

Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate



BRECKON
FARMS



August 2016 Newsletter

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Hi there

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to you as a member of our Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate. It's great to have you aboard and I hope your membership will be enjoyable and rewarding for you.



The Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate is the fourth such syndicate established by Ken Breckon of Breckon Farms, following in the footsteps of the already highly successful The Good Sports Syndicate, Super Seven Syndicate and The Top Ten Syndicate, Breckon Farms first three syndicates established over the last three years. They leased 8, 7 and 10 fillies respectively and so far all 8 from The Good Sports Syndicate have raced, with 6 winning races including the Group 1 Caduceus Club Classic winner Linda Lovegrace (1:54.8, 14 wins, \$265,433), 5 have raced from the Super Seven Syndicate, including the 4-times Group 1 winner High Gait (t1:57.5, 15 wins, \$292,364), winner of the Redwood Classic, Breeders Crown 2YO Trotting Fillies Final, Need For Speed Princess Final and the Victoria Trotters Oaks and 3 have raced as 2-year-olds for The Top Ten Syndicate, including Group 1 2YO Diamond Harness Jewels winner Partyon (1:55.5, 4 wins from 4 starts, \$98,675).

We are now well underway to hopefully lots of fun and excitement with your syndicate fillies, so I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Rob Carr and Ken Breckon has asked me to carry out the trainer/member liaison for your syndicate.

As some of you will know, I have gained lots of experience in this area through my role as Auckland Trotting Club Syndication Manager for the past 17 years and my appointment for your Syndicate liaison is an honour that I have accepted with lots of passion and commitment.

I have been involvement in the Harness Racing Industry for over 36 years now through ownership, working and breeding of horses, and more recently an intensive administrative involvement. Over the years I have also held positions with the NZ Standardbred Breeders Association, North Island Ownership Co-ordinator for Harness Racing New Zealand and North Island Representative for Nevele R Stud.

I currently hold the position of ATC Syndication Manager and am currently breeding from three mares, preparing and consigning the resultant progeny to the Yearling Sales each year (together with my horse-breeding partner Don Kirkbride).

The biggest buzz I have had to date in Harness Racing is breeding and managing the race career (as he was raced by the ATC 2006 Syndicate) of the champion horse Changeover, who of course won the 2008 NZ Cup in World Record time, and also to see what thrills he provided to all those associated with him. He won 29 races and a massive \$2,426,765 in stakes, the highest ever by an entire in New Zealand. His accolades of NZ 3-Year-Old of the Year and NZ 5YO & Older Pacer of the Year, as well as being inducted into the NZ Trotting Hall Of Fame, along with his 6 Group 1 wins, all provided very proud moments for me personally. Changeover was then sold for a very substantial sum in excess of \$2,000,000 to Nevele R Stud, where he stood his first season in 2010/11, serving a full book of mares and he has made a very good start to his siring career, with his first crop of 2-year-olds three seasons ago resulting in 17 winners and him being New Zealand's leading first season sire. By results in the last season, he is continuing on with his good job at stud.

Another proud and exciting moment was with another horse Don and I had bred, Miss Moonlite, when I was fortunate enough to be present at Melton in Victoria for her win in the Group 1 Australasian Breeders Crown 4YO Mares Final, in August 2012. This was the first time a mother (Dancingonmoonlight) and daughter have won Breeders Crowns.



To those members who I know already, I look forward to meeting you personally again soon and to other members who I have not yet met, I look forward to meeting and getting to know you too.

This brings me to one of the main points of this Newsletter ... information on your horses.

The Fillies.....

Trainer **Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen** :-

Luby Lou (Muscle Hill – Luby Ann) A daughter of Luby Ann (2:05.4, 4 wins, \$31,951) and her first foal, by champion racehorse and sire Muscle Hill. Luby Ann is by a top USA racehorse and sire himself, in Andover Hall and is the only foal registered out of the USA mare Luby.

Luby Lou was broken-in by Mark Smolenski who reported that after arriving on the 25th January she was a bit shy to start with, but improved each day and began to progress well.

Mark is very thorough and gives comprehensive reports on each yearling that he breaks in.

As regards Luby Lou, he reported, "This filly completed fifty two days of education and training. She was most probably finished after forty two days, but we kept her going

as a mate for Peace [The Peacemaker - your other filly also broken-in by Mark Smolenski].

For Your Future Reference: my rating out of 10.

