

# *Frontrunner News* March 2005

## **Payroll users: (should get a printed copy of all this and more in next 2 days)**

## **Non payroll users can skip this page**

Please remind us of the busiest week of the year. Obviously we look forward to the numerous calls reminding us of this event, just in case we forget one year. Please keep calling and see if we can set a new record this year.

Yes, we know April 5<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner.

No, we do not support Sage for Windows Payroll (so don't ask us as refusal often offends)

Yes, we do support, and sell AllinOne payroll.

Yes, we will send instructions in time.

Yes, we will print your P60's and P35.

Yes, we do know about electronic filing.

Yes, our payroll will do it so you can get up to £825 from the nice government.

Now is also the time to check whether the company name on your payslips is how you want it to read (i.e. **Joe Bloggs Racing Ltd** rather than **Joe Bloggs**)



## **Free money**

We also know that this year most (if not all) of you can get £250 from the nice Inland Revenue people if you file your annual return online (plus £250 next year and lesser amounts in future years). To do this you will either have to work it out yourself or authorise us to do it for you. We are not planning to provide telephone support if you want to do it yourself, ring the government help line (good luck!). We do plan to charge you £100 to do this, which **means you will benefit to the tune of £150. But you need to authorise us**

## **to do so by completing, signing and returning the enclosed form ASAP.**

You will still need P60's produced (to give your employees) and the programme updated, this will continue as usual.

## **Very VERY IMPORTANT**

Every P14 must show the correct National Insurance number. From 2004-05, your Return will be rejected if the P14s show temporary National Insurance numbers ('TN' plus date of birth and gender).

Its your responsibility to ensure all information is correct NOT the Agents (Us).

If you use temporary National Insurance numbers on your software, remember to change them to the correct number before you send your Return.

If you cannot trace the number before sending the Return, leave the National Insurance number box on the P14 empty and put the date of birth and gender in the right boxes. Use 01011901 if you cannot get the date of birth before you send your Return.

## **Viruses**

Can we just re-iterate (again) that viruses are a matter of fact nowadays and it is down to **YOU** (not us) to make sure that your **Subscription** and **Virus Definitions** are up to date. It is **YOUR** data, it is **YOUR** responsibility to look after it.

If you are not up to date and get a virus and *then* expect us to fix your computer, we will charge!

### **Do's and Don'ts**

**DO** keep your definitions up to date

**DO** check regularly that they are

**DO** run a virus check **at least** once a week.

**DON'T** open any email from people you don't know – delete it instantly.

**DON'T** download anything from the internet unless you really really want/need it.



# AND NOW FOR THE INCESSANT RAMBLINGS

## European Court Ruling

Can we set the record straight here. Because I constantly read about how amazing it was that the BHB's case was overturned and no one could have predicted it. **NOT TRUE.**

1. It was overturned because the BHB's lawyers thought that the makers of a compilation CD own the copyright to all the songs. – Clearly rubbish, and it was for this reason that the ECJ rejected their argument.
2. William Hill thought they would win because of a case the Jokey Club themselves bought 80 years ago against Edgar Wallace in which they sought to (and did) establish that they are merely agents acting as conduits between racecourses and owners when entries (contracts) are made, and would therefore not hold the copyright for such data.
3. The form book would tell you that every time racing's establishment has taken on the bookmakers the establishment has ended up with its trousers down.



(name that film/reference)

Betting Tissue in Portman Square pre-judgement

1/10 BHB

Betting Tissue in reality

10/1 BHB

Somehow Portman Square were totally gobsmacked by this, even more amazingly the Racing Press bought into this nonsense.

Unsurprisingly Portman Square were questioned about this (in writing, regularly over the years) yet strangely chose to ignore

all correspondence that went against their perception of reality. Yet no one has resigned – how bizarre!!!!

## Well done guys

Congratulations to the ROA for “fighting their corner” in ensuring the BHB honour their promise to owners (and breeders) re British Bred Premiums. Any suggestion that they meekly accepted the BHB line, that “sorry guys we all have to tighten our belts and accept it” is surely wide of the mark. They raised hell. Yeh, right!

Congratulations also to the BHB for putting these premiums back on the priority list (albeit at number 1365), whilst having the sense of propriety to buy all new furniture for their move to Shaftsbury Avenue, because the old stuff was clearly useless and would have stopped them doing their jobs properly.

Congratulation to the BHB for not introducing any redundancies in any staff numbers, be it at HQ, in the strange “phone watchers in the weighing room (one had to be helicoptered in recently to ensure racing could take place), nor in the bonuses for directors. Yes we all have to tighten our belts, but some things must be preserved at all costs!



