

THE DERBY 1951

It's the Festival Derby and there's a record crowd. Round Tattenham Corner they're thicker than flies. Heaven knows how many grandmothers are being buried this afternoon. It's the first Wednesday Derby since before the War and there must be a million turning up ... from every direction they're rolling in and rolling in thick and fast. Twenty-five thousand cars and at least five thousand coaches, and wherever you look everybody's busy.

Excuse me mate ... got to butt in ... here comes the Queen leading the Royal party into the paddock. The only regret on this great day is that the King is too unwell to attend.

It's time for the jockeys to mount and here goes Gordon Richards for his 26th attempt to win the one race every jockey wants to win.

With Princess Margaret is the Marquis of Blandford. Mr. Loy On looks just right to lead in KI MING if he wins. Gordon is up on STOKES, just recovered after an accident. And here's ARCTIC PRINCE.

The 33 runners will be off to the start soon. Favourite KI MING is the biggest horse in the field.

Last minute bets pile on, and from their box the Royal party trains on the start. The horses are under starter's orders now. There has been a little trouble, but they're in line now.

FRAISE DU BOIS AND ZUCCHERO (Lester Piggott's mount) are badly left as the field gets away in a bunch. MYSTERY 9, KI MING and MALKA'S BOY take up the running as they stern up the hill. There's a mile-and-a-half to go. The going's perfect and there'll be no excuses if the favourites don't make good.

Along the top and by the bushes it's still MYSTERY 9, KI MING and MALKA'S BOY well there as they top the climb. ARCTIC PRINCE is lying handy and the French horses are well placed if they're good enough.

Now they're nearing Tattenham Corner. KI MING's running well but his big test is just ahead. He's a bit of a giant: will he be able to take the sharp downhill turn in his stride?

Round the Corner it's still MYSTERY 9 from KI MING, RAINCHECK... and ARCTIC PRINCE is there. But MYSTERY 9 looks as though he's going on to win from pillar to post. He's the real mystery horse of the race, but he's going like a good 'un.

But look at ARCTIC PRINCE! He's found an opening and he's fairly flying through his field. Jockey Charlie Spares hasn't ridden in a Derby before, but it looks as though he's got this one in the bag. The Irish colt is just skating it!

It's a million to one for ARCTIC PRINCE. They'll never catch him! But there's a hectic battle for the places. There's a whole bunch with a chance and here comes SYBIL'S NEPHEW with a run to join in ... But there's no doubt who's won as Charlie Spares drives ARCTIC PRINCE to the post with six good lengths to spare, to win the richest race ever run in England. It's £19,000 for owner Joseph McGrath of Dublin and congratulations to Charlie Spares and ARCTIC PRINCE.