



WAIKATO STUD

NEWSLETTER



WAIKATO STUD NAMED TOP BREEDER AGAIN

The New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association announced the Matamata farm as the winner of the Sir Patrick and Justine Lady Hogan Award, a hand-crafted perpetual bronze trophy produced by renowned sculptor Jane Lewis and donated by Waikato-based breeder Joan Egan.

"It's a huge privilege and a very prestigious award. It's an industry that we are absolutely proud of and it's humbling to be acknowledged as Breeder of the Year," Mark Chittick said.

"It's an honour and definitely holds world-wide recognition. It is huge for us as a family and we do place a massive emphasis on the award. It's always a great team effort and it takes a team of many."

"We're one big family and we're very extremely proud of our staff, the farm and what we produce. This award is recognition of everybody's efforts at Waikato Stud."

ELITE NURSERY WAIKATO STUD HAS CLAIMED THE NEW ZEALAND BREEDER OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR A REMARKABLE SEVENTH TIME FOLLOWING AN OUTSTANDING 2019-20 SEASON.



The stud previously won the title in 1993, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009 and in 2018.

"It is huge for us as a family and we do place a massive emphasis on the honour. I clearly remember the first time



“Probabeel was probably the individual highlight of the season for us, having won both Karaka Million races, the first time ever, and then going on to win a Group 1 in Sydney. That was pretty special.”

we won it, which is surprising considering the night we had,” Chittick said.

Waikato Stud produced 12 individual stakes winners last season, including Probabeel, who was successful in the G1 Surround S. in Australia and the Listed Karaka Million 3YO Classic at home.

Tiptronic won the G1 Herbie Dyke S. while The Real Beel won the G2 Cal Isuzu S. and Acting the G2 Tranquil Star S. The stud's Group 3 winners included Another Dollar, Killarney, Missybeel and Showbeel.

A further 10 stakes performers and 125 individual winners in New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia

and Macau made the farm the top-line contender for the award.

"Probabeel was probably the individual highlight of the season for us, having won both Karaka Million races, the first time ever, and then going on to win a Group 1 in Sydney. That was pretty special," Chittick said.

"What was particularly satisfying about the last season is that the success of the stakes performers was spread across the stallions with O'Reilly, Savabeel, Ocean Park, Pins and Sacred Falls all being represented."

Home to champion stallions Savabeel and Ocean Park (NZ), Group 1 winners Super Seth and Tivaci, and Group

3 winner Ardrossan, Waikato Stud has also been the leading leading vendor at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale at Karaka since 2014.

Waikato Stud's deeds headed off last year's winner Nearco Stud, Gerry Harvey/NZ Thoroughbred Holdings, The Oaks Stud and Trelawney Stud to win the award.

"Each year this contest goes down to the wire, the calibre of the candidates and the horses they breed is outstanding and it's always a very tough decision," said New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association President John Thompson.

"We have some fantastic investment in our breeding industry here and this is reflected in the number of group winners that were bred by our breeders in the last season."

"Group 1 winners of the class of Probabeel, Miami Bound, Melody Belle and Advantage certainly showcase our New Zealand breeders."

Q&A

WITH MARK CHITTICK

Another season has ended, what was your highlight for 2019/20 from a stallion perspective?

Mark: The highlight would be collecting all three stallion awards again and adding to that as a highlight was with two stallions and Ocean Park getting his first prestigious award.

What about on the racetrack?

Mark: We had a really exciting day and all the team was around when Acting won the G2 Caulfield Thousand Guineas prelude in Melbourne and the local Matamata TAB couldn't pay out the Waikato Stud team which was quite cool. From a race horse point of view, Probabeel has made us very proud.

And any favourite WS-graduate performances?

Mark: Again, Acting winning that Group 2 race. A very very exciting day and everybody was around. We had a lot of fun.

Tell me about Super Seth, how has he settled into life at Waikato and can you describe him?

Mark: When Super Seth came onto our radar obviously around the Caulfield Guineas, I honestly thought that we would be a long shot to have him living and doing his best at Waikato Stud. Anyway, through a lot of hard work, investment and incredible support, we managed to achieve that and have that apart of our operation. As a horse and as a stallion and being involved in our line up, I am incredibly proud of him. He absolutely suits us down to the ground - massive turn of foot, good looking horse and extremely well bred.



