

KINGSCLERE

PARK HOUSE STABLES



SUMMER MAGAZINE 2024



Above: *The Park House team leapt into the second half of the season with some Staff Olympics*

Front cover: *Royal Supremacy was a dual winner last year and has performed with credit this term before selling to Australia*

Back cover: *The yard achieved an across-the-cards six-timer in July with Brighton Boy, Fairbanks, Flora Of Bermuda, Lieber Power, Miss Information and Transitioning*

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INTRODUCTION

It has been very pleasing to pass the halfway stage of the Flat season surpassing the total of winners we have managed to achieve at the same stage in any previous season, but the most exciting aspect of this achievement is the promise of what lies ahead!

A reasonable prizemoney haul sees the yard sitting in second place in the trainers' table and this has been achieved despite the loss of three of our most likely big money contributors. Injuries to the likes of Array, Anzac Day and The Foxes have certainly deprived us of a more substantial total but the promise that they will return in the next twelve months gives great hope for the Autumn and beyond.

The most encouraging aspect of the season for me has been the performance of our two year olds to this point – if recent history is anything to go by, this bodes well for the future. The fact that Kingsclere horses have won more races this season than any other yard is another testament to the skill and work of the team here at Park House.

This edition of the magazine details these achievements and includes a fascinating insight into the life of a jockeys' agent. I will have to be more forgiving the next time I am bombarded with calls at 7am in the morning!

With York around the corner and Doncaster in sight, it will not be long before we are juggling racing with the yearling sales and then looking forward to welcoming the new recruits for 2025. If we can assemble a squad of the same calibre as this year's juveniles, we should have enviable strength and depth at Park House next year. ■



TACTICIAN with Oisin, groom Sandile Mbhele and owner Prince Faisal's son Salman after winning at Ascot

THE SEASON SO FAR

by Tessa Hetherington

As we enter the second half of a busy season which has seen the yard record the most wins and prizemoney to date of any trainer in Britain and occupy second spot in the trainers' championship behind the mighty Aidan O'Brien, there is much to report and reflect upon since the last edition of this magazine.

OLDER HORSES

We had high hopes for **See The Fire** this season after her third in the Group 1 Cheveley Park at the end of last term, but her three year old campaign got off to a rather disappointing start when she faded into twelfth in the 1,000 Guineas on her seasonal debut. She was not disgraced when finishing fifth in the Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot, staying on in a manner that indicated that she would relish a step up in distance. She tackled ten furlongs for the first time when taking on the boys in the Eclipse at Sandown and, whilst she was a fairly distant fourth to City Of Troy, showed enough on unsuitably soft ground to suggest that this was her trip. The Racing Post commentator suggested that she would benefit from a drop in class but her connections had other ideas, and they were proven right when she ran a huge race in the Group 1 Nassau Stakes at the Qatar Goodwood Festival, beaten only a neck by Opera Singer despite starting slowly and then racing rather keenly in the early stages. She has confirmed herself as a filly of the highest calibre and we look forward to seeing what she can do next, with the Group 3 Strensall Stakes at York likely to be next on her agenda.

The yard continually hit the crossbar at Goodwood, with no less than eleven placed efforts, five of them seconds. **Night**



The look of love: SEE THE FIRE with her groom Shannon James

Sparkle acted as bridesmaid for the third time this season when filling the runner-up spot in the Group 2 Lillie Langtry Stakes behind Terms Of Endearment, the pair having filled the same positions in the Group 3 Bronte Cup at York in May. Also second to Trueshan in the Listed Coral Marathon at Sandown in July, Night Sparkle has been wonderfully consistent and very much deserves a win at Stakes level. She holds entries in the Group 2 Lonsdale Cup and the Ebor at York later this month, with the Group 2 Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster a longer term option, though she needs decent ground.

Night Sparkle was the third of a trio of seconds on the Saturday of Goodwood which began with **Relentless Voyager**, who was reeled in by Al Aasy in the Group 3 Glorious Stakes having dictated the race from the second furlong. An impressive winner of the Class 2 Handicap over a mile and half at Epsom on Derby day, Relentless Voyager showed that he handles a mile and six furlongs equally well when third in the Listed Grand Cup at York in June. He could head back over that course and distance in the Ebor, for which he is reasonably fancied in the betting. Third in last year's Italian Derby and only out of the placings once in his ten career starts, he should continue to provide his owners the Relentless Dreamers with good days at the track. **Fairbanks** was the next of the Saturday seconds at Goodwood,



Connections of RELENTLESS VOYAGER before his win at Epsom on Derby Day

beaten just a neck in the Coral Summer Handicap over a mile and six furlongs. George Strawbridge's homebred son of Nathaniel has won six of his last nine starts and has risen in the handicap from an opening mark of 68 to a current mark of 102. The Ebor looks an obvious next step and at the time of writing he is joint second favourite for the race.

King Power's **Bellum Justum** completes the quintet of Goodwood seconds, having run Jan Brueghel close in the Group 3 Gordon Stakes over a mile and a half. Winner of the



SECRET SATIRE provided an early season highlight when winning the Musidora at York

Epsom Derby Trial in April, he ran respectably in the Epsom classic before putting in a career best effort over ten furlongs in the Group 3 Hampton Court Stakes at the Royal meeting. Considerably more straightforward than his relative Fox Tal, he holds an entry in the Great Voltigeur at York but could divert to the Nashville Derby at Kentucky Downs at the end of August – a race worth a cool \$2.5m..... **Sayedaty Sadaty** finished third behind Bellum Justum at Goodwood for David Simcock, having been sold privately to Australian Bloodstock after finishing fifth in the Derby, continuing owner Ahmad Al Shaikh's excellent record in the race. Second at Listed level at both Newcastle and Newmarket in the run-up to Epsom, he has a nice profile for Australia and we look forward to following him down under. The gorgeous **Royal Supremacy** has also recently been sold to go to Australia. A dual winner at two and placed on all his seven career starts, he ran third in the Esher Cup at Sandown before finishing second in the Italian Derby in May. He then returned to these shores to finish third in the Group 2 King Edward VII Stakes at Royal Ascot before again running well when second in the Group 3 Bahrain Trophy at Newmarket. He has been a good servant for the yard and owner Michael Blencowe and should continue to do well for his new connections.

An early highlight in the turf season was provided by the delightful **Secret Satire**, a winner at two in October who had run well on seasonal debut when third in a Sandown novice

under a penalty. One of the outsiders of the field in the Group 2 Musidora Stakes at York in May, she raced freely in the early stages but stayed on gamely to win by two lengths under Oisin Murphy. Homebred by her owner Guy Brook, she is out of a Listed winner over ten furlongs on heavy ground but by the Group 1 sprinter Advertise. She did not look to stay the mile and a half in the Oaks, although the softened surface and her free-going running style would not have helped. Dropped back to nine and a half furlongs in the Belmont Oaks Invitational in New York, she was again rather keen after a slow start but ran well to finish fifth. Sadly she picked up an injury in that race which will see her out for the rest of the season, but she retains plenty of potential and will be back next year. Pocket rocket **Flora Of Bermuda** is another filly to have travelled abroad already this season, putting in a stellar effort at Deauville on her latest start to finish a staying-on fourth in the Group 1 Prix Maurice du Gheest and faring the best of a team of British raiders. A winner at Goodwood last year, she had also run second to Big Evs in the Group 2 Flying Childers and came agonisingly close in the Listed Scurry Stakes at Sandown on her second start this term. She very much deserved a Stakes win and this duly came in the Group 3 Summer Stakes at York in July under PJ Macdonald, when she turned the tables on Adaay in Devon to be the first leg of a fantastic across-the-cards six timer for the yard. She could be supplemented for the Group 1 Sprint Cup at Haydock, is entered in the British Champions Sprint, and will stay in training next year as part of a very strong team of older horses.

