

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



SUMMER MAGAZINE 2021



Above: Masked marvels at Ascot before Alcohol Free's win

Front cover: True love – Oisin and the Group 1 Coronation Stakes trophy

Back cover: A triumphant trio – SANDRINE, David and Kathleen returning to the winner's enclosure after the Group 2 Duchess Of Cambridge Stakes

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© Park House Stables
Published by Park House Stables, Park House, Kingsclere, Newbury, Berks. RG20 5PY
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www.kingsclere.com
Printed and typeset by Joshua Horgan, Oxford

INTRODUCTION

Having held a training licence for almost eighteen seasons I have conditioned myself to cope with disappointment. Even the great Aidan O'Brien generally operates at a strike rate of 20-25% which means that for every victory he has had to cope with three or four failures. So far the 2021 Flat season has been one of very few disappointments, and not even at my most wildly optimistic moment could I have imagined just how many amazing highs we have been lucky enough to enjoy.

From the start of this season things have by and large gone to plan, kicking off with two winners at All Weather Champions Day, a Guineas Trial, a Derby Trial and a Yorkshire Cup. Royal Ascot and Goodwood are always at the top of any stable's 'to do' list and the fact that the Kingsclere team were the leading yard at Goodwood and so nearly filled the same position at Royal Ascot is a tremendous achievement. This is not only due to the privilege of training some very talented horses but also testament to the team we have managed to accrue over the last few seasons. Everyone at Kingsclere has played their part in this season's achievements.

One of the most satisfying parts of our success is that the wins have come for a wide variety of owners. Throughout my career I have been lucky to train for owners of different nationalities, religions, and from very different backgrounds. To share success with all these people is really the driving force behind my wish to train racehorses, and to enjoy that success at the biggest meetings makes it very special.

At the time of writing we are currently leading the trainers' championship whilst gearing up a strong team for York's Ebor Festival, a meeting which will almost certainly have a pivotal bearing on the title. Whatever happens from here on in, we cannot forget what we as a yard have achieved in recent seasons, and everyone connected with the yard should be rightly proud of this. ■



Phil Fox's ROSCIOLI after winning for Team ThoroughBid at the inaugural Racing League meeting

THE SEASON SO FAR

by Tessa Hetherington

This piece sets out to cover the highlights of the season to date. This year it might have to be rather longer than usual, as 2021 has already yielded a significant number of memorable moments and over a hundred winners!

OLDER HORSES

Alcohol Free had been one of the stars of last season, winning the Group 1 Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket in September in the manner of a top class filly. She was quickly installed near the head of the market for this year's 1,000 Guineas but some queried whether she would have the required stamina for the mile trip – although her half-brother Alexander James was a Listed winner over nine furlongs, his father was the proven stayer Camelot whereas Alcohol Free is by sprint star No Nay Never. Having made great physical progress during her winter break at owner Jeff Smith's Littleton Stud, she made her seasonal debut in the Group 3 Dubai Duty Free (Fred Darling) Stakes over seven furlongs at Newbury and just held on to win, not looking like she was crying out for an additional furlong. She was, however, still very wintry in her coat at this stage and we were confident there was plenty more improvement to come from her. Her regular jockey, Oisin Murphy, was also bullish about her stamina. In the Guineas itself she did indeed look to stay the mile, but was drawn on the wing

without cover and ultimately finished fifth. She broke out in ringworm immediately afterwards and it seemed that she was not on song for the occasion. That is, however, an easy thing to say and she definitely had questions to answer heading to Royal Ascot, where she contested the Group 1 Coronation Stakes.

The stamina test at Ascot was magnified by torrential rain which rendered the ground officially Heavy, but Alcohol Free answered all questions emphatically, cruising clear under Oisin to win by one and a half lengths from a classy field that included the winners of the UK and Irish Guineas, Moyglare Stud Stakes and Fillies' Mile. It was wonderful to see her show the talent we knew she had. Shortly after the line she also showed the character we knew she had, unceremoniously dumping Oisin when he went to stroke her ears before running loose towards Cassia, her groom and regular rider at home. I watched the race in the hostel and these antics got almost as big a cheer as her victory!

Hopes were high as Alcohol Free headed for her next Group 1 assignment, the Falmouth Stakes at Newmarket's July meeting, but she jumped almost too well and so had to do all the hard work in front and was just touched off by Snow Lantern and Mother Earth. Next she headed to Goodwood for the Group 1 Sussex Stakes, where she faced Snow Lantern once more but also took on older horses and colts for the first time, most notably 2,000



ALCOHOL FREE surges clear under Oisin in the Group 1 Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot

Guineas and St James' Palace victor Poetic Flare. This time she got cover under an excellent ride from Oisin, before angling out and powering clear in the final two furlongs. It was a decisive win and one that confirmed her as one of the true stars of her generation – the first filly to win the race since Soviet Song in 2004 and the first winner for Jeff Smith since Chief Singer in 1984!

Now a triple Group 1 winner, Alcohol Free has little to prove at a mile but, blessed with both stamina and speed, she might try her hand at either ten furlongs in the Juddmonte International or six furlongs in the Haydock Sprint Cup. Whatever she does now will be a bonus but we are very excited to see what else she can achieve.

Jeff Smith has also had a great season with **Tribal Craft**, a homebred mare by Mastercraftsman. Placed fourth in a couple of Listed races at the backend of last season, she was knocking at the door of getting some black type but falling frustratingly short. Jeff was, however, keen to persevere and this year she has truly blossomed, winning the Group 3 Bronte Cup over fourteen furlongs at York under David Probert before giving Wonderful Tonight a scare in the Group 2 Lillie Langtry Stakes over the same trip at Goodwood under Oisin. The biggest horse in training here, it is perhaps unsurprising that we are only now, as a five year old, seeing the best of her. A strong stayer, she may head for the Ebor next.

Also headed for the Ebor is **Alounak**, who joined the yard last year having won a Group 3 in Germany and finished runner up in the Canadian International at Woodbine. He got off to a good start for us, finishing second in the Hardwick at last year's Royal meeting, but since then had proven rather disappointing. As a consequence he dropped to a handy mark and duly capitalised on this in the Old Newton Cup at Haydock, winning comfortably by three lengths in the hands of Silvestre De Sousa. He ran well again at Goodwood and looks to be back on an upward trajectory.

