

HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



March 2008

First Winner for Elusive City

Aqaleem (NZ) (Elusive City) notched up the first victory for his sire, Elusive City (USA) (Elusive Quality) with a three-and-a-half length win over 1300m at Bendigo toward the end of February.

Trained by David Hayes, the two-year-old colt was a \$150,000 purchase by international bloodstock agent Angus Gold for Shadwell Australia. Bred and sold by Trelawney Stud, Aqaleem is out of Carmel Valley (Aus) (Last Tycoon) and is a half brother to Group One-winner Hill Of Grace (NZ) (Zabeel).

"It is fantastic to get Elusive City's first winner on the board," said Mark Chitty of Haunui Farm. "To get a result in Australia is very pleasing and it's also apt that Trelawney Stud should be the breeders of his first winner," said Mark.

Elusive City, the Champion 2YO of Europe of his year and winner of the Group One Prix Morny, is owned in the southern hemisphere by a partnership which includes

Cambridge Stud, Fairdale Stud, Haunui Farm and Trelawney Stud. He stood his first two seasons at Trelawney Stud and in 2006, was transferred to stand at Haunui Farm.

Elusive City's first crop of yearlings were highly sought after in 2007 with ten selling for over \$100,000 and a top price of \$170,000 both in New Zealand and Australia whilst his second crop featured three six figure yearlings – all fillies. "The impact he made in the sale ring last year was quite remarkable," said Mark. "The major factor coming through from buyers was that he "typed" his yearlings and in the yearling market, that can be quite significant," he said. "His first crop obviously made an impression as buyers were all prepared to view his yearlings and the results speak for themselves," he said. "He has a number of horses due to trial and race over the next few months and we're looking forward to more results like this – Aqaleem is just the start," said Mark.

Elusive City covered 90 mares at Haunui Farm last season and has returned to the Irish National Stud to begin his fourth Northern Hemisphere season.



ELUSIVE CITY

Mission Critical Adds Name to Group One Graduates

Yet another Group One winner can be added to the Haunui Graduates table with the victory of Mission Critical (Aus) (Fantastic Light) in the Group One WRC Whakanui International Stakes (2000m) at Te Rapa in early February leaving six-time Group One-winner Sir Slick (NZ) (Volksraad) in his wake.

Bred by Darley, Australia,

Mission Critical was sent to New Zealand as a youngster to undertake his yearling preparation at Haunui Farm and was sold on behalf of Darley at the 2006 Karaka Premier Sale.

Purchased by Paul Moroney for \$75,000, Mission Critical was already stakes placed before the Whakanui, finishing second in the Group

Three WRC Wellington Stakes (1600m).

Mission Critical's win over the older horses made him Group One Graduate number eight for Haunui Farm over the last three years joining the likes of Mikki Street (NZ) (Cape Cross), Gallic (NZ) (Zabeel), Art Success (NZ) (Pentire), Perlin (NZ) (Carnegie), Railings

(Canny Lad) and My Royal Captain (NZ) (Zabeel).

"We have enjoyed some great success over the last three years," said Mark. "We're very pleased to be involved with Darley and to sell their yearlings in New Zealand and hopefully, there will be more Group One-winners to come from the combination," he said.

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Onceuponatime Nails Group Three Guineas

Haunui graduate Onceuponatime (NZ) (Van Nistelrooy) erased the frustrations of three close seconds in Singapore Group races with a convincing victory in the \$200,000 SIN-G3 Singapore Guineas (1600m) on the 29th of February.

After showing a tendency to lay in during the all important final stages of his races, trainer David Hill added the winkers to Onceuponatime this start in a move that proved successful to say the least.

Settled toward the rear of the field by jockey Danny Beasley, Onceuponatime was taken to the outside in the run home hitting the lead at the 200m mark and quickly put paid to his rivals running out a very comfortable winner. "His acceleration is enormous," said Danny Beasley after the race.

After the race, trainer David Hill hinted that Onceuponatime would get a tilt at the Group One Singapore Airlines International Cup (2000m) that will be run in May but

stated that his main aim remains the Singapore Derby next year.

"Onceuponatime looks to be a very serious racehorse," said Mark Chitty of Haunui Farm. "He is obviously one of the best, if not the best, of his age group in Singapore and he has already shown he is competitive against the older horses – he's beaten them," he said.

"Onceuponatime has done a lot for his sire, Van Nistelrooy, a horse that we were

involved in bringing to New Zealand and he is certainly going a long way to making the mare as well," said Mark.

Onceuponatime was bred by Haunui Farm and Jim Otway and was sold at the 2006 NZB Ready-to-Run Sale for \$60,000. The fourth foal out of the Group Two- winner Scarlet Runner (NZ) (Kingdom Bay), he has a weanling half sister by Pins (Aus) (Snippets) and the mare is currently in foal to Haunui resident stallion Don Eduardo.

Sydney Yearling Draft Shaping Up Nicely

With Karaka out of the way and the recently completed Carnival Sale another sale ticked off the calendar, our focus now swings firmly to our draft of eight yearlings for the Inglis Easter Yearling Sale in April.

