



FRIDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER 2019

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SEPTEMBER
YEARLING SALE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 -
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

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TODAY'S HEADLINES

GOFFS UK

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FUTTER THRILLED WITH FIRST YORTON SALE

David Futter's innovative Yorton Sale of unbroken yearling and two-year-old jumpers made a superb debut yesterday.

Managed by Goffs UK and held at James and Jean Potter's unique, former Victorian model farm just outside Welshpool in Powys, the sale achieved a clearance rate of 90 per cent and turnover of £711,000.

As the audience dispersed, Futter was able to joke: "If you had offered me a 50 per cent clearance rate last night I'd have taken it," yet with a group of buyers, who would do credit to Goffs UK's Spring Sale at Doncaster, and a selection of young horses, who could boast physical and pedigree plusses, such pessimism was soon proved misplaced.



SALES REPORT

by CARL EVANS



Lot 11, the sale-topping two-year-old colt by No Risk At All who fetched £105,000, goes through the ring at Yorton Farm for the very first Yorton Sale, which was managed by Goffs UK. © Sarah Farnsworth



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TOP LOTS

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GOFFS UK YORTON SALE

Lot	Sex	Sire – Dam	Vendor	Purchaser	Price (£)
11	2c	NO RISK AT ALL – Princesse Kap	Yorton Farm Stud	Dai Walters	105,000
20	2g	FAME AND GLORY – Gales Present	Yorton Farm Stud	Dai Walters	60,000
21	2g	BLUE BRESIL – Cutielilou	Yorton Farm Stud	Donnchadh Doyle	40,000
19	2g	MASTERSTROKE – Prairie Scilla	Yorton Farm Stud	Dan Skelton	28,000
1	2g	SCALO – Briska Des Bordes	Yorton Farm Stud	Gabriel Leenders	26,000
33	yc	BLUE BRESIL – As Was	Yorton Farm Stud	Hamish Macaulay	26,000

CLICK HERE FOR SALE RESULTS

Of the 32 lots offered, and the 29 who found a new home, the pick on price proved to be a two-year-old son of **No Risk At All**, knocked down to racehorse owner Dai Walters for £105,000. The average price was £24,517, the median £20,000.

Goffs Group Chief Executive Henry Beeby said: *"I'm delighted for David who took such a big punt – we've only played a small part. Hats off to him and his team.*

"The key to a sale is empty head collars and the very high clearance rate is proof that this one has worked. It was lovely that people came to do business, and not just out of curiosity.

"This sale has a great future and we would love to be invited back next year."

Yorton Stud left no stone unturned in preparation for the event. A welcome party on the eve of the auction was a welcome first base for travellers from France, Ireland and the Scotland-based Goffs UK team, while additional, experienced sales staff were recruited and that meant there was no shortage of hands for pre-sale inspections.

All the leading agents were present, there was a who's who of British jumping trainers, a raft of young Irish pinhookers and



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for 3yos and upward that raced between 1st January 2019 and 8th September 2019

RANK	RATING	HORSE	TRAINED IN
1	128	Enable (GB)	GB
2	127	Crystal Ocean (GB)	GB
3	126	Ghaiyyath (IRE)	GB
4	125	Battaash (IRE)	GB
4	125	Beauty Generation (NZ)	HK
4	125	City of Light (USA)	USA
4	125	Winx (AUS)	AUS
8	124	Blue Point (IRE)	GB
8	124	Santa Ana Lane (AUS)	AUS
8	124	Waldgeist (GB)	FR



point-to-point trainers, and such well-known French trainers as Gabriel Leenders and David Cottin.

Buyers had several goals – some were end users preparing to give their purchase time, while others were hoping they might get to the races next year in a juvenile bumper or hurdle. There were pinhookers attempting to buy with a view to spinning their horse back through a store sale in 2020, and there were point-to-point trainers preparing to wait until their purchases became four-year-olds before going into action. The key was price, the aim being to buy a yearling or two-year-old store for less than they would make as three-year-olds.

Futter's son Lester, a partner in Yorton Stud, summed up the day when saying: "It's been unbelievable, the team has done such a great job, the horses behaved impeccably and it's been incredible to see the number of people here.

"It's been strong trade, and I've been delighted in particular to see the yearlings sell so well."

Sales companies are not averse to setting up a sale away from their traditional auction rooms, and in August 1997 a dispersal of stock was held not far from yesterday's event at Shade Oak Stud in Shropshire. Fortunately, that was a cash generating exercise, and the Hockenhull family regrouped and remain in business today.

What made the Yorton Sale unique was a catalogue exclusively of yearlings and two-year-old jumpers, a model that is not uncommon in France, from where Futter has drawn much of his inspiration.

