

CHRIS WALLER RACING



CWR Reaches 100 Winner Milestone



CWR brought up a treble when reaching the 100 winner milestone for the 2010/2011 racing season.

As the season is drawing to a close Chris Waller was delighted to recently record his 100th Metropolitan winner for the season. Whilst the final stages of the season have seen Chris take a clear lead in the NSW Metropolitan Trainers Premiership, reaching this milestone was a great way to approach the season end.

In achieving this dream Chris became one of only five trainers to reach such a feat. The honour role of those who have been able to do it in the past is headed by Tommy Smith (who was able to do it 20 times), Brian Mayfield-Smith, John Hawkes and Gai Waterhouse. The names of those in the '100 club' give a good indication of how exclusive this milestone really is.

It was only a decade ago when Chris was thrilled to train his first metropolitan winner and went on to secure five winners for his debut season and then it was only five years ago when Chris was able to break the 20 barrier for Metropolitan winners. This is a credit to Chris and wife, Stephanie, on the way that they have been able to manage and grow their business.

"It is a huge privilege to train in Sydney. To be able to achieve 100 winners in the season is a dream come true" Chris said.

However Chris was very quick to acknowledge those who helped him reach this milestone "I could never have been able to achieve this without the wonderful support from all of my owners. I have had many talented and well bred horses come into my stable and I am grateful for the opportunity to train them".

"I also have got a wonderful team of staff who work hard to ensure that we are able to be so competitive here in Sydney. To have a strong team of staff and horses behind you is essential to reach these goals".

Despite this achievement the season has not ended with more meetings to come we look forward to seeing this tally increase.

Trivia Fact: First winner of the 100 was OUR CANNAVARO (Hugh Bowman) at Randwick on 7 August 2010. 100th winner was VELROSSO (Damien Oliver) at Rosehill on 25 June 2011.

Issue 4
15 July 2011

Special points of interest:

- Latest stable news
- Business deal of the month
- Horse of the month



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Merchandise—A Stayer On The Rise

Exciting English import Merchandise displayed his natural ability last month when putting together back to back City wins following two starts at the Provincials. After commencing his career in the UK with one win from two starts he was purchased as part of the CWR annual sojourn to England on a pre purchase order from owners Neville Morgan, Craig and Brett Walker. Merchandise commenced his Australian racing campaign with a seventh of eight runners at Kembla Grange over 1600m before stepping up to the 1850m at Newcastle and finishing second when collared right on the line. The knack of Chris Waller to continually improve his stayers was evident when the son of Beat Hollow stepped out a Canterbury for a midweek Metropolitan race over 1900m. He began well and took up the running at the tight turning track and led throughout before being severely interfered with on the turn and again in the straight. He was second past the post but stable Apprentice, Jason Collett, fired in a protest and was subsequently successful as the placing's were amended. Merchandise was then backed up for a 2400m race at Warwick Farm and was sent out favourite in a field of eleven runners with Jason Collett retaining the ride. He took up a handy position close to the speed and ensured it was a true staying test when grinding away to the line for an easy victory with 3L to the second horse. It was an impressive preparation and he has since been sent to the paddock before being targeted at a Spring campaign.

Little Surfer Girl Rides Wave to Victory

CWR was thrilled with the black type win for Little Surfer Girl in the Civic Stakes at Rosehill on 2 July. Having raced and won in the week prior she was certainly a horse in form and the win displayed just how well she was going.



Ridden by Glyn Schofield in the 1400m event she parked off the leading bunch before accelerating away at the 200m and easing down close the line. The win takes her to six career wins and in excess of \$300,000 in prize money. The race had not always been in her program, however, after pulling up so well from the week before she was nominated for the race. To win the race Chris Waller knew that she had to take the next step but that is exactly what she did to secure victory for the Ingham Family.

The victory of Little Surfer Girl was one victory on a day where Chris was delighted to have four winners. The other winners on the day were Rain Melody, Wazn and Mutawarath.

