

# ED DUNLOP Racing Ltd

February 2015

## LA GRANGE NEWS



*The two-year-olds take their first steps up the grass canter*

### Welcome

Welcome to the February edition of our monthly newsletter, which has been written amidst the first signs of spring. The icy frosts of January are beginning to relent and the morning temperature on the Heath is becoming much more bearable. The horses appear to be benefitting from this, particularly our two-year-olds, who are now cantering twice a day. The precocious sorts will be stepped up again shortly as the countdown to the Lincoln continues apace. These are exciting times.

#### Contents

#### News & Photographs

#### Two-Year-Old Focus

#### New Racing Partnership

#### Staff Profiles: Chris & Hannah

#### Vet Corner: Respiratory Disease

#### Flat Focus: 2,000 Guineas

#### Sire Focus: Rip Van Winkle

#### Photos Of The Month

# News Round-Up

## Red Cadeaux has arrived in Australia

Following a 40-hour flight, which involved stop-offs in Amsterdam, Sharjah and Singapore, Red Cadeaux, Robin and Steve touched down safely in Melbourne on Saturday 14th ahead of his tilt at some of Australia's most prestigious autumn prizes. He is currently at Werribee International Horse Centre completing his mandatory two weeks of quarantine before preparing for his first race – the Australian Cup on March 14. As the photos show, Red Cadeaux is thrilled to be back in warmer climes and he has settled in well so far, although he now knows the place like the back of his hand having visited four times before. Check out our websites for regular updates on his progress.



## Snow Fairy Foal

Snow Fairy, the six-time Group 1 winner who carried the La Grange flag during her three seasons in training, gave birth to a filly foal by Elusive Pimpernel at the Irish National Stud earlier this month. As you can see she is a stunning individual, and we are pleased to report that both mother and child are doing very well. We would like to express our congratulations to her owner, Mrs Cristina Patino, and we wish her all the best as her filly continues to progress.



## Stud & Stable Staff Awards Ceremony

The ceremony for the Godolphin Stud & Stable Staff Awards took place on February 23 and Mrs Dunlop and I were very pleased to be in attendance. The winners in each category were announced and, while Steve was not chosen as the Rider/Groom of the year, it was an incredible achievement for him to reach the final three and his presence in Australia, rather than in London, might just have cost him victory. We would like to pay our congratulations to all the finalists, who are a credit to themselves and their yards – racing would simply not run without them.

## To keep you further entertained...

I have started a blog! My daily thoughts can be found at <http://www.edunlop.com/news/eds-blog.htm> and my ramblings will be published at 12. Topics include our morning's work, our runners, our visitors and talk from the Heath. Something to look at in your lunch hour!



# Photos Of The Month: Warren Hill



*Two year-olds canter up the grass on Warren Hill*



*Blushes nearside, Sharaakah far side*



*Pimpernella leading Snow Pixie*



*Girl With A Pearl leading Mujamala*



*Cogent leading Queensbury Odyssey*



*Zauffaly nearside, Hajeer farside*



*Mustatrif*



*Opposition leading Amazing Red*



# Two-Year-Old Focus: Bred For Stamina

## Archipenko ex Caribana Colt

This strapping colt is a son of Lanwades Stud stallion Archipenko, who sired his first Group 1 winner in 2014 when the David Simcock-trained Madame Chiang won the Champion Fillies & Mares Stakes at Ascot. He is a half-sister to the very smart stayer Cubanita, whose career wins include the Group 3 John Porter Stakes and Group 3 St Simon Stakes at Newbury. His stamina-laden page continues through to his third dam, Key Change, whose highest-profile success came in the Group 1 Yorkshire Oaks, while she produced Discreet Brief, who won the then Group 3 Park Hills Stakes over the extended 1m 6f at Doncaster. This colt is owned by **The Optimistic Lot**.



