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Welcome

First and foremost, **CONGRATULATIONS** on yet another 2 wins this month – one by Alannah on the 25th January at Melton and one by Linda, on the 8th February at Charlton. It certainly is incredible the rate that your wins keep coming, with just two horses currently racing. However Glitzy is getting closer to a return to the races, with a good workout last week and one more this Saturday, then she will be looking to race towards the end of the month.

ALANNAH HALL made good progress in her training and was ready to attend the trials on the 19th January, but unfortunately broke and finished a long last, but Craig was not too perturbed. He had the blacksmith sort out her shoeing and although he thought she should have another trial, decided she was capable of winning a race on the 25th January at Melton, so this is where she went next. Of course Alannah did indeed win this race, but has now been kept ticking over in preparation for her tilt at the Need For Speed Series, as she can't win another race and still be eligible for this series. Alannah will race next in a heat of this series on the 25th February at Shepparton and all going to plan, then in the Final on the 12th March, at Melton. **GOOD LUCK for these races !!!**

LINDA had to be scratched from her race assignment on the 21st January, due to a stomach upset, but was then to race again on the 31st January, at Maryborough, where she finished a good 2nd to top horse My Kiwi Mate. She then was to miss a start in the Ladyship Cup through not making the field and was to race next of the 8th February at Charlton, where of course she duly obliged with another good win. Linda is now down to race again next Wednesday, the 17th February at Swan Hill. **GOOD LUCK for this race !!!**

GLITZY GAL also made good progress in her training and was ready to attend the workouts on the 30th January, but struck a couple of tightly assessed horses in her heat, so just went round for a quiet first-up run. She returned to the workouts again last Saturday, the 6th February and performed very well, pleasing her new trainer Todd Mitchell with excellent sectionals of 56.6 and 27.8. Glitzy has had an easy week this week and will have another run at the workouts on the 20th February and will then be ready to make her return to racing at Alexandra Park, on the 26th February, all going to plan. **GOOD LUCK & GO GLITZY !!!**

I'm sure we will see further success from all three of your mares before too long, so **GOOD LUCK** for all your upcoming racing !!!

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

Alannah Hall

... wins at Melton, on the 25th January 2016

*She now has had 15 starts for
6 wins & 6 placings, for
\$36,880 in stakes and a career
best 1:58.6 Mile Rate !!!*



*Alannah has now had 4 starts for 3
wins & 1 second for Craig Demmler*

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

Linda Lovegrace

... wins at Charlton, on the 8th February 2016

*Making it 35 starts for 13
wins & 11 placings, for
\$249,799 in stakes !!!*



*Linda has now had 8 starts for 6 wins
& 1 second for Kerryn Manning*

This win brought up win No. 32 for the Breckon Farms - The Good Sports Syndicate and took the Syndicate record to an amazing 139 starts, 32 wins, 21 seconds, 18 thirds, for \$411,805 in stake earnings. **WELL DONE !!!**

This raises your record of being in the money to over 51% of all race starts ... **that is truly A-M-A-Z-I-N-G !!!**

Here is the latest information on all your fillies:-

Trainer Craig Demmler :-

Alannah Hall (Angus Hall – Regal Volo):-

Having returned to training on the 1st December, after her spell, Alannah was ready to attend the trials on the 19th January. This was to be at Tabcorp Park Melton, where she competed in a T2 or better Mobile trial, over 2240m. Alannah drew Barrier No. 2 in a 4-horse field and was driven by Jodi Quinlan.

There has been no video footage available of this trial, but it was won by Duchess Ella in a time of 2:49.0 (MR 2:01.4), with the closing sectionals in 56.3 and 28.2. Alannah broke and finished in 4th and last placing, with the official results showing margins of 2.5m x 14.5m x 130m, so Alannah was obviously a long way from them; some 147m in total.

I asked Craig about the trial and received the following response, "Alannah did trial on Tuesday at Melton and she is racing at Melton on Monday. I am happy with where she is at, hoping she can continue on her winning way next week. She was up against Metro horses, which I wasn't very happy about, but we thought we'd just go around behind them for a quiet run. She got on a knee and galloped, but we've had the blacksmith fix it all up and she seems good now. She probably should have another trial, but I think she can win this race on the 25th January. We've done her stifles and hocks and I'm a lot happier with her."

