

Sunday 7 April 2019

## BRUTAL CLAIMS \$3 MILLION G1 DONCASTER MILE



*Brutal wins the \$3 million Gr.1 Doncaster Handicap (1600m) (Bradley Photography)*

Riding at his lowest weight for 10 years, Glen Boss has steered three-year-old **Brutal (NZ)** (O'Reilly) to what he describes as the easiest of his record seven wins in the Doncaster Mile at Randwick.

Now domiciled in Singapore, 49-year-old Boss jumped at the opportunity offered by Hawkes Racing to ride Brutal on Saturday at 49.5kg, the weight he rode aboard So You Think (NZ) (High Chaparral) in the first of his two Cox Plates in 2009.

"I'm in awe of the colt," Boss said.

"I know they've got light weights and he got himself in a spot but he just cantered to the 1000 metres.

"He just felt confident underneath me. There was never a point in the race when I thought I was going to lose.

"That's the easiest Doncaster I have ever won. That was painless."

For the Hawkes family, it was also like turning back the clock with patriarch John Hawkes claiming the race in 2000 when Darren Gauci won on three-year-old Over (Dr. Grace) who carried 51.5kg to beat Sunline (NZ)

(Desert Sun).

John Hawkes is now in a training partnership with his sons Michael and Wayne and the team had faith in Brutal who went to the race off a second to Winx (Street Cry) in the George Ryder Stakes.

"These owners have been fantastic for us," Michael Hawkes said.

"They've let us do what we wanted to do.

"He's a super colt. He's an absolute star."

*Continued on page 3*



# SWEYNESSE

*Sweynesse is a chip  
off the old block*

**Darren Beadman**

*Sweynesse, is a son of former champion racehorse and super sire Lonhro. Beadman rode Lonhro in most of his 26 wins and he gets to work with many of that horse's sons and daughters at Godolphin.*

- A multiple Group One performer (2nd G1 Randwick Guineas, 3rd G1 Spring Champion) beating some of the best 3YO Group One winners in Australia including Kermedec, Preferment, Hampton Court, Shooting To Win, First Seal.
- Winner of first four starts including dual Group 3 wins in the Spring Stakes and Gloaming Stakes.
- A winner at only start as a 2YO.
- A top 3YO Timeform rating of 122 makes Sweynesse one of the top Australian 3YO colts of his year.
- By Lonhro -The Champion 3YO, the Champion miler, the Horse of the Year, and now a Champion sire. Lonhro set a new Australian record of 160 individual winners in a season. His son Pierro, unbeaten juvenile Triple Crown winner, was rated the best juvenile colt in Australia since 1977.
- Out of the multiple winning mare Swansea by Champion Sire Singspiel (5xG1 Winner and sire of 98SW).
- Sweynesse is a magnificent individual. He stands 16.2 hh. He has a powerful hind quarter, a strong shoulder and a great athletic walk. He is very correct.
- Sweynesse is syndicated amongst many of New Zealand's top breeders who are strongly supporting him at stud.



**Ray Knight**

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# BRUTAL CLAIMS \$3 MILLION G1 DONCASTER MILE

(Continued from page 1)

Boss rode Brutal a half kilogram over his 49kg handicap and tracked the leader Dreamforce (Fastnet Rock).

The pair kicked clear in the straight and Brutal eventually got the upper hand by a length with Hartnell (Authorized) leading the rest of the pack another 1-1/2 lengths away.

"When you've got 49kg you can do that," Hawkes said.

"He (Boss) just coasted there and let him do what he had to do."

"I've got grey hair and not much

left but I've still got the passion to go the hard yards to do this thing," he said.

"To get down to the 49.5kg shows I've still got the drive to test myself. Victories like this make it all worthwhile.

Damian Lane said he thought momentarily he might have pinched the race on the John Thompson-trained Dreamforce.

"I thought he gave a really good kick at the top of the rise, almost

a winning kick, but Brutal was too strong," he said.

Fellow jockey Hugh Bowman said Hartnell ran his usual honest race while Tommy Berry, who rode Japanese visitor Kluger (King Kamehameha) to fourth place said he had done well.

