

# OWNERS' BULLETIN

NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING ASSOCIATION



MARCH 2017





## OUR GOAL

To improve the economics, integrity and pleasure of the sport of thoroughbred racing on behalf of all owners.

## PRESIDENT/MEMBERS COUNCILLOR'S MESSAGE

NEIL OLDFIELD

**Welcome members and readers to this edition of the Owners Bulletin. A day is a long time in politics we hear. Well it is just as long in the life of all owners and industry participants.**

Since my last column there has been thoroughbred industry interaction with the Racing Board in particular. A meeting has been held at Ellerslie with participants from sector groups, the five major clubs, NZTR and the Racing Board. It was a frank discussion with a resolution to continue to strive to improve the efficiency of the Racing Board and in particular the distribution to the code. A set of questions the code wanted answers on were put to the Racing Board. This is work in progress with a meeting to follow scheduled for later in March.

It is plain for this writer that the cost of production is and has become too great to simply continue in the same manner. The status quo is no longer suitable to sustain an active and vibrant industry, irrespective of whichever code is your passion.

To this end the current exploration of FOB services by the Racing Board is valid and essential. The Racing Board also has an obligation to openly disseminate information and justify the decision making process it has conducted. The structure of the Board is designed to that end, with four appointed members and a representative, one each from the three codes.

It is evident that the cost structures that are now the standard requirement of the Racing Board also mirror the continual decline in active participation of ownership in this country. While looking at the FOB side of their core business I also hope they look at the "farming out" of the entire business to professional and compatible organisations. There are too many tyres on the "wagering" road, all trying to do the same service, collect revenue and return profits to the three codes.

The problem is I suspect the dilemma of "asking turkeys to vote for Christmas". Time to Gobble, Gobble, Gobble before the wielding of an axe declares the patient mortally wounded.

Ownership returns took a significant step forward with the raising of minimum stakes for maidens to \$10,000 from the 1st of March 2017. This is just a stepping stone along the way, as the introduction of the Racefields legislation will also have a significant impact on returns.

The introduction to the House of Parliament has been indicated by the end of March 2017. The only real query is what has happened since the appointment of the Ministers committee to review this, and the time taken to now to deliver this vital piece of legislation.

Why wasn't it introduced a year ago? After all all political parties included it in their manifestos at the last election, and now we are just six months away from the next election.

Cheers for now. Neil.



## NZTR CHIEF EXECUTIVE STEPPING DOWN

Greg Purcell, Chief Executive for the past six years of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing, has given notice to the NZTR Board of his intention to step down by the end of the current racing season.

Having commenced his role at the helm of the thoroughbred code's management team in early 2011, Purcell believes the time is now right for the transition to a new Chief Executive.

"Greg has worked with total dedication over the last six years and deserves acknowledgement for the significant improvements to NZTR and our sport which he has led," said Dr Jackson.

"Under his tenure as Chief Executive, NZTR has delivered six successive years of increased aggregate and average prize-money funding. He has also produced five years of surpluses and rebuilt NZTR's cash reserves – despite stagnant NZRB distributions – by improving operating efficiencies and maintaining strong cost control within NZTR."

Purcell advised the Chairman over 12 months ago that after five years in the role he saw a refreshing of the Chief Executive position as desirable.

"Last June, at the request of Dr Jackson, I agreed to stay on for a further 12 months to work with the NZTR Board on industry-changing pathways," Purcell said.

"I'm proud of the achievements of the hard-working and passionate NZTR team, which over the last six years has returned our code's operations to financial sustainability. My team has ensured NZTR operated within its means and provided a structure of prize-money and racing activities that were fully funded from revenue.

"We have a great industry filled with hard-working, dedicated and passionate people and the New Zealand thoroughbred racehorse is the equal of any in the world. We all know the significant challenges that our sport faces, however opportunities for significant improvement do exist.

Greg Purcell will continue in his role as Chief Executive managing NZTR business for the foreseeable future and will work on industry changing pathways.

"In the upcoming months I will continue to work as energetically as ever for the benefit of thoroughbred stakeholders," Purcell said.

Advertising for the position of Chief Executive of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing will commence immediately.



Everyone needs a holiday and 'yours truly' is no exception. So this issue contains a fair bit of copy and paste. But it is all grist to the mill and things members should be aware of.

At last 'the powers that be' have realised that to continue on in the same way cannot be sustained. Particularly the inertia around the introduction of the Racefields legislation. The Minister of Racing says this is a complex thing!

But hang on have the cousins in Australia not got it working there? Could that not be a template? And if it needs fine tuning how long would that take?

It is galling that Australian Racing is reaping the benefits of their Racefield Legislation and forging ahead and inertia here is causing stress. Another 12 million bucks is coming to racing! Tell us this is not a mirage?

Whichever way you look at it the roadblocks are political and come from a last century Racing Act which I think is no longer fit for purpose. But that does not excuse the current lack of action.

You know New Zealand racing has a great past with a breed of horse that had stamina and were tough, Towards the middle of this issue there is a page that shows an old flyer of the hardy sire St Clement. But the previous page shows a recent story of a young apprentice winning her first race in style. That is a juxtaposition and it is intentional.

Sure "racing" has a great past but don't tell us that young people who are now committing the best years of their lives to Racing, don't have a future!

We are also rushing to get this issue out to meet the Pearl Series deadline of 17 March and we are always keen to support the NZ Thoroughbred Breeders scheme to incentivise fillies races.

Another complimentary advert is for the Agriseeds sponsorship of Catwalk Trust. We urge you to support them. Equine sports are a source of people needing wheelchairs. The number increased by one recently after a South Auckland apprentice jockey had a fall. Your assistance can help these people to walk again.

For your stories contact me –  
neilandjeanette@yahoo.com



- OUR COVER -

• VonTunzelman and Micky salute the Judge • Marks Ewen & Associates Kaimai Stakes at Matamata •

## MEDIA RELEASE NZTROF

# MINIMUM THOROUGHBRED RACING STAKES TO GO TO \$10,000

"It's time," said Alan Jackson, Chairman of NZ Thoroughbred Racing, speaking about the decision of the NZTR Board at its February 9 meeting to increase minimum thoroughbred racing stakes to \$10,000 from March 1 2017.

This means the stakes at the 80 or so industry and Tier 2 meetings with a minimum \$7000 or \$8000 stake will rise to \$10,000. Just over 500 races will get an extra \$2-3000 to meet the \$10,000 minimum resulting in increased stakes for participants as follows:

- **1st** will increase from \$4375 to **\$6250**;
- **2nd** will increase from \$1400 to **\$2000**;
- **3rd** will increase from \$700 to **\$1000**;
- **4th** will increase from \$350 to **\$500**; and
- **5th** will increase from \$175 to **\$250**.

"This puts around \$1.4 million back into the pockets of those racing horses this season and \$3m plus in future seasons," said Dr Jackson.

"Directors reflected on the enormous pressures owners and trainers are facing, for breeders the disappointing domestic results at the recent Karaka Sales and the Racing Board CEO's recent announcement of gaming funds to be shared amongst Codes. The Board of NZTR also had to balance thoroughbred racing's tight financial situation with the livelihood of their stakeholders."

"We have to have confidence in our future. The Government has also indicated that Racefields legislation will be introduced to Parliament before it rises for the upcoming General Election, and the NZRB has stated it is considering further moves at their March Board meeting on top of the gaming fund distribution it has already announced."

"We believe Racefields alone will return over \$12 million in distributions to racing and we look forward to making future announcements on what this means for our industry."

"NZTR will continue to consider future funding sources for our Code, but given our current situation, the Board is confident that this is not a one-off funding injection."