Now, some of you could be forgiven for being a little confused as Easter is in March this year however, William Inglis and Son took the decision to move the Easter Yearling Sale from the traditional Easter date due to the outbreak of Equine Influenza in August.

Haunui will offer a draft of eight yearlings, three in the first session of the sale, and five in the newly introduced second session.

Headlining the Haunui draft is a colt by Redoute's Choice (Aus) (Danahill) out of Group One winner Coogee Walk (NZ) (Success Express). A brother to Group Three-winner and Group One performer Activation (NZ) (Zabeel) he is sure to be very

busy in the days leading into the sale.

Bred and owned by Marie Leicester, he could well provide another highlight in the history of Haunui at yearling sales.

Lot 93 is a Dehere (USA) (Deputy Minister) filly out of Eire Hostess (NZ) (O'Reilly). A strong, black filly, she is the first foal of stakes winner Eire Hostess (NZ) (O'Reilly).

The final Lot to be offered by Haunui at the first session of the sale will be Lot 218, a Stravinsky (USA) (Nureyev) filly out of Luna Scene (NZ) (Langfuhr) - a half sister to stakes winner Andrella (Aus) (Dehere). With the success Stravinsky fillies have achieved on both sides of the Tasman of late, she is sure to prove popular among buyers.

Haunui's draft for the second session features two colts, both by One Cool Cat (USA) (Storm Cat) and three fillies.

Lot 503, a colt, is the first foal out of Java Moon (USA)

(Thunder Gulch) and is from the family of Champion Older Horse of Europe Doyen (GB) (Sadler's Wells) and Champion three-year-old filly Miss Finland (Aus) (Redoute's Choice).

Lot 590 is a Pins (Aus) (Snippets) filly out of Trebuchet (NZ) (Bigstone) that we are selling in conjunction with Cathy Franich. A half sister to two winners, she is also a half sister to promising two-year-old colt Storm The Castle (NZ) (Elusive City) who was a \$170,000 purchase by the David Hayes stable at the 2007 Magic Millions Yearling Sale.

Lot 604 is a One Cool Cat colt out of Zafonique (NZ) (Bigstone), the third foal out of a full sister to Group One winner Lady Mulan (NZ) (Bigstone) owned by Keryn and Brenda Corrigan.

The second filly on offer in the second session is another bred and owned by Marie Leicester. By Danzero (Aus) (Danahill) she is out of

Diva Belle (NZ) (Carnegie), a daughter of multiple Group-winner Tri Belle (NZ) (Sir Tristram).

The final lot to be offered by Haunui will be Lot 676, a Fastnet Rock (Aus) (Danahill) filly out of Fleet Marguerite (USA) (Gulch), the dam of Group Three Waikato Guineas-winner Blimey O'Reilly (NZ) (O'Reilly) and stakes performer Strategy (Aus) (Danahill).

"It is certainly a nice draft of yearlings to be offering," said Mark Chitty. "The three yearlings in the first session are all outstanding types and have the pedigrees to attract some pretty strong interest," he said. "We have five nice yearlings in the second session as well and while it's the first time the Easter Sale has had two sessions, I'm sure it will be a success, especially with the results that we've seen in Australia so far," he said.

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Weaning Well Underway

You might think that after the yearling sales, there is a bit of down time—well, unfortunately there's not.

Straight after Karaka, the handling of the foals started and to date, 30 foals have already been handled, branded and weaned.

"I prefer to get the foals off the mares a little earlier especially with the very dry weather we have just encountered," said Mark. "It gives us the opportunity to get them moving forward a lot faster and also gives the mares a good break before

the new breeding season," says Mark.

"We carried out our final foal assessments after the yearling sales so we know exactly where we are at moving forward to 2009," he said.

Foal handling is a very important time in a young thoroughbred's life, done properly, and you will have very few problems with your foal, done incorrectly, and there will be problems for the rest of that foal's life.

Kiwinsky Stakes Placed

Another member of the "Belle" family has gained black type, this time in South Africa.

Four-year-old Kiwinsky (NZ) (Stravinsky) has put together some solid performances in recent times posting two wins in a row before running third in the Listed Turffontein Wolf Power Handicap (1600m).

Bred by Marie Leicester, Kiwinsky is out of the three-time winner Empress Belle (NZ) (Sir Tristram) and is a half brother to the stakes performers Desert Rain (NZ)

(Honor Grades) and Housemaster (NZ) (Housebuster) and is a full brother to talented filly and Group One performer Tsarina Belle (NZ) (Stravinsky).

Kiwinsky was sold by Haunui at the 2005 Magic Millions Premier yearling sale for \$95,000 where he was purchased by World Wide Bloodstock.

Farewell to Luke

After four years at Haunui Farm, Yearling and Breaking In Manager Luke Geddes is heading back home to Australia.

Luke has been offered the opportunity to be involved in the set-up and management of a new thoroughbred facility near his hometown in New South Wales.

"It is a great opportunity for Luke to take another step forward in the thoroughbred industry and we certainly wish him the very best of luck," said Mark.