"He went enormous," Berry said.

"I think the speed of race is a little bit different here and probably 2000 metres would suit him better.

"But if he goes there he is going to run into the mare (Winx). So it's a tough one for him but he acquitted himself really well today."

-AAP



|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>ATC Doncaster H. Gr.1 1600m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Brutal (NZ) 2015</b>  |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>R&amp;C Legh Racing Pty Ltd, Puiltano Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd, B&amp;C Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd, Mr SJ Bates, Mrs DL Bates, Mr HJ Chapman, Mrs JS Wallis, Mr DV Russo, Gurners Bloodstock Co</b> |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Michael, Wayne &amp; John Hawkes (Rosehill)</b>   |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by O'Reilly out of Alberton Princess by Golan (IRE)</b>   |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Mrs R Kerr-Taylor &amp; Mrs A K Storey</b>  |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2017 National Yearling Sale - Premier; V: Mapperley Stud Ltd, P: Hawkes Racing; \$220,000</b>   |

Brutal returns to scale with connections (Bradley Photography)





# NICOLETTA GETS HER GROUP ONE



Nicoletta (inner) holds out Supera and Luvaluva to gain a deserved Group One victory (Trish Dunell)

**G**ritty mare **Nicoletta (NZ)** (Savabeel) is no longer a bridesmaid at the elite level after claiming her maiden Group One title in Saturday's Fiber Fresh New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m) at Te Aroha.

The Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained five-year-old had been a Group Three winner earlier in her career but her best results at the highest level had been a third placed finish in the Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m) at Te Rapa and a similar placing in last year's edition of the Te Aroha feature.

Racing in the colours of owner Lib Petagna, Nicoletta had disappointed somewhat in her three runs in her current campaign however she hinted

a return to form was imminent when battling on nicely when finishing close up in the Gr.2 Japan NZ International Trophy (1600m) at Tauranga last month.

Some inspired pre-race instructions from co-trainer Andrew Forsman and an inch-perfect effort from rider Jake Bayliss saw the Savabeel mare dictate terms from the front throughout. Nicoletta established a break on her nearest pursuers turning for home before staving off the fast-closing Supera and Australian visitor Luvaluva in a desperate finish to the contest.

"He (Bayliss) rode her a treat," Forsman said.

"She's twice Group One-placed and is deserving of a Group One win so I'm glad she's got it.

"He timed it to perfection as I said just out-stay them as she won't beat them in a sprint home.

"He took it to them and she was just the toughest, fittest horse. They were coming at her late, but he got it right."

Forsman was pleased the mare had finally picked up some racing luck after things had not gone to plan in recent starts.

"She just hasn't had anything go right," he said.

"She hasn't been going poorly and looked outstanding today.

"I said to Jake that she was hard-fit and ready to go so put her in the race and give her her chance.

"She is good enough to beat these

*Continued on page 5*





# NICOLETTA GETS HER GROUP ONE

(Continued from page 4)

types of horses and she showed that today.”

For Bayliss the victory was his third at Group One level and a nice farewell present as he prepares to head home to Queensland for a three-month stint before returning to New Zealand later in the year.

“I gave her a little bit of a chance just because of the way she was going to be ridden although there were some quality horses in the field,” he said.

“When you lead like that you set it up for the back-markers but she stuck

to her guns, it was just a brave brave run.

“It’s my third Group One and Mum was here to watch it, so it’s something special.

“I’m off to Brisbane again in two weeks’ time for the carnival and then some family time but you will see me back here again in August.”

A \$90,000 purchase from the 2015 Karaka Yearling Sale, Nicoletta has now won five of her 30 starts and over \$384,000 in prizemoney.

