

# SENDING RAINBOWS

THE WINDERMERE FARM MONTHLY UPDATE

## SINGING THE BLUES, IN THE RAIN !

Dear valued clients and friends,

It has been a month to remember and then try and forget. The work load in the rain was enormous. Many dollars were spent scraping mud from yards and covering them with road base. Never before have we seen so much mud without a chance for it to dry. We have had a reprieve, but not for long they say----- a deluge is heading our way and a warning of flash flooding to the river system is prevalent.

No winners this month, only place getters and lots of problems, so let's bring on March. I do like singing the blues, but not as much as I have this past February!!

AUSBRED GOLD ran out of time to race once more, we had a phone call from the stewards just before she was to run at Wyong to say "no more racing" So God bless her and baby.

ARISTON ran a good strong race, getting to the line well over 1400 at Mudgee, 5/2 in a glue pot of a track. At Goulburn 17/2 he ran ok, but seemed to be looking for further than the 1400 as he put in a one pace effort. His work picked up considerably after this run but unfortunately he received a nasty cut to his back leg and is now recovering.

LADY GREEN also accompanied ARISTON to both tracks and followed his efforts. We then took her along with others to Bathurst 26th. We left that morning (last Sunday) looking forward to racing four horses that don't handle the wet at all --- on top of the ground, dead four with possible

upgrade. Chance of showers they said, that's ok we said. It rained all the way from Lithgow to Bathurst and continued all day! We watched as the track was downgraded bit by bit and took note of the Jockeys who reported to us, it was eventually a heavy nine, not a slow seven.



ARIANNA SAY'S " LOOK CRUISE THE MUD HAS GONE'



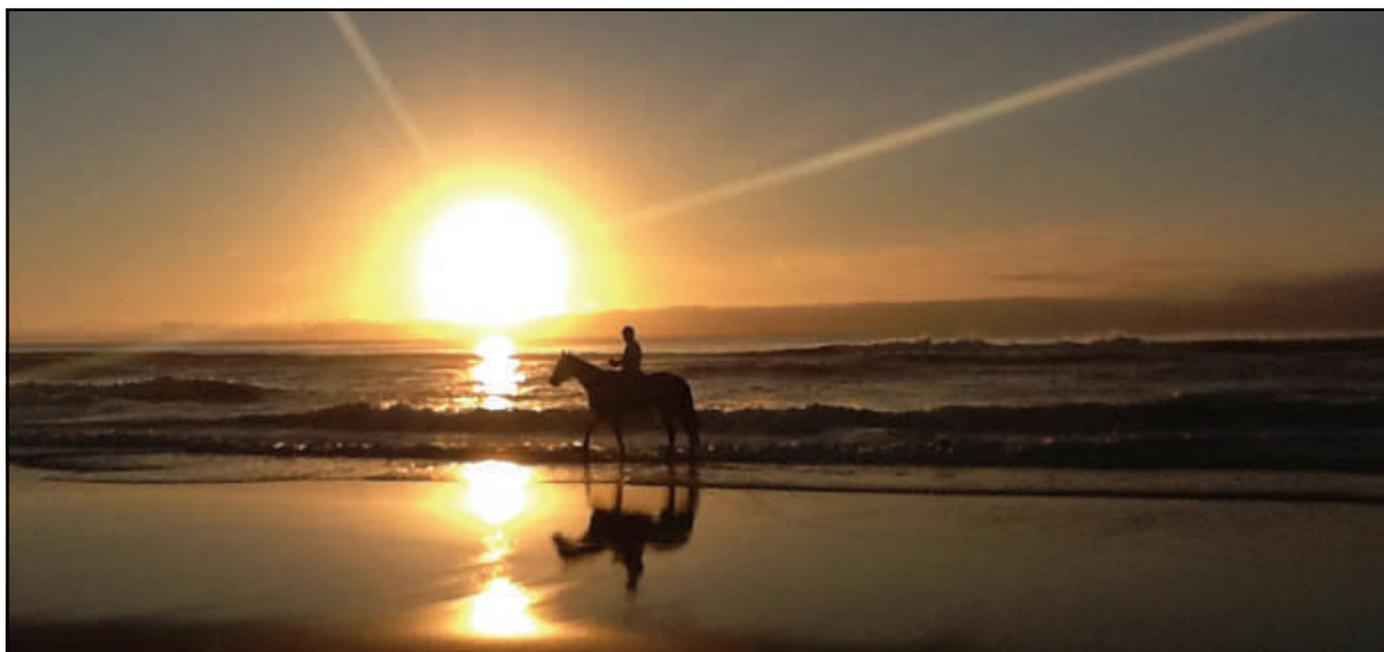
LADY GREEN I'm sure, noticed our expressions of disappointment and put in her best effort so far on a heavy track. While not running a place, she did run home to be beaten only two lengths, a phenomenon for her, as she usually taps the mat and refuses to run in the wet--- always running last!

BILLET tried hard at Mudgee on the---or should I say IN the glue pot track to run fourth, beating the favourite and second favourite. He pulled up blowing more than I have ever seen him blow after a race. The air on that day was drinkable and for him to put in such a try hard effort on a track like that---- was commendable. He went to Goulburn for a keep fit run over a mile. Coming from the outside barrier to share the lead nearly all the way, I thought was another good effort. He was squeezed by the eventual winner and second place getter, costing him second, he of course ran third. At Bathurst to contend the Cup, I became concerned that we should not start him on the track that had turned into a ploughed paddock. I therefore rang the owners and we chose to run. The jockey Jay Ford reported he hung out so badly, he was worried about him. I had his old tendon scanned yesterday; he's pulled up with two strains one below and one above his old tendon injury. He has to go out for three months.

