

Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate



BRECKON
FARMS



December 2018 Newsletter

Rob Carr - Syndicate Liaison

Mobile (021) 227-6444

Email rob.carr@extra.co.nz

Hi there

We continue our frustrating time with Luby Lou, after having begun to make good progress through having a trial and a workout run, her third and final run at the workouts in the build-up to her return to racing was cancelled due to the weather conditions. She was however to press on with her plans to race at Alexandra Park and so travelled north and all was looking promising, until the day before nominations were due for her assignment in the Group 2 Lyell Creek Stakes she began to show signs of some soreness.

Co-trainer Mark Purdon, together with Ken Breckon, decided not to take any risks and sent Luby Lou to Matamata to undergo a scintigraphy scan to ascertain the actual source of the problem. This was found to be in her knees and so these have been treated and she has now been set on a path to attempt to make her return to racing on the 31st December, at Alexandra Park.

This is of course, Auckland Cup Day, a twilight meeting that features what was to be Luby Lou's second major assignment in the north, the Group 1 National Trot, but after her troubles Mark has advised that she will now be aimed at one of the lesser grade trots (R50 & Faster Handicap Trots over 2700m) on the programme, if indeed she is able to make that date.

If Luby Lou is not ready to race by the 31st December, she will then be aimed at the Centennial Meeting at Cambridge, on the 11th January, where there is the Group 3 Cambridge Trotters Flying Stakes tentative on the programme.

Let's hope that Luby Lou is able to make either, or even both of these races, so we can finally get to see her race in the north.

I will update you with the details by my usual email, once these are available.

GOOD LUCK & GO LUBY LOU !!!



Here is the latest information on your mare:-

Trainer Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen :-

Luby Lou (Muscle Hill – Luby Ann)

After her trial on the 7th November, Luby Lou was to return to the workouts at the North Canterbury TOA Workouts, at Rangiora, on the 21st November.

This was in a FFA Trot (R52 & Faster), over 2000m, where Luby Lou drew Barrier No.4, in a 7-horse field and was to be driven by Tim Williams.

Luby Lou walked up for the standing start, but just as the tapes were released she rolled into a break and had to be restrained almost to a stop before she began to trot again. She lost more than 20 lengths and settled a long way off them once again, 10 length behind the second-to-last horse in the field.

Luby Lou quite quickly made up her lost ground to tack onto the rear of the field after they had gone only 400m. She remained at the tail, as the field ran along in single file until approaching the 1000m pole, three of the runners in front of her began to make forward moves and Luby Lou moved into the running line, to be one-out-and-4-back initially, until One Over Da Stars made the lead and then she was 3-back on the outer.

Luby Lou was still at the rear as they passed the 400m mark and remained there until with about 100m to run, she was let go and ran home strongly to finish in 3rd placing, 3¼ lengths from the winner.

The winner was One Over Da Stars, in a time of 2:41.7 (MR 2:10.0), with the last 800m completed in 58.0 and the 400m in 29.7.

Tim said, "She had some steering gear on her and was mucking around so I gave her a tap with the reins and she got a bit annoyed, so it was really my fault and not hers. She went very well afterwards though."

Next Luby Lou was scheduled to attend the Rangiora Workouts once again, for a further run, on the 28th November, however unfortunately these workouts were subsequently to be cancelled due to weather conditions.

Thank you to our resident Canterbury syndicate member Philip Kennard who kindly advised us all of this by email on the morning.



This was to be another step towards Luby Lou heading towards making a return to racing and was a rather inconvenient hiccup in her preparation, but nonetheless one that was totally out of anyone's control.

As it was still planned that Luby Lou would race at the Auckland TC Meeting, at Alexandra Park, on the 14th December, in the Group 2 \$50,000 Lyell Creek Stakes and then on to the Auckland Cup Meeting on the 31st December, to take her place in the Group 1 \$100,000 2018 National Trot, she was to leave Christchurch on the 1st December and travel up to Auckland.

After her safe arrival in the north, Mark Purdon advised on the 5th December, "That was a shame missing that trial, but she has had two runs under her belt anyway, so hopefully she will be OK. She's trotting nicely at the moment, so we will nominate her for that 2200m race [Group 2 \$50,000 Lyell Creek Stakes, a FFA Mobile Trot] on the 14th [December] and hopefully she will get in. If she doesn't there is a lesser race on the night, but that won't be ideal, as she will be off a long mark in that and that is only 2200m too, from a stand."

