

Tobefair-y tale



Tobefair, a locally owned, seven year old bay gelding who is set to compete at Cheltenham racing festival. At 2:10 today, Tobefair, an unbeaten thoroughbred is participating in the Final Handicap Hurdle and could win the £54,000 first prize. He is owned by the 'Down the Quay Club', a group of regulars at the Cresselly Arms pub, has been trained by local Mrs Debra Hamer and is going to be ridden by Trevor Whelan. If this fairy tale story continues then the local bookies will likely lose a lot of money.

Tobefair was trained by Lucy Jones until she retired, he is now trained by Mrs Debra Hamer. Since he has been trained by the two women Tobefair has improved dramatically. In his early races, he was beaten by 64 lengths at Exeter and later by 100 lengths at Chepstow.

Michael Cole bought Tobefair for a bit of fun, with the hope of entering in a small race or two. He had raced horses before without much luck, and didn't have much more hope for Tobefair, as he was once swapped for nothing.

We spoke to a customer at the Cresselly Arms, 'He (Tobefair) was given to Michael Cole as payment for stabling two young horses for a couple of years. He (Michael Cole) gifted it to the pub but retained 50% of the share. The 'Down the Quay club' share the price of his training fees. He has

been extremely successful winning his last seven races. He was the favourite last night. His owners have gone to watch him today.'

The unexpected is becoming the expected as Douvan, a French bred and Ireland trained national standard race horse, became lame and finished seventh. Willie Mullins, Douvan's trainer said that they are considering it to be the start of a long term problem and are getting an X-ray and MRI scan to check for under laying problems. His jockey Ruby Walsh said in an interview, 'He was lacking power jumping and he was jumping erratically, which isn't him.'

If a champion can fall, maybe a fairy tale can come true.



Douvan in his latest Cheltenham race

By Lizzy and Pipa