

Waikato Weekly

Friday 12th November 2021

ALL THE LATEST NEWS THIS WEEK FROM WAIKATO STUD

Mark's Mail

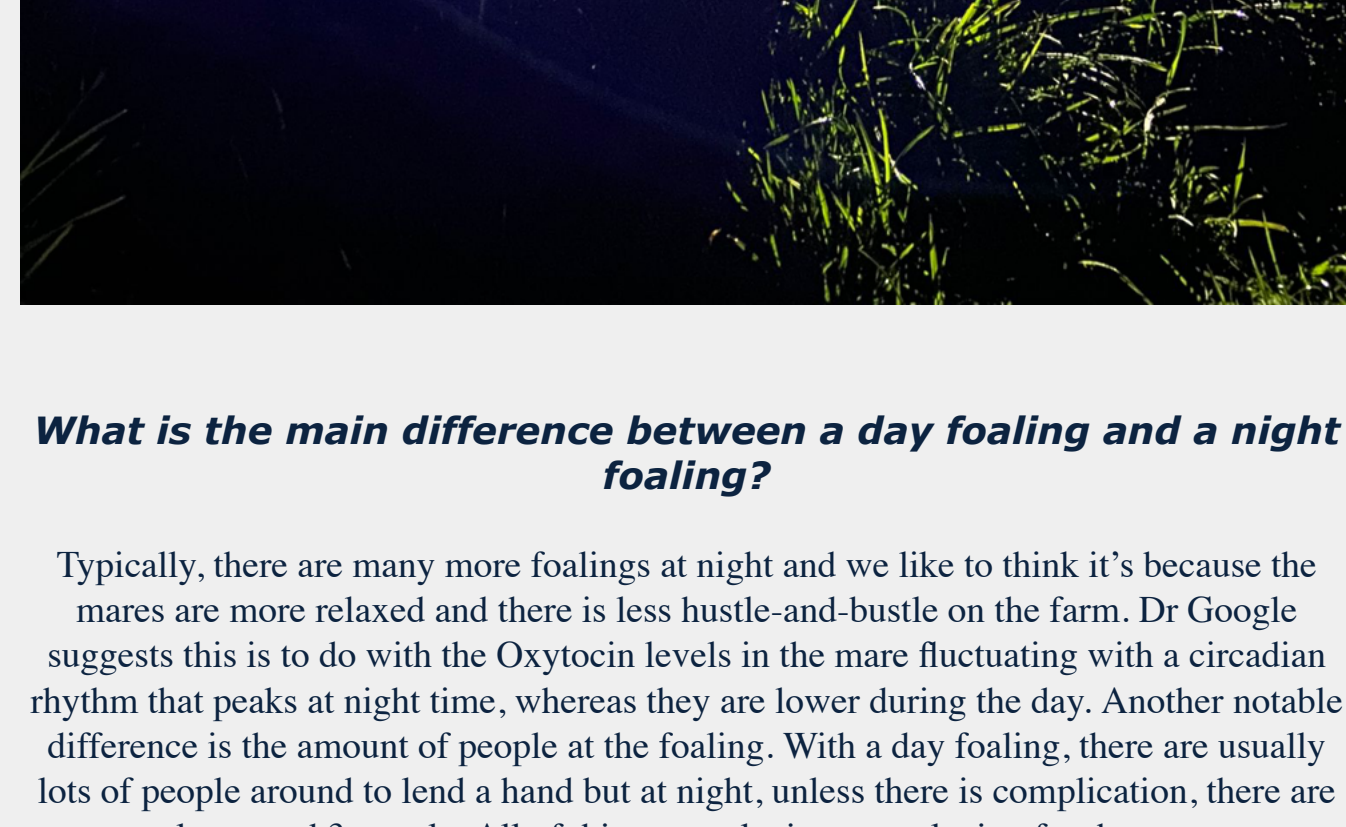


This week in Mark's Mail we catch up with our amazing Night Watch team, who tell us all about what is involved when working nights, foaling down, dealing with tricky situations and why they love working in the foaling unit.

[Click above to watch more.](#)

Catching up with the Night Watch girls

We catch up with the dream team who are responsible for delivering all our WS foals and we find out what is involved in being a member of the amazing night watch team.



What does a standard night foaling look like for your team?

