

Friday 10 August 2018

FLEMINGTON RETURN FOR SPRING HOPEFUL ODEON



Promising stayer Odeon in winning action at Caulfield during his last campaign

Odeon's (NZ) (Zacinto) early season form will provide a number of answers as connections consider a Caulfield Cup campaign for last year's South Australian Derby placegetter.

Five-year-old Odeon resumes in a 1400m-handicap at Flemington on Saturday and co-trainer Simon Zahra believes the gelding has shown improvement from the autumn.

A Listed winner over 1800m as a spring four-year-old last year, Odeon went winless during his autumn campaign, although he was second in the Easter Cup (2000m) at

Caulfield. Odeon was spelled after his seventh in the Gr.1 Queen Elizabeth Stakes (2000m) at Randwick in April and Zahra has been buoyed by the gelding's trackwork and two Flemington jump-outs ahead of his season return.

"I'm not quite sure he was at his best in the autumn," Zahra said.

"He looked a bit one-paced and seemed to have lost that turn of foot. I think the turnaround from spring to his next campaign was a bit quick.

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(Continued from page 1)

"He seems to have got that turn of foot back and seems a lot stronger. He just seems a different horse.

"He never trialled as good as what he's been trialling."

Odeon will hold a Gr.1 Caulfield Cup (2400m) nomination but Zahra said the gelding would still need to qualify for the \$5 million handicap and also prove he is a genuine stayer.

The Gr.2 Dato Tan Chin Nam Stakes (1600m) and Gr.1 Naturalism Stakes (2000m), which carry Caulfield Cup ballot exemptions, are among options for Odeon's upcoming starts.

"His next three runs will tell us where he's at," Zahra said.

"But we probably couldn't have him in any better shape going into Saturday."

Zahra admitted Odeon's first-up runs were not usually his best but would not be surprised to see him make his presence felt given his lead-up work.

"Whether they are a bit too sharp for him first-up, time will tell, but I'd be disappointed if he didn't run a bit of a race," he said.

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DEBT COLLECTOR READY FOR TAKE-OFF IN SINGAPORE JUMBO JET

Debt Collector (NZ) (Thorn Park) has returned bigger and stronger as he prepares to resume in Sunday's S\$200,000 Jumbo Jet Trophy (1400m).

The undisputed champion of the Singapore 2016 season stepped out for his first barrier trial in almost a year on Thursday morning, looking like a "brand new horse" after spelling in Australia for five months.

Trainer Cliff Brown said the Thorn Park six-year-old had filled out and looked stronger, a new physique which he hoped would translate into a return to his best, if not better.

"He's fine. As you know, he hasn't won for a long time (February 2017)," Brown said.

"He trialled good, but there's a big difference between a barrier trial and actual match-race conditions. But the blow will do him good."

Meanwhile, Lee Freedman is confident **Mr Clint (NZ)** (Power) will show his best on raceday after an average trial last week as he prepares for his return to the races.

The New Zealand-bred son of Power won the S\$1 million Singapore Guineas (1600m) at his most recent start back in May and has only been out of the placings once in his nine career starts.

Bred by Sir Patrick and Justine Lady Hogan, Mr Clint will have the services of quality rider Daniel Moor on Sunday.

"He's come back well, despite an ordinary trial," Freedman said. He's fine and I'm happy enough with him going into the race on Sunday."



Debt Collector is ready to make his return to the Singapore racing scene

Regardless of his performance on Sunday, Moor said Mr Clint could be that horse who may well put him on the map in the more coveted bigger races.

"I hope to stay with Mr Clint this preparation. He's a horse that has an exciting future and I hope to be part of that," Moor said.

Racing Statistics Report for Singapore in 2018

Country Born	% Runners	% Winners	% Wins
ARG	1.9	1.8	1.8
AUS	43.3	41.6	40.9
BRZ	0.3	0.8	1.0
CAN	0.1	0.0	0.0
FR	0.1	0.0	0.0
GB	2.1	1.0	1.0
IRE	5.4	4.7	5.3
ITY	0.1	0.0	0.0
JPN	2.9	3.4	3.5
KOR	0.2	0.0	0.0
NZ	39.1	41.6	40.7
SAF	0.4	0.3	0.4
USA	4.2	4.7	5.5

Data provided by Arion Pedigrees – www.arion.co.nz





SLOW COACH IS BIG GRAND NATIONAL HOPE

The slowest horse Shane Brown has trained could provide the Woodville trainer with his most important training success at Riccarton on Saturday.

Chocolate Fish (NZ), a nine-year-old son of Colombia, is Brown's big hope to win the Racecourse Hotel & Motor Lodge Grand National Steeplechase (5600m), one of the premier jumps events on the New Zealand racing calendar.

Brown is in his 13th season of training and has steadily built up his band of owners. He experienced his best season last term with nine wins to take his total to 61, but he admits he wasn't counting on Chocolate Fish being a contributor when he first started to work him.

"He's the slowest horse I've trained, but he's a genuine stayer," Brown said.

Chocolate Fish showed that stamina in last Saturday's Koral Steeplechase (4250m) when the leader Notabadrooster (NZ) (Thano) fell in his path after the last fence, just as he was coming into the race strongly.

Chocolate Fish recovered and, aided by his brave rider, Shaun Phelan, jumped over Notabadrooster and set out after the winner, Amanood Lad (NZ) (Germano), to close to within a half-neck when finishing second.

"It was a top effort by horse and rider, too," Brown said.

