

SIRES OF 2022

In part two of a new series Aisling Crowe looks at Nathaniel



Why Enable's sire looks to have a second wave of top-notchers

WHEN a stallion sires an iconic horse such as Enable, their brilliance can sometimes overshadow everything else that stallion does. The name of Nathaniel's superstar daughter is almost always mentioned in the same breath as her sire, but there are many more layers to Newsells Park Stud's kingpin than one, undoubtedly outstanding, mare.

For starters, Nathaniel has four other Group 1 winners from a total of 15 Group winners and 23 stakes winners among 42 stakes performers from his first six crops. The year just gone was a milestone one for his stud career as his daughter Sarai, from his first crop, produced the Prix Marcel Boussac winner Zellie, by Wootton Bassett.

Then there is his pedigree. By the incomparable Galileo, Nathaniel was bred by the late Lady Serena Rothschild and named after her son Nathaniel. His dam Magnificent Style, by Silver Hawk, won the Musidora Stakes but excelled as a broodmare, producing eight stakes winners out of a total of ten winning offspring and 12 runners.

By the time Nathaniel was born in 2008, Magnificent Style was already the dam of the Fillies' Mile winner and Irish Oaks second Playful Act, the Group 2 winners Percussionist and Echoes In Eternity, Grade 3 winner and Grade 1-placed Changing Skies, and the Listed winner Petara Bay.

After Nathaniel she foaled his sister Great Heavens, who avenged Playful Act's defeat in the Irish Oaks. Magnificent Style is also a half-sister to the Grade 1 Charles H Strub Stakes winner Siberian Summer and from the family of Grade 1 winner Silver Ending.

Of course, Nathaniel's race record was top drawer too. Like the rest of his talented contemporaries, he had the misfortune of being born in the same year as Frankel; indeed, they made their debut in the same Newmarket maiden. Nathaniel ran him to half a length, which was closer than any horse was to get to Frankel.

As a three-year-old he was sent immediately on the middle-distance trail, landing a Haydock maiden before finishing a head second to subsequent Irish Derby winner Treasure Beach in the Chester

Vase. He was a five-length winner of the King Edward VII Stakes and a decade after his sire won the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes, Nathaniel emulated him, with Workforce and St Nicholas Abbey filling the places.

Kept in training as a four-year-old, he began his season with victory over Farrh, Twice Over and Cityscape in the Eclipse, then lost his King George crown to Danedream on the bob of a head. He was also placed in the Irish Champion Stakes and Champion Stakes, his career ending as it had started, behind Frankel, before retiring to Newsells Park Stud for the 2013 season at a fee of £20,000.

That initial book produced 121 foals, with 100 of them making it to the track and 55 getting as far as the winner's enclosure. It produced nine two-year-old winners and the same number of stakes winners.

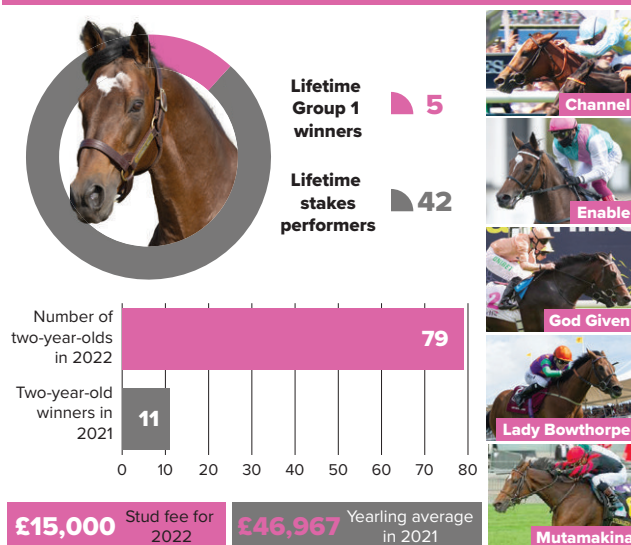
Of course, Enable was from that first crop, but she wasn't alone. God Given, a half-sister to Postponed, was too, and she went on to provide Luca Cumani with a fairytale ending to his training career by winning the 2018 Group 1 Premio Lydia Tesio on her final start.

Natavia, who won Newbury's Listed Classic Trial for Juddmonte, Chasedown, a Listed winner at three and Group 3 winner as a four-year-old, and Face The Facts, winner of the Rose Bowl Stakes, all shone as three-year-olds from that first crop for Nathaniel, though none burned so brightly as Enable.

Her stunning summer of 2017, when she went on a golden run of Group 1 victories that began in the Oaks and moved on through the Irish Oaks, King George and Yorkshire Oaks, led into a first Arc triumph that autumn, and undoubtedly had a positive impact on Nathaniel's book of mares in 2018 and in 2019.

In his second crop, which has supplied 49 winners from 85 runners, there are six black-type winners. These are headed by the Group 2 winners Amorella and Cheveley Park Stud's Lillie Langtry Stakes winner Pilaster.

Nathaniel



Nathaniel's third crop has produced three of his Group 1 winners, beginning with Channel, who won the Prix de Diane in 2019. It may have taken them a little longer to earn their Group 1 stripes but Mutamakina and Lady Bowthorpe, already Group winners before last season, enhanced their sire's record by winning the EP Taylor Stakes and Nassau Stakes respectively in 2021.

