



NEW TROPHY FOR HERITAGE HANDICAPS COMPETITION IN 2022

Please see page 6 for details of how to enter this summer's competition. One change this year is to have a new trophy which is now called the **Colin Stanton Trophy** in memory of our longstanding committee member who we lost late last year.

The original trophy has been engraved showing Colin as the last winner (in 2019) and is being passed onto his family as a final memento of his time with the racing club.

BRIAN HUGHES JOINS THE '200' CLUB

Brian Hughes joins the elite few to ride 200+ winners in a jumps season. Photo below shows Brian with his NH Jockeys' championship trophy. *Photo: Sporting Life.* See page 5 to read Harold Heys title winning tribute.



NEW WEBSITE PASSWORD FOR 2022

The password for the restricted club websites at www.northernracingclub.com will be updated on Sunday 5th June 2022.

In recognition of that fella above, the new password will be **HUGHES204**

Until then please continue to use the old password which is **BLACKMORE2021**.

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COMPETITION NEWS

59's DRAW RESULTS UPDATE

The latest '59's' winner is as follows:

April 2nd – 20 – Alan Parker (Stockport)
May 7th – 39 – Helen Goodwill (Altrincham)

Both win the usual £50pm prize. The winning number is determined by the 'bonus ball' drawn in the UK Lottery on the first Saturday of the month.

Thanks to all who continue to support the draw.

We currently have one number available (03) so if you want to join the draw please contact Phil Evans (see committee panel on last page). It costs £1pm to join the draw payable either yearly or quarterly.

ALEX BIRD COMPETITION – 2022

The prize winners for the Aintree Round were:

Winner : **Jon Moisey (Widnes)**

Runner Up: **Harry Sandland (Leigh)**

The next two rounds are flat racing with next up four days from Royal Ascot.

The leaders in the seasonal challenge after two rounds are:

Steve Cawley 379.5pts, **Ted Halewood** 365pts,
David Allman 356.5pts.

GRAND NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKE 2022

Another excellent entry with a prize fund of £300.

The winners were:

1st Andy White/Terry Slocombe - £75 each.

2nd Mrs C Heys/Phil Doyle - £37.50 each.

3rd David Edge/John Lipton - £22.50 each.

4th Ken Unsworth - £30

NH SATURDAY NAPS 2021-22

The winner of the third-round prize of £80 was **Frank Turley** from Fulwood, Preston with **Mary Claydon** from Carlisle winning the runner up prize of £40.

In the seasonal competition **Mike Wheater** from Oldham won the first prize of £120 plus the £100 Betfred vouchers.

Runner up was **Brendan O'Meara** from Malpas, Cheshire who wins the £90 prize.

Jim Aitkenhead from Chester wins the third prize of £50 with **Brian James** from Warrington receiving the fourth prize of £30.

In the supplemental challenge for the most winners, **Ted Halewood** from Merseyside wins the £50 prize.

Thanks to all who took part this winter.

The competition will be receiving a facelift over the summer months and we shall return with a revised **Satnaps Plus** competition in the autumn.

Finally, thanks to our long-term sponsors Betfred for supporting us again with a prize this year.



In our 'just for fun' football competitions the winners were:

NMRC 'SUPER 6' LEAGUE

1st Helen Goodwill 459pts

2nd Martin Nott 454pts

3rd Cieran Cassidy 435pts

TELEGRAPH FANTASY FOOTBALL

1st James Culton 1746pts

2nd Rob McDermott 1681pts

Details of how to join the NMRC 'mini leagues' will be shared when football resumes on 6th August.

JACK BERRY HOUSE VISIT & YORK RACES

FRIDAY – 8TH JULY 2022

Our next club event is a re-arranged visit to Jack Berry House at Malton , Yorkshire where we will be able to have a guided tour and see where all our hard-earned donations are being spent! The original visit planned in 2020 was cancelled due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time.

We have agreed to collect donations of £5pp attending, to pass onto the Injured Jockeys Fund on the day.

Arrival time will be late morning but we shall ensure that it fits in with the first race time at nearby York for those going racing in the afternoon

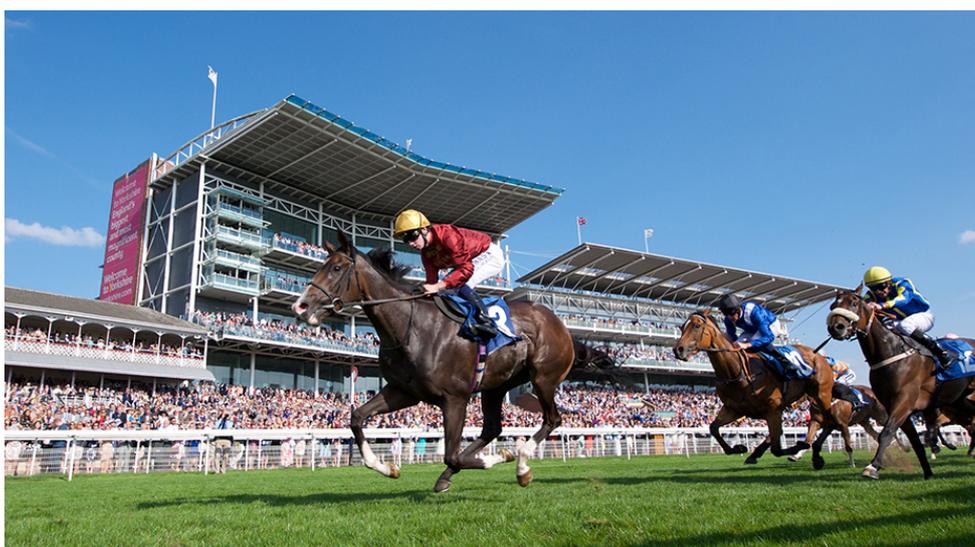
Please book places on this visit as soon as possible by contacting **Dave Bates** (see last page of magazine for contact details). You will then be advised of final arrangements for the visits, approximately one week before the scheduled date.

NMRC members may also bring guests, if wishing to attend club visits..

If members support these visits we will plan some more similar events in the autumn months.



YORK RACES



Whilst full details are on the York Website a brief summary of prices are as follows:

County Stand £32 (advanced £28).

Grandstand £19 (advanced £17) Seniors £16.

Clocktower £7 on day (Seniors £5).

To book online please visit <https://www.yorkracecourse.co.uk/home.html>

RACECOURSE ATTENDANCES FALLING

The Racing Post has been highlighting the fall in racing attendances recently. No surprise really given the cost-of-living increases being faced at present!

