

Sunday 12 March 2017

## DARREN'S PLAN COMES OFF AS HUMIDOR RUNS DOWN JAMEKA IN AUSTRALIAN CUP



*Humidor gets the better of Jameka close to home in yesterday's Australian Cup.*

A plan to target the Australian Cup with **Humidor (NZ)** (Teofilo) has paid off for connections of the gelding, the ex-Kiwi galloper chasing down Caulfield Cup winner Jameka (Myboycharlie) to win the \$A1.5 million feature at Flemington.

Trainer Darren Weir and stable clients bought a half-share in Humidor after Otaki horseman Johno Benner had campaigned the horse at Melbourne's spring carnival and the promising stayer was transferred to Victoria's premier trainer.

Humidor had run on strongly in his three starts from 1400 to 1800 metres so far this campaign without quite winning but was up to the task in yesterday's Group One weight-for-age race on the big track at Flemington and with the distance a more suitable 2000 metres.

After settling back, the \$4.20 equal favourite was the widest runner into the straight and set out after co-favourite Jameka, which had hit the lead early in the run home after racing close to the speed.

*Continued on page 3*





[gavelhouse.com](http://gavelhouse.com)

# Final days to enter our next NZ auction - entries close at 7pm tomorrow!

**\*\* last auction results - 32 sold, 86% clearance,  
\$100,700 turnover, \$20,000 top price.**



**SOLD** on gavelhouse.com

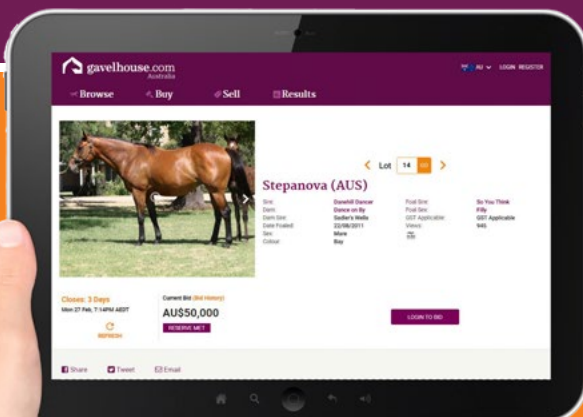


**SOLD** on gavelhouse.com



**SOLD** on gavelhouse.com

**NEXT NZ AUCTION DATES** • Accepting listings now • Listings close 7pm Monday 13 March • Catalogue published online 5pm Tuesday 14 March • Bidding from 5pm Tuesday 14 March to close of auction on Monday 20 March • Lots close in sequential order from 7pm on Monday 20 March.



## REGISTER NOW AND GET READY TO SELL YOUR BLOODSTOCK!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE TEAM:  
**E. [INFO@GAVELHOUSE.COM](mailto:INFO@GAVELHOUSE.COM) M. +64 9 296 4436**





# DARREN'S PLAN COMES OFF AS HUMIDOR RUNS DOWN JAMEKA IN AUSTRALIAN CUP

*(Continued from page 1)*

Jameka fought on gamely but Humidor overhauled her inside the final 50 metres to win by a long neck with 1¼ lengths to imported galloper Exospheric (Beat Hollow).

Weir said the Australian Cup had been the goal with the talented four-year-old.

"It's good when you get a good horse you can do it with," Weir said.

"He's shown good ability. The plan when we purchased half of the horse was to aim at the Australian Cup and see how far we got.

"It's nice that it's come off.

"He's just progressed nicely each run and we got a result today for everyone involved."

There was pre-race drama surrounding Humidor when it came to light stewards had found a plunger with a liquid substance in the horse's feed bin during a routine stable inspection at 3am on raceday.

But chief steward Terry Bailey said there was nothing

untoward about the incident.

The horse was supposed to get the substance Hemopar, a digestive aid, before his nightly feed on Friday but a stablehand had inadvertently left the plunger in his feed bin.