So, Alannah was set to resume her racing at Melton, on the 25th January. This was in the \$6,575 Homestead Stud Trot, for T1-T2 trotters, over 2240m. Alannah drew Barrier No. 5 and was to be driven by Jodi Quinlan.

Alannah was sent out an warm odds-on favourite for this race and made a good beginning from the mobile start, but was caught wide early before slotting down to be parked as they headed into the first turn.

Into the back straight the first time, Jodi moved forward and went to the lead easily, as the previous leader had steadied to take the trail. Alannah trotted along nicely in front, to lead them throughout and passing the 400m pole she slipped away by about 3 lengths, but into the home straight Belts ranged up out wide to take some ground off her.

Alannah went on for a comfortable win, by what I would say was over a length, but I see the official margin is shown as 2.8m – it must have been measured with an Australian yardstick?

Alannah's winning time was 2:51.5 (MR 2:03.2), with the closing sectionals completed in 59.7 and 29.6.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!



Here are a couple of photos taken from the Trackside TV coverage ...



Craig has reported on the 8th February, "I thought that I would give you an update with what we are doing with Alannah. There is a good race coming up at the end of the month. That's the Breed For Speed Heat and Final. It's an ideal race for her and a chance to race for some good money, but we can't win another one in the meantime as it will make her ineligible for that race coming up. We'll trial her on Wednesday and keep her ticking over. The Heat is on the 25th February and the Final is on the 12th March, so it should work in well for her."

Of course, the races coming up for Alannah, mentioned by Craig, are the annual Lyn McPherson Memorial Breed For Speed Series for Trotting Mares that I have already advised you of.

The race on the 25th February, is to be staged at Shepparton and is the \$8,325 Lyn McPherson Memorial Breed For Speed Silver Series (1st Heat), for T1-T3 Trotting Mares, with a Preferential Barrier Draw, over 1690m. If the winner of this heat betters 1:59, then a \$500 Bonus is payable to the owner.

The Final of this series is set to be staged at Melton, on the 12th March. Hopefully Alannah will qualify for this as it is the \$12,325 Lyn McPherson Memorial Breed For Speed Silver Series Final, for T1-T3 Trotting Mares, with a Preferential Barrier Draw, over 1720m. If the winner of the Final betters the race record of 1:57.5, then a \$3,000 Bonus is payable to the owner.

I'm sure that will be something to look forward to and I will keep you posted nearer to the time, with details of these races.

Trainer Kerry Manning :-

Linda Lovegrace (Bettor's Delight – Linda Grace):-

It was planned for Linda to race next on the 21st January, at Maryborough, but a couple of days prior to this her trainer Kerry Manning advised the following, "I have a little bit of bad news, Linda is in on Thursday but I will have to scratch her I'm afraid. She's ok, but had a bit of a tummy ache last night and I had to treat her for it, fortunately it wasn't colic and the treatment settled her pain in the belly down and she's fine today but the race withhold is 8 days and I will have to take her out. I will get a vet clearance tomorrow and looking at the program the next suitable race is on the 29th or the 31st. Since having her fetlocks done last week she has been really good. I'm sorry for the disappointing news, but at least she is ok."

So Linda was to be scratched from this assignment and was given a little time to bounce back to full fitness after this minor setback and was to be set to race again on the 31st January, at the Wedderburn Meeting at Maryborough.

On the 28th January Kerry advised, "All's well this week so far, I had her in tomorrow night [Friday] but the race again didn't stand up so plan B was Sunday and it had enough for a field. Jodi's good horse [My Kiwi Mate] is in it but it's first up for a while so it may need the run hopefully. Linda's drawn the back this time so it will be interesting to drive her quiet early and see how she runs on. She seems good in her work and I expect her to run well."

So Linda was to race in the \$6,575 Aldebaran Park Pace, for C3-C4 pacers, with a Preferential Barrier Draw on Prizemoney won, over 2190m. Under the Preferential Draw conditions, Linda drew Barrier No. 8 (No. 1 on the 2nd Row) and was once again to be driven by Kerry Manning.

Linda was sent out 2nd favourite for this race, behind compatriot My Kiwi Mate, who is trained by Craig Demmler, the trainer of Alannah Hall. Linda made a good beginning from her 2nd Row draw to be in the one-one early as they sped into the first bend. There was a little shuffling for positions, but Linda managed to stay in the one-one once they settled into positions, on the back of My Kiwi Mate.