That trio of mares, along with Queen's Vase winner Dashing Willoughby and Prix Minerve scorer Tamniah, are the five Flat stakes winners to have emerged from Nathaniel's third crop.

His fifth crop, which was conceived after his first crop had run as two-year-olds, is his smallest but still produced Bubble Gift, who won the Prix Niel and Prix Hocquart last season for Mikel Delzangles and Zak Bloodstock.

Nathaniel's fee received a modest increase to return to its original price point for 2018,

'Potentially the most exciting of Nathaniel's two-year-olds of 2022 is Shadwell's homebred half-brother to Baaeed'

and he covered 148 mares that spring, with 33 of them black-type winners, and 15 Group winners among the assembled mares.

That crop is three this year and, considering that all of Nathaniel's stakes winners have been aged three and over, the class of 2022 should be coming into their prime. Last year 42 of them made it to the track and 11 of them were successful, a number that was surpassed only once by his earlier crops and illustrates the reserves of latent talent in the midst of this generation of three-year-olds.

OF THOSE who have already won, Martyn Meade's Zechariah, successful on the last two of four starts, holds entries in the Irish 2,000 Guineas and Irish Derby. Bred by John Gunther out of the Grade 2-placed Pivotal mare Nancy O, he is a grandson of the Del Mar Oaks and EP Taylor Stakes winner Arravale.

Of the unraced members of that crop, all eyes will certainly be drawn to Lenient whenever Juddmonte's homebred colt makes an appearance on the track, for he is a brother to Enable and therefore has enormous shoes to fill.

Another member of that crop with an illustrious sibling is the final reported foal out of

Tarfah, the dam of Camelot. The March-born colt was bred by Sheikh Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Just Josh is a three-year-old brother to Grade 1 winner Mutamakina and is in training with Ali Stronge. Beau Rivage is a Godolphin homebred half-sister to Group 1 Kennedy Mile winner Best Of Days, who was placed in three more Australian top-level contests.

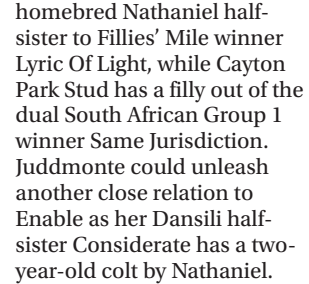
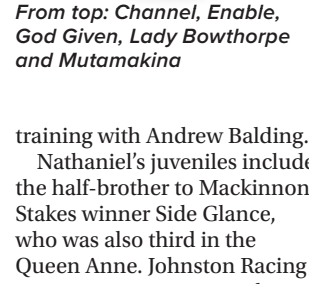
Newsells Park Stud's own blue riband family of Shastye has been utilised to support Nathaniel. Secret Soul, her daughter by Street Cry, is the dam of a filly named Sassi Neri in training with Simon and Ed Crisford, and has produced two-year-old and yearling brothers to her.

Enable's close inbreeding to Sadler's Wells appears to have inspired other breeders to replicate the experiment in an attempt to strike gold. Fantasia, the Group 3-winning and Group 1-placed dam of Berlin Tango, has two-year-old and yearling colts by Nathaniel and, like Enable's dam Concentric, she is a daughter of Sadler's Wells.

Magical Romance, the Barathean mare who won the Cheveley Park Stakes and is the second dam of Nathaniel's Prix de Diane winner Channel, has a three-year-old Nathaniel filly named Glorious Romance and an unnamed two-year-old filly by him.

Potentially the most exciting of Nathaniel's two-year-olds of 2022 is Shadwell's homebred half-brother to the scintillating Baaeed, last season's unbeaten champion three-year-old miler. Aghareed, dam of Baaeed and his Group 3-winning brother Hukum, was among 112 mares covered by Nathaniel in 2019 at his highest fee of £25,000 and he has 88 reported juveniles.

This colt is one of three members of that crop to hold entries for next year's Derby, with the others being Maxident, Amo Racing's half-brother to Group 3 winner Matchwinner, Listed winner Moon A Lisa and the Listed-placed Moi Lolita, and a half-brother to Group 2 winner and three-time Group 1-placed Delegator, sire of Queen Anne winner Accidental Agent, in



From top: Channel, Enable, God Given, Lady Bowthorpe and Mutamakina

training with Andrew Balding.

Nathaniel's juveniles include the half-brother to Mackinnon Stakes winner Side Glance, who was also third in the Queen Anne. Johnston Racing went to 60,000gns at Book 1 to secure the three-parts brother to Park Express Stakes winner Oh Goodness Me, while another Nathaniel colt with a connection to a juvenile Group winner trained by Jim Bolger is the Godolphin homebred half-brother to Rockfel winner Lucida.

Godolphin also have a homebred Nathaniel half-sister to Fillies' Mile winner Lyric Of Light, while Cayton Park Stud has a filly out of the dual South African Group 1 winner Same Jurisdiction. Juddmonte could unleash another close relation to Enable as her Dansili half-sister Considerate has a two-year-old colt by Nathaniel.