

Friday 9 February 2018

BAKER HOPING FOR MEMORABLE WEEKEND

Murray Baker could cap off a memorable weekend with Group success at Te Rapa on Saturday.

On the eve of the Waikato Racing Club's premier meeting, Baker will become one of the latest inductees into the New Zealand Racing Hall Of Fame and less than 20 hours later he will saddle leading chances in both the Gr.1 Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m) and the Gr.2 Cambridge Stud Sir Tristram Fillies Classic (2000m).

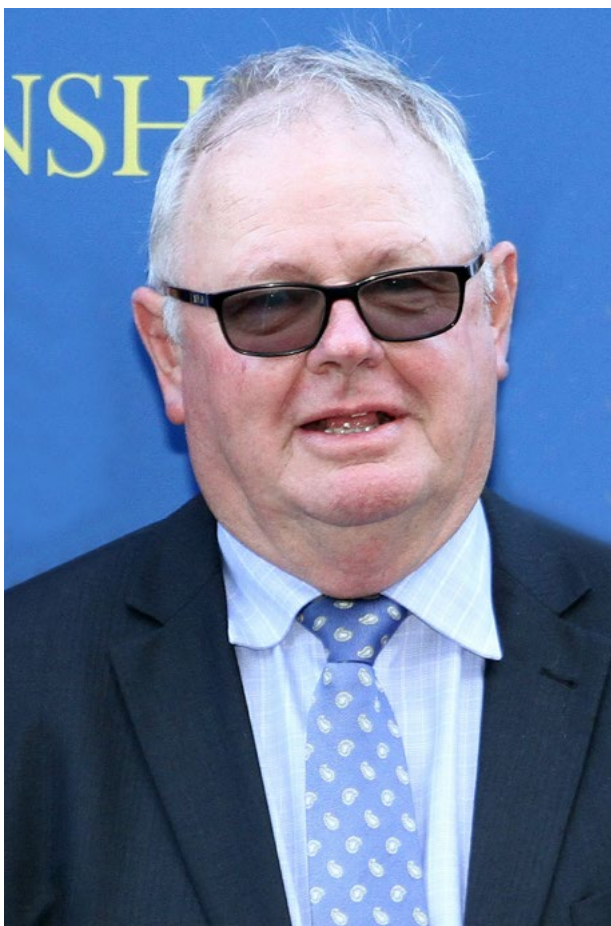
Baker won the Herbie Dyke Stakes when it was formerly known as the Whakanui Stud International Stakes in 2002 with Emerald Dream (Danehill) and he has also picked up a second in the weight-for-age feature with Tusker (NZ) (Volksraad) in 2006 and a third with Fatal (NZ) (Bakharoff) in 1999.

This year he and training partner, Andrew Forsman, hold

the key with **Lizzie L'Amour (NZ)** (Zabeel), **Coldplay (NZ)** (Savabeel) and **Nicoletta (NZ)** (Savabeel) all set to compete for major honours.

Lizzie L'Amour stands out as the hardest to beat on the strength of her lead-up form, her good record at Te Rapa and her deeds at weight-for-age over 2000 metres.

She won last year's Gr.1 Bonecrusher New Zealand



Cambridge Trainer Murray Baker will become one of the latest inductees into the New Zealand Racing Hall Of Fame this evening

Stakes (2000m) at Ellerslie and was second there two starts ago behind Authentic Paddy (NZ) (Howbaddouwantit) in the Gr.1 Cambridge Stud Zabeel Classic at the same distance and conditions.

"She's done well and she likes Te Rapa," Baker said. "She's got to be hard to beat."

Lizzie L'Amour has won three times from four starts at Te Rapa, including the 2016 Gr.3 Skycity Hamilton Waikato Cup (2400m) and last December's Gr.2 Cal Isuzu Stakes (1600m).

The Cal Isuzu win was a welcome first-up relief for her connections after a disastrous four-start Melbourne spring campaign.

"Everything went wrong for her over there so it's good to see her back in form," Baker said.

Lizzie L'Amour goes into Saturday's race with a last-start barnstorming second behind

Thee Auld Floozie (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) when dropping back from 2000 metres to 1400 in the Gr.2 Westbury Classic at Ellerslie on Karaka Million night.

She holds a nomination for the Gr.1 Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup (3200m) on March 10, but she could instead be back to defend her Group One title in the New Zealand Stakes on the same day.

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Friday 9 February 2018

BAKER HOPING FOR MEMORABLE WEEKEND

(Continued from page 1)

"It's doubtful that she'll go for the Auckland Cup," Baker said.

Though Lizzie L'Amour will be the punter's elect in the Herbie Dyke Stakes, Baker believes stablemates Coldplay (Opie Bosson) and Nicoletta (Rory Hutchings) shouldn't be overlooked.

"Coldplay has only had a few cracks over ground and, if she gets the trip, she's a chance," Baker said. "As for Nicoletta, it's a tough ask, but she's a Group Three winner and she runs it out all right."

