



Horses Back in Good Form



Jet of Magic



Go on Chez

Since our last newsletter, we have had some fantastic performances with numerous winners and placings. We have just equalled last year's tally of 37 winner (including two on the flat) and, although this might be slightly short of what we had hoped for at the start of the season, we couldn't be happier considering all the horses had to have a month off mid-season. Winners this month have included horses that hadn't been right earlier in the season and this turn around in form is credit to all the team's relentless hard work.

It has been so unfortunate that Henry, our retained rider, is off injured when the horses are in such great form but the good news is he is on the mend and is hopeful of a mid-summer return. In Henry's absence, we have been really fortunate to have other talented jockeys available to ride. Craig Nichol has put in a lot of time at home, schooling and working the horses, so I was so pleased to see him win on Heritier, The Questioner (twice), Jet of Magic and Go on Chez. He is a very strong yet sensible jockey who gives us great feedback and has become an integral part of the team.



Post Chaise

Toby Wynne has also ridden some fantastic winners and is improving all the time; he is still young but his experience is mounting with every race and he gave both The Wild Wild Sea and Oceans Red very mature rides taking his time to get them settled and jumping, before riding them strongly to the line. Homme Public also won very nicely for him at Newcastle in a competitive race; he is not always the easiest horse and Toby settled him beautifully before producing him to win going away.

Three lovely, young horses that won recently include Jet of Magic, Post Chaise and Kilbarry Leader; all are very exciting horses for the future and will be lovely horses next season as they mature. Kilbarry was given a fantastic ride by Fergus Gregory who is another hard-working jockey who comes to the yard regularly and always gives very informative and useful feedback. He got Kilbarry nicely settled then, half way down the back, took the brave decision to take her to the front to improve the pace; this proved a well-judged and pivotal move and she went on to win well.



Oceans Red

BHA Appeal



The Questioner

One horse that has really improved recently is The Questioner. We have always liked him since buying him at the sales but, having run okay in his first bumper, he showed very little over hurdles. However, with experience from his previous runs and a step up in trip, he finally proved his worth at Southwell in his first handicap. Having crossed the line in front, a Stewards' Enquiry made for a nervous 20 minute wait, although I felt confident he'd won by far enough for the placings to stand. We therefore couldn't quite believe it when the decision went against us and we were demoted to second.

After discussion with the owners, we decided to appeal the decision. This was done via Zoom; I put forward our case and the BHA lawyer put forward theirs before the appeal panel reached their conclusion. Although there had been obvious interference that caused Hill View a loss in momentum, it was deemed not enough to convince the committee that it resulted in him losing the race. If there is any doubt whatsoever, the outcome of the race stands and so we were delighted when the win was reinstated.

End of Season and Much to Look Forward to...

With Sandown around the corner, another season is drawing to a close. This season has certainly posed its challenges, but we are just so pleased that it has finished on a high with the horses in great form. With the recent rain and with more in the forecast, we will continue with many of the horses into the summer and for one more run. Looking around the yard, we have an exciting bunch of horses to run through the summer and for next season and, with sales in the diary, we will also be looking buy in some exciting young recruits for the future.



A Busy Works Agenda

We are always looking to improve our facilities, tending to do most of the work in the summer, and, this year, one of our bigger plans is to put in a new all-weather jumping strip, 8m wide by 200m long. With permanent fences and hurdles, this will be an invaluable training asset which will enable us to jump the horses on a constant and safe surface all year round.

We will also be improving the end of the hill gallop making the pull up area smoother and adding a turning circle to allow horses to continue trotting until all the horses have finished cantering.

Also on the cards is the conversion of one of the cattle sheds into loose housing; split into 6 sections this will enable us to safely keep both youngsters and horses on a break close to the main yard where they can be regularly checked and easily looked after.

5 to follow competition

With only a few more days to go, these are the standings so far:

- 1st Lynn Salmon 62
- 2nd Steve Topping 54
- 3rd Andrew Stockton 51
- 4th Terry Hughes 50



To keep up to date with runners, and hopefully some more winners, don't forget to visit our website, follow us on Twitter and like our page on Facebook.

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