



NZSBA



BREEDERS' WEEKLY

This week we caught up with Matamata breeder, Rosemary Tims who along with her husband Brian have fashioned a terrific breeding record stemming from their foundation mare, Howz Lucky.

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Wandering Star and Gerard O'Reilly easily win the Stallions Australasia Trot at Waimate last Sunday.

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

Alister Lowe can claim a long and proud heritage in harness racing.

In just three generations, it covers more than 100 years.

His grandfather Bill Lowe started it when he imported Jessie B at the turn of the century, and his grandson continued it by winning at Oamaru last Sunday with one from the ninth generation.

Neither the horse nor the human influence is the force it once was.

But it flickered again in the maiden trot which Alister won with Wandering Star.

Alister, the son of Hughie and nephew of Ted, won his first race in 1988 with Stunner, a half-brother to Cottonfields which won his father five races.

With a small team of home-breds, Alister has been a valuable contributor to the fields of clubs in the Canterbury province.

His previous winner High Distinction raced 95 times to collect her two wins. She rarely went further south than Oamaru and never north of Rangiora. That was five years ago and her first

and only foal to date is a yearling filly by Superfast Stuart.

Alister's latest one is a 4-year-old by The Pres from Star Of Roseal, by Main Star from Lady Lith, from Lithgow which was from Colmar. Further back, in 1912, Jessie B left Tairene, dam of Lucky Jack, twice the winner of the New Zealand Cup and second to Morello in another.

Tairene was also great grandam of Colmar, which besides leaving Lithgow, also left the top pacer Barrhill, and Corwar to Light Brigade. Corwar was a huge success, leaving Cup class pacer Dundee, West Street (4 wins), Fair Alda (5) and Staveley (4). Fair Alda left seven winners, including Wing Commander (8) and Firm Offer (9).

Another descendant of Tairene was Merval, a grand-daughter, which left the big winners Wag, Atanui and Pun. Wag won the 1972 Stars Travel Miracle for Maurice Holmes by four lengths in 1.57.4, beating Royal Ascot, Sassenach and Lightsey.

Wandering Star's line comes from Star Of Roseal, her dam Lady Lith by Lordship who was from Lithgow and her dam Colmar.

Star Of Roseal was sired by Main Star while he was running with Lady Lith and other mares on Alister's Tinwald farm.

STAR OF ROSEAL WAS "A LOVELY TROTTER" BUT HAD HER PROBLEMS. LADY LITH WAS "A NICE PACER" BUT HAD TIE-UP ISSUES. NONE OF HER EIGHT FOALS WON, BUT STAR OF ROSEAL WAS GOOD ENOUGH TO BE TRIED AND FROM FOUR FOALS HAS NOW LEFT TWO WINNERS – STARRY STARRY NIGHT, BY PERNOD EDEN, BEING THE OTHER.

Alister is breeding from Starry Eyed, by Pernod Eden from Star Of Roseal, and she has been served by The Pres after showing ability before a tendon injury. Another he's breeding from is Brite Chrystal, a grand-daughter of Fraggie Rock who has a filly at foot by Peak but not served, and neither has High Distinction.

He has six in work and is cautious breeding more than he needs.

"I'm feeling young but at 66 you start to slow down a bit," he said.

His enthusiasm extends to other avenues – as a on the committee at

Mike Grainger

BREEDER'S PROFILE



Matamata breeder Rosemary Tims and two beautiful foals. The chestnut on the left is by peak out of Howz Lucky and the bay is by Lucky Chucky out of Madisonz Luck.

Matamata breeders Brian and Rosemary Tims have had a wonderful run in recent years breeding from their incredible broodmare, Howz Lucky. Since beginning her broodmare career in 2006, she's left eight foals for eight qualifiers, six individual winners, five Jewels starters and a good chance of that figure turning into seven come Cambridge in June.

That's a phenomenal broodmare achievement and she's not done yet with a Peak foal at foot. Many will have seen (in the words of Aaron White) the 'flashy chestnut' Lucky Fortune gracing our tracks with the most beautiful blonde mane and tail. Few will know the story of their breeders and how they came to be breeding from one of the hottest maternal families in town! We caught up with Rosemary to bring you another edition of Breeder Profiles.

WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN HARNESS RACING?

My father Kelvin Primmer had trotters years ago. He was a public trainer who trained out of Te Rapa, he had his own track there and then he trained at Claudelands and then he moved to Cambridge. Dad bred and raced horses from the late 1930's until 1986.

Brian's Grandfather raced Standard-breds and was lucky enough to win a Great Northern Derby in 1924 with a horse called Great Peter.

In the 1970's I also drove in Eyelure Derby races for lady drivers at Alexandra Park annually before female drivers could get a license. So as you can see there has been a long association with harness racing on both sides of the family!

I was at the trots on Friday night at Alexandra Park and met Jim Coles. He said to me he had some old race books there with Brigadee and Silver Countess, from over forty years ago, when Dad had raced them at Auckland before it was Alexandra Park on a grass track!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN BREEDING STANDARDBREDS?

Before Dad died he said to me that if we wanted to get into the breeding then this was one of the mares we needed to keep and that was Howz Lucky's mum, Late Memories (1989 Great Heights - Mighty Mir).

FIRST HORSE YOU BRED?

We sent Late Memories to Sundon in 1997 and Howz Lucky was the resulting foal. Because we were busy milking at the time, we decided to lease her out to a group that had her in the care of Sean McCaffrey.

She took 18 starts before she had a win but went on to win five and has done an amazing job for us in the broodmare barn since.

FIRST RACE WINNER YOU BRED?

As Above

WHY DO YOU BREED STANDARDBREDS?

Brian my husband used to be an amateur rider and it got to the point where we both getting too old to ride track work for our own gallopers. He had driven trotters for Dad and he enjoyed it. We just sort of went down that path once the mare was left to us.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE HORSE (OR) THE BEST ONE YOU HAVE BRED (AND WHY)?

Favourite would have to be Howz Lucky I suppose because she left all these good foals for us! She's not my most loved horse but she'd have to be the favourite, as she's getting older she's getting better but I guess she's a typical Sundon. She will only let us catch her when she wanted to be caught but she's getting really good now.

We've been fortunate that everything out of Howz Lucky has done well and they've all been by different stallions!

We've had two that were by Brylin Boyz, both Lanez Luck (7 wins) and Lucky Fortune (5 wins), then we've had a Monarchy which was Mollyz Luck (5 wins) and she's done well. Madisonz Luck was by Ambro Invasion and she was Group One placed!

Primz Luck (The Pres) has four wins from seven starts, while the Pegasus Spur filly Tuiz Luck has a win from six starts.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE STALLION OF ALL TIME?

Well while we haven't bred to him but we certainly like the Love You's and were going to send Madisonz Luck to him next year.

HAVE YOU BRED ANYTHING THIS SEASON?

Howz Lucky has a foal at foot by Peak and is back in foal to him again this time round. Madisonz Luck is in foal this year, she has a foal at foot by Lucky Chucky and she's back in foal again to him as well. Lucky Chucky has a couple of good fillies racing in America at the moment!

We've leased out Mollyz Luck to Woodlands Stud and she's had a foal for them by Pegasus Spur and is back in foal again to him again.

We're racing Tuiz Luck at the momen. The only ones we have sold were Lucky Fortune, Primz Luck, Rosemaryz Luck and Diz Luck.



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WAS IT A SPECTACLE WHEN LUCKY FORTUNE WENT THROUGH THE RING AT KARAKA?

We had three horses at the time we were racing and we had two more foals on the ground so we thought we've gotta start selling something.

Everyone thought I'd died his mane and tail. I'd have people come and look at him in the box and people would walk away saying or she's definitely dyed that.

SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHANGE FOR BREEDERS?

We're quite happy just breeding along like we are and having a bit of fun. We're very lucky because we do it all ourselves. Apart from the service fee we breed them ourselves, foal them ourselves, we break them in ourselves so we can't really complain about costs or anything but for other people probably having to pay for all that, it would be an uphill battle.

DELL CRUSADES TO VICTORY FOR FORMER ALL BLACK

When it comes to crossing the ditch and beating the Aussies in their own back yard, few know the feeling like ex All Black & current Crusaders half-back, Andy Ellis.

