*>>> RACING&BREEDINGNEWS

Monday 18 June 2018

KIWI JOCKEY AMPED FOR ROYAL ASCOT

tar Kiwi jockey James McDonald has a gilt-edged chance to secure his first Royal Ascot win this week.

McDonald, who left for England after riding at Warwick Farm on Wednesday, has picked up the ride on the Charlie Hills-trained Equilateral (Equiano) in the Gr.1 £500,000 Commonwealth Cup (six furlongs, about 1207m) at the Royal meeting this Saturday (NZ time).

"He's come in to favouritism so hopefully they're right. Charlie sent me the link to his last-start win and he looks very good," McDonald said.

"Charlie reckons he's one of the best sprinters he's had - and that's saying something because he had Muhaarar, who won five Group Ones. But he reckons he could be up with him.

"That last race he won by eight lengths and the third horse has won twice since so the form looks good too. He's still got to make the step up but he looks a really good ride."

McDonald was hoping to ride at all five days of the Royal Ascot meeting and already has secured the mount on the Sir Michael Stoute-trained Expert Eye (Acclamation) in the Gr.3 Jersey Stakes (1400m) on day two (Thursday, NZ time).

"I've won at Ascot before but not as part of Royal Ascot week and that's something I'm very keen to do. It would be nice to put that right this week," McDonald said.

McDonald is on the cusp of £1 million in stakes earnings in England, having won 25 of his 139 rides there and banking £989,938 for his connections.

His best wins have been the Gr.2 Lennox Stakes (1400m) at Goodwood and the Gr.2 Prince Of Wales's Stakes (2400m) at Newmarket, both in 2016.

A champion apprentice and senior jockey in New Zealand and premiership winner in Sydney, McDonald recently returned from an 18-month ban for a betting indiscretion but has quickly made his mark in Sydney, winning 11 races from just 44 rides.



Ex-pat kiwi jockey James McDonald

"I'm really enjoying it and I couldn't have asked for a better start really," he said.

"Nearly every meeting I've ridden a winner. It would be nice if I could carry that form on to Royal Ascot."

- NZ Racing Desk



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BIG MIKE BACK TO HIS BEST ON BETTER GROUND

xciting staying prospect **Big Mike**(NZ) (Don Eduardo) confirmed
his liking for better going when
he bounced back to winning form over
2100m at Ruakaka on Saturday.

The free-going five-year-old had blotted an otherwise excellent form-line when he finished a well beaten seventh on a tricky slow track at Te Rapa seven days earlier. Faced with a Dead5 surface that saw quality galloper Hiflyer (NZ) (Tavistock) register 1.09.44 for 1200m later in the day, Big Mike relished the firmer surface to record a comprehensive all-the-way victory.

"I think we've established that's he's not a wet-tracker at all," said stable representative Shaun Phelan after the race.

"When there's just a little bit of sting out of the ground he just finds something else."

Phelan was delighted with the win although a little rueful that it wasn't achieved in a potential Australian target.

"We missed an Aussie trip as we were going to have a go at the Ipswich Cup," he said.

"We might come up here again but we do have to have a break somewhere. We may go to Hawkes Bay for the spring but we're on a good path now and going forward from here."

Rider Leith Innes rated his charge to perfection after declaring his pacemaking intentions as soon as the field left the barriers.

"The better track suited him as he travelled nicely all the way," he said.

"It was a good effort."

The win was Big Mike's sixth from just 18 career appearances and his third from his last four starts.

Race favourite Zanyetta (NZ) (Tavistock), who had won the Te Rapa event where Big Mike finished in midfield, battled on to finish a well beaten fourth after enjoying a cosy run in behind the pace throughout.

– NZ Racing Desk

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Race	Whangarei RC Bream Bay Design & Print H. 2100m.
Winner	Big Mike (NZ) 2012
Owners	G S & S A Fausett, C K, K B & B L Phelan
Trainer	Craig Phelan (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Don Eduardo out of Landvetter by Felix the Cat (USA)
Breeder	G S & Mrs S A Fausett; Bay Of Plenty; NZ



Big Mike and Leith Innes are out on their own at Ruakaka





PLUCKY MARE COMES UP ROSES

AT AWAPUNI

return to handicap conditions paved the way for progressive mare Rosewood (NZ) (Redwood) to regain winning form when she took out the feature flat race at Awapuni on the weekend.

