



NZSBA



BREEDERS' WEEKLY

This week we caught up with Waimate breeders Lex and Heather Williams to bring you another edition of Breeder Profiles.

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Due to Easter and time production difficulties on the road, last weeks edition of Breeders' Weekly never left the computer. Rest assured, we have a bumper issue for you this week as we look to be in your inbox weekly 9am every Thursday going forward.

Regards,
Brad Reid
Executive Manager
NZSBA



THE MCRAE WAY

91 year old former Invercargill trainer and breeder Don McRae can be proud of the breeding legacy he has left his two daughters.

On the one hand Diane Cournane is enjoying a tremendous run with Fight For Glory whose pedigree goes back to McWay, a Knowing Bret mare bred by McRae senior.

On the other side of the family equation his other daughter Wendy Blakie who runs horses and beef cattle on a 15 acre lifestyle block with her husband Bruce at Oturehua in Central Otago, has had a fantastic run breeding from trotting mare Princess Della; a horse she bred using her father's Lordship stallion Last Lord.

"When I was driving to Christchurch one day we stopped off at Charles Hanna's to see how Last Lord was getting on. When I was there I said to him that I would love a horse by Dad's stallion. I asked him if he had a mare I could breed a foal from using Last Lord. He

showed me an Armbró Del mare (Della Ann) which he owned. I rang Dad and told him about the mare and he liked the pedigree and said the Armbró Del's mares were doing a good job. I thought I'd get a pacer but I got a trotter, but Dad said Lordship had left a few trotters," said Blakie.

Last Lord was by Lordship out of Last Chance a Majestic Chance mare. He raced from the age of three to seven, winning nine races. "He could really run but had arthritis."

As a stallion Last Lord left thirty foals. Only two raced - Princess Della a trotter, and Last Realm a pacer. Last Realm trained by Steve Lock won one race before being exported to Australia where he won five.

Princess Della trained by McRae won two races and was placed seven times. She ran second to Whizzing By in the Group Two New Zealand Trotting Stakes and was named 1992/1993 Three Year Old Trotting Filly of the Year.

After Princess Della was retired Blakie decided to breed from her and her first foal was Just Incredible which she took to the 2001 yearling sales in Christchurch. He was by Sundon and was bought by Michael House for \$10,000.

This set the Blakie ball rolling.

At only his third start he won the 2002 New Zealand Two Year Old Trotting Stakes at Addington. At three he also won the listed 2003 New Zealand Yearling Sale Trot in those days worth \$58,500.

After a relatively short career here he was bought by Joe Mascara and raced successfully in America.

The mare's next foal was Just A Cracker.

He won eleven races when trained by Blakie's brother Donny McRae junior. He also campaigned in Australia winning a further two races. He was trained in Australia by Lance Justice and was retired there.

In one of his wins at Melton in June 2012 his sister Dealornodeal ran second.

The next foal was Kyvalley Mac which was sold for \$37,000 to Australian Jim Connelly. By Earl he won twelve races there. He ended his career in 2012 having won \$142,369 from 116 starts. And he was placed in a number of group races.

Off The Rails followed on, but didn't make it to the sales or the race track as she was unfortunately injured when she got caught in a fence.

Dream Vacation filly Dealornodeal was next and she was sold to Graeme Rogerson for \$32,500, going on to win seven races. As a five year old she campaigned in Australia winning five races including the Group Three La Coocaracha.

Tragically she died on the operating table in Australia after suffering from colic.

CONT. P3



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Rare Opportunity by Pegasus Spur was also sold to Rogerson for \$21,000. So far he's won eight races and is still racing in the North Island.

Millions To Spare (Majestic Son) was a buy back for \$24,000 but was later sold. He races out of the Jamie Gameson stable and has won just one race. He last raced a year ago.

The next foal was a filly named Somethingtotalkabout. She was bought by Emilio Stride for \$35,000 but never raced.

"I rang Emilio one day to see what had happened to Somethingtotalkabout and he said that he'd changed her name to Dusk Stride. She never raced over there but has a (filly) foal by Majestic Son."

Another filly by Skyvalley was named The Enforcer but she suffered from wind problems and was never tried.

"I haven't had much luck in getting The Enforcer in foal so that's why I'm hanging onto the mare's last foal, I've Got Attitude."

Blakie took Princess Della's most recent colt foal Dunithard to the Christchurch Sales last year.

