

HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



April 2008

Valpolicella Breaks Through for Important Black Type Win

After a three-year-old campaign that has been more than a little frustrating, smart Haunui filly Valpolicella (NZ) (Red Ransom) broke through for that all-important black type success in her three-year-old season when an impressive winner of the Group Three Manawatu Classic (2000m) on the 29th of March.

Always held in high regard by her trainer Roger James, Valpolicella claimed blacktype status in the Listed Champagne Stakes (1600m) at Ellerslie last autumn. Put aside after that performance with a New Zealand Oaks campaign in mind, nothing seemed to go right this season with a few little niggles putting a tilt at the Oaks out of the picture.

"It was a mixture of small things," said Mark Chitty of Haunui Farm. "She went through a growth spurt at the wrong time, she walked out

lame on Christmas day and needed ten days off, then she was just starting to hit her straps on got a very bad stone bruise which required another short let-up so getting to the Oaks was always going to be tough," said Mark. "But, now she's won this race and has beaten some of the best three-year-olds, we might get a chance at an Oaks yet!" he said. Referring to the Group One Queensland Oaks in June.

The win of Valpolicella was one of large significance for Ron Chitty of Haunui Farm. "This filly is a seventh generation winner from our foundation family," says Ron. "That is a tremendous and significant achievement—hopefully she can go on to be another Group One horse for the family," he said.

The Haunui foundation family dates back as far as 1950, the year that Foxona (NZ) (Foxbridge) was born. Pur-

chased as a yearling in 1951, Foxona was unraced but as a broodmare, her impact has been considerable. Her first foal born in 1955 was the stakes performer Matauwhi (NZ) (Marco Polo II), in 1959 she produced the stakes winner Hilldale (NZ) (Pride of Kildare) who won a stakes race and won on fifteen occasions in New Zealand and the USA.

1964 saw the arrival of Foxona's seventh foal, Rosehill (NZ) (Test Case) who won the Group Three ARC Royal Stakes and went on to produce Group One-winner Prince Ruling (NZ) (Ruling), Rosie's Girl (NZ) (Zamazaa), New Zealand's top filly of her season, and, Group Three Cuddle Stakes-winner Lavender Hill (NZ) (Sovereign Edition).

Lavender Hill then went on to produce On The Rise (NZ) (Crested Wave), the dam of Group Two-winner Dopff (NZ)

(Tights) and Riesling, the dam of Valpolicella.

Riesling is owned in partnership by Haunui Farm and Cathy Franich and this year, her yearling filly by Zabeel (NZ) (Sir Tristram) fetched \$525,000. She has a Zabeel filly on the ground and is due to foal to Zabeel again this coming season.

There is a large group of owners involved in racing Valpolicella, some involved in racing for the first time. "It has been a great result for everyone involved," said Mark. Interestingly, Mark and his sisters Anna and Sarah, are all involved in the ownership of Valpolicella—the fourth generation of Chitty's to race this family. "Hopefully our children will be able to carry on with this family as well," said Mark.



Valpolicella en route to taking out the Listed ARC Champagne Stakes (1600m) at Ellerslie as a two-year-old.

HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



Sydney Yearlings Set to Go

Our draft of seven yearlings for Sydney are set to take off on Sunday, 13th of April.

With three yearlings in the main session headlined by a Redoute's Choice (Aus) (Danehill) colt out of Group One-winner Coogee Walk (NZ) (Success Express), the Inglis Easter Sale is set to be another strong one for Haunui.

"The Redoute's Choice colt is a lovely horse and so are the two fillies that we will also be offering in the first session of the sale," says Mark Chitty.

The colt out of Coogee Walk will start the sale off with a bang for Haunui, entering the sales ring as Lot 44.

Day one will also see Lot 93, a Dehere (USA) (Deputy Minister) filly out of the stakes

winner Eire Hostess (NZ) (O'Reilly). "This filly has that real two-year-old stamp about her," says Mark. "She is almost black, has plenty of natural muscle and good bone, and I'm sure she will take the eye of a lot of buyers when they inspect her," he said.

Lot 218, a Stravinsky (USA) (Nureyev) filly out of Luna Scene, is the sole Haunui yearling on day two of the first session. "She's another very strong filly from a family that has produced some smart fillies of recent times," said Mark, referring to the likes of Andrella (Aus) (Dehere) and St Therese (Aus) (Dehere).

The second session of the sale, a new innovation from William Inglis to help accom-

modate vendors hit by the outbreak of Equine Influenza, will see Haunui sell four yearlings.

