



THE WAIKATO WEEKLY

WaikatoStud

EDITION ONE / 2019

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Welcome



Spring is in the air here at Waikato Stud, with foals being born and mares being bred, it's time for our weekly newsletter to return from the spelling paddock.

As we move forward into the new season, the Weekend at Waikato has evolved into a new look, The Waikato Weekly. Similar to previous editions, the focus will remain on racing news and recent Waikato Stud horse success.

However, following great feedback from our readers, we will be sharing more updates about life on our farm, our Waikato Stud community and the fantastic team members who make it all work.

Published weekly and delivered straight to your inbox, we do hope you enjoy the first edition of The Waikato Weekly.

—Mark and the Waikato Stud team

David's deal turns *to gold*

IT'S OFTEN SAID THAT BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER AND FOR DAVID SELDON THAT CERTAINLY RANG TRUE AT KARAKA IN 2017.

Waikato Stud offered a son of the great, late Pins during the Premier Sale and despite the presence of Savabeel's Group 1 winning daughter, Diademe and the champion sprinter, Sacred Star, close up in his pedigree, he wandered out of the ring without attracting any interest.

Step in the Australian-based Seldon, a vital part of the Waikato Stud nutritional team, who spied an opportunity and the deal was done for him to own the youngster with his father Bob under their Pamsel Investments banner.

"We put a reserve of \$50,000 on him and didn't get a bid," stud principal Mark Chittick said. "As I came out of the vendor's box David was waiting for me.

"He said what would be wrong with me owning this horse and I said nothing at all. He asked what the reserve was and he said good as gold and it was done."

"David is part of our nutritional team as an independent advisor and he procures all our feed in Australia and ships it over."

Seldon also provides the champion stable of Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman with all their feed so it was natural his son of Pins went to the Cambridge trainers and as Espumoso, he created an outstanding early impression.

He won on debut at Te Aroha and followed up at Te Rapa before finishing runner-up in the Gr.2 Wakefield Challenge Stakes at Trentham.

That attracted enormous interest in the horse with Hong Kong owner Wong Shun Yuen making an irresistible offer that even the lure of a massive potential payday in the Karaka Million couldn't be refused by the Seldons.

Now racing as Regency Legend from Danny Shum's stable, the four-year-old is one of Hong Kong's rising stars off the back of four unbeaten appearances.

His sire Pins is sadly no longer with us after succumbing to complications from colic in April, 2018, and his last crop will be offered at Karaka in 2020.

"He was a great old mate and he was with us a long time, we really miss him," Chittick said. "He was such a great stallion and servant of Waikato Stud.

Below: Regency Legend



Partnership a pearler

Black type success awaits a breeding partnership developed by Waikato Stud with the talented mare My Pendant in hot form ahead of Saturday's Gr.2 Let's Elope Stakes at Flemington.

She is the result of an association forged between Mark Chittick and versatile and accomplished horsewoman Kylie Fawcett and Eddie Wright.

My Pendant's second dam is Jacilo, who produced the Gr.1 Queensland Oaks winner My Keepsake, O'Reilly's Gr.2 Japan-New Zealand Trophy-winning

daughter Vilifye and the unraced My Locket, the dam of My Pendant.

"Jacilo has been in their ownership for quite some time and it's a very good family," Chittick said. "When they were tossing up what to do with Vilifye a very obvious mating was Savabeel.

"They wanted to give the family a good opportunity, but was obviously going to require a large investment.

"We then developed our breeding partnership whereby they supplied the mares and we supply the services.

It's been a great and very productive relationship."

As in most walks of life, it's had its high and lows with the loss of a Savabeel filly out of Vilifye to a paddock accident leading up to Karaka last year.

"She was stunning and not only was she in our top group of fillies, she was in the top group of the draft," Chittick said.



"I really liked My Pendant and was keen to stay in the ownership, so I discussed it with Kylie and Eddie and I bought them out of the ownership in the ring at Karaka and everyone was comfortable with that.

My Pendant is now owned by Chittick and raced with an Australian syndicate that leases its interest in the mare. "We own the mare and she'll come back to Waikato Stud when she's finished racing."

