



NEWSLETTER

Vol 309 February 2024

APG WA Yearling Sale Sunday 3 March

Updated individual catalogue pages are online on the APG website [here](#). Photos of lots will be added, closer to the Sale. Better still, you can join the self drive Yearling Tour that will cover three of the vendors all in the Serpentine area, on Sunday 25th February commencing 1:30pm at Karnup Racing, 3pm at Copper Lodge and 4pm at KTC Bloodstock. Just around the corner, you can also see the Steve Johnson yearlings between 10am and 3pm on the same day.

Check for details on the [WASBA website](#) or [TheTrotsWA](#) Facebook page. **Please RSVP** to KTC's Kody Charles 0413 669 474 for catering purposes if you are staying for the famous after parade supper at KTC!

Contact any of the other vendors if you want to inspect yearlings – they will be more than happy to assist.

If you don't have a hardcopy catalogue and want one, try the Gloucester Park or Pinjarra office, or Byford trials.

A great innovation is the Sires Paddock online reference on the APG website - [Sires here](#) – including details about each of the sires and their lot numbers.

All Westbred progeny earn Bonuses in WA 2YO and 3YO races less than \$22,000, for first to 4th place AND receive \$500 on their first race start. Westsired progeny can earn more, with a double win Bonus of \$5,100 to \$10,200, depending on the stakes tier. Horses older than 3yo winning their first career start in WA also earn the full Westbred Bonus relevant to the stakes tier. AND each year in WA there is over \$1 million in feature races for 2yos and 3yos along with standard races AND the Westbred and First Win Bonuses off over \$3 million per year.

All yearlings entered in the WA Sale are Westbred Bonus eligible. There is *no payment required* to be eligible for Westbred Bonuses. Some yearlings are Westsired (these are notated in the catalogue) and can earn *double Westbred win bonuses*. For more information on the bonuses, click [here](#).

The catalogue includes something for everyone, with ALL the top sires represented along with some fantastic new sires. There are also some exceptional female lines that have proved to be very successful, along with sons and daughters of Group 1 winners and siblings to Group 1 winners.

Horses like Golden Nugget winner **Shockwave**, Golden Slipper, Derby and Golden Nugget winner **Tricky Miki** (pictured right) Pearl Classic winner **Menemsha**, Diamond Classic winner **Water Lou**, Oaks winner **Taking The Miki** are all WA Yearling Sale graduates.

Only yearlings purchased from the WA Sale are eligible, if sustained, for the 2025 \$125,000 2YO Finals and 2026 \$100,000 3YO Finals. You can always contact one of the local trainers and ask them to check out a yearling or two on your behalf.

If you are interested in being involved in an ownership and join in the fun of racing, check the catalogue, speak to vendors, or contact WASBA. Don't forget you need to register to bid – go to the APG registration page [here](#).



2YO, 3YO, MARES and WESTBRED OPPORTUNITIES



2YO	The APG 2YO Sales Classic Heats are on 20 Feb, with the \$125,000 Finals on 1 March
3YO	1 March - The \$50,000 APG 3YO Sales Classic Finals
Mares	8 March - \$50,000 The Lombardo Fillies and Mares 18 March \$35,000 Golden Girls at Pinjarra 5 April the Race For Roses at Gloucester Park 12 April the \$100,000 Westbred 4YO Mares Classic
Westbred	24 March the \$11,000 Bridgetown Cup 28 March the \$11,000 Wagin Cup 29 March the \$30,000 Westbred Autumn Restricted Classic 12 April the \$100,000 Westbred 4YO Entires and Geldings Classic

The WASBA Breeding Awards and APG night 1 March

Invitations have been sent to all our award winners. APG will be sending their invitations shortly. It should be a great night with successful breeders, owners and vendors all in attendance.

If you are a regular at the Sale and havent received an invite, contact WASBA 0447 053 040.

This is a night we celebrate the achievements of our WA bred horses – and there are plenty of those - and their breeders, and look forward to the upcoming sale and the exciting futures of the yearlings available.

Death of American Ideal USA

This was not the one we were expecting.

He was initially not received warmly by the New Zealanders, perhaps because he didnt produce to “type” or perhaps he didn’t win a million dollars, but Australia loved him and later so did New Zealand with the likes of their champions Copy That. Quoting Woodlands Stud *“American Ideal was a true gentleman until the end, and loved by all those who crossed his path. He was a staff favourite and will be greatly missed by us all.”* Agree.



He was a super race horse in the same year as champion Rocknroll Hanover USA 1:48.3 who won \$2.75 million, interestingly both by Western Ideal but very different horses. His granddam was the World Champion 2YO & 3YO US Pacing Filly of the Year **Three Diamonds**.

World Champion American Ideal 1:47.8 US\$785,055 was also a champion sire of multiple millionaires capable of running on all size tracks. He has sired the winners of over \$200 million and some of his northern hemisphere champions include American Jewel, Heston Blue Chip, Sunfire Blue Chip, Youaremycandygirl, American History, Great Vintage, Idyllic, Covered Bridge and Hes Watching, all millionaires. His fastest son was Hes Watching 1:46.8 and his fastest daughters American Jewel and Youaremycandygirl 1:48.2.

