

26 OCTOBER, 2018

Weekend @Waikato

ISSUE #278

COX PLATE SPECIAL

WS-bred Savabeel mare Savvy
Coup will fly the Kiwi flag in
tomorrow's \$5 million Cox Plate

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Ocean Park A Living Legend



Crystalthecowgirl with her Savabeel filly
Photo Credit: Nicole Troost

SAVABEEL 3YO PRESSES CLASSIC CLAIMS

www.waikatostud.com

Savabeel's son Sword Of Osman is back on track for the Gr.1 New Zealand 2000 Guineas at Riccarton.



BELOW / Sword Of Osman (inner)

Photo Credit: Trish Dunell

He put a couple of indifferent displays behind him with a return to winning ways in today's Gr.2 James and Annie Sarten Memorial at Te Rapa.

"We haven't been able to fault him at home," trainer Jamie Richards said.

"I'm so pleased for Opie (Bosson), he's a big part of the team and rides him in all his gallops.

"It's nice to see him get a big win, he's worked so hard to get back."

Bosson allowed Sword Of Osman to roll to the front down the back and the horse travelled easily.

"He relaxed beautifully after I got a soft lead," he said.

"He'll run a mile, he went right to the line today."

Sword Of Osman was hotly challenged in the closing 100 metres by Qiji Express but fought determinedly for a narrow victory.

By champion sire Savabeel, Sword Of Osman is from Distant View mare Bunyah and was bred by Joan Egan. Offered on account of Trelawney Stud at the 2017 New Zealand Bloodstock Premier Yearling Sale, Sword Of Osman was purchased by top judge David Ellis for \$165,000.

Meanwhile, Stephen Marsh is confident Starrybeel can make his mark in strong staying company.

"I think he can go right through the



grades once he gets up over ground," the Cambridge trainer said.

"Potentially, he could be a decent cups' horse. We gelded him and he's a different horse."

A son of Savabeel, he was purchased out of Waikato Stud's 2016 Premier yearling draft at Karaka for \$180,000 by Go Racing.

His dam Starry is an unraced daughter of O'Reilly and a half-sister to the Listed Widden Stakes winner Delta Girl.

It is also the family of the Gr.3 Gloaming Stakes winner and Group One performer Strike The Stars.

OCEAN PARKS IMPRESS ON DEBUT

www.waikatostud.com

Smart filly Laurant was a stylish debutante at Pukekohe Park today to lead home a quinella for Waikato Stud stallion Ocean Park.

The three-year-old produced a timely finish for a first-up victory in a competitive maiden line-up.

"Her trials had been great and there's a fair bit of upside about her," trainer Stephen Marsh said.

"She's very well bred, but still a bit green and quite a long filly.

"She's been through a few growing stages and she'll be better in the autumn."

Laurant who is raced by Trelawney

Stud and was bred in partnership with R M Anderson, Mrs C N Taylor & Trelawney Thoroughbred, is a half-sister to the Group winners Antonio Lombardo and Master Of Arts.

Runner-up Wild Seas was also making her first race day appearance off two trial placings.

Trained by Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott, she is out of the Group performer Santangelo.

Meanwhile, the Waikato Stud-bred

and owned Ensemble came with a powerful burst from the tail of the field to finish fourth.

She was on debut and the Pins three-year-old is trained by Team Rogerson, who prepared her dam Costume to win two Group 1 races.

Ensemble's three-quarter brother will be offered as Lot 432 during next month's New Zealand Bloodstock Ready to Run Sale at Karaka.



BELOW / Laurant pictured as a yearling
Photo Credit: Trelawney Stud

[VIEW OCEAN PARK](#)

REGAL PERFORMANCE FROM OCEAN PARK'S SON

www.waikatostud.com

King Opie has continued his impressive run of form in Hong Kong with further success to continue his march through the grades.

The Waikato Stud graduate claimed a class three victory over 1200 metres and has now won two of his last three starts.

Trained by Frankie Lor, the Ocean Park four-year-old was a \$120,000 Karaka purchase for Byerley Park trainer Jenna Mahoney.

The gelding was a trial winner at Avondale last year before his relocation to Hong Kong.

