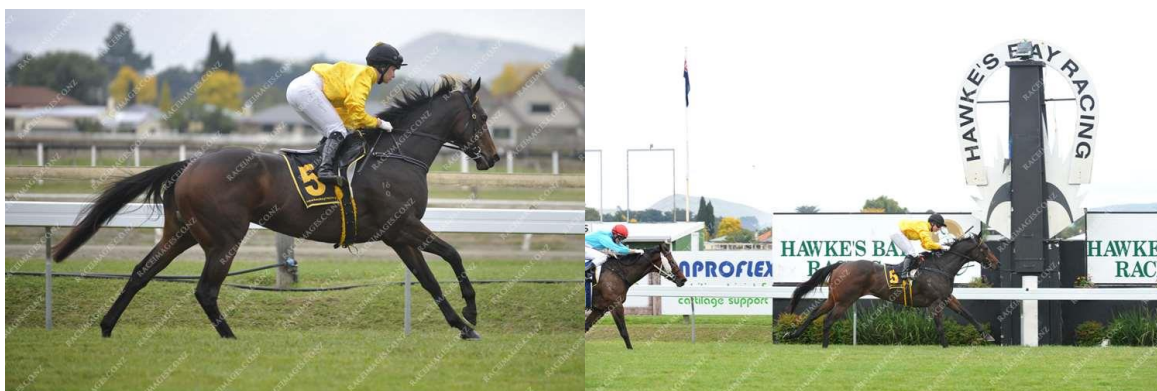




WINNING DOUBLE AT HASTINGS FOR OWNER AND TRAINER



LADY ZAFIRA (Iffraaj/Mary Robinson) wins again on home track at Hastings

Brilliant day at Hastings on 18th of April with Lady Zafira and Mae West both saluting the judge and also a double celebration for Rosie and Pat Laffey who bred both horses and also share in their ownership.

Just two newsletters ago I was writing about Lady Zafira winning at Wairoa and trying to keep her syndicate members under control.....it's too late. They're not only thoroughly enjoying their experience... but they're all well and truly hooked ☺

Now sometimes races plans go awry, and the plan to trail went out the window when she bounced the gates and ended up in front with nothing else challenging. Rosie Myers quickly assessed the situation, let her bowl along and coming around the turn you quite literally didn't want to be on anything else as she quickly put four lengths on them before easing down to win by two.

Grandstand erupted of course as the syndicate members celebrate....clearly no need for earthquake strengthening here.

I'm not sure there would be a horse currently running in New Zealand who is fashioning her race record. Now with 11 starts for 3 wins, 3 seconds and 5 thirds she continues to learn her race craft and improve with each run.

Since this win she ran a gallant second placing at Te Rapa after being checked and twice being forced onto the running rail in the straight. Now out for some well-deserved R & R she'll come back in about 6 weeks or so to prepare for the Hawke's Bay Spring Carnival....bring on Spring racing!



MAE WEST (Sir Percy/Wee Tipple) 5 wins from 18 starts and she's just coming into it.

Mae West showed yet again what a tough little customer she is by taking out the Rating 85 1600m against some very good competition. Rear all the way she finished over them all to win going away on the line. Rosie Myers, riding her for the fifth time said on returning to scale "I love this horse....she always puts in and never knows when she's beaten"

After the race, I asked owner Rosie Laffey what she was thinking as Mae tailed the field by 3 lengths with 600m to go. She said it wasn't the same thing she was thinking as she stormed down the outside in the straight ☺

Out to spell over the next 6 weeks or so she may not come back bigger but she will be stronger and if her four year old year is anything to go by....next season will see her name up in lights yet again.



TAKEN THE LIBERTY (O'Reilly/Starbelly) returns to scale at Awapuni

When Taken The Liberty first came into the barn he'd been recuperating from a paddock accident as a young horse. Owned by George and Maryann Simon, Tony Clark and his partner Michelle Scanlon the brief was simple....take your time with him and let's see if he can run.

That first day on the track consisted of a couple of quiet laps for him to have a look around... and for us to have a look at him. To be brutally honest he looked like he had square wheels! After a week he still looked like he had square wheels and the same at a fortnight....but after a month his legs started to work in unison, ears pricked and clearly happy in his work. But still no fast work.

And after a while one Tuesday morning I asked his rider to see if he'd quicken the last 200m. Stopwatch in hand he rounds the top turn....click....and you can hear the tempo quickening and quickening and quickening....and you look up and Zane's swinging.....click.....10.9.

Loves some cut in the track....two wins under his belt....there will be more.

Authorised Syndicator

As I mentioned previously I am now an approved Authorised Syndicator with NZ Thoroughbred Racing and some of you may have seen the television advertisement currently on Trackside for the horse pictured below.



STRATUM/DRESSED prior to Karaka Yearling Sales

He has since been broken in and last week he arrived at the stable. To say he went around as if he'd been here all his life would be an understatement....he was saddled up, walked out relaxed, did two rounds of the track, walked in, washed off and straight into the tucker. Brilliant.

He is being prepared specifically for the Karaka Million dollar race at Ellerslie end of January 2016.

If anyone would like to come and have a look at him please call Mike 021 273 4269 or myself 021 405 723 anytime.

A copy of the Disclosure Statement and Syndicate rules are available on request.

All the best and I'll see you in the Winner's Circle.... thanks again to **Peter Rubery of RACE IMAGES Palmerston North.**

JB