His top southern hemisphere performers (males) include stallions **Copy That NZ** 1:52.0 \$1,998,900 **Bling It On** 1:50.2 \$1,883,000, **My Hard Copy** (a shame to lose him so early) 1:51.6 \$1,272,000, **Soho Tribeca** 1:53.8 \$1,103,900, and geldings **Magnificent Storm** 1:52.5 \$1,107,000, Pacing Cup winner **Mighty Conqueror** 1:53.9 \$691,700, the promising Ideal Agent 1:51.9 and Golden Slipper winner **Vegas Strip**. Recent top line performers

include fillies and mares **Allamericanlover NZ** 1:53 who has two Group 1s to her name including the Queen of Hearts, WA filly **Xceptional Arma**, **Very Pretty**, **Renewal**, **Simply Shaz** etc

Snippets from the USA and Canada..

☑ The 2023 US Dan Patch winners were announced earlier than the Canadian O'Brien awards (for horses to be eligible for consideration for an O'Brien Award, they must have made a minimum of three starts in Canada between 1 January and 30 November, excluding Breeders Crown) but they mean the same thing – they are the top horses in their age group to race in the respective country.

The O'Brien 2YO Male Pacer of the Year was **Legendary Hanover (Huntsville)** 1:50, with 3YO Pacing Colt of the Year **Stockade Seelster (State Treasurer)** 1:48.4 with \$677,000 for the season, taking out his second O'Brien award to go with his \$1.2 million in career earnings. The 2YO Pacing Filly was **Pass Line (All Bets Off)** 1:49.3 10 wins \$682,000. The 2024 Pacing Mare of the Year was Canada's Pacing Queen **So Much More (Big Jim)** 13 wins \$358,000 (70 career wins and \$1.6 million in stakes) who had to compete against the boys for some of her wins. Canadian Derby winner **Tattoo Artist (Hes Watching)** 1:47.1 who earned \$1 million for the season for lifetime stakes of \$3.3 million, was named the Older Male Pacer of the Year, which followed his previous win as a 3yo in 2020.

The 2023 O'Brien Somebeachsomewhere Horse of the Year was awarded to 3yo filly **Sylvia Hanover (Always B Miki)** 1:48.1, quite an accolade, with the filly also taking out the Obrien 3YO Pacing Filly of the Year.



Sylvia Hanover in flight

A star in two countries — Sylvia Hanover is a two-time O'Brien Award winner as well as a two time Dan Patch winner. For the season Sylvia Hanover had 10 wins and \$839,000 in earnings and from her first two seasons has earned \$1.7 million. Sylvia Hanover is only the fifth filly to be voted a Dan Patch champion as a 2yo and 3yo along with Warrawee Ubeaut, Pure Country, See You At Peelers, and Worldly Beauty.

☑ Created by trainer driver Anthony MacDonald, **The Stable CA** client list now numbers over 900, with 150 horses including over 50 2yos. Great things can happen from small beginnings if you give it a go.

☑ **Covered Bridge**, a son of **American Ideal**, showed what the bloodlines are like with a win on the half mile Yonkers track in an Invitational Pace. It was his 3rd win from his last 4 starts and his 46th win from 139 starts, banking \$1.8 million along the way.

☑ Not so famous but just as plucky was 6yo mare **Hot Mess Express (Panther Hanover)** who won her last start at the Meadowlands in 1:53.2, taking her stakes to \$939,000 including wins in the Group 1 equivalents Nadia Lobell and Mistletoe Shalee, and a visit sometime soon to Captaintreacherous. Panther Hanover is another of the many stallions in the northern hemisphere that we have never heard about. By Rocknroll Hanover out of Panned Out (the great granddam of **Papi Rob Hanover**), he is the winner of 8 of 14 starts and a lifetime record of 1:47.2 as a 3yo at the Meadowlands. Many of these stallions are being supported by state sires programs which are proving to be very successful in the US, resurrecting breeding and racing.

☑ Book Full signs are up in the US for **Huntsville (Somebeachsomewhere)**, **Monte Miki (Always B Miki)** following on from earlier announcements for **Sweet Lou** and son **Lous Pearlman**. The death of American Ideal will cause some reshuffling. The "book full" signs only apply to the US as there are no stallion book limits in Canada.

☑ Yonkers turns 125 – that's impressive for a harness track, especially a half mile won. The current owners (since 2018) have invested over a million dollars in track renovations to enhance the overall racing experience, including resurfacing, new LED lighting, raising the turns by as much as 30cm, a new multiple display infield LED board and a significant upgrade of the horse stalls. That's an owner committed to the future.

☑ New stallions this year include **Tattoo Artist (Hes Watching)** 1:47.2, Winbak's **Beach Glass (Somebeachsomewhere)** 1:47.2, **Lawless Shadow (Shadow Play)** 1:48.2 and **Nutcracker Sweet (Bettors Delight)** 1:50.1, Blue Chip Farms **Cannibal (Sweet Lou)** and Diamond Creek Farms **Confederate (Sweet Lou)** who will stand for \$20,000, the same price as his sire Sweet Lou and Bettors Delight, and \$5,000 more than Bulldog Hanover. There are some nice sons, and now grandson, of American Ideal standing in the northern hemisphere, but his best may well be in the southern hemisphere.

And elsewhere...

