



OTI GAZETTE

The official newsletter of OTI RACING and Management



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WHAT HAPPENED TO...

What a fabulous performance from Quick Thinker to win the Group 1 ATC Derby at Randwick against a stellar field.

It was a career defining win for the three year old colt by So You Think out of Acouplamas. Trained by Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman, and ridden on the occasion by Opie Bosson, he was backing up after being victorious in the Tulloch Stakes a week earlier at Rosehill over 2000m.

Quick Thinker has shown his versatility by winning at Group level from 1400 metres through to 2400 metres.

It will be a ATC Derby winner that will be remembered by all given the unique setting behind closed doors, but the cheers were a aplenty from the group of owners across the Tasman and beyond.

Congratulations to you all.

OTI NEWS

On Day 2 of the Autumn Championships OTI and racing partners are looking to continue the winning form of the past few weeks.

At Randwick:

The Sydney Cup GR1 3200m R7 will have three OTI starters.

AZURO trained by Ciaron Maher and David Eustace, has won over the distance and we expect him to be most competitive. Ridden by Glyn Schofield, he has drawn barrier 12.

CORNCRAKE is a horse for the future, and has done very little wrong in his first preparation in Australia for Matt Smith, and will be ridden by Kathy O'Hara from barrier 1.

GALLIC CHIEFTAIN is backing up after a solid 4th place in the Chairmans Quality Gr2 last week for Archie Alexander, and Jason Collett from barrier 7.

GAILO CHOP takes his place in R8 the Queen Elizabeth Gr1 for Matthew Williams over 2000m, and he has put in some good work this week at Warwick Farm. He will be ridden by Adam Hyeronimus from barrier 9.

At Caulfield:

INVERLOCH continues his fine form this preparation for Trent Busuttin & Natalie Young, and we look forward to running him in R7 The Easter Cup Gr3 over 2000m, with Michael Dee.

HAKY also lines up in the Easter Cup Gr3 for Archie Alexander and Declan Bates, and he will benefit further from this run from barrier 6.

At Warracknabeal, **PLYMOUTH ROAD** lines up in the WARRACKNABEAL CUP over 1600m for his first start this preparation for Matthew Williams.

Racing NSW announced prize money reductions until the end of June 2020, due to the impact of the lockdown restrictions on wagering, and ticketing.

Racing Queensland announce a limited season of black type racing including the Stradbroke Gr1 and JJ Atkins Gr1 with a reduced prize fund. The 2000 and 1000 Guineas, and the Derby and Oaks in GB have been postponed as a result of the pandemic.

Royal Ascot have announced that with government approval the Royal Meeting in June will take place, but behind closed doors.

France, GB and Ireland hope to be racing in May with suggestions in GB of regional racing. Germany has already announced a revised regional fixture list starting on May 1st. The Inglis Easter Sale concluded in the virtual format, with averages above expectations in the current climate.

DOROZA

Doroza made it two in a row when taking the BM64 over 2100m at Echuca



Q & A TOM MELBOURNE

Where were you born, and tell us about your family?

I was born at Rathregan Stud in Ireland in 2011. As a yearling I was sold to Andy Oliver, a trainer/trader on the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. My mum, Roshanak comes from a well know family of horses bred at Ballymacoll Stud. She won two races in GB before she was retired. She was then mated with Dylan Thomas, who was a champion winning both the Arc and the King George.

How did you end up with the name Tom Melbourne?

My mum's credentials improved substantially when her younger brother Fiorente won the Melbourne Cup in 2013. As a result Andy decided to call me Tom Melbourne in the hope that one day someone from Melbourne would come and buy me. What a great judge he was!

You raced once in Ireland, and then made your way appropriately to Melbourne, Australia. How did that move come about?

