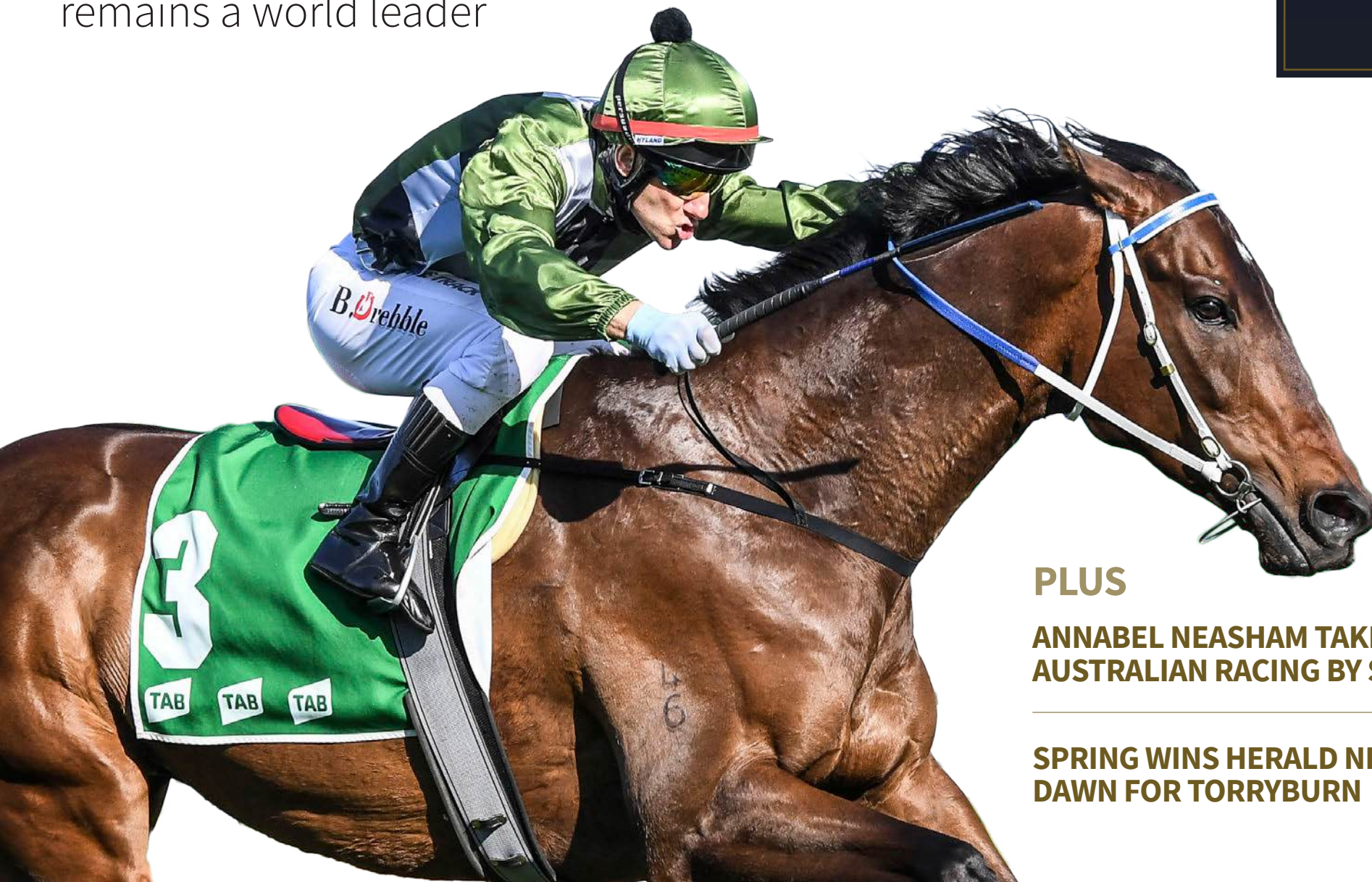


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Adam Sangster • Director
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Tom Magnier • Director
Adam Tims • Treasurer

STAFF

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Tom Reilly

P: +61 2 9663 8581
M: +61 423 146 334
E: tom@tbaus.com

ASIA REPRESENTATIVE



Lucas Liang

P: +61 2 9663 8477
M: +61 425 056 960
E: lucas@aushorse.net.au



Cecelia O'Gorman

P: +61 2 9663 8444
M: +61 411 696 036
E: cecelia@tbaus.com

Editor Cecelia O'Gorman

Design Michael Howard

Sub Editor Samantha Dunn

Printing Ink Media

Cover image Incentivise winning the 2021 Group One Turnbull Stakes.
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Aushorse Marketing Pty Ltd
Canterbury Park Racecourse,
PO Box 149, Canterbury, NSW 2193
P: +61 2 9663 8462

E: info@aushorse.net.au

www.aushorse.com.au

 @aushorse_TBA

 facebook.com/Aushorse

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Photo: Sharon Lee Chapman





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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

There are a great many positives to reflect on from the last 12 months – record prizemoney, huge turnover, encouraging breeding levels, memorable sales and, most importantly, some truly incredible racing.

Australia remains the premier source of speed with the three highest ranked sprinters in the world: Nature Strip was at the top of the chart throughout 2021, while William Reid winner and Everest runner-up Masked Crusader and \$5 million earner Eduardo, filled the placings.

On the flip side of the coin, Incentivise is potentially one of our greatest stayers – the horse from nowhere finished eighth in a Toowoomba Maiden in March, but by year's end he had won nine in a row – including the Caulfield Cup, and run a brilliant second in the Melbourne Cup.

Special mention, too, for Group One Coolmore winner, Home Affairs. This was, quite literally, a home affair, with Coolmore purchasing the outstandingly bred colt for \$875,000 as a yearling. They now have one of the hottest stallion prospects in the nation and a potential runner at Royal Ascot next year.

Buyers searching for well-bred colts with sire potential is a familiar part of racing, but there is a rapidly increasing number of 'co-ops' forming – such as James Harron Bloodstock's colts syndicate, the SF Bloodstock/Newgate Farm/China Horse Club partnership, and the Victorian Alliance – to secure quality youngsters.

The upside is tremendous: for instance, two colts – Ole Kirk (Golden Rose and Caulfield Guineas) and Farnan (Golden Slipper) – were retired to stud in the spring involving deals in the

tens of millions of dollars, after both had been sold at Australian yearling sales and, between them, won over \$4.7 million on the track.

Internationally, Australian-breds have shone with Hong Kong superstar Golden Sixty named Horse of the Year, while Avantage has won nine Group Ones in New Zealand – five in 2021.

Back home, a highlight has been the strength of our prizemoney ... The Everest, with its \$15 million, marked the start of a four-week period which saw no less than 18 seven figure races in Sydney and Melbourne, including the \$7.75 million Melbourne Cup and \$5 million Cox Plate.

Although the introduction of big money events in Sydney during what was traditionally the domain of the Melbourne Spring Carnival has created competition, races such as The Everest, \$7.5 million Golden Eagle and \$2 million Invitation have sparked tremendous interest in Australian racing.

A powerful example is that Australia staged 72 \$1 million-plus races in 2021, a figure that has doubled in just six years. (The US staged 51 million-dollar races, while Europe had just 22 over the last 12 months.)

Telling evidence of the acclaim for Australian-bred yearlings was the rise in prices across the nation. Remarkably, the international spend on yearlings was up, and that's despite few buyers being able to actually attend the sales – a reflection of the progress that Aushorse has achieved in promoting the Australian thoroughbred industry globally.

Ultimately, international investors outlaid \$81.2 million at the 2021 yearling sales, with \$38.7 million

“Remarkably, the international spend on yearlings was up, that's despite few buyers being able to actually attend the sales.”

Antony Thompson

of that from Asian buyers. The continued success of gallopers like Golden Sixty has obviously assisted the cause, but you also have massive property and infrastructure investment in Australia from the likes of Mr Eugene Chuang's Hermitage Thoroughbreds, China Horse Club, and Mr Yuesheng Zhang, whose Victorian complex was augmented substantially before the start of the breeding season by the inclusion of reigning Champion Australian Sire, Written Tycoon.

Perhaps the most marked change in 2021 though, was the growth of online sales – turnover has quadrupled in the last two years. And it's not all about quantity either, with highlights including broodmare prospects Funstar (\$2.7 million) and Every Rose (\$1.3 million).

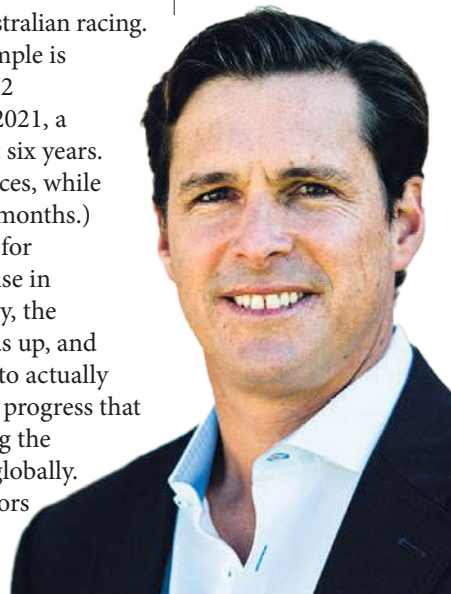
Such turnover added much promise for the 2021 breeding season, along with other monumental broodmare sales such as \$3.2 million for Arcadia Queen, \$2.6 million for Melody Belle, while Celebrity Queen and In Her Time both topped \$2 million.

Finally, congratulations to everyone in our industry for ensuring that our wonderful community thrived during these challenging times: a testimony to our resilience, resourcefulness and close liaison with federal and state governments.

Thank you to my fellow directors and the hard-working Aushorse team – CEO Tom Reilly, Cecelia O'Gorman and Asia representative Lucas Liang – and to you, I wish every success with your breeding, selling, buying and racing endeavours, and look forward to welcoming you back to Australian sales in 2022.



ANTONY THOMPSON
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COOLMORE

A U S T R A L I A

The man behind the horse

Incentivise may have propelled Steve Tregua into the spotlight, but he's been a true horseman his whole life, writes **Andrew Rule**



THE MAN BEHIND THE HORSE



around 500 horses between them at the flourishing racing centre of Toowoomba.

In southern terms, Toowoomba's standing as a training centre is something like Ballarat, Warrnambool or Newcastle. Hokey it ain't. And neither is Tregua.

True, he rode the winner of the 1983 Port Moresby Cup, a now extinct event that back then was one of the world's most unusual picnic meetings – apart from Mt Hagen in the highlands, which made Moresby look like Flemington. He also rode a winner there.

And, yes, Tregua used to train a couple of horses on the side when he was working on the Brigalow Government research station inland from Rockhampton, and rode them in races on the central Queensland circuit. He was known to gallop them on a station airstrip.

But those things should be seen in the context of his lifelong affection for the animal. It's fair to suggest he's a horseman first, businessman second and a racing man third, in a photo finish.

Tregua was born and raised around horses, thanks to his father, Bill, who'd caught the bug from an old farmer uncle. The Tregua dairy farm at Peachester near the Gold Coast was always well stocked with ponies and hacks among the Friesian cows.

Tregua could ride almost before he could read and write, competing in everything from novelty races to hack classes and showjumping. But he also learned to add up, which was useful later when he got a chance to buy out the farm seeds division of the old Elders business when John Elliott broke it up in the 1980s.

The young entrepreneur turned the 'orphan' into a flourishing agri-business and eventually sold it for tens of millions, which means he can well afford to concentrate on breeding and spelling >>

The man who bred, educated and trained the horse who might become the greatest Queensland galloper since Vo Rogue, maybe even Gunsynd, is pretty happy with his part of the Incentivise story so far.

He does, after all, still own half of the most exciting prospect in the land, has pocketed a handy six-figure sum for the other half and runs one of the most startlingly successful boutique breeding operations in Australia.

But if there's one small thing Steve Tregua isn't

so happy about, it's the way some southerners slant the story about him and the superstar horse he created from scratch.

Tregua would never say he could buy and sell most people who pontificate about racing in the media, let alone most trainers and jockeys. But he's understandably bemused by the insinuation that he's some hokey hobby trainer bumbling around with hack gallopers in the backblocks.

For a start, such a sweeping inaccuracy dismisses the many respected trainers who prepare

Above: Incentivise on his way to victory in the Caulfield Cup. Photo: Scott Barbour/Racing Photos

Main image: Steve pictured at home on his Darling Downs property. Photo: Sharon Lee Chapman

THE MAN BEHIND THE HORSE

thoroughbreds on his two Darling Downs properties under the Windermere Stud banner and also train from stables at Toowoomba racecourse.

Tregea understands livestock from the ground up. Growing up on a dairy farm does that. Take the case of another trainer who learned his trade at a rather more remote racing outpost than Toowoomba. His name is Chris Waller, former farm boy from outside the town of Foxton, via Palmerston North.

Waller, of course, aimed high and became a top Sydney trainer before Winx put him on the world map. Tregea also aimed high, but horses were something he indulged as a sideline while he concentrated on building his business interests. He made a success of that before turning the full beam of his considerable ability to horses.

Now, Tregea's 'hobby' is so time-consuming – and so successful – that when the horse of a lifetime came along, he was so busy with mares and foals, 'prepping' yearlings and training winners that he made a hard-headed business decision not to keep training Incentivise. This was after six straight wins, a streak that the fortunate Peter Moody has since extended to nine.

Selling half of Incentivise was a no-brainer. All farmers know that when you have livestock you have dead stock. The big, lean horse shaping as the story of the spring is, after all, a gelding. One misstep and he's of sentimental value only.

The big money races are in the south, so the astute business move was to pass the reins to Moody, a proven big-occasion trainer (and former Queenslander), and keep his hands on the wheel at home. His form there is good.

