

Sunday 4 February 2018

BIT LIPPY MAKES **BOLD STATEMENT**



Smart 2yo Bit Lippy breaks through for his maiden win in the Gr.3 Phoenix Park Classic (Race Images)

Talented youngster **Bit Lippy (NZ)** (Showcasing) deservedly broke through for the first victory of his fledgling career at New Plymouth with a no nonsense performance.

The Matamata youngster had placed in each of his previous three starts, all in black type company, and he capped that form with success in Saturday's Gr.3 Phoenix Park 2YO Classic (1200m).

Bit Lippy finished second on debut behind Melt (NZ)

(Iffraaj) in the Listed Ashford Park 2YO Stakes (1100m) at Pukekohe and he again finished runner-up to the unbeaten filly in the Gr.2 Eclipse Stakes (1200m) at Ellerslie.

In between times, the Showcasing gelding ran third in the Gr.2 Wakefield Challenge Stakes (1200m) at Trentham.

"He didn't jump out so well in his last couple, but he got home well at Wellington after it took some time for him to get out and the leader was gone," trainer Wayne Hillis said.

Continued on page 3



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BIT LIPPY MAKES **BOLD STATEMENT**

(Continued from page 1)

Bit Lippy cleared the gates smartly on Saturday for rider Cameron Lammas to take a handy sit one off the fence before improving three wide across the top.

They were in front soon after straightening and had no trouble keeping the challenge of Platinum Mam'selle (Fighting Sun) at bay in the closing 200m.

Handsome Rebel (Denman) made late ground to cut Wisdom Patch out of third money.

"He's learning all the time and I couldn't be happier with him," Hillis said.

He can now look forward to Group One opportunities for Bit Lippy with the Sistema Stakes (1200m) at Ellerslie on

March 10 and the Courtesy Ford Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni three weeks later attractive options.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Phoenix Park Classic Gr.3 1200m |
| Winner | Bit Lippy (NZ) 2015 |
| Owners | D E Evans |
| Trainer | Wayne Hillis (Matamata) |
| Breeding | by Showcasing (GB) out of Ceramic by Van Nistelrooy (USA) |
| Breeder | M J Evans |

NEWS IN BRIEF

Music Magnate to run in Dubai

Bjorn Baker's first Group One winner will also be his first international runner after the trainer confirmed that **Music Magnate (NZ)** (Written Tycoon) had been invited to run in Dubai on World Cup night in late March.

Music Magnate, who won the 2016 Doomben 10,000, will contest the Al Quoz Sprint over 1000 metres, with Blake Shinn confirmed as his rider.

"He's a fresh horse so we'll maybe just trial once or twice before we head over, probably 10 to 14 days before the race," Baker said.

"It's a great opportunity and I can't wait to get over there and test him against some of the world's best."

The Al Quoz Sprint is one of five Group One races held on World Cup night at the Meydan racetrack on March 31.

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BEEFEATER COMES TO THE PARTY

Christopher Grace's celebrations on Saturday were topped off in style at New Plymouth.

The prominent Hunterville breeder and owner's familiar green jacket and gold sleeves were home at the head of the Gr.3 Platinum Homes Taranaki Cup (1800m) after Rosie Myers guided **Beefeater (NZ)** (Alamosa) to victory.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | Platinum Homes Taranaki Cup Gr.3 1800m |
| Winner | Beefeater (NZ) 2012 |
| Owners | C R Grace QSM |
| Trainer | Roydon Bergerson (Awapuni) |
| Breeding | by Alamosa out of Karaka by Kings Island (IRE) |
| Breeder | C R Grace QSM |

"It's Christopher's birthday today so this is a good present," Awapuni trainer Roydon Bergerson said. "I thought the horse would be a big chance."

A winner two runs back, Beefeater came into the race off the back of a fourth placing in the Gr.3 Anniversary (1600m).

"He came through Trentham well and he probably needed the race at Wellington after missing a run at Awapuni," Bergerson said.

Beefeater has now won six of his 23 starts and a crack at the Gr.1 Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m) at Te Rapa next Saturday is now up for discussion.

"I'll speak to Mr and Mrs Grace and

we might chuck in a late nomination," Bergerson said.

A son of Alamosa, Beefeater settled back in the field before Myers put the pre-race plan into action.

"I said to Rosie to get him going at the 600m mark and keep him rolling, he's a big horse and it was a good ride," Bergerson said.