☑ A nice future prospect that cost a lot of money (\$260,000) in the sale ring is 3yo **Built For Glory NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** who is still learning the trade but has 3 nice wins from his last 4 of 5 lifetime starts. A long way to go to balance the books but given his dam **Fight For Glory NZ (Art Major USA)** 1:52.1 \$656,212 won three Oaks in Australia along with Group 1s Queen of Hearts and New Zealand Oaks, you would think he will be racing in Australia at top level at some point.



☑ New Zealand's new bonus system is creating positivity with payments of \$12,000 for any NZ 2YO winning his or her first race - \$8000 going to the owner, and \$4000 to the breeder. Good to see everyone is recognizing the importance of these bonus systems and in particular the need to reward those who produce the horses.

☑ Three great performances from recent arrival, NZ 4yo **Don't Stop Dreaming NZ (Bettors Delight USA)**, who has run second to the two of the best horses currently racing in new millionaire **Better Eclipse (Betterthancheddar USA)** in the Casey Classic and the \$500,000 Hunter Cup winner **Leap To Fame (Bettors Delight USA)**, before winning the Group 3 Hondo Grattan in 1:50.5 with a slashing final quarter. The Hondo Grattan win qualifies Don't Stop Dreaming for a start in the Chariots of Fire for 4YOs on 2 March.

☑ On a role of invincibility is 5yo stallion **Leap To Fame** brilliantly winning the Hunter Cup before setting a track record 1:55.6 in winning the \$100,000 Cranbourne Cup. He will head for the \$100,000 Newcastle Mile on 23 February, with a win giving him a golden ticket and an automatic start in the Miracle Mile on 9 March. Qualifiers otherwise have to race in heats on 2 March. This is one race that should be by invitation.

☑ Dual NZ Derby winner **Merlin (Art Major USA)** has returned to racing with two impressive wins including against champion Self Assured. He looks good to target the Chariots of Fire, lining up against Don't Stop Dreaming. If he wins he gets an invite to the \$1 million Miracle Mile. In their last encounters, Don't Stop Dreaming leads 3-2.

☑ Its hotting up for the \$1 million Race by Grins, with **Leap To Fame** a confirmed starter, just not quite sure for who with plenty of interest being shown. **Merlin** has been signed up by Slot holder Senz, while Don't Stop Dreaming is an expected starter given part of his ownership group has a Slot. **Better Eclipse** is the first Australian-trained pacer officially signed for a slot, being secured by Entain/NZ TAB. Great news for Jess Tubbs and Greg Sugars who are also taking Just Believe for the TAB Trot. Unfortunately, someone who wont be starting in the Race by Grins is champion Akuta (Bettors Delight USA) following a trackwork injury that will keep him out of racing for the year.



☑ Also getting hotter is the inaugural trot slot the \$575,000 TAB Trot on the same night as the Race by Grins. Australian slot holder Yabby Dams (Haras des Trotteurs) will be represented by imported 6yo stallion

Callmethebreze FRA (Trixton USA) who was super impressive winning a heat and the final of the Great Southern Star. Before that he is a likely starter in the Group 1 Hammerhead on Miracle Mile night.



Callmethebreze just getting the better of Just Believe in the Great Southern Star

February 24 will see a rematch between

Callmethebreze FRA and new millionaire **Just**

Believe (Orlando Vici FRA), who prior to his loss to Callmethebreze in the Great Southern Star had 8 consecutive wins. Just Believe is confirmed for the TAB Trot in New Zealand, for the Taylor St Racing Syndicate. New Zealand owned **Queen Elida** has been booked to start for Slot holder TAB NZ, so at least 3 Aussies in the top trot.

☑ Jason Grimson has taken over the training of **Our Vinnie (Vincent)** from Emma Stewart, running second in the Hondo Grattan, as well as Queenslander **Hot And Treacherous**. He has also picked up another potential star with Queenslander **Frankie Ferocious (Captaintreacherous USA)**, who is guaranteed a start in the Chariots of Fire following his impressive win in the Group 2 4YO Bonanza. Not good news for anyone else for Grimson to say that Frankie is the fastest pacer he has trained.

☑ Another first crop sire is on the winners list – **Poster Boy (Somebeachsomewhere USA)** joins **The Storm Inside (Rocknroll Hanover USA)**, with **Captain Crunch USA (Captaintreacherous USA)** having a winner in New Zealand.

☑ Top trainer David Aitken is leaving Victoria for NSW, but not before he set up his champion 8yo **Max Delight (Bettors Delight USA)** to reach \$1 million after the Shepparton Cup setback. Max Delight ran a superb 3rd in the Hunter Cup and a terrific second in the Cranbourne Cup to reach his \$1,007,424 in stakes. With such good breeding it's a pity he is a gelding.

☑ Natalie Rasmussen has returned to driving full time but is no longer part of the Purdon stable, although she will continue to drive for and assist the father son team. Natalie is the likely driver for 8yo star NZ trotter **Oscar Bonavena (Majestic Son CA)** in the \$575,000 TAB Trot, with two recent impressive wins

☑ **Missed The Truth (Somebeachsomewhere)**, with Cameron Hart on board is the only starter with a chance at the NSW Carnival of Cups Bonus if he wins the Albury Cup race and follows that with the win at Goulburn. There is a \$300,000 bonus for the horse that wins three cups, with Missed The Truth winning the Tamworth City Cup on 26 January.