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Chocolate Fish looks a leading contender for Saturday's Racecourse Hotel & Motor Lodge Grand National Steeplechase





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SLOW COACH IS BIG GRAND NATIONAL HOPE

(Continued from page 5)

“That’s why Shaun is one of the best in the business.”

Early in his career, Chocolate Fish’s lack of speed saw him fail to clear maiden ranks on the flat, though he picked up five placings from 11 starts, and he was well-beaten in his two hurdle starts.

But when switching to steeplechasing he has proved a good money-spinner for his connections, which include Brown’s partner, Amy Ames-Durey.

He won his ‘chase debut at Hastings 13 months ago and a month later Brown threw him in the deep end, contesting the Koral – Grand National Steeplechase double.

“People thought I was mad running him in the Grand National in just his third start over fences, but he wasn’t disgraced,” Brown said. “He’s now had the benefit of that experience and we might reap the rewards on Saturday.”

Chocolate Fish finished fifth in last year’s Koral Steeplechase then fourth to Upper Cut (NZ) (Yamanin Vital) in the Grand National Steeplechase and since then he has been a model of consistency over country with his sole blemish being when seventh in the Waikato Steeplechase (3900m) at Te Rapa.

“He just never handled the track at Te Rapa that day,” Brown said. “But he hasn’t gone a bad race since then.”

Chocolate Fish will again clash with Wise Men Say (NZ) (Yamanin Vital) and Amanood Lad on Saturday and Brown rates the pair as two of the hardest to beat, but he is also wary of a “smoky” in the race.

“If the track gets heavy Wise Men Say and Amanood Lad should be right in it, but I’ve also got a lot of respect for Tai Ho,” Brown said.

“He was placed (third) in it last year and he’s won his last two. He gets in on the minimum like us. He’s the one to keep an eye on. Shamal is a chance too.”

All bar Wise Men Say (71kg) and Amanood Lad (70.5kg) are on the 65kg minimum.

“The biggest thing for us is being on the minimum,” Brown said. “That gives him a good chance to win a race like this before he gets up in the weights.”

– NZ Racing Desk



NEWS IN BRIEF



I Am A Star (NZ) (I Am Invincible)

I Am A Star to make Flemington return

Group One winner **I Am A Star (NZ)** (I Am Invincible) is ready to make her first race appearance this year in the Gr.3 Aurie's Star Handicap (1200m) after impressing her trainer and jockey in a barrier trial at Cranbourne on Monday.

I Am A Star has not raced since last spring, with a combination of issues forcing trainer Shane Nichols to abort the 2016 Gr.1 Myer Classic (1600m) winner's autumn preparation.

Nichols said I Am A Star had an active splint, some back pain, feet issues and some activity in a high suspensory but said the mare was over those issues after a good break.

"I'm really happy," Nichols said. "She's a completely different horse to what she was when I was prepping her up in the autumn."

The five-year-old had an 800m-trial on Monday and finished fifth.

"That has topped her off beautifully," Nichols said.

"She had a nice blow and she'll be A1 for Saturday.

"It's not a target race on Saturday but I want her to have done enough work so she's fit enough to go well and improve from the run, without the run hurting her."

Bishara hoping to extend Flash run

Nick Bishara had his highs and lows with the racemare Opulence (NZ), but now he is forever grateful to the daughter of Danroad.

The Ardmore Lodge trainer can thank Opulence for the fine run of form he has been experiencing, one that he hopes can continue this weekend and lead to black-type missions.

Bishara has nine horses in work and has won four races within the last three weeks, along with a handful of placings. At the heart of all those wins has been Opulence,



Verry Flash (NZ) (Zed)

the dam of his winners Black Lace (NZ) (Towkay) and **Verry Flash (NZ)** (Zed). [Full story here](#)

Tavistock filly impresses in Perth

Perth trainer Alan Mathews unveiled a classic filly of the future when **Vintage Stock (NZ)** (Tavistock) bolted in on debut on Wednesday at Belmont.

The Tavistock three-year-old, starting at \$10 and ridden by Patrick Carbery, led most of the way in the Western Racepix Maiden (1200m) to score by four and a quarter lengths.

Mathews said he joked with Vintage Stock's owners about her joining stable star Pounamu (Authorized) on a flight to Melbourne for the spring carnival.

"I thought she could go nice but didn't expect that much of her," Mathews said. "We had the advantage of having a little gallop on the grass on Saturday morning with Pounamu. She's a Kiwi filly with a fair bit of upside.

"We paid \$20,000 for her in New Zealand and we've liked her from day one."

Bought by bloodstock agent John Chalmers at the 2017 Karaka Yearling Sales from the draft of Rich Hill Stud, Vintage Stock is a half-sister to talented jumper l'll'ava'alf (NZ) (Lucky Unicorn), who was a winner at Warrnambool on Thursday.

Lofty spring targets for Ocean Emperor

Ocean Emperor (NZ) (Zabeel) has freshened since his unsuccessful Singapore mission and is taking positive steps toward a return to racing in the Gr.1 Tarzino Trophy (1400m) at Hastings.

