

Sunday 8 January 2017

ALINKO PRINCE'S HOMETOWN WIN A GREAT PIPE-OPENER FOR THE WELLINGTON CUP



Sporting the visor blinkers that played a part in yesterday's success, Alinko Prince edges away from Jacksstar (orange cap) to win the Marton Cup.

A gear change proved an inspired move yesterday after **Alinko Prince (NZ)** (Alamosa) produced a strong staying performance to provide his trainer Fraser Auret with a sentimental victory in his home feature.

The strapping five-year-old was a deserved winner of the Listed Gallagher Marton Cup at Trentham following runner-up finishes in each of his previous three appearances, being narrowly beaten in the Listed Feilding Cup, the Waverley Cup

and the Chalmers Handicap before gaining a major reward.

"It's a massive thrill and I've got a big mortgage there so it's nice to have a Cup to show for it," the Marton-based Auret said.

"We took the blinkers off and put the visor blinkers on in the hope he could see the others – if he gets to the front too soon he can switch off."

Continued on page 3





NEW ZEALAND
BLOODSTOCK

Where Winning Begins

LUCIA
VALENTINA (NZ)

2016 WINNER
G1 QUEEN ELIZABETH STAKES



NO.

KARAKA
GRADUATES
HAVE WON THE
MOST GROUP 1
RACES AT THE
CHAMPIONSHIPS
OF ANY SALES
COMPANY

KARAKA

2017

CATALOGUE ONLINE NOW!

NATIONAL YEARLING SALES SERIES
30 JANUARY - 5 FEBRUARY 2017
AT KARAKA

KARAKA MILLION
29 JANUARY 2017
AT ELLERSLIE RACECOURSE



ALINKO PRINCE'S HOMETOWN WIN A GREAT PIPE-OPENER FOR THE WELLINGTON CUP

(Continued from page 1)

Alinko Prince's odds for the Group Three Wellington Cup were cut from \$16 to \$7 following his defeat of Jacksstar (NZ) (Zed), who shares the same quote for the Trentham feature on January 21.

"He's a beautiful, big, raw sort of horse and he doesn't love the firm ground and that's why he hadn't raced for forty days before this," Auret said.

"I thought it would be a lovely pipe opener into the Wellington Cup for him."

Prepared by Auret for long-time stable client and breeder John Bromley, Alinko Prince raced at the back of the field under rider Johnathan Parkes before edging closer across the top.

The five-year-old responded valiantly to Parkes' urgings in the closing 150 metres to reel in Jacksstar and score by three quarters of a length with Echezeaux (NZ) (Encosta de Lago) finishing third in front of the pacemaker China Star (NZ) (Chinese Dragon).

Race	Marton JC Marton Cup L 2200m
Winner	Alinko Prince (NZ) 2011
Owners	Bromley Bloodstock Ltd
Trainer	Fraser Auret (Marton)
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Shinko Princess by Shinko King (Ire)
Breeder	Bromley Bloodstock Ltd

NEWS IN BRIEF

Stuart Hale tour starts today

Stuart Hale's annual Auckland/Waikato yearling inspection tour kicks off today.

This is a great opportunity to see a host of yearlings on the farms before they head to Karaka.

Everyone is welcome on the tour. To confirm your attendance and for further inquiries, contact Stuart Hale on 027 492 0975.

BRIGHTHILL FARM'S CRACKING 2017 YEARLING DRAFT...

NZB KARAKA - PREMIER, SELECT & FESTIVAL SALE, 30 January to 5 February 2017

Another impressive draft of yearlings by **BERNARDINI, CAPE BLANCO, DALGHAR, MAKFI, OCEAN PARK, PENTIRE, PERFECTLY READY, POWER, SAVABEEL, SHAMEXPRESS, SWEET ORANGE, TAVISTOCK and ZACINTO.**

Come and see us at BARN B, Karaka. Yearlings arrive in from 25th January.

>> Click here for more information and yearling photos/videos



Nick King 0274 416 442





EASY SPRINT WIN AT WARWICK FARM PUTS DAL CIELO ON THE PATH TO FORMER GLORY



Returning to the sort of form that had seen him a Group One winner in New Zealand, Dal Cielo strides to the line hard-held by Glyn Schofield, an easy winner of Warwick Farm's Summer Sprint.

