

Sunday 3 June 2018

EXPRESS RESULT FOR WINDSOR PARK



London Express downs Qiji Express to deliver a royal result for sire Shamexpress (Race Images)

Windsor Park Stud's hopes for their Group One-winning stallion Shamexpress are being fulfilled. "We didn't expect that he would get really early two-year-olds, we thought they would come at the back end of the season and he's doing that," the Cambridge farm's principal Rodney Schick said.

Shamexpress duly delivered a stunning result at Wanganui on Saturday when his juveniles **London Express (NZ)** and

Qiji Express (NZ) dominated the finish of the Listed John Turkington Forestry Castletown Stakes (1200m).

"For him to have now had five winners and a stakes quinella is fantastic," Schick said.

The Allan Sharrock-trained London Express came with a determined finish from the back of the field to account for Qiji Express, who is prepared by Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman.

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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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EXPRESS RESULT FOR WINDSOR PARK

(Continued from page 1)

"I bumped into Allan at the sale on the Gold Coast and he was fairly confident and Andrew was as well," Schick said. "They both look good prospects for the spring."

By O'Reilly out of Volksrose (NZ), a daughter of former champion Windsor Park resident Volksraad, Shamexpress was a top-quality galloper with victory in the Gr.1 Newmarket Handicap (1200m) as a three-year-old his career highlight.

"He was a very fast horse with a middle distance pedigree, like Thorn Park," Schick said.

"He's a bull of a horse, very powerful and good-looking and he puts that into his progeny. He's been very well-supported so the future is looking good."

Windsor Park may well be celebrating further black type success at Te Rapa tomorrow where Shamxpress' son Cyber Attack (NZ), a last-start winner, runs in the Listed Ssanyong Auckland Futurity Stakes (1400m).

At Wanganui, his daughter London Express settled at the tail of the field before she picked up ground nearing the turn and she finished off in style.

"There looked a lot of speed on paper and it ran accordingly, they went hard early," rider Johnathan Parkes said.

"Once I got out to the better part of the track she let down with a mighty run."

Qiji Express fought on gallantly, despite racing greenly under pressure, and the Lisa Latta-prepared Secret Allure (NZ) (Zacinto) was third to the post ahead of her stablemate Sentimental Miss.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	J. Turkington Forestry Castletown Stakes L. 1200m
Winner	London Express (NZ) 2015
Owners	KT & Mrs T M Brophy, T Castles, E S Davies, K D Landrigan, A McKenzie & A Milne
Trainer	Allan Sharrock (New Plymouth)
Breeding	by Shamexpress out of London Dream by Handsome Ransom (AUS)
Breeder	K T & Mrs T M Brophy & K D Landrigan



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TOMELILLA RISES TO THE CHALLENGE AT WANGANUI

Time has been the making of the valuable mare **Tomelilla (NZ)** (Tavistock), who showed her fighting qualities at Wanganui to add to her black type record.

The daughter of Tavistock overcame unsuitable track conditions on Saturday to post a slender victory in the Listed Ag Challenge Stakes (1590m).

As a five-year-old, Tomelilla is at the top of her game and had headed south from her Cambridge quarters off the back of victory in the Gr.3 Rotorua Stakes (1400m).

"She's been a slow maturing mare and she's got better and better and now she's made sharp progress this preparation," said Andrew Forsman, who trains with Murray Baker.

"I'm not sure what we'll do now, but obviously we'll try to get more black type with her. I don't think there's any reason why we wouldn't carry on with her."

Tomelilla raced toward the back of the field before improving 800m from home and she finished resolutely for rider Troy Harris in the straight.

"He was niggling at her to get going and then it got tight for room, but she got the job done," Forsman said.

Tomelilla shouldered her way between runners and got in the deciding stride to beat the local hope *She's Poppy* (NZ) (Alamosa).

"She definitely wants rain on the day," Harris said. "I wasn't that confident, she was struggling with the track, but she's very tough."

Taurus (NZ) (No Excuse Needed) ran third ahead of *Ringo* (NZ) (Fastnet Rock) and the unlucky *Scapolo* (NZ) (Bachelor Duke), who was unable to get clear air until too late.

Tomelilla's barn mate *Ambitious Winner* (NZ) (Nadeem) completed a double for the stable when he won the closing event, the St Johns Club Celebrating 125 Years 1590m, while the third member of the travelling party *Qiji Express* (NZ) (Shamexpress)

was second in the Listed John Turkington Forestry Castletown Stakes (1200m).