"We will offer a colt by One Cool Cat, and three fillies—one by Pins, one by Danzero and another by Fastnet Rock," said Mark. "They are all good types, by sought after stallions and, they've done well throughout the preparation," he said.

Haunui Farm has enjoyed some outstanding success in the last three seasons with eight individual Group One winners, five Group winners, 5 Listed winners and 28 individual stakes performers in total. "We have produced three Group winning three-year-olds in 2008 alone—Mission Critical, Onceupo-

natime and Valpolicella," said Mark.

"Each new season, we drop a year off our tally so that we're constantly just measuring our most recent successes," said Mark. "The results continue to stack up and I think buyers are really starting to take note of the success that we have been having," he said. "We certainly appreciate buyers' support at the sales and when we can produce high quality horses each season, hopefully they can buy Haunui yearlings with a degree of confidence," said Mark. "I'm sure there is at least one yearling in our Sydney draft that will add their name to the Haunui Honours Board in the future," he said.



Lot 44 b c Redoute's Choice—Coogee Walk



Lot 93 br f Dehere—Eire Hostess

HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



First Starter for Elusive City Comes Up Trumps

Elusive City (USA) (Elusive Quality) got his stallion career off to the best possible start in the Northern Hemisphere on Monday with his first starter taking the honours in the two-year-old event at Maisons-Laffitte in Paris.

Man River (Fr) (Elusive City, an early two-year-old runner from the Alain de Royer Dupre stable, won over 900m, fighting it out to the line to win by a nose with a further two-and-a-half lengths back to third place to get his sire off the mark in the Northern Hemisphere as the flat racing season starts to get underway.

Retired to stud in 2004, Elusive City stood his first season at stud in the Southern Hemisphere at Trelawney Stud shuttling from there to Huma Park Stud in Ireland. Owned in the Southern Hemisphere by a partnership which includes Cambridge Stud, Fairdale Stud, Haunui Farm and Trelawney Stud, in his third season, Elusive City transferred to Haunui Farm in the Southern Hemisphere and also made a change in the Northern Hemisphere to stand at the Irish National Stud.

Elusive City's first crop of foals were well received in both hemispheres. His top price in the South was \$170,000 on both sides of the Tasman whilst in the North, his yearlings sold for up to €220,000, that yearling being Man River.

"There has been good talk about the progeny of Elusive City up here from day one," said Hubie de Burgh, one of the people responsible for the purchase of Elusive City as a sire. "His weanlings and yearlings were very well received in the Northern Hemisphere and you can't ask for a better start on the track than to have his first starter take the honours," he said.

In the Southern Hemisphere, Elusive City has been represented by the impressive winner Aqaleem (NZ) who ran third on debut at Morphettville over 1050m, followed this with a second at Caulfield over 1200m and subsequently won in impressive fashion at Moonee Valley in his next start over 1200m. The last six weeks have seen a number of trials winners and performers by Elusive City with the Autumn shaping up to be an exciting time.



G1 Prix Morny-winner Elusive City will return to Haunui in 2008 to stand his fifth season at stud

PIC OF FIONA TO GO HERE

Fiona Basset—Haunui's new Yearling Manager

Fiona Basset Joins Haunui Team as Yearling Manager

With the departure of Luke back to Australia last month, we have been lucky enough to secure the services of Fiona Basset as our Yearling Manager.

Fiona comes to Haunui with over ___ years experience in yearling preparation including a ___ stint with the Ra Ora-

Haunui Partnership in ___ which ensures that she know's exactly how we ___ here at Haunui.

Fiona's first "mini" draft of yearlings are the seven destined for Sydney. "I love yearling sales and am looking forward to my first sale as Haunui Yearling Manager,"

said Fiona. "Preparing yearlings is a real challenge and I'm looking forward to the completion of the weaning when I'll take those horses over completely and be involved in mapping out their paths to the yearling sales next year," she said.

"We're very fortunate to have

found someone with as much experience and ___ to take up the role of yearling manager at Haunui," says Mark Chitty. "Fiona has settled in well with the team here and I'm sure you will all come to appreciate what an asset she is to Haunui in the months ahead," he said.

HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



Mark's Corner—Notes from Kentucky

I have just recently returned from Kentucky after spending seven days in Lexington.

The purpose for my visit was to inspect an exciting young stallion which I hope to be able to share more information about in our next newsletter however, while in the "Blue Grass" I got the opportunity to _____.

- Comments on the US breeding industry
- Comments on the setups of the farms visited
- Discussion on the issue of EI and how they deal with it in the USA
- The weather!
- etc