

ARABIAN RACING REVIEW

Wolverhampton September 10th

Review by Paul Simmons, images courtesy of thejockey.co.uk

The West Midland Maiden Stakes

A thrilling finish here as the juvenile and odds on favourite Al Afreata was made to pull out all the stops by Murjan in a battling finish inside the final furlong. Murjan was always travelling well under Phil Collington, and she bravely made her bid for victory inside the final furlong but she was headed by Al Afreata, who was given a great ride by Tom Garner, inside the final half furlong and bravely battled back went down by half a length. **Al Afreata (Amer x Al Shahania Aseala)** looks to have a big future for owner/breeder HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani and is a third



maiden winner in row for trainer Julian Smart who is having a great season. Murjan (Monsieur Al Maury x Volna) lost nothing in defeat and is improving with each run, she rallied hard but had to settle for second. Two and a half lengths back in third was a good run from the juvenile colt Silaah (Fadjik x Danise), he chased the first two into the straight but was never nearer. He was clear of the eye catching Onsala Arabians Swedish colt Dratzan (Makzan x Dramiqa).

The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap Stakes

A first Arabian winner for trainer Peter Hammersley, as the increasingly rogue like **Hidalgo (Samern x Pella De La Coste)** finally put his best hoof forward and won by a length and half under a well judged ride from Steve Harrison for owner Julie Kelway. Maghazi led from the start under a determined David Turner, he set sail for

home inside the final two furlongs but Hidalgo was travelling sweetly in behind and he took the lead inside the final furlong and won impressively. Maghazi (Chndaka x Nirva De Cardonne) ran a solid race back in second, he rallied hard inside the final furlong but was couldn't get past the winner in the last furlong. Ghallab (Chndaka x Ikela (Kais I) was always prominent and looked comfortable settled in second in the home straight, but when challenged he had no turn of



foot and stayed on well for third ahead of a one paced Ambrose.

The Lovetheraces.com Open Race Handicap



A double for trainer Peter Hammersley



as Heartland Thoroughbreds **Annie Moyles (Makbul x So Generous)**, she was always travelling well under in form Steve Harrison mid field and went second inside the home straight before challenging inside the final furlong and kicking clear for a two length victory over Yankey. Back in second was a good effort from Yankey, who is finding life much tougher this season, this was his best run of the season and he led from the five furlong marker but found the winner too

strong in the closing stages. While Jiggalong ran another game race back in third, she lead from the three furlong marker but had no chance with the winner, and lost second in the final furlong when staying on one paced.

The ARO Dinner & Dance on Sat 12th November Handicap Stakes



It's impossible to believe that Pavot Al Kyle (Pavot Al Maury x Ellaria) at the grand old age of 15 is improving, but then he clearly hasn't declined with age and scored his third victory in a row here (and the 10th win of his career) with some authority; giving the young guns in behind a clear view of his heels as he galloped clear inside the final furlong to win by an easy 4 lengths for owner/trainer Delyth Thomas.

He looked superb beforehand and ran a race that belied his years, travelling well he made steady progress to go second approaching the straight and powered clear inside the final furlong to win as he liked under another text book ride from Simon Walker (who is 8 clear of his nearest rival).

Speaking afterwards Thomas said *"He's in such good form this season, and its lovely to see him racing so well in his final year although I can't believe he has won 3 in a row now; his last race will be at Warwick and then he is off on loan for a well deserved retirement as a happy hacker."* Terminators Dream (Bengali D'Albret x Dantes Dream (Dantist)) has been running some fantastic races in defeat for his frustrated trainer Carol Legg, he's becoming a bit of bridesmaid

as this was his 3rd second placing of the season, he raced prominently into the home straight and in spite of being tapped for toe he stayed on well and took second close home; he is one to watch out over further. Senor Dublecheck (Bengali D'Albret x Mais (Mamluk)) ran his usual game and consistent race back in third, he plugged on well for second into the straight and lost out on second by a neck; with an eye catching Raihan a head back in fourth.



