



RYAN BALFOUR RACING MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

"You must unlearn what you have learned..... No! Try not. Do. Or do not. There is no try" – Yoda Star Wars.

This quote is a simple lesson to forget what you think you know, open your mind to new possibilities, and never let doubt determine the outcome of your actions.

Welcome to the RBR Monthly update to owners –Aug 2021

FROM RYAN

Welcome to our third edition of the monthly RBR newsletter.

(You may notice a bit of a theme for this month's 'quotes' relating to the recent sale of Kenobi)

Many thanks to those of you who have gone to the trouble of providing feedback on our earlier editions.

Please use ryanbalfourracing@hotmail.com



Goodwood runner Cashed with Scott Leckey, Ryan and jockey Todd Pannell, and Todd's son.

Well it has been quite a month, which saw amongst other things the completion of the 2020/21 racing season.

On behalf of all associated with RBR I would like to congratulate all winners especially Todd Pannell on achieving back to back wins in the SA Jockey premiership. I also note that he recently rode his **1000th** career winner which is a great achievement.

From my stables perspective in review, we have had winners from Port Augusta to Caulfield, and many places in between. I was satisfied to finish top ten (sixth) in the SA metropolitan trainer's premiership with 22 metro winners and 50 placings, and I strongly believe that the stable is well positioned to improve even further in the new 2021/22 racing season. I am really looking forward to sharing many successes with you over the next twelve months.

The last month brought its fair share of challenges with the return of COVID restrictions and bad weather and heavy rain causing the postponement of several race meetings. This resulted in the unusual circumstance of 5 race meetings in SA over 5 consecutive days that made planning and nominations a little challenging.

In any case we made it through and I am very pleased with the way **RBR has commenced the new season** with a double at Gawler on 11th August (Spellman and Monraj) and Morphettville on 14th August (So Say Angel and Picargo). Followed by a well-deserved win by She's Estelle at Gawler on 18th August.

My final thoughts as we briefly look back on season 20/21 relate to one of my all-time favourite horses, Lil Kontra. She provided one of the real highlights of the season with her gutsy win at Caulfield, only to suffer a terrible ending as she was being transported to Queensland for the Magic Millions broodmare sales.

We have to move on quickly in this industry and while spring is not quite in the air, a lot of our current preparation and planning revolves around getting the right horses ready for what is always a very exciting part of the racing year.



“The force is what gives a Jedi his power. It’s an energy field created by all living things. It surrounds us and penetrates us”.
Obi-Wan Kenobi – Star Wars

MAY THE HORSE BE WITH YOU!!

RBR establishes strong relationships with Hong Kong.

Many of you are aware of the nature of thoroughbred racing in Hong Kong and the lucrative opportunities that are provided if you have the right horse that meets the needs of the HK market. Experience has shown me that the HK market is very selective and quite specific as to what they are prepared to consider, and I am very happy to announce the successful sale of our 3yo Love Conquers All gelding, Kenobi to Hong Kong in late July 2021.



Obi-Wan Kenobi Jedi Master– Star Wars

Obviously there is a financial benefit for the Kenobi ownership group but I am also very pleased with the relationship established with key Hong Kong stakeholders that will hopefully lead to future opportunities to reach this market.

There are many unique forces at play when looking to sell horses overseas, and I am very happy with the process and the outcome of this sale. I have learnt a lot myself in building this sale and managing the process from start to finish.

I look forward to watching Kenobi's progress when he hits the track at Happy Valley or Sha Tin, and uses the force like a true Jedi Master.

Thanks to all involved. The link below is an interview with Terry McAuliffe on Racing.COM that provides further detail on the sale and also includes a reference to ‘Outlaws Revenge’ that is worth a listen. [Ryan Balfour speaks with Terry | RACING.COM](#)

WE ARE GOING BACK TO BALAKLAVA – REMINDER *Hurry the Bus is Almost FULL*****

In conjunction with Australian Racing Tours, RBR is heading north on Wednesday 15 September 2021 to celebrate one of the best days in country racing in SA, the Balaklava Cup.