Kalpana did not run at two but has made up for lost time this term, winning on debut at Wolverhampton in January before finishing runner up in another novice under a penalty. She made a mockery of her opening mark of 78 when winning by ten lengths at Newmarket's Craven meeting under Ryan Moore on handicap debut before going close in the Listed Pretty Polly Stakes at the Guineas meeting and in the Group 2 Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot. A deserved Stakes win came in the Listed Glasgow Stakes at Hamilton in July under PJ Macdonald, and the Group 1 Yorkshire Oaks could be next on the cards for Juddmonte's scopey daughter of Study Of Man, although the Fillies & Mares Stakes on British



FLORA OF BERMUDA gained a deserved Group win at York in July

Champions Day will be her primary target. Fellow Juddmonte homebred **Fire Demon** had shown promise at two, not least when second to subsequent Listed winner and French 2,000 Guineas second Dancing Gemini at Newbury. He duly got off the mark on his first start at three, winning at Kempton in January and recording a second win at the track in February. Sent off favourite for the three year old race at the All Weather Championships, he franked his odds and won with ease under Oisin Murphy. Mid-division in a seven furlong handicap at York's May meeting, he has sadly picked up an injury and will be on the sidelines for a while.

Our second winner at the All Weather Championships came in the shape of **Fivethousandtoone**, who had been threatening on the all weather all winter and stormed home in the Sprint under Oisin Murphy. Second in the Group 2 Mill Reef as a two year old back in 2020, he is a talented horse but not the easiest to manage, and credit must go to riders Matti Penrice and Will Carver and to the treadmill and swimming pool for keeping a lid on him at home! Since the Championships his performances have been a little inconsistent but he ran better than his placing suggests in the Wokingham at Ascot and his fourth in the Group 2 Chipchase Stakes back at Newcastle shows that he retains his ability when conditions are right. Fellow old boy **Coltrane** had failed to shine in the Dubai Gold Cup at Meydan in March and, with two rather lacklustre runs at the back end of last year, questions began to be asked as to whether he had lost his love for the racing game. His response was emphatic, as he showed great heart and determination in winning the Group 3 Sagaro Stakes at Ascot in May on his next start, fighting off the challenges of first Sweet William and then Caius Chorister in a strong renewal of the race. He ran a little flat at the Royal meeting and was eased in the Goodwood Cup having slipped slightly on the final bend. The Prix du Cadran at Longchamp is his end of season target, but he will run once more before then to ascertain whether the fire is still there or whether it is time to call it a day.

A younger contender for top stayer credentials could be **Alsakib**, who notched up four wins last year for owner-breeders Al Wasmiah Stud. Having flown home to get third in the Group 3 Ormonde Stakes over the extended thirteen furlongs at Chester in May on his second start this year, he again ran well at Royal Ascot when finishing fourth in the Ascot Stakes under top weight, despite a wide trip and some interference. Back in Group company in the John Smith's Silver Cup at York he handled conditions well and won by a length and a half under PJ Macdonald. He holds entries in the Group 2 Lonsdale Cup at York and the Irish St Leger at the Curragh, and still looks to have untapped potential.

Al Shabab Storm won on the same day as Alsakib but at the other end of the distance spectrum, scoring at Listed level in the City Plate over seven furlongs at Chester under Jason Watson. This was his third career win and his second of 2024, having won a Class 2 handicap over the same course and distance and under the same jockey on his previous start. He returned to Chester for a third time for the Listed Queensferry



AL SHABAB STORM has won twice at Chester this term

Stakes earlier this month and found only the eight-time winner Quinault too good. He will go to Germany for a Group 3 at Baden Baden next, and should make hay in the Autumn when he will get his preferred give in the ground. Owner Ahmad Al Shaikh had another Chester winner from Kingsclere in the shape of **Mina Rashid**, who won his maiden over the extended twelve furlongs on his seasonal debut in May. He has struggled in tough company in the Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot and in the German Derby since, but can get back to winning ways down in class. Chester has, as ever, been a happy hunting ground for the yard and **Transitioning** added to our tally there when running the final leg of the memorable six-timer in July under Jason Watson. A winner on his first start at Doncaster in May, he had struggled on quick ground at Newmarket on his handicap debut but should have plenty more to offer when there is give underfoot.

Purosangue was a star juvenile last year and has continued to run with great credit for Opulence Thoroughbreds this term, placing third in the Listed Commonwealth Cup Trial at Ascot in May and a close second in the Group 3 Coral Charge at Sandown in July. He was sent off favourite in the Stewards Cup at Goodwood but failed to shine, perhaps not appreciating the quicker surface. He will be freshened up and wait for softer ground in the Autumn, with the Group 3 Bengough Stakes at Ascot a possible target. Fellow sprinter **Desert Cop** tackled Group races last term but has stuck to handicaps so far this year. He defied odds of 22/1 to win the six furlong Heritage Handicap at Newmarket's Guineas meeting under Oisin Murphy, and ran respectably in the Wokingham at Royal Ascot. and in the Shergar Cup. Fellow Jeff Smith homebred **Equity Law** is out of a half-sister to Desert Cop and won well over the minimum trip at Sandown in April. He has failed to build on that in two starts since, but may appreciate a return to a slightly softer surface. **Storm Star** was also bred by Jeff Smith and is the first foal of Stewards Cup heroine Dancing Star. Troubled by injury last year, he won at Newcastle on his debut in May and has been placed on each of his three starts since, including when beaten only a neck in a competitive Racing League handicap at Yarmouth last time out. He retains plenty of potential and should be back in the winner's enclosure



DESERT COP was a long-priced winner at Newmarket in May for owner-breeder Jeff Smith

before long. His sire, Night Of Thunder, is best known for his fillies but we have had three of his colts win this term, the others being **Imperial Guard** and **Arctic Thunder**. Placed on both his starts at two, Imperial Guard won on his seasonal debut at Kempton in March and has been placed three times since, including when third in the big six furlong 3yo handicap at Newmarket's July meeting on his latest start. Arctic Thunder won in January on his second career start and showed useful form when fourth in a conditions event at the same track before winning a Class 2 handicap at Ascot in May under David Probert. He ran a fair race in the Britannia at Royal Ascot but could not justify favouritism at Goodwood when caught wide. He can make amends soon.

Warda Jamila was another winner at Ascot in May and ran very well to be third over ten furlongs at Goodwood, despite doing plenty wrong in the early stages. A half-sister to Coltrane, she has scope to improve further for owner Sultan Ali but will wait for more give in the ground. **Break The Bank** is also from a family we know well, being a half-brother to Beat The Bank and Chil Chil. He won on his seasonal debut in March, over the mile at Kempton under Joshua Bryan, and has been pretty consistent since, with his third at Class 3 level at Wolverhampton last time out signalling that his next win may not be long in coming.

