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Darren Weir Racing

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## **South Australia Bonus**

A \$10,000 bonus was offered in South Australia for any trainer who could train four consecutive Saturday Metropolitan winners between August 1<sup>st</sup> and the end of February 2015.

Scraping in on the last meeting, we were lucky enough to be able to achieve this outstanding incentive.

Stratumsphere recorded the first win at Morphettville on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February as well as the third win two weeks later at Gawler on Gawler Cup Day.

Trustam provided the second win in the BM80 1200m Handicap whilst Taiyoo brought up win number four in the Group 3 Lord Reims Stakes on the last day of February.

A massive thank you must go to our float driver Tommy Jeffrey who makes the weekly trips to Adelaide.

To Mick & Kylie Huxtable thank you very much for allowing us to stay at your stables and to Sue who straps most of our horses.

We appreciate the commitment from you all and this achievement couldn't have been accomplished without you.

## **Excitement Levels Escalate**

We have never seen anyone more passionate or excited about a horse winning than Archie Salek when Your Divine Archie won at Ballarat.

Archie has been associated with the stable for more than 10 years, racing the mother of Your Divine Archie, Call Me Archie, with Darren back in 2005.

Archie is a statistician for the Western Bulldogs, so it is no surprise when he worked out it was 10 months and 1 day from the day she won her first race to the day she returned to the races after fetlock surgery.



With binoculars and hat in hand, Archie couldn't contain his excitement when Your Divine Archie saluted in the BM64 Fillies & Mares 1400m Handicap by half a length.

The hat went flying through the air and

luckily his binoculars were attached around his neck or god only knows where they would've ended up.

Your patience is certainly paying off Archie and let's hope your beloved Bulldogs can step up to the mark this year.



**Occupation:** OH&S Officer

**Origin:** Melbourne

**How long have you been involved with horses?** Early 80's

**How many horses do you own?** Small share in 5.

**How did you become associated with Weiry?** Through the legendary Luke Archibald and my son Luke.

**Favourite Horse:** Royal Bender – second only to Leica Vessel

**Favourite Jockey:** Damian Lane

**Favourite Racecourse:** Caulfield

**What is the best thing about Weiry?** Still the same Weiry I met all those years ago – lot of fun and very loyal

**Who is the best horse you've owned?** Royal Bender

**Who is your best horse at the moment?** Another Bender - hopefully

**Best Moment in Racing:** Running 2<sup>nd</sup> to Platelet in the Listed Sir John Monash Stakes at Caulfield with Royal Bender.

**Who is your next hopeful?** Tequila at Midnite

**What do you like most about visiting the stables?** Spending time in the entertainment room.

## Taiyoo Taiyoo Taiyoo

There may only be 28 days in February but Taiyoo sure did make it a month to remember, clocking up 3 wins including two black type races.

With the Adelaide Cup insight, Taiyoo has won seven of his last eight starts.

In February, he won the Sportingbet Mystery Bets BM96 Handicap over 2400m by 3 lengths with Jye McNeil in the saddle.

He then produced a tough win in the Listed Australia Torney Cup at Moonee Valley, securing his first black type race.

Originally the plan was to then head straight to the Adelaide Cup 3 weeks later, but as he pulled up so well he backed up the following week in the Lord Reims Stakes in Adelaide.

Winning the Group 3 race, was not an easy task though, as he was headed in the home straight but was able to fight back and win by half a length.



A big congratulations to all the owners who are located all over Australia.

And also to Sho Sanya (left) who rides and straps Taiyoo. Sho has even created the "Harada Party", which takes place after each of his wins with fellow colleagues until all hours of the next morning.

Well Done everyone and all the best in the Adelaide Cup.

Akzar who was originally targeted at the Adelaide Cup has had a slight diversion and will now contest the Group 1 Australian Cup.

## Amazing month for ATB

Australian Thoroughbred Bloodstock had an outstanding month in February part owning 8 of the 24 winners we trained.

Although Taiyoo did win 3 races for the month, they also had 5 other individual winners.

Glockenspiel was the first winner for the month at Stawell, whilst Lindendoom had a change of ownership and won on debut for her new owners at Terang.

Chloe Anna and Tintaglia were a part of a winning double at



Ararat and Stylish Lily (left) was long overdue for her win at Warrnambool.

Darren and Liz Dance do a fantastic job with their syndication business and we are glad to be able to reward you all with so many winners.

## ??? HAVE A THINK ???

- 1- Surfing or Snowboarding?
- 2- Basketball or Golf?
- 3- Holden or Ford?
- 4- Spa Bath or Swimming Pool?
- 5- To see the "Underdog" win or the favourite win?
- 6- Ride the world's most dangerous bull or be locked in a cage with the world's most dangerous man?
- 7- Best at sport, but hopeless at school or best at school and hopeless at sport?
- 8- Gymnastics or Cheer Leading?
- 9- Run A Marathon or Ride the Tour De France?
- 10- Listen to Michael Jackson or Justin Beiber?
- 11- To be Spiderman or Superman?
- 12- To watch How I Met Your Mother or Friends?
- 13- The Price Is Right or Wheel of Fortune?
- 14- Sky Dive or Bungee Jump?
- 15- Facebook or Twitter?
- 16- AM or FM Radio?
- 17- Red Wine or White Wine
- 18- Movie at the Cinemas or at home?
- 19- Win the lottery or live twice as long?
- 20- To be famous or to be the best friend of someone famous?

