>>>> RACING&BREEDINGNEWS

Sunday 23 July 2017

CRACK ME UP CONTINUES BLACK-TYPE RUN WITH TOUGH TATT'S MILE VICTORY



A tight finish to the Tatt's Mile at Doomben, Crack Me Up and Michael Cahill (blue colours) just getting the better of Cruising Speed and expat-Kiwi Bridget Grylls.

rainer Liam Birchley believes the best is yet to come for impressive gelding **Crack Me Up (NZ)** (Mossman) who notched his third stakes win at Doomben yesterday, defying a dramatic \$2.50 to \$4 betting drift to win the Listed Tattersall's Mile (1600m) by a short head over \$12 shot

Cruising Speed (NZ) (Savabeel) with another length to Pindan Pearl (Testa Rossa).

The front-running \$2.20 favourite Sheiswhatsheis (Bernardino) led as usual but couldn't find a kick in the straight and faded to finish fifth, beaten 2½ lengths.

Continued on page 3







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Sunday 23 July 2017



CRACK ME UP CONTINUES BLACK-TYPE RUN WITH TOUGH TATT'S MILE VICTORY

(Continued from page 1)

Birchley credits his new rural training property at Woodford, 70km north-west of Brisbane, as the key to Crack Me Up's recent success. The gelding had not won for more than a year before taking out the Group Three Sunshine Coast Guineas on July 1 and has now recorded back-to-back wins.

"I think he has got a lot of upside," Birchley said. "He is only going to get stronger and more versatile and I'm really looking forward to the future with him.

"Having the scope to keep improving is exciting. He will go for a break now and we will assess things over the summer."

Jockey Michael Cahill, notching his third win for the day and having his first ride on Crack Me Up, said the rising fouryear-old showed a terrific will to win.

"I had a good horse underneath me," he said. "I was hoping to be closer in the run but he dug deep when it counted.

"He has got a good will to win and when he got into a dogfight you could really feel as though he wanted to win."

Birchley says Crack Me Up may be at his best over 2000

Birchley says Crack Me Up may be at his best over 2000 metres in the future.

- racenet.com.au

Race	Qld Tatt's RC Tattersall's Mile H. L 1600m
Winner	Crack Me Up (NZ) 2013
Owners	M A McLean, R J McLean, G G Chapman, S M Achilles, S R Webber, S N Edmondstone, R S Heritage, P J Daniel, L A Maddison, Mrs J C Maddison, J A Ford, G P Ford, J A McIntosh, C M Cygler, C J Wessel, Mrs T M Wessel, Ms D Aram, Hervey Jump Out Synd (Mgr: Ms S Murtagh)
Trainer	Liam Birchley (Woodford)
Breeding	by Mossman (Aus) out of Chuckle (Aus) by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	R A & J E Ferguson Partnership Syndicate



Celebrating Not Usual Trip's win at Ruakaka are, from left, Yutian Niu, Alex Teng, Peter Woods, Hongwei Chen and co-trainer Donna Logan. See story on page 14.





SOUND PROPOSITION THRIVING IN OZ

achel King continued her rise up the riding ranks with a winning double at Randwick yesterday, including victory on classy Kiwi performer **Sound Proposition (NZ)** (Savabeel) in the 1800 metre Heritage Volunteers Handicap.

Kris Lees is among those King travelled to ride for in her formative stages and the Newcastle trainer has

Race	ATC Heritage Volunteers H. 1800m
Winner	Sound Proposition (NZ) 2011
Owners	C P Tobin, Mrs J M Tobin, T G Tobin, Mrs S E Tobin, I B Trayling and R Trayling
Trainer	Kris Lees (Newcastle)
Breeding	by Savabeel (Aus) out of Ebony Babe by Ebony Grosve
Breeder	Mrs S E & T G Tobin and R Trayling

no hesitation putting up the 26-yearold in bigger races.

With her apprentice's claim now at 1.5kg, Sound Proposition carried 60kg.

He was backed late from \$5.50 to \$3.50 to wrest favouritism from \$3.70 shot Loyalty Man (Fastnet Rock) with the pair covering the final hundred metres together. In a tight finish, Sound Proposition prevailed by a head with early leader Jacquinot Bay (Galileo) heading the rest, another 41/4 lengths away.

