

Monday 17 September 2018

## O'REILLY AFFECTION PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS FOR MELBOURNE BUSINESSMAN



*Melbourne businessman Rupert Legh (right) with co-owner Michael Ramsden as they wait for Grunt to return to the birdcage after his win in the Gr.1 Makybe Diva Stakes on Saturday (Daryl Sherer)*

Melbourne-based businessman Rupert Legh experienced the kind of joy that most thoroughbred horse owners can only dream about at Flemington on Saturday.

In the space of a golden two-hour period, Legh collected valuable black-type victories at Melbourne Racing headquarters with a pair of O'Reilly-sired gallopers in **Brutal (NZ)** and **Grunt (NZ)**, as the majority owner in the pair.

Three-year-old colt Brutal maintained his unbeaten record

with a tough front-running win in the Listed Antler Luggage Plate (1400m) before classy entire Grunt added the Gr.1 Makybe Diva Stakes (1600m) to an impressive resume that already includes the Gr.1 Australian Guineas (1600m) from last season.

The magnitude of the achievement was not lost on Legh who has enjoyed some phenomenal success through the years with horses of the calibre of remarkable sprinter Chautauqua (Encosta De Lago).

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# O'REILLY AFFECTION PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS FOR MELBOURNE BUSINESSMAN

*(Continued from page 1)*

"I've had some special moments in racing but I can't think of too many days like the one we had on Saturday," he said.

"To win any race during the spring in Melbourne is quite a feat as the level of competition at this time of the year is at its peak. To win two stakes races, including a Group One, is just remarkable and I'm certainly very thankful and appreciative of all that transpired on the day."

Legh was quick to recount the twist of fate that saw him purchase Grunt following the demise of a promising colt he was racing from the Hawkes Racing stable at the time.

"I lost a colt due to an adverse reaction he had to the anaesthetic during a minor operation after winning his first start," he said.

"Bloodstock agent Cameron Cooke had bought him for me and we had him insured so we used the money we got to purchase Grunt.

"Cameron had inspected him at the Karaka sales and was very taken with him as an individual so he recommended we try and buy him. Mick Price had also fallen in love with him as well, so we did a deal after we bought him and that is why he is now in Mick's stable."

It was a similar attraction to the progeny of former Waikato Stud-based champion sire O'Reilly, who passed away in December 2014, that saw Legh acquire exciting sprinter-miler Brutal.

"John Hawkes rang me and told me he had seen an absolute cracker of a colt when he was over for the yearling sale in 2017," he said.

"He was from the last crop of O'Reilly and John rated him as the best walking colt and natural athlete in the sale. I have always had a real affinity for O'Reilly and his progeny so I said let's see if we can get him.

"I know John had inspected him quite early on in the sale and by the time he made it to the auction ring he had been out of his box over 100 times.

"He must have been exhausted as he didn't present as well as he could have in the ring and we managed to get him for a fair bit less than was expected, so it has worked out well in our favour."

While Legh is excited about the immediate racing prospects of both colts he does have one eye on the potentially lucrative futures for both in the breeding barn upon their retirement from the track.

"You have to be excited about what heights both of these horses could go to based on what we have seen so far," he said.

"I think Grunt has the potential to be a real middle-distance star in the next eighteen months while Brutal has it all in front of him as well.

"If they do deliver on that promise, then they would both seal their futures as a valuable stallion commodity.

"I have had a number of approaches along those lines from studs and the like with another option being to create my own stud.

"Yulong Investments have approached me about the pair becoming foundation stallions at a property they have purchased in Victoria, so that will be something I will consider very seriously.

"Whatever we do it will be undertaken on a patient basis, as that is the approach I have always taken with my horses and I don't see any reason to change now."

– NZ Racing Desk





# BAKER-FORSMAN JUGGERNAUT STARTING TO ROLL IN MELBOURNE

**M**urray Baker and Andrew Forsman's assault on the riches of the Melbourne Spring Carnival is starting to gain momentum as witnessed by **Jon Snow's (NZ)** (Iffraaj) game performance at Flemington on Saturday.