However, one area that has seemingly gone under the radar is that post Covid-19 restrictions ending, many courses have removed/hidden their 'seniors' concessions whilst keeping their 'young persons' concessions intact/on display.

Most of racing's marketing photos seem to show younger people drinking on the courses and clearly the tracks like the extra spending that younger people appear to have. No problem building the next generation of customers as far as I am concerned, but why shun the 'old guard' at the same time?

However, mid-week racing has historically been the domain of the retired who have the freedom to go racing mid-week. Courses, however, do not seem to value these customers like they used to and by removing/hiding 'seniors' concessions they have effectively put their prices up by around 50% so no wonder that many in this age group is staying away!

Surely there would be merit in courses still offering seniors a 'mid-week' concession or even a 'mid-week season ticket' for example?

Even courses that do offer 'seniors' concessions are not always what they appear. On a recent trip to Uttoxeter I was told that they offered an 'on the day concession' of £5 in just one of the enclosures. However, the on the day price was actually £5 more than the standard advance booking price so was not really a concession if you booked in advance!

After our latest stable visit, many went on to Haydock later in the afternoon. As a mid-week fixture, the course now offers just a single price admission to Grandstand/County Stand at £25. The Newton Stand (Silver Ring) is no longer offered as a cheaper alternative. Whilst there was no mention of any 'seniors' concessions being available, one club member asked at the entrance and was offered a reduced price of £18. By way of comparison at Haydock, an upcoming Saturday fixture has advanced tickets priced at £22 (Grandstand) and £32 (County Stand). So on this basis it seems that most adults who use the grandstand area are paying more to attend mid-week racing than at weekends, albeit the on the day Saturday prices (not readily available) will probably be higher.

Many courses that offer annual badges (generally very good value) tend to restrict them to a few hundred and when sold out that's it. Yet if there is a bigger demand, why do they not take advantage of it and extend the members facilities to meet the growing demand? Why not offer a winter/summer season ticket if you are a 'dual purpose' course? ARC (Arena Racing Courses) annual badges do give access to 500+ meetings at their other courses as well.

Go Racing In Yorkshire is another welcome exception to the general malaise in the racing sector and their season ticket, covering 187 meetings a year for just £380, is excellent value and should really be used as a template for racecourses to follow in other regions of the UK.

The general standard of management at courses sometimes leaves a lot to be desired at present. All too often top jobs are given to candidates with no racing background, usually the sort of person that will tell their directors of their vision 'to increase net customer spend' etc but in reality they are so far removed from their existing customer base that for every new customer they attract they are probably losing two of their former customers who feel neglected.

If the average racegoer ever sends a constructive suggestion to a racecourse manager nowadays they will almost certainly not get any sort of response - either they are 'too busy' or just 'don't care'.

Yes, racing has taken a financial battering over the last few years, like most of the UK. However, it seems that senior management in racing is looking for a 'quick fix' to boost their finances again which is clearly not working very well. They surely need to take time to reflect on strategies and get more customer feedback and take a longer-term vision towards sustainable financial recovery otherwise track closures may be the end result.

What do other members think about the fall in racecourse attendances this year?

What would you like to see done to encourage more people to go racing again?

Send your thoughts to info@northernracingclub.com and we shall look to include the best comments in the next issue of Racin' magazine.

Sandown show topped that cuppa!

By HAROLD HEYS

JOCKEY Brian Hughes wouldn't think of the low-key presentation of his championship trophy back in 2020 as anything to raise an eyebrow about. After all, Covid was screwing up a lot of plans.

It was a few weeks after the 2019-20 season had come to a premature close that former weighing-room colleague Mick Fitzgerald knocked on the front door of his home in the village of Carlton in Cleveland, a few miles south of Middlesbrough, and handed him the trophy. Brian's lovely wife Luci made them a cup of tea.

It was rather more of a spectacle this April when Brian received his second championship trophy after missing out to Harry Skelton in the closing stages of the intervening season. Thousands of racegoers and racing professionals – and his family – packed into Sandown for the Finals Day presentations. A few million watched on TV.

It was a fitting tribute to the popular Irish rider – modest and unassuming with grit and determination matched by few. He put on a brave face as he hoisted the glittering prize aloft, but you rather suspected he would have been more than happy if Mick Fitzgerald had popped round again and handed over the sparkling cup while Luci reached for the kettle.



Big question over the last couple of weeks of the season was: Is he going to reach 200 winners? With two weeks to go he was on 193. Two winners at Hexham were followed with a stuttering few days. The last week started with him on 195, but a winner at Market Rasen on the Sunday, one at Fakenham on the Monday and a welcome double at happy hunting ground Sedgefield on the Tuesday put him on 199.

The photo (left) shows Bavington Bob, who was well fancied to edge Brian Hughes towards 200 winners at Haydock as the season came to a close, but they never got in a blow: *Photo: Les Fitton.*

It was all down to the three-day Perth Festival where Gordon Elliott and Sean Bowen were expected to rule the roost. So it proved as the combination had five winners. But Hughes steered Dreams of Home into the winner's enclosure for top Northern trainer Don McCain on the opening day. Dreams of Home, in the purple and pink colours of Colin Taylor and Kay Wilding, was named after the 1986 hit song for Irish group The Wolfe Tones.

The new champion was full of praise for the trainers and owners who had supported him, especially McCain who provided him with over 100 of his mammoth tally of winners, including Hughes' 100th winner of the season – also aboard Dreams of Home! Only three riders had previously landed a double century – AP, Scu and Richard Johnson whom he pipped to the title in 2020. Last year he was run out of it in the closing stages by Harry Skelton who came with a blistering late run.

The Sandown presentation was one of those never-to-be-forgotten moments. His wife and children Rory and Olivia were there as well as his five sisters. One had flown from Canada, another from Australia. Other jockeys trailing in behind his 204 winners in the list were: Sam Twiston-Davies 105, Skelton 103, Harry Cobden 99 and Bowen 95. Brian didn't get near a Group 1 winner but he amassed nearly £2million in prize money.

And within a few days "Mr Modesty" was off riding again as the new National Hunt season got under way. "I was lucky last season." he said. "No injuries and no suspensions. And all my usual stables were in great form."

HERITAGE HANDICAPS CHALLENGE 2022

The Heritage Handicap Competition is back for another season, a challenge for all flat racing fans. It will run throughout the main flat season starting on Saturday 4th June (Derby Day) and ending at Ascot in October on Champions Day.

This year the races chosen by the organiser (Helen Goodwill) will be the highest profile handicap race in UK each Saturday and Helen will e mail/text details to the entrants each week.

