

MR WAYNE BEDGGOOD HANDS OVER PRESIDENCY REINS TO DR CAMERON COLLINS



Mr Wayne Bedggood hands over the reins to incoming HTBA President Dr Cameron Collins

President Wayne Bedggood has handed over the reins of the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association Presidency to Dr Cameron Collins, Managing Director Scone Equine Hospital.

Dr Cameron Collins has been a member of the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association (HTBA) for 19 years, bringing important scientific research, rigor, industry knowledge and expertise.

Dr Collins took over the role of President on 1 July 2012.

Dr Cameron Collins is a member of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in Medicine of Horses and has a particular interest in stallion fertility. He joined the Scone Equine Hospital in 1993.

Dr Collins and the Scone Equine Hospital have played a long standing and integral role in the development of the Hunter Valley's Thoroughbred Breeding Industry - both as a key employer and critical industry partner. The HTBA Board welcomes Dr Cameron Collins as its new President.

President-elect Cameron Collins honoured outgoing President Wayne Bedggood at the HTBA awards night for his outstanding commitment, dedication and service to the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeding Industry over his 20-year membership of the HTBA, the last four as President.

For the past 27 years Wayne has lived and worked in the Hunter Valley. He has seen and been part of an industry that has steadily grown to be recognised nationally and internationally as one of the premier breeding industries and locations in the world.

During his membership and his Presidency of the HTBA, Wayne has devoted his time and efforts to protecting and growing every aspect of the industry he loves. Wayne has passionately championed education and training, equine research and development, community health and our campaign to protect our industries from the encroachment of mining in the Hunter Valley.

Wayne has presided over many challenges, equine influenza, global financial crisis and the current challenges to our iconic brand posed by mining.

The HTBA Committee extends its heartfelt appreciation to Wayne Bedggood for his contribution to our industry and is pleased that he will remain a member of the HTBA Committee and continue to contribute to our work in the progress of our industry.

PRE-SEASON SEMINAR

HTBA INFORMATION NIGHT FRIDAY 3 AUGUST 2012

The HTBA in association with the Hunter Valley Equine Research Centre (HVREC) will conduct an information night to update and inform management and staff of key horse related issues facing our industry as we lead into this year's breeding season.

Date: Friday 3 August 2012

Time: Commencing at 5:30pm

Venue: Hunter Valley Equine Research Centre

Program:

6 - 7 pm Update on recent research on Equine Amnionitis and Foetal Loss (EAFL) & proposed new funding
Presented by Dr Nigel Perkins
Question & Answer session

7 - 8 pm Update on Hendra and Kunjin Virus's
Presented by Dr Jane Axon
Question & Answer session

8 - 9 pm Food and beverages to celebrate the Horse's Birthday and a successful breeding season.

All are welcome. Please contact events@htba.com.au to register your interest in attending.

HUNTER THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS CELEBRATE THEIR CHAMPIONS

THE CREAM OF AUSTRALIAN BLOODSTOCK WAS FETED ON WEDNESDAY MAY 16 AT THE 21ST ANNUAL HUNTER THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (HTBA) AWARDS NIGHT.

Breeders of Australian thoroughbred champions, including triple crown winning 2 year old Pierro and star filly Atlantic Jewel, were among those recognized at the Awards night held at Scone, Australia's Horse Capital.

Blue Diamond winning Samaready took out the HTBA Champion 2 year old filly category for her breeder Gerry Harvey of Baramul Stud. The award was sponsored by Scone Race Club.

Star juvenile Pierro, bred by Darley, achieved a first, claiming both the HTBA Champion 2 year old colt and beating the older horses to win the HTBA Champion racehorse category. These award categories were sponsored by International Animal Health Products and Goldner's Horse Transport respectively.

Undefeated dual Group 1 winner Atlantic Jewel, bred at Vinery Stud by Greg Perry, claimed the category of HTBA Champion 3 year old filly ahead of outstanding filly Mosheen. This ultra-competitive category was sponsored by Pages Hire.

Golden Rose winner, Manawanui, bred at Goodwood farm for Wayne Palmer, was voted HTBA Champion 3 year old male, sponsored by Equilaw.

The title of HTBA Champion Broodmare, sponsored by Scone Equine Hospital, was claimed by Samar in recognition of the achievements of her offspring Samaready and Nightwar, winner of Group 2 Karrakatta Plate. Samar is owned by Gerry Harvey's Baramul Stud.

HTBA Champion first season sire, sponsored by Kentucky Equine Research and Barastoc, was claimed by Patinack Farm's Casino-Prince nudging out fellow Patinack resident Husson.

Coolmore Stud's Fastnet Rock capped off an outstanding season, including 4 Group 1 winners, to claim 2012 HTBA Champion Sire, sponsored by Inglis.

The HTBA congratulates all award winners. The Hunter Valley has a proud and rich history of producing champion bloodstock for nearly 200 years – a history we wish to continue.

The HTBA recognizes and thanks the sponsors of these award categories and all other sponsors who support our activities and our future.

The HTBA Awards night was recorded by Sky Racing and highlights were televised on Bred To Win.



Inglis Managing Director Mark Webster presents the award for Champion Sire for Fastnet Rock to Coolmore Australia's Tom Magnier.



Champion 3 year old Male was Manawanui, bred at Goodwood Farm for Wayne Palmer. Collecting the trophy is Sasha Watson from Daniel Morgan of Equilaw.



Champion 2yo Colt winner Pierro presented by International Animal Health's Shelly Brodie to Darley Woodlands General Manager John Sunderland.



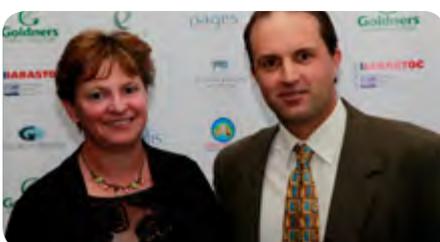
Paul Thompson representing Gerry Harvey's Baramul Stud collects the Champion Broodmare award from Dr Angus Atkins from Scone Equine Hospital.



Champion Racehorse winner Pierro presented by Goldners Transport Xavier Franklin to Alastair Pulford from Darley Stud.



Ben Lawrence from Patinack Farm collects the trophy for First Season Sire for Casino Prince from Ken Miller from Kentucky Equine Research and Barastoc.



Champion 3yo Filly Atlantic Jewel – presented by Sarah Wills from Scone Race Club on behalf of Pages Hire to Adam White representing Greg Perry and Vinery Stud.