“We regard Australian racing as the best of the best and the most exciting racing in the world.”

He has settled into the environment incredibly well which shows his temperament and disposition, he is an incredible horse to work with. He started a new chapter in his life in the breeding shed and that sort of gentlemanly behaviour that he possesses has not changed which is incredible.

What mares are you sending to him?

Mark: He is going to have a fantastic book of mares. The first mare he served on the 1st of September was a dual Group 1 winning mare and then today he bred to Coldplay, who is a Group 2 winning mare. Suavito, a dual Group 1 winning mare is going to go to him. Daffodil a Group 1 winning mare who won the AJC Oaks, she's going to go to him. It is a policy of our own for young stallions in their first year, especially horses that we believe in like Super Seth, to really get some of our best mares and we will certainly be following in those footsteps this year.

Are there any particular foalings you're looking forward to this season?

Mark: The last one, when its all over to be honest! Obviously we have a whole lot to foal, we will foal 150 of our own mares that we own ourselves, and the key is to get as many live ones as we possibly can. It obviously adds a bit more pressure when they are by the stallions that they are by, which are our owns stallions with the way that they are performing, so its very important we get as many on the ground as we possibly can. You never know what's going to happen, day by day, hour by hour this time of year in the foaling paddock, so that's why I emphasise once the last foal is out, that's the most important one!

What WS racehorses in New Zealand should we be following closely this Spring?

Mark: Cornflower Blue. Savabeel filly with Te Akau racing, a lovely filly. She ran second at her only start as a 2YO and unfortunately cracked a cannon bone. We have put the time and effort into getting her 100%. She

She is a filly that we are really looking forward to racing and seeing the best of.

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And in Australia?

Mark: Tommy Gold with John O'Shea. An impressive winner as a 2YO, he is 3 now and not far off kicking off and going well. People will see our colours going around a lot more in Australia this season and in the future. We regard Australian racing as the best of the best and the most exciting racing in the world. To have horses competing over there always gives us something to look forward to and obviously to win a race or two over there is what it's all about.

COVID has been an interesting period for us all, what's been the impact on WS and how has WS adapted?

Mark: I think the period through the uncertainty has brought us all back down to earth, which to be honest I think is a very healthy thing. The team have looked after each other and we are very focused on what we have to do. That focus more than ever is to breed and raise the best racehorses we possibly can.

Please recommend for your readers... a Netflix series, a book and a recent movie.

Mark:

Netflix: I don't have a lot of time for TV.

Favourite book: The Rod & Rifle magazine. I can't get out and do it so I might as well read about it.

Recent movie: Trackside on Saturday!

STUD'S STALLIONS DOMINATE SIRE TITLES

Waikato Stud's star stallions Savabeel and Ocean Park have dominated the New Zealand Sire titles.



SAVABEEL WINS THE GROSVENOR AWARD

Savabeel has won the Grosvenor Award for New Zealand-based sires by progeny earnings within New Zealand for a sixth consecutive season and is now a five-time winner of the Centaine Award for New Zealand-based sires by total progeny earnings worldwide.

He has finished on top in the Dewar Award for New Zealand-based sires by progeny earnings in New Zealand and Australia since the 2015-16 season, but there is now a changing of the guard with associate sire Ocean Park claiming top honours.

"We're just extremely proud to have two stallions clean up all of the awards again this season," Waikato Stud's Mark Chittick said.

"Obviously Savabeel has been doing that by himself over the last few years. He's had another great year in 2019-20 and earned another champion sire title in New Zealand, but it's really nice to be able to share those awards between multiple stallions on our roster this year."



OCEAN PARK WINS THE DEWER AWARD

Ocean Park is the first New Zealand-based stallion to earn \$10 million in progeny earnings in 15 years.

This is the eighth straight year that a Waikato Stud stallion has won this prize. O'Reilly won it from 2012-13 to 2014-15, and Savabeel was the reigning champion over each of the last four seasons.

Ocean Park's dream season featured 171 winners in New Zealand and Australia. He was represented by seven individual black-type winners and his progeny amassed a total of more than NZ\$11 million. He finished 12th on the Australian sires' premiership.

Remarkably, Ocean Park's 2019-20 stakes winners included a Group 1-winning sprinter, a Group 1 and Golden Eagle-winning miler, and a multiple stakes-winning stayer who booked herself a place in the Melbourne Cup.