The fillies have been holding their own this season, and **Dance And Romance** has added two wins to the yard tally. A winner on debut at Southwell in April under David Probert, she was then second under a penalty at Lingfield before winning on handicap debut at Nottingham under James Doyle. She took a big step up in class in the Class 3 fillies handicap over six furlongs at the Qatar Goodwood Festival and ran very well to finish third, best of the three year olds and only beaten a neck. She is on a steep upward curve and is one to follow for the remainder of the season. **Miss Information** won and placed as a juvenile last year and has continued to be a model of consistency this season, winning two of her six starts and placing in a further three. The first of those wins came

over seven furlongs at Chepstow in July and will be remembered not only as part of the yard six-timer but also as the first winner for our apprentice Barry Lewis, who expertly guided her to victory by over three lengths. She escaped a penalty for that win as it was in an apprentice race and was turned out again quickly at Epsom to again win by over three lengths, this time in the hands of Oisin Murphy. By the time Goodwood came around she had risen some twelve pounds in the handicap for those efforts, but showed that she remains a filly on the up with a good fourth, despite meeting trouble in running. She should continue to give Norman Court Stud and Susan Bunney plenty of fun.

All Agleam is another filly to have notched up two wins this term, having been

our first winner of the year over seven furlongs at Lingfield in January under David Probert. Her second victory came at the same track and trip and under the same jockey but this time on the turf, making all to win comfortably by two lengths in July. Homebred by Kirsten Rausing and a full sister to Kingsclere star Shine So Bright, her debut is the only time she has been out of the first four in eleven starts. Nick Bradley Racing's **Sun Dancer Girl** has been a later developer but has now really hit her stride, winning three of her last four starts. Like All Agleam she has won twice at Lingfield, once on the all weather and once on the turf, but over twelve furlongs rather than seven. Her latest win came at Southwell where she stepped up to fourteen furlongs and relished the test of stamina, winning by two and three quarter lengths in the hands of Callum Hutchinson, who has ridden her in all three of her victories. She has been raised another six pounds for that effort but looks to still be progressing.

Kingsclere Racing Club's **Lady Flora** has only won once so far this season but it was an important and fitting one, as her victory at Chepstow on 26 July under Josh Bryan was Andrew's 2000th winner on the Flat in Great Britain. A half-sister to five Kingsclere winners including Elm Park and Brorocco, the win will also be significant for her pedigree page in years to



SUN DANCER GIRL has notched up a trio of wins this year



KRC's LADY FLORA was Andrew's 2000th winner on the Flat in Great Britain

come. Her four length triumph saw her rise seven pounds in the handicap but she coped with this well when second in a Racing League handicap at Chepstow next time. Lady Flora's win was part of a Kingsclere Racing Club double as **Mount Atlas**, also by Masar and out of Lady Flora's half sister Highland Pass, won at Ascot on the same day. Always an eyecatcher at home, his racing career got off to an inauspicious start when he stumbled and unseated Will Carver on debut, and he took another two starts to get the hang of things before winning a ten furlong maiden at Redcar under Clifford Lee in May. Third in a competitive Kempton novice over twelve furlongs, he turned the tables with the winner of that when staying on well at Ascot under Hayley Turner. He has picked up a minor niggle since but a step up to fourteen furlongs looks well within his range once this is resolved.

We have a raft of progressive three year olds at middle distances, with **Wild Waves**, who had run well in two Sandown novices last year, winning over a mile and a half at Kempton in May under James Doyle and following up in a Class 2 Handicap at Doncaster over the extended fourteen furlongs under Danny Tudhope. His latest run at Haydock can be ignored as he slipped badly on the bend, and he remains a lovely prospect for Jeremy and Germaine Hitchins. He holds an entry in the St Leger but the Melrose Handicap at York (a race we have won in recent years with Coltrane and Valley Forge) is likely to be his next outing. Jim and Fitri Hay's **Subsequent** is another progressive three year old who has won twice already this year. From the penultimate crop of Galileo, he was very green on debut at Southwell in April but went down by just a head at Salisbury next time out before scoring over the extended eleven furlongs at Haydock under Oisín Murphy and following up over twelve furlongs back at Salisbury

under Silvestre De Sousa. He was slow out of the gates at Goodwood and could never get involved in a race where it paid to be prominent, but a step up in trip could well be to his advantage and he too could head to the Melrose. **Tactician** has already proven himself at both fourteen furlongs and two miles, winning at the former distance at Goodwood under Will Carver on his third career start and securing the Brown Jack Handicap over two miles at Ascot last time out in the hands of Oisín Murphy. Still a big baby, he looks to have plenty more improvement in him and is bred to be classy, being by Lope De Vega and out of a sister to Group 1 winner Coronet and Irish Derby and St Leger second Midas Touch. Denford Stud's homebred is also likely to be Melrose bound.

Contacto was very babyish in his first three starts but announced himself as an improver with a seven length win over the twelve furlongs at Doncaster under David Probert



SUBSEQUENT is from the penultimate crop of Galileo and has already won twice this year

on his handicap debut. Narrowly defeated at Chester on his next start, he won again at Hamilton in May under Kevin Stott. Up eighteen pounds in the handicap for those three runs, he could go to the Melrose or step up further in trip for the two mile handicap at York. **Contacto** had laid claims for the longest winning distance of the year but that title currently lies with **Clove Hitch**, Juddmonte's daughter of Siyouni having powered home by eight lengths at Newbury in June under Oisin, having placed in hot maidens at Newbury and Windsor. Fifth at Listed level on soft ground at Ascot on her last start, she is currently having a break but can be competitive on her return.

Hopeful had won by five and a half lengths in January at Newcastle but was disappointing when returned to the same track in March. Freshened by a break she has put in three excellent efforts since, going close in Class 3 handicaps at Redcar (over ten furlongs) and Newmarket (back at a mile). She came the closest of all our runners to providing the yard with a Royal Ascot winner, beaten just a head in the Kensington Palace Stakes, and Prince Faisal's homebred daughter of Make Believe can continue to do well once she returns from a slight setback. Fellow four year old **Vetiver** was a Listed winner last year and repeated the feat this year, taking the Queen Charlotte Fillies Stakes over seven furlongs at Chelmsford under David Probert in July. She was short of room at a crucial stage in the Group 3 Oak Tree Stakes at Goodwood, finishing strongly to take fourth. The Group 3 Sceptre Stakes at Doncaster looks ideal for her. Cheveley Park have had a trio of fillies win from Kingsclere with **Incensed** and **Haya**, both by Ulysses, joining Vetiver on the winners' list. **Incensed** showed promise on her only start at two and was placed at Newmarket and Kempton this year before scoring over eleven furlongs at Carlisle in July under Tom Eaves. Too keen when stretched to fourteen furlongs at Sandown last time, she remains on an upward curve. **Haya** also won at Carlisle but in May, and over nine furlongs under David Probert. This was a deserved victory as



CONTACTO has won at Doncaster and Hamilton for owner Sheikh Hamed Dalmook Al Maktoum

she had been placed on all four of her previous starts. Fourth in a Class 3 handicap at Chester on her latest start, she sold at the Tattersalls July Sale and will continue her racing for leading Qatari trainer Gassim Ghazali.

Mick and Janice Mariscotti's **Aragon Castle** travelled even further than Carlisle for his win, taking a Class 2 handicap over the extended mile at Hamilton with ease under William Buick. This followed placed efforts at Haydock in April and Goodwood in May and he again ran well when fifth in big ten furlong handicap at the Goodwood Festival, despite almost parting ways with Callum Hutchinson at the start. He could try ten furlongs next. **The Goat** was the hero of last year's Goodwood Festival, and after a few lacklustre efforts at the end of last year and the beginning of this, he bounced back with two good runs at Kempton, finishing second in June before winning over twelve furlongs in July under Jason Watson. He ran well in the Shergar Cup on ground that was probably quicker than ideal. Also by Cracksman, **Lieber**



INCENSED streaked clear to win at Carlisle under Tom Eaves



ARAGON CASTLE led his rivals home at Hamilton under William Buick

Power was another who looked to have slightly lost his way, finishing down the field on his first two starts this term. Selecting him as the mount for Lois Day in the Stable Staff Charity Race at Newbury seems to have sweetened him up very successfully, as after finishing fourth with Lois he went on to win at York under Callum Hutchinson as part of the six-timer, was beaten just a nose back at Newbury next time out, and then got back into the winner's enclosure in a valuable Racing League handicap at Chepstow under Oisin.

