

## AN AMAZING SEASON!

We were really hoping for a dry, final month to the season and kept believing spring would finally arrive - and it didn't let us down...

**As a result, the final two weeks have been amazing with winners all over the country!**

A double at our local track with **Dusautior** and **Lipa K** both winning, followed by **Telefenney** at Stratford the next day showing a great turn of foot to beat her stable mate Finn Lough, who will improve for the experience and going up in trip.



Dusautior



Lipa K



Telefenney

We then had an extremely special day at Ludlow with **4 winners** at the Shropshire track!

We had never even had 3 winners in a day before, so that was always an ambition, but to then have 4 was incredible.

We were going into the day with confidence but so often it does not work out like that.

The winners were **Horacio Apples**, **Mrs Tabitha**, **Special Dragon**, and **Go on Chez**. We had a lot of owners there with us which made even more memorable.



Horacio Apples



Special Dragon



Mrs Tabitha



Go on Chez





Henry Brooke was getting close to riding 50 winners for the season, so we really wanted to push for that, and it didn't take long before he was back in the Winner's Enclosure, winning on **Getaway Glory** the following day at Huntingdon. It didn't look likely turning into the straight, but he pulled him out and flew to win on the line.



Getaway Glory

The following day at Perth, Henry was second on **Duke of Deception** in the Highland National and having almost got carried out by an unseated jockey he did well to get back into the race but couldn't quite peg the winner back. Duke has been a revelation this season, we always liked him from the start however he was a little frustrating last season and was looking like he may not fulfil his potential. This year though he's won three races and been placed in the Highland and North Wales Nationals. He jumps and travels so well and did extremely nicely last time at Haydock, which for the Salmon family, who have been supporters of ours from the start, a local track win made it even more rewarding.



Duke of Deception

riding has really come on for it and he will be getting plenty of rides for us going forward. Unfortunately, he had a fall in the Foxhunters' at Aintree and was a little sore but I'm sure he will be back on the track very soon.

Our last runner of the season was at Perth with **Jacks Parrot**. Having won easily at Uttoxeter on his previous start we had high hopes, but he did not travel quite as well this time and he looked booked for second at best, but Henry cajoled him and managed to get him in front on the line by a short head.



Jacks Parrot



Chris Cool

Earlier in the month, **Billytherealbigred** won for the second time for us and again by a wide margin. He seems to love the soft ground and has a fantastic attitude which bodes so well for the future.



Billytherealbigred

**Post Chaise** has been very consistent since being bought privately from Tom Weston two years ago. This season, having won at Market Rasen by default, (the actual winner was thrown out due to the jockey whip use,) he just looked as if there were always one or two horses too good each time. Josh decided blinkers would help him on his latest run at Market Rasen and he duly won very nicely under a good and confident ride from our yard amateur Harry Myddelton. Harry has ridden for us for a few years, but this is the first season he has been full time at the yard, his



Post Chaise

I do not tend to have yard favourites, but **Chris Cool** will always be very close to my heart having been a part breeder and finishing second on his mother at Aintree. We tried fences with him this season after he won on his seasonal debut over hurdles, however he just makes the odd costly mistake, so the owners were keen to go back over hurdles and it worked out very well. Huntingdon looked a competitive race on paper but with little weight and a fast early pace, Toby gave him a very patient ride producing him coming out of the back. He got in a battle a little sooner than my nerves needed but against the top weight in a driving finish and the weight helped us and we just won on the line. He then went to Ludlow in a very competitive hurdle race and finished third, beaten by less than a length.



Concetto

Huntingdon has always been a favourite track for the yard and the horses always seem to run well there, on the same day as Chris Cool we also had **Concetto** in the Winner's Enclosure. He loves going right-handed and with the blinkers applied it really helped him keep straight and focused. His biggest asset is his jumping and he jumped so well bar the second last fence, he really attacks his fences and takes lengths out of the field each time.