The talented galloper had struggled with 57kgs under weightfor-age conditions in the Listed Ag Challenge Stakes (1590m) at Wanganui last time out but dropped a telling 3kgs for Saturday's open 1500m handicap contest.

With leading rider Lisa Allpress aboard, the Marilyn Paewai trained runner bided her time towards the rear of the eight-horse field before making her bid shortly after straightening.

Local galloper Leeds (I Am Invincible) and rider Rosie Myers had dashed to the front but couldn't repel the determined burst of Rosewood who strode clear over the concluding stages to win in dominant fashion by just over a length.

Allpress was at her cheeky best

when interviewed shortly after the race.

"She's like me," she replied when asked if the mare had a fair bit of fight

"She tries really hard and seems to get through that ground really well.

"She's fit and ready and it helps when they have the miles under their belt.

"I was watching Rosie who was travelling quite nicely, so I wanted

Continued on page 5



Rosewood cruises home at Awapuni





PLUCKY MARE COMES UP ROSES AT AWAPUNI

(Continued from page 4)

to work off her back. She took me by surprise as she kicked a bit further into the straight than I expected so we had to work a little harder to get past her.

"It was a good effort."

Paewai admitted her charge had found it hard to carry the 57kgs at her last start.

"Because she's little she can't carry too much weight, so she found it hard the other day," she said.

"I probably mucked that up a bit but she still went good.

"I thought today the track would suit her."

Paewai is eyeing a feature race on her home track at New Plymouth as her main winter target.

"I think we will have a crack at the Opunake Cup as she likes New Plymouth which is her home," she said.

"I had liked the idea of the Whyte Handicap (at Trentham) but you can't do both, so we will settle for the race at home."

The Listed Powerworx Opunake Cup (1400m) is the feature event at New Plymouth on 21 July.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Manawatu RC Winstone Wallboards H. 1500m.		
Winner	Rosewood (NZ) 2013		
Owners	Mrs M Paewai		
Trainer	Marilyn Paewai (New Plymouth)		
Breeding	by Redwood (GB) out of Glad Eye (GB) by Giant's Causeway (USA)		
Breeder	Consolidated Bloodstock Ltd; Auckland; NZ		
Sales	2014 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale V: Bradbury Park \$4000 P: RH & M Paewai		



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GREENCAST HEADLINES HOME TRACK BONANZA FOR GIBBS



Greencast (outer) scores one of five victories for Chris Gibbs at Ruakaka

ocal trainer Chris Gibbs enjoyed a red-letter day on his home patch at Ruakaka on the weekend, producing five winners on the 10-race card.

Amongst those was victory in one of the day's feature events, the Reyburn & Bryant Bream Bay Cup (1600m) with **Greencast (NZ)** (Iffraaj).

The Iffraaj five-year-old hadn't been seen since finishing near last in the Northland Cup (1600m) on the track in November. Settled near the rear by rider Sam Weatherley, Greencast was taken to the outside to make his run in the home straight where he produced a powerful burst to join issue at the 200m mark.

Driven to the lead by Weatherley, Greencast held out the fast-finishing run of stablemate Jake The Muss (NZ) (Postponed) to win by three-quarters of a length with Woodsman (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) back in third.

Gibbs, who has taken sole charge of the Ruakaka operation following senior partner Donna Logan's move to Singapore, was taken with effort by Weatherley who finished with a winning treble on the day.

"He rode him beautifully," he said.

"I told him to jump out from the wide draw, aim for the corner and they will soon work out what they all going to do.

Continued on page 7





GREENCAST HEADLINES HOME TRACK BONANZA FOR GIBBS

(Continued from page 6)

"He ended up with a lovely trail and they went hard up front.

"He rode him really well so good on him."

Gibbs was pleased with the performance of both of his runners who will now be aimed at the ITM Whangarei Gold Cup (2100m) on the 14th of July.

"Both of the horses are aiming for the Whangarei Cup which has been our target," he said.

