# >>>> RACING&BREEDINGNEWS

Friday 5 August 2016

# LATTA LOVING CHRISTCHURCH RAIN AHEAD OF WINTER CUP

obody likes unloading a truckload of horses in pouring rain, but Awapuni trainer Lisa Latta was only seeing upside in the chore.

Latta has seven runners engaged for Saturday's Riccarton meeting and travelled them down overnight Wednesday, the float arriving at the track at 5.30am on Thursday.

Latta will saddle the favoured pair of **Platinum Command** (NZ) (Red Giant) and **North And South (NZ)** (Strategic Image) in Saturday's Gr.3 eStar 119th Winter Cup (1600m) at Riccarton, both mares at their best on deep tracks, hence the trainer's delight with the Christchurch rain.

"It was pouring down as they were unloading the truck this morning and to be honest, we were pleased to hear it," Latta said.

TAB bookmakers have Platinum Command as a \$4.60 favourite after wins at her last two starts, while North And South shares \$6 second favouritism with Lochan Ora (NZ) (Towkay), a winner of his last four starts.

A winner of two of her seven starts at Riccarton, Platinum Command gained her first open class win in the Whyte Handicap at Trentham last start, scoring by six lengths to seal favouritism for the Winter Cup.

"She's in terrific form. The only real worry with her is it's been three weeks between races and she's shown she goes best on the back-up," Latta said.

"But she gets in with a nice weight and she looks great, so we think she should go well."

Platinum Command has won four of her six starts on heavy tracks, while North And South, who was a beaten favourite in last year's Winter Cup on a slow track, has won seven of her 16 starts on heavy going.

"North And South worked really well on Monday morning. She just doesn't like those gluey tracks and that's why we're



Lisa Latta has seven runners engaged at Riccarton tomorrow including eStar Winter Cup hopefuls Platinum Command and North And South

welcoming the rain with her. She's best when the tracks are loose," Latta said.

"I'm really happy with both of them and by all accounts they've both travelled down well, so here's hoping anyway."





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### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Ruettiger favourite to take Aurie's Star

Consistent sprinter **Ruettiger (NZ)** (Duporth) is the early favourite to add further black type to his record at Flemington.

The Lee and Anthony Freedman-trained sprinter is the top choice in Saturday's Group Three Aurie's Star Handicap over the straight 1200 metres.

At his most recent start Ruettiger took out last month's Listed All Victorian Sprint Final over Saturday's course and distance.

He holds favouritism over Beirut (Lonhro) and Sooboog (Snitzel) who are both listed as runners in the Group Three Spring Stakes at Morphettville on Saturday.

It is expected Beirut will run in Adelaide where Jacob Rule has been booked to ride while a decision is pending on where Sooboog starts.



Gwynethanne (NZ) (Handsome Ransom)

### Mare's performance to dictate future path

**Gwynethanne's (NZ)** (Handsome Ransom) lone appearance at the Riccarton carnival will determine the stakes performer's future.

The daughter of Handsome Ransom earned a trip to Christchurch for Saturday's Gr.3 eStar Winter Cup with a last-start victory.

"We'll see how she goes and she'll come home and then it will be for the syndicate that owns her to decide if we press on or not," trainer Karen Zimmerman said.

The seven-year-old has been a loyal servant of her Otaki yard with seven wins and included in her 10 minor placings is a runner-up finish in the Gr.2 Travis Stakes behind Lauren Tate (NZ) (Pins) and a second in the Listed Manawatu Anzac Mile.

More recently, Gwynethanne finished third behind Winter Cup rival Justlikeyasister (NZ) (Gold Centre) at Awapuni and then headed north to Te Rapa where she accounted for the black type winner Biologist (Danehill Dancer).

"It's a Dead 6 down at Riccarton at the moment, but I know there is rain in the forecast and she wouldn't like anything worse than a Slow 9," Zimmerman said. Kelly McCulloch, who won on the mare last time out and was aboard in the Travis placing, rides Gwynethanne.



