>>>> RACING&BREEDINGNEWS

Monday 15 August 2016

AUSTRALIAN DERBY WINNER GEARING UP FOR RETURN



Tavago is on schedule to resume in the Gr. 1 Memsie Stakes

ustralian Derby winner Tavago (NZ) (Tavistock) is on target to kick off his spring campaign in the Gr. 1 Memsie Stakes at Caulfield.

Trained by Trent Busuttin and Natalie Young, Tavago is scheduled to have a 1000m jump-out at Cranbourne today.

Tavago is one of a number of horses Busuttin and Young now have in work at Cranbourne after making the move from New Zealand last month.

The trainers are currently preparing their horses at a local

property awaiting the completion of their on-course stables.

Tavago stayed in Australia following his Australian Derby success in April and underwent six weeks pre-training with Leon and Troy Corstens before Busuttin and Young took over.

Busuttin said Tavago was now around 40kg heavier than when he won the Australian Derby and while he will strip off some of that weight in coming weeks he expects him to race heavier than he did during the autumn.

Continued on page 3









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AUSTRALIAN DERBY WINNER GEARING UP FOR RETURN

(Continued from page 1)

The four-year-old Tavistock gelding begins his spring campaign in the Memsie Stakes (1400m) at Caulfield on August 27.

The plan is to then tackle the Makybe Diva Stakes and Turnbull Stakes at Flemington in the lead-up to the Caulfield Cup on October 15.

"He's a stayer but as long as he's hitting the line in the first couple we'll be happy and then if he's going to be a legitimate chance in the Caulfield Cup he's got to be competitive in the Turnbull," Busuttin said.

"I think he'll get in well at the weights in the Turnbull unless he wins one before which I think would be doubtful."

Busuttin believes Tavago should be a dual Derby winner, as was last year's Caulfield Cup winner Mongolian Khan (Holy Roman Emperor), after having an unlucky passage when sixth in the New Zealand Derby in March.

"The query from everyone is he just a wet tracker that got the right day," Busuttin said.

"That's a logical question, but we're fairly confident he will step up. He's come up brilliantly and we haven't squeezed him yet, but we will do soon."

AAP TURF

NEWS IN BRIEF

O'Reilly Cyrus still on track for Rose

Trainer Liam Birchley will continue to aim **O'Reilly Cyrus (NZ)** (O'Reilly) at the Group One Golden Rose despite her Eagle Farm defeat. O'Reilly Cyrus came from last in the middle stages to be a close up third in a 1200m-race on Saturday, one of four thirds Birchley had on the Eagle Farm program.

The filly took her prize money to \$33,540 which will put her on the border of a start in the Golden Rose (1400m) on September 10. Birchley said he would push on with plans to run O'Reilly Cyrus in the Golden Rose or another Sydney spring race.

"She ticks a few boxes. I know she is back in form, she will run the 1400 metres and handles a wet track. Now all I have to do is get her in the race," Birchley said.

Jockey Paul Hammersley, who rode O'Reilly Cyrus, also believes the filly is up to top class in the spring.

"It was a good run because I had to go back to last because of her bad barrier. She ran home very well," Hammersley said.

"I would like to see her from a good barrier and over a bit further."

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BABE PROVES A TRUE BARGAIN **FOR WAIKATO STUD**

owerhouse breeding operation Waikato Stud has every reason to adhere to the age-old adage of "never looking a gift horse in the mouth" after just such a filly made an impressive winning debut for them at Te Rapa on the weekend.

The back story to the good looking O'Reilly filly Babe (NZ), who turned plenty of heads with a courageous win in the opening race on Saturday's programme, makes fascinating reading and has stud owner Mark Chittick shaking his head as to just how it has all come about.

"It is quite a long and involved tale however the gist of it revolves around a long time friend and client in Wayne Kitching," he recalled.

"He had a couple of mares going to our stallions and asked us if we'd like to take a French Deputy mare he had for free. I can't say we really needed any more at that stage but we agreed to take the mare who was La Belle Femme.

"We thought our best bet to get a commercial foal with her was to put her to O'Reilly, which we did, and the resulting filly was Babe."