"He was bought by Peter Blanchard at last years sale for (\$14,000). He called the other day asking about the mare's last foal (I've Got Attitude) and why it wasn't in the sale. He said Dunithard was a beautiful trotter but was big and was just going to take a bit of time."

Of the seven yearlings presented at the sales over the years, six sold with earnings for Blakie of \$146,500. whilst another was bought back and later sold for \$25,000.

Not bad for a mare that was bred on sentiment and chance!

Bruce Stewart



Lex and Heather Williams with their two One Over Da Moon colts from Anna Castleton and Landora's Pearl

BREEDER'S PROFILE

On the way home from a Southland Standardbred Breeders committee meeting, I was lucky enough to be invited around to the property of Lex and Heather Williams.

One Over Lodge is a beautiful sloping property situated in Waimate with some of the nicest bloodstock you could hope to see in the country.

They have had a wonderful run since getting involved in harness racing 15 years ago. Starting at the sales, Lex and Heather began to pursue the breeding game and the purchase of five trotting mares from our best maternal families leaves them in a great position to succeed.

An early sales purchase has helped the cause - a millionaire trotting mare by the name of One Over Kenny no less.

Her vast accomplishments detailed a bit further below leave no doubt that she is the greatest trotting mare we have seen in this part of the world. Since retirement she has taken the brilliance she displayed on the track to the broodmare barn, leaving dual Group 1 winner One Over Da Moon - who has a breeding career of his own post retirement. The gritty son of Majestic Son has already served a few mares and has a couple of striking foals on the ground.

Lex and Heather are hands-on with their stock which a lot of people may not know. Having once resurrected a defunct Oamaru cinema and restored it to its former glory, the self-taught Waimate couple are tasting similar success at stud.

Lex was kind enough to give his time to bring you another edition of Breeders Weekly.

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN HARNESS RACING?

I've always been interested in harness racing as dad was a keen punter. He always attended the trots at Forbury and Addington.

When Heather and I cut back our workload we purchased our first horses at the yearling sales. They were Fleet's Pocket (2000m In The Pocket - Fleet Vance) and Galleons Memory (2000m Albert Albert - Galleons Beauty).

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN BREEDING STANDARDBREDS?

We purchased our first two horses 15 years ago, Following that we purchased horses every year for five years, firstly pacers and then trotters.

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FIRST HORSE YOU BRED?

We sent Fleets Pocket to Badlands Hanover and Mighty Pocketlands was the resulting foal.

He had four seconds for us out of the Mark Purdon stable before being sold to Australia where he had four wins and fifteen placings in NSW and Queensland for \$22,000 in stakes.

FIRST WINNER YOU BRED?

The first winner we bred was Flying Pocketlands (2006m Badlands Hanover - Fleet's Pocket), the winner of 21 races including one Group 1 and three Group placings.

She beat Sixpence, Lancome and Gotta Go Harmony in the Cadeuceus Club Classic for two year old fillies. They all went on to win Group races, so that was a great thrill.

All in all, Flying Pocketlands won \$442,423 in stakes and took a mile rate of 1:52.6.

WHY DO YOU BREED STANDARDBREDS?

I remember telling Heather that one day I would like to breed standardbreds and that we had to have a go. We had always been breeders of stock such as cattle, sheep and dogs: breeding horses was just the next step.

This is why we went to the sales with an eye to purchase fillies from nice families.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE HORSE AND THE BEST ONE YOU'VE BRED AND WHY?

Our favourite horse is One Over Kenny for the thrills she gave us, and all the great places she took us.

With 32 wins including seven Group 1s, seven Group 2s, and two Group 3s and also being Trotter of the Year in New Zealand (2005 & 2007) and Australia.

She was also the first trotting mare to earn one million dollars in stakes in Australasia!

She has also played a part in producing the best one we have bred in One Over

Da Moon. He has won 19 races thus far including the Group 3 2YO Trotting Stakes, the Group 1 2YO Jewels Trot, and two-year old Trotter of the Year. What a great thrill that was!

He won the Holmfield Trot at Group 3 level in Victoria for 3YO Trotters which was very special given his Mum, One Over Kenny won the same race in 2005!

(Lex & Heather were also photographed nearly falling out of the Ashburton grandstand when One Over Da Moon upset the champs Stent and Monbet when winning the Ashburton Flying Mile last year!!)

FAVOURITE STALLION?