Valley Girl (NZ) (Mastercraftsman)

#### Mare gets nod in close call

When asked if he could split **Hasselhoof (NZ)** (Tavistock) and **Valley Girl (NZ)** (Mastercraftsman) ahead of their resuming runs on Saturday, co-trainer Chris Gibbs marginally favoured the latter.

The high-class stablemates will clash in the Harcourts Optimize Group Open at Ruakaka to kick start campaigns aimed at much loftier targets.

"They are pretty much on a par, but if I had to choose one it would be the mare," said Gibbs, who prepares the duo with Donna Logan.

"She might be a touch more forward because she is the one that is a definite runner in the Makfi. We looked at trialling them, but the tracks have been too miserable."

A decision on the spring direction that Valley Girl, who hasn't raced since she ran sixth in the Gr.1 Australian Oaks, will take will be made after the August 27 feature at Hastings. Full story here.



Ryan Mark (NZ) (Thorn Park)

#### Ryan Mark ready for return

Ryan Mark (NZ) (Thorn Park) returns to a favourite stomping ground this weekend as the Group One winner prepares for another crack at elite company racing at Hastings later this month.

Railway Stakes hero Ryan Mark, whose

deeds have earned him a Champion Sprinter of the Year nomination, is unbeaten in two starts at Ruakaka and he kicked off his spring campaign at the Northland racetrack last season with a trial win over multiple Group One winner Volkstok'n'barrell (NZ) (Tavistock).

Taupiri owner-trainer John Morell has opted for Saturday's Harcourts Optimize Group Open as Ryan Mark's starting point for his six-year-old season in preference to tackling the Gr.2 Lisa Chittick Foxbridge Plate (1200m) at Te Rapa a week later. Full story here.



Bruce Perry (left) & Lib Petagna

#### Petagna reflects on a memorable year

Being crowned the Fasttrack Insurance Owner of the Year at the New Zealand Thoroughbred Awards ceremony in Auckland this weekend would cap a spectacular 12 months for Wellington-based businessman Lib Petagna.

Petagna, under his JML Bloodstock banner, is one of ten well-credentialed nominees for the category that will be presented at New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing's Annual Horse of the Year Awards function to be held on Sunday night.

With voting now complete for all of the award categories it is a nervous wait for nominees, but Petagna is taking it all in his stride.

"It certainly is an honour just to be nominated and it would be a real highlight to be named the winner," he said. "However, there are others I believe are just as deserving as I am." Full story here.

#### McCullum claims win on debut

A horse named after former New Zealand cricket captain Brendon McCullum made an auspicious debut at Tauranga on Wednesday.

**McCullum (NZ)** (Shinko King), prepared by Ralph Manning at Cambridge and bred and raced by former high-profile jockey Gavin McKeon, his wife Emma, Steve Cross

continued on next page







#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**



McCullum (NZ) (Shinko King)

and David Read, overcame a slipped saddle in running to make a winning debut in the Ultimate Motor Group 1200.

McCullum had won two trials, at Te Aroha in December 2014 and at Cambridge in May last year, and overcome fractures that had kept him from making his debut until now.

Stable apprentice Zy Nor Azman dealt with the slipped saddle well and was still able to urge his mount to the line to win the first race of the new gallops season.

"When the saddle slipped forward I just tried not to panic," Nor Azman said.

"It's so great to win the first race of the season for my boss Mr Manning and my mentor Gavin McKeon," he said. "I'm so happy about that."

#### Southern Icon ready for Foxbridge test

An impressive trial win at Te Teko on Tuesday showed **Southern Icon** (Big Brown) to be ready for the biggest challenge of his career.

Trainer Alan Tait believes the five-year-old can measure up in Group One company, but he will have to produce a bold performance at Te Rapa on Saturday week for the chance to prove his quality.

"His next race will be the Foxbridge Plate and he has to win or run in the first three to guarantee a start in the Makfi," the Matamata horseman said.

