

Sunday 1 October 2017

## JON SNOW STRIKES AT MOONEE VALLEY ON WAY TO CRACK AT CAULFIELD CUP



Night racing at Moonee Valley with Jon Snow (white cap) holding the challengers at bay in Friday's JRA Cup.

Australian Derby winner **Jon Snow (NZ)** (Iffraaj) showed he is on track for the Caulfield Cup with victory in Friday night's Group Three JRA Cup at Moonee Valley.

The New Zealand stayer was having his third start of the spring in Melbourne, stepping up from 1600 metres to 2040 metres and dropping back from Group One company.

With Stephen Baster aboard, the four-year-old sat off leader Kilmacurragh (NZ) (O'Reilly) before taking over as they rounded the turn.

Ecuador (NZ) (High Chaparral) emerged on his outside

to challenge but the Derby winner was strong to the line, winning by three-quarters of a length with another length to third-placed Boom Time (Flying Spur).

Jon Snow finished sixth in the 1400 metre Memsie Stakes and eighth in the 1600 metre Makybe Diva Stakes before getting to a more suitable distance.

"He did it quite well," Baster said. "Obviously getting to the trip suited him. He was nice and relaxed and looks better every time I ride him."

*Continued on page 3*



*Sweynesse is a chip  
off the old block*

**Darren Beadman**

*Sweynesse, is a son of former champion racehorse and super sire Lonhro. Beadman rode Lonhro in most of his 26 wins and he gets to work with many of that horse's sons and daughters at Godolphin.*

- A multiple Group One performer (2nd G1 Randwick Guineas, 3rd G1 Spring Champion) beating some of the best 3YO Group One winners in Australia including Kermedec, Preferment, Hampton Court, Shooting To Win, First Seal.
- Winner of first four starts including dual Group 3 wins in the Spring Stakes and Gloaming Stakes.
- A winner at only start as a 2YO.
- A top 3YO Timeform rating of 122 makes Sweynesse one of the top Australian 3YO colts of his year.
- By Lonhro -The Champion 3YO, the Champion miler, the Horse of the Year, and now a Champion sire. Lonhro set a new Australian record of 160 individual winners in a season. His son Pierro, unbeaten juvenile Triple Crown winner, was rated the best juvenile colt in Australia since 1977.
- Out of the multiple winning mare Swansea by Champion Sire Singspiel (5xG1 Winner and sire of 98SW).
- Sweynesse is a magnificent individual. He stands 16.2 hh. He has a powerful hind quarter, a strong shoulder and a great athletic walk. He is very correct.
- Sweynesse is syndicated amongst many of New Zealand's top breeders who are strongly supporting him at stud.



**Ray Knight**

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# JON SNOW STRIKES AT MOONEE VALLEY ON WAY TO CRACK AT CAULFIELD CUP

(Continued from page 1)

“He’s just a good horse.”

Murray Baker, who trains in partnership with Andrew Forsman, said Jon Snow was on a path to the Caulfield Cup and would likely have one more run, with the 2000 metre Caulfield Stakes and 2400 metre Herbert Power Stakes the options.

“All due respect to the opposition but this was a bit easier than he’s been up against lately,” Baker said.

“Going forward gave him the galloping room he needs and it all worked out well. He’s a bull and he didn’t like getting cluttered up between horses last start but it wasn’t an issue tonight.

“The one concern we had was that he might need one

more run but he’s got away with it and that will do him the world of good.

“He’s a good stayer and he got a good ride from Stephen Baster. That always helps!”

– AAP TURF & racenet.com.au

<b>Race</b>	<b>MVRC JRA Cup Gr.3 2040m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Jon Snow (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Zame Partnership</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Murray Baker &amp; Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Iffraaj (GB) out of Orinda by O’Reilly</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>R W E Moore</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2015 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Haunui Farm, P: A C Forsman; \$65,000</b>

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Sin To Win in at Mornington

Former Kiwi galloper **Sin To Win (NZ)** (Sir Percy), a three-time winner from five starts in New Zealand over the past two seasons, capped a string of placed form with a fighting win at yesterday’s Mornington meeting, the 2025 metre Jack Dow Memorial Plate victory coming as an afterthought following the gelding’s second over 1800 metres at Caulfield last Saturday.