Bailey said giving the horse such a substance was not against the rules.

Weir said the Group One BMW over 2400 metres in Sydney in two weeks was the likely next target for Humidor.

– AAP Turf

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>VRC Australian Cup Gr.1 2000m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Humidor (NZ) 2012</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Forest Lodge Racing, Jomara Bloodstock Ltd, Steeplechasers Flat Synd, M Krauser, Dr P Goel, Mrs Adams, B Shannon, T Ginnane, D O'Connor, B Sokolski, Walker Racing &amp; Bloodstock, Royjohn Racing</b> |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Darren Weir (Warrnambool)</b>   |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Teofilo (Ire) out of Zalika by Zabeel</b>  |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Jomara Bloodstock Ltd</b>   |

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cup day moved to Thursday twilight



*Cameron George . . . looking forward to Thursday.*

The Auckland Racing Club is focusing on the silver lining from the dark clouds that yesterday forced the postponement of their glamour meeting.

This week's wild weather washed out the fixture and has resulted in it being rescheduled to Thursday when a twilight seven-race card will feature the Group One Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup, the Group One Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes, the Group One Sistema Stakes and the Group Two Westbury Classic.

"Up until four o'clock on Friday the track was a Dead 5 or 6, but since then more than a hundred millimetres of rain has fallen with the forecast of more to come," chief executive Cameron George said.

"We made the decision after a track inspection at six o'clock in the morning and now we're looking forward to a twilight meeting on Thursday.

"It's unique and a bit of a test case – it could be the way forward."

Thursday's Group races will be complemented by a Rating 85 race over 1200 metres, a 2100 metre Rating 75 and a 1200 metre Rating 65 contest.

With the abandonment of yesterday's meeting, the TAB refunded all futures and final field bets.





# SYDNEY BRINGS OUT **THE BEST IN TAVAGO**

He was out of the winner's circle for 49 weeks but the Trent Busuttin and Natalie Young-trained **Tavago (NZ)** (Tavistock) showed he's back to his best with yesterday's dominant performance in the \$A350,000 Group Three Sky High Stakes over 2000 metres at Rosehill.

Tavago's last win came in the Group One Australian Derby in April of last year but since that success his trainers had endured a frustrating time with the gelding.

Two down-the-field finishes at Caulfield and Moonee Valley last September initiated a 22-week spell after he was diagnosed with a virus.

"He got beaten 200 metres in the Underwood Stakes; it wasn't a battling fourth or fifth. He was a crook horse so we took him out and started again," Busuttin said.

Even when preparing for the current campaign, Tavago had a "minor setback" early in the piece but the four-year-old showed his career was back on track with a solid first-up run for fifth in the 1600 metre Chipping Norton Stakes at Randwick a fortnight ago.

"His fitness levels were a bit of a concern but he's obviously a naturally fit horse because he'd missed a bit of work early in the preparation," Busuttin said. "If there was another option for him to resume in we would have taken it but there was nothing else so he had to run."

Yesterday Tavago relished a solidly run race, set up by Red Excitement (Excites), charging home from worse than midfield to storm clear of fellow Kiwi and warm favourite Antonio Giuseppe (NZ) (Shocking), defeating the Chris Waller-trained galloper by 3¼ lengths with a neck back to John O'Shea's Allergic (Street Cry).

"The race was set up for him," winning jockey Blake Shinn said. "They went a great

tempo which afforded him to get into a nice rhythm.

"He really let down at the 300 metres; for a stayer it was quite explosive. The horse is back to his best."

Busuttin said the weight-for-age BMW over 2400 metres would be Tavago's next autumn target ahead of the Sydney Cup two weeks later.

"He's a funny horse. Everything a good horse is, he's not," the Cranbourne-based New Zealander said. "He doesn't eat, he doesn't work well, he's not a big robust horse.

"He obviously loves Sydney because he's eaten better since the day he got here and he worked as well as he ever has last Tuesday.

