

HORSES COME *FIRST...* with Ann Duffield



It is a mantra on the lips of everyone involved with Ann Duffield Racing that this friendly racing yard at Constable Burton ensures above everything else that 'the horses come first'. Not only in their approach to equestrian care but also a reflection of their real results on the track, it is the philosophy that underlines Ann's growing status and popularity as a trainer.

Ann Duffield Racing is acknowledged within the racing industry as having one of the best run and most immaculate yards, with huge emphasis placed on the importance of keeping the horses both happy and healthy. The yard is run by a dedicated team of high calibre staff, all with extensive experience, many of whom worked for prestigious stables abroad before coming to the UK to join the team at Ann Duffield Racing. Since his retirement as a famously successful jockey, Ann's husband 'Gentleman George' Duffield, is often to be seen around the yard, supporting Ann's work with young horses in particular and tending to the landscape design surrounds of the yard.

Ann seeks constantly to improve the facilities and performance of the yard, regularly re-furbishing the stable blocks and adding new boxes to

accommodate the growing number of horses. Situated in Constable Burton, just outside the centre of Middleham itself, Ann Duffield Racing benefits from the wealth of top quality suppliers in this racing rich centre, but enjoys the exclusivity of its own gallops, including a newly re-surfaced all weather track.

Ann's key area of interest, beyond working to achieve more winners, is working to introduce new owners to the world of racing. She explains "We are gaining a reputation for providing a friendly and supportive infrastructure to enable newcomers with no previous experience in owning a racehorse to get involved, either on their own, or with a group of other people. We can help them buy a suitable horse or become a shared owner of a horse already at the yard.



People often don't realise that they can become involved in racing as an owner with us for as little as £50 per month with Middleham Park Racing, for whom we currently train 12 horses." On Middleham Open Day you can pick up Ann's information leaflets about becoming an owner, or meet with representatives from Middleham Park racing & Destiny racing clubs at the yard who can explain first hand about how to get involved.

Part of the unique offering for new and existing owners at Ann Duffield Racing is the self-catering cottage alongside Ann and George's house at the yard which enables owners to spend time watching their horse at work and play in this idyllic setting and to explore the delights of the surrounding countryside including the Yorkshire Dales and Herriot Country.

Racing correspondent Richard Newberry observed recently "I suggest Ann Duffield is a successful up-and-coming trainer to follow" and it's no surprise that the yard is attracting attention with its consistently improving performance.

With over 30 two year old's currently at the yard and 60 horses in total, Ann Duffield Racing has not only quadrupled in size in the

past two years but also generated some impressive track statistics for the 2006 season. With 30 flat winners and 48% placed, the figures are impressive by any standards and the prospects look promising for an even better 2007.

This year's Open Day event at Ann Duffield Racing has been sponsored by top quality feed merchants Spillers. The company supply key nutritional feeds to the yard and Ann believes they play a significant role in her success. "A good diet is crucial for our horses, and Spillers provide an excellent range of feeds which enable us to provide each horse with exactly the right nutritional requirements for its improvement," she explains.

To visit Ann Duffield Racing on Middleham Open Day, you can find them one mile South of Constable Burton just off the A684.

The yard is open from 12 noon till 4pm.

If you would like to learn more about racehorse ownership or to make an appointment to visit the yard another day, call Ann on 01677 450303 or 07802 496332 for further details.



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