

WAIKATO STUD NEWSLETTER

GROUP 1 HERO **SUPER SETH** ATTRACTING QUALITY HE DESERVES



Super Seth

Super Seth was a top-class performer during his decorated racing career and the response he received from Australasian breeders in his first season at Waikato Stud reflected that.

Among the mares served by Super Seth in 2020 were Group 1 winners Bonneval, Lucia Valentina, Sofia Rosa, Xanadu, Insouciant, Stolen Dance and Ruggaya and his 2021 book is expected to match that quality.

"I'd go as far as to say it's the best book of mares we've ever served with a first-season stallion," Mark Chittick said. "He's got everything going for him and I couldn't be any happier."



Super Seth winning the G1 Caulfield Guineas

“I’d go as far as to say it’s the best book of mares we’ve ever served with a first-season stallion,” Mark Chittick said

He is a half-brother to the G2 Theo Marks S. and G3 Moonga S. winner Wild Planet and their dam is a daughter of the G2 Yallambee Classic winner Toast Of The Coast.

Super Seth has let down into a magnificent-looking stallion at Waikato Stud where he has endeared himself to one and all with his temperament and character.

“He’s such a great horse to do anything with on a day-to-day basis and in the breeding shed and his fertility is great,” Chittick said. “He’s had the opportunities with top-quality mares and I can’t wait to see his first foals.”

Super Seth fashioned a race record to match his illustrious pedigree with the 4-year-old the winner of five of his 12 starts.

His career highlight for trainer Anthony Freedman was his defeat of star Queenslander Alligator Blood in the G1 Caulfield Guineas and he was also victorious in the G3 Manfred S. and the G3 McNeil S.

Super Seth provided further proof of his quality when he finished runner-up against the older horses behind the tough as teak Streets Of Avalon in the Futurity S. with New Zealand’s queen Melody Belle back in third.

He is a son of the Redoute’s Choice mare Salutations, Super Seth was a AU\$280,000 Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale purchase by Dean Hawthorne, who went to AU\$850,00 for his half-brother by Dundee at this year’s Easter Sale.



Super Seth

WAIKATO STUD

MAKES MARK AT GOLD COAST

The hot Australian bloodstock market was evident during the record-breaking Magic Millions National series on the Gold Coast. Waikato Stud made its mark, with its powerhouse stallion line up and graduates of the Matamata farm at the fore.

Ocean Park made his mark when his grand-son was knocked down to leading trainer Ciaron Maher for AU\$1 million on the opening day of the Weanling Sale.

Gilgai Farm's session-topping youngster, only the second



weanling to reach seven figures in Australia, is by I Am Invincible and out of was signed for by trainer Ciaron Maher. He is out of the Ocean Park mare Ocean Jewel, successful on four occasions including the Listed Placid Ark S.

Maher had spotted him at Gilgai a number of weeks ago and took an immediate shine to him.

"We'd hoped we wouldn't have to go quite that dear, but the yearling prices are going up and up this year, and we thought it was a good opportunity," he said. "That's



Missybeel winning the G3 Epona Stakes

a yearling price, but he's a colt that is clearly a standout, out of a good mare and by the right stallion in I Am Invincible.

"Physically, he has got the movement and strength to think he should go early. Someone said to me, it's the best weanling they have seen at this sale ever and they have been coming here for a number of years. Obviously, you have to pay for a horse like that."

Waikato Stud-bred mare Missybeel proved a popular offering in Attunga Stud's draft during the National Broodmare Sale and was eventually knocked down for AU\$800,000.

Missybeel was originally bought at the Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale for AU\$260,000 by trainer



Hindaam winning the Listed Twilight Glow Stakes

Bjorn Baker and Blandford Bloodstock and subsequently won seven races.

She was the dual Group 3 winner of the Epona S. and the Aspiration H. and also finished runner-up in the Listed Mona Lisa S.

Missybeel is a daughter of Savabeel, also the sire of

Hindaam who was a A\$1 million purchase during the Broodmare Sale for Suman Hedge Bloodstock.

Winner of this season's Listed Twilight Glow S., Hindaam is out of the Fastnet Rock mare Bayrock and she is a sister to the multiple Group 1 winner and sire Merchant Navy.