"For whatever reason, he enjoys it up here and has thrived. What's not to enjoy?"

– racenet.com.au & AAP Turf

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>ATC Sky High S. Gr.3 2000m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Tavago (NZ) 2012</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>S Oldfield, K Banks, Mrs P Hatchard and R Taylor</b>   |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Trent Busuttin &amp; Natalie Young (Cranbourne)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Tavistock out of Sara Ann by Stravinsky (USA)</b>   |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Sir Patrick &amp; Lady Hogan</b>   |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2014 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Cambridge Stud, P: C Oldfield; \$60,000</b> |



*Tavago strides home well clear of his opposition in the Sky High Stakes.*







# ANOTHER FEATURE FOR I AM A STAR

**C**lassy filly **I Am A Star (NZ)** (I Am Invincible) has added another feature win at Flemington but was forced to work overtime to deny West Australian visitor Ellicazoom (Testa Rossa).

The Group One Myer Classic winner from last spring, I Am A Star was clearly the highest-rated filly in yesterday's Group Two Kewney Stakes and got home by half a head in a driving finish. They were 1½ lengths in front of third-placed Kenedna (Not A Single Doubt).

I Am A Star was dropping back to fillies grade and stepping up to

1400 metres yesterday after finishing second in the Group Two Rubiton Stakes and seventh in the Group One Oakleigh Plate against older horses this campaign.

The Shane Nichols-trained filly took her record to five wins from twelve starts and remains unbeaten from three starts at Flemington since the Myer Classic.

"To be three from three at Flemington is a big buzz and a big wrap on a very good filly," Nichols said.

He said the even-money favourite really had to knuckle down in the

straight after trailing Ellicazoom during the race, with Ellicazoom crossing from a deeper draw to sit outside the lead.

"That was a gutsy win," Nichols said. "Luckily she got the bob in and was able to prevail. It was a very exciting win."

The Group Two Sunline Stakes over 1600 metres at Moonee Valley is slated as I Am A Star's next start before a decision is made on whether she heads to Sydney.

– AAP Turf



|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>VRC AV Kewney S. Gr.2 1400m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>I Am a Star (NZ) 2013</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>M B Sandblom</b>  |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Shane Nichols (Mornington)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by I Am Invincible (Aus) out of Star Band (USA) by Dixieland Band (USA)</b>                               |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Eales Racing Pty Ltd</b>  |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2014 National Weanling, Broodmare &amp; Mixed Sale; V: Rich Hill Stud, P: Llanhennock Trust; \$12,000</b> |

*I Am A Star holds on to her slim advantage over Ellicazoom in their titanic Kewney Stakes struggle.*



## STALLIONS 2016

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>CHARM SPIRIT</b><br><i>(Invincible Spirit – L'Enjoleuse by Montjeu)</i> | <b>\$22,500*</b> |
| <b>POUR MOI</b><br><i>(Montjeu – Gwynn by Darshaan)</i> <b>RETURNING</b>   | <b>\$17,500*</b> |
| <b>RIP VAN WINKLE</b><br><i>(Galileo – Looking Back by Stravinsky)</i>     | <b>\$12,500*</b> |

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>SHAMEXPRESS</b><br><i>(O'Reilly – Volkrose by Volksraad)</i>                        | <b>\$12,500*</b> |
| <b>MONGOLIAN KHAN</b> <b>NEW</b><br><i>(Holy Roman Emperor – Centafit by Centaine)</i> | <b>\$10,000*</b> |
| <b>FALKIRK</b><br><i>Tale Of The Cat - Madam Valeta (Palace Music)</i>                 | <b>\$4,000*</b>  |

\*All service fees exclude GST and include a Live Foal Guarantee



# TULIP BLOOMS IN ROSEHILL'S MAGIC NIGHT



*Tulip is untroubled winning the Magic Night Stakes.*

New Zealand Bloodstock Premier Yearling Sale graduate **Tulip** (Pierro) has firmed dramatically with bookmakers for the Golden Slipper but the filly's owners remain undecided whether the Magic Night Stakes winner will back up into the \$A3.5 million race.