"The Board of NZTR is committed to improving our domestic racing product, the racing calendar and venues where people go to watch racing. There is much work to be done in improving the health and safety of industry participants, education, communication and equine welfare. All these projects require funding too, and NZTR will work with industry partners on these important initiatives," finished Dr Jackson.

## THE OWNERS' FEDERATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

We wish to extend a very warm welcome to the new members who have joined the Owner's Federation in January to February 2017.

We really appreciate your membership support and look forward to a long and enjoyable association with you.

### AUCKLAND

James M Chapman	Mercer
Selwyn & Judy Maynard	Auckland
Paul Humphries	Mangawhai Heads
Karen & Michael Smales	Maungaturoto

### WAIKATO/BAY OF PLENTY

John McPherson	Putaruru
David Price	Wellington
Kevin Anderson	Petone

### MANAWATU

J R Griffith	Masterton
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### WANGANUI/TARANAKI

Bruce Wilson	Hawera
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### CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND

Jim Campbell	Greymouth
Danny Crozier	Christchurch
Rachel Deegan	Christchurch
Olivia Morgan	Timaru



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## REGIONAL ROUNDUP

### AUCKLAND/NORTHLAND ADVICE

MIKE GETHING & SALLY BLYTH

**NZTR has moved to increase the minimum stake to \$10,000 as from 1st March 2017.**

They are to be congratulated in taking this initiative. We hope this is just the first step to a realistic level of stakes that will encourage existing owners to stay in the industry and others to join.

Certainly in our recent survey of members, the low level of stakes was one of the most important concerns expressed.

Auckland Racing Club is to be congratulated on the 'owner care' approach apparent on recent major race days. Making people feel welcome and an important part of a day's racing makes so much difference. Any further member feedback on that, both positive and negative, would be welcome.

The Auckland Owners' Association Committee intend to focus now on the remaining issues highlighted in the survey responses – access to tie-ups, on-course race day experience and communication within the industry. – **Mike G**

**Auckland Cup Week comes around again, with Vodafone Derby Day on Saturday 4th March and Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup Day on Saturday 11th March. Ellerslie will be in full swing with entertainment, hospitality, fashion and fun, as well as top class racing.**

Last year's Cup winner, rank outsider El Soldado, ridden by Darryl Bradley, paid huge odds, leading all the way. In great lead-up form for this year's Cup, he recently won the Go Racing Syndications

Avondale Cup at Ellerslie, with another "you-can't-catch-me" all-the-way win. Jockey Samantha Collett did a great job in getting him to the front, early on, from an awkward spot. She angled him out of the pack, took him wide and forward, and once he got to the front, he lobbed along happily – and stayed there. He paid a handsome \$69 win price and one would have to say this horse is under-rated. Owner/trainer/breeder Phillip Devcich must be very proud of his boy.

He is in this year's Cup field again – now a 10yo, and the oldest in the race, has he got the goods to notch up another front-running win? And what's the bet he'll pay well again, if he does manage the double? We shall see soon enough.

Meanwhile, let's take a quick look back at previous multiple Auckland Cup winners...

**SEVEN HORSES HAVE WON AN AUCKLAND CUP DOUBLE:**

**Prize Lady** 2007 & 2008 (*had to survive a protest in 2008, the slowest run Cup in 100 yrs*)

**Il Tempo** 1969 & 1970 (*also won Wellington Cup in world record time*)

**Cheval de Volee** 1938 & 1939 (*led all the way 1939*)

**Cuddle** 1935 & 1936 (*also won the Doncaster Handicap, 1936*)

**Te Kara** 1923 & 1924 (*dead-heated with Muraahi in 1923*)

**All Red** 1908 & 1909

**Blue Jacket** 1899 & 1900 (*turned poor form around for 1900 win*)

**JUST TWO HORSES HAVE WON THREE TIMES:**

**Nelson** won three in a row, in 1885, 1886 and 1887 – the only horse to win three consecutive Cups, and it was 120 years ago.

**Ariel** has also won three times, but not on the trot – he won in 1876 and then again in 1878 and 1879.

There have been some incredible wins of recent times, one being Ligeiro in 1993, with Lance O'Sullivan on board. Quite how he managed to get the horse out and through the gaps that just weren't there is still baffling. It was master horsemanship at its very best. Ligeiro had a rather rocky run but once he weaved his way out into clear space, he burst through, stormed home and got up by a nose. That was 24 years ago and the win is so vivid in my memory that I still replay it in my head and still can't fathom how on earth Lance got the horse up for the win.

Kotare Chief's win in 1987 was also extraordinary – ridden by Jock Caddigan, he got out to a 25length lead and looked positively lonely. Turning for home, he still had a good 15 lengths up his sleeve and never looked like being caught. He crossed the line a stunning seven lengths clear, winning comfortably, the real battle being for minor placings. His time of 3:16.63 was a track record and has only been beaten once since – by South Island horse Sea Swift the following year, who ran a time of 3:15.66 in 1988. This record still stands.

The Auckland Cup often delivers surprises and we'll all be looking forward to seeing what transpires on Saturday 11th March in this year's big race. – **Sally**

## WAIKATO WORDS

JENNY COWAN

**The planned breeding, long hours and careful handling which make up the yearling sales has concluded for another year.**

Lot 59 Savabeel/ Baradevi sold by Little Avondale for \$200k was a gorgeous, masculine, calm and fast looking colt, bought by Te Akau.

Lot 103 sold by Hallmark, was the last O'Reilly sold and was bought by Bjorn Baker.

Lot 130 High Chaparral/Diamond Like filly sold by Cambridge Stud for \$800k was the most beautiful. She seemed faultless and had a clear loveheart on her forehead.

Lot 255 an Ocean Park/Legs colt sold by Waikato Stud was another stamped by his sire – great body, walk and attitude @ \$170k.

Lot 316 Savabeel/O'Gio filly sold for \$200k – would give seller, Carol Marshall much satisfaction. She is going to the Darren Weir stable. "Weary" they call him. Hardly!

Going back. At the 2016 Sydney Easter sale a filly by Frankel out of More Strawberries sold for \$1.3 mill. She started her career early in 2017 and is called 'Woman' and is trained by Gai.

Congrats to Sir Patrick and Justine Lady Hogan for being the leading vendors once again.

On Feb 8th at Ellerslie Ross McCarroll trained a double – no small feat when you have a small stable. Chicane for Wayne Dollimore and Ross himself, and Calligraphy for Derek, Karty and Maureen Mayne. Both ridden by Jason Waddell.

At Te Rapa on Feb 11th Michael David Nolan Wallace won with Baymax. He beat the hot shots in the race, an R85 worth \$30,000, and a great win for him as he owns him outright. He followed up with a good 5th at Matamata on Breeders day. His other charge, Irina, is having a short break.

Also at Te Rapa Mark Forbes trained Pinzalot for her second win for owner Philip Nunn, who lives in Hong Kong. Mark trains out of Peake Rd, Cambridge with about 6 in work, but also does breaking in and pre-training.

Brendan & Jo Lindsay and trainer Roger James have a smart type in Von Tunzelman who made it 4 wins from 10 starts when winning the Marks Ewen & Associates Kaimai Stakes at Matamata. On the same day the combination produced Hanger to run third first up in the Reid & Harrison Ltd Slipper. He is by Smart Missile.



## HAWKES BAY HAPPENINGS TONY LYNDON

**Former H.B.R.I. Chairman and Waipukurau farmer Mick Ormond can vouch for the saying “you have to make your own luck”. His came when he purchased the last Tycoon mare Gussy Godiva.**

The winner of 4 races she has had 100% winners to starters. Her first foal Rios by Hussonet won 6 races including the Group 2 Wellington Guineas, and is now starting to make a name for himself at stud. Her second foal, Roman Emperor won the Group 1 Australian Derby. Volgus and Omana have been winners and Eva Godiva kept the family's record intact by winning at her second start at New Plymouth on December 24th. By the champion sire Redoubt's Choice, Mick races her with his son Ru and Waipukurau farmer Peter Coleman, Hastings poultry farmer Andy Davies and 2 syndicates The Grizzlies and The Wild Kiwis.

