

Sunday 20 May 2018

SIN TO WIN OUTSTAYS ANDREW RAMSDEN RIVALS



Sin to Win outstays his rivals (Bruno Cannatelli)

Former Kiwi galloper **Sin To Win (NZ)** (Sir Percy) put the misfortune of last start behind him when successful in the Listed Andrew Ramsden Stakes (3200m) at Flemington on Saturday.

At the Flemington meeting on May 5, Sin To Win's race was over less than 200m after the start when jockey Cory Parish was dislodged.

Ridden by Andrew Mallyon today, Sin To Win held off a late challenge from Swacadelic (Alderflug) to win by a neck with

the \$4.60 favourite Chequered Flag (NZ) (Raise The Flag) a length away third.

Lindsay Park co-trainer Tom Dabernig said the stable felt Sin To Win would have gone close to winning his last start if he hadn't lost his rider.

"His form had been solid prior to that and today everything worked out well," Dabernig said.

"We thought he might have been a little bit further back in the run but it was a slow pace and he slotted across.

Continued on page 3





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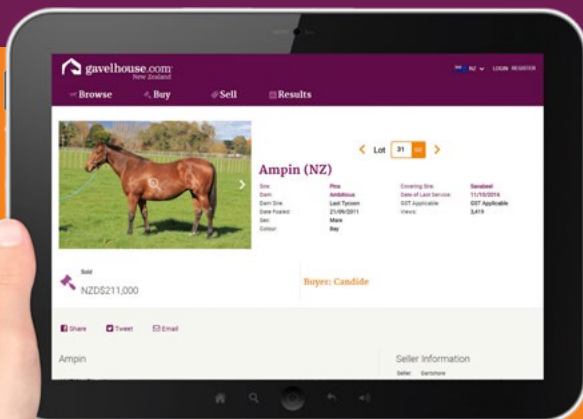
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SIN TO WIN OUTSTAYS ANDREW RAMSDEN RIVALS

(Continued from page 1)

“He rated him well, rode him patiently into the straight and left the horse with a good kick.

“Now being a two-mile winner it probably opens up a few doors for him.”

Dabernig said Sin To Win, who will be aimed at the Melbourne Cup, has the attributes of being a good stayer adding there’s further improvement to come.

The rising six-year-old, who was purchased from New Zealand by Mark Pilkington for long term Lindsay Park clients including Gary Lechte and Seymour Bloodstock’s Darren Thomas, was having just his 18th start on Saturday, for his sixth win.

“He’s been a slow maturer but he’s a horse that is an improving type, clean winded and sound,” Dabernig said.

“He’s got plenty of good attributes being so lightly raced.”

Sin To Win won three of his five starts in New Zealand for trainer Tony Pike and was sourced privately by Pilkington.

“His Owner/Breeder is a friend of mine called Jenny Grieve and we’ve had some horses before,” Pilkington said.

“We watched him come through the grades and bought three-quarters of him and Jenny stayed in. Jenny is very excited and follows him closely. She is a great little breeder in New Zealand.

“He was handled nice and patiently in New Zealand and he has matured more now.”

Pilkington also sourced another son of Sir Percy from New Zealand at around the same time in talented galloper (Our) Peaky Blinders (NZ), who like Sin To Win has won three races and proved a model of consistency since crossing the Tasman.

“They’re nice staying horses and they have been great for us.”

Race	VRC Andrew Ramsden S. L 3200m
Winner	Sin to Win (NZ) 2012
Owners	Seymour Bloodstock, Mr GR Lechte, Mr J Lechte, Ms JJ Grieve
Trainer	David & B Hayes & T Dabernig (Flemington)
Breeding	by Sir Percy (GB) out of Ledahead by Jugalug
Breeder	Ms J J Grieve

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YOGI MAKES PICNIC OF PORT ADELAIDE CUP

The Darren Weir-trained **Yogi (NZ)** (Raise The Flag) proved far too good for his rivals in the Listed Port Adelaide Cup (2500m) on Saturday, coming from last to cruise to victory and provide favourite punters with a winning start to the day.

