

Sunday 27 January 2019

THREE-PEAT FOR TE AKAU IN KARAKA MILLION



Opie Bosson and Probabeel clear out from their rivals to win the Karaka Million 2YO (Trish Dunell)

An outside barrier couldn't stop classy filly **Probabeel (NZ)** (Savabeel), with the Jamie Richards-trained juvenile taking out the rich Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) at Ellerslie on Saturday.

It was a three-peat for the combination of jockey Opie Bosson and Richards, who combined with previous winners Avantage (Fastnet Rock) and Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands)

when Richards was training in partnership with Stephen Autridge.

After jumping away from the outside barrier in the 14-horse field, Bosson had no option but to settle Probabeel towards the rear of the field in the 1200m event.

The pair bided their time before looming large on the turn and were able to make light work of their opposition to win

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FIRST YEARLINGS SELLING AT KARAKA 2019



COMPLACENT

AUTHORIZED - INSOUCIANCE BY QUEST FOR FAME

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HIGH CHAPARRAL - SERISIA BY EXIT TO NOWHERE

- ▶ CHAMPION MIDDLE DISTANCE HORSE OF THE YEAR
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- ▶ THE ONLY DUAL GR.1 WINNING SON OF HIGH CHAPARRAL STANDING IN NZ
- ▶ HIS FIRST TWO DAMS ARE STAKES WINNERS

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Sunday 27 January 2019

THREE-PEAT FOR TE AKAU IN KARAKA MILLION

(Continued from page 1)

by 2-3/4 lengths over stablemate Aotea Lad (NZ) (Savabeel), with Te Akau picking up the trifecta when stable runner Yourdeel (NZ) (Dundeel) dead-heated with Appellant (NZ) (Showcasing), three-quarters of a length back in third.

Richards, who is in his first year training on his own account, was delighted with the result, but was quick to pass on praise to his support team at Te Akau.

"It is just such a massive team effort, I'm only the name in the book. We have got a huge support crew around us. It's a big buzz and a bit of a relief to be honest," Richards said.

Richards said that Probabeel had shown ability from an early stage and he is excited for what is in-store for the daughter of Savabeel as she develops into her frame.

"We went to the Te Teko trials at the end of August and Mark Walker was home from Singapore. She came from last and ran second and Mark said to me 'I haven't seen a horse trial that good since King's Chapel', so we have known for a little while," he said.

"She's a big scopey filly, she's nowhere near wound-up yet. The future is very exciting."

Bosson shares the same belief as Richards and said it was a relief to win the race after what has been a whirlwind week.

The in-form hoop celebrated the birth of his son Max earlier in the week and then had to waste to make the 54.5kg allotted weight for the race.

"It has been an amazing week with the birth of Max. I am glad this is all over, it has been hard work wasting at the same time as well," Bosson said.

"She is just all class. What she is doing now as a two-year-old is just a bonus for what she's going to be as a three-year-old."

Te Akau principal David Ellis was full of praise for Bosson and said he was a huge part of the stables success.

"It is really exciting and he's a freak this guy," Ellis said. "Riding 54.5 kilos, I'm so incredibly proud of him and it's just amazing having him as our stable jockey."

"It's pretty emotional and a big thrill and to trifecta the race is just fantastic."

Ellis purchased Probabeel out of Waikato Stud's 2018 New Zealand Bloodstock Book 1 Sale draft for \$380,000 and subsequently sold her to Cambridge Stud Principal's Brendan and Jo Lindsay.

Brendan Lindsay was overjoyed with the win and said it was a great boost after purchasing Cambridge Stud last year.

"It's just a dream come true," he said. "We bought the stud, it is great for our business, great for our staff. She's bred in New Zealand, it's a great story. She's trained by a great trainer and selected by a great judge in David Ellis."

Richards was delighted for the Lindsays and said Ellis would be back at Karaka in the coming days looking to add more quality horses to Te Akau's Matamata racing barn.

"I think this is awesome for them. Dave bought this filly last year and a couple of days later they bought her," Richards said.

"They are a pretty important part of our industry now and the most exciting thing that has happened to this game in a long time.

"We'll go back to Karaka in the next few days and be really strong on the horses that we like."