City Streak is now in his fourth year at Kingsclere and has won in each of the last three. He scored over the extended ten furlongs under Oisin at Chester in May – the same course, distance, meeting and pilot as one of his wins last year – and whilst he has struggled off a higher mark in his last two starts, he should be competitive again this season. Also bred by owners Lord and Lady Blyth, **Belcamo** had been very consistent both last year and this and deserved

his win at Goodwood in June, overcoming trouble to score over twelve furlongs under Will Carver. He sold at Tattersalls in July and should provide new owners Stowe Racing with plenty of good days. Also sold in July were winners **Juantorena**, **Sudden Ambush** and **Leicester Square**, whilst **Topanga**, who won well at Haydock just before the sale, was bought by Australian owner Gary Johnson but has stayed in the yard for the time being, finishing a good third at Chester last time out. **Portsmouth** is has already left for Australia, having been bought by OTI Racing after winning at Epsom in April and placing at Goodwood in May and back at Epsom in June. Unable to make an impression in the Golden Gates Stakes at Royal Ascot having been keen in the early stages, he should do well down under.

Dambuster had won on debut at two and won on his seasonal debut at three, taking a ten furlong novice at Beverley under a penalty. Disappointing at Sandown on his handicap debut, the ground may have been too quick for him in the Shergar Cup and there should be better days in the Autumn for Chasemore Farm's well-bred son of Kingman. Also by Kingman and out of South African Group 1 winner Ebony Flyer, T'Challa is a gorgeous big horse and had taken some time to come to hand. He won well at Windsor under Oisin on his third start and, whilst he could not build on that on handicap debut at Ascot, he had attempted to make all on fairly soft ground and different tactics and conditions can see him bounce back for Team Valor. Hot To Trot's likeable filly **Apeling** was another to win at Windsor, taking a six furlong novice in June under Oisin Murphy having been knocking at the door in her previous two starts. That form has been franked with the



THE GOAT with his many admirers after winning at Kempton under Jason Watson

second winning twice since and the third also going in and, whilst Apeeling was down the field in a Class 2 handicap at York in June and was a little disappointing on her latest start, her third at Ascot in July suggests there is still more to come.

Cuban Melody won at Windsor in May after placed efforts at Kempton and Chelmsford and she has remained consistent since, bar when out of the handicap at Goodwood on her latest start. Currently enjoying a mid-season break, she can bounce back from that and remain competitive for Highclere Thoroughbreds.

The yard did well on the all weather in the Spring. **Cadogan Place** is by Frankel and a brother to Group 1 Fillies' Mile winner Quadrilateral, and he won at Southwell on debut, narrowly beating the ill-fated Chester Vase winner Hidden Law, the pair pulling some seven lengths clear of the rest. Slow out and then keen in the Chester Vase himself, Cadogan Place has had a wind operation which should help him get back to winning ways. Calyx filly **Capo Vaticano** had always shown plenty at home and made a winning debut at Chelmsford in April, making all under Rob Hornby. Placed on her next two starts, she was slow away on handicap debut last time out and can do better. **Purefoy** had progressed in three starts at two and made a winning seasonal debut at Lingfield, making all under Oisin to win by two and a quarter lengths. That form has a solid look to it, but Purefoy has managed to beat a grand total of five horses in his next four starts. A return to the all weather beckons and can hopefully bring about a turn in fortunes.

Cynosure was another to win at Lingfield in April on seasonal debut, having placed in all three of his starts at two. Thrown in at Class 3 level on his handicap debut at Newmarket in May, he was eased up once his chance had gone and has had a few niggles since. **Celtic Warrior** won at Kempton in April and has run well twice at Goodwood since, filling the runner up spot over a mile in June and then finishing fourth in the Class 3 handicap over nine furlongs at the Goodwood Festival despite a bump in the final furlong. He should remain competitive.

Enchanting was a winner at Goodwood in June under Hollie Doyle and has returned to the track for her next two runs, finishing second next time and then fifth in a Class 3 contest at the Festival, all over the minimum trip. **Mount Teide** was a non-runner at the Festival due to the quick ground but has been very consistent, coming close on his debut at Newmarket in April in a typically competitive renewal of the Alex Scott maiden, finishing second in a nineteen runner novice at Newbury and then running out an easy winner over seven furlongs at Chepstow under David Probert in May. By Too Darn Hot and named after a volcano in Tenerife, Mount Teide was again an easy winner in a Class 3 Handicap at Newmarket last time and looks like he is yet to reach his peak for owner Saeed Suhail. Another Welsh winner came in the shape of **Imperial Express**, Michael Blencowe's daughter of Inns Of Court making all under Oisin to score by three and a quarter lengths over the mile. She put in another good effort when fifth in the mile fillies' handicap at the Goodwood Festival and can continue to do well. **Run**

Away, a full sister to Group 1 sprinter Blackbeard, beat two subsequent winners when winning on debut at Yarmouth in April but was disappointing under a penalty at Doncaster on her next outing. She needs a softer surface and should return to form in the Autumn.

The yard sponsored a race meeting at Salisbury in May and managed to saddle a winner at it in the shape of **Fast Society**, who won the Side Glance Novice over seven furlongs by over two lengths, despite carrying a penalty for his win at Southwell last year. Now fully recovered from a minor setback, he has been given plenty of time but remains a nice prospect for Kennet Valley Thoroughbreds. Perhaps the most popular winner of the year to date has been the grand old boy **Ranch Hand**, who missed all of 2023 through injury but returned to the track in May and in August made all under Hayley Turner to win the Shergar Cup Stayers at Ascot, showing great guts to fight back after being headed and looking to love every second of the experience!

TWO YEAR OLDS

Whilst Goodwood involved plenty of 'nearly' results, the yard did have two winners, and both were juveniles. Juddmonte's **Jouncy** is by Wootton Bassett and out of the Listed winner Joyeuse, a half-sister to Frankel, making him a half-brother to Array. Jouncy showed promise on debut at Newbury and then went very close in a hot maiden at Kempton (the winner since third in the Super Sprint), before getting the job done under Oisin Murphy in the six furlong maiden on the opening day of the Goodwood Festival. His half-brother finished second in the race last year before winning the Group 2 Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury and Jouncy holds an entry in that race, but could take in the Gimcrack at York en route to Newbury or head to the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster if a step up to seven furlongs is required. He is a lovely prospect. **Spell Master** had been a good advert for his new sire Kameko as a foal, fetching 145,000gns at Tattersalls before subsequently selling as a yearling to owner Saeed Suhail. He once again showcased the talents of his sire when dead heating for the win in the seven furlong maiden on the Saturday of Goodwood, showing good progression after promising runs at Newbury and Epsom. This is a race the yard has previously won with Imperial Fighter



Juddmonte's **JOUNCY** in a cheeky mood with Oisin and groom Padraic Dahill, having won well at Goodwood



SPELL MASTER dead-heated at Goodwood for his first win

and The Foxes and hopefully Spell Master can continue to progress as they did. The seven furlong nursery at York could be next on his dance card.

