

Homebred Racing

RACEHORSE OWNERSHIP YOU CAN AFFORD
... FOR YOURSELF OR AS A SPECIAL GIFT

Discover an owner with Homebred's resources, you could enjoy unlimited on our name implies, our breeding opportunities provided at the Homebred Stud. You can make a single payment - the entire breeding programme - for your own stable or you can spread the cost over 12 months. The Homebred Stud is a member of the British Horseracing Authority and is a member of the British Bloodstock Association. It is a member of the British Bloodstock Association and is a member of the British Bloodstock Association. It is a member of the British Bloodstock Association and is a member of the British Bloodstock Association.

New website goes live

Although Homebred's website has been long established and receives a significant number of visits every day, it's now been revamped to add more elements and to refresh presentation with a complete makeover. The new look features that man Kieren Fallon returning to the winner's enclosure on our 2-year-old Welsh Assembly. Much of the existing content remains but is upgraded and a new feature includes the 'Gallery' section with photos of recent activity on the racetrack, in our trainers' yards and at the Homebred Stud. One of the most popular areas of the site is 'Inside Track' where snippets of stable gossip and information hopefully identify future winners. This section is for

fun rather than serious punters as we try to find winners at decent odds rather than skinny prices. Thankfully Inside Track continues to perform mostly in the black and results since 1st June 2004 have been as follows:

£10 each way staked on every selection:
 1st June - 6th Nov 2004 = profit of £708.50
 6th Nov - 1st Feb = profit of £53.75
 1st Feb - 30th April = profit of £76.00
 1st May - Aug 31st = loss of £14.40
 1st Sept - 31st Oct = profit of £164.00
 1st Nov - 28th Feb = profit of £230.00
 1st March - 30th June = profit of £53.00

Our website address is www.homebredracing.co.uk and also provides links to the Racing Post and At the Races who offer archive video replays of recent races.

Flashback - to the introduction of starting stalls

It's amazing to think that what's now an integral part of everyday racing was introduced to such hostility in 1965. Among those not in favour of the introduction of starting stalls were those jockeys who made something of a speciality of being cunning at the gate and thereby gaining an initial advantage. Another objection, on the grounds of safety and the possibility of horses becoming unsettled if they had to wait in such a confined box, was soon shown to be pretty well groundless. Once in their stalls, the majority of horses appeared happy to stand waiting while the rest of the field was loaded up; and even those horses that needed to be blindfolded usually showed that they were none the worse once the race started.



As reported in the Daily Telegraph 19th July 1965

There is no doubt that a decisive factor in the success of starting stalls in England has been the calm efficiency of the great majority of the handlers on all courses - something which English jockeys and horses often do not appreciate to the full until they find themselves racing on the Continent, where the standards are not always the same. Starting stalls were first used for the Chesterfield Stakes at Newmarket on 18th July 1965.

Off to a level break - a bird's eye view



Let us have your ideas and views...



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WINNING POST

THE REGULAR NEWSLETTER FROM HOMEBRED RACING

4/2006

'It ain't half hot, mum!'

More pictures of a baking hot Open Day at the stud inside...

Bookies put the squeeze on owners

The British Horseracing Board's proposed new revenue stream from sale of pre race data (details of owner's, runners and riders) has dried up following a ruling of the European Court in favour of bookmakers William Hill in their case against the BHB. The court ruled that the BHB was not able to profit from selling its database rights, effectively cutting off this flow of income which was also the intended source of new funds for owners of British bred horses. So the Owner's Premium scheme will now be terminated on 31st December 2006. BHB Chairman Martin Broughton said "This is a course of action that we have tried to avoid at all costs, as we firmly believed that a fully funded Owner's Premium Scheme would have had a significantly positive effect on the amount of prizemoney paid to owners. The scheme rewarded the owners of qualifying British bred horses

Big Rewards for Breeders

How the British Breed Premium Scheme was launched to breeders with 25% bonuses of prizemoney, the intention being to encourage owners to purchase British bred horses. We expected the scheme to pay out around £7 million a year". Thanks to the continued refusal of the bookmakers to pay anything resembling a market price for the product, racing is again out of pocket leaving owners to pick up the tab. If ever there was an incentive for owners to only ever bet with the Tote - this must surely be it!

totesport
 up to £50
 free bet
 for new telephone customers
 see enclosed leaflet for full details
 totesport your complete betting service

New 48 hour declarations

48 hour declarations come into operation for all flat racing from August 1st. Although there has been resistance to this change because of the likely problems of the uncertainty about going, availability of jockeys and greater likelihood of non-runners, it will give owners a little more notice to plan their time to go racing. This change is at the request of racecourses and the betting industry who hope the extra 24 hours notice will attract more overseas punters.

Did you know?

