Hello, and welcome to the second Anglo German Racing Newsletter of 2016! In this issue, we reflect on the second steeplechase of the German racing season at Mannheim, from where we have a photo special courtesy of our photographer Stefanie Ihlenburg. We also have news and previews from Germany, Italy, Slovakia, Sweden, and Spain.

Darren Thrussell, Editor

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The Marion Rotering-trained AUDIENTIA and English-based Irish jockey Mark Quinlan on their way to victory in the Richard Grimminger Memorial Steeplechase at Mannheim on Sunday. (Photo copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing).
QUINLAN MAKES HIS MARK ON MANNHEIM STEEPLECHASE

The Marion Rotering-trained AUDIENTIA won Sunday’s big race in Germany, the Richard Grimminger Memorial Steeplechase at Mannheim. The success was a first ever at the racecourse for British-based Irish born jockey Mark Quinlan. Indeed, the race turned out to be a good one for the Irish, with Quinlan’s countryman Chris Timmons finishing second on the Petra Gehm-trained Sekundant, the pair having also filled the runners-up spot in the race last year.

Audientia, who was sent off the 34:10 favourite on the German Tote, was always prominent under jockey Quinlan, and put in an assured round of jumping to come home nine lengths clear of Sekundant, with Czech raider Suzhi back in third.

You can see the race at the following link: https://www.facebook.com/el.john.12327/videos/1699953513592232

ENGLISH IMPORT MAKES BIG IMPRESSION ON GERMAN DEBUT

Sunday’s meeting at Mannheim began with the Preis der Teambank AG – easyCredit conditions race over 1400 metres. Although the race went as expected to the Dutch-trained top class handicapper FLAVIO FORTE, it was the German debut of English import GROSMONT which caught the eye. Despite being well off the pace entering the straight, the Philipp Berg-trained gelding came with a terrific run under Dennis Schiergen to claim a very eye-catching second place.

You can see the race here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G-ZZ0aWvXdg

GROSMONT, who made an excellent German debut when second in Mannheim on Sunday, with trainer Philipp Berg at the Doncaster Sales in January this year. (Photo copyright Darren Thrussell / Anglo German Racing).

Mark Quinlan, who rode AUDIENTIA to victory in the Richard Grimminger Memorial Steeplechase at Mannheim on Sunday (Photo copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing).
LION SET TO ROAR IN OPENING GROUP RACE

Seven horses go to post for the first German Group race of the 2016 season at Düsseldorf on Sunday. The XTIP Fruejahrsmeile (Spring Mile) carries Group 3 status and 55,000 Euros in total prize money, and although there are no foreign challengers in the line up, it still promises to be a competitive affair.

Last year’s runner-up GUILIANI looks set to go off a worthy favourite this time around, however the Jean Pierre Carvalho-trained Tertullian colt gets a penalty for his Group 1 victory at Munich in July and may be vulnerable off top weight. Trainer Mario Hofer is double handed here with regular Group performer NORDICO and DIPLOMAT, who has chances on decent Group placed efforts last year, but has been disappointing in his last three races. DRUMMER represents the powerful trainer/jockey combination of Peter Schiergen and Andrasch Starke, but despite winning two big sales races last year, was well beaten in his two attempts at Group level. English jockey Jack Mitchell takes the ride on last year’s German 2000 Guineas third MOLLY LE CLOU, whilst WELTMACHT is two from two at Düsseldorf, and could go well at a decent price if handling the drop down in trip.

However, LUCKY LION ran a fine race over this distance at Chantilly last time out when only the world class Solow and Group 2 winner Vadamos were ahead of him, and this High Chaparral colt looks set to give trainer Andreas Loewe his third consecutive victory in Sunday’s race, after Amaron’s back to back successes in the 2014 and 2015 renewals.

PREDICTION: LUCKY LION – GUILIANI – WELTMACHT

GERMAN RAIDERS AIM FOR ITALIAN JUMPS GLORY

FALCONETTEI, widely regarded as one of Germany’s best jumps horses at present, is one of two runners for Bremen-based trainer Pavel Vovcenko at Milan on Saturday. Last seen out when fourth in the Listed Grosser Preis von Karlshorst chase at Bremen back in December, Falconettei is one of seven runners in the 20,000 Euro Premio Giangiaccomo Durini, a steeplechase over 4000 metres, where he will face a still home challenge led by English import LITTLE BRUV, unbeaten in his last three races in Italy, and DULCE LEO, having only his second start on Italian soil after having raced exclusively in France, a Group 2 victory at Auteuil being the highlight of his 40 race career there.

