



Looking at what was in the Andytown News way back when... this week 1993

Nagging mystery finally solved

THERE was quite a shock for the still-sleepy residents of Ladybrook Avenue who woke early one morning in February 1993 to find a thoroughbred stallion tethered to a lamp-post in the street.

Amazed locals realised immediately that the horse, which was wearing a quilted coat and a bridle, was not your run-of-the-mill scrawny nag and they contacted the Andersonstown News, who got the USPCA on the job. They took the obviously well-cared-for animal to their shelter at Carryduff.

But the blueblood horse was soon home and safe after his relieved owner contacted the USPCA on reading the story in the Andytown News. Local breeder Charlie

Finnegan revealed to us that the horse was the immaculately-bred harness racing stallion Northern Winds, whose father was Europe's most sought-after harness sire, Rajah Lobell, and who was a full brother to Saunders Alpine, one of the world's most successful harness racing horses with earnings in the United States of over \$600,000 in 1992.

The five-year-old had enjoyed a successful racing career in Ireland and Scotland and was the fastest animal in the country over a mile as a three- and four-year-old. Northern Winds had been retired to stud at Charlie's stable at Rosgoill and his card was full for all of 1993 and well into 1994. So it was a

huge relief for Charlie to get the thoroughbred back safe and well. "It was a worrying time, I can tell you, to lose such a valuable animal even for a few days," he said.

"We're absolutely thrilled that things have worked out alright and we see a long and happy retirement at stud for Northern Winds."

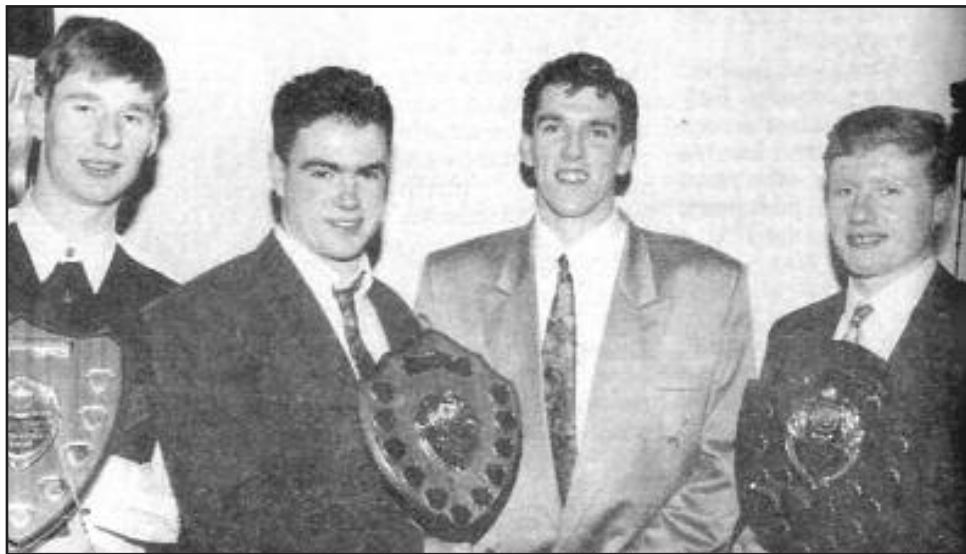
It wasn't established who was responsible for the theft of the horse – and Northern Winds was staying quiet on the subject – but a drunken prank by home-bound revellers was the most likely explanation. Not surprisingly, Charlie said security at the Rosgoill stable where Northern Winds was back happily munching hay was to be significantly tightened.

Out and about

KATZ nightclub at the Derby House featured Lawrence John from BCR on Friday night at the laser special disco. On Saturday night Philip Patrick played all the golden oldies and hosted a Take Your Pick event with this month's jackpot having risen to £600.

The Whitefort Inn had Rosie and Squeeze on stage on Monday nights (late bar), the Gents played Tuesday nights, the Untouchables Thursday nights, Ga-Ga on Friday nights and Dreams on Saturday nights – all also with a late bar.

The Devenish Arms had a golden oldies disco on Thursday nights, Glen Folk on Saturdays and Enigma on Sundays.



At the annual Lamh Dhearg dinner ceili presentations in St Agnes' hall, All-Star hurler Gerard McGrattan presented plaques to Patrick McHugh (South Antrim), Cormac Carmichael (Minor) and Donal O'Hara (Senior)



Jack Rooney and Oliver Kelly were special guests on the night, making presentations for outstanding contributions to Frank Fitzsimmons, Jackie Duffy, Ciaran McGraw and Sean Maguire



John Rafferty (Armagh) and Matt McGleenan (Tyrone) are pictured with trophy winners Gary Agnew, Hugh Prior, Brendan Elliott, Frank Fitzsimmons, Anthony Finnegan and Jim Brady



The title of Clubman of the Year went to Paul Buchanan and club Chairman Jim Herron did the honours

The pennies in your pocket

THE grey and dreary days of February were brightened a little bit with a few offers of summer sunshine holidays from Joe Walsh Tours in Castle Street.

Two weeks in Orlando were from £379 per person sharing (prices in Irish punts). A fortnight on the paradise island of Majorca was from £169 pps, Tenerife £219, the Algarve £189, Corfu £249 and Turkey £259. All flights were ex-Dublin with free Ulsterbus coach return journey to Dublin Airport.

Dunnes Stores stated "You could pay more for your food (but why should you?)" and offered 500gms of St Bernard pure creamery butter for 99p. St Bernard sliced pan loaves were 49p

while a six-pack of 330ml cans of Coca-Cola was £1.19, 100gms of Jacobs coffee was 99p and choice mince steak was 99p per lb. Elsewhere in the Dunnes butchery department, frying steak was £1.99 per lb, silverside roast £1.99 per lb, top-side roast £1.99 per lb and chump steak £2.29 per lb.

Laser Electric at Boucher urged customers to take advantage of the last few days of their sale with a Samsung 20" TV and video combo for sale at £499.99 – a saving of £50 on the recommended retail price. An Akai CD mini system was £399.999, again with an RRP saving of £50. A Samsung microwave oven was £89.99 – a saving of £20 on the RRP,

while a Hotpoint electric cooker was £259.99 – lopping £40 off the RRP. A Canon 8mm Camcorder was £499.99, another £50 saving, while a Servis washing machine offered the same saving with a sale price of £279.99p.

McGowans superstore offered factory furniture at unbeatable prices in the Twin Spires Centre off the Falls. A 3-1-1 Milano wood frame suite was £698, a saving of £200. Single divan beds were from £69, storage divans were £89, single fold-away beds were from £39 and sofa beds were from £298. The firm also offered a comprehensive recovering and repolishing service – estimates free.



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