Tregea doesn't say it, but the record books do: as a trainer, he has a strike rate of 18 per cent over 20 years, jumping to 32 per cent with his last 50



Steve was born and raised around horses and has ridden since he was a small child.
Photo: Sharon Lee Chapman

runners, numbers that speak for themselves. His breeding achievements aren't bad, either.

Despite the change of colours from Tregea's striking red and white set, part of the deal with a group of racing's heavyweight owners – property developer Brae Sokolski, Ossie Kheir and friends – Tregea remains managing owner of Incentivise.

He likes a business that 'washes its own face' and his gallopers are all for sale at a price. He bred the best galloper in David Hayes' stable in Hong Kong, where it races as Naboo Attack. That horse was foaled at Windermere in 2016, the same season as Incentivise, and built a giant-killing reputation in Queensland as Command'nconquer.

Until this spring, Tregea's top horse was

Niccanova, a tough campaigner who has won more than \$1 million. And he trains others that have won big money.

The Incentivise story begins when Tregea was captivated by a classy Iglesia filly at the 2006 Magic Millions sales. Trouble was, he says, he was there to sell yearlings, not to buy them. When Gai Waterhouse bid \$270,000 he left his hand in his pocket.

The filly, named Miss Argyle, blitzed trials and jump outs and ran second in the Gimcrack Stakes on debut. Being fast, classy and beautifully bred did not stop her going amiss and, at three, she was listed in a broodmare sale. This time Tregea got her, albeit for the same big price she had made as a yearling, given she is a sister to the 15-time winner

Diamondsoninside and closely related to Queensland Guineas winner Express Air.

He has paid more for mares – \$350,000 for an empty 10-year-old, Open Question – but Miss Argyle must now be seen as the best of them. She missed getting in foal only once in 12 seasons and produced stakes winners Bergerac, Cheyenne Warrior and the flying youngster Ardrossan, now standing at stud in New Zealand.

Racing runs on dreams. The freakish few horses that appear each season to win Group races keep dreams alive. But the fairytale rise is even better when an ugly duckling becomes a swan, which is one reason the swashbuckling Vo Rogue and his knockabout trainer, Vic Rail, were cult figures, and why the blue collar Perth champ Northerly and former trotting driver Fred Kersley delighted racegoers.

There's a touch of the Rogue and Northerly in the big horse from Toowoomba, although he's better bred. It is no insult to Tregea, to Incentivise or to the horse's strong pedigree to say that as a foal, Miss Argyle's Shamus Award colt could easily have been voted the least likely to succeed of that year's crop.

One problem, as Tregea tells it, was that the foal had a lot in common with a stick insect: he was tall and spindly, with legs that pointed in several directions. In fact, he was



Above: Incentivise returns to scale after his maiden win at the Sunshine Coast. Photo: Trackside Photography
Left: Steve pictured as winning trainer, with jockey Anthony Allen, after Incentivise won the Tattersalls Cup. Photo: Michael McNally



so knock-kneed that one leg had to be pinned to straighten it so he would 'track' evenly by the time he was weaned.

The veterinary work was exemplary but the duckling was still ugly as a three-year-old and still not quite ready at four. He was a picky eater and that didn't help his painfully slow development.

By the time he had his first run at Ipswich in August last year, the spindly foal had become a gangly horse, slab-sided and unfurnished. He ran ninth of 12 and was spelled for nearly six months to fill out.

At that stage, Tregea thought he was a 'bit of a pussy cat'. But after an unplaced run when he resumed, he must have shown something at home, because he started as \$2 favourite second

up at Toowoomba on March 27, only to run 16 lengths behind the winner.

Then came two wins at the Sunshine Coast in April. The ever-alert Brae Sokolski happened to catch the third straight win on television, at Toowoomba. He called his friend Ossie Kheir and said they ought to try to buy the Queensland, an idea that grew into a campaign after he won his next start at Eagle Farm by nine lengths.

A lot of haggling went on before the deal was done in mid-June. But with three Group Ones in the bag since then, the new part-owners are fairly confident of their investment. A reminder that in racing these days, the biggest bets are not made with bookmakers.

So how does Tregea keep breeding winners from relatively small numbers? For a start, he invests in the best mares he can get ahead of massively expensive service fees. Secondly, he heeds the advice of a favourite pedigree analyst. Finally, he tweaks pedigree theory with his own thoughts on the type of stallion he wants for a particular mare, a process that is part science, part intuition and part prayer.

Tregea's success rate is high. But he's too smart to pretend to know what makes Incentivise run. One thing he points out is that the horse is narrow between the front legs but extremely deep through the girth. He hasn't trained a horse with more heart and lung room.

Which is interesting, because towards the end of World War II another horse came south from Toowoomba and ended up winning 15 races straight. His name was Bernborough and he, too, was a tall horse with a girth of 72 inches, which is a better way of expressing 1.83 metres.

If anyone wants to check that, there's a life-size bronze of Bernborough in a little place just outside Toowoomba. It's called Oakey. Not hokey. ■

The arrival of Annabel

Annabel Neasham was filled with more adventure than ambition when she arrived in Sydney for a one-year working holiday. Five years later, she is taking Australian racing by storm, writes **Michael Cox**



When somebody has achieved as much as Annabel Neasham has, in such a short amount of time, there is bound to be an air of mystery attached.

Speak to those who have watched the young trainer's meteoric rise – and listen to the story of a 31-year-old who, in the space of five years, has gone from a one-year working holiday to the head of Australia's most upwardly mobile stable – and the anecdotes astound.

There isn't a hint of scandal, just stories that speak of a multi-talented and obsessive high-achiever, a born competitor from a background unique to Australian racing. A young woman with a serious sense of adventure.

SKY Racing presenter and Neasham's close friend, Lizzie Jelfs, starts us off with a tidbit typical of the type of folklore already building; "Did you know she hadn't ever worked in a racing stable before coming to Australia?" Another doing the

Annabel and Zaaki after winning the McKinnon Stakes.
Photo: Scott Barbour/
Racing Photos

rounds; that during Neasham's famous win in the week-long 2018 Mongol Derby, "She only ate four muesli bars!" And, Jelfs again, on Neasham's talents aside from training, "Did you know she can play three musical instruments?"

Turns out each of these facts is true, except the one about the musical instruments – Jelfs has sold her good friend short: it is five instruments, not three: she can play piano, violin, trumpet, French horn, "... and I can play a few songs on the ukulele,"

Neasham tells us over the phone during a lunch-time chat, mid-2021 spring carnival.

Perhaps the only actual myth listed above is that Neasham arrived on the scene from nowhere. Fact is, the well-spoken Englishwoman has impressed racing insiders from the moment she stepped off the plane in 2016.

“If you had your ear to the ground, as she was coming through, she was like the number one AFL draft pick,” says Shane McGrath, Chief Executive of Aquis, a major supporter of Neasham’s stable, and owner of her first Group One winner, Mo’unga. “People from all layers of the industry got to know and were impressed by her,” McGrath explains. “Obviously she is extremely motivated and focused, but she also has a great ability to communicate and connect with owners at every level.”

Neasham had worked in yearling preparation at Highclere Stud at Newbury, The Royal Studs at Sandringham and in various point-to-point stables in Britain, but her flat racing experience was in Australia and started on a steep learning curve. Soon after arriving in Sydney, she was seconded to Gai Waterhouse’s Melbourne base for 1.30am starts and late finishes. After one year with Waterhouse, she switched to the rapidly growing operation of Ciaron Maher and David Eustace and was soon Sydney-bound to set up a satellite stable.

If setting up a stable, hiring and managing new staff, and learning the ways of the Warwick Farm trainers’ hut wasn’t enough, the COVID-19 outbreak in early 2020 meant Neasham was flying solo, managing the Sydney base at a critical time.

“During that first lockdown she was basically running the Sydney stable – and the majority of our two-year-olds were in the Sydney stable, so we got greater exposure to her knowledge and enthusiasm,” says McGrath. “Ciaron and David were not able to travel to Sydney, so she experienced high



level training intensity. Given the numbers and quality of horses she had, not just for us, we were super impressed.”

McGrath speaks to the trainer by phone at least twice a day and says that despite the size of the Sydney stable – 125 horses spread across six barns – Neasham hasn’t allowed it to turn into a production-line factory and “the natural love of a horse exudes from her.”

“I just find that she has an infinite knowledge of each horse in her care,” McGrath says. “When she speaks to you about a horse over the phone you can almost feel her smiling.”



The aforementioned Mo’unga, an imposing stallion bound for a stud career at Aquis, may have been the horse that made Neasham famous but the horse that made her fall in love with horses and gave her “the bug” was a Welsh pony named

Annabel and team mate, Adrian Corboy, were the first riders past the post in the 2018 Mongol Derby.
Photo: Lawrence Squire/The Equestrianists

Buttons, a baldy-faced chestnut sourced ‘on loan’ from neighbours in the Northamptonshire village of Croughton. Like many ponies of his style, Buttons was 11-hands of attitude.

“I was begging my parents to get me a pony ... It was my seventh or eighth birthday. I opened up the present and it was a bridle with a picture of Buttons and mum said, ‘That’s your new pony.’

“I don’t think they thought the obsession with horses would be as long-lived as it has been. He was a bit of a shit, he used to put his ears back at me, and I am not sure he was the type of pony I would buy for a child. He was actually the type of pony you would get if you wanted to put somebody off horses. He used to buck me off daily; he’d run off with me and suddenly stop, and I would go rolling off the front. For whatever reason, I would get back up and get back on, I just loved it. We did upgrade to a slightly nicer and milder pony, but I will always remember him.”

Neasham’s early career dreams were athletic, she wanted to be a tennis professional, and her broad musical education was pursued purely to gain a scholarship to Uppingham College, a boarding school with a strong athletics program. “Trouble was, I had to keep playing and practising all of those instruments,” she says. “I hated it!”

Those competitive instincts were later paired with her love of horses and taken into the equestrian arena, specifically three-day eventing. Every spare moment not studying, even as she completed real estate management at Reading University, was spent with horses.

“I’m naturally quite competitive,” she explains. “I always loved all sports and I got to a reasonable level but I wasn’t good enough to be an Olympic rider. I thought, ‘How else can I earn a living with horses?’ I thought racing was probably the avenue that looked most suitable. I knew from my time >>

THE ARRIVAL OF ANNABEL

in bloodstock hands-off wasn't going to give me my fix, I needed to be hands-on and I liked the idea of training.”



As far as tests of hands-on horse skills are concerned, they don't come much sterner than the Mongol Derby – the longest horse race in the world. The derby is a remarkable test of human and equine endurance, 1,000km across the Mongolian steppe on semi-tame ponies, 12-hours in the saddle during the day and at night coming face-to-face with wolves, battling the elements for the better part of a week.

Neasham reveals that eating just four muesli bars was much like learning multiple musical instruments, a means to an end, and mostly just to avoid the mutton-based cuisine served by the campfire each evening.

“I couldn't eat any of the meat and what I thought was shortbread was actually curdled mare's milk,” she says. “I'm not a particularly fussy eater but there was nothing that I could physically eat. I was paranoid. But I had four muesli bars with me. I had half a bar each day and a lot of water.”

Her win, in which she teamed with esteemed horse breaker Adrian Corboy, at her first attempt stunned veterans of the race, and it was Neasham's skill at pacing that won it for them.

“Initially we were going too quickly and the horses were getting tired, but we soon realised that it was better to go steady the whole way rather than quick and then slow,” Neasham explains. “I suppose it isn't that different to racing and training, you don't want to go flat out from the gates because you won't finish. It took us a few days to work it out, but we learnt that pacing them slow and steady, cantering, your heart rate was a bit better for it.”



Jockey Tommy Berry, a student of the game who grew up at Warwick Farm, has observed some of the finest trainers in the world from close quarters: the finely tuned systems of John Hawkes, the muscle-and-bone regime of Waterhouse and Chris Waller's tireless work ethic and technological innovation. Or, overseas, the eagle-eyed observation of John Moore in Hong Kong, and the quirky, scientific genius of Noriyuki Hori in Japan. He sees a common trait they all share with Neasham.

“Attention to detail,” Berry says of the quality that most often separates the merely good, from the truly great handlers. “I have ridden for some of the best in the world, whether it be John Moore or Hori, or John Hawkes – they all have that same attribute, they fixate themselves on achieving things and they go about it the right way. When she fixates herself on something or puts her mind to something, she won't stop until she has achieved it. I found that with Ciaron as well. Whether it was young horses or older horses, Ciaron and her had a

Tommy Berry and Annabel celebrate Mo'unga's Rosehill Guineas victory.
Photo: Mark Evans/Getty

plan from a long way out and they rarely missed. She is a very hard worker, she puts in many hours and like most trainers she doesn't sleep much and she is a bit of a perfectionist.”

Berry's father, John, is part of Neasham's team as foreman. As a Warwick Farm veteran, a former trainer who has worked under grizzled old-timers like Greg Hickman, Billy Prain and the late Guy Walter, Berry's steady hand helps piece together the logistical puzzle the multi-stable operation presents. “Obviously I am a little bit biased, but I think she has the right people helping her,” says Berry. “But that is another quality I see in many top trainers. Like Ciaron, she has a knack of attracting good people around and she trusts them to do their job.”

Berry was Neasham's leading jockey through her breakout rookie season (2020-21), a 30-win campaign capped by the star performances of Mo'unga and English import Zaaki.

Jelfs maintains that however impressive Neasham has been so far, the best is yet to come. “It is all very well setting up a stable and getting results like she has, but she strives every day to better her stable. Even when she is getting Group One winners, she will be asking me ‘Do you know of any tried horses? I have great two-year-olds, flagship Group One horses but I am missing that middle group.’ She is always looking to improve herself, and her stable.”

The good news for Australian racing, and bad news for rivals, is that Neasham is here to stay.