With carded jockey Dean Yendall held up due to a flight cancellation, Damian Lane took the reins.

“I’d like to thank Jetstar for cancelling Dean Yendall’s flight,” Lane quipped.

“The slow pace didn’t really worry me. He’s a horse I’ve ridden a few times in work and he has always given me a nice feel. He’s always really casual and his last start was obviously very good when runner up in the Warrnambool Cup.

“I thought even if they did go slow it wouldn’t hurt him as he has got a better sprint anyway.”

Yogi has proved to be an astute private purchase for Australian Thoroughbred Bloodstock, who sourced the son of Raise The Flag through Waterford Bloodstock.

Yogi was purchased out of Mel and Warwick Coles’ Washdyke stable and has gone on to win six races to date for Weir and in excess of A\$300,000 in prizemoney.

Darren Dance of Australian Bloodstock indicated the five-year-old would now be spelled and aimed at features during the spring.

The win provided White Robe Lodge stallion Raise The Flag with his sixth individual stakes winner.

Master trainer Darren Weir is a fan of the progeny of Raise



Yogi cruises to victory at Morphettville (Aktins Photogaphy)

The Flag, having prepared fellow stakes winners Parthersia and Civil Disobedience in addition to the stakes placed Unfurl and Chequered Flag.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	SAJC Port Adelaide Cup L 2500m
Winner	Yogi (NZ) 2012
Owners	Australian Thoroughbred Bloodstock Pty Ltd, Mr DR Wagner, Brittain Racing, Mr OF Kelly, Mr SN Davidson, Mr ME Basile, Mr TJ Little, Mr ML Byrne, Mangan Racing, Mr AG Cid, Mr BR Fellows, Mr SM Frost
Trainer	Joanne Surgenor (Ardmore)
Breeding	by Raise the Flag (GB) out of Malozza (AUS) by Grand Lodge (USA)
Breeder	D G & H A Voice
Sales	2014 South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale; V: D G & H A Voice, P: W G Coles; \$1,000





Sunday 20 May 2018

SPECIAL DAY FOR WANGANUI HORSEMAN

Raymond Connors' training talents were showcased on Saturday with a memorable double.

The Wanganui trainer was at Te Rapa to see **Max (NZ)** (Gallant Guru) victorious in the Signature Homes Waikato Steeplechase (3900m) and three-quarters of an hour later stablemate **She's Poppy (NZ)** (Alamosa) resumed on a top note by claiming the Listed James Bull Rangitikei Gold Cup (1600m) at Awapuni.

He has an outstanding record with jumpers – most notably the three-time Great Northern Steeplechase (6400m) winner Hypnotize (NZ) (Yamanin Vital) - but his conditioning skills with the flat members of his team are also first-rate.

Two Gr.3 New Zealand Cups (3200m) with Blood Brotha (NZ) (Danzighill), who also won a Gr.2 Wellington Cup (2400m) and ran fourth in the Gr.1 Sydney Cup (3200m), and a Gr.3 Manawatu Classic (2000m) with his Gr.1 New Zealand Derby (2400m) and Gr.1 AJC Derby (2400m) placegetter King Johny (NZ) (Seasoned Star) emphasise Connors' ability.

She's Poppy was making her first appearance for six months, She's Poppy came with a well-timed run under Shaun McKay to beat a game Ringo (NZ) (Fastnet Rock), who gave the winner seven kilos.

Meanwhile, Connors will try to plot different paths this winter with Max

and Wise Men Say (NZ) (Yamanin Vital).

"I'll definitely be trying to keep them apart, but at some point they might have to clash," Connors said.

He has yet to confirm Max's immediate future, who has now won four of his seven starts over the big fences.

"I haven't got any immediate thoughts at the moment, but longer-term probably the Grand National," Connors said.

With Ellerslie out of action, he will make a decision on whether Wise Men Say will defend his Great Northern Steeplechase (6400m) after he runs in the Irvine's McGregor Grant Steeplechase (4000m) on June 3.

