

# JR Takes Cover



An adverse reaction to flu and herpes inoculations could be at the core of a 'virus scare' in the yard of former Cape Champion trainer Joey Ramsden. The Milnerton conditioner scratched the balance of his 5 runners at Kenilworth on Saturday after Bountiful Strength – his first runner – finished tailed off. There were already red lights flashing at Durbanville last Tuesday where below-par showings suggested all was not well. Joey tweeted that the welfare of his horses was his primary concern.

## 4193

Mark Johnston has equalled the all-time record number of British winners for a racehorse trainer. Dr Richard Kimble won at Ripon on the weekend to give the Scot his 4193rd victory. The 58-year-old has reached the mark set by the retired Richard Hannon Sr, and it is only a matter of time before he breaks the record. Johnston, who is based in the Yorkshire village of Middleham, trained his first winner in 1987 and his victories have earned £53m in prize money.

## Fire Away

A Syndicate of stud farms has purchased Fire Away (USA), to stand at Wilgerbosdrift Stud next season. The syndicate includes major studs like Wilgerbosdrift, Drakenstein, Moutonshoek, Mauritzfontein, Avontuur, Ascot, Wicklow, Cheveley, Ngoro, Piemonte and Boland Stud. Fire Away was purchased in the USA last month and arrived at Abington Place last Saturday to join the Mike de Kock team for a race campaign in Dubai in 2019.

## Well Met!

G.H. Mumm's co-sponsorship of the Sun Met won a prestigious award at the Sports Industry Awards held at the Sandton Convention Centre on Friday evening. The award was given to Pernod Ricard SA, as GH Mumm is one of their premium brands. G.H. Mumm came out tops in the Best New Sponsorship category presented by Nielsen, beating out stiff competition from the likes of Nashua, New Balance and Shield.



## STREETS AHEAD

After nearly three weeks of the 2018/19 Australian racing season, Darley's deceased shuttler & Gr1 Dubai World Cup winner – as well as sire of reigning SA Horse Of The Year Oh Susanna – Street Cry has established an early lead at the top of the national sires leader board. In second position is Yarraman Park's high-profile sire I Am Invincible, while Arrowfield Stud's record-breaking two-time Champion Australian Sire Snitzel rounds off the top three

## Cup Goal

With an eye on the Melbourne Cup, Australian Bloodstock has purchase of one of Europe's leading stayers in Irish-bred Fastnet Rock 7yo, Torcedor. A dual Gr3 winner, the gelded Torcedor has also been Gr1 placed behind star stayer Stradivarius at his past two outings, including a last-start second in the Goodwood Cup (3218m). That form had the horse high up on the wish-list of Australian Bloodstock, with the syndicator eventually securing a deal with Te Akau Racing for an undisclosed seven-figure sum.



## Media

Shortcomings in horseracing's digital media approach compared with that of other sports, has been highlighted at the US Jockey Club Round Table Conference held recently. It was suggested that racing needs to create more engaging mobile content, promote its best content - including paying for it to be promoted - and needs to capture fan data from social media engagement and to invest in targeted, personalized digital marketing. Nobody's in a rush here by the looks of it.



## It's Not Unusual

York Racecourse are battling to get their post-race music acts together. Last month they had to deal with complaints following the cancellation of a Tom Jones concert just 30 minutes before the star was due on stage. His journey had been affected by weather issues. On Saturday a concert by Rudimental was cut short, which led to a series of angry messages from racegoers on social media. The performance was hit by technical problems. So what's new pussycat?

## Mares & Foals Tour

Top Cape breeders Avontuur are conducting farm tours on 23 and 30 August. In the guided wander they provide insight in to their operation and guests meet their famous equine residents and adorable new-born foals. These include some of South Africa's top thoroughbreds - past and future champions on the racetrack. The tour also includes welcome drinks, lunch and wine pairings. Limited space is available. R350pp - bookings essential Tel: 021- 8553450