

Profile on racing people: Mark and Amanda Perrett



Mark Perrett rode our very first winner for us (at 100/1) on our chaser Backpacker at Huntingdon and subsequently rode for us many times over jumps and on the flat. With new Homebred youngsters continually coming on stream we'd like to add the Perretts to our roster of trainers.

We recently met Mark at Windsor when Homebred Star made his debut. Whilst chatting to him a competitive female trainer quipped "You don't need to talk to him" - to which Mark said "But I've already ridden winners for him". "Maybe, but you danced with me once..." she replied. But Mark had the final word "But riding a 100-1 winner for Chris was a much bigger thrill!"

Amanda Perrett started the 21st century with flourish by putting herself and her husband Mark on the international training map, when they sent Indian Lodge out to complete a notable Group 1 double in France.

Why race planners want to limit runners

There's been much argument recently about the BHB's plans to limit the numbers of runners in each race. In its modernisation programme, the BHB are expanding the fixture list from the current 1,341 to 1,500 in 2006. There are two reasons for this move. The first is to satisfy the betting industry so that virtually all available betting "slots" are filled. It may be tempting to ask at this point why the racing industry and owners should dance to the tune of bookmakers but there is one very clear reason why they should. Like it or not, this is the way of the world, especially so since the basis of funding changed from a levy on bookmakers' turnover to a levy on

When Guy Harwood bought 350 acres of moderate farmland on the South Downs back in 1965, it took a lot of imagination to visualise the state-of-the-art establishment now in place. He knew the potential was there and gradually developed it over the years to its current 130 boxes, and their inmates have a marvellous variety of gallops on which to exercise.

Amanda understandably enthuses "We've got four all-weather gallops and numerous grass gallops, which include an American-style cambered bend. Basically we do most of our faster work on the all-weather surfaces - particularly the main woodchip mile gallop in the valley that was the first laid down here. The material is very forgiving and it rides like good ground. We can water and irrigate it as we have got seven miles of pop-up watering systems on the gallops."



Mark Perrett wins on Backpacker (left) at 100/1

The first five furlongs of the main all-weather gallop rise 150 feet. This means you are doing a lot of your work on the bridle. If you tried to go as fast as they do at Newmarket you would, firstly, have a horse exhausted at the end of its workout and, secondly, a horse that had left its race at home. That six furlongs on



In proposing this the BHB has of course understood there are certain big races - so-called heritage races - that must be excluded. They are also working on possible other exclusions such as maiden races in the autumn but, those apart, the proposal is for a maximum field size of 14. In a nutshell, this proposal will benefit owners because it will create a climate for an increase in running opportunities while at the same time maximise racing's income and prize-money. No doubt argument will continue before proposals become reality!

the collar is the equivalent of working a mile and a quarter on the Flat."

Like most of the top yards round the world, there is an equine swimming pool adjoining the main yard, which is invaluable for keeping horses with leg problems on the go or just to give others a change of routine. Most importantly of all, Coombelands boasts its own laboratory to help monitor the well-being of the horses.

Amanda feels it was a bonus to have ridden as an amateur, as she knows the characteristics of the tracks, enabling her to decide where the Coombelands horses would be best suited to running. She was in the saddle from an early age, riding winners both on the Flat, over Jumps and in Point-to-Points.

Horses to follow still in the lead!

Regular visitors to the website will have been keeping track of our regular tips - which are currently keeping us in the credit rather than debit column. However, our pre season prediction of horses to follow has performed even better, identifying Derby winner North Light and Oaks winner Ouija Board before they were ever a twinkle in the bookmakers' eye. But Bandari has been the biggest money spinner chalking up a sequence of wins at big prices - his latest at 14-1. It'll be interesting to put a line under them all at the end of the season to see if our predictions are still in front!

New website

During the past few months we've taken on board owners comments about making the website quicker and easier to use. Though overall presentation retains the familiar look, structure of pages and content has been changed. Separating the tipping service pages from the training reports makes it much easier to dip in and out for the latest information - as does listing latest news first. Another innovation is inclusion of the results of recent tips - though I'm not sure any of us needs reminding where the money has gone! As always we still appreciate any further comments to continue to improve things.

