

# Stallion Station Newsletter

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## Courage” joins Stallion Station roster

The former champion New Zealand pacer Courage Under Fire, who has previously stood at Nevele R Stud, Christchurch, is to do stud duty at Stallion Station this season.

Courage Under Fire is slated to stand one season only in Victoria at the discounted service fee of \$4000 plus GST. He has already arrived at the breeding facility and is settling in well to his new surroundings.

The stallion’s owner Greg Brodie said he was delighted to make **Courage Under Fire** accessible to Victorian breeders.

“When I was approached by Stallion Station I thought it was a very good opportunity for **Courage** to tap into a different pool of broodmares. He was always exceptionally popular when he raced in Australia,” Brodie said. “Additionally, Australia has not had the opportunity before of having the In The Pocket, Christian Cullen, Courage Under Fire bloodlines.”

Stallion Station principal Gary Lyons said: "We are proud to be able to offer such a wonderful stallion to Australian breeders. He was a great racehorse and is proving an exceptional sire from his first three crops. We believe he's the best value-for-money sire in the Southern Hemisphere."

With his oldest stock as four-year-olds, Courage Under Fire has shown up as an emerging sire with seven Group 1 performers, six Group or Listed winners and 95 individual winners. His progeny have won more than \$2 million in stakes to date with nine \$50,000 and five \$100,000 plus earners, as well as 30 in 2:00 or better.

“**Courage**” finished fifth on the all-aged Sires’ list in New Zealand with progeny earnings of \$1.1 million and was ranked in the Top Ten on both the two and three-year-old lists.

Among his best NZ bred winners have been Days Of Courage 1:56.9 (\$186,617), winner of 11 races including the Listed Northern 3YO Stakes and a multiple Group 1 placegetter, Eyecatcher Courage 1:56.6 (\$160,329), winner of the NZ Sires Stakes 3YO Championship, Cosmic Under Fire 1:57.9 (\$136,320), the winner of the Victorian Caduceus Club Cup and Enduro, Itz Cherry Ripe 1:58.7 (\$113,392), winner of the Caduceus Club 2YO Fillies’ Classic, the Queensland Derby placegetter Im Full Of Fire 1:58.5, a smart Victorian filly in Gilt Bromac 1:58.4, Port Courage 1:59.4 and Sweet Courage 1:59.2.



Courage Under Fire

## World record to Artistic Fella

**Artistic Fella**, a five-year-old son of the Cam Fella horse **Pacific Fella**, set a fresh world record for a mile and one sixteenth, when he won the \$250,000 US Pacing Classic final in 1:56.2 at The Meadowslands on July 26. He won as he liked by 3 ½ lengths.

After reaching the lead just before the 54.4 first half, Artistic Fella survived a challenge from Western Shore up the back straight and then powered away from the top class field which included Mr Feelgood, Total Truth and Western Ace.

“He’s as good as any horse I’ve ever driven and probably the best older horse,” driver Tim Tetrick said. “I called on him at the top of the stretch and he responded; he was great and he’s at the top of his game, never seen him better.”

A fortnight earlier Artistic Fella beat all but Mister Big in a truly memorable \$600,000 William R. Haughton Memorial at The Meadowslands in 1:49.

Out of an Artsplace mare, Artistic Fella has amassed lifetime earnings of \$2,396,855, of which \$729,580 has been earned in 2008 – a seasonal high for an aged pacer.

Artistic Fella is not the only Pacific Fella flying the flag for his sire in North America, however. The three-year-old **Determined Lady** captured a \$48,807 heat of the New York Sires Stakes at Yonkers in 1:56.6, **My Fella** (7YO gelding) scored at The Meadowslands in 1:50.2 and the five-year-old **Pacific Philly** won a \$35,000 race at Harrah’s Chester in 1:51.2.



Artistic Fella

## Riverboat's Oaks triumph

The \$75,000 Group 1 Queensland Oaks, run at the Gold Coast on July 5, was a triumph for the Cam's Card Shark horse **Riverboat King** as the sire of the winner **Riverboat Rosie** and the minor placegetter **Game Safin** – rather a notable siring feat.

