

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



WINTER MAGAZINE 2024



The Park House Pirates Invitational XI at the celebration of 250 years of cricket at Kingsclere

Front cover: *Happy connections after KALPANA's win in the Group 1 British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes at Ascot*

Back cover: *NEW CENTURY, winner of the Grade 1 Summer Stakes at Woodbine*

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INTRODUCTION AMB

It seems a lot less than 12 months ago that I was reflecting on a record-breaking 2023 season - how time flies when you're having fun! When reflecting on the 2024 season as it comes to a close, it is with great pride and satisfaction that we congratulate the team on another year of high achievement. With 160 winners recorded in the UK to date and our domestic prize money having surpassed the £5 million mark, the Park House team have hit highs that we will have to strive hard to surpass in future years.

As well as achieving considerable success on home soil, we have also enjoyed a couple of notable victories in North America, with Bellum Justum winning the Nashville Derby at Kentucky Downs (a race worth as much in prize money as the Epsom Derby itself!) and New Century's magnificent win in the Grade 1 Summer Stakes in Woodbine, Toronto. Canada has been a happy hunting ground for us in past years, but as the first winner at the top level for his sire, Kameko, this was a particularly satisfying win for everyone involved.

Whilst it is easy to celebrate a record haul of winners, it is important to remember that this came from a record number of runners and these successes can only happen with the hard work and expertise of those involved behind the scenes at Park House. Our management team in place at Kingsclere is second to none and coping with the logistical challenge of producing this volume of runners whilst maintaining the highest standards has been a testament to everyone involved. In this edition of the Kingsclere magazine, we find out a little bit more about one aspect of life behind the scenes through an interview with our travelling manager, Simon Humphries, who along with our other travelling staff has contributed so much to enable this year's success.

Although there is not a huge amount of time to sit back and reflect on this year's achievements as the new season is only a month away, there is time to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to make 2024 a record-breaking year to remember. ■



KALPANA (right) on holiday at Juddmonte's Banstead Manor Stud with fellow Group 1 winning filly BLUESTOCKING

SEASON REVIEW

by Tessa Hetherington

In a year that has seen Kingsclere send out more individual runners than any other yard in the country and produce more winners than ever before in its history (160 at the time of counting), there is much to reflect upon as the season draws to a close.

OLDER HORSES

This season the fillies have been to the fore amongst the older horses, but at this point last year few would have predicted that **Kalpana** would be leading the charge. Big and backward (affectionately nicknamed 'Moose' by her groom) and still unraced at the end of her juvenile season, there had been talk of putting her in a sale. Thankfully this did not materialise, and she went on to win on debut in January despite obvious inexperience. That win came in a rather ordinary race at Kempton, and she was then beaten on her second start at Newcastle. The horse that beat her there was Inisherin, who went on to win the Group 1 Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot, but the handicapper was yet to appreciate that and so Kalpana was given an opening handicap mark of 78 – a perfectly respectable rating but not one that screamed future star.

Kalpana began to hint at the possibility of stardom next time, making a mockery of that mark when winning on handicap debut at Newmarket by some ten lengths. Stepped up into pattern company back at Newmarket in the Listed Pretty Polly Stakes in May she could only manage

runner-up spot, but once again her assailant went on to be a Group 1 winner – this time Prix de l'Opera heroine Friendly Soul. Initially caught rather flat-footed in the Ribblesdale at Royal Ascot, Kalpana rallied to take third place there, before returning to winning ways with facile victories in the Listed Glasgow Stakes at Hamilton and the Group 3 September Stakes at Kempton. The Group 1 Qipco British Champions Fillies and Mares Stakes was the obvious next step and, despite the big step up in class, Kalpana gave her supporters very little to worry about as she cruised through the race under William Buick, showing an impressive turn of foot in testing ground and putting the race to bed in a matter of strides from the two-furlong pole.

Blessed with a temperament as exceptional as her ability, Kalpana remains lightly raced and looks to still be on the upgrade. This renders her an extremely exciting prospect for next year, when she will aim to become the second Juddmonte filly to win the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in as many years, following Bluestocking's memorable victory this season. She is a joy to have on the yard, a wonderful advert for her young sire Study Of Man, and a great credit to all her connections, including owner-breeders Juddmonte, groom Shannon James, and regular rider Tyla Macfarlane.

Unlike Kalpana, **See The Fire** had shown plenty at two, winning on debut and placing in the May Hill and the Fillies' Mile. Expectations were high for her three-year-old career but she struggled in the 1,000 Guineas and the Coronation Stakes. A better run came over ten furlongs in the Coral Eclipse and she then ran a belter over the same trip in the Nassau Stakes at the Qatar Goodwood Festival, beaten just a neck by Opera Singer. She thoroughly deserved her win in the Group 3 Strensall Stakes over nine furlongs at York, held up by Oisin Murphy and taking the brave route up the rail to win going away from a decent field. Dropping back to a mile but back up to Group 1 company in the Sun Chariot, she ran a gutsy race to be third, before enduring a troubled passage in the Group 1 Champion Stakes over ten furlongs at Ascot where her run was delayed by traffic problems and she finished very strongly to be fifth. Currently on holiday at owner-breeder Jeff Smith's Littleton Stud, the Nassau Stakes will be back on her agenda for 2025 but she may yet stay even further.



KALPANA and William Buick coming home in splendid isolation in the Group 1 British Champions Fillies and Mares Stakes at Ascot

Having won the Group 3 Summer Stakes at York in July, **Flora Of Bermuda** again ran well to be first home of the British raiders in the Group 1 Prix Maurice de Gheest at Deauville in August, but was unlucky in the Group 1 Sprint Cup at Haydock when denied a clear run at a vital stage, rattling home to finish fifth. Sent off a relative outsider in the Group 1 British Champions Sprint, she ran a tremendous race to be third, beaten only a head and a neck by Kind Of Blue and Swingalong. She stays in training next year and looks to have plenty more to give, perhaps over seven furlongs as well as six. Off games since the Belmont Oaks Invitational in July, **Secret Satire** also returns next year and a return to York, scene of her Musidora triumph, for the Group 2 Middleton Stakes looks likely. **Night Sparkle** has run well twice at York this term, when second in the Group 3 Bronte Cup in May and when fourth in the Group



BELLUM JUSTUM netted a valuable prize in the Nashville Derby at Kentucky Downs

2 Lonsdale Cup in August. Second also in the Listed Coral Marathon at Sandown, Group 2 Lillie Langtry at Goodwood and Group 2 Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster, there are few horses who deserve a Stakes win more. Night Sparkle stays in training next year and her first assignment is likely to be the Red Sea Turf Handicap at the Saudi Cup meeting in Riyadh in February, upgraded to a Group 2 this year.

The older fillies division will be without the lovely **Sea Of Roses** next year, as she has retired to stud following another solid season which saw her win the Listed August Stakes at Windsor under Hayley Turner and finish third in the Group 3 Premio Federico Tesio at San Siro in Italy on her final start of the year. A dual winner and placed on ten of her seventeen starts, eight times in Stakes company, she has been a wonderful race filly and, with good looks and a lovely temperament, should prove an excellent broodmare. A date with Too Darn Hot is pencilled in to her diary. Cheveley Park Stud's **Vetiver** is another headed for the breeding paddocks, having added to her pedigree page with a win in the Listed Queen Charlotte Stakes at Chelmsford and fourth place finishes in the Group 2 Park Stakes at Doncaster and the Group 3 Oak Tree Stakes at

Goodwood. From the family of Group 1 Prix Maurice de Gheest winner Porlezza and possessing plenty of speed, she should do well in her new career. As a full-sister to champion two year old Blackbeard, **Run Away** is another who will not be short of mating options, particularly as she managed to secure black type when finishing third at Listed level in Longchamp in October. With further pedigree updates likely from her strong family, she fetched 650,000gns at the Tattersalls December Mare Sale.