☑ The starters for the \$1.25 million Nullarbor at Gloucester Park on 19 April are also starting to line up, with last years runner up **Spirit Of St Louis NZ (Sweet Lou USA)** 1:48.2 \$1,342,326 confirmed for Summit Bloodstock and Aaron Bain Racing. Louis will leave Australia after this race to do his racing in the US. We wish him well. Also confirmed is WA champion **Magnificent Storm (American Ideal USA)** for the Ladbrokes/Entain Slot. The race is a week after The Race by Grins so those starters wont be in Perth for the Nullarbor.



☑ Having a champion can be fleeting – enjoy the moments. Fortunately inaugural Eureka winner **Encipher (Captaintreacherous USA)** 1:51.8 \$1.6 million appears to have come through her surgery for a spiral fracture which occurred during the running of her first up win in the \$75,000 Ladyship Cup at Melton on 27 January.

☑ The Murriny Final Report has been released and things should start to move from here, with a new stewards panel and show cause notices in operation. Other matters, like the National Rating System as it applies in Tasmania are also likely to be addressed at some time. For a novel definitely worth reading – [click here](#)

✦ Vale a great lady, 33yo **Chaangerr (Vance Hanover)**. A winner of \$75,000 herself (quite a bit of money in her day) and good enough to be named New Zealand 4YO Pacing Mare of the Year. Her legacy is through her progeny as the dam of champion **Changeover (In The Pocket USA)** 1:53.4 \$2.4 million, **Change Stride** 1:50 \$763,000 and 9 other winners taking her to 6th on the all-time list of New Zealand broodmares whose progeny have won more than 100 races. One of her daughters is the dam of 3 times Group 1 winner **One Change (Bettors Delight USA)** 1:51.1 \$661,000. Her family is exceptional – she is a full sister to 9 times Group 1 winner **Chokin** \$1.8 million in stakes (NZ Trotting Cup, two Auckland Cups, two Miracle Miles, Victoria Cup, etc), and others close up in the family include multiple Group 1 winners **Anvil Vance** and **Fly Like An Eagle**.

RECENT MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- ♣ The lights are finally on at Bunbury
- ♣ Good to see the transferring of skills from other equestrian pursuits into harness racing with juniors Lachlan Kennelly and Kylah Madden using their experience to gain experience
- ♣ You really cant catch up if the leader is doing a 54.4 final half, no matter how good you are
- ♣ Never Ending off to the Eureka for Rob Watson's Soho Standardbreds – brilliant!
- ♣ Celebrating excellence - a Westbred race night in September featuring the 2yo and 3yo Westbred Classic Finals! Get ready for the Heats on 20 August!



BREEDER OF THE MONTH – January 2024

The Breeder of the Month award goes to a different WA bred horse each month. Previous (horse) winners are not eligible for later WA Breeder of the Month awards. You must be a WASBA member to win a Breeder of the Month Award. All other breeding awards are open to all WA breeders.

Our breeder of the month is an owner breeder trainer of a lightly raced mare whose 8 starts this time in have been very productive, with over \$58,000 in stakes to the end of January. **Congratulations** to Debra Lewis, our **Breeder of the Month** for **January 2024**, as the breeder owner trainer of 6yo mare **Rumour Has It (Roll With Joe USA)** out of Roustabout NZ by **Christian Cullen NZ** who started her most recent campaign in December 2023 with two stylish metropolitan wins and followed those with two wins and a place from her next 4 starts including a Heat of the Nights of Thunder in 1:53.7.



Chris Lewis on board Rumour Has It for the first of her January wins

Rumour Has It is the 4th winner from her dam **Roustabout NZ (Christian Cullen NZ)** 1:59.5 4 wins \$33,171 including 2 wins in WA. Other winners include **Arousing (Western Terror USA)** 1:56.6 \$119,663 and **Loving You (Art Major USA)** 1:55.7 \$97,229. Roustabout NZ is a half sister to **Pelusiatic NZ (Washington VC)** 1:53.3

\$97,961. Roustabout's granddam Impressionable (Talk About Class USA) is a full sister to the granddam of **Soho Wall Street (Four Strazzz Shark USA)** 1:49.3 \$572,133. Other winners from the family include **Run For Mercy (Pet Rock USA)** 1:54.7 \$109,721, **Brooklyn Bridge (Sweet Lou USA)** 1:51.7 \$130,708 and Group 1 2YO Triad winner **Rylee Rhayne Bow (Art Major USA)** 1:55 \$114,027.

Congratulations to **Rumour Has It** and Debra Lewis.

WINNERS - WA BASED SIREs JANUARY 2024

The first month of the season is often a different world to the previous month. For our current month there was an increase in the number of Westsired wins (to 41) and winners (to 35) compared to January 2023, which is a good start to the season. Starting the season with wings was **Fly Like An Eagle** with 10 winners of 12 races, next **Follow The Stars** (8 winners, 10 wins) then **Advance Attack NZ** (6 winners, 7 wins) and **Rock N Roll World USA** with 4 individual winners.

There were also 6 dual winners for the month – Fly Like An Eagle represented by **Koolbardi Navajo** and **Travelban**, Follow The Stars with **Briggs On Bond** and **Motor On Lilly**, Advance Attack NZ with **Axle Rocks** and Rich And Spoilt with **Heez Good As Gold**.

