

Riveting Stuff

There was South African interest in Rivet's win in the Gr1 Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster on Saturday. The outstanding son of Fastnet Rock (out of the Galileo mare, Starship) was bred and owned by a syndicate comprising our very own Des Scott, Lester Piggott and John Magnier. The William Haggas trained galloper added the prestigious Gr1 to his Gr 2 Champagne Stakes success. His rider Andrea Atzeni was winning his fourth Racing Post Trophy in a row and is now one behind part-owner Lester Piggott's record five victories in the race. Rivet has been priced up at odds of 16-1 for next year's 2000 Guineas.

Cox In A Box

The Winx dominated Cox Plate may have been a great race, but the general sentiment is that it was not a great race day. The support programme of several benchmark races meant the meeting lacked the edge of a big day. In days gone by, the best sprinter would arrive at Moonee Valley and provide another dimension to the meeting. There has been some criticism of running the Gr1 Manikato Stakes the night before because of the affect it can have on the



track - but the main problem with it is that it takes some of the main drawcards away from the main event. Something to consider for our own planners, looking ahead to the creation of festival meetings.

Adios El Picha

South Africa's only surviving dual July winner, El Picha, died during the night of 20 October 2016. Woodruff Racing's Facebook page said "It is with great sadness that our beloved El Picha passed away last night at the ripe age of 22 years old in his sleep at our home in Randjesfontein. What an incredible horse he was to us and all involved in him. Good Bye old man, and thanks!" The Argentinian-bred, selected on a buying trip by Terrance Millard, famously only ended up in South Africa by chance, but proved one of the toughest and gamest horses in recent memory. From 39 career starts, the son of Tough Critic posted 12 wins and 19 places with back to back July wins (1999 and 2000) as well as the 1999 Summer Cup. El Picha retired from racing in 2002 as SA's highest earning thoroughbred.

POSTERS BEWARE

The amendment of NHA rule 72.1.43 could have some impact on the way things are said on social media platforms going forward. 'Without in any way derogating from the provisions of the rules, no person shall at any time publish, communicate or utter words or statements or post on any social media platform or channel any material, content or comment or conduct himself in a manner which could reasonably be construed to be either obscene, offensive,

defamatory, racist, threatening, harassing, discriminating, sexist or abusive to any other person or entity involved in the racing industry or bring the good name of any person or entity in the industry or the NHA into disrepute.' What do you think? Careful how you put it!

FLYING FERRARI

Quidura, a half sister to Maine Chance Farms' top class young sire and Gr1 winning son of Oasis



Dream, Querari, impressed when landing the Gr3 Pin Oak Valley View Stakes at Keeneland on Friday. The daughter of Dubawi is now undefeated in two starts since arriving in North America and looks to have a great career ahead of her. A lightly raced filly, who has won three of just four outings, Quidura was sent off a 7-2 chance for Friday's race and duly arrived in style.

Quidura is a half-sister to two former champions - Querari and former Gr3 Bavarian Classic winner Quasillo (Sea The Stars).

Querari's first crop includes triple Graded winner Kangaroo Jack, Gr2 winning 2yo Cosmic Light and the Gr1 filly Melliflora, while his second crop includes Gr1 Thekwini Stakes winner Querari Falcon.

Querari has three lots on offer at next month's Emperors Palace Ready To Run Sale.

Love-Hate?

The parting of ways of the powerful Justin Snaith racing team and their crack lightweight Richard Fourie has come as a surprise to some. Justin said that he would be using up-country jockeys on certain days, while Richard indicated that he would be freelancing in a slow comeback after injury.

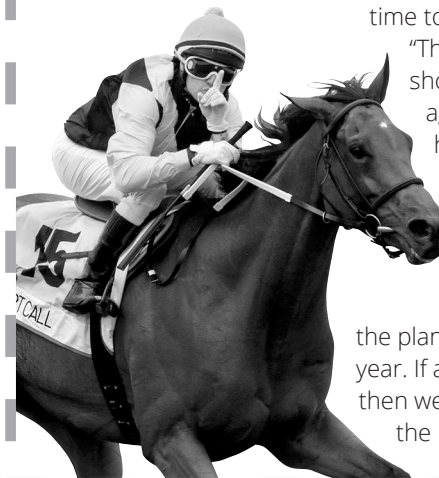
KZN Owners Unite

The formation of an independent KZN Owners' Association is now well advanced and could become a reality in the near future. Owner Brian Burnard headed a delegation that enjoyed a constructive meeting with KZN racing operator Gold Circle in August. With sufficient interest received to support progressing to the next step, Mr Burnard confirmed that the relevant paperwork has been lodged with the Registrar and is currently awaiting approval. Once the registration process has been completed, it is intended to schedule a further meeting with Gold Circle to formalise the way forward. Enquiries may be addressed to brianb@burnardraaff.co.za

California Dream Over

It's official. J&B Met winner Smart Call will not be fulfilling her connections' Breeders' Cup aspirations for 2016.

An obviously disappointed trainer Alec Laird wrote on Facebook that the daughter of Ideal World has not had enough time to heal properly.



"The original injury has shown signs of flaring up again and it's apparent she hasn't had enough time for the muscle/ligaments to heal. The California dream is therefore on hold. She will recuperate through the winter with the plan to target some races next year. If all goes well next year, then we will once again consider the Breeders' Cup."

BREEDERS ASSOCIATION ON HORIZON

The formation of locally-based boutique stud farms that are professionally run with substantial investment in quality mares, and the utilisation of leading stallions situated around the country could help to break some of the negative perceptions about the quality of horses bred outside of the Cape and KZN. This was the message to come out of a meeting held at Heversham Park Farm on 15 October, when it was decided to form a breeders association for those breeders in all provinces, excluding KZN and the Cape. The formation of a viable breeding industry in Gauteng and the other provinces would also most importantly create employment and real tangible empowerment opportunities. The meeting further recognised that any breeders association in the region had a duty to embark on empowerment initiatives. This not only made financial sense but it would both encourage and develop participation in the racing industry from other racial groups. Interested parties should contact Mr. Fred Brons at 083 325 8161 or email at blueprint@thoroughblood.co.za