"Rachel rode him perfectly," Lees said. "He didn't have the best of starts but she got him into the one-one.

"This horse has a lot of upside."

A Group One winner of the Easter Stakes in New Zealand when trained by Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott at Matamata, Sound Proposition was taken to Queensland in May for an attempt on the Doomben Cup. Transferred to Lees following a midfield finish there, he has had two starts for two wins from his new quarters.

Lees is hoping he can reach Group One level in Australia this spring.

"I'll give him a bit of a freshen-up and get him ready for the Cameron Handicap at Newcastle and then the Epsom," he said.

"I think he could be a lightweight chance in an Epsom."

The 1500 metre Cameron is on September 15 with the Group One Epsom Mile fifteen days later.

King, who had also been aboard Sound Proposition in his previous win, was full of praise for the five-year-old.

"It was a super win," she said. "He had to be really tough and do a bit of work early. I had to ask him for an

effort a bit earlier than I wanted to, just to hold our spot.

"He's definitely better than this grade."

– AAP TURF & racenet.com.au



Sound Proposition's class shows through as he overpowers Loyalty Man, to whom he was conceding 5kg, in the Open 1800 at Randwick.





PORTMAN LOOKS HEADED FOR THE TOP



Hot favourite Portman strides purposefully through the line to take the Benchmark 84 1400 at Flemington.

rainer Danny O'Brien believes **Portman (NZ)** (Makfi) is a future stakes-class performer after the gelding continued his consistent season with a win at Flemington yesterday, the four-year-old not disappointing his army of supporters when sent out the \$2.05 favourite in the Murray Cox Handicap.

Portman had settled just behind the leaders and one off the fence before taking over at the business end of the 1400 metre event to defeat Orient Line (Show A Heart) by threequarters of a length.

It was Portman's fourth win from eleven career starts and he has not been out of the placings in eight starts this season.

"Once he settled in that spot he was always going to be the one to beat," O'Brien said.

"He's always been a very talented horse.

"He had his first start here at the same meeting two years ago as a two-year-old and put in a terrific run from back in the field to run third.

"Then he got pneumonia and nearly died and then he hurt his knee. So he's been in the wars but he's obviously come solid now off a good summer preparation last time in."

Portman broke his maiden at Bendigo last November in his first start from a lengthy break and has added another three wins this season, including yesterday's victory in his second start of his latest campaign.

"He's come back this time and it looks like he's going to go on to a good level," O'Brien said.

"I think he's certainly a black-type horse going forward."

Portman's win gave Craig Williams a double yesterday after starting the meeting level with Beau Mertens, who failed to score, in the Melbourne jockeys' premiership.

- AAP TURF

Race	VRC Murray Cox H. 1400m
Winner	Portman (NZ) 2012
Owners	Qatar Bloodstock Ltd (Mgr: D Redvers) and D T & Mrs J O'Brien
Trainer	Danny O'Brien (Barwon Heads)
Breeding	by Makfi (GB) out of Farasha by Jeune (GB)
Breeder	Qatar Bloodstock





SWAMPLAND DELIVERS FOR HENRY

enry Dwyer is not normally one to forgo the chance to celebrate a Flemington winner, but he had a good excuse for not being on hand to greet **Swampland (NZ)** (Redwood) at the winner's stall yesterday.

The expectant father was at home with wife Bec, who is close to giving birth.

That left stable foreman Matt Jenkins to do the talking after Swampland won the Domain Plate for three-yearold fillies.

"I think he's been on standby all week," Jenkins said, "so we're just hoping for a safe arrival."

The Caulfield horseman no doubt tuned in for the 1400 metre event and would have been thrilled to see the Karaka sales graduate get the chance to show what she can do.

Although she had been placed at six of her first nine starts, which included a narrow Cranbourne victory at her previous outing, she had not encountered the best of luck.

A smart ride by Chris Symons ensured the well-backed filly, punted from \$13 in to \$7.50, had clear running and she responded with a swift finishing burst that carried her to a head victory over \$3.90 favourite and topweight Moonlites Choice



(Bushranger), bidding to give Craig Williams his third win for the day, with \$8 chance Princess Of Queens (Magnus) 134 lengths away third.

"She's got a good turn of foot,"

Jenkins said, "but hasn't always been able to show it because she's been luckless. So it was good to see her get clear running and show that turn of foot."