King Opie is a son of the Fast 'n' Famous mare Hope So, who is a half-sister to the Gr.1 Queensland Derby winner Lachlan River.

It is also the family of the Listed Taranaki Oaks Prelude winner Sewreel.

Other leading names in the pedigree include the Gr.2 Swettenham Stud Stakes winner French Bid and the Gr.3 Blue Diamond Prelude winner My Flashing Star.



BELOW / King Opie (red and green colours)

[VIEW OCEAN PARK](#)



THE INQUIRY WITH MICHAEL PITMAN

www.waikatostud.com

This week we caught up with top Kiwi trainer Michael Pitman who co-trains dual Group One winning Cox Plate hopeful Savvy Coup with his son Matthew Pitman.

Straw Shavings

Brown Chestnut

No white markings Lots of white

Email **Call**

Horlicks **Sunline**

Large Syndicate Single Ownership

Sprinter **Miler** Stayer

Cox Plate Melbourne Cup

Wet track horse **Firm track horse**

Sweet Sour

Savabeel O'Reilly

Buy at the sales Buy privately

Beef Chicken

Sports car **SUV**

Hawke's Bay Carnival **Riccarton Carnival**

Holiday to the sun Holiday to the snow

Book **Movie**

Run **Walk**



RIGHT / Michael Pitman (left) with son and training partner Matthew Pitman (right)



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE – OCEAN PARK'S COX PLATE WIN

www.waikatostud.com

Saturday sees the 'greatest two minutes in sport' – the 98th edition of Group 1 W.S. Cox Plate, which will be run for the first time with a purse of \$5 million.

Story by Jeremy Rogers



BELOW / Ocean Park winning the 2012 Cox Plate

To the racing purist, it is the race they want to win and is where the best horses from around Australasia and now, the world, battle it out over 2040m at the unique Moonee Valley track.

New Zealand has a rich history through the deeds of the immortal Phar Lap who was able to win twice in 1930, 1931 through to Surround, still the only three-year-old filly to win Australia's Weight For Age Championship. Who could forget the mighty Dulcify's seven-length demolition in 1979 or Bonecrusher racing into 'equine immortality' in 1986 when defeating Our Waverley Star in the Race of the Century. New Zealand dominated the race through the early nineties – Surfer's Paradise, Super Impose, The Phantom Chance, Solvit and Octagonal. In 1997 the earth rumbled with Might And Power

before the great mare Sunline won in 1999 and 2000. Pins gelding El Segundo was far superior in 2007 while Maldivian was victorious the following year.

The last New Zealand bred winner was in 2012 when four-year-old entire Ocean Park defeated Australian 'pin-up' boys All Too Hard and Pierro. The Ocean Park story starts back in 2007 when Brent and Cherry Taylor sent their Zabeel mare Sayyida to Thorn Park. Trained by Roger James, he had a very good opinion of Sayyida and thought she was better than her two wins from five starts would suggest.

Born at Trelawney Stud in October 2008, Ocean Park went to the NZ Bloodstock Select Sale at Karaka in 2010. Hong Kong owner Andrew Wong and Matamata trainer Gary Hennessy had decided to buy a yearling in partnership and with the possibility that he might end up in Hong Kong, Hennessy was after a colt that looked like a 2000m horse that could run in the Hong Kong Derby. In his opinion the Thorn Park x Sayyida colt fitted the bill – there was a lot of Zabeel about him so he was purchased for \$150,000.

Given time to mature, he was unraced as a two-year-old, just having the three trials in the Autumn before being turned out for the Spring. He won his trial at Cambridge in late October before making his debut at Gisborne over 1200m. Not wanted in the betting, he started at over 15/1 and after being hampered in the early stages, he charged home to dead heat with Jakob Gambino.

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A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE – OCEAN PARK'S COX PLATE WIN (CONT'D)

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Just over three weeks later, Gary Hennessy took him to Ellerslie for a strong 3YO race over 1550m. Again not wanted in the betting, he settled back in the field of nine before producing a big finish, going on to win by a length. He then stepped up again to Group 2 level for his next start in the Great Northern Guineas on Boxing Day. To be fair, he was a good thing beat. After being slow to begin, Chad Ormsby had trouble getting him into the clear but once he did, he 'flew' home to be beaten narrowly.

