

Monday 16 July 2018

PRICE THRILLED WITH GRUNT'S DEVELOPMENT



Australian Guineas winner Grunt is back bigger and better for his spring campaign

The physical progression Group One-winning colt **Grunt (NZ)** (O'Reilly) has made since the autumn has trainer Mick Price optimistic about the rising four-year-old's spring prospects.

Price has trained four Group One winners this season including Grunt in the Australian Guineas at Flemington in March.

He prepared Mighty Boss (Not A Single Doubt) to win the

Caulfield Guineas (1600m) last spring while fillies Hiyaam (NZ) (High Chaparral) and Seabrook (NZ) (Hinchinbrook) won the Vinery Stud Stakes (2000m) and Champagne Stakes (1600m) respectively during the autumn in Sydney.

All four will be aimed towards spring features, with Grunt a potential Cox Plate contender.

"I reckon the one that has made a huge progression is Grunt," Price said.

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SWEYNESSE

Stunning first foals

*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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"He was a lightish autumn three-year-old. He had a lovely break after the Australian Guineas and he's a magnificent four-year-old now.

"He's really improved."

Grunt is at \$26 in early Cox Plate markets headed by Winx (Street Cry) and the weight-for-age race is in Price's sights at this stage with the stallion prospect.

"I think the best race I can win to add to his value is the Cox Plate," Price said.

"He might be better suited in a Caulfield Cup, I'm not sure, but the better way to add value is to try to win a Cox Plate."

The Thousand Guineas is a logical target for Seabrook, while Price believes Mighty Boss could be a Toorak Handicap-type horse and potentially stretch out to 2000m.

The trainer said Hiyaam got a foot abscess in Sydney ahead of her return to training but was due back this week.

"She's coming back on Tuesday. I've seen a video of her and she's 99 per cent sound," Price said.

The Caulfield Cup is expected to be one of the targets for Hiyaam and Price said the stayer would likely resume over 1600m.

"She probably needs to run first-up over a mile then 2000m and then Caulfield Cup," he said.

Price said Seabrook had been back in work about three weeks and would be on a path to the Thousand Guineas.

"She's made a physical progression from her two-year-old year where she was used a bit. We used a bit of fuel on her, but she's tough. And she thrived in Sydney," Price said.

- AAP


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AIM SMART BACK TO HIS BEST AT RUAKAKA

Classy customer **Aim Smart** (Smart Missile) made the best possible start from his new base at Lauren Brennan's Cambridge operation when he gave his rating 75 rivals a beating after leading most of the way over 1400m at Ruakaka.

Owned and raced by global powerhouse The China Horse Club, the Smart Missile gelding had commenced his career from the stable of Tony Pike where he won first up as a two-year-old. An injury suffered in Listed company at his second start saw him put aside for six months before opening his three-year-old campaign with a second placed finish

behind Prom Queen (NZ) (Super Easy) in the Gr.3 Northland Breeders Stakes (1200m) in September last year.

Further niggles surfaced after an unplaced run in the Gr.2 Hawkes' Bay Guineas (1400m) which saw him

sent to the spelling paddock again before he was transferred to the care of Brennan's boutique set-up.

"He has come back well after doing a lot of work with Gina Schick during his break," said Brennan.

"She had him out on the hills and at the beach which has helped him out a lot. He's still not an easy horse as he does have his issues, but he is as good as gold now and it was a great thrill to see him go so well first up on Saturday."

A trial win over 1050m at Taupo last month had Brennan hopeful of a good performance on the weekend although she was the first to admit she

hadn't expected to see her charge in front for most of the 1400m journey.

"He came from the back at Taupo

Continued on page 5

Race	Whangarei RC ITM H. 1400m.
Winner	Aim Smart (AUS) 2014
Owners	China Horse Club Racing Pty Ltd
Trainer	Lauren Brennan (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Smart Missile (AUS) out of North Sea (AUS) by Hussonet (USA)
Breeder	Mr RA Zito, P Zito, J & R Cichello, J & D Button
Sales	2016 Ready To Run Sale; V: Wellfield Lodge, P: China Horse Club; \$200,000



Classy customer Aim Smart bolts home at Ruakaka





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AIM SMART BACK TO HIS BEST AT RUAKAKA

(Continued from page 4)

and that was how we expected him to race on Saturday, especially as he went from the outside gate," she said.

"When he got away so well Chris (rider Chris Johnson) said he was happy going forward and making the pace and did it pretty easily from there.

"I thought he might feel the pinch in the run home but Chris said when they came up to challenge him the

horse just went whoosh and took off again.

"It really was a great thrill to see him back and to train a winner for the China Horse Club is a real honour."

Brennan will now let the dust settle before setting out any type of plan for the horse over the next few months.