Scone Race Club President Noel Leckie presents the award for the Champion 2yo Filly Samaready to Paul Thompson representing Gerry Harvey's Baramul Stud.

HUNTER THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS HONORING OUR LIFE TIME ACHIEVERS

The 21st Annual Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association Awards Night tonight recognized the life long achievements of two outstanding members of the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeding community.

The Murray Bain Service Award, sponsored by Gallagher Bassett, was presented by President-elect Cameron Collins to Paul Adams, senior Partner Scone Equine Hospital, for his contribution to the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeding Industry.



Caption: Mr Paul Adams accepting the Murray Bain Service Award

The winner of the 2012 Murray Bain Service Award, sponsored by Gallagher Bassett, was Paul Adams, senior Partner Scone Equine Hospital

Paul Adams graduated from the University of Melbourne and worked in equine stud and racing practices in Canada, England and Australia before joining the Scone Equine Hospital.

He is a Member of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in equine medicine and divides his time between stud medicine and equine surgery.

In a career that has spanned 35 years, Paul Adams was the driving force behind the establishment of the Scone equine surgical facilities.

In addition Paul has been involved in many other ground-breaking developments including the pioneering of colic surgery and arthroscopic joint surgery in the Hunter Valley.

The President's Award was presented by Wayne Bedggood to Yarraman Park Director Arthur Mitchell for his outstanding life-long service to the Hunter Valley's Thoroughbred Breeding Industry.

Yarraman Park Stud has been home to thoroughbreds for over 100 years. From a family steeped in the thoroughbred breeding tradition, Arthur Mitchell's career spans over 40 years with a wealth of national and international thoroughbred breeding experience.

Arthur Mitchell's contribution to the Thoroughbred Breeding Industry has been, and continues to be, invaluable.

In addition to his commitment to standing, breeding, rearing, spelling or pre-training some of the best thoroughbreds, including Catbird, Foreplay, Snitzel, Amelia's Dream, Fastnet Rock, Grand Armee and Magic of Money, Arthur has been a passionate advocate for the promotion and protection of the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeding Industry.

During his career Arthur Mitchell has been Past President of both the Scone Race Club and the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association (HTBA). Today he remains a member of both and retains the Vice Presidency of the Scone Race Club. He is also a Director of Aushorse and a key member of the HTBA's Protect Our Industries Committee.



President Wayne Bedggood presents Arthur Mitchell from Yarraman Park with the 2012 President's Award, with Darley's John Sunderland

The Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders congratulate and thank both Paul Adams and Arthur Mitchell for their lifetime achievements and commitment to our Industry.

MINING MONITOR

Public Inquiry to be held as ICAC Expands Investigations on Corrupt Conduct relating to the granting of Hunter Valley Exploration Licences

As the Government referred a second Exploration Licence (that of Ferndale) to the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) in late May, the HTBA called for a Special Commission of Inquiry because the public deserves to know how these licences were issued, who stood to gain and at what cost to existing landholders, industries, our waterways and environment.

(Click here for HTBA press release)

On 23 May, ICAC announced that it would delay completing and publishing its investigation report into allegations that the former NSW Minister for Energy, Ian Macdonald, corruptly used his position as a NSW Minister of the Crown to advantage the private interests of others pending investigations into these further allegations against Mr Macdonald. ICAC also announced that given the nature of these allegations, it had decided that it was in the public interest to hold a public inquiry - that date of which has not yet been determined.

(Click here for ICAC press release)

The first Exploration Licence to be referred to ICAC for investigation, that of the Doyles Creek Exploration Licence followed a review of the Doyles Creek Exploration Licence by Clayton Utz commissioned by the NSW Government. In this report Clayton Utz raised a number of serious questions including:

- was the Minister's decision to grant the Doyles Creek EL in excess of his lawful authority?
- why were the Guidelines not complied with?
- on what basis did the Minister invite John Maitland to apply for an exploration licence over Doyles Creek contrary to the advice of the Department?

- why was the Department's usual practice of requiring an exploration licence application to be advertised for a period before granting the associated licence not followed on this occasion?

The Clayton Utz review further states that "The Minister's decision may well be voidable on the basis of it being in excess of jurisdiction, bad faith or manifestly unreasonable".

(Click here to read the Clayton Utz review)

The Nucoal and Ferndale exploration licences have the potential to seriously impact regional communities and landholders, thoroughbred breeding operations and our environment. The public deserves to know these, and any other similar exploration licences, were issued without due process, public consultation or competition.

BICKHAM - UNCERTAINTY RENEWED



Photo courtesy of Scone Advocate

The lodgement of Bickham Coal Company's renewal of its Exploration Licences days before the licences were due to expire has renewed uncertainty and discontent in the Upper Hunter Community. The Bickham Coal Company has lodged a renewal to underground mine the same site ruled out for open mining by the former NSW Government.

It has been nearly two months since the Bickham coal licences expired on 27 May 2012. No decision by the NSW Government has been made yet the company continues its exploration activities.

The HTBA and concerned Upper Hunter landholders have called on the NSW Government not to renew the Bickham Licences and to extend the SEPP that prohibits open cut mining on the site to apply also to underground mining. The NSW Government has a singular opportunity here to show the people of the Upper Hunter that it will protect critical industry clusters, strategic agricultural land and vital water systems from unnecessary development.

The community of the Upper Hunter, our multi-billion dollar industry and our employees call on the NSW Government to consider the science, logic, past independent Planning Assessment Commission reports, current expert water reports, its election and policy commitments and reject the Bickham licence renewal to avoid another decade of insecurity, angst and threat to our industry and its future. The Question is will it?



MANAGING BUSINESS RISK

ARE YOU PROTECTED?

The Personal Properties Securities Register (PPSR) commenced operation on 30 January 2012. Since its commencement, over 7.5 million registrations have been recorded on the Register.

The advent of the PPSR for the first time will give suppliers of thoroughbred services (like service fees, and agistment) an opportunity to obtain priority and additional rights over other debtors, provided the regime relating to the PPSR is followed.

Therefore, as the breeding season is looming, you must ensure that your Agreements are not only correctly signed by the mare owner, but that Agreements include relevant matters such as clauses granting you a 'security interest' in the mare (so you can take advantage of the enforcement provisions contained in the Act to recover the fees owed to you by the mare owner).

If you do not 'perfect' your security agreements by registering your interest on the PPSR or you do not have possession of the mare, then you will have a lower priority over another 'security interest' that has been 'perfected'. This means that a higher priority security interest holder could claim possession of the mare from you.