“I thought I would do a year here and a year in America, and I hoped that off the back of that experience I would get a good assistant trainer job back in England,” she says. “I never really thought I would live away from England forever, but I just fell in love with Australia and the industry. There's no going back now, other than for a holiday.” ■



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Top of the game

Australian-bred stallions continue to dominate the local sires' table, while also making their mark overseas, writes **Bren O'Brien**



Champion Australian First
Season Sire, Extreme Choice.
Photo: Newgate Farm/Sharon Lee Chapman

Amid a thoroughbred industry boom fuelled by global investment and local confidence generated by record prizemoney, the statistical supremacy of Australian-bred stallions remains undiminished and, indeed, indisputable.

In the 2020/21 Australian Champion Sires Table, locally bred stallions made up nine of the top 10 horses, with the one outlier bred in New Zealand, while in the previous season, all top 10 stallions were bred in Australia.

It's the continuation of a trend that has been predominant for much of the past 16 years, when the hugely influential shuttle stallion Danehill (USA) won his last Champion Sire title. In the time since, the honour of being Australia's best-performed stallion in terms of progeny earnings has gone to a stallion with the AUS suffix on 15 occasions.

It's a trend that goes deep as well. In the past decade there have been 26 individual sires which have finished Top 10 on the Sires' Table, with 21 of them bred in Australia.

Newgate's Henry Field has gone 'all-in' for locally bred sires, eschewing the use of shuttle stallions. For he and his investors in this thoroughbred powerhouse, it has nothing to do with parochialism and everything to do with sound business sense and what has been proven to work.

"Australian stallions are for Australian conditions. They are proven on our soil and they tend to produce progeny which excel under our racing conditions," Field says.

"Blind Freddy can see that the best Australian horses dominate the Australian Sires' Table, year after year. There is value in the shuttle stallions coming in to diversify our genetic pool, but the reality is that the ones that succeed out here are more outliers rather than the norm.



Stay Inside, from Extreme Choice's first crop, wins the Golden Slipper.
Photo: Lisa Grimm



Newgate's Henry Field (centre) is confident in his commitment to Australian-bred stallions. Photo: Mark Evans/Getty

"There is enough variability and risk you take when you are breeding horses, before you throw another huge risk component into it by breeding to the unproven shuttle horse. The Australian-bred stallion dominates the Australian Sires' Table time and time again."

Newgate's Australian-focussed strategy is now paying serious dividends. Last season, it had three

Australian-bred stallions, Extreme Choice, Capitalist and Flying Artie, produce Group One-winning two-year-olds with their first crop. They would also fill the top three spots in the race to be crowned Champion First Season Sire.

Newgate doubled down by securing interests in those three Group One winners with a view to them standing at the Hunter Valley-based stud at the end of their racing careers.

There are a variety of reasons behind the statistical primacy of Australian stallions, but for Field it is about the athletic advantage these horses boast from the time they are foaled.

"I think Australian stallions are definitely a faster, more mature, more physical animal and it's very hard for lighter-boned European horses to handle our early racing on fast tracks," he says.

"It comes down to getting horses that are so well-suited to our conditions that they excel racing around on our racecourses," explains Field. "They are bred to be horses that perform at their best on Australian soil."

A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

It's a phenomenon apparent from an international perspective as well. David Redvers, Racing and Bloodstock Manager for Qatari-based Sheikh Fahad Al Thani and the owner and manager of Tweenhills Stud, has been a long-time admirer of Australian sprinting thoroughbreds.

As an investor in Widden Stud stallion Zoustar, a Champion Australian Sire in both his first and second seasons, Redvers has witnessed at close quarters the effectiveness of those fast and precocious genes.

"Your entire program is aimed towards speed and precocity, particularly speed, and therefore your breed would have had to develop in that particular direction," he says.

>>

TOP OF THE GAME

“It follows for me that the best turf sprinters in the world, and we have seen it with the likes of Black Caviar, come from your direction and having the very best of them standing here, can only be a bonus for our breed. That’s an argument I have been making.”

Zoustar’s much-anticipated first Northern Hemisphere crop hit the European yearling sales in 2021, and for Redvers, it is clear that on type Australian-bred stallions leave a stronger, more powerful horse.

“There are some very good speed stallions up here and some particularly good young ones coming through such as Ardad and Mehmas. But they were two-year-old precocious horses that Zoustar would eat for breakfast as a physical,” Redvers says.

“He’s a much more imposing stamp of a horse when compared to the European sprinter.”

Another major difference between the leading stallions in Australia and those in the Northern Hemisphere is the volume of horses available to buy as yearlings.

All Top 10 sires of last season were offered through an Australasian yearling sale, and the nine that were sold fetched an average price of under \$250,000.

Backing up that accessibility in the marketplace is the diversity of sources, with 10 different breeders represented among the Top 10 stallions. It is these factors which Field believes lends an entirely different dynamic to the Australian-bred stallion market.

“Australia is a very open market. The economics of how the Australian bloodstock and racing industry work are as good as anywhere else in the world,” Field says.

“The best of our breeders, for the most part, offer their stock to market. It’s also the case where



the best race fillies that retire from racing are offered to the market. You don’t have a closed shop.

“Europe is very much dominated by a small number of billionaire owner-breeders that make it very hard for a normal person to compete. Here, if you work hard and you try and refine your skills, become better and better at buying horses and you have some support behind you, you can play ball with the wealthiest guys in the industry.

“We are in a wonderful position and I believe it’s a golden age for bloodstock ownership in Australia,” he says.

The trend of Australian-bred stallions at the top of the sires’ rankings shows no sign of diminishing. The top three stallions on the First Season Sires’ Table and top four on the Second Season Sires’ Table in 2020/21 were bred in Australia.

All but one of those seven emerging stallions were offered as yearlings through major sales, again speaking to the opportunities available in the local market as compared to the Northern Hemisphere. Significantly, those seven young

David Redvers says Zoustar (pictured) is ‘a much more imposing stamp of a horse when compared to the European sprinter.’
Photo: Tweenhills

stallions, six of which remain active, are themselves by seven separate sires.

TO THE WORLD

Dominating at home is one thing, but an even better measure of the strength of the Australian thoroughbred breed would be success for these stallions abroad.

‘Reverse-shuttling’ is an enormous challenge, but one which can reap significant rewards for the select few who can thrive both at home and away.

The decision of Redvers and the fellow shareholders in Zoustar to stand the multiple Group One-winning son of Northern Meteor in England was not one taken lightly.

“There was too much money invested in his purchase to risk reverse-shuttling him from the very start. This game is risk and reward and it was much safer to leave him with Antony Thompson at Widden and let the horse weave his magic and see how he got on,” he says.

“It worked better than any of us could have hoped with that incredible first crop of runners. After that it was the easiest decision in the world to reverse-shuttle him. We could back the horse with our large book of mares with complete confidence because we were dealing with a superstar.

“Ever since we have known the horse is a superstar, sending him dozens of mares has been the easiest thing to do. We are doing it at great value up here too, sending mares for £30,000 up here compared to \$150,000 or so at Widden.”

THE EXCEED EXAMPLE

The most successful ‘reverse-shuttle’ Australian stallion of the 21st century has been Darley’s Exceed And Excel, who, as of the time of writing, has produced 107 stakes winners from his Australian base and 82 from England and Ireland. >>



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Darley's current Head of Stallions, Alastair Pulford, was part of the team who decided to stand the son of Danehill (USA) in the Northern Hemisphere from the outset.

"John Ferguson was always an adventurous person and always wanted to explore new ideas, and it was him, with Sheikh Mohammed's backing, that initiated trying to reverse-shuttle with Exceed And Excel. We weren't the first people to do it, but we put a lot of effort behind it," Pulford says.

"He went over and stood at £7,000 initially, so he wasn't held in the same regard by the market in

Exceed And Excel has sired 1,617 winners, just six shy of his own sire, the prolific Danehill.

Photo: Darley

the United Kingdom as he was over here. He was given the opportunity, however, and we have got an accomplished sales team that had strong relationships with key breeders and they could call on them.

"Obviously, the horse was good enough to capitalise on that support and for a while there he looked a better stallion in Europe than he did in Australia."

Exceed And Excel stood his final season in the Northern Hemisphere in 2019 at Kildangan Stud at €50,000, a measure of the reputation he built. He has also paved the way for others.

"Good stallions make good stallions wherever they are, and we are firmly of the belief that they have to be given the opportunity," Pulford says.

Darley has also played a major role in shuttling horses to Australia and its late homebred stallion, Street Cry (IRE), is the only internationally bred stallion in the past 16 seasons to have been crowned Australian Champion Sire.

Pulford points out that shuttle stallions, who currently make up around six per cent of the stallion population in Australia and produce approximately 16 per cent of the foal population, are at a statistical disadvantage when it comes to volume of runners and winners due to these relatively small numbers.

"The likes of a Street Cry or a More Than Ready, they carved out their way as Top 10 stallions through sheer merit, not through weight of numbers," he says.

"They can also leave an Australian-bred son who will carry on their line. More Than Ready did that with Sebring. It is elite blood we are talking about and that shows out all over the world."

Late Widden stallion, Sebring, was one of five of those represented among the Top 10 Australian sires in 2020/21 who are by shuttle stallions.

Henry Field may be an avowed advocate of the Australian-bred stallion, but he too sees the significant value in the imported bloodlines that come into Australia.

"I think that we have the balance in place where we get the best-credentialed shuttle stallions and we get the best-credentialed local stallions," he says.

"It's a wonderful thing that these shuttle horses come to Australia, because they bring a diverse gene pool, but if a breeder wants to put the odds in their favour, it makes a lot more sense to breed to these Australian horses." ■

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2021 highlights

Milestones abounded for jockeys, breeders and buyers alike despite the COVID-19 pandemic

Jamie Kah milestone captures a broad sporting audience

In the depths of a Melbourne winter as the racing season comes to a usually low-key end, it takes something extraordinary for the sport to become headline news.

But that's what happened as jockey Jamie Kah chased her history-making win to confirm her coronation at the pinnacle of Australia's riding ranks.

Kah captivated sports followers around the country as she closed in on a long-standing record: becoming the first jockey to ride a century of winners on Victorian metropolitan tracks, having effectively wrapped up the premiership for the most winners weeks before.

The 25-year-old reached the milestone on July 10 via a win on Deep Speed, a promising sprinter trained by Tony and Calvin McEvoy.



History-making jockey, Jamie Kah.
Photo: Scott Barbour/Racing Photos

There was a sparse group of racegoers at Caulfield to acknowledge the achievement, but they made enough noise to ensure Kah was aware of their presence.

"I'm not the one for crowds and people cheering my name. It's very

foreign to me still," Kah said after bringing Deep Speed back to scale.

Her winning ride was everything Kah has become known for since moving from South Australia to Victoria in early 2020.

She is acknowledged as a rider who makes positive decisions out of the barriers, and has the balance to match strength in a close finish. Make no mistake, Kah is elite.

"I think in general if you had to sum her up, she rides her horse first and the race second," Melbourne trainer Mick Price says.

Kah's 2020-21 season included five Group One wins for five different stables and a Scobie Breaesley Medal as Victoria's best jockey.

Alas, her rise to stardom stalled at the start of the new season. Banned over a breach of Racing Victoria's COVID-19 protocols, Kah was forced to sit out the spring carnival.

No doubt she'll be back to keep writing the record books in 2021-22.

Yearling sales hold up well despite global challenges

Amid unprecedented and difficult circumstances, Australia's best-known bloodstock companies still had reason for celebration after their round of yearling sales in 2021.

Despite international and domestic border closures creating an uneasy build-up to sales, the market rallied strongly.

In a nod to the vitality of the Australian racing industry – as well as the marketing creativity and initiatives of Magic Millions, Inglis and Aushorse – international buyers somehow found a way.

Domestic demand was as keen as ever, while overseas investment remained healthy.

"We worked hard in getting the best possible buying bench to the [Gold Coast] sale and to be involved remotely, and they responded in spirited style," says Magic Millions managing director Barry Bowditch.

"The whole Magic Millions team had to be incredibly dynamic."



Ciaran Maher was the leading buyer of yearlings in 2021. Photo: Inglis

Likewise, Inglis also took up the challenge and reported a huge surge in viewership for its in-house coverage of the Australian Easter Yearling Sale at Riverside.

More than 50,000 viewers tuned in from 104 countries on the first day of the sale, representing a 60 per cent increase on 2020.

Magic Millions achieved a gross of \$212 million during its Gold Coast sale in January, highlighted by the average price of Book 1 yearlings increasing to \$251,095.

Inglis enjoyed the second-highest grossing Easter sale of all-time with turnover of more than \$132 million.

"Even the most optimistic among us would have thought that was probably unlikely," says newly appointed Inglis Bloodstock chief executive Sebastian Hutch.

As international borders gradually reopen, there is a general consensus that overseas buyers could exceed pre-pandemic numbers next year.

It's a mouth-watering scenario that is certain to create an even bigger buzz around the Australian breeding industry in 2022.

Australian broodmares deliver mind-boggling results in Japan

Yankee Rose and She Will Reign, rags-to-riches poster girls for prominent syndicator Darby Racing, can now lay claim to being jewels of the Japanese breeding industry.

In what ranks as a spectacular endorsement for the Australian thoroughbred industry, it took

a combined A\$6.5 million to buy their progeny at this year's Japan Racing Horse Association Select Sale.

A Lord Kanaloa colt, the third foal from the ATC Sires' Produce and Spring Champion Stakes winner Yankee Rose, was the most sought after – selling for A\$4.5 million.

The first yearling from the Golden Slipper winner She Will Reign, a colt by Heart's Cry, also had an army of admirers when selling for A\$2 million.

They were both knocked down to Masahiro Noda, a software executive who races his string of thoroughbreds under the 'Danon' banner.

