

Edition 18

March 2024

# MARSH MONTHLY



*Inside this month...*

Yearling updates  
Hear from Stephen

Success across the Tasman  
Group 1 DOUBLE



## Red dot report

**March 2024 will go down as one of the best months in our stable's history!**

It was highlighted by a red-letter day at Ellerslie on Saturday the 9th, where we celebrated success in the Group 1 Sistema Stakes (Velocious) and Group 1 New Zealand Bonecrusher Stakes (El Vencedor). We also added a lucrative Group win in Australia, as our NZ Derby runner up Antrim Coast continued his rise taking out the Group 2 \$500,000 Alister Clarke Stakes on Group 1 day at Moonee Valley. Those results, combined with several outstanding black type performers and winners, contributed to an outstanding March for our team.

I am always humbled by the support we have of so many loyal owners and racing fans. It's been great to see the many messages of support for the team over the past few months. Our success this season reflects what a talented and committed team of staff we have looking after our horses every day. We were fortunate to celebrate our success with the whole team, including our key support partners, this month at our favourite Waikato restaurant, Alpino in Cambridge. A real highlight for me personally is seeing the buzz our team get from winning big races and it was brilliant to celebrate it with them all. Alongside an outstanding team of staff, we are fortunate to have an amazing group of loyal owners who continue to support our stable, back our judgement at sale time and ultimately trust us with their horses.

It was fantastic to reward GoRacing with another Group 1 victory through superstar 2YO filly Velocious. GoRacing have been a supporter of mine since the Woodville days so any victory for them is special.

Likewise, Mark Freeman and David Price who own El Vencedor have supported us with horses for over 20 years. I have always said El Vencedor is the best horse they have ever owned so it was satisfying to see him deliver on the biggest stage. His win under a well-judged Joe Doyle ride, where he managed to hold off one of Australasia's best mares down the Ellerslie straight, will stay with me for a long time!

It has been a great month for staying 3YO Antrim Coast. His performance behind Orchestral in the New Zealand Derby was exceptional and to frank that form at Moonee Valley three weeks later winning the Group 2 Alister Clarke was a huge thrill. The Dick Karreman owned and Rick Williams managed Oaks Stud have been outstanding supporters of our stable in recent seasons. Their famous white and blue colours have been carried to success by so many top horses over the past 3 decades, so to deliver a result like this for them was very rewarding.

While the top-class racing continues on both sides of the Tasman our focus turns toward the Inglis Sydney Easter Yearling Sale. We have had incredible success with our Australian purchases and the Easter Sale has become a primary focus for us, we plan to be very active at this year's sale with a very specific strategy. We have outlined below the opportunities and I would encourage anyone who is keen to be involved to register their interest with us or contact us if you have any specific requirements.

Good luck to all owners with runners over the coming month and we look forward to catching up with everyone on track during April!

*Stephen*



## Sydney Easter Sale

### Sydney Easter Sale

The Inglis Sydney Easter Sale has become a very important sale for us, it is arguably the most prestigious and select sale anywhere the world providing a great opportunity to tap into some of the best pedigrees in the stud book.

This year we have a very clear approach and are seeking expressions of interest in the below opportunities. Our Karaka yearlings were incredibly popular this year with shares selling in record time, while early interest in our Sydney Easter opportunities is already very strong.

If you have any questions or wish to register your interest, please do not hesitate to contact either Stephen or Dylan. We are currently onsite in Sydney and are available to inspect or provide feedback on any of the 500 yearlings catalogued.

### Sydney Easter Fillies – Shares available

This has been our most successful category of ownership. In the recent seasons fillies purchased in Australia have included stakes performers, Illumination, La Bella Beals, Dubai Diva, Merchant Queen and Moet Down. These five stakes performers are from only seven fillies purchased over the past three years in Australia.

There is no doubt buying well bred fillies at Sydney Easter is a recipe for success. Residual value and the strength of the global broodmare means your investment is always protected, and we are confident through our buying process we can add significant value. Fillies purchased at Sydney Easter are always our most popular yearlings.

