

CHRISTINE DUNNETT 05/07/06

As long as I train racehorses, I will never understand why the unexpected seems to happen when you least expect it too-if you recall a week ago I said, *'If I am honest, although the results don't reflect it particularly, the string appears in great shape and extremely well-that's what is so frustrating, we are doing our homework, but when it comes to the exams, we are often the no show, which really doesn't add up.'*

What I didn't realise at the time of saying it, was it would be further proved to be the case over the last seven days, which although its nice to know, hasn't added any more winners to my season's tally.

If we look back at our results over the last two weeks, you couldn't have dreamt how they would fall out-two weeks ago, take NORCROFT who failed to make any impression over six furlongs on good to firm at Thirsk and last week, finished a very encouraging sixth of 12 at Kempton again over six furlongs. I accept you could argue he is better on the all weather, but that much, I don't think. He runs this evening again at Kempton in the last which is an apprentice race over six furlongs. Being logical, which perhaps isn't the answer, I would have to say, and he must have a hell of a chance, especially as he will be ridden by Kirsty, who is in blinding form at the moment. I sincerely hope he runs a big race and I would have to say he must be my best hope of success right now.

Other results which have mystified me include, GONE 'N' DUNNETT third of 13 at Ripon two weeks ago over five furlongs on fast ground and then last but one of 15 at Windsor over six furlongs recently-it really doesn't add up.

I am not sure if you saw racing at the weekend from Newmarket, but I was delighted with the performance of LIFE'S A WHIRL in the apprentice handicap, in that she finished fourth of 18 and had she not encountered traffic problems in the closing stages, I am sure she would have been there or thereabouts. Once again, Kirsty gave her a great ride and even though she is our stable apprentice, she really has improved as a jockey and in her last ten rides, boasts two wins, two seconds and a third, which is pretty good. Thankfully she is getting loads more outside rides, which will give her more and more confidence. People ask me if she is as good or better than Hayley Turner was at this point in her career-it's difficult to make such a judgement, in that they are very different in their approach-all I will say is, Kirsty I have no doubt now will make it as a professional if she continues to ride like she is.

In line with tradition I really wanted to take a bus load to Yarmouth tomorrow, but it now seems unlikely, in that several entries I doubt will make the cut. WARDEN WARRREN, who finished near the rear at HQ at the weekend and may just have needed the run, could well run in the seven furlong handicap and PERFECTIONIST could well go for the maiden. I have entered TATA NAKA again and if we get a run I expect Kirsty will be in the plate. Later in the week, I have booked John Egan to ride MASTER

MALARKEY at Brighton; I would like to think we would run a big race then, for the club members.

I have kept my options open with several multiple entries, sadly at the time of writing this, I have no idea what the weather is likely to be over the coming days and which horses may or may not get into certain races.

I still feel extremely upbeat, I just wish we would start firing, I know we are almost on the money.