Also, if you are in the business of leasing goods/machinery or supplying goods under retention of title clauses, you must register your interest on the PPSR to protect your ownership in these goods. If you fail to register your interest, you will lose ownership of these goods if the person or entity in possession of those goods becomes insolvent.

If some of this terminology is new to you, it is likely that you haven't got situation covered. To ensure you are protected, contact Equilaw Solicitors at www.equilaw.com.au to obtain specific advice regarding how the Act affects you and your business.

INSURANCE QUESTIONS

There have been sweeping changes to Workers Compensation entitlements, and this unfortunately could also mean that where injury occurs parties suffering loss may look for recovery beyond the limited rights to such compensation. We expect that the relevant authorities will also be refocussing their efforts, and also looking for recovery where possible. Indeed it is likely that in any event there will be a focus on liability of business and property owners where injury occurs, and where you have contractors (whether for contract work or employment hire) you will need to consider again your own insurance coverage in such circumstances but also the vigilance of your occupational health and safety processes, and contract protection.

NSW STRATEGIC REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN



Nearly 1,600 written submissions including 19 local government submissions and many individual submissions from mining companies, agricultural groups and environmental organisations were submitted to the NSW Government as part of the exhibition period for the suite of policies associated with the draft strategic regional land use plan.

The HTBA's submission focussed on the Hunter's "world famous" and "nationally significant" in the words of the NSW Premier and NSW Government, thoroughbred breeding industry.

On the issue of land use we called for:

- protection of the Hunter Valley's Thoroughbred Breeding Industry;
- restoration of balance and certainty to the Hunter Valley;
- the need to address land use conflicts - coal resource potential covers 39% of the Upper Hunter region while coal seam gas resources cover 44%. Thoroughbred breeding (as defined in the draft plan) covers only 7.6%. One has to question why we have a land use conflict;
- better protection than that afforded by the proposed "gateway";
- quarantining strategic agricultural lands and industries from further development (in this respect we agree with the NSW National Party's Central Council Natural Resources & Energy Policy Committee)
- upfront assessments and consideration of regional or area gateways (in preference to project by project gateways. However quarantining of strategic agricultural lands and industries provides the best certainty for the community);
- establishment of 5km buffer zones between mining operations and villages, towns and strategic agricultural lands and critical industry clusters;

- appointment of independent experts-the community has lost confidence in the current system;
- mandatory and strict enforcement of monitoring and compliance of consent conditions with severe penalties for breaches.

On the Draft Aquifer Interference Policy we called for:

- genuine protection to ground and surface water resources;
- the application of the Aquifer Interference Policy to Strategic Agricultural Lands and Critical Industry Clusters;
- the recognition of the interconnectivity of surface and groundwater systems;
- the precautionary principle to be applied and a reassessment of the "minimum risk" categories outlined in the draft policy;
- the simplification of an overly complex policy that has too many exemptions and not enough protections for our vital water sources.

On the Coal Seam Gas Draft Code of Practice we called for:

- the need to redress the imbalance of negotiating power between landholders and mining companies;
- a commitment to early and genuine community consultation;
- the need for independent expert advice and adequate compensation;
- legislative change to give priority to the maintenance of agricultural production with minimal disruption in deciding arbitration disputes;
- strengthening landholder property rights;
- a moratorium on new Petroleum Exploration Licences or production licences until comprehensive regulation of the industry is implemented;
- the introduction of an Independently Managed Trust Fund finance by the mining companies to make provision for long term rectification and rehabilitation of lands and waterways;
- the establishment of a Petroleum Ombudsman; and
- the implementation of the recommendations of the Federal and State Government inquiries into coal seam gas.

A copy of the HTBA's full submission can be found on our website www.htba.com.au

"MIXED MESSAGES"

DELIVERED AT ABERDEEN ACTION GROUP MEETING, 20 JUNE 2012

Local community residents, landholders, representatives of the thoroughbred breeding industry and local council representatives of both the Upper Hunter Shire and Muswellbrook Councils attended the Aberdeen Action Group's public meeting on 20 June 2012 to hear directly from coal companies about their future plans for three coal mining proposals in the area, AngloAmerican's Dartbrook project, Coal and Allied's Mt Pleasant proposal and Idemitsu's West Muswellbrook proposal.

Only two of the three coal companies, AngloAmerican and Idemitsu, sent representatives.

Community meetings are important opportunities for the genuine exchange of information regarding the future of coal mining developments in the area. These coal mining developments have the potential to affect the community, strategic agricultural industries, stressed water courses and local investment decisions in the Upper Hunter.

It is important that coal companies not only attend these meetings but send senior representatives who can answer and address community concerns. This did not occur at this meeting.

As the ABC's David Marchese reported in his article, *Mixed messages on Dartbrook plans*, 21 June 2012, advice presented to the community from AngloAmerican, the operators of the Dartbrook underground mine, was that the company had no plans for the site at this stage and it would be impossible to re-commence operations within 5 years. This advice contradicted information presented by the company in its June 2012 Investor and Analyst briefing. In this briefing AngloAmerican outlined 5 million tonnes per annum of saleable production, pre-stripping in 2015 and open cut commissioning in 2017 utilising Dartbrook's existing coal handling and processing plant and load facilities during a 25 year life of mine.

"Mixed messages are not a good thing." "I really think he [the Anglo representative] needs to be speaking to his CEO and getting the correct information and dispersing it within the Aberdeen community so they know what is going to happen in their town and when." Mayor Lee Watts said.

The ABC and the thoroughbred industry has sought clarification of this matter directly from AngloAmerican.

Read full article <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-06-21/dartbrook-information/4083812>



DEPUTY PREMIER PROMISES TO PROTECT OUR LAND AND WATER

HUNTER THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS WERE PART OF AN ESTIMATED EIGHT THOUSAND STRONG RALLY ON MAY 1 TO PROTECT OUR LAND AND WATER.

Marching shoulder to shoulder with people who had never marched before, Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders joined the NSW Farmers Association and over twenty other organisations representing concerned farming communities, citizens, water and environmental groups. This included the Country Womens' Association, who in their 90 year history had never before taken to the streets.

"The eight thousand strong rally today highlighted the depth of feeling throughout our rural and city communities for the protection of our vital water and land resources and important rural industries." Andrew Wiles, Vice President Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders said.

Rally participants sent a strong, resounding and personal message to the NSW Government - protect our land and water.

And the commitment from the Deputy Premier was clear. "The message I want to leave you all with today is this: if any proposed mining or gas extraction activity is likely to harm our prime agricultural land or other important rural industry clusters or the water resources associated with those areas, it will not go ahead under this government."

