

CHRISTINE DUNNETT 16/08/06

I am sure people must think I am mad when I keep saying I am upbeat about things and confident we will have a good year despite of the set backs we have had so far-but the truth is I am upbeat, if you think about it I couldn't be anything but after last weeks results at Yarmouth.

When racing journalist John Farley contacted me about having a match bet with Michael Foulger, I thought it was a very inspired way of raising money for local charities, but never gave it a second thought that the horses in question could finish in the frame. I think I commented last week by saying, *'We think it would be the first occasion something like this has taken place and given Michael's company is sponsoring the race it would be great fun-who knows one of the horses could even win the race-although I know you really fancy GONE 'N' DUNNETT.'*

At home, GONE 'N' DUNNETT had worked the better of the three, which is why I booked Seb Sanders for the ride-as it turned out NORCROFT owned by John for the day won and KENNINGTON owned by Michael for the day came second, giving me my first one two of the year. The only disappointment being we didn't fill the first three places, which is something I have always wanted to do.

I have to say, it was a great local day, in that Michael's company sponsored the race as well-its days like that, which give others the confidence, they too can win a race at Yarmouth, which in reality is what its all about. As you know horse racing is a passion for me, so anything that allows people to get more pleasure out of the sport or realise the odd dream-what do they say, 'Bring it On.'

Talking of dreams, mother of four Selena Farnese I thought did really well in her first ever public ride. Although she didn't make the frame, I think she gave her horse a cracking ride and I take my hat off to her for working so hard to realise this ambition. It takes a lot of hard work and determination to get to the track-but to ride as well as she did prove that the effort she put into it paid off-well done Selena. I am not sure if she has made her mind up about repeating it in September, but if she does I know she will be trying to improve on last week.

Looking back I had a brilliant Yarmouth meeting, two seconds, a winner and Selena giving her best-I just hope I can keep getting those all important winners-we are on 12 for the year so far, so just 8 to get to meet my target. Talking about my stats, did you realise that two of our string have both won three races each, NORCROFT and SILVER DANE-would you believe that both are showing healthy profits if you have backed them every time they had raced so far this year, NORCROFT 11-1 and SILVER DANE 36.50-1. Both ratings are based on wagering a £1 level stake. The other staggering fact is that I have sent out no fewer than 38 horses, who have contested 246 races so far this year. I have to say it surprised me we had had so many individual runners this year.

I don't know what it is about racing at Yarmouth, but just lately I seem to be sending multiple runners to contest the same race and today is no exception with WARDEN WARREN and PANSHIR contesting for the seven furlongs Dronsfield Mercedes Handicap, a race Warden won three of years ago. I think both have live chances at the weights, particularly PANSHIR who was second over a mile at the track a week ago. After the race, jockey Tom Queally said, this one might be better suited to seven furlongs, particularly has the margin in defeat was only gained in the final strides. I have potentially five runners in three races at Newmarket on Friday and Saturday respectively-with POLAR FORCE, RUSSIAN ROCKET and NORCROFT possible for the Mervyn Lambert Plant Ltd Handicap on Friday evening and CAPE PRESTO and TATA NAKA for the Half Moon Montego Bay Jamaica Handicap and the British Virgin Islands Tourist Board Handicap respectively.

If I had to pick a horse this week it would be RUSSIAN ROCKET, who I think has improved with every start and Fridays contest is well within range.