Then, just a few days later, on the 10th December, news was to be received of a further hiccup in Luby Lou's planned return to racing. This one however, was to be a little more serious than missing a workout. Mark advised that morning, "Just an update on Luby. She has been favouring her near fore leg. Yesterday she was worse and I spoke to Ken [Breckon] and he felt the same, she is too valuable to risk anything major going wrong, so she is being sent to Matamata vets this morning and will be checked out either tomorrow or Wednesday."

Luby Lou was to have what is called scintigraphy, a scanning procedure which is used to locate lameness issues. The horse receives an intravenous injection of the radioactive substance Technetium, which acts as a 'bone tracing' agent. The bone scan camera is positioned next to the horse and is able to detect areas of increased bone turnover known as 'hot spots'. It is the most sensitive method for the detection of fractures, inflammation, and infection and it shows pathology earlier than any other method. Horses of any age and size can have a bone scan, including foals, broodmares and stallions. The dose of radiation is harmless to the horse's general health. The scan takes between 1-3 hours, depending on the area of interest, and does not require a general anaesthetic, though the horse cannot be discharged until the following day, when it is no longer radioactive.



On the 13th December Matamata Veterinary Services sent through the following report to Ken Breckon.

ROBIN DUKE OF BEDFORD NUCLEAR SCINTIGRAPHY UNIT

Matamata Veterinary Services Limited Equine Hospital
362 Hinuera West Road, RD 2, Matamata

13 December 2018

Six of The Best Syndicate
Breckon Farms
6ofthebestaccounts@gener8.solutions

Dear Ken and Karen

Re: Luby Lou
Brands: 149840
Trainers: Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen – All Stars Racing
Owners: Breckon Farm
Referring Vet: Dr Lindsay Colwell - Prebbleton Vets

The above named horse was admitted to MVS Equine for evaluation of a recently developed left fore lameness that was insidious in onset. She is currently in race work.

On clinical exam, the horse was grade 3/5 lame left front. No palpable joint effusion was present. Flexion tests of both forelimbs and both hind limbs were negative.

Bone phase scintigraphy was performed on 11 December 2018. This showed significant increased radiopharmaceutical uptake (IRU) in the left third carpal bone and mild IRU in the right third carpal bone.

On 12 December 2018, the left intercarpal joint was blocked with local anaesthetic to confirm the results of the scintigraphy. The left fore lameness completely resolved and a grade 1/5 right fore lameness appeared. Bilateral carpal radiographs showed marked sclerosis of the left third carpal bone with multiple enlarged vascular channels within that same bone. The right third carpal bone showed slight sclerosis.

The diagnostic findings are consistent with third carpal bone disease of both carpi with the left being significantly more affected. This problem is common in racehorses in work and a variety of treatment and further diagnostic options are available. In this case, as the filly has not been undergone previous treatment for this problem, intra-articular injection with corticosteroid was recommended. If she responds well to this, she may continue in racing for the remainder of this season.

The left and right intercarpal joints were injected with corticosteroid (Kenacort) on 13 December 2018. Follow up injections are recommended in 6-8 weeks. If the filly becomes lame again within a shorter time interval, further diagnostics are recommended.

Please ensure that this report is forwarded to the horse's owner(s) and the person(s) responsible for the future care of the horse, as well as to the insurer, if applicable.

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Dave Harton BVMS(Ed) PhD MMATCVS DACT
Dave Keenan BVSc MMATCVS
Andrea Ribeiro BVSc (Hons) MS DipACVCS
Leigh de Cilliers BVSc CertWVP FRCGP(PS)
Barbara Hunter DVM MS MMATCVS DACVSLA
Roshelle Kerr BVSc BAggr DipAgSci
Russell McDuffee MVB AggrSci
Theresa Wilson BVSc
Robbie Daly BVSc
Magali de Tol BVSc

