

Sunday 14 January 2018

AGE OF FIRE CROSSES THE LINE FOR AN IMPORTANT WIN **IN THE GR.1 GRANT PLUMBING LEVIN CLASSIC**



Age Of Fire crosses the line for an important win in the Gr.1 Grant Plumbing Levin Classic

Opie Bosson once again showed why he is such an important player for the Te Akau team with another man of the match performance at Trentham.

The 37-year-old produced an outstanding ride to guide the valuable colt **Age Of Fire** (Fastnet Rock) to victory in Saturday's Gr.1 Grant Plumbing Levin Classic (1600m).

After jumping from an inside gate, he was stuck four back on rail but Bosson kept his cool and was able to ease away from the fence into the clear across the top.

His strapping three-year-old partner let down impressively in the straight to account for the fillies Belle Du Nord (NZ)

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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(Continued from page 1)

(Reliable Man) and Savvy Coup (NZ) (Savabeel) with the longshot Rock On Wood (NZ) (Redwood) fourth.

“That’s why he’s paid the big retainer,” said Jamie Richards, who trains in partnership with Stephen Autridge. “He’s a lovely, big horse and he pinned his ears back, he was in for the fight.”

The stable’s number one jockey was having his first race day ride on Age Of Fire, but Bosson had been in a confident pre-race mood.

“He is a lovely colt and his work in the last few weeks had been outstanding,” he said. “He’s a big horse, but light on his feet.

“I was a little bit worried across the top when there wasn’t much speed, but once I got into the clear he showed that powerful finish.

“Well done to Stephen and Jamie and the team – another Group One for the tangerine.”

Age Of Fire shares favouritism for the Gr.1 Vodafone New

Zealand Derby (2400m) at \$7 with Demonetization (All Too Hard) and he is now likely to take on the older horses ahead of the Ellerslie classic.

“My gut feeling is that we’ll go to the Herbie Dyke Stakes to give him another chance at a Group One,” Richards said, referring to the weight-for-age feature at Te Rapa on February 10.

Hallmark Stud will offer a sister (Lot 172) to Age Of Fire at the Book 1 Sale at Karaka on January 28.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Race | WRC Levin Classic Gr.1 1600m |
| Winner | Age of Fire (AUS) 2014 |
| Owners | Te Akau 2016 Sydney Breeding Syndicate No.2 (Mgr: D C Ellis) |
| Trainer | Stephen Autridge & Jamie Richards (Matamata) |
| Breeding | by Fastnet Rock (AUS) out of Dragon’s Tail (AUS) by Galileo (IRE) |
| Breeder | Roncon |





STAYING OPTIONS

AMPLENTY FOR VON TUNZELMAN

The connections of **Von Tunzelman (NZ)** (Zabeel) will let the dust settle on their Trentham celebrations before confirming the handsome grey's immediate future.

On Saturday, the Roger James-trained son of Zabeel claimed his most important victory to date when he was downed Devise (NZ) (Darci Brahma) and Benzini (Tale of the Cat) in the Gr.3 Mills Reef Trentham Stakes (2100m).

Raced by incoming Cambridge Stud owners Brendan and Jo Lindsay, Von Tunzelman holds a nomination for the upcoming Gr.1 Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m) and the

Gr.1 Barfoot & Thomson Auckland Cup (3200m).

"We're over the moon, he's probably been a bit unlucky in his last couple of runs," James' racing manager Robert Wellwood said. "He needs an uninterrupted run and it panned out beautifully today.

"Roger has taken his time with the horse and he showed us he was a stayer in the making when he won last season's Kaimai Stakes.

"We'll will see how he pulls up and then Roger will make a decision where he goes."

Von Tunzelman enjoyed a good run in midfield before rider Leith Innes angled him into the clear across the top and they came with a well-timed finish in the straight.

"They went pretty hard up front and I was able to get out 500m from home," he said. "He's got a bright future, maybe a cup race next."



