



## 1 (14). **ADELAIDE RIVER (IRE)** 66-1.

(c, Australia {GB}--Could It Be Love, by War Front)

O-Mrs John Magnier, Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith, Westerberg | B-Coolmore | T-Aidan O'Brien | J-Seamie Heffernan  
 Form: 1223-2. Last Run: Second G3 Boodles Chester Vase S.

**PROS:** Despite hailing from a faster damline, stamina doesn't appear to be an issue for Adelaide River. He managed four starts at two, winning on debut over a mile at Dundalk and was then narrowly beaten when second in the G3 Prix des Chenes before finishing second to Crypto Force (GB) in the G2 Beresford S. In the final run of his juvenile campaign he was six lengths behind the duelling Dubai Mile (Ire) and Arrest (Ire) when third in the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud on heavy turf.

**CONS:** He was again routed by Arrest at Chester in rain-softened conditions on his only start this year. The ground at Epsom will be much faster than any he has encountered to date.

**PEDIGREE:** A son of the 2014 Derby winner Australia, and thus grandson of a Derby and an Oaks winner, Adelaide River's dam's sole win was at 7f, with the best performance of her life coming when finishing runner-up to Alpha Centauri (Ire) in the Irish 1,000 Guineas. The mare is a half-sister to the American champion juvenile and Coolmore sire Uncle Mo, and this is her first foal.

**VERDICT:** Experience has taught us never to overlook long-priced runners from this stable but he does need to take a big step forward to be threatening in this company.



Adelaide River holds good form behind Dubai Mile and Arrest. | Scoop Dyga



## 2 (13). **ARREST (IRE)** 11-2.

(c, Frankel {GB}--Nisriyna {Ire}, by Intikhab) (€440,000 Wlg '20 GOFNOV)  
 O-Juddmonte | B-Swordlestown Little | T-John & Thady Gosden | J-Frankie Dettori  
 Form: 3112-1. Last Run: First G3 Boodles Chester Vase S.

**PROS:** Has stamina in abundance, having dealt with testing ground in the G3 Chester Vase and when second to Dubai Mile in the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud in October. Seems reliable and consistent and has a fired-up Frankie Dettori in the saddle on his final Derby ride which may be worth another couple of lengths. John Gosden won the Derby with Benny The Dip and Golden Horn and knows what Epsom Classic material looks like. Arrest was the only Derby colt to take up the opportunity of a racecourse gallop at Epsom on May 22.

**CONS:** It is hard to get away from the feeling that he is one of those classic cases of too slow to win a Derby, particularly now that the ground has gone against him.

**PEDIGREE:** By Frankel, who looks set to become every bit as important an Epsom sire as Galileo, he hails from an Aga Khan family which surprisingly has the smart sprinter Spring Loaded (Ire) (Zebedee (GB)) close up. He is also a half-brother to the former consistent Hong Kong 9f Group 3 winner Dinozzo (Ire).

**VERDICT:** Place claims at best, then on to the St Leger.

### **DERBY FACTS:**

John Gosden won the Derby in 1997 and 2015 with Benny The Dip and Golden Horn, respectively. He will be making his first start in the race with his son, Thady, as co-trainer.



Mariann Klay spoke to TDN's Alayna Cullen Birkett about G3 Chester Vase S. winner Arrest and his dam Nisriyna.



### 3 (8). **ARTISTIC STAR (IRE)** 40-1.

(c, Galileo {Ire}--Nechita {Aus}, by Fastnet Rock {Aus})  
 O-J C Smith | B-Coolmore | T-Ralph Beckett | J-Rob Hornby  
 Form: 1-1. Last Run: First Darley British EBF Novice S.

**PROS:** The first rule of the Derby Club is Galileo. Check. There is little to fear on the stamina front and trainer Ralph Beckett already has two Epsom Classics in the bank. Stablemate Westover, one of a select quintet in the opening day's G1 Dahlbury Coronation Cup, was an unlucky-in-running second in last year's renewal. Beckett does not tilt at windmills, thus his presence in the line-up can be viewed as a positive and fast ground should not pose problems. Took the eye on debut in October when winning over an extended mile at Nottingham and punched his Derby ticket with an equally taking



Artistic Star | *Racingfotos.com*

seasonal return, powering away up the Sandown hill in a manner which suggests a step up from 10 furlongs is within his compass.

