

Sunday 8 April 2018

MISS WILSON'S CONNECTIONS BACK ON CENTRE STAGE



Miss Wilson returns to scale after winning the Group One feature at Te Aroha (Trish Dunell)

John Bary was back in the Group One groove at Te Aroha on Saturday.

He successfully executed a long-term plan when the well-related **Miss Wilson** (Stratum) reigned supreme in the Fiber Fresh New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m).

An emotional Bary savoured top-flight success with the half-sister by Stratum to his former star galloper Jimmy Choux, a multiple Group One winner and former New Zealand Horse of the Year.

He was bred and raced by Richard and Liz Wood and their

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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MISS WILSON'S CONNECTIONS BACK ON CENTRE STAGE

(Continued from page 1)

familiar colours were donned by Vinnie Colgan aboard Miss Wilson.

"It's great for Richard and Liz. They have been big supporters of the stable," Bary said.

"This means a lot to me and my staff, they work long hours and this is as much about them as me."

Miss Wilson finished fourth in the Breeders' Stakes 12 months ago after she had won the Gr.3 Cuddle Stakes (1600m) and this time around Bary elected to bypass the Trentham event.

"I learned from last year and she is much better fresh," he said.

Ridden by Vinnie Colgan, Miss Wilson jumped well to sit behind the tearaway leaders Ruud Not Too (NZ) (Bernardini) and Nicoletta (NZ) (Savabeel) before reeling them in 250m from home.

"This is really special, it's been a long-time plan and full credit to John and his team," Richard Wood said.

Miss Wilson won by half a length from Thee Auld Floozie (NZ) (Mastercraftsman), who also finished runner-up in the 2017 edition of the event behind Charmont (High Chaparral).

Nicoletta stuck on grimly to take third money ahead of Heni (NZ) (Towkay) and Coldplay (NZ) (Savabeel), who both made ground from back in the field.

The favourite Darscape Princess (NZ) (Darci Brahma) raced in fourth spot, but was under pressure at the top of the straight and dropped out to beat only two home.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Fiber Fresh NZ Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes Gr.1., 1600m |
| Winner | Miss Wilson 2012 |
| Owners | Chouxmaani Investments Ltd |
| Trainer | John Bary (Hastings) |
| Breeding | by Stratum (AUS) out of Cierzo by Centaine (AUS) |
| Breeder | Chouxmaani Investments Ltd |

NEWS IN BRIEF

So Far Sokool dominant in Bendigo Guineas

So Far Sokool (NZ) (Showcasing) burst clear in the straight to go on to win the Listed Bendigo Guineas (1400m) by four lengths.

So Far Sokool was runner-up at Listed level in New Zealand for Peter and Dawn Williams as a two-year-old before joining trainer Archie Alexander's stable at Ballarat last year.

"She relaxed beautifully today," jockey Nikita Beriman said.

"I had the option of going in or out at the top of the straight and I wanted to give her as much room as possible.

"Her turn of foot was explosive and she put them away easily."

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WEXFORD WINS CHAIRMAN'S QUALITY

He's regarded as one of the greatest riders to come out of New Zealand and on Saturday Lance O'Sullivan combined with Andrew Scott to train his first Sydney winner when **Sir Charles Road** (Myboycharlie) outstayed his rivals to win the Gr.2 Chairman's Quality (2600m) at Randwick.



Sir Charles Road wins his Australian debut in the Gr.2 Chairman's Quality at Randwick (Bradley Photographers)

A year ago to the day O'Sullivan and Scott had their first Sydney runner when Summer Passage (Snitzel) finished second in the ATC Sires Produce Stakes but a "10 out of 10" Blake Shinn ride delivered the stable a victory with Sir Charles Road in a driving finish.

A four-year-old son of Myboycharlie, Sir Charles Road outstayed the Hayes/Dabernig-trained Ventura Storm (Zoffany) to win by a half-neck.

"It was a great team effort," O'Sullivan said. "What a super ride. It was 10 out of 10, unbelievable.

"After he ran particularly well in the Auckland Cup we said 'let's have a crack, we're not taking on the Australian sprinters'. He certainly showed he was up to having a go.

"He's one of those fast staying types that has a kick and keeps going. He can go on wet ground or firm ground, it sort of doesn't worry him at all.

"This was the first target, one step at a time but of course given what he did today, we're very keen to push on to the

Sydney Cup now."