Ridden by Regan Bayliss, Sin To Win was sent out the \$2.30 favourite before scoring by a half neck from Andrea Mantegna (Giant’s Causeway), with Tuff Bickie (Reward For Effort) a half length further back.

“He’s a tough sort of horse and six months on he’ll make it to a better grade,” stable foreman Gary Fennessy said. “You’ve got to go a bit early and I think if Regan had waited too long he wouldn’t have been able to pick them up.”

Bayliss said Sin To Win was up for the fight and would appreciate a longer distance.

“He’s got good gate speed and as soon as I found my spot he switched off beautifully and got into a lovely rhythm,” he said. “He was headed in the straight but to his credit he pinned his ears back and was strong to the line.”

– AAP TURF

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# I AM A STAR SCORES UNDER THE STARS

After three unplaced runs to start her spring campaign, Group One winner **I Am A Star (NZ)** (I Am Invincible) bounced back to win the Stocks Stakes at Moonee Valley on Friday night.

Mornington trainer Shane Nichols opted not to take the mare to Sydney for yesterday's Group One Epsom Handicap, preferring to keep her closer to home for the Group Two event for mares.

And last year's Myer Classic winner didn't disappoint, Ben Melham controlling the 1600 metre race with the four-year-old, who held on to beat Flying Jess (Hinchinbrook) by a long neck with a half length to Hell Or Highwater (Not A Single Doubt) third.

I Am A Star had finished fourth in the 1200 metre Aurie's Star Handicap first-up before seventh placings in the Memsie Stakes and Let's Elope Stakes at 1400 metres.

Nichols was thrilled to see his stable star return to the winner's circle.

"She had been going OK and things were in order and her work had been very good, but you've just got to strike a blow," he said.

"To come and win today is just terrific."

The Group One Toorak Handicap is the likely next step for I Am A Star with a defence of the Group One

Myer Classic at Flemington also on the cards.

"She's been running well," Nichols said. "She just needed to be in the right race, with the right weight, and Ben took control of the race.

"It wasn't a big margin but she'll still improve off that and her second run at the mile will be better than the first one."

– AAP TURF

<b>Race</b>	<b>MVRC WH Stocks S. Gr.2 1600m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>I Am a Star (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>M B Sandblom</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Shane Nichols (Mornington)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by I Am Invincible (Aus) out of Star Band (USA) by Dixieland Band (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Eales Racing Pty Ltd</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2014 National Weanling, Broodmare &amp; Mixed Sale V: Rich Hill Stud, P: Llanhennock Trust; \$12,000</b>



*I Am A Star completes her all-the-way win in Friday night's Stocks Stakes.*





Sunday 1 October 2017

# RUDY RAPT WITH MITCHELSON REPEAT

Relative outsider **Banbury Lad (NZ)** (Woodbury Lad) produced a career highlight when he upset the favoured contenders in the main event on yesterday's card at Ellerslie, the Harold Plumley Memorial Mitchelson Cup.

In a disappointingly small field for one of Ellerslie's time-honoured spring

staying features, the Rudy Liefting-trained seven-year-old left no excuses for the beaten brigade as he cleared out in the home straight to score by five lengths. Race favourite Stokers Rock (NZ) (St Reims), who was the subject of some inspired support prior to start time, chased gamely to finish second with last weekend's Pukekohe winner Arite Guru (NZ) (Gallant Guru) finishing third.

Liefting, who took over the horse's training three starts ago from original mentor and breeder John Graham, was delighted with the performance in a race he had won in 2001 with Chiavenna (NZ) (Centro).

"I'm just rapt as I've won this race before but it was such a long time ago

it was a group race back then," he said.