Entrants can select three horses which they think will win or be placed in the nominated race. Points will be awarded as per the Tote dividend (win and place) with the exception of 'world pool' races where SP's will be used to score the 4th placed horse if no Tote dividend is given. The number of places scoring points is to be determined by the number of runners in the race, using the normal each way rules. If you select more than one placed horse, you will score the points gained from all of them. A league table will be compiled with the total points scored.

To add a bit of extra skill, those who successfully pick the first two home of any eligible race will go into another 'Exacta' league. This will be run separately from the main league. If all three selections finish in the first three places entrants will also receive a 100% bonus on the published Tote Exacta dividend.

The prize money will be allocated as follows: 80% of the entry fees will go into the main competition with 20% being given to the winner of the exacta league. If nobody selects an exacta throughout the whole season, the prize money for that league will be given to the Injured Jockeys Fund. The number of prizes available will be advised once the number of entries is known.

It costs £10 to enter with all entry fees added to the prize fund. If you wish to send entry fee electronically please e mail info@northernracingclub.com for details. To enter by post please complete the slip below and return to Helen Goodwill, North & Midlands Racing Club, 124 Lindsell Rd, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 5NZ.

Selections are accepted via text, email or answer phone. Each initial entry will be acknowledged and an entry number allocated. If entrants also require a paper copy of the rules please send a SAE with the entry form - internet entrants will receive confirmation via e mail.

The competition is open to all registered members plus any other family members at the same address. If you have any other friends/family who would like to join in, please ask them to register as a FREE online member before entering the competition. Only one entry is allowed for each person.

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## HERITAGE HANDICAPS ENTRY FORM 2022

Please accept this entry for the 2022 Competition. I am also enclosing entry fee of £10 per person (payable to North & Midlands Racing Club). Please enclose SAE for paper copy of the rules.

Name(s).....  
Address.....  
.....  
.....  
Phone/Mobile.....  
Email.....

# RICHARD O'BRIEN 'UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT' WITH BRIAN GOODWILL

## WHAT FIRST GAVE YOU THE RACING BUG?

At primary school in the mid-'seventies there was a list of Grand National runners sellotaped to a window, presumably for a sweepstake and meant for parents. I stumbled across it and was attracted by the names of the runners and riders, which included Red Rum, The Dikler, Spanish Steps and the Duke Of Albuquerque. Seeing those names brought to life on TV a few days later was more thrilling than anything I'd experienced before and I was hooked.

## WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB IN RACING?

When I was thirteen I wrote to the editor of The Handicap Book, a weekly racing paper whose office was then in Eccles, about five miles from where we lived in Manchester. Having expressed an optimistic interest to join their team, I was invited to spend a day watching them put the paper together. After introductions had been made, I was given a desk surrounded by form books and Timeform Black Books and told to come up with a tip for that week's paper. Several absorbing hours followed and my confident selection Boardman's Crown was printed in that week's Handicap Book under a cartoon of "Betting Shop Sid". The horse was a late non-runner. I started at Timeform eight years later.

## WHAT DO YOU DO NOW?

I was at Timeform for fourteen years and spent the next fourteen as a full-time punter. In 2020 I joined the Racing Post's Spotlight team and have been happily employed there since.



## ARE YOU INVOLVED IN OWNERSHIP?

Yes. Along with Matt Taylor, Martin and Chris Dixon, and more recently with a number of enthusiastic shareholders, I part-own a number of horses in training with Mick Appleby, David O'Meara and Rebecca Menzies, under the Horse Watchers umbrella. We started by getting involved with one horse, a tough and useful campaigner called Pearl Nation who won seven races after he was switched to Mick's yard, and things have snowballed since. We had a lot of fun over the winter with Intervention (five wins), Whittle Le Woods (five wins), Night On Earth (four) and Hathlool (three), and our team for the turf season includes Raasel, who has won six of his last seven, plus Starshiba and Tiger Touch who look well enough handicapped to score as well.

## COULD YOU GIVE US A HORSE TO FOLLOW (ONE FOR EACH CODE)?

Starshiba fits the bill for the Flat horse. His record for David Elsworth was just one win from 13 attempts but he had some strong form, notably when finishing

a short-head second to Perotto ten days before that horse won the Britannia at Royal Ascot, and we're hopeful he can be placed to advantage this year. He trailed home last in the Thirsk Hunt Cup on his reappearance but

showed bright speed for a long way and should come on plenty for the run. That was over a mile but we've a feeling shorter trips may suit him ideally.

For a jumper, Jonjo O'Neill's Collector's Item is a promising sort who should be winning races this season. He pulled clear of his other rivals when second in an Irish point, and the winner that day remains unbeaten after digging deep to win the Grade 2 bumper at the Grand National meeting at 28/1. Collector's Item again bumped into a smart one on his debut in bumpers, this time finding only the well-regarded Weveallbeencaught too good in a deep race at Newbury. He'll have no trouble going one better if persevered with in bumpers, but it's over longer trips and obstacles that Collector's Item will come into his own, as his pedigree, which goes back to the triple Cleeve Hurdle winner Lady Rebecca, is packed full of stamina.

### **WHAT COULD THE BHA DO BETTER?**

I'm less interested in racing politics than on what happens on the track. The BHA have a difficult job and I don't have the relevant expertise to give them advice on how to do it any better. The proposal to extend the Cheltenham Festival to five days seems misguided, but the decision on that isn't in the BHA's hands anyway.

### **WHAT WOULD YOU PUT IN RACING'S ROOM 101?**

Intrusive loudspeaker announcements and "atmospheric" music on the racecourse. The majority of the paying public simply want to know the result of each race and to be updated, very occasionally, on non-runners, changes to the ground etc. Banal previews and interviews with bookmakers' reps, broadcast at maximum volume, should be consigned to the scrap heap.

### **CAN YOU RECALL A FUNNY STORY FROM YOUR DAYS AT TIMEFORM?**

A few of us from Timeform used to attend the Grand National every year, and our favourite viewing spot was at the furthest point from the stands, overlooking Valentine's Brook. In 1994, the year after the void race, security was particularly tight, and, as we made our usual way across the centre of the course in the minutes before the off, we were apprehended by a police officer who found it difficult to believe we were members of the racing press. We followed the race, in which Miinnehoma memorably held on from Just So, on the radio from the back of a police van.