The yard has had a number of fruitful missions abroad, and none more so (in financial terms, at least) than with **Bellum Justum** in the Grade 3 Nashville Derby over the extended ten furlongs at Kentucky Downs. Previously the winner of the Listed Derby Trial at Epsom and placed in the Group 3 Hampton Court Stakes at Royal Ascot and the Group 3 Gordon Stakes at Goodwood, Bellum Justum was paired with the now US-based Frankie Dettori in Kentucky, who rode him like much the best horse in the race, setting sail for home from two furlongs out. Thankfully Bellum Justum *was* by far the best horse in the race and won comfortably, netting a cool £830,000 in the process. On the sidelines with an injury for the rest of this season, King Power's gorgeous son of Sea The Stars will be back for a turf campaign next year and should be well up to winning at Group level on these shores. Ahmad Al Shaikh's **Al Shabab Storm** was another to make hay abroad, building on his Listed win at Chester in July to win at Group 3 level in the Golden Peitsche at Baden-Baden in Germany under regular pilot Jason Watson. Since sold at Tattersalls in the Autumn, he was the third Group winner for Advertise, and the third to be trained at Park House (following Secret Satire and Cool Hoof Luke)! **Relentless Voyager** had placed in the Italian Derby last year but stayed home this season, winning impressively over twelve furlongs at Epsom in June before placing in the Listed Grand Cup at York over fourteen furlongs and the Group 3 Glorious Stakes back over twelve at Goodwood. A lightly raced stayer with plenty of promise, he was an obvious candidate for Australia



The marvellous RANCH HAND has been a great servant to the yard and the Kingsclere Racing Club

and has been sold to continue his racing career there. He will be trained by Ciaran Maher who could almost have a barn dedicated to ex-Kingsclere horses, with Royal Supremacy and Sayedaty Sadaty having joined him earlier this year and Berkshire Breeze, Berkshire Shadow and Saint George already in the yard.

We will also be without the wonderful **Ranch Hand** amongst the stayers next year, as injury once again caught up with him after his brilliant win in the Shergar Cup Stayers under Hayley Turner in August. The winner of eight of his twenty-four career starts, including the Listed Rose Bowl Stakes at Newmarket, he has been a marvellous servant to the yard and the Kingsclere Racing Club. He will be much missed, but he has not gone far as he will be living out his days in the Kingsclere Stud paddocks with fellow legends Isphahan and Intransigent, and maybe teaching the odd youngster a few manners. One old timer who is not yet hanging up his shoes is superstar stayer **Coltrane**. He showed that he had lost little of his verve when winning the Group 3 Sagaro Stakes at Ascot in May, and when running a tremendous race to be third in the Group 2 British Champions Long Distance Cup back at the same track in October. Currently enjoying a holiday before heading into his seventh year in training at Kingsclere, he is also on a career tally of eight wins and if he can add to that for owners Mick and Janice Mariscotti and his many fans that will be a marvellous achievement. A year younger than Coltrane, **Spirit Mixer** is another yard favourite and he too stays in training next year, having finished fourth to Ranch Hand in the Shergar Cup Stayers before notching up a brace of wins over two miles at Chester under Rob Hornby. A return to the same track for the Chester Cup looks an obvious early season target for Jeff Smith's son of Frankel.

Alsakib was very impressive when winning the Group 3 John Smith's Silver Cup at York in July, beating the ever-consistent Al Qareem. He found life tougher at Group 2 level in the Lonsdale Cup and the British Champions Long Distance Cup, but he has now been gelded and will benefit from a good winter holiday and a chance to further strengthen and mature. He will be aimed at all the big staying contests next year. Fellow four-year-old **Lieber Power** had a very good season, winning at York and Chepstow and filling the runner-up spot on three occasions, including in a Class 2 at York in August. Still fairly lightly raced, he may not hit the heights of his three Stakes winning siblings but he should continue to give owners King Power Racing plenty of fun on the track. **Fairbanks** won twice this year and ran very well when beaten just a neck in the Class 2 Coral Summer Handicap



BERKSHIRE SUNDANCE has been a revelation in recent months

at the Qatar Goodwood Festival. He had no luck in the Ebor but was fourth at Listed level at Chester before selling at Tattersalls in the Autumn, along with **The Goat**, who won at Kempton in July and placed at Class 2 level at Hamilton in August. A recent revelation amongst the four-year-old staying types was Paul Spickett's **Berkshire Sundance**. He was a bit of a slow learner last year but did end his season with a win, albeit off a lowly mark of 65. He then missed almost a full year through injury and was sent to Chester for his reappearance in September, only to rear up in the stalls and dump Jason Watson before the race had even begun. He has more than made amends since, however, winning next time over fourteen furlongs at Salisbury under Oisin Murphy before following up over the same trip at Southwell when reunited with Jason. Second at Class 2 level on his latest start over two miles at Kempton, he looks to be a horse on the upgrade and is a nice prospect.

We had a raft of nice middle distance and staying three-year-olds this year. Unraced at two, Kingsclere Racing Club's **Mount Atlas** had an inauspicious start to his career when unseating Will Carver at Windsor in April and was then very green at Nottingham in May, but he won two of his next three starts, the latter a Class 2 handicap at Ascot over twelve furlongs, before filling the runner-up spot in the Old Rowley Cup over the same trip at Newmarket, beaten by the highly progressive Sun God (a half to Group winner Sumo Sam) but four lengths clear of the rest of the field. Now gelded, he remains very lightly raced and capable of even better next year. **Wild Waves** had shown promise in two starts last year and went on to win twice this year including at Class 2 level over the extended fourteen furlongs at Doncaster, before finishing fourth in the Melrose despite traffic issues in the closing stages. Not disgraced when sixth in the St Leger, he too has been gelded and, as a son of Crystal Ocean from a later-

developing German family, should continue to progress for Jeremy and Germaine Hitchins.

Sheikh Hamed's **Contacto** was a seven lengths winner over twelve furlongs at Doncaster in April under David Probert and has continued to improve, going close at Chester before winning again in soft ground at Hamilton for Kevin Stott. Second in a competitive Class 2 event at Haydock on his latest start, he has been gelded and will benefit from his winter break. **Tactician** was another to win twice this season, Denford Stud's son of Lope De Vega having scored in good style in a Goodwood maiden over fourteen furlongs in June under William Carver, before taking the Brown Jack handicap over two miles at Ascot under Oisin. Sixth in the Melrose, he was disappointing when favourite for the Cesarewitch Trial at Newmarket but this came at the end of a fairly busy season and he too should appreciate his break in the paddocks, having been gelded.

Subsequent was gelded before he ever ran and has notched up four wins this season over increasing trips, including the Bibury Cup at Salisbury under Silvestre De Sousa and the Listed Noel Murless Stakes at Ascot under Oisin on his latest start. He very nearly won six times, having been beaten a head on his second start and by a short head in the Mallard Handicap at Doncaster in September. From the penultimate crop of Galileo and very versatile when it comes to the ground, he looks well capable of stepping up into Group company for owners Jim and Fitri Hay next season. Another gelded at two, **Who's Glen** may only have won once this year but he did it in style, cruising clear by thirteen lengths under Jason Watson over Chester's extended fourteen furlongs in September, having placed on all five of his previous starts. Fifth in a Class 2 Heritage Handicap on heavy ground at York on his final start, he shaped like a horse who might relish a step up to two miles or further in time, and is an exciting prospect for owner-breeder George Strawbridge. Placing all these talented but similarly profiled horses next year may present something of a race planning challenge, but it is a nice problem for the trainer to have and one he will no doubt relish!

Incensed proved a very consistent filly this term for Cheveley Park, placing twice before winning her maiden over eleven furlongs at Carlisle in July under Tom Eaves, and running well twice at Class 3 level before scoring again over twelve furlongs at Kempton in September under David Probert. Fourth in a Premier Fillies Handicap at Newmarket on her final start of the season, she then sold to Amanda Perrett at Tattersalls in October, whilst early season winners **Hopeful**, **Capo Vaticano** and **Cuban Melody** sold there in December. The yard will also be without **Alacrity** next season, Kirsten Rausing's homebred having retired to stud after notching up a second career win at Kempton in August. There will be no rest for **Sun Dancer Girl**, however, who had a break in the summer before resuming her racing in November and notching up her fourth win of

the year, scoring over twelve furlongs at Lingfield under Callum Hutchinson. Callum has ridden her for all four of her wins and so it was fitting that this was his 100th winner under rules. A great servant to him and to anyone who picked her in the twelve to follow competition, Sun Dancer Girl will be kept on the go this winter with a view to picking up an All-Weather bonus or two.

In the eight to ten furlong division, it was heartwarming to see **The Foxes** bounce back to his best after missing most of the turf season through injury. Having needed the run on his reappearance in the Group 3 Darley Stakes at Newmarket, he made all in the Listed Churchill Stakes at Newcastle under Oisin Murphy to win by three lengths from triple Group 1 winner Dubai Honour, with Group winners Claymore and Sir Busker further back in the field.



