

Guess who's back, back again



The band is back!

Our boy **I Wish I Win** has unfinished business for New Zealand in the TAB Everest, so we're heading back to Randwick with **Trackside New Zealand & Entain**. Let's make that wish come true!

[Message from Mark](#)

Nine-time Champion Sire, Savabeel



Our legend **Savabeel** claimed his **ninth NZ Champion Sire** title, sweeping the trifecta of stallion earnings awards: the Dewar for Australasia, the Centaine for global, and the Grosvenor for NZ.

Savabeel sired four **G1 winners** this season, three bred by WS: I Wish I Win, Atishu, Skew Wiff & top filly **Orchestral** bred by Barneswood Farm.

A big thank you to all who continue to support him.

[Read more here](#)

Champion New Zealand First-Season Sire



We're super proud of our **NZ Champion First Season Sire, Super Seth**. Across the ditch, exciting colt **Linebacker** (ex Garden Of Swans) became his first stakes winner, claiming the **G3 Baillieu S.** before running an honest 2nd in the **G1 Champagne S.** followed by **Super Photon** (ex Chandelier), winner of the Listed Veterinary Centre S. winner at Te Rapa.

WS Broodmare Sire Premiership trifecta



With **14 individual stakes winners** and **\$8.3m in earnings**, **O'Reilly's** legacy lives on. Our late great sire Pins and legend Savabeel completed the season in 2nd and 3rd, respectively.

Super Seth back in style



2YO Super Seth filly **Diablo Blanco** (ex Phoebe Snow) took her first step toward an elite level spring target with an effortless resuming victory for Richard Didham last Saturday.

Congratulations team, we can't wait to follow her spring campaign!

[Read more here](#)

Congratulations Emma and Ryan!



Congratulations to our valuable team member **Ryan Figgins**, who claimed the Dedication To Breeding Award and to **Emma Smith** who was named the Dedication To Racing Award recipient at the Entain Industry Excellence Awards.

Thank you for all you do Ryan and Emma, your WS family are very proud of you!

Join the team!

WE'RE HIRING!

Join our team as the **Assistant Dry Mare Manager**



Join our team as an **Assistant Dry Mare Manager**. If you have a passion for breeding and relevant experience, we want to hear from you.

Learn more about the role and [apply here](#)

Saturday's racing



The 2024/25 racing season has officially kicked off, and we are excited for what is to come!

Flemington

Race 1 - **Jazzclub** (Ardrossan x Vanilla Essence) - Ciaron Maher

Ruakaka

Race 5 - 1600m **Light Of Plutus** (Savabeel x Villifye) - B Wallace & G Cooksley

Race 6 - 1200m **Cyber Patch** (Ocean Park x Showus) - Catherine Cameron

Doomben

Race 8 - 1350m **Wairere Falls** (Savabeel x Iguazu's Girl) - Chris Waller

Riccarton

Race 3 - 1200m **Liquid Blue** (Ocean Park x Keeperinmind) - John Blackadder

Best of luck!



The years come and go. I should know, having celebrated 80 years of inhabiting this earth. However, this is not about me. No, the Corner is about celebrating a racing year passed, a summary of our year's results.

We have a great deal to be proud of. The receipt of all three stallion awards by Savabeel confirms his place in the annals of NZ breeding history. Yes, the Grosvenor award did not grace our mantelpiece last year, and congratulations to the recipient. However, it is the Centaine award that we aspire to. This award measures the international achievements of our sire, which should be the aspiration of those of us standing stallions.

I am researching the number of individual Group One winners we have been fortunate enough to breed. However, in the meantime, let's just reflect on the past year. My research suggests only one well-known Australasian stud has bred

more Group One winners than Waikato. Coming first is great, but coming second confirms just how difficult it is to breed Group One winners. Three doesn't sound like a lot until you realise we sit isolated with this accolade.

We occasionally hear, "Well, it's easy. You have more mares, you have a champion sire." And yes, we do. Comparative commentary leads to all sorts of debate, so I will just say on our behalf that our sense of achievement and enjoyment, resulting from the confirmation that we are doing something right, is enough.

The ability to source sire prospects is definitely becoming increasingly difficult. I challenged a well-known Irishman visiting to nominate, at the season's close today, the three-year-old sire prospects in Australia. He could think of four. When you consider there are 8,000 colts of that age in Australasia, he may be a little harsh, and I am sure there will be those colts given a chance that will surprise us. We at Waikato have to fend off the argument that we are lucky with our sire selection. Our response: invest as much as we do, and it may improve your luck.

Which leads me to Super Seth. He has a long way to go, but his eight two-year-old winners topped off with two Stakes winners is as good a start as our previous boys have given us. Reports are more than encouraging; we are entitled to have a spring in our step.

Noverre has his first crop on the ground. Those of you who have seen him don't need me to tell you what a superb thoroughbred he is. Those of you with his first crop will know he has fulfilled his promise to date.

May all breeders celebrate our annual August 1st birthday and aspire to join us in breeding the best. Our 130 winners, 15 Stakes winners, and 3 Group One winners may not be achievable every year, but it may well be your year. If so, we will share your joy as you can share ours.

Keep at it. There will be no results if you don't.

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