GOLD COAST MAGIC MILLIONS BROODMARE PURCHASES



Lot 1215 Corvina (Savabeel x Valpolicella)

Waikato Stud was also in the market for a trio of mares and two of them by Savabeel – Lot 1215 and 615 with the former, Corvina, its top-priced acquisition at AU\$320,000.



Lot 615 Vinaceous (Savabeel x Villifye)

She was offered by Bhima Thoroughbreds and is a half-sister to the Group 2 winners Vavasour and Vilanova and the Group 3 winner Celebrity Dream.

Lot 615, the three-time winner Vinaceous, was bought out of Gooree Park Stud's draft for AU\$30,000 and is a daughter of the O'Reilly mare Vilifye, who won four races including the G2 Japan-New Zealand International Trophy and is a half-sister to the G1 Queensland Oaks winner Miss Keepsake.



Lot 544 Pieloce (Pierro x Vivi Veloce)

Waikato Stud's other purchase was Pieloce, a Pierro mare offered by the Blue Sky Premium Consignment and bought for AU\$120,000. She was successful on the track and is out of the G3 National S. winner Vivi Veloce.



PATIENCE TO PAY OFF FOR HIGH CHAPARRAL BLOODLINES

They say patience is a virtue, and this appears to be relevant in the progeny development of breed-shaping sire High Chaparral (Ire).

It's a quality sireline renowned for producing exceptional classic performers, exemplified through the deeds of So You Think, Dundee and Toronado, and closer to home this season, Contributor. All have forged a deep record of leaving elite horses with an exceptional turn of foot to deliver at a mile, but with the constitution and scope to get over more ground if required.

Waikato Stud's Group One winning sire Tivaci is about to embark on his fourth season at stud. His first crop of yearlings caught the attention of many astute judges, who were unanimous in their assessment of their strength, size, and quality. The top-priced yearling, a filly, was secured for \$500,000.

In 2021, his second crop saw a top sale of \$360,000 at Karaka rising to an **average six times his service fee**. At the Gold Coast Magic Millions Sale, he had a 100% sale rate at an average price of \$190,000, with his best result coming from a \$260,000 colt sold to master trainer Peter Moody.

Whilst his 2YO crop are still in the education stage of their racing careers, they will turn three this coming August, which is when their grandsire High Chaparral's first crop began to achieve great results.



During the 2005 Northern Hemisphere winter, High Chaparral was a shuttle stallion at Windsor Park Stud in New Zealand before returning to Ireland in 2006 to stand at Coolmore Stud for a service fee of €25,000.

Although his first New Zealand crop did not make huge imprints until they were 3YOs, it was a dazzling bunch that included the **Champion dual-Cox Plate winner So You Think (NZ) (2009 & 2010)**, 2009 Victoria Derby and Spring Champion Stakes winner **Monaco Consul (NZ)**, 2010 Randwick Guineas winner **Shoot Out**, and 2010 Caulfield Cup winner **Descarado (NZ)**. Peerless in comparison for 3YOs over a mile and beyond.



High Chaparral was a world-class racehorse. A globe trotter who only got better with age, he won two Breeders Cups, the English and Irish Derbys, the Irish Champion Stakes and was placed in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Although his stud career was cut short by his death in 2014 due to colic surgery complications, the 15-year-old has sired over 100 stakes winners including 23 at Group One level.



During the 2010 Australian stud season, High Chaparral shuttled to Coolmore Stud's Australian base in the Hunter Valley and stood for AU\$88,000.

Out of the Fastnet Rock mare Breccia (NZ), Tivaci himself won his maiden on debut as a 3YO in 2015. He went on to win another three races including the Group 3 CS Hayes Stakes (1400m) at Flemington, beating Palentino and Tulsa, as well as the Group 3 Sunshine Coast Guineas (1600m).

The pattern of later success, both on the racetrack and as a sire, is similarly seen in the careers of the 9 sire sons of the Irish-bred stallion currently standing in Australasia.

This is headlined by So You Think, who had 430 4YO runners compared on only 157 2YOs and whose daughter Realm Of Flowers only first hit the track as a 3YO and is now a Melbourne Cup contender.



Tivaci winning the G1 All Aged Stakes at Royal Randwick

In his final campaign as a 4YO, Tivaci raced against only the best sprinters in Australia. His final four starts produced two wins, including his best win in the Group 1 All Aged Stakes (1400m) at Sydney's Royal Randwick, finishing his fantastic career with six wins between 1000 and 1600 metres. Three of those six successes came in Group races, in addition to the Listed Kensington Stakes in which he ran his final 600 metres in 32.6s.