Sundon. What a great trotting sire he was!
How lucky are we as breeders with the selection of quality trotting and pacing semen available to us?

ANYTHING YOU'VE BRED THIS SEASON?

Fleet's Pocket has an Art Major colt at foot and is in foal to Mach Three.

Flying Mrs Williams has a colt at foot by Bettors Delight and she's back in foal to him.

One Over Kenny has a Muscle Hill colt and is in foal to Love You.

Landoras Pearl has a colt by One Over Da Moon at foot and is in foal to Angus Hall.

Juneamy Castleton has a filly by Orlando Vici and is in foal to Muscle Hill.

Anna Castleton has a colt by One Over Da Moon and is not in foal.

We also have taken an embryo out of Petite One by Love You.

ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGE FOR BREEDERS?

More recognition for breeders in the racebook as they do in Australia. I would also like to see more trotting races for 2 and 3 year old fillies as the trotting numbers are increasing the most within our industry.

SCHOOLMATES CONNECT FOR A WEEKEND TRIPLE!

Lincoln High School mates Keith Corbett and Grant Davis kicked another goal in the Taranaki last week when the black Elsu mare they own, Jackalack Sue, won on both days of the Hawera Harness Racing Club's meeting.

The 4-year-old was one of three horses to win on the Saturday and Monday. The other two were the Tony Herlihy (MNZM) trained and driven Ohoka Darcy and the Anne-Marie Best trained Hawera Cup winner, Tijuana Bromac.

Corbett bred Jackalack Sue. The mare is owned by Corbett and his life-time school mate Grant Davis and is named after their respective wives – Jackie Corbett and Sue Davis.

"Jackie's nickname has always been Jackalack and we combined her with Sue's name. Grant and I go back to our school days but after then we drifted apart to raise our families.

"I was born and educated in Prebbleton and came to Ohoka. Then we met up again about 10 years ago. It was a big buzz to win on both days at Hawera. She's a very strong mare.

"She will have one race at New Plymouth over the weekend and then she will have a spell. Next season I'd like to think she could compete at Cambridge and Alexandra Park. She's a big strong mare who will only get better with age," 56-year-old Corbett said.

Her Hawera wins were Jackalack Sue's first two victories in 21 starts. She has also placed seven times and now banked just over \$13,000. She is trained by Peter Scaife at Foxton.

"I bred her from the late Make A Deal mare Scara Brae. She broke down so we decided to put her to a stallion. She missed to Real Desire in 2012 and then suffered a leg injury and had to be put down. She left four foals. The first three were bred by Jack McKenzie," Corbett said.

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Corbett and Davis owned unraced The Big Dog and Extreme Three geldings Roberto and Mick Three before Jackalack Sue came along in 2011.

"SHE'S DEVELOPED INTO A REAL TOUGH MARE. WE ALWAYS THOUGHT ELSU WAS A TOUGH STALLION AND LIKED THE CROSS. IN THE END IT'S WORKED OUT PRETTY GOOD," CORBETT SAID.

Corbett has been pig farming in Canterbury for almost a quarter of a century and said he had always loved harness racing.

"I've always enjoyed watching them race, especially after you have had the animal since day one. Jackalack Sue's two runs at Hawera were very heart-warming," Corbett said.

Jackalack Sue was the third and fifth favourites on Saturday and Monday respectively. She was driven by Cambridge junior driver Ben Butcher and paid \$5.30 and \$9.90.

"We were pleased with the way she went on both days. It was her first look at Hawera after running a nice second at Manawatu the start before.

"I think she has a few more wins in her yet. At this stage we will keep on racing her and then look at her broodmare career when she tells us that she has had enough," Corbett said.

Duane Ranger



Jackalack Sue wins the Corlett Trucking Mobile Pace in the hands of Ben Butcher; Day One at Hawera two weeks ago



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.





THE NZSBA COORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO



THE BREEDERS' 2016 NEW ZEALAND OAKS

THIS TIME HONOURED RACE HAS A HISTORY OF SHOWCASING STARS OF THE TRACK, WHILE ALSO PUTTING MUCH NEEDED BLACK TYPE OF THE CV'S OF OUR FUTURE BROODMARES. IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT THE PRESTIGIOUS RACE BE SPONSORED BY THE ORGANISATION RESPONSIBLE FOR BREEDERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

WE WELCOME YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS GROUP 1 \$150,000 RACE FOR NEW ZEALAND'S BEST THREE YEAR OLD FILLIES.