It's a far cry from the outlay syndicator Scott Darby made to secure Yankee Rose and She Will Reign as yearlings in Australia.

Yankee Rose, a daughter of All American, was purchased for \$10,000 at the 2015 Inglis Classic Yearling Sale.

She Will Reign, by Manhattan Rain, cost \$20,000 at the 2016 Inglis Classic before winning the Golden Slipper and the Moir Stakes in 2017.

Darby says both mares were sold

to Japanese interests just before the Australian broodmare market roared to life.

"Weanlings fetching \$3 million just doesn't happen here, and it's easy to see why the Japanese are sourcing the best mares from around the world with that



Lord Kanaloa – Yankee Rose colt. Photo: ©Japan Racing Horse Association

sort of return on investment," Darby says.

"At the time we sold Yankee Rose and She Will Reign, we were getting nowhere near the offers in Australia that were coming in from Japan.

"It's an amazing game, there's so many rags-to-riches stories," says Darby. "It's what keeps the game so vibrant in Australia, anybody can get involved."

>>

Fast Track gives graduates inside running for new careers

A Thoroughbred Breeders Australia (TBA) enterprise aimed at helping young Australian's turn their passion for horses into a career, continued to set an industry educational standard in 2021.

Now in its fourth year, Fast Track is a fully-structured training program run in conjunction with TAFE and major breeders, which is designed specifically to provide a pathway for new people to enter the breeding industry workforce.

Successful applicants commence a traineeship with a reputable stud farm, while studying for a Certificate III in Horse Breeding – a nationally recognised, formal qualification.

The 12-month program offers an unmatched introduction to the thoroughbred industry, providing an experience that can lead to endless possibilities for graduates.

Most applicants have little to no prior experience working with thoroughbreds, while some have no horse experience at all. However, close to 90 per cent of graduates have remained working in the industry.

As part of the program, TBA offers a full scholarship to a graduate



Fast Track trainees celebrate at graduation. Photo: TBA

of Fast Track each year to attend the Irish National Stud (INS) and continue their training.

Known as the Nolan Scholarship, this prize is awarded in memory of the late Basil Nolan Jnr, a much loved and respected member of the Australian thoroughbred community.

Last year's co-recipients, Lachie Pethica and Alyssa Pickels, flew to Ireland amidst the COVID-19 uncertainty and wasted no time in

establishing themselves as two of the industry's rising young stars.

Both graduated from the INS with merits of distinction, with Lachie awarded the overall silver medal.

To add to their list of accolades, Lachie was also successful in gaining a position on the coveted Godolphin Flying Start program, while Alyssa was previously named a finalist twice in the Australian Stud and Stable Staff Awards newcomer category.

“To see graduates go on to become productive and valued members of the industry is incredibly rewarding,” says TBA's Cecelia O’Gorman.

“We are at the stage now where we have enough students and alumni out there in the workplace – all doing really well in their respective roles – for us to know that the pathway works and that we are playing a vital role in finding and developing the next generation of staff.”

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Force of Nature dominates Australian sprinting ranks

After four years racing out of five different stables, the global accolades are at last starting to come for one of the modern era's fastest Australian racehorses.

Nature Strip already owns an Australian Horse of the Year crown but elite-level international recognition has been absent – until this year.

An archetypal Australian-bred sprinter as a son of the two-time Group One winner Nicconi, Nature Strip will carry a 124 international rating into 2022.

It's a figure that puts him at the summit of the swiftest horses in the latest Longines World's Best Racehorse Rankings, one place higher than last year, when he finished behind fellow Aussie-breds Classique Legend and Bivouac.

And it also continues a decade of stunning results for Australian-bred thoroughbreds who have raced their way to the pinnacle of the international standings.

Champions Black Caviar and Winx dominated the rankings during their careers and Nature Strip is a bona fide successor.



Nature Strip winning the Darley Classic.
Photo: George Sal/Racing Photos

Nature Strip has found his niche under Winx's trainer, Chris Waller, collecting seven Group One wins since arriving at Waller's all-conquering stable in 2019. The latest coming in the Darley Classic.

It was Nature Strip's second success in the premier weight-for-age sprint race for the Melbourne Cup carnival, following his victory in the \$15 million Everest, that confirmed

his status as the world's benchmark sprinter.

But for the horse who has done just about everything, after winning 19 of his 34 starts and more than \$16 million in prizemoney, there could be greater challenges ahead.

Winning overseas has been a long-held ambition for Nature

The top three highest-rated sprinters in the world are all Australian-bred

1. Nature Strip
2. Masked Crusader
3. Eduardo

Strip's owners, and a draft 2022 itinerary includes opportunities to showcase his talent on the international stage.

Both Dubai and Royal Ascot are possible destinations in a schedule befitting a world champion, as well as a worthy ambassador for the Australian racing industry. ■



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A new day dawns

A spring to remember signals the beginning of a new chapter for Torryburn Stud, writes **Michael Cox**

*I love a sunburnt country,
A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of droughts and flooding rains.*

The oft-quoted opening to the second paragraph of Dorothea's Mackellar 'My Country' is burnt on to Australia's collective psyche. Beyond those famous few lines, 'My Country' is about the Australian landscape's ability to bounce back and grow through adversity, the cycle of life and loss, and of regeneration. It is appropriate then, that inspiration came from Mackellar's time living at Torryburn Stud, an historic farm re-imagined

and revitalised by owner, breeder and racing administrator John Cornish (with his late wife Pam, along with their children Brett and Tania) to become the birthplace of champions.

A teenaged Mackellar witnessed the breaking of a merciless drought at the farm in 1904. As mist swirled around the "ragged mountain ranges" of the nearby Mount Royal Ranges and Barrington Tops, and the rain beat on the eucalypt forests and tin roofs of the homestead like "the drumming of an army," she watched the "sweeping plains" spring back to life, as ribbons of green unfurled through the Paterson Valley near Gresford.

Under the Cornish family, Torryburn has transformed from hobby farm to a highly-successful boutique breeding operation.

Photo: Torryburn

It was at the end of another dry spell in 2002 when John and Pam Cornish purchased the farm from breeders Rob and Jenny Ferguson. The Fergusons had spent 13 years renovating – extending the gardens and building a breeding operation that produced 2001 Golden Slipper winner Ha Ha.

Cornish – the son of a farmer who decided school was not for him at age 14 – had made a fruitful career in real estate. After helping put tens of thousands of families in homes in Sydney's booming west, he placed some of his earnings into his then-hobby – breeding – and more specifically into Torryburn.





“We had worked very hard and decided that in the latter part of our life we would like to build a nest egg somewhere,” Cornish says. “We had modest amounts of money to spend. It was a beautiful farm, but when we purchased it, it was in total drought.”

Under the ownership of the Cornish family, Torryburn has been reborn: expanded and enhanced with new roads, kilometres of state-of-the-art fencing, improved barns and a vet complex. New river frontage was also acquired, along with water licences to draw from the pristine Allyn River and drought-proofing the property through a network of 14 dams.

“It started as a hobby for us 25 years ago, and it is now certainly a business of some class and beauty,” Cornish says, with justified pride. “It is a magnificent property.”

Top: Espiona romps home in the Desirable Stakes on Oaks Day.
Photo: George Sal/
Racing Photos.

Inset: Espiona pictured as a yearling.
Photo: Torryburn

Despite Torryburn’s reputation as a boutique stud of note, Cornish is perhaps best known in racing circles for a rebuild of another iconic racing property: Royal Randwick Racecourse and its ageing grandstand. Cornish was at the forefront of the redevelopment, which he oversaw as the inaugural chairman of the Australian Turf Club (ATC).

It was a throwaway line to the media at a wet and windswept midweek meeting at headquarters that turned Cornish from long-time Australian Jockey Club (AJC) member to popularly-elected administrator, first as vice-chairman of the AJC, and then ATC chairman.

“There might have been five paying patrons and about 20 people from the media there,” Cornish recalls. “I was with my friend Allan

Osburg, and a couple of the media guys were winding us up and asking what we would do to improve this situation with racing in New South Wales, and Randwick in particular. Being half a smart arse, as I sometimes can be, I said; ‘It’s like this, if the pies are cold and the beers are hot, somebody is stuffing it up big time.’ A few weeks later Allan and I had gone from being two people not remotely interested in the roles to being chair and vice-chair. I really should have shut my mouth.”

Many would disagree. Cornish was part of a momentous period of change that saw the two Sydney clubs merge in 2010 and memberships skyrocket. Randwick’s multi-purpose grandstand became the home of the newly branded and streamlined Autumn carnival – ‘The Championships’ – and a jewel in the crown of the world’s fastest moving jurisdiction. Cornish had played a pivotal role in the revitalisation of the sport.

“Our first priority was membership, it was going backwards as fast as it could go, and then there was the concrete cancer in the grandstands,” Cornish remembers. “People loved the old grandstands, but nobody was game to stand in them and there was no appeal about the old buildings. They were hopeless, everything was outdated.”

A \$168m gift from the government may seem like a lot of money, but if not for Cornish’s unique combination of business acumen, real-world people skills and old-school tenacity, it may not have been enough to build Randwick’s state-of-the-art facilities within budget.

The club was able to take advantage of a lull in the construction industry to achieve its vision of a grandstand that not only served its members on raceday, but also acted as a commercially viable hospitality venue on non-racedays.

“We were able to get an earn out of an otherwise empty building that hosted seven >>



race meetings a month,” Cornish said. “A lot changed and I am pretty pleased that it wasn’t just one result – it wasn’t just the pies and the beer – we achieved much more than that. We turned it around from dying to a very popular and profitable place.

“The merger changed the demographics of membership, it changed the profitability, it changed everything. As a result, instead of making a massive loss every year, it made a nice profit each year.”



In 2016, Cornish and Torryburn went through another season of immense change. At around this time, Pam was diagnosed with cancer. John had retired from his chairmanship in 2013 and the couple decided to take a step back from the day-to-day running of the farm and enjoy it more – handing more responsibilities to Brett.

While the skills of staff and infrastructure of the farm were a point of pride, and the stud had achieved a reputation as one that punched above

its weight, it was clear the breeding stock required replenishment.

“We had our ducks in a row with the farm first and we actually had a number of mares that weren’t performing,” Brett explains. “Four of our top five mares either lost foals or weren’t going in foal, and we also had a change of personnel at the farm. We promoted Mel Copeland to stud manager to lead a core of long-serving staff. We made a decision as a family that we were in it for the long run, we had rebuilt the farm, but now we had to rebuild the broodmare band. The farm had always been capable of producing top horses – about a dozen Group One winners had come off the farm since we owned it – but we had a lot of good horses, but they weren’t by high-profile sires.”

Rather than get into a chequebook war at broodmare sales with the big guns, Torryburn stayed true to its boutique brand and went about rebuilding the broodmare band selectively, smartly sourcing mares by proven broodmare sires that fit



Top: The Cornish family have invested significantly in upgrading the infrastructure and facilities on the property. Inset: Home Affairs pictured as a yearling, before selling for \$875,000. Photos: Torryburn

well with the abundant speed on offer from Australian sires.

“We didn’t have the major artillery that a lot of breeders had,” Brett says. “Rather than just going out and paying a heap of money, we did it as the opportunity arose, and were quite targeted and specific with what we wanted. We were willing to wait over a period of time, not just try and get it all done in the space of two years.”



Torryburn finished the 2021 spring having bred and sold the pin-up colt and filly of the carnival, two bona fide bluebloods with exciting futures – Home Affairs and Espinosa – both of them the result of that 2016 rebuild.

Home Affairs – bought by Coolmore for \$875,000 at the 2020 Inglis Easter Yearling Sale – was dominant in what is arguably Australia’s pre-eminent stallion-making race, the Coolmore

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A NEW DAY DAWNS



Stud Stakes. The three-length romp – rated as one of the best performances in the race’s history – stamped the son of I Am Invincible as one of the country’s most valuable stud prospects (and in a sign of confidence in Torryburn’s staff and facilities, Home Affairs – now valued at more than \$40 million – spent the summer spelling on the property he was foaled on).

Then there was Espiona. At the time of writing, John reckoned he had watched the replay of the filly’s astonishing 6½ length win in the Listed Desirable Stakes at Flemington on Oaks Day “at least 50 times.” Cornish reels off the details, as if you haven’t already heard about the

filly everybody is talking about. “J-Mac (jockey James McDonald) is back third-last and three wide – and remember, it’s only her second start in a race – and when he presses the button coming into the straight she doesn’t just pick up, she just flies,” Cornish says, buzzing with excitement like he is a first-time owner. “Twenty metres out he was sitting up and watching himself on the big screen!”

Torryburn’s reputation had been forged through bargains like Hot King Prawn. Hong Kong’s champion sprinter cost just \$90,000 as a yearling and is by Denman, a sire with a service fee of less than \$10,000. El Dorado Dreaming was a Group One winner by a stallion of similar standing,

Home Affairs returned to the property where he was bred to spell over the summer.
Photo: Torryburn

Ilovethiscity. It was a sign of Torryburn’s rapid regeneration that it sold two million dollar yearlings in the 2021 sales seasons, including a half-brother by Capitalist to James Harron (now named Wilbury and racing with Anthony and Sam Freedman).

“We had always been able to produce Group one horses but now we are going to another level,” Brett says. “We all love it, it has been a labour of love for all of us. There are a lot of ups and downs in the breeding game, so it is important to enjoy the good times when they come around.”



The success of spring 2021 will always be tinged with the sadness that preceded it in 2020, when Pam Cornish died after a long and brave battle with cancer. John also suffered shoulder injuries that left him less mobile than he would like.

“It would have been lovely if I could have shared that success with Pam but it wasn’t to be,” John says. “But I think a new journey is just starting because the way the farm is set up now is all-together different and it is widely thought to be one of the nicest boutique broodmare farms in Australia.”

True to the spirit of Torryburn, after loss, a new era is emerging.

