

OWNER'S BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2012



NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED
RACEHORSE OWNERS
FEDERATION



THORN PARK (AUS)
Spinning World ex. Joy

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 LATEST EDITION OF THE
BULLETIN.**



The season to date has thrown up some remarkable performances. None so thought provoking as the Hawkes Bay Guineas win of Sacred Falls. Various adjectives have been used, but Leith Innes's comment "the best I have ridden" describes an awesome athlete. We all look forward to his upcoming raceday performances with a great deal of enthusiasm.

Ocean Park, has franked his New Zealand form, with two more significant wins in Australia. His performance in the WS Cox Plate is eagerly awaited. The team at Windsor Park, certainly have been well represented in this race in recent years, with So You Think, Jimmy Choux, and now Ocean Park all having a strong Windsor Park connection.

The performance of New Zealand horses is critical in the evaluation of ratings whether here or abroad. Our export of horses continues to underline the strength of the breeding industry. Whether in Australia, Hong Kong, or Singapore, we continually provide well performed, and conformed horses. Likewise, the performance at home, then abroad supports the ratings, and Black Type Races here. This is the most important fact.

It will be interesting to see the development of stamina racing in the next decade. Clearly, the dominance of northern hemisphere horses in the Melbourne Cup will continue. The challenge is to grasp this international event, and make it New Zealand's own again. This will not be easy, but Australia, has captured the worlds attention at meetings like Ascot, with performances of their sprinters. They have developed a rightful impression of high class racing, the racing world is focused on Melbourne in late October and early November. We must avail ourselves of every opportunity to exploit this attention. Achievement is the best advertising.

The recent resignation of Mr Tony Lee from race calling, has left a real hole in Central Districts racing. Tony, always the wit, made my day and many others sparkle, after any conversation. I thank him for the great encouragement, and description he has offered owners throughout New Zealand. His colourful raceday commentaries, and cheerful manner have endeared him to many. On behalf of all owners, I wish him every success in the future. He will still be seen at the Trax Bar, in the Wellington Railway Station, and at meetings I am sure.

Well all the best for your future racing.

Regards for now, Neil.

NZTROF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HASTINGS 2012

This was held at the Hibernian Club on Sunday 7 October 2012.

In attendance were Greg McCarthy and John Stace directors of NZTR. Greg is also the NZTR delegate to the New Zealand Racing Board. Other attendees were a good representation of the Hawkes Bay Owners Association, as well as national delegates and executive.

- There are no significant changes in the officers and delegates of the NZTROF.
- The financial affairs of the federation are in order with a small trading deficit over the year.
- Our membership is growing due to the sterling work done by National Secretary Jim Keyte and his (better half) Barbara getting out the "winning owners" letters and our Bulletin to all non members who win a race.
- At the meeting it was resolved (from a suggestion from the floor) to depute an expert person to examine our constitution and from that investigate the appointment of a couple of independent persons to our executive.

[Note] Your executive advise that they currently deal with all matters that arise, but welcome fresh ideas and prospects for future succession.

The minutes of the AGM will be circulated to the individual associations.

Following the AGM, we were addressed by Greg McCarthy and he gave a report on the performance of the newly constituted NZTR. This was of encouragement as to the progress made. From a position of taking over and finding meager cash reserves these have been bolstered now to \$2 million.

A raft of targets had been set and many were met during the year. NZTR are now in a position of resetting targets (KPI's) off a now known base and growth can occur through efficiencies and good management.

Greg reported on the new relations with the NZRB and with his familiarity with working with the recently appointed chair Dr Alan Jackson, an erstwhile fellow director at NZTR.

Following this address our NZTROF secretary tabled a discussion paper of concerns from Owners Associations to be taken up with NZTR. These items were discussed in detail with Greg and he undertook to take the paper to the NZTR executive for their consideration and reply.

Our executive is of the opinion that sterling work has taken place at board and management level of NZTR and we appreciate the new close and inclusive relationship with them. We now feel greater optimism for the future of our sport in New Zealand.

The executive wish to thank the Hawkes Bay Association for the hospitality and arrangements for these successful meetings.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The previous issue was a bit light as I was overseas for a month at a time I would have been sourcing material. This issue has more variety and we hope you enjoy it.

At our Hastings AGM Greg McCarthy was telling us about the changes anticipated with android and iPhones being used in the future as betting mediums through downloaded "Apps".

No sooner are we home than I come across a couple of likely lads who are not waiting for the future (and they comment gently on "racings" failure to get with it). I have got iEverything else but not an iPhone so I got in touch with them at 'Bettors Edge' and asked some questions. The cost to download the App is only a few dollars and it will give you an edge all right, if you want to follow the smart money. But of course of interest to owners is that anything that increases turnover is a good thing.

This Bulletin comes out around the time of the Melbourne Cup. The "Great Race" is steeped in our history. It is a pot at the end of a rainbow for owners to chase. I have been fortunate enough to chase it so it is personal to me.

The rainbow has almost receded over the horizon due to the recruitment policies of RVL and also skewed ratings and entry conditions in the international context.

Toward the back of the bulletin is a thought provoking opinion piece by Robbie Waterhouse that featured in Australian publications.

A member sent to me an article from the "Cambridge Edition" on shoeing horses. The member has had a lifelong involvement in training and owning horses and said we should run this article. I know very little about the farrier

business or their practices so I phoned the author Rob Pinkney.

From the discussion it became apparent the object of the article was not self promotion, but the welfare of our thoroughbred stock. Although most of his working life has been with thoroughbred stock he is now more involved with equestrian horses.

Rob is 45 years old and resides in Te Awamutu. He has had many years experience in shoeing horses internationally. During that time he has followed scientific research closely and applied those observations to his work practices.

Further to the above he is sought after as a speaker on the international scene on the practices of correct scientific based management of horses feet. He is not long back from such a conference held in Germany. Thus he is right up to date with latest research and has contacts with the providers of that.

Rob says that he will do a follow up article in the next Bulletin on hind feet and there will be a video/film coming from Europe that we hope to put up on our website www.racehorseowner.co.nz

The attrition rate of our racing stock is a cause of loss and distress to owners and the racing industry and if this can be alleviated to any extent by better knowledge of correct practices we support that.

Toward the back there is a great article written by Michael Lynch, Sports Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald of Ocean Parks emphatic Cox Plate win. Its so good that even if you have read online it you will read it again.



09/10/12

Our cover is of the great stallion Thorn Park recuperating in his box. Note it's a recent shot as per date and note his coat.

Sire of young champion Ocean Park, sire-son Jimmy Choux and the warrior Veyron among many other winners. Racing will welcome Thorn Park's expected return to service next season. We hope for the best!

We were impressed by the direct responses from NZTR's David Jewel to Owners regional associations concerns. It will take you some time to consider those and you may want to express your opinion on these issues raised and others.

We would be delighted to hear from you, our members and readers.

Contact me – Neil Miller, jeanneil@xtra.co.nz

LETTERS

LEILANI'S FAMILY

As a long time member and breeder over 50 years I really enjoy the Owners Bulletin catching up on the latest news.

My sister passed away last year. She kept our mares at her home "Washpool" in Hawkes Bay under our Stud name of Gouldbrook.

Night Life, mentioned again in this Bulletin has now won 11 races for us and is still going!

It all started with Leilani, bred by my Father, and her only daughter Skylarking. She is now 23 & has had her last foal, a filly which we are retaining.

Her ½ sister, Dolly Disaster, is the same age and they are both retired having done so well & left us many winners. Her last colt is entered in next years Karaka sale.

Night & Day we bought from Sir Patrick Hogan as a yearling, she has also retired.

We have a 4 year old about to race called Baltic & a 2 year old as yet unnamed both out of Night & Day to look forward to.

Judy's daughter Penny Reynolds & my daughter Jenny are to carry on with the Stud.

I also enjoyed the Sindebelle story. I must write to Gerald Fell as I know him well. What a trip & I remember those days.

Yours sincerely, Jill Gould, Christchurch.

STARTERS INCENTIVES

I was just reading the latest Owner's Bulletin and specifically the Trainers Starter Incentive Proposal.

I couldn't believe what I was reading... I was pretty fired by the time I got to the bottom of the page.

What a relief when I turned the page and read the response from our federation.

I have been investing through breeding and ownership for some 25 years and things like this make me question my involvement in the industry.

I love racing, but when so called professionals within the industry come up with these sort of ill considered self interested proposals I wonder why I bother.

Trainers are professionals – they are paid to do their job. Why the hell do they need an incentive to do something that is in the interests of the industry in which they operate?

