



# TODAY

April  
2021

# NEWSLETTER



Dear Members

Welcome to the April edition of RA Today.

I write to you in the week before the culmination of the Highveld Autumn Season, Champions Day. Named very fittingly so, as there are 7 graded races due to be run on Saturday 1 May, as well as the inaugural James Maree Work Riders VS Jockeys Challenge Maiden Plate. The day will also see the launch of the 4Racing brand and we welcome their sponsorship of stakes, a total amount of R 750 000 over the 7 feature races.

This feature season has been a highlight, although Covid protocols have restricted on course participation, we have had the pleasure of crowning both a triple crown and a triple tiara winner during the month of April. This was the first time in history that such a feat had been achieved and our most sincere congratulations must go to all the connections of these two worthy champions. War of Athena, the Wilgerbosdrift Triple Tiara winner was awarded a bonus of R1 Million for her win, while Malmoos, the WSB Triple Crown winner took home a bonus cheque of R 2 Million on the day.

April 17th saw the running of the HSH Princess Charlene Empress Club Stakes where reigning Equus Horse of the Year,

## From the desk of the CEO

Summer Pudding claimed her 11th victory from 12 starts. She certainly is writing her name in the history books along with the great "galloping goldmine" herself, Empress Club. Turn to page 2 for more on this very successful event.

A big thank you must go to all the sponsors who have generously contributed to stakes over the season. With Phumelela still under business rescue and having limited financial resources available, as well as 4Racing having only just received Competition Commission approval and still awaiting approval on the transfer of gambling licences, the support of sponsors across the board has helped to sustain racing over this period. The RA has begun engaging with 4Racing and are satisfied with the principles and processes suggested in a new stakes commitment. We look forward to a formal announcement once the new operator has been granted all the necessary regulatory approvals.

In May, we look to the Eastern Cape for more feature racing. The upcoming WSB East Cape Derby (L) to be run over 2400m takes place on Friday the 14th. The Dahlia Plate (L) and the Milkwood Stakes (L) follow later in the month at Fairview.



In conclusion, I would like to once again thank our owners, your resilience and constant support has enabled us to persevere through a year of many trials and tribulations in this industry. When we look back to a year ago, our future was most uncertain to say the least. We had just completed the first month of lockdown with no racing at all and Phumelela was about to announce their move into business rescue. We have managed to overcome these obstacles to a certain extent and make our way, a year later, to a more stable and steady environment. I hope these coming months steer us to even more solid ground as we prepare to build a sustainable future for the benefit of all the stakeholders in racing.

I wish you all an enjoyable months' racing and please do remember to stay safe.

Natalie Turner, CEO

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# The Royal Race Day

HSH Princess Charlene of Monaco, together with the Racing Association was proud to stage the 2021 Royal Race Day which was held at Turffontein Racecourse on Saturday 17th of April. This day was a resounding success and featured the running of the HSH Princess Charlene Empress Club Stakes (Grade 1) and the Monaco Merchants 1400.

The Racing Association entertained owners with runners in the feature race. Patrons were not only treated to an exciting racing spectacle but the theme of the event was Great Gatsby and guests participated dressed in their finery in keeping with the theme.

The feature race was a true racing spectacle and was won by Summer Pudding, a true champion. Jessica and Steven Jell were on course to lead her into the winners' enclosure.

This prestigious race day has a proud history, of not only inspired feature racing but a strong charitable aspect as well. Over the last eight years the Royal Race Day has facilitated donations to the following beneficiaries,

Gugulesizwe Primary School, Lesabe Primary School, Highveld Horse Care Unit, SA Red Cross Society, Southern Districts Business Forum Feeding Scheme, Laerskool WH Coetzer, Rosettenville Primary School, Park Senior Primary School, The Mossie Primary School and Turffontein Primary School.

This year, we will be donating funds to the United Cerebral Palsy Association of SA, The Hamlet Foundation and Lesabe Primary School.

A big thank you must go to Mike Wittstock for all the hard work he has put in over the last few months, not only to make the day a success, but also for his tireless work in fundraising

for the charities benefitting from the day. Due to Covid restrictions we were not able to honour our charities on course, however we cannot wait until the time when they, as well as all racing enthusiasts can return to Turffontein and enjoy this very special day with us once again

Thanks must be extended to HSH Prince Albert and HSH Princess Charlene of Monaco as well as to the South African Sport of Kings Monaco Group for their generous sponsorship of this Grade 1 race.