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	ARC Karaka Million 2YO (R) L 1200m.
Winner	Probabeel (NZ) 2016
Owners	B J Lindsay MNZM & Mrs J E A Lindsay
Trainer	Jamie Richards (Matamata)
Breeding	by Savabeel (AUS) out of Far Fetched by Pins (AUS)
Breeder	G J Chittick; Waikato; NZ
Sales	2018 National Yearling Sale - Book 1 V: Waikato Stud Ltd \$380000 P: DC Ellis





SUCCESSFUL RETURN HOME FOR MCDONALD

New Zealand ex-pat jockey James McDonald made a winning return to his favourite track on Saturday when he was able to ride home **Long Leaf** (Fastnet Rock) to win the Karaka 3YO Classic (1600m) at Ellerslie on Saturday.

The David, Ben Hayes and Tom Dabernig-trained colt was favoured by punters heading into the race and did not disappoint.

McDonald settled the three-year-old midfield before tracking Media Sensation (I Am Invincible) from the 900m mark. He then drew his charge

into the clear at the top of the straight where he went to battle with \$160 outsider The Real Beel (NZ) (Savabeel).

The Sir Peter Vela part-owned colt was able to stave off the challenge to win by a neck over The Real Beel with three-quarters of a length back to race favourite Madison County (NZ) (Pins) in third.

Long Leaf was purchased out of Curraghmore's 2017 New Zealand Bloodstock Premier Yearling Sale draft by BBA Ireland for \$750,000 and carried the colours of part-owner Coolmore to victory on Saturday.

"It's a great thrill for connections, with Sir Peter Vela and the Coolmore boys," McDonald said. "He's a super horse and we got the result."

McDonald said it was exciting to be back racing on his favourite track on one of the biggest race days on the New Zealand calendar.

"This is one of my favourite tracks out of everywhere I have ridden," McDonald said. "To get a result for this team has been a great thrill."

"I haven't ridden here for three years and everything has changed, the stables look magnificent."

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Australian Raider Long Leaf (inner) and James McDonald take out the Karaka Million 3YO Classic (Trish Dunell)





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SUCCESSFUL RETURN HOME FOR MCDONALD

(Continued from page 4)

Sir Peter Vela, who has been a long-time supporter of McDonald, said he was delighted with the win and for his jockey.

"I am thrilled for him (McDonald) and for all the group that own him," Vela said. "He gave it a peach of a ride and I'm just delighted for him to get the accolade."

While pleased with the win, Vela said he is even more satisfied with the success of the Karaka Million concept.

"I am more excited, believe it or not, about the magnificence of the night and the number of people here enjoying it," he said.

"It's a concept we had that was a

risk, but it's more than vindicated a lot of opinions.

"A lot of people helped us and a lot of racing clubs gave up their days so this could be made a great night and there are a lot of people who deserve thanks for it."

Vela is looking forward to New Zealand Bloodstock's sales commencing at their Karaka complex on Sunday and said the result of the Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) has boosted his confidence leading into the sale.

"I think it has shaped fantastically, given the two-year-old race trifecta was by our biggest buyer (Te Akau

and (Waikato Stud stallion) Savabeel has quinellaed it," he said. "The signs are that it could be outstanding."

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	ARC Karaka Million 3YO Classic (R) L 1600m.
Winner	Long Leaf (AUS) 2015
Owners	Coolmore, Sir P J Vela, Mr D J Matheson, Mr M V Magnier, Dr D L O'Byrne, Mr M J Kirwan
Trainer	David & B Hayes & T Dabernig (Flemington)
Breeding	by Fastnet Rock (AUS) out of Frustrating (AUS) by Stravinsky (USA)
Breeder	Caradale Pty Ltd, NSW
Sales	2017 National Yearling Sale - Premier V: Curraghmore, P: BBA Ireland; \$750,000



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131	br	Tavistock (NZ)	Key to Dance (IRE)	187	br	Vancouver (AUS)	Madame Echezeaux (NZ)
229	b	Contributer (IRE)	Mojave Aster (NZ)	272	br	Redoute's Choice (AUS)	Orquidea (NZ)
368	b	Pins (AUS)	Salkantay (NZ)	282	b	Tavistock (NZ)	Papilio (NZ)
575	b	Dundeel (NZ)	Arpeggio (NZ)	372	br	Teofilc (IRE)	Santangelo (NZ)
584	b	Tavistock (NZ)	Banchee (NZ)	388	br	Savabeel (AUS)	Scintillula (IRE)
615	b	Reliable Man (GB)	Camellia (NZ)	421	b	Makfi (GB)	Sopra Tutto (NZ)
628	b	Pins (AUS)	Cerberus (NZ)	501	b	Cholsir (AUS)	Vandenne (NZ)
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To arrange a pre-Sale inspection or for further information please contact Stud Manager **Leon Casey** or Office Manager **Tracey Champion**.