With 28 test caps to his name and four appearances shy of 200 first class Canterbury games, there isn't a lot he hasn't achieved in the sport of Rugby

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DON'T FORGET TO CLAIM YOUR BREEDER BONUS!!

Any financial member of the New Zealand Standardbred Breeders Association (as of 31st of August 2015) who breeds the winner of a totalisator race at a New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club (Met) meeting (excludes premier days, see T's & C's) held at Addington Raceway will be eligible for a \$500 bonuspayment. Bonus also applies to meetings held by the Amberley and Cheviot Trotting Club meetings!

Click [here](#) for full terms and conditions.



MARES FOR SALE

QUALITY IN FOAL BROODMARES & WEANLINGS FOR SALE

The NZSBA currently has multiple listings of well-bred mares for sale/lease/free.

To find out more information and to see what is available, please [click here](#). This will direct you to our website, and then click the For Sale/Lease heading in the navigation bar.



Andy Ellis dives over for a Crusaders try



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with the highlight no doubt being the 2011 Rugby World Cup winners medal.

On Saturday night, the squaregaiter he and current All Black Captain Kieran Read race in conjunction with the Woodlands Partnership Syndicate was in Australia and ready to do a job.

Ellis knew Speeding Spur's (or Dell's) form was good and hadn't been this excited since taking the family out to the Ashburton Harness Jewels where Speeding Spur came unstuck and galloped off the gate, finishing a creditable second.

"It was a little bit disappointing given his prior form and we sort of thought we might be best to stay away! But it (The Jewels) was the first time I'd had an opportunity to sit down and spend some time with Josh and John and we've kept in touch since. He sent me a text the morning of the Great Southern Star saying Dell was looking good and the boys had done an awesome job with him."

An awesome job they did with an ice cool Joshua Dickie drive delivering the syndicate the spoils of the biggest trotting feature in Australasia, The Great Southern Star.

"I watched the heat and then we taped it and got up in the morning and watched the race, it was pretty exciting! I could tell by the number of texts I got through that it might have been a good result.

Ellis doesn't come from a background a Harness Racing background, but admits that like most kiwi kids, had picked up an appreciation for the sport through attending summer racing festivities.

"As a young fella we use to go out to Rangiora and Addington and race meets like Kumara, and we'd go as a family and have a picnic and put the old dollar each way on. It was just a really good way for us to spend time as a family I suppose. We didn't do it heaps but did it enough to have a bit of an interest and to be honest there's nothing quite as exhilarating as when you've got a dollar on and they're coming round the bend, there's nothing quite like it."

So how did the opportunity to race a once in a lifetime horse like 'Dell' come about?

"John Devlin (JD) organised the Woodlands syndicate and he knew that me and Kieran Read were keen on our horses and asked us if we would like to be involved with the syndicate, and one thing led to another and we haven't really looked back.

"We started off with a nice horse called Victors Delight and that went really well, and they told us that in this industry you can wait a lifetime to get a horse as capable as him and we (Kieran Read & Ellis) were chuffed and getting together to watch her race!

Victors Delight was good enough to qualify for the 2012 four year old Diamond at Cambridge where she ran fourth behind some very good mares in Pembrooks Delight and Better Cover Lover, before eventually finishing her career in Australia.

"We went out and visited the stud during an All blacks test week and JD took us round and showed us the stallions and we had lunch out there and we were all really impressed.

"People said you can be in these syndicates for years and years without having a good horse, and basically the year after Victors Delight went to Australia along came Speeding Spur.

"TO BE FAIR BEFORE HE WAS EVEN TWO, WE WERE GETTING WORD THAT HE HAD A LOVELY TEMPERAMENT AND WAS GOING TO MAKE A NICE HORSE AND HE WAS TOUGH AND THAT WE COULD BE ON TO ANOTHER GOOD ONE. WE WERE RUBBING OUR HANDS TOGETHER THINKING HOW GOOD IS THIS?! AND SURE ENOUGH HE'S JUST GONE FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH, IT'S GREAT."

With a bit of time off during the week of the bye, Ellis was out and about around Christchurch and was left pleasantly surprised by the popularity of his champion four year old trotter.