A full brother to Eva Godiva fetched A\$400,000, and a half brother by Medaglia D'Oro A\$150,000 with a Snitzel colt going for A\$375,000. Now 18 years old she has a filly foal by Per Incanto and is in foal to Charm Spirit.

Hastings on New Year's Day saw 3 locals to the fore. Savvy Dreams followed her good form in jumpouts and trials to win first up.

Notionannagins won the 4th race of her career for a large Syndicate of locals that is managed by Paul Sullivan from Napier.

The Per Incanto filly, Red Tiara finally broke through to win. Although showing pace on the track and at the jumpouts she has taken a while to get her act together.

Market Gardener John Flynn and wife Greta won their fourth race with Thien Ly, a \$30,000 Rating 85 at Wellington. They had hoped to get a run in the \$250,000 Telegraph the following week but she was withdrawn when under the conditions of the race of penalties and allowances she would be weighted with nearly the same weight as some of the top sprinters: whereas under handicap conditions she would have got in on the minimum weight.

Prominent Central Hawkes Bay Breeder Sue Harty was about to sell Shrimp Cocktail for a polo pony when she earned a reprieve by winning at Wanganui. By Tiger Prawn out of Pacific Heights she is a half sister to Tidal Wave the winner of 5 races.

Miss Wilson is now back in N.Z. after a stint in Australia with Simon Morrish. Winning at her first start she then lost form and returned home to John Bary's care. After spelling she had her first start for 9 months winning at Trentham in a \$40,000 Premier R65 over 1200 metres. She then backed up to win a \$22,500 R75 three weeks later at the Manawatu meeting held at Woodville. Miss Wilson is raced by her breeders Richard & Liz Wood and is a half sister to the champion Jimmy Choux, the winner of 12 races



including the Group One N.Z. 2000 Guineas, N.Z. Derby, Rosehill Guineas and the Windsor Park Plate and Spring Classic at Hastings. He now stands at Rich Hill Stud.

The Woods sold a Fastnet Rock colt at Karaka this year on behalf of Chouxmaani Investments for \$260,000. He is a half brother to Jimmy Choux and Miss Wilson.

Gold Trail Winner Honey Rider returned from a spell to win first up at Waikato. Having not raced for nearly 4 months she easily disposed of a strong field to take her tally to 3 wins and a second from only 6 starts. The Owner/Breeders Charlie Whyte and Andrew Lockyer are keen to add more black type to her Group 3 win and should do so as we head into autumn.

Well known Racing & Breeding identity Ivan Grieve could have a classic staying type with The Cossack. Out of a Galileo mare and by Mastercraftsman, he won at his third start at Woodville.

### SOME SMASHING, AUSPICIOUS EVENTS HAPPENING LATELY.

Winx, Springstein, Fire-fighters, Purdon, Trump, Cruising, Menangle.

The latter gave us a great look at a women – only driving race at Menangle. A great promotion.

There were 5 kiwi horses favoured to win 5 group races there – all trained by the same family – our own Mark or Barry Purdon. What an amazing feat – not a mini meeting – one race of \$100k, 3 of \$200k and the Miracle Mile of \$750k. Between Mark and Barry they won 3, a close second, and had 3 of the first 4 in the Miracle Mile.

We don't have anyone in our galloping code anywhere near that acclaim, or claim.

Have to say congratulations to Maureen Davies, Cherry Taylor, Jaqui Symes, Faith Taylor, and Brent Taylor, on a Winx like win at Matamata with their Smashing. She has been her own undoing at times, but Cameron Lamm has the key to her. A real birthday present for Jaqui!

Waikato Assoc discussed the State of the Industry issues and where the Federation stands, at their recent committee meeting. This relates to the Outsourcing of Wagering Services and The Final Fields Legislation. These have current and long-term ramifications, which makes for careful decision making. Waikato feel supportive of NZTR that with all that is required facing them, they will urgently attend to these problems.

We have strong support for John Allen to take us forward, to make racing one of the major players in NZ. We need the right people in the right places.

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## MANAWATU/ WELLINGTON MATTERS

ALLAN FENWICK

### MANAWATU MATTERS

#### FITTING FAREWELL FOR KAREN

The Haunui Farm Group 1 Classic Race Day at Otaki on 25 February was always going to be a significant day for Karen Zimmerman as it would be her last race day training from her Otaki base. But when Don Blanco broke through maidens in Race 2 to make it New Zealand win 499 for Karen attention turned to whether or not the 500 win milestone could provide the most fitting farewell. Karen had Race 4 stacked with 3 runners. Hollypop was the favoured runner on the tote but sixth was the best she could do.

Suo Lin Nang was the next most favoured and looked a good chance in the straight but ended up third returning a \$7 place dividend for her supporters. But rank outsider Maximilien in the hands of Jonathan Riddell came with the last run to down them all and make it a day Karen will always remember. It was also no doubt a day to remember for Maximilien's supporters as he returned a win dividend on the tote of \$58 and was being quoted at \$100 on fixed odds.

Karen commenced her training career in Wanganui and Govicar, named by members of the Gonville, Victoria Park and Aramaho Bowling Clubs who shared in his ownership, was an early trail blazer winning the Paris House Greys at Te Rapa, the Trust Bank Masterton Easter Cup and the 1996 Wanganui Cup as well as 6 other races. Govicar was from Zena's Wish who was the dam or grand dam of many winners from the Zimmerman stable, the majority being bred by the late Gerry Arber. Another good winner from the mare was King of Ashford who won the Weallens Matamata Cup and Hawkes Bay Cup for Gerry and Karen before being sold to Australia.

Gerry assisted Karen in syndicating and managing many of the horses in her stable over a long period and it was fitting that many of the owners of Don Blanco had been in many of those syndicates including our members Mark Fearon, Mike and Kay Courtney and John Roache.

Karen and husband Kelvin have been very supportive of young people in the industry and have usually had an apprentice attached to their stable. Karen has also been a member of the Central Apprentice Academy Board for many years.

We all wish Karen and Kelvin the best on their relocation to Byerley Park and hope the winners continue to flow.

#### BACK ON TRACK

The Marton Jockey Club's twilight meeting on Friday 3 March will see racing return to Awapuni after all racing was suspended on the course following the Manawatu Cup meeting in December. However horses will race on the new alternate bend for the first time.

The RACE Board had previously identified the need for an alternate bend and in preparation for a future rebuild commenced developing the alternative top bend 18 months ago. Since December a lot of work has gone into commissioning the new bend. Five heats of unofficial jump outs with senior riders were held at the end of January and a full set of trials was held on 14 February. All riders at the trials were complimentary of the surface and camber of the bend.

Hayden Tinsley, one of three senior riders appointed to a working group to assist the Awapuni Racing Centre to introduce the new bend, was personally satisfied with the positive outcome. "Today is a result of this management group all having input, listening and agreeing to measures to get back to racing at Awapuni, this track is perfect for Group 1 racing" Tinsley said

There have been some comments from afar that the new bend will be tighter than the old bend. Those comments are completely wrong. The new alternate bend configuration is the same size as the old bend but it commences 50 metres sooner which effectively means the front and back straights will be 50 metres less in length when the new bend is in use.

Safely through the Marton meeting the Courtesy Ford Sires Produce Stakes will likely be held on the same course on Saturday 1st April. This day is the final day of the Norwood Farm Machinery City of Palmerston North Gold Cup Festival.