We will have our own exclusive trackside marquee and we have organised a race day experience that will include:

- Transport to and from the track from a location around Morphettville (exact location to be confirmed)
- Racecourse entry
- Gourmet BBQ lunch
- 5 hour drinks package (Cooper’s beers, Taylors Wines, Ciders, soft drinks).

We will organise a punters club on the day and run sweeps on the big races. The cost is \$230 per person.

Numbers are limited and so if you are interested please register your interest with Graham Harvey via email to gandkharv@bigpond.com, or give him a call on 0414 875 262 if you have any questions.



*“In my experience there is no such thing as luck” – Obi-Wan Kenobi – Star Wars
Use to remind others hard work pays off and sitting around waiting for chances does not*

READY SUNSHINE: RBR STABLE WARRIOR

This month I just wanted to include a tribute to one of our longest serving thoroughbreds, the wonderful Ready Sunshine.

Now a spritely 11 year old, he has raced 79 times for 9 wins and 17 placings returning over \$260,000 for his loyal owner Kerry O’Brien.

He returned from a spell on 7 August and finished only 3 lengths from the winner, and so there is still plenty of fight in the old fellow.



Ready Sunshine charging to the finishing line

Without getting too sentimental I will just add that Ready Sunshine is the last horse still going around that at one time was trained out of the family stables at 32 Carlisle Avenue, Camden Park. He holds a special place as part of the RBR story.

It is also timely to make reference to the achievements of his primary owner, Kerry O'Brien.

Many of us have recently enjoyed watching our Australian team compete at the Tokyo Olympics, and it is worth noting that Kerry competed in the 3000m steeplechase at both the Commonwealth and Olympic games. He won a silver medal at Kingston in 1966 and finished 4th at the 1968 Mexico Olympics, as well as holding the world record during the period 1970 to 1972. What an achievement!!



O'Brien in 1971



Ready Sunshine, Kerry and Juliet O'Brien, Ryan and the team



*“Remember, concentrate on the moment. Feel, don’t think. Trust your instincts – Qui-Gon Jinn – Star Wars
This quotes is about being in the moment, overthinking is a common struggle for anyone. Sometimes it’s best to let the ‘force’ flow through
you and trust your pre-existing knowledge.*

The Best Dressed Stable in Adelaide.

As a thoroughbred trainer I am continually looking at ways to improve stable performance, to gain even a tiny advantage over my competitors in this highly competitive industry.

There is however one area of the industry where RBR owners are second to none, and that is in the area of **‘Fashions on the Field’**.

Owner Dan Hurrell (Sublime Coffee Roasters) has won three events in a row at Bordertown, Oakbank and Port Augusta, while our perennial fashionista Scott Leckey recently took out the prize during the Darwin Cup Carnival.

Keep up the excellent work lads, you give us something to chase!!



Scott Leckey



Dan Horrell

RBR with COSI



I expect that many of you are familiar with RBR stable client COSI.

His TV programme ‘SA with COSI’ is a wonderful promotion of all things South Australia and his morning breakfast radio show always provides a laugh.

He owns a recent first starter, which he named ‘Rebecca Horse’, named after his radio co-host Rebecca Morse, and **trained** by the same name as his favourite cake **‘Balfour Frog Cakes’!!!**



COMPETITION WINNER

Last month we ran a competition with a prize of \$150 Balf's Bucks to commemorate RBR and Jamie Kah having 5 metropolitan winners on one glorious Saturday in 2017.

Congratulations to Jackie and Steve Fritton who correctly answered the winners as:

1. Rushwa
2. Magnus Knight
3. Cobber
4. Kirona
5. Truport

Please contact Graham Harvey (0414 875 262) and he will make the necessary arrangements for your prize.

