

A NEW RACING SEASON DAWNS

馬季盛大開鑼



LIONS EVERYWHERE ON DAY OF PRIDE





The Parade Ring at Sha Tin Racecourse was a sea of colour on 13 September as not just one lion dance, but an amazing 125 of them performed *en masse* to welcome back the horse racing at the start of this very special 125th Anniversary season. Hong Kong SAR Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam-kuen was also on hand to strike the ceremonial gong, while auspicious attractions arranged to bring luck to the 49,000 oncourse fans included a Golden Tree formation designed by *feng shui* master James Lee. On the track, honours in the season's first feature race, the HKSAR Chief Executive's Cup, went to Almond Lee-trained *Nightlign*, ridden by Jeff Lloyd.

Three days later, multiple colours gave way to pure gold as Happy Valley Racecourse staged a Golden Wednesday to welcome its first meeting of the new season.

Besides a variety of special gold-themed activities, fans were able to enjoy watching the races on an upgraded Diamond Vision screen, newly extended from 35 to 47 metres wide.

To whet racing fans' appetites in the run-up to the new season, the Club staged a series of roadshows at Off-Course Betting Branches featuring guest trainers and jockeys, and the traditional pre-season carnival at Sha Tin, attended by a sell-out crowd of 8,600 adults and children including over 2,000 Owners and their guests. Carnival visitors were able to enjoy equestrian demonstrations, pony and carriage rides, stable tours, parent-child workshops and inflatable games. The annual jockeys' sprint was won for the second year running by Jacky Tong.

The new season also ushered in an additional 15 simulcast racedays, allowing the Club to bring more international premier races into Hong Kong for the enjoyment of racing fans. To cater for the larger fields commonly found in overseas races, the Club has upgraded its computer system to handle up to 24 runners, thereby enhancing customers' betting experience of overseas races.

醒獅匯演舞動歡騰齊誌慶

九月十三日的馬季開鑼日，沙田馬場馬匹亮相圈內一片熱鬧。今季適逢馬會慶祝成立一百二十五週年，為數一百二十五頭威武醒獅盛勢到賀，陣容鼎盛，繽紛奪目。新馬季隨著香港特別行政區行政長官曾蔭權敲響銅鑼，正式展開。場內設有眾多吉祥活動，包括風水大師李丞責精心設計的「幸運金樹銅鑼陣」，為到場的四萬九千名馬迷祝願好運。勞愛德策騎李易達馬房的「開心歡笑」，摘下馬季首項錦標「香港特區行政長官盃」。

馬季開鑼後三天，跑馬地馬場呈獻「黃金星期三」，為馬季首場谷中賽事揭開序幕。馬迷除可盡情投入滿載金光的特備活動，還可透過由原先三十五米擴寬至四十七米的彩色大屏幕，感受賽事的刺激與震撼。

為迎接新馬季，馬會場外投注處舉辦連串「盡情『喜』動開鑼 Show」的熱身活動，多名練馬師和騎師親臨助陣。在沙田馬場舉行的「開季試聞樂滿Fun」，門票更於活動展開前全部售罄。當日節目豐富精彩，包括馬匹跳欄表演、小馬策騎、乘坐歐陸馬車、馬房導賞團、親子工作坊和巨型吹氣彈床，吸引達八千六百人出席，其中包括超過二千名馬主及其貴賓。而一年一度的騎師競跑，由湯智傑蟬聯冠軍。

馬會於今個馬季加入額外十五個聯播海外賽事日，為馬迷帶來更多國際級賽馬娛樂。此外，為配合海外賽事普遍有較多出賽馬匹的情況，馬會已提升電腦系統，提供多達二十四匹賽駒的投注選擇，以滿足馬迷投注有關海外賽事的需要。



A DREAM COMES TRUE

It's no secret that racing is a male dominated sport, but in other countries women have succeeded in breaking that domination both as jockeys and trainers. Now Hong Kong can boast its own female pioneer in Carol Yu, once a jockey, then a senior work rider, now the first woman ever to be appointed assistant trainer, as Carol was allocated this season to the stable of Anthony Millard.

In fact Carol, whose brother Alex was also a jockey and is now a senior work rider, and whose husband is former jockey Vincent Sit, was already something of a celebrity before this groundbreaking promotion just because in 2001 she played a leading role in a Cantonese TV series about the life of jockeys. But her acting was just an interlude in her real career, and now she's achieved what she describes as "a dream I've had for a long time".

If there is any prejudice against the idea of a woman in a supervisory position over a group of males it's not evident in the Millard stable, and that may well be because of Carol's attitude to her new appointment: "It's actually not too hard as long as you transform 'management' into 'co-operation'," she told Rapport magazine in February 2010. "We all have respect for each other and keep up the communication, so it works out well."