Ex-Kiwi galloper **Dal Cielo (NZ)** (Per Incanto) has made the first step on the long road back to the Group One heights he scaled as a two-year-old.

Now four and a gelding, Dal Cielo broke through for his first win for trainer Kris Lees in yesterday's Summer Sprint over 1000 metres at Warwick Farm, his second start since being transferred from the Matamata stable of Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman.

Dal Cielo won the Group One Diamond Stakes in his home country as a juvenile, was third in the Group Three Caulfield Guineas Prelude and runner-up in the Group Two Sandown Guineas at three, but failed to fire during the Sydney autumn.

The Summer Sprint ended a 22-month drought for Dal

Cielo whose Diamond Stakes win was the last time he tasted victory.

Part-owner Lib Petagna, who also races Group One winner Lucia Valentina (NZ) (Savabeel) with Lees, retained his share in Dal Cielo and was joined by some of the trainer's former teammates from the South Newcastle Rugby League Club.

Stable representative Cameron Swan said he was impressed with Dal Cielo's improved barrier manners.

"We've only had him for two starts but he used to get himself really wound up in the enclosure," Swan said. "Today he was really good all day at the races."

Jockey Glyn Schofield kept Dal Cielo out of trouble from his wide draw, racing in fifth or sixth place as he stalked the

Continued on page 5





EASY SPRINT WIN AT WARWICK FARM PUTS DAL CIELO ON THE PATH TO FORMER GLORY

(Continued from page 4)

well-backed Oxford Poet (Dylan Thomas) to the home turn. Once they straightened, he had little trouble getting past the topweight and had no challengers in the run home.

"It was pretty effortless in the end," Schofield said. "He jumped very cleanly today and put himself right on the speed.

"I had a lot of horse underneath me a long way from home so it was just a matter of pointing him in the right direction.

"I was confident enough to have a good look around a couple of times because I wanted to make sure he was well clear before I eased him down and made him comfortable.

"This horse needs a bit of confidence which is what he'll get out of today."

While an open handicap is a long way from an elite-level return for Dal Cielo, Swan is hopeful he can match it in stakes company.

"He won a Group One as a two-year-old so hopefully he gets up to those good sprinters but only time will tell," he said.

– AAP TURF

Race	ATC Summer Sprint H. 1000m
Winner	Dal Cielo (NZ) 2012
Owners	L Petagna, G Devonport, B Farrelly, S Hoppe, D Pringle, A Taylor, D Forward, N Henry, S Young, A Farrelly, G Matthews and K Bedford
Trainer	Kris Lees (Newcastle)
Breeding	by Per Incanto (USA) out of Cent From Heaven by Centaine (Aus)
Breeder	Little Avondale Trust
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Little Avondale Stud, P: Bruce Perry Bloodstock; \$95,000

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kiwi Count making his mark in Tassie

Rising Tasmanian staying star **Count Da Vinci (NZ)** (Faltaat), unbeaten since crossing the Tasman, has earned himself a shot at Group race honours after posting his fifth consecutive win when claiming the Brighton Cup over 2100 metres at Elwick on Friday in his open class debut for leading trainer Scott Brunton.

The victory earned the gelding, who raced as Faaltline in New Zealand, a berth in next month's Group Three Hobart Cup.

"I am thrilled with the result and I think this horse is ready-made for the major cups," Brunton said.

Count Da Vinci is one of three tried Kiwi-breds purchased in the last four months for Australian clients by Victorian Leonard Russo under his Bluegrass Bloodstock banner. His New Zealand experience includes working stints in the early 2000s at Cambridge Stud and Te Runga Stud.

"When we first thought about aiming the horse at the Hobart Cup I said to Scott that I want the horse to win the Brighton Cup because if he wins that he can win the Hobart Cup," Count Da Vinci's owner Wayne Notman said. "And that was all in relation to the Brighton Cup offering ballot-free entry into the Hobart Cup.

"I couldn't be more pleased with how Scott has taken this horse along so far and now we know the horse has a start in the Hobart Cup we can relax a bit."

Count Da Vinci was formerly trained at Opaki by Jim Wallace, for whom the son of Faltaat won a 2100 metre maiden at Woodville in 2015 and placed nine times from his eighteen starts.





