



NZSBA



BREEDERS' WEEKLY

This week we caught up with the Yesbergs (Paul and Trent), breeders of Bettor Rock On (cover) to bring you another edition of Breeder Profiles.

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Paul, Trent and Wendy Yesberg. PAGE 3.





(Elliot Daniel wins in the hands of trainer/driver Jay Abernethy at Taranaki back in April)

BERNIE'S BREED HAVE NO LIM'IT!

The man that bred 'Ernie and Bert' has landed another breeding success following the Thames Harness Racing Club's meeting at Alexandra Park on Sunday the 1st of May.

The Bernie Lim bred and Jay Abernethy trained Elliott Daniel notched up his 10th win in 75 starts when winning the first event – the Printworks Mobile for C1 to C3 pacers.

The 8-year-old Live Or Die gelding is the only race winner so far left by his dam, Sequita – but Lim is no stranger to winning races, even the big ones.

Special Force won 27 races (\$624,823), including the 1999 Inter Dominion Grand Final, while Kawarau Invasion won nine races and just under \$90,000.

They raced at the same time and were affectionately dubbed 'Ernie and Bert' respectively by their Pukekohe trainer, Dave McGowan.

"Obviously Elliot Daniel isn't in the same class as Special Force but he has done a good job. Not many horses win 10 races. Jay has placed him really well," said Lim, a retired Pukekohe market gardener.

Now aged 70 Lim said he had been breeding and owning racehorses for 30-plus years.

"My neighbour Jack Stow got me interested. He had a broodmare named

Barb. She was a Warrior mare. The best she left was an Alba Byrd gelding named Arthur John, who won a couple of races," Lim said.

Lim said he had bred from many mares since then. In 1988 he paid \$10,000 to Noel Simpson at the National Bloodstock Yearling Sales for a George Allen mare named Armbrö Zip Zap.

"She had five races and had recorded one second before we sent her to the broodmare paddock. She left nine foals, the second of them being a brown Sands A Flyin mare, Sequita," Lim said.

Sequita won two of her 20 starts and placing in nine others for \$11,850 in stakes. Lim said he then had trouble getting her in foal.

"Her first two foals by Falcon's Icon and Live or Die both died and then along came Elliot Daniel.

"He was initially trained by Richard Brosnan and then Steven Reid offered me \$7,000 for him. He actually won first-up for Steven before he again changed stables in March last year."

Sequita has since left a 6-year-old McArdle mare named Amy Belle, a Live Or Die 4-year-old named Quachita, and un-named American Ideal 2-year-old colt. She is currently in foal to Art Major.

"I haven't bred for the last couple of years simply because I couldn't afford it. I've got quite a few of my breed racing at the moment, Jay's got four, Doug Gale four, and Richard Brosnan three.

"I think the best of them going around at the moment are Torbjorn (seven wins) and Lindy's Dream, who is with Jay. The latter is quite promising but is inexperienced having only had three starts," Lim said.

Of Sequita's crop, Lim said the 2-year-old American Ideal colt was broken in and Derek Balle expects him to be racing later this season or in 2016-2017.

He said the best broodmare he had owned was the un-raced Sundon mare Sun Lamp, who left Torbjorn (by Dream Vacation).

But everyone knows the best horse he has owned or bred.

"That was Ernie (Special Force). He was a very special horse and well named. I paid \$5,000 for his dam Special Pride (Game Pride – Jingles). She was a nice racehorse who won 13 races," Lim said.

Lim sold his market garden three years ago and is now happily retired in Pukekohe with his wife Matawai.

Incidentally he rated Tuapeka Knight – Lady Marilyn mare, Lady Matawai, as one of the best horses he had bred.

"I obviously named her after my wife. She won four races here and then another 40 or so in the United States. I tried to buy her back but had no joy. She was from the old Grice brothers breed in Southland," Lim said.

"Oh and of course there was also Amanda Gwen (Holmes Hanover – Smooth Jessie). She won five races here and then also had success in Canada," he added.

Duane Ranger



BREEDER'S PROFILE



Paul, Trent and Wendy Yesberg

Paul Yesburg is extremely well known in New Zealand Standardbred racing circles as a breeder, owner and even amateur reinsman!

The ties run deep with his son being the farm manager for Dancington-moonlight as well as a prominent preparer of yearlings under his Five Star yearling Prep banner.

This week we caught up with Trent to gain some insights into how the family got into breeding and where things are going.

HOW DID YOU GET INTERESTED IN HARNESS RACING?

Days' father was a bookie in the 1960s and dad followed him around the races picking up bits and pieces of knowledge, punting etc. He got into it more when the business became successful and he could afford to put some money into it.