Race	Waikato RC Waikato S/ chase 3900m
Winner	Max (NZ) 2009
Owners	M S & R M Connors
Trainer	Raymond Connors (Wanganui)
Breeding	by Gallant Guru (AUS) out of Vitique by Yamanin Vital
Breeder	B J; H T & Mrs L E Anderton

"I want to see how he handles the course here at Te Rapa first," Connors said.

Max adapted with ease on Saturday and came from a long way back for rider Isaac Lupton, who has been aboard the Gallant Guru gelding in all of his jumping wins, to run down Justa Charlie (NZ) (Shinko King) with Thenamesbond (NZ) (China Cat) taking third from Shamal (NZ) (Zabeel).

"It was a very good effort. He got a wee way off them, but he jumped well and it's all worked out nicely," Connors said.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Rangitikei RC Rangitikei Gold Cup L 1550m
Winner	She's Poppy (NZ) 2011
Owners	Raymond, Mark & Eris Connors
Trainer	Raymond Connors (Wanganui)
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Cassandra by Centro
Breeder	R J Cottle
Sales	2013 Ready to Run Sale; V: Venture Thoroughbreds Ltd, P: Phill Cataldo Bloodstock; \$40,000



Raymond Connors celebrated a special day on Saturday (Trish Dunell)





TWO IN A ROW FOR VASSILATOR AT FLEMINGTON

Colin Little doubts he will be tempted to chase the Queensland sun and a Group One win for promising two-year-old **Vassilator (NZ)** (Zacinto).

The colt registered his second successive Flemington 1400m victory when taking out the George Watson Hall Of Fame Trophy on Saturday.

Race	VRC G Watson Hall of Fame 2YO Trophy 1400m
Winner	Vassilator (NZ) 2015
Owners	Mr CW Little, M J Adams, Mr AF Brown, Mr JG Connelian, Mr IE Hopkins, MR RM Fitzroy, Mr GC Sampieri, Mr BT Gallagher, Mr P Goodwin, Mr PA Snaddon, Mr PJ Dempsey, Mr PF Vassallo
Trainer	Colin Little (Caulfield)
Breeding	by Zacinto (GB) out of Highlights by High Chaparral (IRE)
Breeder	Alchemy Family Trust & Windsor Park Stud Ltd
Sales	2017 National Yearling Sale – Select Session; V: Windsor Park Stud, P: Colin Little Racing; \$25,000

Vassilator won at \$101 when successful on Anzac Day but was sent off a well-backed \$4.40 second favourite on Saturday.

Ridden by Beau Mertens, Vassilator scored a three-quarter length win from Mirette (Unencumbered) with Zoutori (Zoustar) a length away third.

Vassilator is among nominations for the Group One JJ Atkins Plate (1600m) at Doomben on June 9.

“He’s nominated but he probably won’t be going, but we’ll drink on that tonight,” Little said.

Little favours a spell to prepare the colt for a spring campaign and is already thinking of the Caulfield Guineas.

He said racing too far into the winter could jeopardise those plans.

“We gave him a week in the paddock mid-preparation and he exploded so I think two or three weeks will be enough,” Little said.



“He’ll be pretty big in three weeks time so it’ll be enough time for him to chill out.

“I think the deeper you go into winter the harder it is in the spring.

“I think we’ve seen enough now that we’ll give him a little break and aim at something in the spring.”

-AAP

Vassilator scores his second successive victory at Flemington (Bruno Cannatelli)





WIN NUMBER 11 FOR MOSS 'N' DALE

Apprentice Jack Martin steered **Moss 'n' Dale (NZ)** (Castledale) to his eleventh career victory when winning the Colin Hayes AM, OBE Hall of Fame Trophy (1400m) at Flemington on Saturday for Moe trainer Peter Gelagotis.

The son of Castedale has won A\$475,650 and entered Saturday's contest after a good fresh-up run in the Listed Wangoom (1200m) at Warrnambool when seventh after racing on the worst part of the track.

"I love this horse," Martin said.

"He's unbeaten second-up and the Gelagotis team had him in perfect form today. His run in the Wangoom was

really good and I just had to bide my time today but I knew I had the horse underneath me."

The stable's Business Manager, Manny Gelagotis, said there was a possibility Moss 'n' Dale could head to Brisbane.

