

Rod Millman Racing Newsletter

It was good to start 2012 on a winning note as **Now** got us off the mark on the flat, while **Starving Marvin** was impressive when winning his bumper at Warwick. Let's hope it's a good omen for the rest of the year.

It was great to get a win out of **Now** as she has had plenty of problems but first-time blinkers seemed to revitalize her when winning at odds of 25/1 at Kempton. Things haven't gone her way in two outings at the Sunbury track since. She was an unlucky in running fourth next time, but probably found three races in a month too much when disappointing a week later.

Sadly her owner-breeder Mrs Jenny Willment died shortly after her Kempton victory. Mrs Willment showed remarkable patience with her fillies and had become a strong supporter of the yard in recent seasons. Last year had been particularly successful, with **Money Money Money** winning five races, while **Shy** and **On The Feather** also got on the score sheet. Our thoughts are with her friends and family and she will be sorely missed.

The huge Hawk Wing gelding that is **Starving Marvin** made an impressive winning debut at Warwick in a newcomer's bumper. He is still immature both mentally and physically

so it was really pleasing that he showed such latent ability first time out.

He won't be rushed this season and he is a horse to look forward to in the future.

February will be a reasonably quiet month as we prepare horses for the upcoming turf campaign. However, a couple of old stagers will be returning on the AW. **Mustajed** will run in two amateur races for Pat, who has recently returned from a month's stint at Ballydoyle. Meanwhile **Masai Moon** should be ready to go and it would be great to get the old boy back winning again, although the handicapper doesn't make life easy for him.

Numide hasn't found things easy of late, although he's been contesting some hot races but the handicapper is starting to relent and hopefully he will show more. **Sunshine Buddy** ran well when fourth at Taunton and she has the potential to win at a low level. Recent arrival **Southernness** had a run on the flat at Lingfield and hopefully that will put him spot on when he goes back hurdling.

Poor **Irish Jugger** lost shoes on his last two trips to Southwell and it seems to have damaged his confidence a little. Hopefully two runs on the polytrack (shoes stayed on!) have helped and he is now well handicapped if he returns to his best back at Southwell. **Jacasa Too** ran better when fifth on her second outing at Kempton and should continue

to improve while **Smart Affair** has had a few setbacks but will hopefully make the track in February.

We still have a couple of two-year-olds for sale. There are 1/10th shares available for just £1,050 + VAT in **Kintyre Racing II's Auction House Colt**. He is a half brother to four winners, including High Reach (RPR 102) and should provide plenty of fun.

We also have Shielaligh's third foal, a two-year-old gelding by Ishiguru for sale. The first two foals **Blackdown Boy (RPR75)** and **Blackdown Fair (RPR78)** have both won and showed a fair level of ability and he looks a strong, racy type. For more details on either two-year-old, please give Rod a ring.

Horse of the Year 2012

11 Now

10 Starving Marvin