I had my first race start as a late 3 year old on a cold wet wintery night at Dundalk, Ireland in December 2014. Surprising everybody including Andy I won the race, and within 24 hours Andy had achieved his dream and had me sold to some lovely Australians! Within two months I was on my way to my namesake Melbourne where I immediately entered Lee Freedman's stables in Flemington.

Did you prefer Sydney more than Melbourne?

What a silly question! While Chris Waller and his team were very kind to me in Sydney, I loved returning to Melbourne to race. Surprisingly even though I was now being cared for by a different trainer when I returned to race, I was in fact stabled a few metres away from my original Melbourne home at Lee Freedman's.

Why did you come up against one horse too good 14 times?

While I did not originally set out to keep coming second, I soon realised that it was an excellent way to become very popular. Punters were unable to remember who won a particular race, but they were able to remember who came second! I soon began to like it. Besides having been brought up to be a well mannered racehorse I was always happy to say "After you" as we got close to the finishing line. It made me popular with my stables mates.... and other opposition.



Looking back on your career, what was your best performance?

The purists would probably think finishing second to Happy Clapper in the Epsom at Randwick in 2017 was my best effort.

However for me, finishing a close second in the Lexus at Flemington in 2016 was my personal highlight. Had I won that race, I would have been in the 2016 Melbourne Cup and would have had the chance of emulating my famous uncle Fiorente.

Congratulations on your retirement, you gave your owners and fans a lot of fun. How will you be spending your retirement?

The rest of my days will be out at Living Legends, a magnificent facility on the outskirts of Melbourne. I'll join a number of other champion racehorses, most of whom have won Classics. I've little doubt I'll be the most popular second place getter on the property. I hope you visit and say hello!

REFLECTIONS FROM EUROPE

Say the word 'Derby' in any country in the world where there is horse racing and it has instant recognition. The Derby winner in any country in any year has a stamp on him, one that cannot be removed. Like a first from Oxford or an Olympic gold it bestows lifelong acknowledgement.



John Hammond



Epsom - Tattenham Corner

The first proper Derby took place in England in 1780. Ironically the Oaks preceded it being run the year before in 1779. The powers to be at the time decided a colts equivalent was needed and the question was whether it would be named after the Earl of Derby or Sir Charles Bunbury. The story goes that a coin was tossed and Derby duly won. Just as well, saying that an owner, trainer or Jockey has won ten Bunburies doesn't have quite the same ring to it!

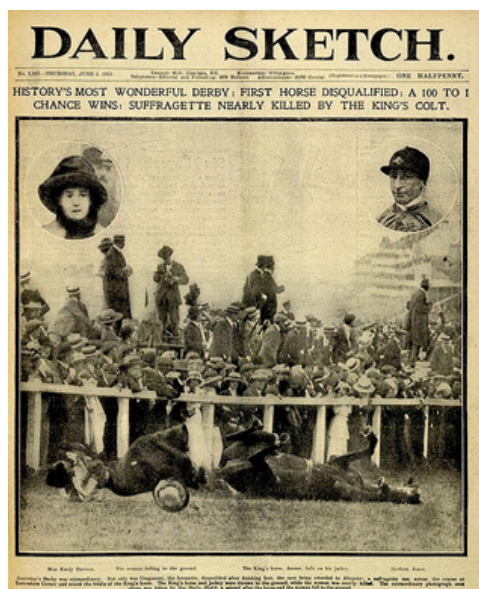
Appropriately, having lost the toss, Bunbury himself won the first Derby run in 1780 with what at the time was generous prize money of £1065. Equally appropriately for what was to become such a famous race it was won by an exceptional horse whose name was to last in the annals of racing fame, Diomed, the winner of ten consecutive races. As a stallion he had very limited success in England and was consequently sold, aged 21, for a pittance to the United States where he resurrected himself as a sire becoming an important influence before dying aged 31.

The first four runnings of the Derby were over a mile before being increased to a mile and a half in 1784. Initially run on a Thursday it was moved to a Wednesday in 1834 with the 'Derby Fair' which stretched over ten days drawing massive crowds to the Epsom downs.