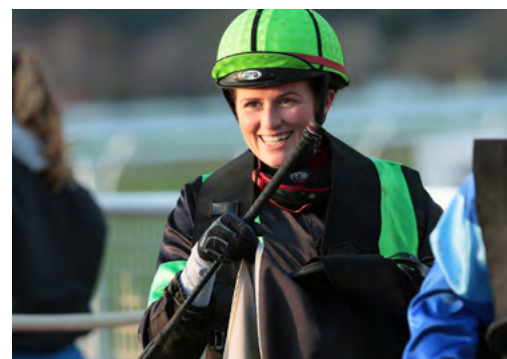
The son of Zabeel was taken to Singapore for the S\$1.5 million Kranji Mile (1600m) on May 26 on the strength of his win in the Gr.2 Japan-NZ International Trophy (1600m) at Matamata last March and, though he



Ocean Emperor (NZ) (Zabeel)

finished only seventh, trainer and part-owner Gary Hennessy was satisfied with his performance.

"He travelled over great and I was happy going into the race, but it was disappointing how it panned out in the race," Hennessy said. [Full story here](#)



Emily Farr

Grand National hopes alive for Farr

Emily Farr hasn't given up hope of landing a Grand National win this year.

The Cambridge jockey was favoured to win the Grand National Hurdles (4200m) on Wednesday aboard Waikato visitor Laekeeper (NZ) (Keeper) after the pair combined to win the Sydenham

Hurdles (3100m) on the first day, but had to settle for second behind Jackfrost (NZ) (Gallant Guru).

Now Farr is focussing on going one better in Saturday's Racecourse Hotel & Motor Lodge Grand National Steeplechase (5600m) on **Kings Deep (NZ)** (Viking Ruler) for Hastings trainer Paul Nelson.

"He went a good race in the Koral last Saturday for fourth," she said. "The ground was a bit firm and, being a bit shorter in distance (4250m), I had to keep the pressure on.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

"It's going to be different in the Grand National. It's going to suit him a lot better."

Farr has ridden Kings Deep three times, including a win at Te Aroha and a fourth in the Hawke's Bay Steeplechase (4800m).

Kings Deep has performed well at past Grand National meetings. The son of Viking Ruler won hurdle races on two days of the 2013 Grand National meeting and was second in the 2015 Grand National Hurdles.



Jackfrost (NZ) (Gallant Guru)

12-month plan comes off with Jack

The emotion showed on the faces of trainers Brian and Shane Anderton after **Jackfrost (NZ)** (Gallant Guru) fulfilled a 12-month plan when winning the Grand National Hurdles (4200m) at Riccarton on Wednesday.

"It's not often you set them for a race like this and it comes off, but it did today," said Brian Anderton, who along with his wife, Lorraine, bred the eight-year-old.

Making the occasion even more memorable for the Andertons is the fact Jackfrost is a product of their White Robe Lodge stud operation, being by resident sire Gallant Guru from Vital Note (NZ), a daughter of their former successful sire Yamanin Vital. [Full story here](#)

Apprentices score maiden victories

Young Levin apprentice Sam O'Malley will never forget **High Quality (NZ)** (Handsome Ransom).

It was aboard the six-year-old gelding for his employer, Geoff Haigh, on whom O'Malley broke his drought and finally landed his first winning ride at Woodville on Thursday.

The win came in his 64th ride and capped off five minor placings, four of them on High Quality, a son of Handsome Ransom.

"It's great for young Samuel," Haigh said. "He's a good kid and he's ridden some really nice races.



High Quality (NZ) (Handsome Ransom)

He's just needed that bit of luck and a bit more confidence. He's starting to pick it up now and is going great guns."

Meanwhile, later on the card Foxton apprentice jockey Temyia Taiaroa picked up her first win aboard the Kevin Myers-trained Duffers Creek (NZ) (Gold Centre) in the Dannevirke Dairy Supplies 1400.



Vassillator (NZ) (Zacinto)

Black-type targets for Vassillator

Caulfield trainer Colin Little will be looking to add to **Vassillator's (NZ)** (Zacinto) black-type record later this month when he lines-up his promising three-year-old in the Gr.3 Vain Stakes (1100m) at Caulfield on August 18.

The Zacinto colt, who won the Listed Anzac Day Stakes (1400m) last season, finished third in an 800m trial at Cranbourne on Monday and his trainer believes he will take a lot of improvement out of the run.

"He had a soft trial on Monday at Cranbourne, finishing third, and ate up," Little said. "He over-raced while fresh, got his head up and was a bit too keen, but he'll probably go around on his home track at Caulfield, Saturday week. [Full story here](#)

Price duo on track for Lawrence

Caulfield trainer Mick Price is pleased with the progress of Group One winners



Grunt (NZ) (O'Reilly)

Grunt (NZ) (O'Reilly) and Mighty Boss

(Not A Single Doubt) after the duo filled the placings behind stablemate Holy Snow (Fastnet Rock) in a 990m trial at Cranbourne on Monday morning.

Both Grunt and Mighty Boss are likely to resume in the Gr.2 P.B. Lawrence Stakes (1400m) at Caulfield on August 18, while Price will plot a path towards the Gr.1 Sir Rupert Clarke Stakes (1400m) with Holy Snow.

"Grunt improved from his exhibition gallop he had with Mighty Boss, he was a bit wound down then, but he switched on today," Price said. [Full story here](#)



Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands)

Taupo gallop furthers Foxbridge preparation

Jamie Richards used a trip to Taupo for a hit-out on Wednesday morning to put top mare **Melody Belle (NZ)** (Commands) on target for her Group Two return to racing at Te Rapa.

Melody Belle is being set for the Gr.2 Lisa Chittick Foxbridge Plate (1200m) on Saturday week and the Matamata trainer had to change lead-up plans after the postponement of the Te Teko trials, scheduled for last Tuesday.