**2021 HSH PRINCESS CHARLENE EMPRESS CLUB STAKES RACE DAY – BENEFICIARIES**

We are pleased to announce that the following beneficiaries have been selected to benefit from the 2021 HSH Princess Charlene Empress Club Stakes Race Day.



Winner of the Chalbert Merlot Raffle – Beverley Schleiss

**LESABE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Lesabe Primary School is a state school comprising 360 students and 24 teachers. It is situated in Benoni. Their belief is to let every South African be educated and they encourage the holistic development of the child. To this end, besides general educational subjects, they also encourage artistic, sporting, cultural and nature projects.

We are proud to be, once again, associated with The Lesabe Primary School.

**HAMLET FOUNDATION**

The Hamlet Foundation is recognised as a place of hope. It is a fully registered NPO that was established in 1954. They proudly serve 554 children and adults who are totally dependent on the foundation for food, shelter, clothing and training. Intellectually disabled people are often marginalized in our society, yet they are still human

beings that need the same love and care just like the rest of us. It is our privilege to be linked to the selection of the Hamlet Foundation as a beneficiary on HSH Princess Charlene’s Race Day.

**UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

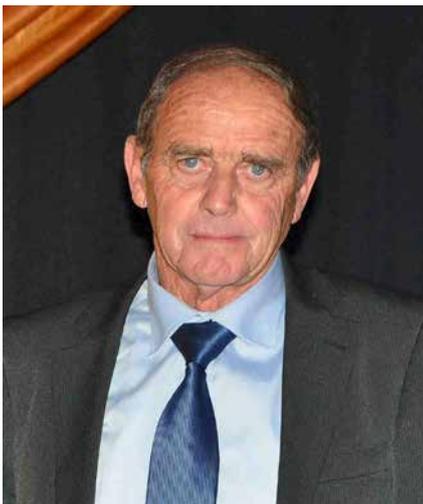
This Association implores the more fortunate South Africans to “Please Give With A Loving Heart”.

About 40 severely mentally and physically handicapped children and young adults are cared for at the Harry Kessler Centre in Townsvlew, most of whom have been abandoned by their families. Cerebral Palsy occurs before, during or after birth when the brain is damaged through lack of oxygen. The severity of the disability means that the residents require constant care, intense therapy and stimulation to enable them to reach their maximum potential and lead happy and fulfilled lives.

The Racing Association and HSH Princess Charlene are pleased to donate towards these worthy causes.

# The Work Riders' Training Programme

With the inaugural running of the **James Maree Work Riders VS Jockeys Challenge** on Saturday 1st May, we thought it appropriate to highlight some of the outstanding work James Maree has done over the last 15 years. The Racing Association, as support to The Racing Trust provides assistance and management services to the Work Riders Training Programme and as such, we have had first hand knowledge of his dedication to the industry.



James Maree's passion was to be in a position to educate, train and mentor grooms and work riders which would in turn, empower them to not only improve their lives but also have a substantial impact on their family's life. James started riding in 1961 and received his Jockey License in 1966. With his drive, optimism and always striving to be the best, he went on to become the South African Champion Jockey and was also runner up in the Summer Cup on 3 occasions. He continued by winning every major race in South Africa which included the July Handicap, Metropolitan, 5 Derby's, the Oaks and the Computaform Sprint. He continued

riding until his career came to an end when the horse he was riding "Hariba Hariba" broke both legs in a race, James dislocated both hips and subsequently had to have 3 hip replacements over the years. Later in life the racing industry awarded James with a Life Time Achievement Award. His vision was to create a programme where he would provide grooms with the necessary skills and tuition to become competent Work Riders, whereby, they would play a major role within the horseracing industry and more importantly, provide them with job satisfaction. His aim is to improve the work riders' abilities and experience in order for them to gain confidence whilst riding millions of rands worth of thoroughbred's every day during work riding. This programme became essential as it would benefit the previously disadvantaged individuals and specifically those who were unskilled or under-educated.