The Festival will kick off with public activities in the Square on Wednesday 29th March and then an official launch on Thursday 30th March at CET Arena in Palmerston North which will include Jimmy Barnes performing a one-off 75 minute concert as his only full concert performance in New Zealand.

Friday will see further activities at the Harness Raceway and then on Saturday the Courtesy Ford Sires Produce Stakes will take place.

With Awapuni not available for racing the Marton Cup meeting in January was transferred to Trentham and it says much for the track and staff, together with a bit of help from the weather, that the venue could host four Saturdays in a row in January.

#### MEMBERS TO THE FORE

Sanjara, trained and part owned by Roger Allen, was the winner of the Bambry's Water Treadmill Woodville Cup. It was her 3rd win on the track.

Yemanya graduated from maidens at Wanganui in January. The Roydon Bergerson trained filly is raced by a number of Members including Dame Lowell Goddard, Mark Fearon, John Roache, Keith Towers and Bob Wiltshire. Her win did provide some compensation for many of these owners who had been involved with the promising Irish Whisper who passed away recently. She had won her last 2 starts.

Celtic Beauty broke through maidens at Stratford on New Year's Eve. She is raced by John and Trudy Donovan and John and Linda Wheeler.

Beefeater, trained by Royden Bergerson for Christopher Grace, was finally in the winner's circle for win number 4 at Matamata in February after placings in 4 of her 5 previous starts over the Manawatu and Wellington carnivals.

Shared Secrets showed she was on track for a Gr. 1 Wellfield New Zealand Oaks start with an impressive win in the Dominion Post New Zealand St Leger Trial (2100m) at Otaki. Up against some promising 3 and 4 year olds Shared Secrets fought bravely to record her first win. At her previous start in the Wellfield Desert Gold Stakes she had finished a very game fourth. Shared Secrets was bred by her trainer and part owner Mark Oulaghan and is a granddaughter of his very good race mare Semper Fidelis, winner of 10 races including the Egmont and Marton Cups and the Trentham Stakes.

Also sharing in the ownership of Shared Secrets are 4 others with strong racing backgrounds – Robert Cuff from Palmerston North, Mark Freeman from Wellington and long serving Wairarapa racing administrators Colin Campbell and Ray Southey.

## WANGANUI/TARANAKI ROUNDUP

BRIAN O'DEA

**Start Wondering, who surely will be NZ sprinter of the year, is a real Wanganui community Champion Horse with a local breeder, trainer, jockey and most importantly owners Steve and Jo Gudsell. As Steve says, "you don't have to be an owner to get a lot of pleasure out of following the good ones" and we all are.**

The Gudsell family have been strong supporters of Wanganui racing for many years, breeding, racing, sponsoring races and being of great assistance with the on course turnover. They were also part of the Who Shot The Barman support crew which included following him to the Auckland and Melbourne Cups. This is now being reciprocated by the O'Leary family supporting "The Wonder". As often happens luck and bad luck go hand in hand. Start Wondering was from Eighth Wonder's first crop and Steve was so impressed he, with Shaun O'Leary, bought the stallion. Unfortunately Eighth Wonder's career was cut short as he died in 2015.

Des and Kay Fleming brought up their 99th winner as owners with Savaria winning the Wellington Cup and two days later Rosetta made it 100 winning her maiden at Woodville. Des bought these two due to their line to Soliloquy but the bulk of their success comes from homebreds including Amorata (2) and Yodelay. Des likes a punt and was pleased his return on bets on Savaria in the Wellington Cup exceeded his purchase costs of the mare.

Dan O'Leary's Over The River chalked up his 14th win at Wairoa, extending his winning distances from sprints to a middle distance. Tony and Denise Dravitzki have had a good summer with Razors Edge which has either won or been placed in every start this season. Their winter jumping star The Big Opal is well and back in work.

Max Dravitzki's Mars Bars showed promise winning two of four and he is also part of a big syndicate racing Light Em Up who has won his last two.

David Brophy of Rahotu had three wins in a row with Travimyfriend before an interrupted run at Auckland stopped the sequence.

Taihape also had a winning owner, SK Turner, a shareholder in the Te Akau syndicate that races good three year old Hall of Fame.

Gorbachev, a winner at Wanganui has gone through a rough patch over summer becoming completely blind in one eye for six weeks. Trainer Bryce Newman had to treat the eye up to seven times a day during this period and it is due to great stockmanship on his part that Gorby has recovered to win again and have a promising future for Wanganui members Paul Bardell, Joe Huwyler, Brian O'Dea and breeder/owner Kevin O'Donnell.

Hawera members BJ & PR Nicholson picked up a Christmas win with Red Rascal and earlier BM Wilson, part breeder and part owner of Kensington had two wins to celebrate in the spring.

## CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND SAYINGS

FIONA HURST

**Barry Thomas, from the beautiful town of Queenstown, races 'Maybe Miami' out of the Kevin and Pam Hughes stable at Riccarton. The five year old Iffraaj gelding has been racing very well since November last year when he ran second in the Mohua Premier Open at Riccarton during Cup Week. Following this run he finished fourth in the Kamada Park Manawatu Challenge Stakes at Group Two level after running three wide without cover throughout the race. Back home to the South Island and a win in the Listed Timaru Stakes at the end of January set him up for a run in the Haunui Farm Group One WFA Classic. After being three wide the entire trip Maybe Miami stuck on gamely for a credible fifth placing.**

'Don Carlo' is proving to be a little bit exciting for his owner Rod Moore who successfully raced the dam of Don Carlo. A three year old Per Incanto gelding, he is showing his athleticism and desire to win against his own age group and the older horses also. Don Carlo took out the NZB South Island Sales Two & Three year old set weight at Riccarton recently over 1200m. Three wins from six starts, he is fashioning a good race record so far. Rods' passion for racing goes back a long way and a long distance away when he was an amateur jumps jockey in his younger days in England. He now enjoys the ownership of racing horses with local trainer Michael Daly.

Pat Collins is carrying on his winning ways with 'Rideitlikeustoleit' who capped off a good run of form with a win in early December down in Southland. Spider Lily' pops up now and again for her owners. She backed up a nice run in the Miss Scenicland Stakes on the Coast late January with a win at Gore ten days later where the track conditions suited her. Another stable runner 'Ultra Chic' took some nice work on her home track of Timaru to the races at Riccarton a couple of weeks ago and pulled off a nice maiden win over 1200m amongst all female company. She will head to Wingatui where part owner Lacy Stewart will be hoping for a repeat performance so she can go to hospital, on a high, two days later and give birth to her second child.

A little bit quieter of late but still ticking over the winners is Terrill Charles and Peter Corbett. Ellerstina and Show MacCool have produced wins lately with Show MacCool winning the Kamada Park Summer Cup at Wellington over 2400m on the 21st of January. Ellerstina finally rewarded her owners after a string of placings. She relished conditions on the West Coast to win her maiden race at Reefton.

It was a pleasure to meet Don Lake from Ashburton when he came and introduced himself in our Owners and Trainers hospitality tent we hosted at the Timaru Christmas race meeting on the 28th of December. There to see his horse race with a few of his friends, they enjoyed our tent and their day out in the sun. Recently a horse that Don shares in the ownership of, 'Unconquered' trained by Graeme and Debbie Rogerson, won at Wellington. Looking like a handy sprinter, the 'I Am Invincible' gelding has had two wins from sixteen starts and many minor placings.

After a string of minor placings 'Disturbance' showed her ability with two wins in a row. The first, her maiden win, was at the Timaru Christmas meeting over 1600m and her second win, a month later, was at Riccarton over 1800 where he was ridden masterfully by Sam Collet for part owner Phillip Blacktopp from Christchurch.

