

ARABIAN RACING REVIEW

Warwick October 8th 2011

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

The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes

A third win of the campaign for Sue Connally's lovely mare Raihan (Passem Lotois x G Sustika). She was given a strong ride from Scott Bradbury who made all and won going away by 5 lengths. Bradbury set off in determined fashion with Unshooda and Benny The Dip chasing in behind, but as they turned for home the writing was on the wall and Raihan kicked clear for decisive victory. Unshooda (Makzan x Shunah (Shomran)) challenged 2 furlongs out but had no answer to the winner although she was in turn 4 lengths clear of the field. Benny The Dip (Bengali D'Albret x Duiker (Galeon)) is on a good mark now and while always chasing he took second briefly before being relegated to third. He was 2 lengths clear of Altered Images (Psyches Image R x Mona Lisa).



The Penn Challenge Open Race Handicap Stakes, Series Final

A popular win here as owner/trainer/breeder Jenny Peyton's fantastic Anglo Arab mare **Dancing Grace (Dancing Spree x Hardtoboss)** showed the field of a thoroughbreds a clean pair of heels to win this competitive handicap under a superb ride from Ceri Evans. Jay Ell The Trier cut out the early running of the race, but was soon over taken by Just Serenade who conceded to Siena, but throughout the race Dancing Grace was cruising in behind. As they entered the final furlong Evans pushed Dancing Grace clear and she ran on well for victory. Jay Ell The Trier (Talkin Man x Killoughey Pride) ran a strong race and challenged hard in the final furlong but couldn't reach the winner. Another 3 ½ lengths back in third was Bill Hill's homebred Anglo Arab Risky Jack (Call Me Risky x Maraday Kitty Hawk), who won this last year, he took third from the four furlong marker and held his position inside the home straight and pulled five lengths clear of Red Myth.



The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes (Bronze Final)

Lile D'Amour (Merlin Al Maury x Daad) has been a fantastic servant to the Connally's and in spite of reaching teenage years she proved here that she is no back number and won with some authority pulling 2 lengths clear of the field under a superb ride from Scott Bradbury (scoring a double on the day along with owner/trainer Sue Connally). Speaking after the race Connally said "We are very proud of both horses and our thanks go to Scott who has proved himself this year and



rode two brilliant races. We only have a small stable and this was our first ever double. We're looking forward to next year as Lile D'Amour and her 3 year old son by Eau Royal will be racing!" Long time leader, Djazira (Djournis De Leyre x Fantaisy De Balduc), ran an incredible race back in second and showed her first signs of form. She made a bold show from the front under owner/trainer/jockey Steve Gregory and battled back when headed by the

winner in the final 2 furlongs. Djazira was a good length clear of Florys Folly (Vert Olive x Florys De Nautiac), who is one to note next season off her current mark. Florys Folly has held her form since her win at Wolverhampton, she was held up with a run and came with her effort in the home straight but was always chasing the first two.

The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes (Silver Final)

In spite of some unruly behaviour at the start Al Mamoon came right back to form here with an emphatic victory over Aberllwyds Pharelma for owner/trainer Delyth Thomas who has had a superb year and was recording her 11th win of the season. Al Mamoon (Passem Lotois x Al Hanoof) was quickly away and made all for a pillar to post victory. He was strongly challenged in the final furlong by Aberllwyds Pharelma but this plucky mare couldn't head him and in the end he found an extra gear and quickened clear for a 2 length victory. Again, he was given a superb ride by Matt Stanley who has been impressing on the circuit this season. Back in



second was an excellent effort from Aberllwyds Pharelma (Phariz x Gelma Du Volday (Dormane)), she got a tardy start but made smooth headway along the back straight and moved into second 4 furlongs out. In third was Pavot Al Kyle (Pavot Al Maury x Ellaria) making his final racecourse appearance at the age of 15, having a notched up a hat-trick this season. He ran another race full of credit and battled hard to hold the position in the final strides.

The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes, 0-95 over 1m



Noble Athlete cut out the running and set a decent pace from the start, but as they approached the 4 furlong marker Bigg N Rich set sail for home and went several lengths clear in the straight. Hidalgo, however, was travelling ominously well under Steve Harrison and as they entered the final furlong Bigg N Rich was all out for victory but Hidalgo (Samern x Pella De La Coste) came with his run to get up at the line and win by half a length for owner Julie Kelway. Speaking

afterwards winning trainer Peter Hammersley "I was thrilled with Hidalgo's run, he appears a lot more relaxed now. He was very chilled before his race and I'm sure that

this has helped his performance. Superb ride from Steve as well.” Bigg N Rich (Falina Des Fabries x Viraac) was brave in defeat, he did the hard work from the halfway stage but couldn’t hold off the winner in the final strides. Manan (Doran x Mangaline Du Loup) was a shade disappointing 4 lengths back in third, but has run some excellent races this season and remains a smart prospect for next year.

The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes (Gold Final)

Verdora has been promising so much all year with some excellent races in defeat but she saved her best run for the end of the season and lost her maiden tag in some style here for owner/breeders Jim and Jo Kippen under a fine ride from Phil Collington. Katwalk bravely tried to make all and lead the field until headed by Syrah Gris in the final 2 furlongs, but Verdora was cruising in behind with Altesse Kossack and Sophia. As they entered the final furlong Verdora (Dormane x Vert Galante (Manganate) unleashed a smart turn of foot to quicken



clear and win by a comfortable 2 lengths giving trainer Gill Duffield a final winner of the season and her fifth consecutive champion trainer’s title. Speaking afterwards Jim Kippen said “She is a beautifully bred filly and we always had high hopes for her. She has finally rewarded us on the very last day and we are thrilled!” Back in second Altesse Kossack (Marwan x Azedine A (Dormane)) ran an eye catching race and looks to be still improving. She made smooth headway inside the home straight and took second one furlong out. Sophia (Kerbella x Solonge (Djelfor)) ran a brave race under top weight, but ultimately found it too much to concede to improving youngsters. She was settled in midfield and made good progress in the home straight but was never nearer than third.

The lovetheraces.com Open Race Championship

Peter Hammersley capped a great season with a win in the final race of the year with Heartland Thoroughbreds smart mare Annie Moyles (who won this last year). How



Realee cut out the pace in the early stages and lead the field at a strong gallop, but the field was tightly grouped in behind. As they entered the home straight Sri Kuantan quickly went to the head of the field before Jiggalong swept past under a determined Matt Stanley, but **Annie Moyles (Makbul x So Generous)** was always cruising and she

quickened clear inside the final furlong to win by an easy length under a great ride from Steve Harrison. Speaking afterwards Hammersley said “*Annie never ceases to amaze me. She is as tough and genuine as they come. She still seems to be improving but will surely find things much tougher in 2012*” . Jiggalong (Mark of Esteem x Kalamansi) ran another superb race back in second, she had every chance in the final furlong but had no extra to challenge the winner. Yankey (Amfortas x Key) ran well in third and made strong progress in the home straight but was well held.