"I didn't realise how popular Harness Racing was in New Zealand, the amount of people that have come up

to me this last week when I'm in the supermarket or out and about, there's more people wanting to hear about Speeding Spur then there is Rugby after a good Crusaders performance!

"It's incredible, people come up and they just want to talk about how he's training or tell me they've won money and it's amazing what a horse like that will do.

Even his Crusaders team mates were suitably impressed by the performance of the John and Joshua Dickie trained runner.

"Me and Reado were pretty quick to come in and let everyone know about it, but a lot of the boys had got wind of it and knew he had done well before we even told them and it's neat to think that it might be getting other people interested in Harness Racing."

While Ellis is in the twilight of his career, he remains a proud Cantabrian and in an era where the lure of offshore dollars is prevalent, the champion half has stayed loyal to his province and country.

With a young family to support, he hinted at how Speeding Spur and attending race meets had quickly caught on with the rest of the Ellis clan.

"The thing I've realised with the syndicate and racing is that it can be a really big family event. For example my daughter when Speeding Spur raced in the heat, we got her up out of bed and she was yelling at the TV and we were all crowded round and it was just bloody awesome!

"And then when you go out to events like the Jewels, you see things that I remember as a kid like the families having a day outing and it's just really special.

With Speeding Spur now headed home for a freshen up before a likely Rowe Cup campaign and some likely mouth-watering clashes with age-group and open class rival Monbet, the future is bright for the Speeding Spur mob.

John Dickie has already indicated what most knew, that the horse will make "one heck of a five year old."

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In saying that, Ellis isn't getting carried away and indicates that he would like to stay involved in the industry long after the heroics of his champion trotter are done and dusted.

"I'd love too. I fully understand that it's a fickle game and there's a fair amount of luck in getting a good horse with a good temperament and a bit of guts. Don't get me wrong we haven't just had good horses. There's been a few come and go, but if you've got good people involved, then it sure is a lot of fun."

Ellis is currently four weeks in to his 11th Crusaders campaign and with a win, loss and a bye, sits 8th on the ladder and third in the New Zealand conference.

He will look to add to an incredible weekend of racing with a victory over the Kings on Saturday night in Christchurch.

Brad Reid



Josh Dickie is greeted by the winning connections after a superb drive in the Great Southern Star final

KENNY NOW HAS THE BAYNES REINS

He's had horses like Sir Kenny, Kenny Charles and Young Kenny named after him, he's owned numerous horses over the years, and now Southlander Kenny Baynes has undertaken to carry on the breeding and racing dynasty that was started in 1949 by his late father Colin.

With his sister-in-law Penny, Kenny has taken over many of the mares and racing stock that Colin bred, under the recently formed Baynes Racing and Bloodstock banner. But that's only half the story because Baynes is also breeding and racing horses with his partner Joelle Calder.

Baynes said "me and Penny bought Dad's estate. He had about 35 horses

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left when he decided not to renew his trainers licence when he was 93. We took all the horses over, lock stock and barrel.”

Baynes Racing and Bloodstock is littered with horses and mares bred by CH Baynes.

The partnership has nine racehorses either in work or spelling, plus six two year olds and six mares.

The mares include Better Hurry (Bet-tors Delight) and dam of recent winner Better Hurry Up, Knapdale Lady a three win Western Terror mare, Knapdale Girl an eight win Sundon mare, Country and Western a Western Terror mare, Brahman Girl two win Village Jasper mare and Country Ball a Presidential Ball mare.

While there’s plenty of Colin Baynes ‘old’ breed to go on with Kenny is very conscious of the need to be constantly ‘modernising’ and as a result he’s sent most of the partnership’s mares to some of the country’s best stallions.

“We’re also going for the top shelf. Cool Maiden has a nice colt by Muscle Hill.”

They have yearlings by Angus Hall, Christian Cullen and Mach Three and colt foals by Mach Three (2), Majestic Son, Art Major and Shadow Play.

“But I like the Pegasus Spurs. They’re

doing a good job.”

This season they’ve sold Better Go Hurry, Pavarotti and Son Of Brahma - all to Butterworth Racing Syndicate.

“I like to race them. Penny likes to sell, she’s the accountant.”

The other side of the operation which Baynes operates with partner Joelle is a mixture of racing, breeding and young stock.

