

Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate



BRECKON
FARMS



March 2019 Newsletter

Rob Carr - Syndicate Liaison

Mobile (021) 227-6444

Email rob.carr@extra.co.nz

Hi there

Once again, welcome to another monthly newsletter for the Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate. This month there has been further action in both the north and the south, with two of your trotting fillies making appearances at the workouts and trials.

Firstly, **Cheeky Babe** has had a run at the trials and the workouts, winning both her assignments and making good progress along the way. She does look a very nice young trotter and is now set to make her race debut, albeit in a Non Tote race; the first of your fillies to do so ... so what an occasion!!! Cheeky Babe is set to race this Friday, the **15th March**, at **Alexandra Park**. She is in the **Non Tote Race**, timed to start at **5:15pm**, the \$2,000 'Next 2YO Trot Here April 5' (2YO Mobile Trot), over 1700m. Cheeky Babe has drawn **Barrier No.1** in a field of now just 4-runners and is to be driven by Tony Herlihy. After seeing Cheeky Babe perform so well at the workouts, it will be great to see her make her race debut, so ... **GOOD LUCK & GO CHEEKY BABE !!!**

Tailored Elegance has also been making good progress and has also had a workout and trial run. She ran a good 3rd placing the first time out and then just this week on the 13th March she ran a very good 2nd placing, to officially qualify, so **CONGRATULATIONS !!!** She pleased both her driver Tim Williams and co-trainer Mark Purdon very much with this effort and is now scheduled to trial again next week (probably 20th March at Rangiora) and then look to make her race debut on the 29th March, at Addington. I'm sure that will be exciting. I will confirm both these events once details are available.

Ballroom Beauty was impressive in her first workout run on 23rd January, finishing a close-up 3rd placing, but then 2-weeks later was a disappointing 5th placing some 8 lengths from the winner. She was then sent back to Breckon Farms for a spell and is so far doing very well there, which will give her time to strengthen up and get over a possible bug she may have picked up that went through the stable. **On A Roll** has virtually completed her recuperation, after having knee surgery and is just awaiting the final OK from the vet, before she returns to training. Tony continues to be happy with **Monkee Around**, but has advised that she is mentally immature and in the next week he will make an assessment and decide whether she goes to the workouts or she is turned out for a spell to mature a little more mentally. After qualifying on the 2nd February **Dragon Tattoo** was initially going to head to the races, but Brent then decided it was best to send her for a spell instead, so she is now enjoying a 2-3 month break at Breckon Farms.

We are now on the brink of some real action and I'm sure there will be lots of fun and excitement with your first race starter this Friday. I look forward to seeing you at Alexandra Park to cheer Cheeky Babe on, if you can make it along.

Here is the latest information on your horses, so I hope you enjoy the read.

The Fillies.....

Trainer **Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen** :-

Ballroom Beauty (Bettor's Delight / Twist And Twirl)

After qualifying back in November and then having a brief 10-day spell after that, Ballroom Beauty returned to the All Stars Stable to continue her training, in an effort to race as a 2-year-old.

She made good progress and was ready to return to the workouts on the 23rd January, where she went well and ran a good close-up 3rd placing, pleasing her driver Tim Williams.

She was then to return for another run at the workouts two weeks later, on the 7th February, but "was a bit disappointing" in the words of Tim who drove her again. He thought she felt a little weak and hadn't improved like some of the others in the stable.

It was also thought possible that Ballroom Beauty may have picked up a bug that had gone through the barn and affected several of their racehorses, so a spell was considered the best thing to help her get over any bug she may have picked up, as well as give her the chance to strengthen-up and develop.

So, her race debut was not to be this campaign and Ballroom Beauty returned to Breckon Farms for her spell on the 14th February.

Breckon Farms Farm Manager, Scott Yarndley, reported on the 8th March, "They're both [Ballroom Beauty and Dragon Tattoo] looking real happy. They're bouncing around their paddocks like they're out of their skins. All's looking really great."

Ballroom Beauty is scheduled to have about 8 weeks out in the spelling paddock, but Mark Purdon has suggested, "You should leave her in the north after her spell and maybe someone else should have a go with her."

So, Ballroom Beauty will transfer to a northern trainer when she returns to training around mid-April and this is likely to be Brian Hughes, at Ardmore, but this will be confirmed at the time.