Kameko has had a great start with his first crop of runners, with nine individual winners from 25 runners at the time of writing – particularly impressive given that he himself did not make his racecourse debut until late July – and Kingsclere has supplied three of those seven winners. **New Century** was an eyecatcher on debut at Lingfield, running on late to take fourth, and put that experience to good use when running out an easy winner of a seven furlong novice at Doncaster. He got closer to the Lingfield winner Al Qudra when second to him in the Listed Pat Eddery Stakes at Ascot in July and then provided Kameko with his first stakes winner when taking the Listed Stonehenge Stakes over a mile at Salisbury, making all under Oisin Murphy. He is a very exciting prospect for owner-breeders Qatar Racing and it is wonderful to have such a flagbearer for Kameko in the yard after he did so much for us during his racing career.

Ghost Run is the third winner by Kameko, and she too won on her third career start, taking a six furlong fillies maiden at Newbury in July under David Probert. She did best of her side of the track in the big fillies nursery at the Qatar Goodwood Festival, finishing fourth, and looks to be on an upward trajectory. Bred by owner David Howden and a half-sister to Park House star Nymphadora, she is not the biggest but, like her sire, has an excellent attitude. The Harry's Half Million Sales Race at York should be next for her. Newbury has proven a happy hunting ground for Kingsclere's juvenile fillies, with **Handcuffed** cruising to an easy victory under a hands and heels ride from Oisin over six furlongs in July. Bred by the late Queen, she is out of the Listed placed Make Fast and a half-sister to good juveniles Tactical and Works Of Art, and has always been highly regarded at home. She was disappointing in the Group 3 Princess Of Margaret Stakes at Ascot on her second start but she was keen early on and can do better when she learns to relax, with the six furlong nursery at York an option for her. **Flaming Stone** was the first of the three juvenile fillies to win at Newbury, scoring by four lengths

over seven furlongs in June, having been fourth in a hot Newmarket novice on debut. A little free in the Listed Star Stakes on her third start, she did well to finish third having encountered some trouble in running, and again ran well when fourth in the Group 3 Sweet Solera Stakes at Newmarket. She is a lovely prospect for Juddmonte, who bred her with Anita Wigan. Juddmonte have another smart filly in **Kassaya**, the Kingman half-sister to Chaldean, who finished second on debut before winning over five furlongs at Nottingham under Rob Hornby. The form of that race looks solid with the second having won and the third placing fourth in the Windsor Castle at Royal Ascot. Kassaya

herself might well have placed at Royal Ascot had she not repeatedly been denied a clear run in the Queen Mary, but a line can be put through that. Currently off games due to a setback, she should return next year a stronger filly and one with plenty of nice options.

Teme Valley Racing's **Tropical Storm**, a half-brother to Purosangue, came very close to giving us a juvenile winner at Royal Ascot, going down by a length to Shareholder in the Norfolk Stakes on his third start. This is strong form - he had subsequent Group 2 July Stakes winner Whistlejacket and subsequent Listed winner Aesterius behind him, and when finishing second at Newmarket on his previous start beat subsequent Listed winner Al Qudra and subsequent Goodwood nursery winner Mr Chaplin. These form lines saw him fancied for the Group 2 Richmond Stakes over six furlongs at Goodwood, but he did too much early on and failed to see out the extra furlong. He can bounce back and could drop back to the minimum trip in the Listed Roses Stakes at York, in which Purosangue finished second last year. Teme Valley Racing have had a juvenile winner from the yard in **New Bombay**, who bolted up on his nursery debut over seven furlongs at Chester earlier this month, appearing to appreciate the tight left-hand track. By New Bay and the first foal of a decent ten furlong winner, he seems likely to benefit from stepping up in trip in due course.



TROPICAL STORM is yet to win but has already been Group placed



COOL HOOF LUKE won at Chelmsford before placing at Royal Ascot and Goodwood

Cool Hoof Luke has a speedy pedigree, being by Advertise and out of a sister to an Italian Group 3 winner over five furlongs, but he was a big leggy yearling and when Emma and I bought him at the sales I thought he could take a good while to come to hand. He strengthened into a strong, deep bodied colt over the spring and delighted everyone when winning on debut over six furlongs at Chelmsford, keeping on strongly once the gaps came to score by a neck under Oisin. One of the outsiders for the Group 2 Coventry Stakes at the Royal meeting, he led for most of the way and stuck to his task admirably when the challengers came, finishing fourth under Silvestre De Sousa, beaten only three quarters of a length. He was much shorter odds for the Group 2 Vintage Stakes over seven furlongs at Goodwood but was too keen in the early stages and his stamina ran out in the final furlong. It was nevertheless another good run, and he has already done owner John Wallinger proud. A drop back to six furlongs looks in order, and he holds entries in the Gimcrack and the Mill Reef Stakes. **Brighton Boy** was another relatively inexpensive purchase as a yearling, having been bought by Billy Jackson-Stops for 21,000gns at the Tattersalls Somerville Sale for Michael Blencowe. Very green on debut at Leicester, he stepped up on his second start, going down by just a neck over six furlongs at Salisbury to Caburn, who went on to win the Super Sprint at Newbury. Tackling the tight turns of Chester on his next start, Brighton Boy put his experience

to good use and ran out an easy winner under Jason Watson, finishing three and a half lengths clear of his nearest rival, who has won since. Caught wide when upped to seven furlongs in the Goodwood nursery, this son of Gregorian can get back to winning ways soon.

Jeff Smith's **Royal Playwright** is much more fashionably bred, being by Lope De Vega and out of Group 1 Juddmonte International winner Arabian Queen, who has already produced four Kingsclere winners including See The Fire and Arabian Storm. A gorgeous colt with great presence, he made light work of his debut assignment over seven furlongs at Salisbury, streaking clear to beat more experienced rivals by three lengths under Hayley Turner. He is likely to tackle the Group 3 Acomb Stakes at York next. **Remaat** recorded an even greater winning distance of four and a half furlongs when taking a Newmarket fillies maiden over seven furlongs in July under Oisin and, whilst she only faced two rivals on that occasion, the form of her second to subsequent Group 3 placed Tales Of The Heart at Kempton on her previous start looks very solid. By Kodiak but out of a Listed placed winner over eight and ten furlongs, she could yet stay further and is a nice prospect for owner-breeder Prince Faisal.

As ever there are a host of later developing juveniles who are only just beginning to show their true colours, so there is plenty more to look forward to as we head into the Autumn. ■



REMAAT had daylight in second when winning at Newmarket under Oisin Murphy

SALES SEASON

It is the time of year where we start thinking about building the squad for next year by seeking out some future stars at the yearling sales, with recent acquisitions including Relentless Voyager, Wild Waves, The Goat and Cool Hoof Luke. Members of the team will be at the Goffs UK Premier Yearling Sale at Doncaster (27-28 August), the BBAG Premier Yearling Sale (30 August), Tattersalls Somerville Yearling Sale (2-3 September), Tattersalls Ireland September Yearling Sale (24-25 September), Goffs Orby Sale (1-2 October) and Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (8-18 October). Please get in touch if you would like to be involved.



Andrew and Tess at Tattersalls

Kingsclere Racing Club



Members of the Club at the yard with MOUNT ATLAS

Our equine team for 2024 has a young look to it and we made a steady start to the campaign. However, a memorable across-the-card double, courtesy of Mount Atlas at Ascot and Lady Flora at Chepstow, has really kick-started our season – and a KRC party at Park House that evening was well-timed! Mount Atlas looks particularly progressive and could have some notable handicap targets later this year, while Lady Flora represented us well in the Racing League at Chepstow and looks to have plenty of improvement to come.