Toronado (Ire), a sire notching up winners on both sides of the equator, has had similar numbers of 2YO (199) and 4YO (196) runners however the win rate has increased significantly as his progeny ageturn three and four, with 166 4YO race wins, compared to only 96 2YO wins.

Dundeel (NZ) is another sire son showing the pattern. Finishing his own racing career with a

win in the Group 1 Queen Elizabeth Stakes as a rising 5YO, his number of 3YO runners (210) is almost triple that of his 2YO runners (74). Our own Super Seth, a sensational winner of the great stallion-making Classic, the G1 Caulfield Guineas, is the perfect example of the sireline's best qualities; speed to burn, with the stamina to sustain it.

At home, New Zealand based sire son Contributor, is currently leading a second season sire by both earnings and winners and, has seen a rapid rise amongst his progeny ranks during their 3YO season.

He currently sits in the top 10 of the New Zealand 3YO Leading Sires by Winners (10) for the 2020-21 season, beating the likes of established sires Darci Brahma (8). Contributor sired his first Group -1 winner when the John O'Shea- trained Lion's Roar, prevailed commandingly in the Randwick Guineas over 1600m. He would go on to place in the Group-1 Australian Derby over 2400m during that same prep.



The breeding service fees of these four sons have doubled (So You Think, \$77,000 in 2021 up from \$38,500), almost doubled (Toronado, \$45,000 in 2021, up from \$27,500) or more than doubled (Contributer, \$22,000 in 2021 up from \$10,000) in the past season, with Dundee's service fee also more than doubling to \$66,000 since his first year in the barn.

Whilst these High Chaparral sires now offer a proven record of sire success, Tivaci's 2021 fee of NZ\$12,500 + GST, offers breeders a fantastic value option to access this exceptional sireline.



For breeders looking for versatility and longevity, their investment and patience with the High Chaparral family will be well rewarded on the racetrack and sale ring.

Q&A

WITH ANNA POYHONEN

1. What is your role with WS?

I manage the foaling unit during the season and hang out with the yearlings during the off season and prep.

2. What does your day to day look like on the WS farm?

At the moment we're rug breaking the weanlings, doing lots of work with them coming in and out of boxes and slowly teaching them the ropes of yearling life.

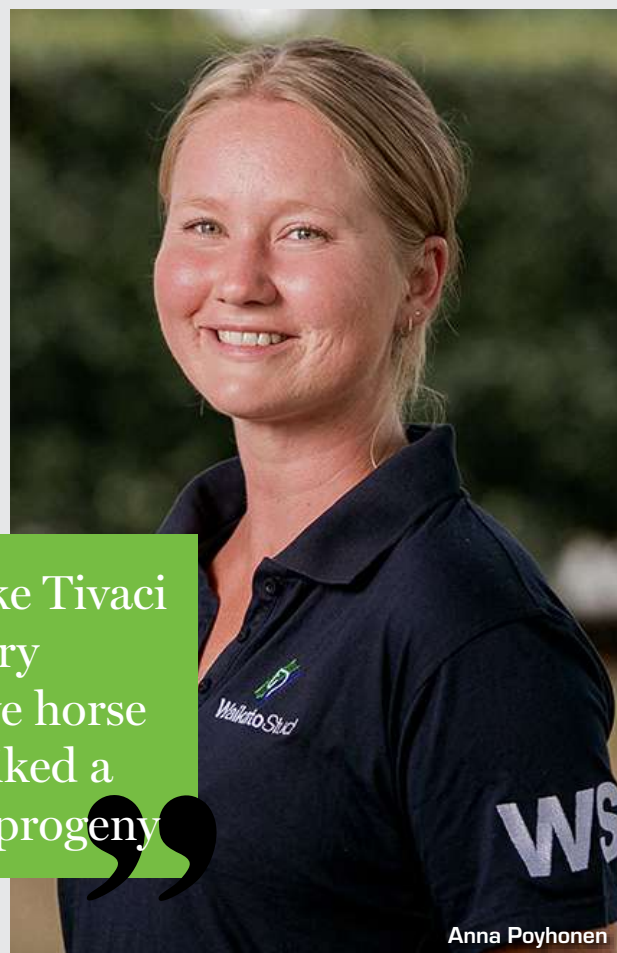
During the season it's full noise at the foaling unit looking after and keeping a beady eye on the mares and newborns. There are treatments to be done, special cases to look after and day foalings to tend to – it's my favourite time of year.