This proposal lies at the heart of an issue I've had for a very long time.

I get annoyed when racing clubs provide 'Trainer bonuses' for having the most winners/place getters at a meeting for exactly the same reasons as you have outlined.

It brings into question the whole reasoning a trainer has for starting or not starting my horse. And if they argue it doesn't, then the racing club was stupid for spending the money!

Not to speak of the unfairness the so called 'bonus' creates between a stable with 60 horses versus a stable with 1. Is the latter's runner not as valued by the club?

Things like this are designed to 'feather the nest' of a few and should be banned.

That's my rant... I feel much better for it :-). Keep up the good work.

Regards, Graeme McInteer, Wellington

NOTES FROM THE REGIONS

AUCKLAND NOTES

Neil Miller

Greetings. We are pleased to see the return of racing at Avondale. Despite the weather around that time the track stood up well to the racing on the day. Trainers and jockeys were satisfied the track provided a fair overall surface.

The Auckland Racing Club ran the seasons early Soliloquy and Bonecrusher Stakes events. They were taken out by favourites Misstrum and Warhorse respectively and both were won by narrow margins.

We eagerly look forward to summer and Group racing at this great track.

Our Auckland association was proud to support the Counties Racing Clubs, Westbury Studs Race Day and the associated owners function in which all owners of horses of the previous season to race at Counties were invited.

Our sponsored race the Auckland Thoroughbred Owners Association 2400 a rating 85 event was taken out convincingly by Just Got Home who sat up in the trail and when he was pulled out wider on the turn he was on the bit and cruising. Pump Up The Volume was second, 1 and ½ lengths back, with a wider margin back to Master Michael in 3rd.

Just Got Home is an interesting horse; his breeding is by Storming Home from the great mare Justa Tad who has set the Liefing family up nicely. Not only did she win \$727k, but she has presented Megan and Rudy's Kakapo Lodge Ltd yearly with progeny. Just Got Home is the oldest at 5 years old. He has had 4 wins from 16 starts but has weighed in on 13 of those. Then follows Tohunga who is in Sydney at Gai Waterhouse's stable. Then there is the promising Keeper 3yo colt Move Faster who has had 2 wins and 3 placings from 6 starts and an unraced Perfectly Ready 2yo. The first four progeny are male. There is a yearling filly by Zabeel that is shared with Sir Patrick Hogan and the mare is back in foal to Mastercraftsman.



Just Got Home with his strapper and Megan Liefing

It is easy to think that here is a dynasty family starting. The Liefings bought a little filly and unearthed a diamond at the same time.

The ownership of Just Got Home and Move Faster is shared by Liefings' Kakapo Lodge, with Ross Hirst of Thames. Ross has had long time ownership interests with many horses.

He has had 38 wins to date and says the best horse he has had a share of so far was Everswindell. That tally looks likely to grow as it seems Just Got Home, like a lot of Storming Homes, may be a late developer and he may well get to cup class.

[Footnote] At the Auckland Association 2012 AGM it was resolved that Ken Cramer Roberts role as President to be taken over by Neil Miller and that Ken would continue in the role of Secretary/Treasurer.

We are delighted to advise that long serving member Joan Palmer together with the indefatigable Ken Cramer Roberts have both been awarded life memberships to the Auckland Association that they have served so long and well.

Below is a letter from Karen Blanchard of CRC

Counties Racing Club would like to sincerely thank Auckland Thoroughbred Owners Association for their continued support of the club's Owners Function. This event was run on the Westbury Stud Karaka Classic Race Day at Pukekohe Park last Friday. We do hope that your group all enjoyed their day and the hospitality that was on offer in the Oaks Room.

The Auckland Thoroughbred Owners Association 2400 won by locally trained horse Just Got Home, was one of the features of the days racing. This horse continues his good form for part owner and trainer Rudy Liefing.

The club was thrilled with the success of the Owners Function and has had plenty of positive feedback from those in attendance. The draw for a service to Cecconi, was a great talking point in the room and generated much anticipated interest in the feature race of the day.

We hope that your group all enjoyed their day and the hospitality that was on offer in the Oaks Room. If any of your members would like Members Stand tickets to any of the club's future race meetings for the 2012/2013 season, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Once again thank you for your continued support of the Counties Racing Club and we do look forward to welcoming you back in the near future.

Kind regards,

*Karen Blanchard Marketing & Sponsorship
Counties Racing Club (Inc)*

WAIKATO

Jenny Cowan

Happenings of note Ellerslie 29.09.12. Sally Marshall of Cambridge had a well-earned win with Buckles, ridden by new author come jockey Noel Harris. In fact, Sally was unable to utilize Noel on weekdays because of book signing! She gives much credit to Noel for her success and his valued advice. Sally bred, owns and trains Buckles from the yard of Pike/Donoghue where she has a full time job and of which she reports is a yard run with great professionalism. Her sister Carol Marshall (the million dollar stakes earner Giovana one) had input with the breeding of Buckles. He is by Keeper out of Manchio.

Another of our associate people, from polo to trainer, John Bell, in partnership with some Hong Kong people, has had a very fruitful time with Mosse, Mister Sox, Storming the Tower, Senna etc.

Dr. and Mrs Robin Jackson from Matangi also have horses in this stable. Horses are purchased and prepared in NZ for HK clients and are stabled

at the Grasslands Road property (previously owned by GG Syndicate) in Cambridge. John gives credit to his wife Michelle, who as in most cases does most of the work; the office-paper-bureau stuff.

Committee man Bretton Pollock and his wife, Narelle, just got Oneokaykaraka close to winning a race, and the jumping season stopped. They will be counting the days till next season.

Peter and Lee Karton from Tauranga must be so proud of Morpheus, who in April had but one win, and at the end of season was in contention for Jumper of the Year! Even a sponsored trip to U.K. was on offer, but he was just lacking age and experience for that – next year will be his turn.

David Ellis has a lovely brood mare in the offing in Thrive, by Columbia, with 4 wins from 8 starts of late.

Ada Parnwell has a number racing, but her best, Fleur de Lune, gave her a thrill when she was beaten only by Mufhasa, in the Group One at Hastings. The game mare has plenty ahead of her – Lee Somervell is in charge of the team.

HAWKES BAY

Tony Lyndon

Former H.B. Breeders president Steve Brougham and partner Jenni Tomlins won their second race with their Keeper 5yo Bar Keeper at Manawatu. They bred him out of the Whisky Road mare Hangover Street who has also left My Hangover (5 wins) and Special Reserve (8 wins).

Former Matamata and Woodville trainer Katrina Alexander now domiciled in Waipukurau had her first win since renewing her trainer's licence, when Destiny Cove won at Hastings. The \$60,000 dollar purchase from the 2008 Karaka select sales has now won 3 races for her. In 2003 Katrina won the Sydney Cup with Honour Babe.

Former jumps jockeys John McGifford and Graeme Lord won their 4th race with D'llaro at Tauranga.

A group of mainly Hawkes Bay owners, many of them members of the Hibernian Club, celebrated after Mr Mor won a \$12,500 class 65 in very testing conditions at Christchurch. He then followed this up with a win over steeples at Egmont then a win over hurdles at Woodville. That was followed up by a 2nd in the longest hurdle race in the country at Rotorua. He could be a force to reckon with over jumps next winter.

Waipukurau owner Mike Ormsby who shared in the ownership of 2010 and 2011 Grand National Steeplechase winner Counter Punch looks to have another star jumper in Upper Cut when winning a \$20,000 dollar steeplechase at Christchurch he made it 2 out of 2 over the big fences.

Fleur de Lune (flower of the moon) recorded her first win in a stakes race when winning the \$70,000 Foxbridge Plate Group 3 at Te Rapa, it was her 5th win in 18 starts which also includes 8 placings in stakes races. The Stravinsky mare is raced by her breeder Ada Parnwell, together with Fernhill farmers John and Colleen Duncan.

No Excuse Maggie returned to the winner's circle at Otaki in the \$25,000 dollar open sprint. Raced by her breeders Howard and Kaye Jones of Wairoa with a syndicate of Wairoa and Hastings owners including her trainer John Bary.

Napier's Bruce and Annette Keighly are part owners of Beau Dane who won his 9th race at Otaki. Beau Dane relishes the heavy going. Hawkes Bay Racing Board member Ken Browne was the recipient of H.B. Racehorse Owners Bi-monthly Trophy for the months of June and July. Ken is the part owner and breeder of the Colombia mare Thrive.

The Knight won his 4th race and 3rd on end, all at Hastings when winning a \$30,000 dollar rating 85 on Makfi Stakes Day. Raced by his breeders Kevin and Shirin Wood with son and daughter Kelvin and Tina with a selection of racing enthusiasts including the trainer John Bary.