Sunday 8 January 2017

JEFF EYES UP TELEGRAPH **FOR THIEN LY**

Awapuni trainer Jeff Lynds is prepared to raise the bar to a lofty level for his sparingly raced sprinter **Thien Ly (NZ)** (Stravinsky).

He produced the six-year-old for a first-up victory at Trentham yesterday and has his fingers crossed that performance will give the gelding a shot at a Group One prize later in the month.

"If we can sneak into the field then we might have a crack at the Telegraph," Lynds said.

Thien Ly posted his fourth career win in the Southern Rangitikei Veterinary Services Premier, his first

raceday appearance since he beat Lewis Carroll (NZ) (Darci Brahma), who has subsequently won two races, at Te Rapa last April.

"He's had a few problems and injured his hind quarter," Lynds said.

A lack of recent racing didn't hold Thien Ly back at Trentham where he was given the most economical of rides by Rosie Myers behind the pace.

"Rosie had ridden him in jump-outs and it's always nice to have her on," Lynds said.

Myers didn't have to cover an inch of extra ground on Thien Ly, who didn't need asking twice to lengthen stride along the fence.

"The speed was quite strong and we were lucky the leader ran out and gave us a beautiful run up the rail," she said.

"He tends to run in so it suited us. He's always had a lot of ability."

The front-runner Smashing (NZ) (Pins) stuck grimly to her guns in the closing 400 metres to take second money ahead of Lucyinrio (NZ) (Captain Rio). The favourite Whispering (NZ) (Darci Brahma) was never a player in the straight and beat only one runner home.

Curraghmore will offer a half-brother by Power to Thien Ly as Lot 741 during the Select Session of the National Yearling Sale at Karaka on February 1.



Race	Marton JC Southern Rangitikei Veterinary Services H. 1200m
Winner	Thien Ly (NZ) 2010
Owners	J E Dahm, Mrs G J & J P Flynn & T B Luong
Trainer	Jeff Lynds (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Stravinsky (USA) out of Highflying by Entrepreneur (GB)
Breeder	Classic Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd
Sales	2011 National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale; V: Trelawney Stud Ltd, P: Berkley Stud; \$5000

Thien Ly takes advantage of a rail-hugging ride from Rosie Myers to hold off the game mare Smashing in the opening event on yesterday's Trentham card.





STEPHENSTIHLS SET FOR A STEP UP

Progressive three-year-old **Stephenstihls (NZ)** (Smart Missile) will take winning form into the biggest challenge of his career later this month.

He enjoyed time off following his maiden success at Riccarton in November and took up where he left off with a strong performance to down a competitive age-group line-up in yesterday's Norbrook Laboratories Premier at Trentham.

"He's a horse that needs to be asked for his best and the trip south helped him to grow up," trainer Michael Breslin said.

"He'll go to Karaka Million night next for a look around Ellerslie and he holds a Derby nomination so hopefully he will keep improving."

Stephenstihls will face a stiff test of his ability in the NZB Insurance Karaka 3YO Mile with the undefeated filly Volpe Veloce (Foxwedge), among others, confirmed for the January 29 contest.

"He's getting better each time and I think he's definitely going to be a 2000 metre horse," Breslin said.

Stephenstihls settled back in the field and once rider Johnathan Parkes eased him away from the fence across the top he moved ominously into contention.

"He was a bit tardily away but I was able to get out at the 600 and get him rolling and he finished off well," Parkes said.

"He's still got a bit more maturing to do and once he gets over a bit more ground I think he'll be a pretty good horse."

Stephenstihls held off the late challenge of McPhoebe (NZ) (Makfi), who charged home from the tail end of the field, by a head with the maiden Bring To The Block (NZ) (Guillotine) an eye-catching third.

The favourite and the winner's stablemate Sweepstake



Marton Cup winning jockey Johnathan Parkes was seen at his best earlier in the programme, getting progressive three-year-old Stephenstihls (green cap) home in a close finish with McPhoebe.

(NZ) (Per Incanto), who was making her first appearance since finishing third in the Group One New Zealand One Thousand Guineas, never threatened and finished seventh. She settled off the pace and couldn't make any impression in the run home.