"He's a chance to go to Queensland. He's a good wet-tracker and we will monitor the weather and see what's around," Gelagotis said.

"He is a quality horse and we will keep poking away and see if we can build on the impressive record he has got."

Moss 'n' Dale was bred by Wayne Larsen and bloodstock agent Lenny

Russo of Bluegrass Bloodstock, who retain an ownership interest in the consistent galloper.

"I'm a firm believer in the class and quality of New Zealand horses and have enjoyed great success in recent years with the purchases we've made off the track there," Russo said.

"It's nice to get the success with Moss 'n' Dale as I bred him with Wayne, whom I worked with for a couple of years at Te Runga. I learnt a lot from him and he is a good friend."

Race	VRC C Hayes AM OBE Hall of Fame H. 1400m
Winner	Moss 'n' Dale (NZ) 2012
Owners	Mr L Russo, Mr M Russo, Mr S Salib, Mr MP Parnis, Mr J Scire, Who Gives, Mr RW Dyson, Mr PJ Smyth, Mr D Sowersby, Mr AM Harrop, Mr WD Larsen, Mr DJ Mcgaw, Mr J Furlong, Mr I Gumina, Mr L Wilkins, Mr JD Mcgaw, Mr J Scannell
Trainer	Peter Gelagotis (Moe)
Breeding	by Castledale (Ire) out of Hot 'n' Moss by Strategic Image (AUS)
Breeder	W D Larsen



Moss 'N' Dale races to his eleventh victory (Darryl Sherer)





LISDOONVARNA BOUNCES BACK IN ROSEHILL WIN

Lisdoonvarna (NZ) (Super Easy) has bounced back from an incident at Warwick Farm which threatened to derail her campaign with an impressive win at Rosehill.

The filly was a scratching 10 days ago after hurting herself when she lunged forward in the barrier and hit her head with co-trainer Amanda Turner crediting jockey Peter Wells for alerting the attendants.

“They were just about to let the field go and Peter quickly realised she was not right,” Turner said.

“He knows her really

well and thank goodness they didn’t let her race. She had blood coming out of her nose after hitting her head.”

Wells’ affinity with the horses trained by Turner and Mauro Poletti at Warwick Farm paid dividends on Saturday when he steered her to a half-length win in the Poitrel Handicap (1400m) named after one of the recent inductees into the Hall of Fame.

Lisdoonvarna, who raced up on the pace, beat the favourite Seaway (NZ) (Ocean Park) who came from behind, with Gaulois (Street Cry) another half neck third.

“She really prefers a wet track but Peter rode her well to cope with the firm ground,” Turner said.

“We would like to go to Brisbane with her and just hope it rains up there.



Lisdoonvarna bounces back to winning form at Rosehill (Bradley Photography)

“There are plenty of 1350 to 400-metre races that would suit to get her some black-type which is the aim.

“We backed off her in the summer because she wasn’t coping with the heat and hopefully it pays off during the winter.”

– AAP

Race	ATC Poitrel Hall of Fame H. 1400m
Winner	Lisdoonvarna (NZ) 2014
Owners	Mr M G Poletti & Ms A Turner
Trainer	Amanda Turner & Mauro Poletti (Warwick Farm)
Breeding	by Super Easy out of Axislass by Straight Strike (USA)
Breeder	G R Cunningham & Hallmark Stud Ltd



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DIA DE REYES GIVES DUNN ANOTHER HIGHWAY

Matt Dunn has restored his equilibrium in Highway races in Sydney with **Dia De Reyes (NZ)** (Showcasing) winning at Rosehill to give comeback jockey James McDonald a first Saturday winner since his return.

The Murwillumbah trainer notched his 15th win in the races for country-trained horses after a lean time this year.

Race	ATC TAB Highway H. 1200m
Winner	Dia De Reyes (NZ) 2013
Owners	Mr AC Kennedy, Mr MT Cheers, Mr RJ Palmer, Porks For Life
Trainer	Matthew Dunn (Murwillumbah)
Breeding	by Showcasing (GB) out of Valicious by Don Eduardo
Breeder	K D & P J Landrigan
Sales	2015 Ready to Run Sale; V: Kiltannon Stables Ltd, P: NZB as agent; \$85,000

The horse who gave him his latest win has not quite had the career his trainer might have imagined when he ran stablemate Care To Think (So You Think) to a head in a maiden at the Gold Coast in December 2016.

