

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



WINTER MAGAZINE 2018



The marvellous INTRANSIGENT wins at Chester at the grand age of nine, one of seven winners on the day for Park House

Front cover: The wonderful HORSEPLAY retired to stud at the end of this season

Back cover: Our magnificent seven: the horses who completed an across-the-cards seven timer for us in September this year

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INTRODUCTION AMB

2018 has been a memorable year for Park House on many levels and recording a record number of winners for the yard in a calendar year is testament to the hard work and professionalism of the excellent team at Kingsclere. Whilst it is impossible to achieve these results without capable horses and patient owners, it is equally important that horse care and exercise riding are of a standard to ensure that each horse can fulfill their individual potential. Recruiting and developing staff is an ever-demanding challenge and the team we now have in place is one that any trainer would be rightly proud to have assembled. It gives me huge optimism for the future that we have many of the required pieces in place to take the yard to yet another level in 2019. Our planned investment in stabling at Park House is set to continue as work on the second phase of our development is due to be completed in the New Year. The gallop refurbishment carried out last winter has certainly played an important role in this year's success.

Amongst the highlights on the racecourse this year were seven individual Group winners in England, contributing to the total of 125 winners and over £2.8 million won in prize money. Whilst there were no Group winners amongst the two-year-old intake, there were many performances to suggest that this generation is as strong as we have had at Kingsclere for many years. It was also a fantastic year for Kingsclere-grown jockeys, with the obvious highlights being William Buick's Derby victory aboard Masar, Oisín Murphy's eight Group 1 victories and Jason Watson's Champion Apprentice title.

Amongst all the highlights of an amazing racing year was a shocking low. On the evening of 27th October, we received the terrible news that the Chairman of King Power, Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha and four others had been killed in a helicopter crash outside the Leicester City Football Stadium.

A tragedy such as this puts into perspective the relative irrelevance of a horse race and the Chairman's loss will have a profound effect on so many people who had been lucky enough to have known him. His many achievements have been well documented in the press and his vision and ambition had made him successful in many walks of life. As a keen polo player and horseman he had recently turned his attentions to racing and having founded King Power Racing in 2016 he was developing a string of racehorses capable of competing at the highest level across the world.

Whilst we have lost a person who was so admired and respected, we have also lost a friend whose generosity and sense of humour made him a pleasure to both work for and spend time with.

The Chairman's legacy will live on and the memory of this fantastic man will also remain with all who were lucky enough to have known him for many years to come. ■



Park House owner Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha will be greatly missed

SEASON REVIEW

by Tessa Hetherington

OLDER HORSES

As ever at this time of year we say farewell to some stable stars as they retire from racing, and top of this year's list is the Freedmans' wonderful mare **Horseplay**. Sent to Park House as a yearling, she finished fourth on her debut at Ascot in July of her two year old season, David Probert commenting afterwards "I think she'll be pretty good". So it proved, as she ran away with her maiden by thirteen lengths on her next start before winning the Listed Pretty Polly Stakes at Newmarket on her reappearance at three. Solid performances saw her then finish fourth in the Oaks (to Enable) and in the Prix de Malleret, but it was in 2018, as a four year old, that she really flourished. Having started her season with a second in a strong renewal of the Group 2 Middleton Stakes at York, she gained a very deserved Group success when taking the Group 2 Lancashire Oaks at Haydock under David Probert, beating subsequent Group 1 winner God Given. She was then fourth to Sea Of Class in the Group 1 Yorkshire Oaks before going down by a neck to old rival God Given in the Group 2 Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster, carrying a penalty for her Haydock win. She failed to shine in her last run in the Group 1 Prix Royal Oak, which came at the end of a busy season, but she has retired to the stud paddocks with an excellent race record and, as a daughter of Cape Cross from a lovely family and blessed with a marvellous temperament, she should prove a highly successful broodmare.

Thankfully for us stud duties are not on the agenda for **Beat The Bank**, King Power Racing's talented son of Paco

Boy having been gelded before his racing career began! He has had another solid season, winning the Group 2 Summer Mile at Ascot in July and the Group 2 Celebration Mile at Goodwood in August. The ground was too soft for him in the Group 1 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes on British Champions Day but, having been desperately unlucky in the Group 1 Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot, he is surely capable of Group 1 success when things fall his way. He was out of the placings in the Hong Kong Mile this month but will now have a break and may be tried over a longer trip next year. It is a source of great sadness that his late owner Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha will not witness any of Beat The Bank's future achievements, particularly as he was especially fond of the horse that put him on the map as a racehorse owner.

Donjuan Triumphant was Vichai's first horse in training at Park House and he too has been a star, winning the Ayr Gold Cup last year and this year performing with great credit in a season where the weather was against him for most of the summer. He was runner-up in the Listed King Richard III Stakes at Leicester in April and then spent three months on the side-lines waiting for rain. He ran a blinder to be a very close fourth in the Group 2 Lennox Stakes at Goodwood on good ground, before finding a firmer surface too tough at York. When the rain finally came at the end of the summer he showed his true colours with terrific performances to be fourth in the Group 1 Sprint Cup at Haydock and third in the Group 1 British Champions Sprint at Ascot. His victory in the Listed Wentworth Stakes at Doncaster on the last day



DANCING STAR's victory in the Group 3 Sceptre Stakes at Doncaster was our 100th winner of the season

of the turf season was not only deserved but also very poignant, coming just a fortnight after his owner's tragic death. A firm favourite of everyone in the yard (we even named a puppy after him), 'Donald Trump' will stay in training next year before seeking a role at stud.

We retain another high-class sprinter next year in the shape of Jeff Smith's **Dancing Star** who, much like her ancestors Lochsong and Lochangel, has continued to improve with age. She has had an excellent season as a five year old, placing in the Listed Cathedral Stakes at Salisbury and the Group 3 Summer Stakes at York before being desperately unlucky in the Group 3 Oak Tree Stakes at Goodwood on her first attempt at seven furlongs. Thankfully she did not have to wait long for recompense, gaining a first and fitting Group victory in the Group 3 Sceptre Stakes at Doncaster.

This was our hundredth winner of the season and the first of a truly magical day when we had seven winners across four meetings. Dancing Star had a tough time in her final start in the Group 2 Challenge Stakes at Newmarket, back against the boys and attempting to make the running into a strong headwind, but now that we know she handles seven furlongs just as well as six she has a wider range of potential targets for next year and we look forward to her return from her holiday at Littleton Stud.

Here Comes When is another who will stay in training next year. He will turn nine in January, but he retains all the enthusiasm of a two year old. Too keen on his reappearance at Sandown in April, his season was stymied by the summer's prolonged heatwave but when he finally encountered heavy ground at Haydock in September he showed that he retains all his ability, winning the Group 3 Unibet Mile in emphatic style under Oisin Murphy. The ground had dried out by the time he had completed the long journey to San Siro for the Group 2 Premio Vittorio du Capua in October and, as a wise old man, he looked after himself in the race. He is currently enjoying his holiday job as nanny to two juvenile fillies in a paddock, but he will return to training soon to prepare to capitalise on the softer turf at the start of the season.

Whenny will not be the oldest horse in training at Park House next year as Kingsclere Racing Club's **Intransigent** is also reluctant to hang up his boots. He will be ten next year but continues to be a match for most on the gallops and, having been dropped in the handicap after a couple of below par runs in the first part of the year, placed at



HERE COMES WHEN relishes the mud to win the Group 3 Unibet Mile at Haydock

Chester in July and Kempton in August before winning at Chester in September as part of the 'magnificent seven'. He went close again on the Roodee later the same month and will stay on the go over the winter, ideally running at Kempton which is his second favourite track after Chester!

The marvellous sight of Here Comes When, Intransigent and Absolutely So working together round the far hedge in the Spring is one that could have been witnessed in any one of the last six years but sadly will not be repeated next year as **Absolutely So** has been retired from racing. Limited to just four runs this year due to the unsuitably firm ground, he recorded an emotional win on the last race of his career when taking a Class 2 Handicap at Sandown under Josh Bryan as part of our seven-timer, upgrading a great day into a fairy-

tale one. The winner of seven of his twenty nine career starts and almost £225,000 in prize-money, he has been an absolute pleasure to have on the yard for the past seven years and we wish him a very happy retirement. A good-looking horse with a great temperament, a career in showing may be on his agenda.

Duretto is another who will not be gracing the Kingsclere gallops next year, having been sold to race on in Australia. He showed excellent form throughout the season, placing in the Listed Grand Cup at York and the Group 2 Princess Of Wales Stakes at Newmarket before winning the Listed Chester Stakes and travelled to Australia looking to give Park House a real chance in the major Cup races of their Spring Carnival. Having taken his travelling well he ran a blinder in the Group 1 Caulfield Cup, finishing with a late flourish to be fourth in a race not run to suit. He went into a number of notebooks for the Melbourne



ABSOLUTELY SO records an emotional win at Sandown on his final career start

Cup after that performance but ultimately it was not to be, as he picked up an injury which ruled him out of the big race at a frustratingly late stage. The disappointment was compounded when Marmelo, to whom Duretto had finished a length third at York when giving 3lb, finished second in the Cup, suggesting that our horse might well have gone close. Thankfully Duretto should make a full recovery and we wish him the best of luck in his continued racing career down under.