– NZ Racing Desk

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Te Aroha JC New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders S. Gr.1 1600m</b>                                   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Nicoletta (NZ) 2013</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>JML Bloodstock Ltd (Mgr: L Petagna)</b>   |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Murray Baker &amp; Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)</b>   |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Savabeel (AUS) out of Celtic Crown (USA) by Doneraile Court (USA)</b>                          |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Goodwood Stud Ltd</b>   |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2015 National Yearling Sale – Select Sale; V: Goodwood Stud, P: Bruce Perry B/stock; \$90,000</b> |

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Stewart adds to Toowoomba Cup collection

Jockey Brad Stewart produced one of his best rides to land his second Toowoomba Cup on **The Lord Mayor (NZ)** (Rock ‘n’ Pop), 20 years after winning his first.

Stewart won the Toowoomba Cup on Gene’s Interest in 1999 and has ridden more than 1000 winners since but few have been better rides.

He got The Lord Mayor one off the fence behind the leaders and stalked them to the home turn.

In the straight he won a slog with Kubis (Love Conquers All) while Mishani Vaidra (Show A Heart) came from last to be third.

Stewart only picked up the ride when Ryan Maloney couldn’t make the weight.

Champion trainer Chris Waller continued his domination of Queensland staying races with the The Lord Mayor.

Waller’s Queensland manager Paul Shailer said the trainer Waller had sent The Lord Mayor north to chase the Brisbane Cup in June.

“This was an ideal race in which to start him in middle-distance races. He has run in Group One races and never been disgraced,” Shailer said.

“His two runs from a spell have been good and I must pay tribute to Ryan (Maloney) for recommending we put blinkers on him.

“We threw plenty of ammo at today’s race and we have a bit more to come,” Shailer said.

Stewart said he had the run of the race but Kubis had refused to give in and The Lord Mayor had just been too strong.

The Lord Mayor is raced by brothers Chas and Cam Stewart who also have top stayer Order Again.

Dale Smith said Kubis had tried his heart out and could win a good race.

“He led and just kept fighting,” Smith said.

Josh Oliver said Mishani Vaidra has been forced to give away too much start.

# PREFERMENT *impressive foals...*



Ex Preloved (TEOFILO)



Ex Moodhilla (EXCEED & EXCEL)



Ex Keep Smiling (STRAVINSKY)





# GUTSY MARE TAKES OUT MANAWATU BREEDERS' STAKES

Cambridge galloper **Fiscal Fantasy** (Skilled) had to call on all her reserves on Friday to take out the Gr.3 Property Brokers Arohanui Hospice Manawatu Breeders' Stakes (2000m) at Awapuni.

The Frank Ritchie-trained mare jumped from barrier 12 and settled towards the rear of the field for jockey Leith Innes, where she remained throughout.

Innes had to steer his charge to the extreme outside of the track when turning for home and the daughter of Skilled was able run down her opposition and nab Monrecour (NZ)

(Zacinto) on the line to win by a neck, with Lubaya (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) a further 1-1/2 lengths back in third.

Ritchie said he headed into the race with reserved expectations given his mare's wide barrier, but he was delighted to get the result.

"When we got the wide draw I thought 'not again', because she has been beaten by wide draws so many times. As the day went on it didn't look quite so bad," he said.

"She is a real sweetheart. She has got a heart much bigger than herself, because she's tiny. She never gives it away."

Ritchie said he was on the cusp of not bringing Fiscal Fantasy south for the race, but he is glad he did and she will now possibly head to the Gr.2 Travis Stakes (2000m) at Te Rapa later this month.

"To be honest I had some trepidation about coming down for this race because she's had a hard season," Ritchie said. "But I gave her a bit of a break and the owners were all keen, so it's

more their race than mine.

"She's had a hard season, but she's as tough as they come. I guess now, on this, we will have a look at the Travis Stakes. It's three weeks away. She had to show today that she was up to it (and she was), so we will look at that."

