

14 DECEMBER, 2018

# Weekend @Waikato

ISSUE #285

## ANOTHER 2YO STAKES WINNER FOR SAVABEEL

Te Akau Racing's Aotea Lad becomes the 13th Stakes winning two-year-old (and 82nd Stakes winner) for Savabeel.

## 2 TE AKAU CELEBRATE FURTHER SUCCESS

Te Akau Racing's two-year-old Aotea Lad is the 12th Blacktype winner by Savabeel for the 'Tangerine Team' in two years

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## TOGETHER ON TOP



Lot 89 Savabeel colt from Iguazu's Girl (a half-brother to Sacred Falls)  
Photo credit: Nicole Troost

## TE AKAU CELEBRATE FURTHER SUCCESS WITH THE PROGENY OF SAVABEEL

[www.waikatostud.com](http://www.waikatostud.com)

Aotea Lad became Savabeel's latest stakes winner on Saturday when he put away his Gr.2 Wakefield Challenge Stakes rivals on debut.



BELOW / Aotea Lad  
Photo credit: Race Images  
Photos

He was tardily away at Trentham, but it mattered little as he lengthened stride stylishly in the straight to win going away.

Aotea Lad is trained at Matamata by Jamie Richards and was a \$200,000 Karaka purchase for Te Akau boss David Ellis.

He knew precisely what he was getting in to, as with wife Karyn Fenton-Ellis, was part of the syndicate that bred the horse.

Aotea Lad's win was Te Akau's 12th black type win with the progeny of Savabeel in the last two years.

The tally includes three at Group One level, four Group Twos, a pair at Group Three level and two Listed.

"I'm so proud of Jamie, the team is flying," he said.

Aotea Lad, whose dam Corsage placed in the Gr.1 Diamond Stakes, was well-behaved on Saturday but that wasn't always the case.

"Early in the spring he was very colty so he was gelded and that was the making of him as a racehorse," said Paul Richards, a senior member of the Te Akau team and father of trainer Jamie.

"It was always the plan to ride him back and get a drag into it across the junction and get over them late.

"Obviously, he's going to improve a lot and it's all in front of him. He'll



probably go to the Eclipse Stakes next and then into the Karaka Million."

Rider Opie Bosson said Aotea Lad would improve greatly with the experience.

"When he got to the front he was looking around at the big screen, but there was plenty left in the tank.

"He showed a good turn of foot when I put the pressure on him. He still doesn't really know what he's doing, but he's a pretty special horse."



## TOGETHER ON TOP

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In training for Waikato Stud, Ocean Park mare 'Together' showed signs of plenty more to come when winning the \$10,000 Black & White Group Maiden 1300 metres on 12 December at Hastings.

Looking above average when winning both her trials before racing, she came from well back with a strong finish for third when resuming in the Maiden 1100 metres on 23 November at New Plymouth, running her final 600m in a very competitive 34.7, and broke through at her third start.

Together travelled sweetly three back on the inner, while race favourite Naval Fleet (Declaration of War) dictated terms in front. Four lengths astern at the 600m, Shafiq saved ground near the rail before quickening to a challenging position and fortuitously she was left in front when Naval Fleet broke through the rail 75m out.

Together ran the 1300 metres in 1:18.7, on Dead6 footing, and returned \$4.50 & \$1.20 on the NZ TAB tote.

"She's had a reputation at home and I'm really pleased with her win," said Te Akau trainer Jamie Richards.

"Mark (Chittick) was patient with her, given her a good spell, and allowed us to take our time. We had a bit of a hold up with her early in the spring, but they've been rewarded and she's a lovely filly that will keep developing.

"She was stiff first-up in a nice race at New Plymouth, and it was a lovely ride by Shafiq being able to save ground and produce her into a challenging position and while not the way you'd like to win races (with Naval Fleet coming to grief) it was a great end result.

"Staff at home has done a really good job in managing her and she really does enjoy getting her toe into the ground, so track conditions were ideal for her.

"It's a big thrill to get the win for the team at Waikato Stud. I worked there for a little while before coming to Te Akau, and know a bit about some of the mares they're breeding from. The filly has a lovely pedigree, a good-looking type, and hopefully, if we can keep her sound, there are plenty more wins in her."

Bred and owned by Waikato Stud, she is from the lightly tried but talented Danasinga mare More to Love. Her grand-dam, Flying Floozie (Pompeii Court), made a huge name for herself as the dam of world-class galloper Starcraft (Soviet Star), a five time Group One winner that claimed titles of Champion 3YO in Australia, Champion Sprinter in New Zealand, and Champion Miler in Europe.