The Melbourne Cup had long been in mind for Qatar Racing's **Count Octave** and, following a very brave performance to be runner up in the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Royal Ascot, he further advertised his Cup credentials when running a career best in the Group 2 Lonsdale Cup, beaten just one and a half lengths by the mighty Stradivarius who has proven unbeatable at staying trips this year. Sold in part and moved to the care of Chris Waller before travelling to Australia, Count Octave was another whose Cup bid was sadly thwarted by injury. A gorgeous horse with heaps of ability, we wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to following his career in Oz.

Returning next season as part of our staying squad will be the ultra-tough **Cleonte** who found his true form this year, registering a number of solid performances before winning the Shergar Cup Stayers and running a terrific race on unsuitably firm ground to be third in the Cesarewitch. The handicapper has not missed him and he has now been raised to a lofty mark of 101, but that will at least ensure his place in the top staying handicaps next year, including the Ebor which has had its prize fund increased to an eye-watering £1 million for 2019..... **Montaly** ran a decent race in this year's Ebor from a tricky position and, following an inevitably tough season after his 2017 Chester Cup and Lonsdale Cup victories, has now dropped to a workable mark off which to join Cleonte in the big staying handicaps next year.

Morando has not contested a handicap since 2016 and won't be doing so any time soon after sharing the spoils in the Group 3 Royal British Legion Stakes at Newbury, just getting up under Rob Hornby to dead heat with Young Rascal. Having advertised his ability at the start of the season when running Crystal Ocean close in the Group 3 Gordon Richards Stakes at Sandown, Morando was denied his preferred give in the ground until September, when he was runner-up to Dolphin Vista in the Listed Doonside Cup, the pair well clear of the rest of the field. The step up from ten to twelve furlongs at

Newbury proved successful and also significantly increases his options for next year. Having enjoyed a good holiday in the paddocks, Morando is already back in ridden work with a view to capitalising on any softer ground at the start of the turf season.

Genetics is another middle-distance performer who has flourished this year. By Manduro and out of a French bred mare by Poliglote, one would not have pegged him as a horse likely to appreciate firm surfaces but he handled this summer's conditions with ease, winning twice at Brighton over twelve furlongs before running away with the Shergar Cup Challenge over the same trip, having only secured his place in the race some hours before the off. All the indications were that he might benefit from a step up in trip, but he failed to stay the extended two miles at York. Returned to twelve furlongs, he ran with credit on softer ground in a hot Class 2 Handicap at Newbury in September and has since enjoyed a well-earned holiday in the paddocks.

Kingsclere Racing Club's **Brorocco** elevated himself from classy handicapper to genuine Group horse this season. Having placed in Class 2 Handicaps at Epsom and twice at Newmarket he ran well to be fifth in the John Smith's Cup before taking the plunge into Pattern company. He defied the weights and his odds to be beaten only a neck in the Group 2 York Stakes in July and, whilst some commentators may have initially crabbed that form, it has since been franked by the winner Thundering Blue who went on to be third in the Group 1 Juddmonte International and second in the Group 1 Canadian International. Brorocco also did his bit for the form when runner-up again at Group level, this time in the Group 3 Rose Of Lancaster Stakes at



MORANDO shares the spoils in the Group 3 Royal British Legion Stakes at Newbury in October

Haydock, despite a slow start. He picked up a knock after that race which kept him off the track for the rest of the turf season but is back cantering and may well have a tilt at the Winter Derby at Lingfield before returning there for the All-Weather Championships.

Poet's Vanity was a Group 3 winner as a juvenile and ran with credit at three but her form had become rather patchy. She suggested she was coming back to herself when second in a Class 2 Conditions race at Haydock in July and then won a Class 2 Handicap at Salisbury in September, fending off decent opposition in good style. Although still lightly raced she failed to shine in her last start of the season and connections sensibly decided to call it a day. A well-bred daughter of the late Poet's Voice, she has the size and depth to make up into a lovely broodmare. The same is true of **Make Music**, who won twice this year taking her career tally to six wins, the last at Class 2 level. Already in foal to Passing Glance when she retired in July, she is currently looking very fat and happy in the paddocks of Kingsclere Stud! Our international star **Elbereth** was another to retire during the season, having added to our prize-money total with creditable efforts at Lingfield and in Doha early in the year. She is in foal to Australia, whilst **Lady Perignon**, a winner at Lingfield in January, is in foal to Havana Gold.

Joining Make Music at Kingsclere Stud will be the Kingsclere Racing Club fillies Highland Pass and St Mary's. **Highland Pass** was admirably consistent throughout the season, winning at Salisbury and Newmarket and placing in all six of her other starts here, before travelling to Rome in a bid for some black type. She ran well in her Listed race at Capannelle on ground which would not have been her optimum, finishing fifth. This garnered no black type but thankfully her half-brothers Elm Park and Brorocco have already done plenty for her pedigree page and she has definitely earned a long and happy career at stud. **St Mary's** joined Highland Pass on her Italian jaunt, having continued to run well all year over staying trips. She succeeded in her quest for black type, finishing third in the Listed Premio Roma Vecchia over fourteen furlongs. A daughter of good young sire Siyouni and from the family of Passing Glance and Hidden Meadow, she too should enjoy success as a broodmare.

Making up the Italian trio was **Belle Meade** who, having won well at Sandown in August and come close at Epsom in September, travelled to Milan to contest the Listed Premio Chiusura over seven furlongs at San Siro. In a perhaps typically Italian fashion, San Siro has several winning posts, with a different one used for each race depending on its length. This was not clear to Belle Meade's owners, who unwittingly managed to position themselves beside a post some way ahead of the actual finish of the



BELLE MEADE was a winner at Sandown and San Siro this year

race. They attracted some odd looks when they began to celebrate wildly as their filly led past what was in fact the two-furlong pole.... Thankfully jockey Rob Hornby had done his homework and the pair were still in front at the true finishing line! This Listed success adds to a Group 3 placing as a juvenile with Richard Fahey and should see her in good stead as a broodmare, but she has not done racing yet. We will try her on the All Weather next as she remains in excellent form at home, largely thanks to the efforts of her regular rider Kayleigh Stephens who even comes in on her days off to ride her!

Fellow sprinter **Straight Right** won very impressively at Newcastle in February but then required surgery to remove a chip from one of his knees. He returned from 220 days off the track at Chelmsford in September and was right back to his best, taking a Class 2 Conditions event in good style under Oisin Murphy. His optimum trip is seven furlongs but he looked to stay a mile when contesting the Listed Hyde Stakes at Kempton on his latest start, his fifth place finishing position more a reflection of trouble in running than any lack of stamina. He will be aimed at the mile race in the All Weather Championships on Good Friday and is one to follow over the winter.

Isomer will also be on the go over the winter, having shown an aptitude for the All-Weather with a win at Chelmsford in June and a close second at Kempton in October. He also put in good turf performances when third in a big Class 2 Handicap at Newmarket's Craven meeting in April and when taking a Class 3 Conditions event at Ascot in September. He needs things to go his way but when they do he is very classy and, moving and working well at home, he should have a good year. Fellow miler **Zwayyan** also had a solid season, showing promise in his first four runs of the year before getting his head in front in a Class 2 Handicap at Chelmsford under a well-timed ride from Jason Watson. Runner-up at Ascot in September, he finished mid-division in the Cambridgeshire at Newmarket and was short of room in the Balmoral back at Ascot on British Champions Day, but there is a big turf handicap in

him and he will be a fun horse next year. **South Seas** is another who is more than capable of winning a big turf handicap but, having been a magnet for trouble in running on his first four starts of the season, he was slow away in the Group 3 Sovereign Stakes at Salisbury before finishing runner-up to a featherweight at Goodwood. Mid division in the Balmoral, he was sold at the Tattersalls Autumn Horses In Training Sale and will race for Philip Kirby next term.

Twin Star is another who sold in the Autumn having finished runner-up to Genetics in the Shergar Cup Stayers before winning at Chester in September, his first attempt beyond twelve furlongs and on soft ground. These factors made him appealing to the National Hunt market and it is in that sphere he is likely to be seen next, having been bought by Noel Williams. The multi-talented **Night Of Glory**, a winner over hurdles in February but also a decent stayer on the Flat and Jonno Balding's regular gallops conveyance, will also be seen over obstacles next, having been bought by Iain Jardine at Tattersalls. Having run a career best at York in May, Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds' **Contango** had a frustrating season, not helped by the consistently firm ground through the Summer, and seemed to have lost his confidence when returned to softer surfaces in the Autumn. He too was sold and hopefully a change of scenery will rejuvenate him. **Berkshire Boy** was sold earlier in the Summer having won at Chepstow in June under Jason Watson. Possessing plenty of talent, he is now running in Dubai – but that change of scenery doesn't appear to have yet totally ironed out his well-advertised quirks!

Hairdryer won with ease at Lingfield in July but the issues which had limited him to two starts this year have now prompted his retirement. A gorgeous horse and a great ride, he should make a lovely riding horse. Having missed all of 2017, **Scotland** ran with great credit to be fifth in the Group 1 Ascot Gold Cup and third in the Group 3 John Smith's Silver Cup at York. An experiment with front-running did not work out at Goodwood and, having had a difficult trip in the Ebor, he moved to Jonjo O'Neill's yard to pursue a National Hunt career. In a very sad postscript, we were devastated to hear that he had lost his life in a schooling accident. He is much missed by many here, and particularly by his groom Cliona and regular rider Maddy.

