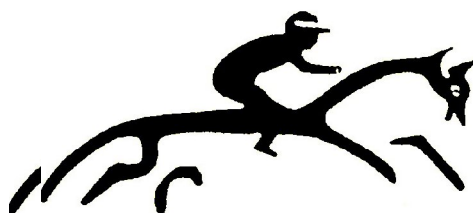

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

The Newsletter of the West Berkshire Racing Club



www.westberksrc.org.uk

Founded in 1982
March/April 2013

Edition No. 251
Editor: Stewart Nash

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WELCOME

Welcome to Oscar O'Herlihy and David Holman of Cliddesden who have joined the Club since the last newsletter, we hope they enjoy their membership of the club and look forward to meeting them at future events.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

The Club's membership year ended on 31 March so it is now time to renew your subscription for year 2013/14. Please use the form at page 17 and send the form with your cheque to Membership Secretary, Barbara Allen at the address shown. We would ask that you renew your membership promptly to avoid the cost and additional work of issuing reminders. If your address details on the envelope are incorrect or have changed or you have not told us your phone numbers(s) and e-mail address please add the changes/new information to the renewal form.

"WEST BERKSHIRE RACING CLUB" FACEBOOK PAGE

We have been talking about Facebook for a while now, so we have made the leap and we would love it if you came and said hello. We will be doing our best to keep you up to date about the club.

The Facebook page will be open to members and non-members. We will plan to update our account about any upcoming events which is open for members and non-members, amendments or cancellation to any of our events and to remind members or non-members about membership. We also will be providing any horse racing news and a selection of photos from any club event.

If you have a Facebook account you can like our page by clicking on the following link - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/West-Berkshire-Racing-Club/278171838967067> or by searching for "West Berkshire Racing Club". We would be extremely grateful if you could share our page with your friends and family.

If you have any ideas on how to improve our page, please don't hesitate to contact Patrick Fagan by email or send a direct message on Facebook by selecting the "Message" button.

FLAT SEASON 2013 TEN TO FOLLOW

Details of the 2013 Flat ten to follow appear on page 15. To assist members Phil Brown has categorised the horses into age groups, separated colts and fillies and named trainers. Please note entries must be received by **noon on Saturday 4 May**.

TEN TO FOLLOW – 2012/13 NATIONAL HUNT SEASON

The results from the Cheltenham Festival created another major shake-up in the leader board but Martin Withinshaw continues to set a strong pace and now has a commanding lead of 45 points. The competition ends on Grand National Day and the final scores will be published on our website as soon as possible and will appear in the May newsletter

LEADING SCORES AS AT 17 MARCH 2013

Position	Name	Points
1	Martin Withinshaw	740
2	Shelly Good and Jan Biscoe	695
3	Will Sayer	680
4	Tina Mitchell	670
5	Terry Knight	660
6	Ken Unsworth	655
7	John Taylor	640
8	Martin Withinshaw (2 nd list)	630
9	Honor Kelly	615
10=	Ken Butters	610
10=	Madeleine Thomas	610
12	John Nash	600
13	Allen Carding	590
14=	Will Sayer (2 nd list)	580
14=	Martin Withinshaw (3 rd list)	580
16=	Marilyn Hagart	575
16=	Ken Unsworth (2 nd list)	575
18=	Alan Carding (2 nd list)	570
18=	John Chilton	570
18=	Will Sayer (3 rd list)	570
18=	Madeleine Thomas (2 nd list)	570

Leading horses with points

Horse	Points	Horse	Points	Horse	Points
Hurricane Fly	140	Long Run	50	Zaidpour	30
Sprinter Sacre	110	Oscar Whisky	50	Big Bucks	25
Bobs Worth	100	Zarkandar	50	Captain Chris	25
Simonsig	80	Boston Bob	40	Menorah	25
Cue Card	60	Countrywide Flame	30	Prospect Wells	25
My Tent Or Yours	60	Darlan	30	Quevega	25
Silviniaco Conti	55	Flemenstar	30	Sanctuaire	25
Sizing Europe	55	Shutthefrontdoor	30	Carruthers	20
The New One	55	Sir Des Champs	30	Overturn	20
Al Ferof	50	Tidal Bay	30	Tetlami	20

NEWSLETTER DISCLAIMER

This newsletter and the information it contains are intended only for the personal use of those to whom it is addressed. Unauthorised use, copying or disclosure of any of it without the permission of the West Berkshire Racing Club Committee is not permitted. The WBRC does not accept any liability for the accuracy of articles contained in this newsletter. Any advertisements carried in the newsletter are included on the basis that we believe they may be of interest to our members. The West Berkshire Racing Club does not accept any liability for any injury, damage or loss, financial or of any kind arising from such advertisements.

MAY 2013 NEWSLETTER

The April Newsletter will be published in the mid May. As always the Editor welcomes contributions from members and these should be sent to him by no later than 30 April.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

'EPSOM AWAYDAY' - VISIT TO LAURA MONGAN'S CONDOVER STABLES at Epsom and the Epsom Spring Meeting– Wednesday 24 April - 10:00 am **MEMBERS ONLY**

Laura Mongan who trained First Avenue to win Sandown's Imperial Cup has kindly agreed to the Club visiting her Condover Stables at Langley Vale, Epsom. The visit is on the morning of the Epsom Spring Meeting, which features the Blue Riband Trial and the historic Great Metropolitan and City and Suburban Handicaps. With the first race at Epsom timed for 2.20pm there should be ample time for a leisurely lunch either at the Rubbing House or Derby Arms public houses/restaurants adjacent to the racecourse or using the course's own facilities.

As we have been advised that access by coach is difficult we have decided that on this occasion transport will be by members own cars although we are happy to arrange car shares where possible.