Like Falconettei, stable jockey Cevin Chan will also be on board the second Pavel Vovcenko-trained runner, STAFFETTINO, who makes his jump racing debut in the Premio Piero Pirelli hurdle race, where he will have it all to do against Irish import TUK TUK, who completed a four timer when winning a Group 2 hurdle at Pisa in February.

If the two German raiders perform well, they could both return for the big raceday at Milan on Sunday 8th May, with the Group 1 Grande Steeplechase di Milano the main highlight and Falconettei’s target, whilst Stafettino could appear in a Group 2 hurdle on the same card.
ANGLO GERMAN RACING – PHOTO SPECIAL – MANNHEIM 3RD APRIL 2016
(All photos copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing)

Please Note: All photos in this newsletter are available from Anglo German Racing’s very own photographer, Stefanie Ihlenburg. To enquire about ordering photos, please contact Stefanie directly at stefanie@anglogermanracing.com

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SLOVAKIA: RACING SEASON GETS UNDERWAY

The racing season in Slovakia starts this Sunday at the Petrzalka course in Bratislava, with the highlight of the nine race card the 43rd running of the Jarna Cena Petrzalky. Whilst steeplechasing in Slovakia is nowhere near as big as in the neighbouring Czech Republic, Sunday’s race is a competitive affair, with ten horses going to post. Indeed, six of the runners make the trip over the Czech border, with PARETO probably the most eye-catching. The Cestmir Olehla-trained nine year old has run in top races in Italy, Poland and his native Czech Republic, where he ran in last year’s Velka Pardubicka, being brought down at the famous Taxis ditch. Paretto also ran in the 2014 Velka Pardubicka, finishing tenth, two places ahead of RABBIT LIBRETIST, who opposes again on Sunday.

Best of the four strong home contingent looks to be the consistent Czech-bred mare SEGONA, whilst French import VANALCO, who has disappointed on two runs in Slovakia, has claims on his best form back in France when trained by top handler Emmanuel Clayeux.

SPAIN: TWELVE SET FOR FILLIES CLASSIC

Twelve fillies line up on Sunday for the first classic of the year in Spain, the Gran Premio Valderas (1000 Guineas) at the La Zarzuela course in Madrid. The unbeaten PRINCESA CANARIA is the likely favourite, having won the main trial for this race, the Premio Atlantida, last month. However, that race is 200 metres shorter than the 1600 metres on Sunday, and the English import MISS MONEYPENNY was gaining rapidly on Princesa Canaria that day, and preference over this longer distance is for the ex-Ralph Beckett-trained Miss Moneypenny, who was fourth in a Listed race at Epsom back in June. Six other runners in the Atlantida do battle again here, with another English import, CARA’S MUSE, third in the Atlantida, probably the best of the bunch. BRUNETA avoided the Atlantida, but she had looked impressive in winning her last two races, and has the considerable assistance of top English-based Italian jockey Andrea Atzeni in the saddle.

PREDICTION: MISS MONEYPENNY – BRUNETA – PRINCESA CANARIA

SWEDEN: JUMPS SEASON UNDERWAY AT PROVINCIAL COURSE

With Bro Park, the new racecourse in Stockholm, not hosting racing until June, and the existing course at Taby staging only flat racing until it closed later this year, the small provincial track at Blommerod, some 50 kilometres north east of Malmo, has the honour of hosting the first jumps race of the Swedish season. Five horses go to post for a steeplechase over 3700 metres, headed by ROCKINGER for the powerful trainer/jockey combination of Dennis Persson and Niklas Loven. Third last time out in a decent steeplechase at Bremen back in November, Rockinger probably has most to fear from stablemate TORRES and English import THE SCARLETT WOMAN, bought at the Doncaster Sales in January by trainer Anders Herlin.

Thank you for reading the Anglo German Racing Newsletter
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