3. How did you become involved in the TB industry?

I suppose it was an accident. I had just left a job outside Melbourne doing winery tours on horseback and was looking for any equine job I could find – someone suggested I give stud work a crack and got my first job at Swettenham Stud. I've yet to regret it.

4. What's the most rewarding part about working at WS?

Getting to work with horses from some of the best families in NZ is certainly up there. And the crew are second to none, such a supportive and epic bunch.



“I really like Tivaci – he's a very impressive horse and I've liked a lot of his progeny”

Anna Poyhonen

5. Favourite WS stallion?

I really like Tivaci - he's a very impressive horse and I've liked a lot of his progeny. He is also the sire of my first pinhook, who gave me some very special memories so I'll always be a fan.

6. Favourite foal in recent years?

Make A Wish's foals always stick with me - they're striking and take after their mother who is just beautiful.

7. Favourite WS graduate to come off the farm & why?

Tonya and Spooning were in my barn for prep my first year at WS and to see them win races has been really exciting to see. They were both a joy to prep and will stick with me for a long time.

8. Favourite memory at WS?

The celebration that followed the last sale day at Karaka in 2019 - there were some incredible results to toast to. To know that the work we put into prepping such a huge draft paid off was such a thrill. Looking back at the success that has come out of that group of yearlings is pretty special too!

9. Favourite genre of music?

I've gotten quite stuck in the 90's. Doesn't really matter what genre but reminds me of my childhood and brings a fat smile to my face.



G1 winner Mo'unga was a 2019 WS graduate

10. Favourite restaurant?

Nothing beats dinner in my parents' kitchen.

11. There's an autobiographical movie being made about you, who do you want to play the role?

Since Charlie's Angels came out, Cameron Diaz has been my only answer. Or maybe Meryl Streep if we're reaching for an Oscar.

THE WINNERS

STUD SHARES IN GUINEAS VICTORY

Waikato Stud celebrated another major success in Australia when Midland trumped his rivals in the Inglis 3YO Guineas at Rosehill.

The Matamata farm shares in the ownership of the son of Brazen Beau, who completed a hat-trick of victories to remain unbeaten this preparation for trainer Kris Lees.

Waikato Stud was part of a group that secured Midland for \$550,000 at the Inglis Classic Yearling Sale from the draft of Murrulla Stud.

He is a half-brother to four winners, including the Listed Strutt S. winner Rock Dove with their dam the Dubawi mare Pouter who was successful on two occasions.

The dam is a half-sister to the Listed Port Adelaide Guineas winner and G2 Spring Championship S. placegetter Exelltastic.

The pedigree page also has a strong international flavour through the presences of the G1 Belmont Mother Goose S. winner

Dreams Galore and her half-brothers Absent Friend and Fateful Dream were both North American Group 3 winners.

Midland has compiled a tidy record so far with four wins and three placings from his nine appearances.



Midland winning the Listed Inglis 3YO Guineas

GAME OCEAN PARK MARE DOESN'T LET TRAINER DOWN

Co-trainer David Eustace was confident Ocean Heart's tenacity would serve her well at Ballarat and he was right on the



Ocean Heart

money when she produced a spirited display to score over 1600 metres.

The Waikato Stud-bred and sold daughter of resident sire Ocean Park settled off the pace and improved near the turn and then finished resolutely under apprentice Josh Richards.

"She really dug deep and she's very tough. I said to Josh she will keep finding the line for you," Eustace said.

"You can't overwork her and the team at the beach has done a great job with her, she takes a little bit of managing." Eustace also heaped praise on three-kilo claimer Richards, who had ridden the 4-year-old to instructions.

"He rides really well and is very measured and gives good feedback. He's a nice, quiet lad and has got a bright future," he said.

Ocean Heart, who was coming off a two-month break to win for the third time from a handful of starts, was bought by Eustace's training partner Ciaran Maher for \$85,000 at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale.