"He's had an absolutely fantastic season, and it's really solidified him as a top-quality stallion," Chittick said.

"That's really illustrated by the demand and interest we've had for him heading into this season and his book is full."

SUPER SETH

A STELLAR SIGNING FOR WAIKATO STUD

Caulfield Guineas winner Super Seth has added extra sparkle to a quality Waikato Stud stallion line-up for the 2020 breeding season.



The first Caulfield Guineas winner to retire to stud in New Zealand for more than three decades, the high-class son of Dundee (NZ) will stand his much-anticipated introductory season at the premier Matamata nursery at \$35,000 + GST.

"I'd describe attaining Super Seth as the benchmark for future racing and breeding success for ourselves, and for New Zealand," Waikato Stud principal Mark Chittick said.

"It is a massive result to secure Super Seth for his stud career

here at Waikato. He has the blueprint in his make-up that has been carried by many of the most successful stallions throughout Australasian breeding history."

"Australian racing is the toughest and best racing in the world, and we want to produce a product to go back into that market. We want to be at the top end of the industry and Super Seth will give us that opportunity. Australia is our shop window."

According to Chittick, Super Seth ticks all of the boxes for

a young stallion's credentials, with standout breeding, conformation and racetrack performance.

"He's all quality, a fantastic-looking horse with the performance to match his pedigree," he said.

"Top of our list when it comes to sourcing a successful stallion is a turn of foot, and Super Seth's acceleration was mind-blowing. That was emphasised when he ran down Alligator Blood (All Too Hard) to win the Caulfield Guineas."

"Our past and present champion sires Centaine, O'Reilly (NZ), Pins, Savabeel and Ocean Park (NZ), all possessed incredible acceleration, but even they couldn't have matched Super Seth's turn of foot. That's the quality we look for and he demonstrated that on many occasions."

"Opportunities to get these quality stallions are very rare, and when we saw that electric acceleration in the Caulfield Guineas we became immediately interested. Our

The other thing that immediately attracted me to him was how much he looked like Redoute's Choice. We were very confident Redoute's Choice mares would complement the Dundee sire line.

Business Manager Mike Rennie was on course at the time and I told him to go and have a really good look at him. He had everything we look for in a racehorse with a stud career in mind."

Dean Hawthorne, who bought him for \$280,000 at the 2018 Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale on behalf of Jonathan Munz's GSA Bloodstock, backs up Chittick's belief that Super Seth is something out of the ordinary.

"We typically don't buy many colts," he said. "In fact, he was the only colt we purchased that year in Australia, but when he walked out of the box at the Easter Sale it was obvious he was a must-have."

"He is perfectly balanced. If you take a look at his yearling conformation photo you can see how beautifully balanced he is – a short-coupled colt with a great head and amazing quality."

"The other thing that immediately attracted me to him was how much he looked like Redoute's Choice. We were very confident Redoute's Choice mares would complement the Dundee sire line."

Major investment in elite Australian Group 1 winners is nothing new for Waikato Stud, whose previous recruits include Cox Plate winners Savabeel and Ocean Park.

Savabeel has gone on to greatness as the all-



conquering kingpin of New Zealand's stallion ranks, recently siring his 100th individual stakes winner and claiming his sixth New Zealand sires' premiership.

Ocean Park's burgeoning career went to a new level last season with Australian Group One winners Kolding (NZ) and Tofane (NZ). On the back of that pair and several other black-type stars, Ocean Park pipped Savabeel for the Dewar Award for champion New Zealand-based sire for combined New Zealand and Australian earnings.

"Savabeel and Ocean Park were both \$10 million deals, and the two of them sharing a bunch of premiership titles from last season tells you that investment at that level is what an operation like ours has to commit to," Chittick said.

"There are times when you have to put everything on the line, and this was one of them when Super Seth came along. \$15 million

Australian is a lot to pull together, but we're definitely happy with the horse we got."

Waikato Stud is the majority shareholder in Super Seth with partners JML Bloodstock, Milan Park, Nearco Stud, Pencarrow Stud and high-profile Australian owner Richard Pegum.

"They are all obviously committed to supporting Super Seth with mares of the highest quality," Chittick said.