The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap Stakes

A fascinating race with 3 top class all weather sprinting performers



lining up, and the crowd were treated to a brilliant head to head battle inside the final furlong as Joybell and Zayin Barakaldo battled for victory with Joybell just getting up by a head. Zayin Barakaldo went for a pillar to post victory and as they turned for home it was Joybell who was his main danger, and in spite of being headed inside the final furlong he battled back and went down by the narrowest of margins. **Joybell**



(**Kerbella x Joyous Princess**) looked right back to his best winning here for owners Athbah Stud and trainer Bill Smith (he last won at this track last season), he is smart performer as shown when 2nd to Mudalal in the Oman final and showed admirable battling qualities here under another great ride from Simon Walker. Zayin Barakaldo (Khoutoubia x Barryh (Djelfor)) is running consistently well this season since winning at Nottingham over 10 furlongs, and this effort again showed that he is versatile over trip. El Adjban (Makzan x Shunah (Shomran)) was a shade disappointing 3 lengths back in third and couldn't rally in the closing stages, but he has run some excellent races this term inc. being placed in both Group sprints.

The Royal Cavalry of Oman Classified Stakes



The lowest rated race of the season and all in with a chance, but people should ignore Delyth Thomas runners at their peril this season and **Florys Folly (Vert Olive x Florys De Nautiac)**, who has shown no form since winning a weak race here nearly 16 months before (although did manage 2nd to Egypt over 12 f at Stratford in a similar

grade race); found that extra gear inside the home straight and galloped clear for an eight length victory under a surprised Simon Walker. The field did themselves no favours by running the first mile at a crawl no faster than an extended trot, this set the race up quite nicely for Florys Folly who was always travelling well; Walker kicked her into the lead inside the home straight and she pulled clear for an easy victory. Speaking afterwards Delyth Thomas (scoring her 10th winner of the season and now sits second in the owner and trainer championships) “*I am quite shocked by that win, she was going next week to be pony clubbed and to do hunter trials as she is a great little jumper, but we thought we would give her one last run here. They went no pace and I think that helped her get the trip.*” Notid (Tidjani x Sherrie Noreen) ran his usual game race in behind, but he always tends to find one too



good, he wasn't suited by the muddling pace and would probably have won if the race had been run a better tempo from the start. Lile D'Amour (Merlin Al Maury x Daad) looked well before hand, she led inside the final furlong and when headed kept on for third; she would also have benefited from a stronger earlier pace.

The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes

Trainer Beverley Deutrom maintained her incredible win to runners ratio here with the improving Qeethaara winning her second start in as many weeks (winner over 6 furlongs at Salisbury) under another confident ride from Craig Thompson (now second in the jockeys championship and clear winner of the novice jockeys title). Floren was always going to be tapped for toe over this trip



but he made a bold bid for victory from the start, but Qeethaara was always cruising in behind with Jaamahir. As they turned into the straight Thompson went to the front with Jaamahir chasing hard in behind, and as they galloped clear inside the final furlong **Qeethaara (Makzan x Ikela)** showed her smart turn of foot to win by an easy 3 lengths for owners Bradley and Baillie Paterson. Speaking after the race Deutrom said “*She came out of her Salisbury race*

really well, so we were hopeful that she would have a good chance here; she's still learning but has plenty of speed.” Jaamahir (Makzan x Tikis Tiffany) ran a good race in second, always handy, he chased the winner all the way to the line but was never nearer. Dubai Day winner Syrah Gris (Khoutoubia x Akara De Syrah) was disappointing back in third, he was pushed along from half way and looked out paced, but to his credit he ran on really well in the home straight and took third but had no chance with the winner.

The Follow ARO on Twitter @ARO_Racing Open Race Handicap Stakes

A third win of the campaign for owner/trainer Craig Kester with Red Myth, but his first TB win of the season. Global Achiever cut out the early running and led till half way, when Red Myth went into the lead under a fine ride from Kirstin Mellor. As they entered the home straight Mellor looked confident on **Red Myth (Arkadian Hero x Denise Best)**, and when challenged inside the final furlong she dug deep and won going away by a length and a half. Back in second was a good effort from Global Achiever (Key Of Luck x Inflation), he looked one paced at half way when relegated to 4th, but as they turned for home he re-took second and chased the winner inside final furlong to hold and was an easy second. Back in third was a great run from the Anglo Arab Risky Jack (Call Me Risky x Maraday Kittyhawk), who last won at Warwick last term, he was towards the rear but made good late headway to take third close home under owner/trainer/jockey Bill Hill.