**CONS:** He is a late May foal, yet to be tested at stakes level, and is susceptible to the dreaded 'bounce', a term relayed by Beckett in the wash of last month's seasonal return.

**PEDIGREE:** Artistic Star is one of his dam's five foals and four winners by lamented icon Galileo, who has sired a record five winners of the Blue Riband.



The home straight at Epsom viewed from Tattenham Corner | *Racingfotos.com*

His dam Nechita secured her G1 Ascot Vale triumph at half the Derby distance, but she has produced two 12-furlong pattern-race performers. Namely, G1 Metropolitan third Harpo Marx (Ire) and G3 Princess Royal victrix Forbearance (Ire). Stamina is unlikely to be called into question and he won't be found wanting if thereabouts in the straight. The switching of Lingfield's Listed Derby Trial from a waterlogged turf to the polytrack surface, and thus skipping an early clash with Military Order, may have been a blessing in disguise. This G2 King Edward VII entry has the credentials to be very good and is no forlorn outsider in the most open edition in recent memory. There'll not be a dry eye in the house should owner Jeff Smith fulfil his dream.

**VERDICT:** A must-have in placepot permutations.

## BETFRED DERBY DAY EPSOM GROUP STAKES POST TIMES

**G3 Betfred Diomed S. - 12:50 p.m. BST**

**G1 Betfred Derby - 13:30 p.m. BST**

**G3 Princess Elizabeth S. - 14:10 p.m. BST**

### Epsom Derby Winners (2003 - 2022)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Sire</u>
2022	Desert Crown (GB)	Nathaniel (Ire)
2021	Adayar (Ire)	Frankel (GB)
2020	Serpentine (Ire)	Galileo {Ire}
2019	Anthony Van Dyck (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)
2018	Masar (Ire)	New Approach (Ire)
2017	Wings Of Eagles (Fr)	Pour Moi (Ire)
2016	Harzand (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)
2015	Golden Horn (GB)	Cape Cross (Ire)
2014	Australia (GB)	Galileo (Ire)
2013	Ruler of the World (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)
2012	Camelot (GB)	Montjeu (Ire)
2011	Pour Moi (Ire)	Montjeu (Ire)
2010	Workforce (GB)	King's Best
2009	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Cape Cross (Ire)
2008	New Approach (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)
2007	Authorized (Ire)	Montjeu (Ire)
2006	Sir Percy (GB)	Mark of Esteem (Ire)
2005	Motivator (GB)	Montjeu (Ire)
2004	North Light (Ire)	Danehill
2003	Kris Kin	Kris S.

  
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## 4 (10). **AUGUSTE RODIN (IRE)** 11-4F.

(c, Deep Impact {Jpn}--Rhododendron {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire})

O-Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith, Mrs John Magnier & Westerberg | B-Coolmore | T-Aidan O'Brien | J-Ryan Moore  
**'TDN Rising Star'**. Form: 2111-0. Last Run: Twelfth G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas

**PROS:** Bred on a cross which has already yielded the European Classic winners Saxon Warrior (Jpn) and Snowfall (Jpn) and went into the winter as the worthy Derby favourite, progressing from a Naas maiden win in July to victory in the G2 KPMG Champion Juvenile S. then the G1 Vertem Futurity Trophy.

**CONS:** Sent off as favourite for the 2,000 Guineas without a prep run, his performance was too bad to be true, and he trailed in 12th of 14 runners, 22 lengths behind the winner Chaldean (GB). He was, however, reported to be never travelling after being hampered early in the race. His trainer, who knows a thing or two about preparing Derby winners, appears to be confident in putting a line through that run.

**PEDIGREE:** From the final crop of Japanese superstar Deep Impact, he hails from a family which is not short on speed, his third dam being the King's Stand S. winner Cassandra Go (Ire) (Indian Ridge {Ire}). Her offspring include Auguste Rodin's grand-dam, the Irish 1,000 Guineas and Nassau S. winner Halfway To Heaven (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}), as well as Tickled Pink (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), the dam of last year's Breeders' Cup

Juvenile Turf winner Victoria Road (Ire) (Saxon Warrior {Jpn}). Halfway To Heaven's repeated matings with Galileo (Ire) produced not only the brilliant Magical (Ire) but also the treble Group 1 winner Rhododendron (Ire), and Auguste Rodin is her first foal, ushering in another exciting chapter for a top-class family which has served both Trevor Stewart and Coolmore very well over the years.

