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# BREEDERS' UPDATE

May 29, 2020



THE BREEDERS' AND WOODLANDS  
STUD PRESENT **EDITION 86** OF  
THE BREEDERS' UPDATE.

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# BREEDERS' UPDATE

MAY 29, 2020

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## EURO BRED GETS THE KASH FOR JONES

**Brad Reid**

The old saying that cream rises to the top could not be truer with Eurokash taking out the first race at Addington yesterday.

The blue-blooded son of Love You gave Derek and Adele Jones great reason to celebrate the return to racing with the second foal from their six-win trotting mare, Sunny Kash.

The road to breeding and eventually selling Eurokash is a special one for the breeder and horseman with his own bloodlines better than the Greg Hope trained trotter.

"I used to drive for my Uncle Derek (D G Jones) when I was younger but I hadn't done it for years.

"My mate talked me into taking part in one of the amateur courses and as soon as I did that I just thought, far out this is fantastic, this is a bit of me.

Rather than going into the amateur driving ranks, Derek instead went the training route which while a curious outcome of having done the driving course, it is hardly surprising given his lineage.

"In 2008 I went and got an amateur horse which was called Duarunner (2001 18 Bl m Tinted Cloud - Retreat) who we won a race with while we were learning to train, by in large thanks to Colin DeFilippi where we spent a lot of time to be fair.

Jones also acquired a trotter called So and So who added to his training tally with a win in the 2009 season which is the same year that Jones and his wife Adele became first time breeders with Duarunner.

"It ended up being a strange coincidence as she was one of the last horses out of my uncle's breed," said Jones. Duarunner did all of her early racing out of the Jenkins stable back when Ray was in partnership with the dual international, Jeff Wilson.

Duarunner traced back to the legendary Trix Pointer, the only mare to win the New Zealand Cup (1919) and leave a New Zealand Cup winner (and Dominion Handicap) with her son Wrackler.

The Jones association with the breed started with the U Scott mare, Rewa Scott (1944) who for a period of time left a line of smart trotters.

Her first foal by Light Brigade was called Our Own



*Eurokash (Love You x Sunny Kash) all alone winning the first race at Addington yesterday!*

and was the leading stake winner for three and four year old trotters in 1961 and 62 with D G Jones the trainer and driver.

She won the equivalent of the NZ Trotting Derby in 1961 and all told won 12 races.

The answer I do not have, why tragically she was never bred from.

The Jones family would breed from the unraced Fallacy mare out Rewa Scott in Craven (1960).

Her second foal Geffin followed in the footsteps of his aunty by winning the New Zealand Trotting Stakes (Derby) in 1970 for Charlie Hunter and the following season the 1971 Interdominion Final.

Fifth foal Dupreez (Good Time Eden) was similarly smart, winning 13 races and an Interdominion Heat in 1975 but that is by and large where the success with this line ends.

Although persevered with, and some nice bread and butter horses like the seven win Father Bill appeared, there is not much else of note.

After Duarunner had two foals, Don't Call Me Sue (Elsu) and Pollyanna Blue Chip (Santanna Blue Chip), that were obviously slow maturing types, Derek and Adele got itchy feet and headed to the 2012 Yearling Sales looking for some horses to add to the barn.

"My wife sorted two out that she wanted to take home and paid \$7000 for a well-bred trotter and much later in the day paid \$3000 for a McArdle filly, which proved to be a pretty good start to our buying career" he said.

In what would prove to be an incredibly fruitful first foray at the yearling sales, Derek and Adele had taken home eventual Group One winner Elusive Chick and six-win trotter Sunny Kash.

Sunny Kash and Jones now have the distinction of being the dam and breeder of the first post Covid19 winner in the smart Greg Hope trained Eurokash.

"We just happened to be yacking with Craig Thornley at the sales, who had bred Sunny Kash, and she caught Adele's eye. She said, 'I like that horse' and we bought her.

While it was a case of love at first sight, the attraction was not particularly mutual with the Continentalman filly proving to be more than a handful for all concerned.

"She was an absolute horrible horse to break in," recalled Jones.

"Warren Cochran had her for about two and a half months as she was a very head strong thing. But once he got on top of that she showed a lot of ability very early on.

"We still didn't know a lot about training when we took her to her first start at Rangiora as a two-year-old and we had never ever worked her in an overcheck at home and never needed too.

"She ended up running fourth but probably should have won had we had an overcheck on. Craig said he was unable to steer her around the bends at any real speed but that was a different story with the gear change.

"Unfortunately, then she got her hurt not long after and we brought her back in at three."

At her resumption she ran into the talented Irish Whisper on her home track at Oamaru but was far from disgraced in running third.

Sunny Kash would salute the judge in her next start at Motukarara and back that up with three placings from her next six starts.

She showed she might be a little better than average-when coming from well back in the field to run second behind Escapee in the Group Three Hambletonian at Ashburton, but unfortunately it was her second to last start for the season.

"She tipped Adele out of the training track at Michael House's place and got her legs all caught up which was





a shame as it was just before the Oaks and we had to put her out for another couple of months.

It would be safe to say she had real attitude, and not always the best kind..

"If I had my time again, I would have just given her to someone like Greg Hope and let him do the work and not me," he said.