Stable manners:	10	perfect
Track manners:	10	perfect
Conformation:	10	perfect
Constitution:	10	great
Heart rate:		
Gait:	10	perfect
Mouth:	10	felt good
Potential:	10	will definitely make a racing proposition

Overall Comment:

She's a quality filly that Mark Purdon enjoyed driving on her last day training. She is in the same mould as High Gait, but maybe not quite as natural. We did put the x-hopples on her just to get her concentrating, which Mark Purdon is a fan of. She was just inclined to get too relaxed and drop into a canter warming up. She could trot 2.30 mile heats in x-hopples brilliantly and then we just went quietly at 2.50 with the gear off. She will get six weeks off before beginning her second prep."

So Luby Lou was to have her 6 week spell and when it was time for her to return, she was to enter the All Stars stable of her trainers Mark Purdon and Natalie Rasmussen. She was to have a 6-week preparation there and the reports received were very good, saying "She's going around good and has done everything right. She is doing everything she needs to and is now set to go for another spell. She is OK."

Luby Lou was then sent for another spell and returned to All Stars stable once again, on the 8th August, having had 7 weeks out this time.

Luby Lou looked "great" on her return to the stable and is now set for a more serious preparation this time in training.

The Peacemaker (Somebeachsomewhere – Stateofthenation) The second foal from the winning Artsplace mare Stateofthenation, who is a half-sister to HIGH SOCIETY GAL (1:57.7, 4 wins, \$18,734) and CHACHINGCHACHING (1:56.6, 7 wins, \$114,304). This filly is a half-sister to (HEZA) HEAD HONCHO (1:55.8, 3 wins, \$37,999), the 2-year-old first foal from the mare.

The Peacemaker was also broken-in by Mark Smolenski. Mark reported that after arriving on the 25th January she took a few days to settle in, but then began to progress well.

Mark's comprehensive report on The Peacemaker stated, "This filly completed fifty two days of education and training. She needed this time as it took so long for her brain to connect with her body. She finished up pacing a mile in 2.40 even.

For Your Future Reference: my rating out of 10.

Stable manners:	8	took time to settle
Track manners:	7	took time to settle
Conformation:	9	very good
Constitution:	9	very good

Heart rate:	7	functions okay
Gait:	7	took time to balance up
Mouth:	8	felt good
Potential:	7	needs to improve next prep

Overall Comment:

She's a work in progress. She did settle about week four, but when I asked her to step out she lost her confidence. A lot of the Somebeach's are like this and it takes a lot of time and work to get them focused enough to handle their job.

She will have six weeks out and then begin her second preparation where she will need to play catch up, because she is behind the other fillies of her age."

So The Peacemaker was to have a 6 week spell and as she had not progressed as required, was to return to Mark Smolenski's in the second week of June.

After her time spent there in June Mark reported, "Peace has been back in for twenty three days of training into her second prep. She has developed even more into a beautiful looking filly. Now we just need to get her more mentally focussed before she can go and fit into the All Stars Team. I have found 70% of the "Somebeach's" are very hot, so it's just a matter of cooling them down with plenty of T.L.C. We have been riding her in the afternoons, which seems to turn a lot of horse attitudes around with the extra body contact (no saddle) that they get."

The Peacemaker was to continue with her education and second preparation through until the 24th July, when Mark reported, "This filly has completed eight weeks of her second preparation. She got down to mile heats in 2.30."

The Peacemaker was then to go for a spell and is still currently in the spelling paddock, so it will be interesting to see what progress she can make in her next preparation. She will be transferred to Cambridge horseman and trainer Mike Berger for this preparation.

Trainer Barry Purdon :-

Spandau Ballet (Bettor's Delight – Giveitawhirlgirl) From a Jenna's Beach Boy mare who is a half-sister to 7 winners including THE FASCINATOR (1:53.9, 10 wins, \$155,162). This filly is a half-sister to 5 winners, all Black Type performers, FEELS LIKE MAGIC (1:51.0, 20 wins, \$261,728), TWIST AND TWIRL (1:55.9, 7 wins, \$297,753), BETTOR GIVE IT (1:57.4, 15 wins, \$138,061), FLYING LOOSE (1:59.5, 2 wins, \$14,797) and DOUBLE TWIST (1:59.7, 1 win, \$5,740).

Spandau Ballet was broken-in by respected horseman Todd Macfarlane who reported, "She broke-in nice. She had a good attitude too. She did take a little while to get pacing, but that's nothing unusual for the Bettor's Delights. Once she got the idea, she paced along nicely. I was happy with her and she finished on a good note."

