

Sunday 20 March 2016

#### TARZINO WIPES DERBY DOUBTS WITH **IMPRESSIVE ROSEHILL GUINEAS WIN**



In front of packed stands, Tarzino races away with the Rosehill Guineas and into short-priced favouritism for the Australian Derby.

ny lingering doubts trainer Mick Price had about Tarzino (NZ) (Tavistock) not handling the clockwise direction have been erased in emphatic fashion in the Rosehill Guineas.

The Victoria Derby-winning colt stamped his authority on yesterday's Group One race early when Craig Newitt put his mount in a handy position out of the barriers.

As I'm Belucci (Captain Sonador) assumed the lead, Newitt kept the \$3.10 favourite in touch and ready to pounce.

VRC Oaks winner Jameka (Myboycharlie) strode to the

lead in the straight but the staying powers of Tarzino kicked in and he cruised past her with Montaigne (NZ) (Road to Rock) chasing on the inside.

In the end Tarzino was a comfortable 1¾ length winner over Montaigne, who edged Jameka out of second by a long head.

"It's his first time in Sydney and there's always a doubt," Price said. "I thought it might have been a bit of a bogey day

"But he showed what a really good stayer he is. If he

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# TARZINO WIPES DERBY DOUBTS WITH IMPRESSIVE ROSEHILL GUINEAS WIN

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goes to the Derby in good order they won't beat him."

Newitt's move to take up a prominent position on a horse which has a pattern of getting back proved a masterstroke.

"I just said to Craig to have him on his toes. I don't want him pulling, don't overdo it, just find the balance. It was a matter of being conscious of coming out of the squeeze box and not having him go too hard," Price said.

"It was a beautiful ride. He chased the right horse home and I thought it was a real strong win."

Newitt agreed, saying the colt could only improve over the 2400 metres of the Australian Derby on April 2.

"When he gets to the Derby distance he will be even better," he said. "He is an out-and-out stayer and fast becoming one of the best horses I've ever ridden."

Tarzino has consolidated his position as the Derby favourite at \$1.90 ahead of Friday night's Alister Clark Stakes winner Tally (Street Cry) at \$6.

Jameka is at \$8 and Montaigne \$11, with trainer Anthony

Cummings and jockey Blake Shinn believing he, too, can only improve.

"I think with a more even speed over 2400 metres he will be better suited," Cummings said.

"He's got a better finish apart from at least one horse there today. We are in the game."

- AAP TURF & racenet.com.au

Race	ATC Rosehill Guineas Gr.1 2000m
Winner	Tarzino (NZ) 2012
Owners	M G Price, Dr C G Lawler, Mrs M Jurie, J G Bebedellis, G Bebedellis, Mrs C Bebedellis, J J McNicholas, G Alas, J P Bergin, R A & J E Ferguson Partnership Syndicate and Rosemont Stud Pty Ltd Syndicate
Trainer	Mick Price (Caulfield)
Breeding	by Tavistock out of Zarzino by Zabeel
Breeder	Sir Patrick & Lady Hogan
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Cambridge Stud, P: Rick Connolly Bloodstock; \$45,000



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# OAKS TO FANATIC WHEN SOFIA ROSA'S WAYWARD PATH COSTS HER DEARLY

raeme Sanders is usually calm and collected before a big race but he admitted to being on edge before the feature event at Trentham yesterday.

The Te Awamutu trainer had **Fanatic (NZ)** (Shocking) in the Group One Wellfield New Zealand Oaks and he certainly didn't share the market's doubts about his charge, who started at tote odds of better than 60-1.

The longshot belied those odds when finishing strongly to be beaten by the barest of margins with a subsequent protest reversing the result at the expense of the red-hot favourite Sofia Rosa (NZ) (Makfi).

"She deserved it and if she hadn't got the decision I would have been pretty upset," said Sanders, who prepares Fanatic with his daughter Debbie Sweeney.

"I had a lot of confidence in the filly and I honestly thought she could win, but I was so nervous and I don't normally get like that.

"Maybe it was because I hadn't won an Oaks before and that was the only one left – I've won all the big races now."

Fourth in the Group Three Lowland Stakes in her lead-up to Wellington, Fanatic settled back of midfield and once she got into the clear in the straight she rounded off strongly for rider Mark Hills. The first Group One winner for Rich Hill Stud stallion Shocking, Fanatic is raced by her breeder Sean Kiernan and was born and raised at Curraghmore, the Waikato nursery of his brother-inlaw Gordon Cunningham.

Her dam is Kiernan's only broodmare Komplete Klass (NZ) (Groom Dancer), who is a half-sister to Komplete Kaos (NZ) (Desert Sun), the dam of the Group One TJ Smith Classic winner Rockdale (NZ) (Danroad).