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VOLPE VELOCE BACK IN WINNING FORM ON FAVOURITE TRACK

Quality racemare **Volpe Veloce** (Foxwedge) underlined her love affair with the Ellerslie track when she claimed her fifth victory from just six starts at the venue in the Gr.2 Westbury Classic (1400m) on Saturday.

The Graham Richardson and Gavin Parker-trained five-year-old is no stranger to victory on Karaka Million night having won the Listed NZB Insurance Karaka 3YO Mile (1600m) in 2017. She captured her biggest career prize in 2018 when she won the Gr.1 Sistema Railway (1200m) at Ellerslie and tried bravely to defend that title when a late-closing fourth earlier this month.

That run saw her installed a red-hot

favourite for today's contest and she duly prevailed despite giving her many supporters heart palpitations early in the run home.

Settled in midfield by rider Michael Coleman, Volpe Veloce tracked into the race nearing the home bend although she was hemmed in by a wall of horses in front of her. Coleman angled her into the clear at the 300m mark as she set out after Sleeping Beauty (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) who had skipped clear at that point.

Volpe Veloce looked all out with 100m to run but she dug deep and collared Sleeping Beauty in the last few strides to win by the barest of margins with Yearn (NZ) (Savabeel) closing off well for third.

"I was in a bit of trouble there with a couple in front of me going nowhere," Coleman said.

"I didn't have a lot of room there for a bit but when we got through, she really charged. Her class came through.

"Things didn't go her way last time from a wide gate, and it was a huge run.

"She is all class and she deserved a good win."

Richardson and Parker were quick to praise the courage of their charge when describing the victory.

"She's tough and she always fights hard," Richardson said.

"It's scary to watch as she got back a little further than we wanted with the horse in front of her dragging her back."

"Since the Railway she has just gone to another level," Parker said.

"The draw was going to be a bit tricky with the way she has been missing away but she bounced today and was in for the fight.

"We're always proud of her, she's the best horse I've ever trained."

Parker advised the mare would now be set for the Gr.1 BCD Group Sprint (1400m) at Te Rapa on February 9 as her next assignment.

– NZ Racing Desk



Volpe Veloce stretches her neck to snatch victory at Ellerslie (Trish Dunell)





CROWNING GLORY FOR KING LOUIS

The John Bary-trained **King Louis (NZ)** (Equiano) picked up his second career win and first at black-type level when taking out the Gr.3 Mongolian Khan Trophy (1200m) at Ellerslie on Saturday.

Traditionally an on-speed runner, a change of tactics to settle King Louis off the pace was discussed just minutes before the race between Bary and jockey Jason Waddell, and they proved to be the winning of the race for the three-year-old.

Waddell eased King Louis to the rear of the field from his wide gate, where under an ice cool ride he remained throughout before the pair were able to weave their way through the pack down the home straight and run down a tiring Sword of Osman (NZ) (Savabeel).

“We tried something different today, we rode him cold,” Waddell said. “He got a little bit aggressive at the 600m, but we picked the path through and he hit the line like a really good horse today.”

Race favourite Sword of Osman had opened up a big gap down the straight, but Waddell said he was confident he could pick up the pacemaker when he saw him ducking out in the closing stages of the race.

“I thought he was a little bit too far in front of me going past the 200m, but he ducked out sharply in the last bit, which told me he was under a bit of pressure and we got the last run at him.”

Bary said the win reminded him of stable predecessor and five-time Group One winner Jimmy Choux (NZ) (Thorn Park), who carried the same colours for owners Richard and Liz Wood.

“That was exceptional, it was just like the old days with Jimmy’s colours on,” Bary said. “I’m just stoked for Richard and



King Louis (middle, red cap) snatches victory at Ellerslie (Trish Dunell)

Liz, they are not here tonight, their son Michael is though.”

Bary was rapt with the win and said the change of tactics played a major part in the win.

“Speaking with Jason (before the race), he needs to take a bow,” Bary said. “We had spoken about the speed. The first option was to do what he did, ride him back and finish strong, and that’s what happened.”

“It was a great run, he got a check at the 800m and the winner has rolled out on us and he still got up.”