La Belle Femme (French Deputy) was then mated to Pins with the resulting colt, along with his mother, offered by the Stud as part of their unreserved catalogue at the 2015 New Zealand Bloodstock National Weanling and Broodmare Sale.

"We had tried to put the O'Reilly filly through at the yearling sales earlier in the year with Highview Stud but she had x-rayed badly and ended up being passed in," explained Chittick.

"Her mother walked into the ring at the May sale, paraded for a couple of laps and went out again without attracting a bid while her colt went for \$1,000.

"We thought we would be taking her home but a deal came through and we ended up selling the mare later on for just \$100 but we still had the filly."

After going through an initial two-year-old preparation Chittick was looking around for an opportunity to lease the filly out for her racing career when fate provided another twist to the tale.

"One of the trainer's we often lease horses to was looking around for a replacement for a client and asked us if the filly was available and what her pedigree looked like," noted Chittick.

"It was at that stage that we printed out her extended pedigree for the first time and got a hell of a surprise. It turns out that her dam, La Belle Femme, is a half sister to an unraced Hussonet mare who is the dam of Extreme Choice who won the Blue Diamond Stakes this year and had started one of the favourites for the Golden Slipper.

"It's fair to say we got a hell of a shock and the decision to perhaps keep her and race her ourselves was taken.

"For her to come out and do what she did on Saturday is just marvelous and if she can go on with it then everyone involved has got a hell of a bargain."

- NZ Racing Desk



Stylish debut winner Babe has been a real find for Waikato Stud









GIANT GELDING UP FOR THE FIGHT AT TE RAPA

rainer Terry Wenn reckons the human equivalent of his stable star **Jochen Rindt** (NZ) (Ishiguru) would make a handy boxer if they were blessed with the rugged geldings' never-back-down attitude.

That attitude was on display at Te Rapa on the weekend when the Ishiguru seven-year-old refused to yield in the home straight as he led all the way to claim his sixth career victory in the Team Wealleans sponsored 2100 metre open handicap.

"He is such a tough bugger and when he gets rolling along he doesn't want to let anything get ahead of him," explained Wenn.

"Sam (Spratt) has always said he's like a street fighter in that when they come up to him he's like 'now it's on let's go at it' and just tries his heart out."

While thrilled with the gelding's latest run of form Wenn did admit they were lucky to still

have the horse after trying to sell him as a two-year-old.

"His full brother, Gurus Dream, won his only race here before being sold to Hong Kong where he has won another five races," he explained.

"We thought given that record we would trial this guy up and then try and sell him up there but that plan went out the window when he was so slow to mature.

"He didn't have his first race until he was nearly five and has taken plenty of time along the way. He has just got better and better in each campaign and he's now at his peak."

Wenn is eyeing up potential targets at the upcoming

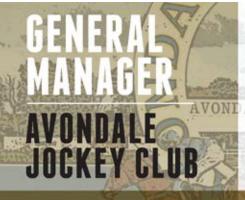


Jochen Rindt and Sam Spratt sail clear at Te Rapa

Hastings spring carnival while there is still some cut in the track before sending the horse for a deserved spell later in the year.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Waikato RC Team Wealleans H. 2100m.
Winner	Jochen Rindt (NZ) 2009
Owners	D C Grayling, Ms M M Walters & T C Wenn
Trainer	Terry Wenn (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Ishiguru (USA) out of Kessem's Dream by Kessem
Breeder	Ms M M Walters; Waikato; NZ



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MILESTONE ACHIEVED FOR GERARD WITH TE RAPA WIN

well deserved reward for consistency when promising mare **Keep On Coming (NZ)** (Shamoline Warrior) scored at Te Rapa on Saturday also brought up a personal milestone for co-trainer Pam Gerard who notched her 100th training success with the victory

For Gerard, who started her training career at Ashburton, it was also a continuation of the success enjoyed at her new Ballymore Stable base where she commenced a partnership with Mike Moroney in May this year.

"I'm really enjoying it at Ballymore so it's nice to reach a milestone like this," she said.