Care To Think has progressed through the ranks and is one of the favoured runners for the upcoming Group One Kingsford Smith Cup and Stradbroke Handicap at the Brisbane winter carnival.

“It’s great to win another Highway race. We have been beaten up the last few times we have come down here.

“We’ve gone back to me travelling to Sydney with the horses and Matt going to Queensland with the others.

“It seems to work better.”

McDonald positioned Dia De Reyes midfield and he kicked on the inside late to beat the \$2.35 favourite Coup De Main (Reward For Effort) by half a length.



Coup De Main is trained at Goulburn by Danny Williams who is now Dunn’s major rival in the restricted races with Canberra horses no longer eligible.

Keira Dunn said she and her husband would discuss the next move for Dia De Reyes.

“He may be able to get out to 1600 metres but he also likes to be kept nice and fresh,” she said.

“He looked so good in the yard today and I was surprised about his price.”

—AAP

Dia De Reyes gives James McDonald his first Saturday winner since his return (Bradley Photography)





KING DARCI RULES TIGHT FINISH AT ROSEHILL

Trainer Tim Martin is waiting on rain-affected tracks for **King Darci (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) despite the gelding winning on unfavourable ground at Rosehill.

King Darci bounced back from an unplaced run first-up at Hawkesbury on a firm track to nose out Special Missile (Smart Missile) as the pair fought to the line in the Australian Hall Of Fame Handicap (1500m).

"He was very tough, he's tough to get past," Martin said.

Adam Hyeronimus positioned King Darci on the inside and the four-year-old had just enough stamina to deny Special Missile.

The \$2.80 favourite Up 'N' Rolling (NZ) (Castledale) was a long head third.

Martin said King Darci would now rest up to recover from another jarring run.

"He just feels the tracks a bit. I won't run him for three or four weeks now," he said.

"When we get a soft track I'll be really confident with him."

Hyeronimus was confident he had

kept Special Missile and Blake Shinn at bay.

"I was surprised when Blake's horse headed me but once I changed hands with the whip, he really responded," he said. -AAP

Race	ATC Australian Hall of Fame Day H. 1500m
Winner	King Darci (NZ) 2012
Owners	Import Racing, Mr D Wilden-Constantin, Mr P Adamis, Mr J Scrimizzi, Mr B Scrimizzi, Mr DJ Stonestreet, Mr MA Napolitano, Mr HJ Smith, Mr RW Walker, Mr P Verga, Mr RD Peterson, Mr CP Camilleri, Mr M Tognolini, Mr F Currao, Mrs GT Belvedere, Mr RB Hosking
Trainer	Tim Martin (Rosehill)
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of La Serenade (AUS) by St Covet (AUS)
Breeder	The Oaks Stud
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale - Select Session; V: The Oaks Stud, P: Hawtin Racing; \$75,000 2014 Ready to Run Sale; V: Mana Park, P: NZB as agent; \$85000



King Darci (on rail) bounces back to form at Rosehill (Bradley Photography)





SALE TOPPER WINS AT FLEMINGTON



Éclair Calling edges out Boxachocolates (Darryl Sherer)

The Phillip Stokes-trained **Éclair Calling (NZ)** (Tartan Bearer) called on all of his reserves to out-tough Boxachocolates (NZ) (Alamosa) in the National Hall Of Fame Handicap (1600m) at Flemington on Saturday.

“He got a little bit lost at Caulfield when he finished second last start and he trained on really well,” Stokes said.

“We’ve been working him in company behind horses and getting him to the outside and he put in a lovely piece of work on Tuesday and went nice and straight.”

That held him in good stead on Saturday under a strong ride from Noel Callow.

Sporting the colours of Macau Jockey Club supremo Thomas Li, Éclair Calling has now won three of his seven starts and been placed on a further two occasions for the South

Australian trainer.