Jacks Parrot

# EXCITING YOUNG HORSES...

There are plenty of exciting young horses in the yard to look forward to next season but two that are a little special and who won bumpers recently are **Gamesters Guy** and **Gentleman Bill**. Both look the part and have shown they can do the business on the track. Gamesters Guy won on his debut and then was 3rd in a bumper at Aintree in the autumn, and won again at Carlisle in decisive fashion, beating a highly thought of horse trained by Nicky Richards. He jumps extremely well, and we can't wait to run him over hurdles next season.



Gamesters Guy



Gentleman Bill

We have some fantastic horses that come from France that Dad and his syndicate have bought as foals, and we were very fortunate to acquire another one half way through this season in **Jacks Parrot**. We gave him a couple of months to acclimatise and then he ran at Carlisle where he finished a close third and then he won by a distance at Uttoxeter last time. He jumps extremely well and really seems to have the right attitude to turn into a decent horse. He will run a couple more times this season before he has a break and then we will be aiming a bit higher in the 24/25 season.

Gentleman Bill is a recruit from the Irish Point to Point field, having not cost a fortune he has really pleased us since the day he came over. His work is good but what we love about him is his professionalism and good nature which makes him so trainable. We will see how he goes but he could easily run over hurdles in May, before having a holiday.

## OVERVIEW OF THE SEASON...

It has been such a great season with the horses running well throughout the year.

We had a smaller summer jumping team so did not have quite as many winners on the board when we started the National Hunt season proper, but soon picked up and got going with so many individual horses winning.

**Iroko** getting placed in a grade one and **Gesskille** winning The Sefton at Aintree over the National fences at one of our local courses were all notable highlights.



Gesskille

### THE SEASON IN NUMBERS:

**£660,547**  
in prize money.

**57**  
UK winners

**161**  
Placed

**21<sup>ST</sup>**  
in the Trainers' Championship

*We are so grateful to all our owners and cannot thank you and all our staff enough for everyone's support.*



We are always thinking of new ownership options, to meet everyone's needs and create experiences that you might not normally be able to experience.

In the past we have organised several trips to France and Switzerland with horses, they have always been great fun and as they are organised by us for you we have been able to add in parts of the trip that you may not be able to experience on a normal holiday such as behind the scenes access at the races, VIP treatment and local knowledge to find some great eating spots.

Having spent much time in Jersey as a child visiting my grandfather and aunt, I have always wanted to have runners there. They are keen to attract UK based horses so help with subsidising the horse's travel. My father has a brewing business there so we can organise some great hospitality, meaning it will be a fantastic trip.

# THE JERSEY SYNDICATE

We have found the ideal horse in Cawthorne Cracker as he likes a sharp track and decent ground which is just what Jersey is and he has all the ability needed to win out there.



## CAWTHORNE CRACKER

2019 BAY GELDING

**£4,500 per share**

(share is 10%, 2nd year £3000)

**This is inclusive of all costs:**

- Training fees
- Vets
- Racing fees
- Going to Jersey for the horse

*Please get in touch if you are at all interested and I can discuss with you in more detail.*

**The syndicate is an all-in price of £4,500 (per 10% share) in the first year.**

This includes the associated costs of taking the horse to Jersey this summer as well as all the enjoyment to be gained from watching him race in the UK too in handicap hurdles. The only additional cost to you would be the cost of the Jersey hospitality trip for you and any guests, if you chose to join us there.

## The New Volkswagen Tiguan is now at Wrexham Volkswagen!



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# IROKO

It has been a tough season for **Iroko**. Having picked up an injury after his winning chasing debut at Warwick he couldn't run again before Cheltenham and so his lack of experience probably cost him a place.

