

17 May 2013

## Missing Sammy ....

Little Paige is missing her big mate, Sammy.

He was at the races on Friday, but he wasn't in his yard when she went to see him on Saturday.

She's asked her mum and dad where he is because he's not in the penthouse where he used to be.

Pip Wakelin is working through that, and 3-year-old Paige will soon know Sammy will not be back.

Because as well as the cheers of happiness at Addington last week, there were the tears of sadness.

Before the finish of the 3-win trot, Theycallmesam had come to a sudden stop. He was holding up a leg too sore to take his weight. He was treated for the pain.

The fetlock joint was broken "beyond repair," said Pip, "rubble." Her partner Steven Noble took him home,

to be put down that night and buried the next day.

Pip and Paige stayed on because Pip had Sunny Jewel in later in the night. The stipes were kind, calling her in to see if she was alright and offering support.

So were many others - words of sympathy and calls from people who understand the attachment to a horse can be long and close.

"He was part of the family, here since he was a weanling," said Pip.

"Just a great allrounder .. loved his work especially going round the roads.

"He was so honest, a real trier, and Paige could do anything with him.

"It was a great honour to train him.

"He was the first horse I had to win three on end, and he's the only horse I've had to win on Cup Day."

Theycallmesam was part-owned by



Theycallmesam

Steven's parents, Graham and Eileen, who are suffering, too.

"It's a big blow to have something like this happen on racenight.

"We had to put down Awesome Imace but that was at home, but here, everyone is coming up and saying sorry.

"That's what's so hard; there is so much sympathy out there.

"There are a lot of happy memories, but I didn't think it would be over like this. We were planning next season because he had a bit more to come."

- Mike Grainger