WINSTON'S TIPPLE won at Lingfield under Callum Hutchinson before selling at Tattersalls

He then travelled to Hong Kong for the Group 1 Hong Kong Cup over ten furlongs. He took on a stellar cast there, including eight time Group 1 winner Romantic Warrior, and the Japanese raiders Tastiera and Liberty Island (winners of the 2023 Japanese Derby and Japanese Oaks respectively), and he was done no favours with a wide draw, but he ran another great race to be a fast-finishing fourth and confirmed himself as a global flagbearer for the yard and King Power Racing. Very sadly, King Power will be without the services of **Notre Belle Bete** next season, with the six-year-old having suffered a fatal injury at home earlier this month. The winner of four races and placed in a further eight since joining the yard as a four-year-old, he gave us a particularly memorable day when winning the Easter Classic at the All-Weather Championships last year and will be much missed, particularly by his groom Shannon James and regular rider Matti Penrice.

Prince AA Faisal's **Eydon** has had more than his fair share of injury woes, missing most of his three-year-old season and all year as a four-year-old. A very talented horse

on his day, having won the Feilden Stakes and finished fourth in the 2,000 Guineas when trained by Roger Varian, he has strung together two good runs recently, going close in the Listed Doonside Cup at Ayr in late September and then finishing third in the Listed James Seymour Stakes at Newmarket in November, both over ten furlongs. He will step up in trip next time in the Listed Wild Flower Stakes at Kempton, where we hope he can continue to progress.

The very likeable **Aragon Castle** had a productive season for Mick and Janice Mariscotti, winning two Class 2 handicaps in Scotland – over the extended mile at Hamilton in July under William Buick, and over the mile at Ayr in September under PJ Macdonald. He also finished second twice this term, and ran well in the big mile handicaps at the Goodwood and York festivals. He topped our draft at the Tattersalls Horses In Training Sale in October, selling for 210,000gns to continue his racing in Dubai. Also heading for sunnier climes is Lord and Lady Blyth's **City Streak**, who added a fourth career win to his CV this term when scoring over the extended ten furlongs at Chester in May under Oisín Murphy before selling in the Autumn, and the three year old **Winston's Tipple**, who won over ten furlongs at Lingfield in September under Callum Hutchinson and placed on five of his six career starts for Jim and Fitri Hay. **Lzaz** was another to sell at Tattersalls having won under Callum, scoring over the mile at Southwell in October, whilst the imposing **T'Challa** has moved to the USA to continue his racing for owners Team Valor International. A dual winner this term, taking a mile novice at Windsor in May before a decisive win in a Class 3 handicap over ten furlongs at Newbury in August, he also placed at Class 2 level at Doncaster and should do well in his new environment.

We will also be without **Mount Teide**, who has been sold to race on in Hong Kong. Placed on all six of his career starts for owner Saeed Suhail, including when third in the big mile three year old handicap at York in August, he was a wide margin winner at Chepstow in May under David Probert and at Newmarket in July under Oisín Murphy. Clipper Logistics' **Under Siege** was second to subsequent Irish Champion Stakes winner Economics on his debut in April, before running into subsequent Group 3 winner Lead Artist on his second start! He got off the mark over a mile at Chelmsford in August under Danny Tudhope but was slow away at Chester next time and then got stuck in the mud at Newmarket in the Cambridgeshire. Since sold privately, he retains plenty of potential for his new connections. Chasemore Farm's **Dambuster** won a ten furlong novice under a penalty at Beverley in April, having also scored on

debut as a juvenile last year, but failed to capitalise on that in subsequent runs. A lover of soft ground, he sold at Tattersalls to jumps trainer Olly Murphy and should do well in that sphere. **Celtic Warrior** also sold at Tattersalls, having bookended his season with a win over seven furlongs at Kempton in April and a win over ten furlongs at Newcastle in October.

Storm Star has been a model of consistency this year, winning over six furlongs on his career debut at Newcastle in May and then placing on his next six starts, including in Class 2 events over a mile at Doncaster and Southwell this Autumn. He stays in training next year for owner-breeder Jeff Smith and, as a son of Stewards Cup heroine Dancing Star, hails from a family that improves with age. **Warda Jamila** is also from a later-developing family, being a half-sister to Coltrane, and she too has had a good season, winning over ten furlongs at Ascot in May under Oisín and over the same trip at Haydock in September under Callum Hutchinson. Rather short of room when sent off favourite in Class 2 company on her latest start, she is enjoying a holiday and should have some nice targets next term for owner Sultan Ali. **Marcella** got off to a good start this term when beaten only a neck by subsequent Listed winner Devoted Queen in a Class 2 Conditions event over a mile at Kempton. She was unable to make her mark in pattern company but she won well over the extended mile at Epsom in September, and has now retired to stud. Another filly to have left the yard is Lord and Lady Blyth's Cracksman filly **Windcrack**, who notched up back-to-back wins at Sandown this summer, both over a mile and both in the hands of Oisín Murphy, before selling to Najd Stud at Tattersalls in October. Michael Blencowe's **Imperial Express** stays in training next year, having built on promise shown as a juvenile to win twice this term, over a mile at Ffos Las under Oisín Murphy, and over nine furlongs at Hamilton under Jason Watson. A trip to France



Coltrane's half-sister **WARDA JAMILA** (far side) was a dual winner this term



IMPERIAL EXPRESS won in Wales and in Scotland this season!

in November failed to yield black type, but she should be capable of better next year.

The sprint division will be without **Fivethousandtoone** next year, who has gone to Tim Easterby to continue his racing career. A talented horse who finished second in the Group 2 Mill Reef as a juvenile, he won twice this year on the All Weather in Class 2 Handicaps and ran well to be fourth in the Group 3 Chipchase Stake at Newcastle. A big character with plenty of opinions, he will be missed on the yard, but perhaps not so much by those who had to ride him on Monday mornings.... **Kings Lynn** has been here even longer than Fivethousandtoone but his character is much more saintly. He placed in no fewer than eight good sprint handicaps this year and he fully deserves to get back in the winner's enclosure next term, although his status as a Kingsclere legend is assured no matter what more he achieves.

We are also delighted to be retaining pocket rocket **Purosangue** next year. Offered for sale by Opulence Thoroughbreds at Tattersalls in the Autumn, he was bought by Jim and Fitri Hay and has returned to Kingsclere, where he has been gelded and is enjoying a winter holiday. A Listed winner at two, he placed in three stakes races this term, going very close in the Group 3 Coral Charge at Sandown in July and in the Listed Garrowby Stakes at York. Gelding is likely to help him and he should continue to be a really fun horse for his new owners. **Topanga** also stayed in the yard for new connections having been sold at Tattersalls in July, and she gained valuable black type when winning the Listed Wackenhut Fillies Cup at Baden Baden in August. She has now headed to Australia to begin life as a broodmare and, as a daughter of Siyouni and a granddaughter of Group 1 winner Timepiece, she has all the credentials to succeed in this role. **Enchanting** stays in training having won twice this year over the minimum trip, both times at Goodwood and both times under Hollie Doyle, retained

jockey for owner Imad Alsager. The latter win came in Class 3 company and this daughter of Blue Point could garner black type next year. **Ghaihaban**, a daughter of another hot young Darley sire in Too Darn Hot, placed on six of her first seven starts and very much deserved her win, which came over seven furlongs at Redcar in November under Jason Watson. A half-sister to Sudden Ambush and to the stakes performer Sky Defender, both of whom continued to run well at four, she can continue to progress for owner Salem Rashid Bin Ghadayer.

Sprinters to sell at Tattersalls in October included **Berkshire Nugget**, six length winner of a Brighton novice under Jason Watson in August, **Purefoy**, winner over seven furlongs at Lingfield in April and then rather disappointing until a better effort at Thirsk in September, and **Transitioning**, who won at Doncaster in May and as part of a memorable yard six-timer at Chester in July. The Jeff Smith pair of **Desert Cop** and **Equity Law** also sold at Tattersalls, the former a long-priced winner at Newmarket in May having won at the All-Weather Championships in 2023, and the latter a winner at Sandown in April. Back for more, however, is the stoic **Grenham Bay**, who has notched up fourteen runs this year, was a winner at Kempton in March under Callum Hutchinson and has placed a further six times for owners Martin and Valerie Slade.