She is out of the unraced O'Reilly mare Heartfelt, who is a half-sister to the G3 South Island Thoroughbred Breeders' S. winner Residential and the Group 1-winning family of Silver Liner and her daughter Petrava.

WELL-BRED SON OF SAVABEEL TRIUMPHS

The well-related Hasabro has produced a steely front-running performance at New

Plymouth to add to his family's proud record.

The Waikato Stud graduate travelled boldly at the head of affairs under rider Sam Spratt and he stayed on tenaciously to score over 1800 metres and continue his impressive run of form this preparation.

"It was a bit of a wait and see on that ground, he's never raced on a track that wet but he was hard and fit," trainer Stephen McKee said.

The son of Savabeel has now won two of his last five starts and placed in the other three, including a runner-up finish in the G2 Easter H.

Hasabro was bred by Waikato Stud and Isabelle O'Shea, wife of leading Sydney trainer John, and was purchased at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale by Go Racing for \$220,000.

The syndication company previously bought his sister Hasahalo for \$110,000 and she subsequently won the G1 New Zealand 1000 Guineas and the G3 Eclipse S.



Hasabro

They are out of the Encosta De Lago mare Halloween, who has also produced the black type-winning sisters All Saints' Eve and All Hallows' Eve.

Daughters of Sacred Falls, All Saints' Eve has been successful four times, including victory in the G3 Tibbie S., from O'Shea's stable while stablemate All Hallows' Eve has won three with her highlight so far success in the G3 James HB Carr S.

NO DOUBT ABOUT THIS COLT

Doubtful Sound had an army of supporters at Ruakaka on Wednesday 6th of May and the red-hot favourite never gave them a moment's concern as he jogged to an effortless victory.

Sent out at less than odds on following a debut second, the 2-year-old son of Not A Single Doubt sat in fifth spot before peeling wide near the turn. He ambled to the front 150 metres from home and drew clear under a kind ride from Leith Innes to win with authority.

Doubtful Sound's ownership group includes Waikato Stud and was purchased as part of a colts' syndicate with trainer Tony Pike and Raffles Racing purchasing him at the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale for AU\$300,000.

Sold by breeder Gerry Harvey's Westbury Stud, the youngster is a half-brother to three winners with their dam the Elusive Quality mare Pure Beauty, who was successful on four occasions.



Doubtful Sound part owned by Waikato Stud winning his maiden

Pierina winning the G2 Travis Stakes



She is a half-sister to the Group 3 winners Spurtonic and Carnegie House while stakes winners and Group 1 performers Frolic, Bam's On Fire and Shovhog all feature in the first two generations of this pedigree.

PIERINA BOLTS AWAY WITH TRAVIS

Savabeel mare Pierina caused a major upset when she dashed clear in the final stages to score a hollow win in the G2 Travis S. at Te Rapa.

The underrated 6-year-old had produced a late finish to run third in the Listed Anzac Mile at Awapuni last time out and appreciated the step up to a middle distance.

The Stephen Marsh-trained mare handled the quick back-up and travelled sweetly beyond midfield for rider Michael McNab and when the gaps opened in the straight she streaked through and cleared out to win by 5l.

"That was a good field and she just destroyed them," Marsh said. "She had just thrived so much off her last run and was ready to go a big race.

"When she came home from Awapuni, I said we'd just take her along quietly and see if we could get her to back-up this week. "She did that well. I had to give her a little breeze-up on Thursday morning, she was that full of herself."

Bred by Waikato Stud with trainer John O'Shea's wife Isabelle, Pierina was sold by the Matamata Farm at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale for NZ\$110,000 to agent Bruce Perry and races in Lib Petagna's colours.

Her dam Quizzical, who was successful twice up to 1600 metres, has now produced a pair of black-type winners with her first Showemup (NZ) (Showcasing {GB}), who won the Listed Inglewood S.

Quizzical is out of a half-sister to the G1 Sydney Cup winner Cross Swords (NZ) (Grosvenor {NZ}) and another headliner act in the within the first two generations of the pedigree is the two-time Group 1 winner Fiveandahalfstar (Hotel Grand).

FABRIC LEADS HOME GROUP QUINELLA

Waikato Stud was the dominant force in the G2 Queen of the South S. at Morphettville with Fabric and Shop Til I Drop quinellaing the mares' feature.