The racing team is headed by open class trotter Cool Cobber and also includes Diamond King which impressively won it’s only two starts here.

They have eight horses in work either with Tony Stratford or Derek Balle.

“I like to spread them around. We’ve even got two in Australia at the moment. We’ve got The Sparrow Hawk and Diamond King (who was) a good performer here last year. He’s at Brent Lilley’s in Melbourne.”

The Sparrow Hawk (Gotta Go Cullen – Starling) has won two of his six races in Australia.

His half-brother Our Blackbird has won 18 races in Australia and recently finished 5th in the Interdominion Final at Gloucester Park.

Kenny and Joelle have five two year olds including promising pacer Mucho Macho Man (Mach Three – Alisa) and

young trotter War Machine (Pegasus Spur – Our Super Ann). Our Super Ann won two in Australia and has left Our Super Ram (4 wins), Not Likely (6 wins) and Blood and Whiskey, a promising trotter for Gavin Smith.

In order to diversify they have bought eight additional broodmares. These include Especial Franco dam of Elation Franco (8 NZ wins), Equalizer (11 Australian wins) and Envious (2 NZ wins to date), One Up Kenny (half-sister to One Over Kenny 32 wins by Pegasus Spur), Jolly Jean a Christian Cullen mare whose second dam is Happy Hazel, Alisa (Bet-tor’s Delight), Jodie’s Bet (Bet-tor’s Delight), Bella Sinead (Christian Cullen), Lilly’s Moment - a Sundon mare related to Take A Moment (39 wins) and It’s A Whiz the dam of Springbank Richard (20 wins and \$664,338).

Kenny and Joelle have yearlings and foals by Changeover, Sky Valley, Mach Three, Majestic Son and The Pres.

They also have eleven two year olds in work.

It’s clear that Kenny Baynes is committed to keeping the family name to the forefront of racing and breeding not only in Southland but wider afield.

He, Penny and Joelle have a strong hand to play in the future of the industry in Southland, and there’s no doubt Colin would be happy about that.

Peter Craig



Cool Coober

FACING EXECUTIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME

It's been four months since I took on this incredible opportunity of managing the NZSBA. Now for the big test, my first Executive meeting. John Mooney helped me to put together over 25 papers for the 18 item agenda. An agenda that sets out our work plan for the rest of the year.

Let me share with you some of the areas of discussion, which I will revisit next month as to not bog you down with 2000 words of round table talk.

NZSBA Moves On



REBRANDING AND WEBSITE

The Executive has approved modest funding to rebrand The Breeders and upgrade our website.

Since November our Facebook page has gone from 500 likes to almost 1200. Breeders Weekly is sent to 2400 email addresses, opened on average by 1200 and read by 600. There is a thirst for information, recognition and feeling that breeders belong to something and that someone values them.

I presented a paper arguing that we should be able to visualise the NZSBA achieving its vision but that vision should not be possible for us to reach out and take hold of it right away.



Stand-off: the great Christian Cullen somewhat reluctant to come and say hello during a recent visit to Nevele R Stud as part of our visits to the breeders around NZ

The vision should be a future-oriented goal that is exciting, inspiring, motivating and more than a little stretching. It should challenge us to achieve more and to push The Breeders beyond its current comfort zone. Without this kind of vision, we are merely dealing with the day-to-day, month-to-month and year-to-year—reacting to our future, rather than creating it.

To be honest I find it a little disheartening that there are those who think that breeding numbers rests solely on the shoulders of the NZSBA and that it is up to us to create the solution. While I am under no illusion that the growth of our industry from a breeding perspective is in decline, the significant and multitude of factors leave me without a silver bullet or quick fix to the issue at hand.

What I am thinking is that our contribution as The Breeders is for it to be an organisation that **creates value for standardbred breeders**. This is through our recognition activities, our events, our funding of research, our funding of forums, our advocacy (for example with IRD recently on proposed changes to the definition of breeders for income tax and GST purposes).

We also want to create an environment in which our members derive value from belonging to our organisation. I am working hard to keep our members engaged and interested, and also to bring discounts on goods and services across the country. After all, keeping costs down is of massive importance and if we can't achieve this with the studs and vets, why not a discount on

tyres and household furniture? More on this in the coming months.