Spandau Ballet was then sent for a spell at Breckon Farms on the 11th March and was to finish her time in the spelling paddock and go to trainer Barry Purdon's on the 9th June for her second preparation. She has received very positive comments from Barry. He said early on, "I'll put my head on the block and say she's pretty dam smart."

Spandau Ballet completed her second preparation working a half [800m] in 63 seconds, with Barry saying, "She went around good. We'll turn her out now for some spring grass and hopefully she will grow a wee bit too. We'll get her back in mid to end September and she should be going along in January and if she's up to it, ready to press on for the early 2-year-old racing."



So, Spandau Ballet was to return to Breckon Farms for her 4-6 week break on the 9th August and when she returns to training and progresses through to January, I'm sure it will be very exciting times for you all.

Deutzy Doos (Muscle Hill - Love Ya Doosie) This filly is the first foal from a granddaughter of top broodmare Sheezadoosie Her dam is a race winning mare by top sire Love You and a half-sister to champion trotter I CAN DOOSIT (1:55.5, 36 wins, \$1,445,774) and 4 other winners, including SNO'S BIG BOY (1:58.4, 15 wins, \$215,308), etc.

Deutzy Doos was also broken-in by Todd Macfarlane who reported, "She was a little sweetheart all the way through. She did everything right and was really good the whole time. We did have a little hiccup when she injured her leg, but that was all fine and she was all OK. She had a great attitude and had a nice trotting action."

After her initial breaking-in, Deutzy Doos was to return to Breckon Farms for a spell on the 11th March and have some time chilling out.

She was also to complete her spell and go to trainer Barry Purdon's on the 9th June for her second preparation and she too received some positive comments from Barry. He said, "She's a lovely trotter and has a nice way of going."



Deutzy Doos finished her second preparation working a half [800m] in 1:16, with Barry saying, "She did it nicely and we'll give her some time off now and look to have her going in February, as there aren't really any races for her before about March at the earliest."

So Deutzy Doos was also sent for a spell back at Breckon Farms on the 9th August and she too will have 4-6 weeks out.

We can now look forward to hopefully seeing her doing something more serious in the New Year.



Trainer Mike Berger :-

The Vicars Daughter (Rocknroll Hanover – Vicario) From a race winning half-sister to champion pacer IL VICOLO (1:56.7, 31 wins, \$1,580,948) and closely related to GOTTA GO CULLEN (1:58.3, 24 wins, \$1,173,343), this filly is a half-sister to 7 winners including COBURG (1:56.8, 10 wins, \$205,176) and STUNIN CULLEN (1:54.1, 18 wins, \$1,493,716), etc.

The Vicars Daughter was broken-in by accomplished horseman and trainer Mike Berger, who reported, "I like to spend time mouthing and long reining them, so they are taught to steer properly early and still have a mouth. She was a lovely pacer and a lovely going filly. She is from a tough family, but she was good and behaved herself. She has almost a daisy cutter action and is a nice easy going pacer."

The Vicars Daughter completed her time being broken-in in good fashion and went back to Breckon Farms on the 12th April for a spell.

She will probably return to training for her second preparation in the next few weeks, when things will get a little more serious for her. Mike says, "This time, we will get her running along and see what she can do. They really tell you themselves, but we'll get her running and then probably give her a couple of weeks off and if she looks a possibility to make it as a 2-year-old, we'll get her back in and press on then."

Trainer Geoff Small :-

Drizella (Bettor's Delight – Corbie) From a race winning daughter of the immortal BLACK WATCH, this filly is a half-sister to 6 winners including AGIOS NIKOLAOS (1:52.2, 8 wins, \$92,626), BLACK MAIRE (1:59.8, 4 wins, \$39,985), ZINGARA (1:57.6, 5 wins, \$57,573) and BAGGER VANCE (1:59.0, 8 wins, \$50,441) and is closely related to champion filly LAURAELLA (1:55.9, 10 wins, \$649,946), METICULOUS (1:55.6, 10 wins, \$109,067), top juvenile filly MEGAERA (1:56.8, 8 wins, \$250,646), etc.

Drizella was also broken-in by Mike Berger who reported, "She probably took almost twice as long as the other one [The Vicars Daughter] because she was so tough. When they're like that we keep them going longer to settle them down. She lost the plot a couple of times, but then she started to come right. She come really good in the end. She is from a good family and it is a tough family too. She was on the borderline of being dangerous and I almost put up the white flag a couple of times, but she got there in the end. She might be a bit of a handful when she comes back in, as she is pretty tough, so I'll get her settled in first for a few weeks, before she goes to Geoff."

