

Ladies day at Les Landes was blessed with perfect conditions as for once this season the large crowd basked in glorious sunshine allowing the female attendees to don their finery in order to attract the eye of the judges for best dressed lady, best dressed young person and best hat.

On the equine front bookmakers **Ladbroke's** maintained their tradition of sponsoring the four supporting races on this card the first of them being "**The Ladbroke's Odds On! Machines Members Lounge Handicap Hurdle**", run over two and a half miles, this is the longest race on the season's calendar. The Joan Le Brocq trained Landolino who has been one of the season's improvers once again saluted the judge to gain his fourth successive hurdles win. This victory is without doubt his best performance of the season as the front running seven year old had to concede thirty three pounds and more to his three rivals. As normal jockey Jamie Goldstein allowed his charge to bound along in front but approaching two out proven stayer Nordic Affair drew alongside and then jumped into the lead at the last, at this stage favourite backers probably thought that their cash was staying in the bookies bags until in the final hundred yards Landolino rallied and outstayed his rival to win by a length with Reach Out twenty lengths behind in third.

Second race of the afternoon was "**The LADBROKES Money Back – Live Football Handicap**" run over seven furlongs, Spanish Bounty pulled clear of the field in the home straight to score for the second successive meeting. The seven year old had occupied the runners up spot on three occasions earlier in the season but now seems to have found the winning habit for trainer/Jockey combination of Alyson Malzard and Mattie Batchelor finishing three lengths clear of stable mate Pas D'Action with Fast Freddie the same distance back in third.

The feature race of the afternoon was "**The Coutts Channel Islands Handicap**" looked to be the most difficult race of the afternoon for punters as out of the eight runners only Rebel Woman had got her head in front during the season. As the field turned for home they spread out across the course and with the exception of Top Pursuit all the runners appeared to have a chance, however it was the bottom weight Grenane who finished the best to win a length from Rebel Woman with Superduper three lengths back in third, This completed an afternoon double for trainer Malzard and was the sixth winner of the season for rider Jemma Marshall. Grenane went off as an 8/1 outsider with the bookmakers although at one stage 11/1 was available, but those who chose to back the winner on the tote were rewarded with odds of 53/1.

The "**Ladbroke's Ladies Day Handicap**" over a mile and a quarter saw two of the season's top performers namely Derby winner Major Maximus and Grey Panel who had won nine races between them this season in the seven runner field so it was no surprise to see them dominate the betting. On this occasion they both finished out the frame as Becks Bolero who won this race twelve months ago coasted home to the easiest win of the day five lengths clear of Neuilly with Athania a further two lengths back in third.

Final race of the afternoon "**The Ladbroke's Game On! Handicap**" proved to be a Jackpot buster as the Group One Racing (1994) Ltd owned Robbmaa sprang a 10/1 surprise win to complete a first and last race double for trainer Joan Le Brocq and a double on the card for jockey Mattie Batchelor. The seven year old has not been sighted at the business end during any of his races this season but yesterday stayed on strongly to win going away from Uniform Ruby who finished four lengths back in second with Lady Petrus a further length back in third. Once again Cronkyvoddy let his followers down and refused to race, this has become a habit, he appears to have fallen out of love with the racing game and can no longer be trusted to start, surely retirement beckons for the 11 year old veteran.

With just the traditional finale of the season taking place on August bank holiday Monday both jockeys titles look to be over with Jamie Goldstein and Jemma Marshall well clear of their nearest challenges. Courtesy of her two winners on the card the trainer's championship appears to be going once again to Alyson Malzard as she is two ahead of both Angie Corson and Tony Le Brocq. The other two season long championships however are still open, the Champion owner which is decided on prize money won sees Rushmore Racing, Lavender Racing and Malzard Racing all in with a chance of winning The Joan Valerie May Trophy. The Eileen Le Q Amy Memorial Trophy for the seasons leading racehorse is another three way contest between Derby winner Major Maximus, Derby Runner Up/Champion Hurdler Landolino whilst the maturing and vastly improved Grey Panel would take the title if he was the sole winner out of the trio on Monday 27th August.