There were 6 first time starters collecting their \$500 first start Bonus and 8 first time winners collecting the First Win Bonus – 2yo **Noble Thorondor** (Fly Like An Eagle), 3yo **Kurious Boy** and **Pushbutton Rock** (both Rock N Roll World USA), 4yos **Briggs On Bond** (who won twice), **Chaco Eagle** (Fly Like An Eagle), **The Prototype** (P Forty Seven USA), **This Time Jacko** (Franco Jamar NZ) and 8yo **Lizzie Thorpe** (Advance Attack NZ), which means you are never too old to win.

Congratulations to all the first time starters and first time winners.

The Westbred Bonus payments (including First Win and First Start) for January 2024 were \$127,000, which is 12% higher than the same month last year. A good start.

A very light month for metropolitan level races (34), with no Westsired winners on those nights. Everyone did get to go home earlier though!

WESTBRED WINNERS – JANUARY 2024

In good news (yes there always is some) the Bonus payments for January 2024 were \$251,000, which is \$92,000 more than January 2023.

In a repeat of December 2023, there were 106 individual Westbred winners in January 2024. They were the winners of 122 races (65.2%). Not quite as good as January 2023 (69.2%) but it is the second highest January figure in percentage terms in the last 10 years.

There were 43 sires represented by winning Westbreds, with no dominant winner amongst the outside stallions. Of these, **Rock N Roll Heaven USA** produced 5 winners of 5 races and 4 stallions (**A Rocknroll Dance USA**, **Art Major USA**, **Foreclosure NZ** and **Sweet Lou USA**) producing 4 individual winners each.

Overall there were 12 first time Westbred starters. Other than the 8 Westsired there were 10 first time winners – 2yos **Reinette** (Vincent) and **Ruby Lou** (Sweet Lou USA), 3yos **Princess Mickayla** (Art Major USA), **Bundegi Blue** (Fear The Dragon USA) and **Rock Rosie Rock** (Rock N Roll Heaven USA) 4yos **Justmorebling** (Captaintreacherous USA), **Penthouse** (Highview Tommy NZ) and **Quintessence** (Huntsville USA), 5yo trotter **Love You Lucy** (Love You FRA) and 8yo **Chalky White** (Rock N Roll Heaven USA).

There were also 14 multiple winners. Excluding Westsired previously mentioned the dual winners were **Minor Catastrophe** (American Ideal USA), **Montego** (Art Major USA), **Im Spiderman** (Auckland Reactor NZ), **Rising Spirit** (Betting Line USA), **Gov Starzzz** (Four Starzzz Shark CA), **Rumour Has It** (Roll With Joe USA) and **Showpony** (Sweet Lou USA). In a rare occurrence, **Soho Santorini** (Sunshine Beach USA) won 4 times in the month, hitting a purple patch with 3 wins at Pinjarra and a metropolitan level win at Gloucester Park.

Westbreds won all the 2yo races (3) and 3yo races (10) run in January 2024. Eight of the 9 2yo starters and 35 of the 38 3yo starters were Westbred. 2yo starters were well down on January 2023 but 3yo starters were

higher this year. If you have been watching trials, you will see that the 2yos are really flooding through in readiness for the Sales Classics so expect the 2yo starters in particular to rocket up in February.

The number of 4yo and over starters (550) declined compared to January 2023 (562) but the downturn expected with the move away from January for the Fremantle Cup and WA Pacing Cup and aspiring contenders not needing to be ready. The number of Westbred runners remained relatively steady.

There were 11 races restricted to 4yo or 4yo and over - a drop of 3 compared to January 2023 – with 4 of the races being for maidens. In total, there were 174 races that 4yo and over horses were eligible to run in, winning 172 (108 Westbred) of the races. This included 51 wins by 4yos (33 Westbred), 52 by 5yos (35 Westbred), 30 (21 Westbred) by 6yos, 19 (9 Westbred) by 7yos, 8 (6 Westbred) by 8yos and an amazing 12 (4 Westbred) wins by horses older than 8yo. The oldest winners racing were both Westbreds – 12yo Dwayne (Real Desire USA) at Busselton and 11yo Cavalry Call (Tintin In America NZ) at Northam.

Premium meetings at Gloucester Park in January consisted of 34 races, one of the lowest tallies. Westbreds won 15 of these races, including 4 wins by fillies and mares. The remaining 10 winners of 11 races were:

◆ **4yo All Is Well - Foreclosure (NZ) o/o Cap In Hand (Auckland Reactor NZ)** breeders S & N Dickson Pty Ltd. All Is Well is going very well. \$61,000 last season and more to come this season. Won in December and a week later started 2nd favourite from 6, settled 4 back and 3rd last in the moving line, quick lead but slow first half, led up the 3 wide line with a lap to go, swept up to be a nose back at the 400m with the pace quickening, a half length back at the top of the straight and a battle royal down the straight to just get the win in the \$30,000 The Warwick by a half head in 1:58.0, last qtrs 28.9 and 27.4. Very apt win by a horse owned and trained by Kat Warwick;