Beefeater strode to the front in the straight and fought off the challenge of Scapolo (NZ) (Bachelor Duke), who was giving the winner six and a-half kilos, to win by a neck with Travimyfriend (NZ) (Tavistock) a solid third in front of Brighton (NZ) (Buffalo Man).

"You can't afford to get held up on him and when we got to the front he pulled up," Myers said.

"To his credit though, when Scapolo came up he really fought hard."

– NZ Racing Desk.



Beefeater (inside) holds off Scapolo to win the Gr.3 Platinum Homes Taranaki Cup (Race Images)





Sunday 4 February 2018

PERFECT WHITE ROBE RESULT FOR LOCALS

Shane Anderton couldn't have been prouder of the stable veteran **Tommy Tucker (NZ)** (Gallant Guru) on his home turf on Saturday.

The Wingatui horseman, who trains with his father Brian, gained a hugely satisfying win in the Gr.3 White Robe Lodge Weight-For-Age (1600m) with the sprightly son of Gallant Guru.

"He really deserved that, he's just been so honest for years – he's a nine-year-old, but he doesn't know it," Anderton said.

Tommy Tucker had finished runner-up in the previous two editions of the event, carrying 60kg both times and a change this year from handicap to weight-for-age conditions worked in the gelding's favour.

"It made it an even playing field," Anderton said. "He's been giving these horses up to seven kilos.

"The main thing though is keeping the White Robe a Group Three race, it's the only one south of Christchurch."

Ridden by Shankar Muniandy, Tommy Tucker was back in the field before improving around the field across the top and he finished boldly in the straight for the 16th win of his career.

"We'll probably go the same way as last year and look at Christchurch in the autumn and go for the Canterbury Gold Cup," said Anderton, whose parents Brian and Lorraine are co-breeders and part-owners of Tommy Tucker.

The chestnut will be defending his title in the Riccarton feature, having beaten Bloodstream (NZ) (Duelled) and Benzini



Tommy Tucker scored a deserved win in the Gr.3 White Robe Lodge Weight For Age (Wild Range Photography)

(Tale of the Cat) in 2017.

Anderton couldn't fault the effort of Tommy Tucker's barn mate Gallant Boy (NZ) (Gallant Guru), who provided the stable with a White Robe quinella.

"He was brave after doing it pretty tough sitting outside the leader and facing the breeze," he said.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | White Robe Lodge Weight For Age Gr.3 1600m |
| Winner | Tommy Tucker (NZ) 2008 |
| Owners | B J Anderton ONZM, Mrs L E Anderton & I J Nichol |
| Trainer | Brian and Shane Anderton (Wingatui) |
| Breeding | by Gallant Guru out of Lady Vital by Yamanin Vital |
| Breeder | B J & Mrs L E Anderton, Mrs G I & Est late T A Nichol |





TRAINER SAYS OAKS HOPE A GEM OF A FILLY

Tony Pike can't hide his regard for his Gr.1 New Zealand Oaks (2400m) candidate **Treasure (NZ)** (Mastercraftsman).

"I think she's one of the best staying fillies that I've trained," said the Cambridge conditioner, who won the 2013 edition of the Trentham classic with More Than Sacred (More Than Ready).

"We've always had a massive opinion of her, she's just taken a few runs to work things out and the blinkers have helped her."

The subject of a hefty betting plunge, Treasure showed she was on an upward plane at New Plymouth

on Saturday when she produced an impressive display to beat her stablemate Caricature (NZ) (Power) in the Listed Fasttrack Insurance Oaks Prelude (1800m).

She settled midfield on the fence before rider Michael McNab angled into the clear across the top and the filly was too good in the straight, winning by two and a-half lengths.

"We were pretty confident with the winner," Pike said. "It's nice when a plan comes off."

"We wanted to get today out of the way and now we'll sit down and decide whether she goes to the Lowland Stakes or the Sunline Vase

before Wellington."

A daughter of Mastercraftsman, she is out of the O'Reilly mare Penny Whistle (NZ) who is a half-sister to the dam of Pike's Gr.1 Auckland Cup (3200m) winner Chenille (NZ) (Pentire).

Treasure was at odds of \$81 when the market for the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks market was first released and she is now down to \$12.

Pike said he was also more than satisfied with the performance of Caricature.

"She's still quite new and dumb," he said. "She was bit tardily away and had to work to be outside of the leader, she was pretty brave in the straight."