– NZ Racing Desk

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Manawatu RC Manawatu Breeders Gr.3 2000m</b>                      |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Fiscal Fantasy (AUS) 2014</b>                                     |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>P G Archer, G I Barnett, R H Jensen &amp; F T Ritchie</b>         |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Frank Ritchie (Cambridge)</b>                                     |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Skilled (AUS) out of Villa Igea (AUS) by Papal Power (USA)</b> |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Wingrove Park Pty Ltd</b>   |



*Fiscal Fantasy winning the Gr.3 Property Brokers Arohanui Hospice Manawatu Breeders' Stakes (2000m) at Awapuni. (Peter Rubery (Race Images Palmerston North))*



# SHOCKING (AUS)

Street Cry – Maria Di Castaglia, (Danehill)

## PROVEN YOUNG CUPS & CLASSICS SIRE (already sire of **16** Stakes Horses)

### FANATIC

Won WRC New Zealand Oaks-**Gr.1**  
Won SAJC Adelaide Cup-**Gr.2**  
Won MRC Sandown Cup-**L**

### CHOCANTE

Won BRC Brisbane Cup-**Gr.2**  
Won Counties RC Counties Cup-**Gr.3**  
3rd ATC Metropolitan Handicap-**Gr.1**  
3rd NSW Tatt's RC Chelmsford Stakes-**Gr.2**

### THE HASSLER

Won ARC Championship Stakes-**Gr.2**

### SURPRISE BABY

Won SAJC Adelaide Cup-**Gr.2**

### SHOCKING LUCK

Won BRC Rough Habit Plate-**Gr.3**  
2nd Waikato RC Waikato Guineas-**Gr.2**

### PURE PRIDE

Won VRC Paris Lane Handicap-**L**  
2nd VRC Blazer Stakes-**Gr.2**

### TIANCHI MONSTER

Won ARC 3YO Salver-**L**  
Close-up behind Furore in Hong Kong Derby-**Gr.1**

### ANTONIO GIUSEPPE

2nd ATC Metropolitan Handicap-**Gr.1**  
2nd ATC Sky High Stakes-**Gr.3**  
2nd ATC Kingston Town Stakes-**Gr.3**

### ARCTIC SHOCK

3rd *March's* MVRC Alexandra Stakes-**Gr.3**

**SURPRISE BABY** takes *March's* **\$400,000 Gr.2 Adelaide Cup** (3200m), at his sixth start.



2019 target – Gr.1 MELBOURNE CUP



**"I love this horse...**

*He's got a sharp turn of foot, and he's very tough."*

Trainer - **Paul Preusker**

## International Demand for his Progeny

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# BERIMAN AND MAHER COMBINE FOR STAKES WIN

**N**ikita Beriman and trainer Ciaron Maher have wound back the clock with a stakes race win at Caulfield.

In 2007 Beriman partnered Tears I Cry (Lacryma Cristi) giving then Warrnambool-based Maher his first Group One victory in the Emirates Stakes at Flemington.

The pair have gone separate ways since with Maher taking on a training partner in David Eustace and growing his business with stables at Caulfield, Ballarat and in Sydney at Warwick Farm.

"I did ride a lot for Ciaron early so it's good to get a ride for him and win a nice race," Beriman said.

Her victory in Saturday's Listed Anniversary Vase on **Naantali (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) came on top of a treble at Benalla on Friday but was soured with a 15-meeting suspension on a careless riding charge aboard Spirit Of Aquada in the Ladbrokes Handicap.

Beriman said Naantali raced more truly wearing a harsher Norton bit for the first time.

"She's ultra consistent but I

think the Norton bit going on today made a real difference," Beriman said.

"She came back underneath me, settled and had a really good turn of foot and that was the key to her."

Backed from \$10 into \$7.50, Naantali scored by 1-3/4 lengths from Manolo Blaniq (NZ) (Jimmy Choux).

Ciaron Maher purchased Naantali from the draft of Windsor Park Stud at the premier session of the 2017 New Zealand Bloodstock National Yearling sale for \$180,000. From seven wins she has now amassed over \$500,000 in stakes earnings.