Sir Charles Road's Sydney Cup quote firmed from \$31 into \$10 following the victory. The stayer will drop from 56 to 50kg in the A\$2 million handicap next weekend.

The Chairman's Quality win carried Sydney Cup ballot exemption while Sir Charles Road cannot receive a weight penalty for the two-mile feature.

-racenet.com.au

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Chairman's Quality Gr.2 2600m |
| Winner | Sir Charles Road 2013 |
| Owners | Archer Equine Investments Ltd |
| Trainer | Lance O'Sullivan & Andrew Scott (Matamata) |
| Breeding | by Myboycharlie (IRE) out of Giant Mystique (AUS) by Giant's Causeway (USA) |
| Breeder | Miss A Yelland |
| Sales | 2015 Premier Sale; V: Wentwood Grange, P: Mr DL Archer; \$90,000 |





LUVALUVA WARMS UP FOR OAKS WITH TOUGH WIN

Luvaluva's (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) revised Gr.1 Australian Oaks campaign has gained traction at Randwick with a dogged victory in the Gr.3 Adrian Knox Stakes (2000m). After the filly missed the Gr.1 Vinery Stud Stakes, her preferred lead-up to next Saturday's 2400m staying test, trainer John Sargent had to revert to a strategy he employed with Gust Of Wind (NZ) (Darci Brahma) in 2015. Gust Of Wind was fourth in the Gr.3 Adrian Knox Stakes but stepped up in distance to claim the Oaks.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Adrian Knox Stakes Gr.3, 2000m |
| Winner | Luvaluva (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | M L Connaghan, B J Creith, M B Trevaskis, S C O'Brien, A Gennusa, S Kennelly & Seymour Bloodstock (Mgr: D S Thomas) |
| Trainer | John Sargent (Randwick) |
| Breeding | by Mastercraftsman (IRE) out of Wansesingyee (AUS) by Galileo (IRE) |
| Breeder | C R Grace |
| Sales | 2016 Ready To Run Sale of 2yos; V: Surrey Farm, P: Mr JG Sargent; \$55,000 |

And after watching Luvaluva storm home out wide late to shade Pretty To Sea (NZ) (Ocean Park) by a head, Sargent was confident the three-year-old could also handle a seven-day back-up.

"I think we've got a good one here too," he said.

"She's got a good constitution, she's fit now, she won't have to do anything."

Luvaluva gave her rivals a 7kg advantage and Michael Dee timed his run to perfection despite Sargent having some misgivings.

"I was thinking he might have waited a bit longer but he obviously thought he had to get going with the weight," he said.

"She was there to be beaten up the straight but she went to the line strong."

Sargent said Luvaluva, who was ruled out of last Saturday's Vinery Stud Stakes because of unsatisfactory blood work, would have a relaxing week.

"She had the hiccup missing the Vinery but this should top her up. We'll get her to the beach tomorrow and top her off

for the Oaks."

Sargent said dropping back 5kg to 55kg would also work to Luvaluva's advantage.

Luvaluva shortened from \$11 to the \$4.60 second elect for the Oaks after her win to sit behind Unforgotten (Fastnet Rock) on the Australian TAB market on Saturday.

Chilly Cha Cha (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) was a short head third making it a clean sweep for the New Zealand-bred runners, in a run that trimmed her Oaks odds from \$51 to \$26.

-AAP

Luvaluva looks on target for the Australian Oaks with a win in the Gr.3 Adrian Knox Stakes (Bradley Photographers)





MARE'S SUCCESSFUL SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN MAY NOT BE OVER YET

La Fille En Jeu (NZ) (Mettre En Jeu) has bagged a southern stakes double and consideration will be given to giving the Wanganui mare an opportunity to complete a hat-trick.

The free-going mare led all the way to win Saturday's Listed Christchurch Casino Easter Cup (1600m) at Riccarton where two weeks ago she had claimed top honours in the Gr.3 South Island Breeders' Stakes (1600m).

"We always planned to try and get both races and we left her down here

with Les and Richard Didham so it's a big thanks to them," said trainer Nigel Auret, who bred and races La Fille En Jeu with his wife Adaire.

"There's another race for her here in four weeks, which we might look at, but we will assess how she comes through this first."

The race in question is the Listed Daphne Bannan Memorial Great Easter Stakes (1400m) on May 5.

La Fille En Jeu, who is by Mettre En Jeu who stood at the Aurets' Letham Thoroughbreds operation until his

recent passing, raced to a clear lead under jockey Lisa Allpress on Saturday.

