

9 MARCH, 2018

# Weekend @Waikato

ISSUE #348

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Rock 'n' Pop



## O'REILLY COLT SHINES IN GROUP 1

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The late O'Reilly earned posthumous Group One honours last weekend when his son Grunt reigned supreme in the Australian Guineas at Flemington.

He stamped himself as a colt of the highest quality with his fourth consecutive win to remain undefeated this preparation.

"He got into a good spot and he still had to tough it out, he's a beautiful, big Flemington horse," trainer Mick Price said. "The only race I would go forward to is the Rosehill Guineas, but I am mindful that he is going to make a really good four-year-old.

Trainer Mick Price did flirt with the idea of sending Grunt to Sydney to tackle the Group 1 Rosehill Guineas (2000m), but has elected to send his runner for a spell in preparation for what could be a lucrative spring campaign.

"It's mission accomplished so he can have a nice break," Price said. "He'll be a

better horse as he gets older, no doubt.

"I'm really happy with him and I probably could go ahead with him, but I'm thinking of his future."

"If I have to circle a race that I would love to win with him it would be the Cox Plate, he's got a lot of options in front of him.

"I thought it was a really powerful win - 2000m will be no problem, 2040m will be no problem."

Grunt was bred by Trelawney Stud and sold in their 2016 New Zealand Bloodstock Premier Yearling Sale draft to Mick Price and bloodstock agent Cameron Cooke for \$220,000.

"He was a nice colt, not unlike a lot of O'Reilly colts," Trelawney Stud Managing Director Brent Taylor said.

"He was a rawish sort of yearling, he was a good moving horse and he had a lot of quality to him. He demonstrated at the yearling sale that given time he could develop into a lovely colt.



**BELOW (LEFT)** / Grunt winning the Group 1 Australian Guineas



**BELOW (RIGHT)** / From left to right, Mark Chittick, Cameron Cooke, Rupert Legh and Peter Wright



## PROGENY OF YOUNG WAIKATO STUD STALLIONS TAKE CENTRE STAGE

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Young Waikato Stud stallions Rock 'n' Pop and Ocean Park made their presence felt on the centre stage at Ellerslie last weekend.

Rock 'n' Pop's home-bred and raced daughter Gold Spice drew serious attention to her classic prospects when she finished runner-up in the Group 3 Sunline Vase at Ellerslie last weekend while his son The Mayor was a gallant fourth in the Group 1 New Zealand Derby.

Bred and raced by Mary Chittick, Gold Spice got home powerfully with a performance that has seen her Group 1 New Zealand Oaks odds tumble from \$41 to \$14. The filly has been patiently handled by trainers Graham Richardson and Gavin Parker and after placing on debut, she has now bridged the gap admirably from a Pukekohe maiden win last month to stakes company.

Gold Spice is out of the O'Reilly mare Zoe Spice, who won five races and is a half-sister to the Group 3 Cuddle Stakes winner Rhysess and this is the family of the stakes-winning sprinter Tomorrowland.

The Mayor also stepped up to the big time and he performed with great credit in the Derby. The lightly-ried gelding, who has won two of his five starts for trainers Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott, looks like a stayer to follow.

Waikato Stud stallions were well-represented in the feature with Ocean Park's son Mongolianconqueror almost delivering a dream result. The two-time winner finished determinedly for a close second. "A stride before the post we were in front and a stride after the post we were in front," jockey Michael McNab said.


[Click here](#)

to view Rock 'n' Pop


[Click here](#)

to view Ocean Park



BELOW / Gold Spice





## DEMAND CONTINUES IN AUSTRALIA FOR WS BRED YEARLINGS

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Waikato Stud bred yearlings were given a warm reception at the Inglis Melbourne Premier yearling sale which kicked off on Sunday afternoon.



**BELOW** / The Pins - Romancing colt was sold to John Foote for \$160,000

The demand to secure yearlings by our resident stallions continued in Australia and Maluka Thoroughbreds offered seven of Waikato Stud's home-bred yearlings in their consignment. All seven yearlings sold to achieve 100% clearance and they have found themselves in top stables in Australia, Singapore and New Zealand.

The first to be offered was Lot 44 (pictured), a colt by Pins from the unraced O'Reilly mare Romancing. Purchased by leading bloodstock agent John Foote for \$160,000, this colt is one of many six figure yearlings by champion international sire Pins to be sold during the 2018 yearling sale series.