THREE YEAR OLDS

Our most progressive three year old was undoubtedly the lovely **Maid Up**. In May she was beaten in a Class 5 Handicap at Chepstow off a mark of 67, and by September

she was contesting the Group 1 St Leger. Having won three handicaps by the time of the Goodwood Festival she proved she was Pattern class with a very narrow defeat in the Group 2 Lillie Langtry. She soon added a Group win to her resume, returning to Goodwood three weeks later and taking the Group 3 March Stakes from a small but competitive field. Her owner-breeders Brightwalton Stud took the brave and sporting move to supplement her for the last Classic of the season and she duly ran her race, but found the assignment a little too tough at this stage of her career. Wonderfully straightforward, she is a hugely exciting prospect for next year.

At the other end of the trip spectrum, Jeff Smith's **Foxtrot Lady** also followed a sharp upward curve this season, winning three sprint handicaps before running well in the Stewards' Cup. She added to her juvenile black type with a second place in the Listed Flying Fillies' Stakes at Pontefract, a race she would almost certainly have won with a better draw, before recording a facile win in a Conditions event at Salisbury to complete our seven-winner wonder-day in September. She returns to us next year and a Pattern win should be well within her considerable capabilities.



DREAM CATCHING has been a star for connections this year

The same is true of Sheikh Juma's **Crossing The Line**, who built on her good juvenile form with a very solid season. Never out of the first two this year, she won a Novice at Lingfield and was awarded a Class 2 Handicap by the Chester stewards before scoring an impressive victory under Oisín Murphy in the big Fillies' Handicap over seven furlongs at York's Ebor meeting. The second in that race has since been Listed placed and Crossing The Line will have Stakes races on her agenda next year. Following an early holiday, she picked up where she left off in winning a Class 2 Handicap at Chelmsford this month and may target the Fillies and Mares' race at the All Weather Championships on Good Friday.

Next year's sprint division will be without **Rebel Streak**, who sold well at Tattersalls in the Autumn after an excellent season which saw him register three victories, the last in a strong Class 2 Handicap at Newmarket, before defying the weights to be third in the Group 3 Dubai World Trophy at Newbury, relishing the softer surface. We will also be without the very talented **Urban Aspect**, whose victories at Chester, Nottingham and in a big Class 2 Handicap at York caught the eye of many. He was the subject of an irresistible offer from Hong Kong and will continue his career there, with the Hong Kong Derby his likely main aim.

Berkshire Royal is another who will race abroad next year, although rather closer to home as he was bought for Willie Mullins at Tattersalls in October. A much stronger horse this year, he was never out of the first four until his final run (which came at the end of a very busy season), recording three wins and some very impressive form – perhaps most notably when two lengths second to subsequent Melbourne Cup winner Cross Counter at Ascot! His owner Paul Spickett will still have an older horse in training next year, however, as he has retained the highly promising **Berkshire Blue** who won his Novice by eleven lengths before taking the Shergar Cup Classic at Ascot in August. He ran very well to be fifth in the Melrose Handicap at York just a fortnight later, the form of that race looking typically strong. Lightly raced and still learning his craft, he should have plenty more to offer next year.

We are also delighted that owner Michael Payton has opted to retain **Dream Catching** in training next year. A happy little horse who is very straightforward, "Diggles" is a bit of a hero in the yard and, having been knocking at the door early in the season, he received a huge cheer in the hostel when he finally got his head in front at Brighton under Jason Watson. The pair followed up two starts later at Kempton off a mark of 75 and he ran well again there on his latest start despite another rise in the weights. Having just finished a good holiday in the paddocks, Dream Catching should continue to be a fun horse next season. Equally popular is pocket rocket **Danzan**, who was a very smart two year old and continued in the same vein at three, running the classy Corinthia Knight close in a Kempton conditions event in January before picking up two Chelmsford Novices in quick succession. Those efforts took their toll and he needed a decent break in the first part of the year before a setback in the summer delayed his return to the track. His work this autumn has been better than ever, however, and he ran well in challenging conditions at Newmarket on reappearance before showing great heart to be third in a competitive Class 2 Handicap at Kempton off a mark of 100, having attempted to make all. As tough as he is talented, he is an exciting horse for the All Weather this winter and beyond.

King Power Racing's **Stone Of Destiny** is another gifted sprinter, as he showed with an eye-catching fourth in the Group 1 Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot. He was slow out in the Listed City Walls Stakes at York and the drop to five furlongs did not suit at Goodwood. By Acclamation and out of a Danehill Dancer mare, he is likely to be better with cut in the ground and, having failed to shine in the Listed Hopeful Stakes at Newmarket in August, he was gelded and given an early holiday. Back cantering, the Sprint at the All Weather Championships may be on his early-season



LISSEITZKY wins impressively at Windsor under Oisin Murphy

to-do list. In the same ownership, **Whitefountainfairy** was Group 3 placed last year behind subsequent 1,000 Guineas winner Billesdon Brook and won at Lingfield on reappearance before failing to stay the mile in the Group 1 Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot. A little fragile, she requires careful handling but is well up to winning at a high level and, having been unlucky at Goodwood on her latest start, is now very well handicapped.

Perfect Illusion got off to a flying start in 2018, winning over twelve furlongs on debut at Lingfield in January and following up there under a penalty the following month. He struggled with the step up to Pattern company but ran well over fourteen furlongs at Haydock in July. He has a tendency to be keen and was gelded in the hope that this might help him settle, but after he was again headstrong at Kempton in October we decided to give him a decent break for a mental 're-boot'. He will come back into training in the New Year to prepare for the start of the turf season and should be a force to be reckoned with in staying handicaps if he has matured sufficiently to relax in his races. Joining him in those races will be **Diocletian**, who fulfilled early promise when winning a valuable Class 2 Handicap over the extended fourteen furlongs at Haydock from out of the handicap. Side-lined with an injury after that, he is back in full work and looking great, and is likely to return to the track at the end of this month en route to the Marathon

at the All-Weather Championships. **Flintrock** is another stayer who is back on the move after a setback and remains very unexposed. Winner of a Bath novice on firm ground having placed in a hot maiden at Salisbury on heavy, his form looks solid and he should add further wins to the tally of his late sire Sinndar next season. **Natural History** also has some good form in the book, despite having to wait for decent ground for much of the summer. He won a Chepstow handicap by eight lengths in August before finishing second to the very progressive Mekong in a Class 2 Handicap at Haydock over fourteen furlongs, well clear of the third and fourth who have both won since. Gelded over his winter break, he is now rated 91 and should represent his owner H.M. The Queen at some of the bigger meetings next year.

Nigel Morris' **Lissitzky**, a son of Declaration Of War, is the most gorgeous horse but clearly believes that home is not a place for much exertion. His win in a Windsor novice on his second start was therefore something of a surprise to us, but he showed that it was no fluke when finishing runner up in a better race at Kempton under a penalty on his next outing, despite a slow start. He was again slow out at Chelmsford on his latest start and did not enjoy that track's idiosyncrasies, but has since been gelded and is a lovely prospect for next year. **Shailene** had a good start to the year, winning on debut and placing in the Cheshire Oaks before finishing second in a very competitive novice at Chelmsford and following up there soon afterwards. She secured black type in the Listed Glasgow Stakes at Hamilton and went to York for the Listed Galtres Stakes in great form but unfortunately got kicked by another horse when in the stalls and had to be withdrawn. She was then keen and out of sorts in the Listed Stand Cup at Chester, so we called it a day for the season after that run and she has had a long holiday. She looks tremendous for her break and will resume her quest for winning black type in 2019.

Mick and Janice Mariscotti's **King Lud** ran with credit all season, campaigned at Class 2 and 3 level and placing in eight of his nine runs. We somehow managed not to win with him but, as a very attractive horse with a versatile profile, he sold well at Tattersalls in the Autumn. Another to sell well was **Soldier To Follow**, who had smart juvenile form but whose three year old campaign was largely frustrated by the lack of give in the ground. When he finally got a softer surface he showed his true ability, winning over twelve furlongs at Hamilton under Graham Lee before running well over fourteen furlongs at Redcar. He is likely to be seen over obstacles next. **Kabrit** is a lovely horse and was very consistent throughout the summer but tested the patience of many of his fans here on the yard as his racecourse performances failed to live up to the good ability he had shown in his homework. By Mastercraftsman

and out of a Danehill Dancer mare, he is not bred for the conditions we had this summer and, switched to the more forgiving surface of Southwell's fibresand, he duly won over twelve furlongs in a canter, finally rewarding those who had kept the faith! Since sold to go jumping, he should excel in that sphere.

Aiya won at Southwell in January and at Lingfield in February but missed the latter part of the year when picking up a knock at Newmarket in June. Also back from injury and in full work is the mighty **Seasearch**, whose twenty three length victory at Southwell in March remained unsurpassed as our longest winning distance of the year. By Passing Glance, whose progeny tend to improve with age, he remains on a feasible handicap mark and should be out early in the New Year for Kingsclere Racing Club. Fellow stayer **Duration** won well at Newcastle in August under David Probert before running well off a higher mark at Kempton and Bath. A relentless galloper with more stamina than speed, he has been sold to go jumping.