"Jake the Muss will hopefully then carry on through to the New Zealand Cup later in the year. Greencast might do that too but our earliest target has to be our local one.

"I was so pleased with Jake The Muss as he is definitely a New Zealand Cup horse." Gibbs had earlier won a maiden 1400m contest with Tavezbac (NZ) (Tavistock) and went on to collect further victories with Vinevale (Flying Spur), Not Usual Heart (Show A Heart) and Kyrie Eleison (NZ) (O'Reilly) to round out the day.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Whangarei RC Reyburn & Bryant Bream Bay Cup 1600m.
Winner	Greencast (NZ) 2012
Owners	Lena Ang
Trainer	Chris Gibbs (Ruakaka)
Breeding	by Iffraaj (GB) out of Pins Valour by Pins (AUS) 16/06/2018
Breeder	Lena Ang; Auckland; NZ

Aaron Kuru down at first hurdle, remounts to win

Jockey Aaron Kuru, born in Hastings but now working in Cambridge, was racing in the opening steeplechase event at the Awapuni races on 16 June when his horse Des De Jeu stumbled at the first hurdle taking the 26-year-old down with him. Miraculously Aaron remounted the horse and rode him to a win.



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CAMBRIDGE VISITOR NABS GUTSY WIN AT AWAPUNI

ambridge raider **Sellwood (NZ)**(Patapan) showed he could be in for a profitable winter when he out-toughed his rating 75 rivals over 1200m at Awapuni on Saturday.

Trainer David Wilson took advantage of the three-kilogram claim of apprentice Darren Danis to reduce the five-year-old's weight to 52kgs which proved crucial in the end as he held out the challenges of Just You (NZ) (Pour Moi) and That's Funny (NZ) (Road To Rock) to grab the win.

Bounced out of a inside gate by Danis, the Patapan gelding dictated the pace throughout. Headed briefly by Just You early in the home straight, Danis didn't panic as he kept his mount rolling along against the rail to reclaim the lead and fight off his closest pursuer to record his third career victory.

Wilson, who had originally trained in the Bulls region before making the move to Cambridge, was hopeful of a winning run rather than confident before the race due to the horse's aversion to travel.

"We came down this morning rather than yesterday," he said.

"He would have walked twenty or thirty kilometres in his box if we'd have come yesterday as he's quite a busy horse.

"He goes alright and although he had a light weight it was a good effort."

The victory was just reward for Danis who has had an interrupted season due to a lengthy stint on the side-lines following surgery to repair two broken vertebrae in his back that resulted from a horrific fall he took when riding at Timaru back in July last year.

He recommenced riding in March and Saturday's victory was his fourth since then.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Manawatu RC IPL Plywood and James Hardie H. 1200m.
Winner	Sellwood (NZ) 2012
Owners	H D Wilson
Trainer	David Wilson (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Patapan (USA) out of Sea of Dreams by Cape Cross (IRE)
Breeder	Cambridge Hunt Ltd; Central; NZ



Sellwood and Darin Danis fight off their rivals at Awapuni





BURKAAN DELIVERS SECOND WIN FOR LOGAN

lue was the colour of the day for trainer Donna Logan after two-year-old **Burkaan (NZ)** (Burgundy) scored his maiden win in the \$85,000 Restricted Maiden race over 1000m on Sunday.

Burkaan is a recent stable transfer racing in the royal blue silks of the Al-Arabiya Stable and as luck would have it, his new handler decided she would dress in matching colours for the occasion.

The New Zealand trainer, who was bringing up only her second Kranji winner, however, said it was just a coincidence.

Race	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1000m.
Winner	Burkaan (NZ) 2015
Owners	Al-Arabiya Stable
Trainer	Donna Logan (Kranji)
Breeding	by Burgundy out of Meranti (AUS) by Woodman (USA)
Breeder	N A Walker; Canterbury; NZ

"I didn't know what to wear and the next thing I know, I saw a photo of myself in that blue dress, and I thought why not wear it today," said Logan.

The former leading Ruakaka trainer might not have been too familiar with Al-Arabiya's silks given she was saddling her first runner for Mr Mansor Gandhi's outfit, but there is no doubt she will remember the jersey from now on.