◆ **6yo I feel Sikdarl - Sportswriter USA o/o Millwood Kansas NZ (Bettors Delight USA)**, breeders Rob, John and Kevin Gartrell, Greg Bond, Andrew Foster, Craig Hampson. A place and a win in December before 2 unplaced runs. Then started 2nd favourite from the prized 1 barrier, fought to hold the lead in a super quick 35.7 lead, a breather in the 1st qtr before even time 2nd qtr, slick 3rd qtr and travelling well at the 400m, a length clear coming off the back and into the straight, getting caught but the race was over and a tough and well deserved win in the \$21,000 Pace by 1.8m in 1:56.6, last qtrs 27.8 and 29.4;



◆ **8yo Machlani - Mach Three CA o/o Leilani Lombo (Million To One USA)**, breeder Kevin and Annette Charles, A change of trainer in December and looking for his first win since August 2022 but a good run last start. Started on the 4th line of betting from 4, moved out quickly to take the race lead, good lead time and just worse than even time next half, going well down the back, went for a sprint at the 400m to get a decent gap coming into the straight and raced away to win the \$9,360 L5 by 11.2m in a solid 1:56.9, last qtrs 28.7 and a quick 27.5;

◆ **6yo entire Machnificent – Mach Three CA o/o Honorable Daughter (Northern Luck CA)** breeder Allwood Stud Farm. Over \$250,000 in earnings and having an impressive campaign again. Won in November, another two wins in December before an unplaced run then started from 1 as favourite, challenged for the lead briefly but not about to give it up over the 1730m sprint, solid pace throughout, quicker still down the back and humming along at the 400m under hands, sprinted away at the top of the straight and on to a convincing win in the \$31,000 Members Sprint FFA by 5.5m in 1:53.2, last qtrs 28.9, 28.3 and 27.6;



Another win for Chris Lewis with Machnificent

- ◆ **7yo Middlepage - Tintin In America NZ o/o Thats The Spirit NZ (Pacific Rocket USA)**, breeder Kevin and Annette Charles, Last win in May 2023 but a very good performer with nearly \$170,000 in the bank. Started favourite from 5, a very measured start and strode to the lead after 200m in a quickish lead before a slow first qtr, quickening up heading to the back but definitely not sizzling, a length clear at the 400m and well in control, striding away down the straight under rein "in a doddle" and an easy win in the \$19,000 L5 by 6m in 1:58.6, last qtr 28.7;
- ◆ **6yo Rascal - Captaintreacherous (USA) o/o Straittothehilton (Rich And Spoilt)**, owner breeders Tom Erceg, Kat Warwick, Another good performer for the Kat Warwick stable. Been on a break since September 2023, trialled in December then 2nd up started favourite from 1, quick out before slowing considerably in the lead and first qtr, quicker 2nd qtr before a Suvaljko special in the 3rd qtr, had them all stretching out round the bend, skipped away at the 100m and a solid win in the \$21,000 L5 Pace by 1.4m in 1:58.0, last qtrs 27.9 and 28.3
- ◆ **5yo Showpony - Sweet Lou USA o/o Bethany Aitch (Four Starzzz Shark CA)**, breeder Nathan Turvey, David Young, Tracey Sermon and Peter Ensel, Former Breeder of the Month winner in good form. Lightly raced 5yo won in December at Pinjarra then started 2nd favourite from 2 over the 1730m journey, fast out to hold the lead under challenge, fast first qtr and under even time next half, sprinted away down the back to be 2 lengths clear at the 400m, well clear into the straight and scooted away down the straight to win the \$9,360 Pace by 16m in 1:54.0, last qtrs 29.1 and 28.4. Rocked up a fortnight later again from 2 and again over 1730m, started favourite, pushed through to get the lead and now very hard to beat over the sprint journey, quick first qtr, a breather in the second, travelling well down the back clear at the 400m and into the straight, running away down the straight to win the \$21,000 L7/9 by 5.4m in 1:54.2, last qtrs 28.5, 30.5 and 28.3 for his 3rd consecutive win.
- ◆ **5yo Soho Santorini - Sunshine Beach USA o/o Hannah Isabella (Jeremes Jet USA)**, breeder Steve Johnson, Lightly raced 5yo after 15 months off between 3 and 4. Catching up for lost time, hit his straps in January with 3 Pinjarra wins then a second place. Nest up started from 2, began quick and straight to the front before slowing down for a leisurely lead and first qtr, quickened up with a change up front in the moving line, very quick down the back but still 3m clear at the 400m, challengers coming on the turn for home but the inside running matters, held the field well to win the \$21,000 L7/9 by 3.3m in 1:56.7, last qtrs 27.2 and 28.6;
- ◆ **6yo Talks Up A Storm - Artspeak USA o/o Typhoon Tan NZ (Live Or Die USA)**, breeder the late Harry Capararo, Excellent finish to last season with \$93,000 in earnings. Placed earlier in the month then started favourite from 4, raced out to burst to the front in a quick lead, slow first qtr before quicker 2nd qtr with the breeze horse the old champ Vultan Tin racing keenly to be technically leading for stages, back in front and striding out well at the 400m, led into the straight but under strong attack from another old stager but the post was close enough to win the \$31,000 FFA by a half neck in 1:56.2, last qtrs 28 and 28.7; and
- ◆ **7yo Thomson Bay - Mr Feelgood USA o/o Geordie Bay (Rich And Spoilt)**, breeder Peter King, Barbara Pellick, M King, P King, Last win was in October and due for a change of luck. Started favourite from 1 over the 1730m, straight to the lead, better than even time first half, very slick 3rd qtr was a winning move, 2 lengths clear into the straight and although tiring had enough left to win the \$21,000 L5 by a neck in a lifetime best 1:53.1, last qtrs 27.6 and 28.2.

