



OTI GAZETTE

The official newsletter of OTI RACING and Management



IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION

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FUN & GAMES

Sparks flew earlier this week in Australia when Racing Victoria announced that it would propose a nationwide reduction in the use of the whip. Rather than this important topic taking the limelight, the discussion quickly and unfortunately moved to whether Racing Victoria had acted appropriately in making such an announcement.

In the eyes on the general public, the use of the whip in racing is intrinsically linked to horse welfare. In this age, despite whatever argument racing may use to justify its use, most people, especially children, see it as unacceptable that a horse is whipped to make it go faster.

Despite the backlash against Racing Victoria, it is comforting for the future of the industry to see that it has taken a position on the issue. Hopefully a united stand by all the peak bodies on the reduction and ultimately elimination of the whip will do wonders for racing's image. It will support our welfare claims and equally, importantly lay the foundation for more young people to want to enter the sport.

The price of inaction on the issue is high. In losing the support of the public, we encourage politicians to make the decision for us. It's an easy policy to sell for a major party to attract votes.

Numerous examples in our society where industries or sports failed to make and adhere to changes, only to have those changes forced upon them by the government. As Colin Hayes so often said "the future belongs to those who plan for it". On this issue, he's spot on.

This weekend will see runners for OTI in Australia, Ireland and France.

Tomorrow at Flemington

YOUNG RASCAL runs in R1 2500m Quality Handicap for Archie Alexander and John Allen from barrier 10. We look forward to seeing him run again after the pleasing reappearance last start.

MANTASTIC runs in R5 1700m Handicap from barrier 13 for Chris Waller and William Pike. Another wide draw, but he should run well.

INVERLOCH lines up in R6 Listed over 1400m for Trent Busuttin and Natalie Young from barrier 4 with Michael Dee riding.

ROMANCER also takes part in the same race for Grahame Begg with Jordan Childs from barrier 6. He goes into the race in great order, and we're hopeful for a good run.

GAILO CHOP lines up in R7 GR1 Makybe Diva Stakes over 1600m for Matthew Williams and John Allen from barrier 3. He will benefit for this first run back.

QUICK THINKER returns from his successful 3yo campaign in the Makybe Diva Stakes for Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman with Michael Dee in the saddle from barrier 13.

YOSEMITE runs in R9 Listed 1100m Cap d'Antibes for Robbie Griffiths with William Pike riding from barrier 9. This is a stepping stone towards the Thousand Guineas.

Tomorrow at Rosehill

ATTORNEY runs in R3 1800m BM78 Handicap for Matthew Smith with Jason Collett in the saddle from barrier 5. A pleasing return from his spell last start, we look forward to another promising run.

Tomorrow at Leopardstown

MIRANN runs for Johnny Murtagh in the 2600m Premier Handicap of the Irish Champions Festival with Shane Foley in the saddle. He goes into the race in good form, and we are hopeful of a big run.

On Sunday in France at Evreux

DEMETER is nominated for a 3YO maiden over 1200m for Edouard Monfort.

Next week

BARADE an impressive winner last start will be aimed at the 2200m BM78 at Bendigo on Wednesday for Archie Alexander.

DOROZA is likely to run in the 1600m BM64 at Echuca on Thursday for Matt Cumani.

GREY LION will also be nominated for the Newcastle Gold Cup GR3 over 2300m providing the ground conditions are suitable.

AZURO may also start in the Newcastle Gold Cup GR3 over 2300m on Friday for Ciaran Maher and David Eustace.

THREE MINUTES WITH MATT STEWART - EXIT THE WHIP!

This week, Matt discusses Racing Victoria's proposal to gradually phase out the whip.

[WATCH](#)

A CONVERSATION WITH GLEN BOSS

On his childhood

I grew up in the country in Caboolture, QLD on a farm, and have been riding since I was about 4 years old, and was taking part in pony clubs, shows and rodeos since I was young. I didn't actually know what a jockey was until I went to the races as a teenager, and saw what they did and thought it looked cool, and wanted to be a part of it.

On the start of his riding career

I started my apprenticeship when I was 15, and remember my first ride was at Gympie races. My first winner was on my second day of riding, and I actually rode a double that day which was a great start to my career.