DATE: SATURDAY 20TH OF MAY (DAY MEETING)

VENUE: SILKS LOUNGE, ADDINGTON RACEWAY

COST:

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TABLE \$950 incl. GST

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MENU

STANDARD BRED LUNCHEON
Parmesan & mixed spiced bread sticks for the table

BUFFET
Herb & garlic mini loaves

SALADS
Potato, egg & ham
Mixed garden leaves
Roasted beetroot & kumara
Rainbow coleslaw

MAIN FARE
Crumbed beef & vegetable skewers
Seafood filled peppers
Spanish prawn pancakes under flaked hot smoked salmon
Asparagus wrapped with bacon with hollandaise
Apple spiced pulled pork sliders
Canterbury lamb leg steaks, Horopito & pink salt rub
Southern bourbon BBQ turkey nibbles
Warm Portabello & button mushroom salad, balsamic onion, spinach & feta with toasted pine nuts

DESSERTS
Seasonal fruit selection
Individual sweet tastes from our kitchen

4.00 pm
Ham on bone carvery



FROM THE EXECUTIVE - PART THREE

Here is Part 3 of my report from the March Executive Meeting. After I took this job I realised that there was a widespread lack of awareness of what The Breeders are actually doing across the country, nationally and through the three regional associations.

Below is a sample of what The Breeders have achieved against our Strategic Plan's ([Click here to view our strategic plan](#)) four core outcomes.



BREEDER RECOGNITION

1150 - MEMBERSHIP: the number of NZSBA members/partners: Growing every year since 2008

5 - AWARDS FUNCTIONS: HRNZ two national awards sponsored, Cup Eve Function held & three regional awards functions supported

70 - NZ BREEDING ACHIEVEMENTS: NZ Group/Listed Trophies: NZ breeder/members recognised

33 - AUSTRALIAN BREEDING ACHIEVEMENTS: Australian Group Races; NZ breeder/members recognised

160 - DIAMOND & GOLD PINS: Race Time Pins Collected by members

\$208,000 - MET BONUS: total NZ Met bonuses paid so far to NZSBA Members plus \$10, 000 from Amberley and Cheviot clubs

2500 - BREEDING MATTERS - number of breeder and licence holder households receiving Breeding Matters quarterly

17 - BREEDERS' WEEKLY - number of emailed Breeders' Weekly sent

600 - BREEDERS WEEKLY - number of people opening and reading the Breeders' Weekly email with 1200 opening it out of 2600 emails sent

ADVOCACY

OFFSHORE BETTING: submissions Ministerial Committee

TAX BREEDER & BREEDING - Working with NZRB on IRD policy review on who is a 'breeder' and when does a 'breeding' business' and 'breeding activity start.

BREEDING RULES & REGULATIONS - provided draft new rules/regs AI, ET, frozen embryos, egg storage, cloning

SALES AGENTS - submitted draft Code of Conduct for Sales Agent's activities to HRNZ and will take it to Conference in July

BREEDING SCHEMES - North Island Mares Credit Scheme considered by HRNZ Liaison Committee and research prepared on similar schemes in other countries

SIRES STAKES BOARD - three NSBA appointed members participate in meetings

ANIMAL WELFARE

\$3000 - Annual levy part for harness sport to NZ Equine Health Association to support its work on infectious disease control and monitoring

\$1,500 - Support for our representative on the NZ Equine Research Foundation

\$3,000 - Support for LIFE AFTER RACING; Horse of Year & RAS trophies/rugs

\$6,000 - Funded research activities; currently five studies underway on wastage, fertility, mare performance as a factor in foal achievement, foaling date v Group race success

REVENUE & SUSTAINABILITY

\$40,000 - RACE SPONSORSHIP - funding raised by The Breeders for fillies and mares race sponsorships annual around NZ

\$30,000 - OTHER REVENUE TO CLUBS - functions hosted by The Breeders across the country Functions and events on course

\$5000 - REGIONAL WINTER FORUMS - this year in June at Pukekohe, Christchurch and Invercargill on animal husbandry, health and bloodstock taxation

THE FOUNDATION

All of the activities of The Breeders is built around the foundation of \$100,000 annual contribution from HRNZ's marketing budget. This covers about 90% of the annual administration and overhead costs. Without this support for the Executive Manager and office none of the above would be achieved.