We arrive at 8pm to start our shift until 6am. When we get there, we usually do a check around the paddock assessing the mares' behaviour, seeing if they have waxed up etc. Throughout the night we keep a close eye on suspicious ones, and usually put reflective head collars on them so they are easy to see with the spotlight. Once a mare breaks waters we bring them into a small yard, radio the person on call so we have an extra set of hands, and then have a feel for the presentation of the foal. When contractions start we usually help the mare and support her through the process to make sure the foal is delivered safely.

How do you find staying awake, what are some things you do to keep alert?

Listening to music helps, and if you start feeling dozy usually there is a box we can clean out or walk a lap of the paddock checking the mares.



What is the main difference between a day foaling and a night foaling?

Typically, there are many more foalings at night and we like to think it's because the mares are more relaxed and there is less hustle-and-bustle on the farm. Dr Google suggests this is to do with the Oxytocin levels in the mare fluctuating with a circadian rhythm that peaks at night time, whereas they are lower during the day. Another notable difference is the amount of people at the foaling. With a day foaling, there are usually lots of people around to lend a hand but at night, unless there is complication, there are only around 3 people. All of this can make it more relaxing for the mare.

What are the most mares you have had to foal down in one night shift?

Some nights we haven't had any foals, whereas others we have filled all 6 foaling yards!

The Waikato Gallery

We've captured some pretty special scenes over the last few weeks, so we thought we'd share a few of them in this week's Waikato Gallery.



Winner's Celebration



Noverre (2018 Savabeel ex Magic Dancer colt)

Noverre went into the G1 Al Basti Equivroul Dubai New Zealand 2000 Guineas as \$1.90 favourite with Champion jockey Opie Bosson aboard. Racing at the rear of the field, Bosson finally got racing room out wide and Noverre accelerated to victory. Starting off back in the field for a portion of the race, Bosson found the game and Noverre came comfortably home for the win. An \$800,000 NZB National Yearling Sale purchase for Te Akau Racing's David Ellis, the 3-year-old colt really started to turn heads after his last start win in the G3 War Decree S.

This is now the fifth winner of the 2000 Guineas to be born and bred by WS in the last 10 years. Other winners include **Sacred Falls** (O'Reilly) back in 2012, who subsequently came back to the stud, and also the likes of **Embellish**, a son of Savabeel, who currently stands at Cambridge Stud. In 2018 it was **Madison County** (Pins) that took the crown, and **Aegon** (Sacred Falls) in 2020.

This week on Garry's Corner



This week on Garry's Corner

It should not be difficult to fill a couple of paragraphs for the four of you this week. Not often do the best laid plans of man and mouse collude with the dream outcome.

Last Saturday, the G1 2000 Guineas was the culmination of another well planned assault on the time honoured race. Te Akau have not won seven 2000 Guineas as a result of a casual approach. Sure, David invests a lot of money, he is indeed a fearless syndicator but he buys and exercises his judgement, then goes to his supporters trusting they will buy into his aspiration. His mantra is if you attempt to put to bed a group before purchase, you have a committee making the decision. Doesn't work.

I am a shareholder in **Noverre**. I was the vendor, aha you say, so it was a stitch up. Well, when you are attempting to sell the number of horses we do, I can assure the last thing you need is a reputation for pre auction deals. We sell 80 of our homebreds a year, we need more than one buyer. Our reputation is everything to us and our brand.

My shareholding is less than I asked for post sale, David had placed the shareholding before the day was done and I got what was left.

So there was no one more excited with the result than we at Waikato. We too, have an enviable record, breeding five of the last 10 winners of the Guineas, or four of the last five. Easy you reckon, when you are lucky enough to stand **Savabeel**, **Pins** (**Madison County**), **Sacred Falls** (**Aegon**) and **O'Reilly**. It shows we have had a fair spread of Waikato sires who played their role.

[Click here to view more](#)

The King's Tips

OUTSIDER: THE PERFECT PINK

The Perfect Pink (2018 Savabeel x The Solitaire filly)

Jockey: Opie Bosson

Trainer: Jamie Richards

After a win in the NZB Insurance Mdn at Cambridge in September, she came out in the G3 Matamata Veterinary Services Soliloquy S. for a trying fourth

Upcoming Race: Saturday 13th November, Riccarton, G1 Barneswood Farm 49th NZ 1000 Guineas, 1600m, Race 8

OUTSIDER: BEAUDZ WELL

Beaudz Well (2016 Zed x Celtic Rose gelding)

