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Royal Snitzel heading for victory at Caulfield 5th July

## From the Stable

It has been an interesting few months since June's newsletter where we look to have unearthed an exciting Autumn filly and have also experienced some exasperating seconds along the way. **LE BONSIR** what more can you say about such a genuine galloper and has been the most genuine horse throughout my career as a Syndicator. Ever consistent at Black type level **LE BONSIR** ran 2 seconds in July in the **GROUP 3** Monash Stakes when well held behind Lord Of The Sky and then in the **LISTED** All Victoria Sprint Final at Flemington to Nearest To Pin when only grabbed in the final couple of strides. An enormous run that day where he stalked race favourite Vain Queen who folded at the 300 metre mark and **LE BONSIR** was left out in front much further than planned. He was brave to the end sprinting clear but run down in the shadows of the post by a very good horse who he had to give 3.5 kg to which in the end was the telling factor. **LE BONSIR** had a long and arduous campaign which although did not result in a win did earn connections \$112,240 to take his overall prize money to \$454,190. A true warrior and a horse I am extremely proud off now sees him having a well-deserved spell at the wonderful Cloverdale Agistment property where he is well and truly loved by all there. A real Autumn prospect was revealed over the last part of Winter months in **ROYAL SNITZEL** who

graduated from a Donald Maiden to running an outstanding second in the **GROUP 3** Quezette beaten a neck at Caulfield on August 16. In between those runs she was a convincing winner at Caulfield July 5 where everything that she ran against in that race just keeps winning franking the overall form of that race. **ROYAL SNITZEL'S** inexperience was the only reason that she suffered a defeat in the Quezette as rider Dale Smith advised to all owners that she really floated once she raced clear and had no idea how to put the field away. She has a ton of ability but very immature both physically and mentally although she has come a long way in both areas. Knowing she is a future Black Type winner for us Mick and I decided after the Quezette to give her a lovely 8 week spell on the Spring grass at Cloverdale which we firmly believe will be the making of her particularly from a physical viewpoint and having recently inspected her I can confirm that she is making that progress. She will be in work mid-October and expected to race towards the end of December. Currently her record stands at 3 starts for 2 wins and a Black Type second for \$85,500 in stakes.

Another Filly in need of Spring assistance is **VIBRANCE** an immature filly who debuted in



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Royal Snitzel's owners achieving success at Caulfield!

July/August. Not given much chance in the way she was ridden on both occasions this filly showed that she does have the ability to taste success next time around running home well in both runs. She really dropped away in condition during this prep and also had to contend with a virus that also knocked her around so I was pleased with her 2 runs knowing that it was just not her time to be at the track and with a nice spell and maturity to come I believe that she has a future and that may be over some ground when she matures as she is bred to get a trip and her racing style indicates that 1400-1600 is what she is looking for. It will be indeed a very busy few months ahead as we also have a number of our horses currently in pre-training or at least very close to.

**SHOT OF COURAGE** (Hussonet/Damsselfly) will be the next to arrive into Caulfield and this fella should be at the races in the next couple of months. Physically immature this guy has been allowed to mature without being pushed and trialled twice at Caulfield last prep before going badly shin sore however improved in every piece of work that was thrown at him. He has done well physically during his most recent spell and I am looking forward to him hitting the track.

Our tough and resilient 5yo Gelding **ONPICALO** had a great prep last time which extended from April-July which was extremely fruitful for his terrific group of owners. He has just resumed pre-training down on Mick's beach facility at Coronet Bay with Eric Musgrove AND left Cloverdale in outstanding condition. He is a very sound galloper who just gives his all in any race that he contests and whilst he will be ready to race at possibly not the right time of year for him we will give him his opportunity and if we feel he is better suited to when the tracks soften up we will have no hesitation to pull the plug and run him when he is better suited. He has been a ripper for connections off a \$40,000 purchase price and currently he is closing in on \$200,000 having been in the money 11 of 17 runs including 5 wins and having won \$174,595!