Bacacarat was one of two Park House horses to dead heat in a race this year, sharing the spoils at Newmarket after a late surge under Jason Watson. This was a deserved victory after four good runs in defeat, but he was unable to follow up at Chester on his final start, running rather flat. Since gelded and given a good break in the paddocks, he is still well handicapped and should be back in the winners' enclosure in the early part of 2019. **Chai Chai** also had a pretty solid season, winning by four lengths at Chester under Joshua Bryan in July and being one of several hard luck stories for us at Goodwood. Chasemore Farm's **Papa Stour** has been less consistent, which is frustrating as he is a horse of significant ability. He won well at Wolverhampton in January and placed at Southwell, Newmarket and Chelmsford, but he is a horse with plenty more to offer if we can get him right.

A smart two year old, **Macaque** made a promising start to his season but then became rather keen in his races



MACAQUE won well at Goodwood in October

which blew his chances on several occasions. Thankfully he matured mentally during the summer and, having learnt to settle better, he won well on soft ground at Goodwood in October under Oisin Murphy. He was then sold at Tattersalls, as was **Face Like Thunder**, who recorded an easy victory at Thirsk in August under Jason Watson before running well in defeat at Ffos Las and Newbury. It was frustrating that we did not manage to win with **Zatorius** before he too sold in the Autumn, but he was another to whom the weather did no favours throughout the summer and then, when the rain finally came, he was denied a run at Windsor due to a waterlogged track! Castle Down Racing's **Dawn Dancer** placed in his first six starts of the year before winning well at Doncaster under William Buick in June. He went close at Sandown on his next start but was disappointing in his last two races of the year, possibly feeling the effects of a busy season. He was sold at Tattersalls and will continue his racing abroad.

Lord Vetinari recorded wins at Goodwood and Chester in the summer, both under Joshua Bryan, before selling in the Autumn alongside **Lopito**, who placed on five of his six starts and will now go jumping in Ireland. **Unbridled Spirit** showed flashes of promise at home and on the racecourse but ended the season as a maiden and he too has been sold. **Dixieland Diva** sold at Tattersalls' December Mare sale, having won at Wolverhampton in the Summer, and **Exeat** and **Sweet Lady Rose** also moved to pastures new through that sale, the former having placed on five of her seven starts this year and the latter having shown promise when second at Chepstow on reappearance but having been rather disappointing since. The lovely **Pilgrim Soul** was placed on all six of her appearances for us this year before topping the Ascot August Sale when selling to Kerry Lee as a future hurdler. **Oenophile** has also moved to the National Hunt sphere having sold at Tattersalls in July. **Rux Ruxx** was a consistent performer this year, winning at Lingfield in July and placing on four other occasions. She too has now moved to pastures new.

Dr Hobby's **Maggie Jonks** is a half-sister to Park House Listed winner Rosie Briar and is one of life's big characters, full of opinions and never slow to express them. Despite (or perhaps because) of this, she is much loved here on the yard, and so we were especially delighted when she got her head in front at Ffos Las in August under Rob Hornby. **Silver Swift** often joined Maggie in the Special Needs Group at the back of the string but she too recorded a win, at Salisbury under Jason Watson and as part of our 'magnificent seven', before retiring to stud. Hot To Trot Racing's **Golden Salute** had a series of frustrating setbacks earlier in the year but is back racing now, although yet to recapture her excellent juvenile form. She is going very well at home so hopefully things will fall into place



SILVER SWIFT and her fans after winning at Salisbury in September

for her on the track soon. **Angel Islington** has also recently returned to the track after an injury and she ran well at Lingfield last time. She showed some good form as a juvenile and should improve with her racing. **Must Be Magic** and **Ocala** have also had more than their fair share of injury woes this year and have both been limited to one start, but they are talented fillies and should reward their connections' considerable patience next season.

Highclere Thoroughbred Racing's gentle giant **Consultant** went very close at Thirsk in April and ran with promise on his return from a setback at Newmarket in November. He should get off the mark in the coming months. The same is true of **Ballyquin**, who was fourth in a strong maiden at Newmarket's Craven meeting before his season was interrupted by injury. Placed on both starts since his return to the track, he has plenty of ability and is on an attractive mark. Kennet Valley Thoroughbred's **White Turf** had a busy summer, placing on four of his six starts before picking up a knock. He is back cantering now and well up to winning off his current rating, whilst **Falls Creek** now qualifies for a mark and the imposing daughter of Street Cry will undoubtedly do better over further next year. We will sadly be without **Private Cashier** and **Annie Mae** next year. Private Cashier was progressing well when picking up a career ending injury at Epsom in August, but she has shown great resilience in recovering sufficiently from that to head to the breeding paddocks and, hailing from a lovely family, she should do well in that sphere. Home bred by Carl and Linda Conroy for the enthusiastic Rainbow Racing syndicate, Annie Mae was a likeable filly destined to do better as an older horse but suffered a fatal injury on the gallops in the summer. She is much missed by all her connections.

TWO YEAR OLDS

A quick comparison of the Timeform ratings of our top ten two year olds this year and last will tell you that we have been blessed with a bumper crop of juveniles and, with most of them likely to improve further at three, we should be set for an excellent 2019.

Look Around was the first to hit the headlines, following up her Kempton novice win with an all-the-way success in the Listed Star Stakes at Sandown. From the first crop of hugely exciting first season sire Kingman, she got rather lit up in the Group 3 Prestige Stakes at Goodwood on her final start of the year but has done tremendously well for a holiday and has the scope to progress further next year. Another owned and bred by George Strawbridge, **Firelight** also broke her duck at Kempton and followed up in a hotter race at Newmarket before finishing an eye-catching fourth in the Group 2 Lowther Stakes at York behind subsequent Cheveley Park winner Fairyland. Caught in a pocket when the first two kicked for home, she made swift progress once switched wide and went into many notebooks. Poorly drawn in the Group 3 Dick Poole Stakes at Salisbury she never really got into the race, running on late to be fourth, whilst she again suffered traffic problems in the Group 3 Firth Of Clyde at Ayr on her final start. Like Look Around she has flourished during her end of season break and should be a force to be reckoned with in the top sprints next year.

Dutch Treat took a little longer to learn her craft but she advertised her talent when going down by a neck to subsequent Group 1 placed Star Terms at Newbury in July and duly got off the mark at Yarmouth in August, before picking up some valuable black type when second to the smart Boitron in the Listed Denford Stakes back at Newbury. She found life tougher at Group 2 level in the May Hill and the Rockfel but was not disgraced and is bred to improve

at three. The same is true of **Strict Tempo**, the half-sister to Dancing Star and Foxtrot Lady, who won at Nottingham in August before being desperately unlucky not to win the big nursery handicap at York's Ebor meeting. Unable to find daylight until well within the final furlong, she flew home but got there just too late. She was also out of luck in the Listed Two Year Old Trophy at Redcar (a race her sister was third in last year), missing the break and hitting trouble in the final furlong, but ran respectably to be sixth and, given that her siblings only really excelled at three onwards, she is an exciting prospect for next year.

Not to be outdone by the girls, our juvenile colts have also been a making their mark in Stakes races. The immensely likeable **Shine So Bright** joined us after Royal Ascot and proved very consistent at the highest level, placing third in the Group 2 Richmond Stakes at Goodwood before looking a little unlucky not to justify favouritism in the Group 2 Gimcrack Stakes at York. Third again in the Group 2 Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury, this time on soft ground, his excellent attitude and versatility in terms of ground conditions should see him in good stead next year when he will likely aim for one of the early Classic trials. **Bye Bye Hong Kong** also joined the yard a little later than most, having been bought for King Power Racing at the breeze up sales, but the son of Street Sense quickly made up for lost time. He was an easy winner of a Windsor novice in August under Joshua Bryan before running too free in the Group 2 Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, but had a stronger pace to aim at in the Group 3 Tattersalls Stakes at Newmarket and settled better, staying on to finish second. Already a confirmed Pattern class performer, he is likely to improve next year and to be seen to best effect over a mile. The gorgeous **Fox Tal** ran to within a length of the subsequent winner of the Tattersalls Stakes on his debut at Sandown before winning a novice at Ffos Las. Fourth in

the Listed Stonehenge Stakes over a mile at Salisbury when still very green, he ran a tremendous race on his final start of the season in the Group 1 Criterium de Saint Cloud in France, appreciating the step up to ten furlongs and finishing third, beaten by less than a length and well clear of the rest of the field. He is still learning and also has plenty of physical development still to come, so we are all very much looking forward to seeing what he can achieve next year.