With the Fremantle Cup moving out from January (won by Mighty Ronaldo last year) to April the stakes earned overall were lower in January 2024 compared to January last year. However, it's still a solid \$1.25 million (61.3% of stakes). Adding in the bonuses for both months, the difference between (lower) total stakes for Westbreds in January 2024 versus last year was the Fremantle Cup winner's stakes.

How did the FILLIES AND MARES GO (January 2024)

January 2024 (53 winners of 60 races) produced similar results to the equivalent month in 2023 (50 winners of 62 races). It represents 32.1% of the available (187) races and is maintaining the level we want to see as a good starting point. The wins were split equally between fillies/mares races (30) and open races.

Wins included 37 (29 Westbred) wins at the \$9,000 level, and 8 (4 Westbred) metropolitan, FFA or Group level races. Total stakes paid to fillies and mares in January 2024 was \$611,000 (30.1% of stakes) with Westbred fillies and mares earning \$593,000 including Bonuses –\$75,000 more than January 2023.

Local sire Fly Like an Eagle was on top for the month with 4 winners of 5 races for the girls, but a very close month with 27 different sires represented by filly/mare winners and Sweet Lou USA, Follow the Stars and Vincent close behind Fly Like An Eagle.

Eleven of the 18 first time winners were fillies or mares – so a good time of year to be racing for a bonus! Included were 2yo fillies **Reinette** (Vincent) and **Ruby Lou** (Sweet Lou) who also collected first start bonuses, 3yos **Princess Mickayla** (Art Major USA), **Rock Rosie Rock** (Rock N Roll Heaven USA), **Pushbutton Rock** (Rock N Roll World USA), 4yos **Justmorebling** (Captaintreacherous USA), **Penthouse** (Highview Tommy NZ), **Quintessence** (Huntsville USA), **The Prototype** (P Forty Seven USA), 5yo **Love You Lucy** (Love You FRA) and 8yo **Lizzie Thorpe** (Advance Attack NZ).

There were 5 dual winning Westbred fillies/mares in January 2024 – **Minor Catastrophe** (American Ideal USA), **Montego** (Art Major USA), **Koolbardi Navajo** (Fly Like An Eagle), **Motor On Lilly** (Follow The Stars) and **Rumour Has It** (Roll With Joe USA) with her metropolitan wins. NZ 4yo Zara Tindall (Vincent) had country wins.

Races for fillies in January 2024:

- 2YO races - fillies won 2 (both open) of the 3 2yo races. All filly starters were Westbred
- 3YO races – fillies won 5 (including 3 open) of the 10 3yo races, as well as a 3yo and over fillies and mares.

Fifty eight per cent of 3yo starters were fillies and 21 of the 22 3yo fillies that started were Westbred. We are progressing our request for a more visible race program for 2yos and 3yos to enable owners and trainers to plan their racing activities.

There were 52 wins by mares in January 2024, which is a significant improvement over the previous month and only slightly lower than January 2023. This was matched by a slight drop in the number of mares starting in January 2023 (194) to January 2024 (185). Mares won 5 of the 11 races for 4YO and over. Two thirds of the race wins by mares were in races with stakes of at least \$9,360.

Fillies and mares won 8 of the 34 (23.5%) races run at Gloucester Park on Friday nights, which is disappointing following such a good month in December. However, the limited number of races run did impact the options for fillies and mares. Winners included 5yo mares **Mighthavtime NZ (Betterthancheddar USA)** who won a \$21,000 Fillies and Mares and **Steno (Sweet Lou USA)** won a \$27,000 Fillies and Mares FFA, with both featured last month as 4yos. 6yo **Three Rumours NZ (Mach Three CA)** won a \$27,000 Fillies and Mares FFA and 7yo **Nullabor Navajo (Betterthancheddar USA)** won a \$19,000 L5 Open.

The remaining 3 WA bred winners of 4 races were:


♥ 5yo **Taking The Miki - Always B Miki USA** o/o **All American Dream (Bettors Delight USA)**, breeder Patrician Park, Resumed in October to win the \$50,000 The Schrader for Fillies and Mares but not much luck since. Placed late December after breezing then started favourite from 5, driven out hard to take the race lead after a solid lead, better than even time first half, sprinted down the back, 2 lengths clear at the 400m and moving away, raced away to the turn and an easy win for this top class mare in the \$19,000 Pace by 15.3m in 1:55.1, last qtrs 28.3 and 27.9;



Chris Voak coasting home with Taking The Miki

♥ 5yo **Rumour Has It – Roll With Joe** o/o **Roustabout NZ (Christian Cullen NZ)**, owner breeder Debra Lewis. Resumed in December for 2 metropolitan wins, just missed a place next before stepping out as favourite from 1 in the small but classy field, unchallenged to lead, travelling comfortably and quickened up in the 2nd qtr, quicker again in the 3rd qtr but still under hold, under challenge from Three Rumours NZ coming off the back and the win looked chancy but fought back to win the \$23,000 Fillies and Mares by a half head in 1:57, last qtrs 28.5 and very slick 27 flat. Next up it was Three Rumours turning the tables to win the Fillies and Mares FFA, but a week later it was the Nights of Thunder Heats with