"We've always liked the filly since we did the early preparation with her and Jamie (Richards) has been complimentary of her when she went



**BELOW / Together**  
Photo credit: Race Images  
Photos



Continued on page 4 >

## TOGETHER ON TOP (CONT'D)

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into the stable," said Mark Chittick.

"She's from a wonderful family, although it's been a couple of years since the last good horse. But, we have a lot of the family and great families always come back and that's the reason we kept her: she's a good, strong filly and hopefully she can go on as a racehorse.

"She's required a patient approach, but the whole family, to be fair, has been four (years old) before they get going. So, we didn't have any expectations early on because we know the family well and been dealing with it for quarter of a century, and she's typical of it."

Her sire Ocean Park (Thorn Park) hardly requires introduction. Horse of the Year (2012-13) after four consecutive Group One wins: Makfi Challenge Stakes (1400m), Underwood Stakes (1800m), Caulfield Stakes (2000m) and Cox Plate (2040m), many of his progeny have exuded a strong resemblance to his dam sire Zabeel (Sir Tristram) – being from the brilliant filly and New Zealand Broodmare of the Year Sayyida – and his progeny are impressive. With the oldest just turned four, Ocean Park has comparable stats at the same stage to Champion stallion and associate sire Savabeel (Zabeel).

"Jamie is doing a great job in his first season as the sole trainer at Te Akau,

and I like dealing with him," Chittick added.

"It's really nice for us to reciprocate business and success back the other way, because David (Ellis) is a big supporter of ours at the yearling sales and at the most recent Ready to Run Sale, so we have a number of horses in training with Te Akau and it's very professionally run by Jamie and his whole team. It's great to have success with them."

Together was strapped by Tracy Collis.

**News from Te Akau Racing, written by Jeff Dore.**



BELOW / Together

Photo credit: Race Images Photos





## SPARKLING HONG KONG DEBUT

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Regency Legend has made his presence felt at the first time of asking on one of the racing world's premier stages.

In his Hong Kong debut, the Waikato Stud-bred and sold three-year-old was successful at Sha Tin on Sunday evening on international night.

Trained by Danny Shum, the son of the late Pins was a runaway victor over 1200 metres in the hands of Neil Callan.

Regency Legend (raced as Espumoso in New Zealand) was a two-time juvenile winner for Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman.

He also ran second in the Gr.2 Wakefield Challenge Stakes before

his sale to Hong Kong interests.

Regency Legend was originally purchased at Karaka in 2017 by Pamsel Investments for \$50,000 and is out of the unraced O'Reilly mare Sparkling.

She is a sister to the dams of the Group One winner's Sacred Star, Diademe and Embellish.

Waikato Stud will offer a half-brother to Regency Legend by Savabeel (Lot 423) during the Book 1 session at Karaka in 2019.



BELOW / Regency Legend  
Photo credit: Darryl Sherer



## OWEN PATRICK TAKES THE EYE

[www.waikatostud.com](http://www.waikatostud.com)

The promising Owen Patrick could be in for a lucrative summer, judging by the opening appearance of his campaign.

The son of Ocean Park was a gallant first-up winner at Hastings on Wednesday following a six-month break.

Ridden by Jonathan Riddell for Shaune Ritchie, he stayed on a strongly after disputing a genuine pace.

It was the second win from eight appearances for the gelding.

He is raced by top northern commentator George Simon and his wife Maryanne, who operates Mana Park.

Owen Patrick is out of the unraced King Of Kings mare Unplanned.

She is a half-sister to the dam of the dual Australian stakes winner Cape Kidnappers.

The feature name in the pedigree is the four-time North American Group One winner Marlin.



BELOW / Owen Patrick  
Photo Credit: Race Images  
Photos





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## WS SIRED STAKES RUNNERS WITH JEREMY ROGERS

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With Christmas fast approaching, the spotlight this week is on Te Rapa with the running of three Blacktype races, highlighted by the Group 2 Cal Isuzu Stakes for the mares and the Group 3 Waikato Gold Cup. At Awapuni, the three-year-old fillies take centre stage in the Group 3 Eulogy Stakes while on Sunday the Derby aspirants step up to 2100m in the Listed 3YO Salver.