Another mare that has been with Mick for a few weeks at Caulfield now and will be ready to trial in a couple of weeks is our Sir Percy filly **LADY BLAKENEY**. Demure in stature she lacks nothing in determination and after a nice spell where she simply fell apart last prep it is hoped that she can make the transition this time around. She ran a very nice 3rd on debut at Geelong over 1300 meters and is a considered a nice staying type. Her following 2 runs at Cranbourne and Sale were full of genuine excuses so she is horse that should have plenty of upside particularly given that we have been kind on her.

Two 2yo's worthy of mention and currently in pre-training include our Northern Meteor filly **NORTHERN CHARM** and our Rip Van Winkle/Taheya Colt recently named **THE CATSKILLS**.



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**NORTHERN CHARM** has been in work since early September and is doing everything right with John Ledger at Wangaratta. She is a lovely scopey filly who will be down with Mick at Caulfield in October for a look see and is progressing very well with John without issue while **THE CATSKILLS** has really bloomed physically during his most recent spell at Cloverdale after coming over from NZ where he really pleased his trainer there in Paul Shailer. He has only been down at Victory Park with Mandy Allen for 1 week and it will be interesting to see how far he comes up this time in after being beautifully educated by Paul at Matamata and Jeremy Whale at Cambridge. Our other Rip Van Winkle/Call The Cat filly also really bloomed at Kilmore Farm Matamata and I was personally very taken with her development when I inspected her in NZ in August. She is a filly that really lengthened and strengthened and Paul Shailer agreed saying that she feels a completely different filly this time around. Still going strong after 4 weeks



Rococco with her cracking Bel Esprit Colt foal



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she is almost ready to do three quarter pace work next week and it will interesting to see how far she gets this time around and the future comments of Paul which to date have been very positive. She really is a lovely Rip Van Winkle with the pedigree to match and whether we bring her over after this time or whether we give her one more spell with Michelle only time will tell.

Our NZ purchases **MASTERCRAFTSMAN/COZ I'M FREE** gelding and our **HIGH CHAPARRAL/LA QUINTA GOLD** filly have both arrived in Australia and are enjoying the Spring grass at Cloverdale and both had good preps which recently culminated in trials at Te Teko to which I went over and watched personally. Paul's job was not to rip them up for the trials however both performed well on a NZ Heavy giving clear indication that a wet track will not be an issue over here. They are both 2000 meter plus staying types with the Mastercraftman fella being a big guy and has not been really pushed due to him wanting to grow at every opportunity. He is a gross eater in the stable however his body does not reflect the food he is putting away indicating that he is using that food to grow and not strengthen so he is a horse that will maybe need a prep with Mick before we see the best of him however we like him and feel that he could be a nice Winter stayer. The High Chaparral filly was ridden completely upside down in her trial and against the pattern of the day at Te Teko so she is a little bit more unknown regarding her abilities except to say she feels like a 2000 meter plus filly.



Ready Made Family and her lovely Statue Of Liberty Filly foal

## Broodmares

We have had a very pleasing breeding season to date and can report that our Fastnet Rock mare **ROCOCCO** had a cracking **BEL ESPRIT** Colt during the month and only on the weekend just gone **READY MADE FAMILY** presented us with a lovely **STATUE OF LIBERTY** Filly. Both foals are anticipated to be raced by the respective syndicates and are considered lovely foals with plenty of size. Unfortunately **ROCOCCO** was severely ripped during her foaling which will see her side lined for this breeding season only however **READY MADE FAMILY'S** foaling went as expected and she will now visit **FIGHTING SUN** in the coming weeks! Also great to advise that

our Stakes Winning mare **LOVEYAMADLY** has initially scanned positive to **MEDAGLIA D'ORO** at Sledmere Stud which is great result for her Syndicate as if she continues to scan positive will see an early August foal next year whilst **ROYAL CHARADES** is due to foal to Coolmore stallion **EXCELEBRATION** 7th October and has a date with **SMART MISSILE** already booked. Her **CHARGE FORWARD** Colt is ear marked to sell at the 2015 Magic Millions and should be a nice result for her Syndicate given that he is a half-brother to **ROYAL SNITZEL** - a group 3 place getter from **ROYAL CHARADES** very first foal!!