

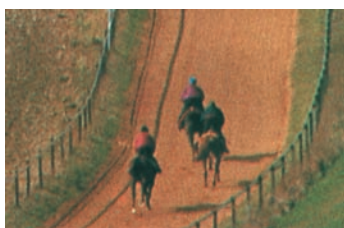
Snowy Mantle in foal to Arkadian Hero

Homebred's winning flat mare Snowy Mantle has been tested in foal to Group winning miler Arkadian Hero. We'll await confirmation of further tests at 25 days before she's transported home from Tweenhills Stud in Gloucestershire to be at home with her best friend Royal Brush (dam of Prince de Galles and Homebred Buddy) for the Open day on July 18. Arkadian Hero won 7 races including the Mill Reef Stakes and was only beaten a short head in a Group 1 photo finish at Woodbine. His first crop will be 2-year olds in 2005.



Arkadian Hero

Now's the time to make that stable visit...



Lovely weather, with countryside to match - what could be better than watching your own horse working on the gallops? And catching up on the stable news in the yard? As always, visits can be arranged by simply calling the office (9am-5.30pm Monday to Friday) and we'll make all the necessary plans.



Know your rules

Use of the whip

Use of the whip is an emotive issue and mis-use is not tolerated in British racing and the rules are stringently applied. Instruction H9 of Club Rules states:

The Stewards of the Jockey Club will not tolerate abuse of the horse and consider its welfare, and the safety of the rider, to be paramount. The whip should be used for safety, correction and encouragement only and they therefore advise all riders to consider the following good ways of using the whip which are not exhaustive:

- Showing the horse the whip and giving it time to respond before hitting it;
- Using the whip in the backhand position for a reminder;
- Having used the whip, giving the horse a chance to respond before using it again;
- Keeping both hands on the reins when using the whip down the shoulder in the backhand position;

- Using the whip in rhythm with the horse's stride and close to its side;
- Swinging the whip to keep a horse running straight.

The Stewards of the Jockey Club have asked Stewards to consider holding an enquiry into any case where a rider has used his whip in such a way as to cause them concern and publish the following examples of uses of the whip which may be regarded as improper riding:

1. Hitting horses:

- to the extent of causing injury;
- with the whip arm above shoulder height;
- rapidly without regard to their stride i.e. twice or more in one stride;
- with excessive force;
- without giving the horse time to respond;

2. Hitting horses which are:

- showing no response;
- out of contention;
- clearly winning;
- past the winning post.

3. Hitting horses in any place except:

- on the quarters with the whip in either the backhand or forehand position;
- down the shoulder with the whip in the backhand position;
- unless exceptional circumstances prevail.

4. Hitting horses:

- with excessive frequency
- When examining cases of excessive frequency, the Stewards will consider all the relevant factors such as:
- whether the number of hits was reasonable and necessary over the distance they were given, taking into account the horse's experience;
 - whether the horse was continuing to respond and;
 - the degree of force that was used; the more times a horse has been hit the stricter will be the view taken over the degree of force which is reasonable.

The things you say...

Winning Post was delighted to receive words of praise from Homebred owner Ben Jones (Quidditch) who told us: "I really must congratulate you on Winning Post - it's most excellent, well produced and really interesting."

In fact if I wasn't a Homebred Owner, I think I'd like to subscribe to it through my local newsagent!" Many thanks Ben - we're always pleased to receive feedback whether flattering or not. To let us have your views call us on 01293 884433, fax us on 01293 884201 or email post@chriswallcreative.co.uk.



We'd like to hear from you

Let us have your ideas and views...



Office:
Grattons Court, Grattons Drive,
Pound Hill, Crawley RH10 3AG
Tel: 01293 884433 Fax: 01293 884201
Stud:
Pregwyn, Llandysul
Cardiganshire SA44 4LS
email: post@chriswallcreative.co.uk
www.homebredracing.co.uk

WINNING POST

THE REGULAR NEWSLETTER FROM HOMEBRED RACING

3/2004

Peter's new gallops are a winner...

So trainer Peter Bowen told us on our recent visit to the yard to see finishing touches being put to Homebred Star's preparation for his debut. We watched the horses doing fast work over 2 furlongs of a steady incline.