“The spring was very exciting for us and for those who have bought the horses,” John says as he reflects on the recent success from his seaside home in Wagstaffe, from where he makes a regular commute to the little slice of horse heaven he has helped create in the lower Hunter.

“I can’t get enough of the farm, I just love it,” he says. “I go back up the highway and turn left and can be in Sydney in an hour and a quarter, or I can turn right and be on the farm in the same amount of time. I seldom turn left.” ■

O'REILLY
THE CHAMPION

G
GRUNT

& the next star

Dual G1-winning son of O'Reilly
Look for his first yearlings at
Magic Millions



A golden era

Australian-breds continue their run of elite success on the international stage, writes **Greg Tobin**



Golden Sixty powers home to win the Hong Kong Champions Mile.
Photo: Donald Lee

ON THE BUBBLES

(New Zealand)
2018 g (Brazen Beau
- More Bubbles)

**Bred by Burnewang
North Pastoral.**

Victoria’s Burnewang North Pastoral would deservedly have been on the bubbles, and certainly the toast of Kiwi counterparts, after breeding and selling not one, but two Group winners in New Zealand in 2021. A \$60,000 buy at the 2019 Inglis Great Southern Sale, On The Bubbles was the star of New Zealand’s juvenile ranks in 2020/21, winning his first three starts, twice running second to Australian-bred Sword of State (including the Group One Diamond Stakes) and finishing off his season with a dominant display in the Group One Manawatu Sires’ Produce, winning by three lengths. The first Group One winner for Godolphin’s Brazen Beau, On The Bubbles is from a half sister to Group One winner Politeness. Remarkably, another Burnewang North Pastoral home-bred and Te Akau Racing stablemate, Need I Say More (likewise sold as a weanling for \$65,000 at the Magic Millions National sale), hardly put a hoof wrong last season with five from seven – all at stakes level – culminating in the Group Two Wellington Guineas.



WELLINGTON

(Hong Kong)
2016 g (All Too
Hard - Mihiri)

**Bred by Kia Ora Stud,
David Paradise,
Steve McCann.**

With Group One success in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore for Vinery Stud’s All

Too Hard over the last 12 months, it is ‘hard’ to isolate just one, but Wellington’s victory in the Group One Hong Kong Chairman’s Sprint Prize encapsulates the rise and rise of a genuine star performer. Sold by Kia Ora Stud for \$70,000 at the Gold Coast Magic Millions Yearling Sale, Wellington has gone on to win the equivalent of \$3 million. Broken in by yearling purchaser Lauriston Thoroughbreds, a slight injury thwarted Ready To Run plans, but it was a “blessing in disguise” according to Lauriston’s James O’Brien: “He showed tremendous ability from day one, but by the time we’d put him with a trainer, he’d really blossomed and was sold privately to Hong Kong on the basis of a jump out.” Wellington has subsequently jumped out for seven wins and a second from 10 starts in Hong Kong, while his success at Sha Tin in March equalled Sacred Kingdom’s long-standing 1200m Class 1 track record.



Australia has long established its bonafides as the premier source of speed and Nature Strip’s ranking – throughout 2021 – as the world’s best sprinter serves to underscore that lofty mantle.

Nature Strip’s brilliant victory in the \$15 million Everest in October certainly rammed home the point to a global audience, but it’s Aussie expat Golden Sixty that has stolen the show as far as Hong Kong racing fans are concerned.

While it was another stellar 12 months for

Australian-breds with 75 stakes victories in New Zealand, the USA, Singapore, South Africa, Macau and New Zealand (up from 69 in 2020), the Queensland-bred Golden Sixty has shone the brightest.

A crowd favourite last year when becoming only the second horse (behind Australian-bred Rapper Dragon) to sweep the 4YO Classic Series, Golden Sixty has gone from strength to strength with seven successive victories in 2021/22, earning the Medaglia d’Oro 6YO due recognition as Hong Kong Horse of the Year, along with Champion

Miler, Champion Middle Distance and, for the second year running, Most Popular Horse.

Golden Sixty joins Fairy King Prawn (twice), Silent Witness (twice), Sacred Kingdom, Able Friend and Rapper Dragon as Australian-bred Hong Kong horses of the year since 2000, but the reigning champ is set to eclipse an important milestone in the next few months.

Two more successive victories would see him emulate the deeds of Silent Witness, who won 17 straight in Hong Kong, while going >>

Photos: Trish Dunell and Donald Lee

A GOLDEN ERA

RUN FOX RUN

(South Africa)
2015 m (Foxwedge -
Victory Cry)

**Bred by Mill Park,
Quality Thoroughbred
Breeding Joint Venture.**

South African trainers have sourced many outstanding Australian-breds in recent years including Horse of the Year, Oh Susanna, and Champion 2YO, Soqrat, but the aptly named Run Fox Run was truly one out of the box. Among five Group One winners for Woodside Park's Foxwedge, Run Fox Run was sold for \$420,000 at the Inglis Easter Yearling Sale and would prove to be an instant highlight, winning her first four starts including the Group Two Southern Cross. With a Group One fourth the only blot on her copybook, Run Fox Run's remaining five starts composed of three wins – the crowning glory being the Group One Cape Flying Championship – and two seconds. In one of the best fields ever assembled for the Cape Flying, Run Fox Run defeated eight Group One winners. Retired from racing, Run Fox Run was covered in September – to Southern Hemisphere time – by Frankel.



LIM'S LIGHTNING

(Singapore) 2015 g
(Lope de Vega -
Wayne's Gold)

Bred by Lynn Tipper.

A \$50,000 purchase from the 2017 Magic Millions Gold Coast Horses in Training Sale, Lim's Lightning is the gift to Singapore that keeps on

giving – and living proof that lightning does strike in the same place twice: nine times in fact. A winner at two, three, four and five, Lim's Lightning's only two outings thus far at six were both victories – among them the prestigious Singapore Group One Raffles Cup, by nearly four lengths. Lim's Lightning would win two of his three starts as a juvenile – including the Aushorse Golden Horseshoe – and while a seven-month sojourn in Australia yielded just the one victory – his record at Kranji is 10 wins and four placings from 17 starts. Indeed, his form in 2021 reads six wins and a second from as many runs. With sprinting stars in Australia such as Santa Ana Lane, Spanish Reef and Vega Magic, Lim's Lightning hails from the same crop of Lope de Vega as Gytrash, Spanish Whisper and Vega One.



back-to-back in the Group One Hong Kong Mile in December would see Golden Sixty edge ever closer to record prizemoney in the region.

With his four Group One successes, Golden Sixty was joined at the elite level by other Australian-breds, Hot King Prawn (Champion Sprinter), and Chairman's Sprint Prize hero Wellington.

Singapore, too, was a happy hunting ground for Australian-breds with Aramaayo, Top Knight, Big Hearted, Lim's Lightning and Hard Too Think all capturing majors, but it was the return to Australia of Lion City Cup winner The Inferno that garnered much of the attention.

A \$10,000 weanling purchase, The Inferno

was Singapore Horse of the Year in 2020, winning nine from 10 in the region, then returning home to win the Group Two McEwen Stakes and finish runner up in the Group One Moir.

Meanwhile, across the pond, Australian-breds won nine Group Ones in New Zealand, among them Derby winner, Rocket Spade, Bonham (Levin Classic), Sword of State (Diamond Stakes) and On The Bubbles (Manawatu Sires'), but it was Te Akau Racing's truly remarkable Fastnet Rock mare, Avantage, that took advantage of the Kiwis.

The Champion NZ 2YO of 2017/18 and Leading 3YO Filly, Avantage raced six times between January and April – from 1200m to

2000m and all at Group One level – winning five and finishing second to Melody Belle in the other.

It's been a big 12 months for David Ellis' Te Akau Racing whose other Australian-bred Group winners include Sword of State, On The Bubbles, Need I Say More, In A Twinkling and Imperatriz.

The success of Australian-breds has not been lost on international buyers with over \$81 million invested from overseas at the 2021 Australian yearling sales. New Zealand and Hong Kong were the biggest players with \$36 million apiece.

With the reputation of Australian-breds continuing to soar, the internationals are sure to be out in force again at the 2022 yearling sales. ■

Photos: Liesl King and
Singapore Turf Club



NEWHAVEN
PARK

2021 STAKES WINNING GRADUATES

BORN & RAISED AT NEWHAVEN PARK

IN THE CONGO

Group 1 Golden Rose Stakes
Group 3 San Domenico Stakes

AIM

Listed Magic Millions 3YO Guineas

HE'S XCEPTIONAL

Listed McKenzie Stakes



THE INFERNO

Group 2 McEwen Stakes



ODEUM

2020 Group 1 Thousand Guineas
2020 Group 1 Golden Rose Stakes – 2nd



SHOUT THE BAR

2020 Group 1 Empire Rose Stakes

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Shining bright

The Group One stronghold of NSW and Victoria was challenged in 2021 – and Queensland led the way, writes **Warwick Barr**

The comparison was as obvious as it was once frustrating for everyone with a connection to Queensland's latest member of racing's Group One club.

But thankfully for all involved, the similarities between Jonker and his sire, Spirit Of Boom, didn't end with their matching looks and an exasperating patch of form.

After one too many seasons in racing's wilderness, Jonker realised his early potential on the Group One stage for Brisbane's premier trainer, Tony Gollan, in exactly the same way his father did – under lights at Moonee Valley.

And his success also underlined the strength of Australian racing's outlier states when it comes to trying to match it with NSW and Victoria for results at the highest level.

Aimed at the \$1 million Manikato Stakes after missing out on a slot in The Everest, Jonker delivered a rich reward for perseverance and patience, as well as a breakthrough Group One win for Spirit Of Boom as a sire.

The triumph evoked memories of Spirit Of Boom's extended journey to success for Gollan – from a hard-luck story of the Magic Millions 2YO Classic to a Group One hero four years later in the 2014 William Reid Stakes.

Like father, like son: Jonker delivered a long-awaited Group One victory under lights at Moonee Valley, just like his sire Spirit Of Boom.
Photo: Scott Barbour/
Racing Photos





And the prophetic nature of Jonker's heart-stopping Manikato victory wasn't lost on the six-year-old's Queensland breeder, Jeff Cullen.

"It's odd. Jonker always had ability but everything has just panned out the same way as his father," Cullen says. "They look the same and their careers have been identical.

"Spirit Of Boom pretty much went through the same thing. He was also one of the favourites for the Magic Millions and got rough travels like Jonker did in his year and didn't do well.

"And then he had a bit of a lull in his career before coming good again."

A winner of eight Brisbane trainers' premier-ships, Gollan also enjoyed Sydney autumn-carnival success with Krone in the Coolmore Classic, and

Above: Jonker wins the Manikato Stakes at Moonee Valley. Photo: Pat Scala/Racing Photos

Above right: Tony Gollan and jockey Jamie Kah celebrate Vega One's Kingsford Smith Cup win. Photo: Trackside Photography

Vega One in the Kingsford Smith Cup on home turf during the Brisbane winter carnival.

But Jonker's win is likely to be cherished most because of Gollan's fondness for Spirit Of Boom – and the difficulties associated with sending horses interstate when border restrictions played havoc with travel plans.

Jonker landed at Gollan's stable in 2020 – winless for more than 1,000 days after starting his career in the best possible way with a Magic Millions lead-up victory in 2017, when he was trained in NSW.

He created an immediate impression for his new yard, breaking a Doomben track record that belonged to Takeover Target and has hardly put a hoof wrong since.



"He's been an incredible horse for all of his connections. I wasn't sure what to expect when he arrived – but he got to the stable in great shape and he's been a star," Gollan said after the Manikato Stakes win.

"He's had three runs in Group Ones for us for a first, second and third and he's broken a track record in Brisbane and won a feature on Magic Millions Day.

"I'm very grateful to the owners for sending him my way and I'd really like to thank Peter and Paul Snowden and their team.

"I haven't seen the horse for seven weeks and they've been incredible in the way they've looked after him for us."

That level of expert care has accompanied >>

SHINING BRIGHT

Jonker ever since he was foaled down at Cullen's Wicklow Lodge as part of a breeding concern that is as meticulous as it is select.

Cullen, who was an apprentice jockey before weight got the better of him, stayed in racing as a picnic rider and more recently as the owner of an agistment farm that put the welcome mat out for champions such as Black Caviar and Buffering.

His broodmare band was a small extension of that business and the results have been spectacular.

Cullen tapped into the famed Eight Carat family after buying Jonker's dam, Hearts And Arrows, off the track when she went amiss following two wins in three appearances.

He also owns the Show Of Heart broodmare Winaura, the dam of Winning Rupert, a Group Two winner who now stands at stud.

"Breeding can have its ups and downs, you can bounce from pillar to post with it but I've been very, very lucky so it's been great," Cullen says.

"I've only ever had four to six mares, never had big numbers but I really studied their families and that's the way I've kicked off.

"Looking after the mares the best I could and being with them 24/7 has definitely helped. I've been able to keep a small number and keep a real finger on the pulse with them.

"With my operation it's boutique and it's hands on ... foaling down myself and getting the results gives you a lot of satisfaction.

"I was wondering if I was ever going to get a Group One winner so for it to happen with Jonker in the Manikato was fantastic. He has always been a good horse and probably should have won his Group One before the Manikato but the saving grace is that he has now."

Jonker, named for a famous diamond discovered in South Africa, was one of six horses to campaign through Queensland's winter who left



their mark later in the year with Group One wins.

It's a springboard to success that has stood the test of time. Among the most decorated of the Brisbane carnival's recent graduates are Winx, the 2019 Melbourne Cup winner Vow And Declare and Australia's latest headline horse, Incentivise.

And Queensland officials are doing everything they can to ensure it continues with significant stakes increases announced for the 2022 winter carnival.