The world's richest race is now the Dubai World Cup with a purse of \$6 million. America's top race is the Breeders' Cup Classic (\$5 million) whilst Europe's most valuable is the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (\$2.4 million)

Socks appeal

Mystique has always surrounded the issue of horses with white socks - are they good or bad? From a practical point of view we'd rather horses didn't have white socks simply because the skin underneath is more prone to infection, particularly mud fever which is similar to athletes foot in humans. The old adage suggests:
 One white foot, ride him for your life
 Two white feet, give him to your wife
 Three white feet, give him to your man
 Four white feet, sell him - if you can!
 But amongst turf's greatest heroes, Tudor Minstrel had one, Sea Bird II two, Nijinski three and Hyperion four white socks. Brigadier Gerard had none!

Snapshot

Homebred's promising NH horse Sweep Home arrives at the stud for an extended holiday after treatment on his tendon.



Did you know?

The leading sire in Europe this year (by percentage winners to runners) is Monsun who stands in Germany

New boy on the block

Keep a Welcome is our unraced 3 year old by Most Welcome who was one of the top horses of his generation achieving a Timeform rating of 131 in a career which saw him defeat the likes of Warning, Mtoto and Don't Forget Me. Most Welcome is a Group 1 sire who's produced winners of more than 600 races and over £6.5 million in prizemoney. Keep a Welcome's dam, Celtic Chimes was a very tough winning mare who

has produced juvenile winner Welsh Assembly and our winning miler Homebred Star. Keep a Welcome, who's stable name is Gwyl (Welsh for holiday - as he was born on Bank Holiday Monday) was a backward youngster but has been given plenty of time to mature and is now in training. We're confident that he's going to provide a lot of fun later this year and some shares are still available - please call Julie on 01293 884433 if you're interested.

Racing Legends: Northern Dancer

No other horse has had such an impact on the thoroughbred – his name appears in almost every pedigree – worldwide. As a racehorse, Northern Dancer put Canadian racing and breeding firmly on the map. As a stallion he has become a legend.

Northern Dancer, by Nearctic, a son of Nearco, was bred by the legendary E.P. Taylor at his stud in Oshawa on the outskirts of Ontario, Canada. Like his grandsire, and his son Nijinsky after him, he was a bully, and often a menace as a yearling. At the sales he failed to reach a reserve of \$25,000 and returned to Taylor's farm at Willowdale, Ontario.

Northern Dancer with the whip, and was sacked. 'This is not a stick horse,' said his trainer Horatio Luro. Bill Shoemaker rode the stocky little colt in the Flamingo Stakes and Florida Derby, winning both, and accepted the ride in the Kentucky Derby. But forty-eight hours later he decided to swap horses and rode the Californian colt Hill Rise. 'I may have made the wrong choice,' said The Shoe. He had. Northern Dancer held off Hill Rise by a neck, in a record time of two minutes flat. In the Preakness, he increased the margin over Hill Rise by two-and-a-quarter lengths, but in the Belmont (one-and-a-half miles) he failed to stay.



Northern Dancer after his victorious 'Run For The Roses' (Kentucky Derby).

In the months after being broken and before moving on to the track, the Taylor yearlings would exercise in an indoor barn as a protection against the cold Canadian winter. Northern Dancer would pull, charge through the string, bump the wall, and do everything in his power to dislodge his rider, usually with success. 'Every time that rough little guy set foot in the barn there was chaos,' recalls his breeder. Northern Dancer began his two-year-old career in Canada winning five of his seven races, and it was decided that he was good enough to take on the best in the States. In November he flew south and promptly beat Bupers, the Futurity winner, by eight lengths over a mile at Aqueduct.

Northern Dancer grew to 15.3hh during the winter, but still looked a sprinter type. Ridden by Bob Ussey he lost his first race of the next season at Florida to Chieftain. Against orders, Ussey had hit

Sadly, after a victorious return to Canada for the Queen's Plate, the little colt injured a tendon at exercise at Belmont Park and was retired to stud. Northern Dancer was syndicated for \$2,400,000 and stood at the Windfield Farm in Kentucky. The sum, colossal at the time, now looks staggeringly paltry. At one stage in the eighties, a nomination to the great stallion changed hands for \$900,000. In 1987, at the age of twenty-six, his stallion career finally came to an end. In the meanwhile, he had sired Nijinsky, Lyphard, The Minstrel, Shareef Dancer, Storm Bird, Nureyev, El Gran Senor, Try My Best, Sadlers Wells and others, to become the most influential sire will not be disadvantaged by a late birthday – which proved no problem to Northern Dancer who was an exceptionally late foal born on May 26.

Homebred's Open Day 2006

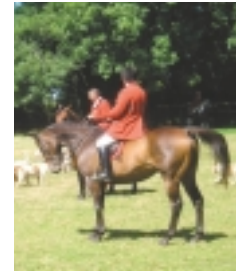
Some like it hot!

Although the searing heat understandably deterred a few from making a long car journey, the Stud still welcomed a steady stream of visitors on the annual Open Day. An arrival in mid-morning was our unraced 3 year old Keep a Welcome who returned to the yard after completing his roadwork programme with Sheena Hill.