For many years it was a big national event, during much of the 20th century Parliament would be adjourned so MPs could attend the race. Interestingly too, relevant to our current situation, the Derby continued to be run every year during the two world wars albeit at Newmarket to facilitate the transportation of the horses.

The most infamous running of the race occurred in 1913, it became known as the Suffragette Derby. At the time, understandably, the women were demanding the right to vote. Looking back it is difficult for us to understand why they didn't have it and why they were forced to go to such lengths to acquire it. Emily Davison a teacher and Oxford graduate but one of the more extreme activists ducked under the running rail as the field thundered round the final bend, tried to grab the bridle of the king's horse bringing it down and fatally injuring herself in the process.

As an act of defiance it was extreme but successfully news catching. Although few doubted the worthiness of her cause Emily Davison had form, she had been repeatedly jailed, staged several hunger strikes and narrowly escaped death when throwing herself from an interior balcony while in prison. How she managed to pick the King's horse amongst a field of twenty odd runners remains a mystery, maybe it was just chance?



In all racing nations the Derby remains the holy grail. The Kentucky Derby, also known as The Run for the Roses, came to be in 1875 and remains the only horse race in the United States that retains widespread appeal amongst the general population.

For owners to own the winner or breeders to breed the winner of any Derby in any country is often the target of their desire from the start. For many it is a lifetime's ambition in their sporting passion. For Federico Tesio, universally regarded as the greatest breeder of thoroughbreds in the history of the sport, it was the only thing that counted. All of his thought, energy and financial resources were pointed in one direction, that of an unremarkable piece of wood on the Epsom Downs. Unremarkable except for the fact that it represented the finishing post of the Epsom Derby.

FUN & GAMES

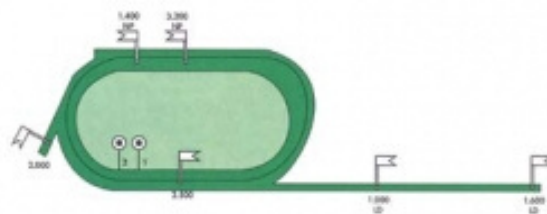
1. Which Japanese trained horse won the 2019 Caulfield Cup?
2. What was highest price at the 2020 Inglis Easter Sale Book 1
3. Where did Winx break her maiden?

WHO IS THIS?



- Winner of VRC Derby GR1
- By Golan out of Misskap
- Winner of \$1,133,955

NAME THE RACECOURSE?



Hint- Parisian Riviera



15% remaining of the recently released NZ-bred yearling filly by Vadamos, and the full sister to Melbourne Cup winning Prince of Penzance.

NZ-based trainer Roger James is delighted with her development. We have high hopes for her racing future in both New Zealand and Australia.

For further details, please visit our [website](#) and register your interest.



WHAT HAPPENED TO....

As a part of our commitment to equine welfare, we continue to document the lives of all of our past racehorses.

CONDAMINE

From his debut on the Wolverhampton synthetic in 2016, to his dominant victory at Terang less than a year later, 7-year-old gelding Condamine now finds himself enjoying a lovely home at re-trainer Michelle Grixti's property in Paradise. The son of Duke of Marmalade has done 'super well' during his re-education process according to Michelle, and she will now permanently keep him as a part of her eventing team. "Condamine is such a willing horse and a beautiful ride, I am most excited for the coming times with him." Michelle said.



For more information on the OTI Equine Welfare Program follow the [link](#).

QUIZ RESULT

1. Mer De Glace
2. AU\$1.8 Million Snitzel colt out of First Seal
3. Warwick Farm

WHO IS THIS?

KIBBUTZ

THE RACECOURSE

Deauville, France

The seaside town on the Normandy Coast is the place to be during the month of August for French high society. It is also home to 5 Group 1 races and the prestigious Arqana Yearling Sale

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