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>MRC Anniversary Vase L 1400m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Naantali (NZ) 2014</b>   |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Greenwich Stud Pty Ltd</b>   |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Ciaron Maher &amp; David Eustace (Caulfield)</b>   |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Rip Van Winkle (IRE) out of Zaloot by Zabeel</b>  |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Mrs C A &amp; C C Chamberlain; Mrs H M &amp; M J Moran</b>   |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2016 National Yearling Sale – Premier Session; V: Windsor Park Stud, P: Ciaron Maher Racing; \$180,000</b> |



*Nikita Beriman steers Naantali to victory at Caulfield (Quentin Lang)*





# AWAPUNI VISITOR TOO STRONG IN THREE-YEAR-OLD FEATURE

Consistent filly **Secret Allure (NZ)** (Zacinto) made a successful return to Riccarton on Saturday when she stormed home to capture the Listed NZB Airfreight Stakes (1600m).

The Lisa Latta-trained Zacinto filly has proven to be a model of consistency throughout her three-year-old campaign, capturing the Gr.3 Desert Gold Stakes (1600m) at Trentham whilst also registering a runner-up finish in the Gr.2 Royal Stakes (2000m) at Ellerslie.

Successful in listed company at Riccarton as a two-year-old, Secret Allure finished a meritorious fourth in the Gr.1 New Zealand 1000 Guineas (1600m) when last at the venue.

Given a brief break after running well down the track in the Gr.2 Lowland Stakes (2100m) back in February, Secret Allure tuned-up for Saturday's assignment with a comfortable win over 1200m at the Foxton trials last month.

Sent out second favourite in the contest, Secret Allure's winning chances looked remote with 600m to run as she trailed the field and was spotting race favourite Emily Margaret (NZ) (Pins), who was free-wheeling in front, a conservative 15 lengths.

Rider Lisa Allpress didn't panic as she weaved her way through the field before drawing to the outside to produce a

*Continued on page 10*



*Secret Allure and Lisa Allpress are clear of a game Emily Margaret as they race to victory at Riccarton (Race Images South)*





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# AWAPUNI VISITOR TOO STRONG IN THREE-YEAR-OLD FEATURE

(Continued from page 9)

sustained finishing burst which took her past gallant runner-up Emily Margaret with Our Hail Mary (NZ) (Ocean Park) batting on nicely into third.

Part-owner and syndicate manager Andy Rennie was wondering just how Secret Allure was going to feature in the finish from so far back as he watched the action unfold in front of him in the Riccarton grandstand.

“All I was thinking at the 800m was how are we going to get into it from against the fence and so far back,” he said.

“It really turned out a lovely ride by Lisa as she had only ridden her for the first time in the Foxton trial last month.

“The key to the filly is to get her relaxed and travelling and Lisa did that a treat. That’s why you get the best to ride for you in these races and that showed today.”

With Latta in Sydney with Platinum Invador contesting the Gr.1 Australian Derby (2400m) later in the day, Rennie wasn’t sure what the future plans for Secret Allure would be.

“We could stay down here for the Warstep Stakes next week but that is up to Lisa,” he said.

“That would depend on how she pulls up although she does like it down here.

“We never make decisions on raceday so once the dust has settled on this one, we will have a talk about it and go from there.”

Purchased by Latta for \$36,000 during the Select Sale at Karaka in 2017, Secret Allure has now won four of her 15 starts for just under \$168,000 in stakes earnings.

Despite her defeat, Emily Margaret did enough to claim victory in the New Zealand Bloodstock Southern Filly of the Year series. She claimed four points with her second placing, taking her to an unassailable lead in the series with just the Listed New Zealand Bloodstock Warstep Stakes (2000m) at Riccarton next Saturday left to run.

– NZ Racing Desk

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>CJC NZB Airfreight S. L 1600m</b>  |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Secret Allure (NZ) 2015</b>  |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>A J Rennie, T D Tomlins, P Finlayson, K T J Dixon, M Passey, D A Masters &amp; L M Latta</b> |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Lisa Latta (Awapuni)</b>   |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Zacinto (GB) out of Secret Scent by O’Reilly</b>  |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Inglewood Stud (N.Z.) Ltd</b>  |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2017 National Yearling Sale - Select; V: Inglewood Stud, P: Lisa Latta Racing; \$36,000</b>  |



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# DARING WIN IN EASTER CUP

Local runner **Who Dares Wins (NZ)** (Iffraaj) upset the favourites when he produced a bold finishing burst to capture his first win at stakes level when scoring in the Listed Christchurch Casino Easter Cup (1600m).