H.B. Owners Secretary Peter Johnson celebrated a winning double when Voodoo and Mr Mor both won on the same weekend.

Waipukurau owners Dick and Tess Miller had plenty to shout about when Just a Shout won at New Plymouth. The \$7,000 dollar purchase at the Karaka

Sales has now won 5 races which include N.Z. Longest Flat Race over 3210 metres at New Plymouth.

Chapinta a \$2,000 dollar purchase 2 years ago made it 4 wins from 6 starts when winning at Marton. The High Chaparral mare is raced by Peter Grieve with Christchurch based Barry Thomas. She is a half sister to the V.R.C. Derby winner Sangster.

THE 2011 – 2012 OWNERS-BREEDERS-AND RACING AWARDS

Trainer of the Year (Strike Rate) Patrick Campbell

Trainer of the Year (Wins Only) John Bary

Owner of the Year Paul & Carol Nelson

Broodmare of the Year Golden Gamble, Pat & Jane Lowry

H.B. Owned Horse of the Year Jimmy Choux, Richard & Liz Wood

H.B. Trained Horse of the Year Jimmy Choux, Richard & Liz Wood

H.B. Breeder of the Year Sue Harty

Horlicks Salver Contribution to Racing Graham & Isobell Roddick

Jimmy Choux 3yo Award Whoshe, Ali Horrocks & Robin Waller

Dundeel raced into V.R.C. Derby favouritism when winning the \$400,000 dollar Champion Stakes. Unbeaten in 5 starts the victory followed his impressive win in the \$200,000 dollar Gloaming Stakes.

Bred by Havelock North Owner/breeder Murray Andersen out of his Zabeel mare Stareel, who is a daughter of the N.Z. Oaks winner Staring.

Dundeel is raced by the Trans Tasman Syndicate, that includes Havelock North couples Murray and Jo Andersen, their daughter Tracy and husband Gavin Chaplow, sister Sharon and Mike Craig and Dave and Jenny Morrison. Murray and Jo are new members having the ride of their life with the brilliant Dundeel.



Murray and Jo Andersen with the trophies Group 2 Gloaming Stakes and Group 1 Championship Stakes

Mark Fraser-Campin, with Jim somewhere close by, have a likely stable at the ready – Kisses, Vanilla, and Eveready, Aston Martin, Royal Queen etc. His Mum Ngaire Fraser had a starter at Taupo in Bella Swan. She has had just the two runs to date.

The Cambridge born and bred Michael Wallace, has been seen with Stirling Bridge and Hunters Creek putting in some close finishes lately – and I think wearing his grandfather, Bob Nolan's famous racing colours -purple with heliotrope sleeves. (But not the Fraser tartan as worn by the loved Mainbrace all those years ago)

We are following John Steffert on his Australian campaign with Back in Black – his 4th in the Geelong Cup, and any other 4th's will well pay his way. John must have enjoyed his previous trip with this horse and being part of the people and places that racing takes us. We hope it is into some winners circles soon.

Talking about Oz our Federation President Neil Oldfield, has Pennon there and it was a very pleasant surprise to watch him on TV, win the Murtoa Cup in Victoria!, with NZ born Linda Meech in the saddle. Kevin Myers won three

on the card there the same day.

Two races back from a spell Stingray is building up the distance in his races. Here is Jan thoroughly happy with the winning effort back in March 2012 at Te Awamutu.

Long time Waikato members, Jan Walker with Ian Vincent are owners of Stingray.

From just a handful of starts this win for the Sunray 4yr old was well deserved on his home track. Jan headed off a race chock full of professional trainers, and once again proved breeding, yearling value and big time names don't always win races!

Hands on is hard to beat.



Jan Walker and Stingray

WANGANUI ROUNDUP

Rosie Hackett

WANGANUI JOCKEY CLUB AWARDS

Congratulations to all of the winners of the season just ended.

AWARDS WERE:

2 yr old Scapolo,

3yr old Ginner Hart,

Jumper Roodyvoo

Sprinter-Miler Ginner Hart

Stayer Marea Alta

WFA O'Fille

Leading Jockey Lisa Allpress

Leading Jumps Trainer Kevin Myers

Leading Trainer Kevin Myers

Personality Award Dan O'Leary

Breeders Peter & Barbara Smith



Marea Alta and Harry drive home late to win the NZ Thoroughbred Magazine Stayers Open

Three of the Award Winners from here are heading to Christchurch. Alexander Fieldes is setting Ginner Hart for the Stewards and Marea Alta for the N Z Cup. Wayne Marshment is setting O Fille for the Valachi Downs.

Adrian Bull is also taking a team (of eight) to the Cup meeting including, Butch James, Borrack, Mungo Jerry, Urunga, and Nashville. Harry Bull has been doing a great job, the team is looking great and all have been going really well.

All the Best to Everyone for the New Season, with the Cox Plate going to Ocean Park, and Dundee and Silent Achiever going well in Oz. It is a great time to be owners.

MANAWATU MATTERS

Allan Fenwick

A super training performance by trainer Kevin Myers saw Crocodile Canyon score a surprise win in the \$60,000 Centrebet Hamilton Cup (2200m) in Victoria in late October. Crocodile Canyon hadn't started since September 14, when he'd finished sixth of eight in a 1600m handicap at Riccarton. Before that, his last run was at Flemington on Anzac day.

Crocodile Canyon was bred and is raced by Manawatu Association Vice President John Creaven and was the winner of the Listed Gallagher Group Marton Cup back in January. The Jahafil gelding got up on the line to record his eighth win from 41 starts.

Amberio capped off some very consistent form with a very game win in the Listed Team Weallens Matamata Cup for a group of racing stalwarts including Association Members Mike and Kate Courtney. After just going under to Dubai Belle in the Group 3 Merial Mile the Matamata win took her record to 5 wins and 9 minor placings from 18 starts. The Matamata Cup has been a very happy hunting ground for Otaki trainer Karen Zimmerman, who was recoding her 4th win. Rodin started the ball rolling in 2002, and then King of Ashford succeeded in 2006 followed by Bonjour in 2007. Amberio is raced by a syndicate, which includes Palmerston North identity Gerry Arber, who was also a shareholder in King of Ashford.

It may not have been the highest profile race of the week but the maiden win of Our Gazza on a recent Monday at Woodville brought back a lot of memories and provided a big thrill for all the connections. Bred by popular Wellington owners Cliff and Betty Condren the Handsome Ransom Car Park Flyer four year old is raced by the Condren's in partnership with their long time friend Bill Skelton and well known racing writer Mary Mountier. The horse is named after Mary's late husband, respected broadcaster Garry Ward, Mary has written 6 books on racing including the limited edition Notable Thoroughbreds series; was a member of the popular Radio Racing Show many years ago and also served 8 years as a Director of the TAB.

Our Gazza was having just his second start and followed up a promising debut with an emphatic win in the hands of Darryl Bradley, another who has had a long association with the connections.

Car Park Flyer was at her best on winter tracks and won 9 races for the Condren's. Coincidentally Darryl Bradley was aboard Car Park Flyer for both her first and last win and derived immense satisfaction from the latest success. Former champion wrestler and Wellington business man Cliff has battled illness over recent times so the latest win would have been a real tonic.

Also suffering a recent set back in his health has been Hall of Famer and champion jockey Bill Skelton. The Association extends best wishes to Bill and wife Nella and hope that Our Gazza will continue to be a bright spot for them.



STUD CHAT WITH SAM November 2012

With nearly 140 foals on the farm and just over 200 mares served by our three stallions so far it has been a busy spring. I could not get to Hawkes Bay as a consequence but **Buzz** and **Suzie** went up all three days and did the honours to the connections of **Finn Moss** who **won the Little Avondale Per Incanto 1300 on the second day**. The LA bred **Xanadu** produced some terrific runs over the carnival and her time will come in the autumn.

Aspinal's win in the **Listed Rotorua Plate** has been the highlight amongst the LA racing team under the solid guidance of **Tony Pike** and **Mark Donoghue** whilst **Nadeems latest Gr.2 win with Majaarib at Turffontein in the Peermont Emperors Palace Charity Mile** adds excitement to those with positive pregnancy scans.

Our family have developed some lovely broodmare families at Te Parae and Little Avondale and it gives Catriona and I great satisfaction to witness the deeds of the likes of **Proisir, Sacred Falls, Lights of Heaven** and **Hong Kong's Glorious Days** and know that they come from these families. Interestingly **Patrick Hogan's** recent stakeswinner **Abidewithme, Sacred Falls** and **Aspinal** all come from the same family. I have high hopes for a **Zabeel** mare called **Kurabeel** from the family. She has an outstanding Pins colt that we will take to the sales..