"She got into a bad spot and I'm not too worried," Breslin said. "She'll run in the Desert Gold Stakes as long as she pulls up well."

Race	Marton JC Norbrook Laboratories S. 1400m
Winner	Stephenstihls (NZ) 2013
Owners	H F Dyball, P G & T P Gillespie, W J Gleeson, Miss T D Goss and MJM Bloodstock Ltd
Trainer	Mike Breslin (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Smart Missile (Aus) out of Lovetheoneyourwith (Aus) by Tale of the Cat (USA)
Breeder	A J Cummings, H F Dyball and S K W Wong
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Wellfield Lodge, P: M P Breslin; \$220,000





**AUSSIE
ENTRIES
CLOSE 7PM
TOMORROW**

gavelhouse.com

Final days left to bid on our current NZ auction - bidding closes from 7pm tomorrow!

Featuring 9 lots including yearlings, broodmares, unraced and raced horses.



Yearling filly by Jimmy Choux.

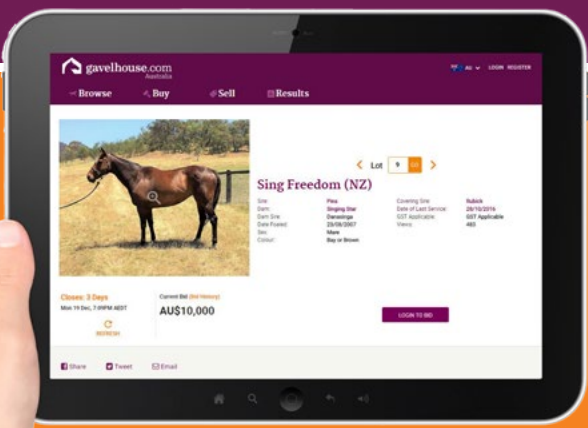


Promising stayer by Shocking.



Winning Exceed and Excel mare.

NEXT NZ AUCTION DATES • Accepting listings from Tuesday 10 January • Listings close 7pm Monday 16 January • Catalogue published online 7pm Tuesday 17 January • Bidding from 7pm Tuesday 17 January to close of auction on Monday 23 January • Lots close in sequential order from 7pm on Monday 23 January



REGISTER NOW AND GET READY TO BUILD A SHORT-LIST AND BID!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT **HAYLIE MARTIN**
E. HAYLIE@GAVELHOUSE.COM M. +64 22 637 8127



CAUTHEN'S POWER CAPS STEVE'S DAY

Less than an hour after Steve Smith's Australian cricket team completed a 3-0 test series whitewash of Pakistan, the national skipper scored a victory at Warwick Farm.

In yesterday's golden sixty minutes, the tourists succumbed to Australia before the tea break, Smith picked up the man of the series and one of the horses he part-owns, **Cauthen's Power (NZ)** (Road To Rock), won.

One day after Smith dispatched the Pakistani bowlers to the SCG boundary, the horse drove away from his four rivals in the Tab.com.au Mile.

Trained by Chris Waller, Cauthen's Power turned around a lacklustre campaign to overcome Olympic Academy (Magic Albert) by 1¼ lengths with the \$2.50 favourite Kingsguard (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) filling the minor placing.

"He's been a difficult horse to get race-fit and ready to win," Waller said.

The expat-Kiwi trainer had sent Cauthen's Power back to the trials on December 30 to be ridden by Blake Shinn, who told the trainer he was travelling well.

And Shinn was right with Cauthen's Power

giving him the third leg of a treble for the day, earlier successes coming on two-year-old Colesberg (Congrats) and Highway Handicap winner Chosen Prayer (Choisir).

"He had a nice run today and travelled beautifully," the jockey said. "I gave him clear galloping room in the straight and he really committed for me and won comprehensively on the line. It was a nice effort.

"This has been a good week now. That is my ninth winner for the week and it's ticking over nicely."

While Cauthen's Power got the cash for Smith, Hogmanay (Lonhro), who he also has a share in, couldn't complete a hat-trick of wins.

Also trained by Waller, Hogmanay finished fourth in the final race of the day behind King Darci (NZ) (Darci Brahma).