Southern Icon's free-wheeling style has seen him unbeaten in his last four starts and his trial win was achieved in similar fashion.

"He just jumped and led like he does – he's used to doing it that way," Tait said. "Mentally, he's more mature now and we've always thought he was pretty smart.

"He doesn't have to be in front, but he's just got that much speed and he can run time – we think he can make the next step up."

#### Stars out to play at Te Teko

Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman's spring hopes gained momentum at the Te Teko trials on Tuesday.

The Cambridge trainers stepped out a



Saracino (NZ) (Per Incanto)

number of Group One contenders with the Australian-bound **Saracino (NZ)** (Per Incanto) impressing in his 1000 metre open heat win and an effort mirrored by the quality filly **Luna Rossa (NZ)** (Written Tycoon).

The former placed in two of his three two-year-old appearances and gave a game front-running account of himself when third behind Luna Rossa in the Gr.1 Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes.

"He holds nominations in Melbourne and races like the Caulfield Guineas roll around quite quickly," Forsman said. Full story here.



Power (Oasis Dream)

#### Powerful start for stallion

Cambridge Stud shuttle stallion **Power** (Oasis Dream) has made his presence felt in Europe and he's made a bright start in New Zealand with a trial winner at Te Teko.

The Graeme and Debbie Rogerson-trained Gift Of Power (NZ) easily won her 600 metre heat on Tuesday in the hands of Craig Grylls.

Out of the Group One performer Capital Diamond (NZ) (Lucky Unicorn), the filly is likely to make her debut at Ruakaka on September 10.

Power has produced 10 winners in Europe including Peace Envoy, who has been successful in the Gr.3 Anglesey Stakes and the Listed Rochestown Stakes.

#### Ocean Park colt makes an impact

Brendon Hawtin was well-satisfied by the efforts of several junior members of his stable at the Te Teko trials on Tuesday. At the top of the list was a colt by Ocean Park (NZ) (Thorn Park), the first of the former New Zealand Horse of the Year's progeny to step out, who won his 600 metre heat.

"To be fair, I haven't put a lot of pressure on him and from day one he showed he's got the goods," Hawtin said.

"He's had a couple of jump-outs and it's no surprise that he's won this.

"If he gets home and comes through everything well then I will probably keep him going for one of the first two-year-old races – either Wanganui or Ruakaka."

#### NZ pedigree to the fore

A filly with strong New Zealand ties has opened her account in Ireland.

The John Oxx-trained Nonetheless, a daughter of Fastnet Rock and the three-time Kiwi stakes winner Twinkling (NZ) (Star Way), recently won over 2400 metres.

"It's nice to see the breed is shaping up on the other side of the world as well," said Linda Laing, who trained Twinkling with her father Royce Dowling.

"She was shipped to Ireland and had a Cape Cross filly that didn't do a lot - it was a late foal. Then she had another Cape Cross colt, slipped to Azamour and the Sea The Stars colt died at birth. This is the next one."



Lucia Valentina (NZ) (Savabeel)

#### Lucia Valentina trials strongly at Gosford

Queen Elizabeth Stakes winner **Lucia Valentina (NZ)** (Savabeel) has finished second in a barrier trial after flashing home from last.

Andrew Gibbons eased the Kris Leestrained Lucia Valentina to the tail of the field before going wide on the turn, allowing her to let down strongly to run second in a 1000m-heat at Gosford on Monday morning.

It was Lucia Valentina's second trial in the lead-up to spring, with Lees aiming her at the Cox Plate.

continued on next page







#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

The mare is expected to resume in the Warwick Stakes at Randwick on August 20 where she is set to clash with Winx (Street Cry).



Savabeel (Zabeel)

#### Super Savabeel scoops the pool

Waikato Stud have made another clean sweep of the stallion titles.

The Matamata farm has dominated the awards in recent times and it was more of the same in a highly satisfying 2015-2016.