"It's a good race, although it's obviously a bit weaker this year, so I thought it was a good opportunity to have a go with this horse.

"He's measured up to open company before with John Graham, who offered him to me as a jumper. He told me he wasn't finished on the flat and I just had to get him right.

"I pumped the work into him and have had him out at Karioitahi Beach. He had a jump-out on Monday and beat a couple of Richard Collett's good horses so I knew I had him ready to win."

Rider Lynsey Satherley was beaming when questioned about the performance.

"He was a fit horse who didn't have a lot of weight on his back and he handles that type of track," she noted.

"He just loves the ground and keeps rocking on."

Banbury Lad has now won five from 48 starts and a little under \$90,000 in prizemoney. Liefting will have the opportunity to make it a notable double for the weekend when he saddles the well favoured Just Got Home (NZ) (Storming Home) in today's Waikato Hunt Cup Steeplechase at Te Aroha.

<b>Race</b>	<b>ARC Harold Plumley Memorial Mitchelson Cup 2200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Banbury Lad (NZ) 2010</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Kakapo Lodge Ltd, G Simpson, R &amp; Mrs D Best and B Davies</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Rudy Liefting (Pukekohe)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Woodbury Lad (USA) out of Douce by Jahafil (GB)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>J A Graham</b>



Lynsey Satherley and Banbury Lad pass the post easy winners of the Mitchelson Cup at yesterday's Ellerslie meeting.





# GREYS GO ENDS **IN A YIN WIN**

**D**espite just four runners contesting the unique Powerworx Greys race at New Plymouth, the ghostly grey competitors conspired to make it one of the most exciting finishes of the day.

The special event, confined to grey and roan horses, is always one of the highlights on the Taranaki Jockey Club's "extreme" raceday and this year proved no exception as the Lisa Latta trained **Yin Dragon (NZ)** (No Excuse Needed) took out the contest by a nose from Matamata visitor **Our King Sway (NZ)** (Shinko King).

In a tactically run contest, Rosie Myers had the eight-year-old lobbing along nicely at the rear of the field before sliding around the outer to challenge at the 500 metre mark. As heads turned for

home the field were in a line across the track before Our King Sway and Yin Dragon strode to the front to wage war in the closing stages.

Separated by the barest of margins Yin Dragon took the decision to register his fourth career victory for trainer and part-owner Lisa Latta.

"He's a bit of a lazy old bugger and I wasn't sure if he had done enough when they hit the line together like that," she said.

"He has had his issues along the way, including some knee problems last year, but he has the ability to win races like this and seems to be going better than ever this year.

"He needs the wet tracks to perform so while the rain is still around we will keep him going and hopefully he can pick up another win for us."



*Only four runners went to the post in the greys' race at New Plymouth yesterday but as a spectacle the race couldn't be faulted, Yin Dragon (purple colours) edging out Our King Sway (white cap) in the day's closest finish.*

A graduate from the 2011 NZB South Island sale, Yin Dragon is a full brother to talented mare No Excuse Maggie, who numbered the Group Three Taranaki Breeders' Stakes amongst her seven career wins.

<b>Race</b>	<b>Taranaki RC Powerworx Greys H. 1400m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Yin Dragon (NZ) 2009</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>William &amp; Lisa Downs and Lisa Latta</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Lisa Latta (Awapuni)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by No Excuse Needed (GB) out of Maggie O'Reilly by O'Reilly</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Miss A G Williams</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2010 National Weanling, Broodmare &amp; Mixed Sale; V: A G Williams, P: Berkley Stud; \$2800</b> <b>2011 South Island 2YO &amp; Mixed Sale; V: Berkley Stud, P: Lisa Latta Racing Stables; \$41,000</b>





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# JUST A STROLL FOR SLEEPING BEAUTY

Promising mare **Sleeping Beauty (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) enhanced her burgeoning reputation when she strolled to victory at Ellerslie yesterday, the Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott-trained mare completing a hat-trick of victories as she registered her fourth win from just nine starts in the Swiss Belsuites 1200.