\$46,000 - MEMBERSHIP INCOME: \$23,000 paid to 3 regional affiliates

\$40,000 - PUBLICATION SURPLUS: surplus from The Breeders publications used for NZSBA activities

\$5,000 - ANNUAL DIARY - cost of annual diary/trainers directories sent to NZSBA members

Brad Reid



GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS.

There comes a time in a man's life when seven girls are just more than enough.

"It's depressing me," laughed Hawera-based Alan Greaves.

SEVENTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD GREAVES AND HIS 74-YEAR-OLD BROTHER HAVE HAD THEIR LIVE OR DIE EIGHT-WIN MARE MISS ABIGAIL SERVED BY SEVEN DIFFERENT STALLIONS – AND ALL SEVEN HAVE LEFT FILLIES.

"She has just been served again by Big Jim. Surely it has to be a colt this time. She's doing my head in. This could be her last chance," joked Greaves.

Miss Abigail's fourth foal – a 4-year-old Gotta Go Collect mare named Emerson Margaret won a \$12,000 maiden at Alexandra Park last Thursday night.

She was having her first start for the Pukekohe-based Steven Reid and Simon McMullan barn. It was also a first-up win for new owner, D. T. Kells.

She was the \$11 fifth favourite in the 11 horse field and sprinted the 2200m mobile in 2:42.9, winning by a length with a 1:59.1 mile rate. The driver was Zac Butcher.

"We got an offer a couple of months ago and we decided to sell her. She wasn't showing much and I think the change of scenery has done her the world of good. We have no regrets selling her.

"We don't care who owns our horses, just so long as they go to a good home. We just wish the owners all the very best because we want the breed to succeed. I'm very pleased for Miss Abigail," Greaves said.

The progeny of Miss Abigail have now won four races. The other three

have come from her second foal – the daughter of Sutter Hanover, Killeel Lady.

That 6-year-old mare is trained by Colin Butler at Cambridge and has won four of her 108 starts and placed in 34 others for \$63,147.

She finished fourth and eighth on both days of the Taranaki meeting at Pukekura Park in New Plymouth last Friday and Sunday.

Greaves said Miss Abigail has also left a 4-year-old Grinfromeartoear filly named Maia Lena; a 3-year-old Big Jim filly name Massandra; and a 2-year-old Gotta Go Collect filly called Sarabi. She slipped to Auckland Reactor last year.

"We have broken Massandra in and she looks encouraging. It's only early days yet, but we are always hopeful," said Greaves.

The Greaves brothers bought Miss Abigail's dam, Janet Harlyn. She won five races and finished second behind Gina Rosa in the Group One Northern Oaks in 1986 for the Graves brothers.

"We bought her as a yearling filly for about \$2,200 I think. She was by Vance Hanover and we raced her in the mid to late 1980s.

"She has left some nice foals. I think her son Dashing Dave (by Andrel) would be the best we have owned and bred. He won 10 races and was trained by Dean Taylor and then Tony Butler," Greaves said.

Greaves is a retired electrical contractor while his older brother is a retired accountant.

"We've been involved for more than 30 years now and both love it. Dad was more into the gallops when we were young but as we got older we always wanted to race a horse.

"And then it lead to breeding – and we haven't stopped. We love it and are always hopeful of a owning and breeding champion one day. We generally breed them to race them," Greaves said.

Duane Ranger



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NZSBA will be funding the fees for people who are passionate about breeding standardbreds, and are keen to grow their skills and knowledge.

A charitable trust is under development that will also give participants in the scholarship programme the opportunity to seek funded travel for organised work experience in overseas studs.

If you would like to further your education and obtain a formal and nationally recognised qualification at the same time, we can't wait to hear from you.

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Lazarus pictured at Addington after his Sales Series Final win as a two-year old



LAZARUS THE LION AND BETTER THEN THE REST!

Lazarus, originally – and rather appropriately in hindsight named Better Than The Rest – will extend a family tradition if he wins Friday night's New Zealand Derby.

Stars And Stripes was a \$2.20 favourite when he won the classic by a head from the Mark Purdon-trained Hunka Hickling in 2000. His stablemate Handoverbid – both were trained by John Lischner – was third, and Lischner also sent out Written In The Stars.

Lazarus is the 2nd foal from Bethany who was tried but unraced.