The former Gr.1 ATC Derby (2400m) winner showed he is right on track for the staying features on offer over the next two months when he fought doggedly to snatch third in the Gr.1 Makybe Diva Stakes (1600m) behind impressive winner Grunt (NZ) (O'Reilly).

The Iffraaj five-year-old performed

with distinction in Melbourne last spring where he captured the Gr.3 JRA Cup (2040m) at Moonee Valley, and a third placing in the Gr.1 Caulfield Stakes (2000m) before producing a creditable effort when unplaced in the Gr.1 Caulfield Cup (2400m) to round out his campaign.

"I thought he was very good on Saturday as it was only his second run back and he will take a ton of improvement from it," Baker said.

"It was an outstanding field with nine Group One winners in it, so to see him fight on so strongly was very

pleasing. The track was also pretty firm which isn't really to his liking, although he has pulled up well this morning so he's definitely on the way up."

Baker will now consider a start in the Gr.1 Underwood Stakes (1800m) at Caulfield on September 30 for his charge, a race where he could be joined by stablemate Bonneval (NZ) (Makfi) who kicked off her campaign with an unplaced run at Moonee Valley last weekend.

"I'm not quite sure where we will go next with Jon Snow but the

*Continued on page 5*



Jon Snow captures the GR.3 JRA Cup at Moonee Valley during his 2017 spring campaign (Bruno Cannatelli)





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# BAKER-FORSMAN JUGGERNAUT STARTING TO ROLL IN MELBOURNE

*(Continued from page 4)*

Underwood at Caulfield is a likely option for him," he said.

"Bonneval is going there as well and I will be looking for an improved showing from her. I wasn't disappointed with her race at Moonee Valley as she had only had the one trial leading in to it, so we were behind the eight ball a bit with her.

"It was a real front-runners track that day so when she got back that was really her day done. She finished off okay and has come on since then, so I think she will be more competitive in this one."

Bonneval will look to defend her title in the Underwood having produced a strong performance to take out the Group One feature last season. That victory added to Baker's outstanding record in the feature, having also captured the event with The Phantom (1990), Lion Tamer (2011) and It's A Dundee (2013).

Baker is also looking forward to two promising three-year-olds joining their Flemington based team for the

Carnival with Botti (NZ) (Jakkalberry) and Peaceful (NZ) (Savabeel) touching down in Melbourne on Sunday.

"It will be good to have Botti and Peaceful here as they are both nice types that we have high hopes for," he said.

"They will join Rubira, who is already here, with the three-year-old features as their main aims.

"Botti looks a real staying type so the goal is to get him to the Victoria Derby. He is a three-quarter brother to Lion Tamer who won the Derby in 2010 so his breeding and racing style suggests he can get the 2500m trip.

"You've got to have a shot when you can as they are only three once.

"Rubira is also a nice staying type, so the Oaks will be her main aim while Peaceful looks more like a 1000 Guineas type of filly, so that's the race we would like to get her to.

"The main aim is to try and pick up some Australian black-type with both of those fillies."

Baker also has a Gr.1 Melbourne

Cup (3200m) chance in Zacada (NZ) (Zabeel), who will be aimed towards the A\$7 million feature.

Bred and raced by dairy farmers Andrew Bryant and Dave Armstrong, in conjunction with their former Cambridge neighbours Sir Patrick and Lady Justine Hogan, the son of Zabeel is qualified for the Cup courtesy of his runner-up finish in this year's Gr.1 Sydney Cup (3200m).

"Zacada has come on from his first-up run at Hastings, so we are now looking at options for his next start," Baker said.

"He could run at Caulfield this weekend (Gr.3 Naturalism Stakes, 2000m) while a race like the Moonee Valley Gold Cup is another option further down the track.

"He's got 53kgs in the Cup and is fully qualified, although he's sitting at 46th in the order of entry, so we will just have to see how the field drops away, but I would expect he should make it in if previous years are any indication."

- NZ Racing Desk



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# TURNBULL NEXT FOR GRUNT

Caulfield trainer Mick Price was delighted with the way multiple Group One winner **Grunt (NZ)** (O'Reilly) came through his win in Saturday's Gr.1 Makybe Diva Stakes (1600m) at Flemington and the son of O'Reilly is likely to be seen back at headquarters in the Gr.1 Turnbull Stakes (2000m) on October 6.