The cost of the visit is £5 per member. Bookings should be sent to Robert Watson using the booking form on page 19. Admission to the combined stands enclosure is £18 but it is a reciprocal day for Sandown Members and Racegoers Club members can obtain a £5 discount by using their voucher book. Group tickets (subject minimum of 10) are priced at £16 each. If you order these on your booking form and we get at least the minimum number requested we will purchase them on your behalf.

HOW TO GET THERE: From Newbury travel to Basingstoke and join the M3 towards London. Leave the M3 at junction 2 and join the M25 towards Gatwick. Leave the M25 at junction 9 (Leatherhead) and at the roundabout take the third exit to join the A243 (signed Dorking, London(S) and Sutton). At the next roundabout take the second exit signed A243 Dorking/London(S)/Sutton/Epsom/Ashted/Leatherhead Town Centre. At next roundabout take the first exit signed A24 Ashted/Epsom. Continue on the A24 through Ashted town centre and then after one and a half miles turn right into Park Lane. Follow this road for ¾ mile and then turn right into Farm Lane. Continue along Farm Lane and turn left into Downs Road, which becomes Langley Vale Road. Condover Stables are situated on the left before you reach the bottom of Langley Vale. [KT18 6AP]

IN CONVERSATION WITH CLARE BALDING - Monday 6 May at 7.00 pm at the WYVERN THEATRE, SWINDON

Award winning broadcaster, writer, face of television sports broadcasting and radio presenter, Clare Balding will talk about her work, her life and her autobiography. Tickets £18, Concessions £16 includes a copy of Clare's book *My Animals and other Family!* For bookings please contact www.wyverntheatre.org.uk or telephone 01793 524481.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A WBRC EVENT BUT IS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF MEMBERS FOR YOUR INTEREST

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed by 'GREAT BRITISH RACING' (formerly known as 'Racing for Change') – Tuesday, 14 May – 8.00 pm – Copper King Bar at Newbury Racecourse. **MEMBERS AND MEMBERS GUESTS WELCOME**

Following the Club's AGM the topic for our May evening will be the Great British Racing Initiative which is the rebranded name for Racing for Change. We are planning a panel covering various aspects of the BHA's racing marketing and development initiative and should provide a good insight to future plans. More details will be provided in the next newsletter together with the Agenda and associated papers for the AGM. Admission to the AGM is free but we ask members for a contribution of £2 towards the cost of the evening. Members guests £5. Pay bar available.

VISIT TO HANS ADIELSSON'S MANOR FARM STABLES AT KINGSTON LISLE– Wednesday 15 May - 9:00 am **MEMBERS ONLY**

Following the success of the Lady Jockeys Evening at which Nicole Nordblad was one of our guests (see reports of recent events) Nicole's trainer Hans Adielsson has kindly offered the Club an opportunity to visit his stable at Kingston Lisle. Hans whose principal owner is Newbury Racecourse director Erik Penser previously trained in Sweden and has a string of around 20 horses.

There is no nearby racing that day although for those who wish to there will be ample time to get to Bath for their evening meeting. We do however intend to organize a brunch after the visit at a local pub but the exact details and location are still being researched.

The cost of the visit is £5 per member. Bookings should be sent to Robert Watson using the booking form on page 19. Please also indicate on the form if you wish to attend the after visit brunch. Payment to be made in person on the day.

HOW TO GET THERE From Newbury take B4494 to Wantage. At Wantage turn left onto the A338 (Ormond Road), take next left and then immediately turn right onto B4507. Continue along the B4507 (Ickleton Road). Pass by East Challow and after a further three miles turn right to enter the village of Kingston Lisle, Manor Farm stables are on the right. [OX12 9QX].

**RACING AT GOODWOOD BY COACH FROM THE RACECOURSE, NEWBURY – Thursday
23 May – depart at 11.00 am (any change will be notified) MEMBERS ONLY – GUESTS
WELCOME SUBJECT TO NUMBERS**

An annual visit to Goodwood's May Meeting has been popular for the last three years so we are repeating the event. As we have now exhausted visits to the principal local stables this will be a racing only day hence the later departure time from Newbury racecourse.

The cost of the trip is £15 per person. Bookings should be sent to Robert Watson using the booking form on page 19. The day is a reciprocal day for Newbury Members but those without badges can obtain tickets on arrival for £26 (Richmond enclosure) or £18 (Gordon enclosure). Racegoers Club members can claim a discount of £5 off these prices by using their voucher book.

DIRECTIONS Please note that directions for stable visits and other events are provided based on the information available to us but cannot be guaranteed to be correct. Similarly post codes provided for navigation purposes cannot be certain to pin point the precise location of the stables. Members are advised to leave ample time for their journey and be prepared to ask locally for directions

CHRISTMAS 2012 RACING QUIZ

The names of the three entries that achieved an all correct set of answers went into the hat and the winner of the bottle of Champagne is Nigel Sutcliffe from Reading. Congratulations to Nigel and commiserations to Linda Rands and Brian Stone who submitted correct entries but lost out in the draw.

CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL TIPPING COMPETITION

The winner of the Cheltenham Festival Tipping competition is Naurita Chant with a score of £1858.80. Congratulations to Naurita who receives two badges for a meeting of her choice.

DONATIONS TO THE INJURED JOCKEYS FUND

Members will be pleased to know that the following donations have been made to the Injured Jockeys Fund - £1,345 received in memory of Pam Le Mottee at her funeral/memorial service and a further £240 being the proceeds from the raffle at the Cheltenham Festival Preview.

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Mick Channon Stable visit– Wednesday, 26 February 2013

by Robert Watson

It has been a miserable and frustrating time for trainers and racegoers alike. The weather has provided difficult training conditions (thank God for all-weather gallops) and racecourse going from “soft” at best, to “heavy”, and worse. Clearly this is far from ideal for most jumpers, whose well-being would be jeopardised by running in such conditions. Punters haven’t fared much better – if a meeting has not been cancelled, then the small fields precluded interest and investment.

