

## GALLANT KAWI CLAIMS ANOTHER GROUP ONE



Kawi winning his seventh domestic Group One in the Rydges Wellington Captain Cook Stakes

• owerhouse Taranaki performer **Kawi (NZ)** (Savabeel) has edged closer to a significant slice of New Zealand racing history.

Success in Saturday's Gr.1 Rydges Wellington Captain Cook Stakes (1600m) at Trentham was his seventh at the highest level to put him level with the outstanding mare Seachange (NZ) (Cape Cross). They sit one behind the former two-time New Zealand Horse of the Year Mufhasa (NZ) (Pentire), who heads the hit parade with eight domestic Group One wins.

New Plymouth trainer Allan Sharrock has yet to decide his next step in his bid to further Kawi's record.

"We could stay at a mile or go to 2000m or freshen him up and go for the Telegraph – he's a tractable horse," he said.

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Choisir- Prophet Jewel by Encosta De Lago

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**>>>> RACING&BREEDING**NEWS

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## GALLANT KAWI CLAIMS ANOTHER GROUP ONE

(Continued from page 1)

Kawi was back and wide in the Captain Cook before he was urged around the field a long way from home. He was prominent on straightening and held a strong gallop in the closing 350m to trump Consensus (NZ) (Postponed) and Sofia Rosa (NZ) (Makfi).

"He's a very good horse – he sat four wide and that's not how we saw it, but he was tough enough," Sharrock said.

"He was travelling on the corner, it was a terrific effort." Rider Jason Waddell said his pre-race plans went awry in the early stages of the race.

"Down the back straight we were all over the place, we had a good spot and then got shuffled back.

"I then rode him like the best horse in the race and kept him out of trouble and rolling along.

"When the speed went out of the race 700m from home

I got going. It's a long way down that straight, but he's just a tiger."

Consensus' performance to finish runner-up was meritorious as she was tardily away and Sofia Rosa showed something of her best form with her late-closing run for third ahead of Benzini (Tale of The Cate, who also finished off strongly.

- NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Rydges Wellington Captain Cook Stakes Gr.1 1600m
Winner	Kawi (NZ) 2010
Owners	A A Baeyertz, J P Goodin, T Kemp, G A MacDonald, G H Phillips, B R & S A Sharrock
Trainer	Allan Sharrock (New Plymouth)
Breeding	by Savabeel out of Magic Time by Volksraad (GB)
Breeder	Mrs C M & J P Goodin





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## DECISION TO RETAIN FILLY RICHLY REWARDED

aunui Farm studmaster Mark Chitty never had any thoughts of selling Showcasing's

### daughter Xpression (NZ).

That determination to keep the filly, which he bred with childhood

Race	Randwick Meats Wakefield Challenge Stakes Gr.2 1200m
Winner	Xpression (NZ) (2015)
Owners	M N Apatu, M & P Bayes, F W Coates, Haunui Bloodstock Ltd & I R Renton
Trainer	Guy Lowry & Grant Cullen (Hawkes Bay)
Breeding	By Showcasing (GB) out of Xpress by Don Eduardo
Breeder	Haunui Bloodstock Ltd & Whanakino Ltd

friend Iain Renton, was vindicated at Trentham on Saturday when she won the Gr.2 Randwick Meats Wakefield Challenge Stakes (1200m).

"We were 13-year-olds together at King's College and Iain, whose father bred the Melbourne Cup winner Gold And Black, and I had three goes with Showcasing and this one was the best by a mile," Chitty said.

"I said to lain let's race her and we got a few others involved. It's very exciting."

Out of the Don Eduardo mare Xpress (NZ), the Guy Lowry and Grant Cullen-trained Xpression is a threequarter sister to the Haunui-bred and sold Hardline (NZ) (Showcasing), winner of the 2015 edition of the





"They have done a great job with this filly," Chitty said. "She hasn't taken a backward step since day one."

Third on debut at Otaki last week, Xpression was a stride slow from the gates and came from last to inflict a first defeat on the hot favourite Espumoso (NZ) (Pins), whose run was commendable after being taken on in front.

"She's always been an intelligent horse and really settled after her run the other day," Lowry said. "She learned a lot from her first start.

"She'll probably have a bit of a break now," Lowry said. "We could look at the Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes later on."

Xpression was partnered by Sam Collett, who chased the ride after guiding the youngster's fortunes first time out.

"I was really impressed with what she showed at Otaki," she said. "I said to Guy that I was keen to stick with her, she's got a great constitution.

"She didn't jump that well, but she came up on the bridle at the right time and she finished off very well."

Nala Park will offer a sister to Xpression during the Book 2 sale at Karaka in 2018.