"He really stood up and did the job," Price said.

"I thought a lot of horses had their chance on Saturday and boom away he went."

The winner of five of his eight starts, Grunt seems to prefer the roomier Flemington track, which was also the scene of his Gr.1 Australian Guineas (1600m) victory in autumn.

"He's quite a sizeable horse. He stands over ground and I think those horses need a bit of room to wind up," Price said.

"He's a big, long-striding horse and if he is able to wind up, go through his gears and get momentum, he hits the line very hard. They broke 1:35 yesterday which I thought was a good effort in that sort of race.

"If he runs in a Caulfield Cup, I think he will handle Caulfield as it is a different tempo altogether, but I think 1400m or a mile around Caulfield is no good for him."

Price said he favoured running in the Turnbull Stakes back at Flemington before a tilt at the A\$5 million Gr.1 Caulfield Cup (2400m) on October 20.

"If I go the Underwood Stakes –



*Grunt takes out the Gr.1 Makybe Diva Stakes at Flemington (Bruno Cannatelli)*

Caulfield Stakes – Cox Plate path I am probably taking more of a risk with him."

Price was pleased with the way the four-year-old entire came through the run.

"He looked fantastic this morning. He trotted out sound, he's not tucked up, he got a bit of a whack on a near hind bumper, but he looked great. It looked like he hadn't had a run and I think he will train-on with a really good preparation in front of him."

Meanwhile, Price was also pleased with Caulfield Guineas contender Tavisan (NZ) (Tavistock), who finished third in the Gr.2 Danehill Stakes (1200m) despite racing awkwardly down the Flemington straight.

"He had a good wander down the straight yesterday, which didn't suit him, but I thought the horse was quite valiant and he was tough to hold third spot. It was a nice race."

Price said the son of Tavistock, who began his career in New Zealand, would head to the Gr.3 Caulfield Guineas Prelude (1400m) on September 30 before the A\$2 million Gr.1 Caulfield Guineas (1600m) a fortnight later.

"He's a tough colt and good-winded with a great appetite and he loves his work and racing and he will train-on no problem."

– NZ Racing Desk





# WAIKATO STUD FOCUSSED ON KARAKA 2019

Powerhouse Matamata breeding operation Waikato Stud have announced that their entire 2019 yearling draft will be sold at New Zealand Bloodstock's annual National Yearling Sale at Karaka next year.

While the Stud, who have captured the leading vendor title at the

event for the past five years, have predominantly sold their yearlings at Karaka each year they have also sent a select number to various Australian sales as well.

This year their 108 strong draft will be one hundred per cent Karaka bound, a decision that stud

success," he said.

"We have enjoyed some wonderful moments in the past and last year we produced our biggest draft with 85 individuals at the sale.

"This year we will start with 108 although a few may drop away before the sale starts but I expect we will have around the 100 mark. Included amongst the draft are a number of fillies from our most successful families so we expect the demand to be there for those individuals.

"I guess there is some nervousness with all of your eggs in one basket but we have real confidence that the product we have to offer will suit the needs of the wide array of buyers that come to the sale each year."

– NZ Racing Desk



Waikato Stud principal Mark Chittick

principal Mark Chittick believes is recognition of the vital importance of the sale to the local breeding industry.

"We all need our national sale to be strong each year and hopefully this decision will help play its part as a cornerstone of that

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Blinkers back on Long Leaf for Golden Rose

David Hayes is hoping the addition of blinkers and a dry track will bring out the best in **Long Leaf** (Fastnet Rock) in the Golden Rose at Rosehill.

The Curraghmore Stud graduate from the Premier session of the 2017 National Yearling Sale at Karaka will be Lindsay Park's sole representative in the Group One race over 1400m for three-year-olds on Saturday.

After running on strongly over 1100m at Caulfield on August 18, Long Leaf was switched to Sydney to contest the Run To The Rose on September 8.

A heavy track thwarted his chances with the colt finishing eighth of the 11 runners behind Lean Mean Machine (Zoustar).

Hayes is confident Long Leaf can turn around his poor showing in the Run To The Rose.

"He's not good on the wet," Hayes said.