Having provided the quinella in last year's Sir Tristram Classic, Baker and Forsman will be hoping for a similar result in the fillies' feature on Saturday with **Milseain (NZ)** (Tavistock) and **Marcellina (NZ)** (Savabeel).

Milseain, a sister to Hong Kong star Werther (NZ), impressed when winning on debut at Hastings then finished well for third to quality filly Dijon Bleu (NZ) (Burgundy) in the Gr.3 Desert Gold Stakes (1600m) at Trentham.

Marcellina, a Savabeel filly, was trapped wide when unplaced in the Karaka Million 3YO Classic (1600m) at Ellerslie and, although still a maiden after five starts, she did finish well for third behind Hello It's Me (NZ) (Darci Brahma) in the Gr.2 Stella Artois Royal Stakes (2000m) at Ellerslie on New Year's Day.

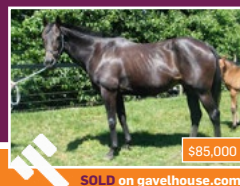
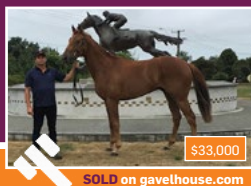
"Milseain lacks a bit of ring craft, but she's got ability," Baker said. "Marcellina ran on well in the Royal Stakes and she was outpaced over 1600m last time, but we had to have a go."

– NZ Racing Desk



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KAWI AT PEAK FOR GROUP ONE SPRINT

Allan Sharrock believes seven-time Group One winner **Kawi (NZ)** (Savabeel) is in the best form of his career leading into Saturday's Gr.1 BCD Group Sprint (1400m) at Te Rapa.

The New Plymouth trainer admits he is brimming with confidence ahead of the weight-for-age feature, mainly stemming from Kawi's brilliant finish for second in the Gr.1 Telegraph (1200m) at Trentham last month and the way the Savabeel seven-year-old has bounced through that run.

Kawi was timed to run his last 600m of the Telegraph in 32.33 seconds, 0.76 seconds - or roughly 4 1/2 lengths - faster than winner Enzo's Lad (Testa Rossa).

"I'm really pleased with him. He's terrific. He's sailed through his last run and his work has been up to his best standard," Sharrock said.

"All those behind him have to come up to his weight on Saturday under weight-for-age. At Trentham, he was giving them all weight. His form is better than anything else. I'm pretty confident going into it."

Sharrock quipped that Kawi's outside barrier draw of nine was in line with him going into the race as the highest-rated runner but dealing with that barrier was now the job of rider Jonathan Riddell.

Riddell will have his 11th raceday ride on Kawi on Saturday, having won on the star galloper on three occasions and placed in a further four.

But the Cambridge jockey has never been aboard in any of Kawi's

seven elite-level wins, with Leith Innes (five) and Jason Waddell (two) sharing those triumphs.

"With both Jason and Leith suspended, Michael Walker committed to a Group One ride in Melbourne and Johnathan Parkes bound to Start Wondering, Jonathan was the right option," Sharrock said.

"It often takes a race to get to know him so why take the risk on a new rider. I'd say Jonathan has some unfinished business too. He rode him in nine of his first 10 starts - he did all the hard work when he was a shit of a horse. It would be good for him to get his big one."

Sharrock again has his eye on Kawi levelling up to Mufhasa's (NZ) (Pentire) record of eight Group One wins in New Zealand.

"These Group Ones are never easy to win and next season could be his last season, so we'd love for him to level up," Sharrock said.

"As soon as he tells us he's had enough, we'll pull pin. He's been a great servant and we're not going to send him around for the sake of it.

"But he hasn't been over-raced either. He's racing now, as a seven-year-old, as well as at any stage of his career."

Safely through Saturday's sprint feature, Kawi will tackle the Gr.1 Haunui Farm WFA Classic (1600m) at Otaki on February 24 before Sharrock decides between stepping up to the 2000m of the Gr.1 Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes at Ellerslie on March 10 or dropping back in distance to the 1200m of the Gr.1 Goodwood in Adelaide on May 19.

Kawi dominates betting for the BCD Group Sprint as a \$2 favourite with TAB bookmakers, ahead of joint \$5.50 second favourites Heroic Valour (Fastnet Rock) and Start Wondering (NZ) (Eighth Wonder).

- NZ Racing Desk



Kawi will start a warm favourite as he chases Group One win number 8 at Te Rapa tomorrow



NEWS IN BRIEF



Shillelagh (NZ) (Savabeel)



Promise To Reign (Manhattan Rain)



Packing Eagle (NZ) (Pins)

Waller spruiks Shillelagh in Orr

One of three last-start Group One winners in the field, **Shillelagh (NZ)** (Savabeel) has been given a strong push by champion trainer Chris Waller to take out the Gr.1 C.F. Orr Stakes (1400m) on Saturday.

The Gr.1 Cantala Stakes (1600m) winner, who chased down stablemate Tom Melbourne (Dylan Thomas) at Flemington, resumes in the seven-furlong feature.

Waller said he had the Orr picked out for the six-year-old daughter of Savabeel for some time.

"She's been set for this race first-up," Waller said.