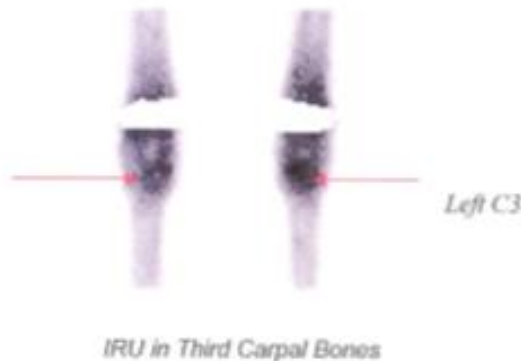
Fern A. Small AvMed
Greg Jarvis BSc BVSc
Fiona Robinson BVSc (Hons) PhD MMATCVS DipACT
Susan Mackay BVSc
Grant Power BVSc
Alice Anderson BVSc
Sharon Evans BSc, BVMS
Kylie Coates BVSc
Sarah Harper BVSc
Mary O'Rourke DVM
Christynee Brown BVSc
Amy Harding BVSc (Hons)

ROBIN DUKE OF BEDFORD NUCLEAR SCINTIGRAPHY UNIT
Matamata Veterinary Services Limited Equine Hospital
362 Hinuera West Road, RD 2, Matamata

Thank you for referring Luby Lou to the MVS Equine Hospital for evaluation. She was a pleasure to work with and we look forward to seeing her back on the track. If you have any questions regarding her case, please do not hesitate to call.

Kind regards

Barbara Hunter DVM, MS, MANZCVS, DACVS-LA
Registered Specialist Equine Surgery



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Equine
Dorey Harlow BVMS (Hons) PhD MANZCVS DACV
Devin Keenan BVSc MANZCVS
Andrea Rasmussen BVSc (Hons) MS DipACV
Leigh de Cilliers BVSc CertAVP FCGPVP
Barbara Hunter DVM MS MANZCVS DACVS-LA
Rochele Kerr BVSc (BSc) DipAgBio
Rosalee McQuibben MVB SAgrSc
Theresa Pilon BVSc
Rebecca Daly BVSc
Meghan de Toot BVSc

Farm & Small Animals
Greg Jamali BSc BVSc
Fiona McInerney BVSc (Hons) PhD MANZCVS DipACT
Susan Murray BVSc
Gael Farrow BVSc
Alice Anderson BVSc
Rhonda Fraser BSc, BMS
Lydia Coates BVSc
Scott Hargreave BVSc
Mary Callaghan MEd
Chloëghar Ryan BVSc
Julie Harding BVSc (Hons)

So, as the report advises, as Luby Lou has not had any joint injections previously, it was recommended that she have her knee joints injected and both of these were done on the 13th December. If she responds well to this, it should mean that she is able to race for the remainder of the season, hopefully with no reoccurrence of the problem.

It is usual when this procedure is undertaken, that further injections are given in about 6-8 weeks time, so these will be arranged accordingly, as long as the initial injections are effective, otherwise Luby Lou will need to undergo further examination.

Let's hope that Luby Lou does respond well to this procedure and that her treatment will be effective and fix her soreness troubles without having to get involved in further diagnostics, as she hasn't had much luck up in the north, having travelled up here twice now, but so far she hasn't raced here yet.

Of course, this all meant that Luby Lou was not nominated to race on the 14th December, as was the original plan, but co-trainer Mark Purdon advised on that day, "I spoke to the vet and it is in the knee. She's had them injected, so hopefully that works. If she doesn't respond well, they'll have to go in and have a look. We'll aim for the 31st [December], in one of those lesser grade races, but if we don't make that, we'll look to go to Cambridge on the 11th [January]."

I will advise details by the usual email, if Luby Lou is able to make it to race on either the 31st December at Alexandra Park, where there are two \$20,000 R50 & Faster Discretionary Handicap Trots, over 2700m, programmed, or on the 11th January at Cambridge, where there is the Group 3 \$30,000 Harcourts (Te Awamutu) Cambridge Trotters Flying Stakes, over 1700m from the mobile, on the tentative programme.

Newsletters On the Website

Please remember, your monthly newsletters will also be displayed on the Breckon Farms Website, so you can access them whenever you wish, especially if you can't find them amongst your emails.

The Breckon Farms website address is:-
www.breckonfarms.co.nz

Under the 'Syndicates' menu, click on 'Six of the Best Syndicate', then scroll to find your newsletters.

You may also enjoy reading some of the other sections contained within the website.



So good luck and many more wins to come ... and



Merry Christmas

& a Happy New Year



Cheers
Rob



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Breckon Farms - Six of the Best Syndicate

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