The Work Riders' Programme was thus established with the objective of improving grooms' and work riders' riding skills and also to identify talented individuals to move ahead in the industry. This empowerment programme is a joint venture between the Racing Trust, supported by the RA and James

Maree. Work riders are trained at James Maree's farm in Eikenhof and may qualify to ride in races once they have completed the required curriculum and passed the course. The programme has produced a number of work riders who have progressed to become professional jockeys, assistant trainers, head grooms as well as a number of work riders that have relocated abroad for work riding. These candidates have also been exposed to the broadcasting side of racing which has been very beneficial to them and created a balanced upliftment process. The high standards of the programme have been recognised by the National Horse Racing Authority and key stakeholders within the industry.

Tune in to DSTV Tellytrack channel 249 or follow on [www.tellytrack.com](http://www.tellytrack.com) to see James Maree honoured for his contributions to the work riders programme in the James Maree Work Riders VS Jockeys Challenge. The race will be a R150,000 Maiden Plate over 1160m and teams will each comprise the top 8 riders on the respective Highveld logs for the current racing season as at 31 March 2021. The work riders will receive a 3kg weight allowance from the professional jockeys.



**THE TEAMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

**WORK RIDERS**

**JOCKEYS**

Joe Gwingwizha (Captain)  
Samuel Mosia  
Phelisile Mongqawa  
Chamynorowa Mabaya  
Tshepiso Matsoele

Daniel Baase  
Goodman Dadamasi  
Phillip Mlangeni  
(Reserve - Linyelo Mafethe)

S'manga Khumalo (Captain)  
Lyle Hewitson  
Gavin Lerena  
Muzi Yeni  
Craig Zackey

Warren Kennedy  
Luke Ferraris  
Piere Strydom  
(Reserve - Chase Maujean)





# Eastern Cape Epol Grooms Initiative

## Andile Nombanday

– Winning Groom Glenlair Trophy (PE)

Andile Ntuli Nombanday also known as AJ is an important team member at the Alan Greeff stable and has worked for the yard since 2009. He is a loyal, hard worker and loves his horses. He was awarded with the Epol prize when Miss Orange won the Glenlair Trophy at Fairview Racecourse on 16 April.



## Ayanda Msifunili

– Winning groom East Cape Oaks (PE)

Ayanda Msifunili has been involved in the Bass Racing Stable for about 8 years. He is a quiet, softly spoken man and is one of Candice's travelling grooms so he knows exactly what is needed to welcome his charge into the Winners Enclosure. Msifunili was thrilled when Swazi Queen won the East Cape Oaks (Listed) at Fairview on 16 April to entitle him to win the Golden Groom prize sponsored in EC by Epol.





PRESENTS

GOLDEN GROOMS

# Studio 88 Highveld Golden Grooms Initiative



**Thabiso Gidimsani** is 48 years old and has been in the racing game for 21 years. He started his equine career with the legendary Bert Abercrombie and later joined my stable back in 1994. He has looked after a number of successful thoroughbreds besides "Chitengo", in particular, he also looked after "Master Plan" who won the July consolation. – *Alec Laird*

Thabiso Gidimsani



**Bonginkosi Wayi** rides Vars Vicky every day and his hard work paid off on 13 March when winning the Grade 2 Senor Santa Stakes at Turffontein. Trainer Pettigrew said Wayi is hard working and takes care of his horse well. He is pleased and proud of him following his win.

Bonginkosi Wayi



**Orintshi**, also known as James has worked for the Joey Soma stable for 26 years. He recently collected the Studio 88 Golden Grooms award when African Adventure won the Caradoc Gold Cup at Turffontein. Soma said James' main responsibility is backing all our youngsters and getting them to the track with the perfect foundation to begin their career. He has an absolute love for every horse that comes through his "school" and we are honoured to have him in our employ after so many years. James is the epitome of a traditional school horseman.

Orintshi Nkosi



**Olimpio** joined the Soma equine family 10 years ago and he and "Got The Greenlight" have the most amazing bond. Even when he is on leave, he phones to see how his horse is. This man is a true gentleman who is dedicated to the yard. Nothing is too much trouble and he is always there to lend a hand. He takes a lot of pride turning out his horses, he is ultra-calm which is why our horses are so relaxed when they go racing.