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	ARC Mongolian Khan Trophy Gr.3 1200m.
Winner	King Louis (NZ) 2015
Owners	Chouxmaani Investments Ltd
Trainer	John Bary (Hastings)
Breeding	by Equiano (FR) out of Nimbletoes (AUS) by Flying Spur (AUS)
Breeder	Chouxmaani Investments Ltd; Central; NZ



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ARDROSSAN BACK TO HIS BEST WITH ELLERSLIE SPRINT VICTORY

Former top juvenile **Ardrossan** (Redoute's Choice) maintained his unbeaten New Zealand record when he scored in the Gr.3 Preferment@Brighthill Farm Concorde Handicap (1200m) at Ellerslie on Saturday evening.

Unbeaten in two New Zealand starts as a two-year-old, including a win at Listed level, the Redoute's Choice entire was subsequently sent to Australia in a bid to enhance his value for a possible future stud career.

Nothing went right for the colt in his four Australian starts and he returned to his original trainer, Stephen Marsh in late 2018.

A comfortable first-up win at Te Aroha earlier this month had Ardrossan primed for his effort today and he didn't disappoint as he sat outside a solid pace set by Joy Anna (NZ) (Iffraaj) before taking control of the race at the 300m mark.

Carrying the colours of part-owner Waikato Stud, Ardrossan forged clear before comfortably holding out the late challenge of Ever Loyal (Sebring) by a length in a smart 1.10.07 for the 1200m journey.

Marsh was all smiles as he accepted congratulations in the Ellerslie birdcage after the race.

"We think he is really high class," Marsh said.

"He was up against it today, but he travelled beautifully and won well.

"I think his potential is pretty much untapped.

"He is the coolest horse and I'm just rapt the team have given me another chance with him.

"Waikato Stud have done a super job with him as they have got him right from a couple of little problems.

"It is a big team effort and I'm proud of them."

Waikato Stud principal Mark Chittick was also delighted with the victory as he explained what it had taken to get Ardrossan back to the track.

"He had his mishaps in Australia which affected his career," Chittick said.

"He came back with a few heart problems.



Ardrossan remains unbeaten in New Zealand after a classy win at Ellerslie

"Chris Phillips, our vet, has done a wonderful job with him and, although it is early days yet, he looks like he is going to get back to his best.

"He (Phillips) is an outstanding young man who left no stone unturned to find the best treatment that he could and it certainly looked like it has worked."

Chittick is keen to see the horse tested locally at Group One level before entertaining thoughts of a possible Australian return.

"With great fields all night (at Ellerslie), to prove himself like that our aim now is a nice Group One here," he said.

"If that falls into place then we will go back to Australia with him at his best." – NZ Racing Desk

Race	ARC Concorde H. Gr.3 1200m.
Winner	Ardrossan (AUS) 2014
Owners	Waikato Stud Ltd, J & K Petagna, Hon Dame Lowell Goddard, Jamieson Park, Jomara Bloodstock, Brown Thoroughbreds & D Wilson
Trainer	Stephen Marsh (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Redoute's Choice (AUS) out of Miss Argyle (AUS) by Iglesia (AUS)
Breeder	Windermere Stud





LOCAL UPSETS **IN TIMARU STAKES**

Local galloper **He Kin Fly (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) upset the applectart when he stormed to a comprehensive victory in the Listed Speight's Timaru Stakes (1400m) at Riccarton.

The win emphasised the up and down nature of thoroughbred racing as the Darci Brahma gelding had failed to take any part in the race at his last start after knuckling badly out of the barrier and dislodging rider Terry Moseley.

Moseley stuck with the ship and produced a gem on the Neill Ridley-trained six-year-old to land the winner's cheque this time.

Positioned beautifully in the trail by Moseley, He Kin Fly never covered an inch of extra ground throughout the 1400m feature. Angled off the fence

with 300m to run, He Kin Fly burst clear to clinically dispose of Tomm Jones (NZ) (King Of Roses) and Kiwi Ida (Squamosa), who filled the minor placings.

Ridley was delighted with the victory as he entered the race thinking that even a minor share of the spoils would satisfy him.

"I was hoping he could get a cheque but, in the end, we got the big prize," he said.

"I've always thought he was good enough to win a big race, so he deserved this one.

"Things set up nicely for him as they went pretty hard in front and he likes it with the pace on.

"It was also a lovely ride by Terry."

With the victory, He Kin Fly took his

career record to five wins from 22 starts and over \$236,000 in stakes earnings. His first two wins were recorded out of the Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman stable in New Zealand before being sold to Hong Kong interests in 2016.