Trained by Alan Donohoe, Riverboat Rosie settled midfield in the running line before being switched four wide to mount her challenge approaching the home turn. Under Donohoe's vigorous urgings, the filly prevailed by a half neck on the line with Game Safin, who led, a further 1 ½ metres away, third.

The last half was covered in a blazing 57.6 seconds.

Out of a Vance Hanover mare, Riverboat Rosie has won three of her nine starts and \$60,600 in stakes.

The pair are both members of Riverboat's first commercial crop in New Zealand comprising 38 foals, eight of which are winners. **Venus Devine**, another from this crop, notched her first win at Addington in early July, coming from near last to win in 2:01.9.

A son, **Rohan Home**, one of Riverboat's second small Australian crop, has been going great guns in New South Wales recently. The gelding, who is out of a Safely Kept mare, established a new Australasian record for a three-year-old over 2300 metres when he rated a brilliant 1:56.8 (last half in 57.1) at the new Menangle track on July 1.

A fortnight later he captured a heat of the Breeders Crown at the same track in 1:58.2 and then led throughout at Harold Park on August 1. He has won 10 of his 14 starts to date including his last five on end.

**Pop Z Pop**, a winner at Mohawk, Canada in 1:50.6 and 1:51.8, the 1:57.9 Albion Park winner **Rivulet** and the three-year-old filly **See You Later Boys** 2:00 have been other smart winners sired by Riverboat recently.

## Les Joslin new marketing man

Les Joslin, one of Victoria's leading harness racing identities, has joined the team at Stallion Station for the coming season.

A very successful breeder and owner, Les has been appointed as the Australian and New Zealand sales and marketing manager for the Southern Hemisphere's most unique breeding facility.

He has been breeding standardbreds for more than 20 years. Among the list of smart performers he has bred have been **Scoleala** 1:50.6, **On The Stage** 1:55, **Alesco** 1:57.9 and **Jack Bassett**, while he was a part-owner of Hobart and Shepparton Cup winner **Aftoodo** and **Thatwilldo**.

Les is a committeeman of the Victorian Standardbred Breeders and Studmasters' Association and a member of the Harness Racing Strategic Planning committee.

Prior to his retirement from the work force 12 months ago, Les served in management roles for British America Tobacco for almost 30 years.

He represented both Australia and Victoria in cricket and played football for VFA club Yarraville.

## Pink Bonnet to Spicey

Closer to home, **Ima Spicey Lombo**, a late blooming **Pacific Fella** two-year-old filly, continued her rich vein of form by easily winning the \$20,500 Pink Bonnet (Listed) at Harold Park.

Showing blistering gate speed, the youngster was sent to the top by Blake Fitzpatrick and always looked to have her rival's measure, cutting out the last two quarters in 29.3 and 29.7. It was her fifth career win.

Out of a Mystical Prince mare, Ima Spicey Lombo had earlier captured heats of the Kay Seymour Nursery and NSW Breeders Challenge (in 1:58.9) and finished runner-up in the \$125,000 Group 1 NSW Breeders Challenge Final. She is a very smart youngster.

Pacific Fella has jumped to fifth position on the Australian 3YO Sires list with 38 individual winners from 86 starters for progeny earnings of \$568,542. Recent three-year-old winners have been **Lahaini**, **Ultra Trendy Lombo**, **The Chiropractor** 1:59.8, **Motu Fella** and **Pacific Opus**.



Rohan Home

## 2YO winners by Caprock

The Jate Lobell horse **Caprock** produced two "new" juvenile winners in West Australia recently. They were **Nicolana Wild**, a winner at Bunbury in 1:59.8, and **Vintage Rock**, a double winner at Northam.

**Rockabout Nemo**, a Caprock three-year-old, advanced his record to four wins from eight starts including a 1:59.3 effort at Shepparton.

When he won the \$125,000 Group 1 NSW Breeders Challenge last month the **Mach Three** colt **Captain Joy** proved himself one of the top two-year-olds in New South Wales this season.

It was his fifth success from eight starts, and he soundly defeated the best two-year-olds in the State in the Breeders Challenge after being required to overcome a difficult barrier draw and a torrid trip.