Towkay continues to remind us of his wonderful versatility. Just a day or two after his gelding runs the fastest gallop on the first day of the Ready to Run breeze-ups, his daughter **Acquit** comes out and **wins her tenth race in the 2000m Wyndham Cup**. I'm not the superstitious type but it was slightly surreal when our broodmare **Eloa** delivered a colt foal by **Zabeel** within 12 hours of her three-quarter sister **Lights of Heaven** running third in the **Caulfield Cup**.

Keep an eye on our website www.lastud.co.nz for details of the **parade at LA in mid January of our Karaka bound yearlings**.

On behalf of everyone at LA we wish you all a prosperous and safe festive season.

LA
big on winning

CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND

Fiona Hurst

Well another successful year of racing has passed us by. Central South Island Owners Association celebrated the success of our local region with horses, owners and trainers being recognised at our annual racing awards' dinner in October.

Ashburton Trainer, Jan Hay, won the Trainer of the Year award as she often does. With consistent horses such as Dr Dee Bee, Rewa and Hayley Rose, Jan nosed out Michael Daly for this years' award. Jan received a voucher from Morrison's saddlery in Ashburton. The Horse Of The Year Award was won by Windwhistle. The Traditionally gelding has had a great season with wins in the Cromwell Cup, a win at Riccarton, a win on the West Coast and a second placing in the Group 3 WFA Coca-Cola Canterbury Gold Cup. The 5yo gelding was purchased as a two year old, from the South Island Sales by Jill Dennison, Warwick Coles and Gerard Bell and is trained at Washdyke by Warwick Coles.

The Awards evening was compered by Tim Black and the guests were enlightened and entertained by ex stipendiary steward, Bruce Craike from Christchurch who was the guest speaker for the evening.

Along with the traditional awards our association rewarded the winners of the 2011 Autumn/Winter Points Series. Receiving \$2,000 for a spectacular season were the owners of the Encosta De Lago gelding Numero De Lago, Bob and Diana Goodeve from Waimate. Second and third place was an extremely close battle with the seven year old Occidental Tourist gelding 'D'alamo' taking second place by one point after a consistent season where he raced six times during the points series and finished no worse than fifth in any of his races. 'D'alamo is trained and owned by local horsewoman, Esther Black who was the grateful recipient of \$1,000. Another locally owned horse Braemar, won \$500 for third place in the series. The 8yo Danzighill gelding had a win and some minor places to secure third spot. Braemar was bred by his owners Richard and Ann White of Timaru.

A special mention and congratulations to local Trainer, Michael Daly for training his one hundreth winner. Braemar's younger brother, another 'Danzighill' gelding, Braehill provided Michael with his training milestone when Braehill won his maiden race at Wingatui on the fourth of September this year. Michael has been training at Washdyke for nearly twenty years and inherited his love for horses from his father who was also an owner/trainer. Michael remembers his first training success with a horse called Backadream who was ridden by Stephanie Clark at a Wingatui race meeting. So it is fitting that he should achieve his one hundreth win back where he first tasted success. Michael has trained many good horses including Aronsay, Turf Fire, Aqua Meadow and was also part owner of Southern Filly of the Year, Belmont Cat, before her sale to the United States.

Good Luck to all owners.

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J.H. HELY

Jenny Cowan

Some people have so much to report, reveal and replay you can't get it all onto one page. Jim Hely is one of these. And then there is his partner Heather Montgomery who has her own fascinating life story as well. The couple live at Matangi on the outskirts of Hamilton, in a new home, on the remaining corner of their lifestyle 10 acre block. It's a lovely place that reveals a life well lived.

They were hard to track down, no wonder as they have been jet-setting around the world for 5 weeks during September and October. Their photo with the leaning tower of Pisa and stylized dog on the t-shirt is proof of their travels.



Jim's stat's and stories have been well documented over the years, but the wonderful memories of the riding ability he had as a flat and jumping jockey will never fade away. His riding was described as versatile, skilled, artistry, outstanding. There were hat-tricks of winners and even four in a row. Then there were comebacks after various spells or spills.

This racing story started in 1946, before he left school. His apprenticeship included the last six months of his schooling in Palmerston North and 3 and 1/2 years with George New and he completed his time with Eric Temperton.

Jock Harris, father and grandfather of many Harris' offspring and racing notables was apprenticed at the time with Jim. Jim's first win was on the then popular racecourse at Fielding, now closed.

On the advice of Freda White he moved North at the end of his apprenticeship and joined the stable of Harry Long at Te Rapa. Some connection with Jim's middle name, perhaps, which is Hamilton.

In those days horses travelling from Central Districts to Auckland and Waikato travelled by train in covered carriages.

He rode a horse called Paul to various placings in the early days with Harry Long. One day, sitting under the grandstand having a cup of tea with the trainer Harry, after a race where Paul had ran second, a stranger joined them. The conversation went slowly until the stranger said "Did you see that idiot ride on Paul for second place?" To which the trainer replied, "I thought he rode as instructed". Paul's next start added to the frustration; he knuckled over at one fence, dislodged Jim and finished in front at the winning post, jumping superbly.

Jim had only 3 rides in the Grand National – and won them all. Young Prince, Cogitation, and Golden Defaulter. The rides were a few years apart with injuries, and lack of rides, etc.

Cutts brush was a foot taller than Jim when he was riding over it, but now it is roughly waist high. To jump it was something. It was known to be wide enough and dense enough to hold a car.

Son Paul followed in his father's footsteps, he was apprenticed to Jim and rode out of the Robinson stables. He rode in Melbourne with much success, until an injury from a fall necessitated he retire from any further risks.

Jim gave up race riding in 1967, but before that held a combined trainer/jockey license. He won at Trentham on Peter Willonyx carrying 10stone 12lbs – and went on to run 4th at Riccarton on the horse carrying 11stone 1lb. He trained a NZ Derby winner in Gitano, and a Wellington Cup winner in Michael Molloy.

Jim then trained at Mornington, Vic, Australia, for ten years and Wave King NZ (by Crest Of The Wave out of the Knights Romance mare Queens Romance) is remembered with much pleasure as one of the best he trained. Wave King started as 'course' favourite in the Doncaster at Randwick. Big races won by the showy chestnut were:

1975 Grafton Cup

1975 Liston Stakes

1976 Feehan stakes (now Dato Chin Nam Stakes)

1977 Memsie Stakes (among a host of others during his race career)

Also Jim won the Aust. Hurdles with Classico

His now, good friend, John Letts was his stable rider while in Melbourne.

Heather turned her hand to owner-trainer whilst in Melbourne. Her first horse, almost unwanted by others, was called Stagger: not a promising suggestion of a name for a racehorse, but he did win. His name came from his sire, Good Brandy, a more than likely name. She has many memories of her horses racing on the country circuits such as Stoney Creek and Donald.

Many will remember Hillcrest Lodge that Jim built. It was the first night club in Hamilton. He also built and developed motels at Te Rapa. These are a great testament to a jockey who also had a business head.

Whatever Jim's recipe for healthy living is whether its hard knocks, long hours or disappointments, it appears to be working. He is now a sprightly 81 years and enjoying horses from the ground. Jim presents himself 5 days a week at daybreak at trainers Tim Carter's stable to assist wherever he can. But Jim is just not riding now.

Currently Heather and Jim are racing Miss Evita and Dubai Dan and likely they will invigorate the couple to further spoils and success.



[Footnote by Ed] Its A Small World

2006. We had worked our way across the South of France and were booking into a little seaside hotel in Menton near the Italian border. The concierge met us with the usual reserve, 'they' think we are English. I fill in the registration. Madame watches suspiciously as I write and suddenly lights up and the conversation then went like this.

"Ahhhh Nouvelle Zealande."!!!!

"Oui Madame"

"We 'ave un very famous Nouvelle Zealandre. 'e stays weeth us. 'e 'as just left. 'ees name is Jeem 'Ely. You know 'eem?"

"Oui Madame, 'e was a great jockey, 'e rode le cheval over le fences too" (reverting to pidgin and making a ridiculous mime of me jumping fences)

"Oui, Oui, Oui Monsieur, that 'ees 'eem. 'E 'as un 'orse factory now!