"He's a classy horse and he'll keep for the better tracks in the spring," Forsman said.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	AG Challenge Stakes L. 1590m
Winner	Tomelilla (NZ) 2012
Owners	Mrs M E Baker & G J Jones
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Tavistock out of Purnima (AUS) by Dubai Destination (USA)
Breeder	R A Emery
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sales – Festival Sale; V: Belvedere Farm, P: Mr GJ Jones; \$15,000



Tomelilla (blue and gold) downs She's Poppy at Wanganui (Race Images)





CHANGE OF PLAN WORKS PERFECTLY FOR DAGNY



Rosehill winner Dagny (Bradley Photographers)

Kerrin McEvoy's intuition has paid dividends as he disregarded Chris Waller's instructions to boot **Dagny (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) to victory in the Eremein Handicap (1800m) at Rosehill.

McEvoy opted to stick to the rail on the five-year-old mare before he found clear air in the straight in the latter stages of the 1800m race on Saturday.

The \$4.20 favourite scored by three-quarters of a length.

"It was a genius ride coming up the fence to save some ground, which proved the difference in the finish," Waller said.

"I said pre-race she'll be back near last, try and get into a three-wide line and at the 600 get her out in the middle of the track.

"Kerrin did the opposite. That's where the good jockeys can say, 'I know what Chris said but I'm going to do this because I'll

save myself four lengths."

Waller said Dagny might head to the Listed Ipswich Cup (2150m) on June 16.

"It might be too much to ask but there's not a lot else around for her. We'll weight up the options later in the week," he said. -AAP

Race	Eremein H. 1800m
Winner	Dagny (NZ) 2012
Owners	C E Holt
Trainer	Chris Waller (Rosehill)
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of One Perfect Day by Fusaichi Pegasus (USA)
Breeder	Mrs H G & W G Bax & Go Bloodstock New Zealand Ltd
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sales – Premier Sale; V: Blandford Lodge, P: Kitchwin Hills; \$34,000





FLYING START FOR WELL-BRED 3YO

The well-related **Ruomaza (NZ)** (Azamour) raced up to his pedigree when making a perfect start to his career on his home track.

Trained by part-owner Kevin Myers at Wanganui, the three-year-old overcame a chequered run on Saturday to win the Lowe Schollum Jones (1340m) with ease.

He is a son of the ill-fated European Group One winner Azamour and Country Rose (NZ), a Centaine mare who was successful eight times including the Gr.3 Manawatu

Challenge Stakes (1400m) and a further three Listed victories.

Ruomaza settled back in the field and stable apprentice Sarah MacNab was forced to be patient before she could find room to improve between runners.

“We got into the better part of the track and when he was clear he ran home really well,” she said.

Bred and sold by Brighthill Farm at Karaka in 2016 for \$20,000, Ruomaza’s debut success wasn’t unexpected as all the pre-race signs had been encouraging.

“He trialled up well and he showed that today,” MacNab said. “I got him to settle, which had been a problem but he did it all well this time.”

A Waverley trial winner over 1000m last month, Ruomaza lengthened stride stylishly in the run home to relegate Sardeen (NZ) (Nadeem) to another minor placing, the 10th of his career, with Original Gangster (NZ) (Road To Rock) taking third money.

Meanwhile, promising mare Red Sierra (NZ) (Redwood)

announced her return to racing in emphatic fashion with a hollow victory in the Wanganui Chronicle Handicap (1340m).

The David and Emma Haworth-trained mare was a clear last out of the gates before finishing powerfully in the straight to win going away.

“She’s a good horse who’s taken a bit of time,” apprentice rider Charlotte O’Beirne said. “She’s quite quirky and needs clear air, she got that and let down beautifully.”

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Lowe Schollum Jones 1340m
Winner	Ruomaza (NZ) 2014
Owners	KT Myers & Eternal Optimists Syndicate
Trainer	Kevin Myers (Wanganui)
Breeding	by Azamour (IRE) out of Country Rose by Centaine (AUS)
Breeder	Mrs A M King
Sales	2016 Ready To Run Sale of 2yos; V: Brighthill Farm, P: Mr KT Myers; \$20,000



Impressive debut winner Ruomaza (Race Images)





GROUP THREE TARGET FOR TOUGH SOUTHERNER

Shakti (NZ) (Duelled) turned in a dour performance to win at Wingatui, but trainer Jo-Ann Gordon has her eye on a shorter stakes prize for the eight-year-old.

The son of Duelled was successful for the third time from his last four appearances when he outstayed his rivals to claim the Brocklebanks Dry Cleaners Handicap (2200m).

Apprentice Gosen Jogoo lightened Shakti's load to 59.5kg and the gelding was gallant in victory, giving the runner-up Tilly Dunnage (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) eight and a-half kilos.

"I'm going to run him in the mile at Christchurch," Gordon said, referring to the Gr.3 Estar Winter Cup (1600m) at Riccarton during the Grand National carnival. "That's the long-term aim."