### SATURDAY 15 DECEMBER

#### NICOLETTA

Savabeel – Celtic Crown

**Gr.2** Cal Isuzu Stakes, 1600m  
Te Rapa, 3:23 pm (NZT)

#### LOVE AFFAIR

Savabeel – Romancing

**Gr.2** Cal Isuzu Stakes, 1600m  
Te Rapa, 3:23 pm (NZT)

#### SUPERA

Savabeel – Sopra Tutto

**Gr.2** Cal Isuzu Stakes, 1600m  
Te Rapa, 3:23 pm (NZT)

#### KYRIE ELEISON

O'Reilly – Kilfenora

**Gr.2** Waikato Cup, 2400m  
Te Rapa, 4:00 pm (NZT)

#### QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

Savabeel – Love Diamonds

**Gr.3** Eulogy Stakes, 1550m  
Awapuni, 4:15 pm (NZT)

#### JUST FABULOUS

O'Reilly – Fabulist

**Gr.3** Eulogy Stakes, 1550m  
Awapuni, 4:15 pm (NZT)

#### ELATE

Savabeel – High Joy

**Gr.3** Eulogy Stakes, 1550m  
Awapuni, 4:15 pm (NZT)

#### SAVE THE DATE

Savabeel - More to Love

**Gr.3** J Swap Contractors Sprint, 1400m  
Te Rapa, 4:35 pm (NZT)

#### PINZU

Pins - Celebrate

**Gr.3** AJ Scahill Stakes, 1400m  
Ascot (WA), 8:19 pm (NZT)

### SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER

#### MASQUE

Savabeel – Disguised

**Listed** 3YO Salver, 2100m  
Ellerslie, 5:46 pm (NZT)

#### DESIRABULL

Rock 'n' Pop – Bulletin

**Listed** 3YO Salver, 2100m  
Ellerslie, 5:46 pm (NZT)

#### PRINCE ALBERT

Savabeel – Lady Alberton

**Listed** 3YO Salver, 2100m  
Ellerslie, 5:46 pm (NZT)





# BLACK TYPE SPOTLIGHT WITH JEREMY ROGERS

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## LOVE AFFAIR

GROUP 2 CAL ISUZU STAKES



**Love Affair** / By Savabeel from Romancing

After winning at Group 3 level last start, the WS-bred and owned daughter of Savabeel lines up in the Group 2 Cal Isuzu Stakes at Te Rapa on Saturday. She has a great record at the track and from the good barrier, she should be able to get the run of the race and prove hard to beat. Her opposition includes fellow Savabeel mares Nicoletta and Supera.

## SAVE THE DATE

GROUP 3 J SWAP SPRINT



**Save the Date** / By Savabeel from More to Love

A half-sister to Wednesday's impressive Hastings winner Together, the five-year-old WS-bred daughter of Savabeel lines up in the Group 3 J Swap Contractors Sprint over 1400m at Te Rapa on Saturday. She wasn't beaten that far at WFA level last start and looks better suited here with 53kgs. She has drawn well and a top three finish would enhance her value when she goes to stud.

## QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

GROUP 3 EULOGY STAKES



**Queen of Diamonds** / By Savabeel from Love Diamonds

The very well bred three-year-old daughter of Savabeel couldn't have been more impressive when breaking her maiden last start by just under five lengths. She takes her place in the \$70,000 Group 3 Eulogy Stakes at Awapuni. Drawn the inside barrier, she should be given a soft run throughout and looks one of the main chances. Her opposition includes fellow Savabeel filly Elate and WS bred O'Reilly filly Just Fabulous.

## MASQUE

LISTED 3YO SALVER



**Masque** / By Savabeel from Disguised

The WS-bred son of Savabeel takes another step towards a possible start in the NZ Derby when he takes his place in the Listed Barfoot & Thompson 3YO Salver at Ellerslie on Sunday. Although he hasn't won this preparation, he continues to race consistently and looks well suited stepping up to 2100m. His opposition includes fellow Savabeel colt Prince Albert and Rock 'n' Pop gelding Desirabull.

## A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE - KERRY O'REILLY

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Saturday sees the running of the time-honoured Group 3 Waikato Gold Cup at Te Rapa, won over the years by some of New Zealand best stayers. Back in 2005, a very promising five-year-old by the name of Kerry O'Reilly etched his name into the history books.

Born at Waikato Stud in the Spring of 2000, the son of O'Reilly and Grosvenor mare Pegarah was bred by Geoff Klippel, Gary Rice and Eddie Tynan. Never going through a sale, he was sent to Champion trainer Jim Gibbs as a late yearling to prepare for a racing career.

