



BULLRUSH RESUMES

Waikato Stud's unbeaten galloper **Bullrush** (pictured above and right at one day of age) makes his much-anticipated season resume on Saturday.

The 5yo son of **O'Reilly** is unbeaten in all five of his Australian starts for Team Hawkes and opens his campaign at Rosehill in #TheRaces Rating 85 Hcp over 1200m at 3:20 pm.

Bullrush has signalled he is well on track for a smart return with two recent trial wins.

Drawn barrier 10, **Bullrush** will be piloted by Tommy Berry, who has enjoyed previous success on him.

"He's drawn a bit awkward and should go forward. He's a true racehorse and it's a lovely starting point. He should be very hard to beat," enthused co-trainer Michael Hawkes this afternoon.



POINTS OF INTEREST

SAVABEEL



SHILLELAGH

- Australian debut delayed due to abandoned race meeting.

SAVABEEL



KAWI

- Sharrock exploring Perth Gr.1 options

O'REILLY



KNEW IT

- Stages impressive debut for Busuttin/Young

PINS



MACKINTOSH

- Resumes in Sat's Gr.2 Theo Marks Stakes at Rosehill

O'REILLY



O'REILLY CYRUS

- On a G1 Golden Rose mission

O'REILLY



WAR AFFAIR

- Singapore champion resumes tonight

SAVABEEL



LUCIA VALENTINA

- Damian Oliver booked to ride in the Gr.1 Underwood Stakes at Caulfield
- "She's had a quiet trial and we're really happy with where she's at," said Bruce Perry.

BLACKBOOKER

-KNEW IT WINS ON DEBUT-

Sent out an odds-on chance in the betting, as the daughter of **O'Reilly's** name suggests, punters had an idea she was pretty smart but it was doubtful many would have been feeling confident with 150m left to travel.

After a slow start and a tough run on the heavy 10 track, the **Trent Busuttin** and **Natalie Young-trained** filly looked to be going backwards when still three to four lengths behind fellow debutant Kevlar Kid at the 150m mark.

No sooner did the leader look home, **Knew It** found another gear to reel him in and win the Landmark Benalla Maiden Plate (1206m), running away with the margin a length on the line.

Jockey Michael Walker said he had no doubt that **Knew It** would measure up to Stakes grade at some stage in her career.

"Whether it's this preparation or next I don't know but she's definitely Stakes class," Walker said.

"She jumped out and wanted to veer right straight away and the whole way she was on one rein and trying to run off the track the whole way.

Coming around the corner Luke (Nolen) took off but I was happy that she would always pick up (Kevlar Kid) once she straightened up and got on the right leg. I think she'll end up in blinkers but to do that at her first start and do it easy like she hasn't been around she's got a bit of class."

Knew It (pictured as a foal) holds a nomination for Thousand Guineas, where she has firmed into \$21 with Crown-Bet following the debut victory. -Racing.com

[Click here to see her debut on racing.com. Once there, hit the Watch Replay button](#)

Knew It is out of **Know All**, who is a **Zabeel** 3/4 sister to the dam of **Ocean Park**.

Know All produced a filly by **Sacred Falls** in 2016.





60 SECONDS

WITH MELBOURNE-BASED TRAINER








-NATALIE YOUNG-

OCCUPATION	Racehorse Trainer
FAVOURITE FOOD:	Singapore Chilli Crab
DO YOU HAVE ANY NICK-NAMES AND HOW DID YOU COME TO GET THEM:	Nellie (from close family members) Nat the Brat Natski
BEST HORSE(S) INVOLVED WITH	Sangster, Tavago and Six O'Clock News
BOOK ON THE BEDSIDE TABLE:	The Racing Calendar and Twelve (Justin Cronin)
IF YOU WEREN'T A TRAINER, YOU'D BE:	Photographer
WHAT DO YOU DO TO RELAX:	Go running and walk my dogs
FAVOURITE TV SHOW:	Suits
WHO WOULD YOU LOVE TO MEET:	Denzel Washington
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY DESTINATION:	Thailand
FAVOURITE THING ABOUT WAIKATO STUD:	The quality stock that they breed
HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE INDUSTRY:	Grew up with ponies and mum (Corinna) trained, so got the racing bug early.
FAVOURITE MOVIE:	Slumdog Millionaire / Finding Nemo
CHILDHOOD HEROES:	My hard-working Motherduck (Corinna)
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:	Winning the Gr.1 Wellington Cup with Six O'Clock news (since he was called Six O'Clock Snooze for so long) and being the first woman to train an Australian Derby with Tavago.
BEST PIECE OF GOOD ADVICE:	You get what you give, and if you don't ask, you don't get!
NAME 3 PEOPLE YOU'D LOVE TO INVITE TO DINNER?	David Hockney, Eric Bana and Gai Waterhouse
IF SOMEONE WAS GOING TO PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE, YOU'D LIKE IT TO BE...	Fergie (Black Eyed Peas) because she's perfection !
NOT MANY PEOPLE WOULD KNOW THAT I...	Am actually a T-rex and can eat a kilo of steak in one sitting .