He Kin Fly raced five times in Hong Kong, recording a win in Class 3 company, before injury resulted in his return to New Zealand in 2018 where he made his way to Ridley.

"Bruce Harvey is a part-owner of the horse and he organised for him to come to me," Ridley said.

"He has had several knee issues but at the moment he is pretty good.

"I don't have any concrete plans for him, we will make a decision on where he goes next once we see how he comes through this one."

- NZ Racing Desk



Race	CJC Timaru S. L 1400m.
Winner	He Kin Fly - Big Flash (H.K.) (NZ) 2012
Owners	E & K J Corby, D Eyles, B J & Mrs M A Harvey & S W Ridley
Trainer	Neill Ridley (Riccarton Park)
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of Shi Kin Fly by Shinko King (IRE)
Breeder	Cambridge Hunt Ltd
Sales	2013 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale V; Curraghmore Stud \$62500 P: Devcich BStk

He Kin Fly and Terry Moseley are at full speed as they head to the finish line at Riccarton (Race Images South)





KARAKA 2019 COMMENCES SUNDAY



NZB National yearling Sale graduate Beauty Generation

The cream of New Zealand's thoroughbred yearling crop will go under the hammer at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sales at Karaka this week, with the Book 1 sale to commence at 3pm on Sunday.

With 1,284 yearlings catalogued, a strong mix of both local and international buyers have been at the complex in recent days inspecting horses.

"The support we have had this year from major breeders in New Zealand has been exceptional – the best I can remember in a very long time," New Zealand Bloodstock's Managing Director Andrew Seabrook said.

"With fewer horses going to Australian yearling sales to be sold, there has definitely been an increase in the strength of the catalogues."

The lucrative Karaka Million twilight race meeting at Ellerslie on Saturday ensures a vibrant start to the week, with two \$1 million races for New Zealand Bloodstock graduates, while five of the six races on the card are stakes races.

Although last year's sale was the highest by aggregate in a decade, vendor expectations remain cautious for this year's edition.

Graduates of the New Zealand Bloodstock Yearling Sale enjoyed another strong year on the racetrack winning 120 stakes races and 18 at Group One level last season.

The New Zealand Sales have always been renowned as a quality sale at value for money and that extends beyond just

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KARAKA 2019 COMMENCES SUNDAY

(Continued from page 11)

the Book 1 catalogue, which numbers 698 well credentialed yearlings.

Book 2 graduates the ilk of the world's best miler Beauty Generation (NZ) (Road To Rock) and star three-year-old Madison County (NZ) (Pins) are prime examples of the value on offer. The pair were sold for \$60,000 and \$36,000 respectively.

Leading buyer David Ellis of Te Akau Racing is bullish about forthcoming changes in the New Zealand racing industry and has been impressed by the stock catalogued.

"I don't think it's any secret that from August 1 our stakes money in New Zealand will dramatically improve, so now is a really good time to invest," Ellis said.

"I expect this sale to be a buyers' market. The quality is as good as I've seen in 20 years. And don't forget, we're just a three-hour flight to Sydney and Melbourne and they are racing for \$7, \$10 and \$15 million and we're buying horses to win those races too."

The Chittick family's Waikato Stud has been the leading vendor by aggregate for the past five years and stock of their champion sire Savabeel will again appeal to a broad range of buyers, underpinning the sale.

Stud Principal Mark Chittick was also keen to point out that the economics of buying yearlings in New Zealand stacked up well given prizemoney in Australia has reached record levels.

"You can buy a really good horse for \$120,000 at Karaka. In just over a year's time when they're racing, they can be running for more than \$120,000 every Saturday in Sydney and Melbourne," Chittick said.

"To me that makes sense and I think it is good business to buy these horses that are reared in probably the best environment in the world."

– NZ Racing Desk

KARAKA 2019 SCHEDULE

Karaka Million Twilight Meeting: Saturday 26 January

Book 1: Sunday 27 January – Wednesday 30 January

Book 2: Thursday 31 February – Friday 1 February

Book 3: Sunday 3 February

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ROCK 'N' GOLD WINS JOHN DILLON STAKES

Trainer Mat Ellerton has praised the initiative shown by jockey Damian Lane, who helped eight-year-old gelding **Rock 'n' Gold** (Rock Of Gibraltar) to a frontrunning stakes race victory at Caulfield.

Lane opted to press forward not long after the start of Saturday's Listed John Dillon Stakes (1400m) aboard Rock 'n' Gold, who assumed control of the race before kicking away when it mattered most in the straight.