"The support and confidence was around us when we bought the horse, because we had to move pretty quickly, and he possesses every attribute we look for and chiefly that amazing turn of foot."

"He'll serve a book of around 150 mares, and on top of what that means for the partnership, it also means that by going to stud as a four-year-old, everyone stands to benefit."



SAVABEEL TRIO CHASING GROUP 1 SUCCESS



It has been an expectational five days for our champion sire Savabeel, as a trio of his off spring produce some outstanding performances across Australian and New Zealand racetracks.

Mo'unga remains undefeated after a classy victory at Rosehill on Saturday and will head towards the G1 Spring Champion Stakes on October 10. It was a huge thrill for the Waikato team to see Cornflower Blue demolish her rivals with a 6 length victory at Matamata. This was a brilliant first up run after returning from a fractured cannon bone, and signs are looking promising as she heads towards a Guineas path. Capping off a successful few days, Savannah Cloud broke her maiden in style at Cranbourne on Sunday and trainer Phillip Stokes confirmed the colt will work towards the G1 Caulfield Guineas.

MO'UNGA AN OUTSTANDING PROSPECT

Chris Waller has a high opinion of Mo'unga and it's easy to see why after he kept his unbeaten record intact in dazzling style at Rosehill on Saturday.

The Waikato Stud graduate handled a steep rise in class with aplomb when the Savabeel colt overcame an interrupted run to bolt away with the Listed Dulcify Quality.

The colt settled second last from a tricky gate and improved to be in the hunt on straightening, but stuck in behind runners.

Mo'unga shouldered his way into the clear 200 metres from home under rider James McDonald and then powered clear to keep his unbeaten record intact.

"I'm really looking forward to the autumn with him, but the plan is to the G1 Spring Champion Stakes. He's got a great future," Waller said.

Bred by Waikato Stud, Mo'unga was purchased out of their draft at Karaka in 2019 by Aquis for \$325,000 and is out of the winning O'Reilly mare Chandelier, who also finished runner-up in the G3 Lowland Stakes.

FILLY BLOOMING INTO STAKES CONTENDER

Waikato Stud's Cornflower Blue has stamped herself as a black type filly in waiting with a devastating performance at Matamata last Wednesday.

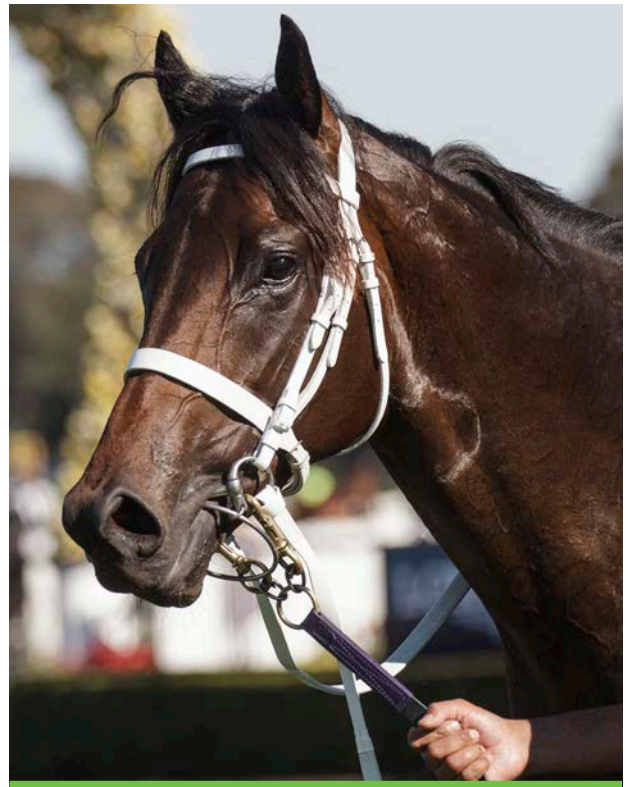
The daughter of Savabeel was at short odds to break her maiden in her first appearance of the season and she never gave her army of supporters a moment's worry.

The Jamie Richards-trained Cornflower Blue, who holds Group 1 nominations for both the New Zealand 1000 and 2000 Guineas, sailed clear when Danielle Johnson rode her to win effortlessly by 6.3 lengths.

"It was a pretty exciting win from a filly that we've had a lot of time for," Richards said.