BLACK-TYPE

-Runners-

SATURDAY

	TAURUS 08g No Excuse Needed x Stars In Her Eyes	Gr.3 Metric Mile 1600m	Mart.	3:46pm
	JOBY 11g No Excuse Needed x Live It Up	Gr.3 Metric Mile 1600m	Mart.	3:46pm
	SPINDLE 13f Pins x Under And Over	Listed Northland Breeders ' S. 1200m	Whan.	4:03pm
	FERRANDO 13c Fast n Famous x Rio Nugget	Listed Northland Breeders ' S. 1200m	Whan.	4:03pm
	MARWOOD 10g O'Reilly x Pernod	Listed Softel Hcp 1400m	VRC	4:15pm
	O'REILLY CYRUS 13f O'Reilly x Dancing Mistress	Gr.1 Golden Rose 1400m	ATC	5:10pm
	MACKINTOSH 12g Pins x Lolly Scramble	Gr.2 Theo Marks Stakes 1300m	ATC	5:50pm

DAVO'S

-TIP OF THE WEEK-

BULLRUSH

- Saturday
- Race 3
- Rosehill
- Rating 85 Hcp (1200m)
- 3:20pm
- Paying \$3.80 for the win

"Drawn wide but should get across. The staff here will be cheering loudly.

"Hope he gets me back on the winning track after last week"



OPINION PIECE

- WITH GARRY CHITTICK -

A moment to reflect

This great industry of ours would be non-functional without the involvement and support of the fairer sex.

I wander around Waikato Stud to be greeted by a bevy of bright, cheerful women to whom Mark and I are deeply indebted.

Vet Schools have a higher percentage of females. Our racing would not exist without our hard working girls, jockeys and support staff.

Hats off to you!

May your enthusiasm and love of the horse continue to be part of Waikato and racing's future success.



ONLINE BROCHURE



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



This week saw an important new arrival at the stud.

Purchased off Gavelhouse.com, broodmare **Wild Rock** arrived on Tuesday to be greeted by the keenest of new ownership groups, comprising of Centaine Farm Supervisor **Sharon Meyer**, Maintenance/Farm Supervisor **Steve Clark** and WS Groundperson **Amanda Clark**.

It is the first mare owned by the partnership and certainly the first mare that Steve and Amanda have been involved with.

"I was looking for a mare and had several suggested to me, but this was my pick of the Gavelhouse selection," said Sharon.

The WS group's plan is to send **Wild Rock** to **Rios** this season and to possibly race the offspring.

"Gareth Downey did some pedigree research and he assured us that our retirement fund is all but secured with this mare's game changing Snippets-Hussonet cross," jested Sharon.

Whilst **Wild Rock's** purchase by broodmare specialist Sharon may not have surprised, the same could not be said of the Clarks', who prior to commencing work at Waikato Stud 18 months ago, had no interest at all in horses.

"Sharon happened to see me when I was at the office and asked if I would like to come in on a broodmare," explained Steve.

"Gareth and Sharon then bombarded me with the details of the years of pleasure and good fortune ahead with this horse, so after a brief conversation with Amanda, it was all agreed to "

"I see the joy that other horse owners at the stud have and I just wanted to be part of it," said Steve.

FOALS IN FOCUS



Savabeel x Ampin colt



Savabeel x Princess Rock filly



Rock n Pop x Primo Quest filly



Savabeel x Pander colt



Pins x Just Be Cos colt

PEDIGREE POINTERS

-WITH GARETH DOWNEY-

Blushing Groom

Awesome Rock (by Fastnet Rock) was a very impressive winner of the Dato Tan Chin Nam Stakes at Moonee Valley on Saturday, and looks to have a big spring ahead of him. He is another example of the success that has been produced from sending mares carrying **Blushing Groom** (pictured right) in their pedigree to **Fastnet Rock** and his sons.