[continued on next page](#)



NEWS IN BRIEF

Rather than risk waiting for the rescheduled Te Teko trials next Monday, Richards opted to put Melody Belle and five other horses, including Group One contenders Age Of Fire (Fastnet Rock) and Our Abbadean (NZ) (Lookin At Lucky) on a float to Taupo. [Full story here](#)



Scott Base (NZ) (Dalghar)

Cox Plate entry for Scott Base

Johno Benner and Hollie Wynyard are hoping to kick off a potential Cox Plate programme with **Scott Base (NZ)** (Dalghar) in the Gr.1 Tazrino Trophy (1400m) at Hastings.

Benner confirmed that Scott Base's name will be in the nominations for the Gr.1 A\$5 million Ladbrokes Cox Plate (2040m) at Moonee Valley on October 27 when entries close on Tuesday.

"I'll be putting a nomination in," Benner said. "We'll be taking it run by run, but it would be great if he could get there. He deserves to be nominated." [Full story here](#)

Group One performers pleasing Latta

While enjoying the thrill of a third Gr.3 Winter Cup (1600m) win at Riccarton, Lisa Latta is pleased with her ammunition for the early season features.

Three days before Platinum Command (NZ) (Red Giant) broke through for her biggest win in the twilight of her racing career, the Awapuni trainer unleashed her Group One performers **Authentic Paddy (NZ)** (Howbaddouwantit) and **Five To Midnight (NZ)** (Domesday) at the Foxton trials and was thrilled with their efforts.

Authentic Paddy, winner of last season's Gr.1 Zabeel Classic (2000m) at Ellerslie, had enjoyed a spell since finishing unplaced in the Gr.3 Canterbury Gold Cup (2000m) in April and showed he was on target for another successful campaign when he won an open 1000-metre heat in the hands of apprentice Tim Johnson. [Full story here](#)

Sir Nate on track for Listed event

Sir Nate (NZ) (Nadeem) put himself in contention for an early season feature three-year-old event when winning at last week's Foxton trials.

The stakes-winning son of Nadeem won an open 850m heat in his first public appearance since his eye-catching third behind Advantage (Fastnet Rock) and Melt (NZ) (Iffraaj) in the Gr.1 Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni on March 31.

"It was a bit of a surprise," trainer Lisa Latta said. "He's coming up well and he'll probably go to that three-year-old race on the first day at Hastings."

The race is the Listed El Roca – Sir Colin Meads Trophy (1200m) on September 1 and if he performs well he will be back at Hastings for the Gr.2 Sacred Falls Hawke's Bay Guineas (1400m) on October 6.

Sir Nate has won three of his six starts, including the Listed Wellesley Stakes (1000m) at Trentham.

Trainers eyeing first juvenile race

Johno Benner and Holly Wynyard have stepped out their first couple of two-year-olds with a view to being strongly represented in the first juvenile race of the season at Wanganui.

The opening day of the new season last Wednesday marked the first two-year-old trial at Foxton and Benner and Wynyard had two of the three starters in the 600m heat.

Victory went to the Fraser Auret-trained Miss Sweet Pee (NZ) (Mossman), but the Otaki trainers were pleased with the performances of **Springsteen (NZ)** (Stratum) and **Alto Potenza (NZ)** (Proisir). Springsteen finished a length and a half behind Miss Sweet Pea.

"It was good education for them and they'll go to the Foxton trials on the 21st (August) then on to the first two-year-old race at Wanganui," Benner said.

"We've had eight yearlings through the stable and a few more will jump out this week."

The Wanganui event is over 800m on September 8.

Cooksley to make the call

Shelley Hale will leave it to Grant Cooksley to make the call on which of her stable representatives he will ride in the Gr.2 Lisa Chittick Foxbridge Plate (1200m) at Te Rapa



Close Up (NZ) (Shinko King)

on Saturday week.

Hale plans to tackle the weight-for-age event with **Close Up (NZ)** (Shinko King) and his brother **Seventh Up (NZ)**.

Cooksley has been the regular rider of both horses and was runner-up on Close Up in last year's Foxbridge Plate before the pair headed to Hastings to win the Gr.1 Tazrino Trophy (1400m) and finish second to Gingernuts (NZ) (Iffraaj) in the Gr.1 Windsor Park Plate (1600m).

Cooksley got a taste of the Shinko King nine-year-old's readiness for this month's Foxbridge Plate when fourth on him over 1200m at Te Rapa last Saturday with the Group One winner carrying the hefty impost of 63.5kg.

"He went really well," Cooksley said. "He'll take a lot of improvement out of that. If I could have got out further on him in the straight he could have finished a bit closer."

Cooksley also tested out Seventh Up last Saturday with an exhibition gallop and was equally pleased with the Gr.2 Easter Handicap (1600m) winner.

"He quickened from the half-mile and was doing it well," Cooksley said. "I'm happy to ride either one in the Foxbridge."

12 Winners for Charm Spirit

Exciting young Windsor Park shuttler **Charm Spirit** added a 12th winner to this tally in Europe this week with a resounding victory at Windsor for Lively Lydia.

Trained by Eve Johnson Houghton, Lively Lydia bolted clear to win the 1200m maiden by five lengths in a field of 14.