"He doesn't cope with wet tracks so that limits our options at this time of the year," she said.

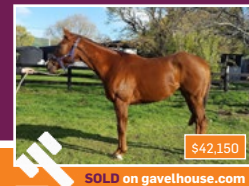
"We just want to see him come through this run well before we think about his next start as we are in no hurry. At this time of the year there is really only Te Rapa and Ruakaka that will provide the type of footing he needs so we will take a look at the programme and work things out from there."

– NZ Racing Desk



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DEZ ADDS TO WINTER CUP CONVERSATION

Waipukurau galloper **Dez (NZ)** (Zed) added his name to the conversation around next month's Gr.3 eStar Winter Cup (1600m) at Riccarton when he took out the Hanley Formula Whyte Handicap (1600m) at Trentham on the weekend.

Currently languishing in 28th position on the order of entry for the Group Three feature, the win in open handicap company should move the Simon Wilson trained galloper into contention for a confirmed place in the race's final line-up.

Punters had been expecting an improved performance from Dez who had finished an unlucky ninth in rating 75

Race	WRC Whyte H. 1600m.
Winner	Dez (NZ) 2011
Owners	S G Lennox, P I Mitchell & S J E Wilson
Trainer	Simon Wilson (Waipukurau)
Breeding	by Zed out of Black Falcon by Felix the Cat (USA)
Breeder	Mrs C J & D R Isaacson; Central; NZ

company at Awapuni at his last start after being blocked for a run in the home straight. Sent out the \$4.20 second favourite behind the well fancied Rosewood (NZ) (Redwood), the lightly raced six-year-old landed some good bets as he finished determinedly along the inner for rider Darryl Bradley to snatch the win from Hand It To Jonesy (NZ) (Nom Du Jeu) by a long neck, with Rosewood a head away in third.

"He put it all together today in conditions that suited him," said Wilson after the race.

"He always seems to hit a dead spot at the 600m mark and I thought we were in a bit of trouble, but he just kept coming and giving along the inside.

"He was lucky it opened up for him along the inner and it worked perfectly. He's been well rewarded with the win today."

Wilson indicated he wouldn't be making an immediate decision on a trip to Riccarton however it was clearly in his thinking.

"We'll just see what happens," he said.

"We'll get home and evaluate but we could possibly look that way."

Rider Darryl Bradley was full of praise for his charge's effort.

"I was warned about him hitting a flat spot, so I knew what was going to happen," he said.

"When he did I was able to pick him up and get him going again.

"He fought extremely well. This horse has done a good job."

The victory took Dez's career record to four wins from just the eight starts, with two of those wins having come in this campaign following a two and a half year break due to a tendon injury.

– NZ Racing Desk



Dez may be heading to the Riccarton Winter Carnival after his gritty Trentham victory





RED SIERRA SET FOR RICCARTON ASSIGNMENT

A gritty win at Trentham on Saturday has confirmed a start in the Gr.3 eStar Winter Cup (1600m) at Riccarton for promising mare **Red Sierra (NZ)** (Redwood).

The Redwood four-year-old is riding the crest of a form wave at present having won three of her last four starts. Saturday's effort in the testing Heavy11 track conditions that prevailed was as impressive as any of her recent runs as she cruised to the line with her ears pricked after appearing to struggle to gather momentum at the top of the Trentham straight.

Ridden patiently by regular pilot, apprentice Charlotte O'Beirne, Red Sierra found a powerful finishing burst when angled into the clear at the 200m mark as she strode past a gallant Perfect Harmonee (NZ) (Nadeem) to score by a neat length in the rating 85 1200m contest.

Co-trainer David Haworth admitted he had some concerns about the testing nature of the Trentham surface before the race.

"I thought she would struggle," he said.

"I had a good look at the track and took Charlotte out and we both had a good look at it. To Charlotte's credit she rode her exactly how I asked her to.

"She's a funny little thing (Red Sierra) but she keeps doing the job so



Gritty mare Red Sierra made it three wins from four starts in this campaign with her Trentham victory

you can't ask any more."

Haworth confirmed the mare would be heading to Riccarton to tackle the Winter Cup, the feature flat race during the three-day winter carnival.

"She will head to Christchurch for the Winter Cup as her next assignment," he said.

"She look's like she's not finished yet. She gets to the furlong and seems to find another couple of gears."

