Welcome

The spring flowers are out in full bloom at La Grange and our horses are revelling in the warmer weather. We have some smart individuals to look forward to as well as a large crop of two year olds to unravel. Some bubbles have burst but all in all the horses have been running well and we have had a few winners as well. Let's hope this continues into May and beyond!

Ed Dunlop
First Runner, First Winner 2014

__Liberty Red__, a three year old colt owned by Ronnie Arculli, made his seasonal debut at Kempton in a maiden race at the end of last month. Shane Kelly settled him in behind the leading pair and they made their move over two furlongs out to win comfortably. This was our first winner of the season and also our first runner. Ed watched the race with his owner, whilst they were having dinner in Dubai and although the trainer looked worried turning in for home, the owner never had a moments doubt that it would end in a victory!

“This colt showed promise last year so it was good for him to win impressively first time out.”

First Stakes winner of the Year

__Contributer__ delighted us on Saturday 29th March when winning the Magnolia Stakes (Listed) over 10 furlongs at Kempton on the polytrack. George Baker took the ride and always looked confident on this good-looking son of High Chaparral. He travelled just behind the leader and quickened over a furlong out to win comfortably by 2 lengths to Modernstone, who prior to Saturday had finished second to dual Group 2 winning Grandeur.

Contributer was second to Breeders Cup winner Magician last year in a Derby trial at Chester and ran well at Royal Ascot. He has been entered to run at Sandown in The Gordon Richards Stakes (Group 3) on Friday.

“He is a horse that we have always thought very highly of. He suffered a serious injury at Royal Ascot last year, when he was struck into and he was therefore unable to run for the rest of the season, so we are delighted he has come back and won so well for George Bolton.”
A Runaway win!

**Red Runaway** who is ridden by Mrs Dunlop every morning; caused huge excitement in the office when winning comfortably by 2 ½ lengths at Lingfield first time out this season. Ridden by Ryan Moore he made his move turning into the straight and won with ease. Another Red of Ronnie Arculli’s may well step up in trip for his next start.

“This horse rather lost his way in the second part of the season. We had him gelded and gave him a long holiday over the winter. We will now step him up in class and probably run him in a decent handicap at Epsom.”

White Nile Scores at Kempton

**White Nile** opened his 2014 season with a win at Kempton when scoring easily by 3 ½ lengths. Adam Kirby held him up in fourth until making his move three furlongs out, moving quickly into the lead two furlongs from home, he drew away to win comfortably. This was his first try over 2 miles and he will hopefully turn out to be a decent staying type of horse.

“This horse arrived with us at the beginning of the year, having been with David Simcock. The manner of his victory was a nice surprise and now we will look at some of the decent staying handicaps, including The Chester Cup.”
Monthly Review

Report from Dubai

Sadly events in Dubai didn’t go according to plan.

From a poor draw Red Cadeaux ran very well: making up a lot of lost ground to finish 6th in The Dubai World Cup, winning $200,000 and pushing his prize money total to over the £4 million mark. At the crucial stage of the race when he was full of running he found himself behind a wall of horses and when he did extricate himself it was too late. The eight year old has come out of his race well and has now made the 4,835 mile journey to Japan where he is in quarantine preparing for another attempt at The Tenno Sho (Spring) over 2 miles at Kyoto Racecourse on Sunday 4th May. He finished 3rd in the race last year.

Joshua Tree and Jason Tate

Joshua Tree had no luck at all in The Dubai Gold Cup. Having taken up the running, he was travelling well until being overtaken and hampered around the first bend. He was full of running in the home straight but unfortunately had no where to go when it mattered. His 11th placing does not do his efforts justice. Luckily he came out of the race well and has since returned home in preparation for his European campaign.

