

Hereford 2nd August Review

By Paul Simmons

1st race – The Rhondaa Maiden 3yrs old and over 7 Furlongs

A brave bold victory for Gill Duffield's smart mare **Petraunille (Al Sakbe x My Princess)**. Owned by HH Sheikh Hamdan, the horse was given a powerful ride by Phil Collington who had her disputing the lead for the majority of the race before asserting herself and making all. She wandered a little in the final furlong and was all out in the shadow of the post to hold onto victory. Yaqoot (Darike x Nirva De Cardonne) caught the eye again. She was held up with a run and made smooth progress in the final two furlongs, quickened clear in the final furlong, was gaining the winner at every stride and lost out by a short head. She should be winning soon. Billoube (Bengali D'Albret x Billou Al Maury) helped force the pace in the first few furlongs before being relegated to 2nd. He lost third inside the final two furlongs and was all out inside the last half furlong to hold off Sam Davison's fast finishing Iraqi recruit, Al Harith.

2nd race – The Brightwells Sales Open Handicap 0-175 over 1 Mile 1 Furlongs

Danettie and Xeight Express cut out the running and made sure it was true pace, but Richard Wheelwright's **Ela Figura (The West x Chilli Bouchier)** was cruising in behind and she took up the running in the straight and powered clear by three lengths at the line. Burnley ran a good race in defeat in 2nd staying on strongly in the closing stages. His turn must be near. Song Huntress ran a superb race on her ARO debut under top weight. She was always handy and ran on well in the closing stages.

3rd race – The Jebel Ali Handicap 0-65 over 2 Miles

A superb staying handicap with Debrett leading for the whole 2 miles only to be pipped on the line by Notid coming with a perfectly timed run under Anna Wallace. Debrett made virtually all from the start under an assertive ride from David Turner, but inside the final furlong Anna Wallace was galvanising a monumental effort from the David Paton trained **Notid (Tidjani x Sherrie Noreen)**, who was finishing like a train and she rode a superb race to get this tough old gelding in front at the line by a nose. Debrett (Bengali D'Albret x Djeba Al Mels) lost nothing in defeat and perhaps threw his chance away at the crossing. He clearly loves this track though and relished the stamina sapping trip. Blu By You (Khairouan x Billou Al Maury) ran another solid race back in third for owner/trainer/jockey Mark Wall but was troubling the front pair.

4th race – Open Anglo/PBA Handicap over 1 Mile 1 Furlongs

Curupanna (Opera Ghost x Easter Panic) made all here and fairly cantered her way to the front under a good positive ride from Sam Holdsworth. She won as she liked and remains an impressive Anglo. Back in second was the Bill Hill owned/trained/ridden Oakvalley Rialto who once again ran her race. She was no match for the winner but was well clear of Rue De L'Opera and a reformed Dancing Grace.

5th race – The Royal Cavalry of Oman Juvenile Stakes (3 & 4 yr olds) over 1 Mile 1 Furlong

Georgina Ward unleashed another potential superstar when HH Sheikh Mohammed Al Thani's homebred colt **Mu'Azzaz (Amer x Massmarie)** made all for an impressive victory to lose his maiden tag. The 1-6 Fav gave his supporters and jockey Simon Walker a scare when nearly lunging off the course four furlongs from home, but champion jockey kept him up to his work to win by two lengths. The Royal Cavalry of Oman's UAE winner Zoumir (Dormane El Ouarda) ran well in second. He disputed the lead briefly before being passed by Inshaad, but rallied well in the final furlong to take second again ahead of a one paced Inshaad (Al Sakbe x Aksarka).

6th race – The Snap-Drape Open Race Handicap over 1 Mile 6 Furlongs

Son Of Sophie (Band on The Run x Fair Enchantress) landed his third consecutive victory here for Peter Hammersley. Simon Walker – scoring a double on the day - had the winner settled in behind and then hit the front three furlongs out kicking clear in the final furlong for an easy eleven length victory. Tremezzo ran a game race in second, making all until being swamped by the winner in the final few furlongs. He stayed on well in the final stages and was well clear of tiring Megabond.

7th race – The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap 0-75 over 1 Mile 4 Furlongs

Another excellent riding performance from Anna Wallace as she landed a double on the day. She had David Paton's smart handicapper **Gazal (Sambist x Shout For Joy)** held up with a run before making her move inside the final three furlongs and drew clear inside the last for an easy seven length victory. Benoire (Bengali D'Albret x Aicha Croixnoire) ran well in second. He led until the four furlong marker and stayed on dourly in the closing stages ahead of his one paced stablemate Majestic De Piboul (Dormane x Magreba De Piboul).

8th race – The Jebel Ali Handicap 0-50 over 1 Mile 1 Furlongs

Helen Bona has her team in fine form this season and scored yet again here with the plucky old mare **Lady Marisha (Nevesti x Shimmering Spektra)** who is in her early teens. Steve Harrison rode a well judged race settling nicely in behind Benny The Dip. He made his move on Lady Marisha inside the final furlong and she responded in fine style to run for a length victory. Back in second was Yucel Mehmet's Bibi Royale (Abitibi x Chaldensford Royal Independence) who was returning to form. He was held up throughout and made good progress in the closing stages before rallying hard in the final furlong to take second from an all out Benny The Dip (Bengali D'Albret x Duiker).