With plenty of speed up front, courtesy of Bathurst Gold Crown winner Emjayem Grand and tough juvenile Watch The Aces cutting at each other, Captain Joy's task was made even tougher.

Driver Robbie Byrnes, however, seemed extremely confident and rounding the home turn, shot his charge to the front.

The pair swept away from their rivals in emphatic fashion, stopping the clock in a mile rate of 1:54.8 - a new Australasian mark for two-year-olds over a mile. The last half was covered in a blistering 56.4 seconds.

"It was a wonderful effort," trainer Sue Hunter said. "We always thought he would be in with a chance of winning but the barrier didn't help at all."

"He seemed to be travelling quite strongly in the run despite the fast quarters that the leaders were running."

Out of a Talk About Class mare, Captain Joy advanced his stake earnings to \$116,400, an amount that could be considerably boosted during the Breeders Crown series at Bendigo.

A Mach Three filly, **Ay Tee Em**, announced that she too will be a force in the Breeders Crown winning a repechage heat at Geelong, her fourth win to date.

Mach Three, who is currently sixth on the Australian 2YO Sires' list, was represented by several "new" winners in July including **Manhattan Sparkle**, who won a heat of the Breeders Crown on debut at Rangiora, NZ, **BG Three**, a winner in 1:58.3 at Menangle, and **Rich Pickings**.

Meanwhile, Mach Three's three-year-olds continue to make an impact on both sides of the Tasman. They are headed up by the Breeders Crown heat winners **Muscle Beach**, **Bronzwhaler Whitby** and **Tout Le Monde**, the Menangle winners **Machomical** 1:55.9 and **Big Fella Mach** 1:59.9, the Gloucester Park winner **Smooth Shift** and the NZ winners **Mach Express**, **Chief Inanga** and **Nitro**.

winners – Finn 1:59.4, **See You Later Boys** 1:59.9 and Rohan Home.

### [Peace Of Art winners](#)

The Artsplace horse **Peace Of Art** continues to build on his impressive tally of winners. – on both sides of the Tasman.

Heading the list are **Virginia Storm**, a three-year-old gelding who took a heat of the SA Southern Cross, **Get The Monet** (4 wins from 11 starts), **Bara Picasso**, the Globe Derby Park winner **Sandy Cove**, **Inner Peace** and the dual Tasmanian winner **Kept Art**.

The two-year-old filly **Step Up And Play**, winner of the Tasmanian Golden Slipper in March, finished a close third in the \$30,000 Evicus Stakes at Hobart, while **Inisheer**, a six-year-old mare, posted win No. 5 at Addington, Christchurch.

### [Cammibest's smart youngster](#)

**Orally Yours** looks certain to uphold the good record of **Cammibest's** stock.

Out of a Quick Comeback mare, Orally Yours has won three of her five starts so far including a \$20,000 division of the Ontario Sires Stakes Grassroots Series at Hiawatha Horse Park in 1:56.8.

The Cambest horse has also been represented by several smart three-year-olds in Canada recently including **Awesum Best** 1:54.8, a thrice winner in July, **Best Night** 1:55.4, **Cmybest** 1:58 and **Minglewood** 1:59.2.

### [Four wins on the trot](#)

The three-year-old gelding **Ray**, a son of leading trotting sire **Armbro Invasion**, is proving somewhat of a standout among the trotting ranks on New Zealand's South Island. He won four races in consecutive weeks at Addington during July and gives every indication of going right through to cup class. He is out of a Sundon mare.

Armbro Invasion, whose stock earned over \$1 million in the 2007/08 season, enjoyed another great month with his progeny. **Cornishman** took his earnings to almost \$100,000 in winning off 20 metres at Auckland, **Cool Story** won his eighth race at Cambridge, **Mountain Woman** completed her sixth win at Auckland and the four-year-old **Brownie** won his first race by five lengths at Addington.

### [Falcons Icon's Group placegetter](#)

**Iconic Comfort**, one of the first small Australian crop of the Falcon Seelster speedster **Falcon's Icon**, finished a creditable third in the \$85,000 Group 1 QBred Triad Final for two-year-old colts and geldings at Albion Park.

Meanwhile, another two-year-old in **Urban Icon** became his sire's third Australian-bred winner when he emerged successful at Terang.