"Lisa said she gave her a kick out of the gates and the mare took off and she was struggling to hold her," Nigel Auret said.

La Fille En Jeu was out on her own on straightening and she had enough in reserve to hold off Tommy Tucker (NZ) (Gallant Guru), who had won the last two editions of the race, and King Pin (NZ) (Pins).

The other Listed feature on the Riccarton programme, the New

Continued on page 7



La Fille En Jeu bags another stakes win at Riccarton (Race Images South)





MARE'S SUCCESSFUL SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN MAY NOT BE OVER YET

(Continued from page 6)

Zealand Bloodstock Insurance Stakes (1600m), provided a thrilling finish.

The Terri Rae-trained and Alysha Collett-ridden **Respin (NZ)** (Power) prevailed by a nose from Beneficial with further noses back to Courte Zarindi (NZ) (Any Suggestion) and Greenpark Gem (NZ) (Highly Recommended).

A daughter of Power, Respin is raced by former top conditioner Jim

Gibbs and his wife Ann and her black type success came off a previous maiden victory at Ashburton.
– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Christchurch Casino Easter Cup L., 1600m |
| Winner | La Fille En Jeu (NZ) 2011 |
| Owners | Mrs K A & N J Auret |
| Trainer | Nigel Auret (Wanganui) |
| Breeding | by Mettre En Jeu out of Quality Eyes (AUS) by Danzero (AUS) |
| Breeder | Mrs K A & N J Auret |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | NZB Insurance Stakes L., 1600m |
| Winner | Respin (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | Mrs A Gibbs & J A Gibbs MNZM |
| Trainer | Terri Rae (Riccarton Park) |
| Breeding | by Power (GB) out of Dancing Forever by Keeper (AUS) |
| Breeder | Sir Michael Fay, Sir Patrick & Lady Hogan |
| Sales | 2016 Select Sale; V: Cambridge Stud, P: Mr JA Gibbs; \$28,000 |

NEWS IN BRIEF

NZ bred gives Waller another winner

Premier Sydney trainer Chris Waller's first Toowoomba victory would not rate highly on his list of achievements but his winner **Another Dollar (NZ)** (Ocean Park) could be headed to bigger things.

The three-year-old daughter of Ocean Park made it two wins from four starts when she beat a field of older horses in the fillies and mares benchmark 75 (1300m) on Saturday.

It was Waller's 30th overall Queensland winner and his 25th metropolitan victory from his Gold Coast stable, which he opened in August. Waller trains the Waikato Stud bred filly for a syndicate headed by one of his biggest owners, Frank Cook.

Waller's Queensland stable manager, Paul Shailer, said Another Dollar loomed as winter carnival horse.

"We thought she might have had a bit of class on them today and she has done a good job to beat the more experienced mares," he said.

"We can start to look at the better races in the winter carnival over a bit of ground."

Another stakes winner for Per Incanto

Amanaat provided Little Avondale Stud's **Per Incanto** with his tenth individual stakes winner when successful in the Listed Weetwood Handicap (1200m) at Toowoomba on Saturday.

Jockey Bob El Issa answered a call from local trainer Ben Currie, who now has consecutive Weetwood wins after dead-heating in the race with Col'N'Lil (Bradbury's Luck) last year.

"We had a good run and he was too good in the straight. It was a great effort from Ben," El Issa said on Saturday.

El Issa gave Amanaat a good run behind the pace but burst away in the straight for a comprehensive win.





SULTAN IN TOP FORM **FOR GROUP TEST**

Sultan Of Swing (NZ) (Bachelor Duke) will head to his target race for the season in prime condition.

On Saturday, the five-year-old warmed up for a Group Two feature with a successful outing at Te Aroha where he came from well off the pace to win the Team Wealleans Handicap (1400m).

“He’ll run in the Easter Handicap next, that’s always been his goal, providing they don’t get a wet track,” trainer Shaune Ritchie said.

“The long straight at Pukekohe will suit him ideally.”

Ridden by Sam Weatherley, Sultan Of Swing settled back in a strongly-run race and the son of Bachelor Duke powered home in the straight for the sixth win of his career.

“They went hard early and he dropped a fair way off them, but we had decided to ride him cold from the wide gate and that allowed him to go through his gears,” Ritchie said.

Sultan Of Swing has now won twice this preparation and returned a cheque in his other three appearances.