### **WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE RACEHORSE OF ALL TIME?**

It's impossible to narrow it down to one. In my Timeform years I liked Dublin Flyer for his bold jumping and the Epsom Dash winner Mistertopogigo for his brazen speed. Frankel's win in the International at York was one of my most enjoyable day's racing, and he's the closest to the perfect racehorse there's been in my lifetime. But some lower-rated animals have become firm favourites too, particularly among the sprint handicappers. David Chapman had a lightning-fast five-furlong horse (he'd have been even better over four) called Bowcliffe Grange who was great fun to follow but whose official rating never got higher than 53. Currently I'm a fan of Eddie Lynam's mare Romantic Proposal, who began her career over an extended mile and has got quicker with age, winning the Flying Five at the Curragh last year. The King's Stand at Royal Ascot should be right up her street.

## **SIGN UP FOR EASYFUNDRAISING AND HELP THE CLUB'S FINANCES!**

- Help us raise funds for NMRC and once you raise £10 you will get a FREE competition entry!
- We've had less income than normal due to the last two years of Covid-19 restrictions so need your help.
- We need your help raising funds to help cover the costs of running the club.
- ...so sign up to easyfundraising and raise donations for us just by doing your normal everyday online shopping. It doesn't cost you anything and it's easy to sign up here:  
[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=1KWVM8&char=155206&referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_source=1PRI22](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=1KWVM8&char=155206&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=1PRI22)

# FANTASY BETTING ACCOUNT with Mal Boyle

I love compiling odds and offering a fantasy account gives you the chance to beat yours truly on a daily basis!

On many occasions I will be betting to 100% whereby in theory I cannot win - but can you?

I'll keep a running total for you on an everyday basis when my odds alongside general betting opportunities will be with you by early morning.

Racing, football, cricket, golf, tennis, rugby - you name it, I will offer odds accordingly where I see fit.

Companies will not lay the type of odds I offer for fear of being taken to the cleaners but all I have to lose is my pride - and that's where you come in.

My inventive nonsense will offer you the chance to bet where mainstream bookies fear to tread. As an example, I've already got the prices ready for next season's opening Premier League games, before the fixtures are announced!

Manchester United's first home game: 6/5 they win - 5/6 away win/draw  
Their first away game: 13/8 they win - 8/13 home win/draw

How do you place bets via a daily email? You must send the e-mail before the time of your first event. On the horse racing front – non-runners have to be classed as void - you can only send one e-mail a day.

You can have up to five bets a day - all at £5.00 stake. You can miss days out completely, have two one day and one the next - it's entirely up to you.

Horse racing rules:

Any race on home shores is available as well as Ireland's fixtures. All bets settled at SP but (and it's a big but), any horse at an odds against price will be upgraded to the next price. A winner at 6/5 becomes 5/4. 11/4 becomes 14/5, 11/2, = 6/1 etc. Going further up the ladder - 20/1 = 22/1, 33/1 = 40/1 etc., etc. A full list is available on application.

£2.50 each way betting is allowed with one proviso against + one with a definite advantage. Only 'old fashioned' place rules are on offer (first four in 16+ handicaps but at 1/5 the odds given the staking opportunities) but to counteract that, one fifth the odds a place are available on the first three in 5/6/7 runner events!

You win to full stakes in a dead heat situation, + winnings will be paid on disqualified horses (first past the post rules apply + the original runner up).

There will be random odds like those below. An example would be as follows:

Lingfield (May 10<sup>th</sup>): Any horse winning wearing the number 3 saddlecloth today - 5/4 - that price could look extremely attractive if any favourite/well fancied horse carrying a different number is withdrawn!

**Important point regarding horse racing bets - No rule 4 is EVER applied. Fill your boots....**

To sign up for Mal's Fantasy betting challenge please e mail him at [malcolmboyle2@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmboyle2@gmail.com)

It's just for fun.....

# ANDY WHITE'S POINT TO POINT NEWS

The point-to-point season has seen large crowds and good weather with only a few meetings cancelled. Whilst the public have been out in force, the field sizes at meetings have been reduced. Because of Covid and the economy, many owners have left the sport and the recent fast ground has understandably seen some trainers reluctant to run their horses.

## Radox Aintree Foxhunters chase

I mentioned in my last report that LATENIGHTPASS was a possible for the Aintree Foxhunters after a great round of jumping at Charm Park in early March. Connections chose to miss Cheltenham this year and last year's Foxhunters runner up went one better in this years' event with a fantastic round of jumping over the big Aintree fences under leading lady rider Gina Andrews. The David Maxwell ridden Cat Tiger was second and Porlock Bay under Will Biddick back in third. The winner trained by Gina's husband Tom Ellis and owned and bred by her mother-in-law Pippa made it a real family affair.

As at 11 May, Tom Ellis is this seasons leading point to point trainer with 59 winners , Gina Andrews is well clear in the ladies Championship with 45 winners. Will Biddick leads the men's championship with 47 winners just ahead of James King on 44 winners.

## Yorkshire Review and 2022 Championship Final Standings

The Yorkshire Season concluded in early May with the Derwent Meeting at Charm Park Scarborough. There were wins at the meeting for the winner of the Yorkshire Men's jockey championship John Dawson and Men's Novice championship Jack Power. Biggest cheer went to novice rider Hester Hardy for her first point to point win on NORTONTHORPELEGEND (ex-Rebecca Menzies) in the mixed open race.

Back in April, Sheriff Hutton hosted the Middleton Point to Point which celebrated 100 years of the meeting. The big race (the Grimethope Gold Cup) saw POINT THE WAY ridden by Joe Wright for trainer Guy Brewer reverse the result of last year's race beating CUP FINAL in a close finish. POINT THE WAY enjoyed more success with a close win over the Chris Dawson trained STEELY ADDITION in the Hunter Chase at Perth's May meeting. STEELY ADDITION, with five wins this season, was the leading horse in the Yorkshire Open championship.

The leading Yorkshire Novice Horse was SINE NOMINE with three wins under John Dawson for trainer Fiona Needham. The last of these at the Badsworth and Bramham Moor meeting at Askham Bryan College was the first of John Dawson's three winners on the day. Rosie Howarth rode a double and she won both the Yorkshire ladies Championship and ladies Novice championship after a fantastic season.

There was another good attendance at April's Easingwold meeting. It was disappointing that the opening race had to be voided as neither of the two entries were declared to run on the day. Highlight of that meeting was double for Joe Wright and trainer Guy Brewer.

Winner of the Yorkshire Family Horse Championship was VENT D'AUTOMME who racked up 4 wins and a second place under novice rider Lily Frank for her trainer father Paul Frank. The final win was at the Zetland point at Witton Castle in early May. The only disappointment for the horse was back in February when racing with a big lead at Duncombe Park the horse missed a marker post and ran out. Other than that race, it was a good season for the horse and the Frank family.