SHINING OUR LIGHT

The Breeders, both nationally and through the three affiliates are extremely active in the industry/sport.

I am aware there are stakeholders who will question our funding and argue whether it is money well spent. This highlights the need for better external communication, not just the feel good stories in the Breeders Weekly, but those that show our commitment and hard work that goes on behind the scenes long after 5pm throughout the week.

We are going to bring to you and our stakeholders more communication about what we are doing in accordance with our executive strategy, and how we plan to work towards achieving the initiatives outlined.

The communication will be a visual representation that is easily digested and something anyone will be able to look at and walk away with a better understanding of what it is The Breeders are doing.

MEMBERSHIP

The Breeders has 600 members which in almost all cases has a partner for 1200 represented.

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We have set a target for 2016/17 of 1,000 members. Watch out those breeders who are not members. You are in our sights.

THE BREEDERS EDUCATION CHARITABLE TRUST

The Executive endorsed a proposal for the Breeders to establish a charitable trust to advance education generally in standardbred breeding, skills development for young people committed to the industry, research, Life After Racing and other contributions to improving breeding.

The Trust will work very closely with the HRNZ Education team in growing the skills and qualifications of our great team of young people.

It will seek donations, grants and legacies to support its charitable purposes. Watch this space for the launch of the trust and the first tranche of activities, we are excited to share some of the exciting news with you all shortly.

Brad Reid

LUST AND AFFECTION THE RECIPE FOR BREEDER!

Ken Bowles believes every breeder should treat their broodmares like their wife – plenty of cuddles and lots of love.

The 75-year-old Franklin breeder-owner was largely referring to his promising McArdle mare, Lusty Mac, which notched up her seventh victory in 20-career starts at Alexandra Park last Friday night.

Lusty Mac is the beneficiary of a significant change in funding policy by the NZ Sires Stakes Board. The Mag-

ness Benrow Northern Mares Classic is a \$40,000, 4YO & older mare pace which the board established to provide rewards to those who has supported various prior series.

Graeme Henley, Chairman of the Sires Stakes Board said, "we are looking at spreading our contributions more widely, and have funded a number of races for the 4YO horses in the last year. On Show Day we had a similar race at Addington sponsored by Nevele r Stud which was the third highest turnover of the day with a field of 12".

Ken said "she's doing a wonderful job on the racetrack and you can put that all down to the trainer and driver. She's not the easiest mare to work with either.

"She's a cantankerous 'ole so-n'so'. She's not the easiest old girl to work. You have to be careful around her, but there's no use trying to give back what she gives you.

"She's the type of horse you can get on top of with love. All horses need to be loved. In the end they come around. That's why I'm so pleased with the job Mike and Phil have done," Bowles said.

Mike and Phil are Mike Berger and Philip Butcher, the Cambridge-based duowho train and rive her respectively.

It was a near perfect drive from Butcher last week. They led from the 300 metres and then trailed Culinary Delight and Maurice McKendry at the 1600m.

The talented bay then proved too powerful in the lane winning by one-and-a-half lengths in a rapid 2:39.6. Her winning mile rate for the 2200m mobile was a slashing 1:56.7.

The betting public knew how good Lusty Mac is. She was the \$2.40 favourite. If Bowles had his way she would have probably opened much tighter than that.

"She's by far the best horse I have bred or owned. Her mother would be second. I'm getting on a bit now and just want to watch her race. Sure we will breed from her one day but when that happens is entirely up to Mike.

"She will tell him when she's had enough. I trust everything that Mike does and says. He doesn't talk rubbish.

He tells you exactly where it's at. I think he's one of New Zealand's most underrated trainers," Bowles said.

"The thing I like about Mike and Phil is that they don't thrash their horses. They always think about what's ahead," he added.

Lusty Mac is owned by Bowles, his wife Irana, his son Stephen and his wife Megan. The former two bred the 4-year-old.

She is out of the un-raced New York Motoring – Lusty Bridge mare That's It.

"She qualified well under the required time trialled okay but every time we put the hobbles on her we couldn't control her. Fraser Kirk used to help me with her but every time she put the straps on that was it.

"She just wouldn't pace so we gave up on racing her and decided to put her to Red River Hanover and she left a filly named Lusty River.