"She's had two trials in Sydney - she's obviously a horse that races well left-handed and right-handed.

"She's got a great draw [barrier two].

"Yes, it's weight-for-age, it's some of the best horses in the country running, [but] I think she could well be one of them.

"I expect her to run well, and she'll be hard to beat."

Michael Dee retains the ride from his Group One-winning effort in the Cantala.

Mighty Boss ready to resume

Mick Price's Gr.1 Caulfield Guineas (1600m) winner **Mighty Boss** (Not A Single Doubt) will resume in the Gr.1 C.F. Orr Stakes (1400m) at Caulfield on Saturday.

Taking on the older horses in the A\$500,000 feature is naturally not going to suit the three-year-old, but Price is using it and the Gr.1 Futurity Stakes (1400m) as a yardstick for his assault on the Gr.1 Australian Guineas (1600m).

"He's had a really good prep - I can't help him too much more," Price said.

"If it was an average 1400-metre race, he'd probably go and win - but it's a C.F. Orr.

"A couple of Weiry's big guns, Tosen Stardom and Brave Smash [and Black Heart Bart], if they're right, they're going to be hard to beat."

Shooting for the top with capable mare

The lure of reward at racing's highest level will see late nomination **Promise To Reign** (Manhattan Rain) tackle Saturday's Gr.1 Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m).

The Brendan and Jo Lindsay-owned five-year-old was withdrawn from the open handicap at Te Rapa on Waitangi Day in favour of the feature weight-for-age event on the second day of the Waikato meeting.

"Obviously, the handicap was a much easier race but for a mare like her Group One performance is extremely important," said Moira Murdoch, who trains with her daughter Kieran. [Full story here](#)



Devise (NZ) (Darci Brahma)

Lizzie L'Amour main Group One threat

Shaune Ritchie has been keeping a friendly watch on an enemy camp in the build-up to Saturday's Gr.1 Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m) at Te Rapa.

The Cambridge trainer is more than happy with his contender **Devise (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) ahead of the weight-for-age feature, but has healthy respect for a rival runner from the powerful Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman stable.

"We're at the same centre so I see a fair bit of Lizzie L'Amour (NZ) (Zabeel) and after her run for second the other day she is clearly the horse to beat," Ritchie said. [Full story here](#)

Cruz hopes Eagle can soar to Dubai

Martin Cruz is hoping **Packing Eagle (NZ)** (Pins) can prove his worth to be on the international stage in Dubai next month when he competes at Group One level at Te Rapa on Saturday.

Packing Eagle will be part of a two-pronged attack by Cruz on the BCD Group Sprint (1400m), being joined by his Gr.3 Concorde Handicap (1200m) placed stablemate Elusive Treasure (Northern Meteor), and the Cambridge trainer believes the former smart Hong Kong galloper can justify his nomination for the Gr.1 Al Quoz Sprint (1200m) on turf at Meydan on March 31. [Full story here](#)



Ardrossan (Redoute's Choice)

Ardrossan ready for Rubiton

Mick Price is confident his NZ import **Ardrossan** (Redoute's Choice) can live up to expectation in Saturday's Gr.2 Rubiton Stakes (1100m).

The Redoute's Choice colt was a Stakes winner at just his second start in New Zealand, and while Price conceded he is raising the bar high with his 71-rater in just his third start, he is confident he won't be disappointed post-race, with the Oakleigh Plate in mind with him.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

"He's an exciting horse, I reckon," Price said.

"He works like a good colt, and trials like a good colt, and is supposed to be a good colt, so I think you'll find he flies the gates, puts himself up there and we'll see what he does under pressure.

"I'd love to see him win, I think you'll see a really good effort from him, and hopefully he can run in the first three if not win, and then go to the Oakleigh Plate.

"He's a three-year-old, and we're asking a bit of him."



Insight (NZ) (Shocking)

Marsh pair to showcase Oaks potential

The strength of trainer Stephen Marsh's hand in the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m) will become clearer after his promising fillies **Insight (NZ)** (Shocking) and **Mark Two (NZ)** (Pins) step out in Saturday's Gr.2 Cambridge Stud Sir Tristram Fillies Classic (2000m) at Te Rapa.

Marsh has a high opinion of both fillies and is looking forward to Saturday's feature as his pair build to the Oaks (2400m) at Trentham on March 17.

With maiden filly Mark Two drawing the outside barrier of 12, Marsh believes Insight gives him his strongest winning chance on Saturday after she only got clear late in the Gr.3 Desert Gold Stakes (1600m) at Trentham last start and finished sixth. [Full story here](#)

[Full story here](#)

Tulip to run in Kevin Hayes

The Group One-placed three-year-old filly **Tulip** (Pierro), will make her return in the Gr.3 Kevin Hayes Stakes (1200m) at Caulfield on Saturday, with co-trainer Ben Hayes non-committal about the autumn plans for the filly.

"She looks like she has come back bigger and stronger. All her work suggests she has come back as well (as previous campaigns), if not better," Hayes said.

"She trialled down the straight at Flemington last week and ran the quickest time and there were some high-class horses trialling that day.