Bred and raced by the Matamata farm, Fabric produced a well-timed finish to lift her future broodmare value when she returns to the nursery.

Trained by Danny O'Brien, the daughter of Ocean Park had

finished runner-up when resuming at Caulfield at her previous appearance and appreciated the step up to 1600 metres.

She enjoyed a good run one off the rail and answered every call from rider Craig Williams in the straight.

"We left the options up to Craig and she's had quite a few races when she's jumped on the speed and sat there and finished off and had races when she's gone back," O'Brien stable representative Ben Gleeson said.

"Craig gave her a peach of a ride and sat a few pairs back and produced her at the right time. She got the stakes win that she deserved as she's been a bit unlucky with a few placings.

"It's great for Waikato Stud and she's a very valuable broodmare prospect now."



Fabric winning the G2 Queen of the South

A half-sister to the Listed Taranaki Oaks Prelude winner Sewreel (NZ) (Savabeel), Fabric is a daughter of the unraced Pins mare Haberdashery (NZ).

She is a half-sister to the G1 Queensland Derby winner Lachlan River (Desert King {Ire}) and the family of the G2 Swettenham Stud S. winner French Bid (Anabaa {USA}).

Shop Til I Drop was purchased by Peachester Lodge for \$270,000 at Karaka and is a daughter of the G2 Angus Armanasco S. winner Shopaholic with the second dam Splashing Out, successful in the G3 Thoroughbred Club S., a three-quarter sister to the late multiple Group 1 winner and producer Sacred Falls.

WAIKATO STUD'S SPRINTING SENSATION DOES IT AGAIN

Excitement machine Courier Wonder turned in another sizzling performance in Hong Kong to add the G3 Sha Tin Vase H. to his burgeoning record.

The 3-year-old son of the late Sacred Falls was stepped up in grade by trainer John Size and he never looked in any danger of defeat to keep his perfect record intact and confirm he is on a path to higher honours.

When the Waikato Stud-bred and sold Courier Wonder was asked for a serious home straight effort by regular rider Joao Moreira he responded impressively.

The G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint is now very much the longer-term target for the gifted short course performer.

"That's where we're heading. There are no races I would want to run him now and I think that he probably showed that he was looking

for a break anyway," Size told the Hong Kong Jockey Club website.

"That was the feeling I got watching the race live. He's got talent and we just have to manage it and try and keep him out of harm's way and then turn him loose on a racetrack."

Moreira has ridden Courier Wonder in all of his appearances and has a growing admiration for the horse.

"In the straight, I pulled him out and he dashed home as he always does – good horses like him give jockeys an amazing feeling," he said. "I'm very excited (for next season), he's the type of horse that everyone dreams to have."

He is one of 20 stakes winners this year to graduate from the premier Matamata farm and highlighted by Group 1 victories from Probabeel (Futurity S.), Mo'unga (Rosehill Guineas) and Amarelinha (New Zealand Oaks).

A brother to this season's G1 Doncaster H. runner-up Icebath, Courier Wonder surged to the front 150 metres from home and, under hands and heels riding, comfortably held his older rivals at bay for his fifth consecutive victory.

Courier Wonder was purchased out of Waikato Stud's draft at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale Karaka for \$150,000 by astute agent John Foote and is a son of the Savabeel mare Fabulist, who won five times.

He was a trial winner at Cranbourne for trainer Rob Hickmott before his sale to Hong Kong interests and relocation to Size's stable.

All five of Fabulist's foals to race have been successful and she is from the family of the G2 Wakefield Challenge S. winner Kapsdan and the Listed winner Eccentricity, whose son Wyndham Glory was a dual stakes winner.



Courier Wonder

KUKERACHA GOES TO ANOTHER LEVEL TO CLAIM GROUP 1 HONOURS

Waikato Stud graduate Kukeracha capitalised on a typically professional ride from James McDonald to land the thick end of the G1 Queensland Derby stake in a driving finish at Eagle Farm.

McDonald didn't cover any extra ground, settling the 3-year-old midfield on the fence and when the field fanned out in the straight they speared between runners and ran out a strong 2400 metres to land his third career victory.

"That was a bit too close for comfort, but I'm just rapt and obviously I was on the right horse. He was cherry ripe, just a very good horse and he deserved it," he said.