"I was concerned about the ground, but she was able to put herself up on speed and then put a space in them late in the race to win quite impressively."

Cornflower Blue is a daughter of the winning O'Reilly mare Tiffany Yellow, who is a sister to the G3 Concorde Handicap winner Mosse.



SAVABEEL COLT ON GUINEAS PATH

Pakenham trainer Phillip Stokes has locked in a Classic path for exciting Savannah Cloud.

Stokes confirmed the G1 Caulfield Guineas was on the Savabeel 3-year-old's program following a runaway maiden success at Cranbourne on Sunday.

Savannah Cloud was returning from a break and, after racing three wide in midfield, rider Luke Nolen let him have his head at the top of the straight and they bolted clear to win by a widening 5.5 lengths.

"He can go on to better things now and it's two weeks to the G3 Caulfield Guineas Prelude, that's the logical step, and then the G1 Caulfield Guineas," Stokes said.

Savannah Cloud was a \$140,000 New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale purchase for Dalziel Bloodstock and Peter Moody and is a son of the O'Reilly mare Annie Higgins.

TIVACI TO FOLLOW IN STAR SIRE'S STEPS

High Chaparral made his mark immediately with an unforgettable first southern hemisphere crop, and if his son Tivaci follows that example, this is the time for breeders to get on board with the young Waikato Stud stallion.

His first southern hemisphere crop was extraordinary. There were 63 winners from 84 runners, with eight individual stakes winners and total stakes earnings in excess of \$21 million.

Those incredible results brought an exponential increase in demand for High Chaparral's progeny at yearling sales.

He achieved an average of \$105,889 at the New Zealand Bloodstock National Yearling Sales with his first crop in 2008, but that soared to \$237,500 just three years later.

He achieved an average price of \$132,330 across his first crop of yearlings in 2017, but that first crop featured Group 1 winner Atyaab and five other stakes winners, quickly followed by Castelvechio, Super Seth and Yourdeel in his second crop.

Those results have lifted his yearling averages by tens of thousands of dollars, with 10 Dundee yearlings selling at the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale earlier this year for an average of \$256,000.

Now history could be about to repeat with High Chaparral's All Aged Stakes-winning son Tivaci.

Breeders can reap the rewards from breeding to Tivaci this season, with his first crop set to fire on the racetrack by the time the progeny of this season's matings make it to the sale ring.

2020 is the season to breed to Tivaci, if you believe in this exciting young son of High Chaparral. He stands at Waikato Stud for a service fee of \$12,500.

HIGH CHAPARRAL

| Yearling sale | Average |
|---------------|-----------|
| 1st crop 2008 | \$92,864 |
| 2011 | \$196,910 |

TIVACI

| Yearling sale | Average |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1st crop 2020 | \$92,809 |
| 2023 | Smart minds rewarded. |

TIVACI'S FIRST CROP CONTINUING TO IMPRESS

“...all the makings of a progressive staying type.”

ELLERTON ZAHRA

After turning heads in the sale ring earlier this year, the first crop of yearlings by Waikato Stud stallion Tivaci are continuing to make a big impression.

“He's got a great attitude and hasn't put a foot wrong so far. We really like the horse from what he's shown us to date.”

TONY PIKE





It was her exceptional temperament, maintaining her cool and calm demeanour throughout the day despite the hustle and bustle of the yearling sales – an attribute that will surely see her adapt well to racing.

ELLERTON
ZAHRA

“I was very impressed with the Tivacis I saw at the sales this year and glad to buy a couple. They have broken in well and we are looking forward to their progress.”

DANNY
O'BRIEN

“I think Tivaci will make it as a stallion for sure.”

MALUA RACING

We thought he was a terrific type when we saw him at the sales, and we really liked him. Now we're just hoping he can run up to the same level as his looks.

BRUCE PERRY





Follow the **smart minds**.

First crop Tivaci progeny have entered the stables of...