Bred by Power Bloodstock, Éclair Calling turned heads when selling for a record-breaking \$525,000 from the draft of Hallmark Stud at the 2015 Karaka Select Sale.

“He’s a half-brother to Hong Kong Group One winner Thunder Fantasy and he looks to have a nice future.”

Race	VRC National Hall of Fame H. 1600m
Winner	Éclair Calling (NZ) 2013
Owners	Mr CK Li
Trainer	Phillip Stokes (Morphetville)
Breeding	by Tartan Bearer (IRE) out of Pink Pier (AUS) by Galileo (IRE)
Breeder	Power Bloodstock Ltd
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale – Select Sale; V: Hallmark Stud, P: Phillip Stokes Racing; \$525,000





LUCK RUNS WITH THE SHACKLER

The Shackler (NZ) (Istidaad) claimed the first prestige event of the jumping season when second best at Te Rapa had looked more likely to be his reward.

The Paul Nelson-trained veteran measured his jumps well in or near the lead under Aaron Kuru during Saturday's Porritt Sand Waikato Hurdle (3200m) before he was hotly challenged by It's A Wonder (NZ) (Istidaad) three flights from home.

The latter then lost his chance when the Harvey Wilson-prepared gelding met the second last hurdle poorly and all but dislodged rider Will Gordon, who did well to stay aboard and finish runner-up.

Fortunes were reversed in the Neil

Treweek Steeplechase (3900m) when It's A Wonder's stablemate Venerate (NZ) (Colombia) was successful under Gordon after Nelson's Perry Mason fell at the final fence when looking the winner for Kuru.

The Shackler was having his first jumping outing of his campaign and a winter programme has yet to be confirmed for the 11-year-old.

"We'll take it one at a time," Nelson said. "We could come back here (for the K. S. Browne Hurdle) or wait for the Hawke's Bay Hurdles. We just have to avoid the really bad tracks."

The Shackler has now won four times, including last season's Wellington Hurdles (3100m), from his current quarters after eight successes

for former trainer Michael Dromgool.

"He's a lovely horse to train and all the work had been done for us," Nelson said.

Notabadrooster (NZ) (Thano), the outsider of the field, took third money ahead of Yardstick (NZ) (A.P. Ruler) and the 2013 winner Sea King (NZ) (Shinko King), who was under pressure 800m from home.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Waikato RC Waikato Hurdle 3200m
Winner	The Shackler (NZ) 2006
Owners	S P Dromgool
Trainer	Paul Nelson (Hastings)
Breeding	by Istidaad (USA) out of Heavens Choice by Chem (USA)
Breeder	S P Dromgool



The Shackler shows his jumping style in the Te Rapa hurdle feature (Trish Dunell)





BRISBANE BECKONS **BIG MIKE**

Big Mike's (NZ) (Don Eduardo) connections are eyeing a late visit to the Queensland winter festival.

The improving stayer deposited another winning cheque in the travelling fund at Te Rapa on Saturday when he jumped from a Rating 75

Race	Waikato RC Fairview Motors H. 2100m
Winner	Big Mike (NZ) 2012
Owners	G S & S A Fausett, C K, K B & B L Phelan
Trainer	Craig Phelan (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Don Eduardo out of Landvetter by Felix the Cat (USA)
Breeder	G S & Mrs S A Fausett

victory to open handicap success in the Fairview Motors 2100m.

"Dad's quite keen to come back here for the Cornwall, we know that will be at Te Rapa again and it's a horses for courses track, and all going well we might catch the end of the Brisbane carnival," said Shaun Phelan, representing his father Craig who trains Big Mike.

The five-year-old rolled along in front under jockey Sam Weatherley and they were never headed, despite an early hiccup.

Big Mike was one of a number who charged the gates when they failed to

open and had to undergo veterinary inspections, resulting in one of his main rivals Francis Drake (NZ) (Tavistock) being a late scratching.

"It was a bit of a scare at the start, but it was a perfect ride by Sam and once he's in his rhythm he's hard to peg back," Phelan said.