While Paul had been involved in a number of syndicates the first horse he owned outright was Jingle Belle Rock (1996 Caprock - Belle Glade) which he purchased as a yearling for about \$3,000. She had 23 starts for one win.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN BREEDING?

We've been breeding for upwards of the last 20 plus years.

FIRST HORSE YOU BRED?

Jingle Belle Rock missed at her first two years a stud but then produced Great Balls of Fire (34 starts, 3 wins, 4 seconds, 3 thirds, \$37,000) to Sands A Flyin.

Trent has bred Rock Diva to A Rock N Roll Dance and this season will send her to Bettor's Delight.

FIRST WINNER YOU BRED?

Great Balls of Fire (above) was our first winner. Jingle Belle Rock then had J D Fortune (Washington VC 6 wins), Better Rock On (Bettor's Delight 7 wins), Rock Diva (Christian Cullen 1 win), Return-torocknroll (Rocknroll Heaven) and a couple or more recent ones.

WHY DO YOU BREED STANDARDBREDS?

For dad it started with Jingle Belle Rock. As happens in this business the numbers then grew. He purchased some mares at the sales. Around 2003/04 he purchased Turn to Gold (Tuapeka Night - Stretto) in foal to Armbr Operative resulting in Return to Gold (1.57.7 31 starts, 4 wins, 4 seconds, 3 thirds, Lt \$40,057), a very smart filly.

In recent times Dad's numbers have got up a bit and they became time consuming. He has always loved doing them himself, working with them, feeding them etc but the time and effort mounts up. It was time to relieve a bit of pressure so he has sold some and now has four that he will bred from. It is simply a quality over quantity decision.

I am hoping that he will buy some nice fillies, race them and then give them to me to breed!!

FAVOURITE HORSE YOU BRED?

Bettor Rock On for sure! He had all sorts of issues as a weanling with stifle chips. He was operated on, then prepped for the Sales. He was a magnificent specimen. Prior to the sales we x-rayed him again and the chips had returned. We withdrew him, let them absorb and raced him. Given all the injuries and work he had had on him he was great to handle. He was a really kind horse with a cool personality. He was they family favourite.

He won seven here and about \$70,000, went 1.54 in Aussie and about the same dollars and then recently went to the USA.

FAVOURITE STALLION?

I do not think we really have a favourite. Dad was always trying to get value out of the stallions just below the big boys. For me my own favourite is Love You. I have a fascination with the French trotting blood.

HAVE YOU BRED ANYTHING THIS SEASON?

As I mentioned Rock Diva to A Rock N Roll Dance, Return TO gold to Art Major, Gold Return to He's Watching (She did not sell at the Mixed Sale) and this year Return To Rocknroll.

THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE IN THE INDUSTRY?

I suppose that I would like to people in all parts of the industry appreciate a little more what breeders actually do. Breeders make breeding decisions, spend money on service fees and then have to wait over two years to get a return. While that is happening another two years pass and more breeding takes place.

Trainers do not seem to appreciate the risks and investment that we have to make. It may have cost us \$20,000 to get a yearling to the sales, a well put together horse. But then you get there and you are offered \$8,000 because the stallion is out of favour or whatever. It is disappointing.

I am keen of some form of breeder benefits that shows appreciation for the investments made. Sometimes I feel breeders are getting ripped off.

Trainers tell us to breed better horses but when we make the breeding decision we do not deliberately breed poorly conformed horses.



QUALIFIED PACER BREAKS NZ TROTTING RECORD AT AUCKLAND

Good things come in small packages. You only had to be at Alexandra Park last Friday night to see Blazing Under Fire endorse that theory.

The little black colt, who qualified as a pacer, went within 0.4 of a second of You Rock's New Zealand 2700m standing start record for a 3-year-old trotter.

Blazing Under Fire was also having his second start at Alexandra Park after breaking and losing all hope when favourite the week before.

It was his third win in 16 starts, and his Auckland breeder Peter Hope-Johnstone deflected all the praise from day one to Blazing Under Fire's Oamaru trainer, Phil Williamson.

"Phil deserves all the credit. He's got such a big motor for a little fella and that's because his trainer has brought the best out of him.

"Phil's had the colt since he was a baby. I've known and had horses with Tony Herlihy (MNZM) for about 20 years now and Phil stays with him when he's up here, and that's how I got to know him.

"He actually took Blazing Under Fire's dam home when he was up here. He liked the look of the little black filly and tried to get her going, but she was tiny and got injured and never raced," Hope-Johnstone said.

Sadly that dam – Courage Under Fire mare, Dainty Falcon, only left the one foal – that being the Washington VC, Blazing Under Fire.



