

Sunday 29 October 2017

A LONG TIME BETWEEN DRINKS ENDS FOR WHO SHOT THE BARMAN IN MV CUP



Who Shot Thebarman returns to the winners' list and earns himself another crack at the Melbourne Cup with a stirring win in yesterday's Moonee Valley Cup.

It's hard to imagine there is a more popular horse in Chris Waller's stable than Winx (Street Cry) but **Who Shot Thebarman (NZ)** (Yamanin Vital) is right up there.

The nine-year-old has cemented a place in his fourth Melbourne Cup with victory in the Group Two Moonee Valley Cup over his stablemate Libran (Lawman), who also heads to Flemington.

"In the stable he's just as popular as Winx," Waller said. "What more does that say?"

"He means so much to the staff and it shows if you look after them they will perform for you.

"He will run in in the Melbourne Cup for a fourth time.

"The first time he ran third. The second time he was

Continued on page 3



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A LONG TIME BETWEEN DRINKS ENDS FOR WHO SHOT THE BARMAN IN MV CUP

(Continued from page 1)

knocked over and almost fell. The third time he ran fifth.

“He ran second in the Sydney Cup only six months ago.”

A drifter in betting from his \$6.50 opening quote to \$8.50, Who Shot Thebarman settled second-last of the seven runners in yesterday’s 2500 metre Cup and came home strongly under Blake Shinn to beat Libran by a half head, with the same margin to Cismonte (High Chaparral).

The \$1.90 favourite Big Duke (Raven’s Pass) was fourth after being

pocketed on the fence.

Who Shot Thebarman finished second to his stablemate Grand Marshal (Dansili) in last year’s Moonee Valley Cup and yesterday’s win was his first since the Group Two Zipping Classic at Sandown in November 2015.

Handicapper Greg Carpenter said he would not give the veteran any increase in weight for the Melbourne Cup, in which he has 54kg and for which he has firmed from \$61 to \$34 with Australian bookmakers.

– AAP TURF

Race	MVRC Moonee Valley Gold Cup Gr.2 2500m
Winner	Who Shot Thebarman (NZ) 2008
Owners	D M O’Leary, H T O’Leary, M J O’Leary, S C O’Leary, Mrs J C Nugent-O’Leary, Mrs A M O’Leary, Mrs F J O’Leary and Mrs L O’Leary
Trainer	Chris Waller (Flemington)
Breeding	by Yamanin Vital out of Ears Carol by Carolingian (Aus)
Breeder	B J & Mrs L E Anderton

NEWS IN BRIEF

Humidor close but no cigar

For a few fleeting strides trainer Darren Weir thought he was going to pull off an improbable Cox Plate victory. As Winx was going to the front at the 600 metre mark, Weir was watching his ex-Kiwi galloper Humidor (NZ) (Teofilo) – who this time last year was running second to Willie Cazals (Aussie Rules) in the Group One Livamol Classic at Hastings – begin to make ground.

But just as Weir was having thoughts of causing a boilover, Humidor lay in when trying to bridge the gap between himself and the champion.

“He didn’t lay in badly,” Weir said, “just at a crucial time. I thought halfway down the straight he was going to get her but in the end she was too good.”

Thoughts of toppling Winx over those final stages didn’t enter rider Blake Shinn’s head, the jockey just concentrating on getting Humidor to the line.

“I was aware Winx was in front but I wasn’t thinking too much about beating her,” Shinn said. “I was concentrating on getting my horse to the line first.

“He didn’t quite get there but he ran an unbelievable race.”

Humidor wore blinkers for the first time yesterday, which helped straighten the gelding in the run to line, although he did wander about in the straight. He was promoted to \$7 equal favourite with Almandin (Monsun) for the Melbourne Cup following his half-neck second, with Weir saying the race was a perfect lead-in to the Cup.

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ALOISIA HAS STRANGLEHOLD ON OAKS

Aloisia (NZ) (Azamour) has tightened her grip on VRC Oaks favouritism with a dominant win in yesterday's Group Two Vase at Moonee Valley.