Von Tunzelman edges out Devise in the Gr.3 Mills Reef Trentham Stakes

Von Tunzelman finished in behind the major players in two Melbourne starts in the spring and showed he was on the verge of winning form on his return with an encouraging run for seventh in the Gr.2 Rich Hill Mile (1600m) at Ellerslie on New Year's Day.

"We got to the 700m and the track was a bit greasy and lost a few lengths, but he hit the line strongly in the last 200m," Innes said.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Race | WRC Trentham S. Gr.3 2100m |
| Winner | Von Tunzelman (NZ) 2012 |
| Owners | B J Lindsay MNZM & Mrs J E A Lindsay |
| Trainer | Roger James (Cambridge) |
| Breeding | by Zabeel out of J'Adane by Danehill (USA) |
| Breeder | B J Lindsay MNZM & Mrs J E A Lindsay |





WAIT A SEC LOVING LIFE ON THE FARM

The country life continues to bring out the best in the versatile **Wait A Sec (NZ)** (Postponed).

The rejuvenated seven-year-old collected another stakes victory when he returned from a break to post an upset victory in Saturday's Gr.3 Tui – Backing Winners Since 1889 Anniversary (1600m) at Trentham.

Wait a Sec is trained at Hastings by Guy Lowry and Grant Cullen and the latter's Dannevirke farm has proved the key to him winning eight of his last 11 starts with the Gr.1 Livamol Classic (2040m) in the spring taking pride of place on the gelding's CV.

"We just work him at home around

the hills, he's a happy horse," Cullen said. "We've been very happy with him this preparation, we can't fault him."

Wait A Sec was making his first appearance since November when he served it up to a competitive line-up at Trentham in the hands of Jason Waddell.

"We thought he would be competitive and to win first-up in a Group Three race just shows the horse is flying, incredible," Cullen said.

Wait A Sec's main aim is the Gr.1 Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup (3200m) with a trip to New Plymouth the next step on the path toward the Ellerslie feature.

"He'll run in the Taranaki Cup next

and he's nominated for the Herbie Dyke Stakes or there's the Wairoa Cup," Cullen said.

Wait A Sec settled midfield on Saturday and unwound strongly in the closing 400m to nose out Asama Blue (Butterfly Blue) with Travimyfriend (NZ) (Tavistock) a short head back in third.

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Race | WRC Anniversary S. Gr.3 1600m |
| Winner | Wait A Sec (NZ) 2010 |
| Owners | I M & P D Henderson |
| Trainer | Guy Lowry & Grant Cullen (Hastings) |
| Breeding | by Postponed (USA) out of Security by Grosvenor |
| Breeder | I M Henderson; G D Innes & K R Whitehouse; Central; NZ |



In a tight three-way battle, Wait A Sec (red cap) gets the win ahead of Asama Blue (outside) and Travimyfriend



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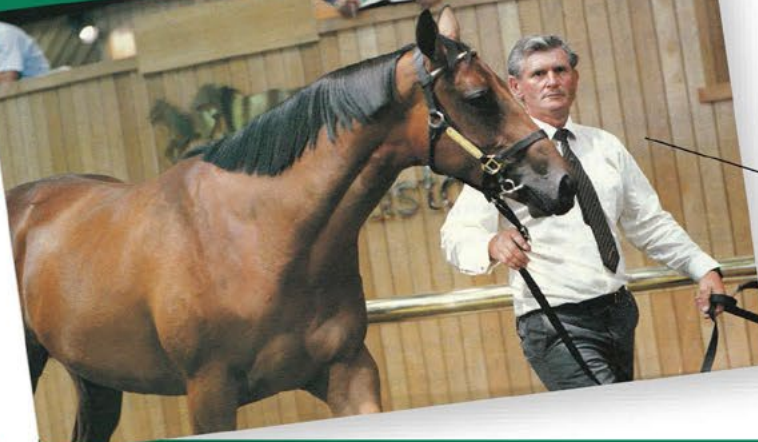
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CLASSIC TEST BECKONS FILLY

Platinum Mam'selle (Fighting Sun) will chase higher honours after opening her winning account at Trentham.