DON'T FORGET TO CLAIM YOUR BREEDER BONUS'!!

Any financial member of the New Zealand Standardbred Breeders Association (as of 31st of August 2015) who breeds the winner of a totalisator race at a New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club (Met) meeting (excludes premier days, see T's & C's) held at Addington Raceway will be eligible for a \$500 bonus payment. Bonus also applies to meetings held by the Akaroa, Amberley and Cheviot Trotting Club meetings who pay a Breeder Bonus on their own accord.

Click [here](#) for full terms and conditions.

MARES FOR SALE

QUALITY IN FOAL BROODMARES & WEANLINGS FOR SALE

The NZSBA currently has multiple listings of well-bred mares for sale/lease/free.

To find out more information and to see what is available, please [click here](#). This will direct you to our website, and then click the For Sale/Lease heading in the navigation bar.

N.Z. SIRES STAKES NOMINATIONS & SUSTAINING PAYMENTS DUE JULY 1ST 2016

Foal Nomination	Sires Stakes - Nevele R Fillies
Yearling Sustaining	Sires Stakes - Nevele R Fillies - PGG Wrightson Yearling Sales
3YO Sustaining	Sires Stakes - Nevele R Fillies - PGG Wrightson Yearling Sales

PAYMENTS FOR THESE WILL CLOSE ON 1ST JULY 2016

If you have an email address with HRNZ or have elected not to receive these by email – remittance advices will be emailed early June.

Please note: if you attend on heading away on holiday around this time, please make payments before heading away.

Payment details are available on our website including a blank nomination form if you wish to pay now www.nzsiresstakes.co.nz

Contact the N.Z. Sires Stakes Board

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DATE: SATURDAY 21ST OF MAY,
OPEN FROM 11.30am (DAY MEETING)

VENUE: SILKS LOUNGE, ADDINGTON RACEWAY

INDIVIDUAL SEAT COST \$95 incl. GST

TABLE COST \$950 incl. GST

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"Phil made the decision to breed her and we are delighted he did, even though she was a bit small to breed from and found it hard to get in foal.

"This fella is a bit special because of that," North Shore-based Hope-Johnstone said.

Blazing Under Fire was the \$5.40 second favourite in Friday's \$20,000 Jacobsen C1-C2 trot, and unlike last week when he broke and finished last, the colt stepped like a toff this time.

He sat in the trail and then when Nathan Williamson took the colt to the lead at the 1800m that was the winning of the race. They then bolted in by just under four lengths.

Blazing Under Fire is now ranked eighth for the Sovereignty 3yo Harness Ruby Final on June 4.

"He's still a bit young and green but if he can get a nice draw and then get to the lead then I would rate him some show. Phil's got him ticking along really nicely at the moment and the way he trains it wouldn't surprise me if he won," said Hope-Johnstone.

The 85-year-old Takapuna resident has been involved in harness racing for about 60 years – off and on since the 1950s.

"I got my first horse when I was in my late 20s and have come and gone from the game over the years. These days I've got more time to put in horses. I've

been around horses a lot. I used to help out at Peter Wolfenden's Drury stable," Hope-Johnstone said.

He co-owns Blazing Under Fire with Williamson. He also owned and bred her dam, Velvet Fire; and in turn her dam – the un-raced 1997 Falcon Seelster – Sweet Aloha mare, Dainty Falcon.

"Sweet Aloha won a couple of races. I also owned her dam, Queenbeyan, who was by Gramatan. The line goes back to the Johnny Globe mare Precocious, who won an Interdominion Trotters' Final (1973) in Sydney and a Dominion Handicap (1971).

"She was tiny too. The Carmichaels had her and Jack drove the mare. So I was always hopeful the bloodline would deliver," Hope-Johnstone said.

He said the best horse he had bred or owned so far was the eight-win Christian Cullen mare, Honey Falcon Rose, which won eight race and \$90,566.

"She was out of Blazing Under Fire's grand-dam, Dainty Falcon," Hope-Johnstone said.

Duane Ranger

PUKEKOHE BREEDER STILL FLYING THE FLAG

John Carsons might have passed away in August 2007 aged 75, but his breed is still kicking goals some nine years later thanks to his 28-year-old grandson Brad Carsons.

The latter co-owned and bred Superimposed to win his second race in 12 starts at Alexandra Park last Friday in the \$12,000 Harness Jewels C1 and C2 Pace. The 3-year-old was the sixth favourite in the six horse field and paid \$28.40 to win. He was driven by the master – Tony Herlihy (MNZM).

"I owe everything to my late grandfather. I was always around him when I was young. If it wasn't for him I don't think I'd be interested in standardbreds.