SMART AUSBRED has been pulled from pillar to post with the weather plus a badly bruised back fetlock joint where he struck himself, maybe it was through playing hard in his yard,

or being cast in his box ?. Now over that, we----- --as I said were excited to be finally running him at Bathurst on top of the ground. We were finally there and so decided to run him, as the track was nowhere near as bad in the third race as it was by the 7<sup>th</sup>. He gave them something to chase until the last two hundred, where he stopped like he was shot. On return to scale, John Grisedale reported and I quote—"two things Dor, he doesn't handle wet tracks when he has to stretch right out----- -----his legs go everywhere and he has a breathing problem, either a soft palate or broken winded". This I reported to Chris Lawlor immediately and he was scoped yesterday to find he was broken winded. This means one of his breathing windows (we'll call them) hardly opens at all, this will come into play more so when the pressure is on, eg the last two hundred meters. This condition I suspect has been a mild case, worsening to a point of 4 out of 5. In my opinion he is well worth the money spent to operate on the problem. He has a very good chance of full recovery, being he's only three and has heaps of talent.

CLEO'S GIFT, finally made it to Hawkesbury races. I think we had every right to be more excited about her barrier manners, than we did her performance in the race. We know she will improve on that race, but in the barriers she was almost perfect. At this stage we are still reluctant to take her anywhere else, as the barrier attendants at Hawkesbury know her idiosyncrasies.



**BRING BACK THE SUN**

Terry Robinson riding on the nine mile beach at Berry.

BLACK PIRATE was able to gain a run at the Canterbury night meeting, after his Wednesday Newcastle engagement was cancelled (of course due to rain) they gave the three year olds and two year olds a chance at Canterbury, a good move I thought. PIRATE--- being it was his 7<sup>th</sup> run in this time, or he hated night racing (as some do) refused to race. By the time they reached the last 800mts he'd made his mind up, this is as far as I go. I had to give him the benefit of the doubt and put him out until the first of April (6wks). It will be interesting if we ever choose a night race for him again, wether the same thing happens. I've heard, not too often--- but none the less I have heard several trainers report after form reversals of their winners, "oh she or he, just refuses to race at night, that's why she or he didn't go any good last start". Knowing this horse as I am becoming more and more understanding of him, especially now knowing he was a poddy foal, I suspect he tapped the mat like a spoilt child. But as I say after seven runs, I took the out option.

LORD ROW, our only mud runner it seems, ran a great second at Hawkesbury 16/2, on a very heavy track. If he had of come down the outside of the track where the going was at least three lengths better---he wins. He's going great guns now, his work has improved tremendously since his 2nd. So we look forward to a win maybe next start.

HORSES coming along well are a new comer to the stable, a group winner FISTS OF FURY. Who was purchased at a tried horse sale (broken down) have you ever heard of the story of TAKE OVER TARGET? Well here's hoping! SAC RED JOURNEY will be trialling end of March and we couldn't be happier with his progress towards the Inglis Classic 17<sup>th</sup> May. SHADES OF GREEN is also showing well above average ability in her work and we just can't wait to race her.

AUSBRED BENZ is a real character, tough and cheeky. We suspect he will put all of this into racing, which will see him in the winner's circle many times.

MADAM MEDUSA, as her mother did, showed ability on the track but not in races. We will definitely pass the buck to the mother, as we love the GOLDEN SNAKES, She will now have a blessed life as a three day aventer.

EYES MAGIC is much stronger and more focused this time in after our prayers for him to mature mentally. Here's hoping he shows his true talent this prep. AUSBRED ARIA, has been given time in the paddock and will resume work today, she a very scopie filly, that will furnish into a magnificent race horse. THE COBRA KING, ( by, GOLDEN SNAKE) will join ARIA after his recovery of a hair line fracture of his back hock, he's due for a change of luck.

Well that about wraps it up for me for a while, as my few horses are out resting. So Wade takes the reins with his very promising team, lots to look forward too.

Just getting back to me training a few, Des Hoysted interviewed me once after a city win, asking "how many horses do you train Doreen" I said "oh they only give me a couple to shut me up" he replied "well that hasn't worked; they'll have to give you more"!

It's hard to give times and places of the next horses racing as we batten down for more extreme weather, so I will keep you posted.

Sending rainbows,

Dor & Wade



BILLET IS RESTING NOW WITH HIS MATE BUBBLES

# WINDERMERE FARM.. a small piece of heaven



## CONTACT US

Here at Windermere Farm we love your feedback. If you have any questions about your horse's training or the newsletter, don't hesitate to get in contact.

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I now have a reprieve from my beloved horses, as they are all spelling.

Therefore I have time for the next couple of months to read around schools. Only winners give me more pleasure than this.

To make life a little easier for me, we have employed a nice young man to take over my physical work. Jarrod is his name and he lives locally, he's only 17 years, so even better, no competition to a 60 year old.

PEPPI GO'S TO CHINA, is in the final scenes at the art department. I love the illustrations and am looking forward to it soon being available; I think kids and adults will love it!

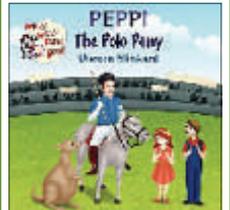
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**Doreen Slinkard**

AUTHOR



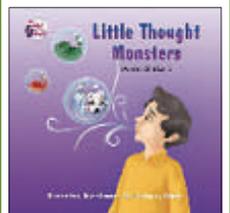
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