We have a strong squad heading to York, with **Spanish Mission** one of the leaders of the pack. Another new recruit last year, he won the Group 2 Doncaster Cup on just his second start for us and then had a successful winter campaign abroad, being runner up in the Red Sea Handicap in Saudi Arabia before finishing sixth to Subjectivist in the Dubai Gold Cup. Back on home soil he looked better than ever when registering a facile victory in the Group 2 Yorkshire Cup despite carrying a penalty for his Doncaster Cup win, easing clear under William Buick, who had also triumphed on him at Doncaster. He confirmed his form at Royal Ascot when third in a very hot renewal of the Ascot Gold Cup, finding only Subjectivist and Prix du Cadran winner Princess Zoe too



William Buick and Andy Whitehall, former colleagues at Kingsclere, celebrate the win of SPANISH MISSION in the Yorkshire Cup

good. An injury to Subjectivist made the Goodwood Cup a much more open race but sadly the thunderstorms in the run-up to the meeting rendered the going unsuitable and so Spanish Mission will now contest the Lonsdale Cup at York before entering quarantine for Australia, where he will have the Caulfield Cup and Melbourne Cup on his to-do list. He should continue to fly the flag for us and owners Team Valor and Gary Barber.

We are very strong in the older staying division this year and duly annexed the Marathon at the All Weather Championships with **Ranch Hand**, who had won both a Listed race on the flat and a hurdle race at Exeter last year! He went on to place twice at Group 3 level (in the Al Rayyan Stakes over twelve furlongs at Newbury and the Henry II Stakes over two miles at Sandown) before picking up a knock which has delayed his progress. He is back in full training and is aiming for the Long Distance Cup on British Champions Day, perhaps with a second tilt at the Listed Rose Bowl at Newmarket as a prep. Last year's St Leger second **Berkshire Rocco** should also be back on the track in the second part of the season and might



YOUTH SPIRIT was impressive in winning the Chester Vase under Tom Marquand for Ahmad Al Shaikh

start out in the Arc Trial at Newbury or the Cumberland Lodge at Ascot.

We have two entries in this year's St Leger, the first in the shape of Ahmad Al Shaikh's Chester Vase victor **Youth Spirit**. A winner at two last year and third in the Group 2 Vintage Stakes at Goodwood, he missed the latter part of his juvenile season but returned this year with a promising fourth in the Listed Feilden Stakes at Newmarket before a convincing win in the Group 3 Chester Vase, a traditional Derby trial. Sent off at 25/1 for the Epsom classic, he was keen to post and ultimately faded rather tamely in the closing stages, but confirmed his talent with a good fourth in the Group 3 Gordon Stakes at Goodwood. He heads to the Great Voltigeur Stakes at York next before tackling the last leg of the Triple Crown.

Our second entry in the Leger looks a bolder shout on paper, as **Classic Lord** is currently rated 90, some 21lbs lower than Youth Spirit. He has, however, proven very progressive this year, winning at Haydock and Sandown and placing in all his other starts. His trainer is not known for entering no-hopers in big races so hopefully Classic Lord can repay the faith and put up a good showing for the Park House Partnership.

One horse who has repaid faith this year is **Bangkok**. His form had rather tailed off after victory in the Listed Winter Derby Trial last year, but he has bounced back with a vengeance this year, winning another Winter Derby Trial before scoring in the Easter Classic at the All Weather Championships. A non-runner at Ascot due to soft ground, he got his preferred quicker turf surface at York on his latest start and recorded a career best when winning the Group 2 Sky Bet York Stakes under David Probert, showing every ounce of his toughness and resilience to come out on top in a three-way battle to the line. A seasoned traveller, he



CLASSIC LORD with some of his many fans from the Park House Partnership

could head to Germany later this summer before another tour of the Middle East over the winter. Also owned by King Power, **Fox Tal** is another to have had something of a resurgence as a five year old this season, placing in the Brigadier Gerard and the Gala Stakes at Sandown and the Glorious Stakes at Goodwood. Hopefully he can gain a well deserved Stakes win before the season is out.

The new kid on the block for King Power Racing, however, is **Foxes Tales**. A late developer, he was limited to one start as a juvenile but made a winning reappearance at Newbury in April (in the maiden won by his half-brother Fox Chairman in 2019) before being too 'green' to handle the tight turns of Chester in the Listed Dee Stakes. Since then, however, he has hardly put a foot wrong, winning the Golden Gates Stakes over ten furlongs at Royal Ascot by over two lengths under Oisin before just being headed in a similarly strong heritage handicap at Newmarket's July meeting. Back in Pattern company at Haydock for the Group 3 Rose Of Lancaster Stakes on his latest start, he stayed the extended ten furlongs in soft ground and

responded well to pressure from jockey Silvestre De Sousa to win going away from a decent field. A horse that seldom does a tap at home, he is hugely exciting on the track and may have a tilt at the Champion Stakes on British Champions Day.

Like Foxes Tales, **Achelois** is by the late and much-missed Zoffany and she too has proven very progressive this year, winning a Novice at Newbury in May before running away with a Class 3 Handicap over a mile at Ascot in July, both under David Probert. Rob Hornby took the reins at Goodwood where Achelois stepped up into Class 2 company and she handled this with aplomb, staying ten furlongs in



King Power Racing's FOXES TALES was our fourth winner at the Royal meeting



ACHELOIS winning at Ascot, her second of three wins so far this term

soft ground with ease to record a third win and to provide much-needed funds for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, to whom owners Thurloe Thoroughbreds donate a share of all her winnings. **Nebulosa** was another filly to run well at Goodwood, finishing third in the mile fillies handicap having won over seven furlongs at Goodwood in May. She should add to her tally for owner-breeder Kirsten Rausing this year.

More owner-breeders enjoying a good season are Mick and Fiona Denniff, whose **Auria** followed up a good novice win at Kempton in November last year with placed efforts in a Conditions event at Ascot and the Listed Abingdon Stakes at Newbury before running away with the Listed Coral Distaff at Sandown in July. Just a week previously Auria's older half-sister **Chil Chil**, bred by the Denniffs but owned by King Power, also secured black type when winning the Group 3 Chipchase Stakes at Newcastle under Silvestre De Sousa. Very progressive across each of the last three seasons, she could yet rate even higher and

could tackle the Group 1 Nunthorpe at York if she gets her favoured quick ground. Both fillies are half-sisters to the marvellous Beat The Bank, and it has been very heartening to see his family follow in his footsteps from Park House.