TWO YEAR OLDS

We were blessed with a lovely set of juveniles this season. When the last magazine went to print **New Century** had just secured his first stakes win, over a mile in the Listed Stonehenge Stakes at Salisbury. That form was quickly franked when the second, Luther, went on to win the Listed Ascendent Stakes at Haydock in good style, and the following week New Century travelled to Canada for the Grade 1 Summer Stakes at Woodbine. Long-haul international travel is no cakewalk for a young horse on just his fifth career start but, like his sire Kameko, New Century is blessed with an exemplary temperament and took this new experience in his stride. At Woodbine he faced Al Qudra, who had defeated him over seven furlongs in the Listed Pat Eddery Stakes at Ascot on his penultimate start, and it was the Godolphin horse who went off favourite in Canada. Both missed the break – always a danger in North America – but New Century had sharpened and strengthened up over the summer and a combination of acceleration and stamina saw him gain the upper hand over Al Qudra and surge to victory. Having been his sire's first Stakes winner, he thus became his sire's first Group/Grade 1 winner and an important flagship for Kameko in

his first crop of runners. That importance was illustrated when his yearling full brother fetched 1,000,000 guineas at Tattersalls in October – the winning bid coming from Godolphin, who had close personal experience of the family's ability!

New Century was soon back on a plane, this time to Del Mar for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. Dealt a tricky hand with his draw in stall ten, he raced a little too keenly early on having had to be driven forward to get a position, but still ran a good race to finish fourth. His stamina for the mile confirmed, his primary target for next year will be to follow in his father's footsteps and win the 2,000 Guineas in May, but with his dam and half-brother both having stayed ten furlongs he might also excel over further. In any event he is a tremendously exciting prospect for the yard and his owner-breeders Qatar Racing.

Cool Hoof Luke had blossomed from a leggy yearling into a imposing juvenile in the Spring and, after winning on debut at Chelmsford, went very close in the Group 2 Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot when beaten only three-quarters of a length in fourth. He ran well to be third over seven furlongs in the Group 2 Vintage Stakes at Goodwood but looked as if a return to six would suit, and so it proved when he forged home to take the Group 2 Gimcrack Stakes at York's Ebor meeting in the hands of Oisin Murphy. That form could hardly be stronger with the second, Shadow Of Light, going on to win the Middle Park and the Dewhurst. Cool Hoof Luke picked up a knock after York which prevented him from taking up intended engagements in the Mill Reef and the Middle Park, but he should be back on the track in the Spring and, as a big scopey horse who has continued to fill out and strengthen up for his time off, he should shape up into a lovely three-year-old. His Gimcrack triumph was a first win in the race for the yard



Grade 1 winner NEW CENTURY has been a great flagship for his young sire Kameko

since Mill Reef in 1970. Cool Hoof Luke is about twice as big as Mill Reef but if he is even half as good as him then his owner John Wallinger has much to look forward to next year, once he has fulfilled tradition by giving the speech at the annual Gimcrack dinner at York later this month!

Royal Playwright is amongst the best bred of the juveniles, being by Lope De Vega and out of Juddmonte International winner Arabian Queen, making him a half-brother to See The Fire. Like his sister he won on debut at two, streaking clear over seven furlongs at Salisbury to win by three lengths under Hayley Turner. Things didn't really go his way in the Group 3 Solario Stakes at Sandown when a bump at the start rather lit him up, but he still finished third. He ran a much better race in the Group 2 Royal Lodge at Newmarket in September, battling on well to finish second to Wimbledon Hawkeye. A line can be put through his latest run, in the Group 1 Futurity Stakes at Doncaster, as he raced with none of his usual flair. He can bounce back from that and on both looks and breeding is the type to improve further at three. He deserves to take a place in one of the Classic trials and could well stay ten furlongs next year, but his early work in the Spring will influence the path he takes.

The impressive winner of the Futurity was the Jessie Harrington trained Hotazhell, who had previously taken the Group 2 Beresford Stakes at the Curragh in September, with Juddmonte's **Windlord** not beaten far in third. Given that the horse in second that day, Tennessee Stud, has also gone on to win a Group 1 (the Criterium de Saint Cloud), it is fair to say that the form of the Irish race is stacking up pretty well! Windlord had previously placed in two Sandown novices before winning a Class 2 novice at York by five and a half lengths, with the second winning decisively next time out. By Dubawi and out of a winning daughter of champion race filly Goldikova, Windlord is bred to be good and also bred to improve as he matures. Still



COOL HOOF LUKE with happy connections after his Gimcrack win



ROYAL PLAYWRIGHT is admired by Hayley Turner, Shannon James and owner-breeder Jeff Smith after winning at Salisbury

rather green at the Curragh, he could be very exciting next year and is likely to head for a Derby trial.

A Derby trial could also be on the cards for Gary Gillies' **Regal Ulixes**, who was an eye-catcher on debut when third in the Peter Willett at Goodwood in September, having been carried left at the start and squeezed for room at the finish. Turned out again later the same month in the valuable Haynes Hanson & Clark Stakes at Newbury, he made light work of the opposition, winning comfortably under Oisín Murphy. By Ulysses and out of Group 3 winner Regal Realm, who has already produced two stakes winners in Regal Reality and Regal Jubilee, he has all the attributes to do well next term. We have another lovely middle-distance prospect in **Almeric**, a Study Of Man half-brother to nine winners, including Group 3 winner Alla Speranza, the dam of Kingsclere favourite and Group 2 winner Shine So Bright. Almeric did not make his debut until mid-September and was a bit slow on the uptake when the stalls opened before finishing strongly to take fourth in a mile maiden at Sandown. Much more streetwise at York on his second start, he showed a great attitude when engaging in a prolonged battle with the favourite in the closing stages, getting the better of



REGAL ULIXES was an easy winner of the Haynes, Hanson & Clark Stakes at Newbury

his rival to win by a length under PJ McDonald. He could be a Group horse for owner-breeder Kirsten Rausing. The same is true of **Falconer**, Denford Stud's son of New Bay, who overcame inexperience to win impressively on debut over the extended mile at Nottingham in October under Callum Hutchinson, beating an odds-on favourite in what is traditionally a strong race (won by Adayar in 2020). A half-brother to three winners over nine furlongs to fourteen furlongs, Falconer looks sure to appreciate a step up in trip next season and could be a Cup horse in future.

At the other end of the trip spectrum, **Tropical Storm** followed in the footsteps of his half-brother Purosangue as a high class two-year-old, finishing second in the Group 2 Norfolk Stakes at Royal Ascot before going one better than his brother and winning the Listed Roses Stakes over five furlongs at York, beating subsequent Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint winner Magnum Force. Then fourth in the Group



QETAIFAN won at Chester and Goodwood before selling to Hong Kong

2 Flying Childers Stakes at Doncaster behind Aesterius, Big Mojo and Magnum Force, all of whom ran well at Del Mar, Tropical Storm has the credentials to be aimed at some big sprints next term for owners Teme Valley Racing, with the King's Stand at Royal Ascot a possible target. Fellow sprinter **Jouncy** is a half brother to last year's Mill Reef winner Array and went one better than him when winning the six furlong maiden at the Qatar Goodwood Festival. He had excuses in the Acomb at York and then ran very well to be second in a competitive renewal of the Group 3 Sirenia Stakes at Kempton, beaten by a rival rated twenty pounds superior to him. The Group 1 Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket proved too big a task for him at this stage, but he has since been gelded which should do him the world of good, and he could be a horse for something like the Jersey Stakes at the Royal meeting next year.

Michael Blencowe's **Brighton Boy** caught the eye on the gallops in the Spring and made his mark in the early Summer, going down by a neck to subsequent Super Sprint winner Caburn in a Class 2 novice at Salisbury before winning well over six furlongs at Chester under Jason Watson. He was caught wide when trying seven furlongs in the big nursery at Goodwood but a return to six saw him win again, this time in a Class 3 handicap at

York under Oisin Murphy, where he seemed to appreciate a bit of give underfoot. He headed to the Tattersalls sales race at Newmarket as favourite and looked to have it in the bag when he was ambushed by a fast finisher from the other side of the track. Now gelded, he remains very well handicapped and should continue to be a fun horse next term. **New Bombay** was another juvenile to win at Chester this summer, taking a seven furlong nursery by four lengths under David Probert in August. Placed twice subsequently, he won again off an eight pounds higher mark at Epsom in September, shaping in heavy ground like a horse who would appreciate a step up in trip. He was sold at Tattersalls in the Autumn and should do well for his new connections. Another to be sold, this time privately to Hong Kong, is Al Rabban Racing's **Qetaifan**. Purchased by Billy Jackson-Stops as a breeze-up from Arqana, he too won at Chester, scoring decisively over six furlongs in August under Jason Watson on his third start, and then followed up over the same trip at Goodwood under Oisin Murphy.