"Sean's the president of the Hawera Racing Club," Sanders said. "He's a long-standing client and I ring him every Friday night. He's my biggest supporter and he totally deserves this – it's just magic."

While connections were naturally disappointed with the outcome of the Oaks, Sofia Rosa's second placing did confirm her as the winner of the NZB Filly of the Year title.

Race	WRC New Zealand Oaks Gr.1 2400m
Winner	Fanatic (NZ) 2012
Owners	S P Kiernan
Trainer	Graeme Sanders & Debbie Sweeney (Te Awamutu)
Breeding	by Shocking (Aus) out of Komplete Klass by Groom Dancer (USA)
Breeder	S P Kiernan



The late surge by Fanatic (#13) and Mark Hills comes up a nose short as Sofia Rosa and Danielle Johnson hold on to cross the line first in the New Zealand Oaks. There were no surprises, though, when the result was reversed in the enquiry room, Johnson's woes added to by a careless riding charge bringing an eight-day suspension and a \$1000 fine.









### THE JUSTICE LEAGUE MAKES A CASE FOR PERSISTANCE BEING REWARDED

he Justice League (NZ) (I Am Invincible) may have tried Nigel Tiley's patience this season, but the Pukekohe trainer never lost faith in the three-year-old's ability to foot it with the best of his age group.

That point was finally proven, much to the satisfaction of the former top jockey, yesterday at Trentham where the powerfully built gelding triumphed in the Group Two Go Racing Syndications Wellington Guineas.

"We put the blinkers back on him today and I think they

Race	WRC Wellington Guineas Gr.2 1400m
Winner	The Justice League (NZ) 2012
Owners	L C & N W Tiley, M Rutherford, K R & D R Verner and P R & S Cole
Trainer	Nigel Tiley (Pukekohe)
Breeding	by I Am Invincible (Aus) out of L'Artiste (Aus) by Peintre Celebre (USA)
Breeder	D J Myers
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Lyndhurst Farm, P: Nigel Tiley; \$50,000

have made all the difference," Tiley said. "Since he had that fall he's been a bit field shy. It's the first time today that he's had a trouble-free run for quite a while and showed what he can do."

The Justice League's season started ideally with a Listed success in the Northland Breeders' Stakes but little has gone to plan since.

He missed a lead-up run before the Group One New Zealand Two Thousand Guineas at Riccarton, where he was caught three wide from an outside gate, then, when freshened, he clipped heels and fell at Ellerslie on Boxing Day.

On his return to the Auckland course he copped a check when fourth and then rounded off strongly for second at Matamata when giving weight to all his rivals.

"He's really looking for a mile now so we kept him fresh for this," Tiley said. "He's got some gears."

The Justice League was ridden by Tiley's wife Lee, who found a position on the outside of the leader and once they

got to the front in the run home weren't to be denied as the horse held a strong gallop to the post.

"Things went well and he raced like a true professional," Lee Tiley said. "He got into a beautiful rhythm and I had a lot of horse underneath me."

Outsider Glorious Beijing (NZ) (Per Incanto) enjoyed a good trail and kicked on well to take second off the frontrunner He's An Ace (NZ) (Swiss Ace) while the favourite Marky Mark (Makfi) was never in contention and beat only five home.

Lee Tiley coaxes The Justice League past the post in the Wellington Guineas, holding out the late dab by outsider Glorious Beijing.







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# CUDDLE CONDITIONS MADE TO ORDER AS RASA LILA EARNS BLACK-TYPE WIN

xplosive mare **Rasa Lila (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) is a black type winner – and not before time – after she made the breakthrough at Trentham.

A frustrating wait for trainers Steven Ramsay and Julia Ritchie and owner Sir Peter Vela ended in style with an easy as you like victory in the Group Three Wentwood Grange Cuddle Stakes.

Rasa Lila had previously placed this season in the Group Two Cal Isuzu Stakes and the Group Three Eagle Technology Stakes as well as finishing close fifths in both the Group Two Rich Hill Mile and the Group Three Trentham Stakes.

Race	WRC Cuddle S. Gr.3 1600m	
Winner	Rasa Lila (NZ) 2010	
Owners	Sir Peter Vela	
Trainer	Steven Ramsay & Julia Ritchie (Maungatautari)	
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of Dance My Dance (Ire) by Sadler's Wells (USA)	
Breeder	P J & P M Vela Ltd	

With that form in mind, she was ideally suited by the set weights and penalties conditions in the Cuddle and had little trouble justifying her short odds.

"When she's right she can run phenomenal times," Ramsay said. "She's very, very good and a pretty valuable mare."

Rasa Lila got back on the fence from her inside gate but rider Leith Innes kept a cool head and he was able to angle her into the clear at the top of the straight. The five-year-old needed little persuasion to hit top gear and she quickly had the race in safe keeping.

