

Edition 14

November 2023

MARSH MONTHLY



Inside this month...

Look back at this month's winners
Hear from Stephen

Ready to Run Purchase
Ellerslie Track Progress



Red dot report

November has been another great month for our stable. I am extremely proud of how the team is performing on the track and we are ahead on every matrix - Winners, Top 3 Placings, Stake Money & Stakes Winners - compared with any other season at the same stage. When reviewing the calendar and planning our runners for the summer months this is only set to increase.

The highlight of the month was undoubtedly the emergence of boom 2YO Velocious. Backing up her maiden win at Te Rapa, she put in a very impressive performance to take out the \$100,000 Listed Counties Challenge Stakes at Pukekohe. Raced by long-time supporters Go Racing, the well-bred daughter of Written Tycoon is now clear favourite for the 2YO Karaka Million in January. She has been ridden superbly on both occasions by Sam Spratt, who has been one of our leading jockeys for close to 20 years. It is hard to think of a time where Sam has been riding in better form.

Since returning from Australia over a year ago the New Zealand Cup had always been Nest Egg's target, so to finish as the runner-up was bittersweet. He is a pleasure to have around the stable and a true favourite amongst our team. His victory in the Metropolitan seven days prior gave us a big thrill and we look forward to him returning in the autumn as we target the Auckland Cup.

Congratulations to Tim Mills and the Canterbury Jockey Club for staging such a successful Cup Carnival. The attendance across the three days was outstanding and the atmosphere during the last day was phenomenal. Early indications are that turnover on Cup Day was at record levels, this is vital to the ongoing sustainability of prize money and returns to owners.

We were at Karaka for last week's NZB Ready to Run sale, which was arguably the strongest edition in the sale's history. Our sole purchase was lot 331 by standout stallion Pride of Dubai from a quality NZ Family. He is a horse with great substance, and I thought his breeze up in slick time under minimal pressure had all the signs of a quality horse with plenty of progression. Shares have been incredibly popular and at the time of writing we only have **12.5% available!** Please contact me now if you wish to be involved.

December is one of the busiest months on the calendar for us. The racing continues to come thick and fast, highlighted by a Group 1 day at Trentham, the Waikato Cup day at Te Rapa and of course the famous Boxing Day races at Pukekohe.

While our focus will be firmly on the race track, we will start our on farm inspections of the 2024 draft of yearlings. The annual NZB sale at Karaka is our major sale to source young horses to join our team and we put a significant amount of time and effort into inspecting every lot and researching pedigrees. With prize money heavily increased, we know how important it is to secure quality horses now to be competing for this money in the seasons to come. We will be very active throughout the sale and expect shares to be ultra popular this year.

If anyone would like to register their interest or have any questions regarding how we purchase and the process of becoming involved, please feel free to contact myself or our Bloodstock Consultant Dylan Johnson on 027 897 8755. Either of us will be happy to assist as we draw closer to Karaka 2024.

Good luck to all connections with runners over the coming weeks starting with our 4 runners engaged in black type events tomorrow.

Stephen

Ready to Run Purchase

Last weeks NZB Ready to run sale was incredibly strong. There was a large buying bench from Hong Kong and Australia in attendance, which saw record prices throughout the two day session.

As in previous years, we were very selective and managed to secure a quality Pride of Dubai Gelding for well below the sale average, we now have just 12.5% remaining in him.

Pride of Dubai is a sire we have always respected and his progeny have had an amazing 12 months on the race track. Headlined by Pride of Jenni who won two Group 1's in a week over the Melbourne Cup Carnival and last Autumn's standout weight-for-age star in Australia, Dubai Honour, he has proven himself as a sire of great quality.

This particular gelding we thought carried the physical attributes and depth of pedigree to be successful. Standing at 16HH, he is an imposing type with great athleticism and natural strength. His breeze up in a time of 10.88 was effortless, under a tight hold he showed a great length of stride and a very fluent action.

By Pride of Dubai from a Fastnet Rock daughter of Gr. 1 winning Arlingtonboulevard, he is the half brother to the talented stakes performer Blue on Black. The Pride of Dubai x Fastnet Rock cross has worked particularly well having produced 9 winners and 4 stakes performers from just 16 runners to date.

