

15 FEBRUARY, 2019

# Weekend @Waikato

ISSUE #292

## STAKES SUCCESS

Ocean Park's hot run of form continues as Arrogant becomes the latest Stakes performer by the 5-time Group 1 winner.

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Mares and foals at Waikato Stud  
Photo credit: Nicole Troost



## ARROGANT LATEST STAKES PERFORMER

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

The numbers keep stacking up for Ocean Park, a five-time Group 1 winner before his retirement to Waikato Stud.

Ocean Park has now produced 76 individual winners and his black-type tally was also recently added to.

The Mike Moroney and Pam Gerard-trained Arrogant is the latest on the list after running second in the Gr.2 Waikato Guineas.

He is the eighth stakes performer for Ocean Park, whose daughter Another Dollar was narrowly beaten in the Gr.1 Queensland Oaks.

His son Mongolianconqueror was also denied by a slender margin when runner-up in the Gr.1 New Zealand Derby.

Ocean Park's burgeoning success has seen buyers chasing them in earnest in the sale rings.

During this year's Karaka Book 1 sale, yearlings by Ocean Park sold for up to \$220,000 at an average price of \$90,000.



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



## EXCITING TIMES AHEAD FOR PROMISING MARE

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

Exciting staying prospect Rondinella gave racing fans at Te Rapa on Saturday another glimpse of her undoubted talent when she treated her rating 82 rivals with disdain when scoring handsomely over 2100m.



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

The Ocean Park four-year-old mare was all class as she looped the field for rider Vinnie Colgan with 600m to run, before cruising clear in the home straight to win untouched by six lengths.

Touted by co-trainer Roger James as a potential top-liner early in her three-year-old season, Rondinella had that campaign cruelly ended when suffering a hoof injury soon after finishing fourth in the Gr.2 Sir Tristram Fillies Classic (2000m) a year ago.

Patiently handled, the daughter of Group One performer Valpolicella signalled her return to the track with a fresh-up win over 1400m last November. Four starts since then have yielded two further victories as James and co-trainer Robert Wellwood continue to get her career back on track.

"I expected her to be very hard to beat," James said.

"I've said from day one that she was very high-class and while we've had a hiccup or two, we are going to keep reaping the benefits as she is a very good mare."

James was at his cryptic best when signalling the way forward for his charge.

"When you're coming through the grades, it's a little bit one race at a time," he said.

"Don't be surprised if I do something a



little bit out of left-field with her in the autumn as we have to take advantage of that abundance of ability that she has."

James isn't dwelling on what could have been but for the injury the mare suffered, although he did admit it was a dreadful feeling when he discovered the situation.

"I'm one to look forward not back but I was nearly in tears when I discovered her injury in the autumn," he said.

"You get over these things and it has been handled well by everybody and she is problem free now.

"It may have been a blessing in disguise as she is more mature now."

Rider Vinnie Colgan, who was substituting for the ill Michael Coleman, was quick to reiterate the comments made by James about the mare's ability.

"The race went to plan as I got off (the rail) as soon as I could and the rest of the race just went perfect," he said.

"She's very talented and Roger has always had a big opinion of her.

"She's going to be a great mare."

Bred in partnership by Haunui Bloodstock, Garry Cranny and Cathy Franich's Frantic Bloodstock, Rondinella is raced by Haunui Farm and Franich. – **NZ Racing Desk**



## SAVABEEL SIBLINGS MAKE A PLEASING RETURN

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

Savabeel siblings Hasahalo and Hasabro made a pleasing return to the track on Tuesday for Ardmore trainer Stephen McKee at the Cambridge trials.

Group One-winning mare Hasahalo hasn't been sighted on raceday since her unplaced run in the Gr.1 New Zealand Oaks (2400m) last year and McKee is keen to make up for lost time with his mare.

"Hasahalo hasn't raced for about 11 months now, apart from a trial in the spring," McKee said.

"I am very happy with the way she finished off her trial. She went nice and felt good for Sam (Spratt, jockey)."

McKee said Hasahalo will likely make her raceday return over the Auckland Cup carnival, with an eye towards Australia over winter.

"She'll probably race at the Cup carnival at Ellerslie and we will just assess her from there as to which way we go," he said.

"She has missed nearly a year, so she'll be able to race somewhere in Australia right through the winter.

"Queensland is a possibility and we have nominated her for a couple in Sydney as well, so we'll just see how her form is in these early stages."

Hasahalo's full-brother Hasabro, who was on a path towards the Gr.1 VRC Derby (2500m) in the spring, also made a return to the track on Tuesday where he finished unplaced in his 800m heat.

"I am really happy with him," McKee said. "He hasn't raced since Geelong in late October.