On his mentors

In the early days, I loved watching Malcolm Johnston ride, and Mick Dittman was a great mentor. When I arrived in Sydney Shane Dye was someone I looked up to, I was like a kid with a sponge trying to learn as much as possible from him. He was a great tactician with a great brain for riding.

On Makybe Diva

She had an amazing aerobic capacity, and I don't think I've ridden a horse with such a big once since. Her will to win was fabulous. She was like a beast on race day, she knew what she had to do, whereas in trackwork she was much quieter. She had such a beautiful and efficient action. She had so many attributes that made her so very special.

On three Melbourne Cup wins

Each of her three Cup wins were special. After the first, there was a sense of relief, as it was what we all dream as jockeys. We really had thought we could win it that year. The second win was a huge feat beating Vinnie Roe, and then the third win was probably her easiest victory. She was right on point that day, and it was something to cherish.

On how he felt ahead of the historic third win

I don't remember being nervous before the third win, I was excited and confident. In fact I was probably more nervous 10 days earlier before the Cox Plate, but she never let me down.



Glen Boss and Makybe Diva
after the 2005 Melbourne Cup

On when Makybe Diva retired

I knew the time would come, and I was just in awe of her ability and so grateful that I was able to be part of the story.

On the changing of riding styles

When I first went to Hong Kong, I adapted my style to be more US/European with my toe in the iron, and with my weight further forward, and then I returned to Australia with that style and was the first jockey to ride like that. I suppose I was a bit of a pioneer in that regard! Over the 20 years, jockey styles have changed and now all of us ride with our toes in.

On OTI star Tom Melbourne

He was a superstar, I loved riding him. He was a very good racehorse who ran in a lot of very good races. I have a lot of admiration for that horse.

On longevity in the saddle

I've been fortunate to have a long career, and it is important to look after your body mentally and physically. After injuries, it is important to do the rehab correctly as it helps in the long run. Having a healthy stable diet is important as wasting to get the weight down doesn't help. When I'm not riding, I enjoy playing golf and spending time with family and friends. I've also learnt to fly helicopters as that is a great distraction from racing.

On the future

Right now I have no intention of training in the future, but never say never. You never know what the future holds for G BOSS!!!

MICHAEL LYNCH



Sports journalist Michael Lynch discusses field sizes, and suggests that small fields are not necessarily dull to watch.

In Australia we love big fields, especially from a punting perspective. But great as they are, those huge fields produce plenty of hard luck stories: horses are denied a clear run and others suffer interference, costing them their chance. So maybe, just occasionally, less can be more, especially in the highest class races where the champions and pretenders meet to settle just who is best.

There are plenty of examples, down the years and in recent history, where the nuances of a small field Group 1 race provide a tactical puzzle and challenge that add a very different dimension to the contest, with appetites whetted by pre-race debate on just how the race will be run.

Jockeys, are under much greater scrutiny. Will they hold their horse up and produce it at just the right moment? Will they let the front runner have too much rein, not allowing enough time to reel him in? Will they find themselves pocketed and not see daylight until it is too late - something that can happen all too often, even in a field of four. And how will a top class horse cope with the very different conditions a small field test poses?

Most good horses are shown to best effect with a strong even tempo. But how good are they if a race is run at a muddling pace, as can happen in small fields when one jockey jumps, gallops, stacks the field up, slips his mount some rein and then brakes again before going for home 600 metres out? A really top class horse will adapt and get the job done. But some, in these circumstances, can have their limitations exposed.

This year's King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot in July was a perfect illustration of why less can be more. Three top horses - champion mare Enable and the two group 1 winning colts from the Coolmore operation, Japan and Sovereign - lined up partnered by three of the world's leading riders in Frankie Dettori, Ryan Moore and William Buick. How much rope Moore and Dettori would give the front running Sovereign, a thorough stayer well suited to the 2400 metre trip?



King George VI Ascot 2020

After all, that is exactly what happened in the Irish Derby last year when he slipped the field, made all and won at 33/1 under Pdraig Beggy. Buick rated him well and Sovereign was still in front into the straight but Dettori had judged the pace, the going and the race shape perfectly, cruised up and won going away.

