

Sunday 26 January 2020

PROBABEEL MAKES KARAKA MILLION HISTORY



Probabeel creates history with her victory in the Karaka Million 3YO Classic (1600m) (Trish Dunell)

On a dream night for the Te Akau operation, star filly **Probabeel (NZ)** (Savabeel) has entered Karaka Million folklore with an exceptional victory in the Karaka Million 3YO Classic (1600m).

Just over an hour after Te Akau celebrated their fourth consecutive victory in the Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) with Cool Aza Beel (NZ) (Savabeel), Probabeel became the first ever Karaka Million 2YO winner to return to the twilight meeting 12 months later and win the Karaka Million 3YO Classic.

The Karaka Million concept is in its 13th year, and the

three-year-old race was introduced in 2010 and elevated to a \$1 million purse in 2018. The previous best result by a Karaka Million 2YO winner was by the Lisa Latta-trained Fort Lincoln (Charge Forward), who finished third in the three-year-old race in 2012.

Probabeel performed creditably at Group One level in Sydney through the spring and won comfortably first-up at Awapuni earlier this month.

Sent out as a \$1.60 favourite to complete her historic Karaka

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LITTLE AVONDALE

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PROBABEEL MAKES KARAKA MILLION HISTORY

(Continued from page 1)

Million double she was aided by a perfectly timed ride from Opie Bosson and duly delivered.

Bosson and Probabeel dropped well back in the field as the free-going Pimlico (NZ) (Proisir) and Our Creed (NZ) (Charm Spirit) set up a strong tempo in front. She was still near the tail of a spread-out field coming down the side towards the home turn, but Bosson never panicked.

He angled Probabeel into the clear in the straight and put the pedal to the floor, and Probabeel's response was explosive.

She blazed to the front inside the last 300 metres, opening up a clear break and holding the strong-finishing Australian raider Conqueror (Fastnet Rock) at bay to win by a length and a half. Hasstobegood (NZ) (Per Incanto) finished another two and a half lengths away in third, just ahead of Harlech (NZ) (Darci Brahma).

"There was a bit of pressure coming into today, and I was pretty keen just to get through it," relieved trainer Jamie Richards said. "But full credit to everyone, it was a big team effort and a great result.

"She probably got a little bit further back than we might have wanted, but we didn't want Opie to rush her. She was a little bit unhappy at Awapuni last time when we rode her for a more prominent position.

"Opie just kept her happy, and then she quickened really well in the straight and put them away pretty nicely.

"Now we're really looking forward to getting her back over to Australia, more than likely for the Surround Stakes (Gr.1, 1400m) at Randwick on February 29."

The win capped a terrific day for the filly's owners, Cambridge Stud proprietors Brendan and Jo Lindsay. They had previously won the \$100,000 CollinsonForex Karaka Cup (2200m) with Dance Card (NZ) (Savabeel), while Bavella

(Snitzel) placed in the Gr.3 Henley Park Mr Tix Trophy (1200m) and lightly raced filly Taroni (NZ) (Taroni) placed in the Karaka Million 2YO (1200m).

"What a day, what a horse," Brendan Lindsay said. "I thought she was going to win easily when she raced to the lead in the straight, but it just got a bit nerve-racking in the last bit, but we're here now.

"She's the first horse to ever do this, and I think it'll be a long time before anyone else does it again." – NZ Racing Desk

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | ARC Karaka Million 3YO Classic (R) L 1600m. |
| Winner | Probabeel (NZ) 2016 |
| Owners | B J Lindsay MNZM & Mrs J E A Lindsay |
| Trainer | Jamie Richards (Matamata) |
| Breeding | by Savabeel (AUS) out of Far Fetched by Pins (AUS) |
| Breeder | G J Chittick; Waikato; NZ |
| Sales | 2018 National Yearling Sale - Book 1 V: Waikato Stud Ltd \$380000 P: DC Ellis |



Opie Bosson celebrates after a stunning win aboard Probabeel at Ellerslie (Trish Dunell)





COOL AZA BEEL COMPLETES TE AKAU'S KARAKA MILLION QUARTET



Cool Aza Beel completes the fourth consecutive win in the Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) for Te Akau Racing and rider Opie Bosson (Trish Dunell)

Te Akau Racing's incredible stranglehold on the Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) has extended into its fourth year with a superb win by **Cool Aza Beel (NZ)** (Savabeel) in the million-dollar juvenile feature at Ellerslie on Saturday.