REGIONAL 'OWNERS' QUESTIONS TO NZTR – NZTR RESPONSE

Further to your request for information and in support of the comments provided by NZTR Board Member Greg McCarthy to your AGM I have been asked to provide you with the following comments –

- 1. That NZTR arrange Post race interviews with Owners Trainers and Jockeys especially with split screen techniques, and keeping the stimulus on NZ racing. Also encourage the TV presenter to name all horses in preliminaries and not miss some.**

NZTR is keen to work with NZRB/Trackside to ensure improved Broadcast of thoroughbred racing. Trackside is aware of industry expectations to focus more on the owners and connections of race winners and capture excitement post race – Trackside's standard response is that while they will endeavour to interview both the trainer and jockey post race their broadcast and scheduling issues will dictate how much post race coverage is captured. Trackside is aware that punters like to see prelims for all horses. NZTR will continue to chip away at this issue with NZRB management.

- 2. That NZTR instigate a security for owners by ensuring that the jockeys are properly supervised when stopping to talk to owners, press, trainers etc. prior to weigh in.**

NZTR had referred this question to the RIU. As a general rule the RIU advised that they are comfortable with the current management practices – Jockeys are not permitted to leave the proximity of the Jockeys room and the birdcage area on raceday and as such are always under the control of the Stewards and Investigators. The Stewards are satisfied that the conduct currently exhibited by jockeys, when dealing with the people mentioned, does not fall outside the rules; however this is constantly monitored and any breaches will be dealt with appropriately.

- 3. That the Owners Federation remind the NZTR that their duty is to administer the rules and to advise all service providers of all proposals that come forward and that Owners especially are informed because they are the main payers. Any Industry proposals to be notified in sufficient time to allow discussion before a final decision are made. There have been several instances when a response has been requested within a few days of the deadline.**

As a matter of record the Consultation process – around rule changes take 4-6 months to work through. In summary the following is adopted –

- Proposed Rule amendments are submitted to the Integrity Committee for consideration.
- Once approved for consultation by the Integrity Committee (and sometimes drafts will be considered more than once after further advice, as is the case with this proposed change) proposed amendments will be distributed to clubs, recognised industry organisations and the other two codes for consultation and published for wider industry consultation. The Committee may request this is done in two stages.
- The Integrity Committee will then look at the feedback and approve, or not, the proposed amendments.
- NZTR acknowledged that from time to time procedural or operational issues eg recent NZTR requested any feedback from Sector Group representatives following the Avondale trials meeting in respect of industry concerns as to the track comes along, which NZTR will generally look to copy to the Trainers/Jockeys/Owners Associations as a matter of record. If the Owners Federation has specific concerns they need to advise NZTR that they require more time to engage with representatives before providing a formal response.
- In respect of the issues raised with Greg McCarthy the NZTR Board met with the Trainers Association around their request to be paid a starter incentive but the matter was not supported. The point you raise about the Federation not being advised as to this outcome is noted. As recently discussed, NZTR management has introduced a monthly NZTR Board follow up conference call with Sector Group representatives to improve its communication in this regard.
- The other issue that was raised at the AGM around consultation timelines when dealing with the threatened jockey strike being compromised is correct. NZTR management involved the NZTROF's President in this process and in seeking a solution NZTR reached agreement with the Jockeys Association on a three year review period with agreed terms and will seek to ensure that in future contract negotiations are managed more effectively.

- 4. That the Federation advise NZTR that all decisions made for the horse must come from the registered Owner or the registered Owner's Agent. Should circumstances change regards to the registered Owner or their Agent a new registration of an owner should be applied for and held by the NZTR.**

The Rules of Racing 423 (1) require any change in the legal or beneficial Ownership of a horse or in the lessees of a horse must be given to NZTR within seven days after any such change takes place and before the horse is started in any Race, provided that where any such change takes place (a) during a race meeting or (b) within a period of 72 hours immediately preceding the commencement of a race meeting at which the horse has been accepted to start, such notice shall be given as soon as possible to NZTR and when so given and acknowledged by NZTR during the race meeting it shall be deemed, only for the purposes of such race meeting to have been accepted by NZTR.

The Rule 423 (2) goes on to state that a change of ownership of a horse must be submitted by the Owners (s) or Racing Manager on the prescribed form to NZTR etc.

There has been some ongoing discussion between NZTR and RIU around extending the change of ownership notification to 21 days (not 7) and a requirement that all parties sign a change of ownership document. As this will require a Rule Change there will be an opportunity for the Owners Federation to be included in the consultation process.

- 5. The contract of engagement is between the Owner/Agent (bill payer) and the Trainer, Jockey or other service provider. Accordingly NZTR shall in a proper and timely manner consult with the owner's representative body, the Owners Federation, of any increase of payment, reward or incentive before any decision is made.**

As noted by Greg McCarthy in his comment to the meeting as a matter of record NZTR pays jockeys on behalf of clubs and these costs are then recovered from owners. The proposed changes to the rules would make these relationships even clearer.

While NZTR acknowledges the Federations' concerns around the impact of additional riding fee cost being passed to the owner, the rules clearly state it is NZTR's responsibility to negotiate and agree the riding fee rate. NZTR acknowledges and will continue to consultation with NZTROF around any proposed increase in fees. As you will be aware the current agreement limits the riding fee increase to the annual cost of living figure for the next three years.

- 6. Loud music and other distractions when horses are in the birdcage. Frightens highly strung and young horses. It is acknowledged that Clubs need to make it a good experience for the Public but Clubs should be mindful of the horses when they are parading.**

NZTR acknowledges the owners concerns where the safety of horses and staff are concerned. This issue was also passed on to the RIU for comment – the RIU advised where necessary the club is spoken to, but from the Stewards perspective most clubs take a responsible attitude towards this.

7. The reason for such large numbers of security guards at race meetings. It is a financial drain on Clubs. To what avail?

NZTR only gets involved in directing Clubs to ensure that they have in place agreed industry security policy around “public” access to restricted “work” areas eg Birdcage – parade ring – stabling – jockeys room. General Security around entry gates and buildings is a decision taken by the individual Club. Clubs are also now required by law to have adequate security to ensure compliance with liquor licensing restrictions.

8. Infield Indicators not working on Industry Days restricts betting. Has a cost analysis been done on downgrading facilities on Industry days?

NZTR is aware that there is currently an issue in the Waikato region with TAB infield indicator board used by a number of clubs being near the end of its effective working life, which has led to the TAB decision not to make infield indicator available for Monday/Tuesday meetings in the North. TAB has advised the Clubs that given the age of equipment they are not able to support the additional demands being placed upon them to service all midweek racemeetings. NZTR has raised the issue of new replacement equipment with NZRB, but there are no immediate plans to replace the current infield system – this decision impacts on the likes of Waipa, Paeroa, Rotorua, Tauranga, Te Aroha, and Taupo which rely on the TAB equipment. As a matter of record NZTR enquiries have determined that -

- Number of Clubs have advised they no longer have infield on any of their meetings – Wellington, Otaki, Counties, Wanganui, Otago, Taranaki
- Awapuni & Hawkes Bay only use infield indicator Saturdays & public holidays due to staffing cost to the club to operate midweek
- Waikato, Auckland, Canterbury, Avondale have their own infield indicator systems

9. What information was to hand before the rule regarding restricted areas was implemented? This rule severely restricts the Owners participation and enjoyment in ownership. Was it an OSH directive & if so can that be available to the Owners Federation?

The restrictions referred were put into place by NZTR in consultation with the Clubs and the RIU and after taking legal advice as a direct consequence of several people being hurt in the stables area when they were there in close proximity to the horses.

Under the OSH regulations clubs have a responsibility to ensure that the welfare of all persons is protected and consequently where such risks are identified then steps must be taken to mitigate these risks. To this end the NZTR Board, in consultation with clubs, introduced policies whereby only licensed persons are now permitted in the stables and saddling enclosures.

NZTR's solicitors in an email to Greg Purcell dated 16 March 2011 advised that while the clubs are primarily responsible for health and safety on a race course, in fact under the Rules of Racing the stipendiary stewards have a great deal of control of the race course on race day.

Racing Clubs are subject to the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (the **Act**). Section 16 of the Act requires that persons “who control a place of work... must take all practical steps to ensure that no hazard that is or arises in the place harms” people in the vicinity. This includes people present for recreation or leisure. This would extend to owners who are present in the stabling or birdcage areas.