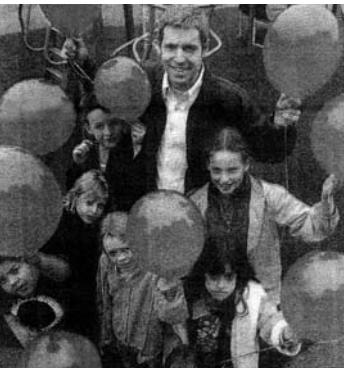
WINNING POST



THE REGULAR NEWSLETTER FROM HOMEBRED RACING

4/2004

We have touchdown



TV personality Matt Jones at the launch



Prince de Galles (right) leads the Llanwenn pack into the yard on Open Day - more pictures inside

Homebred's Open Day

The Open Day at the stud was blessed with one of the few dry and sunny days of mid summer and was well supported by owners from as far afield as Yorkshire and Sussex. After coffee, visitors were able to

tour the farm and see all the different generations of Homebred horses - including those just about to enter training. After a champagne buffet lunch a parade of the Llanwenn Foxhounds was led by

our retired winning hurdler Prince de Galles who was magnificently turned out by Hunt Master Ieuan Evans. Judging by the comments and messages of thanks, it was a day enjoyed by all. *More pictures inside.*

Bringing home the bacon...

Prizelot		T2	%	1s	o.o	4t	14o...	28U/Z
47 Septieme Ciel		55	13	24%	15	9.4	35	147,071
48 Croco Rouge	1995	Rainbow Quest	43	12	28%	16	9.4	144,237
49 Mukadama	1998	Storm Bird	57	14	21%	14	9.8	47
50 College Chapel	1990	Sharpo	52	6	12%	8	7.2	39
51 Groom Dancer	1984	Blushing Arbor	50	18	36%	21	10.1	39
52 Lomitas	1985	Niniaki	62	18	29%	21	10.1	42
53 Desert King	1994	Danehill	74	11	15%	13	8.8	37
54 Undream	1985	Northern Dancer	52	14	27%	16	10.0	33
55 Immedaly	1994	Highest Honor	58	9	16%	12	10.3	41
56 Most Welcome	1984	Be My Guest	34	15	44%	24	8.5	29
57 Gold Away	1995	Goldneyev	25	7	28%	10	8.8	24
58 Kendor	1986	Kennmare	50	7	14%	9	8.7	35
59 Pivotal	1991	Danzig	95	15	16%	15	8.8	75
60 Zilzal	1986	Nureyev	44	10	23%	15	8.8	32
61 Scarborough	1994	Soviet Star	56	9	16%	11	10.4	35
62 Royal Applause	1993	Waajib	70	13	19%	16	7.4	35
63 Nashwan	1986	Bolero	40	10	25%	12	8.7	29
64 Dr Devlin	1989	Ahonoora	70	12	22%	14	9.2	38
65 Acatenango	1982	Surumu	70	15	21%	17	10.3	42
66 Bahamian Bounty	1994	Cadeaux Genereux	31	10	32%	10	8.7	128,811
67 Marchand de Sable	1990	Theatrical	7				127	
68 Monsun	1990	K...						
69 Royal Academy								

It's always reassuring when the season's stallion statistics are published to see that the ones we've chosen are delivering success on the racetrack too. The latest for leading sires in Britain and Ireland 2003-2004 are, as usual, ranked by total prizemoney. But we've never believed that this is the best way of assessing a stallion since a single star can transform his standing in

the table. It's much better to look at the percentage of winners to runners. So it's pleasing to see Most Welcome topping the chart with 44% winners to runners. This really is an impressive statistic when one considers the likely quality of mares he's covered compared to the supposed superstars. Sadlers Wells appears to only be half the stallion with 21% winners to runners, Danehill has



36%, Indian Ridge 26% and Cadeaux Genereux 25% - some of these commanding a stud fee eighty times greater than Most Welcome. His nearest competitors are Lahib 42%, Kris 39%, Groom Dancer 36% and Pivotal with 33%. So our orphan foal Gwyl, by Most Welcome out of our Celtic Cone mare Celtic Chimes, may have actually got away to a better start than we realised in his early and traumatic days of last summer.

Bugsy gets a new name



The competition to name our unraced four year old half brother to Prince de Galles has clearly exercised many brains! And the 100+ suggestions received have kept us busy - and amused - here in the office!

The task was to suggest names to ideally incorporate an element of the sire and dam - as well as work in 'Home' or 'Homebred'.

