



PRIME DISPATCH

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Our Long Sali is on trial for a crack at the Group 3 SA Sire's Produce Stakes!!!

Our Long Sali lines up on Sunday in Hobart in the Autumn Sprint. If she runs up to expectations she is likely to head to Morphettville on 12 May for the Group 3 SA Sire's Produce Stakes. She is a very exciting filly and meets the Gold Sovereign winner on Sunday. Craig Newitt is booked to ride her and also will stay on the filly in Adelaide should we head there. Tasmanian racing is lucky to have a rider of Craig's ability basing himself in the State. His influence on the young riders can only lift the overall standard of riding which can only be a good thing.

I purchased Our Long Sali and Golden Script at the 2017 Tasmanian Magic Millions Sale. Golden Script has gone for a break after her great run in the \$300,000 VOBIS Sires last Saturday at Caulfield. She was held up entering the straight and lost her momentum but then accelerated nicely once in the clear but the winner had opened a winning break.

Golden Script will be joined by Zizzis to spell at Fulmen Park. Unfortunately, she sprained a rear fetlock joint and won't be able to run at Morphettville on Saturday. She is another exciting two years

old we have in our team and will have a six weeks break. We have plenty to look forward to come the Spring Carnivals in both Sydney and Melbourne.

Can't Catch Her who is Unchain My Heart's ¾ sister is likely to be our next youngster to debut when she steps out in Newcastle on 8 May. Our Hot Date has gone to the paddock after starting to go shin sore. Addocarr is coming along nicely and is set to trial next week as is Lady Husson.

Everard and Eiffel Star are coming along nicely with Five Star Gal and Resinite in pretraining. Nzuri Mwali should start pre-training in the next 10 days.

When you only buy a dozen or so yearlings each year it is important to look after them. Some of the big stables have 100 or more yearlings on their books and I tend to think some of these youngsters are pushed along before they are ready.

So far this season we have had five of our two years old crop race winning 5 races from 14 starts and \$314,490 in stakes earnings. This crop of youngsters is shaping up as one of our best ever to race.

Caulfield Owner's Day

The VOBIS day at Caulfield was a success but it could have been better. Josh Rodder from the Melbourne Racing Club did a great job in making sure we were looked after. These types of days help raise the profile and important position the licenced syndicators now have in introducing new owners to our industry.

The number of major races being won by horses wearing the colours of the syndicators certainly appears to have increased in recent times.

I was disappointed that only six syndicators supported the day but it may be a sign that the heavy workload on them is perhaps taking a toll. Personally, I have found the demands on my time this year to be greater than in previous years. Attending and preparing for the yearling sales is a big job and eats up a lot of time.

It is important to attend the yearling sales. You simply can't buy your stock at one sale and hope to have success. Our winners this season were purchased from the Magic Millions Gold Coast January, Adelaide, Perth, Tasmanian and National Sales. We also purchased winners from the Inglis Classic and Premier Sales as well as some privately.

Stallion Fees

The studs have been putting out their fees out for their sires with no real surprises. I take my hat off to anyone prepared to take the risk standing a stallion. In my opinion the cost of purchasing stallion prospects has become a bit silly and I'm predicting a correction in the market in the next two years.

A Good Week

It certainly has been an interesting week. Saturday's VOBIS day at Caulfield was a long tiring day but worthwhile giving us the opportunity to catch up with many of our owners. On Sunday morning Maree and I headed to Tullamarine to catch a flight to Perth. This was more a chance to get around and look at the industry in WA and spend some time with our Perth trainer Dan Morton. Dan was

coming off a big Saturday with his good mare Dainty Tess winning the Irwin Stakes in Adelaide where she beat three highly fancied Group 1 winning mares.

WA is a bit of a hidden gem with outstanding stakes money on offer to a limited pool of horses. I certainly intend extending our exposure in the state. On Saturday for example there are eight races at Ascot with a \$200,000 race, five \$70,000 races and two \$50,000 races. On top of this there are Westspeed bonuses on every race. These are very lucrative. On most Saturday's we see the strong Melbourne and Sydney stables plunder the stakes money in Adelaide and probably to a lesser extent in Brisbane. This doesn't happen in Perth.

Dan took me to Gold Front Stud which is about 70km from Perth. This is a superb facility with the biggest stable complex under the one roof I've seen. Dan has an 1800m straight track to use to train his horses. This track feels terrific when you walk on it. No expense has been spared in developing this facility and it will really compliment his Ascot Stable.

I am considering organising a tour to Perth for our owners. I'm sure they would be highly impressed with what is happening in the west.

There certainly is a passion for thoroughbred racing in the State and the racing public in Perth do enjoy their racing. Ascot is a beautiful racecourse.

On Wednesday I attended the Anzac Day march in Perth. It was a great event with massive crowds attending to watch the march. The make up of the crowd highlighted the cultural diversity of WA.

On Thursday we headed to Adelaide and I spent some time at Cornerstone Stud inspecting a lot of weanlings. Again, this was a very worthwhile exercise. I've purchased some very nice horses from Sam Hayes over the years including Pitt Street, Hussy's Glow, Our Netbank and The Hornet.

Cornerstone Stud is one of the best studs in South Australia. It is important these stud farms continue to operate in Victoria South Australia, Tasmania, WA and Queensland. I know some are feeling the pressure trying to compete with the big operations in NSW.

Many of our successful breeders got their start in the industry through associations with studs like Cornerstone in SA, Yarrandale Stud in WA, Lyndhurst Stud in Queensland, Sweetenham Stud in Victoria and Armidale Stud in Tasmania.

My first real exposure to the breeding industry came when my grand mother took me out to visit Carl Waugh's Rushlands Stud as a young boy.

Our five two years old runners this season were reared at Armidale Stud in Tasmania, Edinburgh Park in NSW, Figtree Stud in Queensland and Rhinewood Pastoral Company in NSW.

I was planning to go to Morphettville on Saturday to watch Zizzis but her injury stopped that. On Sunday I head to Hobart to watch Our long Sali run and inspect our yearlings which are being broken in.

Yearlings

I have set aside next week to sit down and see where we exactly sit with our yearlings. A number of them are fully subscribed and I will outline exactly what is available in next week's Dispatch.