A trip to the Royal Mews has been a highlight away from the track

It has also been a pleasure to have longtime KRC star Ranch Hand back on the track this summer and he gave us a great day when winning at the Shergar Cup, while our two year olds are certainly showing promise and the first of them should be reaching the racecourse in September.

Away from the racecourse, we enjoyed a very special private tour of the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace, which provided a wonderful insight into what is an incredible facility and a unique opportunity to see the horses, the resplendent royal carriages and to meet several of the coachmen and grooms, most of whom live on site.

We were also welcomed to Chris and Claire Bonner's breaking and pre-training yard near Lambourn for another very informative and enjoyable morning, followed by an excellent lunch.

There is plenty to look forward to in what promises to be a busy few months ahead, both on and off the racecourse, before our end of season party on Breeders' Cup Night in November.

The Kingsclere Racing Club is full for 2024, but we are accepting applications to join the waiting list for next year. For further information, please contact Nathaniel Barnett on 07890 672435 or by email, admin@kingsclere.com.

THE 2024 **12** TO FOLLOW COMPETITION

It's tight at the top at this stage of the Twelve To Follow competition, with ten points (a single winner) covering the top five in the rankings. Long-time follower of the yard Clive Stansby is leading the way with his shrewd selections, but KRC member Mark Hutchinson is snapping at his heels, and with the two year olds only now beginning to hit their stride plenty could change in the next few months!

These are the scores up to and including 6 August 2024.

1 Clive Stansby (B)	151	37 MG Wooldridge (A)	117	77 Roger Michaelson	95
2 Mark Hutchinson	150	40 Suzanne Harris	116	78 Emma Balding	94
3 Diana Magalhaes	144	40 Rex Paris (A)	116	78 Alan Philip Coles	94
4 Angie Cheshire	143	42 Missy & Betty Clarke	115	78 Lois Day	94
5 John Knight	142	42 Gerry Rafferty (A)	115	78 Anne Soul	94
6 Anna Lisa Balding	140	42 Felicity Simpson	115	78 Jasmine Wells	94
6 Jessica Chalmers	140	45 Will Carver	112	83 Wayne Bolton	93
8 Vic & Nick Rhoades	138	45 Richard Dangar	112	83 Padraic Dahill-Rowan	93
9 Alysoun Carey	137	45 Rex Paris (B)	112	83 Dr MJ & Mrs D O'Brien (A)	93
10 Javier Maldonado	135	45 Martin Slade	112	86 Arabella Oppenheimer	91
10 Charlie Richards	135	49 Dr MJ & Mrs D O'Brien (C)	111	87 David King	89
12 Sam Geake	134	50 Andrew Balding	110	88 Jeremy Carey	88
13 Sally Phipps Hornby	133	50 Archie Burgess	110	88 Sara Cumani	88
13 Dino Toovel	133	52 Anna Lisa Brook	109	90 Jamie Gladstone	87
13 Nigel Walker (A)	133	53 Bob Humphries (B)	108	91 Lee Drury (D)	86
16 Clive Stansby (A)	131	53 Charles Stebbing	108	91 Barry Hale (A)	86
17 Bryan Jennick	130	55 Gallop Rob	107	91 Rachael Holmes	86
18 Iris Hoare	129	56 Flora Balding	106	91 Don Smith	86
19 Jenny Arlington	128	56 Jamie Mc	106	95 MA Bettaney (A)	85
20 Adrian Hodgkins (B)	126	58 Des Oates	105	95 Lee Drury (C)	85
20 Anderson King	126	59 Charlotte Clarke	104	95 Roger Hetherington	85
20 April Rafferty (B)	126	59 Pedro Springer	104	95 Simon Humphries (A)	85
20 Nigel Walker (B)	126	61 Bob Humphries (C)	102	95 Bob Humphries (A)	85
24 Rhiannon Blatch	125	62 Mary Gee	101	95 Charlie King (A)	85
24 Macie Harris	125	62 Julia Reardon Smith	101	95 Maggie Robinson-Gay	85
26 M Blencowe	124	62 Lindy Rees	101	102 Werner Aeberhard	84
27 Benjamin Corke	123	65 Kelly Corke	100	102 Graham Jones	84
28 Lorraine Whitehall	122	65 Alfie Joe Redman	100	104 Isobelle Chalmers	83
29 Wendy Harris (A)	121	65 RE Simpson	100	104 Keith Derbyshire (A)	83
30 David Dunn	120	68 Peter Box	99	104 Simon Gee	83
30 Shannon James	120	68 John Gale	99	107 John Feane	82
30 Stephen Woolley	120	68 Jamie Wells	99	107 Tessa Hetherington (A)	82
33 Angie & Lorraine	119	71 Barry Hale (B)	98	107 Fiona Hutchinson	82
33 Jane Pearson	119	71 Simon Humphries (B)	98	107 Charlie King (B)	82
35 D Powell	118	71 Jack Wells	98	107 Gerry Rafferty (C)	82
35 Jon Rea	118	74 Guy Brook	97	112 April Rafferty (A)	80
37 A Johnson/G Bounds (A)	117	74 Jo Gammell	97	112 Sarah Stebbing	80
37 Amirah & Angela Rhoades	117	76 Roland Francis	96	114 Keith Derbyshire (B)	79

114 Frank Frankland	79	134 Russell Harris	69	155 Amy Read	55
116 Gerry Rafferty (B)	78	136 Avril Elson	68	156 MG Wooldridge (B)	53
116 Billie Robinson-Gay	78	136 Josh Gay	68	157 John Soul (A)	51
118 Carmen Blatch	77	136 Emma Wallis	68	158 Tanya Coulson	50
119 Toby Balding	76	139 Michael Payton	67	159 Alan Philip Read	49
119 Pip Elson	76	139 Hubie	67	160 Sue Gay	46
119 George Wallis	76	141 A Johnson/G Bounds (B)	66	161 Matthew & Emily Slade	45
122 Jan Lees	75	142 Tom Cox (B)	65	162 Tom Cox (A)	44
123 SA Bettaney	74	142 Jamie Richards	65	162 Joanna Jensen	44
123 Valerie Slade	74	142 Laura Spickett (B)	65	162 Laurence Jinks	44
123 Paul Spickett	74	145 David Gay	63	162 Sally Anne Jinks	44
126 Andrew Slater	73	146 Janice Read	62	166 Richard Wilmot-Smith	41
126 John R Smith	73	147 Stephanie Smith	61	167 Alastair Donald	40
128 Adrian Beaumont	72	148 Sharon Woolley	60	168 John Soul (B)	35
128 Paul & Lisa Spickett	72	149 Wendy Harris (B)	59	169 Dr MJ & Mrs D O'Brien (B)	32
130 Tessa Hetherington (B)	71	149 Adrian Hodgkins (A)	59	170 Laura Spickett (A)	30
130 Gary Rhoades	71	149 Daisy Wells	59	171 Raymond Vickery	28
130 Gary Richards	71	152 MA Bettaney (B)	58	172 Camilla Richardson	20
133 Lee Drury (A)	70	153 Lee Drury (B)	56	173 Sam Gay	13
134 James Campbell-Gray	69	153 John Wright	56	174 Sarah Paddock	10