The popular six-year-old Iffraaj gelding had his large band of connections roaring the grandstand down as he breasted up alongside Residential (NZ) (Pins) and northern visitor Contessa Vanessa (NZ) (Bullbars) with 150m to run before forging clear for a comprehensive victory.

The win marked a wonderful effort from trainers Tony and Lyn Prendergast who produced their charge fresh-up from a lengthy summer spell with just a pair of trial wins last month to fit him for his assignment.

"It hasn't been easy," Tony Prendergast said as he waited for his charge to return to the Riccarton birdcage.

"It's four months since he raced and although he's had a couple of trials it wasn't against much opposition.

"It all worked out good in the finish though."

Prendergast admitted the stable was happy leading into the race but that didn't mean they were confident of success.

"We weren't overly confident although we knew he was well," he said.

"We were just worried about not being quite as seasoned as the others with the wet track."

Rider Samantha Wynne paid tribute to the Prendergast stable for having her mount ready to win in the testing Heavy10 track conditions on the day.

"Credit goes to Tony and Lyn and the team at home," she said.

"When you're pulling off heels at the 700m at Riccarton you know you are travelling not too bad.

"I thought I might have been unlucky at that point, but it



*Who Dares Wins and a smiling Samantha Wynne claim victory at Riccarton (Race Images South)*

probably did me a favour.

"I think this horse can go on to bigger and better things."

Who Dares Wins is the son of stakes-placed Centaine mare, Wee Tipple and has now registered seven wins and a further 13 placings from 47 starts.

– NZ Racing Desk

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>CJC Easter Cup L 1600m</b>  |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Who Dares Wins (NZ) 2012</b>  |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Owners J &amp; D Lory, G Dawson, L Power, P Ross, N Sikma, C &amp; K Norton-Taylor, B Fuller, B Hollands, S Rush, B Agnew, M &amp; S Wells, L Allan, A Tallott &amp; S Cunningham</b> |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Tony &amp; Lyn Prendergast (West Melton)</b>  |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Iffraaj (GB) out of Wee Tipple by Centaine (AUS)</b>   |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Mrs R M Laffey &amp; Mrs M A Wallace</b>  |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2014 National Yearling Sale – Festival Sale; V: Ardsley Stud Ltd, P: Phill Cataldo B/Stock; \$44,000</b>  |





# GRINZINGER STAR CAUSES A CAULFIELD UPSET

Mr Quickie's winning sequence has come to an end but his trainer Phillip Stokes believes the gelding is still on track for next month's Group One South Australian Derby.

Three-year-old Mr Quickie was chasing his seventh win in a row, and third this preparation, when sent out the \$1.65 favourite in Saturday's Tile Importer Handicap (1600m) at Caulfield.

Carrying 60kg after apprentice Ethan Brown's 1.5kg claim, Mr Quickie was giving at least 6kg to all his rivals and raced to the front approaching the 200m but was overhauled in the final strides by **Grinzinger Star (NZ)**

(Reliable Man) who had stalked the favourite.

The Danny O'Brien-trained Grinzinger Star, ridden by Linda Meech, scored by a short half-head with Star Missile was another 1-1/2-lengths away third.

Despite the narrow defeat Stokes said he was still happy with Mr Quickie's effort and felt the weight, giving 6kg to the runner-up, just anchored him late.

"He had to get rolling when he did but it has probably told on him the last bit," Stokes said.

"All in all, he's still on target."

Grinzinger Star could head on a South Australian or Queensland

campaign but whether he steps back up to a Derby distance remains to be seen after being unplaced in the Victoria Derby last spring.

"We've still got question marks over whether he ran the trip strongly," O'Brien's assistant trainer Ben Gleeson said.

"His distance is looking ideally around the 2000 metre mark.