James Mee from Invercargill shares in the ownership of Montoya Star trained by the Pitman team at Riccarton. It is not easy to do and it doesn't happen often but the four year old mare by High Chaparral just completed a trio of wins in three weeks the first one being in Dunedin and the last in Wellington.



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## RACING CLUBS –

## SOME ARE TRYING AND SOME ARE “TRYING”!

KAREN REMETIS • WAHAROA • [KAREN@TOWNCENTRES.CO.NZ](mailto:karen@towncentres.co.nz)

Talking with someone recently who sponsored a race to the tune of \$650, he was surprised at what the racing club provided him with as a sponsor. All day great food, ham on the bone, salad etc, refreshments including alcohol, tea and coffee. It was a great day out. He was surprised, as he is also an owner and he mentioned his training accounts over the last year amounted to \$70k, not including vets, transport or NZTR costs.

As owners, we know what we get on raceday, a facebook and free drink – although at Tauranga and Ellerslie you mustn't appear earlier than five minutes before the race for the drink or they will turn you away. It isn't an elegant experience but in view of what owners pay, you'd expect a bit more than what we are getting at some race clubs.

At Tauranga, as we move quickly into the brickbats, an elderly friend who used to have up to six horses in work at a time, had two horses racing on this particular day. The car park was full so she had to park on the road and walk, with bad legs struggling to the course to see her horses' race. Her first horse was scratched before the start, her second won the last. In the President's room after the win she asked for a ride back to her car, no answer from any of

the Committee. She asked twice more, again no answer. She had to struggle back down the hill to her car on her own. I wrote to the Tauranga Racing Club Chairperson asking why this happened. I also didn't get an answer. An apology would have been nice but still inadequate.

The same owner's horse ran third in the Foal Stakes at Ellerslie a couple of years ago. No-one invited her to even a cup of tea in the President's room. No-one spoke to her other than other owners who congratulated her. Is it surprising owners are reducing their numbers of race horses?

Contrast that with our experience at Wanganui when our horse having his first start ran 25 lengths last on a cold wet day. All owners of all races on the day were invited to the Presidents room for refreshments. The room was lovely. It had been painted out by a working bee of the Committee recently in a blue/grey colour and someone had painted flowers on a wall. It was elegant, welcoming. It seemed like all the Committee were there working, talking with owners and it was a great feel. Ruakaka and Stratford are also courses that our personal experience of has been really pleasant. It makes you keen to go back as an owner, rather than feeling as if you've just been used.

Prior to writing this I'd been to Matamata to see a friend's horse run. Sure most Clubs have dated infrastructure but what struck me that day was how clean Matamata course was and with this article in mind, how fresh. So no excuses from Clubs, it is what our experience is of raceday which dictates whether we will bother spending a good part of a day in unpleasant conditions with unpleasant experiences or watch it on TV and whether we will put another horse into work or not and, with the economic power of owners, whether we will race at some Clubs or not.

As owners of Thoroughbred racehorses, we are the cash cows, the last bastion of providers of cash for everyone else. So what do we get out of it? The beauty, elegance and courage of the horse, winning of course is a bonus but currently to get any financial return we must sell or win major races. So the owner is carrying major costs for little financial return – Racing Clubs should at least provide hospitality with a bit more sophistication than what is happening now.

**EDITORS NOTE** – The Owners Federation has over time advocated for an even standard of privileges NZ wide and cited the Victorian Owners Gold Card as an ideal template. But this has been to no avail.

We recognise the voluntary element that run a raceday at a club so have some reluctance to single clubs out. However we represent all Owners and you are welcome to share your raceday experience with us. Contact me or Karen Remetis



# Outstanding results for Karaka graduates in Pearl Series

**The New Zealand Bloodstock Insurance Pearl Series has become an enormously popular and richly rewarding initiative in New Zealand racing, and results show that the National Yearling Sales Series at Karaka is a terrific source of quality contenders for the lucrative bonuses.**

The New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders Association Pearl Series is a bonus scheme for New Zealand-bred fillies and mares, offering bonuses of almost \$2.6 million and prize-money of nearly \$2.8 million. The scheme includes 215 individual races for fillies and mares over three seasons' racing, with bonuses for each race of up to \$20,000. The Series has been designed to benefit owners, trainers and breeders of fillies and mares running in New Zealand and are available in all regions of the country. All bonuses are cumulative, so a horse can win multiple bonuses throughout her racing career.

In the 2015-16 season there were more than 20 victories by graduates of the Karaka sale ring, including seven from the Select Sale and five from the Festival Sale.

One of the headline acts has been the flying First Serve (NZ) (Swiss Ace), whose career got off to an auspicious start with a win in a Pearl Series event.

Leading South Island horseman Michael Pitman, who trains in partnership with his son Matthew, is an outspoken supporter of the Pearl Series and has said that he always recommends enrolment in the scheme to his stable clients.

Pitman bought First Serve specifically with the Pearl Series in mind. Along with stablemates Queen Serene (NZ) (Thorn Park) and Fade To Grey (NZ) (Guillotine), First Serve is raced by a large group of owners scattered all around New Zealand who have joined forces under the name Pearl Fillies Syndicate.

"They're a great group of owners that we put together to target those Pearl Series bonus races," Pitman said.

That goal was achieved immediately. In her very first start in March last year, First Serve bounded to victory in a NZB Insurance Pearl Series Race (1200m) at Riccarton. In addition to the \$7,500 in prize-money available to the winner of the race, First Serve also won an \$11,500 Level B bonus. So in one hit she won \$19,000, which is more than three times her purchase price at the 2014 Festival Sale.

First Serve has gone on to stardom for Pitman, who describes himself as a "fan" of the Pearl Series and says the scheme is "very worthwhile".

First Serve has won seven of her nine starts including the Group 3 Canterbury Breeders' Stakes (1400m). Including that Pearl Series bonus, she has earned more than \$150,000 for her connections.

"She's come a long way since we paid \$6,000 for her at Karaka," Pitman said. "The Pearl Fillies Syndicate have had a great time with her."

The syndicate's other two runners, Queen Serene and Fade To Grey, are both winners and have recorded placings in Pearl Series bonus races, which they will continue to specifically target

The Pitman stable has had Pearl Series success with two other Karaka graduates including Night Nurse (NZ) (Tavistock), who came out of the 2013 Select Sale and also eclipsed her purchase price in one hit when she won a NZB Insurance Pearl Series Race (1400m) at Motukarara in January last year. She earned \$7,500 in prize-money as well as an \$11,500 Level B bonus.

Night Nurse is now the winner of five of her 18 starts, placing in another eight. Including the Pearl Series bonus, she has earned more than \$115,000 for her connections.

Two other star performers in the Pearl Series in the 2015-16 season were Ventura (NZ) (Iffraaj) and Seymour (NZ) (Fast 'N' Famous), who each won two bonus races.

Ventura was bought by Pukekohe trainer Richard Collett for \$40,000 at the 2013 Select Sale. Her first Pearl Series victory came in a maiden race at Avondale in August 2015, for which she earned prize-money of \$7,500 and a bonus of \$11,500.

That was followed two months later by another Pearl Series win at Otaki, earning \$15,625 in prize-money and a \$20,000 bonus.

Those two Pearl Series victories earned Ventura more than \$54,000, which exceeded her purchase price at Karaka.

Seymour's first win came at Hawke's Bay in January 2016, earning \$7,500 in prize-money for trainer and part-owner Ross McCarroll. She also earned a Level C bonus of \$8,000.

The daughter of Fast 'N' Famous was at it again in May, winning at New Plymouth for another \$7,500 in prize-money and a Level B bonus of \$11,500. That total of \$34,500 also exceeds her purchase price at the 2013 Festival Sale.

