

HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



August 2008

Momentum Continues for Elusive City

Elusive City (USA) (Elusive Quality) seems to be making a habit of featuring in the Haunui Newsletters lately.

The young sire is enjoying a stellar run in the Northern Hemisphere of late and since our last newsletter, has notched up yet another stakes performer and has taken his tally of winners up there to ten moving him to fourth on the First Season Sires' table and only just behind One Cool Cat (USA) (Storm Cat) and Exceed and Excel (Aus) (Danahill).

"Elusive City keeps adding new winners every week in the Northern Hemisphere," said Mark Chitty, General Manager of Haunui Farm. "The pleasing thing is that they are winning at the major tracks and racing for good stakes money which is what you want to see," he said.

Elusive City's first Southern Hemisphere crop has just turned three and the Spring is shaping up to be an exciting time.

"He has already had the stakes placed filly Metropolitan last season and there is Aqaleem, Elusive Gift and Monalusive in Australia who are showing all the signs of being highly competitive," said Mark.

Elusive City covered a book of 90 mares at Haunui last season and has just returned from the Northern Hemisphere where he covered his second consecutive book of over 160 mares at the Irish National Stud.

"The yearling sales season is just around the corner in the Northern Hemisphere and I suspect his progeny will sell incredibly well,"

said Mark.

The first set of trials for the new season saw Elusive Fortune (NZ) (Elusive City) stepping out for the Mark Walker stable over 800m. Bred and sold by Haunui, Elusive Fortune won two trials as a two-year-old and was put to the paddock for his three-year-old season.

"There are a number of his first crop who won or were placed in trials at two and were put straight to the paddock," said Mark.

Elusive City is due to arrive at Haunui in the middle of this month and is currently in quarantine at Karaka along with Iffraaj (GB) (Zafonic) who will be standing at Haunui for the first time in 2008.

"The response to Iffraaj has been overwhelming," says Mark. "He is

virtually fully booked with only a handful of nominations remaining for the season which is great," he said. Elusive City and Iffraaj will join resident stallion Don Eduardo (NZ) (Zabeel) at Haunui in 2008. All three stallions will be paraded at the Haunui Farm Stallion Parade on Sunday 24th of August at 10.30am and they will also be paraded as part of the Auckland Stud Tour on Sunday 7th September which starts at Haunui at 10am.

"We're very excited about the season ahead for all three stallions," said Mark. "Iffraaj will get his Southern Hemisphere career off to a great start while Elusive City and Don Eduardo are set for some exciting times on the track as their progeny step up to the mark over the next few months," he said.

IFFRAAJ

DON EDUARDO

ELUSIVE CITY



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2007/2008 Another Successful Season for Graduates

The 2007/2008 racing season has just come to an end and it was yet another successful one for Haunui Farm graduates with five Group winners in three different countries.

Three-year-old Mission Critical (Aus) (Fantastic Light) added his name to the list of Group One graduates from Haunui when beating the older horses in the Group One WRC International Stakes (2000m).

Mission Critical also took out the Group Three BTC Rough Habit Plate (2020m) during the Queensland Carnival.

Prepared at Haunui and sold on behalf of Darley Australia at the 2006 Karaka Premier Sale, Mission Critical was purchased by Paul Moroney for \$75,000.

War horse Gallic (NZ) (Zabeel) indicated he was to be a strong Melbourne Cup contender with an outstanding win in the Group Two Moonee Valley Cup (2500m) in the Spring. A horse that sustained more than his fair share of injuries throughout his career,

he received yet another set-back leading into the Spring's feature race and was subsequently retired.

Bred by Charlie Roberts and Paul and Mary Kenny under their Roberts Holdings Banner, Gallic retired with eight wins to his credit from a 25 start career including two Bendigo Cups, the Adelaide Cup, the Sydney Cup and the Moonee Valley Cup.

The Bart Cummings-trained Kosi Bay (NZ) (Spinning World) broke through for her first Group win in the Group Two Emancipation Stakes (1600m) at Randwick in May after finishing second in the same race the previous season.

Bred by Don and Rochelle McLaren and sold from Haunui's 2003 Easter Yearling Draft and was purchased by Bart Cummings. From 30 starts, she has notched up four wins, three seconds and seven thirds, among these placings are four at stakes level including a third in the Group One VRC Meyer Classic (1600m).

Home-bred and raced filly Valpolicella (NZ) (Red Ransom) carried the Haunui colours to victory in the Group Three Manawatu Classic (2000m) leaving subsequent AJC Derby-winner Nom De Jeu (NZ) (Montjeu) in her wake.

The winner of the ARC Champagne Stakes (1400m) at two, trainer Roger James always had the New Zealand Oaks on the filly's agenda however a number of minor setbacks meant missing the blue riband fillies event in New Zealand and it was then the Queensland Oaks that was the target. An injury sustained in the week leading into the Queensland Oaks saw the filly headed toward the Queensland Derby however further tests proved a start wasn't possible and Valpolicella is currently recovering in Australia.

Undoubtedly one of the most consistent performers of the season for Haunui came in the form of Onceuponatime (NZ) (Van Nistelrooy). Named Champion two-year-old of Singapore the previous year, the big, strong

chestnut came back in fine form for trainer David Hill notching up four seconds in Group Three events, beaten the narrowest of margins each time. Onceuponatime confirmed he is up there with the best in Singapore taking out the Group Three Singapore Guineas (1600m) and will be a leading contender for the Singapore Derby next season.

Bred by Haunui Farm and Jim Otway, Onceuponatime was sold from Haunui's 2006 Ready-to-Run draft and was purchased by his trainer, David Hill for \$60,000.

Group One winner Art Success (NZ) (Pentire) showed a return to form in winning the Listed Grafton Cup (2350m) after a dry spell in stakes races since his victory in the Group One Brisbane Cup (3200m).

Kiwinsky (NZ) (Stravinsky) took his place on the Haunui Honours Board early in the season after placing third in the Listed Turffontein Wolf Power Handicap (1600m).

The Haunui Breeding Team

It is at this time of year when the Haunui breeding team comes into their own.

Broodmare Manager Keith Konn along with assistance from Tiaan Volschenk and Josh McDonald, have done a great job of managing the mares through the off season.

"I couldn't be happier with the way both the dry and wet mares look," said Keith. "Our first foals are due

to arrive any day now although with the weather we've been having, it might not be a bad thing if the mares hold on for a little longer," he said. As new season foals start to arrive, we will undoubtedly see many of you here at the farm to inspect your new additions. With this in mind, you will see a new addition of our own to the Broodmare team, this being in the form of Foaling Unit Manager Lisa Welch.

Lisa joined Haunui in mid-July and will be charged with the task of managing the mares and foals in the Haunui Foaling Unit for the season.

This will involve day watch of the mares due to foal, the care and attention of new born foals and their mothers, arrival and departure of mares to and from Haunui as well as assisting with the day to day network etc.

"We're very lucky to have found someone with Lisa's credentials," says Mark. "It is a real team effort and Lisa has already slotted in very well and I'm sure she will do a great job for Haunui and our clients this season and in the years ahead," said Mark.