"The Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders congratulate everyone involved in the rally today. We also congratulate the Deputy Premier who had the courage of his convictions to address the rally. We expect the Government to deliver on this promise." Andrew Wiles, Vice President Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders said.



PETER MCGAURAN APPOINTED CEO OF ARB



The HTBA congratulates Peter McGauran on his appointment as Chief Executive of the Australian Racing Board. Peter McGauran replaces Andrew Harding following Mr Harding's departure to take up a post at the Hong Kong Jockey Club as Director of Racing Development.

Peter McGauran was the Minister for Agriculture in the former Howard government, former Chief Executive of Thoroughbred Breeders Australia and Aushorse Marketing and more recently Director Strategy, Marketing and Public Affairs for Racing NSW.

"Racing is part of Australia's heritage and we need to harness the inherent goodwill and affection Australians feel for racing as we compete for the recreational and wagering dollar in the most competitive environment in racing's history," McGauran said. "The ARB plays a crucial role in bringing state and territory principal racing authorities together to develop a uniform approach to common problems and issues."

Peter McGauran will start with the ARB in mid-August. The HTBA wishes Mr McGauran well in his new role.

DEPUTY PREMIER ANNOUNCES NEW LAND AND WATER COMMISSIONER

AN END TO ROYALTY HOLIDAY AND REGIONAL COMMUNITY FUNDS TO BENEFIT LOCAL COMMUNITIES



The Hon. Andrew Stoner MP, Deputy Premier and Ms Fiona Simson (President NSW Farmers) at the Nationals Conference

Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner announced that the NSW Government will appoint a new Land and Water Commissioner, end the royalty holiday for coal seam gas producers, and encourage producers to contribute funds to local projects under a new community benefits initiative at the NSW Nationals' Conference on Saturday, 23 June 2012.

The NSW appointment of a new Land and Water Commissioner responds to calls from agricultural groups, including the HTBA, for more stringent oversight of the regulation of invasive exploration activity on Strategic Regional Land.

Mr Stoner also committed to standardizing land access agreements for coal seam gas exploration in private land and has established a working group, including the NSW Farmers, to help develop these standard access agreements.

Mr Stoner also announced the establishment of a new Regional Community Fund so that local communities receive a share of their region's assets. "Given the resource is owned by the public, it's important that local communities and the people of NSW benefit from the production of coal seam gas through royalties and investment in communities in which the industry operates" Mr Stoner said. Under the new arrangements the NSW Government will refund \$1 for every \$2 committed by industry into this fund up to 10 per cent of the royalty take. The NSW Government's contribution will be funded by ending the royalty holiday enjoyed by the coal seam gas industry in NSW.

In making these announcements, the Deputy Premier acknowledged the many responses the NSW Government had received to the draft Strategic Regional Land Use policy. "We will continue to refine the policy over the next few months to ensure NSW has the strongest regulation of mining and gas extraction in Australia, if not the world" Mr Stoner said.

The HTBA supports all efforts to strengthen landholder rights and provide greater investment and certainty in communities that are affected by mining. We welcome these announcements and look forward to the NSW Government honoring its commitments to protect prime agricultural land, critical industry clusters and important water sources. As the Deputy Premier said at the 1 May 2012 rally, "if any proposed mining or gas extraction activity is likely to harm our prime agricultural land or other important rural industry cluster or water resources associated with those areas, it will not go ahead under this government."

The HTBA looks forward to the NSW Government delivering on this commitment.

[Click here to see the HTBA submission in response to these initiatives](#)

ROYAL ASCOT

"SO YOU THINK YOU'RE GREAT? AFTER BEATING THE QUEEN'S HORSE AT ROYAL ASCOT YOU ARE NOW..."

So ran the headline of the article by Marcus Townend on 20 June to record So You Think's two and a quarter length win from The Queen's Carlton House to take out the Prince of Wales Stakes at Royal Ascot. Congratulations to the Coolmore team. So You Think will return to Australia and stand at Coolmore in the Hunter Valley.



Photograph courtesy of Trevor Jones

TRIBUTES

GEOFF WHITE AO



Geoff White (photo courtesy of abc.net.au)

The Hunter Valley's racing sector is remembering thoroughbred breeder Geoff White AO as a family man who devoted much of his life to the industry. Geoff White passed away in Sydney on 8 July 2012 after a short illness. Mr White was the owner of the Invermien Stud near Scone and is remembered for his horse Marscay, which won the Golden Slipper in 1982.

HTBA President Dr Cameron Collins was one of many in the breeding and racing industry who paid tribute to the late Mr Geoff White.

"Geoff White was a visionary and an unfailing supporter of the Hunter's Thoroughbred Breeding Industry." Dr Collins said "He was an enthusiastic, energetic, dedicated and forward thinking supporter of the thoroughbred breeding and racing industry. Geoff was instrumental in helping to establish and build the Hunter Valley's Equine Research Centre. In this respect he has left an enduring legacy for the world leading equine research that underpins our world leading thoroughbred breeding industry."

Racing New South Wales Chairman John Messara said his friend made significant contributions to the Upper Hunter region throughout his life. "He very much thought outside of the square and got involved in racing in a major way after the acquisition and success of Marscay and was a good sportsman. Geoff and his wife Beryl were a great couple and very much a team. They were an important part of the Scone area. The whole family was involved in racing and he's held in very high regard and made a big contribution toward the Scone Race Club and other foundations in the district," Mr Messara said.

Derek Field, General Manager, Widden Stud also paid tribute to Geoff White. "Geoff White was a racing sportsman who contributed to our industry over the past 35 years. Widden Stud was fortunate to stand the stallions that were raced by the White family including Filante, Shovhog and the champion stallion Marscay. Geoff has led a family dynasty to the racing industry and was able to breed many champions that included Yippyio, Triscay, Reeanact and a host of other Stakes winners. It's great to see that two of his children, Judy and Greg, are continuing his and the White family's passion." Derek Field said.

Mr White is survived by his wife Beryl, children Helen, Sue, Greg and Judy, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

MARTIN HAWCROFT



Martin Hawcroft (photography courtesy of Ruth Hartmann)

Martin Hawcroft was tragically killed recently and his funeral was an extremely large gathering held in May at Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle.

Martin Hawcroft found much to like about The Dane.

He had good reasons for his admiration as The Dane was none other than one of Danehill's greatest racing sons, Nothin' Leica Dane, and Martin was thrilled to beat off stiff opposition and launch this Victoria Derby and Spring Champion Stakes winner and, at three, Melbourne Cup second at the Byerley stud along the Goulburn River near Sandy Hollow in 1998.