Purses for the Doomben Cup and the Queensland Derby will be lifted to \$1 million. These increases will give Brisbane's winter racing seven races worth at least seven figures and a further across-the-board injection of prizemoney is expected.

"Having seven races worth \$1 million or

Spirit Of Boom winning the Group One William Reid Stakes at Moonee Valley in 2014.
Photo: Brett Holburt/Racing Photos

more will take the Stradbroke Season to another level," says Brisbane Racing Club chief executive, Tony Partridge.

Jonker became the third Queensland-trained Group One winner in 2021 among a choice bracket that emerged from outside of NSW and Victoria, the two traditional stronghold jurisdictions of Australian racing.

Not surprisingly, Bob Peters, one of the nation's most influential and successful owners and breeders, was a central figure in a Western Australia triumph during the autumn carnival in Melbourne.

Peters' mare Celebrity Queen dead-heated in the Oakleigh Plate, the Group One test of speed run at Caulfield which continues to stand the test of time.

Trained by Grant and Alana Williams and

I Am Invincible

RECORDS FOR MOST
WINNERS & STAKES
WINS IN A SINGLE
SEASON



**GROUP 1 PROGENY
SUCCEEDING ON
THE BIG DAYS!**

HOME AFFAIRS
I Am Invincible x Miss Interiors
Group 1 - Coolmore Stud Stakes

Hellbent

HELLBENT'S FIRST
CROP HAS HIT
THE TRACK!



BOHEMIAN DAISY
Hellbent x Happy Hippy
Group 3 - Ottawa Stakes - 3rd

SHINING BRIGHT



ridden in typically brilliant style by William Pike, Celebrity Queen had to share the spoils with Portland Sky.

Nevertheless, that success, along with a pedigree that is as rich as any in the Australian Stud Book, meant Coolmore had to pay a cool \$2.5 million for Celebrity Queen at the Inglis Chairman's Sale.

Peters also sold his three-time Group One winning mare Arcadia Queen for \$3.2 million, albeit with some ready made replacements lined up.

His gelding Superstorm won the Group One Cantala Stakes for Melbourne trainer Danny O'Brien during the Melbourne Cup carnival, while he also took out his home state's only two Group Ones – the Railway and Winterbottom Stakes – the features of the Perth summer carnival.

Out of South Australia, Behemoth once again represented the state with distinction.

Behemoth won three races during the year, the most important coming in a successful defence of his Group One Memsie Stakes crown at Caulfield in an abbreviated spring campaign.

There was also a strong South Australian flavour to Savatoxl's rise through the ranks.

Although officially listed as being trained out of Victoria by Tony and Calvin McEvoy, Savatoxl made a name for himself for the stable in Adelaide.

And before winning his way through the

classes in South Australia, Savatoxl plied his trade in the Northern Territory when on-sold by the Alice Springs Turf Club for \$18,000 after fetching \$8,000 as a yearling.

From those humble beginnings, Savatoxl claimed South Australia's premier race for sprinters, the Group One Goodwood. He also found spring success in Melbourne, winning the Schillaci Stakes at Group Two level at Caulfield before finishing down the course to Jonker in the Manikato Stakes.

Still, it was impossible to begrudge Jonker his moment, nor the Gollan stable just recognition after providing all three of Queensland's elite-level victories in 2021. ■

Above left: Superstorm (pink and white cap) dives late for victory in the Cantala Stakes. Top right: Behemoth. Inset: Savatoxl. Photos: Brett Holburt & Pat Scala/Racing Photos



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Best of both worlds



SILENT WITNESS

Yearling Purchase Price: A\$55K

Career Earnings: A\$9.2M

Photo: South China Morning Post/Getty

As Australian-bred horses continue to dominate at Sha Tin and Happy Valley, Hong Kong owners are enjoying the ‘best of both worlds’ by racing their horses Down Under as well, writes **Michael Cox**

What makes Australian-bred horses so successful in Hong Kong? Globe-trotting bloodstock agent Marie Yoshida cuts straight to the point, and keeps it simple: “They have speed, they are sound and they are tough.”

Yoshida should know, her Asian Bloodstock Services has sourced some of the jurisdictions’ modern greats for prominent owner Howard Liang, and she has found Australian yearling sales a happy hunting ground for close to three decades.

Hong Kong racing is dominated by Australian horses in both quantity and quality. A tick over half of the 1,300 horses in Hong Kong are Australian bred, and they still punch above their weight with an even higher percentage of wins each term (in the 2020-21 season 52.3 per cent of the winners carried the AUS suffix).

A short list of Hong Kong’s modern all-time greats is dominated by horses born on Australian stud farms. The mighty Silent Witness stands above them all, but then there is Able Friend, a host of great sprinters like Sacred Kingdom, and, most recently, the all-conquering two-time Horse of the Year, Golden Sixty.

It is telling that the aforementioned list, bar Golden Sixty, were all sourced via yearling sales

HONG KONG STARS SOURCED AS YEARLINGS



ABLE FRIEND
Yearling Purchase Price: **A\$550K**
Career Earnings: **A\$9.7M**



SOUTHERN LEGEND
Yearling Purchase Price: **A\$280K**
Career Earnings: **A\$10.7M**



SACRED KINGDOM
Yearling Purchase Price: **A\$200K**
Career Earnings: **A\$6.2M**



CONTENTMENT
Yearling Purchase Price: **A\$65K**
Career Earnings: **A\$5.8M**



IVICTORY
Yearling Purchase Price: **A\$80K**
Career Earnings: **A\$2.6M**



LUCKY BUBBLES
Yearling Purchase Price: **A\$90K**
Career Earnings: **A\$5.2M**

with a view to exporting to Hong Kong, not bought as tried horses, the prices for which have boomed in line with the skyrocketing Australian prizemoney.

“It has made buying proven horses practically impossible,” Yoshida says, referring to the dramatic purse increases of recent years. “So it makes more sense to invest in yearlings.”

Liang’s ‘California’ horses have an illustrious history in Hong Kong and since teaming with

Peter and Paul Snowden in 2014, the owner has had great success in Australia as well.

In recent seasons, Californiadeepshot and California Rad are just two star sprinters to go high in the ratings in Hong Kong, while in Australia, Liang’s horses with the Snowden’s have also starred. California Zimbol, a blue-blood filly bought by Liang to race in Australia, boosted her broodmare value with four black-type wins.

Main image:
Sha Tin racecourse.
Photo: Vince Caligiuri/Getty

>>

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Buying yearlings for Hong Kong has long been the smart play but the money now on offer in Australia means Hong Kong owners have another profitable option. The trend is increasingly for Hong Kong owners to buy yearlings and race in Australia, earn some stake money, then consider options, including using Australia as a lucrative fallback for horses deemed unsuitable for Hong Kong's challenging environment.

Buying yearlings, rather than going all-in on a 'PP' (standing for Private Purchase, the Hong Kong Jockey Club term for a tried import) is all about spreading risk, according to Yoshida: "You cannot put all of your eggs in one basket," she says. "You spread your risk and buy a group of top-quality colts."

The poster horse for this strategy is undoubtedly 2020 Everest winner *Classique Legend*, whose owner Boniface Ho has teamed with agent Carmel Size at Australian yearling sales over the last decade.

Classique Legend was a \$400,000 buy at the 2017 Inglis Classic Yearling Sale before kicking off his career with Les Bridge. Ho had already struck gold with *Southern Legend*, which had gone close to recouping his \$280,000 yearling price before moving to Hong Kong, where he eventually topped \$10 million in prizemoney.

Southern Legend's presence in Hong Kong gave Ho the flexibility to campaign *Classique Legend* in Sydney, aiming at the 2019 Everest and rich new four-year-old race, the \$7.5 million Golden Eagle. Even though those targets were missed, *Classique Legend* returned a year later and vaulted into the top ten all-time stakes-winners in Australian racing history.



Above: David Price and Merrick Staunton.
Inset: Howard Liang and Marie Yoshida.
Photos: Inglis

Then – in a move that speaks to the new-found flexibility of Hong Kong owners – *Classique Legend* finally went to Hong Kong, but after failing to acclimatise and a substandard run in the 2020 Hong Kong Sprint, returned to Bridge to continue his career, with a laudable fourth in the 2021 Everest.

John Moore, a five-time Hong Kong champion trainer, is another with a long and successful record of buying at Australian sales.

Not only did Moore buy five-time Group One winner *Able Friend* for the late Cornel Li and Group One Golden Shaheen victor *Sterling City* for the Ling family, but he also enjoyed success as an owner in Australia with *Not Listenin'tome*, which he signed for at auction and then raced in his own colours with Team Hawkes at two and three, before selling to owners in Hong Kong. Moore's client Yeung Kin-Man, who races horses with the Patch moniker (the best of which has been Group One-placed *Computer Patch*) is

another newcomer with deep pockets and a passion for Australian racing.

Bloodstock agent Damian Yap, a former Hong Kong Jockey Club executive who now works with Hong Kong-owned pre-training facility Muskoka Farm, says the rich Australian pickings provide attractive options – and a welcome conundrum for those who have invested in yearlings.

"If the horse is good enough to win a group of listed races, then we will consider leaving the horse in Australia to race, then selling to Hong Kong at an elevated price, or bringing to Hong Kong as a special replacement for the same owner. There are many ways to do it, but these days with the prizemoney being that good, we sometimes have second thoughts about whether to bring them back to Hong Kong at all," he says.

Yap points out that it isn't just prizemoney that makes racing in Australia so attractive to Hong Kong owners. Perhaps Australians take it for granted that they can watch trials broadcast live, or find replays and comprehensive form at the click of a button, but this isn't always the case elsewhere.

One of the results of the intense competition in Australia – between sale companies, states, stables and stud farms alike – is that it has spurred rapid technological advancement and created a customer-friendly environment.

"Australia really is racing's perfect shop-window – you have everything you need as a buyer," Yap says. "You can watch trials and jump-outs, you can usually weigh your horses at the racetrack, which is something that is important to Hong Kong owners, coming from such a data-rich environment. Hong Kong owners rely on [this type of data] to buy horses, and they have come to expect it, but England, Ireland and Europe are lacking in that department."

The tech savvy, client-friendly communications

aren't lost on Yoshida. When she sits down each Sunday evening at her Winchester Farm in Kentucky to check in on Liang's Australian purchases, she is blown away by the amount of information at her fingertips.

"The Australian industry has embraced technology," she says. "We're kept so well-informed. I can sit down on Sunday night, which is Monday morning Australian time, and I have a weekly report in front of me; which horse is spelling, where each horse is at in their preparation. It is like I am in Sydney. The amount of information is amazing. From the spelling facilities, to the pre-trainers and trainers, I get videos from all of them."

Any account of Hong Kong racing history would be incomplete without mention of Australian bloodstock agent David Price, who has fine-tuned the art of buying yearlings for the unique and ultra-competitive jurisdiction.

"It is not that complicated," Price humbly asserts when asked the secret of his success, which stands at 700-plus wins and counting.

The Price Bloodstock honour roll is highlighted by Silent Witness – which cost just \$55,000 as a yearling – but also includes fellow Australian bred Group One winners Contentment, Ivictory, Sight Winner and Nothingilikemore.

Price "buys in numbers", avoiding the pointy end of the market, focusing on athletic yearling colts that will be gelded and prepped specifically for Hong Kong.

He employs a team of experienced "eyes on the ground" like esteemed bloodstock men John Foote and Merrick Staunton, and canny trainer Patrick Payne.

"It is about having somebody at every sale and a very good group of people on the ground when the horse goes into the parade ring," Price says.



Price then picks the eyes out of his bunch, choosing the most suitable of his annual yearling purchases to be made available to his client base.

Even with Price's unmatched bloodstock achievements in Hong Kong, the Australian prizemoney means he and wife Jenny Chapman have had plenty of fun racing those who have 'failed' to make it to Hong Kong because of the Hong Kong Jockey Club's stringent vet checks.

"Sometimes they might be a little bit slow to mature and next thing they are too old to go to Hong Kong," says Price, whose horses carry white silks with blue and red stripes as a tribute to the couple's beloved Western Bulldogs. "It's always challenging to the Australian commentators when they see our horses racing, because they assume they are bound for Hong Kong if they have some ability. But if they are racing at four, and they are looking impressive and I've had them since

Hong Kong-based owner Howard Liang has had great success racing horses in Australia, including multiple stakes-winner California Zimbor (pictured).

Photo: Scott Barbour/Racing Photos

yearlings, it means they have had some issues along the way," he says. "They might have had a bit of surgery, or it has just come too soon for them. But if they can pay their way in Australia, I am happy to race them there."

Price's precocious sprinter Property, a \$130,000 yearling purchase, was one example. Price had the horse sold to Hong Kong owners but a knee issue on scans saw the sale fall through. Five weeks later, the son of Starcraft won the 2017 Blue Diamond Prelude and went on to take its career earnings to more than \$390,000.

"Prizemoney in Oz at the moment is extraordinary," Price says. "Hong Kong people keep trying to buy tried horses because people keep knocking back what they think are fantastic offers. You have got to keep reminding them that the prizemoney in Australia is so good that if somebody thinks they have the right horse then they won't be selling them that easy."

It would appear the Price (system) is right, and the search for Hong Kong's next star should start in an Australian sales ring, but we leave the last word to Yoshida, who endured hotel quarantine in order to attend the 2021 yearling sales, and plans to be back again in 2022 – hopefully this time without the arduous protocols.

"The bloodlines suit Hong Kong racing, and the style of training in Australia means they don't feel homesick when they get to Hong Kong – they don't miss the pretty hills and grass like the European horses do, they are trained on racetracks and are ready," she says. "The veterinary care in Australia is also first class. We work with Randwick Equine Centre and Jonathan Lumsden and the team there have medical equipment people don't even have access to yet! I applaud the Australian industry, buying Australian yearlings is pure joy." ■

Protecting the most important participant

An independent review has set out a blueprint for the future of thoroughbred welfare in Australia, writes **Greg Tobin**

There are few issues that present more of a challenge to the thoroughbred industry than ensuring the welfare of its horses.