Mick and Janice Mariscotti had a lovely bunch of two year olds this year, headed by **Dashing Willoughby**, a well-bred son of Nathaniel who defied his odds to win on debut at Wolverhampton under



FLASHCARD after recording the second of two victories at Salisbury

David Probert, showing real guts and professionalism to fend off his challengers. He marked himself out as a very smart performer on his next start when beaten only a neck in the Class 2 Haynes Hanson & Clark Conditions Stakes at Newbury, the first pair some six lengths clear of the rest. He then headed to Doncaster for the Group 1 Futurity Trophy (formerly the Racing Post Trophy) and was far from disgraced in what was a big ask on only his third start. He will improve for stepping up in trip and should be one for a Classic trial next Spring. **Flashcard** was another to spring a surprise first time out, winning a competitive novice at Salisbury in great style under Rob Hornby before repeating the feat under a penalty nine days later. From there he headed to Ireland for the valuable sales race at the Curragh and ran a great race to be second, beaten only half a length. The winner and third from that race have both gone on to win at Listed level and Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds' son of Fast Company should be well up to following in their footsteps next term.

Another impressive debut win came from Jim and Fitri Hay's lovely **Bell Rock**, who won a decent looking novice at Newmarket in October. We had always liked him at home



BELL ROCK was very impressive when winning on debut at Newmarket

but, having required some patience through the summer, we assumed he would be too green to show his true colours first time out. He did show signs of inexperience early on in the race but once he hit the rising ground the penny dropped and he flew home under Oisin Murphy. By hot sire Kingman and out of a half-sister to 1,000 Guineas heroine Speciosa, he should improve for that run and is a very exciting horse to have in the yard. The same is true of **Happy Power**, who made a very encouraging debut at Newbury in May but then had to wait an age for better ground, eventually travelling up to Hamilton in August and duly winning his maiden over six furlongs under Graham Lee. He returned to the Scottish track in September in a bid to follow up under a penalty but was rather unlucky in running and finished third. This was no disgrace as the winner has since won a Group 3 in France

and finished second at the Breeders Cup! Alloted a handy mark of 83, Happy Power duly romped home in a Class 3 Nursery Handicap at Doncaster in October and should be capable of better things next year. The same is true of **Indomitable**, who was runner up on his first two starts before landing the odds at Chester in September over the extended seven furlongs. He was a little disappointing on his final start at Newmarket but he was caught wide in a hot race. Now gelded and on holiday at Littleton Stud, he should get back to winning ways in the Spring.

Last year Tess and Mrs B went to the Tattersalls Ireland yearling sale at Fairyhouse and came back with two horses, each having cost €9,000. The trainer rather rolled his eyes at this frugality but has been reminded that good things can come in less expensive packages. **Never Do Nothing**, a son of the unfashionable but solid sire Casamento, was



NEVER DO NOTHING after the first of two victories this season

an eye-catching third on debut over a mile at Kempton before winning at Thirsk under Jason Watson and again at Pontefract under Josh Bryan. Given a rating of 83, he has been gelded (which should help curb his sometimes excessive enthusiasm on his way to the gallops) and is a smart prospect for next year. **Rectory Road** took longer to come to hand but he too proved a bargain when streaking away with a Kempton Novice Auction stakes under a hands and heels drive from William Cox, finishing some six lengths clear of the field and in a good time. He will be kept on the go over the winter to gain some more experience and could target some of the valuable All-Weather races in the early Spring.

A scopey daughter of Teofilo, **Grace And Danger** was another who knew her job well enough to win on debut, overcoming a slow start to cruise to victory under James Doyle on soft ground over the extended mile at Nottingham (the race we won with Horseplay two years previously). Currently learning all she can from her paddock mate Here Comes When, she is a lovely filly for next year. Also by Teofilo and a similarly athletic model, Phil Fox's colt **Landa Beach** was totally clueless on debut at Newbury

but still managed to win, running on strongly under David Probert once he finally realised he was at the races! His odds of 50/1 made him our longest price winner of the season but the time of his win was impressive and he can surely only improve for that initial experience. That victory gave us a quick-fire double on the card as **Good Birthday** had taken the earlier division of the same race, putting his previous two runs to good use and showing great heart to battle to the line. His opening mark of 82 looks workable and he should have a successful 2019.

Raise You did not win on his debut at Newbury but he went agonisingly close, beaten just a nose in a competitive novice run in a good time, the front pair well clear of the rest. Three of those who finished behind him have won since and he rightly earned a good Timeform rating for his performance. A tall, rangy colt by the excellent sire Lope De Vega and related to smart Park House filly Make Fast, anything he did this year was a bonus and he should do well for Park House owner and neighbour Jonathan Palmer-Brown next year. **Bangkok** is another who is yet to win but likely to excel next year. He ran to within a neck of subsequent Listed winner Sangarius on debut at Newmarket, the pair some six lengths clear of the rest, but was too keen at Ascot next time out. He finished fourth to Kick On at Newmarket on his final run of the season, staying on well having been caught wide in what looks likely to be one of the hotter maidens of the year – the second and third having won next time out by an aggregate of 15



RECTORY ROAD flies home to a six length victory on debut at Kempton

lengths and four of the horses behind Bangkok having won since. By Derby winner Australia and related to Lockinge and Queen Anne winner Ribchester, Bangkok is bred to be a three year old and is one to follow next year.

Lariat is a half brother to Goldoni, who won the Epsom Derby Trial for the Mariscottis, and this Poet's Voice colt looks to be another smart prospect for the same connections. Third in terrible conditions at Goodwood on debut, he won over a mile at Ayr under David Probert before running well to be third in the big Novice Auction race at York in October. Likely to improve further for a step

up in trip, he seems to be thriving over the winter. In the same ownership, **Forseti** was our first two year old winner of the year, winning over seven furlongs at Salisbury in June under Oisin Murphy. With a tendency to be a little quirky, he rather lost focus in the latter part of the season and so has been gelded, which should do him the world of good. He is already back cantering after his holiday and should be out early next season.

Fox Premier proved frustrating to follow this Summer, having been a standout on the gallops at home. He seemed to be going the right way when runner-up at Goodwood in August on his third start but then disappointed at Salisbury in September. Ultimately we concluded that he just needed the chance to mature both physically and mentally, and gave him an early break. He is back cantering and has made striking physical progress for his time off. If this helps him to reproduce on the racecourse what he has shown at home then he will be one to keep on side in the Spring off his current mark of 77. **Hero Hero** also looked very smart in the first half of the year but then got very keen at home and the quality of his work nosedived as he tried to everything too fast too early. Thanks to the considerable skill and patience of regular rider Maddy O'Meara he has got back on a more even keel and ran very well on debut, finishing second at Doncaster despite running free early on and showing his inexperience when asked for his effort. By sire of the moment No Nay Never, he will be out again in the early Spring.

Karen Gough's **Dudley's Boy** was also second on debut, finishing runner up to a subsequent Listed winner at Newbury in August and well clear of the rest of the field. He has had a few niggles since but, being by Passing Glance, was always going to be better next year. He has now been gelded and is enjoying a holiday with Liam and Jenny Norris before returning for the early turf maidens. **Edinburgh Castle** is another who is bred to be a three year old but nevertheless managed to finish second on debut at Bath in October to a horse now rated 94. He should shape up into a decent middle distance performer next year. The same is true of Kingsclere Racing Club's **Sea Sculpture**, who stayed on strongly to be third on debut at Ffos Las. A half brother to Chesil Beach and Seasearch, he will undoubtedly want further in time, although he is not ready for a National Hunt career just yet, having made a terrible job of trying to jump out of his paddock this winter.....

Rux Power is a beautifully bred Kingman filly and she showed plenty when finishing second in the big seven furlongs fillies' maiden at the Goodwood Festival, whilst George Strawbridge's **Wedding Blue**, an imposing colt by the same sire, showed he was going the right way when runner up at Nottingham on his second start. The form of



LARIAT wins at Ayr on his second start

Havana Rocket's two runs at Ffos Las is working out very well and has seen him allocated an opening mark of 83. He had a wind operation at the end of the season which should help him get off the mark early on next year.

Barossa Red is another with decent form in defeat and Another Bottle's son of Tamayuz should be in the winner's enclosure before long, whilst **Fox Leicester** was unlucky to bump into a good one at Redcar on his third and latest start and is well up to winning his maiden.

Le Don De Vie made a very promising debut at Newmarket but was then too keen at Goodwood before blowing the start at Chelmsford. Good to ride but a nightmare to deal with in all other respects, a gelding operation swiftly beckoned and he is a much nicer character as a result! He looks great after his winter holiday and is a lovely middle-distance prospect for next year. **Oloroso** was an even earlier addition to the gelding list having got rather big for his boots after an encouraging second at Windsor on his second start. He has really strengthened up over the past few months and looks well handicapped heading into his three-year-old campaign. **Spirit Warning** is another who showed promise at home and on the track when second at Epsom in July. He did not handle the tight turns of Chester on his final start but he too has been gelded and, a half-brother to Side Glance and Rawaki, should get off the mark without difficulty next year.

Inclyne is a half-sister to Elm Park and Brorocco and she progressed well from her first start to be fourth in a fillies' maiden at Newmarket second time out. She has plenty of ability and should give the Kingsclere Racing Club some good days out next year. Fellow Kingsclere homebred **Pot Luck** is a hot-headed filly who placed in three of her five starts this year and should do better over slightly further next year. The same is true of Martin and Valerie Slade's **Queen's Soldier**, who is bred to be a late developer and whose three runs this year will have provided a valuable education. He has been gelded and is on a very attractive mark from which to make his handicap debut, as is **Mister Fawkes** who is very much the type to improve for gelding and a winter break. **Agent Basterfield** also now qualifies for a rating, having shown ability in three

starts this Autumn, whilst **Grandstand** is already running in handicap company and is now on a very workable mark.