"It is certainly a loss for us as Luke was not only a great horseman, but his management of the yearlings and staff was excellent," said Mark.

"In saying that, we are very

lucky to have the likes of Dane Trompert and Gavin Pickford, two senior members of staff that will help to make the transition a lot easier," said Mark. "They have both been working at Haunui for a number of years and know the systems and procedures very well so it is certainly a huge benefit to have the likes of them on board," he said.

We are currently in the process of sourcing a Yearling Manager and we look forward to introducing a new member of the Haunui team in next month's newsletter.

"We would like to wish Luke, his wife Victoria and their two children, Lily and Scarlet, all the best in Australia," said Mark, "and I'm sure they will

go with the best wishes of many of our clients as well," he said.



Luke Geddes

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Karaka 2008 an Outstanding Success for Haunui

Karaka 2008 surpassed all expectations with records shattered left, right and, centre.

Haunui offered a total of 32 yearlings across the entire sale and remarkably, 31 of them were sold. "To sell 31 of 32 yearlings was a phenomenal result, we actually had four pass in through the ring and three of them were sold literally within a half an hour of them going through the ring," said Mark.

The Premier session saw three fillies leading the way for the Haunui draft, the top price coming the way of Lot 324, a half sister to Valpolicella (NZ) (Red Ransom) by Zabeel (NZ) (Sir Tristram). She was purchased for \$525,000 by William Inglis as agent for Bob Scarborough.

"She was a standout filly throughout the preparation and we thought she would make nice money," said Mark. "She was a popular filly on the sales ground and she was looked at by all of the right people," he said. "In fact, she was the top priced Zabeel filly sold at the sale," said Mark. "It was great to get such a good result for ourselves and also our partner in the filly, Cathy Franich," he said.

Another filly, this time by Red Ransom (USA) (Roberto) out of Tully Tango (Aus) (Danehill), was Haunui's second top lot sold to Tim Bodle of Whakanui Stud for

\$300,000. "She was a filly we purchased at the Magic Millions Weanling Sale in June," said Mark. "We purchase two or three weanlings each year and she was certainly another great result for us," he said.

The third headlining filly of the Haunui draft was Lot 200, a Cape Cross (GB) (Green Desert) filly out of the half sister to Foxwood (NZ) (Centaine) in Khun Achara (NZ) (Centro). "She was purchased by some clients from the Magic Millions Sale as well," said Mark. "With the success that Cape Cross continues to have, she was always going to be popular and she just developed into a lovely, strong filly," said Mark. She was purchased by Brian Mayfield-Smith for \$280,000.

Haunui's Premier yearlings sold for an average of \$186,000. "It was certainly a great result given that we didn't really have a headline colt among our draft this year," said Mark. "The quality was definitely there though and it was reflected in the results we achieved," he said.

Haunui sold 12 yearlings at the Select Sale with a top price of \$200,000 for the Van Nistelrooy (USA) (Storm Cat) colt out of Shades Of Silk (Aus) (Thunder Gulch).

Another six figure colt at the Select Sale was Lot 640, a Stravinsky (USA) (Nureyev) colt out of Empress Belle

(NZ) (Sir Tristram). Sold on behalf of Marie Leicester, he was purchased by young Cambridge trainer Trent Busuttin.

Of the fillies, it was a Husonet (USA) (Mr Prospector) filly out of Fibber Magee (NZ) (Zabeel) bred by Don and Rochelle McLaren that provided one of the surprises of the entire sale, fetching \$140,000 to the bid of Grant Pritchard-Gordon under his Badger's Bloodstock Banner.

"Fillies at the Select Sale sold extremely well and this filly did particularly well in the last month leading into Karaka," said Mark.

Haunui averaged \$79,292 in the Select Sale, achieving a 100% clearance rate.

After taking a break from the Festival Sale in 2007, Haunui offered four yearlings at Karaka's third session. With demand still very high for yearlings at the Festival Sale, Haunui averaged \$31,000 for four lots sold, with a top price of \$60,000 paid for Lot 1331, a Don Eduardo colt out of La Buster (NZ) (Housebuster) who was purchased by Australian Bloodstock Agent Robert Roulston.

"Overall, I couldn't have been happier with the sale," said Mark. "Most of our yearlings sold well above what we had budgeted and it was very pleasing to see some of the relationships that have been built through participation in the Australian Trainers Tour

and the South Island/Central Districts Trainers Tour, really coming to fruition," he said.

Karaka 2008 set records for sale aggregate, sale average, sale median whilst the top prices in the Select and Festival sessions were smashed.

Haunui finished sixth overall on total sale average with 31 yearlings sold for an average of just over \$124,000.

"It is great to have Karaka 2008 out of the way and now we look forward to managing our weanlings through to the yearling sales in 2009," says Mark.

"We still have one more yearling sale to go this season, the Sydney Easter Sale and hopefully the results will stack up just as well," he said.



Haunui's Top Lot at Karaka 2008
Lot 324 b f Zabeel—Riesling
\$525,000