"Mike has been very supportive and we've got things really humming along now so I'm very positive about what's coming up for the new season.

Race	Waikato RC Pencarrow Stud H. 1600m.
Winner	Keep on Coming (NZ) 2012
Owners	G G Syndicate Ltd (Mgr: Gerard Peterson) & P A Moroney
Trainer	Mike Moroney & Pam Gerard (Matamata)
Breeding	by Shamoline Warrior (AUS) out of Keeper Coming by Keeper (AUS)
Breeder	Mrs S M Pollard; Waikato; NZ
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale - Festival Sale V: Rosehill Farm \$30000 P: Paul Moroney B/stock

"It's also very satisfying to get the win with this mare as she has been a bit of a project along the way and things are now starting to click for her."

Gerard was referring to Keep On Coming's fiery temperament that had cost her victory in the past due to a tendency to get things wrong during her races.

"She has just taken a while to work out what it's all about although she is learning all the time," she noted.

"It says a lot for her that we could put an apprentice on for Saturday's race as that wouldn't have been possible earlier in her campaign.

"Sam (Weatherley) rode her nicely as we told him she only has a short sprint so he had to hold her up for as long as possible and he did that to great effect.

"We had thought

about sending her to the paddock after her last run at Ruakaka but she really thrived after that race and looked like she was spot on for Saturday. We'll reassess again in a few days but if she keeps improving we will have another run or two before she does go out for a break."

– NZ Racing Desk



Keep On Coming and Pam Gerard at Te Rapa









SECOND INNINGS **SCORES RICCARTON DOUBLE**

romising hurdler Second Innings (NZ) (Yamanin Vital) made it backto-back victories in the space of three days when he scored a gritty win in the opening event at Riccarton on Saturday.

The win was mission accomplished for trainer Paul Nelson who has put the polish on the eight-year-old gelding's current campaign after taking over the reins from part-owner Ben Foote earlier in the year.

"It was always the plan he would come to me for his jumping career once we thought he had got to his mark on the flat so Ben sent him down in about April," explained Nelson.

"He was quite promising as a stayer on the flat but he took a while to mature and has had a few niggles along the way including a scare with his tendon at one stage.

"That all seems to be behind him now and he has come up well this time in."

Nelson was thrilled with the gelding's condition when he received him after his autumn break and set about readying him for his jumping debut.

"He had done plenty of work before he got to me so it was really just a matter of putting the final polish on and getting him ready for the jumps," he said.

"He won nicely at big odds on the flat at the start of last month and then went a beauty in the Taumarunui Gold Cup however the target has always been jumping at the Riccarton carnival with the money that's on offer."

Second Innings lived up to his private reputation with an effortless win in maiden hurdle company on Wednesday however was made to work a lot harder to score in 0-1 win company on the weekend.

"He hasn't been backed up that quickly before so I guess



Second Innings produced a gritty display to make it back-to-back wins over the hurdles at Riccarton

that may have played a part in Saturday's victory," said Nelson.

"The track was also heavier and the opposition much better but I thought he showed plenty of grit to come away from them in the straight despite not putting in his best jumps at either of the last two fences."

Nelson will now assess his options over the next six weeks however has ruled out an attempt at the Great Northern Hurdles next month in favour of setting the gelding for that sort of assignment in 12 months time.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	CJC Speight's Mid Ale Hurdle 3100m.
Winner	Second Innings (NZ) 2008
Owners	G O & J D Sherratt, P S & C Nelson, B Foote & K Rogers
Trainer	Paul Nelson (Hastings)
Breeding	by Yamanin Vital out of Allegation by Corrupt (USA)
Breeder	G O & Mrs J D Sherratt; Central; NZ







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DISTINCTIVE DARCI DOESN'T TAKE LONG TO SHOW HIS WARES

fter a couple of encouraging starts as a juvenile, **Distinctive Darci (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) has returned an impressive winner in the \$65,000 Initiation race over 1000m at Kranji on Sunday.

Ridden by two-time Singapore champion jockey Manoel Nunes, the son of Darci Brahma whipped around from his wide gate to vie for the lead, which he was able to secure without spending too much petrol.