Olimpio Tivane

We are truly blessed to have such amazing individuals as part of our TEAM. - *Joe Soma*

# Feature Race Winners



Photo courtesy of Chase Liebenberg

## 3 April 2021 (Highveld – Turffontein)

**World Sports Betting Man O'War Sprint (G3)**

**Celestial Love**

*Jockey:* Chase Maujean

*Trainer:* Johan Janse van Vuuren

*Owner:* Messrs JF & LMF Wernars & Mr H Willson & Mrs TJ Wernars

**HF Oppenheimer Horse Chestnut Stakes (G1)**

**Got The Greenlight**

*Jockey:* Muzi Yeni

*Trainer:* Joe Soma

*Owner:* Messrs D Chinsammy, H Adams & JA Soma

**Wilgerbosdrift SA Oaks (G2)**

**War Of Athena**

*Jockey:* Muzi Yeni

*Trainer:* Paul Matchett

*Owner:* Mr RS Wentzel & Dr RE Waterman-Wentzel

**World Sports Betting SA Derby (G1)**

**Malmoos**

*Jockey:* Luke Ferraris

*Trainer:* Mike de Kock

*Owner:* Late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al Maktoum

**Caradoc Gold Cup (G3)**

**African Adventure**

*Jockey:* S'manga Khumalo

*Trainer:* Joe Soma

*Owner:* Messrs JT Peter & JA Soma

**10 April 2021  
(Highveld – Turffontein)**

**Spook Express Handicap (L)**

**She's A Cracker**

*Jockey:* Muzi Yeni

*Trainer:* Robbie Sage

*Owner:* Messrs M Lieveaux & JR van der Linden

**16 April 2021  
(PE – Fairview)**

**East Cape Oaks (L)**

**Swazi Queen**

*Jockey:* Lyle Hewitson

*Trainer:* Candice Bass-Robinson

*Owner:* Drakenstein Stud  
(Nom: Mrs GA Rupert)

**Glenlair Trophy (L)**

**Miss Orange**

*Jockey:* Kendall Minnie

*Trainer:* Alan Greeff

*Owner:* Mr & Mrs AC Greeff

**17 April 2021  
(Highveld – Turffontein)**

**HSH Princess Charlene Empress Club Stakes (G1)**

**Summer Pudding**

*Jockey:* Warren Kennedy

*Trainer:* Paul Peter

*Owner:* Mauritzfontein (Pty) Ltd  
(Nom: Mrs JB Jell)

**24 April 2021  
(Western Cape - Kenilworth)**

**World Sports Betting Variety Club Mile (G3)**

**Warrior**

*Jockey:* Richard Fourie

*Trainer:* Justin Snaith

*Owner:* Messrs C Bernick & M J Flanagan, Mesdames A M Doyle, B Kieswetter, John Magnier, D Nagle & Paul Shanahan

**World Sports Betting Sweet Chestnut Stakes (L)**

**Really Royal**

*Jockey:* Luyolo Mxothwa

*Trainer:* Justin Snaith

*Owner:* Mr B Nielson

# Feature Races - May 2021

DATE	W Cape	Gauteng	E Cape	KZN
May, 1		4Racing Premier's Champions Challenge G1 4Racing Computaform Sprint G1 4Racing Camellia Stks G2 4Racing SA Nursery G2 4Racing S A Fillies Nursery G2 4Racing Gerald Rosenberg Stks G2 4Racing Gold Bowl G3		
May, 2				WSB Guineas G2 WSB Fillies Guineas G2 Independent on Saturday Drill Hall Stks G2
May, 7			World Sports Betting East Cape Poly Challenge NB	
May, 9				Poinsettia Stakes G3 Godolphin Barb Stakes G3 Strelitzia Stks G3 In Full Flight Handicap LR
May, 14			World Sports Betting East Cape Derby LR	
May, 15		Syringa Handicap LR		
May, 16				WSB Greyville 1900 G2 KRA East Coast Cup LR
May, 21			Dahlia Plate LR	
May, 22	Legal Eagle Stakes G3 Stormsvlei Stakes LR			
May, 28			Milkwood Stakes LR Fairview 1400 NB	
May, 29				Daily News 2000 G1 Woolavington 2000 G1 Lonsdale Stirrup Cup G3

**WORLD**  
SPORTS BETTING

**BECOMING CHAMPIONS**  
WINTER SERIES

CAPE RACING

**Click Here**

JENNA CLIFFORD *Design Jewellers* **Competition Winner**

The winner of the exquisite collection of wine and champagne glasses, courtesy of Jenna Clifford is  
**Glen Kotzen.**  
**Congratulations on your win.**

**Click Here**

# Competition Time



All RA Members in good standing are invited to enter a competition to win two cases of Sir Rufane Donkin 2016 Vintage Brut MCC. This is a limited-edition Chardonnay Méthode Cap Classique.