A big leggy colt, he was given plenty of time to mature and wasn't seen on a racetrack until a Spring three-year-old when finishing unplaced in a Cambridge trial over 1000m. Two weeks later he made his debut over 1300m at Tauranga and although only finishing midfield, he was doing his best work over the concluding stages and was beaten by just over three lengths.

Given a short break to mature further, he returned in the Autumn and was quickly on the scoreboard, winning at Ellerslie over 1600m at his second start back. After an unlucky run back at Tauranga, he was stepped up to 2000m and won a Premier Quality quite impressively at Hastings. As was Jim Gibbs way, he didn't want to push him too much as he knew he still had more maturing to do.

Spelled again, he returned at Taupo in August and after being slow out the barriers, he finished strongly over 1350 before winning his next start over 1600m back at Hastings. After a couple of unplaced runs, he came from well back to be very narrowly



BELOW / Kerry O'Reilly  
Photo credit: Race Images Photos

beaten in the Dunstan Feeds Championship Qualifier over 2100m at Ellerslie on Boxing Day. Returning to the same course and distance eight days later, he proved far too good for his opposition, winning by 3 ¾ lengths.

After a second placing over 2400m during the Wellington Carnival at Trentham, he then went to Te Rapa over 2400m and won by two lengths. I remember the TV broadcaster (although I can't remember exactly who it was) after this race stating that he could be a Counties Cup/Waikato Cup horse later in the year. After another win over 2100m at Ellerslie,

he was sent back down to Trentham for the New Zealand St Leger but was unplaced.

With an eye towards the Summer Cups, he resumed with a fast-finishing fourth placing behind the likes of Tusker and Cog Hill over 1600m at Te Rapa.

Returning to Te Rapa 11 days later, he proved too good for NZ Derby placegetter and fellow O'Reilly son Kajema. Following this win, he went into the \$100,000 Counties Cup (run that year over 2100m at Te Rapa) as one of the favourites.

Continued on page 11 >



## A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE - KERRY O'REILLY (CONT'D)

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Ridden by Cameron Lammas, he settled back in the field before showing his customary strong finish, getting up in the last few strides to win the Group 2 feature.

He looked all set for the Group 2 Waikato Gold Cup three weeks later over 2400m. In what was almost a carbon copy of the Counties Cup, he settled back in the field before finishing off strongly to beat Filante Etoile by a head. Stepping up to the Group 1 Zabeel Classic at WFA level, he finished 3.5 lengths behind Bazelle. Backing up a week later he finished third in the \$200,000 Group 2 City Of Auckland at Ellerslie on New Year's Day 2006.

After a third placing in the Group 1 Whakanui Stud International Stakes over 2000m at Te Rapa and placings in the Group 2 Awapuni Gold Cup and Group 2 Hawkes Bay Gold Cup he was spelled with a possible

Melbourne Cup tilt on the agenda

Resuming over 1600m in a Listed race at Paeroa, he went to Hastings and tackled the \$1 million Kelt Capital Stakes. After settling back in the field, he was blocked for a run but once cleared flashed home to finish second to Waikato Stud bred and owned mare Legs. This run convinced his connections he was worthy of a trip to Melbourne.

Making his Australian debut in the Group 3 Geelong Cup, he finished fourth behind fellow New Zealand galloper Mandela before taking his place in the 'race that stops two nations' – the \$5.1 million Melbourne Cup. Far from disgraced, he finished 11th before returning to New Zealand.

Although he was to never win another race, he was placed second in the Group 3 Trentham Stakes,

Group 2 Counties Cup and Group 2 Waikato Gold Cup. Unfortunately, he bled when unplaced in the Group 1 Auckland Cup in March 2008 so the decision was made to retire the then seven-year-old.

At the end of his career, he had 43 starts for 9 wins and a further 11 placings for just under \$550,000 in prize money. Hopefully, Kyrie Eleison can add another O'Reilly winner to the Waikato Gold Cup honour board – 2012 O'Reilly mare Annie Higgins won for owner/breeder Marie Leicester and trainer Lance Noble.

Story by Jeremy Rogers





## AT THE FARM

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## AT THE FARM (CONT'D)

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**ABOVE & LEFT /**  
From left to right -  
Mike Rennie, Todd  
Pollard, Albert  
Bosma, Stephen  
Marsh, Stephen  
McKee and Matt  
Allnutt inspecting  
our Karaka Yearling  
draft



## AT THE FARM (CONT'D)

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**ABOVE** / (in the front) Mark Chittick and Rob Finemore (in the back) Jason Abrahams and Peter Maher.



