

Sunday 26 September 2021

ELEPHANT MARCHES TO SANDOWN STAKES WIN



Elephant and rider Damian Lane head to the winning post to take out the Gr.3 Sandown Stakes (1500m) (Bruno Cannatelli)

Kiwi galloper **Elephant (NZ)** (Shocking) has rebounded from his sole career defeat with an impressive win in Saturday's Gr.3 Sandown Stakes (1500m).

The Emma-Lee and David Browne-trained gelding suffered his first defeat when thrust into the deep end when he ran a game second in the Gr.2 Feehan Stakes (1600m) at

The Valley on September 4 before resuming winning ways at Sandown on Saturday.

Sent out the \$2.35 favourite under Damian Lane, Elephant scored a 1-¼ length win from Romancer (NZ) (Redwood) (\$11) with Harbour Views (Le Havre) (\$7.50) two lengths away third.

Elephant has now won two of

his three runs on Australian soil and advanced his record to six wins from seven starts.

The lightly-tried five-year-old is now set to run in the Gr.1 Toorak Handicap (1600m) at Caulfield on October 9.

"That'll be the plan and where we end up," David Browne said.

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THE MAPPERLEY STUD

YOUNG GUNS

2021 STALLION ROSTER



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HIGH CHAPARRAL - SERISIA

- ▶ CHAMPION MIDDLE DISTANCE HORSE OF THE YEAR WINNING THE GR.1 CHIPPING NORTON (1600M), GR.1 RANVET (2000M), GR.2 APOLLO (1400M) AND GR.3 DAVID JONES CUP (2000M)
- ▶ EXCITING YOUNG SIRE OF GR.1 RANDWICK GUINEAS WINNER LION'S ROAR AND GR.2 LOWLAND STAKES WINNER LLANACORD
- ▶ HIS YEARLINGS ARE IN HIGH DEMAND - BOOK 1 AVERAGE \$141,000 WITH A 100% CLEARANCE



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AUTHORIZED - INSOUCIANCE

- ▶ BRILLIANT WINNER OF THE GR.1 SPRING CHAMPION (2000M), GR.2 CHELMSFORD (1600M), GR.3 GLOAMING (1800M), GR.3 CRAVEN PLATE (2000M)
- ▶ RUNNING HOT WITH RECENT IMPRESSIVE WINNERS COMME BELLA FILLE, CORK AND BRONZBA
- ▶ A STUNNING LOOKING INDIVIDUAL, HE LEAVES ATTRACTIVE TYPES WHICH HAVE SOLD UP TO \$170,000



SERVICE FEE: \$3,000+GST, LFG

PUCCINI

ENCOSTA DE LAGO - MISS OPERA

- ▶ CHAMPION 3 YEAR-OLD HORSE OF THE YEAR
- ▶ STAKES PLACED AT 2, A GR.1 NZ DERBY AND 3-TIME GUINEAS WINNER AT 3, THORNDON MILE CHAMPION AT 4 & A BRILLIANT WINNER OF 7 GROUP RACES
- ▶ HIS FIRST CROP OF 2 YEAR-OLDS INCLUDE THE MULTIPLE STAKES PERFORMED WOLFGANG





ELEPHANT MARCHES TO SANDOWN STAKES WIN

(Continued from page 1)

"I was pretty nervous, to be fair, but he was super. That was pretty strong. He kept kicking to the line well and I think there is a bit more improvement yet.

"He's strengthened up a bit and his coat has got a bit to go still. Hopefully he can carry on with it.

"In all his races, if you look at them, in the last bit he always finds a bit more and lengthens out really well. That's where he gets it over the rest of them."

Browne, who has made a sacrifice by being away from his family for an extended period while campaigning the galloper in locked-down Melbourne, said the son of Shocking had exceeded all expectations.

"He just keeps on finding a little bit more," Browne said. "He never disappoints us.

"It is a bit the same for everyone (in Melbourne) at the moment – eat, sleep, repeat," Browne said.

