

Sunday 10 July 2016

## FREEDMANS FIND A FLEMINGTON FLYER AS RUETTIGER SCORES IN SPRINT FINAL



*Ruettiger (red cap) finishes too strongly for favourite Voodoo Lad in yesterday's All Victorian Sprint Series final at Flemington.*

Lightly tried four-year-old **Ruettiger (NZ)** (Duporth) gave Craig Williams the third of his five winners on the day when edging the odds-on favourite Voodoo Lad (I Am Invincible) in yesterday's Listed All Victorian Sprint Series Final over 1200 metres at Flemington.

Williams had parked Ruettiger behind a sedate early speed set by Rich Jack (Danerich) and angled towards the inside as the race began in earnest 600 metres out.

As Voodoo Lad swept up to lead 150 metres out, Ruettiger drove home along the inside to score by a short neck with topweight Reldas (Testa Rossa) two lengths away third.

Lee Freedman trains the winner in partnership with brother Anthony and said he had only recently discovered Ruettiger has an affinity for the straight course.

"This horse has been racing in really good heart and it's

*Continued on page 3*



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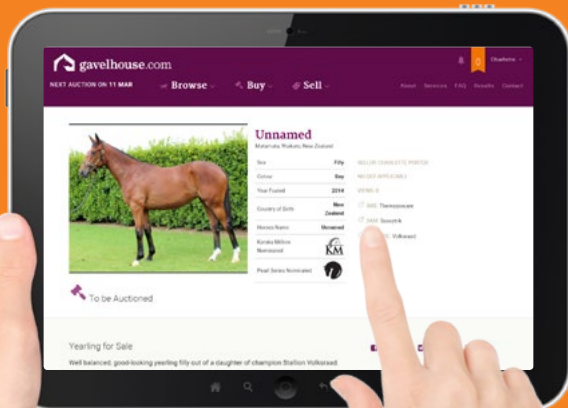
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# FREEDMANS FIND A FLEMINGTON FLYER AS RUETTIGER SCORES IN SPRINT FINAL

(Continued from page 1)

only now we've discovered he's a really good straight track horse," Freedman said.

"He went terrific here a week ago and he's backed it up in the final.

"I think we need to look at more Listed races for him, albeit he was on the minimum today."

Williams said with his manager away on holidays it was his brother Jason who pinpointed Ruettiger, after his fast-finishing last start third at Flemington, as the right horse to ride in the Sprint Final.

"My horse found really well for me late," he said. "Lee said he didn't want me getting too far back because they will go slow early and he was right."

– racenet.com.au & AAP TURF

<b>Race</b>	<b>VRC All Victorian Series Final H. L 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Ruettiger (NZ) 2011</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>L C Wellington, Miss A A Wellington and A Locantro and Lakeview Resources Pty Ltd (Mgr: P Carrick)</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Lee &amp; Anthony Freedman (Mt Eliza)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Duporth (Aus) out of Be Inspired (Aus) by Zabeel</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>A E Clark</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2012 National Weanling, Broodmare &amp; Mixed Sale; V: Curraghmore Stud, P: Lyndhurst Farm; \$105,000</b>  <b>2013 Ready to Run Sale; V: Lyndhurst Farm, P: Lakeview Resources; \$150,000</b>

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Success continues for McDonald in England

Globe-trotting jockey James McDonald has continued his winning momentum in England with a double at Newmarket. A champion in his native New Zealand before becoming leading Sydney jockey, he rode the Charlie Appleby-trained *Mise En Rose* (War Front) to win a fillies handicap on Friday local time and backed up on *Ode To Evening* (Poet's Voice) for Mark Johnston.

On Thursday, McDonald claimed his biggest win during his English sojourn when he steered the Michael Bell-trained *Big Orange* (Duke of Marmalade) to a defence of the Group Two Princess Of Wales's Stakes at Newmarket.

Godolphin's retained jockey in Australia, McDonald has extended his stay in the northern hemisphere because of a suspension to fellow Godolphin rider William Buick.

– AAP TURF

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# MASTER BRINGS UP **DARREN'S CENTURY**

Jockey Brad Rawiller fittingly booted home **Master Of Arts (NZ)** (Mastercraftsman) to give trainer Darren Weir a century of Melbourne wins for the season in yesterday's 2600 metre Banjo Paterson Series Final at Flemington.