– AAP TURF

Race	ATCTab.com.au H. 1600m
Winner	Cauthen's Power (NZ) 2011
Owners	Whitby Bloodstock Pty Ltd (Mgr: M J Whitby), Mrs K Callander, A Bennett, S Saric, C Cooke, B Wilson, B P Thomson, S P D Smith, M A McPherson, T McGowan, W Gibbins, M R Duff, P Cody, P Johnson, L Robinson, D Seargeant, M Della Vedova, Mrs J Saric, R McInnes and Schilling Synd (Mgr: M R Duff)
Trainer	Chris Waller (Rosehill)
Breeding	by Road to Rock (Aus) out of Minori Express (Aus) by Green Line Express (USA)
Breeder	Llanhennock Trust
Sales	2013 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Wentwood Grange, P: Cameron Cooke Bloodstock; \$60,000



Cauthen's Power is strong through the line as he takes the Tabcorp Mile at yesterday's Warwick Farm meeting.





ROBIN HOOD HEADLINES TAN'S TEAM

Champion Singapore trainer Alwin Tan bounced back from a poor day at Kranji last Monday, when none of his big team of fifteen runners obliged, with a Friday night quartet of winners, including **Robin Hood (NZ)** (Nom Du Jeu), successful in the programme's main race, the \$580,000 Kranji Stakes C over 1600 metres.

"It's been a great night for the team," Tan said. "We had a good break and I think that helped my horses, especially those who were a bit tired towards the end of last year, like Robin Hood."

Tan put the results down to good planning, a touch of luck and a lot of hard work, and had special praise for Robin Hood's rider Olivier Placais.

Race	Singapore TC Kranji S. 1600m
Winner	Robin Hood (NZ) 2011
Owners	Eight Eight One Stable
Trainer	Alwin Tan (Kranji)
Breeding	by Nom du Jeu out of Bail Us Out by Justice Prevails (Aus)
Breeder	Goodwood Stud Ltd

"I'm very happy Olivier won his hundredth race tonight. He is a hard-working jockey and helped me a lot last year.

"Robin Hood won very easily. His form dropped off a little last year and he returned as a roarer but he seems to have come back fresh and back in form.

"He's won on turf before but was facing quality challengers tonight. But when Oli launched him in the home straight, he just raced away."

The five-year-old had no part to play in the early stages, just biding his time at the back while Valbuena (NZ) (Darci Brahma) led at a steady tempo. At the top of the straight, when Valbuena rolled off, a passage was unlocked on the inside, which Robin Hood promptly punched his way through.

In an instant, the Eight Eight One Stable-owned galloper shot to the front and went on to score a dominant 1¼-length win from Valbuena with Casing Royal (NZ) (Showcasing) third, the same margin away.

Placais was pleased the horse was back in his element, but more so for his much-improved steering.

"He won two nice races last year but I felt he was much

stronger tonight," he said. "I was a bit worried coming to the 400 metres as there was a wall of horses in front of me, but once he found a gap he went for it.

"He used to hang in badly but he didn't do that tonight. I really liked the way he went straight like an arrow. And he quickened very well; he's definitely got his full power back."

– Singapore Turf Club



Robin Hood well clear of his rivals in the main race at Kranji on Friday night.





MONGOLIAN CHIEF EXCELS OVER GROUND

Nooresh Juglall was happy trainer Leslie Khoo took on board his pleas to stretch **Mongolian Chief (NZ)** (Alamosa) in distance following a smart win from the jet-black gelding over 1700 metres at Kranji on Friday night.

The four-year-old hadn't ventured beyond seven furlongs at his previous eleven starts but the Mauritian jockey, who has partnered him a few times, including a storming second in a 1200 metre race last September, was adamant the mile would suit him better than sprints.

Khoo agreed and after spotting Friday's \$560,000 Class 4 race over

1700 metres on Polytrack he knew he had the ideal event to test the theory, despite it being a hundred metres further than he'd been seeking.

Dropped to the rear in the nine-horse field, Mongolian Chief was glued to the rails until the home turn while the two main fancies, Certainly (Nadeem) and Smart Vintage (Street Cry), who had also been allowed to settle well off the pace, made their runs out wide.