"You just concentrate on your work and that is about it."

Lane has been aboard Elephant in his two Australian victories while Luke Currie had the mount when the gelding was narrowly defeated by Superstorm (Sebring) at The Valley.

He said the gelding was still a "raw" horse but had taken some really good steps.

"He's taken benefit from his two runs and he's starting to put it together," Lane said.

"Today he was still a little unsure in putting the race away and pricked his ears on the line, but he's a horse who is learning and he's certainly going about it the right way."

Lane said Elephant was the

right type for the Toorak Handicap, but hopes he is not too harshly handicapped after rising sharply in the ratings after the Feehan placing.

"Hopefully he doesn't get any points for today or minimal and gets in with a nice weight," Lane said.

Elephant shapes as one of a number of spring stars for Rich Hill Stud stallion Shocking, who is also the sire of boom galloper I'm Thunderstruck (NZ), who is also Toorak bound, while Inverell (NZ), another by Shocking, ran well without luck in last Wednesday's Derby Trial.

He is one of four winners for the very speedy mare Ticklish (NZ) (Maroof), a Listed winner that was Group One placed and is already the dam of multiple Group Three winner Melt (NZ) (Iffraaj).

Elephant's breeder Andrew Fowler, who is also responsible for the name, is a part-owner of the promising galloper.

- NZ Racing Desk

AUDIO

David Browne

Andrew Bensley catches up with David Browne, co-trainer of impressive Gr.3 Sandown Stakes (1500m) winner Elephant.



CLICK TO PLAY



Race	MRC Sandown Stakes Gr.3 1500m
Winner	Elephant (NZ) 2016
Owners	D S & Mrs E Browne, W A Fowler, I Wanna Race Syndicate, P A & Mrs T J Murray
Trainer	David & Emma-Lee Browne (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Shocking (AUS) out of Ticklish by Maroof (USA)
Breeder	C J Cochrane & W A Fowler





HOUSE OF CARTIER CLAIMS FEATURE ON HOME TRACK



House Of Cartier (white hood) storms to victory in the Gr.3 Boehringer Ingelheim Metric Mile (1600m) at Awapuni (Race Images – Peter Rubery)

Underrated local mare **House Of Cartier** (Alamosa) made her return to racing in emphatic fashion on Saturday when she stormed home from near last on the home bend to take out the Gr.3 Boehringer Ingelheim Metric Mile (1600m) at Awapuni.

The Peter Didham-trained six-year-old has always promised to win a good race having finished runner-up to Pinmedown (NZ) (Pins) in the 2018 Gr.2 Eight Carat Classic (1600m) at Ellerslie

as a three-year-old before finishing third in the Gr.1 Schweppes Oaks (2000m) at Morphettville later that season after transferring to the Sydney stable of ex-pat Kiwi John Sargent.

Returned to Didham's Awapuni operation in December last year, the daughter of Alamosa and multiple Group One winner Shez Sinsational (NZ) (Ekraar) had been close-up in five starts before being put aside for a winter break after finishing fourth at Listed level over 1600m at Wanganui

back in June.

A trial win over 1000m at Foxton earlier this month fitted her for the Metric Mile assignment.

In-form rider Sarah Macnab elected to go back on House Of Cartier on Saturday, with the mare producing a powerful late burst to down the well-fancied Beauden (NZ) (Bullbars) by just over two lengths, with Mauna Kea (NZ) (Per Incanto) also closing well to take third.

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HOUSE OF CARTIER CLAIMS FEATURE ON HOME TRACK

(Continued from page 4)

Didham was keen to get a run into his mare before she tackles her main goal, the Gr.1 Livamol Classic (2040m) at Hastings next month and settled on the local feature as his best option.

"It was a bit of a risk going fresh-up into a mile at this level, but she is just so well in herself for this campaign," he said.

"It's the best I've had her since she got back from Australia and her trial win was very impressive.

"We needed to get the win today if we were even going to qualify for the Livamol and she did the job in fine fashion."