"He's a nice horse. He was caught wide all around, but CC (Wong Chin Chuen) gave him a lovely ride," said Logan.

"Mark Walker trained him before, and he came to us in very good shape even if he's still very green. It's onwards and upwards from now on.

"On Friday, we were confident with Key Success, but we came back with our tail between our legs.

"But it's good to get that second win today. Things are slowly falling into place at the yard."

After a slower start than usual, Wong for one was thankful

for the ride as his season starts to gain traction.

"Big thanks to the owner and the connections. They had this horse fit and ready for today, and putting blinkers on him was a good move," said the two-time Singapore champion apprentice jockey who has now hit the dozen, three behind current leader Troy See.

"I settled him on the outside as there was speed inside me. He had the lightweight, but he also has natural speed and with the blinkers, he was even sharper.

"If he can relax better, he will finish even better."



New stable member Burkaan wins for Donna Logan at Kranji



ALAMAK EARNS BREAK **AFTER SMART MAIDEN WIN**



Alamak scorches home to win at Kranji

he brilliantly-named Alamak (NZ) (Alamosa) scored his maiden win in a driving finish on Sunday, earning himself a break which trainer Michael Clements believes will enhance him further.

To the Zimbabwean-born conditioner, the Alamosa three-yearold, whose name is a nod to a popular expression of surprise in local culture, needs more time to improve on the mental side, even if a first hurrah at only his third start was a nice early bonus for his connections.

After showing potential in two previous runs at Kranji, running third on debut and fourth second-up, Alamak franked that form with a gusty win in the \$85,000 Restricted Maiden race over 1600m.

"He's got a nervous disposition. He's been a bit hard on himself and he needs a break to cool his head down and come back better," said Clements.

"There wasn't much pace in today's race, and that's why he was ridden positive from the barrier.

"We discussed before the race and the plan was to sit behind the leader. There were a few anxious moments at the bend when he couldn't get out as he was committed to the fence.

"But once he got out, he got the job done in the end."

Champion jockey Vlad Duric can certainly take a large chunk of the credit going with the confidence he showed in waiting for the right moment to push the button on the \$13 favourite.

"He was unlucky at his last start, but he had a very good start today and had the last crack at them," said Duric.

"I was in a lovely position on the rails. Turf Princess was the horse to beat, and we had her back throughout.

"My bloke doesn't really have a

quick turn of foot, he's not brilliant, but he will give his all when you need him

"He's a progressive type of horse and will come back even better after a break."

Race	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1600m.		
Winner	Alamak (NZ) 2014		
Owners	Amazing Stable		
Trainer	Michael Clements (Kranji)		
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Castellina by Zabeel		
Breeder	Anzac Breeding Partnership Joint Venture; Central; NZ		
Sales	2016 Ready to Run Sale V: Anzac Lodge \$55000 P: Waterford B/stock		
	2016 National Yearling Sale - Select Session V: Wellfield Lodge \$36000 P: NZB as agent		



NZ STALLION AWARDS

THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS	
SAVABEEL	\$12,749,953	
DARCI BRAHMA	\$10,449,791	
ROAD TO ROCK	\$7,401,326	
O'REILLY	\$6,981,158	
TAVISTOCK	\$6,667,916	
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$6,354,938	
PER INCANTO	\$5,029,204	
SHOWCASING	\$4,390,434	
PINS	\$3,991,904	
IFFRAAJ	\$3,682,278	
Criteria: Sire whose NZ-conceived progeny have accumulated the highest stakes earnings worldwide		

THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$7,934,080
DARCI BRAHMA	\$3,204,465
O'REILLY	\$2,932,264
TAVISTOCK	\$2,745,744
PINS	\$2,658,829
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$2,653,388
IFFRAAJ	\$2,578,646
RIP VAN WINKLE	\$2,265,089
PER INCANTO	\$2,209,984
MAKFI	\$2,160,865