**VERDICT:** Cannot be overlooked despite a recent bump in the road.

### TDN Rising Star Derby Honours Board:

Motivator (2005), New Approach (2008), Sea The Stars (2009), Workforce (2010), Masar (2018), Desert Crown (2022).

This year's representative is Auguste Rodin.

### TDN Rising Star Oaks Honours Board:

Eswarah (1st 2005), Short Skirt (3rd 2006), All My Loving (3rd 2007), Wild Illusion (2nd 2018), Emily Upjohn (2nd 2022), Nashwa (3rd 2022).

This year's representative is Bright Diamond.



Auguste Rodin | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)



## 5 (1). DEAR MY FRIEND (GB) 80-1.

(c, Pivotal {GB}--Dusty Red {GB}, by Teofilo {Ire}) (35,000gns RNA Ylg '20 TATDEC; £40,000 Ylg '21 GOFAUG)  
 O-Middleham Park Racing XXV & Michael Lai | B-Bartlett, Beever & Cheveley Park Stud | T-Charlie Johnston  
 | J-Andrea Atzeni

Form: 11533-18. Last Run: Eighth G2 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai Dante S.

**PROS:** Not short of experience, with seven runs and three wins under his belt. Five of those starts came in his juvenile season when he won his first two races in May and June before stepping into stakes company for the G2 Vintage S. at Glorious Goodwood, in which he was beaten almost five lengths. Garnered two third-place finishes, including in the G3 Zetland S., to round out his season. He returned at three to win the Listed Burradon S. over a mile on Newcastle's all-weather strip.

**CONS:** Was found wanting when pitched into a serious Derby trial in the Dante, finishing almost seven lengths adrift of the winner.

**PEDIGREE:** By the late sprinter Pivotal who sired top-class runners over the range of distances, including the Oaks winner Sariska (GB). Some stamina is imparted from his female line as his half-brother Red Force One (GB), by the July Cup winner Lethal Force (Ire), has won at up to two miles on the Flat and

also over hurdles, while half-sister Pink Carnation (GB) is a winner and Listed-placed over nine furlongs. Their dam failed to win in three starts at up to 1m2f for a rating of 67. She is a half-sister to the Saratoga Grade II winner Spotlight, and another half-sister produced the late stallion Zoffany (Ire) as well as Rostropovich (Ire), a Group 3 winner over 1m4f.

**VERDICT:** Stamina shouldn't be an issue but class might be.

### BETFRED OAKS DAY

#### EPSOM GROUP STAKES POST TIMES

**G1 Dahlbury Coronation Cup - 15:10 p.m. BST**

**G1 Betfred Oaks - 16:30 p.m. BST**



Dear My Friend is the first Derby runner for Middleham Park Racing. | [Racingphotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)



## 6 (5). DUBAI MILE (IRE) 14-1.

(c, Roaring Lion--Beach Bunny {Ire}, by High Chaparral {Ire}) (€20,000 Ylg '21 GOFSEP)  
 O-Ahmad Al Shaikh | B-Skymarc Farm | T-Charlie Johnston | J-Daniel Muscutt  
 Form: 41121-5. Last Run: Fifth G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas.

**PROS:** A Group 1-winning two-year-old on the fifth start of his juvenile campaign, he is more seasoned than many in the field. He had Arrest (Ire) behind him only narrowly when winning the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud in heavy ground after previously finishing second to The Foxes (Ire) in the G2 Royal Lodge. The form has a solid feel to it, and he was prominent through most of the 2,000 Guineas before looking like he was weakening in the last couple of furlongs, only to hold on doggedly for fifth. One of only two horses to step forward from that race into the Derby and he should come on for that.

**CONS:** As is often the case with this stable's runners, he has been prominent or led in all of his races. Similar tactics in the

Derby could make him vulnerable to those coming from off the pace but he won't lie down without a fight. A small doubt as to whether he will truly see out 1m4f.