The Pearl Series has also been a springboard to black-type success for a number of Karaka graduates. First Serve won the Group 3 Canterbury Breeders' Stakes, Summer's Day (NZ) (Pins) claimed the Listed Tauranga Classic, Ruud Not Too (NZ) (Bernardini) scored in the Group 2 Rich Hill Mile and Lasarla (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) won the Group 2 Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes.

Early bird nominations for the 2017 NZB Insurance Pearl Series close on 17th March 2017 with final entries closing on 31st July 2017. Contact the New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association to find out more about Pearl Series and to nominate your filly in this lucrative incentive Series.

[www.pearlseries.nzthoroughbred.co.nz](http://www.pearlseries.nzthoroughbred.co.nz)

Pearl Hotline: 0508 222 202

Tel: (07) 827 7727

Email: [nicola@nzthoroughbred.co.nz](mailto:nicola@nzthoroughbred.co.nz)

## SAVE OUR SATURDAY!!!

### Proposed move of the Wanganui Guineas/Fillies raceday to a Sunday

The NZ Racing Board Dates Committee has indicated that they wish to move the iconic Guineas & Fillies spring feature race meeting from a Saturday to a Sunday in September as part of the 'Optimise the Calendar' project for the 2017/18 racing season.

The Wanganui Jockey Club strongly opposes this move and the change of day, and has provided detailed submissions against this proposal, which if passed, will see the meeting held on Sunday 10 September 2017.

Despite the WJC being promoted to a 'significant' venue last year the club now faces a further reduction of Saturday meetings that could now potentially leave us with only 2 per year (i.e. – Queen's Birthday weekend, and Cup Day at the end of November/early December). In 2013 we saw the last running of the Hospice Cup Charity Saturday raceday in October.

As we enter a consultative process with NZRB, we must now battle to retain the day scheduled for this fixture for the good of the club, community and key stakeholders. This has consistently been a very successful day for us as well as the TAB and attracts many visitors from around the country especially trainers, owners, and industry participants from up north.

The club has been working with the main sponsors of the Wanganui Guineas (the Dyke family and Wanganui Motors) and financially committed to form a case to upgrade the status of this race and see the return of Group racing to Wanganui but this change would severely affect this.

One of the overarching objectives of NZRB and the project is to develop a domestic racing calendar that will maximise revenue and optimise the cost of delivering the calendar but we think this move is contrary to this objective and the interests of the club and racing.

**We want all of our major sponsors, members, stakeholders and supporters to support our submissions opposing this course of action, and to comment on their proposal:**

**Your comments & support please: – Please send to club to include in our submissions – [info@wjc.co.nz](mailto:info@wjc.co.nz) or PO Box 15, Wanganui. THANK YOU.**



## STUD CHAT WITH SAM MARCH 2017

I hope you've all had a winning start to 2017.

Pre Karaka Yearling sale I thought **Per Incanto's** draft was the best physical line-up of his yearlings we'd taken to Karaka since his inaugural crop. His sole Premier lot to sell, Jacksstar's half brother, which we sold on behalf of Christine and Pete Algie, fetched \$250,000 and he averaged nearly \$81k for 21 yearlings sold, topping the Festival averages and finishing third in Select where the \$300K **LA** received for the **Grable** filly was top price. We were thrilled.

It's exciting when you consider **Per Incanto's** Karaka yearlings were conceived off a service fee of \$5,000. He had a significant lift in broodmare quality the following season so we await Karaka 2018 with expectation.

On the racing front, **Per Incanto's** progeny continue to perform in Australia. Dal Cielo, winner of two races from his last three in Sydney will head to the G1 Galaxy Stakes over The Championships, while **Lanciato** won at Rosehill the other day and a filly we sold at Inglis Classic last year, **Uninhibited**, ran second on debut in Adelaide.

Locally, **Saracino** showed he'd lost none of the dash that won him a G2 in Melbourne last spring, running a brave third in the G1 NRM Sprint behind Start Wondering. Teri Rae's charge, **Shoot To Kill**, who has won three of his last four and **Don Carlo**, three wins from six starts, both look exciting.

It's great to see the first lady of racing has her first **Per Incanto**. Gai Waterhouse, together with Paul Willets and Firstlight Racing bought our Fast Quickstep filly from the Inglis Classic Sale.

Locally **Nadeem's** 3YO's have delivered some promising results already in 2017. **Redeem The Dream** and the St Ledger Trial winner Shared Secrets have all been successful. While in Oz he sired his second winner of a million dollar race after his consistent black-type winning sprinter Target In Sight landed the Magic Millions Sprint at the Gold Coast.

It felt good to take in some local racing late in February. I was at Otaki to cheer home Mark Oulagahn's tough filly Shared Secrets and got to Hastings where we've continued our sponsorship of the Lowland Stakes. Wonderful to have Tony Lee's dulcet tones back behind the microphone may I add.



**WATCHING THE HUGELY TALENTED GALLOPER SCAPOLO WIN AT MAKARAKA UNDER AN IMPOSING 66.5 KILOGRAMS ON A HEAVY 10 IN FEBRUARY WAS TO WITNESS A HERCULEAN FEAT OF THE MODERN ERA.**

In the old measure, that's 10st 4, and it just doesn't happen anymore on the flat as weighting structures offer different options and trainers opt to place their runners to advantage.

Scapolo's gritty effort also reminded me to delve back into the box of archival material recently entrusted to his trainer Kevin Myers (see previous issue).

It didn't take long to uncover Sires of the Season (1910) and the tale of St. Clements, by then standing in Palmerston North for the princely sum of £6 6s (two mares by arrangement), but earlier in his career a horse which clearly would have matched Scapolo for guts and sheer determination, as well as talent.

Like Scapolo and his multiple trips to Riccarton, St Clements (St Leger x Satanelle) was well travelled, including annual trips across Cook Strait and as far south as Dunedin for the big weight for age races at Wingatui. There he won the Glasgow Plate two years running and third time up in the same race, deadheaded with the mighty Multiform.

Racking up the wins, St Clements claimed victory over all distances up to a mile and a quarter, consistently carrying heavy weights.

Perhaps his most astonishing effort came at the Auckland Racing Club in the March of his six year old campaign. Opening up at Ellerslie, the stallion cleared out in the Autumn Handicap over a mile and quarter, easily beating a good field.

After a washdown, walk and rest, St Clements was presented again that same afternoon, this time in the Shorts over 5 furlongs and carrying 9.11 (57.8kg), he was again successful.

Retired to stud, St Clements was an instant success. His first five crops won the then huge sum of £10,781. Bow Bells, Burton, Clem, Kaiwaka, Overdraft, Patrobus and Supplement were some of his big winners.

You could say they don't make them like St Clements anymore, and possibly you'd be right. But then you look at the likes of Scapolo and realise that those really tough nuts are still out there, even if his backing up twice in one day is a feat not to be repeated. – **Charlotte Gendall**



See page 12 for the original flyer of St Clement



*back then...*

## HOY: KAIMANAWA WINS 2012 PONY OF THE YEAR TITLE

A Kaimanawa pony from the Bay of Islands took out the coveted Pony of the Year title at the New Zealand Horse of the Year Show in Hastings.

Tegan Newman and her seven-year-old bay Watch Me Move won a heart-stopping jump-off to take the crown, and tears flowed when the 16-year-old from Kerikeri realised she'd won.

"I didn't actually think I could do it," said Newman, who admitted to having healthy doses of Rescue Remedy before each round.

And there were some anxious moments for the thousands in the grandstand when Newman and Watch Me Move turned super tight into a fence early in the jump-off, then lost their way momentarily before getting back on track.

A cool head saw them go clear in 40.76 seconds with just two to go. Before them Becky Harkerss and Brooklee Smallchange set a cracking pace of 35.32 seconds, but took two rails.