Symons was happy to get a win on a cold and windy day at Flemington.

"She had a perfect run. She's always tardy away but I got on the back of Craig Williams. I knew he was going to take me into the race," he said.

He then added with a laugh, "I just outrode him."

- Racing.com

Swampland continues her progress as she edges past favourite Moonlites Choice in the fillies 1400 metre event at Fleminaton.

Race	VRC Domain P. 1400m
Winner	Swampland (NZ) 2013
Owners	D W Stutt, E M McNulty, J D Morris, B J Nash, C C Johnstone, K P Johnstone, C Bredbury, R G Freer, S G Freer and D Scalzo
Trainer	Henry Dwyer (Caulfield)
Breeding	by Redwood (GB) out of Marsh Harbour by Volksraad (GB)
Breeder	G Harvey and Whangateau Thoroughbreds Ltd
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Westbury Stud, P: Henry Dwyer Racing; \$82,500





RIYADH WORTHY OF COUNTRY CUP BID

ormer Hong Kong galloper **Riyadh (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) has completed a winning hat-trick with a narrow comefrom-behind victory at Flemington.

After successive victories in Hong Kong in 2013, Riyadh lost form and was sent to Australia by connections, joining the stable of Peter Healey in late 2015.

After victories in a Benchmark 70 1400 metre at Pakenham in May and Flemington's Provincial Plate last month, Riyadh added yesterday's 1600 metre VRC Recognition Handicap to his tally of seven wins from 47 starts.

Ridden by Brian Higgins and starting at a lucrative \$13, Riyadh scored by a short head over dead-heaters Electric Fusion (Fastnet Rock) and Gervais (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle).

Healey said he may now have to aim a little higher with the rising eight-year-old.

"He's been a good horse for us and I think we might have to rethink him now," the Mornington trainer said.

"He might be a bit better than we thought.

"Something like the Kyneton Cup, a little off the main spring races, might be up his alley."

Healey attributes Riyadh's turn-around from his days in Hong Kong to being injury free. And keeping the gelding fresh between runs has also contributed to his consistent form.

Healey plans to make the most of it, although he's unsure where Riyadh's next assignment will be.

"We'll keep him ticking over while he's in form," he said.

"He spends all day in the paddock, goes to the beach most mornings and, importantly, is a happy horse."

- AAP TURF

Race	VRC Recognition H. 1600m
Winner	Riyadh (NZ) 2009
Owners	G K K Tong
Trainer	Peter Healey (Mornington)
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of Tempestra by O'Reilly
Breeder	Mrs R A Horton
Sales	2011 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Little Avondale Stud, P: Beamish Bloodstock; \$100,000



A well-timed finish sees Riyadh (nearest camera) complete a trio of wins in the opening race at Flemington.



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STEWARDS CONFIRM WIN FOR HINGUS

tewards were called on to decide the result of an action-packed Tattersall's Two-Year-Old at yesterday's Doomben meeting, eventually confirming first-home **Hingus Rose (NZ)** (Swiss Ace) as the winner.

Race	Qld Tatt's RC Functions at Tattersalls 2YO H. 1110m
Winner	Hingus Rose (NZ) 2014
Owners	Kendrick Racing (Mgr S W Kendrick) and L Britt
Trainer	Stuart Kendrick (Caloundra)
Breeding	by Swiss Ace (Aus) out of Rose o'War (Aus) by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	Ramsey Pastoral Co Pty Ltd

Before the field lined up, the 1110 metre race had lost pre-post favourite La Vida Loca (Jet Spur) when she dumped rider Robbie Fradd on the way to the barrier, while Prossimita (Golden Archer) was also a late scratching.

Apprentice Tiffani Brooker took
Hingus Rose to the lead at barrier rise
and then held on to beat Umberto
(Not A Single Doubt) by a long head in
a driving finish.

But Umberto's rider Jim Byrne fired in a protest alleging interference from the 250 metre mark when he was going for a run on the rails inside Hingus Rose.

"I was entitled to the run and I was into it when Hingus Rose moved in and took the run. I had to go back and around them and I should a have won," Byrne said.

Brooker said that while there was a small run available she wasn't sure Byrne had ever fully got into it.

"I was also taken in later by the horse on my outside (Calligrapher)," she said.