## Cheshire meetings at Tabley

The Cheshire Forest meeting at Tabley on 3 April saw just 25 runners going to post. Henry Crow was the top jockey on the day with a four-timer including a walk over. There was another walk over later in the card which was a disappointment for the large crowd in attendance. I write this report just before the second Tabley meeting scheduled for 15 May which had 54 entries so hopefully there will have been more declared horses this time.

## Hunter Chase Meeting at Stratford

To round off the season, several of the horses mentioned in my pointing reports will be aimed at the end of season Hunter Chase meeting at Stratford Racecourse on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May.

# GORDON ARMISTEAD'S RACING DIARY

## Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> Aintree

A moderate renewal of the two-mile four Manifesto Novice Chase. Millers Bank ran out a decent winner and connections will be hoping that the handicapper doesn't take this too literally for his future surely lies in handicaps and not graded races. Runner up War Lord has been well beaten when taking on class animals. Pic D'Orhy had been the early morning favourite but as could be anticipated his jumping did not stand up to this. Pied Piper took up the running coming to the last in the Anniversary Hurdle going very easily and seemingly going to win as he did at the Cheltenham January meeting. However he found nothing like what could have been expected and was run down by Knights Salute who left his Triumph running well behind for a dead heat. A jump to his right at the last was deemed sufficient for the stewards to demote Pied Piper and it appears he does not want to lead till after the last hurdle. Boodles winner Brazil isn't the biggest and was well seen off here.

In the Betway Bowl it appeared that Gold Cup pair Protektorat and Royal Pagaille had not recovered from their exertions while Ryanair third Eldorado Allen also ran like he had had enough for now. The application of blinkers had the same effect on Clan Des Obeaux that the cheek pieces did last season and he was the winner from some way out. It will be on to Punchestown again for him. Conflated after never looking like getting involved in the Ryanair just stayed on here for second without ever looking like winning.

Just the two really mattered in the Aintree Hurdle and the lack of any real pace played into Epatante's hands as she cruised into the lead at the last before being left clear. It's the first time I have seen her in the flesh and she isn't that big but she looks back to something like her best. Zanahiyr needs a fast pace but connections seemingly don't want him to make the running. He was again being outpaced when coming down at the last. He looks like he could jump a fence but reportedly will be stepping up in trip over hurdles next season.

The weather was foul today but I have vague memories that it was a lot worse the day Gina Andrews father Simon won the Foxhunters on Newnham in 1988. She looked to be going like the winner from a fair way out on Latenightpass and it never really looked like the challenge from David Maxwell on Cat Tiger would succeed. Having backed The Last Day when he fell at the last at Haydock I wasn't deserting him in the Red Rum even though it was a much classier contest. Dancing On My Own set a furious pace and it was just the two of them from three out and The Last Day got the last fence right today. Shakem Up'arry usually likes to be up there but couldn't go the pace and came from the next county to nab third. He hadn't appeared to stay two four at Haydock in January but here it looked like he would be worth another try over the longer trip.

The Dublin Festival mares bumper looked a good race and the fourth home there Ashroe Diamond took the Grade 2 here very easily. The mare evidently had to have an operation the following day having developed colic but it is expected she will be able to return next season. Others that looked nice sorts were runner up Law Ella and fourth home Malina Jamila. Of the fancied horses Naughtinesse and Rosy Redrum never really got into the race.

## Friday April 8<sup>th</sup> Aintree

A super finish in the two-mile Top Novice Hurdle with Jonbon really battling to hold off El Fabiolo. We now know that his getting warm and sweaty before races makes no difference to him and this race showed he could fight for it as well. Whether he would have held the runner up if El Fabiolo hadn't lost three lengths when Salamanca Bay fell three out we will never know. Jonbon will go chasing next season. El Fabiolo is a really super looking beast with a long loping stride who will stay two and a half. This was only his third hurdle and he could probably do with another outing at Punchestown before going over fences next season.

The Mildmay Novices Chase was as much a puzzle after the race as before it. Both Bravemansgame and L'Homme Presse had easily seen off Ahoy Senior before so are we to take this result literally. Probably not as neither really travelled and promoting Ahoy Senior to third favourite for next seasons Gold Cup looked a huge over reaction.

Fakir D'oudairies at about two and a half without Allaho around wins and he ran out an easy winner of the Melling Chase. The two against him with graded form at this trip were Mister Fisher who crashed through the eleventh fence and Saint Calvados who pulled far too hard to get home. The others were mostly two milers and only Hitman really got the trip well probably running his best race to date.

A really competitive renewal of the Topham but Mac Tottie just took off from the last and ran away with it to follow up from the Sefton. I had been hopeful with my bet on Batcio two out but at least the each way came up. Having seen Gelino Bello three times in the autumn I thought his graded form looked better than Banbridge's Martin Pipe win and he had showed he stayed three miles. He ran out a good winner of the Sefton Hurdle and looks the sort to make a good staying novice chaser next season. Banbridge ran no sort of race while Skytastic who was paddock pick hit three out and that was the end of his challenge. Crystal Glory ran a good race in fourth and will win novice chases in the north next season.

The two-mile conditional /amateur handicap hurdle has been a good race for me over the years and Hacker Des Places continued the trend really battling from two out to hold the probably not too enthusiastic Severance.

### **Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> Aintree**

Three Stripe Life had no Sir Gerhard to contend with in the Mersey Novice Hurdle and was far too good for his rivals. He looks every inch a chaser and while there will be plenty of competition in Irish novice chases next season he will be right in the mix. Runner up Might I has chased some good ones this season and should get a bit further. He evidently will stay over hurdles next season. There might be more improvement in third home North Lodge but Good Risk At All failed to step up from his good handicap runs. Stage Star again disappointed and Walking On Air who caught the eye in the parade ring jumped poorly.

Gentleman De Mee had won his beginners chase and a Grade 3 without coming off the bridle but stepped up to Grade 1 despite making a mess of two out to see off Arkle winner Edwardstone. It's hard to see where he will fit into the stables two milers next season never mind the wider picture. Edwardstone beat Third Time Lucki twice as far as he did at Warwick so he probably wasn't too far off his top form.

Flooring Porter had big breaks before his too Cheltenham wins so maybe it came too quickly for him in the Liverpool Hurdle as he was beaten by Sire Du Berlais who had looked on the downgrade. I imagine it will be Christmas at Leopardstown and then straight to Cheltenham for Flooring Porter's hat trick attempt. Champ and Thyme Hill were beaten a long way from home.