KALPANA

TOP SCORING HORSES

AL SHABAB STORM	42
KALPANA	35
FAIRBANKS	32
SUN DANCER GIRL	31
RELENTLESS VOYAGER	27



FAIRBANKS

SELECTION OF THE LEADERS

CLIVE STANSBY (B)		MARK HUTCHINSON		DIANA MAGALHAES		ANGIE CHESHIRE	
Alsakib	18	Enchanting	21	Sayedaty Sadaty	8	Flora Of Bermuda	21
Hampden Park	0	See The Fire	9	Royal Supremacy	25	Lady Flora	20
See The Fire	9	Flora Of Bermuda	21	Al Shabab Storm	42	Hillbridge	4
Fairbanks	32	Aztec Empire	1	Mina Rashid	10	Fairbanks	32
Warda Jamila	15	Works Of Art	0	Warda Jamila	15	Berkshire Nugget	15
Purosangue	13	Sea Of Roses	10	Cadogan Place	0	Night Horn	6
Bellum Justum	25	Al Shabab Storm	42	Capo Vaticano	10	Warda Jamila	15
Kassaya	16	Berkshire Kameo	14	Respond	0	Berkshire Kameo	14
Art Patron	0	Displaying	0	Jouncy	16	Chartwell Jock	0
Jouncy	16	Kassaya	16	Royal Playwright	10	Peaky Blinder	0
Chartwell Jock	0	Jouncy	16	Best Adventure	8	Christmas Gift	0
Windlord	7	No Nay Never/Nabat Seif	0	Christmas Gift	0	Jouncy	16

JOCKEYS' AGENTS

TESSA HETHERINGTON

Whilst all racing fans are familiar with the names, faces and personalities of the jockeys in the sport, their exploits being widely shown on television, in the press and across social media, few know much about the agents responsible for booking the rides of those jockeys. These individuals work away from the limelight, organising each jockey's week and endeavouring to get them a full book of rides and the best winning chances at every meeting they attend. They can be pivotal to the trajectory of a jockey's career, but most people know little about them and how they operate. We decided to learn a little more, by quizzing four agents - Nicky Adams, Neil Allan, Chris Dixon and Gavin Horne – all responsible for jockeys associated with Kingsclere.

How long have you been a jockey's agent and how did you get into it?

Nicky A: I've been an agent for 26 years. I had been a jockey and had always booked my own rides, so it was a natural progression. I remember the time of the switch well – on the Friday I rode at Wolverhampton in the afternoon and Chepstow in the evening, and then I started working as an agent on the Saturday morning!

Neil A: I've been doing this for about 20 years. I got into it through sharing an office with someone who had started as an agent.

Gavin H: I've been an agent for over 20 years. I had no racing background at all but have been obsessed with racing since I was at infant school. I was working as a postman when I started out as an agent and would race through my round as quickly as possible, ducking home for breakfast to look at entries and declarations. I started with a few minor jockeys and taught myself from scratch – probably annoying a lot of trainers in the process!

Chris D: I've only been working as an agent since late 2021. I fell into it by accident – Jason Watson needed an agent and was riding a lot for David O'Meara, with whom I work closely. I said I'd help Jason out on an interim basis but he ended up having a really good winter, and then a few other jockeys approached me and it grew from there.

How many jockeys and apprentices do you have on your books?

Nicky A: I have nine professional jockeys, including Rob Hornby, Callum Shepherd and Kieran O'Neill. I also do Liam Keniry and Will Cox who both started at Kingsclere. I do five apprentices, including Callum Hutchinson.

Neil A: I do five professional jockeys, including David Probert, Luke Morris and Rab Havlin, plus one apprentice. I find this is more than enough to fill up my working day so try to stick to this sort of number.



Oisín Murphy after winning the Coronation Stakes on ALCOHOL FREE

Chris D: I have four professional jockeys – Jason Watson, Cieran Fallon, Jo Mason and Ali Rawlinson, and then I also do the apprentice Fred Larson, who used to work at Kingsclere.

Gavin Horne: I have looked after multiple jockeys in the past but these days I only do Oisín. For the past few years I have lived in Cambodia as I have a partner and young son out here, and the time difference makes things tricky – we are six hours ahead in summer, and seven hours ahead in winter. I can give Oisín a hundred percent with just him on the books and it works well for us. When Oisín came along I had almost given up being an agent as I'd got a bit disillusioned with it but Terry Norman [ex jockeys agent] called me up and said that this young kid who'd just won the apprentice title needed an agent and suggested I ring him. We started with a three-month trial and we just clicked.

What is the pattern of a usual day?

Neil A: I usually get up at 5:45 and my wife and I go down and feed our horse before work begins. I'm usually back in the office by 6:30am and am then very busy until after declarations close at 10:00am, tracking which horses are being declared where and making phone calls. Most of my jockeys ride on the All Weather through the winter so it's a year-round job, although the winter months are a bit quieter.

Nicky A: I walk the dogs at 5:00 and collect the Racing Post, and then I'll be marking that up by about 5:45am. I will start making calls pretty early but I know which trainers I can ring early and which I can't! It's very busy until 10:00, and these days everyone declares late so a lot can change at the last minute and the last half hour can be very frantic. Once everything is sorted for the declared horses I will start looking at the rest of the week and the entries that are being made for racing in five days' time. The afternoons are quieter and an opportunity to catch up on things.

Chris D: My working day as an agent is probably more condensed than most as I have other jobs too – I am an analyst on Racing TV, do race planning for David O’Meara, and run the Horse Watchers syndicates. I start at about 7:15 and am busiest from then until about 10:15, getting my head round the declarations and what is likely to happen, although often I will have done some work on this the night before, looking for where problems might occur. Once the entries start coming through from 11:30 or so I am looking ahead to see where my riders might be needed later in the week. I pay someone to run the published entries against a database and to produce a spreadsheet which shows where all my jockeys’ main yards have entries. This also flags up any horses that the jockeys have ridden before. It’s all colour coded and saves me a lot of time.

Gavin H: Because of the time difference, declarations close at 16:00 my time so I’m working on those from 14:00, also looking at the entries coming through until they close at 18:00 my time. I’m very much a pen and paper person – it makes my brain work and helps me remember everything. I watch all Oisin’s races live – I have to give him the same service as if I was in the UK – but if he’s in the last race at an evening meeting that could mean I’m still up at 3am!

What factors go into deciding which rides to accept/chase for a jockey?

Neil A: All my jockeys have at least one main yard that would supply them with plenty of rides and winning opportunities. Riding for that yard is the starting point and then I work around those commitments, trying to fill the jockey’s book of rides on that card.

Chris D: A lot depends on the rider – the first port of call is where the jockey’s main ‘boss’ needs them, and we don’t get a lot of say in that. It’s different if a jockey is the number one rider for a yard – as Jo Mason is for Mick and David Easterby – then you might get to pick and choose a bit more. After that, you’re looking for the best opportunities on the card. Form work is important, but it’s also important to maintain the rider’s relationships with trainers and owners – that can be more important in the long term than getting on a winner on a certain day. Jockeys will sometimes let me know if they’ve ridden a horse in work at home and are keen to get the ride on it, but it doesn’t always come off – Jason rang me after he’d ridden Cool Hoof Luke at home, but we haven’t managed to get the ride on him yet!

Gavin H: Oisin is retained by Qatar Racing but they have fewer runners in the UK these days, so the first factor is usually Andrew’s entries. We get to choose amongst those to some extent, and then it’s a question of looking where the best rides are on the same card. I try not to do this too early so that I have a good idea of the final fields in the races and can see where the best opportunities lie. You need to accumulate as many phone numbers as you can and forge relationships with as many people as you can – owners as well as trainers. We will also be looking ahead to the big races and what might run in them. I am very lucky in having a jockey of Oisin’s calibre

as it means I can pick up the phone and put him forward for the best rides.