A working mother with two sons aged 6 and 2, her career journey may

not be complete until she's taken the final step of becoming a successful trainer in her own right.

夢想成真

從事賽馬運動行業向來以男士居多，可是外國也有不少女性成功擔任騎師與練馬師職位，與男士看齊。由騎師轉職高級策騎員的余詠詩，現已擢升為香港首位女助理練馬師，於今季效力苗禮德馬房，為香港開創先河。

余詠詩的胞弟余健誠亦是騎師出身，現為高級策騎員；其丈夫為前騎師薛順強。在晉升副練之前，余詠詩的名字已為公眾認識，因她曾於二〇〇一年主演一套描述年青騎師生涯的電視劇。電視演出只是她騎練事業中的一段小插曲，現已成為助理練馬師的她，形容這個事業上的突破為「多年夢想如願以償」。

有些人或會對女性擔任管理職位領導一群男員工工作存有偏見，但此情況並不存在於苗廐，也許這是因為余詠詩對新職位所抱持的態度使然，一如她在二〇一〇年

二月份《合拍》的專訪所言：「其實不太困難，只要把『管理』變成『合作』，大家互相尊重，有商有量，多點溝通就可以。」

余詠詩現為在職母親，育有兩名分別六歲與兩歲的兒子，她會繼續兼顧事業，務求最終成功晉升為練馬師。



Tackling Mental Disorders

Mental illnesses can strike the young and old alike, and psychotic disorders are one of the leading causes of years lived with disability, bringing substantial long-term burdens to the patients, their families and society. Supported with funding of HK\$69 million from the Club's Charities Trust, The University of Hong Kong has launched the Jockey Club Early Psychosis Project to fill an important service gap by offering specialised treatment to adult patients with early psychosis. Equally important is helping the ex-mentally ill reintegrate into society. This task has been made easier with the opening of Jockey Club Sunny Place, a new facility in Tai Po that provides an alternative residential care option for recovering mental patients. The care centre provides its residents with greater autonomy than Hong Kong's existing 'halfway houses', thus helping them build their self-

confidence for returning to community life. Opened in September and operated by The Mental Health Association of Hong Kong, the new facility has been made possible through a Trust donation of HK\$3.14 million.

助精神病患者昂首闊步展新生

任何人士不論年齡都有可能患上精神病。精神病被視為是讓人生活在殘疾中的主要原因之一，對病者、家庭、社會均帶來長期負擔。香港大學獲馬會慈善信託基金捐款約六千九百萬港元推行「賽馬會思覺健康計劃」，藉以填補目前本港醫療服務的空隙，為精神病患者提供適當復康治療，同時妥善協助精神病康復者重返社會。於大埔新設立的賽馬會心薈庭，正是特別為這類人士提供較現時「中途宿舍」更貼近社區兼高度自主的輔助居所，以助他們為獨立生活、重返社區作好準備。賽馬會心薈庭由香港心理衛生會營運，基金捐款三百一十四萬港元成立。





YOUTH SUPPORT AT THE DOUBLE

助青少年充實生活—展抱負

馬會於暑期分別舉辦及資助兩項就業計劃，反映其多方面為香港青少年創造就業機會。七月，馬會招募賽事見習學員，期間共收到逾一千份申請，較過去兩年均多逾一倍，創下自二〇〇六年以來的新高。經過初步選拔，約六十人獲面試機會，馬會取錄當中二十名精英接受基礎課程，內容包括騎術訓練、馬房管理、馬匹料理、英文及電腦應用。

隨後一個月，馬會慈善信託基金資助香港專業教育學院近一百五十名學生，於暑假期間在北京的工商和非政府機構，進行為期八周的暑期實習。是項實習計劃由基金捐款逾四百八十萬港元資助，由二〇〇七年推行，目的是提升學生的工作技巧、加強適應能力和擴闊視野，從而提升他們的競爭力，增加畢業後受聘的機會。



Two separate summer job programmes underlined the Club's multi-faceted support for creating job opportunities for young people in Hong Kong. In July, the Club launched its latest recruitment drive for racing trainees and received more than 1,000 applications, double the figure of the previous two years and the highest since 2006. Some 60 applicants were later selected for interview and then 20 lucky finalists chosen to join the Club's foundation training programme, which includes courses on riding techniques, stable management, horse handling, English and IT.

One month later, as part of a summer internship programme successfully organised since 2007, nearly 150 students from The Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education spent eight weeks in Beijing gaining work experience with various commercial and non-governmental organisations. The programme, supported by funding of over HK\$4.80 million from the Club's Charities Trust, aims to enhance the students' vocational skills, strengthen their adaptability and broaden their horizons, thus increasing their competitiveness.