*"He's a well-bred colt who we bought at the December Yearling Sale. He's a fine, big individual who will no doubt be a better horse towards the end of this season and next year."*

## Michael's Mount (Mount Nelson ex Dumnoni) Colt

By Group 1 Eclipse Stakes winner Mount Nelson, who enjoyed a fine 2014 courtesy of the Oaks-placed Volume and Group 3 winners Purr Along and Berkshire, this colt is a half-brother to the very useful John Gosden-trained stayer Camborne, whose victories include the Group 3 Arc Trial at Newbury and the Duke Of Edinburgh Handicap at Royal Ascot. The Arc Trial features further back in his pedigree as well, with his dam being a half-sister to Francesco Guardi, who was placed in the race in 2000 when it was then a Listed contest. This colt is owned by **The Miltal Partnership**.



*"This extremely good-moving colt is a fine specimen, but he looks the sort who will need a bit of time and his half-brother, Camborne, proved a very decent older horse."*

## Cape Cross ex Alleluia Filly

This filly is from a page littered with black type, being out of Alleluia, who won the then Group 3 Doncaster Cup over 2m2f for Sir Mark Prescott and was 18lb well treated when running in the 2m2f Cesarewitch, under a 7lb penalty, two weeks later. Having travelled ominously into the race, she finished sixth having suffered a hairline fracture passing the Bushes. However, she has produced some fine foals, with this filly being a half-sister to Allegretto, whose glittering resume included the Group 1 Prix Royal-Oak at Longchamp, the Group 2 Goodwood Cup and the Group 2 Henry II Stakes. She is owned by **Mr Alec Leopold and Ms Leanne Norman**.



***"This filly is beautifully bred with black type running right throughout her page. Middle distances and upwards both next year and beyond are likely to be her forte and she will be one for later in the season."***

## Sakhee ex Queen Of Icení Colt

This colt is by multiple-Group 1 winner Sakhee, who landed the 2001 renewal of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and whose progeny include Sakhee's Secret, who stands a Centro Equino Arcadia in Italy. He is a half-brother to the once-raced Sporting Prince, who remains in training as a three-year-old at La Grange. His dam, a winner over 1m 6f, is a sister to the dual 1m4f winner Fearless Warrior, while she is a half-sister to the dual Group 2 Yorkshire Cup and Group 2 Doncaster Cup winner Times Up, the evergreen nine-year-old who returns for a third summer of training at La Grange having previously been trained by Ed's father, John. Like Sporting Prince and Times Up, this colt is owned by **Mrs Jane Stewart-Brown and Mr Michael Meacock**.



***"This is a family we know very well and it is wonderful to have another further relative of Times Up here in training. He too is likely to need time but this is a family that rewards patience."***



# Your Chance To Join Our New Racing Partnership

## The Filly: Authorized ex Grand Lucre



- By Authorized, the sire of Group 1 Champions Day winner Seal Of Approval and Grade 1-winning hurdler Nichols Canyon.
- Half-sister to Hong Kong winner Ambitious King, who amassed over £127,000 in prize money.
- From a black type-winning family, which includes Group 3 and Listed scorers.

### The Promise

- An ownership experience built on hospitality and fun.
- Regular written, phone, video and in-person updates from the trainer as well as access to La Grange Stables.
- Invitation to our annual open day/lunch.

### The Proposal

Number of horses:	1
Number of shares:	8
Cost:	£900 + VAT + TRAINING FEES

### The Logistics

- Any prize money accrued will be distributed equally amongst the shareholders.
- All VAT will be reclaimed on behalf of the partnership.
- Ed Dunlop will retain one share in the filly, while one share has already been sold, meaning that 6 shares are available to purchase.

“This fun syndicate is a perfect opportunity for those looking to expand their ownership horizons without breaking the bank.”