Runners sired by Nothin' Leica Dane, a sire moved last year to the Mackay family's Cangon stud near Dungog, under Martin's management brought him a lot of satisfaction. Two in particular were the David Parker bred Hot Danish (16 wins, \$2.3million) and the A. Eaton bred Leica Falcon, the fourth placegetter in the 2005 Melbourne Cup.

Among sires stood earlier by Martin Hawcroft on the 400 hectare Byerley stud farm at Sandy Hollow was the handsome Bletchingly speedster Sir Laurence, the source of 290 winners. One that Martin bred was Laurie's Lottery, a winner of eight races, including the Doomben 10,000, and a million dollar earner.

Only 53 at his tragic death, Martin was involved in the industry since he was a schoolboy. His father, the late Ted Hawcroft, established the Byerley Stud at Martindale in the Hunter Valley in the 1970s with the Grey Sovereign importation Raimondo as the foundation sire. He provided nearly 250 winners, headed by Count Rapier (Group 1 winner) and Roman Interlude (Group 2).

The Hawcrofts conducted Byerley at Cudal in central western NSW for a short time, but found the appeal of the Hunter Valley too much and moved back in the late 1980s, acquiring the property at Sandy Hollow which is now home for the stud.

In the past two or three years, Martin has wound Byerley down as a base for sire services and made it available an agistment farm. They market the sale yearlings under Southern Cross Breeders, a partnership of the Byerley, Ashleigh and Riversdale breeding farms and have contributed to the 13 lot draft they have catalogued for the Scone sale on May 20.

Besides conducting the Byerley Stud, Martin Hawcroft as managing director has been busy in recent years running one Newcastle's premier motels, Noahs on the Beach. They also had Noahs at Muswellbrook but it was disposed of last year.

Martin Hawcroft is survived by his widow Jennifer and two schoolboy sons.

HTBA acknowledges Brian Russell for this article

GALLAGHER BASSETT



HTBA is pleased to announce we have formed a partnership with Gallagher Bassett (GB) to offer our member's enhanced workers' compensation claims management services. GB has over 50 years' experience and knowledge in the management of workers compensation claims.

Members are required by law to have a workers' compensation policy and GB are committed to assisting members drive down premium costs. By transferring your policy through to GB you will obtain the following services:

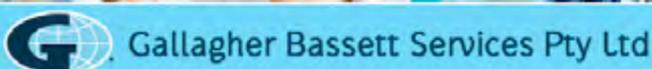
- A dedicated service team;
- Resources educated to improve and reduce your workers compensation costs;
- Two hour on site assessment of your sites for hazards and potential risks by a GB expert; and
- Unlimited access to GB's suite of specialist Health and Safety tools, which provide easy-to-understand information to assist in reducing risk and preventing future incidents.

Transferring your workers compensation policy to Gallagher Bassett will enable access to these benefits at no additional cost as all licensed Agents are remunerated directly by WorkCover.

One HTBA member transferred their policy to GB in 2009 and since that time have reduced their annual number of claims by 57% and their average cost per claim by 56% - significantly reducing the cost of their workers' compensation policy.

Harry Ellison, General Manager of Gallagher Bassett NSW said, "GB were able to lower their costs because the Stud was totally committed to reducing premiums through their own hard work in preventing claim incidents and forming a partnership with GB to manage, control and reduce workers compensation claims costs. We are extremely proud to be associated with HTBA and would like to work with the Association to minimise overall claims costs to the industry which will assist with the reduction of the thoroughbred industry's premium rate to the benefit of all HTBA members."

HTBA encourages all industry participants to get in touch with GB's Client Relationship Manager, John Pante, on **02 9464 7505**, or by email at john.pante@gbtpa.com.au



MEMBERS SUPPORT - RENEWAL

2012/13 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It is well documented that 2012 represents a crossroads on the issue of land use as the NSW Government are set to deliver their Strategic Regional Land Use Policy. The demands of this campaign has been a catalyst for HTBA to broaden our support. Pleasingly, since the start of the year we have received financial support from over 40 industry suppliers. Our preferred suppliers are listed on page x of the Newsletter. We encourage all members to support them as they support us.

We are now asking Breeders to show similar support by renewing their membership under a revised model designed to deliver a broader sustainable financial base. Hunter Valley Breeders would have received a letter recently calling them to renew membership for the year commencing 1 July 2012. If you have not received a letter or have questions in relation to membership please contact us at accounts@htba.com.au

HEATH JUSTIN AWARDED DISTINCTION FOR CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT



Heath receiving his prize at the graduation from John Osborne, Irish National Stud

The Irish National Stud Breeding Course has a long and distinguished history of producing graduates who go on to take leading roles in global racing and breeding. This month, 21 students from 10 different countries graduated after completing this six-month course.

We are proud to announce that Australia's HTBA sponsored student, Heath Justin, was awarded a Distinction for Continuous Improvement. In conveying these results to the HTBA Sally Carroll, Irish National Stud Student Liaison Officer, said "Heath was an outstanding student and a credit to you all".

The HTBA congratulates Heath Justin and looks forward to his return to Australia where he can apply his learning to a bright future in our industry.

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

OUR COMMUNITY OUR FUTURE

The Hunter Valley's Thoroughbred Breeders take pride in providing sustainable employment opportunities to thousands of people in the region and in supporting our local industries and communities. Over 85 per cent of all our operating expenses are spent locally in the Hunter region. For our local equine and other support industries, we recognise that our future is your future.

During the past year thoroughbred breeders have continued to support our community particularly in cases where government funding has been cut for essential local community services such as not-for-profit childcare resources.

Recently the HTBA proudly supported the Muswellbrook Race Club's efforts to raise funds for the purchase of a wheelchair accessible vehicle for a special little boy, 10 year old Jason Madden. Jason suffers from Cerebral Palsy and is a keen follower of racing and is cared for by his devoted and loving Grandparents. (See Jason's profile - right)

The Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders have proudly supported many valuable causes and charities in our community including hospitals, rehoming of racehorses, Rotary Clubs, Pony Clubs, Schools, TAFE, the Red Cross, RSPCA, RSLs, Race Clubs, childcare and aged care, and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation in our community. We continue to support the life saving services of Westpac Helicopter and volunteer services such as the rural fire brigades in recognition of the invaluable services they provide.