Looking for inspiration for a Club visit, I came across Mick Channon’s website. There he had posted a video of his jumps-string exercising in the snow! And compelling viewing it proved. Although not noted for handling NH horses, Mick had benefitted from Henrietta Knight’s retirement last year, and was chosen to continue the training of her horses. Many familiar names were on the screen and with Cheltenham on the horizon, an opportunity beckoned.

That is the background to a large group of expectant and excited WBRC members assembling in the rather plush reception area at West Ilsley Stables on a typically cold and windy morning. But our bubble was burst – to some extent – when it became apparent that Mick Channon was in fact in Dubai, and the Mick Channon before us was his son, Mick jnr. The disappointment was palpable. Despite many communications between myself and the stable office, including the previous evening, there was never a hint of this situation ensuing. I will not dwell on this point, but it is a point needing to be made.

Mick jnr. proved to be the spitting image of his father – in looks, demeanour, gait and humour. His background was of university, followed by work in the television industry on the production side. He came to be closely involved at West Ilsley following the serious injuries his father suffered in a motoring incident some years ago. His technical expertise is evident in the use of video, which features greatly on the yard’s website (check it out on www.mickchannon.tv). With over 160 horses, it is very handy for the many owners with an interest to watch their horses on the gallops from the comfort of their armchair.

Mick was ably assisted in his host role by Jed Burke, a retired Manchester policeman whose connections with the yard were initially thru’ ownership. After a brief introductory chat with a potted history of the stables, we headed off to the gallops, a short drive away. The continued poor weather since the autumn had caused havoc with the all-weather gallop, and this had had to be replaced quite recently. We saw 24 horses canter up the six furlongs woodchip strip. Identifying individuals in a large string is usually no problem for the trainer, but it was for Mick jnr. Among the litany of names, **Jillnextdoor**, a three year old bay filly was picked out not once, not twice, but three times as the horses passed us. “That’s Jill....no, that’s Jill....wait a minute, that’s Jill...”

But we had come to see the NH horses in particular, so it was back to the yard, hot sausage rolls, and a split into two groups. I went with Jed who proved both enthusiastic and knowledgeable. We soon found the jumpers boxed together in a line. **Calgary Bay** and **Somersby** (names familiar to most enjoyed great success with Hen); **Loch Ba** and **Ballypatrick** (both winners with Mick); **Warden Hill** (bumper winner); **Viva Steve** (promising 5 year old); **Ballylifen** (placed in 9 of his 11 races without winning); **Fosters Road** (frequent runner and winner under both codes); **Ctappers** (another juvenile dual purpose runner); **Sgt. Reckless** (has won both his bumpers to date) completed the line-up. A clearly different looking group of horses from those we had seen earlier on the gallops. Indeed, as we wandered away, the senior members watched us with that imperious look characteristic of good, often great, jumpers. Whilst these horses are exercised at West Ilsley, they all go back to Hen’s place at Wantage for schooling, where race-rider Dominic Elsworth puts them thru’ their paces.

We completed a tour of the yard, met the other group, and said our thanks and farewells. Mick and Jed sped off to put some of their many juveniles through their first stalls experience, stressful enough without having an audience of racing enthusiast to distract. The history of West Ilsley Stables is well documented elsewhere, with Classic winners a plenty, revered trainer Dick Hern prominent, and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth a former owner of the yard.

Mick Channon has continued the success associated with this background. In the last decade he has sent out around 100 winners each season, with a best tally of 144 in 2003, netting over £2 million in winnings that year alone. We left with two names to consider. **Sgt. Reckless** in the bumper at the Cheltenham Festival, and **Enaitch** a three year filly highly thought of and with Classic potential. Let’s hope the weather relents and we get some decent racing in the weeks to come. Fingers crossed.

WBRC Pam Le Mottee Memorial Race, Newbury, Saturday 2 March.

By Robert Watson

For some years the WBRC has sponsored a “bumper” (National Hunt Flat Race) on the last day of jumps racing at Newbury. This year the race was brought forward, and was renamed in memory of Pam Le Mottee.

Pam was a Club member for over 20 years, and held the position of Treasurer until shortly before her death at the end of last year. Six friends from Pam’s village of Vernham Dean were guests of the Racecourse and the WBRC. They were invited to choose the best-turned-out in the paddock; enjoyed the hospitality of the Royal Box to view the race; and were on hand to present the prizes to the winning connections.

Dubai Kiss sprang something of a surprise by easily beating a large field at the rewarding odds of 50/1. For Sparsholt trainer Harry Whittington this was just his second winner and he was quite thrilled, especially as he got 100/1!! Dubai Kiss by Dubai Destination is out of a mare who had bred winners at just five furlongs. Winning jockey Aidan Coleman got the ride because, previously booked, Noel Fehily was claimed by his retaining trainer Charlie Longsdon. So, you would have needed a crystal ball to find this winner!

Pictured at Newbury for the Pam Le Mottee Memorial NH Flat Race are left the lass leading up the Best turned out horse, (right) Dubai Kiss with Aiden Coleman and winning connections and bottom the presentations to winning connections by Pam’s friends.



Cheltenham Preview Evening (etc, etc!)– Wednesday 6 March

by Terry Knight

I write this over the Easter weekend, a couple of weeks after the festival finished and just prior to the big Aintree meeting. I suppose it’s an opportunity to pull together the ‘before and after’ aspects of the festival and indeed the jumps season itself from a club perspective. I missed the deadline for the last newsletter due to work issues and unfortunately couldn’t pay tribute to Pam Le Mottee but Stewart did his usual great job and there’s nothing else to add except to say thanks for all you did for the club Pam and for being such a lovely fun person to be around at all of those committee meetings and club events over the years. The Christmas social seems so long ago now but it was great to see Luke Harvey make the presentation of the ‘thank you’ bronze to Pam and for Pam herself to pass on the club’s cheque to the IJF at Oaksey House. Little did we know that it was the last that most of us were to see of Pam.