# Staff Profiles

## Chris Humpleby: Racing Secretary

Chris, 23, hails from Carlisle, Cumbria but he made the long journey down to Newmarket to join us as Racing Secretary in early January. Having graduated from Cambridge in 2013, Chris spent seven months at the Press Association as a racing production journalist, writing race verdicts for the likes of Oddschecker and AtTheRaces. He left the PA last February to take up a place on the BHA Graduate Scheme which included a placement at the Racing Post. After two months at Canary Wharf pestering trainers who would rather make their entries, and a brief period of freelance work, Chris now finds the boot on the other foot as the person responsible for all racing matters at La Grange. A fan of the sport since his mid-teens, but a diehard fanatic for the past three years, Chris is never happier than when on a racecourse. A Cheltenham Festival junkie with an equally-strong love of the Flat, Chris enjoys his punting and trying to outwit lazy traders. Outside of racing Chris enjoys cricket, reading, comedy and - rather unsurprisingly- good food. He says: "My first two months at La Grange have been an absolute pleasure and I'm itching for the Flat season to click into gear. I'm confident we can have an excellent year and I hope Sagaciously - the wonderfully sweet filly who I make a habit of visiting every lunchtime - can achieve big things."



*Noodle helping Chris with entries*



*Chris with the "most beautiful filly on the yard" (Sagaciously) and Hannah*

## Hannah Butler: Secretary & Rider

Hannah, 22, originally from just outside Bury St Edmunds, joined us at the turn of the year. Before the sun rises, Hannah takes up her outdoor role, riding first lot, before she returns to the office to engage in secretarial duties. A graduate of the Royal Agricultural University Cirencester, where she studied Equine Science and enjoyed a six-month placement at Barton Stud, Hannah has been involved in racing ever since and like Chris took up a place on the 2014 BHA Graduate Scheme. She completed a placement at Weatherbys before returning to stud work at Tweenhills Stud. Hannah then gained office experience at Newsells Park Stud before spending the rest of the year at Tattersalls working for various consignors at all of the sales. A racing fan who engaged with the sport through her fascination with breeding, Hannah was a Cheltenham regular during her time at university but most enjoys the July Course when the sun is shining and the Pimms is flowing! Outside of racing, Hannah enjoys spending time with friends and dining out, which is a great excuse not to have to cook! She says: "It's been a busy first two months learning the ropes,

but I love how varied my role is here but I like to think I am organised and prepared for the busy flat season ahead. I had never ridden racehorses before, so it has been a real novelty, and being out first thing is a great way to start the day."



*Hannah on board Naizah*

# Vet Corner: Respiratory Disease

*Stuart Williamson, vet at Rosssdales here in Newmarket and a regular around La Grange, has been good enough to spare some of his time to discuss one of the problems most common in racehorses.*

Respiratory disease is common in young thoroughbred racehorses in training and can have a significant impact on both missed training days and performance at the racecourse. In modern racing yards total prevention of respiratory disease is almost an impossible task. However, there are measures that can be taken in an attempt to minimise both the number and the severity of cases.

Whilst respiratory disease is seen year round and in all ages of horses, it is at this time of the year that it is most prevalent. Young horses are entering the yard from multiple pre-training facilities. All will bring different viruses and the stress of this movement to a new environment combined with the increased workload results in the immunosuppression of these animals. As a result they often succumb to a respiratory infection.

Both viruses and bacteria can cause infection. Often the disease is initiated by a virus that attacks the respiratory system, impairing its defences and making the animal more susceptible to a secondary bacterial infection.

Equine Herpes virus is an example. It acts in the same manner as it does in humans when causing cold sores; by taking advantage of the stressed individual. Primary bacterial infections also occur although these are less common.

In addition, environmental factors such as dust, humidity and poor ventilation all have negative effects on airway health and contribute to progression of disease.

The trainer is first alerted to a horse with respiratory disease by the presence of a cough or by discharge from the nostrils. In more advanced cases, a fever or dullness may be noted.



***An example of a snotty nose—one of the first signs a young thoroughbred has contracted respiratory disease***





***Stuart (left) performing an endoscopy on with the assistance of James and Nick***

Endoscopy can then be used to visualise the airway. This allows the vet to examine for any signs of inflammation or the accumulation of mucus, indicating infection. Additionally, a sample of the mucus may be taken and analysed in the laboratory.

At this time of year, when many horses in the yard are coughing, this coughing is simply monitored. These winter infections are not usually serious and will resolve over a 2-3 week period. The horses will then develop a degree of immunity through the exposure and are unlikely to develop a serious respiratory infection if challenged by the same pathogen again.