Afterwards Peter explained how they'd calculated the comparative amount of work required to equate to the old gallops - which were longer and much, much steeper. The 'old' gallops were very demanding and particularly suited to



New gallops - suited to flat horses

training jump horses, but Peter's keen to have more flat types in the yard. "Better prize money and fewer injuries" are the clear logic behind this.

The base of the new gallops was dug out and a layer of drainage material laid and covered with a permeable membrane. This allows drainage but prevents mud and debris contaminating the top fibrechipp surface. Good drainage and loose, dry surface means they can be used when turf gallops would be waterlogged, frozen or too hard because of prolonged drought. Traditionally, training wisdom suggests that trainers who change gallops to adjust to their new workplace. So it's good to see Peter disprove the theory by having winners at the start of his new jump season - courtesy of the new set up!



Homebred Star after his work out

Homebred's stud gears up for the Open Day

We're pleased to hear that many are including the Stud's Open Day on Sunday July 18 in your plans. Apart from Homebred horses, West Wales has a lot more to offer amongst beautiful unspoilt countryside. It will be an informal day with visitors welcome from 11am onwards. Apart from seeing your own horse there'll be a chance to also meet the mares, other youngsters and our retired 'golden oldies'. It'll also be an opportunity to meet other Homebred owners and all those who help 'behind the scenes' from vets to farriers and - if race meetings allow - our trainers too.

Ieuan Evans will lead a parade of the Llanwnnen Foxhounds on our recently retired hurdler Prince de Galles. There'll be a buffet lunch with wines. The only extra we'll need is some sunshine!



Stable yard at the stud

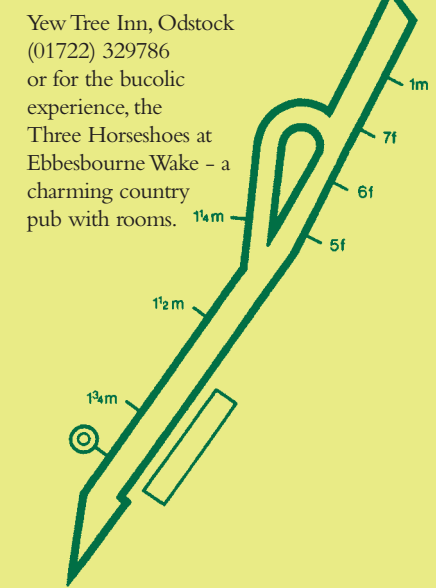


Buggy - the visitor suggesting the best name wins a free share!

Course factfile: Salisbury

Salisbury is a right-handed course with a seven furlong straight, an elbow about half a mile out and rises steadily throughout. High numbers are usually the best unless the ground rides soft when the runners often make their way across to the stands rail. A favourite venue for southern-based trainers, Salisbury is regarded as the perfect track for the top yards to educate their two year-olds. For this reason there are often some very good prospects on show at this attractive and popular racecourse. Fixtures are generally spread between May and October

with a particularly heavy period in June and July attracting excellent support. The highlight of the year is the Champagne Stakes, a contest restricted to juveniles and run in late June. Facilities are good with racegoers having the opportunity to choose from snack bars or restaurant menus. **Location:** London 91, Bristol 53 and Southampton 23 miles **Telephone:** 01722 326461 or 327327 **Trains:** To Salisbury + free bus service to track **Celebrations:** Harpers, 7 Ox Row, Market Square, Salisbury (01722) 333118



Buzzards are a common sight



Stud survey takes off

The RSPB have completed the first stage of their survey of birdlife at the stud which is part of a nationwide programme to build an overall picture of Britain's bird population on farms and in the wider countryside. Interim feedback indicates the presence of 58 different species including barn owl, red kite, redstart, treecreeper and a good range of waterbirds. The survey which will be completed by midsummer comprises a series of dawn visits patrolling the perimeter of the farm.



A good range of waterbirds!

Looking back at last season

Well, the pundits said it was a vintage Cheltenham. But was it? The official classifications for the last jumps season have just been published. Best Mate on 175 is rated the best of all chasers and Iris's Gift (172) the best hurdler. But does this really give the true picture? Certainly Rooster Booster (169) lost his champion's crown and was later again beaten by Hardy Eustace (170) - but there's a suspicion that Philip Hobbs' yard has not been the smooth running machine it usually is. It may be fairer to rate Rooster Booster on his gallant defeat under a huge weight in the Tote Gold Trophy - in which case he may yet regain next year's crown. The top rated Iris's Gift is more likely to go chasing and may

well prove to be the major obstacle between Best Mate and an amazing 4th consecutive title. Like Rooster Booster it's difficult to accept that Best Mate ran anywhere near his previous Gold Cup form. The novice crop headed by hurdler Fundamentalist (153) and Strong Flow (161) have some improvements to make to challenge the top honours. Peter Bowen's Ballycassidy will also surely be a force and must have gone close at the Festival if he'd run. Winning juvenile hurdler Made in Japan is likely to switch his attention to fences next season. Only time will tell if former champions can regain their crowns and whether 2004 really was a vintage season.