A drifter in the betting to \$3 from an opening \$2.40 quote before firming to \$2.70 favourite, Master Of Arts came from beyond midfield to score a dominant 2¼ length win over Bold Sniper (New Approach) and Wells (Galileo), giving Weir a Flemington double with Kiwi-breds after Rawiller had steered \$3 favourite Killarney Kid (NZ) (Pendragon) to victory in the 2000 metre VRC-CRV Cup Tour Trophy.

Weir has had a tight grip on a third consecutive Melbourne trainers' premiership for some time but was

<b>Race</b>	<b>VRC Banjo Paterson Series Final H. 2600m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Master of Arts (NZ) 2011</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Waratah Thoroughbreds</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Darren Weir (Ballarat)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Mastercraftsman (Ire) out of Petit Verdot by Carnegie (Ire)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>R M Anderson, Mrs C N Taylor and Trelawney Thoroughbred Ltd</b>

thrilled Rawiller was involved in bringing up his century of victories.

"Brad has been a big part of the team more or less since I've had a trainer's licence," Weir said.

"If you've got 104 city winners, it's two a week, and if someone said you were going to do that at the start of the year, you'd be telling them, 'you're kidding'.

"Anyway it's great that it's happened and it's out of the way anyway."

Rawiller took Master Of Arts forward in the run to the first turn in the \$A120,000 contest but eased to the second half of the field to gain cover at the 2000 metre mark.

Weir said Rawiller won the race when he took Master Of Arts forward to race close to the leaders as the field rounded Flemington's sweeping bend into the home straight.

"It was a bit tricky early but he got into a nice rhythm and then made a decision at about the 500 to get up around Wells," Weir said.

"It was a really good move and the horse was really strong to the line."

Weir has another record in his sights as he chases John

Hawkes's national record of 334 wins in a season, set in the 2002/03 term, Master Of Arts taking him to within five of Hawkes's mark.

"It would be great if it did happen but it's not something we focus on. Every day you're going to the races to try to win but it would be good to get a few more winners in the next few weeks," Weir said.

Describing his overall season success, his comment was, "I don't think I'll have a better one.

"A Melbourne Cup, six Group Ones, a hundred Melbourne winners.

"You've got to pinch yourself, I guess."  
 – racenet.com.au & AAP TURF



*Master Of Arts clears out to easily win the Banjo Paterson Series Final at Flemington.*





# FIREBIRD'S FITNESS TELLS AT RANDWICK



The race fitness of Firebird Flyer (blue and black colours) tells as she edges out her three-year-old staying rivals at Randwick.

One-time Queensland Oaks prospect **Firebird Flyer (NZ)** (Stravinsky) has made it back-to-back wins in Sydney.

While the filly didn't develop in time to travel north for the Oaks, the Chris Waller-trained filly claimed the biggest win of her career yesterday when she edged out Storm System (Snitzel) by a nose in the Mick Crusher Kerr Memorial at Randwick.

Having her sixth start for the preparation, which has included two wins and four seconds, Firebird Flyer's fitness shone through over 2000 metres on a heavy track.

Waller said he had plenty of fears

about how she would handle the going but her toughness allowed her to overcome the wet surface.

"She's a fit horse," he said. "She's been up such a long time. They're the kinds of horses that fight."

A last-start winner in a 1600 metre Warwick Farm maiden, Firebird Flyer handled the step up in distance and class to score consecutive wins.

"It might not have been by much, but it makes no difference to the pay cheque," Waller said.

Sydney prizemoney is precisely why Firebird Flyer's New Zealand owners sent her to Waller's stable and she picked up more than \$A48,000 for

yesterday's win.

Waller praised Tim Clark's patient ride after the filly came from second-last to win.

"He didn't panic," the trainer said. "He just held it together nicely."

– AAP TURF

<b>Race</b>	<b>ATC Mick Crusher Kerr Memorial H. 2000m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Firebird Flyer (NZ) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>H M Brown, D R Frampton, R Hitchings and S H Prenter</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Chris Waller (Rosehill)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Stravinsky (USA) out of Margaux Belle by Kaapstad</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>The Sunlight Trust</b>





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# SAM PICKS PATH **FOR CANDLE IN THE WIND**

**R**uakaka mare **Candle In The Wind (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) has an outstanding record on her home track but connections are likely to forgo upcoming opportunities to add to their local tally.

The six-year-old's victory yesterday in the Northbeam Timber Beams, Posts and Joints Handicap was her fifth from nine appearances on the northern course for trainers Donna Logan and Chris Gibbs and while there are a number of

meetings at Ruakaka over the next two months, Candle In The Wind is more likely to be given a break.