Didham will now take a few days to determine whether the mare has another run before the Hastings feature, as he is mindful of her workload as she is also likely to be bred this season.

"I think this will most likely be her last campaign before she goes to stud, so I want to make sure we get it right for her," he said.

"She can have a few quiet days before we look at where to go next and it might be she goes straight to the Livamol.

"I'm also delighted for Sarah, as she

is reaping the rewards of all the hard work she puts into her riding.

"She drives for over an hour to come and ride trackwork for me during the week, so she deserves every success she gets."

Macnab claimed a winning double after taking out the opening event aboard the Trudy Keegan-trained Thomas Aquinas (NZ) (Jakkalberry).

The victory also concluded a satisfying day for Wellfield Lodge resident stallion Alamosa who is the sire of impressive open 1200m winner Colorado Star (NZ).

Wellfield Lodge proprietor Bill Gleeson bred Colorado Star, while he combined with business partner and co-owner Peter Gillespie, along

with Greg Tomlinson's Nearco Stud, to breed House Of Cartier.

TAB Bookmakers reacted to the win by tightening House Of Cartier into \$14 from \$26 on the Fixed Odds market for the Livamol Classic that will be held at Hastings on October 16.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	MJC Boehringer Ingelheim Metric Mile Gr.3 1600m
Winner	House of Cartier 2015
Owners	Pee Gee & W J Bloodstock Ltd
Trainer	Peter Didham (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Shez Sinsational by Ekraar (USA)
Breeder	Mr WJ Gleeson, Pee Gee Bloodstock, Nearco Stud Ltd



Peter Didham and Sarah Macnab pose with the winning trophy after taking out the feature event at Awapuni with House Of Cartier (Race Images – Peter Rubery)



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ESTA LA ROCA SIGNS OFF ON WINNING NOTE

Four-year-old mare **Esta La Roca (NZ)** (El Roca) notched the fifth win of her career when successful at Sandown on Saturday over 1000m.

The Lloyd Kennewell-trained mare was sent out \$2.70 favourite and was prominent throughout before staving off the challengers late to salute for apprentice Josh Richards.

A daughter of Westbury Stud-stallion El Roca, Esta La Roca will now go for a break after a fruitful campaign that has netted multiple stakes placings.

"She's had a couple of really tough runs and a trip to Adelaide. It's a good way to finish the preparation, a good way to go out," Kennewell said.

"The powers-that-be here don't allow us to treat mares in-season and she's been in-season all week. It's disappointing that that happens. In Sydney you're allowed to treat them, here you're not.

"Even in the stalls leading into the race today she was very much in season and horsing around so I don't think she really liked the whip late in the race either but she got the job done, to her credit.

"She has been tricky to place to try to get that black type win. We went to the right races which we felt were her strengths and she got black type placing and bumped into some black type horses along the way.

"She's won at the start of the prep, finished at the end of the prep with a win and she'll have a little break."

The lightning quick mare will also be a candidate for the 955m series at The Valley after a freshen-up.

Three-kilo claiming apprentice Josh Richards controlled the race, sitting

outside the leader before pushing the button at the right time in the straight.

"She's been racing in good company and she tries her little heart out. She deserved another win today," Richards said.

"She seems to like this track. You could hear them coming but I thought she'd done enough to hold them out."

One of four winners out of the Strategic mare Camouflaged, Esta La Roca is a half-sister to Listed Macau Guineas winner Gold Alloy (Testa Rossa).

There are seven two-year-olds by Esta La Roca's sire El Roca entered for the forthcoming New Zealand Bloodstock Ready To Run Sale on November 17 and 18. – **NZ Racing Desk**

Race	MRC Tobin Brothers Celebrating Lives Hcp 1000m
Winner	Esta La Roca (NZ) 2017
Owners	Ridgeport
Trainer	Llyod Kennewell (Caulfield)
Breeding	by El Roca (AUS) out of Camouflaged (AUS) by Strategic (AUS)
Breeder	G Harvey



Esta La Roca at her winning best at Sandown on Saturday. (Bruno Cannatelli)



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COLORADO STAR ON TARGET FOR RICCARTON FEATURE

Lightly raced six-year-old **Colorado Star (NZ)** (Alamosa) got his spring campaign off to the best possible start when he produced a powerful home straight burst to down his open class rivals over 1200m at Awapuni on Saturday.