**However, we went up in trip at Aintree and we were so pleased with him finishing a gallant second.**

It is always a shame not to win when you get so close, but he tried so hard and jumped so well and was beaten by a better horse on the day. I suspect he will now be finished for the season, but we will talk to the owners and see how he is before we decide. Seeing how well he stayed and jumped at Aintree, **The Grand National will be a long-term target.**

## UPCOMING EVENT:

# OWNERS BANGOR PICNIC - 8th June

## EVENTS:

We are going to do our annual picnic at Bangor this year on Saturday 8th June.

I was a little under-prepared last year, but I guarantee this year will be more organised!

We will have a tent for shade or shelter and picnic tables for you to sit on. We have a catered picnic and there will be drinks aplenty.



## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2024

- Picnic at Bangor-on-Dee Races **8th June**

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- Foal Show in Cercy-la-Tour, France **18th - 20th June**

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- Royal Ascot Race Day at Stockton Hall **18th June**

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- Newmarket Jockey Club Rooms & Races Trip **18th - 19th July**

*If you haven't already let us know you wish to come, please contact **Tori** and she will add you to the list.*

**Please email:**  
[tori@stocktonhall.co.uk](mailto:tori@stocktonhall.co.uk) for more information and watch for Racing Manager updates.



# HYGIENE AND FEEDING WITH THE IRISH EQUINE CENTRE.

The main aim with training horses is to have consistency, even the top trainers have occasional blips but overall, they have very consistent form and that is the difference between good yards and top yards.

There are plenty of factors that affect form from badly handicapped horses to ground conditions, but the main reason is when the horses are not feeling 100%.

Horses can pick up viruses from the races, which is obviously hard to control, but if your horse is fit and well, they are less likely to and there are plenty of things that a trainer can control.

Since we started training in 2016 every year, we have become more clinical and created better systems to try and combat this. One man who visits a lot of yards in the UK and Ireland is **Alan Creighton**. He works for **The Irish Equine Centre** and specialises in disease control and testing.

He started coming here regularly a few years ago to inspect our practises, take swabs, air tests and water feed and haylage samples to ensure everything is in order. Just walking around the yard with him is valuable, he notices things that you would not necessarily pick up on. Because all of our buildings are quite old, we did have areas where the gutters were leaking and creating damp patches on the walls meaning mould was growing. We have now sorted all these areas and the tests are now coming back clean. We have also really improved the cleaning of the shed roofs where spores were growing and then dropping down onto the beds occasionally causing respiratory issues.

One of the main issues that Alan always says is a major factor in poor performance is **poor quality hay** or haylage. Mould eaten in hay or haylage suppresses the immune system which can then lead to a secondary infection. **We always ensure we buy top quality forage** and regularly test it to ensure it is clean and of good quality.

**Air quality is also vital** - horses can pick things up in the air easily so we must ensure beds are clean and dust free. All the walls and surfaces around them are cleaned and disinfected to ensure nothing can grow there and cause a problem. All new horses go into isolation for at least two weeks before they come into the main yard, and everything is disinfected on a regular basis.

One of the other issues that can affect treatment when horses are ill is the effectiveness of antibiotics. Resistant bacteria are becoming ever more a problem and there are many diseases that have only one effective antibiotic. We must therefore be so careful to only use an antibiotic when it is essential, and a vet prescribes it. The vet will often take a sample and grow it in a lab to identify what treatment is needed and will be most effective. Often with respiratory issues antibiotics will not be effective and it is rest and management that works best.

We find if we keep the simple things right by ensuring everywhere is clean and disinfected and testing the feed and haylage then largely the horses stay healthy. You cannot control everything but if you ensure everything you can control is correct you will have a much better chance of consistency.

## THREE TO FOLLOW



## FINAL LEADERBOARDS:

Owners – Iroko Cup:

1 <sup>st</sup> Mark Salmon	84
2 <sup>nd</sup> Kevin Bellis	78
3 <sup>rd</sup> Gary Phillips	77

Staff – Gesskille Shield:

1 <sup>st</sup> Paddy Chesters	85
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ryan Day	74
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sam Inskip	72



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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