Tulip (Pierro)

"We are expecting her to be a top-three chance (on Saturday). She has a very good record in Sydney, but it depends on how she runs on Saturday.

"We don't have a plan mapped out for her, so we will watch her run and then make a decision on whether to go to Sydney or stay in Melbourne."



Shadow Fox (NZ) (Keeninsky)

Cunning Fox has Gulliver despairing

Stratford trainer Steve Gulliver admits he doesn't know what result to expect from his talented galloper **Shadow Fox (NZ)** (Keeninsky) in the Carters Ashhurst Pohangina Cup (1200m) at Awapuni today.

"He's got all the ability in the world, but he keeps holding his breath," Gulliver said. "He's done it in all his last five starts and he even does it at home when I'm working him. You can't gallop him without him holding his breath.

"I thought he must be hurting so I got the Waikato vet down and he went right through him and couldn't find anything.

[Full story here](#)

Richardson's Xbox presses Derby claims

Graeme Richardson went to Te Rapa looking for an answer from **Xbox (NZ)** (Niagara) and the talented three-year-old gave him an emphatic reply.

The Matamata horseman, who trains in partnership with Gavin Parker, sent the son



Xbox (NZ) (Niagara)

of Niagara beyond a mile for the first time in Tuesday's Gr.2 Warren Storm Lifebrokers Waikato Guineas (2000m).

Xbox's tenacious victory at the expense of Mongolianconqueror (NZ) (Ocean Park) earned him a \$10 quote for next month's Gr.1 Vodafone New Zealand Derby (2400m) at Ellerslie. [Full story here](#)



Darscape Princess (NZ) (Darci Brahma)

Well-bred mare triumphs in Auret shut-out

The well-related **Darscape Princess (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) went to another level at Tauherenikau where she led home an Auret family quinella in the feature event.

She took the rise in class from a Rating 75 win at Trentham last month in her stride to claim Tuesday's Listed WRC and Pope & Gray Contractors Wairarapa Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m).

Raced by her breeder John Bromley, Darscape Princess is a half-sister to stablemate and Gr.2 Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1400m) winner Sensible Princess (NZ) (Street Sense), with the pair trained by Fraser Auret at Marton. [Full story here](#)

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Haunui Farm Stallions in Demand at Karaka 2018



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Mission Hill (Teofilo)



Divine Power (NZ) (Power)

Te Rapa success trims classic price

Mission Hill (Teofilo) has tightened in the Gr.1 New Zealand Derby (2400m) market after his bold showing at Te Rapa.

The Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained gelding accounted for the older horses in the Snell Packaging & Safety Handicap (1600m) on Tuesday to earn an \$8 quote for the Vodafone-sponsored classic at Ellerslie on March 3.

In a changing market after the defections of top colts Age Of Fire (Fastnet Rock) and Demonetization (All Too Hard), Karaka Million 3YO Classic (1600m) winner Scott Base (NZ) (Dalghar) is the \$3.50 favourite.

[Full story here](#)



Ladies First (NZ) (Dylan Thomas)

Ladies First now Auckland Cup favourite

Taranaki mare **Ladies First** (NZ) (Dylan Thomas) struck the first winning blow of her Group One campaign when she was successful at Te Rapa on Tuesday.

The Alan Sharrock-trained five-year-old sat at the back of a three horse field in the SVS Hamilton Cup (2100m) before she finished over the top of Show The World (NZ) (High Chaparral) and pacemaker El Soldado (NZ) (Colombia).

"I just had to wait to come across heels and she let down nicely," rider Vinnie Colgan said.

Ladies First is now the \$6 favourite for her autumn target, the Gr.1 Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup (3200m).

Further success for enduring partnership

Palmerston North trainer Kevin Gray continues to enjoy a successful association with champion breeder Sir Patrick Hogan.

They feature in the ownership of the Gr.3 Wellington Stakes (1600m) placegetter **Divine Power** (NZ) (Power), who overcame a three wide run to win the Kuripuni Sports Bar 3YO 1000m at Tauherenikau on Tuesday. "A half-brother sold at the sales the other day for \$230,000 so I'm very grateful to have this filly off Sir Patrick, I also bought Copper Belt off him many years ago," Gray said.

Copper Belt won 22 races, including two at Group One level and a further 10 stakes successes.

Sir Patrick's colours were also in the winners' circle at Te Rapa where the Zabeel mare Lovelight (NZ) was successful in the Risk Management Group Handicap (2100m).

"We'll go to the Auckland Cup meeting with her, what she runs in I don't know yet, and we'll probably look for a race somewhere before that," said Peter Williams, who trains with his wife Dawn.



All In Vogue (NZ) (Pins)

Mare makes it back to back Cups

All In Vogue (NZ) (Pins) successfully defended her WCM Legal Wairarapa Cup (2050m) title at Tauherenikau on Tuesday.

In between times, she has boosted her future value with a Listed win in the Wanganui Cup (2040m).

"We've looked after her and placed her right, she's going to be a lovely broodmare," trainer Kevin Gray said.