Kempton winner **Gallant** came from the same sale as Qetaifan, having been bought there by Jake Warren for owner Sheikh Isa. He showed promise on debut at Salisbury in August and put this experience to good use when giving a dominant display to win over six furlongs at Kempton in October under Oisin. He should continue to progress and add to the achievements of his young sire Hello Youmzain, who has made a tremendous start with his first runners.

Bermuda Longtail is also by Hello Youmzain and was also bought at the Arqana breeze up sale by Jake Warren, this time for Bermuda Racing. She too won at Kempton in October, scoring over seven furlongs under Jason Watson having been second over six furlongs there earlier the same month on her debut. She will probably stick to novice company for her next start but could well have her sights raised after that.



THE LOST KING won well at Newmarket under David Probert

The Lost King is by Kingman and out of King Power, a daughter of Frankel who was trained here and was stakes placed for King Power Racing, who retain her as a broodmare. Very green on debut, The Lost King progressed well to win impressively over seven furlongs at Newmarket under David Probert. He was disappointing in the Listed Ascendant Stakes at Haydock but is likely to benefit from some time to mature over the winter and could shape up into a Britannia horse next year. **Shrimp Shady** is another whose pedigree is familiar, as he is a half-brother to the wonderful Scampi, winner of five races for Park House. Scampi took thirteen starts to get off the mark but his little brother took only two, winning by two and a half lengths over the mile at Windsor under Oisin, having been beaten just a head on debut at Kempton. From the last crop of the excellent sire Mastercraftsman, he has heaps of potential for his owner-breeders the Pendarves family. **Urban Glimpse** is a Kingsclere home-bred, by Cityscape and out of KRC winner Sneaky Peek. She is a half-sister to Urban Aspect, who won three for the Club before going on to win at Group level in Hong Kong when known as Ka Ying Star. He was also by Cityscape so this looked a wise mating, and so it proved when Urban Glimpse won nicely over a mile at Kempton for Jason Watson on his second start. The pair travelled to Milan in October for the Group 2 Premio Gran Criterium at San Siro but were undone by very heavy ground. Bred to improve with age, there will be easier tasks for Urban Glimpse next term.



GALLANT was part of an excellent start for his young sire Hello Youmzain

Kassaya is a half-sister to our 2,000 Guineas hero Chaldean and looked very much a filly to follow when winning easily at Nottingham in June under Rob Hornby on her second start and when desperately unlucky in the Queen Mary at Royal Ascot when she was repeatedly denied a clear



URBAN GLIMPSE with KRC members after winning at Kempton

run. Sidelined with an injury after that, she will return to the track next year and is an exciting prospect for Juddmonte. **Handcuffed** is a half-sister to Tactical, winner of the Windsor Castle at Royal Ascot for the yard, and she won well on debut over six furlongs at Newbury under Oisin in July. A little inconsistent since, she ran a nice race to be fourth in the six furlong nursery at York's Ebor meeting and, though well held in two Group contests after that, could do better next year for HM The King and HM The Queen. A half-sister to the yard's Group 3 winner Majestic Glory, David Howden's **Ghost Run** was another juvenile filly to win over six at Newbury in July, in her case under David Probert. Pitched into Class 2 company for her next four starts, she ran well to be fourth at Newmarket in August and won again at Doncaster in September, this time under Oisin. She was sold at Tattersalls in the Autumn, as was the equally diminutive **Sofia The First**, who won over seven furlongs at Lingfield on her third start and then placed in a nursery at Yarmouth. Juddmonte's **Flaming Stone** has also left the yard, in her case to continue her racing in France. A wide-margin winner at Newbury in June, she placed in the Listed Star Stakes at Sandown and the Group 3 Sweet Solera at Newmarket and should have little trouble getting a black-type win in her new environment.

Prince A A Faisal's lovely Kodiak filly **Remaat** missed the latter part of the season having won well at Newmarket in late June under Oisin Murphy. She will be back next year and has plenty of ability –

she could be one for a Guineas trial in the Spring. Oaks Trials could be on the agenda for two smart middle distance fillies who emerged during the latter part of the season. Kirsten Rausing's homebred **Secret Of Love** only faced one rival when winning her maiden at Southwell in September on her second start, but she beat that rival comfortably and then proved her ability with a second place finish in the Listed Montrose Stakes at Newmarket in early November, despite racing keenly in the early stages. A daughter of Sea The Moon, she is the type to continue progressing and is a lovely prospect. The same is true of Doreen Tabor's **Music Piece**, a daughter of Camelot who was second on debut at Ascot in September (to subsequent Group 1 placed Ballet Slippers) before winning nicely over a mile at Haydock later the same month under

David Probert. Sure to stay further – her dam was Group placed over twelve and fourteen furlongs – she will be one to follow next term.

As ever, there are plenty of unraced and lightly raced youngsters who are only now just beginning to grow into their frames and switch on to the job in hand, so there could well be more gems to be unearthed amongst an already very exciting set of rising three-year-olds. When this is coupled with a steady stream of fluffy yearlings arriving into the yard from pre-training, there is much to look forward to through the winter months. Bring on 2025! ■



MUSIC PIECE caught the eye when winning at Haydock in September

Kingsclere Racing Club



A bumper turnout at Ascot for Ranch Hand's win in the Shergar Cup Stayers

The 2024 campaign proved to be a tale of two halves, as our season exploded into life with a wonderful across-the-card double in late July, swiftly followed by the brilliant Ranch Hand giving us another big-race success in the Shergar Cup Stayers, over five years on from his first win for the Club. It was a typically tough and tremendously game performance, under a fine ride from Hayley Turner, on what would prove to be Ranch Hand's final run before a well-deserved retirement.

Mount Atlas, whose success at Ascot in July marked him down as a smart individual, found just one too good in the Old Rowley Cup at Newmarket and, in Ranch Hand's absence, will lead the way for the Club next term in the big middle-distance handicaps. Fellow four year old Lady Flora, who was another to get her head in front in 2024, remains open to further progress, as does the lightly-raced Cello.

Urban Glimpse won a competitive novice at Kempton Park and was sent off to Milan's San Siro shortly afterwards for a Group 2 but unfortunately got stuck in the mud, the consequence of an overnight deluge. The close relation of former KRC flagbearer-turned Hong Kong Group 1 stalwart Ka Ying Star remains a fine prospect and there are six other three year olds to look forward to, as well as a strong team of eight two year olds to join the Club in 2025, headed by a Ulysses half-brother to Elm Park.

Our busy social diary included a fascinating behind-the-scenes tour of The Royal Mews and Buckingham Palace, a raceday picnic at Salisbury and several very enjoyable mornings on the gallops. As the year draws to a close, we look forward to our final get-together of 2024, a dinner at Park House to celebrate another very successful season for the Kingsclere Racing Club. ■

THE SEASON IN NUMBERS

1st January 2024 – 1st December 2024

	WINS	RUNS	%	2NDS	3RDS	4THS	TOTAL £
UK	160	1,040	15	160	132	120	5,095,265
FOREIGN	4	25	16	1	4	3	1,304,548
TOTALS	164	1,065	15	161	136	123	6,399,813

MONTH BY MONTH

MONTH	WINS	RUNS	%
January	9	58	16
February	8	31	26
March	9	37	24
April	12	75	16
May	20	132	15
June	17	144	12
July	27	132	20
August	26	164	16
September	22	132	17
October	12	105	11
November	2	55	4

GROUP BY GROUP

	WINS	RUNS	%
2yo	33	248	13
3yo	98	586	17
4yo+	33	231	14
Turf	107	709	15
AW	57	356	16
Up to 8f	89	618	14
Over 8f	75	447	17
Colts/Geldings	106	660	16
Fillies/Mares	58	405	14