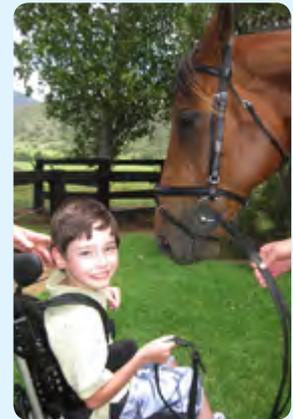
After the successful inaugural Scone Westpac Ball in 2011, the AgriPlex Group are again driving the 2012 fundraising ball to be held on the 27th October at the Scone Golf Club. For all enquiries/ticket purchases please contact: AgriPlex Group Pty Ltd 3/206 Kelly St Scone office, telephone **6545 9900** or email rachel@agriplexgroup.com.au. The HTBA encourage its members to support this fundraising event - our local community continues to benefit from this incredible medical and rescue operation service ... "On the back of continued community support, no-one has ever paid to be airlifted from an emergency" ... www.rescuehelicopter.com.au

JASON MADDEN

A BRIEF PROFILE

Jason is 10 years old and has had Cerebral Palsy since birth. He is also epileptic and is confined to a wheelchair.

Jason lives with his grandparents Peter & Robyn Quinton in Muswellbrook. He is a very sociable, bright child and has great computer skills. He attends South Muswellbrook Public School and is in Year 4 of the Disability Unit.



Jason Madden with former top class racehorse 'Spinney'

Jason's interests include football (Manly and the Knights), and he packs a mean punch on Wii boxing. He has a passion for dog racing and horse racing - always following his favourites, Black Caviar, Sepoy and So You Think.

MAKING YOUR PASSION YOUR CAREER



HTBA CAREERS DVD AND BOOKLET

Whether you are a school leaver, a university graduate or have experience in another industry, the Hunter Valley's internationally renowned Thoroughbred Breeding Industry offers endless opportunities for a challenging and satisfying career.

The HTBA has launched a careers DVD and accompanying brochure outlining the rewarding career prospects in Australia's premier Thoroughbred Breeding Industry in the Hunter Valley - whether that is on the farm, in media, at the track or in an administrative role that runs one of the biggest industries in Australia.

The DVD and accompanying Booklet are designed to encourage entrants into the Thoroughbred Breeding Industry and give

them, particularly young school leavers, an insight into the many fulfilling and exciting aspects of the Thoroughbred Breeding Industry. Both the DVD and Booklet highlight the exciting range of careers available in the industry including breeding, racing, media and events marketing and management.

Our industry is an international industry that affords the opportunity to learn, grow, see the world and choose a path right for you. For many in the industry, it is a chance to turn a passion into a career.

The HTBA is currently attending Careers Days at Hunter Valley schools to showcase the DVD and Booklet. We are hoping to expand this throughout NSW.

To obtain your copy of the HTBA Careers DVD and accompanying brochure please visit our website www.htba.com.au or contact careers@htba.com.au

JOBS

The HTBA website has a new section for job seekers and employees. If you are searching for a job in the thoroughbred industry, or have a job to list, please email admin@htba.com.au and visit the website at <http://htba.com.au/jobs>

OFFER TO HTBA MEMBERS

HTBA is delighted to continue its partnership with International Animal Health Products. Leading into the season, there is no better time for members to take advantage of their great value Foal Starter Packs.



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Give'm the best start! Foal Starter Packs

Single Mare and Foal Starter Pack

- CONTAINS;
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 - 2 x Protexin Paste 30g
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 - 1 x MecWorma & Tape 32.5g



20 Mares and 20 Foals Starter Pack

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- 1 x Buffered Iodine 500ml
 - 1 x Protexin Liquid 1L OR 20 x Protexin paste 30g
 - 20 x Worma Paste 56g OR 1L Worma Drench
 - 20 x MecWorma & Tape 32.5g



***SAVE 15% by purchasing this pack**

100 Mares and 100 Foals Starter Pack

- CONTAINS;
- 5 x Buffered Iodine 500ml
 - 1 x Protexin Liquid 5L OR 100 x Protexin paste 30g
 - 100 x Worma Paste 56g OR 5L Worma Drench
 - 100 x MecWorma & Tape 32.5g



***SAVE 20% by purchasing this pack**

FOAL AGE	FOAL
Day 1	* Give Protexin 10g * Spray Umbilical cord with Buffered Iodine
Day 2	* Give Protexin 10g * Spray Umbilical cord with Buffered Iodine
Day 3	* Give Protexin 10g * Spray Umbilical cord with Buffered Iodine
Day 4	* Give Protexin 10g * Spray Umbilical cord with Buffered Iodine
Day 5	* Give Protexin 10g * Spray Umbilical cord with Buffered Iodine
7 to 14 Days	* Watch for scours, if scours occur treat with Protexin paste or Protexin Liquid
3-4 Weeks	* Worm with Worma paste or Worma Drench
Note: Worm mare with MecWorma & Tape All Wormer within 21 days of foaling	

CONTACT: National Sales Manager: Walter Vecchiet 0418 443 076 QLD: Bruce Hunt 0407 143 054
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Free Advice Line

You can FREE CALL from our website www.iahp.com.au by clicking on

FREE CALL



OUT AND ABOUT

In addition to attending the May Day Rally, over the past few months, HTBA members and supporters participated in the Scone Festival Parade, sponsored the HTBA Protect Our Industry 3YO Fillies Handicap at the Inglis Guineas Race Day and continued their work to increase awareness among Members of Parliament and key stakeholder groups of the importance of the Hunter Valley's Thoroughbred Breeding Industry.

On May 12, the HTBA joined the annual colourful community parade at Scone. Arrowfield, Darley, and Vinery were among the studs that paraded on the day. The HTBA Protect Our Industry Group, with its message "Don't underMINE Us" also participated in strong numbers. This year is an important year for our industry as the NSW Government deliberates on its land use plan for the Upper Hunter and our future.

Over the past two months HTBA member studs were visited by Members of Parliament and other VIPs (including NSW Planning Minister, the Hon Brad Hazzard, Minister for Racing, the Hon. George Souris, NSW Opposition Leader, Mr John Robertson, the Hon Helen Westwood, President of the NSW Farmers, Ms Fiona Simson, and CEO of the NSW Farmers, Mr Matt Brand.)



L-R Mr Andrew Wiles (Darley Australia), the Hon Brad Hazzard, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, the Hon. George Souris, Minister for Racing, Mr Henry Plumtre (Darley Australia), Mr Tom Magnier and Mr Michael Kirwin (Coolmore Australia)



L-R the Hon Helen Westwood, Mr John Robertson (Leader of the Opposition), Martin Rush (Muswellbrook Mayor), Andrew Wiles, John Sunderland (Darley)



L-R Testa Rossa, Mr Peter Orton, Ms Fiona Simson (President NSW Farmers), Mr Andrew Wiles (Darley), Mr Matt Brand (CEO NSW Farmers).