"Then a year later we put her to the same sire again and she left a colt named River Bridge. The first had two starts and the second never raced. Then along came Lusty Mac," Bowles said.

She has only been out of the money five times in 20 starts (\$71,647) and restored Bowles belief in That's It. Lusty Mac's dam won four of her 42 starts and \$27,915.

"After Lusty Mac my wife was going 'butcher's hook' (crook) that we had too many mares on the property so we gave her dam away as a riding horse," Bowles said.

However they did keep another former Berger trained mare named Megastep.

"She was Lusty Bridge's seventh foal, while Lusty Mac was foal number nine. All-up she left 11 foals, the last of them in 2005. Megastep was a nice racehorse who won three races and \$25,000," said Bowles.

Bowles, a retired freezing worker, spends some of his spare time helping Ray Green and John Street at Lincoln Farm adjacent to the Pukekohe track.

Duane Ranger



BEV'S QUEEN GETS BLACK TYPE FOR BRED

Bev Williamson's year is getting better by the month.

In February Williamson and her multiple Group One winning husband Phil bred and sold an Angus Hall – Jasmyn's Gift colt at the New Zealand Premier Yearling Sale in Christchurch for \$105,000. His name is Hands Are A Gift.

Then last Friday at Alexandra Park Queen Kenny, which they bred, won the Group Three \$30,000 Greenlane Trotting Cup for owners G. J. McKenzie and Mrs R. H. Dixon.

It was Queen Kenny's eighth win in 35 starts (\$73,161). She was the \$11.40 fifth favourite, and is trained by Tony Barron at Makarewa.

"She's a lovely mare and done a real nice job so far. It's great to see her keep on winning. That was her biggest win to date," Williamson (Bev) said.

Six-year-old Queen Kenny is by Monarchy and is the second of five foals left by the two-win Sundon-Frances Jay Bee mare, Nice One Kenny.

Nice One Kenny's siblings include 18-race winner One Kenny (\$110,133) who was by Gee Whiz II; One Under Kenny (by Sundon) who won 11 races and \$87,919; and of course the multiple Group One winning trotting mare, One Over Kenny (also by Sundon), who recorded 52 wins from her 66 starts and a whopping \$1,098,007.

"The mare hails from a very nice family and now she is starting to leave some nice foals of her own. We are just a bit disappointed that she missed to Love You this breeding season. That would have been a lovely cross," said Oamaru-based Williamson.

Queen Kenny is the most successful of Nice One Kenny's five foals.

"She has a 4-year-old Majestic Son mare racing for Woodlands Stud and

Phil at the moment named Royal Kenny. She has had four starts and won on debut, and then there's a 2-year-old CR Commando filly and a yearling filly who is a full sister to Queen Kenny.

"We like them all a lot but wow does this mare like producing females or what! That's five from five now," Williamson said.

The owners have indicated that this is likely to be Queen Kenny's last season of racing. She is being prepared for racing in the north by Robert Dunn at Pukekohe.

Williamson said they had about half a dozen broodmares on their North Otago property – the best of them Jasmyn's Gift, One Under Kenny and Little Contessa (by Britewell) – the dam of Irish Whisper and Heard The Whisper.

"I really enjoy the breeding side of racing. It was a lovely thrill to fetch more than \$100,000 for that Angus Hall colt.

"I think the next best we received was \$75,00 for King Kenny (Pegasus Spur – One Under Kenny) at the 2008 yearling sales," she said.

Williamson herself is a breeder of some repute. She has produced one of the most famous sporting families to have ever come out of North Otago.

"I am so proud of what Phil and my four children have achieved, including the unsung Jasmyn. She worked very hard to get her accountancy degree and her career is going well. I think my father would have been very proud the way my life and family have turned out," Williamson said.

Wife to Phil and Mum to Nathan, Matt, Jasmyn and Brad, Williamson is not only the rock of the Ardgowan raised family, but like her husband she has much harness racing knowledge to pass on.



John Dunn and Queen Kenny win the Group 3 Greenlane Cup at Auckland last Friday night

Williamson is the daughter of one of Oamaru's most popular and hard-working trainers, the late Ron Mills, who passed away in 2000.