The overall success rate of this pattern has so far been **9.6% SW/Rnrs** and a **Gr.1** winner for every **62.7** runners. Apart from **Awesome Rock**, the other star performers providing evidence of this success have included **Atlantic Jewel, Mosheen, Heroic Valour, Foxplay, Turret Rocks, Rock Sturdy, Lovemelikearock, Lake Geneva, Flip-pant, Speed Baby** etc.

So, if you have a mare carrying **Blushing Groom** in her pedigree then sending her to **Rock N Pop** (pictured right) would be an excellent way to tap in to this proven path to success. We are certainly very excited about the types of progeny **Rock N Pop** has produced, and now the feedback from breakers and trainers has been very positive indeed – so we are looking forward with much anticipation to his progeny starting to hit the racetrack.

Some of the more common sources of **Blushing Groom** include **Arena, Bin Ajwaad, Carson City, Dracula, Electronic Zone, Fantastic Light, Giant's Causeway, Golan, Howbaddouwantit, Ifrad, Jahafil, Keeninsky, Nashwan, Nassipour, Pre Emptive Strike, Quest For Fame, Rahy, Rainbow Quest, Redding, Shamardal, Shy Rambler, Spectrum, Stravinsky, Swiss Ace, Tavistock, Tawfiq, Viscount** etc.

If you have a mare carrying any of these stallions in her pedigree and would like to discuss sending her to **Rock N Pop**, please contact me via either 021 433 073 or gareth@waikatostud.co.nz



THE MAIL

-WITH MARK CHITTICK-



IT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT (PART II)

Standing so proudly at the front of Waikato Stud, I am most aware; it's great being captain, but by God, you need a great team! It's very hard playing the game yourself. The feel, the vibe around the farm is electrifying, it makes me so proud and feel so confident we are trying our best. At last count, there was no less than 35 people passionately on 'the Waikato bus'. Different ages, different stages, different levels of experience. If I consider some of the experience amongst us...

NIGHT WATCH/ FOALING	16 years with WS, probably 30 years doing what Bev does best, let alone Bev's offsider having had all sorts of offshore time.
VETERINARIANS	Dr. Tiptoe - so valuably involved in everything, be it from horse health to our day-to-day running!! Experience all over the world, from small to big farms, with equines valued at minimal through to worth God knows what. Dr. Jules - more hands-on experience in all facets of stud life before doing Vet. She's a beauty as well. -Remember these guys live on the farm! In fact, Julie is 10 strides from the foaling yards!
STALLIONS	Between Davo and Sam, I'm guessing 25-30 years' experience looking after the most important equines on the farm - sorry second to the teasers!!!
BREEDING	Between the team here, I don't know?!? 30-40 years combined horse experience. Apart from the reproductive side. They handle your foals every time they come through the crush.
OFFICE/PROMOTIONAL	Glenda won't like me saying it, but how important is it to run the hub with an iron fist! Ange, Gareth, Kylie, Glenda...nothing slips through. They are the 'front gate' and they are tireless at everything being spot on!!!

That's a little example of what makes things tick all year around. But man, do they, and everyone else involved really step up on Game day, which is right now!

How about Sydney!!! Minimum \$100,000 races just 3.5 hours away. 'Bring it on!' We live and breed in what I believe is the best country in the world to breed and rear racehorses. I also believe they are reared and cared for with the best horsemanship in the world. In fact, we were lucky enough to have one of the world's leading equine nutritionists evaluate Waikato Stud pasture...his report... 'The best he's come across anywhere in the world!' Fact!

We were all so excited for Trent and Natalie midweek. Having started with a nice, rangy O'Reilly filly out of a Zabeel mare here in NZ, they then transferred to Victoria and so did 'Knew It' thanks to their recommendation. We were so delighted to support them on their new venture. Knew It's first start was accompanied by Kiwi Michael Walker - having been four wide, no cover into the turn, then running off, could not win as one had well and truly skipped clear! Straightened, balanced and 'look out' won comfortably. A lot to look forward to here hopefully!

Over a hundred mares through the barn in the first week! Heading towards a hundred foals on the ground, we couldn't have wished for a better beginning.

That's what it's all about!!

Mark