Qatar Racing's **Reconnaissance** never managed to replicate his good homework on the track but placed twice before selling at Tattersalls in the Autumn alongside Hidden Pearl, who placed at Newmarket on her second start, **Wing Defence** and **Stay Forever**. The last named was bought back by Andrew as a horse for the apprentices, having placed in all three of her starts this year and hailing from the lovely Time Charter family. Also sold in the Autumn was the delightful **Swan Street**, who ran eight times for the Park House Partnership and went agonisingly close at Kempton on his last start, and **Queen Of Jumeirah**, who placed at Brighton, Lingfield and Pontefract for the same ownership.

Hello Bangkok made a very taking debut at Newmarket when second to a horse now rated 101, but failed to build on that in three subsequent starts. She will be given a break and is a very well handicapped filly if she can recapture her form. **Pempie** is a big, rangy filly and has always looked a three year old in the making but she learnt plenty from her debut and showed improved form at Kempton on her second start. The quality of her homework is high and she should give her owners Thurloe Thoroughbreds a lot of fun next year. **Purdey's Gift** showed plenty of promise when very green on debut at Leicester but failed to justify favouritism at Salisbury on his second start. By Camelot and an imposing physical specimen, he is bound to do better next year, whilst **Fox Shinji** is another who has shown plenty at home but probably needs the winter under his belt before he shows it on the track. **Top Power** faced difficult conditions on debut at Newcastle but showed some of his considerable ability in the closing stages and is a lovely type.

Having fetched 2.5 million guineas as a yearling, the debut of **King Power** was always going to attract keen interest, and she made a pleasing start to her racing career when fifth at Newbury in October, travelling well into the race but tapped for toe in the closing stages over a trip which was undoubtedly far short of her optimum. A feisty character at home, she was beautifully behaved at the races and will have learnt a huge amount for next year. By Shamardal and a half-sister to Sparkling Beam and Park House star Born In Bombay, **Be More** is also bred to be a better three year old but showed plenty when fourth on debut at Newmarket in September, whilst **Luck Of Clover**, a half sister to Lorelina, also made a very encouraging start when sixth at Kempton in October. **Disco Doris**, **Laura's Legacy** and **Vakilita** were all too green to do themselves justice on debut but will know much more next time, and the same also goes for the colts **Seeusoon** and **Sawasdee**, who have both shown ability at home. ■

Kingsclere Racing Club

Atremendously enjoyable End of Season party on the eve of the Ladbrokes Trophy at Newbury was a fitting way to wrap up what has been another very successful campaign for the KRC, with nine winners and over £170,000 in prize-money.

Urban Aspect's runaway win in a valuable handicap at York was the highlight and, having since been sold to Hong Kong, we look forward to seeing how his career develops. Highland Pass returned to her best, winning twice, and there was plenty more to celebrate in what was a very busy summer, but perhaps the most popular success was Intransigent's at Chester, as he has been such a terrific performer for us over the past eight seasons and remains as enthusiastic as ever.

We took two fillies out to Italy in November and were delighted to secure black type for St Mary's, no doubt spurred on by the urgings of the considerable KRC following at Capannelle. It was a wonderful trip

and hopefully the trainer can find a reason to repeat it next year!

We have now had 93 winners in the famous black and gold colours and will therefore be pursuing a notable milestone in the months ahead. Brorocco, who was twice runner-up in Group company this term, heads the team of older horses for 2019 and is being prepared for a possible tilt at the Winter Derby, whilst his exciting half-sister Inclyne is one of nine three year olds for the upcoming season that also includes several unraced prospects that have shown up very well at home.

With so much to look forward to, our launch day for KRC 2019 on Gold Cup day can't come soon enough and our varied social diary (which includes, by popular demand, the return of the Golf Day in April!) will ensure it is a busy season both on and off the racecourse. ■



The Italian Mob: a strong KRC presence at Capannelle in November

GOLF DAY

A reminder that the Park House Golf Day will be held on Friday 5 April 2019 at Sandford Springs Golf Club.

Full details to follow in the Spring magazine.

THE 2018 12 TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

Having looked very close at the halfway stage, this year's competition ended up with a runaway winner. Former BHB handicapper Richard Dangar put his expertise to good use by selecting a very strong team of older horses and their performances in the latter part of the season were enough to break the Spickett family stranglehold and take the spoils.

The prize money is divided as follows:-

1st £1127.50 2nd £512.50 3rd £307.50 4th £102.50 Last place £10

1 DANGAR, RICHARD 299
2 SPICKETT, LAURA 240
3 SPICKETT, PAUL 236

4 Oates, Des	234	27 King, Anderson	206	48 Finlay, Rosemary	184
5 Humphries, Simon (B)	233	27 Jinks, Sally	206	51 Cheshire, Angie (B)	183
6 Carey, Alysoun	232	29 Jones, Cherry	205	51 Woolley, Steve	183
7 Rae Smith, Alan	226	30 Wellman, John	204	51 Hetherington, Tessa (B)	183
7 Mackinnon, Bridget	226	31 Mahoney, Mick	202	54 Cheshire, Nathan	182
9 Woolley, Sharon	223	31 Beasant, Pete	202	55 Gay, Billie	181
10 Lees, Janice	221	31 Humphries, S. (C)	202	55 Carver (Snr), Will	181
11 Balding, Ian	220	34 Rodgers, Philip	201	57 Robertson, Corinne	179
12 Richards, Charlie (A)	219	35 Murtagh, Harry	198	57 Clayton, Laura	179
12 Smith, J.C.	219	35 Mungovan, Liam (B)	198	57 Mungovan, Liam (A)	179
14 Gay, Sam	218	37 Tucker, M,	197	60 Balding, Andrew	177
15 Watson, Jason	215	38 Dr M.J./Mrs D. O'Brien (B)	196	60 Gay, David	177
16 Phipps Hornby, Sally	214	39 Balding, Emma	195	60 Plumbly, Helen	177
17 Holmes, Rachael	213	40 Arnold, Pam	194	60 Bryan, Josh (A)	177
18 Robertson, Philip	212	41 Drivers, Berkshire	192	64 Richards, Charlie (B)	176
18 Burdon, Ross	212	42 Cheshire, Angie (A)	191	64 Dr M.J./Mrs D. O'Brien (C)	176
18 Clarke, Spud	212	43 Rafferty, Gerry (C)	189	64 Horne, Ray (B)	176
21 Balding, Boris & Mac	211	43 Mackinnon, Jamie	189	67 Tierney, Luke	172
22 Soul, Anne	210	43 Gale, John	189	67 Beasant, Mick	172
22 Burns, Richard	210	46 Horner, Mike	186	69 Dillon, Batt	171
24 Plummer, Ann	208	47 Reardon Smith, Julia	185	70 Palmer, W.	170
24 Hetherington, Tessa (A)	208	48 Register, Layton L.	184	70 Aeberhard, Werner	170
26 Cheshire, Angie (C)	207	48 Walker, Nigel	184	72 Gee, Mary	169