Sent out a warm favourite against her six rating 75 rivals, the five-year-

old never looked in danger of defeat as she assumed control early in the run home after stalking the speed set by the free-going Rich Billie Marsh (NZ) (Viking Ruler).

Rider Sam Weatherley shot Sleeping Beauty clear as she dominated the chasing pack in the run home, easing down in the last hundred metres to register a comfortable six-length victory on the testing Heavy 11

surface.

"She is in a purple patch of form and couldn't have gone any better," Weatherley reported after the race.

"She just loves these wet tracks and keeps improving every time."

Weatherley also believed the mare wouldn't be out of place in better company as her campaign continues.

"I do think there are bigger and better things to come with her," he said.

"I think she has a decent chance of getting some black type, maybe in a race like the weight-for-age 1200 metre race at Rotorua if she could make the field.

"She is just flying."

Weatherley had in mind the Group Three Lion Red Plate, to be run at Arawa Park on 21 October as the feature event on the day.



*Sleeping Beauty continues her rise through the grades with a runaway win in the Rating 75 sprint at Ellerslie.*

<b>Race</b>	<b>ARC Swiss Belsuites H. 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Sleeping Beauty (NZ) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Sir Peter Vela</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Lance O'Sullivan &amp; Andrew Scott (Matamata)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Rip Van Winkle (Ire) out of Kailey Princess (Aus) by Danehill (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>P J &amp; P M Vela Ltd</b>



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# PRINCESS MAKING ALL THE RIGHT MOVES

A tilt at stakes company could be the next assignment for **Sensible Princess (NZ)** (Street Sense) after she extended her winning streak to four with a stylish victory at yesterday's New Plymouth meeting.

Facing a small but quality line-up in the NZB Insurance Pearl Series-sponsored contest, the Fraser Auret-trained mare dominated her four rivals in her first appearance since scoring at Awapuni in late July.

Handled confidently by Lisa Allpress, who has been aboard for each of her victories in the current sequence, Sensible Princess sat outside leader New York Minute (NZ) (Iffraaj) throughout the event before issuing her challenge early in the run home. Asked for an effort to repel the challenge of eventual runner-up Caramac (NZ) (Iffraaj), the five-year-old dug deep to hold nicely as she scored by a long neck.

"She'll be sucking in the big ones after that but there's plenty of improvement in her," noted Auret immediately after the race.

"She was pretty wound up today but she always is when she's fresh-up so it's onwards and upwards from here.

"Every start she seems to be learning something and I'd like to give a massive plug to Lisa who has been educating the horse while also doing the business on her and it's never easy to do both."

Allpress was also of the mind



Lisa Allpress keeps Sensible Princess up to her work in the Pearl Series Rating 85 sprint at New Plymouth.

that the run would do the mare the world of good as she heads to bigger assignments.

"She was just so quiet around at the barrier but she packed a bit of a sad before going in, which she hasn't done for a long time, so she was a bit fresh," she said.

"She's a much better chaser but with New York Minute in the race I knew if I didn't serve it up early that horse would just keep going.

"She went really well considering she is still quite fat so she will take a lot of improvement out of it."

Auret had stated pre-race that a

start in the Group Three Rich Hill Stud Taranaki Breeders' Stakes in a fortnight was his main aim for the mare although her recovery from today's exertions would dictate whether she remained on that path.

<b>Race</b>	<b>Taranaki RC NZB Insurance Pearl Series H. 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Sensible Princess (NZ) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Bromley Bloodstock Ltd</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Fraser Auret (Marton)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Street Sense (USA) out of Cape Princess by Cape Cross (Ire)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Bromley Bloodstock Ltd</b>







# RACHAEL RELIEVED AS EUPHORIA WINS

**P**rogressive galloper **Euphoria (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) emphasised her class when she kicked off her four-year-old season with a stylish victory in the opening event at New Plymouth.