Aside from booking rides, what other support do you give your jockeys?

Chris D: My background is in form analysis but I tend not to do this for my jockeys unless they ask. I try to encourage them to develop good habits, such as walking the track, working out the pace in the race etc., but I am always there as a sounding board and to give advice if it’s needed. Quite a lot of that is mental support – there are a lot of knockbacks and disappointments. Racing is the only sport where even the best participant is losing 70% of the time!

Neil A: Most of my jockeys have been very loyal to me and we have been together a considerable amount of time. There are many hard and tough days when horses don’t win or things go wrong, and it’s important to support them through those. I’m definitely a cup half full kind of fella which helps!

Gavin H: You cannot communicate enough with your jockey. I have spent a lot of time with Oisin – I went to Japan with him when he rode out there for a season, and to Hong Kong, and that helps build a strong and supportive relationship. People will find this hard to believe but I’ve never had a cross word with him!



Jason Watson after winning on NYMPHADORA at York last year

How does managing an apprentice jockey differ from managing a professional?

Gavin H: There’s a huge difference between managing a 7lb claimer from a 5lb or 3lb claimer. When they start out, nobody has heard of them and so you are looking at smaller trainers with lower grade horses, perhaps where the horse has recently won so is carrying a penalty and they need to take some weight off. Every apprentice is different and you know how good they are and how best to manage them. Some fly through and then it’s a case of protecting their claim, perhaps by sending them abroad for the winter, so they can get on really good horses in the big turf handicaps. For others, it’s more about getting as many rides and as much experience as they can. Things can always change, though, and luck and momentum plays a big part.

Nicky A: Once an apprentice loses their claim they are out in the big wide world, competing against the professionals. If this happens too quickly it can be very tough for them so you

want to manage that. You need to build relationships with as many trainers as possible as that loyalty will help them get rides once they lose their claim.

How are you paid?

Chris D: Every agent gets paid commission on a jockey's riding fees and prize money. This is done automatically through Weatherby's, and the percentage is pretty standard across all agents.

What is your proudest or most memorable moment as a jockey's agent?

Neil A: Any winner at any level makes you proud, but luckily for me some of my jockeys, including David Probert, have also been champion jockeys on the All Weather and have ridden some big Stakes winners, and those moments are particularly memorable.

Chris D: For me I think it's more the overall job you've done than any specific moment. Most of my riders have come to me when they have not been operating at their peak and it's a case of trying to reset and rebuild. When you can see this working it's very rewarding. Watching Jason win the Listed City Walls Stakes on Nymphadora at York last year was very enjoyable as he'd been having a bit of a quiet patch, but he got a great tune out of the filly and a big win at a big Saturday meeting definitely helped put him back in people's minds.

Nicky A: That's a tough question as there are many, but probably Adam Kirby winning the Derby on Adayar and Rob finishing second in the Arc on Westover. Adam had been jockeyed off John Leeper in the Derby when the owners went

for Frankie Dettori, and then got the ride on Adayar who was Charlie Appleby's third string but went and won. Rob had been jockeyed off Westover for the Irish Derby the previous season and it was great to see him get back on the horse and do so well.



David Probert with SANDRINE after winning the Lennox Stakes

Gavin H: I think it would have to be Oisín winning the champion jockey title in 2021. It was nip and tuck with William Buick and I flew over for British Champions Day. Oisín went into Ascot three wins in front, but Buick rode a double on the day, so it was incredibly close and pretty emotional.

What do you do to relax away from work?

Gavin H: My three year old son takes up any free time I once had!

Chris D: There's not much time to relax given the different jobs I do, but I like to spend time with my wife and kids, and to watch Hull City FC.

Neil A: I will go and watch my daughter riding our horse, and my son plays football locally which takes me to Arundel FC and Bognor FC.

Nicky A: I find the job is pretty 24/7 – I take everything to heart and find it hard to switch off, but I like to run in my free time (I'm currently lame, but I am 63!) and annoy my wife. ■



AWARDS



As we reach the mid-point of the turf season there have been many top performances amongst our team of staff as well as our team of horses. The individuals picked out for special recognition as Spillers Employees of the Month are:

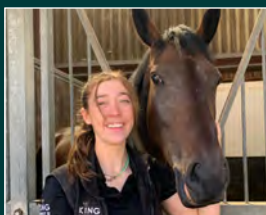
ROSIE SAUNDERS – Rosie has made great strides since joining the yard from the racing school at the end of 2023. With a willing attitude and high standards, she is a real asset to the team.

NATHU SINGH – Nathu is extremely hard working and has become a highly valued member of the ground staff team, always going above and beyond the call of duty.

TYLA MACFARLANE – Tyla has worked hard on her riding and has improved a great deal in both strength and technique, skills she has put to good use on regular rides Kalpana and Ghost Run, both winners in recent weeks!

KEVIN HUNT – a lynchpin of the team for many years, Head Lad Kevin has worked especially hard this season to nurse some of his charges back to full health and to success on the track.

All winners receive £100 and a bottle of Spillers prosecco. Many thanks to Spillers for their continued support of this valued initiative.



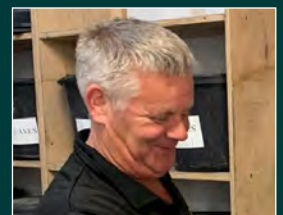
Rosie Saunders



Nathu Singh



Tyla MacFarlane



Kevin Hunt

STAFF NEWS



As in the wider world, it has been a big summer of sport at Park House Stables. The team held their own Staff Olympics in July, featuring sprint races, long jump, a tug of war and a hobby horse Grand National. Congratulations to the winning team and to Archie Burgess and Chloe Lindsey, the fastest man and woman in Kingsclere!

Stamina rather than speed was the order of the day for the Hampshire Hoppit, with Maddy O'Meara and Matti Penrice completing the cross-country marathon and Alfie Redman completing the half-marathon, all in impressive times. Charlie Richards is another dedicated Kingsclere runner and completed the London Half Marathon in April for the charity Phab.



The Kingsclere cricket team have continued their local domination, with victories against Ralph Beckett's yard, Tweenhills Stud and Newmarket's Hippy Eleven. A more informal cricket match also featured during our annual 'Parents' Evening', where the families of staff were invited to come to the yard for a barbecue and drinks, followed by a morning on the gallops. This happily coincided with Char's 40th, celebrated with



an amazing cake in the image of her horse Sam, made by Leanne!

There have also been several highlights for our staff members on the racecourse. Both Izzy Chalmers and Alfie Redman have had their first rides under rules, whilst Baz Lewis rode his first winner on Miss Information as part of the yard's memorable six-timer in July. Racing Staff Week saw the Stable Staff Charity Race at Newbury and longtime team member Lois Day steered Lieber Power to fourth place in front of many of her family and friends.



The staff team has also benefitted from talks from Mindset and Performance coach Jenni Winters and PJA Nutritionist Hannah Trotman – we are not sure what the latter would have made of the enormous box of doughnuts delivered to the staff team by Hot To Trot Racing for Racing Staff Week, but they were extremely well received!



Last but not least, we must congratulate Jonno Balding on his selection for the England Rugby U18 International Series in South Africa this month, having been part of the unbeaten England team at the U18 Six Nations in Italy in the Spring. Good luck Jonno! ■



SUPER SIX

Friday 12 July 2024