In a career that yielded six wins and 11 placings, it seemed the faster they went the better Sunny Kash would perform and this was again evident in her second start at Group level.

She chased home Phil's Gift, Stent and Springbank Sam to run fourth in the Group Three Four and Five-Year-Old Championships in 2013.

"She was an out and out stayer and loved following speed," said Jones.

She was very hot and cold on race day and looking back Jones believes the issue was something they were not aware of until later in her career.

"Being new to the game we didn't really know enough about the horses. In retrospect I think she had tie up issues that we didn't realise. I think that held her back from where she was to where she should have won quite a few more races had we been aware of it.

"When she was right she was really good, but then she would go to the races next time and go rough and gallop".

At home she was an unbelievable worker but that is where we believe the muscle and tie up issues come into it because she would be just horrible some race days," he said.

No matter how difficult Sunny Kash could be as a race mare, her speed and raw ability combined with her pedigree put her in great stead to be a successful broodmare.

She was the first foal from Sundon mare Sunny Yankee whose dam Yankee Diedre traced to the Sir Roy Mackenzie imported Hanover Shoe Farms bred mare, Diedre Hanover. Her legacy needs no introduction as the mother of Hurricane Flyer and Thanksgiving and the tap root of greats such as Sunny Ruby and Monbet among many others.

While Sunny Kash's dam Sunny Yankee only won once from 21 starts, she was the half-sister to dual Group One winner Aldebaran Eve (Skyvalley) and a couple of handy half-bros in Sonoflindenny and Stylish Duke.

It was a pedigree that gave Jones plenty of options and until recently he has taken the European route, the first of the foals being by the French son of Quadrophenio, Orlando Vici.

While Orlando Vici lacks numbers on the ground in Aust-



*Eurokash as a Yearling in 2019 sold for \$35,000*

ralasia to be given the respect he deserves, you do not win two Group Ones in France without being a serious prospect at stud which he passed on to Sunny Kash's first foal, Clicquot.

"She had unreal ability and ran a quarter in 28.4 over a mile at Tim Butt's place as a yearling, but after bringing her back in at two and taking her to the trials she continued to get rougher and rougher in her gait.

"We put her out for six months and sent her to Greg Hopes but as it turned out she had a fractured pelvis and had probably had the injury for a long time," he said.

That might explain why Greg Hope came knocking on the door for second foal by Love You.

The November before the sales, Eurokash managed to scratch the surface of one eye and it ulcerated. By the time the sales came around in February it had virtually healed but evidence remained.

"It wasn't right by the sales although improving. We had vet reports to say it was perfectly fine, but it definitely put a lot of people off. Greg was able to see through that being the horseman that he is, and he loves the horse," he said.

Ironically the year prior Hope could not overlook a slightly benched knee (because of Monbet's issues) in Bolt For Brilliance despite really liking him, but I guess you cannot win 'em all, aye Greg!

Hope went to \$35,000 to secure the son of Love You at the 2019 NZB Standardbred Sales and he produced the two-year-old to win easily by five lengths in the hands of his son, Ben.

The ease of the win and the fact he has yet to be gelded suggest he could have a big future.

"He is a beautiful natured horse and that's why he is still a colt now. He is just one out of the box and beautiful to do anything with," he said.

Denise Ottley has just broken in Sunny Kash's third foal, another Orlando Vici filly who by all accounts is showing ability also.

Really pleased with how she broke in, she is going to be a really nice horse despite being a lot bigger than the other two," he said.



Sunny Kash is safely in foal to Majestic Son and the paddock mate Elusive Chick is also in foal this season to Betor's Delight.

The 2013 Four-Year-Old Diamond winner has her five-win daughter Lulu Le Mans resume at Addington tonight from the Mark Jones stable and could give Jones a further incentive to celebrate the return to racing.

"She won two in Australia before coming back and is 1:52 placed which will make her an attractive breeding proposition if we were to keep her, but she could be sold," he said.

One that is definitely on the market is third foal and first colt from Elusive Chick.

"We have a really nice Sweet Lou colt out of her also that will be heading to the sales," said Jones.

## ASTONISHING RESULTS WRAP UP ALL AGE SALE

### NZB Standardbred

NZB Standardbred's highly anticipated 2020 All Age Sale saw New Zealand's largest breeding stock go under the digital hammer on New Zealand Bloodstock's online subsidiary platform gavelhouse.com.

Despite initial COVID-19 uncertainty, the first-ever sale of its kind saw 138 lots sell for a total turnover of \$1,042,310. The average reached \$7,553 and the median settled at \$4,550.

The confidence in the market over the past week of bidding has been reflected in the strong clearance rate, which topped the 97% threshold at the close of selling.

NZB Director and Operations Manager James Jennings was delighted with the outcome of the Sale.

"I think it's a great result in light of recent and unprecedented circumstances.

"The support and commitment we received from vendors was echoed by the remarkable clearance rate and their enthusiasm to meet the market.

"There was a strong, international buying bench present and we are thankful for their participation in the Sale," said Jennings.

The top-priced Lot of the session was an Art Major weanling colt out of Alta Camilla (Lot 75). The colt was secured for \$52,500 by Stonewall Stud's Jill Stockman from the draft of Alabar Farms.