"He has come on a lot since his first-up run and Linda rode him beautifully today.

"She followed Mr Quickie beautifully, presented him at the right time and he has been strong to the line."

Grinzinger Star was bred by The Oaks Stud and was purchased for \$90,000 by Taranaki trainer John Wheeler from the 2017 National Yearling Sale.



|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>MRC Tile Importer H. 1600m</b>   |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Grinzinger Star (NZ) 2015</b>  |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>JR Wheeler</b>   |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Danny O'Brien (Barwon Heads)</b>   |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Reliable Man (GB) out of Artistic by Darci Brahma</b>                             |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>The Oaks Stud</b>  |
| <b>Sales</b>    | <b>2017 National Yearling Sale – Premier; V: The Oaks Stud, P: JR Wheeler; \$90,000</b> |

Grinzinger Star (Quentin Lang)





# RIDING THE WAVE COMES OF AGE AT TE AROHA

A potential trip to the Queensland Winter Carnival is in line for promising three-year-old **Riding The Wave** (Malibu Moon) after he produced a stunning display at Te Aroha on Saturday.

The Nigel Tiley-trained galloper had disappointed many after failing to win at his first two starts when warmly supported following a comfortable win at the Ruakaka trials.

Tiley felt a brief break for the Malibu Moon gelding would do him the world of good so he was put aside after finishing sixth on his home track at Pukekohe in early December. The move paid immediate dividends with Riding The Wave registering an impressive maiden victory over 1400m at Avondale last month upon his racetrack return.

That victory convinced Tiley to throw his charge in at the deep end in Saturday's three-year-old 1400m contest, up against horses of the calibre of Gr.1 New Zealand 2000 Guineas (1600m) runner-up Dawn Patrol (NZ) (Dawn Approach) and Listed Trevor Eagle Memorial (1500m) winner, Espresso Martini (NZ) (High Chaparral).

Unfazed by the prospect, Riding The Wave enjoyed a cosy trip in transit before cruising into contention for rider Leith Innes at the 300m. Two big bounds carried him clear as he dominated the closing stages of the contest to defeat Anything But (NZ) (Savabeel) with Peaceful (NZ) (Savabeel) running on gamely for third.

"He's a serious horse," Tiley said.

"He just did a few things wrong with his first couple of starts so we gave him a break and started again with him.

"We changed a bit of gear with him as well and he's the real deal I think."

Tiley, who shares in the ownership of the horse with wife Lee, sister-in-law Mandy Rutherford and Grant Barnett, was quick to praise the efforts of Innes who has been on board Riding The Wave for each of his four starts.

"When you put a rider like Leith on, they know what they're doing, they've got the horsepower underneath them and you just leave it to them," he said.

"As soon as I saw him come out three-deep on the corner I thought 'hello here we go'"

Tiley will now sit down with his co-owners to decide on a plan for their charge over the next few months which is likely to include a trip across the Tasman to Brisbane.

"We discussed that (the Queensland Winter Carnival) and I said if he wins today, we are going to have to consider it," Tiley said.

"I'll have a chat to Leith, as I know Leith has a big rap on him, so I would think he will be on the plane."

Connections of race favourite Dawn Patrol were left scratching their heads after their charge over-raced fiercely in front throughout before fading out to near last in the home straight.

– NZ Racing Desk

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|-----------------|---|
| <b>Race</b>     | <b>Te Aroha JC Pyramid Trucking H. 1400m</b>                            |
| <b>Winner</b>   | <b>Riding The Wave (AUS) 2015</b>                                       |
| <b>Owners</b>   | <b>Lee Tiley, Nigel Tiley, Mandy Rutherford &amp; Grant Barnett</b>     |
| <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Nigel Tiley (Pukekohe)</b>   |
| <b>Breeding</b> | <b>by Malibu Moon (USA) out of Rolling Sea (USA) by Sefapiano (USA)</b> |
| <b>Breeder</b>  | <b>Spendthrift Australia Pty Ltd</b>                                    |



*Riding The Wave cruises to victory at Te Aroha (Trish Dunell)*