The Lisa Latta-trained filly got home strongly from the back of a small field on Saturday to triumph in the Kilbirnie Sports Premier (1200m) to earn a shot at black type next time out.

"We'll look at going to a nice Group race now, probably the one at New Plymouth," Latta said, referring to the Gr.3 Phoenix Park 2YO Classic (1200m) on February 3.

She also believes Platinum Mam'selle can be a genuine contender for the Gr.1 Courtesy Ford Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni in the autumn.

"It's on our back door step and 1400m should really suit her," Latta said.

Platinum Mam'selle was making her second race day appearance having finished runner-up on debut behind the highly-regarded Sword Of Osman (NZ) (Savabeel) at Awapuni last month.

"She learned a lot from her first start, she just keeps getting better," Latta said.

Rider Mark Du Plessis was also rich in his praise of the youngster.

"She did things well today and there's a lot of upside to her," he said.

"She's going to make a lovely three-year-old and she'll be much better over



Platinum Mam'selle wins her second start in the Kilbirnie Sports Premier further.

"There was a nice, genuine speed and she picked up well when I asked her to go."

Sourced by major stable clients Neville McAlister and Lincoln Farms from an Adelaide sale, Platinum Mam'selle also provided her Victorian-based sire Fighting Sun with his first winner.

A son of Northern Meteor, he was unbeaten in two starts, including the Listed Canonbury Stakes (1100m) at

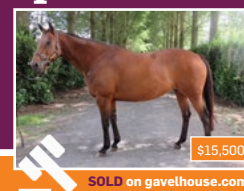
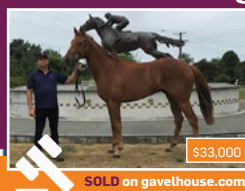
Rosehill, before injury ended his career. – NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Race | WRC Kilbirnie Sports 2YO H. 1200m |
| Winner | Platinum Mam'selle (AUS) 2015 |
| Owners | Lincoln Farms Bloodstock Ltd & N J McAlister |
| Trainer | Lisa Latta (Awapuni) |
| Breeding | by Fighting Sun (AUS) out of Miss Fascination (AUS) by Redoute's Choice (AUS) |
| Breeder | Millford Thoroughbreds, Byers Bloodstock |



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GIFTED BUT GREEN **MERLINI SCORES**

Education is the key to success and once **Merlini** (I Am Invincible) graduates he promises to be in line for major assignments.

The son of I Am Invincible has all the makings of a black type performer when his racing manners match his raw talent.

"He's one of the fastest and most talented gallopers I've had for a while," trainer Tony Pike said.

"He's a very progressive horse, but he's still doing a lot of things wrong. He's a work in progress."

That has been evident in both of Merlini's wins, the latest of them in the Zephyr Consulting Premier (1000m) at Trentham on Saturday.

The gelding was wayward in the running, but still proved far too good for his rivals under stable apprentice Jordan Nason.

"There's a couple of nice three-year-old sprint races coming up, but we'll get him home and see how he is," Pike said. "It's really just a matter of getting more practice into him."

Merlini was quickly into stride

to make the running and despite a couple of brushes with the rail in the run home he still had a more than comfortable margin on Silver Cloud at the post.

"He was quick getting out of the gates today and he got a bit lost over the crossing, but once he got down to the rail it was plain sailing," Nason said. "He's got a really bright future."

– NZ Racing Desk.

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Race | WRC Zephyr Consulting S. 1000m |
| Winner | Merlini (AUS) 2014 |
| Owners | A M Cardy & V T W Breeding Company Ltd |
| Trainer | Tony Pike (Cambridge) |
| Breeding | by I Am Invincible (AUS) out of Faker by Pins (AUS) |
| Breeder | Mr A Erich, Toorang Racing Syndicate, Mr S Dennis, Mr C Ison, Mr G Fitzgibbon |



Merlini showed his greenness but was too talented for his rivals

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