Following Newman came pint-sized 11-year-old Briar Burnett-Grant and Mighty Maximus who turned too tight into an early fence, taking a rail, then took the first of the double, but managed to pull off some magic to get through the combination, finishing on eight faults in 37.99.

Last to go was Elle Phillips and Fruialishas who pulled back slightly after dropping a rail at the second fence and finished on four faults in 44.13.

Newman has had the seven-year-old pony for three years. She bought him off her trainers Vicki and Amanda Wilson, who taught the horse to jump. This was their first season at grand prix level, and Newman's first ever Pony of the Year class.

"I was going for a nice steady clear round," she says. "Elle was always going to be the one to watch, though, but Vicki just told me to ride to win."

And for her – like many – to win at this level is a dream come true.

"There were lots of tears from everyone," she says. "You don't realise how big the win is until you're there."



Newman credited her trainers and her "good luck charm" Amy Kerr, who always helps her warm up for classes.

Thirty-two started the class and 18, with four faults and fewer, came back for the second round. From there, just four were still all clear, and went through to the nail-biter of a jump-off.

Back home in the Far North earlier this week, Newman reflected on the notable achievement; even more remarkable considering it was her first season at grand prix level, and their first go in the Pony class at the HOTY show.

"It's pretty cool," she said, noting that the victory came after four days of competition which began last Wednesday. She attributed the result to a composed performance from Watch Me Move, which showed remarkable grace in the pressure-cooker environment of a HOTY final.

"He went really well, had a lot of spunk in him," she said, adding that the plan was to return to compete again next year.

Newman has had the 7-year-old bay gelding for three years. She also credited her trainers, particularly coach Vicky Wilson, for her success.

*and now...*

## A DEBUT TO REMEMBER FOR MATAMATA APPRENTICE

– THE INFORMANT – DENNIS RYAN

Apprentice jockey Tegan Newman couldn't have wished for more when she made her debut at yesterday's Matamata Breeders' Stakes Premier meeting.

Donning silks for the first time on her home track's biggest raceday of the year aboard stable favourite Massofdash, the 21-year-old put up the biggest winning margin in the New World Matamata 1400.

Newman is indentured to former leading jockey Jim Collett, who trains Massofdash and races the Align mare in partnership with her Karapiro breeders Tom and Jenny Hobson.

"I can't believe it – just amazing!" said Newman after she had brought Massofdash with an undeniable challenge, racing clear to score by three and three-quarter lengths from Don't Look Back and Tommyra.

"I had ridden this mare in a couple of trials and in a lot of her work, but to win like that was incredible. I'm so grateful to Jim, riding master Noel Harris and also to Mr and Mrs Hobson."

Newman, whose background includes showjumping and eventing, returned to a rousing reception from the big crowd on hand, which included her parents who had made the trip down from Kerikeri for their daughter's debut.

To cap a memorable occasion, Newman was later awarded the ride of the day accolade and with it a Zilco raceday saddle, mountings and whip, donated annually by a group of Matamata and Christchurch racing identities who gather every year for the local marquee event.

"I'm so lucky to have got off to such a start," said Newman. "No matter what else I do in my career, today will always be a highlight."



*Tegan with her man, jumps jockey Daniel Miller*



*and way back then!*

To Stand the Season at PALMERSTON NORTH,  
THE THOROUGHBRED STALLION,



## ST. CLEMENTS.

**ST. CLEMENTS** was one of the best performers of his time, and at the stud, with limited opportunities, he has had a remarkably successful record. The family to which he belongs was a singularly successful one on the turf. By St. Leger from Satanella he is full-brother to St. Paul and St. Peter, both successful sires; also St. Olga, St. Ursula and others. Mon Ami and Linstock are other produce of Satanella, better known perhaps to racing men of her time as Hippodamia—a great performer over all distances.

St. Leger's sons need no booming as sires. Every meeting sees one or more successful. One has only to mention St. Hippo, Clanranald, Waiuku, Papakura, Sylvia Park, St. Ilario, Formosan, St. Paul, Nestor, Monaco, San Remo, Ben Godfrey, Bluejacket, to give breeders some idea of the success of the son of Donecastor and Atlantis.

To supply a list of the winners sired by St. Clements would in itself take up more space than we have at the disposal of our readers. During the last five seasons his progeny have won in stakes the sum of £10,781. This is a wonderful record for a horse that has had few well-bred mates.

A few of his brilliant performances on all courses from Auckland to Dunedin are appended. During his time he met Blazer, Waiuku, Multiform, and all the best sprinters of his time, and could always hold his own. He raced a great deal between the seasons 1901 and 1908, and retired with his constitution unimpaired.

On more than one occasion he was taken down to Dunedin for the weight-for-age events. He won the Glasgow Plate two years running, and on the third occasion dead-heated with Multiform. He won over all distances up to a mile and a quarter under heavy weights.

One of his best performances was at Ellerslie in the autumn as a six-year-old. He pulled off the Autumn Handicap, one mile and a quarter, beating a good field easily. Later in the afternoon he was saddled up again for the Shorts, 5 furlongs, and carried 9.11 home first.

Last season no less than 22 of his progeny got on the winning list. They included Billington, Bow Bells, Burton, Clem, Climax, Clemene, Clemora, Clemsein, Gladiolo, Golden Dream, Golden Eagle, Kaiwaka, Kaponga, Kareroa, Nicotine, Ngatihana, Otakio, Overdraft, Patrobus, St. Bill, St. Toney, St. Venton, St. Kildare, St. Maria, St. Myrtle, St. Prior, St. Tarra, Supplement, Tarina, Whana, and others.

**TERMS—£6 6s.** Two or more as per arrangement.

**E. B. VINE, Owner,  
PALMERSTON NORTH.**



# FURTHER EXPOSURE FOR NEW ZEALAND RACING



**FEATURE NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING WILL CONTINUE TO BE BROADCAST ON RACING.COM THROUGHOUT THE AUTUMN AFTER AN EXTENSION OF THE PILOT COVERAGE ON AUSTRALIAN FREE-TO-AIR TELEVISION.**

The New Zealand Racing Board (NZRB) and New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) have negotiated with Racing.com for a further five premium race meetings to be broadcast to a wide Australian audience on free-to-air television.

After the success of the first five race meetings broadcast, which encompassed the three-week Wellington Cup Carnival at Trentham, the Karaka Million meeting at Ellerslie, and the Herbie Dyke Stakes meeting at Te Rapa, an additional five meetings have been scheduled, comprising:

**March 4, 2017 – Ellerslie: Group I Vodafone New Zealand Derby 2400m 3YO.**

**March 11, 2017 – Ellerslie: Group I Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup 3200m.**

**March 18, 2017 – Trentham: Group I Wellfield New Zealand Oaks 2400m 3YO fillies.**

**March 25, 2017 – Tauranga: Group II Windsor Park Japan New Zealand Trophy 1600m.**

**April 1, 2017 – Awapuni: Group I Courtesy Ford Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes 1400m 2YO.**

"It's great to see that more of New Zealand's iconic races will be seen on Australian free-to-air television," said Dr Alan Jackson, Chairman of NZTR.

"These races have a proven record of producing Australasian thoroughbred 'starpower' with the likes of Mongolian Khan, Jimmy Choux, Habibi, Silent Achiever, Rising Romance, Tavago, and Sofia Rosa just some of the many fabulous horses that have emerged from these races in recent years."

Over the last five years, New Zealand trained or bred three-year-olds have won 45% of the Group I Derbies and 40% of the Oaks races conducted in Australia.

Andrew Catterall, Racing.com CEO, is excited by the opportunity to continue the coverage of New Zealand's feature thoroughbred events.

"We are all really pleased that NZTR and NZRB are happy with the positive wagering and audience benefits that have come from the nationwide free-to-air broadcast of the first five race meetings," Catterall said.