On a no less sad a note, the festival saw what is clearly a very severe injury to the Irish amateur jockey, JT McNamara. We hope and pray that JT and his family come through this difficult time and our thoughts are with them. Whilst our support for the IJF and Oaksey House is something of a drop in the ocean in relative terms, accidents such as JT's prove that this charity continues to be fully worthy of our support as followers of the sport.

Way back in the autumn, or early winter as it seems to be these days, we saw a visit to the club by Nicky Henderson and Brendan Powell junior, amongst others. It was good to see Nicky take the festival by the horns and move into the lead in the trainers' championship and finally put it right up to the long standing champion Paul Nicholls. Nicholls remains a threat to Nicky's championship aspirations with a strong hand at Aintree, which includes National hope Join Together, and a Nicholls rearguard action seems very likely, but you have to think that the momentum is with Nicky at this stage. The festival also saw an emphatic first win for young Brendan Powell on the sometimes 'difficult' Golden Chieftain and in my view this will be the first of many such victories, as he seems destined for the top of the jumping tree. Another recent visitor to the club was the young lady jockey Nicole Nordblad who came along to the 'girls evening' this March and she left a lasting impression on those who were there and definitely looks one to watch out for as well.

And so to the Cheltenham Preview itself. As is quite often the case there was a late reshuffle to the make up of the panel (*pictured below right – photo courtesy Harley Quilliam*) and we were extremely fortunate to get Andrew Thornton to join us at short notice. Once again we have Caroline to thank for her efforts in that regard. As reported above rookie trainer Harry Whittington had his second winner under rules with 50/1 shot Dubai Kiss in the WBRC bumper at Newbury on the weekend which preceded the festival, and Harry expressed a desire to join the panel for the preview so it was good to see a new face before us on the night, particularly as many of Nicky Henderson's fancies had passed through his hands via his 'pre-training' preparatory establishment. I really enjoy seeing these new faces coming to the club and we wish him the very best for the future.

Given that the festival is 'done and dusted' now, there's not too much point in telling you all what they fancied and what won and what didn't. Salubrious was one winner that Stephen Higgins tipped up on the night, being the only Nicholls winner of the week and coming on the last day. Unfortunately I didn't back the horse as I was at the festival myself on Gold Cup day and by then the Guinness had taken its toll slightly and I forgot to back it! But plenty of winners were tipped up on the night and also plenty of losers were avoided too,



not least the Pipe hotpot Ballynagour in the Byrne Group Plate, courtesy of west country bookmaker Andy Smith. Our Channel 4 regular Tanya Stevenson and assistant trainer Charlie Morlock added plenty of insight to the analysis with Charlie proving particularly helpful with his knowledge of the Henderson hopes. Once again we were indebted to the panel for giving us their time and I think that the 100+ people in attendance went home feeling that the festival had well and truly started. Plenty of people found this a difficult festival from a punting perspective, with the prevailing ground conditions proving very hard to predict, even after the meeting had started, but I hope that the Prestbury gods smiled upon you this time. Thanks also to my fellow committee members in helping to make the evening the success it turned out to be. Such successes are not achieved by accident – it's a lot of hard work getting it all together every year and we should all be thankful that we have so many capable and willing individuals out there batting for us. Thanks also go to Stephen Higgins and the racecourse staff for their part in making these evenings work so well and Newbury's support means that we can operate the preview at a price that most racegoers can afford in these difficult times

Going back to a theme in earlier newsletters, the small band of us who made a 'club' entry for the Tote Ten to Follow competition have had a lot of following for our buck, despite the previously described problems in making the entries and the disappointing lack of any monthly prizes.

The only chance to win was the overall prize which lasts the whole season, and to our credit we were still in there pitching until the last day of the festival and more specifically to the point at which Silviniaco Conti tipped up in the Gold Cup. Whilst, outright victory would probably have eluded us had he stood up and won, we would probably still had a chance of some prize money, which is a very decent effort. For most weeks we had a couple of lists knocking around at somewhere between 100th and 200th places, and there was always the hope that the likes of Grands Crus and Flemenstar would emerge from a disappointing series of results and join Silviniaco in achieving festival glory. It wasn't to be this time around, but it was a lot of fun and we'll be back having another go next time around. I hope that you enjoy Aintree and Punchestown and here's to a 'happy new flat'!

Kingston Blount Point to Point Saturday 9 March 2013

by Robert Watson.

For the third year in a row, the West Berkshire Racing Club, jointly with the Racecourse Newbury, sponsored the Ladies Open race at this popular meeting. The previous two runnings had seen the Welsh trained mare **Lady Myfanwy** triumph, and she was in the line-up again, aiming for the hat-trick. However, on this occasion she had to give way to **Description**, locally trained at Aston Rowant by Alan Hill, husband of Lawney. Ridden with confidence by Gina. Andrews, Description pulled away for a comfortable win. Club member Roger Beveridge was on hand to present the trophy to winning owner Rodney Mann, who is chairman of the Kingston Blount Racing Club. Congratulations.



The weather was wet and very cold; the public areas were a muddy hazard for both man and car; the bookies gave out cardboard tickets; the beer tent and hog roast did a great trade; the Bullingdon Club were a colourful presence; dogs of every shape and size were impeccably behaved; the PA announcer and race commentator were in good voice; all jockeys and horses came home sound; and to top it all, our own



Stewart Nash saw his horse **Start Royal** win in impressively easy fashion! What a great afternoon. If you have not been before, give Point to Point racing a go – especially if your Club is sponsoring a race.