**PEDIGREE:** Bred by Lady Chrissy O'Reilly's Skymarc Farm, Dubai Mile is, like Running Lion in the Oaks, flying the flag for his late sire Roaring Lion, who was himself third in the Derby. His listed-winning and group-placed dam, who is by a Derby winner and out of a mare by an Arc winner, was herself best at up to 1m2f and she has produced two stakes-winning sprinters by fast stallions in Beach Belle (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) and Naadirr (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}) His third dam Miss Tahiti (Ire) produced the 1,000 Guineas winner Miss France (Ire).

**VERDICT:** Luck counts for plenty in racing, and he has a lucky owner in Ahmad Al Shaikh, whose Derby record includes two runners-up in Hoo Ya Mal (GB) at 150/1 and Khalifa Sat (Ire) at 50/1. More luck will be required here, but Dubai Mile is no forlorn hope.



Dubai Mile (right) defeats Arrest in the Criterium de Saint-Cloud. The duo square off again in the Blue Riband on Saturday. | Scoop Dyga

### FRIDAY'S BETFRED OAKS ODDS

- 1 Be Happy 33-1
- 2 Bright Diamond 50-1
- 3 Caernarfon 33-1
- 4 Eternal Hope 14-1
- 5 Heartache Tonight 18-1
- 6 Maman Joon 50-1
- 7 Red Riding Hood 33-1
- 8 Running Lion 6-1
- 9 Savethelastdance 1-1F
- 10 Sea Of Roses 50-1
- 11 Soul Sister 5-2

\*All Betfred Derby and Oaks odds are as of 23:00 p.m. BST on June 1.



## 7 (4). KING OF STEEL 40-1.

(c, Wootton Bassett {GB}--Eldacar {GB}, by Verglas {Ire}) (\$200,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP)  
 O-Amo Racing Ltd | B-BCF Services LLC | T-Roger Varian | J-Kevin Stott  
 Form: 17-. Last Run: Seventh G1 Vertem Futurity Trophy S.

**PROS:** Could not have been more impressive in winning his debut over an extended mile at Nottingham in October. His 4 3/4-length win coming in division two of the maiden won by fellow contender Artistic Star. That he was pitched straight into Doncaster's G1 Vertem Futurity Trophy just 10 days later provides some insight into how highly regarded he is by connections. He was not disgraced on Town Moor, running a respectable seventh, having dwelt at the break. He is massive and stands at least 17 hands, but he is "light on his feet, very athletic and very well-balanced," according to former handler David Loughnane.

**CONS:** Was scratched after causing a delay to the Dante and thus obliged to undertake a stalls test in the interim. His sire has yet to have a 12-furlong Group 1 winner and no horse has won the Blue Riband on seasonal debut since Shaamit (Ire) (Mtoto {GB}) did so in 1996.

**PEDIGREE:** King Of Steel is one of two winners, from three

runners, out of Eldacar, who was a winner over 12 and 15 furlongs in France. She is a full-sister to the G2 Prix de Pomone and G2 Prix de Royallieu runner-up Miss Crissy. Close up is juvenile Group 1 winner Shaka, who took the G2 Prix Hocquart and ran second in the G2 Prix Noailles, both at 11 furlongs, as a 3-year-old. The family also features Listed Derby du Languedoc victrix and G2 Prix de Royallieu third Sotteville, whose best performances were at a mile and a half. Despite Wootton Bassett's paucity of elite-level winners over the Derby distance, there is enough evidence on the page to suggest this test might not be beyond his capabilities. Who won't be drawing reference to "Tattenham Corner" and "camber" when reflecting upon this chap's immense stature? If Loughnane's words ring true, size may not matter. It's arguable that there will be no more spectacular sight than to see this dashing grey thundering home straight and true.

**VERDICT:** Huge odds for each-way bettors.



Colossal grey King Of Steel winning at Nottingham last autumn | Getty Images



## 8 (9). **MILITARY ORDER (IRE)** 4-1.

(c, Frankel {GB}--Anna Salai, by Dubawi {Ire})  
 O/B-Godolphin | T-Charlie Appleby | J-William Buick  
 Form: 41-11. Last Run: First Fitzdares Lingfield Derby Trial S.

**PROS:** A full-brother to the 2021 Derby winner Adayar (Ire), he went one better than his illustrious sibling in the Lingfield Derby Trial, making it easy to see why Military Order is one of the favourites for Epsom. Beaten only once so far on his debut at Newmarket last October, he progressed to win on his next start back at the Rowley Mile later that month before a winter break.