"She was pretty impressive," Innes said. "I only had to give her one little backhander and she was off. It was a pretty easy ride."

While Rasa Lila has won up to 2100 metres, Ramsay isn't convinced she is a natural stayer and the Group One New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes over a mile at Te Aroha on April 9 now looms as an obvious target.



Rasa Lila looked a class above her rivals going into the Cuddle Stakes . . . and, after a patient ride by Leith Innes, that's the way it turned out.







#### PASSING SHOT STRIKES LIGHTNING

change of head gear for Passing Shot (NZ) (Swiss Ace) enabled the northern visitor to advance his excellent record at Trentham.

Trainers Stephen McKee and Eddie Chippendale decided on a new look for the speed merchant in yesterday's Listed Dixon and Dunlop Melbourne RC Lightning Handicap following a last-start failure.

"In the Darley Plate he didn't look like he put in, being a colt, so we took off the side winkers and put on the blinkers." McKee said.

They had the desired result and Passing Shot was quickly into stride from the outside gate and led all the way for his third win on the course.

Silver Eclipse (NZ) (Darci Brahma) came home strongly for second with Smashing (NZ) (Pins) taking third and the southerner Red Dirt Girl (NZ) (Align) running fourth ahead of the disappointing favourite Vespa (NZ) (Elusive City).

"He jumped away from the wide barrier really well," successful rider Lisa Allpress said. "He hugged the rail and I had a lap full of horse at the junction."

Earlier on the card, Gary Vile's opinion of Jacksstar (NZ) (Zed) was vindicated when the four-year-old produced a career-best performance to add black type to his record.

The Awapuni trainer, who had Group One aspirations for the gelding earlier this year, produced the stayer



The addition of blinkers and an aggressive ride by Lisa Allpress see Passing Shot an all-the-way winner of the Lightning Stakes.

for an upset win in the Listed Lincoln Farms New Zealand St Leger.

"I had him nominated for the both the Wellington and Auckland Cups and pulled the pin," Vile said.

"I thought it may have been a year too soon but as it turned out maybe

Race	WRC Lightning H. L 1200m
Winner	Passing Shot (NZ) 2011
Owners	Go Racing The Ace Syndicate (Mgr: Albert Bosma)
Trainer	Stephen McKee & Eddie Chippendale (Ardmore)
Breeding	by Swiss Ace (Aus) out of Derrydane by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	G Harvey
Sales	2013 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Westbury Stud, P: Go Racing; \$50,000

we should have gone for the Auckland

Jacksstar travelled kindly in midfield on the fence and came with a well-timed finish under Cameron Lammas to down Five To Midnight (NZ) (Domesday) and Hiique (NZ) (Tobique).

"It was a champion ride and he did exactly as I asked - ride him cold, put him to sleep and let him outstay them," Vile said.

Race	WRC New Zealand St Leger L 2500m
Winner	Jacksstar (NZ) 2011
Owners	Mrs C A & P M Algie, A J Brown and C & R Wilkie
Trainer	Gary Vile (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Zed out of Star Guest by Pentire (GB)
Breeder	Mrs C A & P M Algie









#### ADDICTIVE HABIT ON ICE AS INJURY PUTS PAID TO DONCASTER DREAM



Addictive Habit winning the Livamol Classic.

he Doncaster dream with Addictive Habit (NZ) (Colombia) is over with injury sidelining the Group One winner until next season.

"He's got a slight tendon tear," trainer Lee Somervell said. "He did it playing in his paddock.

"Our huge plans have been shot down and he's going to need at least six months off."

Addictive Habit was to have run in the open handicap at Te Rapa yesterday as a lead-in to the \$A3 million Group One Doncaster Handicap at Randwick on April 2.

"It was obviously going to be a huge challenge in Sydney and I will be irritated if it turns out to be a wet track – that's what we were hoping for," Somervell said.

"It's been a big blow but we've still got a horse who hasn't been overraced and the prognosis is good.

"In a strange coincidence, Derek Nolan was going to ride

Addictive Habit at Te Rapa and he came off a young horse and broke his foot so he couldn't have ridden him."

Addictive Habit won the Group One Livamol Classic at Hastings in the spring before successfully defending his Group Two Coupland's Bakeries title at Riccarton to boost his stake earnings beyond \$750,000.

In his absence, Somervell will be looking to Celebrity Miss (NZ) (Civics) to lead the stable's autumn charge.

"She's coming up really well heading into the Breeders' Stakes at Te Aroha and she'll trial at Matamata on Tuesday," he

Celebrity Miss finished third behind her stablemate in the Livamol Classic and won the Listed Jakkalberry Classic at Rotorua at her next appearance.

She hasn't raced since she was unplaced in the Group Three City of Auckland Cup at Ellerslie on New Year's Day.