Dynamic Syndications purchased their third Waikato Stud-bred Savabeel yearling this year when they went to \$180,000 to secure a daughter of champion sire Savabeel and Pins mare

Frankly (Lot 144).

Leading Singapore trainer Shane Baertschiger paid \$180,000 for a Savabeel colt from Girl's On Top (Lot 145) and Cambridge based Ben Foote of Enigma Farm purchased Lot 146, a Savabeel colt from Pins mare Heyday for \$170,000.

To round off a great sale, top Kiwi trainer Tony Pike took home the Sacred Falls colt from Lowland for \$100,000.

Thank you to Luke and Mags Anderson from Maluka Thoroughbreds for preparing our yearlings so superbly, thank you to Inglis for putting on another excellent sale and of course a huge thank you goes to John Foote, Dean, Adam and Fiona Watt of Dynamic Syndications, Shane Baertschiger, Ben Foote, Aaron Purcell, Merrynvale Thoroughbreds and Tony Pike for your support.



## COLCHESTER THROWS FORMBOOK OUT THE WINDOW

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Punters were blown out of the water when Rios gelding Colchester defied his mammoth odds of \$372 to take out the penultimate event, the \$80,000 Class 3 race over 1400m in Singapore on Sunday.

Market prices aside, the New Zealand-bred five-year-old son of Rios was also defying the mediocre runs he put in at his three starts for trainer Mohd Yusof at Kranji – 10th, 10th and 8th.

If a form analyst worth his salt scratched even further, his preceding brief and uneventful career in Hong Kong (12-8-12) would most probably put him or her off even more.

On the other hand, his original New Zealand career, granted in the less competitive South Island area, did give the impression the Lucky Stable-owned gelding could go on to better things when exported to other countries.

In five starts, Colchester, named after an Essex town noted for being the birthplace of nursery tales Humpty Dumpty and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star, won three races between 1200m and 1400m.

An assiduous form student, Yusof did take cognizance of such statistics when Colchester landed in his yard last August, praying it would be the early part of his racing career that would be reproduced at Kranji.

After three ordinary runs, the Singapore veteran handler was close to accepting the gelding had left his best form in New Zealand – but neither was he totally writing him off just yet.

“I think he’s a horse who needs to be alone in front. Today, I told CC (Wong Chin Chuen) to go forward or sit in second if another horse insists for the lead,” said Yusof who was at a rare double (Joyous scored earlier) to bring up his fifth 2018 success, a laudable effort given his small team of horses.

“When the horse in front (Show Far Show Good) took a big lead, I was happy to see



LEFT / Colchester

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## COLCHESTER THROWS FORMBOOK OUT THE WINDOW (CONT'D)

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my horse settle in second spot.

"I still wasn't sure if he could win because his record in Hong Kong was not very good. In New Zealand, he won but I was going more with his more recent record.

"Thank you to the Lucky Stable, Mr Ng and his racing manager Richard See for their support."  
Wong jumped off, looking pleasantly surprised with how a meeting that was shaping up as a drab day (his two previous rides ran unplaced with Colchester an unlikely horse to save his day) ended on an unexpected victorious note.

"I rode the horse in trackwork and he showed me nothing. Mr Yusof just asked me to ride him positive today and it's paid off," said the

Penang-born two-time Singapore champion apprentice jockey.

"I was happy when the leader (Show Far Show Good) opened up to a big lead. It gave me the chance to settle in second place after being caught wide (from barrier No 9).

"He was quite one-paced in the straight, but he just kept at it. I think he can go further." - **News from STC**



[Click here](#)  
to view Rios



BELOW / Rios



## BLACK TYPE SPOTLIGHT

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### SWORD OF OSMAN GROUP 1 SISTEMA STAKES



**Sword of Osman** / By Savabeel,  
from Bunyah

Exciting 2-year-old Savabeel gelding Sword of Osman is a winner of two of his three starts and was a dominant winner of the Group 3 Slipper Stakes over 1200m at his last outing. Trained by Stephen Autridge and Jamie Richards, Sword of Osman is the current favourite for the Group 1 Sistema Stakes at Ellerslie tomorrow and will partner with leading jockey Opie Bosson in the 1200m sprint.

Te Akau boss David Ellis purchased the son of Savabeel for \$165,000 from Trelawney Stud's 2017 Karaka Premier Yearling draft.