"He is from a great family and is a very nice looking colt, we are happy to have secured him," said Stockman. Stockman had completed her research prior to the Sale taking place.



Lot 75: Art Major x Alta Camilla sold for \$52,500

"The online bidding experience has been really good overall, it was certainly a different experience but Steve Telfer had gone to look at the horses first, so we knew exactly what we were bidding on."

First season sires were in hot-demand this evening, highlighted by Stonewall Stud's purchase of Lot 35, a Downbytheseseaside filly out of Revere Me for \$50,000 from the draft of Woodlands Stud.

"She is a lovely filly and I think given her pedigree she would have made six figures had she gone through the ring next February.

"She definitely ticked all the boxes for us," said Stockman.

Over the Tasman, prominent buyer Jean Feiss locked in Lot 26, another Woodlands Stud colt by Downbytheseseaside out of Panforte for \$26,000.

Feiss was pleased with her purchase, "normally I don't go for first season sires but I just liked the type of weanling he was, that's what attracted me to him.

"He could have been anything, I truly thought he was an outstanding weanling."

The previous owner of Vincent herself, Feiss also secured two of his offspring, Lot 44 (ex Sheza Monkee) filly and Lot 103 (ex Delightful Lover) filly for \$19,000 and \$26,000 respectively.

"I really liked these two fillies, their breeding stood out to me as well as their exceptional type.

"Overall Vincent has produced some outstanding types and I hope they are going to represent his results on the track.

Feiss was pleased with the outcome of the digital format but is looking forward to getting back into the physical auction ring.

"I think given the circumstances it went very well, it has





Lot 35: Downbytheseaside x Revere Me

## DIEGO CONTINUES WOODLEA WINNING WAYS

Brad Reid

"I know Johnny didn't have to do too much with him yesterday, but if he fulfils on the potential he shows me at home, this guy is a five or six win horse in the making."

Rangiora trainer Tom Twidle's sentiment of his home-bred winner at yesterday's Addington meeting will be music to the ears of Nevele R Stud and patrons of New Zealand stallion, Gold Ace.

Woodlea Diego gave Gold Ace his second winning credit as a sire in New Zealand yesterday and according to his trainer, he has the ability to go on with it.

"I have really struggled picking up his maiden win, but he had started to show his ability in his last couple of runs before lockdown," said Twidle.

The son of Gold Ace is the first foal from six-win McArdle mare, Woodlea DJ who is out of the two-win New York Motoring mare, Secacus.

"She's been a tremendous mare for us since we took her over and there's a bit of a story behind how I acquired her," he said.

"I had Woodlea Life racing at the time and had gone up for the Sires Stakes with her as a two-year-old and because I had late nominated I had to go up there a fortnight before the race to go in one of the heats.

"She went out favourite on typically wet Auckland night and ran only fourth. We waited two weeks for the final which was a wet night again! The horse ran abysmally down the track and you would have thought on the surface it was a pretty dismal trip.

"In between the races was the All Age Sale which I attended, having sold one of our broodmares in Christchurch a day earlier.

"The third foal from Secacus came through the ring and I was the underbidder. Soon after the mare herself was in the ring and was in foal to Safely Kept.

"She was small mare but she was pretty correct. I just sat on my hands and nobody wanted her so once she passed-in I shot round to the stalls and asked what they wanted for her.

"Sandy Yarndley said he wanted \$2000 so I called my wife and asked whether she would like me to replace the mare we had sold, and that was how we bought her," laughed Twidle.

been great to see vendors rewarded and buyers being able to secure good stock but I think we are all looking forward to when things can go back to normal," said Feiss.

Alabar Farms (NZ) General Manager Graeme Henley was elated with the result of his resident first season sire Vincent.

"We thought the Sale went great overall, the biggest thing we were thrilled about was how Vincent's progeny sold.

"It was a great outcome for us and it was nice to see them receive the prices they deserve.

"It's been a lot of work and a bit of a roller coaster leading up to the Sale but the results we achieved today has made it all worthwhile," commented Henley.

First-time digital buyer Shane Sanderson was pleased with the simple online process on the gavelhouse.com Standardbred platform.

"It was easy for me to get verified as a buyer and a good experience. I ended up purchasing Lot 59, a Rock N Roll Heaven filly from a good producing family for \$20,000. I actually trained one of the half-sisters so I was pretty happy," said Sanderson.

### 2020 ALL AGE SALE RESULTS

**Aggregate: \$ 1,042,310**  
**Average: \$ 7,553**  
**Median: \$ 4,550**  
**Sold: 138**  
**Offered: 142**  
**Clearance: 97%**







*Woodlea Diego (Gold Ace x Woodlea DJ) gave Gold Ace his second win as a sire in New Zealand!*

She developed into a fine producer for the Twidle's leaving them eight winners from the eight foals they bred with 68 wins in total.

"She was a two-win mare and we won one race with the resultant foal whom we sold for \$50,000," he said.

Woodlea Legend, a son of Grinfromeartoeear, was the best of the horses they retained locally with 10 wins and 19 placings from his 91 starts which included wins in the now defunct 4 & 5 Year Old Championships at Forbury Park (Group Three) and Timaru Trotting Cup.