Ridden by Luke Nolen, the Group One Thousand Guineas winner took on the colts and geldings in the 2040 metre race and strode away from last weekend's Group Three Caulfield Classic winner Cliff's Edge (Canford Cliffs) to win by 3½ lengths.

Third placed Salsamor (NZ) (Tavistock), second on the course in the Group Two Stutt Stakes over 1600 metres a month ago, was another 5½ lengths away.

In the process of adding her second spring carnival feature win from three starts as a three-year-old, Aloisia has firmed from \$2.50 to \$1.70 to win the Group One VRC Oaks on November 9.

Trainer Aaron Purcell insists the 2500 metre Oaks, for a stake of \$A1 million, has been the main target all spring.

"This was not her grand final but definitely a very sweet victory on the way through," Purcell said.

"If she pulls up well and has a trouble-free couple of weeks then she'll be pretty hard to beat in the Oaks."

When Ciaran Maher was suspended for six months in late September, then Warrnambool-based Purcell took over Maher's large team of horses at Caulfield.

Aloisia has lived up to Purcell's hopes since, giving him his first Group One win in the Thousand Guineas in her first start for him.

"She was probably the number one horse, I thought, when I came from Warrnambool to Caulfield," Purcell said.



Aloisia scoots away from VRC Derby second fancy Cliff's Edge and into odds-on favouritism for the Oaks in yesterday's three-year-old staying test at Moonee Valley.

"She was the horse who had a big race written all over her. Obviously, I've got to thank the team. They've put a lot more time and effort into her than I have and they know the filly backwards.

"Everything has just fallen into place."

– AAP TURF

Race	MVRC Moonee Valley Vase Gr.2 2040m
Winner	Aloisia (NZ) 2014
Owners	OTI Racing (Mgrrs: T Henderson & S Driscoll), S & Mrs S Layton, J & Mrs J Spence, L Webb, Ms D McKeown, Ms M Webb, D & Mrs D Miller, J Boyd, Mrs L Dodd, R Koch, JJAGG Synd, Carte Blanche Racing, Two State Synd, 2W Syndications, Three Hand Racing, Hair Ruffle Capital and Uthmeyer Racing
Trainer	Aaron Purcell (Caulfield)
Breeding	by Azamour (Ire) out of Queen Boudicca by Perfectly Ready (Aus)
Breeder	M Hall and J A & Mrs K A Price





SIR PATRICK IN NO RUSH WITH HIFLYER

Sir Patrick Hogan believes his exciting home-bred **Hiflyer (NZ)** (Tavistock) needs more time to develop before sights are set on Australia.

The Cambridge Stud principal shares in the ownership of the five-year-old, who opened his black type account yesterday with victory in the Group Three Grant Plumbing Thompson Handicap at Trentham.

“My vote would be to stay here for races like the Thorndon Mile and the Zabeel Classic and if he can win them then perhaps Australia in the autumn,” Sir Patrick said.

“The horse certainly did the job for us today, it was a good tough win, but he’s still a teenager.”

In the wake of Hiflyer’s latest success, trainer Peter Lock floated the idea of start in the Group One Emirates Stakes, over 2000 metres at Flemington on November 11, although he stressed no firm plans were in place for the horse’s immediate future.

“Peter said to me he was looking into it and he’d get home and think about things. There are a stack of races here for him as well,” said jockey Johnathan Parkes, who has an excellent record on the gelding.

“He’s an exciting galloper and certainly Group One material.”

Parkes was in the saddle at Trentham and has now ridden Hiflyer five times for three wins and two seconds, including a runner-up finish

in last season’s Group Two Easter Stakes.

At Trentham, they settled in behind the pace and Hiflyer wasn’t to be denied in the straight, getting the better of the brave front-runner Amarula (NZ) (Thorn Park) by a neck.

“He hit the front and got a bit lost,” Parkes said. “He’s probably better ridden a bit colder but the way they were racing today they weren’t making stacks of ground.

