



PRIME DISPATCH

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COMPILED BY JOE O'NEILL



Resinite pictured as a yearling – he was a cracking type!!!

Our team of 3yos are continuing to do a good job for us. **Resinite** became the 7th individual winner of the 14 I syndicated in 2017. He was a really nice colt I purchased from the Inglis Classic Sale. Kris Lees has done a good job with him and he is likely to have just the one more start before heading out for a break. **Nzuri Mwali** was good on debut running 4th on the tough Scone circuit. For a fleeting moment I thought she was going to win. **Addocarr** has been good at his past two runs being beaten in close finishes by two progressive horses. He will now head to the Magic Millions Maiden worth \$250,000 on 12 January 2019 on the Gold Coast. Our Magic Millions team is coming together nicely.

We have just the one yearling from this crop not get to the races. She is **Our Hot Date** who is in work and I would expect her to get to the track this time. This would once again give us 100% of a crop getting to the races which I'm certain is a record unrivalled by our opposition. I'm anticipating we will have 11 individual winners from the 14 I offered in 2017.

These 14 already boast two Magic Millions Classic winners in **Zizzis** and **Our Long Sali**. **Zizzis** and **Golden Script** are in the top 25 qualifiers for the \$2million Magic Millions Guineas to be run on 12 January 2019 at the Gold Coast. **Zizzis** is 10th in order and **Golden Script** 23rd. **Zizzis** is certainly on track to head to the Gold Coast but **Golden Script** would need to lift for us to consider recommending a run in the race. It is a good effort to have two qualifying so high up considering the small number of yearlings we purchase each year from Magic Millions. Magic Millions sell about 3000 yearlings each year.

We won the Guineas with **Flying Jess** in 2017 and **Hijack Hussy** started favourite a couple of years earlier. About 3000 yearlings are sold through Magic Millions each year. In other news **Our Long Sali** will head to Adam Trinder to be prepared for the Tasmanian Summer Carnival. She was desperately unlucky not to win a race during the Spring Carnival and should make her presence felt back in the Apple Isle. She is likely to have her first start on 19 December in Launceston.

Good News

We are seeing a lot of competition between Racing NSW and Racing Victoria. The winners from these arm wrestles are the participants with more stakes money being thrown at the industry in the two big states than ever before. As long as it is sustainable that can't be a bad thing. The big issue as I see it is for the smaller jurisdictions to remain relevant.

Racing Australia put out a report which showed just how big a contributor racing is to the overall economy. Over \$9 billion a year is substantial and gives our leaders plenty of ammunition when they negotiate with the politicians and bean counters for additional support.

The Victorian Annual Report tabled by RVL is very impressive and certainly sends a strong message to the industry, not only in Victoria but across the country. Stakes money for the next 12 months will top \$250 million with participation levels seemingly up in all areas of the industry.

Our Trip Away

It wasn't until I arrived in Da Nang after a very successful visit to Perth with a group of our owners that I realised just how busy a year it had been. The few weeks leading up to Perth had been particularly difficult. Losing Randy Wix to a hock infection was a huge body blow. He was displaying rare talent and his barrier trial was superb. For him to die a few days later was devastating for all concerned. On top of this we lost a mare I managed to a colic attack and another was saved after surgery but lost her pregnancy.

I was exhausted as we boarded our Singapore Airlines flight to Da Nang and really enjoyed our time in Vietnam. Spending time with the Vietnamese people inspires me. Many of them have almost nothing but their positive attitude to life is energising. The break has recharged my batteries more than I could have expected. I am now focused on the yearling sales and also working with our trainers on programs for the upcoming carnivals, particularly Magic Millions which kicks off in just four weeks.

Two of the young people we have come to know in Vietnam came through a program known as Streets. Streets is a program that provides impoverished youth with professional level training and apprenticeship, including English language and life skills. They spent the two years in the program and are a credit to themselves and now work at the Da Nang Intercontinental Hotel in good jobs.

One of these named Ton is a wonderful young man. He is just 23 years of age and was taken in by a middle-aged Vietnamese couple as a two years old orphan. He is a credit to himself, incredibly

positive. He has worked hard with the American network CNN doing a feature on him. I look forward to returning to Vietnam to continue my 'love affair' with that wonderful country and its people.

The visit to Perth couldn't have been any more successful. We had up to 30 owners and their friends attend some of the functions and visits we had arranged. The visit couldn't have been as successful without the support of Dan Morton and his family, Gold Front Stud, WATC, Magic Millions Perth staff, Captain Cook Cruises and Grant Burns.

It was a pretty torrid five days starting out with dinner at Dan Morton's Stable on Wednesday evening. The Morton family are very obliging people and Dan is a professional trainer doing a great job.

On Thursday we headed up the Swan River with Captain Cook Cruises to Sandalford Estate for lunch and a wine tasting. This was a funny day and everyone enjoyed themselves. Sandalford Estate is a massive business.

On Friday we ventured north to Gold Front Stud. This is an impressive property and boasts the biggest under cover stable complex in Australia. I'm not sure if this is the actual case but it is a big shed. The amount of money that has been invested in the property is quite extraordinary. Nothing has been spared.

On the way back to Perth we had a terrific lunch at the Rose and Crown Hotel at Guildford. This topped off a great day. We enjoyed a wonderful day of racing at Ascot on Saturday. Ascot is a beautiful racecourse and the facilities and catering are outstanding.

I am planning to do another trip next year probably to Tasmania which should be an eye opener for those clients who haven't visited the island before.

Retirements

We retired two of our stalwarts while I was away with **Makeadane** and then **Raido** finishing their racing careers. Both these horses did a great job for their owners winning 13 races and about \$486,642 on the track. They collectively cost just \$78k and were Magic Millions purchases from the National and Perth Yearling Sales in 2013.

Importantly, they both retired sound and will give their new owners great pleasure as riding horses. Not many horses get to race until they are 7yos. Their trainers and staffs have done a great job with them.

Makeadane in particular held a special place. I purchased him for John Thompson the day after he and Nathan Tinkler parted company and he was raced by two of our favourite owners, Dick and Ann Wilkinson who both passed away over the past couple of years after having horses with us since 1998. They were a delightful couple who loved their horses and raced a top horse in Carnegie Express.

Raido's best win was in the Listed Goldmarket Handicap and Makeadane won the Bega Cup. Thanks for some great days and good luck in your retirement from the track. Have a look at the results our purchases in 2013 produced.

The crop of 2013 – Our best to date

13 yearlings – Raced 13 – Winners 13 - Cost \$633,500 – Won 50 races – Returns \$3,193,166!!!

Yearling Syndications

I will give an update on the yearlings I was offering but they may be fully subscribed. I'll confirm where we stand with them tomorrow after I contact the clients who have information packs. It is very encouraging to see the positive response to them.



Makeadane winning the 2018 Bega Cup



Raido after winning the Goldmarket Handicap – one of my favourite photos!!