

Waikato Weekly

Friday 5th November 2021

ALL THE LATEST NEWS THIS WEEK FROM WAIKATO STUD

Mark's Mail



This week we catch up with George Chittick and Opie Bosson where we hear all the news around the farm, latest tips, their mating of the week and George's exciting news!

[Click above to watch more](#)

I'm sure by now that everyone has heard the news that NZB are shifting Karaka to March for 2022. I want to give a shout out to the sales company for focusing great leadership on making the call early, a move which the industry is positively supporting. We need to do everything possible to have a sale where those that want to come to Karaka and purchase our New Zealand product can do so. Especially with our NZ-bred horses once again doing us proud on the Aussie stage!

I think the date switch is very logical on many different fronts. The positives far outweigh the negatives, and if it's done in consideration with the Australian racing calendar, there's no reason that 2022 couldn't test the waters for a more permanent change to a later date.

One of the main positives I see of a later sale is the benefit for the horses. It's a beautiful time of the year in the Waikato for the next three or four months, and that is the time when a growing horse is usually spending half its time in a box for its yearling preparation. It's a shame that they are not out in these conditions. We're breeding top class 3-year-olds, milers and the like, so that extra six weeks in the paddock will make a huge difference for our style of New Zealand yearling.

This scheduling also fits in really well with the cycle of the thoroughbred season. From a business and staff wellbeing point of view, it means we can focus on the task at hand and get it completed before moving onto the next stage of the cycle. That will provide an opportunity for staff to get away with their families for a few days, in between finishing the breeding season and getting into the busy time of yearling preparation.

So a tip of the hat to New Zealand Bloodstock and its leader Andrew Seabrook for getting this decision made and out to everyone early. We're right behind you!

Staff Pick's Foal Watch

During the season, all areas of the farm chip in to help each other out where they can. This is especially true for the foaling unit, where our team alternate working day and night shifts, ready to help foal down at any moment. It's a great opportunity for everyone to meet most of the foals, and as with everything, a favourite always develops. This week we asked some of the crew who their favourite foals are so far.



Super Seth x Daffodil colt

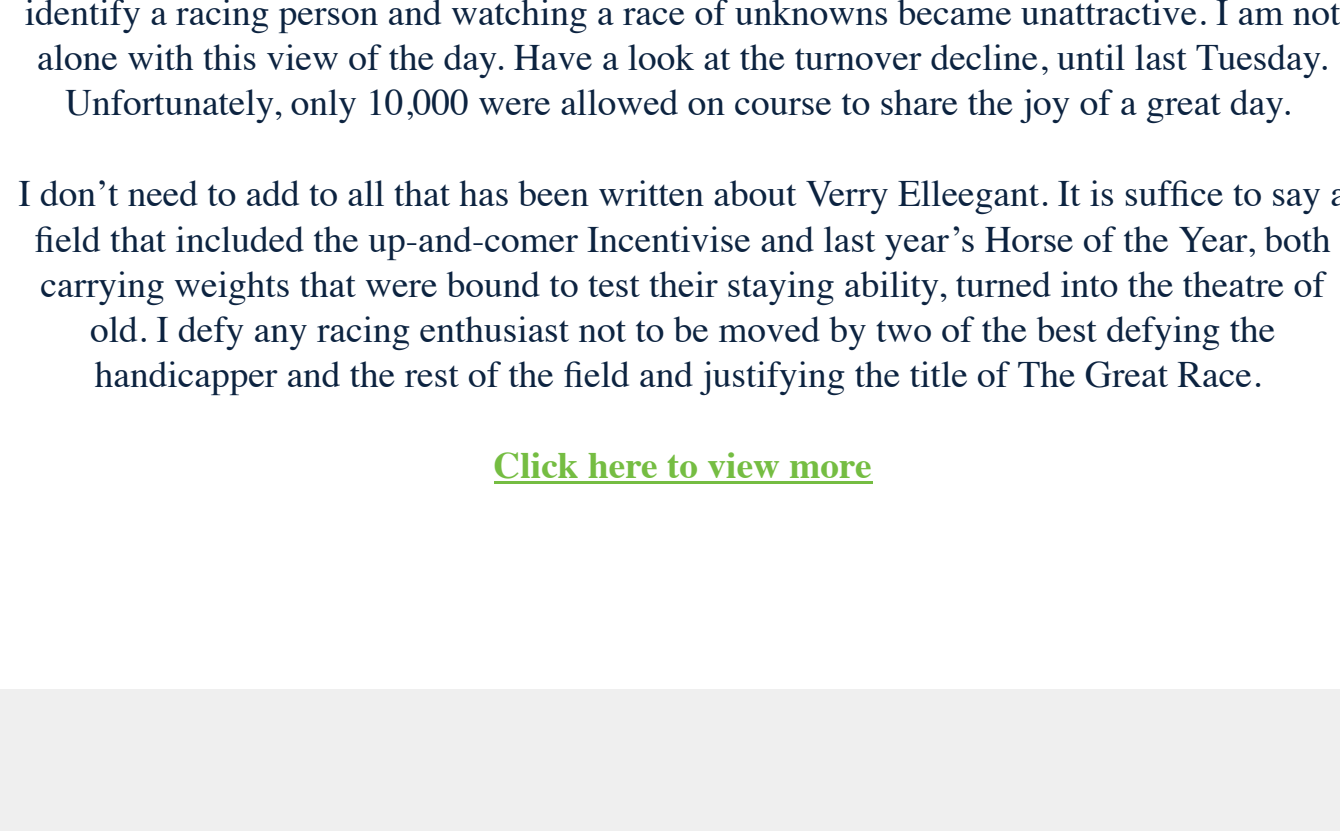
3-time Group 1-winning Champion 3YO, **Daffodil** (No Excuse Needed x Spring) gave birth last week to a Super Seth colt.