"He was the catalyst for everything I do in harness racing, which lead me to start my business (Equine Specialists) in Pukekohe," Carsons said. Pukekohe-based Carsons senior trained standardbreds for 47 years – the best of them was the Devil's Adversary entire, The Pukekohe Pirate, who won eight races and \$48,765 in New Zealand before he was sold to America in 1999, where he won another 10 times.

The Pukekohe Pirate was the fourth of 16 foals out of the Mercedes mare, Madam Jodasc. She got her name by combining the first two letters of John's name with those of his two sons - Dale and Scott, Scott being Brad's father. The un-raced Madam Jodasc's 12th foal was the now 12-year-old Armbro Operative mare, Madam Superior. She has so far left six foals herself – the fourth of them being the Jereme's Jet colt, Superimposed. "It's a great thrill to be breeding horses that originated from Poppa's breed."

He started training one galloper, but didn't want to wait for jockeys in the cold at 5am so he trained trotters and pacers instead. Poppa was one of the

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CONSULTATION OF EXPORT GUIDANCE MATERIAL

MPI are releasing two new guidelines for the export of live animals for consultation with representatives of persons likely to be affected by them.

These cover the export of:

- horses by sea
- horses by air

The two draft guidelines are attached on our website. To view these guidelines and for information on making a submission, please [click here](#) to be taken to our website.

The closing date for submissions is Thursday 19 May 2016.



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first people to start exporting horses to the States many years ago.

He made 27 trips across to there in his years as a racehorse trainer. He also brought the stallion Baron Tan to New Zealand in the 1970s.

Madam Superior is the only mare standardbred mare that Carsons is breeding from. She has left him and co-breeder Guy Matches five colts and one filly (deceased).

"We'd love her to produce another filly, just for insurance. We want to keep breeding from the mare, not only because we think she can produce a lot of winners, but because she is from my grandfather's line and preserving that is very important to me," Carsons said.

Carsons said Madam Superior only had the one start when she was third favourite at Alexandra Park on October 2, 2007.

"She made her debut only a couple of months after Poppa died. She had ability but galloped badly in that race and had a few issues after that. That's when we decided to put her in foal to Christian Cullen," said Carsons.

That first foal was the promising Super Cullen. Carsons thought he had the potential to go a long way.

"He won a race for Graham Court at Addington and then he dropped dead in his box not long after. That was quite sad because he was a horse we definitely didn't get to see the best of. He was a big horse, and he only started to strengthen up as a late 3yo and when he won his maiden he sat parked and was too tough."

The second foal was the three-win American Ideal colt, Superintendent. Carsons said he sold him to Luke McCarthy who had a few issues with his soundness so he returned to the Robert Dunn stable in Canterbury.

"He finished third beaten a slender margin behind the talented Isaiah on debut and then on Boxing Day 2014, he won the Westport Cup. He's been retired now," said Carsons.

Then along came Superior Dynasty, the

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Mach Three filly, whom Carsons hoped would carry on his grandfather's breeding dynasty. "It was sad because she never grew. She was born in November 2011 and then 13 months later on Christmas Eve we had to put her down. The vets said she was born with cancer. We spent quite a bit of money trying to save her but in the end we did what was best for the filly," Carsons said.

Superimposed was the fourth foal and he has now won two of his 12 starts for Steve Telfer and Chris Garlick – the other being at Alexandra Park in January.

"He's got real high speed and the quickest horse I have bred. He will be better as a 4-year-old too. I bred her with Guy Matches, who had a share in The Pukekohe Panther with Poppa.

"Bruce Dalton from Australia also has a share with us. He's the manufacturer of a product I import called World's Best Hoof Oil. He wanted to race a pacer, so I gave him a share. He supports our business which is my philosophy behind having horses with several different trainers, to support the people that support us (Equine Specialists)," Carsons said.

"He (Superimposed) has only really just come right after copping a virus that was going around. His run at Cambridge two back cleaned him up and then we thought he would be right for his Alexandra Park race on Friday night after his work on Wednesday.

"I couldn't believe he paid as much as he did. On ability I thought he would have been in the top two or three in betting, but I guess the punters never knew about his virus," said Carsons.

Madam Superior's fifth foal is a 2-year-old Art Major colt named Superpower who is in the care of Gareth Dixon. He is spelling and will most likely qualify after winter when he's back in work.

She missed to Mach Three in 2014 and then last year left a Mach Three weanling colt named Superbass.

"Superbass is named after the Nicki Manaj song which was released in 2010. He was weaned a month ago and we will be sending him to Bunty Hughes to ply his trade on, who like all of my trainers is a client of ours."

Carsons said he would this year serve Madam Superior to either Art Major or Bettor's Delight.