By now Hennessy knew he had one of the best three-year-olds in the country. He took him to Trentham for the Group 3 Wellington Stakes

where he raced away from multiple Group 1 winner Nashville, winning by 4 ½ lengths. Heading to the Group 2 Waikato Guineas over 2000m, he was narrowly beaten by top-class O'Reilly filly Silent Achiever.

In preparation for the New Zealand Derby, he was taken to Ellerslie and on the Tuesday morning was given a gallop on what was a very wet track. Not handling the conditions and with a 'weather bomb' forecast for later in the week, Hennessy made the decision to scratch to save his Hong Kong owners making the trip. He was then prepared for a Sydney campaign where he had two starts including a ½ neck defeat over 2000m in the Group 1 Rosehill Guineas.

Given a spell, he came back in the Spring as arguably the best horse in Australasia. Resuming in the Group 1

Makfi Challenge Stakes over 1400m, he settled back in the field before charging home to win impressively. Electing to bypass the final two legs of the Hawke's Bay Triple Crown, which he looked to have a mortgage on, Hennessy decided to take him to Melbourne for two Group 1 races heading into the Cox Plate.

With flamboyant Australian jockey Glen Boss booked to ride, he contested the Gr.1 Underwood Stakes over 1800m at Caulfield and proved too strong for his opposition, going on to win by a ½ length. Three weeks later, he returned to Caulfield in the Caulfield Stakes over 2000m – the main lead up to the Cox Plate. Again he proved superior and he looked on target for the Moonee Valley feature.

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BELOW / Ocean Park (red hood) going up to All Too Hard in the 2012 Cox Plate



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE – OCEAN PARK'S COX PLATE WIN (CONT'D)

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He had the measure of the older horses but the two 'gun' three-year-olds All Too Hard and Pierro, who had quinellaed the Caulfield Guineas added a different dimension to the race – and under the Weight For Age scale, he had to give them 8kgs. Drawing barrier nine, Boss allowed him to find his feet in the early stages settling back in the field. Starting to improve his position coming to the turn, he charged down the middle of the track to claim All Too Hard over the concluding stages.

After a third placing in the Group 1 Mackinnon Stakes a week later at Flemington, he returned to New Zealand and the decision was made to get him ready for a trip to Dubai for the \$3.5 million Dubai Duty-Free

at Meydan (Dubai). First up over 1600m he finished fourth in a field of five in the Group 1 at Otaki before getting back into the Winner's Circle with a comprehensive 3 ½ length victory in the Group 1 New Zealand Stakes at Ellerslie.

Taken over to Dubai, he wasn't seen at his best and the decision was made to retire him to stud and was purchased by Waikato Stud. With his oldest only four-year-olds, he has made a great start to his stud career and his stats compare favourably against fellow Cox Plate winner and Champion Sire Savabeel.

With an inch of luck, he could already have a New Zealand Derby winner (Mongolianconqueror) and

Queensland Oaks winner (Another Dollar) – both were beaten in photo finishes. With horses in all the major stable throughout Australasia, his future looks very promising!



BELOW / Ocean Park
Photo Credit: Trish Dunell

[VIEW OCEAN PARK](#)

A LIVING LEGEND - OCEAN PARK LOVE RACING NZ VIDEO

www.waikatostud.com

The team at Love Racing NZ visited Cox Plate Champion Ocean Park last week ahead of the \$5 million feature which will take place at Moonee Valley tomorrow.

This video offers an excellent insight into what Ocean Park was like to work with as a young racehorse and what he is like now in his role as one of Australasia's leading young sires.

Thank you to the team at **Love Racing NZ** for the feature.



