

## CHRISTINE DUNNETT 10/05/06

One thing I have realised since I started training horses, you have to find the key that unlocks potential. Perhaps because I have been so successful with my sprinters, I know all their quirks, what track, going and trip suits them best-but with the three year olds, I am still learning. They are running creditably, but I know one or two of them in particular should be hitting the target now.

Take DISTANT MIND, a really nice Distant Music filly out of a Barathea mare, she has had eight career races, five as a juvenile over five or six furlongs and three as a three year old over seven or eight furlong trips, the most recent of which was yesterday at Southwell over seven. Sadly she hasn't ever been remotely close at the finish whatever tactics we have decided to use. This filly demonstrates my frustration of finding that key-in a radical move next time out, I am going to up her trip to a mile and two furlongs and drop her out the back and see if she can come from off the pace, rather than run up with the pace. In her defence, she is still a big tall weak type of filly, but a complete change of direction with her may be the answer-I'll keep you posted.

A couple of other three year olds I ran at Southwell yesterday were SHOPFITTER and GOODBYE GIRL, both of whom I tried over the minimum trip for the first time in ages-it seemed to sort of do the trick they finished third and fourth respectively-I feel I made some more progress with them, which hopefully I can work on to get the right result eventually.

The Racing Club continues to flourish, I have to say I was delighted with MASTER MALARKEY'S 33-1 fourth at Kempton at the start of the week, I think he will be winning before long and bringing more success to the club. I gave the ride to John Egan, who I feel really gives my horses every assistance-if you saw the race, the pair came flashing home and had they gone that extra furlong, would have certainly won. In fact, John knowing how much store I put in his judgement, rode this quirky brother to MR MALARKEY the extra distance as though they were in a race and on returning to the enclosure afterwards, said of him, 'step him up to six furlongs, which is probably his best distance and he will be winning for you-there is nothing wrong with him-this horse will be alright.'

When you get that sort of encouragement from the jockey, it does wonders for boosting both mine and the stables confidence, its sort of confirmation you are doing it right and by doing the odd bit of tweaking it will come spot on. I have to say, this horse is like his brother in so many ways, it's uncanny.

A horse that has disappointed me a lot is LIFE'S A WHIRL, I really don't know what was wrong with her at all last time out, when finishing last-I am convinced her trip is round the seven to eight furlong mark, so she is another we will drop out the back next time and see if she can come from behind, and run on in the closing stages.

So what of the week ahead-yes as you might have guessed I intend having a couple of coach loads at Yarmouth on Thursday afternoon if they get in, which include, BOLD CHEVERAK, DETONATE, RUSSIAN ROCKET, BELROSE, GRAND MEMPARI, TATA NAKA and possibly GOODBYE GIRL and DISTANT MIND, if the latter two come out of yesterdays race in good shape. If I had to single one out, it would be RUSSIAN ROCKET, who is off a very useful mark and certainly capable of winning if everything went right for him.

On Friday, I am hopeful we will run the Club's juvenile JOINT EXPECTATIONS and SILVER DANE at Lingfield and again if you wanted me to select the best bet, it would have to be SILVER DANE.

I might complete my week with a trip north to Thirsk and run GENEVIEVE, KENNINGTON and NORCROFT, again if you put me on the spot, I would have to say NORCROFT.

I have deliberately separated the runners into days and then made a section from the runners listed, if you haven't already noticed the ones I picked were all sprinters, that's because I can say with confidence how they might perform, the trick now is to be as skilled with the three year old and distance horses!