The syndication powerhouse has dominated the sales-restricted race in recent seasons, and no one else has had a look-in since Xiong Feng (NZ) (Ifraaj) won it back in 2016.

Purchaser David Ellis, trainer Jamie

Richards (formerly in partnership with Stephen Autridge) and jockey Opie Bosson have teamed up to win the race with Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) in 2017, Advantage (Fastnet Rock) in 2018, Probabeel (NZ) (Savabeel) in 2019 and now Cool Aza Beel in 2020.

Right on the eve of the New Zealand Bloodstock National Yearling Sales, where Te Akau will again be a force on the buyers' bench, these results are the type of advertising that

money cannot buy.

"It's awesome," Richards said.

"It's a really great way to start the biggest week of the year for us. Whether we can make it five in a row I'm not sure, but I'd like to think so.

"We're definitely going to be out there in force at Karaka over the next few days, looking for more horses like this."

Cool Aza Beel was the \$8.20 third favourite for the Karaka Million behind

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COOL AZA BEEL COMPLETES TE AKAU'S KARAKA MILLION QUARTET

(Continued from page 4)

unbeaten filly Play That Song (NZ) (Showcasing) (\$1.60) and Group Two winner Not An Option (Not A Single Doubt) (\$3.90), but he upstaged both in a power-packed performance.

Urged forward out of the gates by Opie Bosson, Cool Aza Beel was in the early scramble for the lead before easing back into a perfect trailing position in fourth.

He and Play That Song surged forward in the straight together to make their bids, and for a moment it looked like Play That Song would scoot away for a fourth straight win.

But Cool Aza Beel kicked powerfully on her inside and shook her off, opening up a margin of a length and

a half. Play That Song finished second, a neck in front of the Brendan and Jo Lindsay-owned filly Taroni (NZ) (Showcasing).

"I saw the favourite's head come up beside me, but I have to give credit to my horse – he gave a really good kick in the straight," Bosson said. "It's a great result and a privilege to be part of the Te Akau team."

Bought for \$150,000 from the Book 1 session at Karaka last year, Cool Aza Beel won the very first two-year-old race of the season at Wanganui back in September. He then struck bad luck when fourth in the Listed FastTrack Insurance 2YO Stakes (1100m) at Pukekohe in November.

After a nervous few days including a missed run at Ellerslie due to a temperature spike, he finally clinched his spot in the field with a three-length win at Tauranga on January 17.

"We've always had a lot of faith in this horse," Richards said. "We took our time with him. He missed a run here, but we had Tauranga as a back-up plan.

"We'd been really happy with his work coming into today. It's been a great effort by the team at home with this horse, and a great ride by Opie, who's just a freak. I also have to give big thanks to Dave (Ellis) – what an achievement to buy four Karaka Million winners in a row!"

– NZ Racing Desk



| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | ARC Karaka 2YO Million (R) L 1200m. |
| Winner | Cool Aza Beel (NZ) 2017 |
| Owners | Te Akau Sassy Beel Syndicate (Mgr: Karyn Fenton-Ellis MNZM) |
| Trainer | Jamie Richards (Matamata) |
| Breeding | by Savabeel (AUS) out of Cool 'n' Sassy (AUS) by Testa Rossa (AUS) |
| Breeder | Fairdale Stud (2007) Ltd; Central; NZ |
| Sales | 2019 National Yearling Sale - Book 1 V: Fairdale Stud \$150000 P: DC Ellis |

Opie Bosson salutes the crowd as he returns to the winner's enclosure aboard Cool Aza Beel (Trish Dunell)



Sweynesse is a chip off the old block


Darren Beadman

Sweynesse, is a son of former champion racehorse and super sire Lonhro. Beadman rode Lonhro in most of his 26 wins and he gets to work with many of that horse's sons and daughters at Godolphin.