TAB bookmakers responded quickly to the performance as they installed the mare as the clear favourite for the Winter Cup at \$5 on the Fixed Odds market. She sits on the top line of betting ahead of Deals In Heels and She's Poppy (\$6) with another

Trentham winner in Dez at \$8 as fourth favourite for the race that will be run on 4 August.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	WRC Hiremaster H. 1200m.
Winner	Red Sierra (NZ) 2013
Owners	The Bram Syndicate
Trainer	David & Emma Haworth (Foxton)
Breeding	by Redwood (GB) out of Sierra Gold (AUS) by Encosta de Lago (AUS)
Breeder	G Harvey & Whangateau Thoroughbreds Ltd; Auckland; NZ
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale - Select Sale V: Westbury Stud \$10000 P: DR Haworth





TE AKAU RACING READY FOR NEW SEASON CHALLENGE

The powerful Te Akau racing team is gearing up for the challenges of the 2018-19 racing season, a season that will see young tyro Jamie Richards take over as head trainer at the Matamata based operation.

Te Akau boss David Ellis took time-out to answer questions put to him about what he expects from the stable over the next twelve months:

Q1. *It's obviously a time of change for Te Akau with Jamie Richards stepping up to the head trainer role – what qualities do you think he will bring to the role to continue the success the stable has had?*

In many ways, Jamie's appointment reminds of when Mark Walker came to Te Akau - he too was under 30 years of age when I appointed him as sole trainer and his career success speaks for itself.

Jamie brings with him great qualities to this role. He is a super horseman who has the ability to get inside each horse's head and work out how to make each horse happy. One of his greatest strengths is his attention to detail and he has a photographic memory for each horse.

He is a born leader and gets on really well with all staff at all levels.

Having the ability to help team members extend themselves and reach their own goals is a true asset and he brings out the best in each person. He is also a great judge of young horses and has been a valuable addition to my sale inspection commitments.

Q2. *Jamie often makes mention of the great work of the "team" at Te Akau – do you believe that is the key to how the stable has performed in recent years*

There will be a change at the Te Akau helm however, it's not actually a time of real change. Jamie Richards will be the sole Te Akau trainer but together with an outstanding team, it will be 'business as usual' with plenty of exciting goals for the new season.

We have a team of world class horse people - skilled and experienced professionals who contribute so much to Te Akau's success. It's now over 30 years since I established Te Akau Racing and we have a very strong framework of fundamentals in place, many of those instituted during Mark Walker's time as our New Zealand trainer. Now running Te Akau Singapore, Mark of course won five NZ Premierships and now has two Singapore titles to his name.

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Te Akau Racing boss David Ellis (centre) with Jamie Richards (left) and stable client John Galvin





TE AKAU RACING READY FOR NEW SEASON CHALLENGE

(Continued from page 8)

Q.3 *Have you set Jamie any specific goals for his first year in charge?*

I haven't set Jamie any specific goals because he has already done this himself - he is very motivated to see our owners and our horses succeed.

My job is to provide him with the best team and support that money can buy, this includes top track work riders and stable staff plus of course our stable jockey Opie Bosson is a massively important part of the team. Opie first worked in the Te Akau operation when he was just 14 years old. Plus, we have a great administration team behind Jamie, so he can concentrate solely on training our horses.

We are also very lucky to have my wife Karyn who is an enormously important part of the team and already this season she has sold 52 young horses. She, together with me, is really looking forward to the future with Jamie.

Q.4 *You have had a top season with your younger horses in particular performing at the highest levels – are they ready to kick on in the new season?*

We have a very impressive group of rising two-year-olds that have been educated beautifully. My policy is not to push young horses and put them under unreasonable pressure, rather let them tell us when they are ready to race.

This can be in October, November, December and some we don't even try till the Autumn if they are not quite ready.

The Karaka Million night has been the most successful promotion in my time and we love to have a crack at those million-dollar races.

In the last 18 months there have been five \$1 million races in NZ - and Te Akau has really been dominant with horses I am proud to have selected and purchased. They include (purchase price in brackets);

Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) – winner of the 2017 Karaka Million (\$57,500);

Gingernuts (NZ) (Iffraaj) – winner of the 2017 New Zealand Derby (\$42,500);

Avantage (Fastnet Rock) – winner of the 2018 Karaka Million (\$210,000) with Al Hasa (\$625,000) providing a Te Akau Quinella;

Mongolianconqueror (NZ) (Ocean Park) – runner-up in the 2018 New Zealand Derby (\$150,000);

Embellish (NZ) (Savabeel) – runner-up in the 2018 Karaka Million 3YO Classic (\$750,000)

Q5. *If you had to single out 5-6 horses that you expect big things from this season who would they be and why?*

We will have about 50 horses to trial at Te Teko in early August.

The horses I am picking to lead the

early charge are Mongolianconqueror, Melody Belle, Age of Fire (Fastnet Rock), Avantage and Sword of Osman (NZ) (Savabeel) but there are plenty of others that we are confident will step up to Group level. The quality of bloodstock that we have in the stable to race in the new season has everyone very excited.

Karyn and I are totally committed to making Jamie Richards a stand-out trainer and we will be buying more yearlings than ever especially at Karaka 2019, from where we have had so much success over the years.