There was a similar contest at Caulfield a few years ago when Winx and Hugh Bowman took on hardy warrior and multiple group 1 winner Black Heart Bart (Brad Rawiller) with He or She (Craig Williams) their only other rival. Rawiller tried something different to get the wonder mare out of her comfort zone, making the running in a bid to unsettle her rhythm. It was an interesting variation, but he might as well have been baying at the moon as Winx, kept wide, cruised up and eased past to win comfortably. But the fact that Rawiller altered his tactics and dared to be different gave what might otherwise have been a routine affair a different dimension.

We wouldn't want small fields all the time. But just occasionally they can spice things up - and provide us all, jockey, trainer and punter - with a different challenge.

OTI TO RACE MONTABOT



OTI look forward to running the Pascal Bary trained **MONTABOT** next week in France. Identified by Terry Henderson, the unbeaten son of Le Havre displayed an impressive turn of foot on his debut, reaffirmed by exceptional sectionals. As well as that, he possesses all the attributes of a promising stayer.

John Hammond's assessment:

"Montabot is a very elegant horse by Le Havre, France's most in-form stallion. Being the winner of his only two races, Montabot is poised to build on his career after a layoff. Fortunately, I observed him throughout his recovery and during his training. He has returned a stronger, more mature horse with a free flowing stride. He has all the hallmarks of a real quality animal and I look forward to seeing him realize his full potential, that we know is there."

[WATCH](#)

[For more information oti@oti.com.au](mailto:oti@oti.com.au)

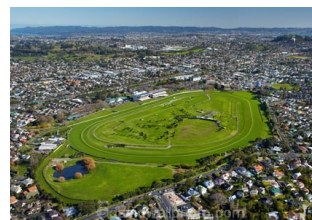
FUN & GAMES

WHO IS THIS?



- By Muhtathir out of Marah Dubai
- Trained in France by John Hammond
- 3rd in GR3 Geelong Cup

NAME THE RACECOURSE



Hint - Home of the GR1 2000m Zabeel Classic

1. Who trained Newmarket Handicap winner Cap d'Antibes?
2. Which Australian jockey was known as 'Le Crocodile', who had been in a German Prisoner of War camp during World War 2 and later won the Arc?
3. Who is the sire of 2020 Concorde Stakes winner Gytrash?

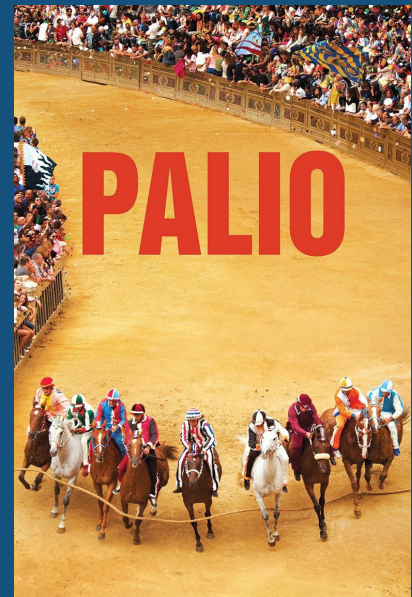
SOMETHING TO WATCH, LISTEN OR READ

PALIO

The Palio is the oldest horse race in the world, and turns the Italian city of Siena into a high-stakes battleground of strategy, intrigue, and simmering machismo.

The documentary film "Palio" follows the legendary maestro Gigi Bruschelli, winner of 13 races and master of the Palio, and his former protégé Giovanni Atzeni, a handsome young contender driven by a fearless passion to become number one.

This film exposes the notoriously closed world of this ancient race and the larger-than-life personalities of those involved in an epic and cinematic tale of Italian life.



WATCH

QUIZ RESULTS

WHO IS THIS?

Haky

QUIZ RESULT

1. Bart Cummings
2. Rae Johnstone
3. Lope de Vega

THE RACECOURSE

Ellerslie, New Zealand.

Racing has taken place at Ellerslie since 1857, with the Auckland Racing Club being formed in 1874. The track which hosts both the flat and steeple chase racing is home to a number of Group 1 races, including the prestigious Auckland Cup.

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