Chil Chil has recorded close to the fastest top speed on our gallops at home but that title is held by **Kings Lynn**, who has had a great season so far. Narrowly missing in a Class 2 Handicap at Newbury and a conditions event at Chester, he gained a much deserved stakes victory in the Listed Achilles Stakes over the minimum trip at Haydock



CHIL CHIL has continue to progress this year, winning twice already including at Group 3 level

under Oisin Murphy. He was desperately unlucky not once but twice at Royal Ascot, hitting trouble in running in both the Group 1 Kings Stand on the Tuesday and the Wokingham handicap on the Saturday. He ran flat on his latest start, in the Group 3 Hackwood Stakes at Newbury, but has been freshened up by a mini-break at the Royal Studs of his owner-breeder HM The Queen and should continue his good form next time. Another royal homebred, **Tactical**, got his three year old campaign off to a great start when winning the Listed European Free Handicap at Newmarket in April. Last year's Windsor Castle and July Stakes winner hasn't really had his ground since and should be seen to better effect when he does.

Bell Rock also kicked off his season with a win at Newmarket, in his case in the nine furlong Suffolk Stakes on 2,000 Guineas day under apprentice Will Carver, who is having a good season. All three of Bell Rock's wins have come at Newmarket's Rowley Mile course and he is likely to return there in September for the Cambridgeshire, in which he finished third last year. He was placed in the Group 3 Diomed Stakes at Epsom in June and could yet make his mark in Stakes company, with the Strensall Stakes at York and the Sovereign Stakes at Sandown on his agenda.



TACTICAL and Oisin on their way to victory in the European Free Handicap at Newmarket



BELL ROCK and Will Carver winning the Suffolk Stakes at Newmarket in May

Bell Rock was a non-runner at Goodwood due to heavy ground but Will Carver recorded another big win at that meeting, taking the seven furlong handicap on Jonathan Palmer-Brown's immensely likeable **Oo De Lally**. The partnership had already been in the winners' enclosure this year, at Newcastle in January, and had also finished second at Goodwood in May. David Probert had then steered Oo De Lally to another Newcastle win in June before Will retook the reins at the Qatar Goodwood Festival and recorded a decisive victory from a typically strong field. Although he had struggled in Listed company at Chester in July, Oo De Lally is a half-brother to top juvenile Go Bears Go and he too could yet progress to stakes level.

Josh Bryan lost his claim when winning on Cleonte in March and has continued to ride well this season. His biggest career win came last month when he piloted **Johnny Drama**, a horse he has done plenty of work with at home, to win the John Smith's Cup at York. A revelation on the All Weather over the winter, Johnny had some decent turf form in defeat from 2019 but nevertheless went off a 22/1 outsider at York. Well positioned by Josh throughout, he powered home to win by a head from the rest of the 20-strong field.

Good Birthday has also rediscovered his form in recent months, losing a Class 3 Handicap at Newmarket in the stewards' room before winning the Zetland Gold Cup at Redcar under Silvestre De Sousa in May. With his best form on Good or quicker we were concerned that he would not relish conditions at Doncaster on his latest start but he had been flying at home and duly recorded his fifth career success under Jason Watson, the Class 2 Handicap win being our 100th winner for King Power Racing! So named because he shares a birthday with the late and much missed King Power Chairman, Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha, Good Birthday has come out of the race bouncing and could well win again soon.

Winterwatch was our 100th winner of the season when winning over thirteen furlongs at Lingfield under Josh Bryan. Increasingly headstrong last year, Winterwatch was

virtually untrainable by the end of last season. Josh rides him every day at home and has done a truly phenomenal job in teaching him to relax. He has even trained him to walk loose from the stable and stand in the barn waiting to be mounted! The pair recorded their first success in a maiden at Catterick on Winterwatch's third start and, still very lightly raced, there could be plenty more to come.

Winterwatch's two wins have formed part of an excellent year for the Park House Partnership whose members have, in addition to Classic Lord's two wins, also enjoyed victories with **Cover Drive**, **Moneykenny**, **Discomatic**, **Sunset Salute** and **The Kodi Kid**. **Hey Teacher** was the latest to get off the mark for the syndicate, romping home by over nine lengths at Ffos Las under David Probert. We will not manage to win with all ten of the Partnership's horses as **Swivelstick** has been retired from racing, having shown zero interest in making any effort on a racecourse! A very sound horse and an excellent ride, Andrew has purchased him to stay in the yard as a schoolmaster for novice riders and to take some of the burden of stalls training off the legendary Isphahan, who is now in his twilight years.

In contrast to Swivelstick, **Symbolize** always tries his best on the track but was without a win since his debut success in 2019. Placed six times since, including four times at stakes level, he had been unlucky with the draw in a series of big handicaps this term and so it was very gratifying to see him get back in the winner's enclosure after victory in a Class 3 Conditions event at Thirsk, coping well with the soft ground under Graham Lee. He should continue to do well for owner Sheikh Juma this year. Sheikh Juma has an exciting filly in the shape of **Goolwa** who,



GOOD BIRTHDAY was King Power Racing's 100th winner from Kingsclere

having had one educational run at the backend of last year, sprang something of a surprise when winning a hot fillies' maiden at Kempton on her seasonal debut. She is not a flamboyant work horse at home but she has shown that this was no fluke, placing in another novice under a penalty before going down by a head in a Class 3 Handicap at Ascot. Returning to Kempton on her latest start, she won a similar event by over two lengths and looks very progressive.

Another filly to win on the All Weather over middle distances this term is **Spring Glow**, Rainbow Racing's half-sister to multiple winner and yard favourite Haines. She got off the mark in April at Wolverhampton under Jason Watson and, whilst she was shedding her maiden tag as a four year old, she was doing so when only a few months older than Haines was when he recorded his first of seven wins. She has run well in three further starts since and looks well capable of adding to her tally. Another Wolverhampton winner, **Eikonix** has also required patience but has always shown plenty of ability at home and scored on just his second career start. He can build on this in the coming weeks.