The longshot Luxe (NZ) (O'Reilly) came home well from the back of the field for third ahead of Miss Foxy Gal (Foxwedge).

– NZ Racing Desk.



| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Fasttrack Insurance Oaks Prelude L. 1800m |
| Winner | Treasure (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | Ms V G McIntosh & I W Moses |
| Trainer | Tony Pike (Cambridge) |
| Breeding | by Mastercraftsman (IRE) out of Penny Whistle by O'Reilly |
| Breeder | A W, Mrs V A & W K Pike |
| Sales | 2016 NZB Select; V: Hallmark Stud, P: Pike Racing; \$70,000 |

Treasure has shortened in price for the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld NZ Oaks following her impressive win in the Listed Fasttrack Insurance Oaks Prelude at New Plymouth (Race Images)





EXCELLERATION BAGS ANOTHER STAKES VICTORY ON SOUTHERN TOUR

A clean sweep of southern black type three-year-old features remains alive for the connections of **Excelleration (NZ)** (Exceed and Excel).

The filly was untested to claim the Listed Gore Guineas (1335m) a fortnight ago for trainer Nigel Tiley and she subsequently joined Shane Kennedy and Anna Furlong for the remainder of her stay.

Excelleration made a winning debut from her new Riccarton quarters on Saturday when she was again too good for her rivals in the Listed Harcourts Dunedin Guineas (1500m).

The daughter of Exceed And Excel was reunited with jockey Samantha Collett, who had ridden her to victory at Ruakaka before the filly embarked on her road trip, but had to pass the reins to Kylie Williams at Gore.

"I was committed to riding up north that day," Collett said. "It was just a sit and steer job for me today."

Excelleration settled toward the back of the field before she improved around the field from the 700m mark.

She was widest into the straight and, after coasting to the front 250m



Consecutive Guineas wins go the way of Excelleration after she was successful in the Listed Harcourts Dunedin Guineas (Wild Range Photography)

from home, she moved clear to account for the Shaun Ritchie-trained Global Thinking and Michael and Matthew Pitman's Czechoslovakia (NZ) (Reliable Man).

"I wanted to get out and avoid any traffic problems," said Collett, who sported the colours of co-breeders and part-owners Wellfield Lodge. "I probably hit the front too soon, but she did it easily."

"She's not very big, but she makes up for it in heart."

Success in the Listed Southland Guineas (1600m) at Ascot Park in a fortnight's time will complete

a notable stakes hat-trick for Excelleration.

"Whether it's wet or dry, she'll be pretty hard to beat there," Collett said.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | Harcourts Dunedin Guineas L. 1500m |
| Winner | Excelleration (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | Pee Gee & W J Bloodstock Ltd, S R Plant & Wellfield Holdings Ltd |
| Trainer | Shane Kennedy & Anna Furlong (Riccarton) |
| Breeding | by Exceed and Excel (AUS) out of Abeautifulred by Handsome Ransom (AUS) |
| Breeder | Pee Gee & W J Bloodstock Ltd, S R Plant & Wellfield Holdings Ltd |





PARIS ROCK SECURES A THIRD STRAIGHT WIN

Trainer Henry Dwyer is eyeing stakes company after **Paris Rock (NZ)** (Rock 'n' Pop) maintained her unbeaten record with a strong win at Caulfield.

Graduating from victories at Geelong and Ballarat at her first two starts, Paris Rock took out the Ian Miller Handicap under a patient ride from Damien Thornton.

Paris Rock scored a three-quarter-length win from Earth Angel (Animal Kingdom) on Saturday and Dwyer said Paris Rock would head back to his beach property at St Leonards, near Geelong, with the view to running her in the Gr.3 The Vanity (1400m) at Flemington on February 17.

"After today I think she deserves a shot at a stakes race," Dwyer said.

"She keeps improving all the time and they're the ones that make good horses."

Dwyer purchased the daughter of Rock'n'Pop, a son of Fastnet Rock, for \$65,000 from the draft of Curraghmore at the New Zealand Bloodstock yearling sales in 2016.

"She was a lovely type, a lovely athletic filly, a great mover, and their pedigree makes them a little cheaper if they're not that flashily bred," Dwyer said.

