the girls in the office in the hope that they might share a biscuit with me. Lindy and Georgina are tough nuts to crack but Tess is putty in my paws so I am always alert to the sound of the kettle going on in the back kitchen.

Early evening is dinner time, my very best part of the day. I hold the Guinness World Record for speed-eating, but am always keen to achieve a new personal best. Then, after a bit of TV or some games with the children, it's time to get an early night so I'm fresh for the following day.

For the last year or so I have been the only dog at Park House, after my dear friend Tonto passed away. Life could be a bit lonely at times, and so I was very excited when, about a fortnight ago, a new dog moved in! She is called Georgia, and looks like a smaller version of Tonto. I fear she is rather more like Boris. She may be only 10 weeks old and very small, but she is not afraid of anything and she is also extremely bossy. She has already taken over my bed, forcing me to sleep in her puppy cage, which is not really built for big Labradors. I am beginning to wonder whether a solitary life was such a bad thing after all... ■



Henry with new 'friend' Georgia

Kingsclere Racing Club



KRC members on the gallops in October

The Kingsclere Racing Club's eighth year is now drawing to a close and, though we have unsurprisingly been unable to match the exploits of 2014, it has been another tremendously enjoyable year's racing, during which we have had eight winners and a record number of runners.

Passover missed the whole of that record-breaking KRC campaign, but he returned from 18 months off an improved performer this summer and went on to win four times this year, by an aggregate of 26.5 lengths! The last of those wins, another wide-margin success in a competitive Class 2 handicap at Newbury, ensured his mark had risen by 40lbs over the course of just over three months.

Every horse currently in the Club was bred on the Kingsclere Stud and, for the first time this year, we were able to cheer home two winners out of a former KRC racemare, Victoria Montoya, with her first and second foals, Cape Victoria and Victoria Pollard, both successful.

Intransigent has been a flagbearer for the Club in recent years and ran a fine race to finish fourth in the Sprint Final on AW Championships day. Though not successful so far this season, he has run several good races among his 12 outings so far in 2015 and will aim for the AW Championships again.

Rawaki, who has been a stalwart of the Club for several seasons, has been retired this autumn, but we have a very strong team of young horses, including Brorocco, a half-brother to Elm Park who has shown plenty of ability in three starts, and Paris Bound, an unraced half-brother



VICTORIA POLLARD leading CAPE VICTORIA on the Side Glance gallop

to Rawaki and Side Glance. The Club's six two year olds for 2016 include a full brother to Side Glance, a Passing Glance half-sister to Elm Park and the first foal of Hidden Valley, a winning half-sister to Victoria Montoya and the 14th and final progeny of Spurred.

We have passed through the £100,000 prize-money barrier for the third time since the Club's inception and it has been an equally successful year off the racecourse. We were once again blessed with wonderful weather for the majority of our gallops mornings, and the season's social events were rounded off with a very entertaining End of Season party in the Colour Room at Park House in November.

If you would like further information on the Kingsclere Racing Club, please contact Club Manager Nathaniel Barnett on 07890 672435 or by email, krc@kingsclere.com.

KINGSCLERE'S STAFF

As ever, Kingsclere's staff have put in sterling work this year, particularly during the busiest months of the season when merely getting all the horses to the races can be a logistical nightmare, let alone ensuring that they are all fit and ready to run!

The team do an excellent job in turning their horses out for the races, and we were delighted to receive this year's Buster Haslam Award from Newbury Racecourse for the most Best Turned Out prizes during the flat season yet again!

With the close of the flat season comes the task of clearing, steam cleaning and painting all the stables ready for the year ahead, and particular thanks must

go to Taffy and Kevin for their fantastic work in this department.

Now that many of the yearlings are in and beginning their education, the challenges for our riders are at their steepest, but we hope that the newly instituted 'pub fund', financed by those who fall off over the winter, will do wonders to improve their stickability!

We said a fond farewell to Rachel Davies, our pupil assistant, in September, when she returned to Oxford Brookes University to complete her degree. Her place has been taken by Oli Rix, who has made an excellent start to his time at Park House and is already a highly valued member of the team.■



Kevin cleaning one of the barns



Winning Quiz Team



Dwayne receiving the Buster Haslam Award on behalf of the Park House team



SPILLERS AWARDS



The latest recipients of Kingsclere's 'Employee of the Month' awards, generously sponsored by Spillers, are as follows:

Patrick Grant, for his excellent work in looking after the talented juveniles Sunflower and Ormito.

Daniel Wright, for the huge improvement in his riding – soon to be exhibited on a racecourse!

Michael (Taffy) Cheshire, for his hard work in cleaning the yards and barns this autumn.

Well done to all our winners, who receive £100 and a bottle of champagne, and many thanks to Spillers for continuing to support this initiative.



Patrick Grant



Daniel Wright



Michael (Taffy) Cheshire

DREAMSPEED: SKIJORING CHAMPION

If further proof of the versatility of racehorses was needed, it was provided this year with the happy news that former Park House resident Dreamspeed has been crowned Skijoring Champion of 2015 in Switzerland.

Owned by Barbara Keller (who also owns Kingsclere's Blond Me), trained by Christian von der Recke and partnered by Franco Moro, Dreamspeed has excelled in this unique sport, which involves horses racing on a frozen lake whilst towing their 'riders' behind them on skis.

Whilst at Park House, Dreamspeed was owned by Jeff Smith. He won his maiden on his debut as a two year old, and ended his first season with a fifth placing in the Group 2 Royal Lodge Stakes. He won the Epsom Derby Trial on his reappearance at three, before placing in the Listed Godolphin Stakes and Group 3 St Simon Stakes. Dreamspeed missed his four year old season through injury, but returned as a five year old, when his best result was a fourth place in the Old Newton Cup at



Dreamspeed (right) competing in St Moritz

Haydock before he was bought by Mr von der Recke at the Tattersalls October sales.

Dreamspeed was always a favourite at Park House and we are delighted that he has found such success in his new home. And who knows, if we get a very cold winter, maybe we should give skijoring a try here in Kingsclere! ■

PARK HOUSE STABLES GOLF DAY...

We were blessed with good weather once again for the annual Park House Golf Day, where 52 players tackled our local course at Sandford Springs. A great time was had by all, save perhaps IAB, who had to suffer the indignity of not only failing to win, but being beaten by his wife! In a close-run contest the winning team were Emma, Gordon Ireland, Peter Box and Roger Hetherington, whilst the prizes for the longest drive and nearest the pin went to Giles Wates.

The date of next year's Golf Day is still to be finalised but is likely to be in September – further details will follow in the next magazine. ■



Park House Golf Day Virgins who came away with the wooden spoon