Linda enjoyed a good run in the one-one throughout, until at the end of the back straight the final time, when My Kiwi Mate strode to the front at the 400m Mark, as they completed the back straight quarter in 28 seconds. Linda pressed on to challenge My Kiwi Mate around the final turn and these two went on to fight out the finish, well clear of the others.

My Kiwi Mate ran home strongly and was able to hold out the determined challenge of Linda, as she closed close to the line for a very good 2nd placing.

The winner was My Kiwi Mate, in a time of 2:40.9 (MR 1:58.2), with the closing sectionals completed in 56.3 and 28.2. The winning margin was officially only 2.6m.

Later on that night, Kerry emailed to say, "This is Linda just before I was putting her to bed tonight after the races, as you can see she still looks great. I was really happy with her run today her times were super and although she had every chance the horse she was chasing is a very smart horse going places so was no disgrace to be beaten by it and she never gave up chasing him down. She was a little scratchy in her action as we were pulling up but not too bad and was bright as a button and hungry when

we arrived home. I have put a nom in for her in the Ladyship Cup Saturday night, it will be pretty strong but will have a look at noms and see how she seems tomorrow before deciding if I will run her or look for something easier."

She also included a photo, as mentioned ...



On the 2nd February I responded to Kerryn to say, "Personally, I did think that Linda was looking a little scratchy in her action over the last little bit of the race too, so hopefully she is OK. I see she is not in the field for the Ladyship Cup on Saturday night, so is she OK and can you please advise where you think you might go next with her?"

Kerryn advised by return, "I left her in at Melton but she didn't get a run, so will put her in at Charlton on the 8th and hope that stands up. If not there's a couple of other options such as Ballarat the following Friday. She seemed ok today and has been quite good leading up to her race the other day but I think with such a fast run last half that's when she looks a bit scratchy under such pressure as obviously the faster she goes the more that bad joint of hers would hurt, but she's pretty brave and still tries her best. Will keep you posted on when she is running."

So, Linda was then to race next on the 8th February, at Charlton. This was in the \$6,575 Charlton & District Community Bank Pace, for C4-C6 pacers, with a Preferential Barrier Draw on Class & Sex, over 2100m. Under the Preferential Draw, Linda drew Barrier No. 1, in a small 6-horse field that contained a couple of form runners. She was once again to be driven by Kerryn Manning.

On the morning of the race, Kerryn reported, "Good Morning, Linda is off to Charlton today, it's going to be a very warm 35 degrees so she's not going to be impressed (me either). She's been working fine and smooth in her action at home but her attitude was a little off the other day but she gets a bit like that from time to time. The number 2 horse will probably get on her back at the start as there is no second line, and it is very fast but here's hoping she can hold them all off up the straight. I've put a hood on her today for the first time so I also hope that sparks her up a little as well. Anyway we will do our best."

Linda made a good beginning from her ace draw and was able to lead easily. She got a little keen in front, but was able to lead them throughout comfortably. Linda was still keen as they passed the Winning Post with a lap-to-go, but managed to bowl along in front without too many challenges.

As they rounded the final bend and turned for home Riley James mounted his challenge, but Linda found another gear in the home straight to draw away for a nice win.

Linda's winning time was a respectable 2:34.9 (MR 1:58.7), with the closing sectionals in 57.1 and 27.4. Once again the official margin is shown as 2.8m, but I saw it as more like a length (4m). – that Australian yardstick must have been in use again?

It certainly was a good run by Linda and a good win, so I requested an update from Kerryn yesterday (11th February) and she has now advised, "Yes she went nicely at Charlton, and pulled up well. I have her nominated for Swan Hill next Wednesday, fields come out tomorrow, there are enough noms in it for a field at the minute so hopefully it will stand up."

The field for Linda's race next Wednesday, the 17th February, at Swan Hill was not available at the time of publication, so I will confirm the details to you once they are available.

In the meantime, GOOD LUCK & GO LINDA !!!

Trainer Todd Mitchell :-

Glitzy Gal (Bettor's Delight – Diamonds N Gold):-

After making good progress in her training, Glitzy was ready to attend the Harness Racing Waikato Workouts, at Cambridge, on the 30th January.