"I might just put her away and then look to the spring," Logan said. "I would love to get some black type for the owners."

Candle In The Wind was sent out a warm favourite yesterday but her army of supporters weren't on good terms with themselves for much of the home straight.

The mare was last on the turn and hemmed in by Zafrenzy (NZ) (Savabeel) and rider Kelly McCulloch (nee Myers) before she was finally able to burst between runners to claim top honours.

"What a brave ride by the young man," Logan said, referring to Sam Weatherley, who has impressed in his first season of riding. "He showed his ability and was patient and then got the gap."

The 17-year-old, who is apprenticed to Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott, was more modest in his own appraisal of the ride.

"I was lucky I could get off heels and then found a small gap," he said.

<b>Race</b>	<b>Whangarei RC Northbeam Timber Beams H. 2100m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Candle In The Wind (NZ) 2009</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>V S Cronin, F Gianone, GS Racing Ltd, I R Gwyn, P D &amp; P D Jeffreys, K Ozkan and A B Skelton</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Donna Logan &amp; Chris Gibbs (Ruakaka)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Darci Brahma out of Prefer Blondes (USA) by Gentlemen (Arg)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Bromley Bloodstock Ltd</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2011 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Seaton Park Ltd, P: D M Logan Racing Stables Ltd; \$2500</b>



The class horse of the field, Candle In The Wind shows it at the end of a tough 2100 metres at Ruakaka.





# BARCELO TO FOLLOW **STABLEMATE'S PLAN**

**P**eter McKay is hoping any feelings of déjà vu with **Barcelo (NZ)** (Alamosa) continue well into the youngster's three-year-old season, the Matamata trainer planning to follow a familiar path with the gelding that will ideally lead to Christchurch for the Group One New Zealand Two Thousand Guineas.

McKay produced Barcelo to win yesterday's Tavistock Syndicate Owners' 2YO at Ruakaka, a race he won last year with Amarula (NZ) (Thorn Park) who then progressed to claim the Group Two Hawke's Bay Guineas, finish runner-up in the Group Two Sarten Memorial and run seventh in the Riccarton feature.

"He's out of a Zabeel mare that won three races so that will help him when he gets up to a mile," said McKay, who also trained Barcelo's sire for multiple Group One success.

"I'm not sure if he's got the smarts of Amarula but he really does try hard and that will carry him a long way."

Barcelo capped off a consistent run of form with his maiden victory, travelling well behind the pace for McKay's son Shaun before rounding off strongly in the run home to win by three-quarters of a length.

"We'll come back here for the three-year-old race in early August and go on from there," McKay senior said.

Barcelo's win was well-deserved as he had placings behind the talented trio of Honey Rider (NZ) (Pins), Ugo Foscolo (NZ) (Zacinto) and Ichiban (NZ) (Swiss Ace) from his previous three outings.

Yesterday's runner-up Barabas (NZ) (Dalghar) also showed he had a bright future with a brave first-up performance from a wide gate to take second from Bruce Arthur (NZ) (Showcasing) with the winner's

stablemate Tyrion (NZ) (Postponed) giving a good account of himself with his debut fourth.

<b>Race</b>	<b>Whangarei RC Tavistock Syndicate Owners 2YO S. 1000m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Barcelo (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Mrs K &amp; P N McKay</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Peter McKay (Matamata)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Alamosa out of Light Majesty by Zabeel</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Monovale Holdings Ltd</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2015 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Monovale Farm, P: P N &amp; K McKay; \$23,000</b>



*Barcelo (gold cap) slips through on the inside of Barabas to win the juvenile event on yesterday's Ruakaka card.*

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# MANHATTAN STREET DIGS DEEP TO WIN AND KEEPS UNBEATEN RECORD INTACT

**M**anhattan Street (Manhattan Rain) is on target to add a black-type credit to his impressive pedigree after yesterday digging deep to keep his perfect record intact.

The blueblood was a first-up winner last month for Awapuni trainer Lisa Latta before he delivered a tenacious performance on his home track to add the Rural Fuel Two-Year-Old to his record.

The Listed Ryder Stakes at Otaki on July 30 is next on the programme of the son of Group One winner Manhattan Rain and a sister to Lankan Rupee, who topped the world sprint rankings in 2014.

“He would be a very good chance of winning that,” successful rider Jonathan Riddell said.