Later arrivals also included a pack of very hot and panting Llanwnnen Hounds who were paraded with a full complement of immaculately turned out mounted huntsmen. The hounds appreciated the cool shade of the trees nearly as much as the riders who also enjoyed a few well chilled beers! Centre of attention was our new filly by Group 1 winner Hamas – entry forms suggesting names for her are now arriving thick and fast!



Homebred Star with owners Jo Houghton and Mike Jagger



Our retired winning hurdler Prince de Galles



Highlight of the day was the arrival of the Llanwnnen Hounds



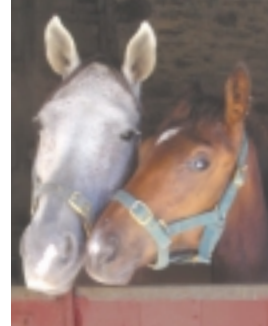
After a tour of the farm owners enjoyed drinks and a buffet



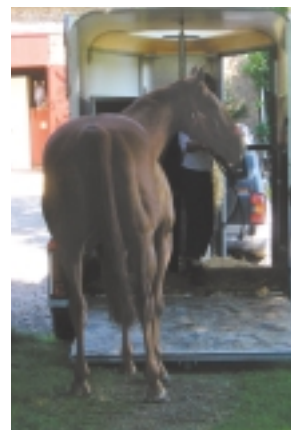
Cool drinks and a chat in the shade were the order of the day

Did you know?

100 years ago, the legendary Pretty Polly met with a shock defeat in the Ascot Gold Cup – her last appearance on the racecourse. She was beaten a length by Batchelor's Button who went on to win the Jockey Club Cup at Newmarket proving that the result was no fluke!



Homebred's latest filly foal, with dam Snoury Mantle, was centre of attention



Our promising NH horse Sweep Home was last to leave the party to do some roadwork!

The going gets harder... thanks to global warming

Racing is no stranger to freak weather conditions. In 1867 it snowed on Derby day – and in 1911 four horses and three racegoers were killed by lightning on the day of the great race at Epsom. But increasingly racing is being affected by a less dramatic but potentially more serious weather pattern – drought. It's amazing to realize that London now receives less annual rainfall than Istanbul or Rome – cities we'd normally consider hot and dry by comparison. Several racecourses are already in areas covered by drought orders banning use of hoses/pipes and irrigation of leisure facilities. Caroline Davies of the Racecourse Association says "The probability of drought orders has increased and therefore racecourses have moved the issue up their priority list, and are actively putting plans into place as to how they deal with it. Obviously, if there is to be a full-on hot summer it raises issues for racecourses in the south-east". Weather guru John Kettleby, who advises Ascot racecourse, is certain that climate change means more drought conditions saying "What racecourses need

to do – and I know that many of them do already – is to harness what water they've got at this time of year. Joe Public in his garden lets a lot of water simply run away. But at places like Cheltenham they have huge tanks underground to look after their water". But even if racecourses can become more self-sufficient in water supply there are critics who say that incorrect watering of courses is creating false, dangerous ground resulting in higher injury rates. As the going gets tougher for racecourses, many will look to the advantages of all weather surfaces – a surface that can be utilized everyday without watering and with minimal maintenance.

Did you know?

The first to ever train the winners of over £1 million prizemoney in a single season was Henry Cecil in 1985. This milestone was reached through the exploits of Oh So Sharp when she won the St Leger ridden by Steve Cauthen.

Prize money on the slide

Prize-money in 2005 declined marginally on the previous year, the total dipping from just over £100 million in 2004 to £98.6 million last year. The decline was largely due to the circumstances of the BHB taking a dramatic turn for the worst. Much of the BHB's income had stemmed from the sale of British racing database rights, particularly in Ireland, but, with the disastrous European Court judgement of the previous November, this income dried up. As a result, BHB's contribution to prize-money went from nearly £6 million in 2004, down to only £67,000 last year.

That aside, the main story of prizemoney in recent years has been the remarkable growth of Levy Board contributions. Since the year 2000, these contributions have grown by nearly 82 per cent. It had been hoped during these growth years, that the racecourses would have at least continued to maintain their executive and sponsorship contributions, in which case prize-money would have reached £108 million in 2004, but this turned out to be a naive expectation. As the Levy contributions increased, so the racecourse contributions decreased by roughly the same amount, their

contribution dipping from 2003 to 2004 by £8 million. In an effort to stem this tide, the Racehorse Owners Association came to an agreement with almost all courses at the end of last year that their executive and sponsorship contribution in 2006 would at least match those of 2005, but, now, with extremely gloomy economic forecasts for the industry, it has become apparent that much more will be required of the courses in the coming year. The latest figures on how prizemoney is divided also makes sobering reading. Just 88 horses each won over £100,000 whilst over 7,000 horses won nothing at all.