#### JANUARY 2014



SENDING RAINBOWS THE WINDERMERE FARM MONTHLY UPDATE

## JANUARY 2014 A TRIALLING MONTH!

Dear valued clients and friends,

This January has been a very trialling month, literally with the horses and then with our God daughter Amanda, sadly leaving our shores with her family, husband Tom and son Digby to live in Hong Kong for three years. It seems however, that Digby is all set for the adventure and has made some admiring friends already!



It looks like Digby is all set for the flight





It's easy to make friends when you have snow white hair.







Celebrating Wades birthday on our friends, Toni and Graham Ellis's, lovingly restored Halverson boat. Toni is taking the picture and Graham, the Captain, is far right. Helena and Ross Downie also enjoyed the day with us. Many thanks for a lovely day on board the Ellis QE2!!

Wade celebrated his 67th Birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup>, in fine style! We were invited by our friends Toni and Graham Ellis to join them for lunch and a cruise around the amazing Pitt Water region of our wondrous inlets and small harbours in Sydney. We were blessed with mild weather which made the cuisine and the champagne all the more enjoyable. Thank you Toni and Graham for a most memorable day on your QE2, Halverson, of which I must add was lovingly restored by Graham. Well done Captain!

Now to the gee-gee's. BLACK PIRATE began our month with a disappointing run at Wyong on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. He had been working very well, was extremely bright and happy, so all looked in place for at least a prize money cheque. After drawing barrier one, we discussed the tactics and so it was agreed to, that he should travel in a position to where he was happy. This ended up with him being a little closer than mid field. It all looked good, until he was asked for the final effort. "Sorry" he said "not today." I came away wondering, pondering and examining all aspects of this enigma horse. With PIRATE continuing to do well and work well, we at last got our chance at an easy win-in a five horse race!! Off we went to Bathurst on the 17<sup>th</sup>. He was in the first race and so we arrived two hours prior, waited in the heat amongst a million flies and then breathed a sigh of relief when it was time to go pick up the saddle. Nobody, except an old guy was in the saddle room. I asked "where is everyone?" His reply, "they're out inspectin the track luv" I won't go on with the banter, all I'll tell you is, after finding out that the course curator, in his wisdom, turned the sprinklers on between 8.30am and left them on until 11.30 am, which literally flooded the track, I laughed. I must be mad, or driven mad with this racing game because I kept on laughing-especially when the jockeys returned and I asked Grant Buckley. "so how is it Grant?" "Well" he said "I'll put it this way Dor, I jumped a little to test the sinkage and half of me disappeared!" I continued to laugh and cry--- and then declared I would go home and write a poem about this, 'the day the race track turned into a swamp!' Do you remember seeing the photo I placed a couple of months back, when the sprinklers mysteriously came on at Bathurst during a race? Needless to say, the curator has been sacked and a full inquiry has found Bathurst Race club to be negligent and therefore, they have lost their licence--for a while at least.

PIRATE, it seems does not enjoy these rock hard tracks, as he showed us at Goulbourn on the 28<sup>th</sup>. I'm sure (without checking,) in every race the track or class record was broken. The track, although being rated at first light-- a dead 4, was immediately upgraded to a good three and then later a fast track. We will try shock tamers and race him at Gosford on Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> over a mile, one last chance to redeem himself, before we, the shareholders make a decision to his future.

Our darling SHADE OF GREEN we sold. She has left our stable to further her career in SA. She arrived only a few days before the Murray Bridge Cup was to be run and she consequently won it! It just proves how tough Sydney racing is, as she had performed at her best in Metropolitan Sydney, only to be beaten by very short margins to run respectable fourths and fifths. We wish her and her new connections all the best. We had to wait for the 30<sup>th</sup> at our home track Hawkesbury to see APPLIANCES and LORD ROW, have a run around. Both horses will deem fitter and go a lot better their next time around.

A very pleasing morning it was for us on the 20<sup>th</sup> when we watched all horses enter their future races, with performing very well at Hawkesbury trials. They were, RED REGAS (Josh's horse he bred) WON, showing his education had sunk in, with him doing all things right.

AUSBRED BENZ won like a champ.

STRADAZZLE missed the kick, which we forgave, seeing it was his first trial. He then weaved his way through the field to run a close second. He is a very impressive youngster, with an enormous, easy going stride, something to really look forward to!!

The Rosehill trials on the 4/2 will see AUSBRED BENZ have his second trial and he may then race at Goulbourn or Mudgee.

The same trials will see SACRED JOURNEY have his first trial back. We may then race him at Goulbourn on the 14<sup>th</sup> if he does well after the trial. We know for a fact hard tracks don't worry Sacred!! (Remember the bitumen track he WON on and broke the track record?)

VENCEDORA was to also trial at Rosehill, but he has had a slight set back. Nothing to worry about, it seems he got himself cast during the night and has been a little stiff and sore. So we will let him get over it and trial him at Hawkesbury on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Apart from that, Vencedora has impressed us and the jockeys greatly with his effortless galloping style and his ability to change gears so quickly. I have promised he will be worth waiting for and I hold on to that promise.

Our darlings, AUSBED LACE, and LA CHIC....have both showed true talent this educational prep. We look forward to trialling them on the 17<sup>th</sup> at Hawkesbury, in company with their handsome escort, VENCEDORA.

BELLE RULER is flying with her <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> pace and taking to the barriers like a piece of cake. She will be ready to trial at the end of February. Let's hope, that the way she's going, she may just follow in Footy Fan's footsteps. (Clichés-- sorry) FOOTY FAN has returned to work, but the owner Tom likes to see her have a week at the water walker before taking on fast work. This procedure has worked in the past and so while you're on a good thing stick to it! (Another cliché!) They say a good writer doesn't need clichés, I'm still a learner!

AUSBRED SKY is a magnificent young filly in work and we look forward to her trailing at the end of February.

ROVING EYE did extremely well with his first education prep and has now gone out to spell and mature, even more so, into the very nice horse we know he is.

On the first of March SNIPAROSE and TOO CHIC will return to work after a 10 and 8 week spell (consecutively). So lots of good days ahead we're sure.

Good luck and good punting!!

Sending rainbows Dor and Wade

This months videos on YouTube Click on the links <u>Typical Morning at the Track</u> Gallop—Vencedora & Ausbred Benz

# Peggy's Corner



Standoff at the "OK Corral"

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## **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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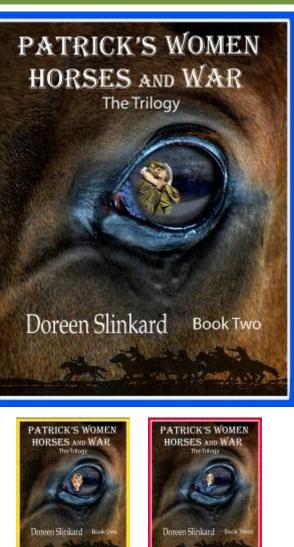




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