Big Mike has been a late developer and has now won five of his 16 starts.

"The boys on the gates have done a bit of work with him, he was a barrier rogue earlier on," Phelan said. "He's matured now so it's onwards and upwards."

Big Mike revelled in his work in

front and he won easing down by four and three-quarter lengths from Skyweka (NZ) (Pentire) with Victory Drive (NZ) (Nom du Jeu) a distant third.

"He travelled beautifully in front," Weatherley said. "He's push button and won easily."

– NZ Racing Desk.



An easy victory at Te Rapa has Big Mike on target for Queensland (Trish Dunell)





SPRINTER BACK TO HIS FRONT-RUNNING BEST

A lengthy period of frustration with **Southern Icon** (Big Brown) ended on Saturday for trainer Alan Tait when the talented sprinter returned to winning form.

The six-year-old produced a commanding front-running performance to add the BCD Group Handicap (1400m) to his record.

“Everything has gone wrong in the last two years,” Tait said. “Hopefully, we’ll be back here in a fortnight and then look toward the spring.”

Plagued by a serious virus and a subsequent leg injury, Southern Icon had opened his campaign seven days previously at New Plymouth where he finished fourth behind the highly-regarded Art Deco (NZ) (Road To Rock).

“I thought his run at Taranaki was good, he had 58.5kg,” Tait said. “He came through it well and he just loves this place, it doesn’t matter to him if it rains.”

Southern Icon travelled boldly in front and, after surging clear 350m from home, he strolled home by a length and a-quarter to post his fifth victory on the course.

“It was a good run first-up and when he’s a happy horse he’s a good horse,” said Mark Hills, who has now won eight races on the son of Big Brown.

Awapuni visitor Mighty Solomon (NZ) (Darci Brahma) got home strongly from last to take second and the stayer Pacorus (NZ) (Tavistock) gave a bold account of himself to finish third in his first outing for six months.



Southern Icon ran his rivals ragged in the open sprint at Te Rapa (Trish Dunell)

“We had a minor set-back with him six weeks ago with a back issue, but we’ve got that sorted,” trainer Chris Wood said.

Winner of the Gr.3 Rotorua Cup (2200m) last season, Pacorus’ effort bodes well for his winter preparation as he gets over more ground.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Waikato RC BCD Group H. 1400m
Winner	Southern Icon (AUS) 2011
Owners	M A Collinson & Mrs G F Tait
Trainer	Allan Tait (Matamata)
Breeding	by Big Brown (USA) out of Cataclapse (AUS) by Catbird (AUS)
Breeder	Dartbrook Downs Thoroughbred





RICHARDS ENJOYING WINNING SEND-OFF

Paul Richards is making the most of his time with his bright staying prospect **Mazzuro (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle).

He enjoyed success at Geelong yesterday and will continue to campaign the three-year-old in Australia until the gelding changes hands.

However, Mazzuro will remain in the family as Richards will shortly be joining the Te Akau operation at Matamata in the role of travelling foreman and will relinquish his licence.

Son Jamie will be taking sole charge at Te Akau from the start of the 2018-19 season with his current co-trainer Stephen Autridge taking a step back from the demands of running a major stable.



"I'll be assisting Jamie and Mazzuro will be transferring to him," Richards senior said. "He's a fair sort of animal and he's still quite lightly-framed and will continue to develop into a lovely stayer."

Mazzuro is raced by Mosgiel couple Bill and Sandra Duell, long-standing clients of Richards and the chestnut was sourced as a replacement for their multiple stakes-winning sprinter Natuzzi (NZ) (Coats Choice).

"We retired Natuzzi and the owners said we'd better get another one and (bloodstock agent) Mick Preston put us on to Mazzuro," Richards said.

"He'd won a couple of trials in the central districts and I went down and rode him in a gallop. We got him vetted and purchased him in January.

"The only down side was that he'd missed much of his three-year-old career so I said to the owners if he came up well we'd chase some good money in Australia."

Mazzuro finished fourth at Pukekohe in his second start last month and then crossed the Tasman to run second at Moe in his Victorian debut before he won over 2200m at Geelong.

