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The David Allan Column

What There Is To See and Hear (Part 1)



In Part 1 of What There Is To See and Hear, our columnist takes us on a guided tour through the historic racing town of Newmarket, UK.

FOR an intensive first time visit to any important racing centre, be it Newmarket or in Ireland or the Western Cape, the best time is when sales are *not* happening.

For this reason, a two nights and one and a half day first visit to Newmarket last week - made with us by special people who are serious about investing in bloodstock internationally - afforded a great opportunity for “seeing and hearing” at Headquarters where 350 years of thoroughbred racing is being celebrated in tandem with Tattersalls’ 250 years in business.

I shall not name or “drop” names from amongst our

friends of many years who run or nearly run many of Newmarket’s institutions. But this will be a “taster” for those who have not seen what there is to see and absorb.

Early morning work means being up with the lark and out on the 3,500 acres exclusively devoted to training grounds, split between one side of the town and the other. Starting at a training yard at first light, seeing the riders being legged up by the trainer, visitors enjoy the cheerful politeness of a team dressed— at this time of the year —for the cold.

While the horses used the lattice of horsewalks through the town to get to the Severals Trotting Rings near the Clock Tower, we jumped into the trainer’s car and beat them to it.

First time visitors love the sight of strings of race-

horses crossing roads where “Horses First” rules the traffic, often heavy, always indulgent.

On this particular morning, ours crossed their second road onto the bottom of Long Hill then walked up to cross again to the top of Side Hill where we were waiting.

The walk-trot-walk for approaching half an hour constitutes a traditional Newmarket warm-up, with the opposite happening on the way home. The trainer will drive up alongside, check each one out and adjust the walking speeds so that they are properly relaxed.



Gentle off season exercise canter around that large expanse paved the way for a couple to work fast the next day, being amongst the minority staying for polytrack/tapeta racing through the winter. Most were already off, or about to go off, to their winter breaks “being horses” with their heads down, stretching their necks and backs for six weeks or so at spelling farms around the town.

Seeing part of the Heath in action – and enjoying views from on high back across town or south to the big studs – leads seamlessly to a good cup of tea, followed by a driving tour of the rest of the historic training grounds including the two racecourses to see the unique topography.

(An earlier article in this series describes the new hill to be built on Racecourse Side).

Driving past the historic Limekilns where the Derby Trials take place, and past the Animal Health Trust research centre, we soon come to the turning towards Lanwades Stud.

Lanwades is owned and general-managed by Kirsten Rausing who is the head of a global business empire and is also a hard-working and greatly influential mainstay of the bloodstock industry.

She owns three main studs in England and Ireland. As with many prominent breeders, her weanlings in England are moved over to Ireland to grow up on that land.

Miss Rausing continues to invest in South Africa through a project managed by ourselves, in spite of being bluntly accused in the South African trade press of single-handedly blocking SA AHS efforts, a damaging piece of undiplomatic nonsense.

At Lanwades some of the finest families in the Stud Book have been developed, and the stallions are in Newmarket.

Having lost their star SELKIRK to old age and LEROIDESANIMAUX (sire of Animal Kingdom) to an accident, Lanwades is rebuilding excitingly.



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New boy BOBBY'S KITTEN (Breeders Cup Turf Sprint by the red hot KITTEN'S JOY) is a very impressive fellow who has joined Derby winner SIR PERCY whose commerciality is undoubted. He has a few southern time offspring in South Africa, one bought in utero by us for our clients, inside a Brazilian Gr2+3 winner. This writer is besotted by one of the greatest of all broodmare sires DARSHAAN, and very keen on his son MARK OF ESTEEM in the same role. SIR PERCY is a son of the latter.



Bobby's Kitten (Kitten's Joy) Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint Gr1 winner a new New-market Stallion standing at Lanwades.

ARCHIPENKO raced at high level in Dubai, Hong Kong, England and USA in part South African ownership after being bought from Coolmore and before Sheikh Khalifa bought everyone out. There are plenty of his babies coming on stream in South Africa via our clients and he is the top sire standing in GB of 2 year olds (winners to runners) as well as a Gr1 winner in Kirsten Rausing's colours.

SEA THE MOON, a big chap who won the German Derby by 11 lengths, was the first son of SEA THE STARS to go to stud. Covering 3-figure books, he has every chance.