- A multiple Group One performer (2nd G1 Randwick Guineas, 3rd G1 Spring Champion) beating some of the best 3YO Group One winners in Australia including Kermedec, Preferment, Hampton Court, Shooting To Win, First Seal.
- Winner of first four starts including dual Group 3 wins in the Spring Stakes and Gloaming Stakes.
- A winner at only start as a 2YO.
- A top 3YO Timeform rating of 122 makes Sweynesse one of the top Australian 3YO colts of his year.
- By Lonhro -The Champion 3YO, the Champion miler, the Horse of the Year, and now a Champion sire. Lonhro set a new Australian record of 160 individual winners in a season. His son Pierro, unbeaten juvenile Triple Crown winner, was rated the best juvenile colt in Australia since 1977.
- Out of the multiple winning mare Swansea by Champion Sire Singspiel (5xG1 Winner and sire of 98SW).
- Sweynesse is a magnificent individual. He stands 16.2 hh. He has a powerful hind quarter, a strong shoulder and a great athletic walk. He is very correct.
- Sweynesse is syndicated amongst many of New Zealand's top breeders who are strongly supporting him at stud.



Ray Knight

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SOUTHERN MARE TAKES THE SPOILS IN WESTBURY CLASSIC

Outstanding southern mare **Kiwi Ida** (Squamosa) showed northern racegoers a glimpse of her undoubted class when she dashed home to take out the Gr.2 Westbury Classic (1400m) in her first look at the Ellerslie track.

Prepared at Balcairn in the South Island by John and Karen Parsons, the Squamosa five-year-old had upset the appletart prior to Christmas with a rugged victory in the Gr.2 Manawatu Challenge Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni.

Taken home for a brief let-up, the Parsons team resisted the temptation to tackle one of the feature events at the recent Wellington Cup carnival in preference to an attack on the Group Two fillies and mares contest at Ellerslie.

The plan was executed to perfection courtesy of a peach of a ride from the magic man Chris Johnson who had been aboard the mare in five of her 13 victories leading into Saturday's contest.

Johnson bided his time in midfield throughout before commencing a run between horses on Kiwi Ida at the 300m mark. Extracting the mare from a tricky position he quickly bounded up to Volpe Veloce (Foxwedge) and Santa Monica (NZ) (Per Incanto) before Kiwi Ida asserted her superiority in the final 100m to race away to her fourteenth career victory.

"She a very honest horse who tries hard," Johnson said.

"She was trained to the minute and put in a really hard last 100m in what was a nice field of horses."

Karen Parsons paid tribute to Johnson who is an integral member of the stable, to the extent that he will even be playing chauffeur on the trip home.

"That's why he is called the magic man," Parsons said.

"He has a great relationship with us and he is even going to drive home for me now."

Parsons was still coming to terms with the mare's achievements after the race as she looked forward to the next challenge with her which will include a

shot at the Gr.1 New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m) at Te Aroha in April.

"Unbelievable really and I did think John was biting off more than he could chew shooting for three on end as it is hard to do," she said.

"It's just unbelievable what she has done for us.

"We have to have a go now (at the Group One)."

Kiwi Ida has won fourteen of her 41 career starts and has been placed on another 14 occasions with four of her wins at stakes level.

The victory will provide renewed interest in the mare's full brother who will be offered through the Highline Thoroughbreds draft as Lot 574 during the Book 1 session at the New Zealand Bloodstock National Yearling Sale that kicks off at Karaka on Sunday at 11am. – NZ Racing Desk

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | ARC Westbury Classic Gr.2 1400m. |
| Winner | Kiwi Ida (AUS) 2014 |
| Owners | J F & Mrs K G Parsons |
| Trainer | John & Karen Parsons (Balcairns) |
| Breeding | by Squamosa (AUS) out of Empress Ida (AUS) by Blevic (AUS) |
| Breeder | Mr PV Kelly |



Southern mare Kiwi Ida produces a classy effort to win the Gr.2 Westbury Classic (1400m) (Trish Dunell)



BRILLIANT CATALYST OVERCOMES ADVERSITY IN MR TIZ

Boom three-year-old **Catalyst (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) overcame a scare to brilliantly win Saturday's Gr.3 Henley Park Mr Tiz Trophy (1200m) at Ellerslie, extending his winning sequence to six.