She becomes one of four possible contenders for the Lindsay Park team, the stable having produced more two-year-old winners than any other this season. Which path the filly takes will be discussed with owners Coolmore.

Tulip firmed from \$26 to \$11 for next Saturday's Slipper with her 1¾ length win over Alizee (Sepoy) in yesterday's Magic Night Stakes at Rosehill, ridden by Kerrin McEvoy.

"Tulip was very impressive today," said Ben Hayes, who trains in partnership with his father David and Tom Dabernig.

"She just sat in midfield, was three-wide with no cover and she finished the race off great.

"Congratulations to the Coolmore boys and to Pierro for getting his first stakes winner."

A daughter of the Rock of Gibraltar mare Musidora, Tulip was sold by Gordon Cunningham's Curraghmore Stud at Karaka last year for \$400,000, going to the bid of Adrian Nicol of BBA Ireland in association with Lindsay Park.

Coolmore's Tom Magnier said their team would mull over a start in the Golden Slipper, with the Sires' Produce also an option.

– AAP Turf

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>ATC Magic Night S. Gr.3 1200m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Tulip (Aus) 2014</b>  |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Coolmore (Mgr: Mrs S Magnier), Cobra (Mgr: T V Magnier), M J Kirwan, J W Hillier and G P Heffernan</b>          |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>David &amp; Ben Hayes &amp; Tom Dabernig (Euroa)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Pierro (Aus) out of Musidora (Aus) by Rock Of Gibraltar (Ire)</b>  |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Orpendale</b>   |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2016 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Curraghmore, P: BBA Ireland/Lindsay Park Racing; \$400,000</b> |







# FRIDAY NIGHT RAIN A GODSEND FOR TONY

Divine intervention has kept Cambridge trainer Tony Pike's Group One Auckland Cup dream alive.

He was all set to withdraw his in-form hope **Chenille (NZ)** (Pentire) from the Barfoot & Thompson-sponsored feature due to the sodden state of the Ellerslie track before the call was made to postpone yesterday's meeting.

"A couple of mates rang me on Friday night to say it was hosing down again and I thought it was game over for us," Pike said.

"Her work on Thursday morning was outstanding and I couldn't have been happier – she's the best she's been all season."

Pike has now been given a second

chance at the Cup, a race he won in 2015 with Rock Diva (NZ) (Lucky Unicorn), with the meeting now rescheduled for Thursday.

"We need some good weather and strong winds for the track to come back to a reasonable surface," he said.

"Hopefully, it will dry quickly and give us some light at the end of the tunnel."

Chenille won the Karaka Stayers' Cup three runs back before a rain-affected track tripped her up in the Group Two Avondale Cup.

The Pentire mare bounced back on a much firmer Ellerslie surface last Saturday with a commanding performance to claim top honours in the Nathans Memorial.

Pike also has his talented two-year-



Tony Pike... couldn't be happier with Chenille.



old pair of Felton Road (NZ) (Pins) and Ujjayyi (NZ) (Iffraaj) in the Group One Sistema Stakes.

The former won his first two starts before finishing third in the Karaka Million while Ujjayyi was successful on debut at Te Aroha. She then ran off on the home bend in the Group Two Matamata Breeders' Stakes.

"Felton Road is a smart horse and he's well and Ujjayyi, who clearly doesn't go left-handed, is talented but whether she's professional enough for a race like this I'm not sure," Pike said.

Chenille in her Nathans win... the beneficiary of Cup postponement.





# REGAL WINKS NEW RAYNER FLAGBEARER

**E**van and J.J Rayner have enjoyed an outstanding season with Start Wondering (NZ) (Eighth Wonder) and in his temporary absence a younger member of the team has put her hand up.