Emotional Circus – winner of the HTBA Protect Our Industry 3YO Fillies Handicap, Inglis Guineas Race Day, 19 May 2012



The owners of Emotional Circus and Members of HTBA: Evergreen Rich Synd (Mgrs A W Bott, P K Siu, M Siu & E Siu). From L to R: Jason Coyle (trainer) Aaron Bott, Kathy O'Hara (jockey), Kirsten Mills, Arthur Mitchell (HTBA Member), Glen Bott, Tony Bott, Wayne Bedggood (President HTBA)



NSW Farmers President, CEO and staff visit Scone Equine Hospital

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1 August 2012 - Horse's birthday
- 3 August 2012 - Breeding Season Information Night
- 3 August 2012, 24 August 2012, 25 September 2012 - Scone Race Club Race Meetings
- 5 August 2012 - Melbourne Cup at Muswellbrook Race Club
- 24 August 2012 - Inglis Scone Broodmare Sales
- 24 - 26 August 2012 - Stud Stallion Parades
- 1 September 2012 - Commencement of Covering Season
- 4 September 2012 - Muswellbrook Race Club - Race Meeting

SCONE EQUINE HOSPITAL FESTIVAL PARADE PICTURES



Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour

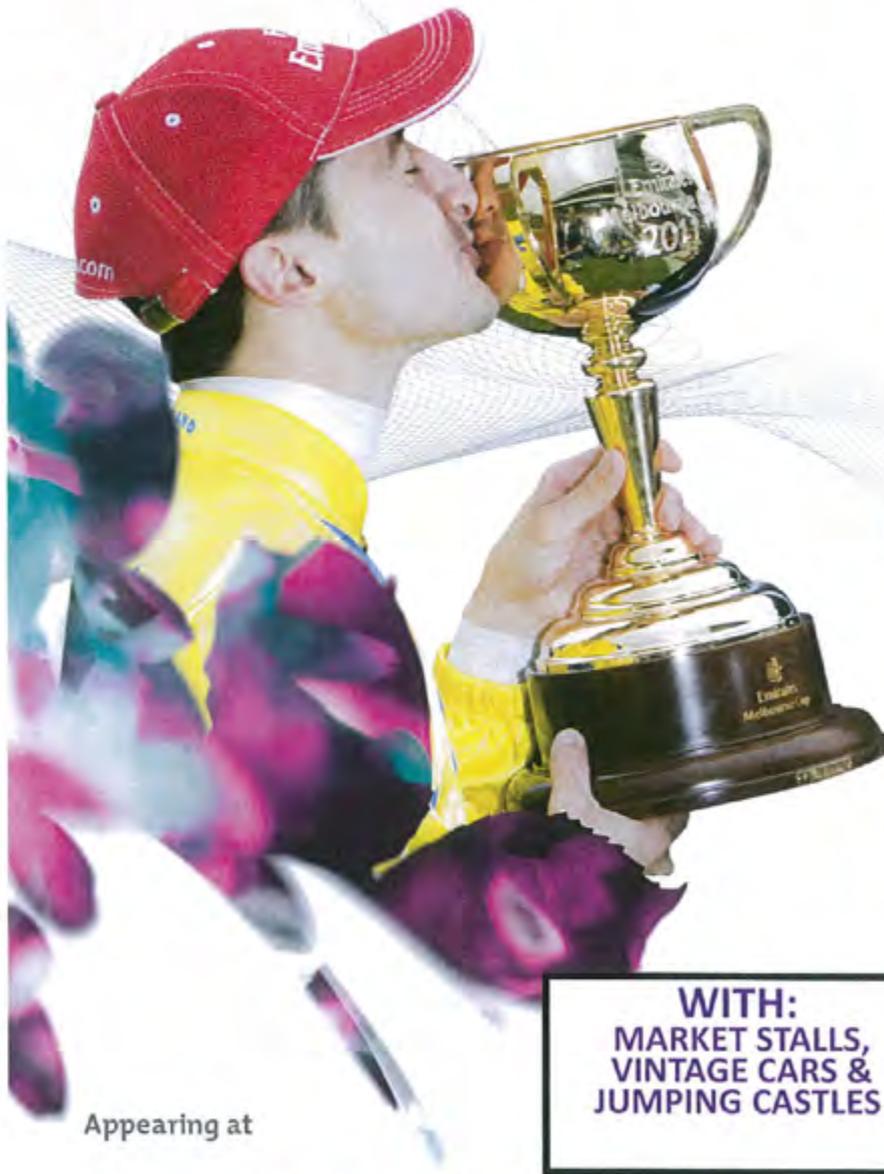
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10th anniversary
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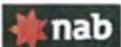
Appearing at

Muswellbrook Race Club 5th August 2012

the melbourne cup: a national icon

www.melbournecuptour.com.au

PROUD SUPPORTER



Gates open at 11:30am

Cost: \$5 Adult & \$10 Family

Shared gate takings with Muswellbrook Netball Association

HUNTERBRED BLACK TYPE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following breeders on their black type success during the past two months where their horse was either Hunter Valley sired or bred.

Of the 50 black type races in May, 65 per cent of the wins were

Hunter Valley sired and/or bred. For June's 35 black type races, 40 per cent (14 wins) were of Hunter valley origin.

For further information and full listing of black type winning breeders please refer to <http://www.tbaus.com/blacktype>