So after her prolonged time of being broken-in, Drizella was eventually doing everything right and was more compliant, so she too was sent for a spell at Breckon Farms, two months behind The Vicars Daughter, on the 13th June.

As Mike has said, when she returns, also in the next few weeks, he will do a few weeks with her to settle her in first, before she goes to her trainer Geoff Small.



Breckon Farms Syndicates at the Breeders Crown

Breckon Farms Syndicates have achieved the amazing feat of having three fillies qualify for this year's Australasian Breeders Crown Finals, so it certainly will be extremely exciting times for them.

The Breckon Farms – Super Seven Syndicate have their 3YO trotting filly High Gait competing in the Group 1 \$60,000 Haras Des Trotteurs Breeders Crown Series 18 (3YO Trotting Fillies) Final and the Breckon Farms – The Top Ten Syndicate have their 2YO trotting filly Our Regal Love in the Group 1 \$85,000 Aldebaran Park Breeders Crown Series 19 (2YO Trotting Fillies) Final and also their 2YO pacing filly Partyon competing in the Group 1 \$285,000 Alabar Breeders Crown Series 19 (2YO Fillies) Final.

These prestigious races are all to be run at Tabcorp Park Melton, in Melbourne, this Sunday, the 28th August and all three fillies have a realistic chance of claiming the major prize in their respective divisions.

We wish both Syndicates the very best of luck for all three of their runners on "Super Sunday".

Last year the Breckon Farms – Super Seven Syndicate tasted success with High Gait winning the 2YO Trotting Fillies Final, so let's hope both Syndicates can experience success and bring the coveted trophies back to New Zealand.



High Gait winning the 2015 Breeders Crown 2YO Trotting Fillies Final



High Gait's connections celebrate with a ride in the gig

2016 Harness Racing Awards

The New Zealand Awards night was held on Saturday the 30th July, in Christchurch and details of the 2016 winners are:-

PACING AWARDS

Woodlands Stud 2YO Pacing Filly of the Year

SPANISH ARMADA 27

Owner: Mrs J L Feiss

PMP Print 3YO Pacing Filly of the Year

DREAM ABOUT ME 27

Owners: C J Roberts, Est Mrs J L Roberts, P G Kenny, Mrs M L Kenny

Auckland Trotting Club 4YO Pacing Mare of the Year

THE ORANGE AGENT 22

Owners: Mrs P C Green, J P Green, Mrs M E Green, P C Bult
(Rocker Band - 4, Fight For Glory - 1)

Nevele R Stud 5YO & Older Pacing Mare of the Year

LANCEWOOD LIZZIE 15

Owners: Mrs L P Wood, G A Chitty
(Tango's Delight - 11, Willow - 1)

PGG Wrightson 2YO Pacing Colt or Gelding of the Year

MORE THE BETTER 27

Owners: Mark Purdon, R C Purdon MBE, D R Levene OBE

Woodlands Stud 3YO Pacing Colt or Gelding of the Year

LAZARUS 27

Owners: Mrs G J Kennard, P I Kennard, T G Casey, K J Riseley

Woodlands Stud 4YO Pacing Entire or Gelding of the Year

HAVE FAITH IN ME 27

Owners: D M Dunford, M D Dunford

Alabar 5YO & Older Pacing Entire or Gelding of the Year

SMOLDA 23

Owners: Mrs G J Kennard, P I Kennard, N Pilcher, M A R Kirkwood
(Arden Rooney - 4)

Alabar Farms Pacer of the Year

HAVE FAITH IN ME 26

Owners: D M Dunford, M D Dunford
(Lazarus - 1)

TROTTING AWARDS

Race Images 2YO Trotting Filly of the Year

DI'Z LUCK 21

Owners: Mrs S A Smith, Winsome Dormer, Cleland Racing Syndicate, N R Armstrong,
E G Sawma, D W Aitken
(Winnie MacGoogan - 4, Our Rosa - 1, One Bid Buys - 1)

Commodore Airport Hotel 3YO Trotting Filly of the Year

HIGH GAIT 16

Owners: Breckon Farms-Super Seven Syndicate
(Donegal Bettorgretch - 9, Wilma's Mate - 2)

NRM 4YO Trotting Mare of the Year

SUNNY RUBY 26

Owners: W F Fletcher, S F Smolenski
(Harriet Of Mot - 1)

NRM 4YO Trotting Mare of the Year

QUITE A MOMENT 16

Owners: Mrs C L Stewart, W R Stewart, A R Pullar, Mrs B E Pullar
(Queen Kenny - 11)