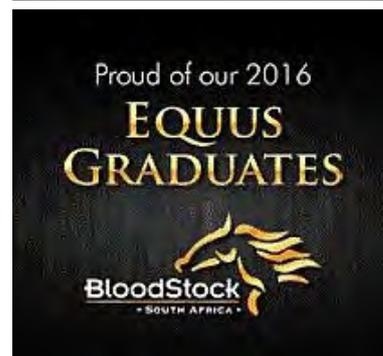
On Duchess Drive, we find Sheikh Mohammed's Dalham Hall. There, we must use the word "Godolphin" much more than before. In the recent changes – or Sheikh-Up if you like – "Darley" now only applies to the stallions, not the rest of breeding which like the racing is under "Godolphin". With bright blue signs having replaced the red ones, one wonders how long the word "Darley" will remain at all. The new office block also signals the changes.

Of the non-shuttling stallions, we saw the "three big ones".

One is very big with a very big fee but very small. Standing for £250,000 or about 4.5 million rand, one of the best sires in the world is always a shock to first time viewers. DUBAWI is a little chap. But he is DUBAWI. He was shown beside the lawns of the expansive stallion area where the fabled social-event-of-the-year the "Darley Brunch and Stallion Parade" is held.



KLAWERVLEI  STUD



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David Allan (cont...)

Next was NEW APPROACH – who does well in South Africa – a GALILEO Derby Winner whose first crop included three Royal Ascot 2 year old winners. Standing (as an overenthusiastic result) for £60,000 he will be back to £30,000 next season. His fillies for stud are – in my view – extraordinary opportunities.



New Approach.

Then on to GOLDEN HORN, last year's Derby Winner and much more. The son of CAPE CROSS who of course sired OUIJA BOARD and SEA THE STARS enjoyed the attention. Also a £60,000 sire, he has no shortage of support.

Our visitors were then given a tour throughout the enormous entirety that is Dalham Hall plus about seven surrounding farms subsequently purchased and provided with new barns and fencing. The boundaries are invisible; the extent of it mind-boggling.

This “taster” will be continued next week including Cheveley Park, Tattersalls, The National Stud and Banstead Manor (Juddmonte) the home of not only FRANKEL but of other high end stallions, and a fun evening at Abington Place having paid homage to SMART CALL. - tt

Lanzerac R2R: Final Field

GRADED winners Always In Charge and Zodiac Ruler will go head-to-head for the first time in the R2,5-million Lanzerac Ready To Run Stakes over 1400m at Kenilworth on 19 November.

Also in the field is Africa Rising, runner-up in the recent Ready To Run Cup at Turffontein.

Here is the final field:

R 2,500,000 1400m (Turf)
LANZERAC READY TO RUN STAKES presented by CTS
(Non-Black Type) For 3 year-olds

Sc#	Horse	Mass	MR	Draw	B	A	T	Jockey	Trainer
1	ALWAYS IN CHARGE	60.0	108 (96)	4	A	A	A	Marcus	V Marshall
2	SERGEANT HARDY	60.0	104 (92)	12	A	A	A	Delpech	J Snaith
3	ZODIAC RULER	60.0	100 (88)	3	A			R Fourie	J Snaith
4	AFRICA RISING	60.0	97 (85)	18	A			S Khumalo	S Tarry
5	BISHOP'S BOUNTY	60.0	97 (85)	9	A			P Strydom	J Snaith
6	PURPLE TRACTOR	60.0	93 (81)	11	A			G Lerena	B Crawford
7	ROCKY VALLEY	60.0	91 (79)	17	A			G Behr	D Drier
8	NEULANDS	60.0	90 (78)	16	A			D Dillon	J Ramsden
9	LORD BALMORAL	60.0	89 (77)	14	A			M Byleveld	V Marshall
10	ELUSIVE PATH	60.0	88 (76)	15	A			A Domeyer	V Marshall
11	THE GREAT ONE	60.0	83 (71)	5	A			C Orffer	B Crawford
12	CABALLO BLANCO	60.0	82 (70)	7	A	G	v	Niekerk	C B-Robinson
13	VISUALITY	57.5	96 (84)	13	A	T		S Tarry
14	SAFE HARBOUR	57.5	94 (82)	2	A			W Marwing	S Tarry
15	NORDIC BREEZE	57.5	91 (79)	8	A			G Cheyne	J Snaith
16	REINE TONNERRE	57.5	85 (73)	6	A			*C Murray	B Crawford

Reserve Runners

18	GREGORIAN CHANT	60.0	80 (68)	1	B	A		Reserve 2	D Kannemeyer
17	VICTORIA COLLEGE	57.5	83 (71)	10	A			Reserve 1	J Snaith



Zodiac Ruler, good prep sprint recently.

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Frankel's fee remains unchanged for 2017

KHALID Abdullah's Juddmonte Farms operation has released 2017 service fees for its stallions at Banstead Manor Stud with champion racehorse and now leading young sire Frankel remaining at £125,000.

Stud Director UK Simon Mockridge commented: "Few horses have made such a global impact as Frankel. His sublime racing career, physique and pedigree provided the catalyst for the outstanding worldwide support he received since retirement.