WS SIRED STAKES RUNNERS WITH JEREMY ROGERS

www.waikatostud.com

Billed the 'greatest two minutes in sport', Saturday sees the running of the \$5 million W.S. Cox Plate. Most eyes will be on the great mare Winx to see if she can create history by becoming the first horse to win four Cox Plates! In New Zealand, all three venues – Ellerslie, Trentham and Riccarton have Blacktype races and there will be particular interest in the three-year-olds heading towards the Guineas.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27

EXUBERANT

Savabeel - Merrily

Listed Wellesley Stakes, 1000m

Trentham, 2:02 pm (NZT)

SENZABEEL

Savabeel - The First Lady

Listed Wellesley Stakes, 1000m

Trentham, 2:02 pm (NZT)

PATSY LASS

Savabeel - Patsy O'Reilly

Gr.3 Soliloquy Stakes, 1400m

Ellerslie, 3:24 pm (NZT)

ELATE

Savabeel - High Joy

Gr.3 Soliloquy Stakes, 1400m

Ellerslie, 3:24 pm (NZT)

EMILY MARGARET

Pins - Seven Schillings

Listed Zacinto Stakes, 1600m

Riccarton, 3:33 pm (NZT)

THE CHOSEN ONE

Savabeel - The Glitzy One

Listed Zacinto Stakes, 1600m

Riccarton, 3:33 pm (NZT)

ARISTOTLE

Pins - Bella Diva

Listed Zacinto Stakes, 1600m

Riccarton, 3:33 pm (NZT)

FAWN

Savabeel - Kowtow

Gr.3 Thompson Handicap, 1600m

Trentham, 4:19 pm (NZT)

FLAMINGO

Pins - Bird

Gr.3 Thompson Handicap, 1600m

Trentham, 4:19 pm (NZT)

SAVVY COUP

Savabeel - Eudora

Gr.1 Cox Plate, 2040m

Moonee Valley, 7:00 pm (NZT)

SAVVY OAK

Savabeel - Fairy Oak

Gr.2 Moonee Valley Vase, 2040m

Moonee Valley, 7:50 pm (NZT)



BLACK TYPE SPOTLIGHT WITH JEREMY ROGERS

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SAVVY COUP GROUP 1 W.S. COX PLATE



Savvy Coup / By Savabeel, from Eudora

The dual Group 1 winning Savabeel mare takes on the best in the world in the Group 1 Cox Plate at Moonee Valley. Bred by Waikato Stud, she couldn't have been more impressive winning the Livamol Classic last start over the same distance. She needs to take another step up taking on Winx, Benbatl, Humidor etc but she has earned her chance. We wish her connections all the very best!

SAVVY OAK GROUP 2 MOONEE VALLEY VASE



Savvy Oak / By Savabeel, from Fairy Oak

Despite only winning the one race (on debut) the three-year-old son of Savabeel looks a very promising stayer and lines up in the Group 2 Drummond Golf Vase at Moonee Valley. The step up to 2040m suits and a good performance here would have trainers Trent Busuttin and Natalie Young looking at next week's Victoria Derby, a race they won seven years ago with fellow Savabeel gelding Sangster.

EMILY MARGARET LISTED ZACINTO STAKES



Emily Margaret / By Pins, from Seven Schillings

The three-year-old Pins filly takes on the boys in the Listed Zacinto Stakes at Riccarton. A very consistent filly, the Stakes winner is yet to miss a place from five starts and it will be interesting to see her step up to 1600m. This run should top her off nicely for the \$300,000 Group 1 1000 Guineas. Among her opposition is unbeaten Savabeel colt The Chosen One and Aristotle, also by Pins.

FLAMINGO GROUP 3 THOMPSON HANDICAP



Flamingo / By Pins, from Bird

Fitter for having three runs back from a spell, the Waikato Stud bred/raced daughter of Pins lines up in the Group 3 Thompson Handicap over 1600m at Trentham. She has a very good record at the course/distance and a win here would add considerable value to her as a future broodmare, being a half-sister to Singapore Stakes winner Preditor. Her opposition includes five-year-old mare Savabeel mare Fawn.