This will be Daffodil's sixth foal, and the first colt she has ever had, so the stud is extremely excited to have such a strong and healthy colt delivered. Daffodil's family features the exciting filly **Atishu** (Savabeel) and multiple Group winner **Aegon** (Sacred Falls).



Super Seth x Fabulist filly

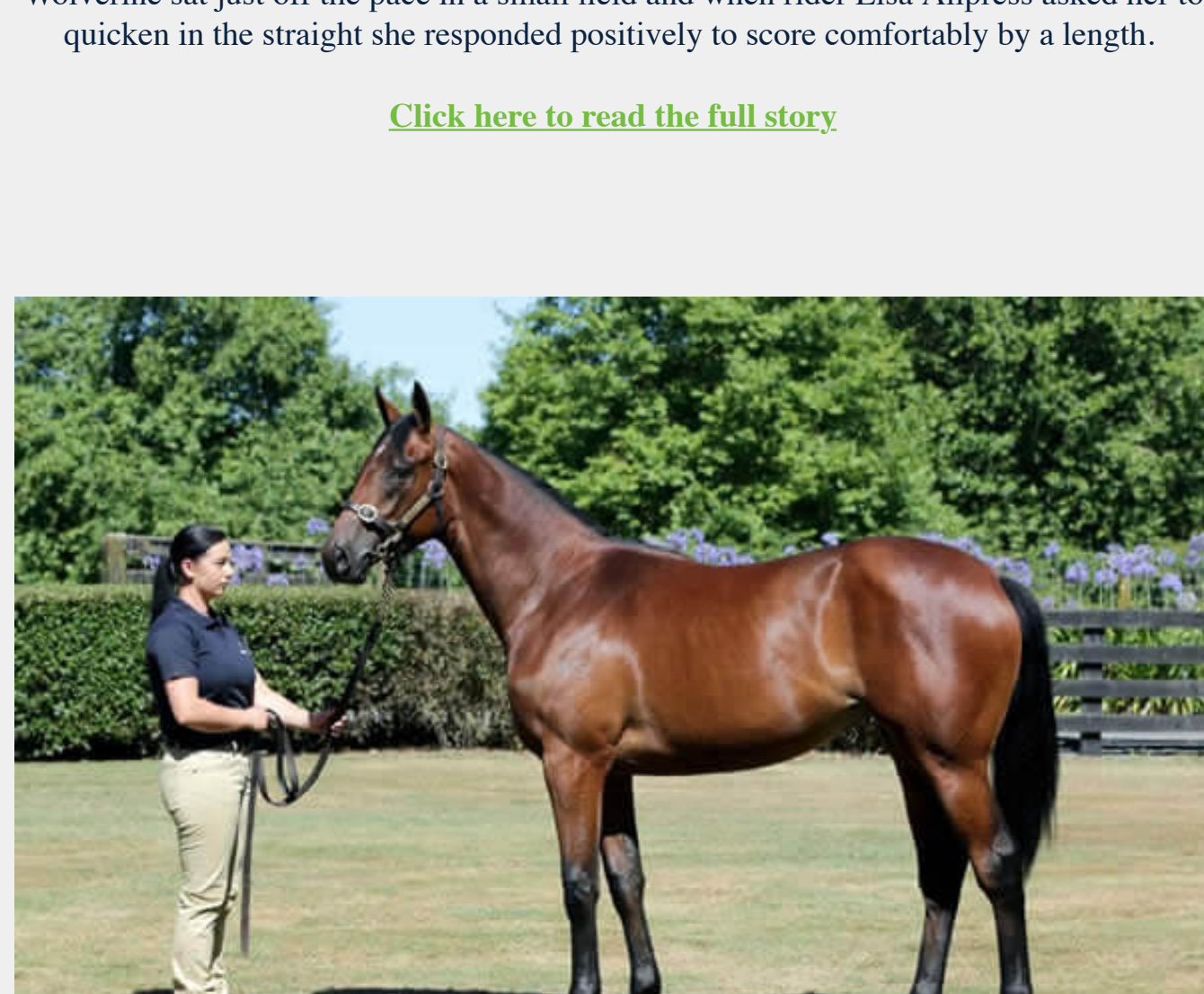
Just a few weeks after **Icebath** (Sacred Falls) won the \$2m The Invitation, her dam **Fabulist** (Savabeel x Fontaine) decided it was a good time to have a Super Seth filly. As well as Icebath, she is also the dam of stakes winner **Courier Wonder** and **Nowyousee**, and stakes performer **Just Fabulous**.