"I'm praying for a filly next time. I love breeding standardbreds. It's something I want to do for a very long time. It's well and truly in my blood," the likeable Franklin businessman said.

Carsons' 'Equine Specialists' business is based in Manukau Road in Pukekohe. They import farrier supplies, a full range of Kelato Supplements as well as World's Best Hoof Oil.

Duane Ranger



FIRST BREEDING WIN FOR REED!

Nikki Reed and Dani McRae were both working at the Spreydon Lodge Reduction Sale back in 2011 when they just couldn't resist having a sneaky bid on the brown Mystical Shark mare named Now Franco.

She had won two of her eight starts for McRae's husband Steven and the girls had both liked her and seen what she had done both on and off the racetrack.

"Spreydon Lodge owned and bred her and Dani and I just couldn't resist a little bid when she came through the ring. Dani knew the horse well so we knew what we were buying.

"I think Paul O'Rourke was a bit kind and benevolent towards us and let our bid go through. We were delighted. She's a lovely mare and has now left us three foals. She left five for Spreydon Lodge before that," said Reed who has been Nevele R Stud's Marketing Manager for nine years.

Reed and McRae's first foal from Now Franco - a brown McArde mare named Bolting - won his second race for the Canterbury duo when triumphant in the Printech Amateur C1 to C3 Pace at Cambridge Raceway last Thursday night.

The Jeremy Young trained and Tremain Thorby driven 4-year-old was the \$2.50 favourite in the six-horse field.

"He's the first winner I have bred and owned. I don't think he's any star but it's so nice to have bred a winner. Hopefully he will be the first of many more to come from the mare," Reed said.

Bolting won his first race at Westport on Boxing Day last year. He was then trained by McRae, but the West Melton horseman sent him north because he believed he went better the right-handed way around.



Tremain Thorby and Bolting (Number 1) combine to win the Printech Amateur Drivers Pace at Cambridge last Thursday

"He is a big over-grown horse who needed a change and Pukekohe seems to be doing the world of good for him. He was a nice second at Alexandra Park the start before so I thought a win was close.

"Jeremy has done a good job. It was pleasing to see him do the business last week. He was broken in by Nikki and her husband (Scott Green) and then we qualified him at Rangiora in 2014," McRae (Steven) said.

The best of Now Franco's first five foals bred by Spreydon Lodge was the 7-year-old Live Or Die mare Neve Franco. She won two of her 11 starts for Canterbury trainer Robert Dunn.

"We like to breed from the mare every two years - and after Bolting she has left us two Changeover fillies - one is a 2-year-old and the other is just a foal.

"We will leave her empty this year and then put her back in foal next year," Reed said.

Reed said the 2-year-old was a "lovely type" and was now in her second prep with McRae.

"She will most likely qualify and race as a 3-year-old but Styx (Steven) seems pretty happy with her. She will most likely race after the winter but that's all in Styx's hands," Reed said.

Duane Ranger



Standardbred

Classic Families

Discover The Performance Behind The Pedigree

2YO FILLIES SALES SERIES FINAL | TRIPLE CROWN ON OFFER



The 2014 winner of the Two year Old Sales Series Final, Katy Perry, was purchased for a staggering \$17,500!!

The rich PPG Sales Series race for Two Year Old Fillies goes again this Friday at Alexandra Park with a Woodlands Stud bred runner attempting to do what few other fillies have in New Zealand. Win the Triple Crown.

The Triple Crown consists of the Sires Stakes 2YO Fillies Championship, Caduceus Club Fillies Classic and this Friday night's feature, the PGG Wrightson Yearling Sales 2YO Fillies Final.

Since the inception of the Yearling Sales Fillies Final in 1992 (thus forming the Triple Crown), only one filly has been good enough to win the Triple Crown.

Classical (Soky's Atom - Class Act) was good enough to pick up all three for Wendy and Peter Revill back in 2002, but for a variety of reasons, no filly since has been able to achieve the feat. Tonight Spanish Armada has a great opportunity to write her name into the record books.

Plenty have won two of the features and their names include Venus Serena (beat by Libertybelle Midfrew in Sales Series), Bettor Cover Lover (upset by Barry Ward & Paradise City in the Caduceus) & lastly One Dream which

having not been a sales purchase was ineligible for this leg of the crown. The race rewards those who are prepared to go to the sales and put their money where their mouth is. But given the generous stake of \$150,000, looking at the sales prices of the seven blue blood fillies may surprise a few who would be forgiven for thinking the race is dominated by high price purchases.

As to be expected, a few of the runners came at a heavy cost. Strawberry Stride (Bettor's Delight - Tempepara Cullen - by Christina Cullen) was the highest priced filly purchase from the Australasian Classic sale in 2015. She is closely related to Stunnin Cullen, Coburg and her race rival and sales steal Smiling Sophie.