Live or Die gelding Why Live Dangerously (2006) won a heat of the WA Derby and amassed over \$200k in earnings.

Safely Kept gelding Woodlea Glenn (2004) won the Group Three Governors Cup in Queensland while going on to win 17 in the Sunshine State.

The mother of yesterday's winner was bred from only once before being sold to Alabar as a broodmare.

"Woodlea DJ was a small mare who didn't really develop until she turned five and she would always get run down on the line by the bigger stronger horses at Addington," said Twidle.

"I sold her to Alabar on the basis that I didn't think she would leave foals big enough for the sales, and given Alabar would breed her every year where I might have only bred her every second, she would get her chance and I could always buy the progeny at the All Age Sale.

"I have her Changeover half-sister who raced yesterday which is probably the other reason I sold her. While she is not as brilliant as DJ, I will likely breed from her when she finishes racing," he said.

## **LONGVIEW LADY DELIVERS ON PROMISE**

**Brad Reid**

The Ken Barron trained Longview Lady delivered on her potential yesterday to win the last race at Addington.

The daughter of Bettor's Delight is out of the former New Zealand record holder in Hannah Jaye.

Hannah Jaye held the track record for all comers (including males) over 2400m when she scorched the Winton track in 2:54.3, lowering the record set by Carabella in 2010.

The record stood for four years until Nek Time went 2:53.0 on the same track in 2016.

Longview Lady had been racing at the highest level since her two-year-old season and has been chasing home smart types like Spellbound, Sweet on Me and Amazing Dream in the classics during her career.

Astute punters would have relished the \$5 or \$6 about her early in the day when race favourite Skippy's Delight was the only one anybody seemed to want.

The win would have been doubly sweet for her co-breeder Pete Molloy having trained the mother Hannah Jaye for much of her career and having bred from four generations of this family going back to the Talk About Class mare, Spellbound Franco.



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*Sebastian K in action*

## SEBASTIEN K TO STAND 'DOWN UNDER'

Brad Reid

Late last month, Sebastian K picked up his first breeding credit as a sire of Down Under with On Advice (Sebastian K – Sunny Imperial).

The man responsible for importing the world record holding trotter's semen, Anthony Perkins, announced on Facebook this week that Sebastian K will be available by fresh chilled semen to New Zealand breeders at a price of \$3500+ GST this season.

His pedigree is well and truly an outcross and not something many casual fans would recognise.

While only lightly supported here several well respected trotting enthusiasts like Trevor Casey have bred to the son of Korean – Gabriella, with Casey sending his freshly crowned Trotting Broodmare of Excellence winner Niamey to him for a colt that is now a yearling.

Given the quality and breadth of trotters she has left, being crossed with the sire of a 1:49 mile rate could be one to watch.



*Maori Time in the green pastures of Sweden*

## MAORI TIME IN FOAL

Brad Reid

Maori Time is safely in foal to 2018 French Prix d'Amerique winner and 2019 Elitloppet heat winner, Ready Express (Ready Cash – Caddie Dream).

Duncan McPherson of Aldebaran Park had the following to say on Facebook:

"Aldebaran Park Sweden is delighted to share the great news that Maori Time (Aus - T 1.51.5 - \$421,000 AUD), Australia's representative at the 2018 Elitloppet in Sweden, is 42 days positive to Prix D'Amerique and European champion stallion Ready Express.

Thank you to all the team at Menhammar Stuteri in Ekerö - you have looked after her since we left her in Sweden on the dream of a lifetime!!!

We look forward to her Swedish progeny and to celebrating the offspring of Australasia's fastest trotting mare of ALL TIME.

We are "Hot to Trot" at Aldebaran Park."

## CHANGES TO COVERAGE AT ADDINGTON RACEWAY

Brad Reid

Addington are moving to fill the information void for owners and punters ahead of racing's relaunch this week.

The country's premier racing club returns with a double meeting this week, with a daytime fixture on Thursday followed by the return to their traditional Friday night slot, named the Dunstan Horse Feeds Return to Racing.

The meetings will be the first two horse racing meetings run in New Zealand since lockdown and attracted huge nominations as horsepeople demonstrated their desire to get back to the track.

But the return to racing doesn't mean a return to normal, with the public still not allowed back on track and television coverage set to change as Trackside moves to become a race to race broadcaster with very little on-track interaction. That will mean regular Addington on-track presenters Greg O'Connor will cover the meeting but from a studio in Christchurch.

"So we are keen to implement a few new things to connect with our audience and the connections of the horses before, during and after our meetings," says Addington spokesman Carlo Gomez.

Addington intend to raise their engagement on all social media but say their main focus with pre-meeting and post-meeting interviews will be on their Facebook page.

"We will also have post-race interviews going up on YouTube but primarily we will be using our Facebook page to keep people informed," says Gomez.

They will also use an e-letters with selections while galleries of winning horses and videos will be uploaded to Facebook and Youtube as well the day after our meetings.

Former Trackside presenter Jess Smith has already started interviews and will cover this Thursday's meeting for Addington's social channels while Stacey White will be on board for Friday's major meeting.