Best Mate - the top horse

Jockeys making the headlines

Now the flat season is well under way it's interesting to see how the heiracy of jockeys is - or isn't changing. The retirement of top names like Pat Eddery inevitably leaves a big hole - and an equally large opportunity. Currently Frankie Dettori is all the rage to be champion jockey - but can his rekindled enthusiasm be enough to repel a determined Kieren Fallon? Personally I doubt it. Of the other top pilots Darrel Holland is still at the top of the table but probably lacks the firepower to win a championship and Kevin Darley's best opportunity now seems to have passed him by. Poor Richard Quinn has been cruelly rewarded for all his year's of loyalty to Paul Cole and seems destined never to wear the crown. And pity poor Jamie Spencer, supposedly in the best job of all for Aiden O'Brien, for whom nothing seems to be going right! He's clearly a huge talent but I don't recall any other top jockey still being on the learning curve in such a position. Would Lester Piggott have ever let Group 1 wins slip from his grasp when within touching distance? There are also some hugely talented younger riders about too - the one that catches the eye being Graham Gibbons. He's neat, stylish and has a great sense of timing. He's also riding for all the right people too which is so vital in developing a career. One for the notebook to challenge for top honours in years to come.



Spencer & O'Brien hold another post mortem!

Growing up fast...

We're delighted to be able to tell everyone that last year's orphan foal Gwyl is doing really well. After the spring grass he's growing unrecognisably and really is something of a handful. Although he's backward compared to our other yearling, he's catching up fast - as visitors to the Open Day on July 18 will be able to see for themselves!

What's the best bet?

Research comparing bookmakers' starting prices with Tote returns for all horseracing bets settled between March - December 2003 reveal that the Tote paid out 15% more than the bookies. However, betting with the Tote remains a complete mystery to many - so here's a selection of their popular bets:

Totewin: Pick the winner of the race (Minimum bet £2)

Toteplace: Pick a horse to be placed in the race (Minimum bet £2).

Toteeachway: This is simply a totewin bet and a toteplace bet on the same horse (Minimum total stake £4).

Toteexacta: Pick the horse to finish 1st & 2nd in the correct order. (Minimum total spend £2)

Totetrifecta: Pick 1st, 2nd & 3rd in the correct order in a totetrifecta race. (Minimum total spend £2)



Toteplacepot: Pick a horse to be placed in each of the six toteplacepot races. You can choose more than one horse in any of the races to increase your chances of winning. (Minimum total spend £2)

Totejackpot: Pick the winners of the six totejackpot races at the nominated totejackpot meeting each day (except Saturday). (Minimum total spend £2)



Totequadpot: Pick a horse to be placed in each of the four totequadpot races. (Minimum total spend £2)

Totescoop: Pick at least one horse in the six nominated televised races each Saturday. (Minimum spend £2 per line).

It's also possible to open a Tote credit account to bet via phone or on line. Call 01942 825 825 for details.

Looking good...

Breeding racehorses is a long term commitment - first proving the mare on the racetrack and then waiting for her progeny to demonstrate what they can do. It's a minimum 6 year cycle before you know what you've got - or likely to be getting - with other youngsters already in the pipeline or the planning stage. So it was great to see Snowy Mantle's first foal Snowed Under put up such a good display in his first run as a 3-year-old. A grey by top stallion Most Welcome, Snowed Under was bred, like his dam, by Phyllis Fane, and ran in a mile maiden at Beverley making good late progress from the rear to be a fast finishing fifth. He looks sure to improve for the experience and should make a decent flat performer this year. It's great news now that Snowy Mantle has joined Homebred as a broodmare. Her filly foal by Group winning sprinter College Chapel has done extremely well over the winter and looks an exciting 2-y-old prospect for 2005. Watch this space!