**Savabeel** (Zabeel) was the star of the show by claiming the Grosvenor Award for the New Zealand sires' premiership and the Dewar Award (champion NZ-based sire by Australasian progeny earnings) and the Centaine Award (champion NZ-based sire by global progeny earnings).

"Savabeel has done a wonderful job world-wide," stud principal Mark Chittick said.

"At home, he's been outstanding with the likes of Group One winners Kawi and Sound Proposition and in Australia his daughter Lucia Valentina has always been at the top level.

"The way she won the Queen Elizabeth Stakes was fantastic and, interestingly, Savabeel has also produced six two-year-old stakes winners.

"He's extremely versatile and, once again, the way his yearlings sold at Karaka showed that the Australians love him."



Keano (NZ) (Pins)

#### Bliss glad he took a punt on Keano

A chance sighting of a for sale advertisement on an auction web site convinced New Plymouth horseman Jeff Bliss to go back into the stallion business.

He didn't have any intention of replacing Eighth Wonder (NZ), a son of Zabeel who died pre-maturely last year, at Sentry Hill Farm until he spotted the availability of the well-related **Keano (NZ)** (Pins).

"I wasn't going to bother about another stallion and then I saw him on this site in Australia and we bought him," Bliss said.

"He's beautifully-bred and he would be the quietest horse you would ever come across. I can do his feet in the paddock without putting a lead on him.

"He stands 16.1h and is from a blue blood

family. He's a lovely horse."

Bliss was more than satisfied with the welcome Keano, who stands at \$2000 + GST, received after arriving in Taranaki last year.

#### Full story here.

#### New partnerships to debut at Ruakaka

Two new training partnerships will have their first runners at Ruakaka on Saturday.

Moira Murdoch has been joined by her daughter Kieran while Bruce Wallace will operate in tandem with his long-time employee Allan Peard.

"Kieran has been helping me for quite a while so it's nice to make it official," Murdoch said.

The stable, whose first representative will be the last-start placegetter **Irresistabelle (NZ)** (Fast 'n' Famous), are also looking forward to a smoother campaign with their Group One winner **Marky Mark** (Makfi).

"Unfortunately, he got quite sick in Melbourne," Murdoch said. "He's been back in work since the end of May and he's very well and looks super.

Wallace and Peard are likely to have three runners at Ruakaka headed by the dual Group Three winner **Shezhardtocatch (NZ)** (Elusive City), who was successful in an open handicap on the course at her most recent appearance.

"Travel Wise and the maiden Ice Cold will run there as well," said Peard, who has been associated with the stable for more than two decades.

**AUDIO:** Vet Andrew Grierson discusses the effect of equine Strangles following the notification of a suspected cases of Strangles at a thoroughbred stable in Mid-Canterbury.



**CLICK TO PLAY** 

**VIDEO:** Luna Rossa & Heroic Valour trial at Te Teko



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## Remembering our Hall Of Fame Heroes

#### **Garry Chittick-Industry leader**

Highly successful breeder and an administrator at the highest level.

The former Wairarapa sheep farmer began his breeding interests on a hobby scale. Buoyed by the success of his stallion Centaine, Chittick moved north in 1994, bought Waikato Stud near Matamata and developed it into an industry leader.

Capped five times Breeder of the Year, Chittick also received an official accolade for his Outstanding Contribution to Racing.

Chittick also served on the NZ Racing Industry Board from 1994-2000, the last four years as chairman.





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# GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS 28/07/2016 - 04/08/2016

#### **AUSTRALIA**

Dalghar: Golden Organic (NZ) (Extra Celestial by Danehill Dancer) 2013;

30/07/2016, 1st ATC Hyland Race Colours 2YO H. 1500m

**Duelled : Marenostro (NZ) (Maybe Yes by Last Tycoon) 2010;** 30/07/2016, 1st ATC Winter Challenge L 1500m Sold by Dormello Stud at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$20000

Encosta de Lago: Esteban (NZ) (Nadege by Giant's Causeway) 2012; 30/07/2016, 1st ATC Schweppes H. 2000m Sold by Regal Farm at Ready to Run Sale for \$180000