He said: "It has been a far bigger challenge than I ever thought, but we've been so well-supported and we genuinely appreciate the people who have come along, not only to buy, but to set the atmosphere up. If we can replicate it next year that would be marvellous.

"There has been a novelty to the event, but we priced the horses right and we were happy to do that in order to leave something for the next man or woman."

WALTERS PROVES KEY BUYER

Dai Walters, well-known as the founder of Ffos Las racecourse, but an avid fan of Jump racing and a keen racehorse owner, proved to be a critical buyer.

He bought five horses for an aggregate of £230,000, including the £105,000 top lot, a **No Risk At All** two-year-old colt (**Lot 11**) named **Prince Des Fichaux**. A son of the multiple-race, black-



Dai Walters [centre], who bought the £105,000 **No Risk At All** top lot.

(Ce)



Dai Walters also bought **Lot 20, a Fame And Glory** two-year-old, for £60,000.

(Ce)

type winner **Princesse Kap (Kapgarde)**, he had been bought for €50,000 by Futter and partners at Osarus last year.

After seeing off the interest of fellow racehorse owner Stuart Parkin, Walters said: "I've got four or five **No Risk At All**s, all unraced, and I really like them. This was a nice-walking horse, and didn't one make a lot of money at Aintree last year?" It did, the horse in question being **No Risk At All**'s four-year-old pointing son **Papa Tango Charly**, who made £440,000 when selling to racehorse owner Martin Tedham.

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Walters added: "I'll keep him to race. I like to have ten to 20 two-year-old stores and needed a few to get up to that sort of number. I've known Dave Futter a long time, and had a share in [stallion] **Blue Bresil** when he stood here. I might leave this horse here before he goes into training."

Walters' other buys included a good-looking son of the late **Fame And Glory (Lot 20)** who made £60,000. An April foal out of the unraced **Presenting** mare **Gales Present**, he came from the **Polly Puttens** family famous for **Denman** and **Silverburn**.

DOYLE NABS TWO FOR POINTING

Ace Irish point-to-point trainer Donnchadh Doyle had clearly not travelled from County Wexford just for the marvellous scenery around Welshpool – he has plenty of that at home – and he duly left with two purchases.

The pick was a £40,000 two-year-old **Blue Bresil** gelding (**Lot 21**), who was bred by Dave Futter and Will Kinsey out of the **Astarabad** mare **Cutiellilou**, a full-sister to Gr.1 Champion Bumper winner **Cheltenham**. No less importantly for Doyle was her first foal, **Big Bresil**, also by **Blue Bresil**, who he trained to finish second in an Irish point last season before selling him for £170,000 at Goffs UK's Aintree Sale.

Doyle said: "I know the family, and believe his big brother could be very good. This two-year-old looks the spit of his sibling. I've bought him to keep and train for a point-to-point."

No stranger to two-year-old purchases, Doyle has shopped in France for horses in that age group, and welcomed the chance to do likewise in Britain.



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Donnchadh Doyle, the Irish point-to-point trainer who paid £40,000 for a son of **Blue Bresil**. (Ce)

He said: "They've put on a very good show, and it's nice to get some stock ahead of next year's three-year-old store sales. It's been a good trade, with plenty of buyers. It's worked well."

His other buy was a £23,000 **Pether's Moon** yearling (**Lot 34**), who was bred by James and Jean Potter out of the mare **Lily Potter**, a daughter of seven-race winner **Potter's Gale** and a half-sister to Gr.2 bumper winner **Kayf Grace**.

SKELTON EYES CROSS-CHANNEL TRIP

While many horses in yesterday's sale were bred at Yorton Stud, either by Futter or clients, some had been bought as foals or yearlings with a view to being resold.

That proved to be a profitable decision in the case of a **Masterstroke** two-year-old gelding called **Pikar (Lot 19)**, who had been bought for €6,000 at Arqana's Autumn Sale last year.

His new home will be in Warwickshire with leading young trainer Dan Skelton, whose bid of £28,000 proved effective. Skelton said: "I've got another one at home by the sire, a three-year-old who I like, and this one is from a good family. There are seven winners out of the first dam."

"He looks like a horse we can crack on with, so we'll get him home, do a bit with him, give him a break and then hope to race him next year. He could be a horse to start off in France."

One horse who will definitely be opening his racing career across the Channel was a son of **Scalo (Lot 1)**, who gave the event a good start when selling for £26,000 to leading French trainer Gabriel Leenders, who is based near Angers.