Back in October when I saw Noble Yates win his beginners chase at Galway the last thing I would have expected was for him to win the National this season. He beat Arkle runner up Gabynako that day and looked like a trip would suit him well. Some of his runs since then have been very strange including twice being reported as clinically abnormal post-race. My main fancy Escaria Ten walked out from about 12/1 at the beginning of the week to start at 25/1 which seemed strange and didn't get home.

As could be expected there were some nice sorts in the bumper. Winner Lookaway was a big price after his Newbury win and did it comfortably. Runner up Hullnback is a big chasing sort while third home Leave of Absence also ran a fine race. Outside of the placed horses Shomen Uchi was about paddock pick while Ernest Grey should have a future. Henri the Second who was pulled up but was reportedly sound afterwards should also do well over jumps.

### **Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup> Cheltenham**

Small field wide open races are just the sort I don't like. The only thing to take from the day was to avoid the Nicky Henderson trained Captain Morgs who was favourite for the two-mile four handicap hurdle and looked reluctant at all stages of the race.

### **Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup> Cheltenham**

The best was saved till last with Queens Gamble thumping the very decent Mullenbeg by ten lengths in the bumper on her debut.

### **Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> Fairyhouse**

A fair number of the runners into the two-mile maiden hurdle will have been getting ready for the summer season. Winner Imperial Ruler and runner up Gorgeous Suspect who was third to Martin Pipe winner Banbridge on his only previous start last May should do well over the summer. Down the field those that could find a maiden hurdle around the country tracks were Brookie, En Avant, and The Quiet Horse.

The first Grade 1 of the day saw Love Envoi putting her unbeaten record on the line against eight from Willie Mullins. She ran her race but found Brandy Love too strong. The winner is not straightforward as she hangs left badly but got an excellent ride to win nicely. Hors Piste and Dinoblue third and fourth here failed to run their races at Cheltenham with the former looking to have scope for the future. Night and Day was making her debut over hurdles and while well beaten she could be one for chasing in time.

Star of the show today was Galopin Des Champs who ran a much more settled race in seeing off Mister McShee and Riviere D'etel in the Grade 1 two-mile four novice chase. No doubt his first big target next season will be Leopardstown at Christmas and let's hope he proves as good in open company as it looks like.

The runners in the €100K sales bumper had just the one with course experience in surprise 25/1 Thurles winner No Looking Back. He had no penalty for that and ran a decent race to finish fourth. The first three home were all Willie Mullins runners with Jody Townend again beating the seemingly more fancied stable mate on Icare Desbois. She has had a great season with this being her twenty fourth winner and showing a huge level stake profit. The second and third home Lecky Watson and Dr Eggman were bigger sorts than the winner and might come on more for the experience. The favourite for Gavin Cromwell Washthatok looked ready for it but faded away close home.

### **Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> Fairyhouse**

Icare Allen was long odds on for the Grade 2 Juvenile Hurdle but ran very flat failing to pick up when challenged at the last and maybe he had had enough for the season. The winner Iberique Du Seuil was never a factor in the Boodles/ Fred Winter and runner up Innatendue had been well beaten at Musselburgh on her one run for John McConnell. Paddock pick was the Tom Cooper runner Garrybello a big chasing sort having his first run in Ireland after winning twice at Cagnes Sur Mer in mid-winter. He ran no race at all but is worth keeping an eye on.

For a seventeen runner race the two-mile five handicap hurdle was a strange race to watch as three went clear and while one faded to finish last the other two just kept rolling along. Capilano Bridge ended last season in great form and had slowly been improving after some dire efforts in the autumn and was worth a tilt at 16/1. He was kicked clear of Silver Screen by Charlie O'Dwyer five out and apart from a mistake at the last never looked like being caught. A jockey to follow. Silver Sheen missed a chunk of time after I saw him win a Pertemps qualifier at Warwick and had run poorly since his return until today. A long way back in third Lord Erskine tuned up for a summer campaign around the country tracks.

They used to keep Darasso to heavy ground events but now he turns up on any ground over hurdles or fences in Grade 2's and 3's and runs his race. It was two four over hurdles here and he easily beat a decent field.

Runner up Santa Rossa was a top-class bumper mare three seasons ago before injury and will be worth a go against the best mares at Punchestown after her second here without probably being good enough.

The Grade 2 two-mile chase was marred with Blackbow dying at the fence in front of the stands and odds on Janadil taking a crashing fall before midway. Last year's winner Easy Game took advantage and will be heading to the summer festivals and maybe another go at the Galway Plate.

Wide open betting for the Irish National but there were plenty of the shorter priced runners I couldn't have.

Favourite Gaillard Du Mesnil held every chance but at 6/1 was plenty short enough and I ended up with Enjoy D'allen at a bigger price than he had been at Aintree, Velvet Elvis who looked sure to improve for the trip, and the vastly overpriced Lord Lariat. He went into my tracker after beating a horse I backed in a hurdle at Tipperary in 2020 when on a mark of 93. I didn't back him when he won here in November as I thought the trip was too short but his form at Fairyhouse over fences is solid.

As with the handicap hurdle the leaders didn't come back and the maiden Frontal Assault was always prominent in finishing second and just needs to jump better. Gaillard Du Mesnil did nothing wrong under his big weight and like the runner up will still be a novice next season. Velvet Elvis just didn't get home but will find a decent handicap at three miles next season.

### **Monday April 25<sup>th</sup> Naas**

Romantic Proposal took the listed five-furlong sprint with some ease in spite of looking like she would improve for the run. The Irish have some top-class sprinters at the minute and she will be in the mix for Group 1's at this trip during the season.

The two maiden events both went to Aidan O'Brien with both fillies leading only very close to the end. Deneuve in the two-year-old six-furlong race was hard work in the parade ring and appeared a bit clueless in the race until meeting the rising ground in the last furlong. How good she is we will see. Third home La Dolce Vita was a big sort who should come on for her first run.

In the mile and a quarter three-year-old fillies maiden Aidan ran three and short priced favourite Emily Dickinson was the least impressive as an individual and appeared well held two out when seemingly outpaced. However she stayed on well to just get up and reverse form with Red Azalea from their first run this season. I think she will struggle in Group company. Of her stable mates Ark ran with great promise making most till a furlong out. The other O'Brien runner Champagne was paddock pick but was totally outpaced before running on to finish a well beaten eighth and this full sister to Arc winner Found will need to come on plenty to live up to her pedigree.