But he looked in strife when Super Warrior (Magic Albert) made an early move upsides just before reaching the home bend. Backers of the favourite must have thought they had done their money when Super Warrior took the advantage and looked poised to clear out at any time.

Nunes had actually not tested his mount yet, and when he did, Distinctive Darci responded in the best possible way, scooting off to an emphatic win, just under five lengths ahead of Super Warrior with Cavatina (Canford Cliffs) plugging on well for third another 2 1/4 lengths away.

The winning time was 59.01 seconds for the 1000m speed dash on Polytrack.

Winning trainer Mark Walker said Distinctive Darci was a horse with plenty of scope.

"Dato Terry Lee wanted a nice horse

as a yearling and asked David Ellis to buy one for him," said the Kiwi handler.

"David picked this one up for him and paid NZ\$100,000 for him at the Karaka Sales. He's a nice horse and will get better and better as he matures; he will definitely get at least a mile."

Not enjoying the best of runs of late, Nunes heaved a sigh of relief upon dismounting.

"Finally a winner!" said the Brazilian jockey who last saluted aboard Viviano on July 24.

"He's a nice horse. I rode him in a trial once and he had no speed, he was last and only ran on late for third.

"But he's come back better after the short break. He can go forward just like he can be held up for a run.

"Today, he showed plenty of speed. Danny's horse tried to put some pressure on us, but he still had a kick left in him and was just too good for them."

The win takes Nunes to 47 wins, just one shy of Vlad Duric who topped the table for the first time last Sunday courtesy of a riding double.

er a rraining are are re-			
Race	Singapore TC Initiation P. 1000m.		
Winner	Distinctive Darci (NZ) 2013		
Owners	Fairdeal Stable		
Trainer	Mark Walker (Kranji)		
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of Distinctive Lass (AUS) by Orientate (USA)		
Breeder	Nearco Stud Limited; Waikato; NZ		
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V: Curraghmore Stud, P: Te Akau Racing; \$100,00		



Distinctive Darci bolts home in the hands of Manoel Nunes





PENTAGON STILL IN GREAT WINNING SHAPE

entagon (NZ) (Ekraar) proved in no uncertain terms that his last-start maiden win was no fluke when he recorded an even more convincing win in the \$75,000 Graduation race over 1400m on Sunday, albeit in less dominant fashion this time.

Race	Singapore TC Graduation S. 1400m.
Winner	Pentagon (NZ) 2012
Owners	Pentagon Stable
Trainer	D Hill (Kranji)
Breeding	by Ekraar (USA) out of Most Aloof by Maroof (USA)
Breeder	G R Smith; Bay Of Plenty; NZ
Sales	2013 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale; V: Odyssey Lodge, P: NZB-ag; \$600
	2014 South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale; V: Three Valleys, P: D Mee; \$8,000



No doubt it was a tougher proposition and he had to work a lot harder to find the line, but the way he found a second wind when he looked swamped at the 150m indicated the clear makings of a handy sort for trainer David Hill and his owners in the future.

Hill said he did not heed some of the doubts cast about his ward's ability to mix it with this kind of company.

"I did hear some people say he didn't beat much at his last run and had a soft lead," said the English handler.

"But I know what my horse is worth and even if it's true he was up against a handy field, I was confident enough of a good run.

"He's a nice horse and I didn't tie Sam down to any instructions. He's got a lot of high cruising speed and if another horse was faster, I told him to let him go.

"At the 600m, I was screaming at Sam he should get going as he takes a long time to wind up. He looked beat at the 100m but that was when he showed he doesn't have to lead: he came up with another kick.

"I will give him a break now as he's had a long programme in, and I'll then bring him back later in the year."

Pentagon has now taken his budding stakes earnings even closer to the \$100,000 mark for his connections.

Pentagon proves his doubters wrong with another gutsy performance

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HAT-TRICK OF WINS FOR ARHAT



Arhat achieves his hat-trick of wins with Michael Rodd aboard

trainers' perspective of a race from the stands is often different from a jockey's at times, but once they touch base at the unsaddling area, the views will invariably align and the lesson derived can only be ultimately beneficial for the horse.

