

The Jersey Race Club's Bank Holiday Clarendon meeting is traditionally one of the best attended meetings of the season attracting both locals and visitors alike however yesterday mother nature bared its teeth with wet and windy conditions meaning only the hardy and committed racing enthusiasts ventured up to Les Landes making up what can only be described as a sparse crowd, although two visitors, UK trainer Neil Mulholland and jockey Mark Quinlan will undoubtedly have enjoyed the afternoon with hat trick of wins from four runners on the card which included landing local racing's flagship handicap The Clarendon.

Mulholland and Quinlan first winner of the afternoon came in the feature event **The Vantage Clarendon** when the five year old Midnight Sequel reversed the form from the last meeting passing the post two lengths clear of King Kenny. Jockey Quinlan who had appeared to hit the front too soon when failing to get up two weeks ago when beaten by King Kenny, this time made no mistake as he brought his mount with a perfectly timed challenge to win by two and a quarter lengths and gain revenge on that rival with River Du Nord who had seemingly been laid out for the race three lengths back in third. Major disappointment of the race was the heavily in foal German trained Sworn Mammy who was always at least twelve lengths adrift of the field and never passed a rival.

The winning trainer/jockey combination second winner of the afternoon came in **The Penultimate Handicap** as The Bay Bandit romped to the easiest success of the afternoon on the unseasonal heavy ground passing the post twelve lengths clear of Herbalist. The seven year old was adding this win on the flat to his C I Champion hurdle victory earlier this season and is truly versatile as his previous outing prior to yesterday had been in a novice chase at Stratford where he finished fourth.

Mulholland and Quinlan completed the hat trick in the afternoon's finale **The Glory Bee Handicap** when Kristal Hart who had won at Bath last Thursday saw off the challenge of Lucifer's Shadow by a length and a half with Jackpot twelve lengths back in third. This race was sponsored by the family of the late and greatly missed local racing stalwart Joan Le Brocq and was one of two races on the card run in her memory.

The afternoon had opened with **The Friends of Joan Le Brocq Handicap Hurdle** which was run over a testing two and a half miles the longest contest on the race club's calendar, for much of the race it appeared that the Mulholland and Quinlan team were going to start off the afternoon with a winner as Agapanthus led for most of the race, however after jumping the last the Tony Le Brocq trained Mr Opulence passed the long time leader to outstay his rival to win by a length with the pair a distance clear of Athania. This was Mr Opulence's third win of the season over hurdles and guarantees him at least a share of the champion horse title and will hopefully have provided the winning trainer's assistant Grace Poingdestre with a tonic as she recovers following her training ground accident which left her with two broken wrists, the winning trainer was quick to deflect the plaudits for the horse's consistency in the direction of Grace as she had taken a leading role in the horse's preparation throughout the season prior to her accident.

The only horse that can now share the Champion Horse title with Mr Opulence is Pas D'Action who took full advantage of the easing ground conditions by winning The Plantagenet Handicap by three lengths from another of this season's consistent performer's First Cat with Purley Queen a neck back in third.

Normally the Bank Holiday meeting would have been the season's finale, but this year the Race Club are holding a late summer meeting which takes place on Sunday 7th September.