Harness Racing New Zealand will also be increasing the direct racing information on its website with video pre-views for all meetings from punting guru Craig Thompson and former Trackside presenter Michael Guerin and expert selections for all meetings as harness racing enters a new information era.

## **CLUB MENANGLE - THE LAZARUS PACKAGE**

### **Club Menangle**

In response to the devastating impact of Covid-19 on health and economic activity in Australia and New Zealand, Club Menangle previously announced a revised Covid-19 fee structure for Lazarus in 2020 harness racing breeding season..

Club Menangle announced the reduction in his 2020 service fee to \$8,000. An added incentive, for those who booked last year, his 2020 service fee will be \$6,000.

Club Menangle's Chairman, Robert Marshall has announced a further initiative aimed at assisting breeders in Australia and New Zealand, given the serious impact Covid-19 is having on economic activity and confidence.

Mr Marshall has indicated Club Menangle will offer a two-stage payment arrangement for the stallion's service fee for the forthcoming breeding season.

"The Club recognises breeders will be challenged by the current economic circumstances", Mr Marshall said.

Mr Marshall added "Club Menangle is a true not for profit and while our principal responsibility is to Club members, we recognise the part we play in the industry".

The new announcement is aimed at structuring the payment fee for Lazarus for the 2020 breeding season in a manner which smooths out the payment arrangements over two financial years.



*Lazarus is being given a leg up with a great package!*

"I am pleased to announce that my Board has agreed to the payment terms being \$2,000 on 40-day positive test and the remainder at 1 September in 2021" Mr Marshall said. This will apply whether the fee is at \$8,000 or the \$6,000 fee for 2020.

It appears the difficulties confronting Lazarus during his 2019 season down-under are resolving and Cub Menangle and Yirribee Stud are looking forward to his return in spring. This year Lazarus will be able to shuttle to Australia direct and will not be required to quarantine in New Zealand.

Club Menangle Chief Executive, Mr Bruce Christison has been working closely with Mr Duncan Taylor of Taylor Made Stallions, the North American owners on the initiatives for the forthcoming breeding season.

"The Club appreciates the excellent working relationship we have with the team at Taylor Made Stallions", Mr Christison said. Our two entities are focussed on providing Lazarus every opportunity to prove he is one of the greatest standardbred stallions of our generation.

We look forward to welcoming Lazarus home to Yirribee Stud.

## **NZB AIRFREIGHT ON TRACK TO RESUME FLIGHTS**

Following the temporary suspension of equine exports last week due to a positive case of equine piroplasmiasis, NZB Airfreight is confident that travel will resume shortly with increased testing and pre-export protocols.

The single case of the tick-borne protozoal disease was detected by the Ministry of Primary Industries and grounded flights just two weeks following the resumption of exports post COVID-19.





NZB Airfreight has since worked closely with MPI, the Department of Agriculture Australia and Asure Quality to ensure minimum delay and impact on future exports.

While new regulations and safety plans are already in place due to COVID-19, flights are set to resume in the next two to three weeks with a slightly longer lead in time due to new requirements of pre-export blood testing specifically for piroplasmosis.

NZB Airfreight Manager Greg Northcott is hopeful that New Zealand can regain nationwide freedom from piroplasmosis and return to a simpler exporting process that owners and breeders are accustomed to, once the investigation is completed.

"Thanks to the detail and traceability procedures of Cambridge Stud and the MPI Investigation team, they were able to quickly respond and provide confidence to our trading partners that exporting of horses could resume," commented Northcott.

"We are aware of the urgency to get horses across to Australia and further afield for racing and breeding commitments.

"Our clients have been extremely patient given the COVID-19 restrictions and now the piroplasmosis set back that has caused a significant delay in exports, so we appreciate that and the tireless work of many officials to get freighting back up and running as soon as possible."

NZB continue to work closely with all regulatory bodies, airlines and governments around the world to get travel lines open to all of our major racing jurisdictions.

For any queries or to book your horses flight, contact NZB Airfreight Manager Greg Northcott on +64 27 459 4995 or email [Greg.Northcott@nzb.co.nz](mailto:Greg.Northcott@nzb.co.nz).

## **INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTED**

### **STATEMENT FROM HRNZ**

The Board of HRNZ has moved quickly to establish executive support to the organisation following the departure of former Chief Executive Peter Jensen.

Chair, Ken Spicer, announced today that current Board Member Phil Holden will step into the Chief Executive role on a part-time basis until such time as a permanent appointment is made.

"The Board is fortunate to have someone with Phil's skills and experience available to support the organisation at

As an experienced Chief Executive and former CE of Greyhound Racing NZ, Phil will bring strong leadership and industry expertise to bear to support the Board and the wider team at HRNZ during this important transitional period.

"I am really excited to be able to pick up the reins and support the HRNZ team at this time. I know it's a challenging time, but we have a great team in place and I'm looking forward to leading and supporting them."

Phil will take a leave of absence from his Board position in order to undertake the role and this is effective immediately. Ken is confident that between the HRNZ Board, Phil and the Senior Management team, HRNZ has excellent resources to successfully lead harness racing through this transitional period.