### Sydney Easter Colt – Limited Shares available

This year we will endeavor to purchase a colt we believe to have stallion potential. Recently we have seen well performed stallions off the track sell for up to \$50M, we are keen to provide owners with the opportunity to part of this lucrative market. Our colt will have a stallion pedigree, carry the physical attributes to be successful racehorse, and a temperament to be given the opportunity to prove himself as a colt.

Our stallion syndicate has been formed with limited space now available, to register your interest or to learn more please contact us directly.

### Sydney Easter – Ladies Only Filly - Limited to enquiry only

The Marsh Racing Heels and Hooves Syndicate is the most popular, fun and successful ladies syndicate in New Zealand! Formed in 2022, our first syndicate has been incredibly well rewarded through the efforts of Moet Down, who is now one of the more valuable fillies in NZ. Our second syndicate look to have another smart Pierro filly in the unraced 2YO Sexy And I Moet.

All 2024 syndicate members are invited to our exclusive Moet Champagne lunch. This has become a key event on the social calendar and provides a chance for owners to mix and mingle, enjoy fine food and champagne, while connecting with our charity partner The NZ Breast Cancer Foundation.

Over 85% of this syndicate is already secured so opportunities to be part of the 2024 syndicate are extremely limited. Please contact us now to enquire.



## March Winners



9/03/24 Ellerslie

### **Velocious**

Sam Spratt

*Go Racing Burrata Syndicate*

Group 1 Sistema Stakes 1200m

*Replay.*



9/03/24 Ellerslie

### **El Vencedor**

Joe Doyle

*M W Freeman & D G Price*

Group 1 Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes 2000m

*Replay.*



9/03/24 Ellerslie

### **Provence**

Sam Weatherley

*T V Rider & Social Racing Ellerslie*

*Winners Circle Syndicate*

SNG Media 1400m

*Replay.*





16/03/24 Trentham

## **Billy Lincoln**

Opie Bosson

*Lincoln Farms Bloodstock Ltd & Exempt*

*Bloodstock Ltd*

New Zealand Bloodstock

Premier 1400m

*Replay.*



23/03/24 Riccarton Park

## **Nikaia**

Tegan Newman

*N & D Wilson, L Petagna, T Joyce, M*

*Brown, B & A Perry*

Petersens Jewellers ladies

Bracelet Three Year Old 1400

*Replay.*



23/03/24 Flemington

## **Antrim Coast**

Mick Dee

*D Karreman - The Oaks Stud*

Group 2 Alister Clark Stakes

2040m

*Replay.*





20/03/24 Riverton

## Ruby Sunrise

## Brandon May

12 Monkeys Syndicate, G A Fitness, Hedwood  
Thoroughbreds Ltd, M Schofield & Miss W M  
Wakefield

Ashford Motor Lodge Christchurch  
Pourakino Handicap

*Replay.*

## Group 1 double



## Velocious shines for Marsh in Sistema Stakes

*Article courtesy of Loveracing.com*

**Superstar filly Velocious cemented herself atop the country's two-year-old ranks with a tenacious victory in Saturday's Gr.1 Sistema Stakes (1200m) at Ellerslie.**

Velocious burst onto the juvenile scene on debut at Te Rapa in November, the daughter of Written Tycoon swiftly collecting black-type honours in the Listed Counties Challenge Stakes (1100m) at the following start.

Her sole defeat in a dazzling five-start career came on heavy track conditions in the Gr.2 Eclipse Stakes (1200m), a performance rectified in spades when she delivered trainer Stephen Marsh with a triumphant Karaka Millions 2YO (1200m) victory.

In the hands of regular rider Sam Spratt, Velocious exploded from barrier four as a \$1.60 TAB tote- favourite, settling outside the pacemaker Poetic Champion. Previously unbeaten in four starts, Captured By Love was touted as the key danger to Velocious, but the Te Akau Racing filly was forced back and three-wide early in the eight-horse affair.