Rumour Has It having the form to start favourite from 2. Quick out but not quick enough and had to settle for the breeze after a very competitive 27.3 first qtr with 3 across the track, even time next half after the early work, a length in front at the 400m after overcoming the tiring leader, nearly 2 lengths clear into the straight and although noticeably tiring - and rightly so - held on for a good win by a head in the \$23,000 Nights of Thunder Heat in a lifetime best 1:53.7, last qtrs 29 and 29.7

♥  2yo **Water Lou - Sweet Lou USA o/o Living Hei (Live Or Die USA)** breeders KTC Bloodstock, Kevin and Annette Charles. Lovely filly starting the season brilliantly. Not surprisingly started a short priced favourite from 1, not challenged for the lead so went as fast as she needed in the single file field, equally slow first half, got a flat tyre leaving the front straight the last time, another slow qtr with Water Lou going steadily, gently driven over the last lap and good enough to win the \$21,000 3YO Fillies by 2m in 2:04.3, last qtr 27.6 with a flat. Her 9th win from 12 lifetime starts.

The number of fillies and mares racing in January 2024, thanks to an increase by 10 in the number of 3yo fillies, was just one less than the same month last year. For January, Westbreds provided 100% of 2yo fillies, 95% of 3yo fillies and 81% of the racing mares. Fillies and mares contributed 35.5% of overall starters.

SUPPORT THE COMPANIES THAT SUPPORT YOU

We thank our sponsors for their support and contribution to our industry. They make it possible for us to provide incentives such as stakes, awards, rugs, trophies, garlands and breeding vouchers. They also assist greatly with donations for rehoming. Please support your sponsors by purchasing their goods and services.

Alabar Farms, Allwood Stud Farm, Woodlands Stud and Gloucester Park are our great long term supporters. **Australian Pacing Gold (APG), Pacing WA, KTC Bloodstock, PSC Bloodstock Services, Australian Premium Feeds and Westbred Pacing,** are welcome additions.

All our sponsors, including those who assisted us on our Breeders Stakes Night are shown next. For website information and more contact details, go to the Breeding News Page of our website www.wasba.com.au :

- | | |
|---|--|
| ✓ Alabar Farms (03) 5859 2201; | ✓ Medowie Lodge 0429 817 199 |
| ✓ Allwood Stud Farm, Bullsbrook 9571 3777; | ✓ Milne Feeds, Welshpool 9351 0700; |
| ✓ Australian Premium Feeds 0448 448 588 | ✓ Northern Rivers Equine (03) 5852 2845; |
| ✓ Australian Pacing Gold (03) 5275 1999; | ✓ PSC Bloodstock Services, 0413 056 364 |
| ✓ Budget Stockfeeds, Oakford 9397 1659; | ✓ Ramsays Horse Transport, 9277 5779; |
| ✓ Cobbity Equine Farm, 0417 621 050; | ✓ Soho Standardbreds 0413 923 333 |
| ✓ KTC Bloodstock 0413 669 474; | ✓ Westbred Pacing 0435 059 777; |
| ✓ Larkhill Vets Port Kennedy 9295 3838; | ✓ Woodlands Stud (freecall) 1800 615 143; |

YOUR COMMITTEE

If you have a genuine interest in promoting breeding and harness racing in WA, have been a financial member for at least one full calendar year and have relevant experience and time to contribute to a Committee position involving meetings and undertaking various projects, please forward a brief profile to the WASBA Secretary.

President	Jeanine Diederich	M: 0407 383 256	Committee	Pat Borg	M: 0433 331 087
Vice President and Treasurer	Howard King	M: 0418 207 079	Committee	Joe Schaper	M: 0409 101 540
Secretary		M: 0447 053 040 info@wasba.com.au	Committee	Joy Fletcher	M 0417 980 302
			Committee	Luke Tabbakh	M 0423 299 240
Committee	Michael Holtham	M: 0421 331 586	Committee	Wayne Morrision	M 0416 093 294
Committee	Peter McAllister	M: 0419 464 842	Committee	John Coffey	M: 0418 500 211

Don't forget to check out the facebook page and website from time to time for news, breeding information, links to various items of interest and contact information. The WASBA website is www.wasba.com.au

And Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WesternAustralianStandardbred BreedersAssociation>



The WASBA AGM (for the 12 months ending 31 August 2023) was held on **Friday 24 November 2023**.

The **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** has been scheduled for **28 February 2024**. Meetings are scheduled monthly on the last Wednesday of each month, except on specific occasions and over the Christmas New Year period. If you would like to raise any issues or make comment, contact a Committee member or:

- Send an email to info@wasba.com.au .
- Write to WASBA at PO Box 3237 EAST PERTH WA 6892.
- OR you can **PM us on facebook** or use **Messenger** to get in touch.

Bank Details for payment of Membership and other:
Bank: Westpac; BSB 036 043; Account Number 129810

Go Harness racing!