The mare was fresh-up off the back of a four-month break following a Brisbane winter campaign that was cut short after she contracted a virus. Despite the lengthy absence from the track, punters hadn't forgotten the talent she displayed when putting together back-to-back victories during just four starts as a three-year-old and installed her as a warm favourite for the 990 metre rating 65 dash.

Settled in midfield by rider Hayden Tinsley, Euphoria

railed up sweetly approaching the home corner before quickly issuing a challenge early in the run home. A slap on the rump by Tinsley with 200 metres to run was enough to kick the mare into top gear and she exerted her superiority in the closing stages to win comfortably by a length from pacemaker Celebratedachiever (NZ) (Pins), who fought on gamely for second.

Trainer Rachael Frost cut a relieved figure following the victory after expressing some concerns before the race.

"We were in two minds about coming here or giving her another run at the trials but it was a \$20,000 prize and if she had stormed home for third we would have been happy," she said.

"We gave her a decent break after she came home from Queensland and then we've had to wait to try and get a better track to resume on.

"She's a good horse and I guess the win is some compensation for the trials and tribulations we've had with her."

Frost will take a wait-and-see approach with the mare who holds a nomination for the Group Two Coupland's

<b>Race</b>	<b>Taranaki RC Harold Tuson Memorial H. 990m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Euphoria (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>B'N'G Syndicate, P Dixon, M R Dwen, Miss R A Frost, W Hodge, J R Hollis, T B Huriwai and G M Rapson</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Rachael Frost (Otaki)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Rip Van Winkle (Ire) out of Viennese Waltz (Ire) by Danehill (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Mrs K J &amp; M H Dalglish</b>



Bakeries Mile on the second day of Christchurch Cup Week at Riccarton.

"I haven't really thought about where we will go from here so we'll just see how she recovers before making any solid plans," she explained.

"She does a hold a nomination for the Coupland's Mile however she could just as well line-up in the Canterbury Breeders Stakes for the fillies and mares on the same day.

"Ideally she will have one more run up here before we head to Christchurch but at this stage I don't know where that will be."

*In a classy return to racing, Euphoria strides past Celebratedachiever to win the 990 metre dash at New Plymouth.*



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# SHAQRAA SWOOPS TO SECOND SUCCESS

A patient ride by Oscar Chavez saw **Shaqraa (NZ)** (Fully Fledged) swoop down on the outside to record a soft win, his second in eleven starts, in the \$560,000 Class 4 1000 metre event at Kranji on Friday night.

Not the soundest of horses, Shaqraa occupied a rearward spot

<b>Race</b>	<b>Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1000m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Shaqraa (NZ) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Al-Arabiya Stable</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Shane Baertschiger (Kranji)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Fully Fledged out of Be A Princess by Al Akbar (Aus)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>J H &amp; S E Preston</b>

for most of the dash before making a late run on the outside to put paid to last-start winner Lim's Sincere (Snippetson), who looked home at the hundred metre mark, by 1¼ lengths.

"He has a funny action, even after he had knee surgery," said trainer Shane Baertschiger. "He always seems to be going through the pain barrier.

"But he's been a pretty consistent horse for us and I'm glad to see him return to winning ways tonight."

Shaqraa, a juvenile trial winner at Foxton two years ago from the Awapuni stable of Matthew Eales in his only public appearance in his homeland, is owned by the Al-Arabiya Stable, who often engage Chavez,

even if it means he has to struggle to make the weight.

"I had to lose 2.5 kilos but it was worth it," said the Panamanian-born jockey.

"Credit to Shane for preparing this horse well. He told me to settle at the rear and take him to the outside for one last crack at them in the straight. Luckily, things went exactly like that."

Mansoor Gandhi of Al-Arabiya Stable showered praise all round.

"I've had a lot of seconds and it's great to get a winner, especially this one as he's had surgery," he said.

"Well done to Shane and Oscar. What a cool ride!"

– Singapore Turf Club



Shaqraa powers home at Kranji on Friday night.