In the case of an outbreak, when multiple horses are coughing during the flat season or when an individual horse holding an entry is coughing, endoscopy is often performed and antibiotics may be provided to fight the infection. Mucolytics can also be used to help break up the mucus in the airway and the trainer may choose to ease the exercise of affected horses to aid recovery.

Response to treatment is measured by a reduction in the number of coughs heard at exercise. Repeat endoscopy is also carried out after treatment and at the declaration stage to determine if a horse should run.

Whilst vaccination against equine influenza and equine herpes virus is performed, no vaccine is 100% effective in preventing disease. Instead they simply reduce the prevalence and clinical severity of the disease.

In summary, all yards experience respiratory disease. At La Grange there is a rigorous vaccination protocol to ensure the horses are provided with the best cover against these viruses. Young horses and new horses in the yard are separated from older horses. The boxes are light, airy and dust is kept to a minimum. All horses are monitored closely for coughing and other signs of respiratory disease and endoscopy is performed if there is any suspicion.

# Flat Focus: The 2,000 Guineas

*As the countdown to the Flat season gathers momentum, Racing Secretary Chris Humpleby looks ahead to the Classics in the first of a four-part series. Here he focuses on the 2,000 Guineas.*

For the first time in almost a decade, the antepost market for the 2,000 Guineas has a remarkably open feel to it. As the first signs of spring begin to emerge, bookmakers are offering 10-1 the field and, more interestingly, the juveniles who scooped top honours in the autumn are relatively weak in the betting. Here, punters are seemingly echoing the view of the international handicappers, who last month cast scorn on the current crop by crowning Belardo - with a rating of 119 - Europe's joint-worst champion two-year-old since the World's Best Racehorse Rankings began. According to the market, it won't be the established juveniles who land the first Classic of the season, but a three-year-old who showed a flash of brilliance last year without having yet achieved much in terms of substance.

Top of this list is the John Gosden-trained **Faydhan**, who won his sole start over 6f at Haydock in July. He recorded an extremely favourable time relative to the succeeding handicap on that occasion, and the collateral form stacks up eye-catchingly, with Dutch Connection - who was beaten six lengths into second - having subsequently won the Acomb Stakes at York. The step up to 1m should prove no problem for him either being out of a half-sister to the US Graded-placed filly Sweet And Flawless, who was effective from 1m1f to 1m4f.



***Faydhan winning on debut at Haydock***

But can this performance alone justify his position in the market? Gosden famously labelled Kingman's price for the 2,000 Guineas as the 'theatre of the absurd' following his debut victory, and it seems a case of history repeating itself with this colt. While he dispatched useful performers with ease collaterals can be misleading, especially with juveniles who are capable of making rapid improvement in a short space of time. Also, being a son of War Front bred on a US bloodline, Faydhan ought to need quick ground to show his best, which wouldn't be guaranteed in the spring, despite his superiority at a much lower level on a good-to-soft surface at Haydock. Add to this a setback, which prevented Faydhan from running again last term, and it seems 10-1 is short enough at this stage, although he quite clearly remains with the potential to do significantly better.



***Gleneagles at Longchamp***

The second line of betting is dominated by a battalion of Aidan O'Brien-trained horses. **Gleneagles**, who was joint-fourth on the two-year-old list with a rating of 116, won the National Stakes before passing the post in front in the Prix Jean-Luc Lagadere, only to be subsequently disqualified for interference. A brother to last year's Irish 1,000 Guineas winner Marvellous, Gleneagles boasts obvious Classic credentials, although he has possibly shown his hand in the context of the current crop.



Stable companion **John F Kennedy**, who heads the betting for the Derby, won the John Deere Stakes at Leopardstown in the autumn. He is a brother to Tapestry, last year's Yorkshire Oaks winner who collared the imperious Taghrooda on the Knavesmire. As his pedigree would suggest, he didn't look like an out-and-out miler at Leopardstown, and his future seemingly lies over further. The same appears true for Vintage Stakes winner **Highland Reel**, a son of Galileo out of a Danehill mare, although he didn't look short of toe at the Glorious meeting. Unraced since, that form has taken a few knocks and his place in the Baldydoyle pecking order is an uncertain one.

