

MEMBERS'
CORRESPONDENCE

YOUR OPINIONS ARE IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING

Send your correspondence to: The Editor, Elite Racing Club, PO Box 100, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 4TE.

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Graham G., Newmarket, says: "Living in Newmarket I am lucky enough to be able to go to the sales on a regular basis. Just had to go and see the Red Ransom/Kalinka filly go through the ring. I must say she looked an absolute picture".

Derek D., Spalding, says: "I enjoyed myself attending the Arc Weekend at Longchamp, Paris. The facilities are excellent. I enjoyed the self service restaurant, cashpoint, snack bar, etc. The Elite Racing Club dinner was superb. It was the first time I have been horse racing abroad".

Lesley F., Eastbourne, says: "A big thank you to Felicity for the Arc weekend, she looked after everyone so well and always had a smile on her face".

Eric B., Dubai, says: "As an Elite member and resident of Dubai, I am excited at the prospect of Paul Cole sending New Seeker to Nad al Sheba, to compete in the Racing Festival that precedes the World Cup meeting in March next year. Prize money in these races is substantially more than in equivalent races in the UK".

Ralph D., Yarm, says: "What a great result to see New Seeker win a Listed race. He was calm and oozed confidence in the parade ring and was well ridden by Tom Eaves, who later followed up with another win on Julie Camacho's Elkhorn. What a pity that Elite Racing Club were let down by a scruffy young man in the parade ring. It was also good to watch my video of Oscar Urbina nicking second place on Soviet Song at Newmarket".

Our reply: a timely reminder that when attending a Club runner, the compulsory dress code is smart dress for ladies, jacket and tie for gents, and no denim or trainers please.

John M., Dumbarton, says: "Thanks to Elite Racing and Soviet Song, it shows dreams really can come true so thanks to her and the careful handling at the Fanshawe yard. The next dream isn't too far away".

Colin P., Grove, says: "I have fond memories of So So's career as she won her first Group 1 only days after I

joined the club in 2002".

Cynthia S., Tuxford, says: "Another difficult decision has been made by ERC management - to retire Soviet Song to the paddocks. Of course in a way it's sad, but I believe it's better to do this now with her safe and sound. After many exciting times with her on the track, hopefully we can look forward to many more years' enjoyment by following her foals. I feel for Stephanie, who will obviously miss Soviet dreadfully".

I.B., Northallerton, says: "It's quite right to retire Soviet Song, she has certainly done her bit for us and done us proud. She deserves to go to the paddocks and continue to have the best of care in the maternity ward".

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David S., Camberwell, says: "I had a terrible day at work; full of irritation, frustration and aggravation. Then I got home and watched Tredegar's win. Fair makes your heart sing, doesn't it? Congratulations to all concerned; that Ffestiniog's some mare! Did Paul Cole pick her originally?"

Our reply: Ffestiniog was purchased by Paul Cole and agent/trainer Paul Webber at the breeze up sales in April 1997 for just 24,000 guineas (£25,200).

Trevor D., Kings Lynn, says: "I feel that a fortnightly newsletter would now suffice. I am very disappointed regarding the letters page. I feel the 'pat on the back' letters is boring. Surely the Club must receive negative letters, so please print more of them. I think the betting advice on our runners needs reviewing".

Our reply: we are far more likely to print negative comments than 'pat on the back'. Constructive comments are always welcome and the more controversial the better. Our task is to please the majority of the membership, it's a challenging task. It is essential that we hear from anyone if they are not satisfied with the standard of service we are providing. We are currently looking at how we present the betting advice on the hotline.

K.J.C., Northampton, says: "I was pleased when you announced the move of New Seeker, not that I thought Clive Cox had done a bad job (he had done a great job with him), I just thought the change of scenery was just