



Yorkindness on an upward curve

AUL YORK's Yorkindness, already the winner of three staying races this year prior to the start of September, showed that she is improving rapidly when adding victories in decent handicap company at York and Musselburgh last month.

With three successes at Pontefract already under her belt, the four-year-old Nathaniel filly was looking to show that she could win elsewhere when lining up at York in a handicap over two miles and 56 yards. The potential problem was that only three runners had gone to post, and past experience suggested that the filly liked to improve off a strong pace in her races.

Yorkindness was opposed by the mile and a half winner, Gibside, and Tendentious, a winner over a mile and three-quarters at Redcar last time out.

Jockey Joe Fanning solved the problem by asking the filly to make the running. Dominant throughout, Yorkindness pulled clear of her rivals in the closing stages to win by a comfortable eight lengths from Gibside.

'Yorkindness has had a really good year up until now, but only at Pontefract,' said Charlie Johnston after the race.

'She was disappointing earlier in the year here but we know there's no trip too long for her. I'm hoping we can sneak her



Joe Fanning with Yorkindness and groom Jagat Singh

into the Cesarewitch and she's got a penalty now, but will still need another

Clearly in good heart, the filly was turned out again a week later, when she contested the Musselburgh Gold Cup at Musselburgh, run over two miles. Again, Joe took the ride.

The early pace at the East Lothian track was set by Coltor, with Yorkindness racing prominently in second. Travelling sweetly for Joe turning into the straight, Yorkindness took over in front with just over two furlongs still to travel. Although It's Good To Laugh threw down a challenge on the outer, Yorkindness simply

had to be pushed out to score by threequarters of a length from that gelding, with Stuart Morrison's Haizoom finishing third, beaten a further length and three-quarters.

Assistant trainer Jock Bennett was on hand at Musselburgh to witness the win.

'All credit to Yorkindness,' he said.

'She's very game and tough. I'm sure her owner Paul York will be over the moon. We weren't worried where the pace was going to come from. Joe always knew what he was going to be doing and he knows her very well.'

The Musselburgh win was the filly's fifth win of the year and her sixth overall. Her win at Pontefract in June came off a mark of 65. After Musselburgh, her official rating has risen to a career high 83, a measure of the improvement she has made this term.

The gutsy filly ran again on the last day of September in a valuable handicap at Chester where she ran well but finished out of the places in fourth.

ORKINDNESS is out of her owner/breeder's Dalakhani mare, Yorkidding, who also won six races when trained by Mark between 2014 and 2017. Yorkidding was also Listed-placed, having finished third in a Listed race at Baden-Baden in 2016.