**High Chaparral : Cismontane (NZ) (Viviane by Volksraad) 2012;** 30/07/2016, 1st Illawarra TC Grayson Mackay Maiden P. 1600m Sold by Windsor Park Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$200000

**Iffraaj : Gorada (NZ) (Rozeel by Zabeel) 2012;** 29/07/2016, 1st Ipswich TC Ipswich Futsal Competition Maiden P. 1666m Sold by Nerobella Lodge at National Yearling Sale for \$37500

Makfi: Hursley (NZ) (Illuminates by Strategic) 2012; 30/07/2016, 1st MRC Helen Egan H. 2000m Sold by Westbury Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$200000

Mastercraftsman: Marilisa (NZ) (Kwan by Sadler's Wells) 2011; 02/08/2016, 1st Wine Country RC Hunter Jaguar Land Rover Maiden P. 2125m Sold by Esker Lodge at National Yearling Sale for \$80000

O'Reilly: Kiwi Colleen (NZ) (Lumir by Encosta de Lago) 2011; 28/07/2016, 1st Balaklava RC Plains Producer Newspaper H. 2250m Sold by Lime Country Thoroughbreds Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$105000

O'Reilly: Marwood (NZ) (Pernod by Centaine) 2010; 30/07/2016, 1st MRC Champagne Pommery Masters H. 1400m Pentire: The Hotz (NZ) (Burning Desire by Bertolini) 2009; 03/08/2016, 1st Murray Bridge RC Lower Murray Timber Hurdle 3292m Sold by Rich Hill Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$40000

Pins: Heza Chaka (NZ) (Ugachaka by Danasinga) 2011; 02/08/2016, 1st Warracknabeal TC Emmett's Warracknabeal Branch H. 1205m Sold by Waikato Stud Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$80000

**Postponed: Suspended Gem (NZ) (Ruby Bay by Masterclass) 2008;** 03/08/2016, 1st Murray Bridge RC Kookaburra Homes H. 2206m Sold by Endsleigh Thoroughbreds at National Yearling Sale for \$7500

**Rios : Go by Rio (NZ) (Princess by Pupil) 2011;** 30/07/2016, 1st Townsville TC ALB Distributors H. 2000m Sold by Anistay Lodge at Ready to Run Sale for \$22000 Sold by Seaton Park Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$9000

Shamoline Warrior: Interstellar (NZ) (Amathea by O'Reilly) 2012; 30/07/2016, 1st ATC TAB Rewards H. 1200m Sold by Bradbury Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$125000 Sold by Bluegables Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$32000

Thewayyouare: Born Magic (NZ) (Magique Sky by Hurricane Sky) 2012;

02/08/2016, 1st Warracknabeal TC Ladbrokes Bet Better H. 1610m

**Zabeel : Tremec (NZ) (Tipple by Stravinsky) 2008;** 28/07/2016, 1st Casterton RC Ecycle Maiden Hurdle 3480m Sold by Wentwood Grange at National Yearling Sale for \$400000

**Zabeel : Harlem Lady (NZ) (Jazzella by Black Minnaloushe) 2011;** 30/07/2016, 1st ATC Casino Prince at Vinery H. 1500m Sold by Cambridge Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$140000

#### **MACAU**

Buffalo Man: Buffalo Boy - Grand Double Win (Mac.) (NZ) (Club Queen by Savabeel) 2011;

30/07/2016, 1st Macau Atlanta H. 1500m Sold by Totara Park Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$3000

**Elusive City: River Bobo (NZ) (Swiftsure by Jungle Pocket) 2011;** 30/07/2016, 1st Macau Summer Trophy L 1050m Sold by Millfield Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$48000

**Makfi: Lucky and Healthy (NZ) (Keep the Passion by Keeper) 2012;** 30/07/2016, 1st Macau Sagittarius H. 1500m Sold by Blackbridge at Ready to Run Sale for \$30000