CHRIS WALLER

Trained Shoot Out & Youngstar
by High Chaparral

JOHN O'SHEA

Trained Contributor by High Chaparral
purchased \$150,000 filly

HAWKES RACING

Purchased \$240,000 colt &
\$120,000 filly

DANNY O'BRIEN

Bruce Perry purchased \$500,000
colt to be trained by Danny

TONY PIKE

Purchased \$300,000 colt

TIVACI

NZ\$12,500 + GST LEG

High Chaparral - Breccia
by Fastnet Rock



Waikato Stud

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FIRST FOALS FOR ARDROSSAN



The very first foal was a colt welcomed at Gus Wigley's Inglewood Stud and is out of the O'Reilly mare Band, who is from the family of Group 1 winners Irish Fling and Final Destination.

"Ardrossan is a horse that for a lot of reasons we hold in very high regard. He's got a beautiful pedigree by a champion sire and unfortunately due to injury we never saw the best of him," Waikato Stud principal Mark Chittick said.

Ardrossan won four of his nine starts, including victory in the G3 Concorde Handicap and finished third in the G3 Star Kingdom Stakes.

"He had a great turn of foot and pushed two of the best in The Bostonian and Melody Belle right to the line when he was third in the G1 Waikato Sprint," Chittick said.

"If he can leave a line of horses that look like himself it would certainly take him to another level."

Wigley said the Ardrossan colt was an outstanding example of a first foal.

"He's a really good sort with a nice head. He's a well put together foal and was five or six days early, but everything went well and he's ripping around the paddock and looking a million dollars," Wigley said.



SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS



@WaikatoStud

Waikato Stud
@WaikatoStud

Super Seth is looking an absolute picture two and a half weeks out from the covering season!

He's going to cover an exceptional book of mares, with great support coming from many of the top Aussie and Kiwi breeders 🍷

@FreedmanRacing @TDNAusNZ @nztba @NZTBWAikato



3.2K views 0:18 / 0:19

5:42 am · 13 Aug 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Waikato Stud
@WaikatoStud

Great to see Team O'Shea having fun naming their Tivaci filly!

Clever name - Mascherata, Italian for masquerade, being out of Savabeel mare Fancy Dress 🎭

John O'Shea Racing @JohnOSheaRacing · 14 Aug
Our Ladies Syndicate Tivaci x Fancy Dress filly has been named MASCHERATA. Great lunch at the house with a few of the ladies as they casted their votes for the name. Might need to pay a visit to Kemenys in the morning to restock... 🍷🍷🍷
@WaikatoStud @KarakaChat



1.6K views 0:28 / 0:31

8:00 am · 14 Aug 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Waikato Stud
@WaikatoStud

What a BEAST 🐮 Just like All Black Richie Mo'unga - this colt doesn't stop for anything! A brilliant win in the Listed Dulcify Stakes takes the strapping colt to 3 from 3. \$325k @AquisFarm @KarakaChat purchase he's from Chandelier and brings up an Aussie double for Savabeel!



1.1K views 0:03 / 0:13

7:19 am · 12 Sep 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Waikato Stud
@WaikatoStud

A day to remember for our Champion sire Savabeel siring his 100th stakeswinner! Savacool dashes to victory in the Listed Rowley Mile under @TommyBerry21 for @cwallerracing. She was bred by @WaikatoStud and long time friend Gary Wallace, who also bred O'Reilly's 1st stakeswinner!



1.2K views 0:08 / 0:11

9:25 am · 20 Aug 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Waikato Stud
@WaikatoStud

Lovely first foal by Ardrossan! A strapping colt bred on the superb Redoute's Choice/O'Reilly cross that has produced G1W Shout The Bar, Sacred Falls and Stratum Star.

Bruce Perry @Bpbloodstock · 9 Aug
Loved getting this photo of Ardrossan's @WaikatoStud first foal which was born yesterday. He's the first foal of the O'Reilly mare Band. Hopefully the start of a wave of stars by another son of Redoute's Choice



8:49 am · 9 Aug 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

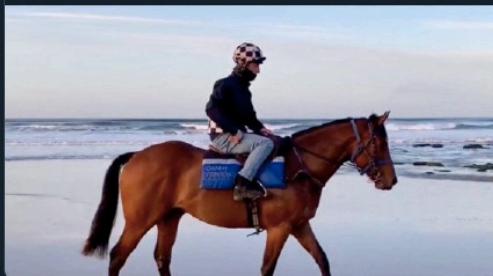
Waikato Stud
@WaikatoStud

Plenty of positive word around for the first crop of Tivaci!