On A Roll (Bettor's Delight / Only For You)

On A Roll underwent surgery on her knee on the 5th December, removing bone chips or fragments and was to make a good recovery from what the vet's considered to be a successful operation.

She then had 2 weeks in a box and 2 weeks in a yard, before she was able to go out into the paddock, where she was scheduled to have 2 months out.

On A Roll has now completed her time out and is scheduled to return to training anytime now.

On the 8th March, co-trainer Natalie Rasmussen said, "She's not back yet, but is very close. We are just waiting for Lindsay [the vet] to have a final look at her and give the OK. Then she can come back in."

So, On A Roll will return to training as soon as the vet gives her final OK and as she has been given a good prognosis for a full recovery, it will be interesting to follow her progress through training over the next few months after her return.



Tailored Elegance (Muscle Hill / Classic Armbro)

Tailored Elegance made good progress in her training and in preparation for her to make her debut at the trials she was taken into Addington to do her fast work on the 20th February and was driven by her co-trainer Mark Purdon, where she worked over 1600m in 2:13, home in 63 seconds.

So, Tailored Elegance was to attend the North Canterbury TOA Trials, at Rangiora, on the 27th February.

This was in a 2YO Fillies Mobile Trot, over 2000m, for which there was a Qualifying Time of 2:42.0. She drew Barrier No.3 in a 5-horse field and was to be driven by All Stars Stable Foreman, Hayden Cullen.

Tailored Elegance was about 2 or 3 lengths off them at the start and so was to settle 4-back on the markers, as the runners formed a single file. As they approached the 1600m point, Monkey Maia broke in front of Tailored Elegance, causing her to lose some ground as the front two moved ahead by some 7 lengths.

Tailored Elegance slowly made up the deficit and found the back of the second runner with about 900m to run. She did lose a little ground going down the back the final time and was about 5 lengths off the leader at the 400m pole, but ran on well under a hold in the home straight, to get passed the original leader and finish in 3rd placing.

The winner was Rain Mist And Muscle, in a time of 2:45.4 (MR 2:13.0), with the final 800m completed in 62.3 and the 400m in 30.2.

Hayden said, "She went really good. I was happy with her. All she needs is a bit of practice. She's definitely got the ability. She got a bit lost up behind the mobile. I'm picking those other ones have had a bit of practice already, the way they went up behind the gate. She's got the ability, just a bit of practice, that's all she needs. We'll go again next Tuesday [to the workouts], as they didn't go any time there today."

The following photo was posted on the All Stars Stable website ...



With the caption ...

"TAILORED ELEGANCE RUNNING HOME WELL FOR THIRD IN THE TWO YEAR OLD TROT HEAT. THE TWO AHEAD OF HER WERE ON A MISSION AND RAIN MIST AND MUSCLE WON FOR GAVIN SMITH WITH BEV K'S ONE FROM THE HOPE STABLE AND A DAUGHTER OF PETITE ONE FINISHED STRONGLY BUT TAILORED ELEGANCE WAS DOING ALL THAT WAS ASKED OF HER"

Initially, Tailored Elegance was scheduled to go to the trials again the following Wednesday (6th March), but there was to be a change of plans, with Hayden Cullen advising on the 5th March, "She will now go next Wednesday [13th March], as Mark just changed his mind yesterday. She has come through her run really well and I'm really pleased with her."

So, Tailored Elegance was to attend the North Canterbury TOA Trials, at Rangiora, on the 13th March.

This was in a 2YO Fillies Mobile Trot, over 2000m, with a Qualifying Time required of 2:42.0. Tailored Elegance drew out at Barrier No.6 in a 7-horse field and was to be driven by Tim Williams.

Tailored Elegance was eased back off the gate as all the runner to her inside went out looking for a handy position. She settled well back in the field, in fact 6-back as they moved into single file and as they passed the 800m Mark Tim began a move forward.

Just as he did so, the horse in the trail galloped and in a bit of a cuffuffle disrupted the field, but Tailored Elegance managed to get around them and landed up running into second position, 4 or 5 lengths from the leader Bev K's One who had missed the trouble.

Tailored Elegance ran around the final bend nicely and as they turned for home was still about 3 lengths off the leader, but she chased her down well in the home straight to finish in 2nd placing, only 1¾ lengths from the winner, with 2½ lengths back to the third horse who had qualified the previous week.