Tragic Loss of Homeric

It is with great sadness that we have to report the loss of Homeric. Homeric was a wonderful servant for La Grange stables, winning 3 races for us, including The Shergar Cup Stayers under Kieran Fallon. He was a very attractive son of Montjeu who required a lot of time and patience. Rebecca Nicholson, who was Homeric’s regular rider, had done a wonderful job gaining this horses trust and helped build his confidence. We are devastated for the wonderful Highclere owners who doted on this horse and hope they have plenty of fond memories to remind them of the good times we had with him.
Amazing Plans for Maria

As the flat season hits full swing, it is an exciting time for everyone here at La Grange. One of our biggest hopes for the season is the Sir Robert Ogden owned, filly Amazing Maria. This striking grey 3 year old by the promising young sire Mastercraftsman is aiming to give her father his first classic winner in this, his first classic season. Already a Group 3 winner at 2, her number one target is the Qipco 1000 Guineas (Group 1) at Newmarket on the 4th of May, she also holds an entry for the Irish equivalent three weeks later. Further down the line we may see Maria stepping up in distance and taking up her engagement in the 1m 4f Investec Oaks (Group 1) at Epsom. She also holds some smart entries in France and so there are plenty of options open for her. So it’s all set for some great fun and hopefully some great success with our Amazing Maria!

Times Not Up Yet!

Times Up is still in fine form at the age of eight and his ultimate aim for the season is to win his third Doncaster Cup in a row! We are hopeful that he can give his owner’s Mrs Jane Stewart Brown and Mr Michael Meacock some fun at the racetrack before this and he has an entry in The Qatar Jockey Club Stakes (Group 2) over 1m 4f at Newmarket on Sunday 4th May and he will probably make his debut for the season there. Later on in the year, he holds an entry in The Yorkshire Cup (Group 2) and he will be put in The Ascot Gold Cup as well.
Two Year Old Focus 2014

Field Of Light
(Pastoral Pursuits x Luminda) Colt
Owner: P A Deal, A L Deal, David Sieff & ORS

This athletic looking son of Pastoral Pursuits is out of a Danehill mare and half-brother to Group 2 winner, Rhythm Of Light.

“This colt is a tall individual with plenty of scope who moves well and looks athletic. He is more of a three year old and will hopefully be out later in the season.”

Scrutinise
(Intense Focus x Tetravella) Colt
Owner: Thurloe Thoroughbreds XXXIV

Scrutinise is by second Leading Crop Sire in Europe, Intense Focus. His dam Tetravella won three races at 4 years and is the dam of six winners including Island Odyssey who won 3 races for us and Grumeti who won 3 races on the flat and 4 over hurdles including The Triumph Hurdle Trial.

“Strangely enough we train this horses close relation, Island Remede who did well for us last season. Let's hope lightning strikes twice!”

Haydar
(Makfi x Waveband) Colt
Owner: Mr Hamdan Al Maktoum

This strong and well balanced colt is the first foal of listed winning mare Waveband (Exceed And Excel), who is from an impressive female line with both 2nd and 3rd dam producing group winners.

“He is a strong, neat 2yr old who is the only son of Makfi we have. I think this horse will be more of a second part of the season type.”
**Machiavelian Storm**  
(Dark Angel x Terri’s Charmer) Filly  
**Owner: Jimmy Strauss & Sir Anthony Pagewood**

If Lethal Force isn’t proof enough that Dark Angel stamps his progeny not only with his good looks but sheer talent, we hope this well-coupled, strong filly, will. Her dam won at three over 6f and has produced three Runners and two winners thus far.

“*This filly has started faster work and all being well, will be out when the six furlong races start.*”

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**Sagaciously**  
(Lawman x Saga Celebre) Filly  
**Owner: The Sagacious Lot**

This attractive filly by Lawman, with strong hindquarters and a good shoulder, lead one to believe that “The Sagacious Lot” have been just that! Lawman is an exciting young stallion who has sired various group winners in his first two crops including the 2013 Irish 1000 Guineas winner, Just The Judge.