CAROLUS MAGNUS overcame adversity to win the Alex Scott Maiden at Newmarket

Carolus Magnus had shown plenty of promise at home last year before suffering a significant injury that we feared might end his racing career before it began. He made a miraculous recovery and, after a very promising debut at Doncaster in March, duly won the seven furlong maiden at Newmarket's Craven meeting in April. Just touched off in a novice under a penalty, a minor niggle has kept Carolus off the track since but he is back in full work and should be back to winning ways soon for his patient owners Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds. **Bonnyrigg** had won a Newmarket



DEJAME PASO was a convincing winner at Sandown under Jason Watson and then scored again at York under Hayley Turner



RIVAL made all to win well at Chester under Rob Hornby

maiden as a juvenile but it was at Brighton that he scored this term for Jim and Fitri Hay. A consistent performer over seven furlongs and a mile, he heads to the Tattersalls August Sale at the end of this month. Also entered in the same sale is promising stayer **Zuraig**, who won well over ten furlongs at Windsor on his second career start and filled the runner-up spot over the extended eleven furlongs there on his penultimate start. He is capable of further progress, especially if he learns to settle better as he matures. **Secret Shadow** was another to win at Windsor, having placed on six of her seven previous starts. She prefers a softer surface and has recently returned from a mini break to prepare for an Autumn campaign.

Rival showed his rivals a clean pair of heels at Chester in May, making all over the extended ten furlongs under Rob Hornby. He ran well again at the track in August, beaten only a length in third over the extended twelve furlongs. He is in our squad for the Racing League and could well earn some decent prizemoney for his owners Highclere Thoroughbreds over the next few weeks. The Racing League has been a somewhat controversial initiative and there are no doubt wrinkles to be ironed out as it develops, but it is an interesting idea and carries attractive prize funds. We are paired up in a team with Richard Hannon and were delighted to contribute a winner at the first meeting of the six date series when **Roscioli** powered home under an excellent ride from team jockey Hayley Turner to win the ten furlong handicap. A talented juvenile, he remained, frustratingly, a maiden until this success but the step up in trip enabled him to show his true ability and he could well capitalise further in the coming weeks.

Hayley has been riding out for us regularly this season and has formed a great partnership with many of our horses on the track. She steered **Dejame Paso** to a comfortable victory in a Silk Series handicap at York in July, having ridden him to finish sixth in the London Gold Cup in



BERKSHIRE SHADOW gave us the perfect start to Royal Ascot when winning the Group 2 Coventry Stakes under Oisin Murphy

May. In between he had recorded another win, at Sandown in June under Jason Watson, who is also building a good record on our horses. Dejame Paso looks to have a bright future for owner Nick Watts and could yet stay further.

Spirit Mixer was another to win under Hayley Turner, scoring over twelve furlongs at Newmarket in June. He is bred in the purple, being by Frankel and out of Arabian Queen. He is yet to emulate their achievements but has placed in all bar one of his six starts this term and should score again for owner-breeder Jeff Smith. Fellow middle distance performer **Group One Power** also has plenty to live up to given his name, but although he is not quite Group One class(!) he has plenty of ability and won the Great Metropolitan Handicap at Epsom in April before placing on his next four starts.



VALLEY FORGE was one of a host of successful raiders at Ffos Las so far this year

We sent two horses to Ffos Las in July for the course's first Flat fixture of the year and both won in the hands of Oisin Murphy, who looks to be racing towards his third Champion Jockey title. **Valley Forge** is a big, scopey horse and took time to come to hand, but duly progressed with each of his starts this year and won his maiden in Wales over twelve furlongs. He should improve for a step up in trip and heads to the Melrose handicap at York next. **Neenee's Choice** was the other to win at Ffos Las, justifying favoritism over a mile on his third career start for owners Mick and Janice Mariscotti, before scoring again on handicap debut at Newbury. The Mariscottis had another three year old winner in April in the shape of **Juan De Montalban**, who was impressive in the ten furlong handicap at Sandown's Classic trials meeting before selling to Italy, where he finished runner up in the Italian Derby. Another to have left the yard this season is the talented **Grove Ferry**, who won at Lingfield in February before scoring in a Class 2 Handicap over the extended seven furlongs at Chester in May under David Probert. Third in the Royal Hunt Cup at Ascot, he has been sold to race in Australia where he should relish conditions.

TWO YEAR OLDS

We have our biggest ever crop of two year olds this year and they are proving a high class and precocious bunch. It is rare for us to have a juvenile runner before May, let alone a winner, but Paul Spickett's **Berkshire Shadow** got the ball rolling in April, winning the five furlong maiden

at Newbury's Greenham meeting in convincing fashion under Oisin Murphy despite a slow start. A scrape to a hindleg when cast in his box meant he went without a further prep run before heading to Royal Ascot but this mattered not as he got our week off to the best possible start when slicing through the field in the Group 2 Coventry Stakes to score decisively under Oisin over six furlongs. Again slow out when sent off favourite for the Group 2 Vintage Stakes at Goodwood, he ran a blinder under a penalty to finish a close second, staying the seven furlongs well but finding his blistering turn of foot dented by the soft surface. Bred by Cheveley Park Stud, he is by sprinter Dark Angel and from the lovely middle distance family of Islington. He has plenty of speed and could revert to six furlongs in the Gimcrack next, but in the longer term will be aiming to race over a mile on the first Saturday in May 2022.....

Kirsten Rausing's **Sandrine** was bred by her owner at Lanwades Stud. She is by Lanwades stallion Bobby's Kitten and from a family that Ms Rausing has nurtured for generations. A diminutive filly with a sweet and uncomplicated nature, she did not particularly catch the eye at home until she worked on the grass in the Spring, when she made us all sit up and pay attention. She duly won her maiden on debut at Kempton in the hands of David Probert and the form of that race has proven very strong, with third Oscula now a Group winner in France. She faced heavy ground in the Group 3 Albany Stakes at the Royal meeting and was largely ignored by the punters, who sent her off at 16/1. She proved them wrong in style, handling the testing conditions well to give her sire his first Group winner and Dave his second Royal Ascot winner following his Britannia victory on Born In Bombay back in 2014. The pair headed to the Group 2 Duchess Of Cambridge Stakes at Newmarket next, facing quick ground for the first time,



Star filly SANDRINE and David Probert winning the Group 3 Albany Stakes at Royal Ascot

and maintained their unbeaten record with ease. Sandrine is a hugely exciting filly for all connections and may take in the Group 2 Lowther at York next, on route to the Cheveley Park.