This stunning colt purchased by Bruce at @KarakaChat for \$500,000 from @TrelawneyStudNZ.

He looks right at home on the beach at Barwon Heads 🌊

Bruce Perry @Bpbloodstock · 4 Sep
Not much seems to be worrying Grunt's 2yo 1/2 brother (Tivaci / Ruggaya) who recently flew to Melbourne from NZ after being broken in by Sam Beaton @RiversleyPark. Great to see him settle in so well at @DOBrienRacing - still given the scenery it's not surprising



6:38 am · 4 Sep 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

A NOTE FROM GARRY

WHAT DO YOU KNOW,
we are back!
WHERE TO START IS THE PROBLEM.

Well, no one can ignore the enormous effect of Covid-19. I will confine my comments on this pandemic to the effect on our wonderful sport.

It is wonderful to be racing in this environment throughout the world. It is a true testament of the spirit of our racing professionals, owners and enthusiasts.

Racing administrators are to be congratulated, putting on a show without a live audience

confirms their dedication. Let's hope we can all see it through.

Racing is a sport well suited to television. Our coverage of Australian racing completes an afternoon of high-class entertainment and outstanding horses.

The wagering, our life blood, is producing turnovers ahead of last year. This is clear evidence that the lack of sports coverage is to our benefit.

Those of you who can recall previous 'Corners' will be well aware of my concerns when our wagering agency was marketing sports at our expense.

The net margin to our codes is only two percent. As now evidenced, less sport is a better result for us. Let's not forget it when the world returns to normal.

Since we last caught up, we now have our new Racing Bill. Fortunately, the Select Committee was able to influence the outcome.

Those that took the time to attend the meetings are to be commended for their efforts which changed the direction of the bill.

I continue to have difficulty in understanding those who believe the racing clubs, their committees, and the community they are part of deserve so little recognition.

I am perplexed as to how those that have so little confidence in our club structure believe racing will continue without their involvement.

If the belief is that these people will continue their level of support without some autonomy and ownership of their efforts, they are wrong.

We now need to have an overarching Racing Board. This is close to a return to the past when I had the privilege of being Chairman of the then board. A Wagering Board, this is self-explanatory, and the codes who have been anointed with the authority of running racing.

So, where to? The Racing Board appointments have yet to be finalised. The Wagering Board does not exist yet and the codes can't get a clear picture of where we are financially from the disappointing RITA.

One would be entitled to ask what is the result of their efforts. It's still easy to be the critic, but let's return to the confirmation of board members who will have this final responsibility.

We have no idea who the Minister may be, and we certainly will not know who these board members will be until the New Year.

It has been said many times, is there a need for a minister? Seriously, when the above has settled into place I'd say we would manage better

independently than with political involvement.

Gallop South are promoting a change to our constitution resulting in some regional representation. I support this intent and I have confidence in the regions abilities to anoint people with a mix of independent select board members. This would give them a balance of views.



I have had this discussion with many and not all agree. That's not unusual, but I reject strongly a view that racing's problems are a result of such representation in the past. Well I would, wouldn't I... I was one of them.

Seriously, analyse the decisions made by our boards since 2003 when racing's control was in the hands of a majority of non-racing people. I'll leave it to you.

Now to more fair dinkum issues, we at Waikato, as are others, totally consumed by the Covid effect on our horse sales.

Sales companies, breeders will have to tread carefully, but then the easiest way may be to put our finger in the air and see which way the wind blows.

Nobody in this environment can make all the right decisions.

As always in life, so long as we make slightly more right than wrong, we will hang in!

Spring is in the air and we have over 60 foals, along with bookings better than we expected.

- Super Seth is living up to his name, it may be changed to Super Server.
- Savabeel looks outstanding and will have to be, he has plenty ahead of him.
- Ocean Park, well he doesn't know we have closed his book.
- Tivaci can do with a few more, but if the reports on his progeny have any credibility he will catch up.
- The Ardrossan foals are just what you would hope for.

Let's hope racing continues. We have started the year with some promising horses and we would be gutted to have to put them in the paddock.

Cheers,
Garry



SAVABEEL

\$100,000 + GST

SUPER SETH

\$35,000 + GST

OCEAN PARK

\$20,000 + GST book full

TIVACI

\$12,500 + GST

ARDROSSAN

\$3,000 + GST



Waikato Stud