## **CHANGE OF STRUCTURE FOR ADDINGTON NOMINATIONS & WITHDRAWALS**

### **STATEMENT FROM ADDINGTON**

From next Tuesday (owing to Queen's Birthday Monday), Addington Raceway will trial a change to the timing and structure of the Nominations and Withdrawal process.

Following discussions with the Canterbury Trainers & Drivers Association, the new approach will streamline the entry process and gain consistency with other regions, while acknowledging the increasing volume of meetings at the venue.

The format for the remainder of the season, where Addington will race on Friday night and Sunday afternoon, will be as follows:

Friday meeting – Nominations close 11am Monday, Withdrawals close 1pm Monday.

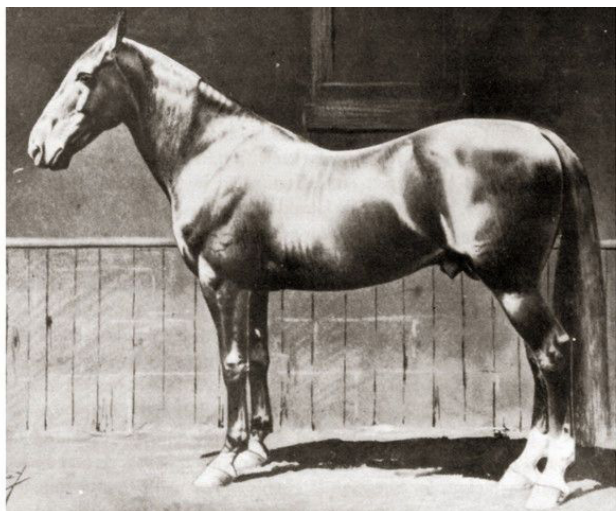
Sunday meeting – Nominations close 11am Tuesday, Withdrawals close 1pm Tuesday.

Addington Raceway is also working towards Online Nominations only, from the start of the new season.

Currently, approximately 60% of nominations for Addington meetings are made online.

For further information contact: Brian Thompson, CEO, Addington Raceway 027 6222 421.





*Hambletonian.*

## TWO OUT OF THREE -AIN'T ALWAYS GOOD

David McCarthy

The two earliest pioneers of trotting imports from America were men of enterprise, skill and enthusiasm, who set out for the United States in the late 1870's to buy standardbred stock and raise the standard of the breed in this country.

But while their ambition was admirable and one of them was a man of great expertise their process was flawed. Robert Wilkin and Jack Kerr were the men in question. Their influence was ultimately considerable but errors of judgement or just bad luck cost the local industry big time from their decisions in the short term. Though to be fair they were thinking as much about road horses as track types at the time.

Wilkin was the better known of the two with a high profile in Christchurch business and farming circles. His stables at Fendalton were luxurious -later turned into a handsome house-and he was knowledgeable himself and had excellent advice as he travelled extensively to Europe and America to select the right horses.

In Scotland Wilkin saw a celebrated local racer, Childe Harold, but he was not for sale. Instead he bought the Woodburn Farm-bred stallion Berlin there and then set off for Woodburn Farm itself in Kentucky -where Childe Harold was also bred- and bought another son of Harold named Vancleve. The idea was almost certainly to cross him with Berlin-line mares, the cross that had already produced Childe Harold that had so impressed Wilkin.

Harold himself had gone to Woodburn from New York at good money in an attempt by the stud to upskill its stallion ranks with Hambletonian line horses- even though he was once described by a critic as a "bench legged runt". He could trot but had been a stud disappointment before producing the world champion mare, Maud S at

Woodburn in 1879. Scorned by many locals, his mares turned out outstanding producers and he had a lasting influence in Australasia.

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It is a complete mystery as to why Wilkin would go to so much trouble and then send Vancleve to Australia on lease soon after he arrived in New Zealand rather than wait for Berlin fillies to appear. Vancleve never left a foal here and never returned to New Zealand, being sold after Wilkin's death in 1886. Perhaps his own health was a factor but it was a disastrous move from a bloodlines viewpoint.

What is more Vancleve had to stand alongside but against the celebrated Childe Harold for a time and only got the second pick among the mares.

Vancleve, who trotted a mile privately in a then impressive 2.16 was later a sensational success his most famous offspring being the wonder trotter Fritz who, Wilkin would have noted with satisfaction, was from a Berlin mare. Fritz, a trotter, was beaten by the pacer Ribbonwood in famous match races but when past his best He was hugely popular in both countries. Vancleve's greatest years were when he was bought by J A Buckland, who raced and bred on a grand scale, and promoted him to king of the hill at his own stud

The reason Vancleve and Childe Harold were at the same stud was that when Childe Harold, later sire of the great NZ-based stallion, Rothschild, did come on the market Wilkin passed the offer on to Andrew Town, owner now of Vancleve. Childe Harold was a hero across the Tasman but what if two such quality stallions had been available in New Zealand later with all those Berlin mares around ?

Many Vancleve fillies and mares came over here and formed a backbone among a number of our best staying families. In fact he was the leading sire here one season without ever coming to the country just like the modern frozen semen horses. Nothing new under the sun.