Majestic Glory only joined the yard in late May but the daughter of Frankel is a little powerhouse and got off the mark over six furlongs at Newmarket on her third start under Hayley Turner before returning to the track just over a week later and winning the Group 3 Sweet Solera Stakes over seven furlongs under David Probert. This was her fourth start in a month but she is tough and tenacious and seems to be thriving on her racing. She looks a filly to follow for the rest of the season and beyond. The same is true of **Nymphadora**, who had always impressed at home but was green on debut at Newmarket's Guineas meeting. She clearly learnt plenty from that experience, however, and shed her maiden tag on her next start when winning the Listed Marygate Stakes at York under Jason Watson. Things did not go her way in the Queen Mary at Royal Ascot but she ran very well against the colts in the Molecomb Stakes



NYMPHADORA learnt plenty on debut and was a Listed winner under Jason Watson at York on just her second start



STAR FROM AFARHH makes the perfect start to her career, winning on debut at Newmarket under James Doyle

at Goodwood. She heads for the Lowther next where the step up to six furlongs should suit.

Star From Afarhh is a gorgeous filly who had worked very well in the Spring before running up rather light. A patient approach reaped rewards and she duly won on debut over seven furlongs at Newmarket in July under James Doyle. The form of that race looks strong and Bridget Drew's homebred filly could head into stakes company next, perhaps in the Listed Stonehenge Stakes at Salisbury or the Group 3 Prestige Stakes at Goodwood. Similar targets are on the agenda for **Wilderness Girl**, who ran well on debut at Newmarket before demolishing a strong field in the seven furlong fillies' maiden at Goodwood under Oisin Murphy. She looks capable of maintaining our excellent record with daughters of No Nay Never, following in the footsteps of Shadn, Alcohol Free and Nymphadora. Stakes races will also be on the card for George Strawbridge's homebred filly **Speak**, who won impressively on debut at Kempton under David Probert. By Sea The Moon and a half-sister to Valley Forge, she should continue to improve as she steps up in trip and is a lovely prospect for this year and beyond. Next in a strong set of winning juvenile fillies is **Frankella**, who is built like a mini tank and took a couple of starts to find her feet before winning well over six furlongs at Newmarket under Oisin Murphy. She struggled in Listed company on her next start and her race at Goodwood probably came too soon but she should make her mark in nurseries before moving back up in class. **Dubai Jewel** is a professional at home but was very green on debut at



WILDERNESS GIRL streaks clear of her rivals at Goodwood

Sandown in June. She learnt plenty there, however, and went close at Newmarket before recording victories in novice events at Windsor and Newbury for owner Sheikh Mohammed Obaid. A well-balanced filly with a great attitude, she can do better still. **Typewriter** was our latest juvenile filly to win, having progressed with each of her starts before winning at Nottingham under David Probert. A daughter of Gleneagles, she should continue to do well for owners Jim & Fitri Hay.

Not to be outdone by the fillies, our team of juvenile colts also has plenty of strength in depth. **Masekela** is a gorgeous horse and had always impressed at home before winning his maiden in testing conditions at Goodwood under Oisin Murphy. Tacky ground dulled his speed in the Chesham at Royal Ascot but he was a different proposition on a quicker surface in the Group 2 Superlative Stakes at Newmarket in July, flying home to just be denied by the impressive Native Trail. Mick and Janice Mariscotti's son of



DUBAI JEWEL has a great attitude and has already won twice

first season sire El Kabeir then got his head back in front in the Listed Denford Stakes at Newbury and is very much one to follow in the coming months.

El Kabeir has produced another juvenile winner for Park House in the shape of **Harrow**, who was green on debut before finishing second to two stakes horses in Chesham third Great Max and Chesham second Reach For The Moon. We finally managed to place him to better effect and he duly got off the mark on his fourth start, over seven furlongs at Ffos Las under Oisin. He is on an attractive mark and will tackle nurseries now but has the ability to hold his own in Pattern company in the future. **Imperial Fighter** was a later developer than Harrow but had always looked a balanced, scopey horse. He had a few growing pains early on but made great progress in the summer and was very impressive when winning the seven furlong maiden at Goodwood on his racecourse debut. Slow out of the stalls, he handled the testing conditions with ease and scored by two and a half lengths under Oisin. A good, efficient mover, there is no reason why he won't be at least as good on quicker ground and he heads to the Group 3 Acomb Stakes at York next for owner Michael Blencowe.



MASEKELA is already a Listed winner and looks well capable of further progress

Sheikh Juma has already had two Kingsclere-trained juvenile winners this season. **Strozzi** is a strong, solid son of Holy Roman Emperor and learnt plenty in his first two starts over five and six furlongs before winning over seven at Chepstow under David Probert. He was just beaten on handicap debut at Newmarket and should remain a fun horse going forward. **Robasta** is a very likeable son of the excellent young sire Mehmas and placed on his first three starts before running in the Windsor Castle at Royal Ascot. He struggled there but bounced back with a Class 3 nursery win back at Ascot under Rob Hornby in July. The equally likeable **Great Havana** also won on handicap debut, continuing our good season at Ffos Las when scoring over the extended seven furlongs under David Probert.

Having made a flying start with the two year olds it may even be that the best is still yet to come, with plenty of more stoutly bred youngsters impressing at home and waiting in the wings to make their debuts. Exciting times! ■



IMPERIAL FIGHTER has really blossomed this summer and won on debut at Goodwood under Oisín Murphy



ROBASTA is by the top sire Mehmas and won a decent nursery handicap at Ascot under Rob Hornby

Kingsclere Racing Club 2020



RANCH HAND has been the KRC's flagship this year and took the Marathon at the All Weather Championships

The season got off to a fantastic start for the Kingsclere Racing Club, with Ranch Hand winning twice on the All-Weather, including a memorable success in the All-Weather Marathon Championships Final at Lingfield Park on Good Friday.

The easing of restrictions has allowed us to welcome members back to Park House again and there was a very good attendance for our 'evening stables' visit, which included an enjoyable and informative trip to the Kingsclere Stud to see the mares and their foals, many of which will be racing in the Club's colours in time.



Getting to know some of the youngsters during a visit to Kingsclere Stud

With ten two year olds in the Club this year, we have been a little quieter than usual through the first half of the season, but it is exciting to have so many youngsters to look forward to for the second half of the campaign and then into next year.

The three year olds also look sure to contribute further to our seasonal tally, with Bashful, Damned Elusive and Mellow Magic all going close in recent weeks. Mellow Magic, a half-sister to Elm Park and Brorocco, has been particularly unfortunate to bump into black-type performers on her two most recent outings and she remains a very promising middle-distance prospect.

It has been a pleasure to see everyone back together on racedays and at our Club events and we look forward to a busy and successful remainder of the season, which we hope to celebrate at our end of season party in November.