The Wanganui father-and-daughter combination have celebrated Group One wins in the Railway Stakes and the NRM Sprint with their crack sprinter, who is currently spelling after his runner-up finish in the Group One Haunui Farm WFA Classic.

Start Wondering's stablemate **Regal Winks (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) was a dashing debut winner on her home track last month and yesterday she maintained her perfect record at Hawera, turning in a terrific closing 200 metres to secure the thick end of

the stake in the Dr (Jack) Gray Painters 1200.

"She was never really travelling but when I asked her the question she rounded off nicely," successful rider Johnathan Parkes said.

Regal Winks sat back off a genuine pace before angling four wide into the straight and lengthened stride well in the closing stages to sweep past Deja Roo (NZ) (Captain Rio) and the front-runner St Regis (NZ) (Red Giant).

Evan Rayner admitted to a few pre-race concerns with the filly, who is from the family of the former top two-year-old Crossyourheart (NZ) (Show A Heart) and the Group Two Royal Stakes winner Adaline (Court Of Jewels).

"I was a bit worried staying at the 1200 metres. I thought that fresh-

up win may have taken the edge off her but she showed that she's pretty smart," he said.

"We'll be looking to a 1400 metre somewhere with her next."

The Rayners went close to a winning double in the following event when Belle Cadeau (NZ) (Mettre en Jeu) finished runner-up.

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Egmont RC Dr (Jack) Gray Painters H. 1200m</b>  |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Regal Winks (NZ) 2013</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>F A Bagshaw, G R Crawshaw, B D Dunlop, Mrs J Freer, A D, Mrs D &amp; S B Hurley, M J Kuklinski, Mrs M P O'Brien and A Symes</b> |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Evan &amp; J J Rayner (Wanganui)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Rip Van Winkle (Ire) out of Regal Thrills (Aus) by Royal Academy (USA)</b>   |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>D J Myers</b>   |



Regal Winks' finishing burst takes her past the R65 sprinters at Hawera.







# VOGUE GETS EXES WITH LEGER TUNE-UP

An unusual approach to a stakes target for **All In Vogue (NZ)** (Pins) brought an added bonus at Hawera for the well-related mare.

Trainer Kevin Gray dropped the four-year-old back in trip from a middle distance to 1400 metres yesterday and she responded with a sharp performance to win the Dairy Nutrition Specialists Handicap.

All In Vogue was successful three runs ago over 2050 metres and she backed that up with a fifth placing in last month's New Zealand St Leger Trial over 2100 metres.

"I wanted to give her another run before the St Leger at Trentham and I hope I haven't gone too soon now," Gray said.

"That was a good effort and you wouldn't get a better-bred mare."

Out of the triple Group One winner Tall Poppy (NZ) (Kaaopstad), All In Vogue is raced by the Stratford couple Peter and Min McDonald and was capably handled by the stable apprentice Holly Andrew.

"She's a very good rider and she's got a good future," Gray said.

Andrew settled All In Vogue in the trail and they took advantage of a rails run in the straight to down Belle Cadeau (NZ) (Mettre en Jeu) and La Bella Rosa (NZ) (Tavistock).

"It's good to be back and Mr Gray has given me all the opportunities through my apprenticeship," she said. "He's always backed me and I'm very thankful."

The victory provided Andrew with a welcome change of



Holly Andrews brings All In Vogue along the rails for a stylish win in her St Leger lead-up.

luck as the 26-year-old only recently returned to the saddle after a nasty fall at Waverley in November.