As Poetic Champion began to angle wider rounding the home turn, Spratt urged Velocious into the lead and she exploded clear at the 150m, an advantage too great for Archaic Smile and Captured By Love to reel in as the classy fillies scorched home to fill the minor placings.

Marsh admitted to a few nerves prior to the race and was delighted to have claimed his second-straight Sistema crown, after winning last year's edition with Ulanova after Tokyo Tycoon was disqualified for a swab irregularity.

"That feels great. She's a great filly, a Karaka Millions winner, and now she's a Group One winner. That just tops it all off," he said.

"I was nervous coming into today, a lot more gee'd up than for the Karaka Millions, but I'm just happy it's done and dusted and she's got it.

"I was very comfortable, I thought Sam rode the horse perfectly. I told her to watch out for Poetic Champion, it could run out, and we were always going to nurse her to about the 200m, but when he started to run out, she had to push the button a bit early. "She was just a sitting duck in the last little bit, she sprinted hard and she's got a great turn of foot. She's probably ridden better taking a sit, but Sam rode her perfectly, for today."

Marsh had elected to give Velocious a brief freshen-up following the Karaka Millions, a comfortable trial win at Cambridge in late February proving the ideal lead-in.

"You can't run in every race, we peaked her for the Karaka Millions and we wanted to give her a freshen up. She had the one quiet trial at Cambridge, that was all she needed, and today just showed that," he said.

"You just can't beat this feeling."

"Any Group One is awesome, everyone wants one, and each is worth it."

Out of the Snitzel mare Parmalove, Velocious has now earned \$917,750 for the Go Racing Burrata Syndicate, after Albert Bosma purchased the filly out of Inglewood Stud's Book 1 draft at Karaka 2023 for \$190,000.



## El Vencedor causes massive upset in Bonecrusher Stakes

*Article courtesy of Loveracing.com*

**An inch perfect front running ride by Irishman Joe Doyle paved the way for outsider El Vencedor to upset the applecart in the Gr.1 Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes (2000m) at Ellerslie.**

Despite a consistent form-line with a win and three placings along with a last-start fourth in the Gr.1 Otaki-Māori Weight For Age Classic (1600m), the five-year-old son of Shocking was overlooked by punters as he closed at \$21 on the Fixed Odds market.

All the smart money was on class four-year-old mare Legarto (\$1.20) who had taken out the Gr.1 Herbie Dyke Stakes (2000m) at her last start. Those investments looked well placed early in the piece as Ryan Elliot settled her beautifully in third as she stalked El Vencedor and Doyle, who set up a tidy pace in front.

Approaching the home corner, it was evident that El Vencedor was travelling sweetly in his first start beyond 1600m, however Legarto had him in her sights as she switched off the rail and set out to bridge the three-length margin the leader had established with 300m to run.

Despite making ground steadily, Legarto couldn't pull back El Vencedor who kicked strongly for Doyle and powered to the line to win by half a length with Ladies Man finishing resolutely for third, albeit four lengths in arrears of the first two. Trainer Stephen Marsh, who had two races earlier taken out the Gr.1 Sistema Stakes (1200m) with Velocious, was a little lost for words as he contemplated what his charge had just achieved.

"Legarto is such a great mare and you never take her cheaply, but I loved the way he got to the front under a bit of pressure then got a couple of cheap sectionals," Marsh said.

"He was galloping beautifully in front and coming into the straight I saw Legarto come off the bridle just as we were starting to climb into it.

"I thought geez we could be a chance here, and he kicked well and galloped nice and true which was beautiful to see. "He has got better and better with each run, and this is great for his breeders and owners Mark Freeman and David Price as they own the mare, and it is just awesome all around.

"Two Group Ones in a day is just surreal."

Doyle wore a massive smile as he accepted congratulations for his performance on the brave winner.

"That is just fantastic, and this is a race with a lot of history," he said. "Stephen's horse (El Vencedor) was so tenacious, and I'm absolutely thrilled. "We agreed before the race that the only chance we had was if we could get relaxed in front, so I let him slide forward and when we hit the rise, I let him fill his lungs and he was as tough as anything and got me home."