Military Order has started favourite for each of his four starts, progressing from 7f to the Derby distance on his latest start. He won easily on his resumption over 1m2f at Newbury on April 21 before outgunning Waipiro (Ire) and Circle Of Fire (GB) in his Derby trial, which was switched to the all-weather surface after parts of Lingfield's turf track were found to be waterlogged. His trainer is seeking a third Derby victory, having won the race for the first time with Masar (Ire) in 2018.

**CONS:** On pedigree and racing profile, it is hard to find fault.

**PEDIGREE:** His Derby credentials are writ large but the class in this family doesn't end with Adayar. Their dam Anna Salai was an unlucky loser when second in the Irish 1,000 Guineas. His first three dams are all group winners, while his fifth dam, Anna

Paola (Ger) (Prince Ippi {Ger}) was a champion filly in Germany at two and three before establishing a formidable dynasty at stud.

**VERDICT:** Entitled to the highest respect.



Oaks entrant Sea Of Roses was bred by Simon Sweeting (centre).  
 Emma Berry



Military Order is a full-brother to 2021 Derby winner Adayar | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)



## 9 (7). PASSENGER 11-2.

(c, Ulysses {Ire}--Dilmun, by War Front)

O-Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd | B-Flaxman Holdings Ltd | T-Sir Michael Stoute | J-Richard Kingscote

Form: -13. Last Run: Third G2 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai Dante S.

**PROS:** The easy winner of the Wood Ditton Maiden at the Craven meeting and considered to be unlucky when blocked for a run in the Dante, in which he finished third, a length and a half behind The Foxes (Ire) with White Birch (GB) second. From a stable which excels with its middle-distance performers and which supplied last year's Derby winner Desert Crown (GB) on the back of only two runs. He was supplemented for the race this week at £85,000.

**CONS:** One of three runners in the field to have made only two previous racecourse starts, so inexperience may be an issue, along with a small question mark as to his reserves of stamina.

**PEDIGREE:** A real feather in his owner's cap as the Niarchos family operation bred both his sire, Ulysses, a son of Derby winner Galileo (Ire) and Oaks winner Light Shift, as well as his dam and fourth dam. Ulysses was himself twelfth in the Derby won by Harzand (Ire) and at four won the G1 Coral-Eclipse and G1 Juddmonte International. Passenger's dam Dilmun won over

a mile and wound up her racing career with a mark of 88. Her half-sister Liquid Amber (Kitten's Joy) was also a mile winner in the G3 Flame of Tara S., while grand-dam Pachattack (Pulpit) was a classy and consistent performer in the UK and USA, and was Grade I-placed over nine furlongs as well as winning a Grade III and twice at Listed level up to 1m4f.

**VERDICT:** If he truly sees out the distance, Passenger could go very close.

### **ANNIVERSARY STATS:**

**40 years ago (1983):** Teenoso becomes Lester Piggott's record ninth and final winner in a mudbath.

**90 years ago (1933):** Breed-shaper Hyperion seals his place in history and remains the latest Lord Derby-owned winner.

**150 years ago (1873):** Doncaster, sire of the great Bend Or, wins on just his second start having finished unplaced on debut in the 2000 Guineas.



The supplemented Passenger is attempting to emulate Kris Kin, who became the first supplementary entry to win the Derby in 2003. Connections stumped up £90,000 to enter the son of Kris S. 20 years ago. | [Racingfotos.com](http://Racingfotos.com)



# 10 (12). SAN ANTONIO (IRE) 33-1.

(c, Dubawi {Ire}--Rain Goddess {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire})

O-Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith, Mrs John Magnier & Westerberg | B-Coolmore | T-Aidan O'Brien | J-Wayne Lordan  
Form: 52-11. Last Run: First Listed Boodles Dee S.

**PROS:** Progressing well this season to be unbeaten in two starts, the first over an extended 1m2f on the Dundalk all-weather surface, and next over the same trip on soft ground at Chester.

**CONS:** Failed to win at two in a pair of October maidens. The last Dee Stakes winner to go on to success at Epsom was Kris Kin in 2003.