Poised behind the leader on straightening, Mongolian Chief was soon presented with a yawning gap, took quick advantage of it and streaked away to an emphatic three-length win.

"Based on his breeding, I thought he should be able to stay," said Khoo. "I put the crossover noseband and the blinker-pacifiers back on him tonight and I think that helped him, too.

"I think he can go even further than 1700 metres. He's no champion but he can be a useful horse to us in such races."

Juglall said it was that flying second over 1200 metres that convinced him Mongolian Chief was wasting his time over



Mongolian Chief appreciates a step up in distance to record Friday night's runaway win.

sprints.

"I told Mr Khoo to try him over longer and it's finally paid off," he said.

"My only concern was that he was directly stepping from 1200 to 1700 metres and he was going around two turns for the first time. But he relaxed beautifully and didn't disappoint when I went for him at the top of the straight.

"He was still a bit green but he won in style."

– Singapore Turf Club

Race	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1700m
Winner	Mongolian Chief (NZ) 2012
Owners	Mongolian Chief Stable
Trainer	Leslie Khoo (Kranji)
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Lady of Miracles by Rock of Gibraltar (Ire)
Breeder	Anzac Breeding Partnership Joint Venture
Sales	2013 National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale; V: Wellfield Lodge, P: Ascot Farm; \$22,500 2014 Ready to Run Sale; V: Ascot Farm, P: Australian Bloodstock; \$40,000





Sunday 8 January 2017

KIWI FILLY A GUINEAS HOPE FOR LAURIE

Trainer Laurie Laxon was thinking big as he led in his first 2017 winner at Kranji on Friday night.

His diminutive filly **Aotearoa (NZ)** (Sakhee's Secret), then racing as Family Secret for Matamata trainer Lisa Anderson, had debuted in a home-track juvenile last March where she was unlucky enough to run into Volpe Veloce (Foxwedge). Her second to that still-unbeaten filly had been followed by a no-luck fifth at Hastings with her Kiwi career ending with a third in the Listed Champagne Stakes at Ellerslie.

Those solid references, alongside Aotearoa's gutsy first-up Kranji win, overcoming a wide trip throughout the \$565,000 Initiation over 1200 metres, were certainly uppermost in Laxon's mind when he boldly stated the Sgp-Group One Singapore Guineas, over 1600 metres, as a long-term objective for the filly he now trains and owns.

"She's not very big but she's a lovely filly. She reminds me a lot of Kiwi Karma," said the nine-time Singapore champion trainer, referencing the gallant chestnut mare he first prepared as a two-year-old.

"I bought her myself and I think she could be a Guineas horse. She will get in at a filly's weight."

Winning jockey Barend Vorster agreed with Laxon that the mile would be the way to go with the filly.

"She will definitely get the mile. She's a lovely filly and it was probably a blessing she was drawn out tonight," said the South African.

"If she was drawn in, she could have been stuck behind some slow horses on the fence. She was wide but she was always travelling well.

"What I like about her is, even though there isn't much of her, she covers the ground so well. Coming to the home turn, I was confident she would finish off very well."

From barrier 12, Aotearoa was

ridden out to take up a forward spot for Vorster, three wide facing the breeze, then showed the most punch inside the last 300 metres to score by a length from Sacred Army (NZ) (Towkay) with Secret Squirrel (Exceed And Excel) third, another three parts of a length away.

– Singapore Turf Club

Race	Singapore TC Initiation P. 1200m
Winner	Aotearoa (NZ) 2013
Owners	Silver Fern Racing Stable
Trainer	Laurie Laxon (Kranji)
Breeding	by Sakhee's Secret (GB) out of Sista by Magic of Sydney (Aus)
Breeder	Sildi Bloodstock Ltd



Aotearoa commences her Singapore career with a win.



JOIN THE GALLOPING WEKAS

SKYWEKA'S HALF-SISTER BY SHOWCASING SYNDICATING NOW!

This 2YO filly is the by the champion sire of juveniles **Showcasing** out of Blue Hope who is the dam of five foals to race, all winners, including five-time race winner **Skyweka** (pictured left).

She is already in training with **Tony Pike**. She's a very nice quality type of filly, a good walker and nice mover who really looks the part.

thegallopingwekas.wordpress.com | gallopingwekas@gmail.com