-AAP

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | Ian Miller Handicap 1400m |
| Winner | Paris Rock (NZ) (2014) |
| Owners | G R Cunningham, D W Butler, B E Parsons, M G Curtis, D Woolford, B V Woolford, M J Webb, K A Clarke, S R Garbutt, K J Cullen, G A Jacobs, G P A M Racing (Mgr: M A Meehan) & G G Racing (Mgr: Mrs R Gleeson) |
| Trainer | Henry Dwyer (St Leonards) |
| Breeding | by Rock 'n' Pop (AUS) out of Que Sera by Daggers Drawn (USA) |
| Breeder | D W Butler & Curraghmore Stud Ltd |
| Sales | 2016 NZB Select Yearling Sale; V: Curraghmore, P: Henry Dwyer Racing; \$65,000 |



Curraghmore graduate Paris Rock remains unbeaten with a victory at Caulfield on Saturday (Bruno Cannatelli)





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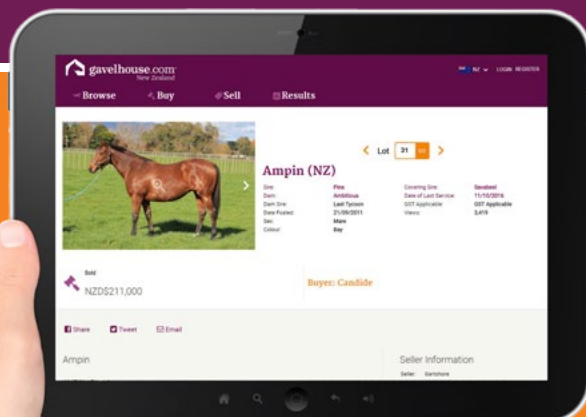
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BEDFORD LANDS ANOTHER WIN AT CAULFIELD

Anthony Freedman believes time and maturity has been the key to **Bedford (NZ)** (Tavistock) stringing successive victories together at Caulfield.

The four-year-old was successful at the midweek meeting at the track on January 17 and on Saturday added the Mal Seccull Handicap (2000m) to his record.

Sent off as favourite under Damian Lane, Bedford ran out a half-neck winner over O'Lonera (O'Lonhro).

Freedman said Bedford might return to Caulfield in three weeks for the Mornington Cup Prelude (2000m) and if he performed well he could head to the 2400m of the Mornington Cup on March 24.

Bedford had his 12th race start on Saturday, registering his fourth win.

"He's a horse that wasn't going anywhere six months ago so he's probably matured a bit and is now starting to put together a nice record," Freedman said.

"He might even be better in another six months as there's not much of him and he might strengthen up a bit.

"Maybe he can go to the Mornington Cup if he continues with his form.

"It's worth A\$300,000 and it's around the corner from home.

"I think the 2400 metres would suit him but I'd be guided by what Damian has to say."

Freedman purchased Bedford for \$320,000 from the draft of Brighthill Farm at the 2015 NZB Ready To Run Sale of 2yos.

-AAP



Bedford (closest to camera) continued his love affair with Caulfield notching up his second straight win on the Melbourne track (Bruno Cannatelli)

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Mal Seccull Handicap 2000m |
| Winner | Bedford (NZ) (2013) |
| Owners | F Palazzo, E A Galante, J A O'Neill, A R Boag & G Pulitano, Syndicates: Horseshoe Investments Pty Ltd (Mgr: R N Russell), Seymour Bloodstock (Mgr: D S Thomas), R & C Legh Racing Pty Ltd (Mgr: R P Legh) |
| Trainer | Anthony Freedman (Mornington) |
| Breeding | by Tavistock out of Dastaria by Stark South (USA) |
| Breeder | D W Mayers & Mrs S J Taylor |
| Sales | 2015 NZB Ready To Run Sale of 2yos; V: Brighthill Farm, P: Freedman Racing; \$320,000 |

NEWS IN BRIEF

Step up in distance the right fit for Manolo

The Tony Noonan-trained **Manolo Blahniq (NZ)** (Jimmy Choux) appreciated the step up in trip to 1400m winning by two-and-three-quarters of a length over Glenrowan Prince (Bushranger) at Caulfield on Saturday.

"He put them away well, he just got a bit tired late," jockey Ben Allen said.

"I might have pushed the button a bit early but I wanted to get him to that flat spot so he was really at his best when he hit the furlong."

Noonan purchased Manolo Blahniq for \$115,000 from Curraghmore's 2015 NZB Select draft when sold on behalf of Nearco Stud.





KINGSMAN RULES IN BATTLE OF TWO KINGS

Kranji was treated to a regal battle in Friday's S\$80,000 Class 3 race over 1400m when **Kingsman (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) held court over King Louis (Medaglia d'Oro).