The winner of nine races, Shakti settled outside the leader and was ready to pounce at the top of the straight.

"It was a good ride by Gosen, with that weight we couldn't afford to get too far back and he got him to settle well," Gordon said.

Shakti was in front soon after straightening and he stuck to his task admirably in the run to the post to beat Tilly Dunnage by half a-length



Group goal awaits the in-form Shakti (Wild Range Photography)

with the pacemaker Shezatoucha (NZ) (Showcasing) battling on for third.

"He's a fit horse, he's been in work for a long time," Gordon said. "He's very, very tough."

Shakti's success continued a satisfying season for her trainer, who has now produced a personal best of 20 winners this term.

- NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Brocklebanks Dry Cleaners 2200m
Winner	Shakti (NZ) 2009
Owners	Miss J M Gordon, J S Mee, M W Scott & T G You
Trainer	Jo-Ann Gordon (Ascot Park)
Breeding	by Duelled (AUS) out of Show'Em Babe (AUS) by Show A Heart (AUS)
Breeder	Phuttocks End Ltd

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BACK-IN-FORM ROBIN HOOD STEALS THE RICHES

Robin Hood (NZ) (Nom Du Jeu) bounced back to the winner's circle in style in the S\$80,000 Class 3 race over 1400m on Friday night.

The Nom Du Jeu six-year-old had slipped under the radar since his last win which came more than a year ago in a Benchmark 83 race over 1700m.

But that old dash and fighting spirit that marked his previous five wins was back to the fore on Friday night as apprentice Noh Senari brought him to a striking position at the 300m.

Once he put a space of two lengths between him and the chasing pack, the race was all but sewn up.

Robin Hood went on to post a 1 3/4-length win.

Noh, who was snapping his own lean spell, having not greeted the judge since March.

He thought he was heading home empty-handed again when he was legged-up aboard the \$113 longshot, who was the last of his four rides for the night.

"I thought things couldn't get any worse after I dropped the whip earlier. I was kalang kabut (panicking in Malay)," said Noh.

"I didn't expect this one (Robin Hood) to win, but he was back to his best tonight. He was always travelling nicely for me and kicked clear nicely on the Long Course."

With that sixth win in 31 starts, Robin Hood has now amassed more than S\$300,000 in prizemoney for the Eight Eight One Stable.

-STC

Race	STC Class 3 1400m
Winner	Robin Hood (NZ) 2011
Owners	Eight Eight One Stable
Trainer	Hai Wang Tan (Singapore)
Breeding	by Nom Du Jeu out of Bail Us Out by Justice Prevails (AUS)
Breeder	Goodwood Stud Ltd



Robin Hood returns to winning ways on Friday night. (STC)



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Proisir ex Nancho Bella colt.
(Breaker, Riversley Park)

"She's the best moving horse I've seen in my lifetime at this stage (breaking-in) of her education."

Trainer - **Alex Oliveira**, speaking of a Proisir ex Bunny Falls yearling filly

"I'm super impressed with their attitudes and aptitude...

They're good types, they come to it really quickly and are very willing horses."

Trainer - **Danny Frye** who has broken-in three Proisir yearlings

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ABSOLVIDO OVERCOMES RAWNESS TO SCORE SECOND-UP

Top pick **Absolvido (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) gave connections and backers some heart flutters in the straight but his raw ability saved the day in the end.

After stumbling out of the gates in the S\$20,000 Open Maiden race over 1400m, the \$18 favourite was dropped to the rear by jockey Glen Boss, whipping the 12-horse field in for most of the way.

The Rip Van Winkle four-year-old did start to improve noticeably from the 500m, but another furlong later, was mired in a big spot of bother.

Not only was Absolvido caught behind a wall of horses, but his greenness and inclination to throw his head around compounded matters further.

Without resorting to the whip, Boss pushed the Steven Burridge-trained New Zealand-bred right through, steering him to a resounding 1 ¾ length-win.

“He checked at the start, he clipped heels and I dropped him right back. He was still very green throughout,” said Boss.

“He was like a deer caught in the headlights. He had no idea what was happening, especially in the straight.

“But once he got clear, he was very good.”

Burridge said the yard held a high opinion of the Premier Racing Stable-owned latest recruit, but knew they had to give him a bit of time to mature further.

“This horse showed ability from the start but he was also a slow-maturing sort,” said the Australian trainer.

“His first run was good (closing fifth to Eddie Gray in an Open Maiden race over 1200m on May 6). There was not much point riding him differently as he’s the type of horse who gets back and sprints home late.