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

THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$3,358,880
IFFRAAJ	\$1,755,299
DARCI BRAHMA	\$1,724,954
TAVISTOCK	\$1,586,468
FASTNET ROCK	\$1,416,700
PER INCANTO	\$1,361,299
ALAMOSA	\$1,226,483
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$1,210,920
PINS	\$1,109,040
ROC DE CAMBES	\$1,055,190

BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
EMBELLISH	\$466,310
GINGERNUTS	\$180,000
DEVISE	\$157,750
GOBSTOPPER	\$188,375
AVANTAGE	\$742,370
SHADOWS CAST	\$154,812
STOLEN DANCE	\$131,450
SAINT EMILION	\$218,300
PACKING PINS	\$122,750
VIN DE DANCE	\$623,500

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG • JUNE 13

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
AEROLUMINANCE (NZ) 2012 by O'Reilly out of	Waikato Stud Ltd;	HKJC Mount	2014 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V:
Honolulu by Savabeel (AUS)	Waikato; NZ	Cameron H. 1800m.	Waikato Stud Ltd, P: P O Sullivan; \$200,000
NOBLE DELIGHT (NZ) 2014 by Jimmy Choux out of	Nearco Stud Limited;	HKJC Shouson Hill	2015 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed
Set by Perfectly Ready (AUS)	Waikato; NZ	H. 1200m.	Sale; V: Bradbury Park, P: Kilgravin Lodge; \$10.000

NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG • JUNE 16

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
SKY TREASURE (NZ) 2013 by Stravinsky (USA) by Inzabeel by Zabeel	Mrs B L & T D B Macphee	HKJC Ho Sheung Heung Road H. 1200m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Select Session V: Lakeview Farm P: Waikato Bloodstock; \$79,000
PRESIDENTPARAMOUNT (NZ) 2010 by Danerich (AUS) out of Magical Slice (AUS) by Ne Coupez Pas (USA)	Rangal Park Stud; NZ	HKJC Lei Yue Mun Riding School H. 1600m.	

NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE • JUNE 15

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
SAVAGE STORM (NZ) 2010 by Sakhee's Secret (GB) out of Mysterious Sound (USA) by Danzig (USA)	T E Jamison; Central; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m.	2012 National Yearling Sale - Select Session; V: Brighthill Farm, P: R R BStk; \$25,000 2012 Ready to Run Sale; V: Delahunty Farm, P: Mr ZL Mok; \$21,000
MILLION ROUND (NZ) 2011 by Edenwold (CAN) out of Sparks Will Fly by Almutawakel (Gb)	A W Jones & Mrs E W Morris; Canterbury; NZ	Singapore TC Class 5 H. 1600m.	2013 National Yearling Sale - Festival Sale; V: Berkley Stud, P: B McDonald; \$4,000
SKY ROCKET (NZ) 2013 by Darci Brahma out of Ruppertsberg by Montjeu (IRE)	L K Laxon & Pencarrow Thoroughbreds Ltd; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Class 3 H. 1400m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Select Sale; V: Pencarrow Stud, P: Chequers NZ Ltd; \$25,000

NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE • JUNE 15

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
BURKAAN(NZ) 2015 by Burgundy out of Meranti (AUS) by Woodman (USA)	N A Walker; Canterbury; NZ	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1000m.	
ALAMAK (NZ) 2014 by Alamosa out of Castellina by Zabeel	Anzac Breeding Partnership Joint Venture; Central; NZ	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1600m.	2016 National Yearling Sale - Select Session; V: Wellfield Lodge, P: NZB as agent; \$36,000 2016 Ready to Run Sale; V: Anzac Lodge, P: Waterford B/stock; \$55,000
REFRESH (NZ) 2014 by Rock 'n' Pop (AUS) out of Wahaha by Stravinsky (USA)	Ms E Shattock; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1400m.	2016 Ready to Run Sale; V: Anistay Lodge, P: NZB as agent; \$31,000
SOONBABY (NZ) 2013 by Redwood (GB) out of Wahaha by Stravinsky (USA)	Ms E Shattock; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1100m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Select Sale; V: Anistay Lodge, P: Cypress Point Farms; \$20,000 2015 Ready to Run Sale; V: Cypress Point Stables, P: Dato Mohd Ariff Bin Mohd; \$20,000