Pictures from Kingston Blount (courtesy of Robert Watson) – Top left Description (Gina Andrews) returns to unsaddle, top right Roger Beveridge (left) supported by Emily McMahon (white hat) representing Newbury Racecourse makes the presentations to Gina Andrews and Rodney Mann (with grandson). Below right – Lisa Greaves (centre) of sponsors Bonhams presents the Faber Cup to Start Royals' joint owners Stewart and Hilda Nash and Michael Avery together with rider James Tudor.

LADY RIDERS EVENING – Tuesday 19 March

by Stewart Nash

Hard on the heels of the Cheltenham Festival we staged a lady riders evening and as Terry has mentioned above this gave us the opportunity to welcome three new faces to the Club.

As I chaired this evening this report is purely factual as I couldn't make detailed notes of what was said whilst also thinking of the questions! The male domination of horse racing maintained by the Jockey Club was ended when a landmark case brought by Florence Nagle forced the Jockey Club to licence women trainers. A few days later Norah Wilmot, who had taken over the Binfield, Berkshire stables on the death of her father Sir Robert Wilmot, himself a Jockey Club member celebrated by training Pat to win at Brighton on 3 August 1966. This was the first time Miss Wilmot's name had appeared as the trainer despite having trained many winners behind the subterfuge of the licence being held by her head lad. The passing of the Sex Discrimination Act further forced the hand of the racing authorities to issue jockeys and amateur riders licences to women.

It is 41 years since the 6 May 1972 when Meriel Tufnell rode Scorched Earth to win the first lady riders race under the Rules of Racing at Kempton Park and our panel covered experiences across the whole of that period. Assembling the panel for this meeting initially proved relatively easily but as always there were pitfalls. On the Monday before Cheltenham Gemma Gracey-Davison went to Plumpton for six rides. A fall from Shropshire Lass and a win on Lindsay's Dream preceded a heavy fall from Ashmolian which resulted in her being taken to Brighton Hospital with a broken femur. At the hospital they also found that she had dislocated her shoulder in the fall from Shropshire Lass. A quick word with Gina Andrews at Huntingdon however provided a replacement for Gemma and then with Lawney Hill having to go to Ireland Lawney kindly arranged for Eve Johnson Houghton to take her place.

Diana Henderson was the first woman to win a steeplechase when Ben Ruler won at Stratford on 7 February 1976. There was plenty of family rivalry in that race as she was riding against her sister Jane (who subsequently married the American amateur rider George Sloan) and her father, John Thorne, of Spartan Missile fame. Diana's daughter Camilla is now riding and as I write this has just finished second on Scots Dragoon at the Hackwood Park Easter Monday point to point.

Eve Johnson Houghton whose grand-mother Helen was another who inherited the job of trainer from her late husband but was never credited with training a winner despite sending out Gilles de Retz to win the 1956 2,000 Guineas. Eve herself was an accomplished rider winning her first race at Kempton in June 1990 and twice winning the Ladies Diamond Race on King George Day at Ascot. Eve assisted her father Fulke before taking on the role of licensed trainer at Blewbury's Woodway stables.

Emily Jones rode her first winner at the Glamorgan point to point in 1987 and was champion lady rider in 2003. She still rides out for local trainers, takes the occasional ladies race ride and works for various racing channels.

Gina Andrews was champion lady point to point rider in the 2010/11 season and is based at her father's stables near Luton but she has also ridden out for David Elsworth and Walter Swinburn. Gina has also been seen to good effect under rules with rides for Peterborough trainer Pam Sly. Gina's father Simon won the Liverpool Foxhunters in 1988 and her mother Joanna (née Hodge) rode point to point winners. Sister Bridget is also following very successfully in Gina's footsteps.

The panel was completed by Nicole Nordblad who was born in Sweden and is apprenticed to fellow Swede Hans Adeilsson at Kingston Lisle. Nicole was able to contrast racing in Sweden with the UK and was clear that our racing is far better than in her native country. Very articulate Nicole created a lasting impression and has been doing similarly on the track. Asked to select a horse she was looking forward to riding she nominated Buckland who won Easter Saturday's Rosebery Stakes at Kempton at 7/1 – were you on?

The whole evening was thoroughly enjoyable with the panel giving some very frank and enlightening answers regarding the life of a lady rider. It was also nice to see family support in the audience with Emily and Nicole's mothers and Gina's father.

Postscript: It was good to see Gemma on her feet albeit assisted by crutches at Plumpton on Easter Sunday. She hopes to be back riding in September and hopefully will be a guest at our National Hunt Season preview in October.



Our Lady Riders panel standing from left – Eve Johnson Houghton, Diana Henderson and Emily Jones. Seated – Gina Andrews (left) and Nicole Nordblad (Photo: Harley Quilliam)

W.B.R.C. TEN TO FOLLOW 2013 FLAT SEASON

Select your 10 horses from the list below and enter them on the entry form provided. Each member can enter a maximum of three lists. Each list costs £2 or £5 for the three.

Rules The competition will begin on Saturday 4th May and ends on Champions Day (19th October). Entries should be received by noon on Saturday 4th May and should be sent to - Phil Brown. 12 Cygnet Court, Fareham, Hants, PO16 8AU.

Scoring will be as follows Win only.

50 Points for 2,000 & 1,000 Gns, Derby, Oaks, St Leger, Lockinge Stakes, Ascot Gold Cup, Eclipse Stakes, King George VI & Queen Elizabeth 11 Stakes, Sussex Stakes, Juddmonte International, Prix De L'Arc de Triomphe, Queen Elizabeth 11 Stakes and the Champion Stakes.