Mills trained good horse like Wee Willow and Triple Jay during his four decades of training.

His daughter was born in Oamaru and educated at the former St Thomas's secondary school in Reed Street Oamaru. When she left school she worked in office jobs in the town.

"I was brought up with harness racing and therefore got into it way before I met Phil over 30 years ago. He used to work at the Pukeuri freezing works and worked a couple of horses with Ken Kinzett at Ardgowan. We've now been married 28 years," Williamson said.

Looking to the future are there any new stars from the Williamson barn to look out for.

"Phil likes a 3-year-old Muscles Yankee filly out of Jasmyn's Gift as well as a 2-year-old Sundon- Little Contessa colt named Davey Mac.

"It's always a bit hard to tell early on and there are always surprises but I love the breeding side of the industry. There is great satisfaction watching a baby grow into a nice racehorse," she said.

Duane Ranger



Ken Ford greets daughter and reinswoman Amanda Tomlinson after a Zachary Binx victory



THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Ken Ford will never forget the good turn that came from Noel Borlase.

Noel was in the yard one day, not long after the Fords had moved to West Melton from Kaikoura, when he heard Ken's young daughter Amanda buzzing after driving the top trotter Melvander for Peter Robertson.

"I'll give you a mare that will breed one as good as that," he told Ken.

Having raced the top pacer Master Dean and bred some pretty tidy trotters from the Fallacy mare Miss Sue, Noel knew what he was on about.

And he owed Ken a favour.

There'd been no charge after Ken had stepped in to handle a tricky horse situation; his response was to give Ken Double Star.

By Game Pride, Double Star hadn't much to show from 10 starts; a placing, but there was a packet of good trotting blood close up and easy to see. She was from Miss Megan, a Tuft mare who left Circular Note (6 wins); her dam was Miss Sue and she was a treasure.

Miss Sue's winners were Khan (2 wins) to Rodney Day; Game One (6), Game Greg (7), New Game (5) and Game Try (2) to Game Pride, and Troppo (Trowbridge) which won eight and was placed in an Inter-Dominion Grand Final.

By the time, Borlase delivered his thank you gift, Double Star had left fillies to Kiltie Boy, Plat du Jour, Roydon Boy and Chiola Hanover and none of them raced. Now with Ford, she continued to leave only fillies – by Yankee Jolter, Grant Our Wishes and Willy Laumont (2).

It was Midnight Saga, the filly she left to Yankee Jolter, who got Noel over the line.

After two unplaced starts, she was off to Bellam to whom she left Bede, the winner of three. Sent twice to Grant Our Wishes, she left the brilliant trotters Aramid (10) and Zuri (12) – both outstanding types – Midnight Invasion (10) by Armbro Invasion and Zsa Zsa (6), also by Armbro Invasion. Her only other foal, by Grant Our Wishes, died as a foal from complications after Midnight Saga was hit in the head by a .22 slug.

Zsa Zsa is the only female progeny from Midnight Saga Ken has, but fortunately she is breeding safely and three of her four foals are fillies; one a 3-year-old by Monarchy and the other a smart yearling by Majestic Son.

CONT. 12

Amanda Tomlinson and Zachary Binx win the Woodlands Stud Handicap Trot at Waimate last Sunday



CONT.

The other is Zachary Binx which kept a super record moving when he gave 11 others a start and a beating on the grass at Oamaru last weekend. By Sundon, he's won seven and his form indicates a preference for the grass.

This season looks certain to be Ford's best. Ably assisted by Amanda and his son Clint, Ken has won 13 races. He has to beat the 14 he won in 2004. Of his grand total of 109 wins, 88 have come from their trotters.

The Fords are also heavily involved in the Kidz Kartz programme, and with eight ponies have generously made them available for suitable kid's occasions.

"We're not in this for money. It's a hobby and it's wonderful to see the enjoyment from what we are doing," he said.

Footnote: The Grant Our Wishes daughter from Double Star is Half A Sixpence who won four and to Safely Kept left the big Aussie winner Save A Sixpence, 17 wins.

Mike Grainger

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For further information or to register your interest contact Ivan Behrnes - Alabar Syndicate Manager 03 615 6332, ivan@alabar.co.nz

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