A triple Group One-winning son of Invincible Spirit, Charm Spirit has made a positive impression at Australasian yearling sales this year with his first Southern Hemisphere bred yearlings.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Charm Spirit

His yearlings sold for up to \$400,000 with his top seller, a filly from Lady Kipling (NZ) (Savabeel), sold by Windsor Park at Karaka and bought by Ciaron Maher/Waterford Bloodstock.



Andrew Carston

Landmark season for Carston

Riccarton-based trainer Andrew Carston is looking forward to celebrating a landmark season at the 2018 New Zealand Thoroughbred Awards evening, to be held at Ellerslie on August 26.

Having trained 16 individual winners, of a combined 20 races during the 2017/18 racing season, Carston will be presented with the gavelhouse.com Newcomer to Training award.

Last awarded to Lance O'Sullivan for the 2005/06 racing season, the award was resurrected by the New Zealand Trainers' Association last season. [Full story here](#)



Avantage (Fastnet Rock)

Building up toward further Group One

Avantage (Fastnet Rock), the leading light for New Zealand Champion Two-Year-Old honours at the upcoming New Zealand Thoroughbred Horse of the Year Awards, is on target to trial later this month.

"She'll either trial at Te Rapa on the 21st (August) or a day later in one of the open heats at the Taupo race meeting," trainer Jamie Richards said.

"She hasn't grown a lot, but she's strengthened up a bit and is coming to hand.

"The trial will tell us where to run her first-up, either the Gold Trail Stakes or the Canterbury Belle Stakes, both are over 1200m on the same day (September 22).

"The main aim is the One Thousand Guineas (1600m) at Riccarton in November."

A daughter of Fastnet Rock, Avantage was beaten just once in six starts last season, that defeat coming when chasing home stablemate Sword Of Osman (NZ) (Savabeel) in the Gr.1 Sistema Stakes (1200m).

Either side of that placing she won major events. She won the Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) at Ellerslie last January and the Gr.1 Manawatu Sires Produce Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni in her final juvenile appearance.

Newcomer to Team Rogerson

Donavan Mansour is an unfamiliar name set to appear in the riding ranks, but he is no stranger to New Zealand racing.

The 33-year-old launched his riding career when spending one year with Lance Noble, who was then training in Matamata. He had one ride during that 2007-08 season before returning to South Africa and has now ridden almost 400 winners.

"I spent three years in Mauritius and was champion jockey there in 2016 and rode 20

winners in Zimbabwe and the rest in South Africa," Mansour said.

Those wins include a couple of Group Two's and three Group Three victories in South Africa. He left South Africa in good form with five wins within the last month after spending several months on the sideline following an operation.

"I got back riding in time to get fit to come here and I had a good run," he said. "I had 20 rides and won five of them."

Mansour, who can ride as low as 50kgs, arrived in New Zealand last Thursday and has joined Team Rogerson, for whom he will be riding this weekend at Pukekohe and Ruakaka.

"I got homesick when I was here last time, but now I've got a wife and two boys and it's a great place to bring up a family," he said. "I'm happy to be back."



Lisa Enright

Timely win during tough times

A win at Moonee Valley last Saturday was a ray of sunshine for former Kiwi jockey Matthew Enright and his partner, Tegan Hearps.

You've Been Had (Reward for Effort), trained and part-owned by Enright's sister, Lisa, scored a decisive win over 1000m and news of the plight of the couple's nine-year-old son, Ryder, was made public with thoughts and best wishes immediately going out to the plucky youngster and his family.

Midway through last week Ryder was diagnosed with leukaemia and is in Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital undergoing a course of chemotherapy. [Full story here](#)

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Nymph Monte (NZ) (Tavistock)

Quiet approach with Nymph Monte

Opaki trainer Grant Nicholson plans to take a quiet approach to this season's campaign with his talented galloper **Nymph Monte (NZ)** (Tavistock).

Unlike the last couple of seasons in which Nymph Monte has been set for major races, Nicholson isn't putting the same early pressure on the Tavistock gelding this term.

Nymph Monte was given a trial at Foxton last week and was an eye-catching second to Authentic Paddy (NZ) (Howbaddowantit), finishing strongly over the final stages in his 1000m heat. [Full story here](#)



Te Toro Pearl (NZ) (Bullbars)

Minor operation for Pearl

In-form Cambridge four-year-old **Te Toro Pearl (NZ)** (Bullbars) has undergone a minor operation.

"She has had a little chip on her fetlock and has had it removed," trainer Jon Miller said.

"She was going out for a spell when I noticed it so had it taken out. It wasn't annoying her at all.

"She'll be boxed until the 20th (August) then have a wee break and I'll bring her back in and get her ready for next autumn."

Te Toro Pearl, a daughter of Bullbars, has continued to impress with her progress through the grades, being unbeaten in her last four starts with the latest win over 1400m at New Plymouth last month.

NZ riders hoping for Grand National glory

The Ballarat Turf Club is gearing up for another huge Grand National Jumps Day on Sunday 19 August.

This year, there will be some new faces to the Australian jumps racing circuit, as three New Zealand jockeys make the trip across the Tasman in search of success.

One of those jockeys is Aaron Kuru, who rose to fame in June for an act of brilliant horsemanship.

Kuru was aboard Des De Jeu (NZ) (Mette En Jeu) in a New Zealand steeplechase when the horse took a tumble at the first jump and he was knocked completely out of the saddle.

Having just managed to hold onto the reins and re-saddle the horse, Kuru and Des De Jeu quickly recovered and went on to win one of the most remarkable races in recent history.

"Things were non-stop for about two weeks after the Des De Jeu win - things have finally settled down now," Kuru said.