The sprint feature for three-year-olds was the Darci Brahma gelding's first start since his dominant victory in the Gr.1 New Zealand 2000 Guineas (1600m) at Riccarton in November. Despite a testing impost of 60.5kg, he started as the red-hot \$1.10 favourite and was expected to outclass his opposition again.

That confidence took an immediate hit as Catalyst made a slow start, dropping out to a clear last in the first few strides of the race. He still sat at the tail of the field approaching the home turn.

But then Troy Harris asked for the acceleration that carried Catalyst to four brilliant stakes wins through the spring, and the star three-year-old answered the call.

Catalyst bounded past his opposition and shot clear, winning by two and a half lengths in a slick 1:08.89 for the 1200m journey.

Relieved trainer Clayton Chipperfield confirmed that all systems are go for Catalyst's Melbourne campaign, which is likely to start in the Gr.3 CS Hayes Stakes (1400m) at Flemington on February 15.

"That was heart-stopping," Chipperfield said. "I thought we were in a heap of trouble, but what a turn of foot he's got. The amount of ground he was able to make up in a short space of time,



Catalyst and rider Troy Harris in full flight (Trish Dunell)

it's just unbelievable.

"He'll take plenty of improvement out of this as we head towards Australia. But we'll be putting the hood back on – he can't afford to fall out of the gates like that over there."

Harris said the slow beginning was likely the result of a horse playing up in a neighbouring gate.

"But I was never worried, I always knew he was going to pick them up," he said. "It's unreal riding a horse like him – he's a machine."

"He had a good blow after the race, so he's going to take a lot of improvement from this. He's a horse who's getting better and better all the time."

"The more he races, the better he is."

Run To Perfection (Sepoy), who

was fourth behind Catalyst in the 2000 Guineas, chased him home again on Saturday to finish second.

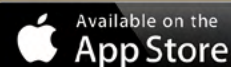
Classy filly Bavella (Snitzel) finished third, adding to a strong start to the big twilight meeting for Cambridge Stud owners Brendan and Jo Lindsay, who won the \$100,000 CollinsonForex Karaka Cup (2200m) opening event with Dance Card (NZ) (Savabeel).

– NZ Racing Desk

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | ARC Mr Tiz Trophy Gr.3 1200m. |
| Winner | Catalyst (NZ) 2016 |
| Owners | D Karreman |
| Trainer | Clayton Chipperfield (Te Awamutu) |
| Breeding | by Darci Brahma out of Evana by Entrepreneur (GB) |
| Breeder | The Oaks Stud; Waikato; NZ |



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ITS DESTINY'S CHILD BOUNCES BACK IN ELLERSLIE GROUP THREE

Underrated sprinter **Its Destinys Child (NZ)** (Castledale) bounced back from an unplaced run in Group One company at her last start to take out the Gr.3 Preferment@Brighthill Farm Concorde Handicap (1200m) at Ellerslie.

The Bob and Jenny Vance-trained six-year-old had won her first two starts in this campaign before tackling the sprinting elite in the Gr.1 Railway (1200m) on New Year's Day where she finished amongst the pack in mid-field after jumping from an outside barrier.

Punters who stuck with the ship were handsomely rewarded on Saturday courtesy of an inch-perfect ride by regular pilot Andrew Calder who positioned his mount in a handy position after jumping well from an inside barrier.

Calder improved Its Destinys Child into a challenging position turning for home as lightly weighted runner Molto Veloce (NZ) (Pins) shot to

the lead with 300m to run. Its Destinys Child chased hard and put her nose in front where it mattered as she grabbed Molto Veloce in the shadows of the post with Short Fuse (NZ) (Per Incanto) storming home out wide to take third.

Co-trainer Bob Vance was delighted with the win as he admitted he had been confident despite what appeared to be a disappointing performance at her last start.

"Her run in the Railway last time was great as she ran the third fastest last 600m," he said.

"She was just too wide but she came home really well that day.

"Jenny rides her in all her work so I can't take any credit whatsoever for today.