The winner was Bev K's One, in a time of 2:41.2 (MR 2:09.6), with the final 800m completed in 60.6 and the 400m in 30.2.

Tailored Elegance's time was officially recorded as 2:41.5, just 0.5 seconds under the required time, so she duly qualified and became your third filly to do so; so **CONGRATULATIONS !!!**

Tim said, "She was really good. It was only her second time off the place, so she handled it really well. It was a progressive step forward. She was giving the leader a big head start, but only finished a length and a bit from her, so she's well on the right track."

Syndicate members Philip and Glenys Kennard were at the trials and said, "A nice trial for 2nd. Trotted beautifully."

Here are a couple of photos taken at Rangiora by Philip & Glenys on the 13th March ...



Many thanks for the photos Philip and Glenys, they are great and most appreciated.

Tailored Elegance will now have another run at the trials next week, possibly on Wednesday the 20th March, at Rangiora and then it is planned that she will then look to make her race debut.

This will probably be at Addington, on Friday the 29th March, where there is a \$10,000 2YO Mobile Trot on the programme.

Both these events will be confirmed to you by email, once details are known.

It is also hoped that Tailored Elegance will then be able to head towards the first of the feature 2-year-old trotting races of the season, when they get underway in April.

The first of the feature races is the Group 3 \$30,000 Majestic Son NZ 2YO Trotting Stakes, to be staged at Addington, on the 20th April. Then there is the Group 2 \$60,000 NZ Sires Stakes 2YO Trotting Champs, also at Addington, on the 17th May and the Group 1 \$125,000 Harness Jewels 2YO Ruby, this year at Addington, on the 1st June.

Later on, over in Australia, there is the Group 1 \$50,000 Seelite Windows & Doors Redwood Classic, at Maryborough, on the 4th August, then the Group 1 \$100,000 Breeders Crown Final, at Tabcorp Park Melton, on the 24th August.

This of course, is all provided that Tailored Elegance is good enough to compete in some, most, or all of these classic races.

Trainer Tony Herlihy :-

Cheeky Babe (Muscle Hill / Factor The Odds)

Cheeky Babe made good progress through her training, pleasing Tony with her work and was ready to attend the Auckland TC Trials, at Pukekohe, on the 23rd February.

This was in a 2YO (Barrier Trial) Mobile Trot, Right Handed, over 1609m, where Cheeky Babe drew Barrier No.1 in a 4-horse field, for which there was a Qualifying Time of 2:11.1. She was to be driven by Tony Herlihy.

Cheeky Babe made a safe beginning from her inside draw and settled into the trail early as they headed into the first bend, but soon after Shanhill went forward to take up the lead, posting Cheeky Babe 3-back on the markers.

As they headed into the final lap, Tony pulled Cheeky Babe out and made a quick move forward to take up the lead heading passed the 800m pole. Cheeky Babe led them down the back straight and around the home turn comfortably and headed into the home straight in front by 2 lengths.

She ran home well to win with ease by about 2 lengths (although the official margin was given as 1½ lengths). Cheeky Babe's winning time was 2:13.0, with the final 800m in 61.4 and the 400m in 29.8.

Tony said, "That was good. She's so laid-back. She couldn't give a hoot. She was just chewing her tongue up behind the mobile. Nothing worries her. They only went 2:13, so I think we'll come back again next week."

Here are some photos taken at Pukekohe on the 23rd February ...





Striding forward at the 900m



Heading for the front



Into the lead



Into the home straight



At the finish



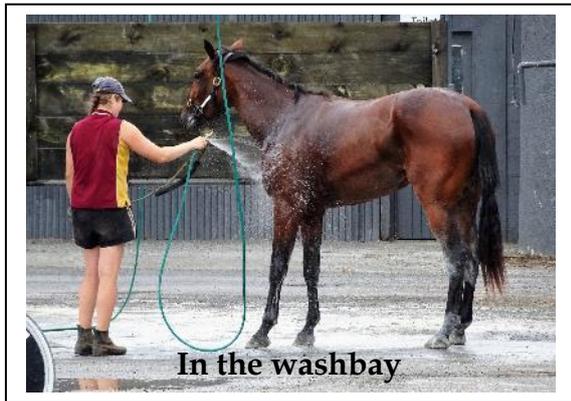
Return



Back to the stables



Ungearing



As there were to be no workouts on Saturday, the 2nd March, Cheeky Babe was to attend the Auckland TC Workouts held on Tuesday the 5th March, once again at Pukekohe.