Trained by Chris Waller, Kukeracha was bred by Waikato Stud vet Dr Chris Phillips and was sold at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Yearling Sale for \$130,000 to agent Guy Mulcaster on behalf of prominent Queensland owner Neville Morgan.

By the dual Group 1 winner Night Of Thunder, Kukeracha is a son of the American-bred AP Indy mare Portrait Of A Lady who has also produced the G3 Keith Nolan Classic winner Cameo.

Portrait Of A Lady is a half-sister to the dual North American Group 3 winner Layman, also a multiple Group 1 placegetter and the family of the top-flight winner and producer Cape Cross.

Kukeracha was in good form leading into the Derby with placings in both the G2

Queensland Guineas and the G3 Rough Habit Plate.

"The team has done a fantastic job with this horse. We had a great opinion of him as a 2-year-old, but he just lost his way a bit and we gelded him," Waller said.

"His runs in the Guineas and the Rough Habit were both very good and today he was fantastic."



Kukeracha winning the G1 QLD Derby



SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS



THE CORNER

with Garry Chittick



I said when I last wrote that a visit to the Gold Coast was unlikely, unfortunate, but a family wedding, one of the many celebrated with a change of date as a result of Covid meant the days became compressed

One can't jump on a plane and leave when family have taken advantage of the bubble to attend from Australia. Yes there was time for a shortened visit but I had already expressed the view that the sale of off track fillies and mares that wouldn't be embarrassed when mixing with our homebreds would only confirm the merit in our long held policies of breeding our own.

At the time of writing the weanling sale has ended, once again the resilience of our industry is remarkable, an average over \$100k, top price of \$1M. I have now been part of this industry for fifty years (I started whilst in kindergarten) and have seen the many fluctuations in demand but generally the demand and values are a reflection of the money supply at the time. No more so than now, with Governments increasing the

money supply at a reckless rate, the value and return on anyone's hard earned is disturbing. I am not an economist, but an observer of this allocation of largesse. The intended benefit is to alleviate the hardship of those in need, a delicate process, but history will show you that regretfully new money generally finishes up in old accounts. We are seeing this across all top end commodities, fortunately we are a top end product. I just hope we don't boil ourselves dry, we will see how much water there is in the jug over the next week .

So what's ahead of us at Waikato, well it is time to prepare for the 2021 season, the need for farm positions to be filled, our business like

many is short of those with the knowledge and enthusiasm to make some of the sacrifices needed. Our Government in their wisdom has canned the 90 day trial period which enabled employers to identify those who may have had a future in any position or

could see the eyes glaze over, the mind ticking over as he weighed up the options of the ski fields of the world or mucking out but he will join the team, he has seen and enjoyed enough of the studs highs to want to be part of it (I think).

Weigh In where Racing NZ acting Chief Executive would have won an Oscar, taking the allotted time to confirm what we knew, not about where we are or going, but about the current leadership.

Another couple of new sires announced, good on them, we need numbers, at the end of the next five years if one is stepping up to a leadership role it will be great. If only we knew which but then if there was a degree of certainty the big investors would be hard to beat.

Finally, it would seem to me the proposed merger of the Northern racing venues is very dependent on Avondale joining the team. The gist of the proposal is a return on capital invested as a result of venue rationalisation. Good luck, I can understand why Avondale would be reluctant to lose control of their equity to have it invested no doubt with little ongoing input, hm, then based on the projected returns I intend to see if I can attach my spare cash to their fund. Sounds like the Ellerslie Hill may be gone, I am not a steeplechase man so won't really worry me but if you keep selling land they could finish up with only a greyhound track. Aha that may be the plan, they don't require the same stakes.

Cheers,
G



better suited elsewhere, the new minimum wage may well be justified but taking on an unskilled teenager is of little value until they learn. I have a real concern for the young generally, who is going to train them, teach them the skills required for a future fulfilling life. My grandson has shown a smidgeon of interest in being part of Waikato. Great, then I explained he would need to be part of every corner of our activities for at least ten years before a management role. I

We had the launching of our first synthetic track, I wasn't there but it seemed to go well. This is part of our turning the corner, the rumour is some improvement in stakes money, only a month ago Thoroughbred Racing's Chief Executive was holding regional meetings informing attendees not to expect any change. Don't you love these contrary signals, either something has changed or they haven't a clue. Mind you I watched 15 minutes of