“He’s improved all the time through

jump-outs to trials and raceday. He’s a lovely horse with a lot of upside to him.”

Raced by Lincoln Farms, Neville McAlister and Wellfield Lodge, Manhattan Street was three wide on the pace across the top before the grey filly Gata (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) cut the corner to dash clear.

However, the colt knuckled down to his work in the closing 150 metres and got the deciding stride in at the death.

“I hadn’t done a lot with him since he won at Otaki and there will be a lot of improvement in him going on to the

<b>Race</b>	<b>Marton JC Rural Fuel 2YO S. 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Manhattan Street (Aus) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Lincoln Farms Ltd, N J McAlister and Wellfield Holdings Ltd</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Lisa Latta (Awapuni)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Manhattan Rain (Aus) out of Charming Estelle (Aus) by Redoute’s Choice (Aus)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Teeley Assets Ltd</b>

Ryder,” Latta said.

“He’s going to get over ground and that’s why I was a bit surprised he won first-up.”

Manhattan Street and the Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained Gata had the finish to themselves with Rosewood (NZ) (Redwood) eleven lengths away in third.

*In the closest finish of the day, Manhattan Street (nearest camera) snatches the Awapuni juvenile race from the game grey filly Gata.*







# WHILE KAWI WAITS, **LADIES FIRST SHINES**

**N**ew Plymouth trainer Allan Sharrock is counting down to the return to racing of Kawi (NZ) (Savabeel), with the multiple Group One winner, recently welcomed back to the stable following two months of pre-training, expected to resume at Te Rapa next month.

“We’ll probably look at the Foxbridge Plate and the first two at Hastings before we sneak off,” Sharrock said, referring

to the opening two legs of the Group One series at Hawke’s Bay – the Makfi Challenge Stakes and the Windsor Park Plate – ahead of a Melbourne spring carnival campaign.

In the meantime, Sharrock has good reason to expect further progress from the smart filly **Ladies First (NZ)** (Dylan Thomas), who won for the second time in her brief career when successful in yesterday’s Rayner Building Three-Year-Old at Awapuni.

The daughter of Australian Group Three winner Just Polite (Dehere) made the perfect debut on the course in May before she headed north.

“We took her to Te Rapa where she was up in class and she sat three wide the trip and had the audacity to run fourth,” Sharrock said.

Ladies First had the leader within her sights on the bend yesterday and once rider Lisa Allpress was able to angle her wider on the track she drew out to beat Mendip (NZ) (Makfi) by a couple of lengths.

“She’s still a little bit green but she was authoritative late and she will tighten up with the run,” Sharrock said.

Ladies First is scheduled to make her next appearance in a three-year-old race at New Plymouth in a fortnight.



*Ladies First travelling comfortably close to home in the three-year-old sprint at Awapuni.*

<b>Race</b>	<b>Marton JC Rayner Building H. 1400m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Ladies First (NZ) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>F J &amp; HT O’Leary</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Allan Sharrock (New Plymouth)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Dylan Thomas (Ire) out of Just Polite (Aus) by Dehere (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Go Bloodstock New Zealand Ltd</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2014 National Weanling, Broodmare &amp; Mixed Sale; V: Blandford Lodge, P: HT O’Leary; \$8000</b>



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# LIM'S RACER HANGS TOUGH IN HORSESHOE

**F**eisty filly **Lim's Racer (NZ)** (Red Giant) showcased her tough-as-nail qualities in a real slog to the wire to stick her neck out where it mattered and land the \$S325,000 Sgp-Group Two Aushorse Golden Horseshoe at Kranji on Friday night.

While her ability wasn't in doubt, some question marks lingered over whether she could hold her own against the top-flight two-year-olds over 1200 metres in the sixth and final leg of the series. She'd been soundly beaten on debut in the third leg but had made amends when easily accounting for Restricted Maiden rivals over 1000 metres four weeks later.

The question of what would appear in the grand final could not have been answered in more resounding fashion.

Making all the running for jockey Danny Beasley, Lim's Racer flattened out when outsider Caorunn (NZ) (Showcasing) came upsides and the Kiwi pair drew clear for a titanic two-horse showdown for the length of the straight.

Barrier draws had played a part – gate #4 for the winner and #14 for the runner-up – but the way she dug deep and outgunned a much more seasoned galloper, already with three wins and a Karaka Million fourth in New Zealand, was a clear indication Lim's Racer is headed for bigger and better things at Kranji.