All In Vogue was given a good run behind the pace by stable apprentice Holly Andrew and once they were into the clear they finished too well for Dr Watson (NZ) (Handsome Ransom).



Gerald Fell

Fell proud of New Zealand Racing Hall Of Fame

Success in a lifetime is built around achievements and for Gerald Fell one of his proudest accomplishments will be on show again this evening in Hamilton.

Fell (77) was one of the small group of dedicated racing enthusiasts who were instrumental in forming the New Zealand Racing Hall Of Fame (NZRHOF), of which he became the inaugural Chairman. The seventh biennial inductee function is being held at Skycity Hamilton on the eve of a premier day's racing at Te Rapa.

New Zealand's Racing Hall Of Fame was established after Fell and the current NZRHOF Chairman, Chris Luoni, were in Adelaide in 2003 and attended the annual Australian Racing Hall Of Fame dinner, which had first been staged two years earlier. [Full story here](#)

Authentic Paddy out of Te Rapa Group One

A bruised heel will prevent **Authentic Paddy** (NZ) (Howbaddouwantit) from chasing a second Group One win at Te Rapa on Saturday.

Trainer Lisa Latta confirmed on Thursday the eight-year-old won't be taking his part in the Gr.1 Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m).

"He's got a bruised heel and won't be going to Te Rapa," Latta said. "We're getting on top of it and instead he can still go to the mile at Otaki then to Auckland on March 10."

[Full story here](#)

continued on next page >



NEWS IN BRIEF

Jasd sold to Hong Kong

Unbeaten three-year-old gelding **Jasd** (Sepoy) will be making his way to Hong Kong after being sold by Waikato bloodstock agent Bryce Tankard to clients of expatriate New Zealand trainer Paul O'Sullivan.

Formerly trained by Tony Pike, Jasd won impressively on debut at Taupo by nearly two lengths late last year before winning his only other start over 1400m at Trentham on Wellington Cup day.

Jasd was originally purchased by Tankard out of the 2016 New Zealand Bloodstock Ready to Run Sale under his Waikato Bloodstock banner. He went to \$240,000 to secure the son of Sepoy out of Kilgravin Lodge's draft for another Hong Kong client.

"He's a horse that has always shown plenty of ability and we just took him along quietly because he is a lovely big horse and we didn't want to rush him," Tankard said.

"He has lived up to expectations, he won a trial very well at Te Aroha before his first race at Taupo.

"The current owner didn't have a permit for Hong Kong and he has sold a few horses up to Hong Kong that have gone on to do very good jobs. So he is always open to the deal of moving a few horses."

Queensland likely for Jon Snow

Queensland racegoers could get the opportunity to see smart Kiwi stayer **Jon Snow (NZ)** (Iffraaj) in his upcoming campaign.

Cambridge trainers Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman have the Group One winning son of Iffraaj back in work after a mixed Melbourne campaign in the spring.

Placed in the Gr.1 Caulfield Stakes (2000m) and a strong winner of the Gr.3 JRA Cup (2040m), Jon Snow was a late withdrawal from last year's Gr.1 Melbourne Cup (3200m) due to a foot issue.

"He had a good break and has done a fair bit of work on the treadmill and he's looking good," Baker said. "He had a few problems but he seems over them.

"There's a chance he could get to Sydney late in the carnival, but it's more likely he'll be going to Brisbane. We'll just have to see how he comes up.

"He's a good stayer and there will be plenty of races for him in Australia."

Easter Handicap main target

Romancer (NZ) (Redwood) will have another sprint outing before he is stepped out over more ground.

"The only race for him is the Darley Plate on Derby Day and then he'll head toward the Easter at Pukekohe, it's back to

a handicap so that will suit him," said co-trainer Chris Gibbs.

Romancer won a Rating 70 event over 1400m at Ruakaka last month before he finished strongly for second in the Gr.3 Concorde Handicap (1200m) at Ellerslie. The Gr.2 Easter Handicap (1600m) will be run at Pukekohe on April 21.

Matamata mission for Five To Midnight

Lisa Latta has decided against another trip to Ellerslie with **Five To Midnight (NZ)** (Domesday) before his bid on the Gr.1 Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup (3200m) next month.

Five To Midnight's last two runs have been at Ellerslie, resulting in a third to Zacada (NZ) (Zabeel) in the Gr.2 Laser Plumbing Te Puke Avondale Cup (2400m) on New Year's Day and an unlucky second behind Charles Road (Myboycharlie) in the Gr.3 Windsor Park Stud City Of Auckland Cup (2400m) on Karaka Million evening.

Rather than head back up to Ellerslie to top off Five To Midnight's Auckland Cup preparation with a run in the Westinghouse Nathan's Memorial (2400m) at Ellerslie on Saturday week, the Awapuni trainer plans to wait a week and start him in the Listed Marks Ewen & Associates Kaimai Stakes (2000m) at Matamata on February 24.

"I didn't want another long trip to Auckland with him," Latta said. "He can go to Matamata. It's not as far to go and he can be back home here that night.

"He's done well since the City Of Auckland. He's freshened up and been back in the stable for three or four days and is looking good."