“He’s been a model of consistency and the only time he has disappointed me was at Rotorua, but he’s got a terrible record on left-handed tracks,” Ritchie said.

The gelding proved too good for the unpredictable Ronchi (NZ) (Stravinsky), who finished runner-up and returned a decent performance after his customary slow start while the well-supported Romancer (NZ) (Redwood) boxed on for third after racing the trail.

Sultan Of Swing is enjoying his second stint in Ritchie’s Cambridge stable and after two domestic successes he transferred to Ritchie’s brother Craig in Sydney. He placed there in all three of his outings.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Team Wealleans 1400m |
| Winner | Sultan of Swing (NZ) 2012 |
| Owners | IDL Racing Ltd |
| Trainer | Shaune Ritchie (Cambridge) |
| Breeding | by Bachelor Duke (USA) out of Queen Cha Cha by High Chaparral (IRE) |
| Breeder | IDL Racing Ltd |



Sultan Of Swing returned an outstanding Gr.2 Easter Handicap (1600m) trial with his Te Aroha success (Trish Dunell)





LE CASTILE REWARDING **TRAINER'S FAITH**

In-form filly **Le Castile (NZ)** (Dalghar) is delivering exactly what trainer Mark Blackie has been expecting.

The daughter of Dalghar won for the second time in her short career on Saturday when she accounted for a tidy field of three-year-olds in the Pyramid Trucking 1400m at Te Aroha.

"I've always had a good opinion of this filly and that's a great win," the Tauranga horseman said.

"She was a little bit fresh today as well and she's still learning her game."

Successful in maiden company at Te Teko last month, Le Castile settled in the trail and once clear in the run home she rounded off strongly.

Blackie is unsure of the grey's immediate future, but he has ruled out a tilt at the Gr.3 Cambridge Breeders' Stakes (1200m) at Te Rapa in a fortnight's time.

"She's really looking for a mile now," he said. "I'll have a look at the programmes, but she doesn't like wet tracks."

"Whether I give her another run this time in or turn her out I'm not quite sure at this stage."

Le Castile was again ridden by Vinnie Colgan, who said he had few concerns during the race.



Gifted filly Le Castile in winning form at Te Aroha (Trish Dunell)

"She drew one and we got a nice trip. At Te Teko last time she was pretty impressive and she's won well again, she's a nice filly."

Le Castile had a head to spare at the post from the well-backed Sacred Day (NZ) (Azamour), who powered home from the back of the field.

Lincoln Raider's (NZ) (O'Reilly) effort for third was another eye-catching performance after he missed the start

and got home strongly from last.
– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | Pyramid Trucking 1400m |
| Winner | Le Castile (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | A J Cornish |
| Trainer | Mark Blackie (Tauranga) |
| Breeding | by Dalghar (FR) out of Awatea by Danasinga (AUS) |
| Breeder | A J Cornish |



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UPPERHAND IN LINE FOR TRIP TO QUEENSLAND

Talented three-year-old **Upperhand (NZ)** (Swiss Ace) moved a step closer to an Australian venture when he resumed in fine style at Riccarton.

The son of Swiss Ace was returning to action after a five month break when he demolished his older opposition in the hands of Chris Johnson in the New Zealand Bloodstock South Island Sale April 20 Handicap (1200m).

“Chris suits him and gets him to relax, he’s magic,” trainer and part-owner Brian Court said.

Upperhand will return to Riccarton later this month and another strong showing could book his ticket across the Tasman for the Queensland winter carnival.

“We’ll come back here on April 21 and he may get his passport to Australia then. We could take him to Brisbane for the three-year-old races there, he doesn’t mind wet tracks either.”

Upperhand was a debut winner in the spring before he dropped out of contention in the Listed Zacinto Stakes (1600m) after leading and again over-raced when unplaced in the Gr.1 New Zealand 2000 Guineas (1600m).

“He disappointed in the Guineas and the race before that, but he was a victim of circumstances being left in front so we turned him out and he’s come back and had a good trial,” Court said.

Upperhand settled at the tail of the field and when runners fanned out in the straight Johnson weaved his way through and the gelding strode clear for a dominant win.

“The horse does a bit wrong and that’s the reason we dropped out the back, but he picked them up quickly - he’s got the ability,” Johnson said.