Both horses were vying for the crown but their paths to their coronation could not have been more diametrically opposite.

The better-fancied Kingsman was in the first five throughout and though he had to cart out wide at the top of the straight, he enjoyed an uninterrupted run to the line for champion jockey Vlad Duric.

On the other hand, King Louis looked like he just could not find his way out of trouble until kingdom come.

After being settled at the rear by Nooresh Juglall, the Medaglia d'Oro three-year-old was improving quite well but was poleaxed after he ran into dead ends at the two furlong pole. It's only after he switched across heels that he found daylight, but by the time Juglall had him balanced up for his assault, Kingsman had already reigned supreme.

Singapore champion trainer Mark Walker was not on hand to lead in his fourth winner for the year as he was still in New Zealand to attend the Karaka Sales, but his right-hand man

Gus Clutterbuck was and he sure gave the Darci Brahma four-year-old a big wrap.

"It was a nice win. He's only a small horse and to do it with 57 kilos on his back, it was a huge effort," said the Kiwi horseman, himself a former trainer in his own right back home.

"The fast pace did set it up for him, but he also got flushed out at the top of the straight.

"We'll have to look for a race where he will be down in the weights."

Duric said Kingsman was a lovely individual who appreciated the sting out of the track on Friday.

"He loves the track. He is not super big but he has an engine," said the Australian jockey.

"He was relaxed and had a lovely run in transit. I knew I had the race won from a long way out.

"The penny has not dropped for this horse. He will keep improving."

Kingsman has now taken his record to two wins from five outings for stakes earnings edging close to the S\$100,000 mark for the Te Akau Racing Stable.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Singapore Class 3 1400m |
| Winner | Kingsman (NZ) 2013 |
| Owners | Te Akau Racing Stables |
| Trainer | Mark Walker (Singapore) |
| Breeding | by Darci Brahma out of Society Lady by O'Reilly |
| Breeder | Mrs H G & W G Bax |
| Sales | 2015 NZB Select; V: Blandford Lodge, P: Chris Rutten Bloodstock; \$80,000 |



Kingsman keeps finding to land the spoils in the Class 3 race on Friday.





ARC TRIUMPH LANDS THE PRIZE AFTER SNIP

Trainer James Peters predicted a handy future for **Arc Triumph (NZ)** after the Showcasing three-year-old made all to score a stylish win in the S\$85,000 Restricted Maiden race over 1000m on Friday night.

Ridden by apprentice jockey Zawari Razali, Arc Triumph shot jumped smartly from his barrier No 1 to assume full command from the get-go while odds-on favourite Lim's Zoom (NZ) (Zacinto) had to work harder from his wide gate, but still ended up getting trapped three deep.

The Mark Walker debutant still tried to take the race to Arc Triumph upon straightening, along with Ricardo Le Grange's newcomer Good Catch (NZ) (Falkirk), but Zawari had saved the best for last.

Once the Malaysian rider asked his horse to go through his gears, the issue was soon put beyond doubt. Arc Triumph pulled away to salute at his fourth start, with one-and-a-half length to spare from Good Catch and another one-and-a-quarter length from Lim's Zoom, who was clearly beaten by his bad gate.

The winning time was 59.49 seconds for the 1000m scamper on the Polytrack.

"He was gelded after his last start and has come back more mature and more tractable. He was a lot better,"



Arc Triumph goes all the way to score his first Kranji win on Friday.

said Peters, who was even more chuffed about the win given Arc Triumph was the first horse he bought personally.

"He showed good ability at his trials in New Zealand, and at his early starts here as well, but he did a few things wrong, like he ran off the bends.

"With gate one and a lot of inexperienced horses in the race, the plan was to go forward and Zawari rated him very well. From his last prep, he should get over more ground too.

"I think he should have a few more wins under his belt. He has a bit of a future here."

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | Singapore Maiden 1000m |
| Winner | Arc Triumph (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | Arc Marine Stable |
| Trainer | James Peters (Singapore) |
| Breeding | by Showcasing (GB) out of Wind of Savannah by Savabeel (AUS) |
| Breeder | Haunui Bloodstock Ltd & B J O'Brien |
| Sales | 2016 NZB Ready To Run Sale of 2yos; V: Mana Park, P: Hardwicke Racing/Waterford Bloodstock; \$57,500 |