The Kingsclere Racing Club is full for 2021, but we are accepting applications to join the waiting list for 2022. For further information, please contact Nathaniel Barnett on 07890 672435 or by email, admin@kingsclere.com. ■

THE 2021 12 TO FOLLOW

COMPETITION

A strong showing from Kingsclere staff in the halfway standings of the Twelve To Follow, with members of the team filling seven of the top ten spots (or perhaps eight, as 'Nieces Of Tess' may have had some inside help.....). The current leader is, however, an outside observer, which shows that it can be done! These are the scores up to and including 31 July, so much could change in the coming months.

1 Gary Rhoades	221	37 D. F. Powell (A)	142	75 Stuart Friend	124
2 Rachel Davies (A)	200	37 Paul Spickett (A)	142	75 Russell Harris	124
3 Lois Day	190	41 Emma Balding	141	75 Tessa Hetherington	124
4 Bradley Harris	188	42 Scott Mcjarrow	140	75 Liz Rea	124
5 John-Ross Burdon	187	43 Monika Bergauer	138	81 Peter Box	123
5 Charlie Richards	187	43 Simon/Bob Humphries (B)	138	82 T. Freeman	122
7 Cassia Cooper	182	43 Janice Friend	138	83 Liam Mungovan	121
7 Jamie Mackinnon	182	43 David Gay	138	84 Clare Balding	119
9 Nieces Of Tess	179	43 George Gill	138	84 Sally Phipps Hornby	119
10 Millie Keningale	176	43 Angie & Lorraine	138	84 Sharon Woolley	119
11 Andrew Balding	172	43 Paul Spickett (B)	138	87 Charlotte Hetherington	118
12 Bryan Jennick	170	50 Scott Mcjarrow (B)	137	87 Ray Horne (C)	118
13 Suzanne Harris	169	51 Ben Corke (A)	136	89 Alice Arnold	117
14 Al Donald	168	52 David Hall (B)	135	89 Fiona Hutchinson	117
15 Flora Balding	167	52 Sue Watson	135	89 Tom Smyth	117
16 Diana Magalhaes	163	54 David Hall (A)	134	89 Chinner	117
17 Zoe Adams	161	55 John Gale	133	93 G Bounds/A Johnson (B)	116
17 Will Carver	161	55 Martyn Needham	133	93 Oscar Palmer	116
19 Jeff Smith	159	57 Mina Mcphee	132	95 Abbie Bayley	115
20 Steve Woolley (A)	158	57 Gary Richards	132	95 Max Mariscotti	115
21 Kat Maher	155	59 Angela Cheshire (C)	131	97 Valerie Slade	114
21 Kelly Mcorley	155	60 Richard Ware	130	98 Stuart Mcphee	113
23 Toby Balding	154	61 A Whitehall	129	98 Mike O'Driscoll	113
23 Richard Dangar	154	62 Alexandra Guy	128	98 Hayley Turner	113
25 Jack Osborne	152	62 Roger Hetherington	128	98 Steve Woolley (B)	113
26 Felicity Simpson	151	62 Julia Reardon Smith	128	102 M A Bettaney	112
27 Marie Perrault	149	62 Martin Slade	128	102 Michael Fowler	112
28 Eva Mariscotti	148	66 G Bounds/A Johnson (A)	127	102 Flora Hetherington	112
28 Reece Senior	148	66 Macie Harris	127	105 Peter A'Court	111
30 Iris Hoare	147	66 Mike Horner	127	105 John Wellman	111
31 Simon/Bob Humphries (A)	146	66 Shannon James	127	107 Sam Geake	110
31 Celine Perrault	146	66 Billie Robinson Gay	127	108 Roger Michaelson	109
33 Rose Cousins	145	66 Michael Ross	127	108 Gerry Rafferty (A)	109
33 Sam Gay	145	72 Mick Bettaney	126	108 Alfie Redman	109
33 Sally Jinks	145	73 Alysoun Carey	125	108 Micheal Senior	109
36 Ben Corke (B)	143	73 Angela Cheshire (D)	125	112 Simon/Bob Humphries (C)	107
37 Gary Boon	142	75 Lysander Campbell-Gray	124	112 Janice Mariscotti	107
37 Pip Elson	142	75 Rachel Field	124	112 Becci Thompson	107

112 Carolyn White	107	145 Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (A)	93	175 Rachel Davies (B)	76
116 Ray Horne (A)	106	146 Sue Gay	92	176 David M Bradley	75
116 Mick Mariscotti	106	146 Mary Gee	92	176 Catha Hoare	75
118 James Campbell-Gray	105	148 John Feane	90	176 Maggie Robinson Gay	75
118 Angela Cheshire (A)	105	148 Gordon Penrice	90	179 James Goslin	74
118 Angus Mcphee	105	148 Anne Soul (B)	90	179 April Rafferty	74
121 Peter Goode	104	148 Clive Stansby	90	181 Simon Gee	73
121 Laurence Jinks	104	148 All Hail The Ale Racing	90	182 Adrian Hodgkins (B)	72
121 Marcel Mavronicholas	104	153 Jeremy Carey	89	182 Rex Paris (C)	72
121 Ronnie McWilliam	104	153 Laura Spickett	89	184 H Watson	71
121 Jon Rea	104	155 John Soul	88	185 Dennis O'Gara	69
126 Judith Balding	103	156 Avril Elson	87	186 Angela Cheshire (B)	66
126 David Brotherton	103	156 Jan Lees	87	187 Penny John	65
126 Terry Friend	103	156 Rex Paris (B)	87	187 Gerry Rafferty (C)	65
126 DF Powell (B)	103	159 Heather Adams	86	189 Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (C)	63
126 Jamie Richards	103	159 B Broughton	86	190 Adrian Hodgkins (A)	62
126 Matthew/Emily Slade	103	159 Richard Wilmot-Smith	86	191 Andrew Slater	61
132 Rex Paris (A)	102	162 Rosemary Finlay	84	192 Dr MJ/Mrs D O'Brien (B)	60
132 Phil Rodgers	102	162 Richard Hoare	84	193 Mrs S. A Bettaney	57
134 Tom Cox	101	162 Ray Horne (D)	84	193 Harriet Bradley	57
134 Josh Gay	101	162 Julia Scott	84	195 Mrs Nick Robinson	54
136 Rupert Hetherington	99	162 Lorraine Whitehall	84	195 Mark Hutchinson	54
136 Paul/Lisa Spickett	99	167 Ray Horne (B)	83	197 Barry Hale	51
138 Lindy Rees	98	167 Graham Jones	83	198 Charlotte Clarke	50
139 K Derbyshire (A)	95	169 Missy/Betty Clarke	82	199 Jenny Arlington	45
139 Anne Soul (A)	95	169 Barney Hetherington	82	200 Peter Bedford	44
139 Kingsclere Stud	95	171 Mollie Humphries	81	201 Pete Beasant	35
142 Anna Lisa Balding	94	172 Gerry Rafferty (B)	80	202 John Knight	19
142 Rachael Holmes	94	173 K Derbyshire (B)	79		
142 Des Oates	94	174 Mac/Boris Balding	77		