The Supreme Court in *Cropp v Judicial Committee* [2008] 3 NZLR 774 (SCNZ) at para [37] stated that:

The legal obligations which exist in relation to the activity of horseracing include compliance with the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992. Section 16 of that Act, inter alia, requires a person who controls a place of work to take all practical steps to ensure that no hazard that is or arises in the place harms people who are in the place... A racecourse is certainly a place of work... It is true... that NZTR does not itself own or operate any racecourse. That is done by individual racing clubs. It is they who must comply with s 16. But in making rules for the conduct of the thoroughbred racing industry with which the clubs must comply, and in effect making those rules on behalf of the clubs collectively for their benefit, it is permissible for, and even incumbent upon, NZTR to frame those rules so that the clubs can comply with their safety obligations in accordance with standards that apply to them all.

NZTR's advice above was in the context of reviewing the legality of random drug testing on race days; however our solicitor's advised that the application of the Court's opinion is most certainly relevant to the current situation. It is a good and accurate summary of the law. That is, the primary obligation is on the Clubs – but NZTR assists them to comply with those obligations.

Section 29(2) (d) of the Racing Act also expressly authorises rules directed to the control and conduct of race meetings “including safety requirements”. NZTR is justified in making rules with the intended goal of reducing the risk of harm people are exposed to at race meetings and thereby facilitating the compliance of Racing Clubs with their obligations under the Act.

10. Concerns around owner race day participation. Could not jockeys be available for owners after weighing out and before mounting up? The current time frame for horses to be at the start is 8 to 10 minutes which could be shortened, giving owners, trainers and jockeys time before mounting. With the support of the jockeys and RIU the current timing of mount up and depart the birdcage can be reviewed to allow the above to happen.

The designated times provided for jockeys to leaving the birdcage have been calculated to ensure that the race starts on time and that horses are provided with adequate time to arrive at the start. The riders often have to adjust gear and this can also take time. The Stewards are not disposed to amending these times as they are well proven and ensure that the race starts on time.

NZTR agree that at all venues and in particular our major venues should ideally provide a designated area where the jockeys could briefly stop and talk to owners as is the case at Ellerslie. This issue has been raised with the Clubs, most indicate that their current birdcage/parade areas are not necessarily conducive to this practice pre race but a number of Clubs have made some effort to improve this. At this time it comes down to cost with many Clubs not in a position or willing to invest in additional facilities.

Greg McCarthy also noted that the meeting discussed under this item the suggestion that NZ should introduce something like the RVL gold card, giving privileges such as access to a car park. It was noted that this could “carve out” the major meetings so the real cost to the industry was minimal. The new owner's facility at Caulfield was also referred to as an initiative in Australia that recognised the value of Owners.

NZTR management is aware of these initiatives. NZTR is in the process of implementing race day financial reporting and benchmarking of Clubs so we can better understand the differences between service offerings between clubs and start implementing race day benchmarking/KPI's. One issue we will always grapple with is to what extent NZTR imposes operational requirements on clubs such as a franchise format verse clubs desire to maintain autonomy.

[Abridged]

Yours sincerely,

David Jewell

Racing and Operations Manager

[Ed note] Due to space considerations, the above are part of the questions to and responses from NZTR. They are the main items but the entire file may be read at www.racehorseowner.co.nz/News.

SO WHO NEEDS EXOTIC FOREIGNERS WHEN YOU CAN HAVE A CHARISMATIC KIWI HORSE

Michael Lynch – Sydney Morning Herald

Ocean Park is a mixture of class and toughness, athleticism and aggression, the best to come out of New Zealand for years. And it wouldn't matter who or what was in front of him: he would lower his neck, grit his teeth and run it down.

Glen Boss, never a man to let the chance to use a superlative slip, says it simply. "This is one hell of a racehorse". After the four-year-old chased down the gallant three-year-old colt All Too Hard and grabbed him in the shadows of the post to claim the \$3 million Cox Plate by a neck, with another three-year-old in Pierro almost four lengths back in third place, not a single person in the 30,000-plus crowd that thronged the Moonee Valley amphitheatre would have argued with him.

Once upon a time, New Zealanders used to throw up the overseas challenge for Australian racing, but that was in years gone by, before sheikhs from the desert and lords from the English shires, Japanese businessmen and French bon vivants, discovered the attraction of Melbourne in the spring and the lure of a turbo-charged Australian dollar, on offer by the truckload for the winners of the nation's storied races.

Nowadays the Kiwis, mainly tough and unsentimental horsemen, tend to sell off their best bloodstock, preferring the guarantee of cash in the bank for the glorious uncertainty that only might deliver dreams and riches on the racetrack.

But Matamama-trained Ocean Park was one of the few potential top liners that did not make the journey to Australia or, more usually, Hong Kong.

The four-year-old son of Thorn Park stayed with his part owner and trainer Gary Hennessy, and yesterday the years of patience, the careful, painstaking planning all came to fruition in this, the race that truly deserves its reputation as Australasia's heavyweight championship.

But to take the champion's title, a pretender has to first become a contender, which Ocean Park did so emphatically this spring. Many horses look

hugely impressive as three-year-olds, dominant amongst their own age group. But most struggle to survive in the jungle of open competition they face as four-year-olds, when they confront battle-hardened warriors who have proved their ability to slug it out in the high-pressure trenches of a race like the Cox Plate.

Ocean Park yesterday was met by the likes of the great mare More Joyous, the multiple Group One winning Shoot Out, Sincero, who himself was able to beat the older handicappers in a Group One Stradbroke as a three-year-old, Caulfield Cup winner and placegetter Southern Speed and Green Moon, Cox Plate placegetter from 12 months ago Rekindled Interest, and a trio of star three-year-olds headed by the Caulfield Guineas quinella All Too Hard and Pierro.

Hennessy's horse could not have had better credentials coming into this race. He had won three Group Ones in succession, the trainer arranging his program to start at 1400 metres in the Makfi Challenge in New Zealand, before stepping him up progressively to 1800 metres and then 2000 metres in the Underwood and Caulfield Stakes, each race coming at three-week intervals with the last a fortnight before yesterday's big test.

It was the classic preparation for what turned out to be the classic horse, a vindication not just for Hennessy but also Boss. The jockey had nailed his colours to the Ocean Park mast a long time ago, deciding after riding him in Sydney, when he was beaten in the Rosehill Guineas by Laser Hawk, that Hennessy's horse might just be the best of his generation.

Boss readily admitted that he had got things wrong when he was beaten on the colt that afternoon, and he had made it his mission to make amends on the day it mattered most, in the race that matters most as a Championship decider.

While the jockey is never a man to hide his feelings the trainer is cast in the quiet, reserved, give-little-away mould of the Kiwi trainer of yore. It's fair to say that Hennessy might not be an interviewer's delight, but he was certainly in the zone leading up to this race.

"We set a plan way back in the autumn, and today was huge. Nothing has fazed him, and we were just really confident going into this race. Glen Boss, he is a champion," he declared in succinct fashion.

Boss, as ever, was at his ebullient best, even telling a television interviewer that the win was "probably the greatest achievement I have ever had in this sport" – an assertion that those who watched him win three Melbourne Cups on Makybe Diva might find difficult to fathom.

But that is Glen Boss – the ultimate big-race rider who zones in, lives in the moment and is never afraid to show his emotion and be carried away by the excitement of the occasion. His exuberance and sheer exultation in moments of triumph might lead to such statements, but that is part of the theatre and drama this jockey brings to proceedings.

His description of his partner, and how he responded to the challenge, sums things up perfectly. "He simply wants to win and that's what it took today. It took a very, very good three-year-old in Johnny Hawke's horse to challenge me, but my horse just wanted to beat that horse, whatever was in front, he wanted to smash it. Once he got around the corner and he caught sight of the bunny he just surged, he got lower, and he surged.

"Every sinew in your body is on fire. This is such a great race to be a part of, the amphitheatre, the crowd get behind you, you can feel them. My body was like a volcano inside. I love the Cox Plate."

And so do we Bossy, so do we.

VICTORIAN OFFICIALS NEED TO OVERHAUL BIG ONE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Robbie Waterhouse

The Melbourne Cup is the best staying race in the world. As it should be with \$6 million in prizemoney. And it is entirely appropriate that runners come from the northern hemisphere and compete in this great race. And every racing person should only ever want the best horses, which want to race under the handicap conditions, to race in this great Australian event.

Sadly, few Australian runners have been able to obtain a start in recent years. Last year, just three Aus-suffixed horses started, and two were 100-1. It seems wrong to me. No doubt, some

overseas runners add "spark" to such a race but the northern hemisphere domination doesn't help racing for a few reasons:

- It reduces the public's interest (they don't know the horses);
- It reduces betting turnover (punters don't know the horses nor 'how they are going');
- It is a disadvantage to locally trained, owned or bred horses and, consequently, the Australian industry.