WINNER	GRP	RACE	SIRE	DAM	BREEDER
Adroitly (AUS) 2007	Listed	W J Mckell Cup	Octagonal (NZ) 1992	Easy Out (AUS) 1999	Woodlands Stud
Affable (AUS) 2009	Listed	Gibson Carmichael Stakes	Husson (ARG) 2003	Lady Gracious (AUS) 2003	Patinack Farm
Boban (AUS) 2009	Listed	The Phoenix	Bernardini (USA) 2003	Kenbelle (AUS) 1992	Mr AB Thomas, Mrs R R Thomas
Celtic Dancer (AUS) 2007	2	QTC Cup	Choisir	Little Wonder Why (AUS) 1996	Klemley Pty Ltd
Celtic Dancer (AUS) 2007	Listed	Prime Minister's Cup	Choisir (AUS) 1999	Little Wonder Why (AUS) 1996	Klemley Pty Ltd
Coliseo (AUS) 2006	Listed	Wagga Wagga Gold Cup	Arena (AUS) 1995	Palace Capers (AUS) 1993	Lomar Park Stud
Curtana (AUS) 2007	Listed	The Straight Six	Exceed And Excel (AUS) 2000	Razor Blade (AUS) 1994	Contract Racing Pty Ltd
Dame ClaIRE (NZ) 2007	Listed	Andrew Ramsden Stakes	Danehill Dancer (IRE) 1993	Lovely Actress (FR) 1994	Monovale Holdings Ltd
Dance With Her (AUS) 2006	Listed	Schwepperversence St	Al Maher (AUS) 2001	Dance Hit (NZ) 1995	Copabella Pty Ltd
Dance With Her (AUS) 2006	Listed	Hawkesbury Guineas	Al Maher (AUS) 2001	Dance Hit (NZ) 1995	Copabella Pty Ltd
Destruction (AUS) 2009	Listed	Dalrello Stakes	Fastnet Rock	Storm Signal	Mr P Newsom
Fantastic Blue (AUS) 2006	3	Premier's Cup	Danehill Dancer (IRE) 1993	Chandrika (AUS) 1992	Mr G Harvey
Florentina (AUS) 2008	3	Gold Coast Guineas	Redoute's Choice (AUS) 1996	Celebria (AUS) 2001	Fairway Thoroughbreds
Free Wheeling (AUS) 2008	Listed	Warrnambool Cup	Ad Valorem (USA) 2002	Miss Carefree (AUS) 1997	Darley
Gai's Choice (AUS) 2007	Listed	Gai Waterhouse Classic	General Nediym	Faster Pussycat	Widden Stud Australia Pty Ltd
Griffon (AUS) 2005	Listed	Lightning Handicap	Flying Spur	Jeune Girl	Orange Grove Thoroughbreds
Hoss Amor (AUS) 2009	Listed	Tattersall's 2Yo Stakes	General Nediym	With Love	Three Bridges Thoroughbreds
Hoss Amor (AUS) 2009	Listed	Lancaster Stakes	General Nediym	With Love	Three Bridges Thoroughbreds
Invest (AUS) 2008	3	The Roses	Dehere (USA) 1991	Unearthly (NZ) 2000	Fairway Thoroughbreds, Mrs Deborah Camilleri
Kinnersley (AUS) 2006	Listed	Lord Mayors Cup	Al Maher (AUS) 2001	Miss Radiant (AUS) 1997	Mrs S Bissett, Mr I. C. Woodford-Smith
Kulgrinda (AUS) 2007	Listed	Manihi Classic	Exceed And Excel (AUS) 2000	River Crossing (AUS) 1995	Contract Racing Pty Ltd
Linton (AUS) 2006	3	Gerard Corporation St	Galileo (IRE) 1998	Our Heather (NZ) 1998	Standard 2080 Ltd
Malavio (AUS) 2008	Listed	Civic Stakes	Snitzel	Win Here Win There	Galletta Construction Co Pty Ltd
Mascareri (AUS) 2006	Listed	Silk Stocking	Commands (AUS) 1996	Disguise (AUS) 2000	Woodlands Stud
Mental (AUS) 2008	Listed	Daybreak Lover	Lonhro	Intrigues	Darley
Mental (AUS) 2008	3	Fred Best Classic	Lonhro (AUS) 1998	Intrigues (AUS) 1996	Darley
More Strawberries (AUS) 2007	Listed	Darley Crown	More Than Ready (USA) 1997	Milva (USA) 1994	Strawberry Hill Stud
Motspur (AUS) 2002	Listed	Scone Quality	Flying Spur (AUS) 1992	Crusading Lil (USA) 1993	Classic Thoroughbreds Ltd
Noogoora Burr (AUS) 2009	Listed	Hampden Stakes	Royal Academy (USA) 1987	Azalea (AUS) 1997	Widden Stud Australia Pty Ltd, Rogers Partnership
Pear Tart (AUS) 2008	1	Tattersall's Tiara	Dehere	Tangerine Dream	Makybe Racing & Breeding
Pear Tart (AUS) 2008	2	Queensland Guineas	Dehere	Tangerine Dream	Makybe Racing & Breeding
Raspberries (AUS) 2007	Listed	Scone Cup	Lonhro (AUS) 1998	La Melba (AUS) 2000	Woodlands Stud
Red Tracer (AUS) 2007	3	Dane Ripper Handicap	Dane Shadow	Kisma	Mr G Grimish
Scorpio Queen (AUS) 2008	Listed	Gold Coast Bracelet	Choisir (AUS) 1999	Lyford (AUS) 1999	G Webb Breeding Venture
Sea Siren (AUS) 2008	1	Doomben 10,000	Fastnet Rock (AUS) 2001	Express A Smile (AUS) 1995	K Biggs Enterprises Pty Ltd
Sea Siren (AUS) 2008	1	BTC Cup	Fastnet Rock (AUS) 2001	Express A Smile (AUS) 1995	K Biggs Enterprises Pty Ltd
Second Effort (AUS) 2006	Listed	Wangoom Hcp	Mossman (AUS) 1995	Relativity (AUS) 1999	Dr Gs Tucker, Ce Tucker
See The World (AUS) 2006	Listed	Pacesetter Stakes	Danzero	Global Dance	Swettenham Stud
Sizzling (AUS) 2009	1	The T J Smith	Snitzel	Admirelle	Milburn Creek Thoroughbred Stud
Sizzling (AUS) 2009	2	BRC Sires Produce Stakes	Snitzel	Admirelle	Milburn Creek Thoroughbred Stud
Sizzling (AUS) 2009	2	Champagne Classic	Snitzel (AUS) 2002	Admirelle (AUS) 2003	Milburn Creek Thoroughbred Stud
Sizzling (AUS) 2009	Listed	Ken Russell Memorial Cl	Snitzel (AUS) 2002	Admirelle (AUS) 2003	Milburn Creek Thoroughbred Stud
Star Of Octagonal (AUS) 2006	Listed	Rowley Mile	Octagonal (NZ) 1992	Joyce (NZ) 2000	Woodbury Pty Ltd
Tiger Tees (NZ) 2007	3	BRC Sprint	Dubawi (IRE) 2002	Parfore (NZ) 1997	M J Ryan
Upon This Rock (AUS) 2007	Listed	Dark Jewel Classic	Fastnet Rock (AUS) 2001	Joleur (AUS) 1995	Mr G Watson
Zester (AUS) 2006	Listed	H.G. Bolton Sprint	Danewin (AUS) 1991	Ranzest (AUS) 1991	Mr P Maddocks

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