## Touch And Go

Just over 6 months ago it was touch and go if Trustam was going to survive, after suffering one of the worst colic cases we have seen.

She was immediately taken to the Ballarat Veterinary Clinic where emergency surgery was performed.

Thankfully she came through the operation with flying colours and repaid the owners with a gutsy 2 length win at Morphetville on Valentines Day.

The mare is cleverly named by rearranging the letters of the stallion Stratum, to become Trustam.

## One end of Australia to the other.

Whistle Stop sure is one seasoned traveller.

There probably aren't many horses who have raced or trialed in 4 different states in less than 15 starts.

The Street Sense gelding started his career with the Snowden's in Sydney and Melbourne. Then making his way to the Terry Kelly barn who raced him over the border in South Australia a few times.

Darwin trainer and now owner, Dick Leech, tried him in the Northern Territory before he returned to Victoria to join our stable. He has had two starts for the stable for a third at Tatura and a win at Yarra Valley. Ridden by stable jockey Johnny Allen in the 0-58 Highweight Handicap over 1500m, he won quite convincingly by over 4 lengths.

## Frenchy Retired



Multiple Group winner and Group 1 placegetter Puissance De Lune has been retired, after sustaining a fetlock injury.

In his short career, he had twelve starts in Group & Listed Races

finishing in the top 3 on eight occasions with wins in the Listed Bendigo Cup, Group 3 Queen Elizabeth Stakes, Group 2 Blamey Stakes and Group 2 PB Lawerance Stakes.

Unfortunately we never got to see the best of the ghostly grey and he will now embark on a new career where he is sure to produce the goods.

Frenchy will stand at Swettenham Stud this season, where he will more than enjoy a nice flirtatious filly or two.

We can't wait to see his progeny hit the track in the years to come.

## New Additions



My name is Simon McCartin, I am 24 years old and have lived in Ballarat for my entire life. My family have always been involved with horses; my parents are both former track riders and have bred and raced many horses over the years. Dad has been a small owner-trainer for about 40 years and some of my earliest memories are from the stables he used to occupy in Delacombe.

Along with the horses I have grown up playing football and cricket from a young age, where I continue to play footy with North City in the Ballarat Football League and the odd game of cricket out with Burrumbeet.

I attended Ballarat High School before studying Construction Management at Deakin University in Geelong. Upon completion of my degree I started working for Kane Constructions as a Contract Administrator on the new Geelong Library being built in Johnstone Park. I spent 12 months there and it was during this time that I started to realise my true passion was with the horses.

I was fortunate enough to gain this position after hearing about the opportunity from a family friend. At the moment my role involves keeping owners up to date with progress reports (some mornings are spent in the hut at the synthetic hill track), pre and post-race reports and assisting Jeremy with day to day tasks such as nominations, acceptances and engaging riders.

This is my third week here now and I have really enjoyed every aspect of the job. I look forward to what lies ahead and to hopefully meeting you all at some stage down the track!

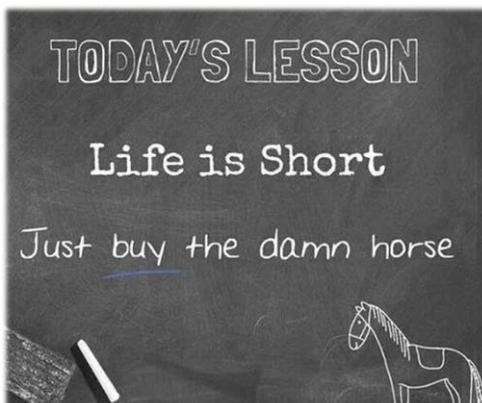


My name is Riley Baker, I am 18 years old and I come from a small town just outside of Geelong called Teesdale.

I have grown up with horses from a young age, where I started off with pony club. This then led me to competing in dressage and eventing. After a few years I transitioned to the show ring where I have won numerous titles and events and represented Victoria at the Nationals and Grand Nationals. When I'm not riding horses I love to play netball for my local club at Inverleigh.

I completed VCE last year at Western Heights College and was searching for a job, when I heard about this reception/admin trainee position.

Since joining the stable I have loved every minute of working here and can't wait for what the future brings.



### **FEBRUARY WINNERS**

**Glockenspiel ~ Gilarde ~ Deadly ~ Stratumsphere (2) ~ Taiyoo (3)**  
**Profit Share ~ Lunar De Hero ~ Pendles ~ Streak On ~ Trustam**  
**Lindendoom ~ Svalbard ~ Winston Drive ~ Chloe Anna ~ Karlesha**  
**Tintaglia ~ Stylish Lily ~ Your Divine Archie ~ Belorum**  
**Tuscan Sling ~ Whistle Stop**