My Pendant has flourished in O'Brien's Flemington stable and has won five of her nine starts, including her last two to set up a shot at the Let's Elope.

My Pendant
Photo: Racing Photos Victoria

The brief



Mark and Garry Chittick at the 2019 NZTR Awards

SUPER SAVABEEL TRIUMPHS PROCEEDINGS AGAIN

Savabeel took centre stage at the New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Awards with another clean sweep in the stallion division.

The Waikato Stud resident won the Grosvenor Award for a sixth consecutive season and his fifth Dewar and Centaine titles. No other New Zealand based stallion in the modern era comes anywhere close to matching Savabeel's achievements.

The Grosvenor Award is based on progeny earnings, the Dewar on combined Australian and New Zealand progeny earnings and the Centaine for combined progeny earnings worldwide.

Waikato Stud was at the fore when its home-bred Madison County was a dominant winner of the Champion Three-Year-Old Award. The Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained son of Pins won all but one of the 59 votes available.

Congratulations to all award recipients and their connections.

Six of the best for Ocean Park

Ocean Park's progeny have hit top form early in the new season with the Waikato Stud stallion producing a further six winners in recent days. His latest roll kicked off at Te Rapa on Friday with two winners to follow on Saturday and then a hat-trick on Sunday.

The Catherine Cameron-trained My Superior Girl had placed at her only other two starts before breaking through at Te Rapa.

In Victoria on Saturday, Group 2 placed Tofane struck the second winning blow of her career at Moonee Valley for Mike Moroney. Ocean Park's son Holbrook then triumphed at the Gold Coast for his fifth career victory. Trained by Scott Morrissey, he made short work of his rivals over 1800 metres.

Ocean Park's trio of winners on Sunday included the promising filly, Ocean Mist. The three-year-old made a winning debut at Sale from the Mornington stable of David and Coral Feek. Ocean Ruler then made it two wins from



his last three starts when he scored at the Sunshine Coast. Trained by Paul Jenkins, he is combining a tidy record with three successes from 13 runs. Ocean Park's big weekend was rounded off at Devonport where Ocean Essence triumphed.

OUT OF BOUNDS

IT'S NO SECRET THAT PUSHING YOURSELF OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE CAN BRING ABOUT POSITIVE CHANGE BUT HAVING THE CONFIDENCE AND ABILITY TO TRUST YOURSELF WHEN GOING OUT OF BOUNDS IN YOUR EMPLOYMENT ROLE IS NO EASY TASK.

Choosing challenge over comfort and backing yourself to succeed is what we embrace here at Waikato Stud. It is for this reason that between March and September of this year, six members of our management team travelled individually to Anakiwa in the Marlborough Sounds, to complete a five-day professional course run by Outward Bound New Zealand.

Through a physically challenging and mentally demanding week, the course provided the learning environment to forge resilience and independence that is truly life changing. These are qualities that Waikato Stud nurture and support within our team and our horses to ensure that we continue to succeed at the highest level in all aspects of the farm.

Outward Bound was chosen because learning to recognise one's own potential is critical to being part of a team. Our Waikato Stud family comprises 40 members of staff throughout the year, burgeoning to over 65 at the height of the season and a great team culture is essential to maintaining the highest levels of performance. In a physically and mentally demanding environment, put simply, we need every employee to be at the top of their game.

The driving force behind Waikato Stud's participation at Outward Bound was fuelled by Pippa's own positive experience of it in her early 20's. This was mirrored by the equally amazing feedback from Charlotte and George Chittick, both of whom have attended Young Adult Courses.

"It doesn't matter where you are on the farm, or what role you have, there is a leader in all of us and we have the ability to lead from where we stand."

DR. CHRIS PHILLIPS
VETERINARIAN



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And with each management team member returning brimming with confidence, adaptability and the self-awareness that today's business environment demands (and yes, a few aching muscles), we will continue to roll out this opportunity to other team members annually.

Our veterinarian Chris Phillips said his take-home message was around leadership. "It doesn't matter where you are on the farm, or what role you have, there is a leader in all of us and we have the ability to lead from where we stand."

