

Goldream does it again for Harley

Result Qatar Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp 5f

- 1 Goldream.....15-2
- 2 Rangali.....25-1
- 3 Muthmir.....11-4f
- 4 Pearl Secret.....33-1

Owners Jeff Sargeant and Julie Morley

Trainer Robert Cowell

Jockey Martin Harley

Breeder Tsega Breeding Limited

Distances sh-nk, 1¼, ¾

Mark Storey reports



THE future looked uncertain for Martin Harley when he went freelance, but then a horse called Goldream blitzed into his life.

The 26-year-old split with Marco Botti ten months ago but the parting has proved favourable

as he added a second Group 1 of the season to his King's Stand triumph at Royal Ascot on the Robert Cowell-trained sprinter.

"One Group 1 every season is a miracle, let alone two," said Harley after producing Goldream with a perfectly timed run up the rail to eclipse Rangali in the final few strides.

"Royal Ascot and Arc day – it doesn't get any better than that. It's unbelievable. I'm freelancing this year and it's tough for any freelance jockey, but luckily enough I bumped into this horse and he's won me two Group 1s. It's hard enough to find a horse like this when you've got a job, let alone when you're freelance."

Harley makes it sound like a one-sided relationship, but that is not the case. He brings out the best in the six-year-old and showed tactical nous by keeping something in reserve in the face of a furious pace.

He said: "He broke on terms but they went a hell of a gallop all the way and I wanted to make



Goldream (far side) and Martin Harley come late to deny Rangali as well-backed favourite Muthmir fades into third

sure he finished well. It's very hard to make the running and win from the front here, so I was happy with my position.

"I got a lovely gap and although the French horse [Rangali] quickened well I knew I would wear him down in the last 100 yards. He had a lovely draw, he's tough and he stays five well."

Cowell, who has the Al Quoz Sprint on Dubai World Cup night in his sights for his star, said: "It's a big achievement to win two Group 1s in a year with a sprinter as nothing normally goes right.

"There was a lot of pace. Normally we would be racing

with the pace but Martin sensibly held him up and came with a late run and it worked. The horse picked up very cleverly, and well done Martin Harley."

Rangali was beaten a short neck and had been denied by a head when runner-up last year.

Trainer Alex Pantall said: "He is really talented but not easy. He has a lovely turn of foot but once he hit the front he half pulled himself up. We were the only French yard with a runner in the race, so it was still great in a way."

The well-backed Muthmir became the 14th beaten Abbaye favourite in a row when fading

into third under Paul Hanagan.

The jockey said: "He hit the gates a bit too well. I thought he ran very well but I would have loved to have been where Martin was. There aren't many excuses."

Ninth-placed Sole Power came no nearer to cracking the Abbaye than on his previous four visits, but last year's winner Move In Time ran a belter from a bad draw to finish fifth.

That was a place behind Pearl Secret, owned by Qatar Racing, whose representative David Redvers said: "He was drawn very wide and as he missed the start

and they went so hard early there was no point trying to stay on the outside, so Andrea [Atzeni] sensibly switched on to the rail and rode him for luck.

"Having sat on the rail he then got the luck, but he had given too much ground away and finished like a train."

He added: "The original plan was to prepare him for a career at stud. He's not in the six-furlong race on Champions Day because we didn't think ideally he'd want it, but a fast-run six furlongs ridden off the pace might suit him, so we might consider supplementing him."