**PEDIGREE:** The champion sire Dubawi is yet to be represented by a Derby winner but this cross with Galileo has yielded the 2,000 Guineas winner Night Of Thunder (Ire) and Horse of the Year Ghaiyyath (Ire). San Antonio is the second foal of Rain Goddess, who was second in the Irish Oaks, a long way behind Enable (GB), and won the G3 Snow Fairy Fillies S. Her grand-dam Virginia Waters won the 1,000 Guineas and was fourth in the Oaks.

**VERDICT:** A fair bit to prove but should be staying on.

## GALILEO'S DERBY DYNASTY

From 17 crops of three-year-olds (2006-2022)

Winners (5): New Approach (2008), Ruler Of The World (2013), Australia (2014), Anthony Van Dyck (2019), Serpentine (2020).

Runners-Up (4): At First Sight (2010), Treasure Beach (2011), US Army Ranger (2016), Cliffs Of Moher (2017).

Third (5): Astrology (2012), Galileo Rock (2013), Idaho (2016), Japan (2019), Amhran Na Bhfiann (2020)

Winners By Sons (3): Masar (2018 by New Approach), Adayar (2021 by Frankel), Desert Crown (2022 by Nathaniel).

This year's lone representative by the late sire is Artistic Star.



San Antonio would be a first Derby winner for Dubawi. | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)



## 11 (6). SPREWELL (IRE) 11-1.

(c, Churchill {Ire}--Lahaleeb {Ire}, by Redback {GB})

O-Mohamed Khalid Mohamed Abdulrahim | B-Khalid Abdul Rahaim | T-Jessica Harrington | J-Shane Foley

Form: 42-11. Last Run: First G3 Derby Trial S.

**PROS:** Made a taking seasonal debut to give weight and a beating to a 97-rated rival on his favoured heavy ground at Naas before winning what is historically a key Derby Trial at Leopardstown in taking fashion [again on softer going]. However, the last horse to follow up at Epsom from that Leopardstown trial was High Chaparral (Ire) in 2002. Having said that, he is a colt on the up and he could run a big race if handling quicker ground than he has ever encountered before.

**CONS:** All of his form has been achieved on softer ground and his rounded action suggests he won't be as effective on better going, which has to be a major worry ahead of Saturday's race given there is no rain forecast. As well as that, the form of his

Leopardstown win is open to question given the third that day, Proud And Regal (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), was comprehensively beaten when stepping back in trip in the Irish 2,000 Guineas.

**PEDIGREE:** Bred by Khalid Abdul Rahaim, who enjoyed great success on the track with the dam Lahaleeb (Ire), winner of the GI E P Taylor S. Sprewell is the highest-rated son of Lahaleeb and races in the colours of Mohamed Khalid Mohamed Abdulrahim, son of Khalid Abdul Rahaim.

**VERDICT:** Improving colt who should see out the trip but the ground has to be a major worry.



The Derby has appealed to the masses for centuries. | [Racingfotos.com](http://Racingfotos.com)



## 12 (3). THE FOXES (IRE) 12-1.

(c, Churchill {Ire}--Tanaghum {GB}, by Darshaan {GB}) (440,000gns Ylg '21 TATOCT)  
 O-King Power Racing Co Ltd | B-Barronstown Stud | T-Andrew Balding | J-Oisin Murphy  
 Form: 4911-21. Last Run: First G2 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai Dante S.

**PROS:** Winner of one of the most notable Derby trials, the G2 Dante S. at York, and runner-up in the G3 Craven S., he has had two highly respectable prep runs this season off the back of a four-race juvenile campaign. The latter culminated in victory in the G2 Royal Lodge S. over Dubai Mile (Ire). A well-balanced, medium-sized colt with experience on his side.

**CONS:** Though his full-sister Perotan has won at up to 1m6f, their sire excelled as a miler and The Foxes didn't look a guaranteed stayer when drifting right in the closing stages of the Dante.

**PEDIGREE:** From a family which has really flourished in recent years for the Nagles' Barronstown Stud, with The Foxes being one of seven black-type performers and 10 winners for

Tanaghum, a winning daughter of Shadwell's Irish 1,000 Guineas victrix Mehthaaf (Nureyev). The most prolific of his siblings is the Meydan Group 1 winner Matterhorn (Ire) (Raven's Pass), while Bangkok (Ire) (Australia {GB}) won the G2 York S. and is now standing at Chapel Stud.