TOP TEN EARNERS

1	Bellum Justum	£917,660
2	Kalpana	£424,677
3	See The Fire	£361,627
4	New Century	£256,091
5	Royal Supremacy	£189,154
6	Cool Hoof Luke	£174,172
7	Flora Of Bermuda	£143,819
8	Night Sparkle	£141,325
9	Al Shabab Storm	£124,315
10	Fivethousandtoone	£113,177



BELLUM JUSTUM was our highest earner of the year

TOP TEN TIMEFORM (2yo)

1	Royal Playwright	108p
2	New Century	108
2	Cool Hoof Luke	108
4	Windlord	105p
5	Tropical Storm	102
6	Jouncy	100
7	Almeric	93p
8	Brighton Boy	93
9	Kassaya	91p
9	Secret Of Love	91p

TOP TEN TIMEFORM (3yo+)

1	Kalpana	120
2	Flora Of Bermuda	118
3	Sea The Fire	117
4	Eydon	116
5	Alsakib	115
5	Coltrane	115
7	The Foxes	114
8	Al Shabab Storm	113
8	Purosangue	113
8	Relentless Voyager	113

BUSY BEES – MOST RUNS

1	Grenham Bay	14
2	Spirit Mixer	12
2	King's Lynn	12
4	Sun Dancer Girl	11
4	Alvesta	11
6	Fivethousandtoone	10
6	Celtic Warrior	10
8	King's Vanity	10
9	Teumessias Fox	9
9	Berkshire Nugget	9



GRENHAM BAY was our busiest horse this year



PJ McDonald (here on top rated Kalpana) had a 32% strike rate for the yard

TOP TEN JOCKEYS

		WINS	RUNS	%
1	Oisin Murphy	68	361	19
2	David Probert	20	182	11
3	Jason Watson	15	86	17
4	Callum Hutchinson	13	87	15
5	PJ McDonald	9	28	32
6	Hayley Turner	6	60	10
7	Rob Hornby	5	43	12
7	Kevin Stott	5	29	17
9	Danny Tudhope	3	14	21
9	William Carver	3	36	8

TOP TEN TRACKS

		WINS	RUNS	%
1	Kempton (A.W)	23	137	16
2	Lingfield (A.W)	13	55	22
3	Chester	11	46	24
4	York	10	50	20
5	Ascot	8	65	12
5	Newcastle (A.W)	8	31	26
7	Goodwood	7	61	11
7	Southwell (A.W)	7	59	12
9	Epsom	6	21	29
9	Salisbury	6	31	19



BERMUDA LONGTAIL was one of 23 winners at Kempton

THE 2024 12 TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

Only ten points (a single win) separating the top four places this year, with longstanding Kingsclere owner Javier Maldonado claiming the spoils thanks to a shrewd selection of older fillies. Travelling Head Lad Sam Geake and rider Charlie Richards were hot on his heels, showing that they have been paying plenty of attention whilst conducting their daily duties!

The prize money is divided as follows:-

1st £957 2nd £435 3rd £261 4th £87 Last place £10

1	Javier Maldonado	236
2	Sam Geake	232
3	Charlie Richards	229
4	Clive Stansby (B)	226

5 Mark Hutchinson	224	40 Lois Day	177	74 Rex Paris (A)	156
6 Dino Toovel	214	40 Clive Stansby (A)	177	74 Nigel Walker (B)	156
7 Anderson King	213	42 Guy Brook	176	74 Jasmine Wells	156
8 Sally Phipps Hornby	209	42 A Johnson/G Bounds (A)	176	78 Simon Humphries (B)	155
8 Gerry Rafferty (A)	209	44 David Dunn	174	78 Jon Rea	155
10 Martin Slade	208	44 Adrian Hodgkins (B)	174	80 Padraic Dahill-Rowan	154
11 Shannon James	206	46 Rhiannon Blatch	173	81 Roland Francis	153
12 Iris Hoare	205	46 Rex Paris (B)	173	81 R E Simpson	153
13 Macie Harris	202	48 Stephen Woolley	172	83 Jamie Wells	152
14 Diana Magalhaes	201	49 Werner Aeberhard	171	84 Frank Frankland	151
15 Anna Lisa Balding	200	49 Emma Balding	171	84 Bob Humphries (B)	151
16 Wendy Harris (A)	197	49 Charlie King (B)	171	84 Billie Robinson-Gay	151
16 Bryan Jennick	197	52 Avril Elson	170	87 S A Bettaney	150
18 D Powell	195	53 Bob Humphries (C)	169	87 Sharon Woolley	150
19 Charlie King (A)	194	54 Roger Michaelson	168	89 Toby Balding	148
20 April Rafferty (B)	193	55 Felicity Simpson	165	89 Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (A)	148
21 Will Carver	192	56 Jeremy Carey	164	91 Roger Hetherington	147
21 Angie Cheshire	192	56 Lee Drury (C)	164	91 Jamie Mc	147
23 Suzanne Harris	191	58 Flora Balding	163	93 David King	146
24 Richard Dangar	189	58 Missy & Betty Clarke	163	94 Lee Drury (A)	145
25 Gallop Rob	187	58 Des Oates	163	94 Sarah Stebbing	145
25 Charles Stebbing	187	58 Julia Reardon Smith	163	94 Anne Soul	145
27 Jessica Chalmers	186	62 Jane Pearson	162	94 Jack Wells	145
27 Benjamin Corke	186	63 Peter Box	161	98 John Feane	144
29 Jenny Arlington	185	63 Alan Philip Coles	161	99 Tom Cox (B)	143
29 Andrew Balding	185	63 M G Wooldridge (A)	161	100 Kelly Corke	142
29 Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (C)	185	66 Simon Gee	160	100 Jo Gammell	142
32 John Knight	184	66 Jamie Gladstone	160	102 Rachael Holmes	140
32 Vic & Nick Rhoades	184	68 John Gale	159	103 Sara Cumani	139
34 Alysoun Carey	183	68 Simon Humphries (A)	159	103 Bob Humphries (A)	139
35 M Blencowe	182	68 Lorraine Whitehall	159	105 M A Bettaney (A)	138
36 Angie & Lorraine	181	71 Anna Lisa Brook	157	105 Alfie Joe Redman	138
37 Lindy Rees	180	71 Anna Lisa Brook	157	107 Pedro Springer	137
37 Amirah & Angela Rhoades	180	71 Don Smith	157	108 Charlotte Clarke	136
39 Nigel Walker (A)	179	74 Wayne Bolton	156	108 Tessa Hetherington (A)	136

110 Isobelle Chalmers	135	131 Michael Payton	119	154 Lee Drury (B)	97
110 Gerry Rafferty (B)	135	131 John Soul (A)	119	154 Gary Rhoades	97
112 Archie Burgess	134	134 Gary Richards	117	156 Alastair Donald	95
112 Barry Hale (A)	134	134 Paul & Lisa Spickett	117	157 M A Bettaney (B)	91
112 Arabella Oppenheimer	134	136 Fiona Hutchinson	115	157 Sally Anne Jinks	91
115 Keith Derbyshire (B)	133	137 Keith Derbyshire (A)	114	159 Laurence Jinks	88
115 Pip Elson	133	137 Stephanie Smith	114	159 Matthew & Emily Slade	88
115 Maggie Robinson-Gay	133	137 Daisy Wells	114	161 Sue Gay	86
118 George Wallis	131	140 Graham Jones	113	162 John Soul (B)	84
119 Adrian Beaumont	130	140 Valerie Slade	113	163 Laura Spickett (B)	82
119 Jamie Richards	130	142 John Wright	111	163 Richard Wilmot-Smith	82
121 Lee Drury (D)	129	143 David Gay	110	165 Alan Philip Read	77
121 Mary Gee	129	144 April Rafferty (A)	109	166 Tom Cox (A)	74
123 A Johnson/G Bounds (B)	127	145 Jan Lees	108	167 Amy Read	71
123 Janice Read	127	146 Hubie	107	168 Wendy Harris (B)	68
125 Joanna Jensen	126	147 Carmen Blatch	105	169 Laura Spickett (A)	66
126 Andrew Slater	124	147 Russell Harris	105	170 Camilla Richardson	63
127 Tessa Hetherington (B)	123	149 James Campbell-Gray	104	171 Adrian Hodgkins (A)	60
128 Gerry Rafferty (C)	122	149 M G Wooldridge (B)	104	172 Dr M J & Mrs D O'Brien (B)	49
129 Paul Spickett	121	151 Josh Gay	101	173 Sam Gay	47
129 Emma Wallis	121	151 John R Smith	101	174 Sarah Paddock	36
131 Barry Hale (B)	119	153 Tanya Coulson	98	175 Raymond Vickery	34