To solve the issue, some say, "The Cup balloting order could be tilted to help the locals." But that would be unfair. Others say, "Overseas horses have been allocated too much weight and that guarantees them a start." But that is a silly argument and wrong.

It is also said, "The VRC should impose a limit in numbers to entries from the northern hemisphere." But that would be outrageous and un-Australian. Happily, there are several easy initiatives that could solve the problem. >>

The most important move would be for the handicappers to be allowed to increase the spread of handicap weights in the Cup, and weight the nominations appropriately.

The "spread of weight" must be increased to at least 10 kilograms. If the minimum is 51kg, the topweight must be at least 61kg. Last year, there was only a 7kg spread (51kg to 58kg). The previous year, just 6kg.

The narrow spread has been a big advantage to the raiders because Australian runners, even if they were on the lowest weight, were poorly weighted. Informatively, cups of yesteryear had vast spreads. Phar Lap carried 10 stone, 10 pound (68kg) with a minimum of 43.5kg.

British heritage handicaps such as the Cesarewitch normally have at least a 10kg spread (and did at the most recent running). This increased spread would allow the handicapper to give the northern horses their just weights

(I reckon they would all rise about 3kg) and ours would be comparatively lightly weighted, but fairly so. It is important to stress the Cup is a handicap, as distinct from a weight-for-age race. By definition, the handicappers' duty is to handicap every horse to give it an equal chance of winning.

I have no doubt the result of this change would be that the northern hemisphere runners' connections realise their task is harder, and fewer would make the journey.

The second thing I'd do is to scrap the sixth to 10th Cup prizemoney. I believe in the principle: "To the winner, go the spoils." The \$125,000 prizemoney from sixth to 10th should be done away with and the \$625,000 added to the winner's cheque rather than being a putative starter's bonus. The absence of this bonus would also make the Cup less attractive, but appropriately so, from an overseas point of view.

Thirdly, there should be encouragement to reintroduce Group 1, 3200 metre races, with Group 1 prizemoney, to Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane. These have all been lost because the ratings supposedly weren't high enough. I disagree with that thinking and policy. Terrifyingly, oaks and derbies are under threat for the same reason. Terrible and wrong.

Next, I would also, to help the staying cause, encourage all three-year-olds to start in distance races by widening the weight spread and allocating them their handicap by reference to the weight-for-age scale, something that is simply not done by the official handicappers. This will greatly encourage young horses to adopt a staying career.

Lastly, I would drop all bonus systems – BOBS and Vobis discriminate against interstate and NZ stock, the Kiwi-breds being the bulk of our staying cohort. It would help staying races if these bonuses were ditched.

BETTORS EDGE APP ARTICLE/REVIEW

WITH SO MUCH TALK LATELY ABOUT MARKET MOVERS THE BETTORS EDGE IS THE ULTIMATE UTILITY FOR PUNTERS KEEN TO KEEP AHEAD AND BE IN TO WIN WHEN THE BIG MOVERS COME AROUND.

The Bettors Edge is a smartphone app that tracks the price movements of the TAB's final field odds.

If you are wondering why you would want to track the final field odds well there are a number of reasons. The main one being that when prices shorten especially significantly it is an indication that, that is where most punters are betting their money. Sudden movements also indicate large bets giving you an added insight into who is most likely to win. Final field odds are more accurate than tote odds as they aren't based on the pool which can be manipulated by small bets depending on how large the pool is.

The app provides a detailed overview of all of the TAB's races. It has an intuitive and detailed design making it a convenient utility for viewing and keeping up to date with all of the TAB's races.

The app gives you multiple views of races including 'next to go' and filters for all of the different markets. It also has an option to create your own 'track lists' to conveniently view the races that you are interested in.

The layout is easy to follow and includes detailed graphics for all of the data. You can also view form for all of the runners.

Movement tracking is done for all races showing the movements for each of the runners in the races. The app also tracks the movements on each individual runner so that you can see how runners have moved throughout the day.

The Bettors Edge app is available now for the iPhone and Android. Go to www.bettorsedge.co.nz to download it now.

[Ed note] I wanted to know more so fired off some questions. Here they are with the responses...

Hi Neil

Here are the answers to your questions.



Q Does the app cover NZTAB only?

Yes it is only working with the NZTAB.

Q All races listed on that?

All of the NZTAB's races are in the app but obviously it is only showing fixed odds for the races that the NZTAB have fixed odds for.

Q Where was the app developed?

The app was developed by myself here in Auckland

Q Do you want to give me names of who and where you come from?

Yes sure. I got my partner Cameron to mention a few things so here is what he has written:

There are two of us who created and maintain the app currently.

On the development side of things there is Liam Houlihan who is 22 years old, Liam studied a Bachelor of Information Systems and currently works as an IT developer. On the racing side of things there is myself, Cameron Rodger, I am 21 years old and currently in my 4th year of studying Law and Arts at The University of Auckland. I am a keen punter who was first introduced to racing from working doing odds jobs at the Auckland trotting club.

We are long time mates from Auckland. I approached Liam with the idea of developing a Final Field Market monitoring service for the TAB several months ago, within a few days he had a working prototype and we then spent several weeks testing and improving the app.

Our hope was that people would be excited about the ability to monitor price fluctuations and use it as a tool to factor into their selections. So far the response from the racing community has been brilliant.

We have been somewhat overwhelmed by the support we have received from the racing community. We strongly believe that there is a lot of room for tech innovation in the racing industry and we are hoping to build our app's user base so we can introduce new features and services over time.

We are also looking for ways to breakdown the technology barrier that exists within the racing industry that can be somewhat old fashioned in certain areas. Our goal is to develop services that are both useful and as user-friendly as possible

If there is anything else you would like to ask please do not hesitate to email me.

Cheers

Liam

How can I determine the quality of my thoroughbred horse's feet?

How can I tell whether it has been trimmed and shod properly?

Nature provides the perfect balance of proportion, shape and function which has evolved over many years.

We need to learn to read nature and follow the blueprint that is provided in every hoof when trimming and shoeing a horse. We need to let go of tradition and misguided beliefs and keep open to change. Many owners of thoroughbred horses struggle with keeping the feet of their horses sound and in good condition. Are you able to recognize problems in your horse's feet but do you find it difficult to determine the reasons why these problems occur? In general most lameness problems arise from the feet and most of these problems can be minimized through correct farrier practice.

Below four points will be discussed that will guide you through the basics for thoroughbred feet.

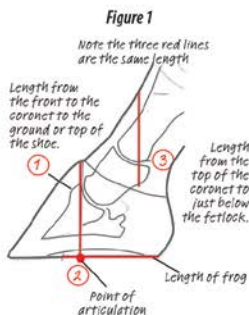
By Robert James Pinkney

1. Is the foot size in proportion to the size of the horse?

To begin with, we determine the size of the foot. The right size will maintain the natural arch of the foot and prevent concussion induced lameness, ligament strain and tendon problems.

How to determine whether the size is right?

Nature has provided us with a simple guideline to determine what the size of the hoof should be. Basically we look at three different lines and these should all be of the same length as shown in figure 1. So when you look from the side of the hoof capsule, imagine a straight vertical line through the front of the coronet to the ground/ top of shoe (line 1). The length of this line should be the same as the length of the frog (line 2) and the length from the top of the coronet to just below the fetlock (line 3). These lengths continue through the whole horse. For example, double the length of this line from above the fetlock to just below the knee.



How can we determine when the hoof capsule is too small?

When line 1 mentioned above is too short the foot capsule will not have enough depth to keep your horse sound.

A horse can't perform at its best when it lacks depth in the hoof capsule.

How can we determine when the hoof capsule is too big?

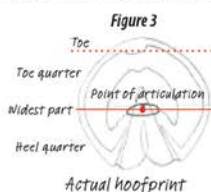
When the foot looks long, wide and flared it is caused by excessive foot that is growing out and not down. (The feet are big but still do not have depth). This can be rectified with correct toe shape and quarter placement.



2. How do I assess my horse's natural foot shape?

You can tell what the natural shape of your horse's foot should be, by looking closely at the shape of the coronet. The coronet resembles the shape of the pedal bone which is the main bone inside the hoof capsule. The white line is also projection of this shape although it can be subjected to distortion. One of the points often overlooked in modern farriery is the shape of the pedal bone that thoroughbred horses have. Thoroughbred horses have a unique foot shape. Often methods suitable for traditional horses are applied to thoroughbred feet resulting in various degrees of problems. Figure 3 and 4 show what the pedal bone of a thoroughbred looks like and therefore what the shape of the foot should be.