However, fellow O'Brien-trained colt **Ol' Man River** could be a different proposition. A son of Montjeu, he demonstrates his father's traits as a free-sweating sort with a hint of temperament, but he has class in abundance. Having defied a wide draw to land a Curragh maiden on debut, he stepped up significantly on



*Ol' Man River landing the Beresford*

that form to beat a field of decent-enough yardsticks in the Beresford Stakes at the same venue, quickening strikingly inside the two pole to win with plenty in hand. The second foal out of dual 1,000 Guineas winner Finsceal Beo, Ol' Man River is bred to handle Newmarket's idiosyncratic contours and visually, at least, he appears to have stacks of pace without looking anything like the finished article. He might just be the one.

The Group 1 juvenile performers come next, with dual-Group 2 winner **Ivawood**, who was narrowly touched off when long odds-on for the Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket, being the most popular of that contingent. A physically imposing two-year-old by high-class juvenile sprinter Zebedee, Ivawood did not venture beyond 6f last year, while his style of running suggests 1m might stretch the limits of his stamina.

His conqueror, **Charming Thought**, is a general 16-1 chance for the Guineas following success on the Rowley Mile. That form is muddling, though, with the ground having been soft and the field finishing relatively well grouped so, while he ought to stay 1m, he'll need significantly more to be a genuine Classic contender.

Later on that card, **Belardo** cemented his place at the head of the juvenile pecking order by landing the Dewhurst. Twice beaten in Group company previously, the fitting of a hood paid dividends on Roger Varian's charge, who surged through the pack to score by two lengths. It remains to be seen whether the headgear will work so well again, or if he simply handled the ground better than his rivals, but it would be foolish to dismiss him because the analysts are determined to crab the form.

Two of the beaten horses in the Dewhurst warrant a mention. The runner-up, Clive Cox's **Kodi Bear**, had previously impressed in Listed company at Ascot and is on an under-the-radar upward curve, while the fourth, **Estidhkaar**, had previously looked very good in when winning the Superlative Stakes and Champagne Stakes. Better ground will be much more his bag.



*Belardo winning the Dewhurst*

While it is easy to lament the lack of a standout two-year-old, watching the Classic hierarchy slowly but surely develop over the next six months ought to provide racing fans with an intriguing summer. I, for one, hope Ol' Man River can cement his place somewhere near the peak of the current crop.

# Sire Focus: Rip Van Winkle

*The second edition of our new feature focuses on Coolmore stallion Rip Van Winkle, whose second crop of juveniles will grace the racecourse this summer.*



## Pedigree

By Galileo, the pre-eminent global stallion of the current era and the sire of 46 individual Group 1 winners, Rip Van Winkle is a half-brother to Italian Group 3 winner *Le Vie Infinite*. He is out of the Italian Listed-placed mare *Looking Back*, a daughter of *Stravinsky*, while there is some interesting black type further back in his page. His third dam is a half-sister to the Listed winner *Tea House*, dam of dual Group 1 winner *Danish*, herself the granddam of Grade 1 Dubai World Cup winner *African Story*, who was joint Champion Older Horse in Europe last year.

## Career

Trained by Aidan O'Brien, Rip Van Winkle enjoyed a highly -successful three-year career, which included a trio of top-tier successes. He made a striking introduction as a juvenile, winning a Curragh maiden before comfortably landing a Leopardstown Group 3, but he failed to justify 6-4 favouriteism in Group 1 Dewhurst Stakes subsequently, finishing seventh having been beaten two lengths.

