



BLACK TYPE FOR PARTHESIA



Parthesia made her trip down to Tassie all the worthwhile when she got her first taste of black-type success in the Listed \$100,000 Tasmanian Oaks at Launceston. After she was sent to the paddock following her maiden victory at Horsham back in October she returned to the races at the start of 2017 and was right on target for the 2100m event, at her fifth run back. With Damian Lane on board, she drifted back in the early stages to settle in a midfield position on the fence. Damian angled her away from the fence into the clear at the top of the straight and with a storming turn of foot she ran down the odds on favourite Hot Dipped to score by nearly half a length. It was a terrific staying performance by the filly, congratulations to owner John Richards and everyone involved!

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Bart goes back-to-back



Following his outstanding second up victory in the \$500,000 Group 1 C F Orr Stakes at Caulfield, Black Heart Bart returned to the track two weeks later where he continued his amazing win/place record with the stable and again proved he's just too good when taking out the \$500,000 Group 1 Futurity Stakes. Having only been beaten at Caulfield by the mighty mare Winx, he stepped out as odds on favourite and as usual didn't disappoint. With Brad Rawiller in the saddle he again found himself in a beautiful position midfield with cover. Turning for home he was travelling well but his fast finishing stablemate Tosen Stardom gave him a real run for his money and it took all of Bart's big heart to fight to the line and salute by the narrowest of margins. Now, with his record with the stable sitting at 13 starts for 6 wins and 6 seconds and back to back Group 1's under his belt, we can only watch in awe at what this amazing horse will do next.

Plenty of miles make a Star!



The well-travelled Stratum Star has clocked up plenty of mileage over the last couple of months with back-to-back million dollar Victories in Western Australia and Queensland. Nothing seems to faze the warrior, after just over a month off to "freshen up" Star made his presence felt on his return to the track in his home state of Victoria and made it three in a row with another impressive performance. Jumping fast from barrier 3 with Mark Zahra aboard in the Group 2 Peter Young Stakes at Caulfield he found himself landing in a nice position just off the speed. Turning three wide into the straight he ran on strongly to narrowly beat home his stablemate Humidor who put in another good performance. Congratulations to everyone involved and with our eyes set on the Group 1 Australian Cup let's hope Star can continue on with his amazing run of form.

Warrnambool Double

ATB, Dean Yendall and the stable got a winning double on a Thursday evening's racing at the Bool with quite an impressive pair breaking their maidens. Think Babe started it off with a very impressive 8 length victory over his nearest rival at just his second career start. Flying out of the gates, he rolled straight to the lead, he never looked in doubt. Whilst Bloodlette really relished her second start over 2000m, settling off the speed with cover she found her way to the front when the leaders 'dropped anchor' at the 1000m. Turning for home she had the field under pressure and went on for a nice 5 length victory! It was exciting to see two of our young horses breaking their maidens by a combined 13 lengths and in such impressive fashion!

Congratulations to ATB and all their owners.

Thermal on Fire!



After winning the Open Handicap down the straight at Flemington on Jan 14th Thermal Current continued on with his winning form and made it two in a row for the first time in his career with a powerful performance in the Listed \$120,000 W J Adams Stakes over 1000m at Caulfield. Jumping from barrier 5 with the in-form Damian Lane in the saddle he drifted back to settle around midfield on the fence. With a ground saving ride into the straight, Thermal travelled up sweetly on the rail and when daylight appeared at the 200m mark he flew through the gap and went on for an impressive half-length victory over Shakespearean Lass.

Thermal, who thrives in the beach environment down in Warrnambool, took his career win tally to 7.

Launceston Cup



Following a second place in the Hobart Cup, the ever-consistent Big Duke made it second time lucky over in Tassie when he put in a dominant performance to take out the Group 3 \$200,000 Launceston Cup. He was a little wide into the first turn but Ben Allen kept his cool and found a nice position just off mid field with cover heading past the post for the first time. Again, he had to face the breeze down the back but Big Duke gradually improved around the outside. Peeling off their backs approaching the final 600m mark he travelled magnificently, taking over the lead at the top of the straight and going on for another very impressive victory. Big Duke didn't only salute for his first Group Victory but for rider Ben Allen as well.

Congratulations to Australian Bloodstock, Ben Allen and all the connections involved in the win!

Renew Salutes at last

It had been a long time between drinks for Renew – 819 days to be exact, but he found his way back to the winners stall over in South Australia when he 'outstayed' his rivals in the Benchmark 82 Handicap over 2500m. With Apprentice Matthew Poon claiming two kilos off his back Renew jumped fast and made his way to the lead where he dictated the race. Turning for home he was two lengths clear but he really had to earn the prize when he fought off the fast finishing Tunes and narrowly saluted for the first time since the Sandown Cup back in November 2014. Congratulations to everyone involved!

★ FEBRUARY WINNERS ★

Sweet Melody ó Tennessee Gold ó Labuan Star ó Mrs Gardenia (2) ó Olivier ó Thermal Current ó Smooth Consul ó Justiceforall ó Renew ó Himeji Jo ó Black Heart Bart (2) ó Burning Front ó Armada ó Abers Solutely ó Leica Celebre ó Fast Plan ó Autonomous ó Brugal Reward (2) ó Stellar Collision ó Rising Hope ó Kenedna ó Forsyth ó Parthesia ó Above Authority ó Gold Blush ó Big Duke ó Think Babe ó Bloodlette ó Arctic Flow ó Miss Sydney ó Another Coldie ó Stratum Star ó Hectopascal ó Arcadia Lane ó Poppiholla ó Broadway and First



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Darren Weir Racing

5 mins with Sue McDonald



Birthday:
16th May

Occupation:
Accounts payable/ OH&S/
Strapping at the races!

Favourite Horse:
Backbone

Favourite Stable Horse:
Euroman

Favourite Drink:
Cider

Favourite Food:
Gravy cheese chips after the
ciders!

**Favourite thing to do outside
of work:**
Running

My Ideal day is:
Spending time back home in
Ireland with friends and family

Best Moment in Racing:
Being part of the celebrations
after Prince Of Penzance won
the 2015 Melbourne Cup.