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Egmont RC Nutrition Specialists H. 1400m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>All in Vogue (NZ) 2012</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>P J Mcdonald MNZM &amp; Mrs M O McDonald</b>   |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Kevin Gray (Palmerston North)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Pins (Aus) out of Tall Poppy by Kaaopstad</b>   |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Fairdale &amp; Goodwood Studs</b>  |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2014 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Fairdale Stud, P: McDonald Investment; \$50,000</b> |

## QUALITY STALLIONS FOR 2017



**DALGHAR (Fr)**  
Anabaa - Daltawa, Miswaki

**Exciting young sire.**

**Huge Karaka Sales series, selling up to \$220,000 & overall sales average of \$53,000.**

Nick King 0274 416 442  
Click here for more news >>>



**PERFECTLY READY (Aus)**  
More Than Ready  
- Elle Duccio, Danehill

**One of New Zealand's proven Group I sires, leaving winners worldwide.**

*Bright Hill Farm*





Sunday 12 March 2017

## PEAKY BLINDERS AUSTRALIAN BOUND

The eye-catching run of **Peaky Blinders (NZ)** (Sir Percy) to win a Rating 65 Benchmark 1400 metre event at Ellerslie on New Zealand Derby day ignited interest across the Tasman and the four-year-old is likely to do his future racing in Melbourne.

"He is actually under offer," part-owner and trainer Kylie Fawcett said.

"The sad thing is after winning a \$50,000 race and looking through the

calendar to find another race for him they are all \$20,000-\$22,000 races."

Fawcett admitted she would be sad to see him go but she and fellow part-owner Eddie Wright will retain a small interest in the horse.

The gelding ensured Fawcett's training career got off to a flying start, recording two wins and three minor placings from his six-start career. And while Fawcett will miss his presence around the stable he has fulfilled her

aim when taking out a trainer's licence.

"What happened is that while we were selling there were a few horses around us which weren't going up to the sales," she explained.

Weighing up the expense of having a number of horses in work against the possible returns, Fawcett decided that she could look at pre-training them and getting them ready to go.

"We were mostly looking at trading

*Continued on page 11*



*Peaky Blinders wins on Derby Day.*







# PEAKY BLINDERS **AUSTRALIAN BOUND**

*(Continued from page 10)*

and this was another avenue," she said.

Armed with a Class B licence, Fawcett and her small team braved early mornings at the Matamata track and the business of preparing horses for racing.

"I was completely out of my depth when I started. It took me six months to feel at home as it can be a fairly daunting place," she said. "Lots of



Kylie Fawcett

people full of knowledge have helped me along the way."

Fawcett said the ability to bounce thoughts off her good friend and fellow Matamata trainer Danica Guy has also assisted.

The training exercise is also something of a family affair with her cousin, apprentice jockey Jasmine Fawcett, giving good feedback when riding work and Jasmine's mother Tracy also lending a hand.

"Tracy, my aunty, comes to the track every morning to help out hosing or saddling horses," she said.

Fawcett's entry into racing came via a fairytale introduction to the breeding industry thanks to Jacilo (NZ), a broodmare bought for just \$2600. An unplaced daughter of Entrepreneur, Jacilo boasted some fairly illustrious relations, being out

of a sister to the Sir Tristram-My Tricia trio of Grosvenor (NZ), National Gallery (NZ) and Kyrie Eleison (NZ).

Fawcett, in partnership with Eddie Wright, bred and raced the Group One Queensland Oaks winner My Keepsake (NZ) (Keeper) and Group Two winner Villifye (NZ) (O'Reilly) from Jacilo.

Among the horses she has waiting in the wings is a yearling daughter of Jacilo by first-season sire Shamexpress (NZ) (O'Reilly).

"I think I am going to end up with mainly fillies that we want to keep and race and breed from ourselves," she said.

"While we took a draft to the sales this year [under the Oxford Thoroughbreds banner] we are not breeding as many as previously. I can't do all of those jobs really well myself so I will probably focus on training."