60 Seconds with.....Jason Collett



Age: 20

Favourite Food/Drink?

Roast Pork Dinner with a cold glass of Coca Cola

Hobbies outside of racing?

Golf

When was your first race ride?

It was a filly my Dad trained called Outrageous Fortune. It was three years ago at the beginning of July at Te Araho in New Zealand.

Best racing moment?

Winning the Group 2 Izuzu Stakes over 1600m on a mare called November Rain that my Dad trains.

Best race horse seen?

Black Caviar

Best race horse ridden?

Red Ruler

If you were down to your last \$10 what would you spend it on?

The nicest meal possible for \$10.

Two Year Olds Making a Mark

CWR has drawn upon the two year old ranks late in the season with some impressive winners over the winter months. With Startreusse putting the stable on the map with the 2YO's in late May the stable has since unleashed possible future stars with wins to Mickelberg and Velrosso in recent months, as well as placings to Dynamic Honour, Ingham Magic and Carbon Taikun. Mickelberg, a half sister to Group 1 winner Gold Trail, showed ability in her initial preparation before returning for a winter campaign. Following a luckless few starts she was able to break through for an impressive win at Canterbury with stable Apprentice Jason Collett aboard. Another impressive 2YO winner was Velrosso who was victorious on debut at Rosehill over 1100m on June 25. The son of General Nediym was ridden by Damien Oliver and after settling near the rear of the field knuckled down nicely in the straight to record a strong win. Other runners to catch the eye include Dynamic Honour who was very good on debut when going down by a small margin on the line after flashing home late. Carbon Taikun was another who had no luck at Warwick Farm on July 13 but still managed to rally late to finish off well in second position.



Mickelberg cruises away to victory

Oliver Twists a Treble at Rosehill



CWR spiced up winter racing when enticing immortal jockey Damien Oliver to Sydney for a drive by mission and came up trumps with the star hoop guiding three of the stables runners to victory at Rosehill Gardens. Following the suspensions of several leading hoops plus the vacancies left by some of those on holiday the riding ranks in Sydney were left quite slim and as a result CWR elected to invite Oliver north with several good rides for the stable. First race of the day Oliver was aboard the impressive first starter Velrosso and following his two trials was put up

even money favourite. He was perfectly ridden by Oliver and won on raw ability with many of the better judges quoting him as a potential star of the future. Oliver was then legged up for the staying feature on The Verminator and again out rode his rivals when settling at the rear before saving ground up the inside when turning for home and cruising to an easy victory. Oliver saved up the best till last for the Ingham family owned Little Surfer Girl and after finding a position allowed her to settle before taking a run in the straight and exploding away from her rivals. Oliver has reunited his services with the stable again recently at Randwick on July 9 and again at Warwick Farm on July 13.



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A Word from the Trainer

You have recently clocked up your 100th metropolitan winner for the season and look to have the trainers premiership under a firm grasp, how do you feel about the achievements you have made this season?

It is very satisfying to train 100 winners in a season but I can now see that the people who have achieved it simply have had good systems in place, good staff working as part of the team and good owners behind them. This will obviously be sent to our owners so I am not saying this for the sake of it but I could not be happier with the owners I have in my stable. I must thank the owners we have as they have given me the confidence to train winners and they let me do things the way I believe they should be done. I have a few things I need to polish up on but I am the first to admit it. We also have great staff backing us up which sees all the little things being done. It is a dream to be at the top of a big organization and although I get the pats on the back it is a team effort and I know we are all proud of our achievements this season.

The latest batch of English horses have been firing of late, including recent wins to the likes of Foreteller, Merchandise and Wazn. You will head over again this year but will there be any changes to the quantity or quality sought?