That was the case for race favourite **Arhat (NZ)** (Iffraaj) after he won his third race in a row in the \$60,000 Open Benchmark 67 race over 2000m.

Clements was delighted and so was Rodd as he acknowledged the

delirious applause of the always cheerful connections, the Arhat Stable, but the Zimbabwean-born thought the Iffraaj five-year-old had "ground his way" to a typical staying-type of win.

Rodd concurred that the tough gelding was looking for more ground, but he felt he had "finished better" than he has in the three times he has now won on him.

He even added that Arhat would even have a turn of foot as he gets older, feedback that could not have rejoiced Clements better – from a viewpoint towards loftier targets such as the Group 1 Longines Singapore Gold Cup (2200m) on November 20.

The general consensus was they sure had a horse with a bright future over more ground, and according to Rodd, not the dour type that just outstays his peers.

"Mike rode him great. It was a bit of a test for him but he keeps living up to it," said a clearly impressed Clements.

"It looked like Mike had to ride him hard at the top of the straight and he

Continued on page 12









HAT-TRICK OF WINS FOR ARHAT

(Continued from page 11)

was grinding to the line, but Mike said he just went through his gears quite well, which was nice to know.

"The trick to him is to get him to relax at the back instead of racing him early on the pace like he used to.

"I always believed he was a good horse who showed to me a lot early on. I had been aiming him at the staying races as a four-year-old but we couldn't get his rating to go up.

"But I think there are better races for him now, especially the staying races which are not as strong as the sprint races."

With that third success, Arhat has now amassed close to \$120,000 in prizemoney for his happy connections.

Race	Singapore TC Benchmark 67 H. 2000m.
Winner	Arhat (NZ) 2011
Owners	Arhat Stable
Trainer	Michael Clements (Kranji)
Breeding	by Iffraaj (GB) out of Snaabelle (AUS) by Snaadee (USA)
Breeder	Ballybin Farm Ltd; Canterbury; NZ

NEWS IN BRIEF

Michelle Payne could ride at Breeders' Cup

Michelle Payne has even more incentive to get race-fit with the ride on **Azkadellia (NZ)** (Shinko King) at the Breeders' Cup meeting in Santa Anita on the line.

Payne made history when she won the Melbourne Cup on Prince Of Penzance (NZ) (Pentire) but was upset last week when she was told she would not be riding him when he made his spring return later this month.

Payne has yet to resume riding but Azkadellia's owner Ben Connolly, who is also racing manager for the mare's trainer Ciaron Maher, said she was the jockey of choice if Azkadellia takes her place at Santa Anita in November.

Azkadellia's win in the Queen Of The Turf Stakes in April gained her automatic entry to the Breeders' Cup Turf for fillies and mares. Azkadellia is scheduled to make her return in September while Payne has been riding trackwork over the past couple of weeks in preparation for a return to the races.

AAP TURF

NZ colt Saracino in Caulfield Guineas bid

New Zealand trainers Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman have another Melbourne spring carnival contender with **Saracino (NZ)** (Per Incanto) confirming an Australian mission.

The colt booked his trans-Tasman trip for a tilt at the Caulfield Guineas with victory against older horses in Saturday's Group Two Foxbridge Plate at Te Rapa.

Saracino is owned by Lib Petagna who has already won the Australian Oaks with Sofia Rosa (NZ) (Makfi) and Queen Elizabeth Stakes with Lucia Valentina (NZ) (Savabeel) this year in Sydney.

"We want to get him to Australia and a race like this has given us a good line on where he's at," Forsman said.

"We've always known he had the ability and it was nice to see him get to the front and keep going and not prick his ears and pull up."

Baker and Forsman enjoyed Group One success last spring in Melbourne with Mongolian Khan (Holy Roman Emperor) in the Caulfield Cup and Turn Me Loose (NZ) (Iffraaj) in the Emirates Stakes.

Turn Me Loose returned in the autumn to win the Futurity Stakes.