Kerr, an entrepreneur from Nelson where his family were early settlers, reputed to have used the first ploughs there, was a butcher as well as a large scale farmer, and imported Irvington, the first and only son of Hambletonian 10 to ever come to either Australia or New Zealand. The virtual founder of the standardbred -every horse racing today will trace to him-Hambletonian was the most famous horse in America by the end of his career standing for an unheard of \$500 a service. Thanks to the Ashburton Trotting Club he is the only trotter from the 19th century still to have a race named after him in this country -as well of course, as America's most famous trotting race.

So Irvington, a high priced son of the greatest stallion in the world and one of whose sons had already been





sold to the Rothschild family of Europe for over \$5000, might have been expected to carry all before him.

Instead he left just two winners and was eventually passed on to Australia. But it was not all his fault and it did not represent what would become his legacy.

Jack Kerr who owned the Lake Station on the shores of Rotoiti, the water that would one day claim his life, was something of an adventurer compared to Wilkin. Regarded as a "rough diamond", big, friendly but bombastic, he had made a small fortune importing draught horses and believed he could improve the road horse standard similarly by bringing in standardbreds.

Both men may also have been looking at developments in Australia where importing American trotting stallions was coming into fashion for use as road horses.

Kerr went first to California, as you did then, and inspected Irvington and his full brother Arthurlton. They had been bought by another Scotsman, William Corbitt in the east for a then sensational \$25,000. Corbitt made a fortune in California, lost it all, and returned to make another one. His property was a showplace. Like Robert Wilkin he wasn't keen on two horses competing for mares, preferred Arthurlton, and Kerr forked out big money to buy Irvington.

Kerr then travelled east to Kentucky but reckoned he saw nothing better than Irvington and bought two of his sons from Corbitt on the way home. Keen judges back in Irvington New York where he was bred reckoned Irvington on his younger days "to be as good a young trotter as there was about" and no less than the sporting Bible—the Turf Field and Form—declared "no pedigree could be better in trotting blood than that of Irvington" The first foal he left went straight into the Standardbred list and won a lot of races.

So what went wrong ?

Well Jack Kerr didn't quite do all his homework and he also lived in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Almost immediately on arrival Kerr entered most of the horses including Irvington in a Tattersall's sale in Christchurch. Many hundreds looked but none bought. Irvington, then 10 years old, was described as having "a magnificent head and neck, wide chest and splendid hindquarters and with a fine action. He will bring a new era to trotting in Canterbury".

But the market wasn't there yet and almost all the horses were passed in Irvington at a respectable 800 guineas. It may have been thought Kerr was just testing the market but he may have been counting the costs of his enterprise as well and auctioneer Matson was critical of trotting enthusiasts.

"New Zealanders are just learning the alphabet for trotting and have yet to get past abc" he told them But Kerr's big problem was that Irvington left relatively few foals and none at all in his later career. Also Kerr the

appeared to lose some interest in the horses after a time and often left it to others to promote them.

Jack Kerr had political aspirations which were sunk by overly frank comments like that recorded when constituent miners from Nelson Creek raised a petition against him during his one term as a politician. He dismissed it by saying "They could get any number of signatures down there to hang the Governor for a pint of beer". Winston Peters at his best had nothing on Kerr but he was not diplomatic enough to survive.

Irvington was passed on eventually to George King of Christchurch who was the one to sell him to Australia. In 1898 while out checking his fishing nets on a punt close to the shore of the lake, the boat capsized and Kerr was drowned. It was thought health problems that caused giddy spells when he stood up had led to the capsize.

He is rarely mentioned in history (another of his stallions, Fitz James, left the first Auckland Cup winner Rarus but foundered and died from bad feeding) but his legacy deserved a better fate.

Irvington's legacy apart from a few mares, relied on just two of his sons especially Young Irvington. who, in his later years became the most sought after stallion around. Owned and raced by New Brighton's Tom Free he was auctioned on the latter's death and bought by James Jarden who also stood Rothschild. The Jarden family was influential in trotting for a century.

James's somewhat fiery son Ben, was the glamour trainer in Canterbury for some time through the deeds of a champion called Author Dillon and his luxury stables in Hornby were named Irvington Lodge.

Our first real champion pacer, Ribbonwood, was from a Young Irvington mare and then two other mile record holders and a host of other influential broodmares came from him. He was so good they took to calling Irvington "Old Irvington" as his best son overshadowed him. Ribbonwood was a champion sire in Australia.

Lincoln Yet, the first foal of the famous Pride of Lincoln and one of Irvington's first crop, fairly much failed on the track but he was a popular road trotting sire for many years travelling all around Canterbury. Sometimes he carried a cab around the city, But he was actually much more than that. He sired two NZ Cup winners, including first, Monte Carlo, beside many outstanding horses and several influential broodmares.

Just on a sampling you will find Irvington with only two sons at stud and a handful of producing mares, somewhere in the pedigree of False Step, Ribbonwood, Harold Logan Johnny Globe Thefixer Tactician, Loyal Nurse, Auckland Reactor, Elsu, Luxury Liner and his relatives: the Armalight family and Lyell Creek—plus hundreds more. Berlin's son Kentucky sired Thelma a half-sister to Lincoln Yet and for a century regarded as our greatest broodmare. He is in the pedigrees of Christian Cullen and Take a Moment in more recent times but many others through



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The Woodlands Stud family of Adore Me, Christen Me, Dream About Me etc has Vancleve in the back ground and he is common in many of the famous mid Canterbury families.