The hoofs can be divided into 3 different parts: toe/toe quarters/heel quarters (see figure 3). The toe shape has a direct influence on the rest of the foot as the toe is the thickest and therefore strongest part of the equine foot. If the toe is weakened through excessive rasping it will contribute to structural failure of the hoof capsule. When the toe quarters get too wide they will pull their diagonal heel in and forward and create the classic 'low heel syndrome' a common problem in thoroughbreds. For example, when you have a wide outside toe quarter, you will have a contracted inside heel. In most cases, the thoroughbred foot is as wide as it is long.



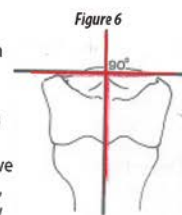
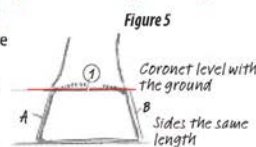
3. Has the shoe got the right shape and is it in the right place?

The shape of the shoe should resemble the natural shape of the foot. As pointed out above the toe shape should mirror the shape of the pedal bone. Again, it is very important that we let nature tell us what the right shape should be, and not tradition! Looking at the placement of the shoe, it should be equally placed around the widest part of the foot.

The toe quarters and the heel quarters are the same length and opposite each other. Getting the quarters equal will contribute to equal weight bearing and assures the point of articulation is in the centre of the foot.

4. Are the medial (inside) and lateral (outside) of the foot in balance?

The medial and lateral balance can be accessed by looking at the following three points. Firstly the coronet (figure 5, line 1) should be level to the ground. Secondly, the length from coronet to the ground (figure 5, line a+b) should be the same on both sides. Thirdly, when you pick up the front leg and look down the limb below the knee, both heels should be 90 degrees to the leg as shown in figure 6. If the four basic points discussed above are well understood and well applied, the thoroughbred horse will have few problems in its feet and lower limbs. If any one of these four concepts are overlooked or mismanaged there will be a steady demise in the strength and integrity of the equine foot. Most problems in horses seen today, particularly in the racing industry are the result of mismanagement of these basic concepts.



As a qualified farrier with both New Zealand and Japanese certificates of farrier practice, I have worked overseas for many years.

In Japan I was the first foreigner to set up a private farrier practice and had immense experience with farrier related problems in the thoroughbred industry. During this time I have worked closely with world renowned farriers and researchers. Now residing in the Waikato, if you wish to contact me call 021 861555.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

Secretary Jim Keyte advises that the re-subscription level has been good but again this year some members have been tardy in getting their payments in. We remind those unpaid that we share a community of interest and that if we are all together it is stronger.

ADVERTISING

This Bulletin is partly funded by advertisements. We are grateful for the support of those great people who advertise with us and we try hard to reciprocate that.

Our next issue will have some focus on the 2013 Karaka Sales. That is where owners buy horses and where the racing industry starts.

There is an opportunity for companies who derive their business from the racing industry to support owners. Why wouldn't you?

Contact me – jeanneil@xtra.co.nz

CONGRATULATIONS TO FEDERATION MEMBERS ON THEIR RECENT WINS!

We continue to track winning horses owned by Owner's Federation members. As we only have visibility of owner's named in the race book, we know we will have missed members involved in winning syndicates and may have inadvertently missed others. We apologise to any member we have missed and extend our congratulations to all members who have recently experienced the thrill of winning.

P Bardell	Wanganui	BEAU DANE
P J Bartley	North Shore	WERIO
J G G Bary	Hastings	THE KNIGHT
R J Begg	Christchurch	TALLYHO TUI & FLY MY PRETTY
P J Blacktopp	Christchurch	CHAMPAGNE EVA & ZAHTUI
Mrs B E Brough	Huntly	BLUE STREAK
Mrs A Browne	Cambridge	BIG BROWNIE & TOM'S MYTH
J W Campin	Cambridge	ASTON MARTIN
J G Carran	Otautau	MEDIEVAL
J T Cassin	Bombay	DESTINY COVE
J R & J I Drinkwater	Wellington	DOUBLE O SEVEN
D W Farrow	Cambridge	DUNCAN
R J Fiddes	Waimate	ARONSAY
B W Foote	Pukekohe	SHE'S VAIN
C R & Mrs S Grace	Hunterville	HIGH COUNTRY
K O & Mrs G J Hawkins	Hamilton	SWAP FOR KASH
D R Haworth	Levin	TAIKOMOCHI & SUPERVISOR
Mrs L M Hay	Paraparaumu	SONNY WELLINGTON
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K J Hickman	Christchurch	CHASUBLE
B W & Mrs A W Keighley	Napier	BEAU DANE
Mrs J A Kerr	Wanganui	NEGOTIATE
S G Lennox	Waverley	THE LONE RANGER
J F Marks	Matamata	ART BEAT
R B & S B Marsh	Cambridge	HEART OF DARKNESS
J S McRae	Waharoa	IRA BEAN
Mrs Liz Montgomerie	Beachlands	NAISOSO WARRIOR & LADY BURLESQUE
W A Mudgway	Hastings	DOUBLE O SEVEN
J D Naylor	Palmerston North	WOTABUZZ
H H & Mrs L R Nicholson	Cockle Bay	ADDICTIVE HABIT
K J O'Connor	Te Awamutu	CNRWIN
B K O'Dea	Wanganui	BEAU DANE
M D Ormsby	Waipukurau	UPPER CUT
Miss D A Pike	Waharoa	IRA BEAN
J Pomare	Papakura	ZER EBENY
T Proctor	Seddon	SPARK IT UP
D N Pye	Auckland	PLAN EX
J B R Ralph	Hamilton	IT'S A MESSAGE
G A Rogerson	Hamilton	IT'S A MESSAGE, GEE OH & CAPE KINAVERAL
D A H Ryder	Te Awanga	SAFE BREAKER
B I & G A Shand	Huntly	SHANSBUR
B C Thomas	Queenstown	ALTERED IMAGE, CRYSTAL DUKE & CHAPINTA
K J Tod	Palmerston North	WOTABUZZ
P J & P M Vela	Hamilton	ELYSIUM
Ms J D Webster	Wanganui	BEAU DANE
J R Wheeler	New Plymouth	AYATOLLAH & I GOTTA FEELING
S M Williamson	Omarama	GOLDEN CROWNS
K L & Mrs S L Wood	Napier	THE KNIGHT

THE OWNER'S FEDERATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

We wish to extend a very warm welcome to the new members who have joined the Owner's Federation in September and October. We really appreciate your membership support and look forward to a long and enjoyable association with you.

AUCKLAND	
Donna Clark	Whangarei
Lynne Street	Bucklands Beach
Bryan Chapman	Auckland
Trudel Chapman	Auckland
Liz Montgomery	Auckland
A S Bell	Pukekohe
C J Maguire	Pukekohe
Adele Proctor	Orewa
Mrs B J Corrigan	Auckland
H H & Mrs L R Nicholson	Auckland
BAY OF PLENTY	
Sharon MacRury	Tauranga
WAIKATO	
Dayle Pike	Waharoa
Jonathon McRae	Waharoa
I McClennan	Ohaupo
Martha Johnson	Taupo
Windsor Park Stud	Cambridge
HAWKES BAY	
Kuslima Gerrand	Waihi
Mrs Megan Harvey	Hastings
MANAWATU	
Mrs Lyn Hay	Paraparaumu
David Haworth	Levin
Ngatahi Partnership	Hunterville
Chris McCarrison	Wellington
CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND	
Barry Thomas	Queenstown
Robert Begg	Christchurch
B C Spencer	Ashburton
Phillip Blacktopp	Christchurch
Sandra Miller	Christchurch
Simon Williamson	Omarama
TARANAKI	
Maureen Ward	Opunake
WANGANUI	
Mrs G A Gudsell	Wanganui

FEDERATION CONTACTS

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President: Neil Oldfield 06 327 8426 **Secretary:** Jim Keyte 027 276 0464

Become a member – download a "Join Us" form from our website **Website:** www.racehorseowner.co.nz



Fastest of 400



9.93 secs

Guillotine's first crop son (Lot 244) was fastest (9.93 secs) of over 400 entries at this week's NZB Ready to Run 2YO breeze-ups

10 of **Guillotine's** 13 entries ran faster than the average time of 10.85 seconds

Sires represented at the breeze-up's include: Fastnet Rock, Redoute's Choice, Encosta de Lago, Commands, Exceed And Excel, Choisir, High Chaparral, O'Reilly, Flying Spur, Stratum, Thorn Park, Zabeel, Pins, Pentire, Savabeel, Stravinsky, Testa Rossa etc.

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