“He’s getting a lot better though; he used to dart around quite a bit when I first rode him.”

Ringo (NZ) (Fastnet Rock) did well after covering extra ground to take third money ahead of Benzini (Tale Of The Cat), who came on encouragingly from the back in his first start for three months. Both horses are nominated for next month’s Group Two Coupland’s Bakeries Mile at Riccarton.



Race	WRC Thompson H. Gr.3 1600m
Winner	Hiflyer (NZ) 2012
Owners	Lady Justine & Sir Patrick Hogan and Go Henry Racing Syndicate
Trainer	Peter Lock (Te Aroha)
Breeding	by Tavistock out of Lady Firebird by Stravinsky (USA)
Breeder	Sir Patrick & Lady Hogan

Hiflyer launches himself into a final burst to overhaul the out-of-shot leader Amarula in yesterday’s Thompson Handicap.





TONY ADDS ANOTHER **TO GUINEAS MIX**

Cambridge horseman Tony Pike has strengthened his hand for the Group One New Zealand Two Thousand Guineas after a hollow win in yesterday's Listed Zacinto Stakes at Riccarton booked a spot for **Ever Loyal** (Sebring).

Ever Loyal's barnmate Bostonian (NZ) (Jimmy Choux) will also take his place in the Guineas with Aim Smart (Smart Missile) and Sacred Rebel (Sepoy) still in contention.

"We had to scratch Aim Smart from Ellerslie but that doesn't necessarily count him out," Pike said.

"He's not a heavy horse and we could send him south early and give him a couple of good gallops."

A wet track also forced Pike to withdraw Sacred Rebel from last Friday's Pukekohe meeting and he will run at Avondale on Wednesday in the hope of reasonable footing allowing him to boost his chances of a Riccarton trip.

"The weather's made it one of the most frustrating springs I've ever had in my time as a trainer," Pike said. "It's been a nightmare."

Ever Loyal is now an \$8 chance in the Guineas after yesterday's victory romp under jockey Jason Waddell.

They crossed from a wide gate to race in second spot and were left sitting ducks before the turn but still had a length and a quarter to spare on Scott Base (NZ) (Dalghar) with the filly Swing Note (Encosta de Lago) completing a northern trifecta.

"It was a confident ride from Jason on Ever Loyal," Pike

said. "He had to do plenty of work early on and when the leader rolled off 500 metres out our horse was left in front."

"He's a lovely horse and we've always had a good opinion of him and he's still learning and improving."

Pike had earlier won the 1800 metre Pryde's Easifeed Rating 75 with the Waddell-ridden **Sacred Empire** (NZ) (More Than Ready).

Meanwhile, the quest for black type by **Grazia** (NZ) (Savabeel) ended successfully when she careered away with the Listed Christchurch Casino Spring Classic, over 2000 metres.

The Stephen Autridge and Jamie Richards-trained mare was ridden close to the pace by Sam Weatherley and when he asked for an effort the five-year-old cruised clear to score by a wide margin from Aspen Lass (NZ) (Alamosa).

<i>Race</i>	CJC Canterbury S. L 1600m
<i>Winner</i>	Ever Loyal (Aus) 2014
<i>Owners</i>	C M Wong
<i>Trainer</i>	Tony Pike (Cambridge)
<i>Breeding</i>	by Sebring (Aus) out of Miss Lucille (Aus) by Rory's Jester (Aus)
<i>Breeder</i>	SF Bloodstock LLC
<i>Sales</i>	2016 NZ National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Lyndhurst Farm, P: Waikato Bloodstock; \$240,000



Ever Loyal stakes his Two Thousand Guineas claim with a decisive win over Scott Base (blue and white colours) and Swing Note in the Zacinto Stakes.





HAT-TRICK TO DIJON BLEU IN SOLILOQUY

Dijon Bleu (NZ) (Burgundy) has risen to every challenge this season and her latest success at Ellerslie sets up an intriguing meeting next month with another filly on a winning roll.