30 Points Group 1 (Europe) Grade 1 (U.S.A.) 25 Points Group 2 (Europe) Grade 2 (U.S.A.)

20 Points Group 3 (Europe) Grade 3 (U.S.A.) 15 Points Listed race 10 Points winner of any race.

All races in GB and Ireland qualify plus Pattern races in France, Germany and Italy and all Graded Stakes races in North America.

3-Y-O Colts

- 1/. Autun (Sir H. Cecil)
- 2/. Battle Of Marengo (A.O'Brien)
- 3/. Cap O'Rushes (M. Al Zarooni)
- 4/. Cristoforo Colombo (A.O'Brien)
- 5/. Dawn Approach (J.Bolger)
- 6/. Dundonnell (R. Charlton)
- 7/. Eye Of The Storm (A. O'Brien)
- 8/. Fantastic Moon (J.Noseda)
- 9/. Flow (Sir H. Cecil)
- 10/. Fort Knox (R. Hannon)
- 11/. Foundry (A. O'Brien)
- 12/. Gale Force Ten (A. O'Brien)
- 13/. George Vancouver (A. O'Brien)
- 14/. Ghurair (J. Gosden)
- 15/. Greatwood (L. Cumani)
- 16/. Havana Gold (R. Hannon)
- 17/. Hillstar (Sir M. Stoute)
- 18/. Indian Chief (A. O'Brien)
- 19/. Kingsbarns (A.O'Brien)
- 20/. Leitir Mor (J. Bolger)
- 21/. Mars (A. O'Brien)
- 22/. Moohaajim (M.Botti)
- 23/. Montiridge (R. Hannon)
- 24/. Morpheus (Sir H. Cecil)
- 25/. Muhtaris (S. Bin Suroor)
- 26/. Olympic Glory (R. Hannon)
- 27/. Race And Status (A. Balding)
- 28/. Reckless Abandon (C. Cox)
- 29/. Russian Realm (Sir M. Stoute)
- 30/. Secret Number (S. Bin Suroor)
- 31/. Steeler (M. Johnson)
- 32/. Taayel (J. Gosden)
- 33/. Tawhid (S. Bin Suroor)
- 34/. Telescope (Sir M. Stoute)
- 35/. Theatre (A. O'Brien)
- 36/. The United States (A. O'Brien)
- 37/. Toronado (R. Hannon)
- 38/. Trading Leather (J. Bolger)
- 39/. Van Der Neer (R. Hannon)
- 40/. Wentworth (R. Hannon)
- 41/. Zand (J. Oxx)

3-Y-O Fillies

- 42/. Annina (Sir M. Stoute)
- 43/. Auld Alliance (Sir M. Stoute)
- 44/. Big Break (D. Weld)
- 45/. Certify (M. Al Zarooni)
- 46/. Desert Blossom (M. Al Zarooni)
- 47/. Great Timing (M. Al Zarooni)
- 48/. Just The Judge (C. Hills)
- 49/. Liber Nauticus (Sir M. Stoute)
- 50/. Purr Along (W. Muir)
- 51/. Rosdhu Queen (W. Haggis)
- 52/. Roz (H. Dunlop)
- 53/. Secret Gesture (R. Beckett)
- 54/. Sinaniya (J. Oxx)
- 55/. Sky Lantern (R. Hannon)
- 56/. Tarana (J. Oxx)
- 57/. Vanity Rules (J. Gosden)
- 58/. What A Name (M. Delzangles)
- 59/. Winsili (J. Gosden)