The English horses are a great back bone for me and we have gradually increased the price we pay which sees us getting better quality as a result. With that said we cannot lose the track of the amount we spend on them and for 100K-150K we can secure multiple city winners who can earn good prize money. Things will not change in this respect but with horses such as Stand To Gain and My Kingdom of Fife have given me the confidence to see that we can buy horses that are out of form but exposed to better racing and allow us to target better races. My Kingdom of Fife was not purchased by me but I was fortunate enough to be given it by the owners after they purchased it and their system is something I will try and follow. It is a great opportunity to fill the void of people waiting to race yearlings and also with horses on the way out.

Your Spring troops are now back in work and being prepared for Spring campaigns. Are there any horses we should be keeping our eye out for and what horses are likely to be set towards Melbourne and Sydney features such as The Epsom, Metropolitan, Cox Plate, Caulfield and Melbourne Cups?

We have a relatively young team of horses and many of these need to be taken along through the grades quietly. At the same time we have the big races in mind if they continue to take the necessary steps. The Epsom will be targeted by half a dozen or so horses from the stable and likewise with the Metropolitan which is a good race as a stepping stone towards the Cup races. Horses that have proven themselves such as My Kingdom of Fife and Triple Elegance will be targeted at the major races in the Spring. I do love Sydney racing though and whilst the Melbourne prize money is a touch more it is a good time to get wins on the board and then hopefully still have some good quality racing left to take on some of the Melbourne horses later in the carnival.

You have uncovered talented New Zealand Apprentice Jason Collett who has been a huge success in Sydney since his arrival. What are your thoughts on Apprentice's in the future and do you think you will increase your involvement with stable Apprentice riders?

I have been selfish in not taking on Apprentice's in the past, simply because we have the ability to be able to select whatever Apprentice we want when we want them. This can be dependent on what they are claiming and the amount of winners they have left as part of their claim. For example there is no point in using a new 3kg Apprentice in the City as they simply lack experience against the better riders. When they are nearing the end of their 3kg claim it is a better time to grab them. This is likewise with 2kg Apprentice riders, 1.5kg Apprentice riders etc. You really want the most amount of experience for each division of the claim. If you are to employ a stable Apprentice you need to support them or else no one will and I am not in the position where I need to be doing that. I also see Apprentice's continually letting their Masters and Racing NSW down so until I can see a clearer future for Apprentice's in Sydney I do not really want to be involved. A Jockey like Jason Collett is a dream Apprentice as he does everything that is asked of him. He is a well mannered and respectful person who has been an asset to our team over the winter months. It will be disappointing to see him go home but I have had a chat with him over the past week and we will be looking for him to come to Sydney again in October when the better Jockeys are in Melbourne and also perhaps for midweek Metropolitan meetings which will continue to raise his profile in both NZ and Australia. His main reason for leaving is the fact that he is quite home sick and has some key rides in the Spring in NZ and I am happy for him to go back as he will be able to see what he has achieved over the past few months and I expect him to then be keen to get back over here again.

You have unleashed some nice two year olds over the past month and look to have some promising types coming through. Where are you looking to head with the young horses coming through?

I have been criticised for being too soft on my two year olds but I do think it is a matter of waiting for the right ones to come along and things should fall into place. We do need to fine tune things which we are constantly doing. This season our two year olds have been okay but we have some very nice three year olds coming through and it would easily be the best rising three year old crop I have ever had. I cannot wait until next season when they have matured and are hitting their straps. We have a lovely bunch of yearlings already being prepared for their 2YO careers and we are gearing them up a lot earlier than we have in the past. I think we will be a big player in 2YO racing next season but realistically you still need that good horse or two as a flag bearer. Previously I have put too much pressure on them early so we do need to identify our 2YO runners early and set them for either early races, Christmas races and Autumn races. It is all geared towards the Autumn and I am looking forward to the challenge ahead.



Horse of the Month—Little Surfer Girl



Congratulations to the **Ingham Family** on their recent success!

Recent Performances:

1st of 11—July 2, 2011 at Rosehill Gardens: LISTED CIVIC STAKES 1400M

1st of 12—June 26, 2011 at Rosehill Gardens: 3YO+ BM90 1350M

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