Farmlands 2YO Trotting Colt or Gelding of the Year

ENGHIEN 20

Owners: R G Dellaca, G P Hope
(Custodian- 6, Habibi Inta 1)

Trackside 3YO Trotting Colt or Gelding of the Year

MARCOOLA 27

Owners: K B Ford, C B Ford

Crombie Lockwood Bloodstock 4YO Trotting Entire & Gelding of the Year

MONBET 27

Owners: G P Hope, Mrs N M Hope, M J Molloy

Garrards Horse & Hound 5YO & Older Trotting Entire & Gelding of the Year

MASTER LAVROS 27

Owner: Kypros Kotzikas

Breckon Farms Trotter of the Year

MONBET 27

Owners: G P Hope, Mrs N M Hope, M J Molloy

PEOPLE

McMillan Equine Feeds Leading Trainer: Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen (actually decided the following day with the last racing for the season on the 31st July)

Harnessed Leading Driver: Dexter Dunn

Dexter Dunn Cruickshank Leading Junior Driver: Brad Williamson

Addington's Met Multiplier Owner of the Year: Merv & Meg Butterworth

Primary ITO Cadet of the Year: Erin Isherwood

NZRB Outstanding Contribution to Harness Racing: Gary Allen

BREEDING

The Breeders Breeder of the Year: Woodlands Stud

HRNZ Media Trotting Stallion of the Year: Love You

Lone Star Pacing Stallion of the Year: Bettor's Delight

The Breeders Trotting Broodmare of the Year: Diedre Darling

The Breeders Pacing Broodmare of the Year: Splendid Dreams

HRNZ HORSE OF THE YEAR

MONBET 15

Owner: G P Hope, Mrs N M Hope, M J Molloy

(Have Faith In Me - 12)

Congratulations must go to all award recipients and of course especially the Breckon Farms-Super Seven Syndicate for their success with High Gait going back-to-back and winning the NZ 3YO Trotting Filly of the Year title, having won the NZ 2YO Trotting Filly of the Year last year.

A Rocknroll Dance 2016 North Island Harness Racing Awards

This year's very popular event on the Northern Harness Racing Calendar will be staged in the Tasman Room, at Alexandra Park, on Saturday the 3rd September.

There are Pre Dinner Drinks in the Lyell Creek Lounge, commencing at 5:30pm, then patrons will move to the Tasman Room at approximately 6pm. There is a 3-course dinner, as well as beer, wine, spirits & juices included, entertainment with a live band "Split Second" after the awards.

There will be a couple of auctions on the night, for such items as a set of framed 2016 Harness Jewels colours signed by all the winning trainers and drivers, a fishing trip with Ross Johnson and Tony Herlihy, and two service fees will be auctioned for A Rocknroll Dance and Sir Lincoln. Also bring along a \$5 note for a fun and entertaining chance to win a Samsung tablet!

Tickets are on sale now, so be sure to make your booking early, as this function usually sells out fast. The cost is \$130 per head.

Tickets can be obtained from Suzanne Herlihy. You can contact Suzanne on 09-298-1757, or by email to:- strike1won@xtra.co.nz.

Be sure to say you are with the 'Breckon Farms Group', so you can all hopefully be seated together.

I can certainly recommend this night as an excellent event on the northern harness racing social calendar.

The Breckon Farms – The Top Ten Syndicate filly PARTYON has received nominations for the 2-year-old Filly of the Year and also the Filly/Mare of the Year awards, so it would be great if you could get along and support her, as she has a realistic chance of taking out one of these awards.

Unfortunately this year under changed conditions, High Gait is not eligible for these awards, even though she did win the North Island 2YO Trotter of the Year last year.

Please advise me (preferably by email) if you are going to attend this function.

Newsletters On the Website

Please remember, your monthly newsletters will also be displayed on the Breckon Farms Website, so you can access them whenever you wish, especially if you can't find them amongst your emails.

The Breckon Farms website address is:- www.breckonfarms.co.nz

Under the 'Syndicates' menu, you will find the 'Six of the Best Syndicate' section, then scroll to the bottom and you will find your newsletters.

You may also enjoy reading some of the other sections contained within the website.

Horses Birthdays

The 1st August, is the official day that all Standardbred horses' birthdays are recognised in New Zealand and celebrated by some.

They all became another year older on this date, so HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Luby Lou, The Peacemaker, Spandau Ballet, Deutz Doos, The Vicars Daughter and Drizella !!!



Good luck and let's hope there are many wins to come ...

Cheers

Rob



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