So while Irvington passed quickly into history as a perceived failure the son of Hambletonian did a lot more than given credit for. Perhaps that is why the outstanding trotting journalist Karl Scott, editor of the Trotting Calendar for many years and author and editor of two books on harness racing, chose a special name for his by-line over all that time.

He called himself "Irvington"

## FEEDING PREGNANT MARES

Dunstan Horsefeeds

Nutrition of the pregnant mare has a huge impact on the subsequent foal. Ensuring that the mare maintains adequate body condition is important (without becoming overweight) as this ensures she has sufficient body condition to take on the energy demands of lactation once she has foaled. If the mare is to be re-bred, maintaining adequate body condition will improve the likelihood of early conception.

The last trimester of the mare's pregnancy is a critical time to provide her with the appropriate intakes of key trace minerals including Copper, Zinc, Selenium and Manganese. If this is done, it will assist in the development of a sound skeleton in the subsequent foal and the future athlete.

The way in which these key nutrients will be provided will depend on the individual mare (her metabolic rate) and pasture availability. Mares which are lighter and require hard feed to maintain condition will receive adequate nutrient intake in their last trimester if fed a good quality premixed feed such as Dunstan Breed and Grow at a minimum of 2.5kg daily (based on a 500kg body-weight). Dunstan Breed and Grow is a low GI, high-fibre, low-starch complete feed which includes organic minerals, and contains natural vitamin E. It is specifically formulated for pregnant and lactating mares and young stock.

However, inadequate supplementation will arise if a full feed is not being fed at the recommended intake.

In the situation where mares are holding sufficient body condition and do not require the recommended intake of the full feed, a more concentrated source of supplementary feed is appropriate – a feed that provides more nutrients per kg. Dunstan Multi-Ultra can be used in this situation. Dunstan Multi-Ultra is a concentrated



vitamin and mineral pellet which will provide a similar contribution of nutrients to the ration by feeding 500grams daily, as a full feed will when fed at 2.5kg daily. Feeding 500grams of Dunstan Multi-Ultra to last trimester mares will provide adequate intake of key nutrients required by the unborn foal. Dunstan Multi-Ultra can also be used to 'top-up' the vitamin and mineral contribution if feeding a full feed but below the recommended intake.

Once mares have foaled, their energy requirements increase to meet the demands of lactation. Dunstan Breed and Grow is still the most suitable supplementary feed after foaling, however, intakes will need to be increased for 'lighter' mares.

Mares that really struggle with the condition during lactation may benefit from the addition of a high-fat supplement such as Dunstan Muscle 'n Shine or Dunstan Trifecta Oil.

Dunstan Breed and Grow is also the ideal first-feed for the foal to share with the mare. As Dunstan Breed and Grow is a low GI formulation, calories are provided by fibre sources rather than starch-laden grains. Therefore it is a safer and more digestible feed for the young horse. In addition, the low GI nature of Dunstan Breed and Grow helps to minimise the negative impact that insulin can have on the development of joints and cartilage – all important for a growing a sound skeleton.

*The article was written by Dunstan's nutritionist, Gretel Webber Assoc.Dip.App.Sc, BBus, MSc Equine*







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# DANKE IS SET TO HAVE HIS 299TH CAREER START

By Josh Smith - Harness News Desk

Waikato warhorse Danke is set to have his 299th career start at Cambridge Raceway on Sunday.

Trainer Geoff Martin gave the 12-year-old gelding nearly a month off in the paddock before bringing him back into work during the lockdown period, where he was able to take advantage of his private 700m track on his six hectare Cambridge property.

"We gave him a bit of break and he's been up and down the paddock tearing it up, so I brought him back in," Martin said.

"He is a horse that if he is not in work, he is unhappy. If he's just in the paddock he sulks."

Martin claimed Danke nearly four years ago and said the Sundon gelding has been a major part of his life ever since.

"I claimed him at Cambridge in 2016 off Mark Jones," Martin said. "I thought he was a horse that I could improve with a bit of shoeing and being in a smaller stable you can spend more individual time on them."

"He's the only horse I train. I have a part-time job as a drainlayer, but I am only doing about 25 hours a week, so it works out pretty good."

Looking toward Sunday, Martin is hopeful of a bold resumption from his charge who he said is in great condition heading into his fresh-up assignment.



*Danke in his youth when in Mark Jones care!*

"He's fit and happy," Martin said. "I was supposed to take him to the workouts on Saturday, but I pulled his cover off on the day and thought he didn't need the run, he is pretty fit. I am pretty happy with him."

With Danke in the twilight of his career, Martin said he would let his pride and joy tell him when the curtain should be drawn on his raceday career.

"He'll do the talking himself," Martin said. "If he is happy I will start him, if he isn't he will stay at home."

"He is only in the cart a couple of times every three weeks. He does all his work behind the jogger and he is happy."

"He's a pet at home and my daughter rides him just to give him something different to do."

"If he stays happy and sound we will keep going."

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