After deliberating for seven minutes, stewards dismissed the protest.

"Stewards have deliberated for a long time and we cannot be certain after viewing all angles that the

> incident warrants changing the result," chief steward Allan Reardon said.

Hingus Rose gave Brooker her 49th metropolitan winner of the season and she has two meetings left to equal Tegan Harrison's record of 51 by a female jockey in Brisbane.

- AAP TURF

Hingus Rose (red cap) fights off a crowding Calligrapher to win the juvenile 1100 at Doomben. The second-placed protestor Umberto is out of picture after having to switch around Calligrapher to lodge his challenge.







WHANGAREI CUP REPEAT BY SMEDLEY

medley (NZ) (Colombia) again showed the dour side of his nature at Ruakaka where he successfully defended his ITM Whangarei Gold Cup title.

The rising nine-year-old regularly hits a flat spot in his races and part-owner and trainer Clayton Stevenson yesterday emphasised that to his rider Jordan Nason.

"I said don't give up on him, he always gets a second wind and he'll keep coming," Stevenson said. "It was Jordan's first ride on him so we're all really pleased."

Smedley beat Candle In The Wind (NZ) (Darci Brahma) to take major honours in 2016 while Stevenson's late father Dick prepared the veteran's half-sister Letsgoparty (NZ) (Oregon) to win the Cup in 2008.

"Dad liked the family and after she first trialled he went out and bought the mother," Stevenson said.

Smedley enjoyed a cosy run on the fence and responded to Nason's urgings with a sustained finish that saw them triumph in a driving finish from the local hopes Kaharau (NZ) (Ad Valorem), Zafrenzy (NZ) (Savabeel) and Greencast (NZ) (Iffraaj).

The gelding got home by a head and much to Nason's relief as he lost an iron about 150 metres from the post.

Smedley has now won three times at Ruakaka to go with his five successes at Ellerslie and one apiece at Dargaville and Pukekohe.

"He gets a bit restless when he goes further away,"
Stevenson said. "He's fine travelling down there on the truck
but when he stays somewhere overnight he just doesn't
settle or eat up."

Race	Whangarei RC Whangarei Gold Cup 2100m
Winner	Smedley (NZ) 2008
Owners	C B & Mrs V C and Est late R J Stevenson
Trainer	Clayton Stevenson (Waipu)
Breeding	by Colombia out of Party Jet by Jetball (Aus)
Breeder	R J Stevenson



With the characteristic low head carriage of a solid stayer, Smedley fights off the tough challenge from Kaharau to win his second Whangarei Gold Cup.





TONY HAS HIGH HOPES FOR CHACHAR



Chachar (green and blue colours) enhances her reputation as a quality sprinter and first-up specialist as she works past Stradivarius in the Rating 85 1200 at Ruakaka.

ambridge trainer Tony Pike expects **Chachar (NZ)** (Thorn Park) to be keeping good company in the near future, producing the five-year-old for a stylish first-up victory in the Bay of Islands ITM 1200 at Ruakaka yesterday and tipping her to continue her progression through the sprinting ranks.

"She was really impressive after trialling up well," Pike said. "She's a good mare fresh and this was a nice race for her with a light weight. She should progress through to a stakes race next season."

Chachar, who has now won five of

her eighteen starts, settled behind the pace on the fence and didn't need to be asked twice by rider Vinnie Colgan to dive between runners in the closing 150 metres for a decisive victory.

Stradivarius (NZ) (Stravinsky) took second money ahead of the winner's stablemate Hollywood Lass (NZ) (Swiss Ace), who delighted Pike with her effort, sitting one off the fence in second spot under apprentice Jordan Nason and fighting on bravely in the run home.

"She's gone very well and needs better ground," he said. "She'll keep and once she gets on the better spring tracks she'll pick up a race quickly."

Hollywood Lass has been sparingly raced with two wins on her CV from ten appearances.

"She can be a bit temperamental in the gates and we did have a few issues with her feet but when she's right she is very talented," Pike said.

Race	Whangarei RC Bay of Islands ITM H. 1200m
Winner	Chachar (NZ) 2011
Owners	J C & Mrs M A Thompson
Trainer	Tony Pike (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Thorn Park (Aus) out of Shemozzle by Kaapstad
Breeder	J C & Mrs M A Thompson





BRENDON'S STABLE IN THE MONEY

rendon Hawtin produced his second winner in double quick time when honesty was rewarded with the win by **Money Trail (NZ)** (Per Incanto) at Ruakaka.