Andrew and Javier at the Bernabau in May

TOP SCORING HORSES

Kalpana	59
Al Shabab Storm	54
Subsequent	54
New Century	44
Sun Dancer Girl	41



AL SHABAB STORM racked up 54 points

SELECTIONS OF THE LEADERS

Javier Maldonado		Sam Geake		Charlie Richards		Clive Stansby (B)	
See The Fire	26	Contacto	32	Cuban Melody	21	Alsakib	18
Kalpana	59	Bellum Justum	37	Coltrane	18	Hampden Park	0
Purosangue	21	Break The Bank	5	Upscale	33	See The Fire	26
Flora Of Bermuda	26	Topanga	26	Aragon Castle	32	Fairbanks	33
Bellum Justum	37	T'challa	32	Imperial Guard	18	Warda Jamila	25
Sea Of Roses	32	See The Fire	26	Marcella	10	Purosangue	21
Sayedaty Sadaty	8	Purosangue	21	Bellum Justum	37	Bellum Justum	37
Gaelic Heart	0	Berkshire Whisper	0	Berkshire Kameo	14	Kassaya	16
Cuban Girl	4	Royal Playwright	23	Brighton Boy	32	Art Patron	4
Berkshire Smudge	0	Lady Kameko	1	Boutique De Paris	0	Jouncy	24
Royal Playwright	23	Frankini	5	Cuban Girl	4	Chartwell Jock	0
Chartwell Jock	0	Jouncy	24	Humam	10	Windlord	22

500 AND COUNTING – A LIFE IN RACING

On 16 November our travelling head lad Simon Humphries saddled his 500th winner for Park House when The Foxes won the Listed Churchill Stakes at Newcastle – a great achievement. Simon has been with the yard since 2016 but has spent his adult life working in racing, saddling over 1000 winners, and his vast experience is invaluable to the smooth running of our operations. We took this opportunity to find out a bit more about his career.

When and how did you get into racing and when did you first start travelling horses?



I had ponies as a child, doing hunting, dressage, and working hunter pony classes at county shows. I showed other people's ponies for them as well, and when I was around thirteen I was judged by Roger Stack. He came up to me in the lineup and offered me a job when I left school and said he also could

help get me a role at a racing yard. At sixteen I wanted to go to Newmarket to work but my parents took one look at the accommodation offered by the trainer and refused to leave me there. I came back home and went to work for Roger. He had show horses, broke in yearlings for people and had half a dozen point to pointers. I had my first ride in a Point-to-Point on my seventeenth birthday and rode the pointers in races for Roger for the next four years or so, as well as helping break in the youngsters and exercise the show horses. When we were quieter in the summer, Roger sent me to ride out for Geoff Lewis twice a week, and in the winter I used to ride out a bit for Mick Channon and Michael Robinson. I joined Geoff full time when I was about twenty and got my conditional licence but, when he got wind that I was thinking of moving to work in Italy, he asked me to stay and start doing the travelling. I started travelling horses in 1991.

How did you end up at Kingsclere?

After about seven years with Geoff Lewis I got a bit disillusioned with English racing and moved to Dubai, where I worked for Satish Seemar for several years. On my return I worked for John Dunlop as second travelling head



Simon (far right) with THE FOXES after his Newcastle win

lad until he retired in 2012, when I joined Olly Stevens who was just starting out training. Olly decided to pursue a different career after three seasons and, when Andrew heard this, he and Chris Bonner approached me about coming to Kingsclere. It was not a difficult decision!

What does your daily routine on a race day entail?

If we are not leaving first thing then I will ride out in the morning. I then check the lorries, check with Angie about the racing gear she has prepared, load up the gear and then supervise the loading of the horses. We aim to arrive at the racecourse at least three hours before the first horse is due to run. On arrival I will check all the horses and settle them in to the stable yard, before going to the weighing room to declare them and drop off the racing gear with the jockeys' valets. Then it's a case of making sure that the horses are plaited, groomed and ready to be saddled for each race and, if needed, liaising with the jockey and the owners both before and after the race. After the race I will make sure the horses are properly washed off and cooled down, and will check them over for any nicks or cuts. Once they are cooled down and relaxed (usually at least an hour after their race), we will head home. I log our departure and arrival times in the racing tack room so the staff get the correct overtime and will report any issues to Andrew or Paul.

I am also the Transport Manager for the purposes of the yard's transport operator's licence. This entailed doing a week's course and passing an exam, and requires me to assist Lindy in keeping an eye on the tacograph records for the lorries and our compliance with other regulations.

What are the main challenges with travelling horses?

The traffic! We are very lucky in the yard in that we have very few bad travellers. This is generally the case in racing, because thoroughbreds tend to travel at a young age (often as a foal with their mother) and are very well handled from the moment they are born. Unless they have a bad travelling experience early on in their lives they tend to travel pretty well. We travel over two hundred different horses in a year and we probably only have one or two 'special needs' travellers. With those, you might travel them loose in a bigger stall, as they would have travelled as a foal, or take out the breast bar so they can't get stuck over it and so they focus more on staying balanced rather than messing around.

What has changed the most in your years travelling horses?

The conditions for staff, which have changed dramatically for the better. When I first started travelling horses we would have to stay in hostels at racecourses with ten or twelve people in the same room, terrible food, and no overtime!

What is the best part of the job?

Taking good horses to good race meetings and having winners there is great. I also enjoy taking some of the younger staff racing for the first time. Some might not have had much in their life to call their own and it's great to see them develop pride in their own horse that they ride and look after and love, irrespective of its level of ability. When that horse goes and wins, I get a real kick out of seeing them share my enthusiasm for the game.

What is the worst part of the job?

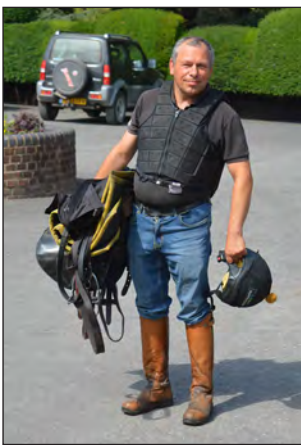
Sunday evening racing. I'm afraid I can't really see the point of it, as most of the public want to be at home with their families at that time of the week.

Which is your favourite track?

York is my favourite track – they look after everyone so well, and it is always good racing. The crowd at York are very knowledgeable and sporting and seem to really appreciate a decent horse. We also tend to do well there, which helps!

What has been your best foreign trip?

I've been all over the world with horses and it's always enjoyable, especially if you win! I thoroughly enjoyed taking Beat The Bank to Hong Kong, but perhaps my most memorable trip was to St Moritz with a horse of Olly's. It was a crazy experience, riding out through the town alongside people on sledges and Nordic skis, and then cantering on the ice with a group of eccentric Englishmen playing cricket in the snow next to the track! I loved watching the racing,



especially the skijoring races, and our horse (Burning Blaze) won which was great. The after-party was pretty special too!

What is the funniest thing you've seen at the races?

You meet plenty of characters at the races. I once went to Doncaster to saddle a horse for Geoff Lewis, who couldn't attend but told me to look out for the owner's representative, who he told me was called 'Jimmy The Spiv'. I collected the saddle from Pat Eddery and waited in the paddock until a guy came over wearing the worst ginger wig I have ever seen

in my life. How Pat managed to keep a straight face when he joined us I will never know – as soon as I legged him up he roared with laughter and asked what on earth the guy had on his head!

What has been your most memorable day racing?

I have had many memorable days, but top of the list would be saddling Kameko to win the 2,000 Guineas in 2020 – my first Classic winner.

Which horse has meant the most to you in your career?

It would probably be between Deep Cross, the first horse I ever rode in a Point-to-Point, and Silver Wisp, the first genuine Group horse I ever sat on. He was placed in a Guineas and a Derby and, after riding pointers and hunter chasers, it was like driving a Ferrari. Extortionist was also a very special horse to me – he was a winner at Royal Ascot for Olly in his first year of training.

Which is your current favourite horse in the yard?