Across the globe there is increasing scrutiny of how thoroughbreds are cared for in training, as well as a focus on what happens when they leave the track.

That scrutiny was magnified in Australia by a program that aired on the eve of the spring carnival in 2019 showing the mistreatment of retired thoroughbreds at an abattoir. The result was a public outcry and calls for the industry to do better.

The directors of Thoroughbred Breeders Australia (TBA) and Aus-horse took the view there needed to be an independent review to ensure the industry had the right welfare policies, with no regulatory gaps.

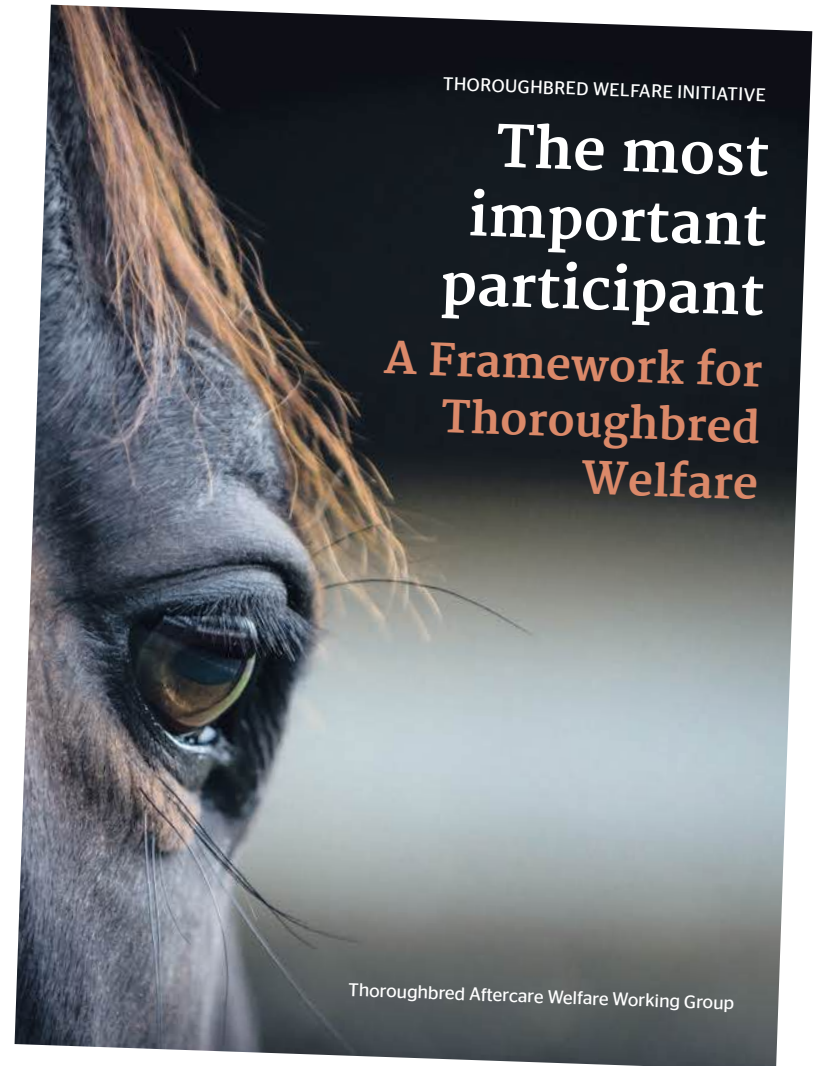
To conduct this review, TBA commissioned four independent experts headed by the former Premier of Victoria and veterinarian, Dr Denis Napthine AO, and including RSPCA Australia.

The report, *The Most Important Participant: A Framework for Thoroughbred Welfare*, was released in November and called for the development of national welfare standards that would protect thoroughbreds at all stages of their lives.

Among the review's other key findings was the need for the racing and breeding industry to take a national approach to welfare, to ensure thoroughbreds receive a consistent level of care in all states and territories.

The report – which was funded by TBA and other industry organisations and participants

The report sets out 46 recommendations for improving welfare



The cover of the 140-page report.

– immediately received the backing of key groups, including the national bodies representing breeders, trainers and jockeys. There are 46 recommendations made in the comprehensive report, with some directed at government policy makers, while others will be the responsibility of the thoroughbred industry itself.

NATIONAL TRACING SYSTEM, BETTING LEVY PROPOSED TO REFORM ANIMAL WELFARE

Fix on track to save horse racing

LIVAN KENNEDY

As the industry thinks of a future, a national tracing system and a betting levy are being proposed to reform animal welfare in the horse racing industry.



The national tracing system, which would require all horses to be registered with a national database, is being proposed by the Australian Horseracing Industry Council (AHIC).

The betting levy, which would be used to fund a national welfare fund, is being proposed by the Australian Horseracing Industry Council (AHIC).

As the industry thinks of a future, a national tracing system and a betting levy are being proposed to reform animal welfare in the horse racing industry.

HORSE WELFARE

Ex-racers 'must be monitored'

EXCLUSIVE

Clip Le Grand

A two-year examination of the racing industry conducted after revelations that retired racehorses were being slaughtered for human consumption led to the formation of a new national body dedicated to the welfare of racehorses.



The report also urges governments to create a database to track thoroughbreds through their entire lives, warning that without this

We have standards for sheep, why not racehorses?

By Hugh Bowman

Being brought up on a farm in country NSW, animals were always a part of my life. They sustained my family, we were taught to respect them, and we did. The same was true when I started riding.

The report acknowledges lots of good work is already going on. In NSW, the government body has spent well over \$30m buying and upgrading properties to help retrain and rehomed retired thoroughbreds.

But the report also highlights where we must do better. The plan recommends that government and the industry develop a minimum welfare standards as a priority. Coming from a farming background, it is hard to believe we have such standards for sheep and cattle but not horses.

NEWS

Slaughter scandal sparks call for new racehorse welfare regulator

There is a need for a national body dedicated to the welfare of racehorses, says a report published by the Australian Horseracing Industry Council (AHIC).

NEWS

They are irreparable in the therapy space

The report also urges governments to create a database to track thoroughbreds through their entire lives, warning that without this

THE AGE

Collage of magazine covers from 'The Age' featuring various sports and news articles.

THE AGE

Collage of magazine covers from 'The Age' featuring various sports and news articles.

The report was commissioned by TBA and other industry groups

THE REVIEW CALLS FOR

Responsibility: The thoroughbred industry should take all reasonable steps to ensure its horses have a good life, including after racing, and a humane death.

National Standards: Governments should develop standards for all horses (not just thoroughbreds). This would mandate minimum care for horses at all stages of life, including for thoroughbreds after they exit racing and breeding.

Industry Standards: The industry should set its own national welfare standards for all thoroughbreds. These would set a higher bar than

We need a new national body to ensure better care for our retired racehorses

BY CAMY MOORE



It's not only this year I had a horse called Lapped in my stable. It was a mare named Lapped in my stable. It was a mare named Lapped in my stable.

Time and was at Moore Valley, where she was a horse of the year. She was a mare named Lapped in my stable. It was a mare named Lapped in my stable.

And grooming her, or being out on the track, or being out on the track. She was a mare named Lapped in my stable. It was a mare named Lapped in my stable.

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THE PANEL FOR THE REPORT



The Hon Dr Denis Napthine
BVSc MVS MBA AO (Chair)

A former Victorian premier, Denis also served as minister for racing and has a deep understanding of the thoroughbred industry. Before entering politics he

was a veterinarian and worked for the state government where he prosecuted a number of animal welfare cases.



Dr Ken Jacobs
BVSc MVSc MACVSc

Ken is an equine veterinarian and has been in practice for more than 40 years. He is a former director of the Australian Veterinary Association and past president

of Equine Veterinarians Australia. He is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He helped establish the equine component of the veterinary science course at Charles Sturt University.



Dr Bidda Jones AM BSc (Hons)
GDipPub PhD GAICD

Bidda is the Chief Science and Strategy Officer for RSPCA Australia and an Honorary Associate with the Sydney School of Veterinary Science at the University of Sydney. She is

a strong advocate for improving animal welfare policies and has shared her insight on numerous national committees.



Jack Lake BA, BEc

Jack was a senior advisor on agricultural policy in the Hawke, Keating and Rudd governments. He now advises companies in the pastoral and poultry industries on policy development and

implementation and government relations. He is a keen follower of racing and has enjoyed success as a part-owner of horses such as VRC Derby winner Preferment and Australian Oaks winner Unforgotten.

A National Body: The report proposes the creation of a national body with the task of improving welfare. It would coordinate policy, run programs to stimulate demand for thoroughbreds, run QA schemes, and communicate to the public. This organisation – with a proposed name of Thoroughbred Welfare Australia – would be supported by the industry, though it would not be a regulatory body or have enforcement powers.

The panel received more than 180 submissions from industry participants, racing authorities and welfare groups. More than 50 consultation meetings were also held as the panel conducted its work.

“A key finding is the need to develop a

framework so that there are standards to ensure thoroughbreds are well cared for from birth right through to their death,” says Dr Napthine. “There is also a need for a more consistent national approach ... with the sole focus of driving better welfare across every state and territory.”

Dr Jones adds: “There is strong backing from owners, trainers and breeders for the reforms required to ensure thoroughbreds have a good life, from birth to death.”

TBA, along with other groups that funded the review, are now in discussion with federal, state and territory governments, as well as racing authorities, to start the implementation process. ■

REACTION TO THE REPORT

Hugh Bowman, leading jockey: “I am grateful to the authors of the report for the work they have done. It is now up to all of us in the industry to take these recommendations and implement them.”

Ciaran Maher, champion trainer: “There is nothing in this report that people in our industry should be frightened of. The panel have given us a plan, now it’s important we are working together to make it happen.”

Tom Reilly, CEO, Thoroughbred Breeders Australia: “Everybody involved in racing and breeding knows there’s been a huge amount of work done in welfare, but this report shows the areas where we need to improve. If we implemented the recommendations, we would have a proper framework where our horses are protected from birth right through to death.”

Andrew Nicholl, CEO Australian Trainers’ Association: “It was important this review was conducted by people independent of the industry and the panel have given us a plan we must follow.”

Neil Wilson, Chairman Victoria Racing Club: “The committee of the VRC support the report’s recommendations and looks forward to broader engagement from other industry bodies to achieve the outcomes proposed.”

Champion trainer **Gai Waterhouse**: “By making this report we are saying to the public, ‘We care and we are going to make changes.’”

Federal Agriculture Minister, **David Littleproud**: “I applaud the thoroughbred racing industry for its work in reviewing horse welfare and want to let them know of the Federal Government’s commitment to taking their concerns seriously.”

The sm^Art choice

PREPARING FUTURE RACETRACK STARS

Look out for the A List drafts at the 2022 yearling and ready to race sales



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Magic Millions Gallery

Exceptional results across the board had everyone smiling at Magic Millions in 2021



Top row (from left): Gai Waterhouse and Katie Page; Tom and MV Magnier.

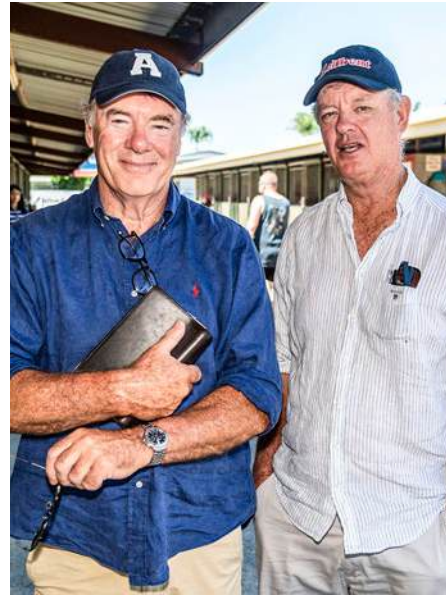
Second row (from left): James and Bill Mitchell.

Third row (from left): Harris Li, Rachel Zhang and Luke Wilkinson; Shane McGrath; Antony Thompson; Sheamus Mills.

Fourth row (from left): Suman Hedge, Selina and Anthony Mithen; Royston and Catriona Murphy; Glenn Burrows; Barry Bowditch and Craig Rounsefell.



MAGIC MILLIONS GALLERY



Top row (from left): Peter O'Brien; Arthur and Harry Mitchell; Ciaran Maher; Natalie Young and Trent Busuttin.



Second row (from left): Garry Cuddy, Grant Burrill and Josh Rix; James Harron.



Third row (from left): Kacey and Julian Blaxland; Anna and Brian Nutt; Andy Williams; Denise Martin and Emma Cully.



Fourth row (from left): Gavin Murphy and Henry Field; Kelly Schweida; Hannah Wall; Mike Fleming.

The land of opportunity



Nature Strip after winning The Everest. Photo: Lisa Grimm

Prizemoney continues to soar in Australian racing, making million-dollar earners out of more horses each season, writes **Tom Reilly**

When the finishing line arrived, it was just in the nick of time. Nature Strip, long regarded as one of the best sprinters in the world, had held on to win his first Everest.

Having twice led the field into the final furlong in the \$15 million race only to finish out of the placings, the win was undoubtedly a career highlight for the seven year-old. Coincidentally, the win took Nature Strip's career earnings to within a whisker of the overall value of the race (\$14,953,685 to be precise), placing him third on the list of Australian money earners behind Winx and another Everest winner, Redzel.

But while there should be no surprise that champions such as Nature Strip are racking up the millions, the sheer number of horses that become millionaires in Australia is remarkable.

If you are seeking a barometer to how well the Australian industry is going, this statistic is telling: in the 2020/21 racing season, some 73 horses took their prizemoney earnings over the magical million-dollar mark in Australia.

