

CHRISTINE DUNNETT 02/08/06

I seem to be on a roll at the moment with my tipping skills, actually I think its more than that, it's that any trainer will tell you, you instinctively know when your string is in great shape and from the way they work day in day out, again you have an instinct as to how they might perform. Having successfully predicted that both SILVER DANE and NORCROFT would win, I was almost on the money again last week when suggesting GONE 'N' DUNNETT would follow suit, if you recall my words were *'Today at Lingfield I run GONE 'N' DUNNETT who has to be my best bet, he had a nice race at the weekend at HQ which I think set him right and given we are riding our luck at the moment I can not oppose him today.'* Although not another winner, this grand old servant to the string came home third at no less than 14-1, he is always a cracking each way chance. I am delighted he is giving so many of the racing club members a lot of fun, which was the intention from the outset.

Once again although we didn't exactly hit the high spots around the tracks, we did have some success, like TATA NAKA, who was a very decent second at Yarmouth earlier in the week.

I have to say, I like John Egan as a pilot-you may have noticed of late he has had a number of rides for us, in fact he has had one more ride than Chris Catlin, who is another jockey I like. I think John is a good judge of a runner and will always come back with something encouraging-after all as a trainer, you need the jockey to be truthful about how things have gone and what you may need to try for next time. I have to say I was surprised when I looked up John's stats, in that he has had four winners from 23 rides and is showing a profit of £35 to a pound level stake to rides, not bad.

Touching on my stats again, I really think we are on course to reach my target of 20 for the year, in that to date we have got 11 winners. What is more surprising is the number of placed horses we have managed, no fewer than 51 which is a lot by any standards from a small string like ours. I really think this sort of statistic underlines why I am always so upbeat about things, as hard as it may seem; I know the horses are well, I just think sometimes we don't get the breaks we should, which I am sure many trainers will tell you. Although there is a great number of races up and down the country now, getting winners seems to be hard-why-I haven't got a clue, when I work it out I will tell you.

This evening I run NORCROFT at Leicester over an extended five furlongs on ground officially described as good to firm. I have to say he has been showing plenty at home lately and given the way he ran at Newmarket a couple of weeks ago, in this grade, although he is carrying a lot of weight, you would have to give him a chance-I really think he will run well and he is one of two of my best bets this week.

At Nottingham on Friday I have made a triple entry for sprint race, of which I might very well run KENNINGTON who would have to be my second best bet.

I have entered SILVER DANE at Newmarket also on Friday and if he gets in, he may find one or two better than him. Sometimes I can give you lots of possible options, but this week I really don't know what to say, given we are having a weather variance. Others to look out for include BAMZOOKI, MASTER MALARKEY and DETONATE. In truth I would dearly love to win with any or all three.