"He went over on April 18 and at the time I only had two in work, the other one was Bojangles (NZ) (Roc de Cambes) who transferred to Jamie and a week later he won first-up at Awapuni," Richards said.

"If Mazzuro does well he'll run next Saturday at Sandown in a A\$120,000 three-year-old handicap over 2100m.

"The better three-year-olds are in Adelaide, Sydney and Queensland and there's still good money on offer in Melbourne. It's so much easier to place him over there."

– NZ Racing Desk.

<i>Race</i>	Geelong RC Bomboras Maiden P. 2200m
<i>Winner</i>	Mazzuro (NZ) 2014
<i>Owners</i>	J W & Mrs S D Duell
<i>Trainer</i>	Paul Richards (Byerley Park)
<i>Breeding</i>	by Rip Van Winkle (IRE) out of Mini Pearl by Black Minnaloushe (USA)
<i>Breeder</i>	Mrs K A & N J Auret

Paul Richards with his now retired Group One performer Natuzzi (Trish Dunell)





MR CLINT CLINCHES HIS GUINEAS TICKET WITH STORMING WIN

Mr Clint (NZ) (Power) vindicated trainer Lee Freedman's decision to give him one last Guineas trial with a rousing victory after coming from near-last in the \$80,000 Class 3 Division 1 race over 1400m on Friday night.

Along with Mr Dujardin (NZ) (High Chaparral) and Super Dynasty (Fastnet Rock), Mr Clint completes the trio

for the top Australian trainer in next Saturday's last Leg of the Singapore Three-Year-Old Challenge, the \$1 million Singapore Guineas (1600m).

Freedman was a little flummoxed by the way Mr Clint mixed his form in the first two Legs. He first ran a slashing second to Be Bee (NZ) (Showcasing) in the Singapore Three-Year-Old Sprint (1200m), but fell by the wayside in the Singapore Three-Year-

Old Classic (1400m) three weeks later.

Freedman felt Mr Clint could be beaten into better shape with one more run – with the spectacular win a happy bonus, and a sight to behold for racing lovers.

Dropping back for replacement rider Daniel Moor - after Vlad Duric could not make the 54.5kgs – following a tardy getaway, Mr Clint

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Mr Clint rattles home at Singapore Turf Club (Singapore Turf Club)





MR CLINT CLINCHES HIS GUINEAS TICKET WITH STORMING WIN

(Continued from page 17)

just idled away at the rear while Crazy Dreams led at a steady tempo.

Moor threw everything bar the kitchen sink at Mr Clint, who mustered the necessary turn of speed to land a thrilling three-quarter-length win.

“That is exactly what I wanted to see tonight. We were right to run him,” said Freedman who had his predecessor, Mr Clint’s previous trainer (he trialed him but never got the chance to race him) and still a part-owner, Laurie Laxon by his side at the winner’s circle.

“That will top him up nicely for the Guineas, he needed that run. Daniel rode him very well.

“I’m not worried about him being slow away. It’s a mile race and he’s a

horse who finishes off strong, like he did tonight.”

Laxon, who departed the Kranji scene last August to hand over his stables lock, stock and barrel – bar a fistful of horses - to Freedman, was his jaunty self and sprightly for a 72-year-old as he looks set to stick around his old stomping ground for a while.

“I’m here till September. I’m doing very well,” said the legendary Kiwi trainer who has nine Singapore champion trainer titles under his belt.

“I bought this horse at the New Zealand Ready-to-Run sales and paid NZ\$90,000 for him. I own half a share in him with my good friend CK (Phua Chian Kin).”

Race	Singapore TC Class 3 H. 1400m
Winner	Mr Clint (NZ) 2014
Owners	Oscar Racing Stable
Trainer	Lee Feedman (Kranji)
Breeding	by Power (GB) out of Victoria Belle by Zabeel
Breeder	Sir Patrick & Lady Hogan
Sales	2016 National Yearling Sale – Select Session; V: Cambridge Stud, P: Stuart Hale & Co; \$52,500 2016 Ready to Run Sale; V: Riversley Park Ltd, P: LK Laxon; \$95,000

-STC