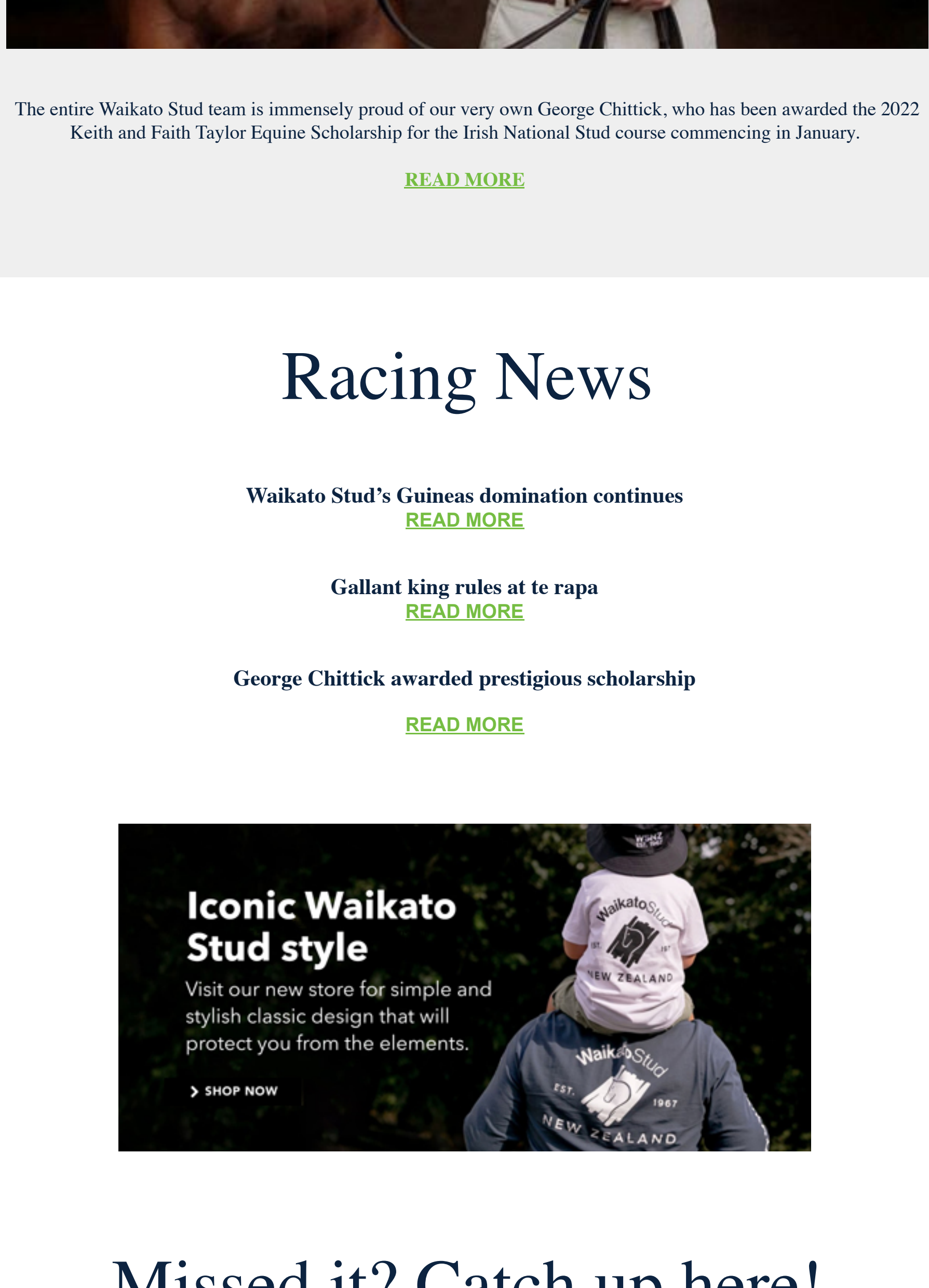
Jockey: Sam Weatherley

Trainer: John Wheeler

He has placed second in his last two starts, including the Listed Metropolitan Trophy H. and Listed Staphanos Classic

Upcoming Race: Saturday 13th November, Riccarton, G3 Martin Collins 158th New Zealand Cup, 3200m, Race 10

News on the farm



The entire Waikato Stud team is immensely proud of our very own George Chittick, who has been awarded the 2022 Keith and Faith Taylor Equine Scholarship for the Irish National Stud course commencing in January.

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Racing News

Waikato Stud's Guineas domination continues

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Gallant king rules at te rapa

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George Chittick awarded prestigious scholarship

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