"He just had a bit of a leg injury that day, so he has had to bide his time. He has come back well, it was only a half-mile trial and the day out has done him well."

McKee is unsure of what path he will take with the three-year-old colt and hasn't ruled out a potential Gr.1 Queensland Derby (2400m) tilt with his charge.

"We are probably a bit behind schedule, although the Brisbane carnival could be okay," he said.

"We are in the same position as we were before (in the spring), we have to get a rattle on as far as wins and stake money go." – NZ Racing Desk



BELOW / Hasahalo  
Photo Credit: Race Images Photos



## MY PENDANT FACES STAKES TEST IN GROUP 3 VANITY

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

Trainer Danny O'Brien expects to learn a lot more about the autumn prospects of My Pendant when the up-and-coming filly is tested at stakes level for the first time in the Gr.3 The Vanity (1400m) at Flemington.

My Pendant has risen through the grades with three straight wins during the late spring and early summer and she returns from a let-up on Saturday.

"Her last couple of wins at Moonee Valley and Flemington were both very impressive and the obvious next step is to step up into stakes grade," O'Brien said.

"She's had a nice little freshen up

over summer and she seems to be in good shape so I'm looking forward to testing her against better horses on Saturday.

"I think she can hold that form from the summer and I'm obviously hoping that form is good enough to be competing against the fillies who were the best fillies in the spring.

"We'll all know a bit more about her on Saturday but it looks the right time to test her."

O'Brien said My Pendant retained residual fitness having raced as recently as December 22 and the filly has also had a barrier trial at Cranbourne to have her fit enough for The Vanity.

Craig Williams has ridden My Pendant in three of her five starts for wins at Sandown, Moonee Valley and Flemington but he sticks with Amphitrite on Saturday who he won the Gr.1 Thousand Guineas on last spring.

From barrier 10 with Damian Lane onboard, O'Brien expects My Pendant to be ridden off the pace in her usual pattern before trying to utilise her turn of foot which the trainer believes is one of the filly's main assets.

"That's the exciting part about her, she relaxes very well in her races and she has the ability to really sprint at the finish," he said. -AAP



BELOW / My Pendant



## STAFF PROFILE

### ANNA POYHONEN

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

She's a Hong Kong native who discovered her passion for the thoroughbred industry just a few years ago. Meet Anna Poyhonen, a member of Waikato Stud's yearling team.

**Q Where are you from and what brought you to New Zealand?**

**A** My parents are from Finland but I was born and brought up in Hong Kong. I was living in Australia before here and when my visa ran out so it seemed logical to jump across the pond and see what NZ had to offer.

**Q How long have you been at Waikato Stud and what has your role been over the past few months?**

**A** I've been here for 6 months now and have been a part of the yearling crew.

**Q Most memorable WS moment so far?**

**A** Seeing the horses at Karaka

go above and beyond everyone's expectations was really quite special.

**Q Who was your favorite yearling in Waikato Stud's 2019 Karaka Yearling draft?**

**A** I had a real soft spot for the Savabeel x Kazemi filly – she had bucket loads of personality and her quirks made me smile all through the prep.

**Q What is your biggest guilty pleasure?**

**A** Marathons of The Real Housewives of NY accompanied by a sizable glass of rose.

**Q Biggest life accomplishment?**

**A** After trying to make about 20

different career paths work for me, my move to Australia and finding my feet and passion in the thoroughbred industry was a total game changer.

**Q What is something not many people know about you?**

**A** My greatest ambition up until a few years ago was to be a theatre producer in London.

**Q Best piece of advice?**

**A** Just do you.



**LEFT /** Anna in action at Karaka last month

## WS SIRED STAKES RUNNERS

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

### SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY

#### VERNANME

O'Reilly – Bohemian Blues

**Gr.2** Avondale Guineas, 2100m

Ellerslie, 3:20 pm (NZT)

#### SURELY SACRED

Rock 'n' Pop – Not Sure

**Gr.2** Avondale Guineas, 2100m

Ellerslie, 3:20 pm (NZT)

#### PRISE DE FER

Savabeel – Foiled

**Gr.2** Avondale Guineas, 2100m

Ellerslie, 3:20 pm (NZT)

#### THE CHOSEN ONE

Savabeel – The Glitzy One

**Gr.2** Avondale Guineas, 2100m

Ellerslie, 3:20 pm (NZT)

#### MY PENDANT

Pins – My Locket

**Gr.3** Vanity Stakes, 1400m

Flemington, 4:55 pm (NZT)

#### EXCESSABEEL

Savabeel – Royal Excess

**Listed** Birthday Cup, 2040m

Morphettville, 7:41 PM (NZT)

### SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY

#### RATTAN

Savabeel – Grand Princess

**HK Gr.1** Queen's Silver Jubilee, 1400m

Hong Kong, 8:30 pm (NZT)

#### EASY GO EASY WIN

Savabeel – Tootsie

**HK Listed** Hong Kong Classic Cup, 1800m

Hong Kong, 10:15 pm (NZT)



## BLACK TYPE SPOTLIGHT

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### MY PENDANT GROUP 3 VANITY STAKES



**My Pendant** / By Pins, from My Locket

The Danny O'Brien trained three-year-old daughter of Pins will return to the scene of her last win when she contests the Gr.3 Vanity Stakes at Flemington tomorrow. This will be her first Stakes assignment but if her three wins on the trot last prep are anything to go by she should be extremely competitive. She won over this distance (1400m) last start and the track conditions should suit.

### SURELY SACRED GROUP 2 AVONDALE GUINEAS



**Surely Sacred** / By Rock 'n' Pop, from Hope So

WS-bred Gr.2 Auckland Guineas winner Surely Sacred ran an impressive 5th in the Karaka Million 3YO Mile and should enjoy the step up in distance in tomorrow's Gr.2 Avondale Guineas (2100m). Trained by Tony Pike, he has drawn well in barrier 6 and Vinnie Colgan will take the ride.

### EXCESSABEEL LISTED BIRTHDAY CUP



**Excessabeel** / By Savabeel, from Royal Excess

The Matt Laurie trained five-year-old daughter of Savabeel won her last start on this track just under a month ago (over the same distance) and has been ultra consistent this prep - winning or placing in five of her seven starts. She has drawn barrier 1 and Anthony Darmanin will go aboard.

### VERNAME GROUP 2 AVONDALE GUINEAS



**Vername** / By O'Reilly, from Bohemian Blues

Regally bred O'Reilly colt Vername was runner-up (equal) in the Gr.1 Levin Classic last time to the races and will make the step up in distance in tomorrow's Gr.2 Avondale Guineas. The Stephen Marsh-trained runner has drawn a little awkwardly in barrier 13 but if given an easy ride by jockey Jason Waddell he should be there in the finish.



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

# Ocean Park

SERVICE FEE: TBC

## *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 1 yearlings sold for up to \$220,000 and averaged nearly \$100,000

## *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

## *Proven sire capabilities*

His 8 Stakes performers include Ocean Jewel, Another Dollar, Arrogant, Pretty to Sea, Seaway, Mongolianconqueror, Ocean's Fourteen and Dancer's Kin

## *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](http://www.waikatostud.com)

FIND OUT MORE



## RESIDENT STALLIONS

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

Our highly successful stallion roster is regarded as one of the best in Australasia.



### SAVABEEL

10.7% Stakes winners to runners

**SERVICE FEE: TBC**

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### OCEAN PARK

The sire of 76 winners, including 8 Stakes performers

**SERVICE FEE: TBC**

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### SACRED FALLS

Leading Young Sire

**SERVICE FEE: TBC**

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### TIVACI

Group One Winning Sprinter/Miler

**SERVICE FEE: TBC**

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## RESIDENT STALLIONS (CONT'D)

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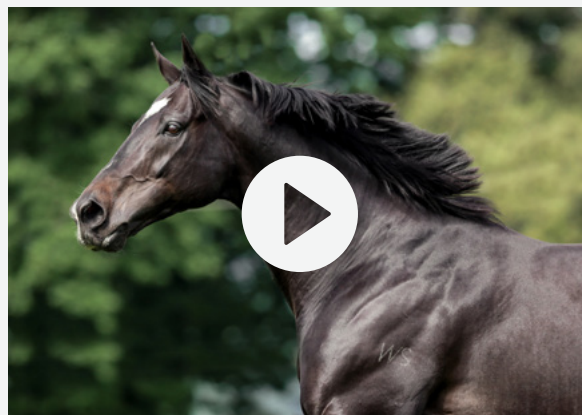


### ROCK 'N' POP

Multiple Stakes Producer

**SERVICE FEE: TBC**

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



**FEATURED VIDEO**

We're ready, are you?

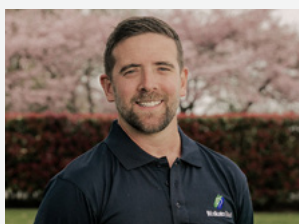
### FREE MATING ADVICE

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



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## MARK'S MAIL

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

Mark is taking a few (very rare) days off but would like to leave you with his video of the week - It's that champion feeling again!

Watch: It's that champion feeling again!





## GARRY'S CORNER

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

A wonderful place, New Zealand. A couple of hours on the plane Mary and I land in Queenstown, no matter who you are or where you have been the scenery even at this time of the year is worth taking time out to enjoy.



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

