



Homebred's Open House

Homebred's inaugural Open Day at the Stud in Cardiganshire was blessed with a welcome day of sunshine and visitors who travelled from afar afield as Essex, Sussex and Shropshire.



After coffee guests were given a guided tour around the farm to meet mares, foals and the other youngsters all turned out at grass. These included Homebred Buddy (Ziggy) who impressed everyone with his immense presence and Homebred Star (Dixey). Both are initially going in to the stables of 'trainer of the moment' Peter Bowen who will deliver Ziggy to Gerry Enright in Sussex.

Once back in the stable yard Homebred owners were able to meet and chat - and enjoy the benefit of Gerry Enright's views and opinions - as well as

hear his many racing stories and anecdotes with a few glasses of wine over a buffet lunch. Also present were our vets Richard and James who provided a timely hands on demonstration because our orphan foal Gwyl was under the weather. But he soon responded to give a fine display of bucking and leaping around the paddock! From the letters and messages it seems that it was a day enjoyed by all and now looks certain to become a regular July event in the Homebred Racing calendar.

Celtic Chimes

1984 - 2003



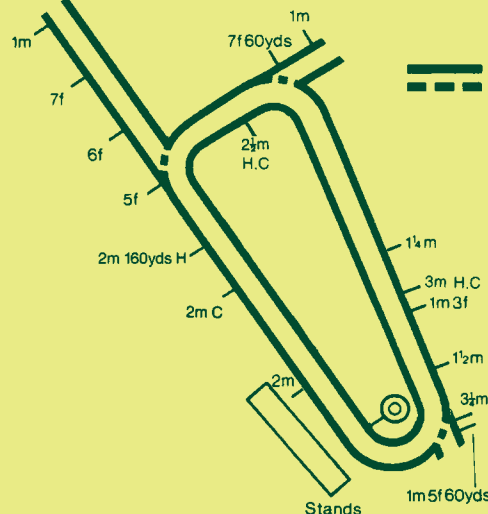
Homebred owners will be sad to hear that our mare Celtic Chimes has had to be put down after suffering from an incurable bout of colic. Tragically she leaves behind her 4 week old colt Gwyl by Most Welcome. We all miss her.

Ed's Star



The Prize Draw entries received at the Open Day were pooled with all those received at the office and trainer Gerry Enright pulled the lucky winner out of the hat. The winner of a free share in our 2-y-o colt Homebred Star is Ed Cumberpatch from Wiltshire. Congratulations to Ed who also made the long trek from Cricklade to West Wales. Let's hope Homebred Star is a winner too. He's off into training now with Peter Bowen and we hope to see him on the track in November.

Course factfile: Newbury



One of the country's top dual purpose courses. A left handed oval circuit of 1m 6 furlongs which is a fair galloping track which can be a severe test when the ground becomes heavy.

The Berkshire course hosts top events on the flat and over jumps including the Group 1 Lockinge Stakes and the Hennessy Gold Cup. **Location:** London 67, Bristol 66 and Southampton 38 miles **Telephone:** (01635) 40015 **Trains:** From Paddington direct to the racecourse **Celebrations:** The Red House at Marsh Benham, a civilised dining pub serving quality French cuisine (01635) 582017

Rambo to the rescue



This is Rambo – an orphan lamb provided to us by our helper and neighbour Ieuan Evans – to keep our own 4 week old orphan Gwyl

company. Gwyl and his new woolly pal eat, sleep and drink together sharing a stable and the small paddock close to the house. The two have quickly become firm friends and Rambo has been a wonderful diversion to help Gwyl through the traumatic loss of his mum Celtic Chimes.

We were greatly concerned for Gwyl's survival as he refused all attempts to get him drinking from a bottle. But after an anxious time he has learnt to drink milk from a bucket. Foal and lamb are now doing well. It's been a sad story to which we now are more hopeful there'll be a happy ending.



There have been some startled horses out at grass this summer. They've been regularly joined by two Canada geese who flew into breed on the lake and have raised a single gosling who has been walked the length and breadth of the stud looking for the best grazing! They've startled us too by suddenly raising periscope necks from the long grass! We felt sure that spending so much time so far from the water would result in the gosling being snatched by a fox. But the happy trio continue to waddle from field to field much to the excitement of the yearlings and foals. Toronto, as we've named the gosling, is now fully grown and we're on stand by for test flights which will possibly be further excuse for more equine fun and games!

Stable Visits

If you would like to 'see behind the scenes' of racing we can arrange stable visits to Gerry Enright's (Sussex) or Peter Bowen's (Pembrokeshire) yards. Just call the office.

We'd like to hear from you

Let us have your ideas and views...



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Know your rules



Use of mobile phones by jockeys is strictly regulated – as highlighted in a recent high profile case when a jockey spoke to the horse's trainer whilst in the paddock. Rule 145 (F5) states: "Under no circumstances are Riders allowed to use mobile telephones when mounted. The stewards will take appropriate disciplinary action against any Rider who fails to comply with this instruction." Since this may well include disqualification and/or a hefty fine, just never pass your mobile to a jockey for anyone to chat to!



Wrapping 'haylage'

And how it shone – I'm certain that we'll all remember the heat of this long hot summer! The stud and our neighbour Ieuan Evans have made 37 acres of hay between us this year – a total of just under 4,000 bales. We're also experimenting with half our hay being made normally and half baled a day early and then wrapped in plastic to create 'haylage'.

Certainly haylage is easier to make because it is less reliant on the weather and can be baled green – and even slightly damp. But more importantly, recent equine research shows that haylage is better for horses with less dust to cause long term lung damage. We'll also see which they prefer too and will report back once we start feeding again in October time.