The Lisa Latta-trained daughter of the unraced mare Pristino (More Than Ready) completed a black type hat-trick when she claimed the Listed Partners Life Soliloquy Stakes, over 1400 metres, to go with previous wins in the Listed O'Leary's Fillies' Classic and the Group Three Gold Trail Stakes, both at 1200 metres.

Dijon Bleu will now head to Riccarton for the Group One New Zealand Bloodstock One Thousand

Guineas, where she will clash with the flying Prom Queen (NZ) (Super Easy).

"It's great for racing to have two fillies who haven't met," Latta stable representative Andy Rennie said. "We're looking forward to it."

Ridden by Leith Innes, Dijon Bleu settled toward the rear of the field after being squeezed back by other runners at the start, but when the field fanned out on straightening she speared through to hit the front 150 metres from home.

She didn't help her cause by then veering out, which cut her winning



Although the winning margin is only a neck from the obscured grey Kapoor, Leith Innes has a tight hold on Dijon Bleu's reins after the talented filly took some coaxing to keep a straight line in the run home.

margin over Kapoor (NZ) (Reliable Man) to a neck with Campari (NZ) (O'Reilly) third.

"She just keeps stepping up," Rennie said. "She showed real fight; all the signs are positive."

Dijon Bleu, who was completing a black type double for the Latta team after stablemate Sir Nate had earlier won the Listed Wellesley Stakes at Trentham, is now the \$4 second favourite for the Guineas, with Prom Queen heading the market at \$2.50.

Race	ARC Soliloquy S. L 1400m
Winner	Dijon Bleu (NZ) 2014
Owners	K T J Dixon, P Finlayson, Miss L M Latta, Ms D A Masters, M G Passey, A J Rennie and T D Tomlins
Trainer	Lisa Latta (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Burgundy out of Pristino (Aus) by More Than Ready (USA)
Breeder	Robinson Family Trust
Sales	2016 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Landsdowne Park Ltd, P: Lisa Latta Racing Stables; \$26,000





NATE PREVAILS **IN TOUGHER WELLESLEY**



A titanic home straight battle ends with Sir Nate edging away from King Louis (#4) and Masque to win the Wellesley Stakes.

Unbeaten youngster **Sir Nate (NZ)** (Nadeem) has earned himself a break ahead of his major summer target, the two-year-old set to enjoy time off following yesterday's spirited performance at Trentham to claim the Listed Anuka Smoker Wellesley Stakes.

"He'll go to the paddock now, he deserves a let-up," trainer Lisa Latta said.

"When he comes back we'll look at Ellerslie over the Christmas and New Year period to give him a run there before the Karaka Million."

Sir Nate had made a successful debut at Wanganui, where he was opposed by only two rivals, and Latta was thrilled to see him pass a much sterner test at Trentham.

"He's still learning and he's such a laid-back horse," Latta said. "He hasn't really switched on yet."

Sir Nate sat close to the pace and once balanced in the straight under rider Masa Tanaka finished determinedly to keep his perfect record intact.

The colt was purchased by Latta at Karaka earlier this year out of Little Avondale Stud's draft for \$65,000. He is from the family of the Group One Captain Cook Stakes winner Penny Gem (NZ) (Pentire).

Debutant King Louis (NZ) (Equiano) got to the line strongly for second after making the crossing awkwardly.

"He's no relation to Jimmy Choux but he reminds me a lot of him," trainer John Bary said.

"He's a pretty cruisy horse, not much fazes him and he'll improve three or four lengths."

The well-backed northern pair of Masque (NZ) (Savabeel) and Queen Of The Air (NZ) (I Am Invincible), who was tardy out of the gates, were third and fourth respectively.