The Waikato trainer had saddled the enigmatic Animator (Encosta de Lago) to score at Hastings last Thursday and his stablemate followed that lead yesterday, courtesy of a tidy ride from promising apprentice Hairi Marzuki.

Race	Whangarei RC Lion Red H. 1200m
Winner	Money Trail (NZ) 2012
Owners	M N & Mrs P E M Brindley
Trainer	Brendon Hawtin (Te Awamutu)
Breeding	by Per Incanto (USA) out of Nikki's Bride by O'Reilly
Breeder	D J Gordon, B J D Hutchinson and Little Avondale Trust
Sales	2014 Ready to Run Sale; V: Beatson Stables Ltd, P: Capistrano Lodge; \$40,000

"Animator should be in open company, he's got that much ability but he's got mental issues and he even tried to throw it away the other day," Hawtin said.

"He's going to have a break now and then we might go back for the first day of the carnival at Hawke's Bay – he won there last year."

Money Trail also has a short holiday booked at co-owner Pam Brindley's property.

"He's going to go to Pam's place on Monday," Hawtin said. "We're going to tip him out for a couple of weeks and then get him ready for the spring."

As planned, Money Trail settled behind the pace on the rail and Marzuki set him alight as the field fanned out in the straight.

"He was three back on the fence and didn't leave it so it was a ten out of ten ride," Hawtin said.

"Money Trail gives a hundred per cent every time he goes around. It took us a little while to work him out, though.

"He showed a lot of speed early on but wasn't finishing his races off so we rode him cold one day at Te Aroha and he came from last to run third. That's the kind of pattern we've kept and don't push him early on in his races."

Money Trail had two lengths to spare on Danger Dee (NZ) (Saperavi), who ran on late to cut the front-runner Sacred Guru (NZ) (Savabeel) out of second money.



Money Trail is well clear and doing it easily as Hairi Marzuki guides him home in the Rating 65 sprint.



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NOT USUAL TRIP THUMPS RIVALS

recocious youngster **Not Usual Trip** (Stryker) booked himself another outing in black type company with a commanding performance at Ruakaka off the back of a break.

Trained on the course by Donna Logan and Chris Gibbs, the heavily backed colt thumped his rivals in yesterday's Tavistock Owners' Syndicate 2YO.

"We've obviously got a lot of time for the horse and the 1000 metres was the only question mark; it was a little bit short for him but, gee, he won well," Logan said.

Not Usual Trip was a debut winner at Ellerslie in April and was then put aside after finishing fourth at Te Rapa behind the now Melbourne-based Ardrossan (Redoute's Choice) in the Listed Waikato Equine Veterinary Centre Stakes.

"The Northland Breeders' Stakes here looks a nice stepping stone so we'll probably look at that for him," Logan said.

Not Usual Trip is raced by Hongwei Chen and Alex Teng's Horse Feng Bloodstock, who have recently acquired an interest in his Qiji Phoenix (Not A Single Doubt), the winner of three of his four starts for Logan and Gibbs before joining Chris Waller's Sydney stable.

Yesterday's victory also announced rider Matt Cameron's return to the northern jockeys' ranks following a European holiday.



In company with a large number of attendees, Matt Cameron was a late arrival at yesterday's Ruakaka meeting but managed to link up with Not Usual Trip in time for a 5½ length win in the juvenile event.

He was able to enjoy a smooth introduction aboard the colt, who answered positively when asked to sprint off a handy sit and careered away to win by five and a half lengths.

"He's a top horse. He's pretty cruisy and also won his first race nicely," Cameron said. "I knew I had the horse underneath me on the turn and he kicked well. He's coming up nicely."

Race	Whangarei RC Tavistock Owners Syndicate 2YO S. 1000m
Winner	Not Usual Trip (Aus) 2014
Owners	HSF Bloodstock
Trainer	Donna Logan & Chris Gibbs (Ruakaka)
Breeding	by Stryker (Aus) out of Fandanita (Ire) by Anita's Prince (Ire)
Breeder	Mr R Kervers and Lyn Karpowicz