I don't really have favourites as I don't deal with the same horses every day, but I've had a soft spot for Cello ever since he was in the field at the bottom of my garden as a youngster. ■



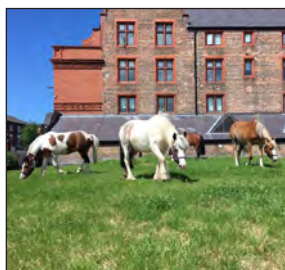
Simon with KAMEKO and connections after his win in the Group 1 Futurity Stakes

PARK PALACE PONIES



Set up in 2017, Park Palace Ponies is a registered charity which runs a riding school in the centre of Liverpool. The school uses a former Victorian theatre as its arena and grazes its ponies on a nearby allotment site. Currently home to seven ponies, the school offers affordable lessons to children between the ages of five and ten who live in the city, as well as offering community events, visits for local schools, and therapeutic and equine welfare sessions for vulnerable adults. During a week each summer the school runs a Learn to Ride Summer School at Aintree racecourse for children who have never ridden before, and this year over 200 children attended the racecourse for this purpose. The operation won a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2023.

The centre is heavily reliant on charitable donations and, particularly in the current climate, its continued operation is contingent on securing



increased funding. Its services provide fantastic support and opportunities to the children and adults who benefit from them, but also build understanding of animals and the equestrian world. With the increasing urbanisation of society there is a growing disconnect between much of the population and traditionally rural pursuits, and with a severe staff shortage in the racing industry and a lack of wider understanding of the sport, initiatives that introduce people to horses and foster an empathy with them are extremely important.

Park House Stables are delighted to be sponsoring a pony at Park Palace Ponies for the coming year. If any readers would like to get involved in supporting the charity, they have a crowdfunder on Go Fund Me (search for Park Palace Ponies on www.gofundme.com) and have recently set one up on GoodHub (www.goodhub.com). To sponsor a pony or get involved in other ways please contact Chair Jane Beirne on parkpalaceponies@gmail.com. ■



JIMMY FERRY – FLYING HIGH



briefing in which he learned how to use his parachute (!), he went up in a rare two-seater Spitfire, sitting in the second cockpit behind the pilot. He adored every minute of the experience, even the corkscrew and loop-the-loop at the end, and says it entirely lived up to his expectations. He has some great photos to treasure of this momentous occasion, which we thought we would share with you all. Who knows, there could be some more budding Spitfire pilots amongst the readers of the Kingsclere magazine! ■



Our Head of Maintenance, Jimmy Ferry, has been at Kingsclere for eighteen years and it has been a lifelong ambition of his to fly in a Spitfire. Earlier this year that dream became a reality when his family (helped by some research from Maddy O'Meara) organised for him to go to Biggin Hill and take to the skies. After a safety



AWARDS



The recipients of the Spillers Awards for Employee of the Month in the second half of the season are:

Noemi Jere – for continued great work as part of the ground staff team, always helpful to new members of staff and always keen to learn new skills.

Maya McNelis – for making a great start to her time at Park House, working hard and showing great improvement in her riding.

Charlie Tucker – for developing into a talented rider, regularly responsible for piloting many of the yard's trickier customers with skill and a great attitude.

Rhys Fox – for dedication in looking after his horses – including dual winner Brighton Boy, and with his regular rides – including dual winner Contacto!

Many thanks to Spillers for their continued support of this valued initiative.



Noemi Jere



Maya McNelis



Charlie Tucker



Rhys Fox

YEARLINGS FOR SALE

A year ago Group 2 Gimcrack Stakes winner Cool Hoof Luke appeared for sale on these pages as a yearling – could one of these two follow in his footsteps?! Prices quoted are for the full horse but part-shares may be available – please contact Andrew for more information.



PARC DOSNE,
Cloth Of Stars /
Edavanna colt
Lot 327, Arqana
October Yearlings

By young sire Cloth Of Stars, winner of the Prix Ganay and placed in two Arcs, this colt is the second foal from an unraced Wootton Bassett mare and hails from the Aga Khan family of French 1,000 Guineas and Prix du Moulin winner Erveyda. His half-brother Quai De Bethune is in training at Kingsclere and made an eye-catching debut when third at Sandown this Autumn. Currently in pre-training and ridden away, this is a handsome colt with plenty of depth and substance.

£34,000 plus VAT (priced up to 1 December)



UNNAMED,
Make Believe/
Heat Of The Day
colt
Lot 89, Tattersalls
December Yearlings

This colt is a similar type to another son of Make Believe in the Kingsclere-trained Royal Supremacy, a stakes performer who achieved a rating of 107 before selling to Australia. This colt's dam won over a mile as a late two year old and is a daughter of Australian Group 1 winner Porto Roca and a half-sister to Dubai World Cup winner Monterosso. She has already produced a three-time winner in Japan. Scopey and athletic, this colt was bought in December and has just started his pre-training.

£18,000 plus VAT (priced up to 1 December)

STAFF NEWS

After nine years as Hostel Manager at Kingsclere, we said a very sad farewell to Charlotte Clarke in October as she has moved on to take up a role with Racing Welfare. Char has been a massive part of the team here at Park House, with her duties expanding well beyond managing the hostel and feeding our younger staff. Organised, wise and fun, she has been a great friend and a huge support to many of us and will be very much missed. Luckily her new job as Welfare Officer for Lambourn and the Cotswolds encompasses Kingsclere, so she will still be a regular visitor to the yard and a familiar face to the staff team. The role of Hostel Manager has been taken by Candy Boonzaier, who has big shoes to fill but has made an excellent start to her time at Park House.

In other staff moves, we are delighted to welcome Stacie Gilks to the office team as a second racing secretary. Stacie



Charlotte Clarke



Candy

has worked for Richard Hannon for many years and will be assisting Lindy in all aspects of running what is these days a phenomenally busy racing office. Her experience has already proved invaluable in helping her hit the ground running! Pupil assistant Chloe Lindsay has moved to Australia to take up an exciting opportunity with Chris Waller Racing. In her place we have Barry Stafford, who joins us from Richard Fahey's yard. Barry will be working alongside Liam Daffey, who joined the pupil team from Australia earlier this year. Both excellent horsemen, they are real assets to the team.

There have been several milestones reached on the track, with Callum Hutchinson riding out his claim in September, Archie Burgess having his first ride as an amateur at Nottingham in October, and Izzy Chalmers riding her first winner at Lingfield in November. Away from the racecourse,



Barry and Liam

members of the Kingsclere team combined with staff from Ralph Beckett and Richard Hannon's yards for the annual Racing Welfare Dragon Boat Racing, with 'Team Oarsome' managing to take the silver medal! Several of our talented sportspeople also took part in the celebration of 250 years of cricket in Kingsclere, a wonderful event organised by Kingsclere Cricket Club and hosted by Park House with a parade of racehorses, live music and other attractions,



Team Oarsome

plus a hotly contested cricket match between Kingsclere Cricket Club and the Park House Pirates Invitation XI, which included Hampshire cricketers Ali Orr and Joe Eckland. Well attended by the local community, the event was a great success, raising funds for the club and for the Lord Taverners charity, the air ambulance and St Michael's Hospice.

The following weekend saw our travelling head lad Sam Geake and former racing secretary Becci Thompson tie the knot in Kimpton with a lovely service followed by a great party and a fair few sore heads the next morning! In September we had another yard wedding, as Simon Humphries married Carolyn in a beautiful venue in Turkey, with Rob Bettaney as best man. Many congratulations to them all. Congratulations also go to Tyla Macfarlane, who has been shortlisted in the



Sam and Becci

Newcomer category in the Godolphin Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards. Tyla joined the yard a year ago from the National Horseracing College in Doncaster and has made an excellent start to her time at Kingsclere, overcoming homesickness and working hard on her riding to manage strong horses despite her small stature. In January she took the ride on Kalpana, who needed a



Tyla



Simon and Carolyn

light rider due a sore back, and the pair have been inseparable since, matching each other's meteoric improvement through the year. Riding a Group 1 horse is obviously a great privilege but it is also a great responsibility, and one which Tyla has shouldered admirably. We wish her the very best of luck in the competition. ■



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Inkerman, recognised for supplying Owner, Trainer and Jockey trophies to racecourses throughout the UK, has commissioned an exclusive Racing Collection of drawings by Abbie Hart. Abbie has worked in racing and is an avid racing follower; she is well known for her charming drawings of horses and dogs. Inkerman are selling prints, mats, coasters and gift cards. These are the perfect gift for the racing fraternity.





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