73 Bettaney, Rob	169	116 Needham, Martyn	147	162 Bettaney, Michael	121
74 Hall, David	168	119 Slade, Matthew & Emily	146	162 McPhee, Stuart	121
75 Hoare, Iris	167	119 McWilliam, Ruth	146	165 Derbyshire K./Cornwell S.	120
75 Cousins, Rose	167	121 Swallow, B.	145	165 Smyth, Tom	120
77 Simpson, Felicity	166	121 Lane, David	145	167 Jennick, Bryan	119
77 Slade, Martin	166	121 Randall, Philip (A)	145	168 Hall, David	118
77 Horne, Ray (A)	166	124 Buriandva, Andrea	144	168 Payton, Michael	118
80 Dr M.J./Mrs D. O'Brien (D)	165	124 Carey, Jeremy	144	168 Sooty	118
80 Mariscotti, Mick	165	124 Mackinnon, Roger	144	171 Rachael & Lads	116
82 Carver, Will (B)	164	124 Carver, Will (A)	144	172 Baldwin, Emma	115
83 Heath, Derek	162	128 Bonner, Barney	143	173 Richards, Gary	113
83 Mariscotti, Janice	162	128 Needham, Max & Louis	143	174 Broughton, B.	112
83 Derbyshire K./Cornwell S.	162	130 McGuire, Bernie	142	175 Shennan, Biddy	108
86 Gay, Joshua	161	130 Arlington, Jenny	142	176 Cheshire, Angie (D)	107
86 McWilliam, Ronnie	161	132 Powell, D.F. (A)	141	176 Friend, Stuart	107
88 Smith, John	160	132 Plumbly, Simon	141	178 Stansby, Clive	106
88 O'Driscoll, Mike	160	134 Hale, Barry	140	179 Rickman, Barrie	105
90 Jinks, Laurence	159	134 Jones, Nicholas	140	180 Johnson A./Bounds G. (A)	104
90 Box, Peter	159	134 Gauravaram, Sandeep	140	181 Melik, Simon	103
90 Elson, Pip	159	137 Whitehall, A.	139	181 Balding, Toby	103
93 Brooke-Rankin, Anthony	157	138 Neild, Jamie (A)	138	183 Brook, Guy	102
93 Feane, John	157	139 Dunn, David	137	184 Felton, Peter	100
93 Reis, Paul	157	139 Soul, John	137	185 Clarke, Charlotte	99
93 Wilmot-Smith, Richard	157	141 Thompson, Linda	135	185 Crofts, John	99
93 Watson, Sue	157	141 Lumley, Peter	135	185 Gee, Simon	99
98 Lumley, Sue	156	143 Powell, D.F. (B)	134	188 Hodgkins, Adrian	96
99 Gay, Maggie	155	143 Woolley, Suzanne	134	189 Teacher, Hugh	94
99 Friend, Terry	155	145 Carver, Catherine	133	190 Fenwick, Daisy	91
101 Hutchinson, Fiona	154	145 Chinner	133	190 Rea, Jonno	91
101 Wilmot-Smith, R & E	154	147 Goslin, Jim	132	192 Balding, Anna Lisa	87
103 Balding, Jonno	153	148 Johnson A./Bounds G. (B)	131	193 Rafferty, James	85
103 Manu, Richard	153	148 Rafferty, Gerry (A)	131	194 Conroy, Carl	83
103 Gay, Susan	153	148 Watson, Tim	131	195 King, Gaily	81
106 Palmer, Clare	152	151 Mooney, Jessica	128	196 Dr M.J./Mrs D. O'Brien (E)	77
106 Rafferty, Gerry (B)	152	152 Richards, Jamie	127	196 Watson, Jen	77
108 Cheshire, Angie (E)	151	153 Rafferty, April	126	198 Broughton, T.	70
108 Rees, Lindy	151	154 Lane, Angela	125	199 Zapotocky, Mac	69
108 Randall, Philip (B)	151	154 Conway, John	125	200 Redshaw, Grace & Molly	68
108 Aila, Saritha	151	154 Bryan, Josh (B)	125	201 A'Court, Peter	62
112 Gay, Edward	149	157 Burns, Lynne	124	202 McPhee, Angus	61
112 Humphries, Simon (A)	149	158 Dr M.J./Mrs D. O'Brien (A)	123	203 Friend, Janice	59
114 Boon, Gary	148	158 Michaelson, R.P.B.	123	204 Derbyshire K./Cornwell S.	52
114 Neild, Jamie (B)	148	158 Slade, Valerie	123	205 Lloyd, Michael	11
116 Kingsclere Stud	147	161 Hetherington, Barney	122		
116 Hutchinson, Mark	147	162 Spickett, Lisa	121		

SELECTIONS OF THE LEADERS

RICHARD DANGAR

BROROCO	27
BEAT THE BANK	24
COUNT OCTAVE	27
DREAM CATCHING	41
FOXTROT LADY	60
MACAQUE	33
REBEL STREAK	42
BELL ROCK	10
FOX PREMIER	6
HERO HERO	6
EAGLE QUEEN	0
INDOMITABLE	23

LAURA SPICKETT

BERKSHIRE BOY	14
BERKSHIRE BLUE	21
BERKSHIRE ROYAL	53
BERKSHIRE SPIRIT	22
ABSOLUTELY SO	10
BEAT THE BANK	24
MAID UP	58
BANGKOK	8
CONSTRAINT	0
DISCO DORIS	0
FORSETI	12
LARIAT	18

PAUL SPICKETT

BERKSHIRE SPIRIT	22
BEAT THE BANK	24
BERKSHIRE BLUE	21
BERKSHIRE ROYAL	53
COUNT OCTAVE	27
REBEL STREAK	42
PERFECT ILLUSION	1
BAROSSA RED	10
KING POWER	0
FOX TAL	20
FOX PREMIER	6
BELL ROCK	10

LEADING HORSES

FOXTROT LADY	60
MAID UP	58
BERKSHIRE ROYAL	53
CROSSING THE LINE	42
REBEL STREAK	42



FOXTROT LADY was the top point scorer in 2018

THE SEASON IN NUMBERS

1st January 2018 – 1st December 2018

	WINS	RUNS	SR	2NDS	3RDS	4THS	WIN £	TOTAL £
UK	123	754	16%	105	103	103	1,409,518	2,581,394
FOREIGN	1	10	10%	1	2	1	20,352	254,744
TOTALS	124	764	16%	106	105	104	1,429,870	2,827,138

MONTH BY MONTH

Month	Wins	Runs	%
Jan	7	32	22
Feb	6	26	23
Mar	4	19	21
Apr	6	56	11
May	4	94	4
June	20	106	19
July	15	92	16
Aug	30	126	24
Sept	20	104	19
Oct	7	76	9
Nov	4	33	12

GROUP BY GROUP

	Wins	Runs	SR
Fillies	39	256	15%
2yos	24	177	14%
Racecourse Debuts	8	84	10%
Turf	89	562	16%
AW	35	202	17%
Up to 8f	79	459	17%
Over 8f	45	305	15%

TOP TEN EARNERS

1	Beat The Bank	£184,469
2	Donjuan Triumphant	£138,843
3	Duretto	£155,419
4	Maid Up	£131,976
5	Horseplay	£119,875
6	Foxtrot Lady	£117,464
7	Count Octave	£77,448
8	Cleonte	£74,388
9	Dancing Star	£71,860
10	Crossing The Line	£67,971



BEAT THE BANK was our top earner in 2018

TOP TEN JOCKEYS

		Wins	Runs	SR
1	Oisin Murphy	35	200	18%
2	David Probert	23	160	14%
3	Jason Watson	22	192	11%
4	Rob Hornby	12	74	16%
5	Joshua Bryan	8	52	15%
6	William Cox	5	39	13%
7	James Doyle	3	8	38%
8	Graham Lee	3	10	30%
9	Martin Dwyer	3	34	9%
10	Franny Norton	2	6	33%

TOP TEN TRACKS

		Wins	Runs	SR
1	Chester	12	43	28%
2	Wolverhampton	8	28	29%
2	Salisbury	8	32	25%
2	Chelmsford	8	48	17%
5	Lingfield (AW)	7	37	19%
5	Kempton	7	63	11%
7	Lingfield (Turf)	6	16	38%
7	Doncaster	6	22	27%
7	Ascot	6	37	16%
10	Goodwood	5	39	13%

TOP TEN TIMEFORM (3yo+)

1	Beat The Bank	121
2	Count Octave	120
3	Straight Right	118
3	Morando	118
5	Duretto	117
5	Donjuan Triumphant	117
5	Here Comes When	117
8	Brorocco	116
9	Horseplay	114
10	Maid Up	111
10	Stone Of Destiny	111

TOP TEN LONGSHOTS

1	Landa Beach (Newbury, Oct)	50/1
2	Diocletian (Doncaster, Jun)	33/1
2	Flashcard (Salisbury, Aug)	33/1
2	Bell Rock (Newmarket, Oct)	33/1
2	Rectory Road (Kempton, Oct)	33/1
6	Dashing Willoughby (Wolves, Aug)	25/1
7	Maggie Jonks (Ffos Las, Aug)	16/1
8	Crossing The Line (York, Aug)	14/1
9	Shailene (Lingfield, April)	10/1
9	Good Birthday (Newbury, Oct)	10/1



LANDA BEACH was our longest priced winner

LONGEST WINNING DISTANCES

1	Seasearch (Southwell, Mar)	23 lengths
2	Perfect Illusion (Lingfield, Jan)	12 lengths
2	Genetics (Ascot, Aug)	12 lengths
4	Berkshire Blue (Wolves, July)	11 lengths
5	Natural History (Chepstow, Aug)	8 lengths
6	Belle Meade (Sandown, Aug)	7 lengths
7	Carouse (Southwell, Feb)	6 lengths
7	Pivoine (Sandown, Jun)	6 lengths
7	Shailene (Chelmsford, Jun)	6 lengths
7	Rectory Road (Kempton, Nov)	6 lengths

TOP TEN TIMEFORM (2yo)

1	Fox Tal	109
2	Shine So Bright	105
3	Bye Bye Hong Kong	104
4	Dashing Willoughby	102p
5	Happy Power	99p
6	Flashcard	98p
7	Firelight	96
8	Raise You	92p
8	Look Around	92
10	Bangkok	91p
10	Grace And Danger	91p



FOX TAL was our highest rated juvenile

BUSY BEES – MOST RUNS

St Mary's	11
Isomer	10
Highland Pass	10
Dawn Dancer	10
Dream Catching	10
Foxtrot Lady	9
Rebel Streak	9
Berkshire Royal	9
Genetics	9
Make Music	9
King Lud	9
Macaque	9
Intransigent	9
Wingingit	9
Duration	9

APPRENTICES: LESSONS TO LEARN?

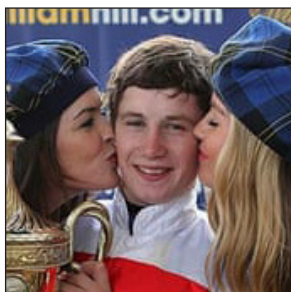
*In this guest article, Racing Post journalist **Colin Russell** looks at the systems racing has in place for training up young riders and asks if improvements can be made.*

It seems quite remarkable that over decades the task of transforming young inexperienced riders into accomplished jockeys has been left to trainers, trainers of racehorses not of riders. To some extent the two tasks go hand in hand but for years our ruling bodies (initially the Jockey Club and more recently the BHA) played no role, appearing to sit back and allow the sport to 'muddle along' on its own.