Bred by Ed Wardwell and Grant Dickey, Bethany was from Spirit Of Beth, who was by Soky's Atom from Tabella Beth. By Able Bye Bye, Tabella Beth also left Star Of Bethlehem who was in the ownership of Aidan Johnstone when she left Stars Of Stripes to New York Motoring and Light And Sound to In the Pocket.

Stars And Stripes was the winner of 15 of his 47 starts and had remarkable brilliance. He took a record of 1.51.2. Light And Sound was also high class, winning 11 of his 34 starts.

Wardwell and Dickey bred seven foals from Spirit Of Beth and Bethany was the 6th. She was sold as a yearling for

\$80,000, but within two years her value was \$8000 – the price Mosgiel chemist Gavin Chin paid for her as a breeding proposition.

Chin had been in the game since the early 1990s, taking advice and learning what he could from Studholme Park's Brian West. For this kind service, he invited West to breed two foals in partnership from the mare – the first was Champagne Dreams, an Art Major filly Mark Jones bought and the second, to Bettor's Dream, was Lazarus.

"I said to Gavin that we should expect no less than \$30,000, He was a lovely colt, a little on the small side, but he was well put together and looked smart," said West.

He sold for \$70,000, and Chin can expect a nice price for the Art Major half-brother he is likely to present at next year's Premier.

Bethany lost pregnancies for two years after leaving Lazarus, but with the help of South Canterbury vet Donna Williamson, she is breeding again and has conceived this season to American Ideal.

Mike Grainger

ANGUS HALL'S STRIKE RATE MAINTAINED

Agnes Brown is the latest in a long line of successful horses from the Sir Roy McKenzie/Roydon Lodge founded production line (Sungait Song). One of two winners for Russley trainer Kevin Townley (My Sky at Reefton) on the March West Coast circuit. At Westport, Agnes Brown was handled by world champion reinsman Dexter Dunn, prior to Dexter heading to Australia for the inaugural International All Stars Drivers Series held throughout Victoria (6 days/ meetings, 21 races), 7-12 March 2016.

Angus Brown's breeders/owners are Invercargill couple Karen and Ben Calder. Agnes Brown's half-brother Santorini Sunset is raced with their adult children Mark and Nicole and finished second in a later race at Westport the same day. The four-year old Angus Hall/Sunning

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mare's win was her second from nine starts. Her first victory came at her second start at Waterlea Raceway in January 2015. Her career record to date shows eleven starts for two wins and one placing, T2:08.4, \$13,628.

Sire Angus Hall (Garland Lobell/Amour Angus) is one of the three famous Garland Lobell/Amour Angus full brothers of Andover Hall/Angus Hall/Conway Hall. They are possibly the greatest example of three full-brother sires in standardbred history. All three won over US\$800k, group races and have been leading sires of numerous categories in North America in recent years. There are three other brothers/half brother with winning offspring and three full sisters breeding on.

In New Zealand, Angus Hall has left ten trotting winners of 31 races from 193 starts, \$336,833. He crosses successfully with Sundon mares having left Springbank Eden, 8 wins, T2:00.1 (1950m); Petite One, 6 wins 4th Jewels - 3T, T2:03.1; [My] Arya, 3 NZ wins/12 AUS wins from 18 AUS starts, NZ Trotting Stakes - 2T, Breeders Crown - 2T, NSW/VIC Oaks, Need for Speed, Australian 2 & 3f Trotter of Year, T1:58.3AUS, \$245,872, All Star Angus (2 NZ, 1 AUS win, T2:03.7AUS). In Australia, he has also had nine winners from 17 starters (Endsino, VSS - 2T, 1:58.1, \$130,588).

Agnes Hall's dam Sunning (1995 Yankee Reb/Sungait Song) was the eleventh foal of her dam. Her career record showed 54 : 8 (7NZ/1AUS) - 8 - 5. T2:03.1, \$95,077, VIC Trotters Oaks, NZYSS - 3T, 2nd NZ Trotting - 2T, NZYSS - 2T, 4th Rosso Antico Stakes, 2 & 3f Trotter of Year. Sunning was owned by Ben Calder, trained and mostly driven by Kevin Townley.