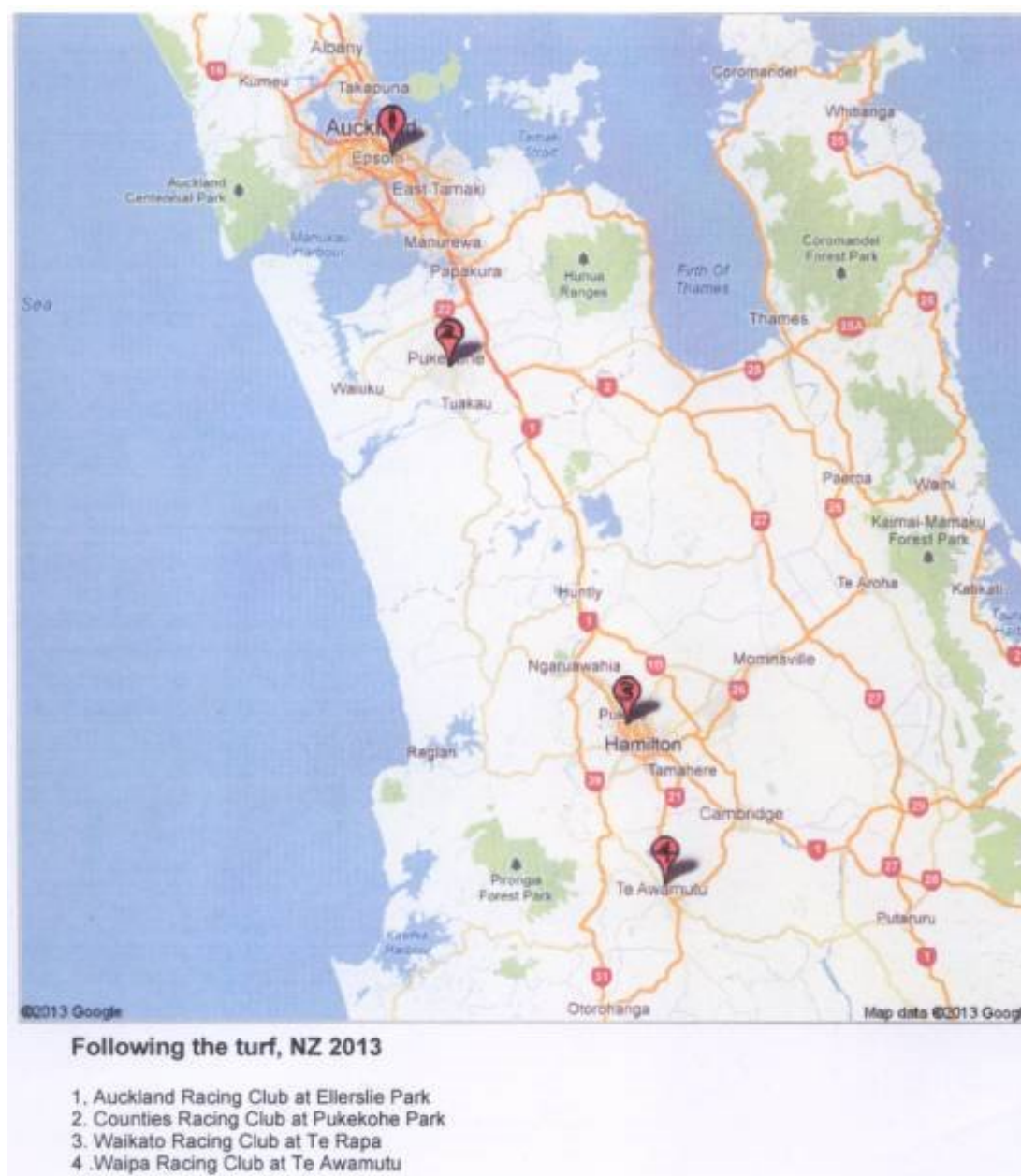
4-Y-O & Up

- 60/. Aljamaaheer (R. Varian)
- 61/. Archbishop (B. Meehan)
- 62/. Biographer (D. Lanigan)
- 63/. Brown Panther (T. Dascombe)
- 64/. Camelot (A. O'Brien)
- 65/. Captain Cat (R. Charlton)
- 66/. Chil The Kite (H. Morrison)
- 67/. Cityscape (R. Charlton)
- 68/. Colour Vision (S. Bin Suroor)
- 69/. Deacon Blues (J. Fanshawe)
- 70/. Elusive Kate (J. Gosden)
- 71/. Encke (M. Al Zarooni)
- 72/. Energizer (M. Al Zarooni)
- 73/. Estimate (Sir M. Stoute)
- 74/. Farhh (S. Bin Suroor)
- 75/. Farraaj (R. Varian)
- 76/. Fulbright (M. Al Zarooni)
- 77/. Gospel Choir (Sir M. Stoute)
- 78/. Hamish McGonagall (T. Easterby)
- 79/. Hawkeyethenoo (J. Goldie)
- 80/. Imperial Monarch (A. O'Brien)
- 81/. Ladies Are Forever (G. Oldroyd)
- 82/. Libranno (R. Hannon)
- 83/. Masterstoke (M. Al Zarooni)
- 84/. Most Improved (A. O'Brien)
- 85/. Nine Realms (W. Haggis)
- 86/. Opinion Poll (M. Al Zarooni)
- 87/. Pallasator (Sir M. Prescott)
- 88/. Pearl Secret (D. Barron)
- 89/. Red Cadeaux (E. Dunlop)
- 90/. Rye House (Sir M. Stoute)
- 91/. St Nicholas Abbey (A. O'Brien)
- 92/. Sir Graham Wade (M. Johnson)
- 93/. Society Rock (J. Fanshawe)
- 94/. Snow Fairy (E. Dunlop)
- 95/. Swiss Spirit (J. Gosden)
- 96/. The Fugue (J. Gosden)
- 97/. Thought Worthy (J. Gosden)
- 98/. Times Up (E. Dunlop)
- 99/. Trumpet Major (R. Hannon)
- 100/. Wild Coco (Sir H. Cecil)

WBRC BEST TURNED OUT CHAMPIONSHIP

With the final day of jump racing at Newbury abandoned due to snow we were unable to present the shield to the winner of our best turned out championship for the Newbury 2012/13 season. The winner was Tim Vaughan's yard with 9 best turned out awards. We have arranged to present the awards to Tim at his yard and also hopefully arrange a visit to his stables tied in with a local race meeting.

The racing part of our trip to New Zealand (NZ) was planned around visiting four tracks on North Island all relatively close together. Starting with the meeting at Te Rapa on Sat. 9th followed by Pukekohe on Sun 10th, Te Awamutu on Mon 11th and finishing with Ellerslie Park on Wed 13th. The venues are as marked on the map below.



We had been racing before in NZ and knew what to expect. Compared with the UK, the meetings are poorly attended with a lack of atmosphere and no on-course bookmakers. Nevertheless the standard of racing is good. The best horses compete successfully in Australia (similar to UK horses competing in Europe).

TE RAPA

This was one of the Waikato Racing Club's premier meetings with ten races, two of which were group 1 and one group 2. Stake money was \$665k (£350,000). General admission was \$10 (£5) and \$55 for the Colours Lounge, which included a racecard, luncheon and reserved seating. Fields were 9 to 16 runners on an 1800m (approx. 9 furlongs) left handed track with a 420m straight. The parade ring shown on the next page) was behind the stands.

For such a good quality meeting the attendance was poor as commented on by the Chairman when the presentations were made for the first group 1 race.
(below)



The top NZ jockey was Opie Bosson with a 25% strike rate. He won a group 1 race and raced at all of the other tracks we visited, winning at least 2 races at each track.

Right - The finish of race 4



PUKEKOHE

This was one of 16 meetings the Counties Racing Club holds each year and was themed as a family fun day with kids activities, bring a picnic and free admission. Total stakes were \$57,000 with seven races and fields of 11 to 18 runners. The grandstand (pictured below right) looks like an industrial unit.

The track (pictured top of next page) is also home to the Auckland District Apprentice Jockey School. The training and trials tracks are inside the main turf racing track. There were also two 'Kids Kartz' races. These had a staggered start. The pony with the shortest legs had the biggest start and won the second race

The parade ring also pictured on next page) was to the side of the Grandstand





TE AWAMUTU.