Savabeel x Chandelier colt

As Mark introduced last week, a full-brother to **Mo'unga** (Savabeel) was born last Friday morning. He is a lovely colt, with lovely white markings. **Chandelier** (O'Reilly) is a Group 3 performer and is the dam of two foals to race, including **Mo'unga** and **Captain Morgan**.

The Corner with Garry Chittick



This week in Garry's Corner

What a week. We have a lot going on - He Puapua, Three Waters, COVID lockdown, then to brighten our life, the annual Melbourne Cup.

It's worthwhile trying to put these events into perspective. I have before lauded the history of the horse. Think about it. 161 runnings of the Cup, a couple of interruptions, but the only thing about the Cup that has changed significantly is the field size. I haven't researched the spread of weights, however in recent years there has been a compressing of the handicapping to encourage better weight for age horses to participate. The handicapping is part of the legend. Trainers connived to get a start with the minimum weight without missing out. Punters pitted their IQ against the handicapper, identified horses months in advance of the big race to better their odds. The weight carriers of the past were legendary.

The VRC's desire to internationalise the race led to the weight compression. Horses with dubious reputations made the field at the expense of the once conniving locals. There is no doubt that horses arriving, taking the benefit of attractive weights, and unknown to the locals, changed the charisma of the day. Mary and I attended both Derby Day and Cup Day in the first week of November for many years, then we attended Derby Day only. It's not our grapes but being amongst 100,000 people where it became harder to identify a racing person and watching a race of unknowns became unattractive. I am not alone with this view of the day. Have a look at the turnover decline, until last Tuesday. Unfortunately, only 10,000 were allowed on course to share the joy of a great day.

I don't need to add to all that has been written about Verry Elleegant. It is suffice to say a field that included the up-and-comer Incentivise and last year's Horse of the Year, both carrying weights that were bound to test their staying ability, turned into the theatre of old. I defy any racing enthusiast not to be moved by two of the best defying the handicapper and the rest of the field and justifying the title of The Great Race.

[Click here to view more](#)

Winner's Celebration



Wolverine on top at Otaki

Tivaci was represented by his first 2-year-old winner when Thursday afternoon produced a dashing debut display at Otaki on Thursday afternoon.

The Waikato Stud stallion has made a cracking start to his career which most notably features the Chittick family's G1 Flight S. winner and G1 Spring Champion S. runner-up **Never Been Kissed**.

Wolverine sat just off the pace in a small field and when rider Lisa Allpress asked her to quicken in the straight she responded positively to score comfortably by a length.

[Click here to read the full story](#)



Shoshone pictured as a yearling

Shoshone (Sacred Falls x Dee I Why (Zabeel)) clocked up another comfortable win on Saturday at Tauranga.

Trained by Bev and Ken Kelson, the 5YO mare won the Tauranga Contributor at Mapperley H. by 4.5 lengths.

She was a \$150,000 NZB Karaka Yearling Sale purchase for her trainers and Waterford Bloodstock. She has a full-brother going to the 2021 NZB Ready to Run Sales. There is also a half-brother, by **Ardrossan**, going to the 2022 NZB Karaka Yearling Sale.

The King's ONES TO Watch

WHAT'S HOT THIS WEEK FROM MICHAEL COLEMAN

The winner of 2131 races, an amazing 192 of those at Group/ Listed level, local royalty Mickey Coleman (also known as 'The King') has retired from racing and begun his next chapter at Waikato Stud.

WS BRED: NOVERRE

Noverre (2018 Savabeel x Magic Dancer colt)

Trainer: Jamie Richards

Jockey: Opie Bosson

Has had 2 wins including the G3 War of Decree S. at Canterbury two weeks ago

Upcoming Race: Saturday 6th November, Riccarton, G1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai NZ 2000 Guineas, 1600m, Race 8

OUTSIDER: MARIA FARINA

Maria Farina (2017 Contributor x La Vitesse mare)

Trainer: Darryn Weatherley

Jockey: Courtney Barnes

She has had 3 wins in her career to date, with the most recent at Hastings in the Livamol Classic last month

Upcoming Race: Saturday 6th November, Te Rapa, Dunstan Horse Feeds 1300m, Race 7

News

The Melbourne Cup at the WS



The race that stops the nation, and WS! Our whole team gathered at 5pm at The White Horse to watch the race. We had close eyes on **The Chosen One** (Savabeel) and **Ocean Billy** (Ocean Park), as well as **Incentivise** who is a half-brother to resident stallion **Ardrossan**.

Massive congratulations to the Kiwi team Chris Waller and James McDonald for a heck of a ride on the 10-time Group 1-winning Kiwi bred mare, **Verry Elleegant**.

A huge congratulations to all our owners and trainers involved in getting all of these incredible horses running in one of the most prolific races in the Southern Hemisphere.

Racing News

Tivaci juvenile impresses on debut

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Farm graduate back to her best

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So easy at Tauranga for Shoshone

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Oceanic flash one to follow

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Mare shows staying potential

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