This has changed in recent years because we now have fully-funded, qualified jockey coaches, but what racing does for its youngsters is a far cry from a sport like professional football in which the top clubs have their own academies in which young players, many of whom have been chosen by their scouts, embark on an extensive coaching programme. Although plenty of their time is spent in performing menial tasks in return the youngsters receive extensive tuition from top-class, qualified coaches in order to improve their skills. It is in a club's own interest to unearth 'home-grown' talent, as having players like Wayne Rooney or David Beckham on their books is manna from heaven financially. Either it saves the club from splashing out in the transfer market, or it gives them an asset that can be sold on for mega bucks to one of the wealthier clubs.

Football also scores over racing in another way for it has its own framework which provides plenty of opportunities to young players. Most of the big clubs have youth teams, reserve teams and third elevens, so youngsters are given the chance to demonstrate their talent in a competitive environment but away from media attention. Racing also has its own competitive structure, but it is geared much more towards the horses than the riders. We have races for apprentices but, unlike football with its third eleven or youth matches, none of ours are trial or schooling events, they are full-blown races with betting and take place under the glare of the satellite TV channels. It is a harsh environment for any youngster having his or her first ride, and woe betide those who get it wrong (or are considered to get it wrong) because there is no hiding place.

Earlier this year, while waiting for a particular event on At The Races, I happened to watch a race from



South Africa where the odds-on favourite, ridden by an apprentice, came from last to finish fourth or fifth. The sofa critics in the studio were playing hell, 'given far too much to do, worst ride I've seen all season' claimed one. For me they were way out of order - the horse didn't travel, that was why it was in last, the rider tried to cajole it without resorting to the stick to get it into contention and after he managed to pass a few, it flashed its tail, stuck its head up but eventually decided to run when the race was all but over. The criticism was unwarranted, but it serves as an illustration of the barrage that young riders can face if things seemingly don't go their way. It always seems a pity that unlike our Irish counterparts we don't put on 'schooling' races, which would give youngsters vital experience of riding in a competitive situation but without the trimmings of betting and satellite tv coverage. They would also be beneficial to horses who may need a gallop or are coming back after a break and don't want a hard race.

In my time in racing there have been significant advances in the training of apprentices with the racing schools now teaching them the rudiments of riding and stable management and jockey coaches honing their skills once they start race riding, but the main task of tutoring still rests with individual trainers. True they receive some financial incentives but they are pretty small beer compared to most sports, and unlike football there are no multi-million pound transfer fees, not even ten thousand pound ones, in fact there are no transfer fees at all. Apprentices are free

to go from one yard to another.

It has to be said that the majority of young riders who aspire to be the next Frankie Dettori or Ryan Moore will never make the grade, but such is the way that our fragmented system operates that there likely be others who never get the chance to show their talent because they are not given the opportunity to do so. An example was our current champion jockey Silvestre de Sousa, who in a recent interview spoke about his first job after leaving his native Brazil. He was never given a ride in public, and said poignantly, "There were more than a hundred horses in the yard but there never seemed to

be one for me to ride.” It was only after he moved on to join the late Dandy Nicholls in North Yorkshire that he was given the opportunity to showcase his talent and the rest, as they say, is history.

During my 40 plus years in racing it has always been a case of certain trainers who year after year bring on young riders whereas others sit back and do nothing. At the moment Andrew here at Park House, Richard Hannon at Herridge Racing Stables and Malton-based Richard Fahey are the main ones for apprentice training and, with the backing of their owners and also often through running an ‘apprentice horse’ at their own cost, they not only educate their young riders but also give them them vital experience on the racecourse. Trainers with apprentices are rewarded by receiving a proportion of the riding fees and prize money won, but at the same time are obliged to contribute towards their expenses. So when, back in 2017, a couple of unnamed apprentices complained in the press that their bosses were taking money from their riding fees but weren’t paying their share of their costs, it was big news for a day or two. Surprisingly, instead of taking action against those trainers had the allegations been proven

correct the BHA, in what seemed a knee-jerk response, considered changing the entire system so that trainers did not benefit to the same extent from training up their apprentices. Had they done so it would have been disastrous. Richard Fahey, who claimed that each apprentice cost him around £10,000 a year, Andrew Balding and Richard Hannon all threatened stop taking apprentices.

Luckily for racing the BHA changed its mind, the status quo was maintained and we’ve gone along in the old way ever since. That old way is by no means perfect, its biggest flaw in my opinion being that the really talented riders can be snapped up at no cost by the top yards who have played no part in either their tuition or anyone else’s tuition. I am sure that most trainers would always wish their apprentices to do the best for themselves but, from an outsider’s point of view, it doesn’t seem right that they can just leave and go to another yard at will. Nevertheless, despite its flaws, the current system does seem to work, and the proof of that is that the standard of jockeyship is currently as high as it has ever been. ■

HUNTSWOOD Apprentices



This year has been another strong one for Kingsclere’s apprentices, who are all generously sponsored by Huntswood. The star of the season, both within Kingsclere but also within the jockey ranks as a whole, was Jason Watson. Having ridden just two winners in 2017, Jason flourished as a rider in 2018 and by 1st December had ridden a total of 109 winners from 674 rides, netting almost £1.5 million in prizemoney. He was the runaway winner of the Stobart Apprentice Jockeys Championship, finishing the season 24 winners clear of his nearest rival, and finished tenth in the overall jockey standings. He also added a first Group 1 success to his resume when piloting God Given to success in the Group 1 Premio Lydia Tesio at Capannelle for Luca Cumani. These are truly staggering achievements for such a young rider and we are excited

to see what he can achieve in the coming year as a professional jockey.

William Cox has had a good season, riding 32 winners from 410 rides for just over £340,000 in prizemoney so far this year. He reduced his claim to 3lb when riding his 50th career winner on Rectory Road at Kempton in November but remains value for his claim, particularly on nervous or quirky horses that require sensitive handling. He was Kingsclere Racing Club’s most successful jockey this year, winning on Seasearch, Highland Pass and Urban Aspect as well as continuing his partnership with St Mary’s.

Joshua Bryan got going later in the year having spent the winter in Australia but he too has had a solid year, notching up 19 winners from 194 rides to date, for over £215,000 in prize-money. Those winners included a brace of wins on Lord Vetinari, an emotional victory on Park House star Absolutely So, and first wins for the talented juveniles Bye Bye Hong Kong and Never Do Nothing.

Late last year William Carver’s first ride under rules was a winning one, piloting Know The Truth to victory at Southwell, and this year he has added another 4 wins to his tally from 46 rides, building up invaluable experience that should see him in good stead for 2019. A hugely talented horseman, it is surely only a matter of time before he makes a real name for himself as a jockey. Having had a reasonably quiet year, Kayleigh Stephens should also be in the winners next year, hopefully on new apprentice horse Stay Forever! ■

IAB IS EIGHTY!



Last month I.A.B. reached the milestone of his Leightieth birthday, which he celebrated at Park House with family and friends. He remains an integral part of life here at Park House and he and Isphahan (combined age: ninety five) can still be seen on the gallops every morning, whatever the weather. Happy Birthday Guvnor! ■

New Staff

We were very sorry to say goodbye recently to Lily Blunt, who over the past two years has done a fantastic job as Assistant Racing Secretary in the office (and on the gallops for her two lots every morning!). She has moved to a role with bloodstock agent Charlie Gordon-Watson and we wish her the all the best for the future. In her place we are delighted to welcome Tabitha Ridley-Thomas who, having worked on the bloodstock and breeding side of the industry, is now eager to experience the workings of a busy racing yard. Tabitha completed a degree in Equine Science and Thoroughbred Management at Oxford Brookes University and has worked with mares and foals at Kildangan Stud and Whitsbury Manor Stud, and in yearling sales preparation at Meon Valley Stud. Most recently she has been assistant to bloodstock agent Alastair Donald. A keen racing fan, she is a great addition to the team. ■



AWARDS



We are very grateful to Spillers for continuing to sponsor our "Employee Of The Month" awards. These awards are very much appreciated by the team and are a great way of recognising the fantastic contribution that members of staff make towards the results of the yard. The most recent recipients of the awards are:

LIAM MUNGOVAN for all his hard work as pupil assistant, especially with vet work and at the sales, and for standing in for virtually everyone at different points over the past year!

SAM GEAKE for making an excellent start in his first year at Park House and for taking on travelling duties with enthusiasm and diligence.

MEGAN FOX for continued sterling work on the ground and in the saddle, particularly as regular rider of Dashing Willoughby and Natural History.

MARIE PERRAULT for her significantly improved riding and for her devoted and patient care of her horses,

including juvenile winners Firelight and Grace And Danger and the feisty Pot Luck!

Winners receive £100 and a bottle of prosecco. Congratulations to them all!





FOXTROT LADY



14 September 2018



SILVER SWIFT



ABSOLUTELY SO



DANCING STAR



INDOMITABLE



INTRANSIGENT



TWIN STAR