Embellish (NZ) (Savabeel)

Australian targets for gifted stablemates

Te Akau are mounting feature race assaults in two Australian states on Saturday week.

Top colt **Embellish (NZ)** (Savabeel) will run in Melbourne with stable rider Opie Bosson to continue his association with the Group One-winning son of Savabeel, while leading filly **Melody Belle (NZ)** (Commands)

will be in action in Sydney.

"Unfortunately, they are both running on the same day so Blake Shinn has been booked to ride Melody Belle," said Jamie Richards, who trains the pair with Stephen Autridge.

Last-start Ellerslie winner Melody Belle will step out in the Gr.2 Light Fingers Stakes (1200m) at Randwick with the Gr.2 Surround Stakes (1400m) to follow a fortnight later. [Full story here](#)



Showemup (NZ) (Showcasing)

New home for black type performer

Southern stakes winner **Showemup (NZ)** (Showcasing) has joined the premiership-winning stable of Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman.

A majority interest in the daughter of Showcasing has been purchased by Lib Petagna's JML Bloodstock, who will race the mare with original owners Dennis and Sally Mullally.

"She's got a lot of ability, but we had a few issues with her," former trainer Sally McKay said.

"She kept hitting herself, but they will have good farriers up there and after her trial they seem to be on the right track."

Showemup, who finished third in her open 935m heat at Cambridge on Monday, has won three times from 13 appearances, including last season's Listed New Zealand Bloodstock Airfreight Stakes (1600m) at Riccarton.

She also placed at Listed level in the Warstep Stakes (2000m), the Dunedin Guineas (1500m) and the Gore Guineas (1335m).

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Strong Derby presence for Ruakaka trainers

Chris Gibbs and Donna Logan promise to have a strong hand in the Gr.1 New Zealand Derby (2400m) despite losing a genuine contender.

Hello It's Me (NZ) (Darci Brahma) has been withdrawn from next month's Vodafone-sponsored classic and the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m), but fellow filly Danzdanzdance (Mastercraftsman) remains on target for Ellerslie along with Endowment (NZ) (Savabeel) and Tavlin (NZ) (Tavistock).

The lightly-trying Hello It's Me has won two of her five starts, including the Gr.2 Royal Stakes (2000m) at her last appearance on New Year's Day. [Full story here](#)



Avantage (Fastnet Rock)

Group One next for crack filly

Unbeaten filly **Avantage** (Fastnet Rock) won't race again before her Group One autumn target.

The Fastnet Rock two-year-old won for the fourth consecutive time when she beat her stablemate Al Hasa (NZ) (Exceed and Excel) in the Karaka Million (1200m) at Ellerslie.

"We're pleased with the way she came through that run and she'll be going straight to the Sistema Stakes on March 10," said Jamie Richards, who trains in partnership with Stephen Autridge.

Meanwhile, stablemate Heroic Valour (NZ) (Fastnet Rock) will run in Saturday's Gr.1 BCD Group Sprint (1400m) following his

last-start fifth in the Gr.1 Telegraph (1200m) at Trentham.

"He's well and ready for Te Rapa," Richards said.

Manawatu feature 2YO's top goal

The Gr.1 Courtesy Ford Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m) is the target for the smart juvenile **Bit Lippy (NZ)** (Showcasing).

"He's going to go to the Matamata Slipper and then the Sires' Produce, I'm not sure about the Sistema as the Manawatu one is a bit longer and that will suit him," trainer Wayne Hillis said.

Bit Lippy placed at his first three starts in black type company before he won last Saturday's Gr.3 Phoenix Park 2YO Classic (1200m) at New Plymouth.

"He'd been unlucky in a couple so he deserved it," Hillis said.

Stakes winner on easy list

Genuine three-year-old **Hard**

Merchandize (NZ) (Burgundy) is enjoying a deserved break.

"He's gone for a good spell," trainer Gary Vile said. "He hasn't missed a cheque all season."

Hard Merchandize, who won the Gr.2 Hawke's Bay Guineas (1400m) in the spring, was turned out after he finished seventh in the Karaka 3YO Classic (1600m).

"It was a good run at Auckland, but he didn't quite see the mile out," Vile said.

Sydney-bound mare trials in good style

Outstanding mare **Bonneval (NZ)** (Makfi) trialled well at Cambridge on Monday to take her a step closer to opening an autumn campaign in Australia.

The multiple Group One winner finished third in her 1200m heat behind stablemates Saint Emilion (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) and Weather With You (Teofilo).

"She ran on nicely and she probably needs another trial before she races in Sydney over a mile in the Chipping Norton," said Murray Baker, who trains with Andrew Forsman.

"Saint Emilion is going really well this time in. He was a bit patchy in the spring and

summer so we'll see what he can do in the autumn.

"He's a hard horse to place as he's at the top of the weights.

"We've got a bit behind with Weather With You for the New Zealand Derby so there's a good chance he'll go to Sydney as well. We think he'll stay."



Arthur Avis

Industry mourns passing of Arthur Avis

The racing industry has lost one of its gems with the passing of well-respected owner Arthur Avis.