ALCOHOL FREE

TOP SCORING HORSES

ALCOHOL FREE	41
ACHELOIS	34
SANDRINE	34
CLASSIC LORD	33
BERKSHIRE SHADOW	30



ACHELOIS

SELECTION OF THE LEADERS

GARY RHOADES

Auriferous	24
King's Lynn	26
Alcohol Free	41
Mystery Smiles	5
Rushmore	14
Tactical	17
Oo De Lally	26
Berkshire Shadow	30
Galileo Gold/Silk Fan	0
Harrow	12
Robasta	26
Tack	0

RACHEL DAVIES (A)

Happy Power	11
Group One Power	28
Juan De Montalban	10
Alcohol Free	41
Spring Glow	18
Foxes Tales	26
Recovery Run	4
Imperial Fighter	10
Berkshire Phoenix	1
Nymphadora	13
Robasta	26
Harrow	12

LOIS DAY

Spirit Warning	11
Good Birthday	27
Foxes Tales	26
Kingsofthemidlands	1
Bounce The Blues	13
Alcohol Free	41
Group One Power	28
Nymphadora	13
Aegis Power	0
Tack	0
Vintage Valley	0
Berkshire Shadow	30

BRADLEY HARRIS

Flyin' High	0
Alcohol Free	41
Group One Power	28
Calcutta Cup	0
Morando	6
Regal Vega	11
Carolus Magnus	16
Harrow	12
Masekela	18
Robasta	26
Tack	0
Berkshire Shadow	30

A FLYING START IN KINGSCLERE

We were recently lucky enough to host Brigitte Murphy, a first-year trainee on the Godolphin Flying Start programme, for her externship placement. A skilled horsewoman with a keen interest in breeding and racing, she was a great help to us during a busy time and quickly became a valued part of the team. We asked her to tell us about the programme and her time here in Kingsclere.

What is Godolphin Flying Start?

Godolphin Flying Start is a Management and Leadership training programme that specialises in thoroughbred horseracing and breeding. There are four core modules: Thoroughbred Production and Management; Business Management; Bloodstock, Breeding and Racing; and Leadership and Communications. Over a two-year period, trainees study and experience the horseracing industry in Ireland, UK, USA, Australia, and Dubai. The programme is accredited by University College Dublin Michael Smurfit Business School and trainees are awarded a Graduate Certificate in Management (Thoroughbred Industry) on graduation.

How did you end up on the course?

I was very privileged growing up in that I had my own ponies to compete in eventing, and that formed the root of my interest in horses. Through ponies I met Peter Molony of Rathmore Stud and Qatar Racing, and I started working for him in the holidays whilst studying Equine Science at the University of Limerick. I did my university placement with the O'Callaghans at Tally Ho Stud and when I had completed my degree I took a year out and worked for David Cox of Baroda Stud. Following that I returned to the University of Limerick where I completed a Master of Arts in Business Management, before being lucky enough to gain a place on Flying Start. I started the course in August 2020.

How has Flying Start had to adapt during COVID?

The Godolphin Flying Start this past year has been a little bit different to previous years due to the Covid-19 situation around the world. We were unable to complete the normal schedule and travel to Newmarket from October to December, and instead completed our UK phase virtually, learning about British breeding & racing from our many lectures and virtual tours. We also attending the Goffs Ireland



Brigitte with FIVETHOUSANDTOONE

Breeding Stock Sale in December and worked in various roles with vendors and buyers. In January our travels once again were halted when we were unable to enter America due to the travel ban. We began another virtual phase from our base at Kildangan Stud in Ireland, holding out hope that at some stage we may be able to travel Stateside, but that is yet to happen! We completed a nutrition module through the University of Kentucky, accounting and law modules and we also completed the 'Racing Officials Accreditation Programme' through the University of Arizona. Along with the academic modules we spoke to numerous industry leaders in America and had brilliant virtual tours. We also completed practical rotations in the Kildare region both on Kildangan Stud in the foaling and breeding units and with partner farms including Oghill House Stud and Baroda Stud. We had the opportunity to spend three weeks with an Irish trainer and I got to spend time with up-and-coming young trainer Jack Davison (himself an alumnus of Flying Start). The Godolphin team in America went above and beyond for our six months to make us feel like we had experienced all Kentucky had to offer.

How did you end up at Kingsclere?

During the Godolphin Flying Start each trainee must complete three externships. Normally the first externship would be completed in America but during this strange year we could request placements in the UK or Ireland. Each externship should challenge the trainee, allow for personal growth, allow trainees to discover strengths, broaden their experiences and create relations with industry figures. I considered all those points when I

proposed that I complete my externship in Kingsclere. As most of my previous practical experience had been on the breeding side, working at studs and with consignors at the sales, I wanted to gain experience in a large and successful training establishment. My only previous interaction with the team at Kingsclere was at the yearling sales, where I had witnessed Andrew, Mrs Balding and Tess scour the sales grounds in search of superstars, which they always seemed to find at a bargain price! Their work ethic was something which stuck with me, along with the gracious remarks everyone would make about them as people. Tess is a graduate of Godolphin Flying Start and our class had our first introduction to her when she kindly completed a short video giving her view on some of the lots of the Goffs Orby Sale in Doncaster. We then 'met' her during an alumni call, following which I had enlisted her help with an assignment. Doing an externship alongside GFS alumni is useful as they know what is involved in the course and can help you get the most out of any placement.

What did you do at Kingsclere and how did you find it?