The *anatomy* of a
FIVE-TIME GROUP ONE WINNING
PROVEN YOUNG SIRE

Ocean Park

SERVICE FEE: \$30,000+gst LFG

Exceptionally handsome

He has passed his good looks on to his progeny and with a multitude of Stakes performers already emerging, it's safe to say he has transmitted his superior ability to them too

A beautiful physique

Buyers think his yearlings do too. At this year's Karaka Yearling Sale, his Book One yearlings averaged \$106,000 and across all Australasian sales, his yearlings sold for up to \$280,000 and nine sold for \$150,000 or more

Proven sire capabilities

He is the leading New Zealand based Australian Second Season Sire and has sired seven Stakes performers in his first crop including Australian Stakes winner Ocean Jewel

Athletic anatomy

Like his champion sire Thorn Park and his Broodmare of the Year dam Sayyida who is by Zabeel, he is the perfect athlete

Freakish stride length

His unbelievably long stride length contributed greatly to his five Group One victories between 1400m and 2040m



Waikato Stud

www.waikatostud.com

FIND OUT MORE

RESIDENT STALLIONS

www.waikatostud.com



SAVABEEL

Sire of 17 Individual Group One Winners

SERVICE FEE: PRIVATE

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



OCEAN PARK

Champion NZ Based AUS Second Season Sire

SERVICE FEE: \$30,000+GST LFG

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



SACRED FALLS

Leading First Season Sire at Karaka in 2018

SERVICE FEE: \$30,000+GST LFG

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



TIVACI

Group One Winning Sprinter/Miler

SERVICE FEE: \$20,000+GST LFG

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RESIDENT STALLIONS (CONT'D)

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ROCK 'N' POP

Multiple Stakes Producer

SERVICE FEE: \$9,000+GST LFG

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



FEATURED VIDEO

Cox Plate Champion Ocean Park

FREE MATING ADVICE

Feel free to call or email our team to discuss the compatibility of your mare/s with our stallions.



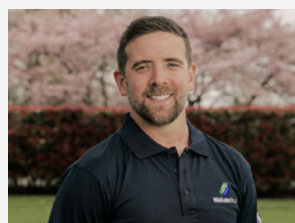
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The *anatomy* of

Tivaci's First Foals

Tivaci – by *High Chaparral*, from *Breccia*

SERVICE FEE: \$20,000+gst

Strong, robust hindquarter

Just like his super sprinter/miler sire who won four Stakes races between 1000m – 1600m, including the G1 All Aged Stakes

Powerful shoulders

Critical for elongated stride length

Well balanced

For optimised efficiency



Waikato Stud
www.waikatostud.com



Watch Tivaci's
first foals in motion

Image: Tivaci Colt from So Sharp It Hurts

AT THE FARM

www.waikatostud.com



ABOVE / Gary
Hennessy, Mark
Chittick and Ocean
Park



LEFT / Trackside
cameraman Dylan
Holden filming
Ocean Park's foals
for Love Racing's
Cox Plate feature

FOAL GALLERY

www.waikatostud.com



Savabeel filly from Crystalthecowgirl

MEET OUR LITTLE CHAMPIONS

Foal Gallery

Welcome to Waikato Stud's foal gallery. Each week we will share with you photos of our newest arrivals from some of the farm's most iconic families.

[VIEW FOAL GALLERY](#)

FOAL GALLERY (CONT'D)

www.waikatostud.com

Welcome to Waikato Stud's foal gallery. Each week we will share with you photos of our newest arrivals from some of the farm's most iconic families.



TOP (L) Savabeel filly from Matakana
TOP (R) Savabeel filly from Emily Monk



ABOVE Savabeel filly from
Tranquility

[VIEW FOAL GALLERY](#)



WaikatoStud

TIVACI FOAL PHOTO COMPETITION

Does your Tivaci foal have what it takes to be the cutest, cuddliest, most striking and athletic out of his first crop of foals?

Get your camera, iPhone or polaroid poised and take your best shot for a chance to win a Tivaci prize pack valued at over \$23,000.

#TIVACIFOALS

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MARK'S MAIL

www.waikatostud.com

Catch up with Mark Chittick and Savabeel ahead of Savvy Coup's Cox Plate tilt tomorrow. Click the video below to watch.



RACING THOUGHTS

www.waikatostud.com

Former racing journalist Mary Burgess shares her thoughts on the current issues faced by the New Zealand Thoroughbred Industry.

READ THE STORY:

[Abandonments continue, but no one taking responsibility](#)



[Click here or above](#)
to read more