He doesn't have a ride booked for the big race yet but has booked his flights and is looking forward to riding at Ballarat for the first time.

Kuru will be joined by Will Gordon, an English jumps jockey, who has had a lot of success in recent times riding in New Zealand.

He will be aboard **I'll'ava'alf (NZ)** (Lucky Unicorn), who will be seeking victory in the Grand National Steeplechase (4500m).

The horse finished fifth in last year's edition, and if the recent weather keeps up, he'll be 'halfa' chance with proven success on heavy tracks.

Meanwhile, Shaun Phelan will ride **Monarch Chimes (NZ)** (Shinko King) in the Grand National, the pair both having come across from New Zealand.

They'll be looking to improve on their last-start third in the Crisp Steeplechase (3900m) at Sandown last Sunday, where it was tough to make up ground on the tearaway winner, Excellent Rhythm (Elvstroem).

"We're looking forward to hosting the New Zealand jockeys who, along with an outstanding line-up of horses, will be a showcase for the high standard of jumps racing in Australia," Ballarat Turf Club chief executive Lachlan McKenzie said.

"We encourage anyone who hasn't yet planned their day to make sure they come along to the club to take in what is going to be a fantastic day of jumps racing."



Jacksstar (NZ) (Zed)

Fingers crossed with Jacksstar

Gary Vile is taking it a day at a time with **Jacksstar (NZ)** (Zed), but he's hoping to get the top stayer back to raceday action.

Jacksstar, a winner of six races and over \$260,000 in prizemoney, has been off the scene since he pulled up with a serious tendon injury after finishing a courageous third behind Chenille (NZ) (Pentire) in the 2017 Gr.1 Auckland Cup (3200m).

"He tore the ligaments in his near foreleg and the tendon was hanging on by a few strands," the Awapuni trainer said. [Full story here.](#)



Upper Cut (NZ) (Yamanin Vital)

Career-ending injury for Upper Cut

Mark Oulaghan copped the upper cut he wasn't expecting at Riccarton last Saturday.

The Awapuni trainer was hoping to chase a third successive win in the Grand National Steeplechase this weekend with **Upper Cut (NZ)** (Yamanin Vital), but rider Matthew Cropp had to pull the 12-year-old up after jumping the fence at the 800 metres in the Koral Steeplechase (4250m).

Upper Cut was found to have suffered a flexor tendon rupture to his left foreleg.

"It's a shame as he was travelling alright until then," Oulaghan said. "It's probably career-ending for him. He'll be out for 12 months and will probably be too old to bring him back."

[continued on next page](#)



NEWS IN BRIEF

Upper Cut was runner-up in the 2016 Koral Steeplechase before backing up to win the Grand National Steeplechase and last year he was fourth in the Koral leading into his hard-fought win over Kina Win (NZ) (Zed) in the Grand National.

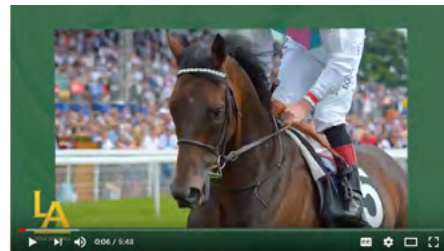
Time Test Steps Out

Little Avondale Stud's new stallion Time Test (Dubawi) has settled into the Wairarapa lifestyle like a local since his arrival and that temperament was again apparent as he paraded in superb condition for around 60 shareholders and 100 public last Sunday.



Time Test
Time Test was strutting his stuff on screen too ...

You can view that here



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Friday 10 August 2018

FIRST NZ STAKES RACE FOR THE NEW SEASON GOES TO PLATINUM COMMAND

The new season is under way and the first stakes race the Gr. 3 Winter Cup has been run and won at Riccarton by **Platinum Command (NZ)** (Red Giant), bred at Westbury Stud by Gerry Harvey.

“It’s a nice way to start the season with a black type winner,” said Westbury Stud’s General Manager Russell Warwick.

“You never know how the cards are going to fall each season and where the stakes winners will come from, but it’s a good start. I think from Wednesday (August 1) through to Saturday we had bred seven winners in New Zealand including Platinum Command.”

Harvey also bred Julius (NZ) (Swiss Ace), the open sprint winner at Te Rapa

on Saturday, who is on track for a tilt at the Gr.2 Lisa Chittick Foxbridge Plate (1200m), and Trusty Lad (NZ) (Reliable Man) who was an impressive winner at Doomben.

Seven-year-old mare Platinum Command has now won 10 races from the Awapuni stable of Lisa Latta. The mare had been Group Three placed

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Platinum Command adds the Gr.3 Winter Cup and some valuable black-type to her career record





Friday 10 August 2018

FIRST NZ STAKES RACE FOR THE NEW SEASON GOES TO PLATINUM COMMAND

(Continued from page 14)

twice and been knocking on the door of a stakes win for some time.

"She deserved that win after being beaten by a nose in the same race two years ago, and she can now go on to be a very valuable broodmare," added Warwick.

"When she went through the Festival Sale she was one of the last four or five lots and Lisa Latta kept delaying her flight plans to be there she was so determined to buy her, which she did for \$40,000."

The same partnership, Lincoln Farms and Neil McAllister, also bought Platinum Rapper (NZ) her half-sister by Makfi for \$55,000. She won a race in May where she beat Listed Ryder Stakes winner Atenartin (NZ) (Showcasing).