The Mike Breslin-trained son of Alamosa was having just his 14th career start and first since finishing midfield in the Listed Anzac Mile (1550m) back in April.

Apprentice Faye Lazet put her four-kilogram claim to good effect as she cuddled up the notoriously wayward galloper until well into the home straight before angling for a run closer to the fence at the 300m.

Colorado Star unwound stylishly to put the result beyond doubt in a few strides as he eased to the line two lengths clear of Lady Kartel (NZ) (Tavistock), who held out the fast-finishing Bellissimo (NZ) (Showcasing)

for second.

Breslin was pleased with the run, as he believes his charge is finally starting to improve his racing manners after proving troublesome in the past.

"He did it quite comfortably in the end, which was pleasing to see as he wasn't screwed down for the race at all," Breslin said.

"He was pretty good around at the start and didn't get too wound up

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Colorado Star has the situation well under control as he heads for the winning post at Awapuni (Race Images – Peter Rubery)





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COLORADO STAR ON TARGET FOR RICCARTON FEATURE

(Continued from page 9)

which shows me he has finally started to grow up after being a real handful early in his career.

"He has always been a bit wayward and was winning primarily on natural ability, but we have been very patient with him, which I hope is now paying off."

Breslin has his sights set on the Gr.2 Coupland's Bakeries Mile (1600m) at Riccarton on November 10 for Colorado Star and has a set plan in

place to get him to the race.

"The Coupland's is our main target so we kicked him off today and will most likely give him two more runs before we head to Riccarton," he said.

"He will go to the Red Badge Sprint (Gr.3, 1400m) at Hastings on October 16 next and then will either have a run at Trentham or back here at Awapuni a week after that before we go south."

Breslin was also delighted with the ride by Lazet who he believes is

ready to make an impression in the apprentice ranks.

"That was a nice ride by Faye, who has really improved her riding of late," he said.

"She probably hasn't had the success she would have liked since she started riding, but she sat down with Kim Clapperton recently and they mapped out a plan which she has taken on board and it is starting to show.

"I think all she needs is a few more winners and to start getting on some better horses and she will shine."

Out of stakes placed Unbridled's Song mare Elegant Emerald, Colorado Star is a half-brother to handy stayer Rock Band (NZ) (Fastnet Rock) along with this season's Gr.3 Winter Cup (1600m) winner Ritani (NZ) (Makfi), who finished midfield in the day's feature event at Awapuni, the Gr.3 Boehringer Ingelheim Metric Mile (1600m).

– NZ Racing Desk

NEWS IN BRIEF

Karaka graduate secures Everest slot

Cliff Brown has had just 23 starters since resuming his Victorian training career in July, but he has already managed to secure a prized Everest slot after a place for Karaka graduate The Inferno was confirmed on Saturday morning.

The former Singapore sprint star was picked up by slot-holder James Harron Bloodstock on the back of his luckless second placing to Wild Ruler in Friday night's Gr.1 Moir Stakes (1000m) at The Valley.

Inferno is a \$16 chance for the A\$15 million feature on October 16, and Brown said he feels the horse is capable of making an impact.

"I suppose he has to be (a chance)," he said. "He has to go to another level, but he keeps stepping up.

"The winner (Wild Ruler) was good but we got out of our ground a long way and got held up a bit. He sustained a long run and I think the rise to 1200m will be good."

As for going right-handed, Brown believes the five-year-old will be OK, having done all his fast work in Singapore in that direction.

"He's a lovely horse but it's a matter of whether he can measure up to the next level."