Rock 'n' Gold, a graduate from the 2012 NZB Ready To Run Sale, scored by two lengths over race favourite Manolo Blahniq (NZ) (Jimmy Choux), who was held up for clear running at crucial stages in the straight.

Manolo Blahniq stormed through

along the rail late in the race to grab second, a short head in front of Chamois Road (Choisir).

"I think Damian went to plan B," said Ellerton, who trains in partnership with Simon Zahra.

"It wasn't our plan to lead but good jockeys sum it up well and Damian did that."

The win was Rock 'n' Gold's second from his past three starts having scored in similar fashion at Caulfield on December 26 before a luckless run in the Listed Chester Manifold Stakes (1400m) at Flemington.

"He's a durable horse," Ellerton said.

"He's loving his racing and he enjoys his time in work.

"He'll go back up in the ratings now,

so we'll just have to think about where he goes next. He might be a bit tough to place from here on in."

Lane said when Rock 'n' Gold began cleanly and there was not as much speed up front as he had anticipated, he let the eight-year-old stride.

"He was too good," Lane said.

"It was a mess at Flemington last start when he bombed the start and was stuck back on the rail.

"But when you can let him do his own thing, he's effective."

AAP



Race	MRC John Dillon S. L 1400m.
Winner	Rock 'n' Gold (AUS) 2010
Owners	Mr M J Bracchi, Mr J Kovacevic, Mrs A Kempster, Mr S D Kempster, Mr L T Connolly, Mr A J Kearney, Mrs J M Kearney, Mr A C Law, Mr M J Leyden, Mr M D Lohan, Mr P J Thompson, Mr R Mccluskey, Mr G A Peel, Mr R L Banks, Mr M M Hulme, Hubik Racing, Mr K W Franklin
Trainer	Mathew Ellerton & Simon Zahra (Flemington)
Breeding	by Rock Of Gibraltar (IRE) out of Goldberg (AUS) by Geiger Counter (USA)
Breeder	Mr DM Stanaway
Sales	2012 Ready to Run Sale V: Diamond Lodge \$55,000 P: Ellerton Zahra Racing

NZB Ready To Run Sale graduate Rock 'n' Gold (AAP)





ROBIN HOOD GETS TAN-LERNER ON TARGET

French jockey Marc Lerner delivered his first win for trainer Alwin Tan aboard **Robin Hood (NZ)** (Nom Du Jeu) in the S\$85,000 Class 2 race on Friday night, but it was not without some jitters in the concluding stages.

Turning into the home straight, race-leaders Augustano (Hard Spun) and Autumn Rush (Keano) went for broke.

Meanwhile, the seven-year-old son of Nom Du Jeu, who had been trailing behind Autumn Rush, was hustled up by Lerner, who was atop for the first time.

Robin Hood hit the front at the 200m but began veering badly towards the outside. Favourite Paparazzi (Snitzel) was storming home on the outside too, but luckily for Robin Hood, once Lerner switched the whip to his left hand, the long-shot straightened up to go and cross the line first with one-and-a-quarter lengths to spare from Paparazzi.

Smokie Saraab (Heliostatic) closed off well to finish another three-parts-of-a-length in third. The winning time was 1min 22.81secs for the 1400m on the Long Course.

Lerner, who was at his second ride for Tan after a pick-up ride on Happy Saga last week, reckoned the drop back in grade since the New Zealand gelding's last start in the Colonial Chief Stakes (where he ran eighth behind Maximus) helped him win the race.

"Today he dropped back from a group race, and he had a good run," said the rider who was at his sixth win, sitting one win off current leader Noh Senari on the jockeys' premiership.

"Because of the wide draw, the trainer asked me to ride him where he is comfortable and happy, and as long as there is cover.

"He was all over the place in the straight, but he still won very well.

"The horse did most of the work, and he simply showed he was better tonight."

With seven wins from 40 starts in Singapore, Robin Hood has raked in more than S\$420,000 in prizemoney for the Eight Eight One Stable.

-STC

Race	Singapore TC Class 2 Handicap 1400m
Winner	Robin Hood (NZ) 2011
Owners	Eight Eight One Stable
Trainer	Tan Hai Wang (Kranji)
Breeding	by Nom du Jeu out of Bail Us Out by Justice Prevails (AUS)
Breeder	Goodwood Stud Ltd



Robin Hood scores at Kranji