I spent two months in Kingsclere this summer, and they were two of the best months I have ever had! I was involved in so many different aspects of the yard and office. No day in Kingsclere was ever the same, and Tess ensured that I got to experience every aspect of life at Park House Stables. I spent many mornings with the vets, which were thoroughly enjoyable and an invaluable learning experience. I spent time out on the gallops watching horses work with Andrew and Nigel, helped with stalls training, met owners and visitors, went to the sales, went racing both as a spectator and as a groom and even led up a winner, in Frankella at Newmarket! I spent hours with Tess learning what her job entailed and helped in any way possible, including completing pedigree summaries of the two year olds and analysing Equinity data to gauge optimum stride length and cadence for different race distances.

I couldn't have picked a better period to have been in Kingsclere as I was able to witness what it meant to the whole yard to have four Royal Ascot winners. To see the two years olds develop before my eyes was also a particular highlight. The calibre of horses in the yard is amazing, and it was a privilege to get to know so many of them. I was surprised by how smoothly the operation runs despite its size – the systems in place mean that everything is like clockwork. What I loved the most about Kingsclere, however, was the camaraderie in the yard. It really is one



Brigitte with the Guvnor

big family and from the moment I arrived everyone was so welcoming and helpful in every way possible.

What's next?

The next stop on my journey is Australia, thankfully our visas have been granted and we are due to fly mid-August, although we will have to complete a mandatory fourteen day hotel quarantine on arrival. We have five months down under, visiting studs, experiencing racing and finishing up our stint by attending the Magic Million Gold Coast Sale in January. From there we head to Dubai for a few weeks to experience the start of the Dubai Racing Carnival. We are then due to have a study tour of Kentucky and Newmarket and our final phase will be in Ireland. My next year will be hectic travelling from place to place, but I am hopeful that during my time in America that I will bump into Kingsclere pupil assistant Marcus Bird, who was selected for the course this year. Even though I haven't experienced a 'normal' year on Flying Start it has been an unforgettable time so far, so I can only imagine what a brilliant time Marcus will have!

When the course is over I would love to find a role as 'Racing Manager'. I really enjoyed learning about Tessa's role at Park House and I think the balance of duties would suit me and further my career. In the long term I would love to be able to tie my interests in racing, consigning and breeding together. 'How' is the big question!

I would like to thank Andrew and Anna Lisa for welcoming me to Kingsclere and making me feel part of the team, and Tess and Nigel for making the effort to give me the full experience of Kingsclere and always having time for me. Finally a massive thank you to the whole team - I couldn't have asked for a better time and I will 110% be back in the near future!! ■



All smiles in the King Power box after FOXES TALES' victory at Royal Ascot



AWARDS



There have been many stellar performances amongst the staff team over recent months, but the four employees who have been chosen as Spillers 'Employee Of The Month' are as follows:

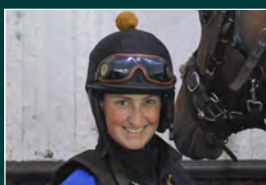
KATHLEEN MAHER for being such a reliable and capable member of the team and for looking after winners Goolwa and Roscioli and star filly Sandrine.

ALFIE REDMAN for making such an excellent start to his career in the racing industry, working hard to learn new skills and dramatically improving his riding.

BRADLEY HARRISON for continued improvement in the saddle and coping with many of our trickier customers on the gallops!

KAY CUNNINGTON for making a super start as a member of the ground staff team and doing her horses with great care and attention.

All winners receive £100 and a bottle of Spillers Prosecco. Our thanks, as ever, go to Spillers for supporting this valued initiative. ■



Kathleen Maher



Alfie Redman



Bradley Harrison



Kay Cunnington

SALES SEASON

It will not be long before yearling sales season is once again upon us, and members of the team will be at Goffs UK (24-25 August), Baden-Baden (3 September), Tattersalls Somerville (7 September), Tattersalls Ireland (21-22 September), Goffs Orby (28-29 September) and Books 1, 2 and 3 of Tattersalls October (5-15 October). If you have any interest in purchasing a youngster at the sales or getting involved in ownership at Kingsclere, please let us know (tessa@kingsclere.com).



BERKSHIRE SHADOW, winner of the Group 2 Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot, was purchased by the team for 40,000gns last year

STAFF NEWS

We have recently bid a very fond farewell to our two pupil assistants. Marcus Bird has gained a place on the highly respected Godolphin Flying Start programme (of which more elsewhere in this magazine!) and will start the course in Ireland later this month, whilst Archie Erskine is returning to the world of professional rugby, having built his strength up by wrestling with stroppy colts on the way to the treadmill..... We will miss them both very much and wish them all the best for their future careers. In their place we are joined by Laura Woolridge, who has been based with Ed Walker, and Susannah Jeffery, who has been working for Mick Channon. Both are experienced riders and horsewomen who we are sure will be great assets to the team.

Other members of the team have been adding to their CVs of late – Leanne White, who has worked at Kingsclere for all her adult life and will be known to many of you as a work rider and former senior travelling staff, has recently qualified as a Level 2 Racing Coach.

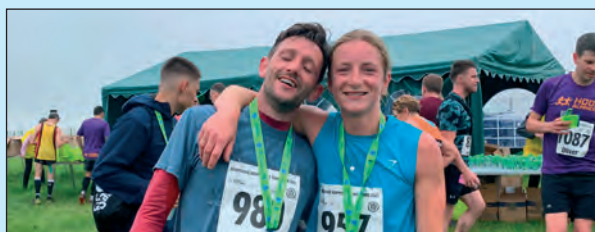


Leanne

She runs regular sessions for our young riders and they are already making great strides under her tuition. Maddy O'Meara already wore three hats, namely work rider, barn manager and international travelling staff, but she has recently added a fourth by qualifying as a fitness instructor! Her sessions are

tough but very popular with riders and ground staff alike. Chris Hannaford, work rider and senior travelling staff, is completing her LGV training with the assistance of the CATS service and hopefully will soon be able to drive all our horseboxes.

Having missed last year due to COVID we once again hosted the Hampshire Hoppit cross-country marathon and half-marathon this year and there was a bumper staff turnout, with Oscar Palmer and Charlie Richards completing the marathon and Matti Penrice, Maddy O'Meara and Nigel Walker completing the half-marathon. They should all be extremely proud of their achievements, particularly as the event came at the end of Royal Ascot week! ■



Matti and Maddy



Nigel



Charlie



Oscar



Tatiana Mountbatten honing her skills on SPIRIT WARNING before partnering him in the Magnolia Cup at Goodwood, where the pair finished fifth!