## **Tuesday April 26<sup>th</sup> Punchestown**

The opening race of the festival was a two-mile listed mare's novice hurdle. Dinoblue was favourite just a week after running at Fairyhouse and didn't look happy in the parade ring. The Mullins third string Instita a big chasing sort made the pace and was only just overhauled at the last by Party Central who has been consistent all season. Brides Hill who I gave a good right up to back in the autumn at Tipperary did me a good turn in a handicap at Christmas and was always well placed to pick up the each way in third. Dinoblue was just one paced in fourth while the consistent Grangee was never a factor after an early mistake.

The Grade 1 two-mile novice hurdle was supposedly a match between Sir Gerhard and Dysart Dynamo but both bombed out and Mighty Potter won his second Grade 1 of the season. I am not sure even he ran up to his best with 135 rated Gatsby Grey only beaten four lengths. The winner is a chasing sort and still looks weak so another summer should do him good. Sir Gerhard's run told us nothing about where he will go next season while Dysart Dynamo had heart problems.

Energumene easily saw off Chacun Pour Soi in the two miler and now they know he doesn't have to lead the rematch with a hopefully recovered Shishkin is something to look forward to next season.

The Land Rover Sales bumper had a favourite in Mighty Potter's full brother Caldwell Potter who looked far from wound up and he was well beaten. His unconsidered stable mate Absolute Notions who also looked like he would improve for the run ran out a good winner. The winner went on to make €370K at the sales after racing on the Thursday night while runner up Miss Augusta made €235K

I gave Capodanno as my horse to follow in Brian Goodwill's Christmas Jumper article and he came good in making just about all in the Grade1 three-mile novice chase. His jumping has been a bit hit and miss but he was good today and while talk was of a Gold Cup campaign next season that may well be optimistic. Lifetime Ambition ran above his overall form in second and could be a National type next season. Bob Olinger was a complete blow out and it is back to the drawing board while Aintree winner Millers Bank looked light in condition beforehand and maybe he failed to see the trip out as well.

The maiden bumper saw a Mullins one two with Lisnagar Fortune a half-brother to Lisnagar Oscar showing his stamina to collar the speedier Vadsa Queen. Third home Firm Footings will improve for the run.

## **Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> Punchestown**

Classic Getaway is not going to live up to his €570K price tag but looked set for a second hurdles win in the winners of one two-mile four race when coming from last place to lead going to the last. However he slowed before the hurdle and then hung on the run in. He looks a chaser and might improve for another summer but he looks tricky.

The three-mile Grade 1 novice hurdle produced the same result as at Cheltenham with The Nice Guy beating Minella Cocooner. Neither looked great in the parade ring with the winner being very light in condition and the runner up sweating profusely. Both will go chasing next season and both need this trip. Third home Meet and Greet was a super looking sort upped from two miles and it will be interesting to see how he goes next season. There were some disappointing efforts from Journey With Me and Minella Crooner and you would hope both are better than they showed here.

Allaho turned in a tremendous performance in the Punchestown Gold Cup with Harry Cobden on Clan Des Obeaux making sure he would have to stay the trip well. He is a real tank of a horse and we will see where he goes next season. I chickened out on the question of his stamina backing Clan Des Obeaux at 4/1 without the

favourite and he ran right up to his best battling on well to hold off the closers of Al Boum Photo and Kemboy from two out. Fakir D'oudairies again showed he doesn't stay while the Saville's of Galvin and the King George of Tornado Flyer look career highs not to be repeated. Minella Indo looked well but was evidently sore after pulling up.

Another Cheltenham follow up with Facile Vega in the Champion Bumper who just saw off stable mate Redemption Day with Cheltenham runner up American Mike a good way back in third. Another without the favourite bet on the runner up was easily landed and some good horses were spread all over Kildare behind the first three.

Royal Rendezvous turned in a super effort off 160 in the two five handicap chase and another rise will probably see him out of defending the Galway Plate. He won his bumper the day I was at Downpatrick beating two other future 140+ performers and must be one of the best to win a bumper there. Snugsborough Hall in third at 16/1 here and a placed effort from Aarons Day in the first made it a good punting day without backing a winner. Cavalry Master back in seventh returned after his winter break looking like he would come on for the effort and there are a couple of races at Killarney to suit him.

The Grade 3 Mare's Bumper was run at a crawl with the Noel Meade runner The Model Kingdom making it three from three in the sprint from the turn in. As with the bumper at the Dublin Festival they were all in a heap but no doubt many will do well over hurdles.

### **Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup> Punchestown**

A Retirement announcement from Robbie Power after making all on Magic Daze in the two-mile handicap chase. The mare while making all settled better than she had earlier in the season. Her jumping will keep her competitive in these sorts of races.

Another retirement after the La Touche after fifteen-year-old Ballybroker Bridge made just about all to win comfortably. He won on his first attempt over the banks here in 2015 and this was his twentieth race over the course. The cross-country course here constantly changes with another loop added near the finish and some new obstacles added over the years. The stone wall is now back in although the loose stones which used to be knocked off the top are a thing of the past.

There was no pace in the Grade 1 stayers' hurdle and that suited Klassical Dream who didn't seem to get home at Cheltenham. He appears to be getting more of a handful both before and after his races. I had fancied Ashdale Bob to give Robbie Power a final Grade 1 but he just didn't have the pace of the winner. Sire du Berlais and Paisley Park never looked in contention.

The two-mile novice chasers haven't looked the best and it was a shame when Aintree winner Gentleman De Mee was pulled out of the Grade 1 here. Four who chased home Edwardstone in the Arkle moved around in position with Blue Lord winning his second Grade 1. None of these will challenge Energumene.

Cheltenham bumper third James' Gate was long odds on for the winners of one bumper but he never got into contention. Three went clear very early on and two didn't come back. Winner Tag Man had run a couple of fair races without looking like winning but he stayed on well here to beat the Mullins second string Sir Argus who did well to hang on after pulling very hard early on. The winner is a big lump and probably shouldn't be underestimated because of how the race was run.

### **Friday April 29<sup>th</sup> Punchestown**

When I first came to Punchestown the Bishops Court Cup was the opening race of the festival. Its restricted conditions mean it is by far the lowest class race of the meeting but its history gives it a place on the card. The celebrations after this year's race would have done credit to any Grade 1 as Ian Cribbin on his first ride on a racecourse got Jezarus home.

I had El Barra in mind for the two five novices handicap chase from the time he won at Limerick in March. He made just about all and won very easily for champion conditional Jack Foley. An obvious target for the horse would be the Galway Plate where he could well meet runner up Busselton. The pair were the makeweights in the Turners at Cheltenham when neither was asked a question.