“We just had to ride him for luck and it’s paid off. He’ll run a mile easy – and it’s good for Wade (son and head of Premier Racing Stable) to have another winner.”

Race	STC Open Maiden 1400m
Winner	Absolvido (NZ) 2013
Owners	Premier Racing Stable
Trainer	Steven Burridge (Singapore)
Breeding	by Rip Van Winkle (IRE) out of Diamond Rock (AUS) by Rock of Gibraltar (IRE)
Breeder	River Park Farm Ltd

Absolvido, who was previously named Rip’n’Run, caught the eye of the Premier Racing boss at a barrier trial in Perth.

“He’s a well-trained individual but still very green, but as you could see from tonight’s win, he’s got lengths on this lot,” said Wade Burridge.

“I didn’t know about him until he trialed at Belmont in Perth. I thought he was a nice horse, and he will probably make the grade here.”

-STC



Absolvido charges home to get the money at his second outing. (STC)





KING'S SPEECH MAKES EARLY STATEMENT ON DEBUT

Trainer Stephen Gray's charmed run since his Lion City Cup triumph on Saturday continued with a newcomer in the shape of **King's Speech (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) obliging at his first run in the S\$85,000 Restricted Maiden race over 1200m on Friday night.

Gray said he had not really expected the Darci Brahma three-year-old to get on the board at his launch, and he was more the sort who would improve with more mileage.

"I normally give my horses three barrier trials before they get their first

run, but I told Vlad (Duric) as there was nothing on grass, I might as well give him his first run in this race," he said.

"I still didn't think he would win first-up even if he's done well at his trials at home.

"At the 300m, I thought he would run second or third, but he impressed me with that win. There is still so much improvement in him.

"It's great for Paul. That's what racing is all about, Garry Carvell (bloodstock agent) and myself bought this horse as a yearling for NZ\$80,000 and he's won about \$45,000 at his first race."



King's Speech finishes the best to score on debut. (STC)

Duric said King's Speech was the "ultimate professional" despite lacking race experience.

"Steve said to me prior to the race that the horse impressed him even if he was still green and cheeky," said the Singapore champion jockey.

"I thought he would need half a dozen starts before he improves on his mannerisms, but to the horse's credit, he was the ultimate professional. He did draw a good barrier (four) which is important and we had a beautiful run throughout.

"The pace was steady at one stage, and I was worried a little, but he

showed good quality to win the race." -STC

Race	STC Restricted Maiden 1200m
Winner	King's Speech (NZ) 2014
Owners	St George Stable
Trainer	Stephen Gray (Singapore)
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of Serenity Princess (AUS) by Encosta De Lago (AUS)
Breeder	The Oaks Stud
Sales	2016 National Yearling Sale - Select Sale, V: The Oaks Stud, P: Mr S Gray; \$80,000





SEA KING DESERVES ANOTHER CHANCE - FANNIN

Top jumper **Sea King (NZ)** (Shinko King) can be forgiven his last-start performance, according to rider Shaun Fannin.

They finished fifth in the Waikato Hurdles (3200m) and the top jumps jockey believes the Kevin Myers-trained 11-year-old is more than capable of bouncing back in Sunday's Irvines McGregor Grant Steeplechase (3900m) at Te Rapa.

"The ground was quite shifty and he came off the bridle down the back straight," Fannin said

"He got going again and when he came back he had sand in his eyes and nostrils, he just didn't like the

conditions on the day.

"The same thing happened in the Waikato Hurdles last season when I pulled him up and he won the Awapuni Hurdles after that."

Fannin has no doubt the rising 12-year-old Sea King can give a stirring account of himself on Sunday.

"He's as well as he's ever been," he said. "Hopefully, it's a better track and he's a year older and the speed of the hurdle races is a little bit fast for him – he'll be better-suited to the steeplechase speed."

Fannin will also be aboard the stablemates **Game Percy (NZ)** (Sir Percy) in the K. S. Browne Hurdle

(3200m), **Windermere Lad (NZ)** (High Chaparral) in the Celebrating Authentic Paddy Hurdle (2800m) and **Gagarin (NZ)** (Pentire) in the Celebrating Ladies First Steeplechase (3900m).

A last-start fifth on the flat, Game Percy finished runner-up over fences at Wanganui two runs back.

"He was beaten by Tallyho Twinkletoe, who's a good horse, and while this is a step up it's a pretty good form line," Fannin said.

Windermere Lad is a relative newcomer to jumping, but Gagarin is at the other end of the scale over the smaller fences.

A former Great Northern Hurdles (4190m) and Hawke's Bay Hurdle (3190m) winner, he has had a run on the flat to ready him for his steeplechase debut.

– NZ Racing Desk.



Shaun Fannin (Race Images)