Glitzy was to compete in a C1 & Faster Mobile Pace, over 2200m, in which she drew Barrier No. 2 in a 5-horse field. Things weren't going to be easy for her first-up, as she was to be up against the C9 pacer Stunin Banner and the OC pacer On The Razzle and with her having only a C1 assessment, she was the loosest class horse in the field, so it was just going to be a quiet run first-up.

Todd just sat Glitzy in behind them and managed to get into the one-one in the running to secure the required quiet run. She ran home nicely in 28 seconds for the last 400m, to finish in 5th and last placing.

The winner was Stunin Banner, in a time of 2:47.3 (MR 2:02.3), with the closing sectionals completed in 60.5 and 29.1 off the front.

Todd said, "She's still a bit fat, but she's pacing nicely, with no hitch or anything like that, so all is good. I've actually let her hobbles out a hole too. We'll go again on the 6th February and see how she is. She might need another one after that too, as she's still quite fat."

So, Glitzy was to have a second run at the Harness Racing Waikato Workouts, at Cambridge, on the 6th February.

This was in a C1 & Faster Mobile Pace, over 2200m, in which Glitzy drew Barrier No. 1 in just a 4-horse field, but this time it was made up of three C1's and one C3 pacer, so was going to be a more meaningful run.

Glitzy went very well in finishing 2nd to Lusty Mac (the C3 pacer in the field), coming from last in the field and "cruising up at the 400m" to run very good sectionals. Todd

clocked Glitzy to run home in 56.6 and 27.8 and said, "I was very happy with her. She beat the other two pretty easy, but Lusty Mac had it over us, as to be expected. She had a bit of a blow, so I think we'll give her one more workout and then look for a race towards the end of the month." (*Ed Note:- Lusty Mac went on to win last night at Cambridge*)

Lusty Mac's winning time was 2:48.2 (MR 2:03.0), with quick closing sectionals of 56.8 and 27.4. Glitzy was officially 2 lengths from the winner, with a further 1½ lengths back to the 3rd horse.

So, originally Glitzy was to have another run at the workouts this Saturday, but Todd has decided in a slight change of plan.

Todd advised today, "I've given her a quiet week this week and two workouts and a week off [the workouts] will do her good. She is carrying a bit of weight and I've got her on a strict diet. I'll now take her to the workouts next Saturday [20th February] and look to race on the 26th February at Auckland. I would be expecting a bold showing from her fresh-up."

So, I will confirm details of Glitzy's workout attendance on the 20th February and her race on the 26th February, as soon as they are available.

It will be great to see Glitzy given her chance this time in and hopefully we will get to see her true capabilities.

GOOD LUCK for both her workout and her race !!!

Philip & Glenys Kennard Success ... Again

Syndicate Members Philip and Glenys Kennard are no strangers to the Winners Circle, having enjoyed a huge amount of success through their heavy involvement in the ownership of harness racehorses.

One win that I'm sure rates up with their best, was achieved on Saturday night, when their charge Smolda, who they own along with Neil Pilcher and Marcus Kirkwood, won the last standing start edition of the Group 1 \$500,000 Del-Re National A.G. Hunter Cup.

Not only did Smolda win, but he did so in record-breaking style, slashing 1.1 seconds off Arden Rooney's 3280m standing start track record. The Kiwi's completed a quinella in the time-honoured race, with the Tony Herlihy trained Ohoka Punter finishing second and an ex-pat Kiwi My Hard Copy made up the trifecta, for an all Kiwi affair.



Smolda showed real grit to complete a very brave win, with co-trainer Mark Purdon in the sulky. For the record, Smolda's winning time was 3:59.1 (MR 1:57.3), coming home in 56.4 and 27.9, to win by a head.

It was reported a proud ownership group accepted the A.G. Hunter Cup from Minister for Racing Martin Pakula, with Phil declaring "We're just absolutely stoked. I'm totally overwhelmed."

Smolda is Victorian bred and is by NZ Stallion Courage Under Fire, out of Under The Mattress and with this notorious win, took his career record to 49 starts, for 24 wins & 15 placings, for stake earnings of \$1,295,332.

CONGRATULATIONS to Phil and Glenys !!!

Newsletters On the Website

Don't forget, your monthly newsletters are also displayed on the Breckon Farms Website, so you can access them there whenever you wish, especially if you can't find them amongst your emails.

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

Good luck and many more wins to come ...

Cheers

Rob



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