Recognising the huge benefits his family gained, Mark was looking forward to his own week at Anakiwa. "I have the utmost respect for the Outward Bound process – the experience was epic on every level. Our brand can start off with a culture, but its only brought to life by our team living it."

Above: Waikato Stud Outward Bound graduates
from left to right: Mike Rennie, Chris Phillips,
Kerrie Cox, Steve Clark, Jaimee Gowler, Pippa
Chittick, George Chittick, Maerk Chittick

Nailed it

DUAL SUCCESS FOR WAIKATO STUD'S KANE CLAYTON-GREENE AT RECENT FARRIER COMPETITION.

Taking care of the hooves of so many horses is a very big job. But our resident farrier, Kane Clayton-Greene, not only found the time to compete in the Southern Cross Farrier Competition in Rotorua recently, he was also part of the winning team!

This international competition features entrants from Australia, New Zealand and the USA. Once the individual events were over, the top three forgers from each of these countries teamed up to compete against each other in the team challenge. Having come an outstanding first equal in the individual open forging in a 28 strong field, Kane was invited to be part of the team event which has an endurance focus.

Each team was given 1 ¾ hours to shoe a Clydesdale draft horse (big hooves!). Supporting from the sidelines and loving every minute of the action, were two of our WS members, Sharon Meyer who works with our mares and office manager, Glenda Knight, who said, "The whole competition was nothing short of amazing to watch".

Congratulations Kane, we're very proud of you and delighted too that the event raised \$8500 for child cancer.

**"The whole competition was
nothing short of amazing to
watch."**

GLENDA KNIGHT
WS OFFICE MANAGER





WS Sired Stakes Runners

SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

Aotea Lad

Savabeel - Corsage

Ruakaka Race 7 - Cambridge Stud Northland Breeders
Stakes 1200m Open **Gr3**

Trainer: Jamie Richards

Rider: Opie Bosson

The Bandito

Pins - Reputedly

Awapuni Race 7 - Boehringer Ingelheim Hcp1600m
Open **Gr3**

Trainer: John Bary

Rider: Holly Andrew

Exuberant

Savabeel - Merrily

Ruakaka Race 7 - Cambridge Stud Northland Breeders
Stakes 1200m Open **Gr3**

Trainer: Stephen Marsh

Rider: Michael Coleman

My Pendant

Pins - My Locket

Flemington Race 9 - Let's Elope Stakes 1400m
Open **Gr2**

Trainer: Danny O'Brien

Rider: Craig Williams

Savvy Oak

Savabeel - Fairy Oak

Flemington Race 5 - The Sofitel 1400m Open **LR**

Trainer: T Busuttin and N Young

Rider: Michael Walker

Black Type Spotlight

ONES TO WATCH



Aotea Lad (Savabeel x Corsage) Group 3 Cambridge Stud Northland Breeders Stakes

The stakes-winning son of Savabeel, trained by Jamie Richards, kicks off his three year old campaign with Opie Bosson on board, a combination which saw him take out last seasons Group 2 Anuka Smoker Wakefield Challenge Stakes.



Exuberant (Savabeel x Merrily) Group 3 Cambridge Stud Northland Breeders Stakes

Already a listed winner at two, the 3 year-old WS homebred son of Savabeel aims to go one better under the hands of Michael Coleman this week. Trained by Stephen Marsh, the colt has already placed at the start of his 3 year old season.



Savvy Oak (Savabeel x Fairy Oak) Listed The Sofitel

Trent Busuttin and Natalie Young will be hoping the combination of their talented 4 year-old gelding by Savabeel and jockey Michael Walker can build on the success of last season when they were placed second in the Group 1 South Australian Derby.

Mark's Mail

CHECK IN WITH MARK AS HE TALKS ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT AT WAIKATO STUD IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION OF MARK'S MAIL.



Garry's Corner

We have returned... Not that many of you will care! When I last posted for Garry's Corner, Mary and I were about to head to South Africa with another couple. I don't intend to write a travelogue, that's not what the corner is about, nor am I a political commentator, so solving South Africa's many issues is well beyond my brief.

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