"Like all good mares she has a little bit of a temperament but she is very good.

"I'm not sure what to do next but there could be a race for her here over the Auckland Cup carnival, so we will freshen her up as she does go well fresh."

Calder also paid tribute to his mount who dug deep to get the win.



Its Destinys Child levels up to Molto Veloce (inner) to take out the Gr.3 Preferment@Brighthill Farm Concorde Handicap (1200m) (Trish Dunell)

"I wanted to get my mare into the clear pretty early and give her something to chase down," he said.

"I was always travelling well and at the 200m mark I thought I had the better of the leader (Molto Veloce) but when I got to her she kicked really strongly.

"I just kept asking her (Its Destinys Child) and she just out-grinded her.

"She wasn't far away in the Railway and she really deserved that one today."

Owned and raced by her breeder, Murray Nicholson, Its Destinys Child has now won seven from 17 starts and over \$163,000 in prizemoney. – NZ Racing Desk

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Race | ARC Concorde H. Gr.3 1200m. |
| Winner | Its Destinys Child (NZ) 2013 |
| Owners | M.R.N. Breeding And Racing Ltd |
| Trainer | Jenny & Bob Vance (Ardmore Lodge) |
| Breeding | by Castledale (Ire) out of It's My Destiny by Magic Ring (IRE) |
| Breeder | M.R.N. Breeding And Racing Ltd; Auckland; NZ |





WINDSOR UPSETS IN TIMARU STAKES

Lightweight runner **Windsor (NZ)** (Alamosa) made it three wins from three starts in his latest campaign when he led all the way to take out the Listed Speights Timaru Stakes (1400m) at Riccarton.

Formerly trained at Awapuni by Roydon Bergerson the Alamosa five-year-old joined the Terri Rae stable in mid-2019 after winning three times in the north.

Placed in one of his first three starts for Rae, Windsor was put aside for a spell before he resumed with a win over 1200m at Ashburton back in December before following that up with another successful effort over 1250m at Waikouaiti on New Year's Day.

Rae stepped him up to stakes company on Saturday and he didn't disappoint as he sped to the lead for rider Courtney Barnes and set up a good pace in front. Tackled by Monza Circuito (NZ) (Showcasing) and Belle Fascino (NZ) (Per Incanto) early in the run home, Windsor refused to yield as he kicked back strongly to down Monza Circuito by half a length with Belle Fascino battling on well for third.

Barnes was delighted with the performance from her mount although the original plan had been to take a sit behind the pace if possible.

"We thought there was going to be plenty of speed in the race and the plan was to take a sit in behind them," she said.

"When he jumped so well, I let him

roll along as nothing really wanted to take the lead off me.

"Turning for home he was really travelling but I knew he was going to be in for a fight. To his credit he really kicked hard and was too tough in the end.

"I'm not sure what Terri has planned for him now but he's going really well and he will be competitive in whatever she targets him for."

Rae conformed she doesn't have any immediate plans for her charge with the likelihood being he will be given some time off to get over the run.

"I would say he is a going to be pretty tired after that as it was a massive effort," she said.

"He really did all the hard work out in front as we had the blinkers on and it fired him up.

"He was very brave to fight the way he did as sometimes you have to

question him but today, he put his all into the race.

"I think he can have some time off before we work out what to do with him next."

Owned by Kevin Pratt under his Kamada Racing banner, Windsor is the older half-brother of promising three-year-old filly Queen Kamada (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) who was close up in fifth in the Gr.3 Desert Gold Stakes (1600m) at her last start. NZ Racing Desk

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Race | CJC Timaru S. L 1400m. |
| Winner | Windsor (NZ) 2014 |
| Owners | Kamada Park |
| Trainer | Terri Rae (Riccarton Park) |
| Breeding | by Alamosa out of Shanro (AUS) by Lonhro (AUS) |
| Breeder | GS Racing Ltd & D J MacKinnon; Waikato; NZ |
| Sales | 2015 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale V: Blackbridge \$14000 P: Kamada B/stock |



Courtney Barnes has Windsor in full flight as they take out the Listed Speights Timaru Stakes (1400m) at Riccarton (Race Images South)