She has left nine foals to date, six have raced and won, all owned by Ben Calder except Agnes Brown (Ben & Karen Calder):

- Burano (Muscles Yankee gelding), 10 wins, T2:03.0, \$109,381, Southern Lights Trot, 2nd/3rd Canterbury Park Trotting Cup
- Medora (Muscle Yankee filly), 3 wins, T2:06.0
- Sunny Vacation (Dream Vacation gelding), 5 wins, T2:06.1
- No Potato (Dream Vacation gelding), 5 NZ wins, T2:01.4, 1 AUS win, T2:03.0

- Santorini Sunset (Majestic Son gelding), 5 wins, T2:02.5
- Agnes Brown - as above

Agnes Brown's broodmare sire line traces back to Peter The Great and beyond through Yankee Reb, BF Coaltown, Diller Hanover, Victory Song, etc.

Her grand dam Sungait Song (BF Coaltown/Princess Diller) was bred by Log Cabin Farm, USA before importation to New Zealand in 1986 by Sir Roy McKenzie. He along with Roydon Lodge Stud contributed to the breeding success of this family. Sungait Song had thirteen foals, eight raced and won and was NZ Broodmare of Year.

Born in the USA were :

- Arnsong (Arndon colt), T1:59.2US, 8 NZ wins, T2:02.6, NZ 3yo Trotter of Year
- Sundon (Arndon colt), champion racehorse and sire (for detailed articles, refer June 2015 HARNESSED and www.harnessbred.com - September 2015 archive page 6)
- Roydon Arnie (Arndon colt), 9 wins, T2:07.9

NZ foals included :

- Sunsong (Roydon Boy filly), unraced dam of one foal, Solar Fire, 9 NZ wins, T2:03.0; 5 AUS wins, T2:01.6; \$214,200; NZSS - 2T, NZYSS 2T/3T, NZ Trotting Stakes - 3T, Rosso Antico Stakes, NSW/VIC Derby, VIC Oaks, NZ Trotting Championship, NZ/AUS 3yo Trotter of Year, NZ 4m Trotter of Year; dam of Sheemon, 18 NZ wins, T1:57.0; 1 AUS win, T1:57.2; \$512,601; NZSS - 2T, Jewels - 4T, National Trot, ANZAC Trotters Cup

- Sunbeam Song (Roydon Boy filly), 3 wins, T2:08.3
- Sunny Gal (Roydon Boy filly), unraced, grand dam of Trips On Me, 5 wins, T2:00.7, Methven F&M Trot
- Sundons Sister (Gee Whiz filly), 1 win, T2:10.7, dam of Likeaplayboy, 24 AUS wins, T2:02.1
- Sungait Reb (Yankee Reb filly), 11 NZ wins, T2:05.5, 4 CAN wins, T1:57.2US; \$178,805, 4th Ashburton Flying Mile, dam of Flight Of The Kiwi, T1:55.2US
- Sunning - as above
- Simone Roydon (Simon Roydon filly), unraced, dam of :
 - (Billy) Phelps, 7 AUS wins, T1:58.0
 - Roydon Flash, 10 wins, T2:02.0; 1 AUS win, T2:06.3; \$210,514; Ballantynes Cup Day Trot; 2nd BPTC Cup, Dullard Cup, 3rd NZ Trotting FFA, 4th Ashburton Mile
 - Sierra Roydon, 8 wins, T2:01.2
 - A Touch of Sun (Simon Roydon filly), 5 wins, T2:03.5, dam of
 - King Denny, 10 wins, T1:55.9, \$258,794, GN/NZ Trotters Derby, Jewels - 3T/4T, Trotters Championship 4/5, 3c&g Trotter of Year
 - Sarah Lindenny, 8 wins, T2:05.7

This is the North American trotting family of Topsey by Bashaw (U58).

In addition to progeny descending from Sungait Song, notable family members found in North America and Europe include : Mistero (Prix d'Amerique); Newport Dream (Hambletonian); Songcan - sire of Nearly Perfect, Nat Ray, Breeders Crown [sire of Sierra Kosmos, dam sire of Master Lavros], dam sire of Sea Cove (Prix d'Amerique, Elitloppet); three full brothers, winners of The Standardbred - 2T, Newport Star, Newport Dream, Newport Del (Axomite/Miss Key).

Peter Craig





SHARP COLT FROM THE COAST

Ultimate Machete holds off the challenges from King Solomon and Mongolian Storm to win the second Sires Stakes Heat for Zyo's at Addington last month

The applause will be loud and long in Westport if Ultimate Machete wins Friday night's Welcome Stakes.

The colt was bred and sold for big money - \$84,000 - at the Premier Sale a year ago by Ultimate Breeding run by Graham and Katrina Walsh.