Including the BHB awards ceremonies, after the Cartier Awards, the Lesters, the Racing Post awards, the International Classifications, the Awards Awards etc etc. It is refreshing to see that in these barren times the BHB see fit to have a day off for so many important staff to have yet another pointless awards ceremony (as if winning a classic, Breeders' Cup or whatever was not enough) so that budgets can be even further stretched. Never mind, let us just lop another £100 off prize money on a Monday afternoon!

## Triple Crown Bonus



At last the real Triple Crown has been recognised and attracted a bonus scheme. Brilliant. Shame it took Ladbrokes to do this.

Double shame the BHB did such a disgraceful job in promoting some other strange Triple Crown ignoring the real one and wasting money. – Not like them.

### See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil

What was John Maxse playing at when publicly declaring no races in the last 11 months needed investigation. Is he mad (er yes, clearly)

### Oh for God's sake!

There is clearly hope for all of us. The January Edition of NOW magazine printed the following letter. I am intrigued, anyone out there who can shed any light on the subject.

I've somehow managed to lose sexy **Paul Nicholls'** phone number. Silly me! Could you please give it to me again? Only joking, but an address where I could contact him would be great.

**Roslyn Kelly, London**

**Write to Paul c/o of his agent  
– Roxane Vacca, 73 Beak  
Street, London W1R 3LF.**

### 4 day festival SAD MAD BAD,

Instead of looking at ways to increase Cheltenham's importance to the exclusion of all other races throughout the year except as "Cheltenham" trials, we should be looking at whether Edward Gillespie really does have his head up his arse. Diluting the product, overmilking, it aint broke, don't fix it. Etc etc, are all phrases which should have been

applied to this bad idea. (If proof of this is required – John McCririck is in favour - QED).

## B&Q



A letter received by the B&Q customer services department:

*Dear Sir/Madam*

*My congratulations to you on getting a yacht to leave the UK on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2004, sail 27,354 miles around the world and arrive back 72 days later.*

*Could you please let me know when the kitchen I ordered 96 days ago will be arriving from your warehouse 13 miles away?*

*Yours faithfully*

*P Doff*

## Bob the Builder



Congratulations to Mick Channon's team of builders, holding true to tradition and proving that whilst it may only take one builder to change a light bulb it has taken him 18 months so far! (Mick's office has been operating from a Portakabin for the last 18 months, when only 6 were forecast).

## I'm not lazy I'm handicapped

### Raceform Interactive

Get it, it is better than the Racing Post site.

### Jockeys deadlines

**Peter Thomas, Paul Scotney, M. Wallace – the usual suspects.**

Whatever views you may hold on the issue of the Jockey Club feeling it right and proper that jockeys right to trade as they see fit, be restricted. The nonsense Peter Thomas was spouting on this issue in the Racing Post is just that. There are rules, they are adhered to. He should know better.

Frontrunner's view is that as usual the Jockey Club is poking their nose in a) in the wrong place b) in the wrong direction. That it is probably something they are thinking about as a result of the potential for getting slagged off if/when a jockey crashes as a result of ringing someone while driving because some Muppet (M Wallace) says they cannot ring during racing!

Paul Scotney (Racing Post Letters Sunday 20th Feb) was at pains to point out that :- "On a footnote, other racing countries such as Australia, Hong Kong and Japan, forbid jockeys to carry mobile phones on to racecourses at all."

Correct, but what he conveniently omitted to highlight, was that in Hong Kong, where they take security as a serious matter (and is well known to be as pure as the driven slush), no one, whether they be owners, trainers, jockeys, officials or members of the public, are permitted to carry mobile phones on to the racetrack, including we suspect Paul Scotney !

Perhaps a well known regulatory Official of our own Jockey Club, who was allegedly evicted from the racecourse for contravening such a regulation, would like to confirm such to him.

Perhaps Mr Scotney might also like to explain why he is not in favour of attempting to eradicate all possible avenues of malpractice by all parties, by implementing a similar ban, instead of just discriminating against the jockeys, or would that be silly?

Congratulations to Marcus Weedon at joining the massed ranks of handicappers employed by the BHB. Strangely, though known for not being particularly civil when secretaries have handed their notice in the past. P. Cole has been very polite to Marcus since hearing of his new gig!



While on this subject is there anyone out there who can explain why the BHB has to employ 12 handicappers (average races per week <15), average salary 30k per year, therefore to handicap each race costs £40 per race. How can writing Essex +14lb, with the rest calculated automatically cost so much? This is ignoring all the IT costs, car costs, etc etc. Compare this to Raceform who employ 2 handicappers and still manage to work weekends (unlike most BHB handicappers)! – However whilst on the subject of Essex, I see the Irish are whineing about how harsh their horses are treated over here by our handicappers. – What bollocks, are Essex, AL Eile and others supposed to be dropped for dominating the most competitive handicap of the year? We know they come from Ireland, but really, don't take the piss.