Spanish Armada (Bettor's Delight - Galleons Supreme by Christian Cullen) is another filly that didn't come cheap. Bred on the potent Bettor's Delight/Christian Cullen cross, she comes from the same family as 2012 New Zealand Oaks winner Cheer the Lady and was purchased for \$75,000 at The Australasian Classic sale.

She's now won in excess of \$200,000 which makes the sales tag seem more

like the equivalent of a purchase from Dressmart. Can she join Classical in winning the big three?

Tachyon (Mach Three - Northern Franco by Falcon Seelster) and is a half to the war horse Pembroke Benny and previous winner of the race Northern Velocity. She was purchased for \$60,000 and has a big future ahead of her.

Smiling Sophie (art Major) is out of the prolific race and broodmare in Vicario. She was purchased by Jim Gibbs for \$35,000 which on the whole is now looking like a bargain having almost collected her sales price back in four starts without having ever saluted the judge!

Delightful Memphis (Bettor's Delight - Memphis Melody by Badlands hanover) was purchased for \$46,000 at the NZ Premiere Yearling Sale and has shown all sorts of ability to date. She could easily win the race and add to the \$58,000 she has already won thus far.

Renske B (Mach Three - Changedown by Falcon Seelster) was a \$30,000 purchase and is another to have already recouped her purchase price with close to \$50,000 in the bank already. She's very closely related to Changeover and looks to be a filly with plenty of scope to go on at three.

That brings us to Casino Belle (Bettor's Delight - Lislady by Christian Cullen), another sales steal at \$30,000 and is the only filly in the race to not come from what would be deemed a commercial family. Having already won a race and placed twice more from six

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starts, she will eclipse her sales price for simply turning up to a race she will not be without a chance in.

Since 2010, four fillies have won the prestigious race having been purchased at the sales for less than \$20,000.

- 2014 winner Katy Perry (Bettor's Delight Karen Donna by In The Pocket) was a \$17,500 purchase.
- 2013 winner Libertybelle Midfrew (Christian Cullen - Lucinda Midfrew by Live or Die) was bought back for \$17,500.
- 2012 winner Pacific Rapture (Bettor's Delight - Seamoon by Smooth Fella) was purchased for an incredible \$7,500.
- 2010 winner Bettor Cover Lover (Bettor's Delight - Front Cover Lover by What's Next) was unbelievably bought for \$12,000.

These sales prices would indicate that the big money races are there to be won for those willing to invest in fillies from nice families.

It should also dispel the stigma that these races are typically won by those with the biggest wallets.

Brad Reid

PRODUCTIVE WEEKEND FOR STARRY DELIGHT

Manawatu Raceway is the favoured track of choice for six year old Bettors Delight mare Starry Delight. Of her five wins to date, four have come at Central Districts headquarters for owner Christopher Craddock. Two-win trotter Earls Buller Girl (leased) is among other horses raced and/or bred from by Craddock.

Bred by Graeme Pearson (Under Cover Lover), Starry Delight commenced racing from Kerry Hadfield's Greenpark barn as a three year old. Her first win being a dead heat with Righteous Royal

at Otaki (January 2014). Moved to Ms Jasmine Tanner's stable, at her first start she gained her initial Manawatu win (February 2014).

A year later, she changed stables moving to Doug Gale (Bulls) and on her second start for him gained another Manawatu victory. In fact, Starry Delight made it two in a row for the weekend with win number four in early March 2015. With twelve monthly gaps between victories, Starry Delight's latest Manawatu success was mid-March 2016 starting favourite in the hands of junior driver Trent Lethaby winning by 3³/₄l, cutting out the 2500mM journey in 3:10.0/2:02.2/60.4/29.6. Backing up two days later, she placed third in 1:59.1 over a mile to She's Extreme, not quite replicating the previous years dual winning performance. Her overall race record reads as 70 : 5 - 4 - 8, \$33,370, 2:01.4.

What more can one say about her super sire Bettors Delight?. In Australasia - seven millionaires; two in 1:48 (Have Faith In Me 1:47.5, Adore Me 1:47.7); six in 1:50 (4 NZ /2 AUS bred); numerous group/national award winners etc and ready to explode as broodmare sire in Australasia (Waikiki Beach).