Gabriel Leenders, the French trainer who was quick off the mark, buying **Lot 1**, a two-year-old gelding by **Scalo**. (Ce)

A two-year-old gelding, he had been bought in utero when his dam, **Briska Des Bordes (Vendangeur)**, was knocked down to Futter's ally Richard Venn for €20,000 at Arqana's February Mixed Sale.

Leenders said: "He's a good-looking horse, with a nice French pedigree and the stallion [whose oldest crop are five-year-olds] is getting winners. I'm confident buying this horse, because we know Yorton Stud very well and have traded horses with David over the years."

Leenders was involved in three purchases, while his countryman and fellow trainer David Cottin purchased two, the pick being a £22,000 **Gentlewave** filly (**Lot 2**) bred by Futter and Will Kinsey. Her French family origins appealed to Cottin, although her most successful sibling, half-brother **The Saint James**, gained graded race placings over jumps in France and the UK.

MACAULAY TAKES SHINE TO YEARLINGS

While the selection of two-year-olds on offer were always likely to dominate trade, half a dozen yearlings all found buyers.

Bloodstock agent Hamish Macaulay left with two, both colts by **Blue Bresil**. A half-brother to the versatile hurdler/chaser **The Two Amigos**, out of the mare **As Was (Lot 33)**, joined Macaulay's shopping basket following a £26,000 bid, while **Lot 32**, a son of the winning mare **Fiddling Again** – a daughter of top-class racemare **Fiddling The Facts** – made £10,000. He had been bought for €10,000 as a foal.

Macaulay said: "They've been bought for resale, and compared to the prices given for some of the other horses I'm happy with what we've paid. They are two nice horses."



Hamish Macaulay who invested in a couple of yearlings. (Ce)

Highflyer Bloodstock's Anthony Bromley was another yearling buyer, paying £25,000 for **Lot 30**, a gelding by Yorton Stud's resident sire **Clovis Du Berlais**. The yearling's dam, winning pointer **Atomic Tangerine**, is a daughter of Robert Waley-Cohen's smart mare **Perle De Puce**.

Bromley said: "I've bought him for Simon Munir and Isaac Souede. I thought he was the nicest yearling here. Simon and Isaac have plenty of two-year-olds, but a smaller number of yearlings, and it's nice to put another one into the pipeline. He will probably go to France, start racing there and see where he gets to."

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GOFFS UK YORTON SALE STATISTICS (£)

	2019	%	2018
Catalogued	38		no
Offered	32		corresponding
Sold	29 (90%)		sale
Aggregate	711,000		
Average	24,517		
Median	20,000		

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"I also bought a two-year-old gelding by **Papal Bull** [Lot 27, for £25,000] on behalf of French trainer Francois Nicolle."

Asked for his impressions of the sale, Bromley said: "I thought it was a well-organised affair, there were some nice, athletic horses, and they pulled in some big players in the industry. It's been a really good first sale."

"Horses are going back to France and Ireland, in addition to those who are staying here, and they've been bought by end-users and pinhookers."

KEENELAND – DAY THREE

RECORD FILLY AND IMPRESSIVE NUMBERS CLOSE BOOK ONE

The final round of the elite three-day Book 1 of the 13-day Keeneland September Yearling Sale ended on Wednesday in Lexington, Kentucky with an unforgettable filly and statistics beyond expectations writes *Liane Crossley*. Comparable figures to 2018 are inconclusive because of the revised Book 1 style that spread less premium lots over three days instead of four.

On another unseasonably hot afternoon, the five-hour auction concluded with 124 lots listed as sold for \$65,082,000 for a \$524,855 average and \$375,000 median. The trend for big money also was reflected in the buy-back rate with just 19 per cent of the offerings failing to meet their owners' minimums.

The three-day statistics showed 340 lots sold for a gross of \$160,463,000. The average was \$471,950 with a median of \$355,000 and a reserved not attained figure of 26 per cent.

As expected, the auction was highlighted late in the day by the impeccably bred **Lot 498**, whose \$8.2m price tag is a record for a filly at Keeneland's September auction and the equal fourth-highest price ever at the sale. The 25th April daughter of **American Pharoah** is out of Broodmare of the year **Leslie's Lady**, a Stakes-winning daughter of **Tricky Creek** who is better known as dam of four-time Eclipse Award Champion **Beholder**, Gr.1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner **Mendelssohn** and Gr.1 CashCall Futurity winner and breed-shaping stallion **Into Mischief**.



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Park Hill Stakes (Gr.2) Doncaster

Owner Hamdan Al Maktoum
Trainer John Gosden
Breeder Haras du Mézeray

2016 AUGUST YEARLING SALE

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Buyer Shadwell France
Vendor Haras du Mézeray

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