The 94-year-old, a former company director and Bombay Hills farmer, raced a number of quality horses out of Richard Collett's Pukekohe Park stable which he sourced at Karaka with the assistance of bloodstock agent and friend Robt Dawe.

"He was an absolute gem Arthur, everybody liked him," Dawe said. "We had a very good friendship." [Full story here](#)

VIDEO: Xbox winning the Gr.2 Warren Storm Lifebrokers Waikato Guineas (2000m) at Te Rapa on Tuesday.



[Click image to play](#)



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Friday 9 February 2018

GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS

01/02/2018 - 07/02/2018

AUSTRALIA

Darci Brahma : Single Minded Lady (NZ) (Not a Single Mak by Not a Single Doubt) 2013;

04/02/2018, 1st Bunbury TC Iron Jack Maiden P. 1420m

Ekraar : He Eksceles (NZ) (Serendipity by Honor Grades) 2013;

04/02/2018, 1st Sapphire Coast TC Walcott Exploration Services H. 1400m

Frankel : Tangmere (NZ) (Our Echezeaux by Zabeel) 2014;

07/02/2018, 1st ATC #Theraces Maiden H. 1400m

Sold by Pencarrow Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$1300000

Jimmy Choux : Manolo Blahniq (NZ) (Floramour by More Than Ready) 2013;

03/02/2018, 1st MRC John Moule H. 1400m

Sold by Curraghmore Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$115000

Magnus : Bellaria (NZ) (Flowerdrum by Mister Baileys) 2013;

07/02/2018, 1st MRC Mitavite Summer Challenge Heat H. 1400m

Sold by Phoenix Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$100000

Sold by Bradbury Park at National Yearling Sale for \$30000

Mastercraftsman : Shine on - Just Shine (Aust.) (NZ) (Sweet Spirit by Octagonal) 2012;

03/02/2018, 1st Newcastle JC Australian Business Lawyers H. 1600m

More Than Ready : More Than Exceed (NZ) (Exceedingly Regal by Exceed and Excel) 2015;

03/02/2018, 1st SAJC Holdfast Insurance 2YO H. 1050m

O'Reilly : Allez Bien (NZ) (Be Inspired by Zabeel) 2013;

07/02/2018, 1st ATC TAB Rewards H. 1600m

Sold by Jamieson Park at National Yearling Sale for \$160000

Pentire : Maldonado (NZ) (I Say by Quest for Fame) 2011;

03/02/2018, 1st Healesville ARC RACV CLUB Trophy H. 1650m

Pentire : City of Kirkwall (NZ) (Noubeel by Zabeel) 2010;

04/02/2018, 1st Sapphire Coast TC Sapphire Coast Cup 2200m

Sold by Kirkwall Thoroughbreds Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$110000

Per Incanto : Forseeable (NZ) (Cassandra by Centro) 2013;

04/02/2018, 1st Narromine TC Zoo FM & 2DU Maiden H. 1300m

Sold by Highden Park at National Yearling Sale for \$75000

Pierro : Furore (NZ) (Stormy Choice by Redoute's Choice) 2014;

05/02/2018, 1st Wine Country RC Wine Country Motor Inn H. 1570m

Sold by Haunui Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$210000

Pins : Expinsive (NZ) (Zamfir by Gold Brose) 2010;

04/02/2018, 1st Sale TC Football Netball Season H. 1405m

Pins : Torgersen (NZ) (Oh So Glam by O'Reilly) 2012;

07/02/2018, 1st Ipswich TC City of Ipswich H. 1666m

Sold by Waikato Stud Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$170000

Pour Moi : Mr Boombastic (NZ) (Dominique by Zabeel) 2013;

03/02/2018, 1st GCTC Ubet Betsshare Maiden P. 1800m

Sold by Windsor Park Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$46000

Red Giant : Hasta la Red (NZ) (Fibber Magee by Zabeel) 2011;

04/02/2018, 1st Strathalbyn RC Triton H. 1600m

Sold by Northfields Stud at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$16000

Rock 'n' Pop : Paris Rock (NZ) (Que Sera by Daggers Drawn) 2014;

03/02/2018, 1st MRC Ian Miller H. 1400m

Sold by Curraghmore at National Yearling Sale for \$65000

Savabeel : Savaju (NZ) (Madam Marju by Marju) 2013;

02/02/2018, 1st MVRC Roll'd H. 1200m

Savabeel : Savwell (NZ) (Aninspiration by Anabaa) 2013;

07/02/2018, 1st Ipswich TC Carlton Mid H. 1350m

Strategic Image : My Giddy Aunt (NZ) (Ellington by Express Duke) 2012;

03/02/2018, 1st Alice Springs TC Ladbrokes H. 1200m

Tavistock : Bedford (NZ) (Dastaria by Stark South) 2013;

03/02/2018, 1st MRC Mal Seccull H. 2000m

Sold by Brighthill Farm at Ready to Run Sale for \$320000

Tavistock : Travistee (NZ) (Je Suis by Stravinsky) 2013;