New Trumps: Woodney (NZ) (Got a Woodie by Woodman) 2007; 30/07/2016, 1st Macau Cleveland H. 1350m

## WINDSON STALLIONS 2016

CHARM SPIRIT
(Invincible Spirit - L'Enjoleuse by Montjeu)

POUR MOI
(Montjeu - Gwynn by Darshaan)

RIP VAN WINKLE
(Galileo - Looking Back by Stravinsky)

\$22,500\*

\$17,500\*



# GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS 28/07/2016 - 04/08/2016

#### **MACAU** (CONTINUED)

Pentire: Prosperity Star (NZ) (Gin City by Heroicity) 2012; 30/07/2016, 1st Macau Miami H. 1350m Sold by Trelawney Stud Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$14000

**Zabeel: Wyoming (NZ) (Diversa by Danehill) 2010;** 31/07/2016, 1st Macau Aries H. 1500m Sold by Cambridge Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$80000

#### **MALAYSIA**

Danroad: Happy Choice (NZ) (Ready This Time by More Than Ready) 2010;

31/07/2016, 1st Penang TC Class 5 H. 1400m

Fastnet Rock: Bazinga (NZ) (La Campanella by More Than Ready) 2007:

31/07/2016, 1st Penang TC Class 5 H. 1200m Sold by Kendayla Park at NZ National Yearling Sale for \$260000

**Guillotine: Philip (NZ) (Tessica by Johannesburg) 2010;** 30/07/2016, 1st Penang TC Class 5 H. 1400m

Testa Rossa: Lucky Dapper (NZ) (Buttonhook by Encosta de Lago) 2009;

30/07/2016, 1st Penang TC Perth Racing Trophy 1200m Sold by Westbury Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$55000

#### **SINGAPORE**

Mastercraftsman: Speed Craft (NZ) (Velvet and Satin by Carnegie) 2011;

29/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Class 5 H. 1900m Sold by Pencarrow Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$40000

Mettre en Jeu: The Jeuneyman (NZ) (Tad Irish by Omnicorp) 2011; 29/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1400m Sold by Letham Thoroughbreds at National Yearling Sale for \$2000

Mr. Nancho: A Lot in Hand (NZ) (A Little Attitude by Seven Figures) 2011;

29/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1100m Sold by Riverview Farms at Ready to Run Sale for \$7000

#### **SINGAPORE** (CONTINUED)

Onceuponatime: Moon Charm (NZ) (Melaka by Marju) 2012; 29/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Initiation P. 1600m

**Pentire : Mr Spielberg (NZ) (Beautiful Reward by Diesis) 2011;** 31/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC War Affair S. 1600m Sold by Blandford Lodge at National Yearling Sale for \$85000

Per Incanto: Terms of Reference (NZ) (Myladys by Kingfisher Mill) 2012;

29/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1600m

Showcasing: Boodles - Lim's Showcase (Sing.) (NZ) (Molly's Dolly by Bertolini) 2012;

31/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Mr Big S. 1200m

**Showcasing : Casing Royal (NZ) (Icy Bubbles by One Cool Cat) 2012;** 31/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Why Be S. 1400m Sold by Highden Park at South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale for \$1000

**Tavistock:** Magstock (NZ) (Magravine by Last Tycoon) 2012; 31/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Mexican Rose S. 1800m Sold by Bradbury Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$50000 Sold by Cambridge Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$20000

**Thorn Park: Paltrow (NZ) (Tessica by Johannesburg) 2011;** 31/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Vegas Star S. 1200m

**Towkay:** Cheetah King (NZ) (Jabeske by Prized) 2010; 31/07/2016, 1st Singapore TC Gingerbread Man S. 1600m Sold by Diamond Lodge at Ready to Run Sale for \$50000 Sold by Little Avondale Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$47500

#### U.S.A.

**Keeper: Queenofthepalace (NZ) (Quest for Kash by Kashani) 2011;** 30/07/2016, 1st Arlington Park Allowance 1600m Sold by Cambridge Stud at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$1500

### **FERLAX**

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