Waipara Racing Club only have eight meetings and eight trials each year which may explain why the track was difficult to find. No sign at the entrance, just a man at the gate. Not many people. Half were owners, trainers and officials connected with the racing. The birdcage (parade ring) (pictured below) was at the front of the stands.

This made the racing easier to follow. It was noticeable that the owners and trainers did not go into the birdcage with their horses. Prize money was \$62,000 for the 8 races. Admission was free.



The view of racing at Te Awamutu from the stands.

ELLERSLIE PARK

Auckland Racing Club held a late afternoon meeting which was relatively well attended. General admission was \$10 for the six races with \$77,500 prize money. This was the most attractive of the tracks which we had visited before. The front of the grandstand looks most impressive (photo 1 on next page).

The sliding entrance doors are a joy after using the ones at Newbury. Inside there are two escalators going up and two coming down. All very impressive but very few people used the facility. Most were in the Ascot stand next door which was used by the owners, trainers and members. The parade ring (photo 2) is located at the front of this stand and the pre-parade ring behind the stand (photo 3).

(1)



(2)



(3)



The best time to visit this track is Auckland Cup week which is the first week in March when there are 3 premier meetings.

Right: View of the last race.

(All photos in this articles provided by Mike and Penny Bundy)



WEST BERKS RACING CLUB
TEN TO FOLLOW
2013 FLAT SEASON
ENTRY FORM

<u>LIST 1</u>	<u>LIST 2</u>	<u>LIST3</u>
1/.	1/.	1/.
2/.	2/.	2/.
3/.	3/.	3/.
4/.	4/.	4/.
5/.	5/.	5/.
6/.	6/.	6/.
7/.	7/.	7/.
8/.	8/.	8/.
9/.	9/.	9/.
10/.	10/.	10/.
<u>Reserve No 1</u>	<u>Reserve No 1</u>	<u>Reserve No 1</u>
<u>Reserve No 2</u>	<u>Reserve No 2</u>	<u>Reserve No 2</u>

It would be most helpful if you could please enter your selections in alphabetical order. It would also be helpful if you could choose two reserve horses for each of your lists which can be used should one of your main selections be declared unfit to race for the entire season prior to the starting date of the competition.

* When you have completed your list/lists could you please nominate one horse in each list as a Nap Horse for which you will receive Double Points.

I enclose a cheque (MADE PAYABLE TO W.B.R.C.) to the value of £ _____
 (ONE LIST £2 - TWO LISTS £4 -THREE LISTS £5).

MR/MRS/MS _____
 ADDRESS _____

 TEL NO _____

WHEN COMPLETED PLEASE SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO--
 PHIL BROWN.
 12 CYGNET COURT,
 FAREHAM,
 HANTS,
 PO16 8AU.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR NAP HORSES
IN EACH OF YOUR LISTS

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WEST BERKSHIRE RACING CLUB
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2013/14

Please renew my/our subscription to the WBRC for the year 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014

Name of first member (PLEASE PRINT BLOCK CAPITALS)

Name(s) of other members at the same address included on this renewal (PLEASE PRINT BLOCK CAPITALS)

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

I/we enclose a cheque for £ _____ being my/our subscription at the rate of £12 for the first member and £6 for each additional member at the same address. (Please make cheques payable to '**West Berkshire Racing Club**'))

Send this form with your remittance to:

Barbara Allen, Membership Secretary, 'Pilgrims Lodge', Baker Street, Aston Tirrold, Oxfordshire OX11 9DD

Note: receipts will not be issued and membership cards will be dispatched with the next newsletter after subscription renewal. If you require your membership card before the next newsletter date please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Amendments to your personal information – To enable us to keep in touch with our members please notify any corrections to the address we hold (see envelope address label) or any changes or additions to telephone numbers (landline and mobile) or e-mail please write the details clearly in the box below.

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BOOKING FORMS

VISIT TO LAURA MONGAN'S STABLES and EPSOM SPRING MEETING – 24 APRIL 2013

I wish to reserve ____ places for the visit to Laura Mongan's

This application is in respect of the following members:

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

I enclose a cheque for £ ____ (£5 per person) made payable to West Berkshire Racing Club.

I/we also require ____ (state number) stand tickets for Epsom Races (£16 each) enclose a cheque for £ ____ made payable to West Berkshire Racing Club.

Please send this application to **Robert Watson at 1 The Courtway, Bone Mill Lane, Enborne, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 0EU**

Contact details in case we need to contact you to advise of a change to the visit arrangements:

Telephone (home) _____ and Mobile _____ E-mail _____

VISIT TO HANS ADIELLSON'S STABLES – 15 MAY 2013

I wish to reserve ____ places for the visit to Hans Adiels's.

This application is in respect of the following members:

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

I enclose a cheque for £ ____ (£5 per person) made payable to West Berkshire Racing Club.

I/we wish to have breakfast after the visit - YES /NO

Please send this application to **Robert Watson at 1 The Courtway, Bone Mill Lane, Enborne, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 0EU**

Contact details in case we need to contact you to advise of a change to the visit arrangements:

Telephone (home) _____ and Mobile _____ E-mail _____

VISIT TO GOODWOOD RACES – 23 MAY 2013

I wish to reserve ____ places for the visit to Goodwood Races.

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

I enclose a cheque for £ ____ (£15 per person) made payable to West Berkshire Racing Club.

Please send this application to **Robert Watson at 1 The Courtway, Bone Mill Lane, Enborne, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 0EU**

Contact details in case we need to contact you to advise of a change to the visit arrangements:

Telephone (home) _____ and Mobile _____ E-mail _____

Please provide as many means of contact as possible to ensure prompt communication of urgent information