- NZ Racing Desk.

Xpression gives Haunui Farm's Showcasing his 22nd stakes winner when successful in the Gr.2 Randwick Meats Wakefield Challenge Stakes at Trentham



## GROUP GLORY FOR BAYLISS

ake Bayliss' impact on New Zealand racing went to another level at Ellerslie.

The Victorian arrived last month to principally ride for Michael Moroney and Pam Gerrard and their fellow Matamata trainers Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott and the winners have subsequently flowed.

Bayliss was successful aboard the Gr.1 Sistema Railway (1200m) favourite Volpe Veloce (Foxwedge) in the Ray White NZ (1200m) on Saturday and he then broke through at black type level aboard **Spring Heat** (More Than Ready) in the Gr.3 Hynds Holdings Bonecrusher Stakes (1400m).

"This means the world to me, it doesn't matter whether it's in Australia or New Zealand - it's a Group Three race," he said.

Trained by O'Sullivan and Scott, Spring Heat bridged the gap from a last-start maiden win at Hawke's Bay to trounce a smart field of three-year-olds.

The daughter of More Than Ready settled three back on the rail and once Bayliss angled her

Jake Bayliss breaks through at black type level with Spring Heat in the Gr.3 Hynds Holdings Bonecrusher Stakes

into the clear she quickly put paid to her opposition.

"I had to bide my time and she's still very green, but when I gave her one around her backside she really knuckled down," he said.

Spring Heat hit top gear 250m from home and bolted clear to beat Xbox (NZ) (Niagara), who did well after missing the start, and the pacemaker The Great Southern (NZ) (Jimmy Choux). Warm favourite Prom Queen (NZ) (Super Easy) raced outside the leader and boxed on fairly for fourth.

"I'll talk to Lance and he'll map out a plan, but the Eight Carat is probably the logical race," Scott said.

"She got a bit lost turning for

home and got to the middle of the track and really quickened. It's really encouraging for the rest of the summer and the autumn.

"Jake's got a wonderful work ethic and he deserves everything he gets." – NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Hynds Holdings Bonecrusher Stakes Gr.3 1400m
Winner	Spring Heat 2014
Owners	Hermitage Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd
Trainer	Lance O'Sullivan & Andrew Scott (Matamata)
Breeding	by More Than Ready out of Emaurismo (AUS) by Redoute's Choice (AUS)
Breeder	Mrs JS Mackay





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## **>>>> RACING&BREEDING**NEWS

## QUALITY MARE SHOWCASES RAILWAY CREDENTIALS

olpe Veloce (Foxwedge) has firmed to outright favouritism for a New Year's Day feature following her blistering return to racing at Ellerslie.

The four-year-old accounted for Group One winners Heroic Valour (Fastnet Rock), Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) and Rangipo (Stryker) when she powered to victory in Saturday's Ray White NZ (1200m) at Ellerslie in an impressive dress rehearsal for the Gr.1 Sistema Railway (1200m).

"I'm shaking, she did a lot wrong and still won," said Graham Richardson, who trains the Foxwedge mare with Gavin Parker. "That was amazing and it's definitely the Railway next."

Freshened after two failures in rain-affected tracks at the Hawke's Bay spring carnival, Volpe Veloce has firmed from \$9 to \$5 for the Railway. Defending champion Start Wondering (NZ) (Eighth Wonder) shares the second line of betting at \$7 with Heroic Valour.

On Saturday, Volpe Veloce sat back in fourth spot until the turn but when Heroic Valour went past her halfway down the straight, the Stephen Autridge and Jamie Richards-trained



Volpe Veloce gets the better of Heroic Valour in the Ray White NZ Open at Ellerslie

representative seemed set for victory. "The second horse came out and looked to be travelling better, but she's very gutsy," Richardson said.

Successful rider Jake Bayliss was also understandably rich in his praise of Volpe Veloce.

"She's got stacks of ability. The race was run at a nice tempo and I had a lapful of horse," he said.

"When I asked her she didn't quicken that much, but when I asked for another effort she really dug deep."

Volpe Veloce finished relentlessly to triumph from the Te Akau stablemates and fellow Railway contenders Heroic Valour and Melody Belle.

"Heroic Valour's going well and it will just top him off," Richards said.

racingnews.co.nz

"Melody Belle isn't screwed down by no means either, both horses will improve."

#### - NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Ray White NZ 1200m
Winner	Volpe Veloce 2013
Owners	D & C Adams, H Allender, K Anderson, M Chubb, P Dixon, R Featherstone, G Mackin, G Richardson, K & L Robinson, M Skilling, P Spiers, B Wong & K Woodmass
Trainer	Graham Richardson & Gavin Parker (Matamata)
Breeding	by Foxwedge (Aus) out of Bardego (Aus) by Barathea (Ire)
Breeder	Mr N Vass
Sales	2015 Premier Yearling Sale; V: Lyndhurst Farm, P: Richardson Racing; \$240,000

# POWERFUL FILLY STAKES RAILWAY CLAIM

Speedy filly **Gift Of Power (NZ)** (Power) is on target for a Group One meeting with the older horses.

Trainers Graeme and Debbie Rogerson are keen on a tilt at the Sistema Railway (1200m) at Ellerslie on New Year's Day and the three-year-old provided a confidence-boosting performance on Saturday.

The daughter of Power and the Group One performer Capital Diamond (NZ) (Lucky Unicorn) produced a slick effort at Trentham to win the Kamada Park Premier (1000m) in a canter.

"She's in the Railway and we'll see how she comes through this and that's the way we'll head," said part-owner Bailey Rogerson. "She's a horse with a very special place in my heart."

Rogerson, a grand-daughter of Graeme, signed for Gift Of Power at Karaka in 2016 for \$180,000 and has subsequently formed a special bond with the filly and rode her in a lead-up trial at Matamata last month.

"That was a buzz being on her, a big thrill," she said.

On Saturday, Gift Of Power returned to the form that 12 months ago saw her claim the Gr.2 Wakefield Challenge Stakes (1200m), in which she beat subsequent Group One winners Hasahalo (NZ) (Savabeel) and Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands), on the course.

She jumped away well to sit in third spot and hit the front under rider Chris Johnson with 400m to run and glided clear to win untested by two lengths from Euphoria (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle).

Johnson has no doubt the filly can rise to the Railway challenge.

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Gift of Power winning the Kamada Park Premier at Trentham



# POWERFUL FILLY STAKES RAILWAY CLAIM

(Continued from page 8)

"With no weight on her back she could run some time," he said. "She's guite well-named, she's got a lot of power.

"She's obviously a very good sprinter, she strode up to them and then flattened out nicely."

Gift Of Power's performance saw her Railway odds cut from \$41 to \$21.

She was bred by Sir Patrick and Justine Lady Hogan, who remain in the ownership, and under their Cambridge Stud banner will offer a half-brother (Lot 88) by Per Incanto during the Book 1 Sale at Karaka next month.

– NZ Racing Desk.

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Black type dream continues for kiwi bred mare

Celebrity Dream (NZ) (Thorn Park) followed up her Listed Jungle Mist Classic (1200m) win with a victory in the Listed Jungle Dawn Classic (1400m) at Ascot on Saturday.

Jockey William Pike box seated on the daughter of Thorn Park and made a run as the field swung for home winning by threequarters of a length from Fontainebleau (Alfred Nobel).

Celebrity Dream now has seven wins, two seconds and two thirds from 14 starts to her credit with earnings of over A\$300,750.

The five-year-old mare was a \$260,000 purchase by John Chalmers Bloodstock from the Haunui Farm draft at the 2014 NZB 2014 Premier Yearling Sale.

#### King Darci makes amends for Martin

Tim Martin's decision to let **King Darci (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) make amends for a poor run at the earliest opportunity has paid off at Rosehill.

Martin says the five-year-old produced probably the worst run of his 21-race career last week on his home track, where he finished second last and five lengths off the winner.

"I was going to trial him but we gave him a race instead. It's a big turnaround," the trainer said.

So King Darci faced a seven-day back-up for the first time and responded superbly to beat race favourite Bastia (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) by a half-neck and claim the Tab.com.au Handicap (1500m) on Saturday.

A son of Darci Brahma, King Darci was sold for \$75,000 as a yearling through The Oaks Stud's NZB draft before being knocked down at \$85,000 as a Ready To Run two-year-old from the draft of Mana Park.

Bastia completed the New Zealand bred quinella, the son of Rip Van Winkle a \$210,000 purchase from the 2015 NZB draft of Mapperley Stud.

#### Test The World racks up sixth victory

Ultra-consistent mare Test The World (NZ) (Testa Rossa) has won a dramatic feature at Rosehill that doubled as a tribute to jockey Samara Johnson who died last Sunday.

The Bjorn Baker-trained four-year-old claimed the Mark Hughes Foundation Handicap by a head on Saturday to boost her record to six wins from 10 starts.

Test The World had a smooth journey under Tim Clark secondup to maintain her record of never finishing outside the top three.

"She's a stakes-class horse. She's on her way to better things," Baker said.

He said there were no specific plans for Test The World.

"We might give her a few weeks between runs after this," he said.

### **LITY STALLIONS FOR 2017** PREFERMENT by Zabeel

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