**SAVABEEL** Zabeel - Savannah Success  
EXTRAORDINARY GR.1 SIRE  
\$100,000 + GST, LFG

**SACRED FALLS** O'Reilly - Iguazu's Girl  
4X GR.1 WINNING, DUAL DONCASTER LEGEND  
\$30,000 + GST, LFG

**OCEAN PARK\*** Thorn Park- Sayyida  
5X GR.1 WINNING, COX PLATE CHAMPION  
\$30,000 + GST, LFG

\*First trial runner, a winner

**PINS** Snippets - No Finer  
INTERNATIONAL GR.1 PRODUCER  
\$25,000 + GST, LFG

**ROCK N POP** Fastnet Rock - Popsy  
FASTNET ROCK'S BEST BRED GR.1 SIRE SON  
\$9,000 + GST, LFG

**RIOS** Hussonet - Gussy Godiva  
GR.1 PRODUCING GUINEAS WINNER  
\$4,000 + GST, LFG



**Waikato Stud**

Mark Chittick 021 433 252  
Gareth Downey 021 433 073  
[www.waikatostud.com](http://www.waikatostud.com)





# DROP-BACK PLAN WORKS FOR CHALAZA

Jockey Danny Beasley has had a bit of time for **Chalaza (NZ)** (Road To Rock) from day one and it showed in his effusive post-race appraisal after they recombined for a second win at Kranji on Friday night.

The four-year-old had opened his account in style over 1400 metres two weeks ago and Beasley, whose work with the gelding included all his barrier trials, fed back to trainer Steven Burridge there was still some improvement to come.

The two men decided a drop back to 1200 metres might help the gelding settle in his stride better and picked Friday's \$560,000 Class 4 race to test out their theory.

As Mastermind (NZ) (Rusty Spur) speared to the front halfway through the back straight, Beasley was parked in midfield on the fence, the favourite biding his time until the field straightened for home.

When Mastermind crumbled, longshots Miss Waimataitai (NZ) (Saperavi) and Miss Blanchett (NZ) (Battle Paint) fleetingly looked likely but Chalaza was scooting through acres of galloping room at the 300 metre mark and about to put paid to his rivals.

In a race dominated by New Zealand-breds, Chalaza went on to score by a length from Elise (NZ) (Faltaat) with Miss Blanchett third



*Chalaza accounts for Elise at Kranji on Friday night.*

another length away.

"Credit to Steve for bringing him back to 1200 metres. We thought the faster pace would help him as he's got a very nice turn of foot," said Beasley. "It will also teach him to settle better as he's got a lot of ability. He did a few things wrong the other day even though he won.

"Tonight, we dropped him back and he came motoring home. He's got a very nice future here."

Burridge was also delighted that the tweaking in strategy has come to fruition.

"He's still very green and we decided to ride him a little quiet this

time," said the Australian. "He's done everything right and he will get 1400 to 1600 metres once he becomes more mature."

– Singapore Turf Club

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Chalaza (NZ) 2012</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Lim's &amp; Mark's Stable</b>   |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Steven Burridge (Kranji)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Road to Rock (Aus) out of Miss Faberge by Ustinov (Aus)</b>                            |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Nearco Stud Limited</b>   |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2014 South Island Yearling &amp; Mixed Sale; V: Highden Park, P: L B Racing; \$26,000</b> |





# PREDITOR PANNING OUT **FOR JP AND SHANE**

**T**rainer Shane Baertschiger and jockey John Powell combined for a race-to-race double with Sacred Army (NZ) (Towkay), backed in to odds-on favouritism in a 1700 metre maiden, and **Preditor (NZ)** (Savabeel) at Kranji on Friday night.

While Powell earned plaudits for the first win he deserved a standing ovation for his ride aboard Preditor in the \$560,000 Open Benchmark 67 race over 1800 metres. Landlocked for the best part of the race, Preditor charged along the rails when an opening came but then rolled off the fence at the 200 metre mark.

Keep Spinning (NZ) (Keeper), who'd

been screaming for daylight right on his heels, pinged through as Preditor left some wiggle room but Powell punched his mount over the line to gain the verdict by a short head.

"It's great to have a double. It'll keep Stretch happy," Powell joked as he dismounted.