Thanks to many other RBR owners who correctly identified the 5 winners, with a special shout out to Graeme Wooller from Yeppoon in Queensland who wrote a terrific, response as to how 25th November 2017 is embedded in his psyche for a number of reasons that include:

- Owner of two horses that saluted on the same day at a metro race course
- Losing his voice from yelling at the television
- Being locked out of his Sports bet account

And as he puts it "as a long time racing enthusiast to be part of such a remarkable achievement by Ryan, the RBR team and the absolute freak that is Jamie Kah was sensational to say the least".

Thank you, Graeme!!!

Atkins Photography

The Atkins name has been synonymous with Thoroughbred racing in South Australia since 1936 when Bill Atkins began his photography career. In 1993 Terry and Hilary Hann purchased the business from Bill's son John and have been catering for the horse racing fraternity ever since.

Both are multi award winning members of the Australian Institute of Professional Photography and adhere to that organisation's strict rules of professional conduct. Hilary has twice been awarded the title of South Australian Professional Photographer of the Year.

Atkins Photography covers racing at Adelaide's major racing centre of Morphettville, the hills track of Oakbank along with the provincial tracks of Balaklava, Gawler, Murray Bridge, Strathalbyn and the country tracks of Clare and Mindarie-Halidon. We also provide coverage of the Annual St Pats race meeting at Broken Hill.



*"I find your lack of faith disturbing" – Darth Vader – Star Wars
Use anytime others doubt your plans*

MEET AN RBR IDENTITY – Dominic Tourneur Jockey

We asked Dom the following 10 question:



Dom riding Sidestreet at Murray Bridge Maiden

1. Briefly describe your involvement with RBR racing

- I have known Ryan since riding for David Balfour and having had success for his father has helped me continue that relationship with Ryan and also continued success.

2. What do you enjoy most about this involvement?

- I absolutely love searching for and identifying the next good horse and following its journey and working together with Ryan in providing feedback so he can get the best results out of every horse.

3. Can you describe your best ever day at the races?

- It would have to be Emirates Stakes day during the Flemington carnival having won the G1 Emirates and also a listed race which capped off a big week with a G2 on Derby day the week before!

4. Who is your hero?

- Personally I don't really have heroes, but I have many sports people I idolize through many different sporting codes

5. Favourite horse

- Ridden: Eclair Surprise as he was a gentleman, professional and a pleasure to work with.
- To watch: I loved watching Atlantic Jewel and wish we saw the best of her

6. Favourite Jockey

- Loved watching Paul Harvey as I grew up as he was a jet but Oli, to do what he has done and continues to do year in year out is phenomenal and his G1 record speaks volumes

7. What is your favourite thing to do outside horse racing?

- Pretty simple this one... GOLF!!

8. Have you ever won an award for anything?

- Apart from the Premiership Awards I have won, I have also won salesmanship Awards for Several Vehicle Franchises

9. What is your favourite movie of all-time?

- Toss-up between Groundhog Day and No country for old men

10. If you could invite three people, living or dead, over for dinner who would they be?

- Leonardo DiCaprio, Rickie Fowler and Michael Jordan.



"In Malaysia I am Brad Pitt in Australia I am Arm Pit" – Noel Callow - Jockey

ASK ME ANYTHING

Don't forget you can 'Ask me anything'

Once again I want to thank all those who have gone to the trouble of providing feedback on our earlier editions.



- Remember if you have a question then it is more than likely that some others in the owners group will have a similar question
- So, just send an email titled 'Ask Rhino' to RBR email with any questions - ryanbalfourracing@hotmail.com

COLLECTORS ITEM: RBR OWNERS BOTTLE OPENERS

What every race horse owner's key ring needs!!

We still have a number of RBR Owners bottle openers that were purchased with the proceeds of the last RBR Owners function. They are FREE and if you want one simply message **Graham Harvey** on **0414 875 262** and he will send one your way.



Yours in Racing - Ryan Balfour

A shout out to the great Greg Hall.

- **Interviewer** " *Greg you've won the Melbourne Cup, Sydney Cup, Brisbane Cup, Adelaide Cup and the Perth Cup, but the Caulfield Cup is the big race that has always eluded you. Why?*"
 - **Greg Hall:** " *Mate I don't do Suburbs*"