Freeman and Price bred the gelding from their O'Reilly mare Strictly Maternal and he is the younger brother of their Gr.2 Brisbane Cup (2200m) winner Chocante, while he is also a half-brother to Hong Kong Derby winner Sky Darci.

The win took his career earnings beyond the \$636,000 mark with seven wins and thirteen placings from 31 starts.



## Antrim Coast heads Kiwi-bred quinella in Alister Clark

*Article courtesy of NZ Racing Desk*

New Zealand's Group One three-year-old form was to the fore at Moonee Valley on Saturday, where Antrim Coast edged out Quintessa in a thrilling finish to the A\$500,000 Gr.2 DCE Alister Clark Stakes (2040m).

Te Akau Racing's Quintessa went into the race as a \$4 favourite. She had previously shown her star quality on home soil, winning the Gr.1 Levin Classic (1600m) at Trentham in January, then finished an eye-catching fourth in this month's Gr.1 Australian Guineas (1600m) in her first appearance across the Tasman.

In contrast, Antrim Coast was an overlooked outsider at \$41 for Saturday's Alister Clark. The son of Roc De Cambes arrived in Melbourne as a last-start second placegetter in the Gr.1 New Zealand Derby (2400m), defying triple-digit odds to finish just under four lengths behind the freakish filly Orchestral.

Quintessa was given a dream run by Opie Bosson, sitting in fourth before sailing through a gap along the rails at the turn. She quickened smartly and opened up what looked like a winning advantage, but then along came Antrim Coast.

After settling in the back half of the field, Mick Dee got him up and rolling 800m from the finish. He came four-wide around the turn, balanced up and lengthened stride. He slowly but surely drew up alongside Quintessa, fighting a head-bobbing battle with her through the final 100m and snatching victory by a nose.

"It was a very good run in the New Zealand Derby last start, and a great training effort by Stephen Marsh to drop back to 2000m around Moonee Valley today," Dee said. "I dare say he didn't get around Moonee Valley all that well. He didn't corner that well and was tending to lay outwards around the turns. "I had to go quite early. To be honest, I thought we got beaten on the line, but it was a super effort."

Racing in the colours of owner-breeder Dick Karreman's The Oaks Stud, Antrim Coast has now had 12 starts for three wins, four placings and more than A\$520,000 in stakes.

"He couldn't have come over any better," said Dean Williams, whose father Rick is The Oaks Stud's general manager. "I had a good chat to Stephen Marsh before he came over. They'd given him a week in the paddock after the Derby and he'd freshened up nicely. Stephen was very happy with his work on Tuesday morning, and then he travelled over on Wednesday and hasn't turned a hair since he arrived.

"We couldn't have wished for a better ride today from a sticky gate (nine). He got him out early and let him roll into the race. It was a perfect ride and a tough effort from the horse.

Antrim Coast became the sixth individual stakes winner for Roc De Cambes, who stands at The Oaks Stud for a service fee of just \$3,000.





## Karaka Yearlings start ridden education

We enjoyed visiting four of our Karaka purchased fillies who are currently being broken in at Riversley Park by Sam Beatson and his team. They are undoubtedly gaining an invaluable start to their ridden careers courtesy of their experienced horsemanship.

We saw the girls have their second ever canter around the home track and walk through the wooden barriers. Despite the wet and windy conditions, they took it all in their stride and look to be enjoying their work and we expect to have them in the stable the first week of April.

The early stage of their education is extremely important to us, with the goal of producing happy and confident racehorses to train and set them up for a successful life both on and off the racecourse. The weeks in which they spend completing the breaking in process begins with them becoming accustomed to the roller which simulates having a girth around them in preparation for the saddle. They also wear a breaking in bridle which encourages them to accept and play with the bit. Once comfortable they begin long reining which installs the all-important steering and stopping buttons! Before being 'backed' and learning the rider's aids, first in the round yard and when confident, around the track.

We are looking forward to getting these fillies into the stable where they will spend a couple of weeks before heading out for a well-deserved break to relax, grow and take in all the new information they have learnt!