Of the 52 horses we have bought we only have two shares now available in two fillies and interestingly, the final shares to sell last year were in subsequent Group One winners Avantage and Sword of Osman. We have had huge interest from new owners this year and we have welcomed about 130 brand new owners into the team already plus lots of reinvestment from our loyal, existing owners.

– NZ Racing Desk



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NZ STALLION AWARDS

THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$13,237,416
DARCI BRAHMA	\$11,051,232
TAVISTOCK	\$7,724,291
O'REILLY	\$7,602,744
ROAD TO ROCK	\$7,466,190
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$6,547,470
PER INCANTO	\$5,224,773
SHOWCASING	\$4,735,287
PINS	\$4,287,875
IFFRAAJ	\$3,953,990

Criteria: Sire whose NZ-conceived progeny have accumulated the highest stakes earnings worldwide

THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$8,244,888
DARCI BRAHMA	\$3,378,702
O'REILLY	\$3,107,289
TAVISTOCK	\$2,906,707
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$2,812,403
PINS	\$2,802,939
IFFRAAJ	\$2,668,104
RIP VAN WINKLE	\$2,456,393
PER INCANTO	\$2,336,769
MAKFI	\$2,219,587

Criteria: Sire whose progeny have accumulated the highest combined stakes earnings in Australia & New Zealand

THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS	BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$3,373,190	EMBELLISH	\$466,310
IFFRAAJ	\$1,822,577	GINGERNUTS	\$180,000
DARCI BRAHMA	\$1,789,353	DEVISE	\$157,750
TAVISTOCK	\$1,645,417	GOBSTOPPER	\$188,375
PER INCANTO	\$1,439,934	SHADOWS CAST	\$154,812
FASTNET ROCK	\$1,420,200	AVANTAGE	\$742,370
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$1,242,810	SAINT EMILION	\$218,300
ALAMOSA	\$1,236,433	STOLEN DANCE	\$131,450
PINS	\$1,115,915	PACKING PINS	\$122,750
ROC DE CAMBES	\$1,076,940	VIN DE DANCE	\$623,500

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



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NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG

JULY 11

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
FLYING MONKEY (NZ) 2012 by Pins (AUS) out of Dandify (AUS) by Danehill (USA)	N Turnbull; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Kings Falcon H. 1000m.	
NAMJONG PLUS (NZ) 2013 by Zacinto (GB) out of Volkara by Volksraad (GB)	Mrs D C & N J Cournane; South; NZ	HKJC Sweet Orange H. 1800m.	

NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG

JULY 15

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
MIDNITE PROMISE (NZ) 2010 by Librettist (USA) out of La Luciole (AUS) by Last Tycoon (IRE)	Killarney Bay Bloodstock Ltd; Auckland; NZ	HKJC Solar Hei Hei H. 1800m	
REGENCY DARLING (NZ) 2011 by Guillotine out of Alleyrun by Volksraad (GB)	A J & Est late A M Bishop; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Victory Marvel H. 1200m.	2013 National Yearling Sale - Select Session; V: Mapperley Stud Ltd, P: NZB as agent; \$30,000 2013 Ready to Run Sale; V: Diamond Lodge, P: Manfred Man; \$180,000
VIVA COUNCIL (NZ) 2013 by O'Reilly out of Holiday in Goa (AUS) by Stravinsky (USA)	T E Luke; Canterbury; NZ	HKJC All You Wish H. 1400m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V: Esker Lodge, P: NZB as agent; \$140,000 2015 Ready to Run Sale; V: Esker Lodge, P: PL Ho; \$325,000
SUPERICH (NZ) 2014 by Red Giant (USA) out of Daly Charm (AUS) by Best Western (AUS)	G Harvey; Auckland; NZ	HKJC Entrapment H. 1200m.	2016 Ready to Run Sale; V: Westbury Stud, P: Upper B/stock; \$44,000

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NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE JULY 13

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
HALLELUJAH(NZ) 2014 by Burgundy out of Paraiba by Faltaat (USA)	D C Ellis & C Huan; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Be Bee S. 1200m.	
DECRETO (NZ) by Red Giant (USA) out of Wandane (USA) by Danehill (USA)	G Harvey; Auckland; NZ	Singapore TC Kiwi Karma S. 1100m	2015 National Yearling Sale - Festival Session V: Westbury Stud, P: Mr JC Collett; \$15,000

NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE JULY 15

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
MASURAO (NZ) 2011 by Mastercraftsman (IRE) out of Black Bijou by Black Minnaloushe (USA)	Mrs W M Morton; NZ	Singapore TC Hello Paris S. 1400m.	2013 National Yearling Sale - Select Session; V: Haunui Farm, P: M Otani; \$50,000