Rip Van Winkle would, however, confirm that a mere blip the following summer. While he was no match for the astonishing *Sea The Stars* on the first three starts of his Classic campaign - finishing fourth in the 2,000 Guineas and Derby before running second in the Group 1 Eclipse - he made hay in the second half of the season, displaying a blistering turn of foot to land the Group 1 Sussex Stakes. He would utilise the same trait to triumph in the Group 1 QEII on his next start at Ascot and, while an unsuccessful foray to Santa Anita Park for the Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Classic was not the end-of-season farewell connections envisaged, Rip Van Winkle would reaffirm his class as a four-year-old.



***RVW (right) with Sea The Stars***



A low-key reappearance in the Group 1 Queen Anne at Royal Ascot, where he finished sixth, did not pave the way for a disappointing summer as some critics suggested. After finishing runner-up to Canford Cliffs when defending his Sussex Stakes crown, Rip Van Winkle proved his tactical versatility to win over 1m2f, landing the Group 1 International at York. He stayed at that trip for his next start, playing second fiddle to stable companion Cape Blanco in the Irish Derby, while he returned to Ascot for his final start, succumbing by a nose to Poets Voice in a bid to win the QEII for a second time.

## Progeny

Rip Van Winkle made a striking start as a stallion when his first crop hit the racecourse last summer. Included among 23 individual winners was Dick Whittington, who supplemented a third-place finish in the Group 2 Coventry Stakes with victory in the Group 1 Phoenix Stakes in August. Previously, the Group 3 Grangecon Stud Stakes had proved a memorable midsummer highlight, as the Aidan O'Brien-trained I Am Beautiful narrowly denied her paternal sibling Jeanne Girl to land the spoils at the Curragh. On a global scale, the Graeme and Debbie Rogerson-trained Magic Dancer advertised her sire's southern hemisphere credentials when triumphing in the Group 3 Phoenix Park Two-Year-Old Classic at Pukekura, New Zealand.

We currently have three of Rip Van Winkle's progeny in training. **Arethusa**, out of a half-sister to the Listed winner Lady Of The Lake, provided her owners – **The Serendipity Partnership** – with plenty of highlights as a juvenile, winning a July Course maiden at the second time of asking before readily landing a Goodwood nursery off a mark of 76. She quickened on the cambers in a style reminiscent of her father five years previously there and she will begin life as a three-year-old off a mark of 81. We also have a juvenile filly owned by **Mr Jimmy Strauss and Sir Anthony Page-Wood**, and she is a half-sister to the winner Cavalieri. She is **out of Always Attractive**, who is a half-sister to the Group 3 Sweet Solera Stakes third Witch Of Fife, herself the dam of Group 3 Solario Stakes winner Drumfire. The final member of our Rip Van Winkle contingent is **Dora's Field**, a juvenile filly out of Cape Cross mare Rydal Mount, who won four times over 7f and is a half-sister to German Listed-winning sprinter Chagall. She is owned by **Mr Reg Gifford**.



*Arethusa*



*Ex Always Attractive*



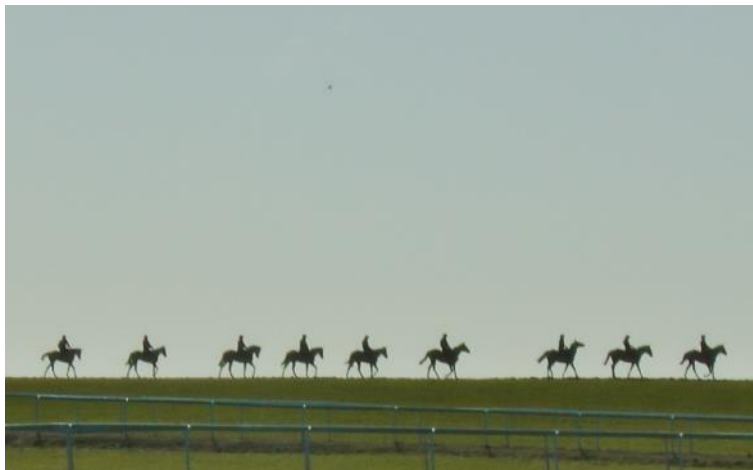
*Dora's Field*

***"A superb racehorse with a wonderful conformation, Rip Van Winkle has made a fine start to life as a stallion and the progeny I have trained have shown all the traits you would want in a racehorse."***