"He'll improve out of sight with the blinkers back on and getting to the 1400 metres.

"He's worked well in the blinkers and they've worked wonders plenty of time before on race day.

"I'm confident of a very good run so long as it's dry, but if it's wet then I probably wouldn't even run him."







# SPEED QUEEN **TOO QUICK AT RUAKAKA**



*Sam Collett has Prom Queen out on her own as they coast to the finish at Ruakaka (Trish Dunell)*

**S**peed machine **Prom Queen (NZ)** (Super Easy) was back doing what she does best when she scorched her rivals over 1200m at Ruakaka on the weekend.

The Ken Rae and Krystal Williams-Tuhoro trained mare was making her first appearance since returning from a Brisbane winter campaign that ended in disappointment after a promising first-up run for second at Doomben.

Unsung in public since her return from Queensland, the Super Easy mare showed she had lost none of her dash as she quickly assumed control of the open contest after jumping well from an inside barrier.

Allowed to idle along at a steady pace throughout, rider Sam Collett clicked her mount into gear early in the run home

where she extended away from the chasing pack to score by two and a half lengths without being asked for a serious effort.

Rae, who had been cautiously confident before the race, admitted to some pre-race nerves during the build-up.

"I don't get nervous when I'm at the races, but this horse does make me a wee bit nervous," he said.

"When they're fresh-up you never know if they're coming back or not.

"She had shown us signs she was back, but you just never know, although in the end she was just too fast."

Rae has made some tentative plans for the mare's spring

*Continued on page 9*







# SPEED QUEEN **TOO QUICK AT RUAKAKA**

(Continued from page 8)

campaign, although the prospect of her carrying some heavy imposts in his selected races has him wary of just where she will run.

"I might go to Rotorua with her as that is a weight-for-age race which means she will carry 55kgs," he said.

"I still want to go to the Stewards, but if I win another race I will be weighted out of it."

Rider Sam Collett was all smiles as she returned to the birdcage enclosure as she maintained her unbeaten record on the mare.

"She's come back really well and it was a nice race for her to kick-off in," she said.

"To me she still has a bit of improvement in her as her coat hasn't quite come right through yet.

"She is tractable and she just rates herself, so she makes

me look good. They're the ones you want to ride and I'm looking forward to it this year."

As outlined by Rae, Prom Queen's next assignment could be the Gr.3 Sweeney Stakes (1215m) at Rotorua on October 20 before she tackles the Gr.3 Lindauer Stewards' Stakes (1000m) on the middle day of the New Zealand Cup Carnival at Riccarton.

– NZ Racing Desk

<b>Race</b>	<b>Whangarei RC Patron's Trophy H. 1200m.</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Prom Queen (NZ) 2014</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>R H Bishop, R L Hancox, F O Hansen, D P McHugh, K I Rae, G R Smith, H &amp; S J Whitehead</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Ken Rae &amp; Krystal Williams-Tuhoro (Ruakaka)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Super Easy out of Finishing School (AUS) by Royal Academy (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>P Sells &amp; Windsor Park Stud Ltd; Waikato; NZ</b>

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Riders hospitalised

Maija Vance was taken to Rotorua Hospital following a fall in the second race at Rotorua on Sunday.

Vance, a relative new-comer to riding over jumps, was aboard the Glynn Brick-trained Zedsational (NZ) (Zed) when he fell at the second-last hurdle.

Vance was reportedly knocked out as a result of the incident but had regained consciousness by the time she left the track via ambulance.

Eight-year-old galloper Zedsational walked back to the tie-ups.

Meanwhile, apprentice jockey Sarah MacNab is in Palmerston North Hospital recovering from a fall at Woodville on Friday.

MacNab was dislodged from Middagurd (NZ) (Guillotine) in the fourth race and was taken by helicopter to hospital with head injuries.

"She was bruised and battered and had taken a pretty bad knock to the head on Friday," New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing tracks and facilities health and safety spokesman Tim Lambert said.

The fallen horse was not seriously injured.