“He raced greenly earlier in his career and if he can straighten out his manners, he’ll be a good horse.”
– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | NZB South Island Sale April 20 R65 1200m |
| Winner | Upperhand (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | Courtco Racing Ltd, Ms C M & CT Dalgety, T J Moir & B Tinnelly |
| Trainer | Brian Court (Broadfield) |
| Breeding | by Swiss Ace (AUS) out of Circles of Ice (AUS) by Marauding |
| Breeder | C J & Mrs K B Webber |
| Sales | 2016 Select Sale; V: Blackbridge, P: Courtco Racing; \$28,000 |



Queensland carnival on Upperhand’s radar after Riccarton win (Race Images South)





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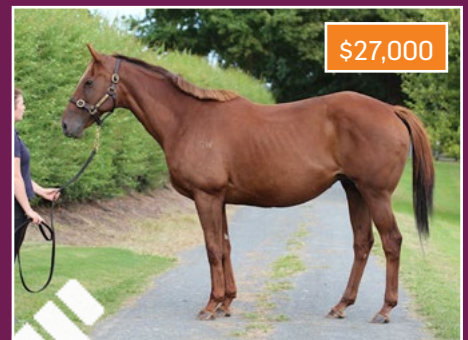
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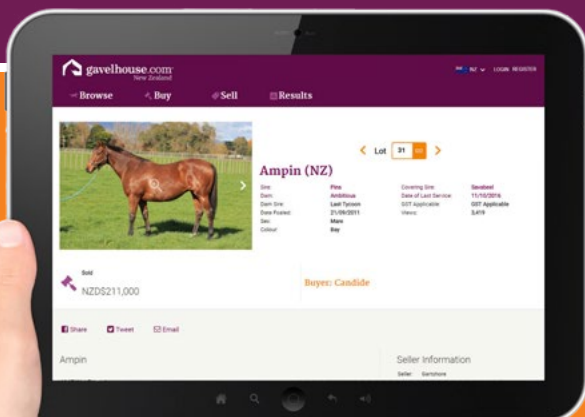


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SATONO ALADDIN TO MAKE DEEP IMPACT AT RICH HILL



Satono Aladdin winning the Gr.1 Tokyo Yasuda Kinen (Keiba Book)

A successful long-standing international partnership will again join forces in 2018 with Rich Hill Stud to stand the Group One-winning Japanese miler **Satono Aladdin**, a son of Shadai Stallion Station's sire sensation Deep Impact.

Rich Hill and Shadai first combined with the champion stallion Pentire and their ongoing association also includes breeding his son Prince Of Penzance, who won the 2015 Gr.1 Melbourne Cup (3200m).

The passing of Pentire late last year was the catalyst to stand another stallion and both parties believe Satono Aladdin has the necessary credentials to be a major success in the Southern Hemisphere.

He was the winner of eight races with his career highlight

an outstanding performance to claim top honours in Japan's most prestigious mile - the Gr.1 Tokyo Yasuda Kinen (1600m).

"He had a great turn of foot and his time of 1:31.5 for the 1600m that day was amazing, just point-two of a second outside the race record," Rich Hill Stud's John Thompson said.

Satono Aladdin won on debut as a two-year-old and was Group Three-placed before training on to dual Group Two victories over 1400m and was successful up to 2000m during his career.

"His pedigree is also top class," Thompson said. "He is by breed-shaping sire Deep Impact out of Magic Storm, who was a Group Two winner and Group One-placed in America."

Magic Storm is by champion sire Storm Cat out of a

Continued on page 13





SATONO ALADDIN TO MAKE DEEP IMPACT AT RICH HILL

(Continued from page 12)

Fappiano mare, who in turn is out of a stakes-winning Nijinsky mare.

Satono Aladdin's full-sister Lachesis also won Japan's prestigious Gr.1 Kyoto Queen Elizabeth II Cup (2200m).

"Satono Aladdin is a magnificent looking horse," Thompson said. "This is reflected in his price tag at the 2011 Japan Racing Horse Association Select Foal Session.

"The Northern Farm-bred colt was the second top-priced foal at \$1.7 million when he was purchased by high-profile owner Hajime Satomi."

Thompson is naturally excited to be bringing such a well-credentialed son of champion sire Deep Impact to these shores.

"The Australian Industry has obviously recognised the tremendous potential of this sire line with Arrowfield Stud standing two Group One-winning sons of Deep Impact, Real Impact and Mikki Isle, last season," he said.

"Multiple Group One winner Tosen Stardom will also be retiring later this year to stand at Woodside Park in Victoria.

"The Sunday Silence sire line, especially through his champion son Deep Impact, has become a very sought after international commodity so Satono Aladdin is a major coup for the New Zealand breeding industry.