This was in a Learners Trot, Right Handed, over 2050m. Cheeky Babe drew Barrier No.1 in a field of 5-starters after there had been two scratchings. She was to be driven once again by Tony Herlihy.

Cheeky Babe stepped well from the standing start to take an early trail behind Manchester's Eclipse. Tony then hooked her out to go around and take up the lead with about 1200m to go and she ran along a couple of lengths clear of the second runner.

As they headed into the final turn, Cheeky Babe extended her lead by a further couple of lengths and ran home strongly in the home straight to extend even further and go on for a very comfortable win, by some 8 lengths, with ½ length back to the 3rd horse and a massive 34½ lengths to the rest.

Cheeky Babe's winning time was a moderate 2:51.9 (MR 2:14.9), with the final 800m in 62.2 and the 400m in 30.9.

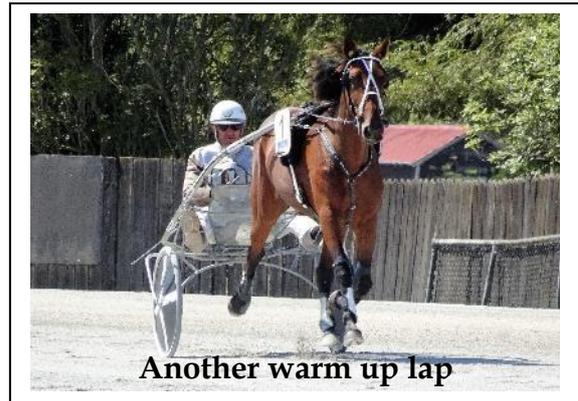
Tony said, "I was pleased with that. There was no pace on, so I came out and went around to lift it a bit. She went well. Is there a race for her next week? (to which I advised, yes, a \$2,000 Non-Tote). I think we might as well go there. We need to start somewhere and it will give her some experience."



Here are some photos taken at Pukekohe on the 5th March ...



Warming up



Another warm up lap



Away from the standing start



In the running



Turning for home



Up the home straight



At the finish



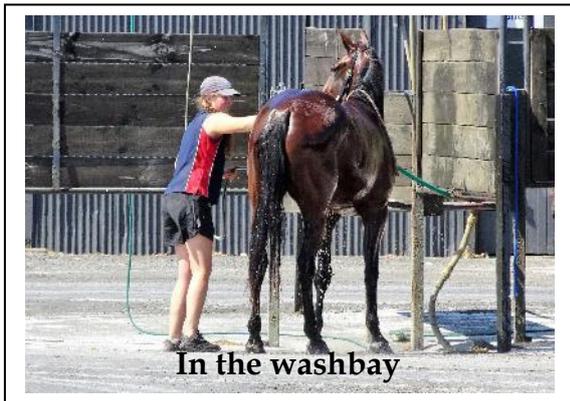
Return



Back to the stables



Ungearing



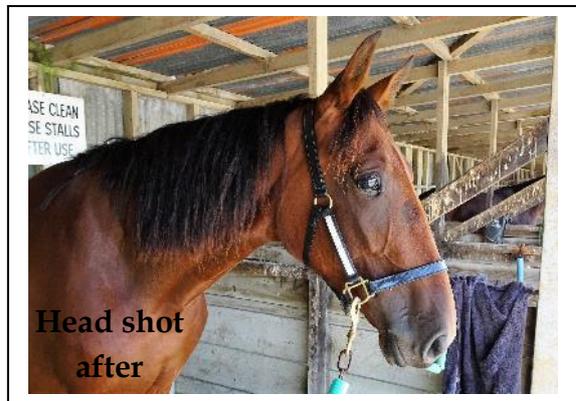
In the washbay



Heading back from the wash



A scrapedown



Head shot
after

So, Cheeky Babe is set to make her race debut this Friday, the **15th March**, at **Alexandra Park**.

She is in the **Non Tote Race**, timed to start at **5:15pm**, the \$2,000 'Next 2YO Trot Here April 5' (2YO Mobile Trot), over 1700m. Cheeky Babe has drawn **Barrier No.1** in a field of now just 4-runners after Chinski was scratched and is to race at Addington the same night. Cheeky Babe is to be driven by Tony Herlihy.