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Monday 17 September 2018

# NZ STALLION AWARDS

## THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
<b>SAVABEEL</b>	<b>\$1,362,959</b>
O'REILLY	\$1,325,418
DARCI BRAHMA	\$691,978
TAVISTOCK	\$593,923
IFFRAAJ	\$464,978
RIP VAN WINKLE	\$437,257
OCEAN PARK	\$372,605
ZED	\$361,935
PER INCANTO	\$345,839
RED GIANT	\$335,557

*Criteria: Sire whose NZ-conceived progeny have accumulated the highest stakes earnings worldwide*

## THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
<b>O'REILLY</b>	<b>\$944,330</b>
SAVABEEL	\$564,536
RIP VAN WINKLE	\$357,110
IFFRAAJ	\$355,611
ZED	\$354,998
TAVISTOCK	\$319,760
REDWOOD	\$289,975
DARCI BRAHMA	\$261,058
OCEAN PARK	\$249,150
PINS	\$232,787

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

## THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
<b>ZED</b>	<b>\$351,798</b>
COMMANDS	\$187,750
GALLANT GURU	\$174,050
IFFRAAJ	\$168,626
ALAMOSA	\$137,250
SWISS ACE	\$136,022
PER INCANTO	\$130,935
RED GIANT	\$121,215
COLOMBIA	\$119,200
DARCI BRAHMA	\$115,303

BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
<b>PERRY MASON</b>	<b>\$66,875</b>
MELODY BELLE	\$187,500
JACKFROST	\$132,625
MELT	\$59,376
SHE'S POPPY	\$65,875
JULIUS	\$41,875
MAUNA KEA	\$38,275
PLATINUM COMMAND	\$66,775
CHOCOLATE FISH	\$88,700
STROLLING VAGABOND	\$24,725

*Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand*



Data Provided By  
ARION PEDIGREES





Monday 17 September 2018

## NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG SEPTEMBER 12

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
<b>KEEP MOVING (NZ) 2013 by Darci Brahma out of Miss Raggedy Ann by Faltaat (USA)</b>	Llanhennock Trust; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Community Chest Cup 1000m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale V: Wentwood Grange \$110000 P: NZB as agent
<b>TAVIDREAM (NZ) - CIRCUIT GLORY (HK) 2013 by Tavistock out of Cinnadream (AUS) by King of Kings (Ire)</b>	R S Tomlinson; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Wah Fu H. 1650m.	

## NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE SEPTEMBER 14

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
<b>LONGHU (NZ) 2012 by Per Incanto (USA) out of Sacred Steps by Elusive City (USA)</b>	P R Whyte; Central; NZ	Singapore TC Kranji S. 1200m.	
<b>NO FUN NO GAIN (NZ) 2015 by Pins (AUS) out of J'Lo by Unbridled's Song (USA)</b>	B W & Mrs N K Blatch; South; NZ	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1200m.	2017 National Yearling Sale - Premier V: Rich Hill Stud \$130000 P: S Gray
<b>BRILLIANT ONE (NZ) 2013 by Showcasing (GB) out of Clavarias (USA) by Candy Stripes (USA)</b>	N M McCrostie; South; NZ	Singapore TC Class 5 H. 1700m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Festival Session V: Grangewilliam Stud \$45000 P: Diamond Lodge 2015 Ready to Run Sale V: Diamond Lodge \$92500 P: S Gray
<b>SATELLITE WARRIOR (NZ) 2014 by Pins (AUS) out of De Lago Lady by Encosta de Lago (AUS)</b>	Gartshore Bloodstock Ltd; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1400m	2016 National Yearling Sale - Select Session V: Mapperley Stud Ltd \$20000 P: NZB as agent 2016 National Yearling Sale - Select Session V: Waikato Stud Ltd \$125000 P: S Gray/St George Racing

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Young happy with Sully

Co-trainer Natalie Young was thrilled with the first-up effort of **Sully (NZ)** (Reliable Man) who finished fifth over 1400m at Flemington on Saturday although she was kicking herself at the same time.

"Maybe taking the bubble cheeker off today was a mistake, she said. "All he wanted to do in the straight was lay in but once Regan (Bayliss) got the whip in his left hand he was great though the line".

Young said the four-year-old has done everything right so far this campaign and will head to a 1700m race at Caulfield before using the Listed Cranbourne Cup (2025m) on October 14 as a spring launching point.