NZ STALLION AWARDS

THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS	
ZABEEL	\$243,729	
DARCI BRAHMA	\$214,534	
PINS	\$152,479	
SAVABEEL	\$139,510	
PER INCANTO	\$129,244	
ROC DE CAMBES	\$104,838	
LUCKY UNICORN	\$101,925	
PENTIRE	\$99,694	
YAMANIN VITAL	\$87,434	
TAVISTOCK	\$84,394	
Criteria: Sire whose NZ-conceived progeny have accumulated the		

highest stakes earnings worldwide

THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
ZABEEL	\$228,800
PINS	\$123,200
ROC DE CAMBES	\$98,500
SAVABEEL	\$98,200
LUCKY UNICORN	\$95,930
DARCI BRAHMA	\$94,100
PER INCANTO	\$93,925
YAMANIN VITAL	\$87,100
PERFECTLY READY	\$82,906
PENTIRE	\$68,048

Criteria: Sire whose progeny have accumulated the highest combined stakes earnings in Australia & New Zealand

THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
YAMANIN VITAL	\$81,625
PERFECTLY READY	\$79,025
PER INCANTO	\$77,175
TOWKAY	\$64,225
CAPTAIN RIO	\$62,750
TAVISTOCK	\$51,920
NO EXCUSE NEEDED	\$45,155
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$42,950
DARCI BRAHMA	\$42,050
ST REIMS	\$41,475

BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
UPPER CUT	\$49,350
MISS THREE STARS	\$66,775
SARACINO	\$62,500
HENI	\$38,750
NGARIO	\$61,250
NYMPH MONTE	\$15,625
THE KNIGHT	\$23,725
VALLEY GIRL	\$18,750
NO MORE TEARS	\$20,000
STOKERS ROCK	\$31,250

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE AUGUST 12

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
MIGHTY CONQUEROR (NZ) 2012 by Patapan (USA) out of Sarah San by San Luis (AUS)	Mrs J E C & Est late P M Dean; Bay Of Plenty; NZ	Singapore TC Initiation P. 1200m.	
ROBIN HOOOD (NZ) 2011 by Nom du Jeu out of Bail Us Out by Justice Prevails (AUS)	Goodwood Stud Ltd; Central; NZ	Singapore TC Benchmark 67 H. 1600m.	
DAAD'S THE WAY (NZ) 2005 by Istidaad (USA) out of Rodeo Rose by Prince of Praise	BT Corbett; NZ	Singapore TC Class 5 H. 1700m.	2007 Ready To Run Sale Of 2yo's; V: Mana Park, P: IOI Thoroughbreds Pte Ltd; \$52,500

NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE AUGUST 14

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
DISTINCTIVE DARCI (NZ) 2013 by Darci Brahma out of Distinctive Lass (AUS) by Orientate (USA)	Nearco Stud Limited; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Initiation P. 1000m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V: Curraghmore Stud, P: Te Akau Racing; \$100,000
PENTAGON (NZ) 2012 by Ekraar (USA) out of Most Aloof by Maroof (USA)	G R Smith; Bay Of Plenty; NZ	Singapore TC Graduation S. 1400m.	2013 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale; V: Odyssey Lodge, P: NZB-ag; \$600 2014 South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale; V: Three Valleys, P: D Mee; \$8,000
ARHAT (NZ) 2011 by Iffraaj (GB) out of Snaabelle (AUS) by Snaadee (USA)	Ballybin Farm Ltd; Canterbury; NZ	Singapore TC Benchmark 67 H. 2000m.	
AFFLECK (NZ) 2011 by Battle Paint (USA) out of Greenstone by Green Perfume (USA)	Chequers N.Z. Ltd; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Kranji S. 1400m.	
Wealth Prince – NINETYSEVEN GOLD (Sing.) (NZ) 2011 by Sufficient out of Wealth Star by Senor Pete (USA)	W N Ngai; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Benchmark 67 H. 1000m.	
LIM'S ACTION (NZ) 2010 by Any Suggestion (AUS) out of Volaisha by Volksraad (GB)	Mrs K A & N J Auret; Central; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m.	