There was never much chance of Constitution Hill turning up for the Champion Hurdle and without him Honeysuckle had no more than a canter around. She will have one more season and the new challengers await but as she just does enough they will have to be very good to challenge her. Back in third Darasso took

his earnings to nearly £400K. He was owned in France by the Munir / Souede partnership and twice beat a horse they kept in Janika. I wonder why they decided he was surplus to requirements.

State Man stepped up from the County Hurdle to take the Grade 1 two-mile four novice hurdle. He has the scope to go chasing but will evidently go down the Champion Hurdle route. Just what this told us is open to question but he looked more speed than stamina. Flame Bearer is just off Grade 1 class and there must be the chance that Three Stripes Life was below his best at his third spring festival. Kilcruit will have a lot to prove next season.

El Fabiolo didn't look as well as he did at Aintree and he had a hard race there. He took the two-mile winners of one hurdle fairly cosily from stable mate Ha D'or but the form is well below that Aintree run. Still it got a third run into him for experience and he looks all over a chaser for next season. The runner up settled better than when a saw him at Naas.

The two-mile two maiden bumper has been won by some very good horses over the years. Gren Glory for Charles Byrnes didn't catch the eye in the parade ring and hung a bit when in the lead but did it nicely. The Mullins second string O'Moore Park in third looked a real stayer while the lookers from the paddock Passing Well and Second Subaltern ran promising races.

### **Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> Punchestown**

A few old timers in the three-mile seven handicap chase but it was one of the younger horses Peaches and Cream who stayed on to go clear from two out. Stepping up to an extreme trip seems to have improved him. Another of the younger brigade Regina Dracones was running a good race till hitting three out. She needs to go this way round but could find a decent staying chase next season.

I didn't like Epatante in the parade ring before the two three Grade 1 Mares Hurdle so decided to have a go with Stormy Island with Danny Mullins back on board. She ran her usual race and turning in appeared hard to beat but Marie's Rock came and nabbed her with Epatante back in third. Marie's Rock just keeps improving while still looking a bit awkward.

It would be hard to find an easier winner of a Grade 1 race than Vauban in the four-year-old champion hurdle. It was easier than at Cheltenham and Fil Dor had no answer. Vauban will be going down the Champion Hurdle route while Fil Dor will evidently be over fences.

### **Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> Haydock**

It was hard to see Romeo Brown winning the three-mile handicap hurdle but he got a super ride from Thomas Willmott. He set a modest pace and then quickened turning in getting a good lead which never looked like being pegged back. Proschema got close going to the last but didn't get home after his long break. Favourite Party Business who had gained cheek pieces despite winning at Aintree never looked happy.

N'golo was well down the novice hurdle pecking order at Willie Mullins last winter and after two very poor efforts on the flat he was sold for £14,500. Dropped down to a rating of 129 the new owners were rewarded as he ran out a clear winner of the Swinton Hurdle. He is going to get a big hike and I wouldn't be backing him to go on. Neither would I be backing Severance who started favourite in spite of shirking the issue at Aintree and he again found little when it got serious from the last.

On the flat Aldaary ran out a very easy winner of the seven-furlong listed Spring Trophy. He will be racing in Group 1's later in the season and it will be interesting to see how he gets on.

### **Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> Aintree**

Some of the jump meetings in the U K of late have been very poor but while there were a couple of poor fields here there were three decent races.

Destrier looked a promising sort when third in the Maghull Novices here in 2019 and his rating went up to 151. Now down to 125 after not looking like winning since then he led nowhere but the line in the two-mile four handicap chase. You couldn't back him to follow up and most in the field need things to go just right to win.

That Maghull was not a good race with winner Ornuia also now down to a rating in the 120's and runner up Us and Them without a win in seventeen efforts since.

In the two four handicap hurdle promising claimer Finn Lambert made all on Paddys Motorbike. Captain Morgs in second was again hard work. He wouldn't go through a gap coming to the last and then when hauled to the outside he hung to his left and Sean Bowen had to get him straight again before challenging again. It was a better effort from Monte Cristo in third,

## NMRC'S SPRING STABLE VISITS 2022

Thanks to all who came along to one or more of our spring stable visits. Whilst numbers attending were below our pre-Covid 19 levels we hope that members will keep supporting these events with more stable visits planned in the autumn and before that our Jack Berry House visit in July. In late March we had to battle with snowy conditions to get to Sam England's yard in Guisley then in late April it was a beautiful sunny day in Staffordshire when we visited Sarah Hollinshead. More recently a sunny/showery day in Cheshire was on offer for our visit to the new Greenall-Guerriero partnership near Malpas in May.

For those wanting to enjoy shared ownerships, all three yards currently run owners groups, some for around £50pm. At Sam England's yard the contact is Terry Davis (0797 0060383). At Sarah Hollinshead the contact is Elaine Laurence (07711 443405) and at Greenall-Guerriero the contact number is 01948 861157. Below are a few photos taken by members on the visits.





*Next copy deadline for Racin' will be Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July*

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# RACING SYSTEMS FOR ROYAL ASCOT BY PHIL EVANS

The data is correct as at 10/5/22 and covers all Ascot meetings (not just the Royal meeting). The NMRC Royal Ascot 'Festival Guide' will be updated just before the meeting starts on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June. There are more negatives than positives but hopefully that will help with noting 'ones to avoid'!

## The key positive trends are as follows:

\*\*\*LUCKY STALLS IN HANDICAPS +£20.73 (A 'lucky stall' is defined as providing at least 3 winners in the last 10 years).

\*\*BLINKERS FIRST TIME +£17.1 (Includes blinkers, visors and hoods only).

## The key negative trends are as follows:

\*\*IRISH TRAINED RUNNERS - £155.9

\*\*\*TRAINER PAST WINS - £120.7 (Includes runners where trainer has won once/twice in last 10 years).

\*\*COURSE AND TRAINER - £89.45. (Includes runners with a course win where trainer has at least a 60% RTF score in the Racing Post online/printed editions).

\*\*BEATEN FAVOURITES+SPOTFORM -£40.23 (Beaten favourites which are top rated in the printed/online race cards).

\*\*365+DAYS SINCE LAST RUN UNDER SAME CODE - £37.1 (Horses that return to the track after a long lay-off).

\*\*SECOND RUN AFTER WIND OPERATION - £22. (Racing Post race cards flag as W2).

\*TRAINER TRAITS -£20.12 (Trainers who have won a race at least three times in last ten years).

\*This information is available from the NMRC website.

\*\* This information is available from most online racing websites & racing papers.

\*\*\*For past winners details I use either Betturtle or Irish Racing websites.

## N & M RACING CLUB COMMITTEE/OFFICIALS 2022/23

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