"We've had very positive feedback from our viewers, and we look forward to expanding the pilot to the next five feature days."

**The additional five premium New Zealand race meetings will be broadcast on Racing.com free-to-air channels 78 and 68.**

Racing.com is a joint-venture partnership between Racing Victoria and Seven West Media.





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# TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE?

ATTR NATIONAL BUSINESS REVIEW – DUNCAN BRIDGEMAN

## TALK TO ALMOST ANYONE IN THE NEW ZEALAND RACING INDUSTRY AND THEY WILL SAY IT FEELS LIKE MAKE OR BREAK TIME.

The domestic racing and betting industries have been in decline for some time and the archaic and decaying system is clearly unsustainable.

And while major changes are afoot, punters wouldn't bet against further unrest from within the ranks of the thoroughbred industry about the path ahead.

Racing Minister Nathan Guy is under pressure about the management of this portfolio; so too is New Zealand Racing Board (NZRB) chairwoman Glenda Hughes and her chief executive John Allen.

Since Mr Guy became the minister, staff salaries, including contractors, have increased by \$16.2 million in five years while total staff expenses have increased by \$25.8 million. The number of staff earning over \$100,000-plus salaries has gone from 62 people to 138 people.

In those same five financial years, turnover has increased by approximately \$1 billion but cash distributions to the three codes have stayed relatively static at around \$135 million.

For an industry a few years ago comparable in economic terms to the wine industry, it's been a poor outcome.

The situation came to a head last weekend in what was labelled as a "crisis" meeting at Ellerslie with industry leaders and stakeholders seeking solutions to their questions to the board.

This followed an underwhelming announcement of an additional \$4.77 million in funding over the next two and a half years to support the industry.

## RADICAL CHANGE

Ms Hughes and Mr Allen presented their case but concerns remain over what insiders say needs to be an immediate cash injection to safeguard the livelihoods of 50,000 industry participants.

As it stands, the board's plan heavily depends on race field legislation before Parliament, a new fixed odds betting platform, and a renewed focus on customers.

In a statement following the meeting, Mr Allen expressed his "full confidence" that the current racing board management strategy will produce an additional \$45 million of code distributions by 2019, rising to \$60 million by 2020.

This would come in part from implementing of the race field legislation, which should enable New Zealand to recover millions of dollars by requiring overseas bookmakers to pay a fee for taking bets on New Zealand race events.

It is estimated about \$16 million a year could be funnelled back to New Zealand once the change in legislation is implemented.

Other NZRB initiatives include an intended partnership with UK/Irish operator Paddy Power Betfair and technology provider OpenBet to establish a best practice fixed odds betting system in New Zealand.

This would provide a much wider offering for punters increasingly moving to fixed odds betting and increase racing board margins by up to 2% in line with competitors, Mr Allen says.

Meanwhile, the board wants to "activate" its customer base because only about half the 180,000 account holders bet on a monthly basis.

There is also talk of outsourcing NZRB operations to a bigger overseas operator such as Tabcorp in Australia, something many industry participants are keen on but unlikely to happen in the short term.

## TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE?

Some industry leaders are encouraged by the business plan but remain concerned about the immediate response to industry funding.

NZ Trainers Association president Tony Pike says the board has taken a step in the right direction but there's still a long way to go.

"We said the industry needs an injection now. It's struggling now and if they are confident in what they are doing hopefully at the March

board meeting they might put some money on the table ahead of time to try and give the industry some confidence."

Mr Allen told NBR the board is taking these concerns seriously and is looking at potentially leveraging the board's balance sheet to try and give the industry some money earlier.

However, while the board is showing signs of getting its act together, questions remain over why it has taken so long and some are pointing the finger at the board's governance and management and highlighting Mr Allen's previous roles at Mfat and NZ Post.

"The experience of board appointees has to be looked at," says one industry source, "who asked not to be named."

"There should be a broad commercial experience on the board and this should be a requirement of the codes to provide this and the minister to approve. The board should reflect what any comparable SOE board or private sector board of this size business in New Zealand, this is not a community board."

Mr Pike tentatively agrees with that.

"I think they have the industry's best interest at heart but obviously it's a pretty complex industry the racing industry and there's a lot of smart people out there. So whether they have the full expertise to be driving it I'm not quite sure"

Mr Guy told NBR he set clear expectations to the board about reducing costs.

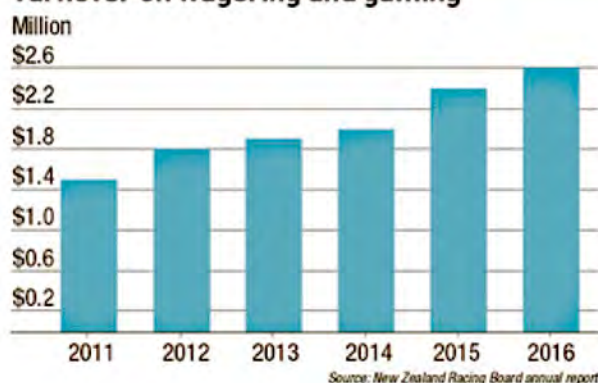
"The government wants to see that the funds available for distribution to the racing sector are maximised. However, we also acknowledge that the NZRB operates in a fiercely competitive market, and that it must invest to remain relevant to its customers."

"I appointed Glenda Hughes because she has a great mix of personal attributes and experience for the role. Glenda is highly regarded across the industry and has performed well in her role."

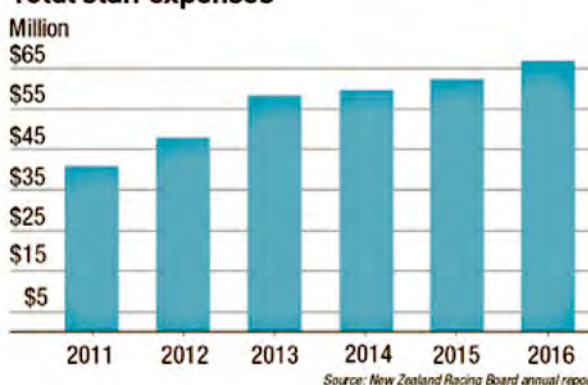
He says his main priority is progressing the racefields legislation.

"This is a complex piece of work but I am confident we will introduce a bill to the House in the near future."

### Turnover on wagering and gaming



### Total staff expenses





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R G Allen	Carterton	SANJARA	Mrs L A Hunt	Rotorua	ENDEAN ROSE
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Mrs S L Cole	New Plymouth	EFFECTAV	Ms D A Masters	Palmerston North	DIJON BLEU
P M J Collins	Timaru	RIDEITLIKEUSTOLEIT, SPIDER LILY	B Mattison	Howick	LUCKY SWEEP
P R Corbett	Ashburton	ELLERSTINA, SHOW MACCOOL	S D & Mrs J M Maynard	Auckland	HALL OF FAME
E & K J Corby	Newmarket	BATMAN, LADY ROSSA	J D & Mrs C McPherson	Putaruru	ROAD TRIP
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A Groves	Paekakariki	AIDE MEMOIRE	B M Wilson	Hawera	KENSINGTON 3,
T O Harrison	Parnell	XCESSORY	R J Wiltshire	Palmerston North	YEMANYA
Mrs S M Harty	Waipawa	SHRIMP COCKTAIL	Windsor Park Stud	Cambridge	NYMPH, FREDDY MAC, ZUMA
Mrs J L Hepi	St Heliers	SWISSTA 2	Mrs E K Wootton	Henderson	OVERNIGHTSENSATION
K J Hickman	Christchurch	PRINCESS SAPPHIRE, VILLA ELBA, SAVILE ROW, SHE BRINGS JOY, BRUCE ARTHUR, COOL TART			



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