“*Hopefully this filly will turn out to be a bit of a bargain. She is a tall scopey filly who does everything nicely so far.*”

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**Imvula**  
(Aqlaam x Reason To Dance) Filly  
**Owner: Mrs G A Rupert**

If ever there was a “Reason To Dance” it should be “Imvula” which translated from the African language Zulu, means “Rain”. This filly bought for Mrs G A Rupert at Tattersalls, is a half-sister to Dancer’s Daughter, Champion Older Mare in South Africa in 2008-09.

“*This filly is a very athletic and we have always liked her. She will not be rushed at this stage.*”
Pictures of the Month

Coming out of the mist

Returning home from exercise

Island Remede and Lynsey Williams

Cape Summit and Jason Tate

A morning at Ed Dunlop Racing for some of the Highclere owners
James & Nicky Stafford, Thurloe Thoroughbreds

Quenelle and Jane Duncan

Clare Arbon weighing in

Aurora Borealis having a wash down

Ryan Moore on board Amazing Maria
Staff Profile: Stephen Donoghue

Steve Donoghue grew up in Tullamore, Co Offlay, Ireland. Initially he wanted to be a farrier but was persuaded by his careers teacher at school, aged 16, to apply to the apprentice school at the Curragh. Much to his disappointment he was turned down as they said he was too big!!! He then went to work for a local trainer Tom Lacey for 2 years whom he learnt a great deal. During that time he applied for his apprentice licence. His first ride was his first winner at Tralee Co Kerry riding Welsh Barge, then the following week he rode his second winner at Roscommon on Valerie’s Girl trained by Ted Curtain. Having a handful of placed rides thereafter, at 25 he lost his claim. It was tough to get rides in Ireland so he turned to the Jumping game where he had a dozen rides or so. This took him to Chantilly for 9 months then back to the UK to Lynne Siddle. Settling back in the UK he worked for Ben Hanbury for 10 years during that time he saw good horses such as Tuppy Creek, Matiya, Bin Ajwaad and Ramooz. Steve met his wife Joanne whilst working for Ben and they both moved to Carl Burke for six months but found Yorkshire far too cold! So southward they both went, to Arundel to work for John Dunlop for 10 years during the time of Millenary, Olden Times, Elusive Pimpernel and Big Bad Bob. Joanne rode Times Up for 2 years prior to Steve getting the ride on him when he moved to La Grange to be trained by Ed, when John Dunlop retired. One of his most enjoyable days racing was Times Up’s second win in the Doncaster Cup Group 2 last year, mirroring his 2013 win when beating High Jinx for the second time. Steve is one of the yard jokers and is great fun to have around.

SNOW FAIRY our brilliant racemare has been scanned in foal at 34 days (02/04/14) after her first cover, by her owner Cristina Patino’s Craven Stakes winner Elusive Pimpernel. She is currently at Simmonstown Stud Ireland.

The seven-year-old daughter of Intikhab was bred by Mrs Patino. She is out of Woodland Dream, a descendant of her influential foundation mare Gay Fantasy.

Mrs Patino’s red and yellow silks were carried to victory in eight races, including six at the highest level - the Epsom and Curragh Oaks, two renewals of the Queen Elizabeth II Commemorative Cup in Japan, the Hong Kong Cup and the Irish Champion Stakes.

She was retired last year after re-aggravating an injury to her near-fore tendon.

Elusive Pimpernel, a son of Elusive Quality, was trained for Mrs Patino by Dunlop’s father John to win The Acomb Stakes and The Craven Stakes.

Originally retired to Islanmore Stud, Elusive Pimpernel was moved this year to the Irish National Stud, where he stands at €1,000. His oldest crop are now yearlings.

Eight To Follow Update

Sir Anthony Pagewood, an owner here at Ed Dunlop Racing, is currently leading the competition with 35 points.

The top scoring horse so far is Liberty Red, with 25 points while Red Runaway, Contributer and White Nile are all on 20 points.