Starry Delight's dam Welcome Star (Holmes Hanover/Star Rhapsody) was bred by North Canterbury's Bill McDonald. He developed this branch of Dairy Maid family descending from Starlet over several generations. Welcome Star didn't win in seven NZ starts but managed 8 wins at Albion Park over two seasons at three and four - 1:58.0, \$30,064. From eight foals, five have raced for four winners plus two qualifiers:

- Monaghan (McArdle gelding), 3 NZ wins, 1:56.6, \$39,140, Sapling Stakes/10 QLD wins, 1:56.5, \$47,650; total stakes of \$86,790
- Starry Delight - as above
- Marshal Star (Badlands Hanover gelding), 4 wins

Grand dam Star Rhapsody (In The Pocket/Venetian Star) bred by Bill McDonald raced on 31 occasions recording four wins, 1:58.0, \$28,797. Of her 15 foals, eleven have raced and won plus a qualifier (remaining foals unraced fillies). Six have won in two minutes and five have raced/won in Australia:

- Welcome Star - as above
- Star Decision (Live Or Die gelding),

4 wins, \$49,741

- Speedstar (Presidential Ball gelding), 11 wins, 1:58.7, \$89,591; Parawai Grass Cup (twice)
- Lyrical Star (Falcon Seelster gelding), 3 NZ wins/2 AUS wins, 1:57.1
- Ima Rocket Star (Badlands Hanover colt), 6 NZ wins/19 WA [15 GP] wins, 1:56.2, \$411,929; WA Country/Pinjarra Cups, McInerney 4yo Championship; 2nd Chariots of Fire; 3rd Golden Nugget
- Art Star (Artiscape gelding), 1 NZ/16 QLD wins, 1:56.3, \$86,683
- Strata Star (Bettors Delight filly), 5 NZ wins/3 Menangle wins, 1:53.3, \$58,072

Third dam Venetian Star (Lordship/Star Nurse), bred by Bill McDonald was unraced. Among her thirteen foals, seven raced for five winners :

- Anvils Star (In The Pocket colt), 12 NZ wins/5 AUS wins, 1:54.8, \$444,705; Hannon Memorial, Timaru/Bendigo Cups, ID heat, Bohemia Crystal FFA, Flying Mile
- Star Rhapsody - as above
- Lordships Falcon (Lordship filly), 3 wins; dam of Crystal Star, \$148,406, Forbury 4yo Championship, Canterbury Country Cups
- Star Command (In The Pocket filly), unraced; dam of Billies A Star, 1:55.7, \$131,103, 3rd Golden Nugget
- Florentine Star (In The Pocket filly), non winner, 2:00.3TT; dam of Leading Lavros, 1:54.2, \$91,313
- Star Friendship (Iraklis gelding), 6 NZ wins/1 AUS win, 1:58.9, \$56,841
- Star Of Peace (Artsplace filly), non winner, 1:59.2; dam of Expressive Art, 6 AUS wins, 1:56.5, \$53,037

Fourth dam Star Nurse (Good Chase/Morano Star), was unraced. She was dam of thirteen foals, seven raced for seven winners plus two qualifiers :

- Our Ian Mac (El Patron gelding), 2 NZ wins,/14 AUS wins, 1:59.1, \$194,852, WA Cup (writer on course to witness this race)
- Starship (Lordship colt), 16 wins, 1:54.5TT (NZ Record, Nelson 1 Feb 1992), \$341,975, Ashburton Flying Stakes, Kaikoura Cup; 2nd NZSS - 2, NZ/AK Cups; minor sire
- Star Kingdom (Smooth Fella gelding), 4 wins, 1:55.3US
- Star Heritage (El Patron filly), unraced; dam of Genuine Star, 1:51.1US,



\$230,427, Cobram Cup; Star Loner 1:54.1US; Star of Mine 1:52.2US
 - Venetian Star - as above

Fifth dam Morano Star (Morano/Starlet) was bred by Ben Grice (winner in 2:08.0). She was Starlet's major credit and her nine progeny included four winners from six starters :

- Star Land (Goodland filly), 6 wins, 2:04.4US, \$22,024; Premier Stakes - 4
- Captains Pride (Tuft gelding), 8 wins
- Star Dancer (Bachelor Hanover filly), non winner; dam of Starwin Boy, 2:02.4, \$62,005; Forbury 4yo Championship, CPTC/Timaru Winter Cups
- Star Nurse - as above
- Ruling Tabella (Mark Lobell filly), unraced; grand dam of Courage To Rule, 9 NZ/10 AUS wins, 1:51.1. \$522,831, VIC Derby, 2nd NSW Derby, NZSS - 2c, Jewels - 2c, 3rd NZYSS - 2 & 3, QLD Derby, Breeders Crown - 3c; Make the Rules 1:51.3US

This being the family of North American mare Dairy Maid (U30) with the significant NZ contribution traces to imported mare Norice. In addition to those mentioned above, other notable Australasian family credits include Brabham, Elect To Live, Holmes DG, Camelot, Iraklis, Monkey King, Sokyola, Tuapeka Star, Nelson Derby, Native King, Adios Court, Mount Eden, Brad Adios, Impressionist, Lavros Star, Saab, O Baby, Im Victorious, Karloo Mick, Gaius Caesar.