### THE REAL BEEL GROUP 1 SISTEMA STAKES



**The Real Beel** / By Savabeel, from Ahna

Waikato Bred and sold Savabeel filly The Real Beel will take on stable mates Advantage and Sword of Osman in tomorrow's Group 1 Sistema Stakes at Ellerslie over 1200m. The lightly raced filly was a winner on debut and was third in the Group 2 Matamata Breeders' Stakes two week's ago. Trained by Stephen Autridge and Jamie Richards, The Real Beel was purchased for \$110,000 by David Ellis from Waikato Stud's 2017 Karaka Premier draft.

### KANOIC GROUP 1 RANDWICK GUINEAS



**Kaonic** / By Savabeel, from Fast Love

Beautifully bred Savabeel colt Kaonic will have his first Stakes test tomorrow when he lines up in the \$1 million Randwick Guineas. Trained by champion trainer Chris Waller, Kaonic is a two-time winner and will be ridden by Brenton Avdulla. Kaonic was a \$425,000 purchase for bloodstock agent Guy Mulcaster from Blandford Lodge's 2016 Karaka Premier Yearling draft.

### SAMOVARE GROUP 3 SCHWEPPERESCENT TROPHY



**Samovare** / By Savabeel, from Sambar

David Hayes and Tom Dabernig trained Savabeel mare Samovare is the current favourite to win the Group 3 Schweppervescence Trophy tomorrow at Flemington following a brave runner-up performance in the Group 3 Mannerism Stakes at her last start. Partnering with top jockey Damien Oliver, Samovare has drawn barrier number one and will carry 54 kgs.

# WS SIRED STAKES RUNNERS

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## SATURDAY 10 MARCH

### SWORD OF OSMAN

Savabeel – Bunyah

**Group 1** Sistema Stakes, 1200

Ellerslie, 3:35pm (NZT)

### THE REAL BEEL

Savabeel – Ahna

**Group 1** Sistema Stakes, 1200

Ellerslie, 3:35pm (NZT)

### NICOLETTA

Savabeel – Celtic Dream

**Group 1** New Zealand Stakes, 2000m

Ellerslie, 4:50 pm (NZT)

### SAVVY DREAMS

Savabeel – Elusive Dreams

**Group 1** New Zealand Stakes, 2000m

Ellerslie, 4:50 pm (NZT)

### SHILLELAGH

Savabeel – Trocair

**Group 3** Schweppervescence Trophy, 1600m

Flemington, 6:00 pm (NZT)

### SAMOVARE

Savabeel – Sambar

**Group 3** Schweppervescence Trophy, 1600m

Flemington, 6:00 pm (NZT)

### KANOIC

Savabeel – Fast Love

**Group 1** Randwick Guineas, 1600m

Royal Randwick, 6:20 pm (NZT)



## MARK'S MAIL

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It's been a huge couple of weeks and a really exciting time for racing on both sides of the Tasman.

Pippa and I were fortunate enough to attend the Group 1 Australian Guineas last weekend at Flemington and what a day it was! We felt extremely privileged to be there to watch O'Reilly colt Grunt take out the Guineas and we couldn't be happier for connections Cameron Cooke, Rupert Legh, Peter Wright, Mike Price and of course our good friends and breeders of the horse Brent and Cherry Taylor of Trelawney Stud.

We had seven yearlings to sell at the Inglis Premier Yearling sale in Maluka Thoroughbred's draft and were very pleased to achieve a clearance rate of 100% with all heading to great stables in Australia, Singapore and New Zealand.

Luke and Mags did a fantastic job at preparing the yearlings and a huge thank you goes to all of the buyers, under bidders and the team at Inglis, thank you for your support!

I'm looking forward to another exceptional weekend of racing and with Group 1's taking place at Ellerslie, Randwick and Flemington we really are spoilt for choice!

Savabeel has seven horses running in Stakes races this weekend including Te Akau 2-year-olds The Real Beel and Sword of Osman who will line up in the Group 1 Sistema Stakes at Ellerslie, Kaonic who will run in the Group 1 Randwick Guineas and Savvy Dreams who will contest the Group 1 New Zealand Stakes at Ellerslie.

Best of luck to all connections!

Cheers,  
Mark



## GARRY'S CORNER

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Sometimes I wish I had removed my tongue from my chubby cheek. It is difficult to weekly broach a subject, retaining the humour you need, but passing on the message that causes concern to me and others in the racing fraternity.



[Click here](#)  
to read Garry's Corner



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## IN THE MEDIA

Brian de Lore touches on a number of interesting current affair topics within the New Zealand Racing industry.



### NZRB GOES INTO DAMAGE CONTROL OVER DELOITTE REPORT RELEASE

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