04/02/2018, 1st SCTC Wear in Business H. 1600m

Tavistock : Won Won Too (NZ) (Celtic Dream by Casual Lies) 2014;

06/02/2018, 1st Ballarat TC Whitford Liquid Waste Maiden P. 1400m

Sold by Riversley Park Ltd at Ready to Run Sale for \$200000

Thorn Park : Suspiria (NZ) (Night Mare by Mercury) 2010;

03/02/2018, 1st Healesville ARC Wiltshire Family Maiden P. 1650m

Sold by Henley Park at National Yearling Sale for \$190000

Yamanin Vital : Spying on You (NZ) (Nancy Wake by Personal Escort) 2009;

07/02/2018, 1st Murray Bridge RC Spry Earthmovers H. 2200m



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GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS

01/02/2018 - 07/02/2018

HONG KONG

Castledale : Sonic Fighter (NZ) (Indy Star by Indian Danehill) 2013;
04/02/2018, 1st HKJC Yan Oi Tong Cup 1400m
Sold by Te Runga Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$45000

Darci Brahma : Beaut Beaut (NZ) (Luscious Legs by Pins) 2013;
04/02/2018, 1st HKJC Fu Tai H. 1200m
Sold by Little Avondale Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$200000

Mastercraftsman : Packing Dragon (NZ) (Golden Gamble by Oregon) 2011;
07/02/2018, 1st HKJC Wong Nai Chung H. 1800m
Sold by Belvedere Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$190000

Nom du Jeu : Ted - Ping Hai Star (H.K.) (NZ) (Vicky by Encosta de Lago) 2013;
04/02/2018, 1st HKJC Po Tin H. 1400m

Rios : Regency Honey (NZ) (Bella Boyd by Star Way) 2013;
04/02/2018, 1st HKJC Butterfly H. 1200m

Swiss Ace : Sharpmind (NZ) (Perfect Silhouette by More Than Ready) 2013;
07/02/2018, 1st HKJC Leighton H. 1200m
Sold by Westbury Stud at Ready to Run Sale for \$90000

Tavistock : Golden Coin - Rule Thee (H.K.) (NZ) (Dantessa by Danasinga) 2012;
04/02/2018, 1st HKJC On Ting H. 1800m
Sold by Kilgravin Lodge at Ready to Run Sale for \$70000

MACAU

Savabeel : River Triple (NZ) (Madame Reprive by Pins) 2014;
03/02/2018, 1st Macau Chesterfield H. 1050m
Sold by Leanach Lodge Ltd at Ready to Run Sale for \$60000
Sold by Haunui Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$30000

MALAYSIA

Alamosa : Alasamo (NZ) (Mumbai by Lord Ballina) 2010;
03/02/2018, 1st Penang TC Class 4 H. 1600m
Sold by Trelawney Stud Ltd at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$13000
Sold by Lyndhurst Farm at Ready to Run Sale for \$120000
Sold by Henley Park at National Yearling Sale for \$30000

Coats Choice : Brahms and Liszt (NZ) (Symphony by Kaapstad) 2009;
03/02/2018, 1st Penang TC Class 4 H. 1200m
Sold by Berkley Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$27000

MALAYSIA (CONT.)

Keeper : Platoon (NZ) (Girl of Value by Gold Brose) 2011;
03/02/2018, 1st Penang TC Class 4 H. 1200m

Sakhee's Secret : Nevertheless (NZ) (La Panthere by Generous) 2013;
03/02/2018, 1st Penang TC Class 5 H. 1300m

Sakhee's Secret : Tongariro (NZ) (Feel by Zabeel) 2010;
03/02/2018, 1st Penang TC Class 5 H. 1300m

Sandtrap : Sand Lane (NZ) (Tivoli Lane by Lowell) 2008;
03/02/2018, 1st Penang TC Class 5 H. 1100m
Sold by Archer Park at National Yearling Sale for \$20000

SINGAPORE

Darci Brahma : Kingsman (NZ) (Society Lady by O'Reilly) 2013;
02/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 3 H. 1400m
Sold by Blandford Lodge at National Yearling Sale for \$80000

Gold Centre : Typhon (NZ) (Crisp by Zeditave) 2012;
04/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m

Murtajill : Sensitive Smile - She's the One (Sing.) (NZ) (Forbetterforworse by Dubawi) 2013;
02/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1600m
Sold by Hallmark Stud at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$10000

No Excuse Needed : Prince Ferdinand (NZ) (Look at Moiye by O'Reilly) 2012;
02/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC Class 5 H. 1200m

O'Reilly : Ohyioh (NZ) (Darya Ye Noor by Al Samer) 2013;
04/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC Novice P. 1400m

O'Reilly : Now You See (NZ) (Fabulist by Savabeel) 2014;
04/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC RDA Cup 1100m

Per Incanto : Freddy Lad - Biraz (Sing.) (NZ) (Tap'n' Gap by Spectatorial) 2012;
04/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC British Club Gallop 1100m

Showcasing : Arc Triumph (NZ) (Wind of Savannah by Savabeel) 2014;
02/02/2018, 1st Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1000m
Sold by Mana Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$57500