"New Zealand horses continue to perform to the highest level in all our major markets and the progeny of a Group One-winning son of Deep Impact will add a very special international flavour to our sales catalogues in 2020 and beyond."

Satono Aladdin will serve a restricted book in 2018 and his first-season service fee will be announced at a later date, along with associate Rich Hill stallions Jimmy Choux, Proisir, Shocking and Vadamos.

– NZ Racing Desk.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Size aims to continue dominance of sprinting features in Cup

Trainer John Size is looking to continue his winning ways in Sunday's Gr.2 Sprint Cup (1200m) at Sha Tin.

Size has taken all but one of the Group races over sprint trips this season, with Gr.1 LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint victor **Mr Stunning** (Exceed and Excel) leading the pack with three stakes victories. The New Zealand Bloodstock Premier Sale graduate heads the eight-runner field on Sunday as he prepares for the Gr.1 Chairman's Sprint Prize (1200m) on 29 April.

Mr Stunning has not raced since finishing second to stablemate D B Pin (NZ) (Darci Brahma) in the Gr.1 Centenary Sprint Cup (1200m) in January, but he did trial stylishly with race-day rider Nash Rawiller in the plate on 27 March.

"The horse seems OK, he's done well. He's had a pretty tough season so far, but he's held his form and he's a very honest and willing racehorse. Every day he goes to the races, he puts down a good effort. His trial last time suggested everything was working."

Size also prepares the consistent **Amazing Kids (NZ)** (Falkirk), who scored his seasonal breakthrough last time out in a Class 1 over the course and distance.

"He had three months between runs before his last start, which he appreciated by the looks of it," he said. "He's had a much easier season than the others. He's still got some fresh legs, he just needs a bit of luck. I think the small field suits him a lot, he hasn't got many horses to negotiate to get through. I wouldn't be surprised if he put his head in the finish."





MARSH FINALLY GETS LUCKY

Trainer Bruce Marsh jokingly said he needed a map to find his way to the Champagne Room on Friday night after **Uncle Lucky (NZ)** (Showcasing) finally ended his long wait for his first 2018 win.

The fires were back crackling and blazing away after the aptly-named Uncle Lucky blew his rivals away with a thumping win in the S\$45,000 Class 4 Non Premier race over 1100m.

Heeled along by Craig Grylls to take up a handy spot behind Dash (Kaphero), the Showcasing five-year-old, who was incidentally Marsh's only runner of the night, was able to settle into his strides before being set alight inside the last 300m en route to that much-needed fillip for his camp.

Lucky Six (Red Arrow) was the only one who could ruin the Marsh party when he launched his run at the 300m, but Uncle Lucky kept galloping to that safe haven over the line, two and three-quarter lengths ahead.

The winning time was 1min 6.46secs for the 1100m on the Polytrack.

"I can't remember when I had to wait for such a long time for my first win here. Don't even check your records," said Marsh.

"But a big thank you to my owners for standing by me through thick and thin and my staff for working so hard

to keep the stable going.

"Hopefully, that first win will now make things a little easier for us. I have a lot of new two-year-olds and three-year-olds who have joined me and the rest of the season should hopefully be better.

"The winner himself is a stronger horse this time round, more mature. We gave him a freshen-up and he's been working very well leading up to tonight's win."

Uncle Lucky has not brought luck to just Marsh. Last year, he also turned first-win provider to his jockey on August 4.

"Uncle Lucky gave me my first win and now he's given Bruce his first for the year. What a great little horse he's been to us," said Grylls who also hails from New Zealand.

"He trialled very well last week. He's freshened up well and he is such an honest horse.

"He's not very big but he's got such a big heart. Hopefully his win tonight will bring more winners for Bruce from now on."

With that fifth win, Uncle Lucky has now amassed more than S\$130,000 in prizemoney for the TTS Stable. -STC

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | Class 4 Non Premier 1100m |
| Winner | Uncle Lucky (NZ) 2012 |
| Owners | TTS Stable |
| Trainer | Bruce Marsh (Singapore) |
| Breeding | by Showcasing (GB) out of Starry Angel by Shinko Forest (IRE) |
| Breeder | Hallmark Stud Ltd |
| Sales | 2014 Festival Sale; V: Hallmark Stud, P: Mr MF Rogers; \$16,000 |



Uncle Lucky successful at the Singapore Turf Club on Friday night (STC)