After seeing Cheeky Babe perform so well at the workouts, it will be great to see her make her race debut, albeit in a Non Tote event.

GOOD LUCK & GO CHEEKY BABE !!!

Hopefully, Cheeky Babe will perform well and consideration can be given to whether she heads towards the first of the feature 2-year-old trotting races of the season, when they get underway in April.

If this is to be considered, the first of the feature races is the Group 3 \$30,000 Majestic Son NZ 2YO Trotting Stakes, to be staged at Addington, on the 20th April. This is followed by the Group 2 \$60,000 NZ Sires Stakes 2YO Trotting Champs, also at Addington, on the 17th May and the Group 1 \$125,000 Harness Jewels 2YO Ruby, this year at Addington, on the 1st June.

Later on, over in Australia, there is the Group 1 \$50,000 Seelite Windows & Doors Redwood Classic, at Maryborough, on the 4th August, then the Group 1 \$100,000 Breeders Crown Final, at Tabcorp Park Melton, on the 24th August.

So, let's also hope that Cheeky Babe too is good enough to compete in these classic races, as it would be great for your syndicate to maybe have two representatives at this top level.

Monkee Around (Art Major - Sheza Monkee)

Having completed a good 5-month spell, Monkee Around returned to training back on the 19th November and so has now completed one week short of 4-months back in work, first doing 6 weeks jogging to increase her fitness, before moving on to strong hopped work at the beginning of January and now she is on to her speed work.

Monkee Around is now coming up to 8 weeks of completed hopped work, so she has obviously taken a little longer than what is usual to get to this stage, mainly in an effort to get condition off her.

On the 5th March Tony advised, "She's immature mentally. She got keen in her work a couple of weeks back, but she has settled down again now. She has the physique to be a 2-year-old, or near enough, but I just don't know whether she's there mentally or not. We'll go another couple of weeks and make an assessment then, whether she goes to the workouts or we turn her out to just mature a little more mentally."

So, it will be interesting to see how Monkee Around progresses over the next 2 weeks and if she is going to make it this time in. Tony has said that he is quite happy with her, but if she is not up to it mentally at this stage, it may be better she has a break now, but time will tell.

Hopefully she will be trim enough and be mentally able to attend the workouts soon. I will confirm details if this is to be the case.

Trainer **Brent Mangos** :-

Dragon Tattoo (Art Major / Rozelski)

After a pleasing 4th placing at the workouts on the 26th January, Dragon Tattoo then attended the Qualifying Trials on the 2nd February, just coming to the end of her run with about 100m to go but finishing in 5th placing and only 3 lengths from the winner, to qualify 3.3 seconds under the required time.

This was a good effort once again, as the first two fillies home had actually qualified previously and had indeed each had a race start.

Having now become your second filly to qualify, it was initially planned that Dragon Tattoo would be nominated to race at Auckland on the 8th February, but in the meantime Brent advised that she had just come to the end of it and had enough and that the way she had worked that morning, he thought it would be the wrong thing carrying on, so she was to be sent for a 2-3 month spell.

Dragon Tattoo returned to Breckon Farms on the 11th February to commence her time out and so far seems to be enjoying herself and is doing well.

Breckon Farms Farm Manager, Scott Yarndley, reported on the 8th March, "They're both [Dragon Tattoo and Ballroom Beauty] looking real happy. They're bouncing around their paddocks like they're out of their skins. All's looking really great."

Dragon Tattoo has now completed a month out already, so in another month Brent will assess if she is ready to return, or if she will have another month out.

Newsletters to be replaced with regular Email Updates

This will be the last of the monthly newsletters, as you know them.

In our world of more instant information, we thought that you would enjoy getting more regular and current updates on your syndicate fillies, when they are trialling or racing and that this would work better for you.

Our usual email updates will give you more timely information and less duplication. Where appropriate they will now also include pertinent other information on your horses.

We are continually striving to provide you with the best service possible, so we hope that you will enjoy these timelier postings.

So good luck and many wins to come.

Cheers
Rob



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Rob Carr – Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate Liaison
Mobile: (021) 227-6444 or Email: rob.carr@xtra.co.nz