**LEFT** / John O'Shea



## TIVACI FOAL PHOTO COMPETITION

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## TIVACI FOAL PHOTO COMPETITION ENTRIES (CONT'D)

[www.waikatostud.com](http://www.waikatostud.com)

**TOP (L)** Tivaci - Frolicking Miss filly, born October 23, 2018. Bred by Rupert & Cheryl Legh and Peter Wright.

**BELOW (L)** Tivaci - Knocknacree filly, born October 10, 2018. Bred by Little Avondale Stud.



**TOP (R)** Tivaci - Queen of Cool filly, born November 8, 2018. Bred by K & A Stove.

**BELOW (R)** Tivaci - So Sharp It Hurts colt, born October 3, 2018. Bred by Sam and Nireen Jefferis.

[VIEW ALL ENTRIES](#)



## TIVACI FOAL PHOTO COMPETITION ENTRIES (CONT'D)

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**LEFT MIDDLE** Tivaci – Dubai Belle filly, born November 10, 2018. Bred by Tony & Judith Bamby & Robin Hapi.

**BELOW (L)** Tivaci – Rosehip filly, born September 11, 2018. Bred by John Frizzell.



**TOP** Tivaci – Tiff And Co colt, born August 9, 2018. Bred by The Dowager Duchess of Bedford.

**BELOW (R)** Tivaci - Grey Swallow filly, born October 10, 2018. Bred by Tony Rider.

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## TIVACI FOAL PHOTO COMPETITION ENTRIES (CONT'D)

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**TOP (L)** Tivaci - O'Gio colt, born September 12, 2018. Bred by Carol Marshall.

**BELOW (L)** Tivaci - Hazel filly, born October 20, 2018. Bred by Wellfield Holdings Ltd.



**TOP (R)** Tivaci - Eliza Blues colt, born November 4, 2018. Bred by Peter and Marg Hales and Damien Oliver.

**BELOW** Tivaci - Songbird filly, born October 19, 2018. Bred by Dane and Jenna McLeod.

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## TIVACI FOAL PHOTO COMPETITION ENTRIES (CONT'D)

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**TOP (L) (RIGHT)** Tivaci - Queen Of Pop filly, born August 17, 2018. Bred by Blandford Lodge.

**BELOW (L)** Tivaci - Ywahoo colt, born October 22, 2018. Bred by Little Avondale Stud.



**TOP (R)** Tivaci - Bewitching colt, born on August 27 and bred by Ash Hardwick.

**BELOW (R)** Tivaci - Will She filly, born October 18, 2018. Bred by Stephanie Hole.

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## TIVACI FOAL PHOTO COMPETITION ENTRIES (CONT'D)

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**TOP (L)** Tivaci - Ruqqaya colt, born October 3, 2018. Bred by Trelawney Stud.

**BELOW (L)** Tivaci - Los Vargas colt, born September 20, 2018. Bred by Brown Thoroughbreds Ltd & Fusion Thoroughbreds Ltd.



**TOP (R)** Tivaci - Savanah Rush filly, born September 5, 2018. Bred by Jen Campin.

**BELOW** Tivaci - Dalwhinnie filly, born October 6, 2018. Bred by Indigo Bloodstock.

[VIEW ALL ENTRIES](#)



## MARK'S MAIL

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We've had a busy week on the farm with a great bunch of visitors from New Zealand and Australia through to see our Karaka yearlings.

It's been great fun having people to the farm and we all thoroughly enjoy catching up with new and old friends at this time of year.

Congratulations to David Ellis, Jamie Richards and the team at Te Akau Racing for the very smart win with two-year-old Savabeel gelding Aotea Lad in the Group 2 Wakefield Stakes last weekend. David's strike-rate with buying top performing progeny of Savabeel truly is second to none and it's great to see Jamie's training career really going from strength to strength.

Ocean Park has had an excellent week on the track, siring a double at Hastings and six winners in the last seven days. Adding to the great run our racing team has had recently was Ocean Park mare Together who won very well on Wednesday at Hastings.

We're really looking forward to watching Love Affair in the Group 2 Cal Isuzu Stakes at Te Rapa tomorrow - happy racing everyone!

Cheers,  
Mark



## GARRY'S CORNER

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Well, I have returned from Hong Kong, a hive of commerce, 6 million people jammed in an area twice the size of Lake Taupo. A billion people just over the border, China with a growing middle class, generating millionaires daily, billionaires weekly.



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



## RACING THOUGHTS

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

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[Racing looking outside the square...and MAC appointees announced](#)



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