"Lincoln Farms have since sold their share in Platinum Command to Ashburn Lane Investments, as John Street isn't really that interested in breeding horses these days," Warwick said.

"Palatial the grandam of Platinum Command only had the one foal which makes the pedigree look a bit light up top but the win by this mare will change that."

Platinum Command was the first New Zealand bred foal from Wednesday Rocks, an Encosta de Lago mare out of Palatial (Danehill), a Sydney city winner of three races. Her

first foal by Testa Rossa, Lucky Happy won two races in Hong Kong.

Last summer Wednesday Rock's yearling colt by Makfi sold to Bruce Perry Bloodstock for \$100,000, and she is currently in foal to Tarzino and will visit Reliable Man.

Palatial the grandam of Platinum Command is a sister to the Group One winning mare Danelagh, who has gone on to produce the former Hong Kong Horse of the Year Vengeance of Rain (NZ) (Zabeel), and his Group One winning sister Dizelle.

She won the Australian Oaks, and then went on to produce the Gr. 1 VRC Oaks winner Pinot (Pierro) and the listed winner Dizlago (Encosta De Lago). Another stakes winning daughter Bernicia (Elusive Quality) produced the Group Two winner Old North (Lonhro).

This is a great female family and Warwick and Harvey had no hesitation in sending the young mare to Red Giant when he was resident at Westbury Stud.

"Giants Causeway is a proven cross over Danehill," Warwick said. "That cross has produced lots of stakes winners, so we sorted out a few mares with Danehill in their first or second dam to go to Red Giant.

"Red Striker is out of an Encosta De Lago mare out of a Danehill mare as well so it's a cross that works. It was

happening too often not to be a fluke.

Harvey has around 300 mares in New Zealand and 350 in Australia, and initially he was sending mares here to make sure that the Westbury stallions had the numbers.

"He has 292 mares here to go to stud this season, I know as I have just sent off the third draft of the matings for them," Warwick said.

"We start off with a list, it goes backwards and forwards a bit, and then we chop and change a bit until we get the final list.

"Mares that Gerry owns from New Zealand families mainly come here, which makes sense, but the bulk of his commercial mares stay in Australia. More recently the likes of the Group One winning mares Lotteria, and Royal Descent have come over here to be served.

"It shows the confidence he has in the industry here, and it gives a young mare a good start.

"As well as our own stallions Gerry has shares in Tavistock and Savabeel, so he needs to send quality mares to them."

– Michelle Saba, New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders Association



Friday 10 August 2018

GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS

02/08/2018 - 09/08/2018

AUSTRALIA

Bachelor Duke : Good Catch (NZ) (Gatestopper by Carnegie) 2012;
04/08/2018, 1st Bowen TC Burdekin Vet Ben Bolt Cup H. 1470m
Sold by Haunui Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$15000

Darci Brahma : Ashrama (NZ) (Bonaichi by Fusaichi Pegasus) 2015;
02/08/2018, 1st Pakenham RC Nine Mile Fresh Maiden P. 1200m
Sold by Haunui Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$80000

Elusive City : (Our) Beatnik (NZ) (Fair Fly by Kenfair) 2011;
04/08/2018, 1st Tambo DRC South West Ford Nissan H. 1400m

Nadeem : Princeton Spirit (NZ) (Ivy Hall by Towkay) 2013;
04/08/2018, 1st MVRC Sheamus Mills Bloodstock H. 1200m
Sold by Little Avondale Stud at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$10000

O'Reilly : Hikaya (NZ) (Bint Piavonic by Encosta de Lago) 2015;
08/08/2018, 1st Gawler & Barossa JC Holdfast Insurance Maiden P. 1200m

Ocean Park : Summerfest (NZ) (Songfest by Unbridled's Song) 2014;
04/08/2018, 1st Wangaratta TC Ovens Ford Maiden P. 1400m
Sold by Blandford Lodge at National Yearling Sale for \$120000

Ocean Park : Waiheke (NZ) (Eliza Blues by O'Reilly) 2014;
03/08/2018, 1st Wyong RC P Kennedy's Boys Metro & Pro Maiden H. 1600m
Sold by Seaton Park Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$120000

Pentire : Pollinator (NZ) (Charlotte Russe by Red Ransom) 2014;
03/08/2018, 1st Geelong RC Viatek Maiden P. 2200m
Sold by Westbury Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$45000

Pentire : Kazoom (NZ) (Tell Tale by Capote) 2010;
04/08/2018, 1st Roxby Downs DRC Outback Cup 1800m

Reliable Man : Trusty Lad (NZ) (Miss Juventus by Anabaa) 2015;
04/08/2018, 1st BRC Mission at Aquis Farm H. 1630m
Sold by Westbury Stud at Ready to Run Sale for \$180000

Rip Van Winkle : Naantali (NZ) (Zaloot by Zabeel) 2014;
04/08/2018, 1st MVRC 1print H. 1600m
Sold by Windsor Park Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$180000

MACAU

Choiris : River Control (NZ) (Glam Girl by Galileo) 2012;
04/08/2018, 1st Macau Alvor H. 1500m
Sold by Phoenix Park at National Yearling Sale for \$40000

Minstrel Court : Iced Jade (NZ) (Our Model by Creese) 2012;
04/08/2018, 1st Macau Quarteira H. 1800m
Sold by Willow Glen at South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale for \$2000

Roc de Cambes : By Design (NZ) (Degree by Bachelor Duke) 2013;
06/08/2018, 1st Geelong RC Shojun Concrete H. 2200m

