

Monday 4 July 2016

RITCHIE SCORES WINNING TREBLE AT TE RAPA



Promises delivers the middle leg of a winning treble for trainer Shaune Ritchie at Te Rapa

A day that started on a winning note with impressive juvenile winner Bella Gioia (NZ) (Swiss Ace) got even better for Cambridge trainer Shaune Ritchie when he closed out proceedings at Te Rapa with victories by **Promises (NZ)** (Keeper) and **Bee Tee Junior (NZ)** (Nom Du Jeu) to give him a winning treble on Saturday.

Ritchie admitted he was confident the team could perform well although the tricky Slow8 surface did give him some concerns prior to raceday.

"I thought we had some good winning chances but at

this time of the year you just never know as the tracks can be pretty tricky with the rain on them," he said.

"We walked the home straight on Friday and thought the best place to be would be out wider and that's how it panned out with all of our runners."

Ritchie was delighted with the performance of Keeper mare Promises who finally obtained reward for her consistency after a string of minor placings.

"She is a very tough mare with any amount of ability but she's also her own worst enemy," he admitted.

Continued on page 3



BURGUNDY (NZ) 16.hh

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RITCHIE SCORES WINNING TREBLE AT TE RAPA

(Continued from page 1)

“She just hasn’t been able to settle in her races so her record could be even better if she could just relax a little early on. In saying that she has been better during this campaign so I do think there could be a nice race for her over a mile or more if the penny has dropped.

“She’s probably at that stage where the broodmare paddock is an attractive option but I hope we can have her for another season as I do think she can win at stakes level in the right race.”

Ritchie is also looking at some late spring riches with the consistent Bee Tee Junior who scored in the last race of the day.

“He is a very clean winded horse who just thrives over

ground so I can see him being the type who could be a New Zealand Cup candidate if he can get his rating up,” he said.

“He goes on most track surfaces but I think we will try and avoid a really deep track as that would put paid to any late spring plans we have for him. He had a month between runs and that will be the pattern for him going forward.”

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Waikato RC Fairview Motors H. 1600m.
Winner	Promises (NZ) 2011
Owners	Sir Peter Vela
Trainer	Shaune Ritchie (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Keeper (AUS) out of Promethean by Grand Lodge (USA)
Breeder	P J & P M Vela Ltd; Waikato; NZ

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ball Of Muscle to target Moir Stakes

While his Group One-winning sibling will have a quiet spring, **Ball Of Muscle** (Dubawi) will be out to carry the mantle at the highest level.

Warwick Farm trainer Joe Pride has plans to return to Melbourne with Ball Of Muscle but no firm spring commitments for his elder half-brother Terravista (Captain Rio).

Ball Of Muscle finished second to Buffering (Mossman) in the Moir Stakes at Moonee Valley last October and Pride has inked in that race as his starting point.

“Ball Of Muscle comes back to the stable on Monday and he will go first-up into the Moir Stake,” Pride said.

“We will also look at Perth and the Winterbottom with him.”

Ball of Muscle is a son of outstanding broodmare Parfore (NZ) (Gold Brose) who produced Group One winners Terravista, Tiger Tees (NZ) (Dubawi) and Super Easy (NZ) (Darci Brahma). Parfore, who passed away earlier in the year, was named the 2014-15 Champion Broodmare of the Year at last season’s New Zealand Horse of the Year Awards dinner.

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NEW ZEALAND CUP AN OPTION FOR PROGRESSIVE STAYER

A victory over 2100 metres at Te Rapa on the weekend may have set progressive galloper **Lord And Master (NZ)** (Mastercraftsman) on the path to a New Zealand Cup tilt in November.

The four-year-old Mastercraftsman gelding notched his 3rd win from just seven starts with a tough staying performance that suggests he is ready to take on better company over the next few months.

Ridden patiently by apprentice Zy Nor Azman, Lord And

Race	Waikato RC Allied Security H. 2100m.
Winner	Lord and Master (NZ) 2011
Owners	John & Victoria Carter
Trainer	Donna Logan & Chris Gibbs (Ruakaka)
Breeding	by Mastercraftsman (IRE) out of Lady Cherokee (USA) by Cherokee Run (USA)
Breeder	Carter Bloodstock Ltd; Auckland; NZ
Sales	2013 National Yearling Sale - Select Session V: Oxford Thoroughbreds Ltd \$16000 P: Tattersfield Ltd

Master settled near the rear of the ten-strong rating 85 contest before being allowed to stride into contention by Azman on the point of the home turn. The Donna Logan and Chris Gibbs trained gelding was asked for his final effort at the 200 metre mark and burst clear to score a comprehensive one and a half length victory.

“He’s been going so well over a mile that we were a little hesitant to step him up over further,” noted Logan.

“I have always thought he would make his mark over ground and on that performance I hope I’m right as he was very strong in the closing stages.

“He is a very easy horse to ride and so we were keen to get the claim on him. Zy did a great job and we will be keen to claim on him when he steps out again this winter.”