Peter Craig

SOLAR FIRE PASSES AWAY

On Tuesday 10th May, unfortunately the wonder mare Solar Fire was found deceased in her paddock.

She raced 48 times for 14 wins and 12 placings with \$214,200 in the purse. Her notable wins came in the 1997 NZ Sires' Stakes 2YO Trotting Championship, 1998 PGG Wrightson Yearling Sales Trotters Final, 1998 New Zealand Trotting Derby, 1998 Northern Trotting



Starry Delight wins at Manawatu for Scott Lethaby and Doug Gale

Derby, and the 1999 New Zealand Trotting Championship.

In the broodmare paddock she left 13 foals, five to race for five winners. In the 2009 season she left a Monarchy colt to be known as Sheemon which as we all know has had a prolific career to date winning four Group One's including the Four Year Old Ruby & a heat of the Great Southern Star.

Bred to be good, she hails from a family steeped in trotting blood with her granddam, Sungait Song leaving none other than the great Sundon himself.

Brad Reid

3YO FILLY OF THE YEAR RACE HEATS UP!

The race for the prestigious 3yo filly of the year title will kick into high gear again Saturday as the country's top fillies do battle in the Nevele R Fillies Final.

The race boasts a number of proven performers this year with no less than four Group Race winners looking to separate themselves from the pack

who until this stage have largely stayed out of each other's way.

Dream About Me has raced all but exclusively in Australia picking up the Group One NSW Oaks and the Group Three Raith Memorial.

Golden Goddess was brilliant earlier in the season where she picked up the Sires Stakes Final at Group One level as well as the Ladyship Stakes at Group 2 and she looks to have reclaimed that form.

Piccadilly Princess rounds out the All Star's trio having gone to another level recently in winning the Great Northern Oaks before going to Australia and doing the job with Tim Williams in picking up the Victorian Oaks also.

The regularly overlooked runner of the quartet is the ever improving Luisianbelle Midfrew from the Nigel McGrath stable. She has done everything asked of her this season and continues to step up having beaten the mares in the Group One NZ Breeders Stakes and also gotten the better of her yearling sales crop in winning the listed PGGW race for three year old fillies also!

With the New Zealand Oaks and 3yo Diamond on the horizon, and horses like Southland Oaks winner Nek Time to throw in the mix, the next three weeks will go a long way in establishing the already promising broodmare potential for this crop of fillies.

Brad Reid



CHRISTIAN CULLEN ON THE MOVE

Cullen Breeding and Nevele R Stud wish to advise that for the coming breeding season Christian Cullen will stand at Dancingonmoonlight Farm in Ohoka, Canterbury.

Both parties believe that the move is in the stallion's best interests, given his age and well documented fertility issues, and that a smaller boutique stud environment would be beneficial to the horse.

Cullen Breeding thanks Nevele R for the management and care of the horse in recent years.

Dancingonmoonlight is very excited to be given the opportunity and looking forward to standing the champion stallion. Christian Cullen will continue to serve mares on-farm only, continuing the practice that Nevele R Stud introduced. With full stallion and broodmare facilities Dancingonmoonlight is confident of the best possible in foal results.

Christian Cullen's service fee will remain unchanged at \$9,000 + GST.

All enquiries should be to Sara at Dancingonmoonlight Farm on 03 312 6864, mobile 021 237 4224 or email sara.famularo@xtra.co.nz

Ian Dobson
Cullen Breeding

Christian Cullen is enjoying his new surroundings at Dancingonmoonlight Farm in Ohoka



WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THE EXCITEMENT OF RACING THE FIRST AUCKLAND REACTORS?



- Alabar is this year forming a select syndicate so you can share in the thrill.
- The yearlings will be hand-picked at the 2016 Yearling Sales (and trained) by leading Auckland, Canterbury and Southland based trainers.
- It is envisioned the syndicate will not only include the progeny of Auckland Reactor but also a proven Alabar sire.
- Fractional interests from 2.5% upwards will be available.

Register your interest now in the Alabar Racing Syndicate 2016 – early indications are spaces will be limited

Full details will be available after the 2016 Yearling Sales

For further information or to register your interest contact Ivan Behrnes - Alabar Syndicate Manager 03 615 6332, ivan@alabar.co.nz

Alabar (NZ) Ltd is an authorised syndicator



NZSBA THANKS ITS PARTNERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR ASSOCIATION AND MEMBERS