In order to enter, kindly send an email through to [natalie@racingassociation.co.za](mailto:natalie@racingassociation.co.za) with your name and contact details by midnight on the 24th of May 2021. All eligible entries will be entered into a random draw and the winner will be announced in the May edition of RA Today.

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CONTACT: REHANA SAAL: [REHANA@CAPERACING.CO.ZA](mailto:REHANA@CAPERACING.CO.ZA)

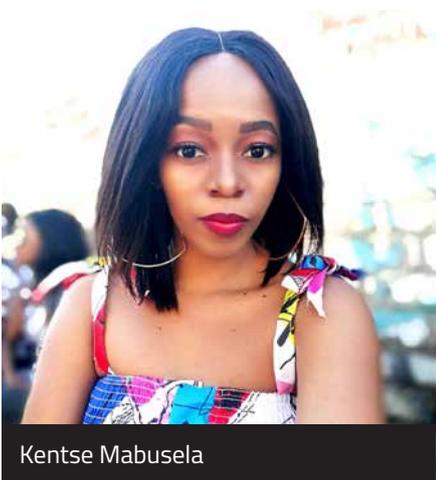
SEE YOU AT THE RACES...

## Welcome to new RA Members

Mrs GF Beetar-Mostert, Mr DD Dias, Mrs S Habib, Mr MD Mostert., Mr S Preston, Mr T Silva

Please remember that we invite all registered racehorse owners to join the RA free of charge for the duration of this racing season.

# Meet the RA Team



Kentse Mabusela

I was born and raised in Hammanskraal, North of Pretoria. We were a family of six comprising my mother, (late) father, sister as well as niece and nephew. They all play a very important role in my life and they are the reason I wake up daily and give life one more try.

My biggest cheerleader would be my mom, who is the first one to proudly support everything I do and when I fail, she is still the first to tell me "Try again my baby, you are still young". She was supported by my wise dad who always told my sister and I that "Nothing that didn't make you, should ever break you, you must never give up on yourself". Last, but by no means least, is my grandmother who will always remind us that "if it's man-made, it's never too high for you to reach" and she would sarcastically ask "or don't you have a brain?".

I moved to Johannesburg in 2011 to further my studies at the University of Johannesburg and that is where I obtained my BCom Accounting & Honours in Internal Auditing. I started

my working career at Joburt @JN Inc, a small accounting firm in Lynnwood Pretoria and later joined BRF & Co in 2017, where I completed my articles. Currently I am still studying towards becoming a Chartered Accountant.

I am new in the racing industry and find the industry and its people absolutely fascinating. I joined the Racing Association in October 2020 as the Finance and Administration Manager. In the short period that I have been with the RA I have dealt with some challenges, met amazing people from diverse walks of life and I am looking forward to learning a lot more about the industry in the future.



## Social Media Handles

### Cape Racing

Facebook - @CapeRacing1

Twitter - @CapeRacing1

Instagram - @cape\_racing

### Highveld Racing

Facebook - @HighveldRacing

Twitter - @highveld\_racing

Instagram - @highveld\_racing

### Fairview Racing

Facebook - @FairviewRacecourse

Twitter - @FairviewRacing

Instagram - @fairview\_racing

## THE RACING ASSOCIATION CONTACT DETAILS: Head Office | (011) 683-3220

### Race Day Bookings:

#### Turffontein Racecourse

Elevation Room (RA Members) Contact Angie (011) 683 3220 or [angie@racingassociation.co.za](mailto:angie@racingassociation.co.za)

Furious Room Contact Khanya (011) 681 1796 or [khanyal@phumelela.com](mailto:khanyal@phumelela.com)

#### Vaal Racecourse

Contact Angie (011) 683 3220 or [angie@racingassociation.co.za](mailto:angie@racingassociation.co.za)

#### Fairview Racecourse

HB Christian Room Contact Gail on (041) 372 1859 or email [gailr@phumelela.com](mailto:gailr@phumelela.com)

#### Kenilworth & Durbanville Racecourse

Contact Shihaam (021) 700 1625 or (081) 092 2068 or [shihaamh@kenilworthracing.com](mailto:shihaamh@kenilworthracing.com)