Bugsy is by Safawan (Young Generation) ex Royal Brush (by King of Spain). His sire is Safawan, bred by the Aga Khan, and, is topically, an area of Iraq! Peter Bowen suggested that we should call him Saddam! Others ranged from Bugs Bunny to the Spanish for a brush - El Cepillo.

And there were many, many more ranging from the bizarre to the inexplicable! But we appreciated them all - thank you. Ultimately the decision came down to a majority verdict for Sweep Home. This suggestion came from Andy Wainwright who wins a year's ownership in Bugsy's initial season. Let's just hope that his chosen name is prophetic. News of where and when Bugsy goes into training soon - and don't forget existing owners can enjoy a special joint ownership in him and our unraced Wizard King four year old Tilly for the price of one. Please call the office on 01293 884433 soon if you're interested.

Course factfile: Pontefract

Pontefract is a big left handed oval course of over 2 miles and is renowned as a stiff test of fitness as runners have to climb the last 3 furlongs to the winning post. It's particularly tough when the going is soft. Trainers to follow are Mark Johnston, Mrs Ramsden and Tim Easterby whilst leading jockey is Kevin Darley. The course is well located between the A1 and M1 off junction 32 of the M62.

Location: London 190, Manchester 38 and Leeds 8 miles.

Telephone: 01977 703224/702210

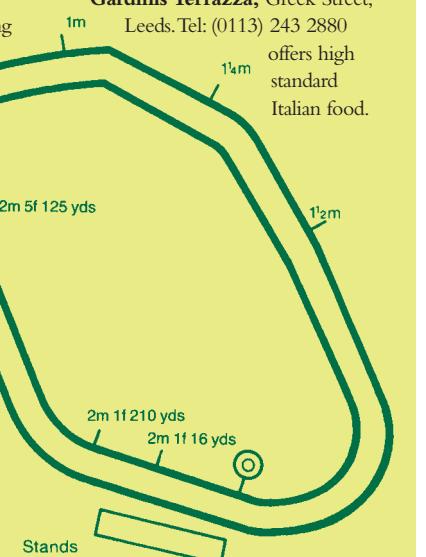
Trains: Kings Cross to Leeds and branch service to Pontefract (Baghill)

Celebrations: The Chequers at Ledsham - stone built village pub renowned for its food.

Tel: (0177) 683135

Gardinis Terrazza, Greek Street, Leeds. Tel: (0113) 243 2880

offers high standard Italian food.



Owner Chris Graham and Sue Cumberpatch with College Chapel yearling Annie



Owners Nick & Lisa Gates with Bugsy & Homebred Buddy



Kath Boak with her horse!



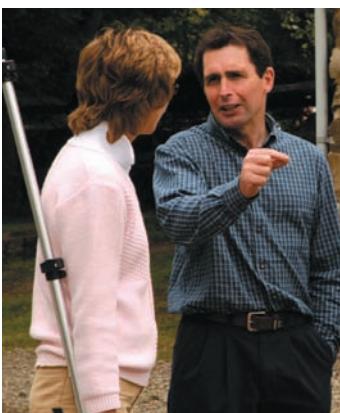
The Marchant family and owner Jennifer Mellor (right) get to know Pharly two-year-old Phizz



Trainer Gerry Enright talks to owner Keith Hoskins (seated)



Owner Sue Bell gets to know Tilly



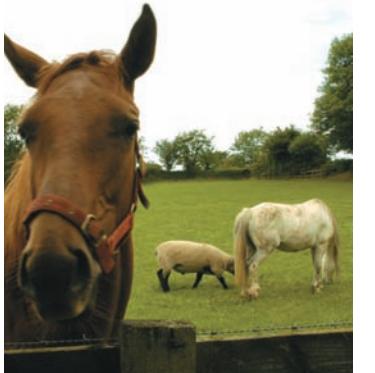
Homebred vet Richard Thomas makes a point to owner Jo Houghton



Leeds based owner Mike Jagger - undecided between two youngsters!



Visitors get to meet the hounds who were due to make their next appearance at the Royal Welsh Show



Orphan foal Gwyl shows off his friends



Local owner Ben Jones surrounded by fillies!



(From L to R) Midge Enright, Edd and Sue Cumberpatch, and the Evans family - Anwen with Evan and Lisa



Ieuan Evans on Prince de Galles shows off the hounds to Gerry Enright (left), and owners Philip and Jane Grindall