# Photos Of The Month



*2 year-olds testing out the grass*



*Silhouettes of third lot walking home.*



*Clare and the ex Manoeuvre*



*The Boss chats to Luke after the 2 yo's first canter up Warren Hill grass*



*Zauffaly enjoying a lay-in!*

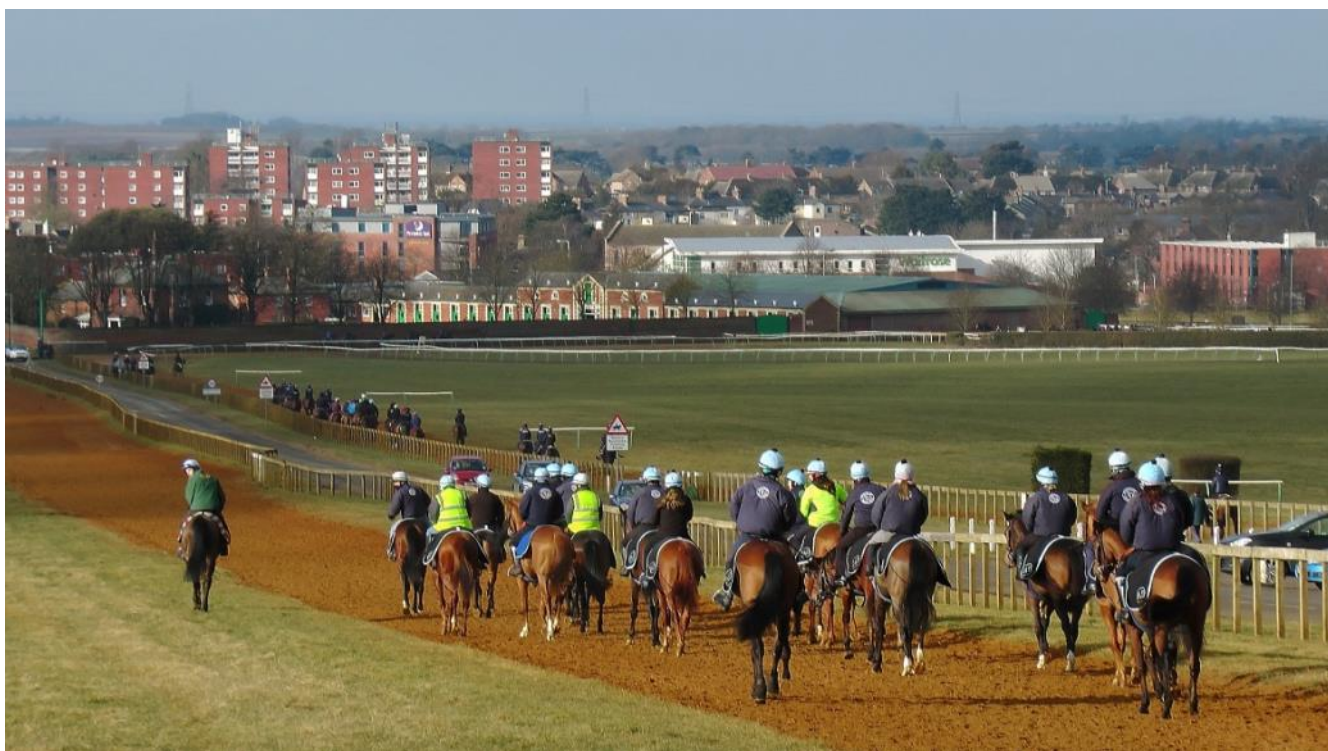


*Prince Gagarin making a mess!*





*The cheeky chestnut colts: Cafoo, Michael's Mount and Swiftee*



*Two year-olds walking home on Warren Hill with a view over Newmarket town.*



***La Grange Stables, Fordham Road, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7AA***

***Tel: 01638 661998***

***Fax: 01638 667394***

***Email: [edunlop@eddunlopracing.co.uk](mailto:edunlop@eddunlopracing.co.uk)***