To provide some context, in the USA, which has a far bigger population of racehorses, just 63 horses took their career earnings past A\$1 million, while in Europe (including the UK), there were just 15.

If you take a look at that statistic from another angle, one in every 389 individual runners joined

the millionaire's club in Australia last season, compared to one in 672 in the USA, and one in 1,716 in Europe.

And to provide another perspective, if you include the 89 horses that were already million-dollar earners that competed last season, one in every 175 horses racing last season had career earnings in the seven figures.

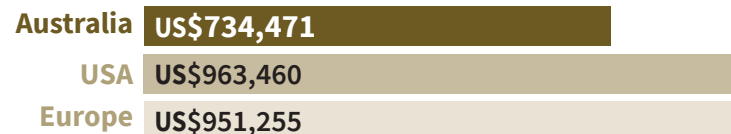
Among the list of Australian raced horses to hit the seven figure mark, there are the obvious superstars, the horses that won the races where there was more than a million in prizemoney paid for a victory: these include top two-year-olds like Stay Inside and Artorius, and the multiple Group One winning three year-old Ole Kirk.

But not every horse is a champion; the prize-money is so strong that talented horses accrue significant purses without winning at the top end.

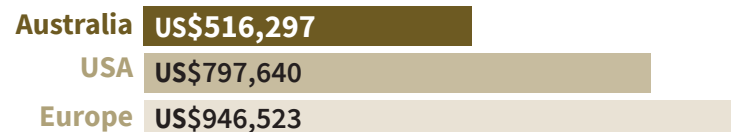
MORE MILLION-DOLLAR RACES

In the past six years, the number of million-dollar races in Australia has doubled from 36 to 72

Top 50 colts (five year average)



Top 50 fillies (five year average)



And the chances are that this millionaire's club will get significantly bigger in seasons to come.

Australia has experienced a prizemoney boon that is unprecedented in international racing. In the past decade total purses have increased by 82 per cent. This has seen the values of all races, from minor maidens at country tracks through to the metropolitan meetings that take place in the major cities, soar.

But if there is one area that has grown exponentially, it is the top end: just six years ago there were 36 million-dollar races each season, now that number has doubled to 72.

Again, an international comparison provides some much needed context: America, with its larger racing program has 49 races worth A\$1 million or more, while Europe (including the UK) held just 18 in the 2020 flat season.

Despite the riches available to be won on the track, when it comes to entering the market and buying a top prospect, Australia offers rare value for outstanding quality.

Over the past five years the cost of buying a



leading prospect from the yearling sales in Australia has been significantly more affordable than in other major racing jurisdictions.

No matter whether it is a colt or filly, the figures speak for themselves. The average for the top 50 yearlings over the past five sale seasons is: US\$801,001 in Australia, US\$1,106,580 in the USA and US\$1,305,197 in Europe.

Of course, in Australia – with our strong commercial breeding industry where the major players are sellers – buyers also get access to the best stock.

Of the 61 Australian-bred individual Group One winners in the 2020/21 racing season, some 75 per cent were offered for sale as yearlings. In the USA, this percentage stood at 66 per cent in 2020, while across Europe the figure was 55 per cent.

And if one of those colts happens to become a stallion

Above: Mizzy was one of 49 stakes-winning fillies and mares sold off the track for an average of \$871,000. Photo: Magic Millions

IMPRESSIVE CAREER EARNINGS
One in every 175 horses racing last season had career earnings over \$1 million dollars

Left: Stay Inside. Photo: Lisa Grimm

prospect, the rewards on offer match or surpass those available elsewhere. With multiple farms having the resources to compete for the top colts, in recent years there have been a number of horses sold to stud for valuations in excess of \$30 million.

To get yourself a stallion prospect you need to be buying an Australian-bred. In the past decade the winners of each of the key stallion making races – the Blue Diamond, Golden Slipper, Sires Produce, Caulfield Guineas, Golden Rose and Coolmore Stud Stakes – have been produced locally.

This Australian dominance is backed up by performance in the breeding barn: at the end of last season nine out of the top 10 stallions in the general sires list were locals, all of which had been through the sales ring as a yearling.

Those buyers who target yearling fillies also have the option of trading in for a strong return if they have a well-performed prospect.

In 2021, some 10 Group One-winning fillies and mares were sold off the track at auction, for an average of \$1.76 million. Looking at all stakes-winners off the track, some 49 fillies or mares were sold at an average of \$871,000.

And in Australia, which has pioneered online sales, sellers do not have to wait for the major breeding stock sales to take place: this year three mares have been sold online for over \$1 million.

Furthermore, there is significant interest in our mares from overseas, highlighted by the fact that a colt out of Australian mare Yankee Rose made over A\$4.5 million when selling as a foal in Japan this year, while a yearling from Golden Slipper winner She Will Reign made over A\$2 million in the same country.

So, if you are considering attending the yearling sales in 2022, remember that Australia is the land of opportunity. ■



Inglis Gallery

Spirited bidding and an enviable buying bench marked another outstanding year for Inglis



Top row (from left): Jo Griffin; John Foote.



Second row (from left): John Kelly; Shane Wright; Matthew Sandblom, Henry Field and Gavin Murphy.



Third row (from left): Wayne, John and Michael Hawkes; Mick Price; Damon Gabbedy; Marie Yoshida.



Fourth row (from left): James Harron; Ryan Arnel.





Top row (from left): Gab Nutt and Ciaron Maher; Dave White; Philip Campbell and John McArdle.



Second row (from left): Mark Webster; Dean Hawthorne.

Third row (from left): Paul Moroney; Tom Magnier; Brae Sokolski and Chris Waller; Verna Metcalfe and Jake Phillips.



Fourth row (from left): Richard Freedman, Michael Freedman and John Camilleri; Annabel Neasham; Anthony Mithen.



2022 sales calendar

Exceptional prizemoney and access
to the best bloodlines in the world
– there's never been a better time to
invest in Australian bloodstock



11-17 January 2022

**Magic Millions
Gold Coast Yearling Sale**
(Queensland)

2021 Results

Book 1

Lots Catalogued	962
Lots Sold	793
Clearance Rate	90%
Aggregate A\$	199,188,000
Average A\$	251,095
Top Price A\$	1,900,000

Breeding & Vendor

Snitzel - Bonny O'Reilly (NZ) colt
(Widden Stud, Widden Valley)

Book 2

Lots Catalogued	311
Lots Sold	232
Clearance Rate	84%
Aggregate A\$	13,925,500
Average A\$	60,024
Top Price A\$	310,000

Breeding & Vendor

Iffraaj (GB) - Busted Love colt
(Bhima Thoroughbreds, Scone)



Snitzel – Bonny O'Reilly colt



Capitalist – Theatric colt

6-8 February 2022

Inglis Classic Yearling Sale
(New South Wales)

2021 Results

Book 1

Lots Catalogued	620
Lots Sold	507
Clearance Rate	93%
Aggregate A\$	51,608,500
Average A\$	101,792
Top Price A\$	625,000

Breeding & Vendor

Capitalist - Theatric colt
(Kitchwin Hills, Scone)

14-15 February 2022

**Magic Millions
Perth Yearling Sale**
(Western Australia)

2021 Results

Book 1

Lots Catalogued	163
Lots Sold	130
Clearance Rate	87%
Aggregate A\$	8,911,000
Average A\$	68,546
Top Price A\$	325,000

Breeding & Vendor

Russian Revolution - Magical Belle colt
(Western Breeders Alliance)

*All dates subject to change

Photos: Inglis and Magic Millions

2022 SALES CALENDAR

21 February 2022

Magic Millions Tasmanian Yearling Sale (Tasmania)

2021 Results

Lots Catalogued	123
Lots Sold	98
Clearance Rate	86%
Aggregate A\$	3,452,000
Average A\$	35,224
Top Price A\$	150,000

Breeding & Vendor
Impending - Dream Food colt
 (Armidale Stud, Carrick)

27 February - 1 March 2022

Inglis Melbourne Premier Yearling Sale (Victoria)

2021 Results Premier Session

Lots Catalogued	590
Lots Sold	461
Clearance Rate	88%
Aggregate A\$	64,210,000
Average A\$	139,284
Top Price A\$	1,100,000

Breeding & Vendor
Written Tycoon - Gybe colt
 (Blue Gum Farm, Euroa)



Written Tycoon – Gybe colt



Impending – Dream Food colt



Fastnet Rock – Small Minds colt

15-16 March 2022

Magic Millions Adelaide Yearling Sale (South Australia)

2021 Results

Book 1

Lots Catalogued	337
Lots Sold	262
Clearance Rate	88%
Aggregate A\$	14,090,000
Average A\$	53,779

Top Price A\$ **525,000**

Breeding & Vendor
Fastnet Rock - Small Minds colt
 (Goldin Farms, Angaston)

21-22 March 2022

Magic Millions March Yearling Sale (Queensland)

2021 Results

Lots Catalogued	419
Lots Sold	327
Clearance Rate	85%
Aggregate A\$	14,495,500
Average A\$	44,329

Top Price A\$ **370,000**

Breeding & Vendor
Spirit Of Boom - Chroma colt
 (River Junction, Kybong)

Photos: Inglis and Magic Millions



Celebrity Queen

5-6 April 2022**Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale**
(New South Wales)**2021 Results**

Lots Catalogued	466
Lots Sold	365
Clearance Rate	90%
Aggregate A\$	134,665,000
Average A\$	368,945

Top Price A\$ 2,500,000**Breeding & Vendor**
Snitzel - Rising Romance colt
(Arrowfield Stud, Scone)**21-22 April 2022****Inglis Gold Yearling Sale**
(Victoria)**2021 Results**

Lots Catalogued	339
Lots Sold	263
Clearance Rate	86%
Aggregate A\$	4,981,650
Average A\$	18,942

Top Price A\$ 260,000**Breeding & Vendor**
Extreme Choice - French Origins filly
(Supreme Thoroughbreds, Romsey)**5 May 2022****Inglis Australian Weanling Sale**

(New South Wales)

2021 Results

Select Session	
Lots Catalogued	252
Lots Sold	197
Clearance Rate	90%
Aggregate A\$	8,643,000
Average A\$	43,873

Top Price A\$ 400,000**Breeding & Vendor**
Capitalist - Laylia colt
(Middlebrook Valley Lodge, Scone)**6 May 2022****Inglis Chairman's Sale**

(New South Wales)

2021 Results

Lots Catalogued	66
Lots Sold	53
Clearance Rate	91%
Aggregate A\$	28,235,000
Average A\$	532,736

Top Price A\$ 2,500,000**Breeding & Vendor**
Celebrity Queen (Redoute's Choice -
Celebrity Miss) (Holbrook Thoroughbreds,
Scone)**8 May 2022****Inglis Australian Broodmare Sale**

(New South Wales)

2021 Results

Lots Catalogued	248
Lots Sold	180
Clearance Rate	80%
Aggregate A\$	11,294,600
Average A\$	62,748

Top Price A\$ 350,000**Breeding & Vendor**
Oklahoma Girl (Fastnet Rock - Shawnee
Girl) (Coolmore Stud, Jerrys Plains)**19-20 May 2022****Magic Millions National Weanling Sale**

(Queensland)

2021 Results**Book 1**

Lots Catalogued	417
Lots Sold	303
Clearance Rate	89%
Aggregate A\$	31,647,000
Average A\$	104,446

Top Price A\$ 1,000,000**Breeding & Vendor**
I Am Invincible - Ocean Jewel colt
(Gilgai Farm, Nagambie)

Photos: Inglis

2022 SALES CALENDAR



Arcadia Queen

24-26 May 2022

Magic Millions National Broodmare Sale

(Queensland)

2021 Results

Book 1

Lots Catalogued	823
Lots Sold	616
Clearance Rate	88%
Aggregate A\$	142,912,000
Average A\$	232,000
Top Price A\$	3,200,000

Breeding & Vendor
Arcadia Queen (Pierro - Arcadia)
 (Holbrook Thoroughbreds, Scone)

31 May-2 June 2022

Magic Millions National Yearling Sale

(Queensland)

2021 Results

Book 1

Lots Catalogued	432
Lots Sold	265
Clearance Rate	70%
Aggregate A\$	15,068,000
Average A\$	56,860
Top Price A\$	500,000

Breeding & Vendor
Snitzel - Walk With Attitude colt
 (Milburn Creek, Wildes Meadow)

9-10 June 2022

Inglis Great Southern Sale

(Victoria)

2021 Results

Select Weanlings

Lots Catalogued	424
Lots Sold	280
Clearance Rate	80%
Aggregate A\$	11,232,750
Average A\$	40,442
Top Price A\$	360,000

Breeding & Vendor
Zoustar - Vergara colt
 (Blue Gum Farm, Euroa)

Broodmares

Lots Catalogued	151
Lots Sold	82
Clearance Rate	73%
Aggregate A\$	3,849,250
Average A\$	46,942
Top Price A\$	560,000

Breeding & Vendor
Too Good Too Hard (All Too Hard - The Good Wife) (Mill Park, Meningie)



TBC

Magic Millions Gold Coast 2YOs In Training Sale

(Queensland)

2021 Results

Lots Catalogued	156
Lots Sold	91
Clearance Rate	78%
Aggregate A\$	6,184,571
Average A\$	67,962
Top Price A\$	350,000

Breeding & Vendor
Extreme Choice - Arnault colt
 (A List Stud, Baddaginnie)

11 October 2022

Inglis Ready 2 Race Sale

(New South Wales)

2021 Results

Lots Catalogued	185
Lots Sold	110
Clearance Rate	87%
Aggregate A\$	12,1016,500
Average A\$	109,214
Top Price A\$	400,000

Breeding & Vendor
Super One - Cash First
 (Symphony Lodge, Oakey)

Super One - Cash First colt
 Photos: Magic Millions and Inglis

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