"I was a little boxed in with Gerald Mosse keeping me in and I knew the other jockeys would not let me come out as well.

"Luckily, I was able to switch back to the fence when the leader rolled off and the winning post came up right on time."

Baertschiger has not set anything

in stone yet for the entire but a famous 1¼ mile race in July is on the horizon.

"The 59kg was a concern and I could have claimed with him but decided to stick with JP as he knows the horse well and I'm glad I did.

"He will go for a let-up now as I would like to consider the Four-Year-Old series and the Singapore Derby with him."

Known as Predator when prepared by Trent Busuttin and Natalie Young in New Zealand, the horse had cleared maidens at his first outing, ran second on Karaka Million night, won a midweeker at New Plymouth then finished his local three-year-old career with sevenths in both the Avondale Guineas and the New Zealand Derby. A miss in Sydney followed before he was sent to Singapore.

– Singapore Turf Club



|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Singapore TC Benchmark 67 H. 1800m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Preditor (NZ) 2012</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Shane Donald Baertschiger</b>  |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Shane Baertschiger (Kranji)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Savabeel (Aus) out of Bird by Danasinga (Aus)</b>   |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>M J Chittick</b>   |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2014 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Waikato Stud Ltd, P: New Zealand Bloodstock, as agent; \$75,000</b> |

*Preditor (#2) holds off Keep Spinning at Kranji.*







# COPACABANA SHOWS **BENEFIT OF BREAK**

**T**rainer Cliff Brown saddled two leading hopes in the \$575,000 Restricted Maiden over 1200 metres at Kranji on Friday night and duly won, even if it was not quite the result most predicted.

Both Athena (NZ) (Nom Du Jeu) and **Copacabana (NZ)** (Showcasing) were resuming after long spells with the market clearly pointing to the former, a filly who gave a peek of her untapped potential with three placings from four starts as a two-year-old last year.

Copacabana – a son of the good turn-of-the-century sprinting mare Cannsea (Canny Lad), who closed her career with four straight wins, the last two in the Group Two Concorde and Group One Railway – came with some wraps and had his admirers at a four-to-one closing quote.

Athena was looking like the good thing she was made out to be when she hit the lead at the 300 metre mark but couldn't close the deal. At that point her stablemate crept up along the rails and took over when Athena's bid ran out of steam.

Justice Light (NZ) (Darci Brahma) burst through the pack with a decent challenge but Copacabana dug deep on the inside to repel the longshot by a nose on the line. Athena did a good job to hang on for third place another 1½ lengths away.

With Brown away on business, his racing manager Chris Bock handled the post-race interviews.

"Copacabana had a hoof issue last prep and we backed him off to give the hoof time to grow out. It was nothing he couldn't handle," said Bock. "During the break, he had the chance to grow mentally and physically and we also gelded him during that time.

"It's great for his owners, who are a mixture of Australians and locals. Copacabana is their first winner.

"We're also very happy with Athena's run. She is looking



*Copacabana (blue cap) does enough to maintain a margin over Justice Light.*

for more ground and she did very well to run third."

Jockey Michael Rodd might have been sitting on Copacabana for the first time but had done his homework.

"He was very promising when he came here but we had to cut him and he's turned it around since," said the Australian. "He had two soft trials and was fit and ready for his comeback. But he's still a tricky horse. He keeps changing his legs and you have to work really hard on him."

– Singapore Turf Club

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1200m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Copacabana (NZ) 2013</b>  |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Copacabana Stable</b>   |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Cliff Brown (Kranji)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Showcasing (GB) out of Cannsea (Aus) by Canny Lad (Aus)</b>  |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Whakanui Stud Ltd</b>   |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2014 National Weanling, Broodmare &amp; Mixed Sale; V: Whakanui Stud Ltd, P: Pounamu Racing; \$7500</b> |
|                 | <b>2015 Ready to Run Sale; V: Kilmore Farm, P: Cliff Brown Racing; \$70,000</b>                            |