**VERDICT:** Likely to be among the leading players.

### **TRAINER STAT:**

Andrew Balding saddled Casual Look (Red Ransom) to an Oaks victory in 2003. He has already won the 2023 G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas with Chaldean (GB) (Frankel {GB}), and is aiming for his second Classic of the season with Sea Of Roses (GB) (Sea The Moon {Ger}) in the Oaks and the King Power runner in the Blue Riband.



The Foxes aims to give Oisin Murphy another 2023 Classic victory after Mawj (Ire) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}). | Getty Images



## 13 (11). **WAIPIRO (IRE) 20-1.**

(c, Australia {GB}--London Plane {Ire}, by Danehill Dancer {Ire})  
 O-Siu Pak-Kwan | B-Shane Molan | T-Ed Walker | J-Tom Marquand  
 Form: 6-12. Last Run: Second Listed Fitzdares Lingfield Trial S.

**PROS:** Looks to be going places fast with a clear-cut win in the Newmarket novice won 12 months ago by New London and a second to Military Order in the Lingfield Derby Trial. Will stay the trip very well, as he has already proven and has an almost ideal striding signature for the race.

**CONS:** Hardly any, but to be ultra-critical seemed to be beaten fair and square at Lingfield, where he very much had the run of the race.

**PEDIGREE:** A half-brother to the triple Hong Kong Group 1 winner Waikuku, as well as a hurdler in It's Good To Laugh. Australia has that Galileo blood and the family also features City

Honours, who went so close in the 1998 Derby.

**VERDICT:** A place would be no surprise before he goes global.

### **AIDAN O'BRIEN'S EIGHT DERBY WINNERS:**

- Galileo (2001)
- High Chaparral (2002)
- Camelot (2012)
- Ruler Of The World (2013)
- Australia (2014)
- Wings Of Eagles (2017)
- Anthony Van Dyke (2019)
- Serpentine (2020)



Waipiro is one of two colts by 2014 Derby hero Australia entered in the Derby. | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)



## 14 (2). **WHITE BIRCH (GB)** 14-1.

(c, Ulysses {Ire}--Diagnostic {GB}, by Dutch Art {GB}) (75,000gns Wlg '20 TATNOV; 48,000gns RNA Ylg '21 TATOCT)  
 O-Mrs Chantal C Regalado-Gonzalez | B-Cheveley Park Stud Ltd | T-John Murphy | J-Colin Keane  
 Form: 51-12. Last Run: Second G2 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai Dante S.

**PROS:** Impressive winner of the G3 Ballysax S. at Leopardstown on heavy ground before enhancing his Derby credentials when overcoming a tardy start and staying on for second in the G2 Dante S. at York. Handled the occasion well and appeared as though he'd have no trouble seeing out the extra two furlongs given there were few staying on stronger than him at York. Ground is not an issue given he's won on the polytrack at Dundalk and showed up well in the Dante on good to firm. Lots of positives about his chances, including the fact that Irish champion jockey Colin Keane has been booked given Shane Foley is committed to ride Jessica Harrington's Sprewell.

**CONS:** Has a tendency to be slowly into stride and he can't afford to be poorly positioned if he's going to win a Derby. Stall two is also not ideal.

**PEDIGREE:** Bred by Cheveley Park Stud, he was bought by Roger O'Callaghan of Tally-Ho Stud as a foal for 75,000gns but failed to

sell when reoffered as a yearling at Tattersalls Book 2 the following year. It was on O'Callaghan's recommendation that the Murphys bought the horse privately and he has since changed hands to Chantal Regalado-Gonzalez after confirming himself a smart prospect when winning at Dundalk. Pedigree suggests he'll have no trouble getting the Derby trip.

**VERDICT:** Outside the Ballydoyle battalion, he rates the main Irish challenger and should go close if breaking cleanly as he can't afford to get too far out of his ground in the early parts.

### DERBY FACT:

**1895** - The Derby, won by Sir Visto, was the first race to be recorded on film. The footage, one of the earliest pieces of film in the world and for a long time assumed lost, was by Bert Acres and found 100 years later in a woodshed by Roy Henville.



Brian Sheerin chats to John Murphy about all things White Birch leading up to this year's G1 Betfred Derby at Epsom | TDN photo