Since the sale, they have seen the horse only once - a trip to Rangiora to watch him run in a workout and then the four-hour drive back to Westport the same day.

Ultimate Machete is by Bettor's Delight from the very smart Armbro Operative mare Reality Check, who won four from 24 starts with Geoff Small, the topper being her win in the 2006 Yearling Sales Final from Spicey and Weka Lass.

Reality Check then had the credentials for the next leg of her career, starting off as a broodmare with Croon Bloodstock. At the same time, the Walsh's were keen to step up the quality of their mares and issued Canterbury agent Paul Davies with a brief to find them something suitable.

From the family of Ideal Scott and Tuapeka Knight and out of Maureens Dream - later to be acknowledged with the Broodmare Excellent Award - Reality Check was the perfect package.

Her first Coast foal was a Christian Cullen filly, sold for \$22,000 and unraced, and then came Major Reality, the winner of nine straight in Western Australia, after a \$31,000 sale "our pin-up horse," says Graham. A colt died later after being sold for \$50,000, and a year later he was followed into the ring by Ultimate Machete.

"We put \$50,000 on him," said Graham.

"I stood at the back of the box and when I heard the opening bid of \$75,000 I walked off. It was more or less the end of the auction, but we were very satisfied with the result."

That year, Ultimate Breeding offered eight yearlings, including two pin-hooks; all by top sires, but "they were mainly middle of the road prices."

This year, Ultimate offered none.

Graham said they had shrunk the number of mares they needed, and two American filly fillies they could have put up this year they have kept and broken in - "I'm not unhappy about that.

"If we want to stay with our families we've got to start keeping some of the fillies," he said.

Next year they will be selling three.

"One is a brother to Ultimate Machete and he is just a lovely type, a good size without being big; there is a colt by A Rocknroll Dance from TK Swift and a filly by Art Major from Time Flies.

"Reality Check is in foal to Art Major, TK Swift is having a year off, and Time Flies is in foal to Sweet Lou."

The level of quality Ultimate has now is a leg up from where they started 10 years ago, when Katrina bought them Tick A Boo, a Falcon Seelster mare in foal to Courage Under Fire, as a wedding present.

From her, they sold "three or four in the 12 to \$16,000 range" but that wasn't the market to keep them for long.

Graham, who has Ray White franchises in Westport and Hokitika, decided that breeding for three seasons is long enough to make a call on their viability.

"When we set up our property for the horses, I soon worked out that if we wanted it to be commercial we had to have good mares going to the top sires. Reality Check is being good to us now.

"And it was a thrill to sell Ultimate Machete to Mark Purdon."

And he may be back next year.

When Reality Check foaled to Bettor's Delight this season, Graham took a call from David Shadbolt telling him she'd had a colt, with a glowing addition ... "and insure him for plenty."

It's not just the horses who can claim strong pedigrees - Graham and Katrina have their own fine credentials. South African born Katrina has an equestrian background and is back into it.

Graham's father Bill was the local butcher who was also a regular buyer of yearlings, but he was more to the fore as the man who drove Hall of Fame fore trotter Durban Chief to win two Dominion Handicaps in the late 50s and the NZ Trotting Free-For-All in 1958.

Mike Grainger





MET BREEDERS BONUS TOPS \$200,000

30 MARCH 2016

A significant recent landmark was reached when the 400th Met Breeders Bonus was paid to New York Town after being successful at Addington Raceway.

Since being introduced in January 2014, a total of over \$208,000 has been paid directly via the Met Breeders Bonus scheme to the qualified breeders of horses who score a win at a New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club fixture, excluding Group and Premier races.

New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club CEO Dean McKenzie commented, "One of the most pressing challenges our industry is grappling with is the declining broodmare population. As the premier Club in the Country we believed it was important for us to do our bit in attempting to arrest this decline. By paying such a large number of bonuses directly to Breeders, they are more than \$200,000 better off than they would have been without this initiative, which is just one element of a wider co-ordinated Stakes and Distribution policy our Club has implemented in recent years".

"With a huge proportion of Breeders also actively involved as owners, their decision to support Addington by starting at our venue is a classic win/win for all involved, with strong average field sizes the payback for us as a Club".

For more details on the Club's promotions and initiatives please visit addington.co.nz/racing/promotions-incentives/. Alternatively, please call Brian, Richard or Colin of Addington's Racing Department on (03) 338 9094.

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