Logan will now look to plot a path to the New Zealand Cup with the gelding who she believes will be even better as he strengthens over the next six months.

“He still isn’t fully mature so I think he is an exciting prospect for when he does hit full strength,” she said.

“We will space his races for that reason and hopefully when the Cup carnival rolls around in November he will be at his peak.”

Lord And Master races in the familiar orange colours of his owners John and Victoria Carter who raced 2014 Australian Oaks winner Rising Romance (NZ) (Ekraar) from the Logan stable before she was transferred to the David Hayes and Tom Dabernig operation for her 2015 spring campaign.

- NZ Racing Desk

Lord And Master wins in fine style to set up a bid for higher honours in the Spring





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WHEELER EYES OAKBANK WITH IMPRESSIVE HAWKES BAY WINNER

When jumps guru John Wheeler mentions he has a potential Oakbank candidate on his hands it pays to take notice.

Wheeler was speaking about the aptly named **Wheeler Fortune (NZ)** (Elusive City) who scored his maiden hurdle win at Hawkes Bay on the weekend in a manner that suggests there is plenty more in store.

The rangy four-year-old gelding caught the eye when third in his jumping debut at Awapuni in testing conditions with Wheeler expecting an even better performance on an improved surface on the weekend.

"He went a really nice race at Awapuni last time as he was wide most of the way so I did think he would be hard to beat on the better track," he said.

"He handles most tracks and is a pretty handy jumper so I think he has the ability to go further as he gains more experience.

"Looking ahead he might be a candidate for the Grand National meeting at Riccarton with a trip to Oakbank next year a real possibility as I think he would be well suited over there."

John Wheeler may have unearthed his next Oakbank superstar with Saturday's maiden hurdle winner Wheeler Fortune

Wheeler sports a remarkable record at Australia's famous Oakbank jumping carnival having taken the time honoured Great Eastern Steeplechase on nine separate occasions since he began taking horses there over twenty years ago.

Wheeler is also looking forward to another special event next year when he leads a team of seventy racing enthusiasts to the world renowned Cheltenham jumping festival in March. Organised by tour company Epic Journeys, Wheeler and well known Taranaki racing administrator Carey Hobbs will host tour participants on a 23 day sojourn that takes in the four

days of the Cheltenham Festival along with a Six Nations rugby international and the 2017 Dubai World Cup meeting.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Hawke's Bay Cheltenham With Wheels Maiden Hurdle 2500m.
Winner	Wheeler Fortune (NZ) 2011
Owners	Taranaki Racing Club Syndicate No.2
Trainer	John Wheeler (New Plymouth)
Breeding	by Elusive City (USA) out of Shades of Silk (AUS) by Thunder Gulch (USA)
Breeder	Taranaki Racing Club Syndicate No.2; Auckland; NZ



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SCOOTER O'REILLY FINALLY DELIVERS AT TE RAPA

An impressive trial performance at Avondale last month had punters believing the well credentialed **Scooter O'Reilly (NZ)** (O'Reilly) was finally ready to leave maiden ranks and he didn't disappoint with a comprehensive display at Te Rapa on the weekend.

Having his first run from Moira Murdoch's beach based operation the rising four-year-old delivered in fine style in the hands of Cameron Lammas as a determined bid in the closing stages of the Print House sponsored 1200 metre contest propelled him to a comfortable victory.

The son of O'Reilly had been disappointing in his spring campaign after finishing a creditable fifth first up in the Gr. 3 Bonecrusher Stakes at Ellerslie in September, however Murdoch believes he has the potential to develop further as his racing manners improve.

"He came to me off a decent break over the summer and we have just taken him along slowly to this point," she noted.

"He can be a little frustrating as he reefs and tears in his races but I think if we can get him to settle then he has the ability to go further through the grades.

"We thought he was pretty close to the mark after his trial at Avondale so we planned to run him there a fortnight ago but the weather was terrible so we decided to wait for the better track at Te Rapa and that has paid dividends."

Murdoch will now play a patient game with the gelding as she plots a course to the Hawkes Bay spring carnival.

"He's not the sort of horse that will handle a real winter bog so we will just take him along slowly and start to get a little more serious in the early spring," she said.

"There are some nice races in the intermediate grades during the Hawkes Bay carnival so that's where we would like to head with him."

Murdoch also reported stable star Marky Mark (Makfi) was



Scooter O'Reilly wins comfortably on debut for new trainer Moira Murdoch

making good progress after returning to stable life a fortnight ago.

"He's been back a couple of weeks and is pretty big and burly but he does look a picture of health," she said.

"We haven't really had any thoughts of where we will kick him off this time in but it's unlikely he will be there for the first day at Hawkes Bay although he will most likely run during that carnival on one of the later days."