Race	WRC Wellesley S. L 1000m
Winner	Sir Nate (NZ) 2015
Owners	Kamada Bloodstock, J C McNeill, S Dais, M Schirnack, L Purvis, P Shearer, S Platt, D Wyborn, K Donoghue, M Dudley and T Ryan
Trainer	Lisa Latta (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Nadeem (Aus) out of Just Diamonds by No Excuse Needed (GB)
Breeder	Brown Thoroughbreds Ltd and Fusion Thoroughbreds Ltd
Sales	2017 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Little Avondale Stud, P: Lisa Latta Racing; \$65,000





KARAKA CALLING TO DANNY'S BOY

Danny Walker's two-fold mission at Ellerslie was yesterday executed to perfection by his first-starter **Crystallize (NZ)** (Iffraaj), the Ardmore trainer producing the youngster to triumph in the Cure Kids 880, with the \$13,500 winner's cheque almost certain to land the colt a spot in the Listed Karaka Million.

The January 27 feature is at the top of Walker's wish list for Crystallize, who now also has invaluable experience of the Auckland course.

"We've got Karaka Million money now so I can give him a little break," he said. "He's had a good look around here and he seemed to handle it all very well."

Off the back of a trial win at Ruakaka earlier this month, Crystallize jumped smartly to lead and responded positively in the straight when asked for his best by rider Alysha Collett.

"He's a professional little horse and came on since that trial," Walker

said. "He's done nothing wrong at all. He kicked back well so that's very pleasing."

Purchased out of Haunui Farm's Select Sale draft to Karaka earlier this year, Crystallize was bred by the Melbourne-based Lindsay de Souza, who has enjoyed major success as an owner, most notably with the Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained multiple Group One winner Turn Me Loose (NZ) (Iffraaj), now retired to Windsor Park Stud.

Raced by Brookby Stables, Crystallize held off a stern challenge from Al Hasa (NZ) (Exceed And Excel), whose juvenile stablemate

Avantage (NZ) (Fastnet Rock) won the New Zealand Bloodstock Insurance Pearl Series Race at Riccarton fifteen minutes later for trainers Stephen Autridge and Jamie Richards.

Race	ARC Cure Kids 2YO H. 880m
Winner	Crystallize (NZ) 2015
Owners	Brookby Stables Ltd
Trainer	Danny Walker (Ardmore Lodge)
Breeding	by Iffraaj (GB) out of Crystalina (Ire) by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	L de Souza
Sales	2017 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Haunui Farm, P: Brookby Stables; \$52,500



Crystallize (red cap) finds enough to hold out Al Hasa in the juvenile at Ellerslie.



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DIA DE REYES PROMPTS KEIRA'S PRAISE



In a race that was decided long before the winning post was reached, Jason Collett allows Dia De Reyes to coast home in Randwick's Highway Handicap.

Improved barrier manners have helped **Dia De Reyes (NZ)** (Showcasing) live up to his potential in winning the Highway Handicap at yesterday's Randwick meeting.

Notoriously fickle in the starting stalls, Dia De Reyes jumped on terms with the field to ease the anxieties of Murwillumbah trainer Matthew Dunn's wife Keira.

"Just to be in front of a couple was exciting," she said.

Sent out the \$5.50 second favourite, Dia De Reyes was 2½ lengths clear at the post to record just the second win of a fourteen-race career.

Dunn thanked Racing NSW

stewards for allowing Dia De Reyes to line up in the 1800 metre race after he was issued with a warning at Randwick on October 7.

That day, in a 1600 metre Highway Handicap, Dia De Reyes missed the start by three lengths before recovering to round out a Dunn trifecta with Bronzed Venom (Golden Snake) and Cascata Rossa (Testa Rossa).

"They could have barred him and that only puts the owners and everyone else out of pocket. By letting us go again, it's given our owners another win," she said.

It was the Duns's thirteenth

Highway Handicap win since the concept for country horses began in October 2015.

– AAP TURF

Race	ATC TAB Highway H. 1800m
Winner	Dia de Reyes (NZ) 2013
Owners	A C Kennedy, M T Cheers, R J Palmer and Porks For Life (Mgr: A C Kennedy)
Trainer	Matthew Dunn (Murwillumbah)
Breeding	by Showcasing (GB) out of Valicious by Don Eduardo
Breeder	K D & P J Landrigan
Sales	2015 Ready To Run Sale; V: Kiltannon Stables Ltd, P: NZB as agent; \$85,000





HALLELOOJAH! BEST WISHES BREAKS THROUGH FOR OVERDUE KRANJI WIN

Trainer Leslie Khoo and jockey Olivier Placais combined for the first time for a win at Kranji on Friday night, outsider **Best Wishes (NZ)** (Swiss Ace) sealing the budding partnership in the \$560,000 Class 4 Division 2 race.