If you wish to be involved in this exciting prospect who will rejoin the stable next week, please contact me ASAP as the remaining 12.5% will not last long.

Catalogued as lot 331, click below to review video footage of his 200m breeze up at Te Rapa and on farm parade.

[CLICK HERE](#) 



Phase two of Ellerslie's return to racing plan completed successfully by Auckland Thoroughbred Racing

Auckland Thoroughbred Racing (ATR) has successfully completed the second phase of the Club's 'return to racing' plan for the Ellerslie track on Monday, 20 November.

New Zealand's premier thoroughbred racecourse, Ellerslie, welcomed horses back for the first time in 20 months on Sunday, 12 November to very positive feedback and today saw 10 horses take to the track to further test the new StrathAyr track.

The 10 horses, from Clotworthy Racing Stables, Marsh Racing, Pike Racing and Forsman Racing, were ridden by senior jockeys, Warren Kennedy, Vinny Colgan, Michael McNab, Sam Spratt and Masa Hashizume. All the jockeys were once again very complimentary of the track especially considering the Ellerslie region has seen 43 mms of rain over the weekend with Warren Kennedy commenting that it feels ready to race even now.

"It felt amazing, you could race on it tomorrow," said Kennedy. "You wouldn't know we've had any rain, it's drained exceptionally well.

"When you walk on the track it feels firm underfoot but has a really good spring when the horses are on it."

Spratt, who felt that it rode a touch firm last weekend, said that the rain on the track had improved the surface and it was great to ride on.

Vinny Colgan was blown away by how the track performed considering the amount of rain received over the weekend.

"I'm just really impressed with the turf, after 43mms of rain," commented Colgan

"And it feels so safe. Perfect."

ATR Executive General Manager – Racing & Operations, Craig Baker, was really pleased with the outcome of today's gallop.

"The 43mms of rain we had since Friday came at exactly the right time as it gave the track the opportunity to highlight one of its key virtues, which is drainage," said Baker.

"The fact that we had that much rain and the track was a Good 4 this morning is testament to its ability to drain.

"We now push on with confidence to jumpouts then trials next month".

Phase three will see jumpouts take place in early December followed by the fourth and final phase of trials, also scheduled for December.

All going well, ATR anticipates returning to racing on Sunday, 14 January, ahead of the highly popular TAB Karaka Millions on Saturday 27 January.

November Winners



7/11/23 Pukekohe

Antrim Coast

Joe Doyle

D Karreman

Ellerslie Events 1400

Replay.



7/11/23 Pukekohe

Dodde

Michael McNab

J F Bruford & C J Griffin

Stella Artois

1400

Replay.



11/11/23 Te Rapa

Velocious

Sam Spratt

Go Racing Burrata Syndicate

Virtual Print Design and

Branding 2YO

Replay.



11/11/23 Te Rapa

Fashionista

Courtney Barnes

The Oaks Stud

Brandt Equipment 2200

Replay.



11/11/23 Riccarton Park

Nest Egg

Warren Kennedy

D Price, SB Marsh, G Wilson, R Snell,

C Connors, C Lindberg, A South,

S O'Connor, J Owen & B Stewart

Nautical Boat Insurance

Metropolitan Trophy

Replay.



Photo by
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14/11/23 Ruakaka

Glamour Tycoon

Sam Spratt

2022 Bourbon Lane Stable New Zealand

LLC Partnership, I G Benge, R J Bibby,

Mrs L J Botros, D & S J Freeman, Dr P H

Mitchell & A P Saker

Truweld Engineering 1200

Replay.



18/11/23 Tauranga

Pow Tong
Jonathan Riddell
Mission Downs Trust
Jeremy Pryor Sotheby's
Handicap

Replay.



25/11/23 Pukekohe

Velocious
Sam Spratt
Go Racing Burrata Syndicate
Counties Challenge Stakes

Replay.



29/11/23 Te Aroha

Just One
Masa Hashizume
S B Marsh & R Tai
Paradigm Civil 1600

Replay.