A late run to grab third, another 1½ lengths away, by Athena (NZ) (Nom Du Jeu) made it a trifecta for Kiwi-breds.

Winning trainer Steven Burridge could barely conceal his emotions at the winner's circle. "I thought the other horse had her, she was headed twice, but she fought back like a real bulldog," he said.

"We always knew she had talent but she was really disappointing at her first run. She actually pulled a muscle and had some tying up. Then she won easily and tonight she was really tough in her win.

"She will enjoy the paddock for now."

Shane Baertschiger, who prepares Caorunn, was immediately looking forward to the Sgp-Group Three Juvenile Championship on July 31



*Lim's Racer (blue colours) holds on tenaciously to deny Caorunn in the Golden Horseshoe at Kranji.*

"If we swap the barriers, my horse wins," he rued. "But that's racing.

"He had really improved since his last run and we'll be back in three weeks."

Beasley was full of praise for his filly.

"There's not much of her but she really put in a great effort," he said. "Around the circle, Shane's horse probably went in front of her but she came back and scored a really tough win.

"She came here with a strong New Zealand form and showed that tonight. She will keep improving."

Lim's Racer, then known as Stonedance, was purchased by bloodstock agent Phill Cataldo out of the Tuhikaramea stable of Graeme and Debbie Rogerson, following an 800 metre trial win at Cambridge in the spring, where she'd beaten the subsequent Group One Manawatu Sires' Produce placegetter Saracino (NZ) (Per Incanto).

– Singapore Turf Club

<b>Race</b>	<b>Singapore TC Aushorse Golden Horseshoe Sgp-2 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Lim's Racer (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Lim's Stable</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Steven Burridge (Kranji)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Red Giant (USA) out of Lady of the Garter (Aus) by Testa Rossa (Aus)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>G Harvey</b>





# INFANTRY MARCHES ON

**T**op three-year-old **Infantry (NZ)** (Tavistock), a mighty second to Debt Collector (NZ) (Thorn Park) in the Sgp-Group One Singapore Guineas two starts ago, smashed pre-race concerns about his ability to measure up against the better older horses when he posted a dominant win in the \$S100,000 Victoria Racing Club Trophy, an Open Benchmark 97 over 1600 metres, at Kranji on Friday night.

Taking up an ideal trailing spot behind a runaway duo, Infantry wasn't set alight until straightening but in a few bounds had put a space on the rest and kept stretching away to gain his fourth win, by far his easiest.

Bourbon Goldman (NZ) (Gallant Guru), seen as Infantry's main threat after a last-start third in the Sgp-Group One Queen Elizabeth II Cup, was a bit more dour than expected as he battled into a four-length second, a nose ahead of Brahma Circus (NZ) (Darci Brahma).

Winning trainer Alwin Tan was blown away by his charge's superlative performance, especially as he had some misgivings about the rise in class.

"I was not so confident before the race as he was up in class and was challenging very good horses but he really showed his true colours tonight," he said. "The only thing in his favour was the light weight.

"He has really improved and should be able to go beyond the mile."

Tan said it was too early to plot any ambitious paths for Infantry but he would favour a race like the 2000

metre Singapore Derby next year over the 2200 metre Singapore Gold Cup in November.

"He's only three," said Tan. "I would rather take it step by step and wait until next year and go for the Derby when he turns four."

Manoel Nunes, having his first ride on Infantry, said he went into the race with plenty of optimism.

"He's a very versatile horse who can handle both turf and Polytrack and the mile was perfect for him.

"When you look at his three-year-old form, he ran second to a very good horse like Debt Collector and it's not all that surprising he won so well tonight."

Infantry has now taken his earnings past the \$S285,000 mark for the Kajorn Petch Racing No 2 Stable.

As with Lim's Racer, Infantry had a Phill Cataldo connection, the Te Horo-based bloodstock agent buying him out of Darryl Lang's Cambridge stable after an Avondale trial placing just over a year ago.

– Singapore Turf Club

<b>Race</b>	<b>Singapore TC Victoria Racing Club Trophy 1600m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Infantry (NZ) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Kajorn Petch Racing No 2 Stable</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Alwin Tan (Kranji)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Tavistock out of The Nightingale by Stravinsky (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Sir Patrick &amp; Lady Hogan</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2013 National Weanling, Broodmare &amp; Mixed Sale; V: Cambridge Stud, P: A Rutten; \$7000</b>



*Infantry strides away for his big win.*