Savabeel : Gold Ambition (NZ) (Senorita Lucy by Senor Pete) 2012;
04/08/2018, 1st BRC LUCRF Super P. 1630m

Shocking : Tiananmen (NZ) (Attalla by Volksraad) 2013;
04/08/2018, 1st Corfield ARC Mort & Co Maiden P. 1000m
Sold by Kiltannon Stables Ltd at Ready to Run Sale for \$45000

Shocking : Harvard (NZ) (Untouched by Danske) 2012;
07/08/2018, 1st Warracknabeal TC Save the Date H. 2000m

Starcraft : Binary (NZ) (Calveen by Canny Lad) 2011;
04/08/2018, 1st Cairns JC IGA Cup H. 1900m
Sold by Haunui Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$310000

Stravinsky : Glitra (NZ) (The Glitter by Centaine) 2012;
02/08/2018, 1st Coff's Harbour RC Coffs Cup 1600m
Sold by Phoenix Park at National Yearling Sale for \$70000

Super Easy : He's Super Lucky (NZ) (Spectacular by Spectatorial) 2015;
04/08/2018, 1st Illawarra TC Wollongong Maiden P. 1000m
Sold by Woburn Farm at Ready to Run Sale for \$110000
Sold by Hallmark Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$27500

Tavistock : Vintage Stock (NZ) (Phillipa Glass by Volksraad) 2015;
08/08/2018, 1st WATC Western Racepix Maiden P. 1200m
Sold by Rich Hill Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$20000

Yamanin Vital : Spying on You (NZ) (Nancy Wake by Personal Escort) 2009;
08/08/2018, 1st Gawler & Barossa JC Congrats Gary Searle H. 2114m

Savabeel : River Treasure (NZ) (Dita von Teese by Pins) 2012;
04/08/2018, 1st Macau Lago H. 1500m
Sold by Waikato Stud Ltd at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$40000
Sold by Hallmark Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$32000



Friday 10 August 2018

GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS

02/08/2018 - 09/08/2018

MALAYSIA

Buffalo Man : Sgifty (NZ) (Lyrical Look by Royal Academy) 2012;
04/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1200m
Sold by Northgate Lodge at Ready to Run Sale for \$5000

Danehill Dancer : Dane's Anatomy (NZ) (Anatomy by Thunder Gulch) 2010;
04/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1400m
Sold by Pencarrow Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$200000

Darci Brahma : Brahma Circus (NZ) (State Circus by Dr Fong) 2011;
05/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Metro A S 1200m
Sold by The Oaks Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$100000

Falkirk : Nova Falcon (NZ) (Holly by Golan) 2014;
05/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 4 H. 1200m

Guillotine : Condado (NZ) (Idea by Danewin) 2012;
04/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 3 H. 1200m
Sold by JK Farm at Ready to Run Sale for \$44000

Guillotine : Guiltless (NZ) (Wedding Band by Quest for Fame) 2011;
05/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1200m
Sold by Cypress Point Stables at Ready to Run Sale for \$60000
Sold by Sanderston Park Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$7000

Jet Spur : Scrat (NZ) (Speedy Kids by Snippets) 2010;
04/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1200m

Mastercraftsman : Speed Craft (NZ) (Velvet and Satin by Carnegie) 2011;
05/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1800m
Sold by Pencarrow Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$40000

Mettre en Jeu : The Jeuneymen (NZ) (Tad Irish by Omnicorp) 2011;
05/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Metro A S. 1400m
Sold by Letham Thoroughbreds at National Yearling Sale for \$2000

Per Incanto : Dahees (NZ) (Uisce Beagh by Lord Ballina) 2013;
04/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Open Maiden S. 1200m
Sold by Ardsley Stud Ltd at Ready to Run Sale for \$60000

Red Giant : Symphony Eclipse (NZ) (Tropicana by Fusaichi Pegasus) 2014;
05/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Open Maiden S. 1200m
Sold by Westbury Stud at Ready to Run Sale for \$25000

Roc de Cambes : Roc That (NZ) (Equals That by Traditionally) 2011;
04/08/2018, 1st Selangor TC Class 4 H. 1400m
Sold by The Oaks Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$18000

SINGAPORE

Battle Paint : Sacred Magic (NZ) (Chato Margaux by Montjeu) 2014;
03/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1400m
Sold by Leanach Lodge Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$60000

Guillotine : Country Boss (NZ) (No Porsche Needed by No Excuse Needed) 2013;
03/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 3 H. 1000m

Red Giant : Stealth Giant - Star Emperor (Sing.) (NZ) (Lotta Luv by Dubawi) 2013;
05/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m

Saperavi : Warrior King (NZ) (Spin a Fortune by Pins) 2014;
05/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Open Maiden S. 1400m
Sold by Sanderston Park Ltd at Ready to Run Sale for \$40000
Sold by Willow Glen at South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale for \$22000

Sebring : Triple Trio (NZ) (Darcybee by Fasliyev) 2014;
03/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1400m
Sold by Pencarrow Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$75000

Showcasing : Little Big Man (NZ) (Caffeine by Zabeel) 2012;
05/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 3 H. 1400m
Sold by Golden Oaks Stud at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$9000

Sufficient : Berlinetta (NZ) (Barchetta by My Halo) 2014;
03/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 5 H. 1600m

Swiss Ace : Zac Ace (NZ) (Firelight by Fantastic Light) 2013;
03/08/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1600m



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