"To date he has yielded five Group winners and 18 individual winners - a truly explosive start and one that augurs well for the future. This success has been further cemented in the commercial markets with a global average of £560,000. His fee remains unchanged at £125,000.

Frankel tops the North American Top 10 list of sires by yearling averages, through 30 October. - **tt**



Frankel, leading the pack.

Cruel blows to Nicky Henderson's stable

JUMPS trainer Nicky Henderson hailed Sprinter Sacre as the horse of a lifetime after confirming on Sunday that the dual Cheltenham Festival hero, one of the most popular modern-day steeplechasers, is to be retired due to a minor leg injury.

Henderson's charge had bounced back to form on this day 12 months ago at Cheltenham when landing the Shloer Chase, sparking emotional celebrations in the winners' enclosure.

He went on an unbeaten run following that victory, winning three more times including his second Champion Chase victory at Cheltenham in March. In all, he won 18 of 24 career races.

In another cruel blow to the stable, Henderson's popular grey hurdler Simonsig broke his leg moments after Sprinter Sacre's retirement parade.

Simonsig fell at the third fence of the following race and broke a hind leg. He rose and loped towards the stands but he then stopped in front of the final hurdle, turned sideways and collapsed to an appalled groan from those with eyes on him rather than the race.

"We said all the morning, this wasn't a funeral, it was a celebration of his [Sprinter Sacre's] life. It was only to be the memorial, if you like. Now we've got the funeral and that's just not fair, for everybody, and the team more than anything," a distraught Henderson said.—*Sky Sports and The Guardian*.



Nicky Henderson with his beloved stable stars Sprinter Sacre (above) and Simonsig (below).



A one-two for Crawford in Laisserfaire Stakes

TRAINER Brett Crawford saddled the top two home in the R150 000 Listed Laisserfaire Stakes over 1100m, the Kenilworth feature named in her honour on Saturday.

Crawford's super consistent Beach Goddess stalked the leaders and always looked too strong. She went on smartly to win by 0,75 lengths in a time of 65,52 secs. Australian-bred Chevauchee ran on for second after a rest.

Lucky owner Ian Longmore has savoured eight Grade 1 successes, but even a Listed victory was worth celebrating. "This is one of my best wins – she is just so gutsy."

The big-hearted Beach Goddess is by unfashionable sire Kildonan and has overcome major physical dramas to forge an admirable race record. The lightly campaigned five-year-old mare was recording a fourth win from only 10 career starts.



Our Destiny (Come Offer up), wins Laisserfaire Stakes.

"She will next be aimed at the Sceptre Stakes and I feel it best we stick to fillies' sprints. Maybe later in the season we can try her around the turn again," Crawford commented post-race.

A dual stakes winner, Beach Goddess took her stakes tally to R412 175 with her 4 wins and 5 places from 10 starts.

"Laisserfaire is the best runner I've had in my stable by some way and she was my first Gr1 winner," Crawford said fondly when he was at Turffontein last week about the wonderful sprinting mare he trained for owner Sabine Plattner in the early 2000s. – **tt.**



Misty Roller, smart R25,000 purchase.

Marwing's shrewd purchase looks set for good career

TRAINER Weiho Marwing paid only R25,000 for Misty Roller at the CTS Book 2 Sale in March 2015 – the sale's average was R118,000 – and the now three-year-old gelding posted an impressive win in a Maiden Plate over 1600m at Turffontein on Sunday, banking more than double that amount for owner Raven Govender in his second career start.

Misty Roller is by Zabeel's son Oracy (NZ), who only sired a few small crops in SA before being exported to Kazakhstan and Marwing said: "People forget what a good racehorse Oracy was, he would have won many more top races if not for injury."

He added: "I actually went to this sale to buy an Oracy and Misty Roller was one I really liked. He was very immature, but one has to project when you buy horses, see them as they will look six months or more down the line."

"Misty Roller has furnished well, he is still dumb but he moves well and he has improvement to come. It's early days yet, but we'll see, perhaps he can become a Derby prospect."

Despite his inexperience, Misty Roller showed nice acceleration when asked for an effort by jockey Weichong Marwing and he put 3.75-lengths between himself and the runner-up without much effort. He's come in under the radar, but jot Misty Roller's name down in your notebooks!

Horses To Watch

*ON the subject of notebooks and horses to watch, here's one you can have a good dip on when next time she runs. **ARRIAN ISLES**, a daughter of King's Apostle from Dean Kannemeyer's yard, ran on strongly for second from an impossible position on her 1200m Poly debut at Greyville, Sunday. A pointer next time, especially if she goes beyond 1200m! - **tt***