Brown said no Everest rider had been confirmed.

The son of Holy Roman Emperor won eight of his nine starts in Singapore and was one of the reasons Brown and his family returned to Australia, with the now Mornington-based trainer believing the horse is the best he has trained.

Bred by Westbury Stud, Brown purchased The Inferno as a yearling out of their 2018 New Zealand Bloodstock Book 1 draft for \$140,000.

Race	MJC Carrfields Livestock/CP Wool 1200
Winner	Colorado Star (NZ) 2015
Owners	In To Win Elegant Emerald Syndicate (Mgr: Tineke Balcombe)
Trainer	Mike Breslin (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Elegant Emerald (AUS) by Unbridled's Song (USA)
Breeder	W J Gleeson



VADAMOS (Monsun)



Vadamos filly **Art De Triomphe** races away for a 3-length win in the **Listed New Zealand Bloodstock Canterbury Belle Stakes**.

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WESSEX TOO STRONG ON DEBUT AT MATAMATA

Trainer Andrew Forsman put aside the disappointment of having to scratch pre-post favourite Francesca (NZ) (Iffraaj) from the feature race at Awapuni on Saturday when he and training partner Murray Baker produced talented two-year-old filly **Wessex (NZ)** (Turn Me Loose) to win on debut at Matamata.

Forsman had been expecting progressive four-year-old Iffraaj mare Francesca to be hard to beat in the Gr.3 Boehringer Ingelheim Metric Mile (1600m) at Awapuni, but a swollen leg that was discovered on race morning put paid to her starting in the contest.

"She (Francesca) had swelling in her leg this morning that has blown up, so she must have a bit of a bug there," Forsman said.

"That put paid to her starting, so we've treated it with antibiotics and we have to hope she comes right.

"While there was a little question mark on the Heavy10 track, I thought she was ready to run a big race, so it is disappointing we didn't get her to the start."

Forsman didn't have to wait long to assuage some of that disappointment as Turn Me Loose filly Wessex produced a professional performance on debut to take out the second race on the card over 1000m at Matamata.

Secured by Forsman for \$150,000 out of the Windsor Park Stud draft at the Karaka Yearling Sale earlier this year for owner Ben Kwok, the daughter of Gr.1 Telegraph Handicap (1200m) placegetter Trepidation (NZ) (Falkirk) had shown plenty in her two trials leading into Saturday's juvenile contest.

Faced with only three rivals after the late scratching at the barrier of The Little Engine (NZ) (Darci Brahma), Wessex was tardily away but recovered to track the speed throughout before launching a determined finish in the home straight to down Charm Spirit debutant Pacific Dragon (NZ), who provided the quinella for Windsor Park Stud-based stallions.

"We've liked her since she first came into work and she was good winning her first trial before having another educational run in her second trial on the synthetic at home (Cambridge)," Forsman said.

"Ben had asked me to buy a couple of fillies for him at the



Wessex asserts her superiority as she produces a win on debut at Matamata (Race Images - Kenton Wright)

sale and this was one I really liked.

"She is by Turn Me Loose, who I have a lot of time for as a sire, and she is a lovely athletic type with plenty of scope to her.

"She is still very immature physically so we will most likely put her away and let her get over this one before we think about what to do with her next."

The victory continued a purple patch for Kwok who is also the owner of last week's Gr.3 Gold Trail Stakes (1200m) winner Bellacontte (NZ) (Burgundy).

Wessex is the fifth individual winner for Windsor Park Stud stallion Turn Me Loose who stands at a fee of \$15,000 +GST (LFG) for the 2021 breeding season.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	MRC Transport Mechanical Waharoa Ltd 1000
Winner	Wessex (NZ) 2019
Owners	Ben Kwok
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Turn Me Loose out of Trepidation by Falkirk
Breeder	Windsor Park Stud Ltd
Sales	2021 National Yearling Sales – Book 1; V: Windsor Park Stud, P: Mr CW Kwok/Andrew Forsman; \$150,000