Coming off a handy one-out three-back spot in the 1200 metre event, Best Wishes – who had been unplaced in nine previous Singapore outings – burst through the pack at the 300 metre mark to upstage a competitive field after Placais had summed up the race to a nicety.

“I’m happy to have won my first race for Leslie. He’s been supporting me with a few rides

lately,” said Placais, who could still smile at the weigh-in even though his mount had suddenly shied on returning to scale, sending him to the turf.

“I’m not surprised with the win even though it was my first time riding him. It’s true he hasn’t shown much but I watched his last race and he finished nicely with a fifth place.

“Tonight, he was very relaxed and, once he saw daylight, he gave a nice kick.”

Khoo said the key to Best Wishes’ win was the removal of blinker-pacifiers.

“He ran over 1200 metres in New Zealand and that’s why I’m keeping him to short distances,” he said. “He was definitely more relaxed tonight. He was too keen with that gear on before.”



Best Wishes finally finds form at Kranji on Friday night.

Best Wishes was known as Halleloojah in New Zealand, where he recorded four wins between 800 and 1200 metres as a two- and three-year-old for the Rogerson stable, his best result a second in the Listed Gore Guineas.

– Singapore Turf Club

Race	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m
Winner	Best Wishes (NZ) 2012
Owners	Blue Star Stable
Trainer	Leslie Khoo (Kranji)
Breeding	by Swiss Ace (Aus) out of Poetic Music by Stravinsky (USA)
Breeder	G Harvey
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale, Festival Session; V: Westbury Stud, P: Rogerson Bloodstock; \$45,000





PETERS WINS IN COALITION WITH GRYLLS

English trainer James Peters predicted a staying future for **Destroyer Eclipse (NZ)** (Alamosa) following his smart all-the-way win in the \$575,000 Restricted Maiden over 1200 metres at Kranji on Friday night, three weeks after his promising debut second in a similar race over 1100 metres.

Well rated by Kiwi jockey Craig Grylls, the three-year-old took control of the race from the off and although momentarily looking vulnerable when Cliff Brown's debutant What's New (NZ) (Casino Prince) came with a wet sail on the outside, found a second wind to prevail by three-quarters of a length.

Even-money favourite Fusion Power (NZ) (Postponed) loomed as a threat after riding shotgun outside Destroyer Eclipse from the start but stayed rather one-paced inside the last furlong to take third place, another three lengths away.

"I was really pleased with his run first-up," said Peters. "He's by

Alamosa and out of a staying mare; it was very encouraging.

"He stepped up to the task tonight and has done a good job. He's still learning and is a little keen and that's why we are trying to educate him over shorter distances first.

"He will get 1400 metres to a mile later."

Grylls said he didn't plan to go forward but the initial speedmap lent itself to the tactic in the end.

"I didn't expect to lead but the horse jumped good," said Grylls, who was recording his sixth win at Kranji since beginning his stint in July. "He had a soft time in front then gave a

good kick at the top of the straight.

"I think he's got a lot of ability."

– Singapore Turf Club

Race	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1200m
Winner	Destroyer Eclipse (NZ) 2014
Owners	Eclipse Stable
Trainer	James Peters (Kranji)
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Shezabeel by Zabeel
Breeder	Mrs A C Shaw and Wellfield Holdings Ltd
Sales	2016 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Wellfield Lodge, P: NZB as agent; \$22,500 2016 Ready to Run Sale; V: Riverrock Farm, P: I Hartono; \$40,000



Destroyer Eclipse gives Craig Grylls the sixth win of his Singapore stint with an easy win on Friday night.