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Waikato RC Print House Maiden S. 1200m.
Winner	Scooter O'Reilly (NZ) 2012
Owners	Mrs S J & S R Finnie, B J Lindsay MNZM & Mrs J E A Lindsay
Trainer	Moira Murdoch (Pukekohe Park)
Breeding	by O'Reilly out of Sussex Dancer (IRE) by Danehill Dancer (IRE)
Breeder	Berwickshire Bloodstock; Auckland; NZ
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale V: Westbury Stud \$60000 P: BJ & J Lindsay





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NZ STALLION AWARDS

THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$14,098,073
TAVISTOCK	\$11,559,212
PENTIRE	\$8,416,435
O'REILLY	\$7,299,675
ZABEEL	\$6,911,819
PINS	\$6,802,677
DARCI BRAHMA	\$6,583,609
IFFRAAJ	\$5,831,007
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$4,911,835
ELUSIVE CITY	\$4,899,400

Criteria: Sire whose NZ-conceived progeny have accumulated the highest stakes earnings worldwide

THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$7,988,177
PENTIRE	\$6,979,087
ZABEEL	\$5,989,278
TAVISTOCK	\$4,881,164
PINS	\$3,797,879
DARCI BRAHMA	\$3,767,065
IFFRAAJ	\$3,419,069
O'REILLY	\$3,138,385
SHINKO KING	\$2,365,151
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$2,343,742

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

THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$2,448,700
DARCI BRAHMA	\$2,275,125
IFFRAAJ	\$1,658,810
PINS	\$1,355,059
TAVISTOCK	\$1,244,715
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$1,169,915
PENTIRE	\$1,107,751
ALAMOSA	\$1,104,013
KEEPER	\$1,035,978
THORN PARK	\$989,383

BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
KAWI	\$498,000
JULINSKY PRINCE	\$309,500
XIONG FENG	\$579,685
DECORAH	\$141,400
VOLKSTOK'N'BARRELL	\$238,750
VALLEY GIRL	\$254,625
XTRAVAGANT	\$461,250
STOLEN DANCE	\$267,725
ILLUMINATI	\$107,150
RYAN MARK	\$217,400

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



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NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG

JULY 1

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
Pappa Ragazzo – TANGO FIRE (H.K.) (NZ) 2010 by Patapan (USA) out of Chatham Miss by Woodman (USA)	S C Ellis; Central; NZ	HKJC Betterment of Hong Kong H. 1200m.	2011 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale; V: Esker Lodge Ltd, P: Chequers Stud; \$1,000 2012 Ready to Run Sale; V: Chequers Stud, P: The Robt Dawe Agency Ltd; \$18,000
King's Secret - ARGENTUM (H.K.) (NZ) 2011 by Indy King (USA) out of Foxy Boss by Oregon (USA)	A S Murdoch; Central; NZ	HKJC Sporting Spirit H. 1600m.	2013 National Yearling Sale - Festival Sale; V: Highden Park, P: Cavallo Agistment; \$12,000
Fully Fashioned – FASHION MAESTRO (H.K.) (NZ) 2010 by Fully Fledged out of Lake Letitia (AUS) by Belong to Me (USA)	D G B Fell; Central; NZ	HKJC Sporting Exchange H. 1400m.	
The Virginian – RACING HERO (H.K.) (NZ) 2007 by High Chaparral (IRE) out of Miss Impeccable by Jetball (AUS)	Aotearoa Stud Ltd; NZ	HKJC Guangdong-Hong Kong Cooperation H. 1650m.	

NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE

JULY 1

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
SKYWALK (NZ) 2013 by Battle Paint (USA) out of Daystar by Danasinga (AUS)	Mrs L J & W L Sullivan; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1100m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Select Sale; V: Sedgmere Farm, P: Regal Farm Partnership; \$32,000 2015 Ready to Run Sale; V: Regal Farm, P: China Horse Club; \$100,000
ARHAT (NZ) 2011 by Ifraaj (GB) out of Snaabelle (AUS) by Snaadee (USA)	Ballybin Farm Ltd; Canterbury; NZ	Singapore TC Open Maiden S. 1600m.	
BILLY BRITAIN (NZ) 2009 by One Cool Cat (USA) out of Zatiger by Zabeel	Pee Gee & W J Bloodstock Ltd; Central; NZ	Singapore TC Kranji S. 1800m.	
NOVA STRIKE (NZ) 2012 by Red Giant (USA) out of La Panthere by Generous (IRE)	J G Simpson; Auckland; NZ	Singapore TC Benchmark 83 H. 1400m.	2014 Ready to Run Sale; V: Kiltannon Stables, P: NZB as agent; \$60,000
BAHANA (NZ) 2011 by Elusive City (USA) out of Khales by Don Eduardo	Haunui Bloodstock Ltd; Auckland; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1600m.	2013 National Yearling Sale - Select Session; V: Haunui Farm, P: NZB as agent; \$80,000 2013 Ready to Run Sale; V: Lime Country Thoroughbreds Ltd, P: Peter Ho Leung; \$100,000
OPTIMUS (NZ) 2011 by Road to Rock (AUS) out of Power by Electronic Zone (USA)	Cambridge Hunt Ltd & W J Bloodstock Ltd; Central; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m.	

