

# First winner by Tiger Tara



King Tiger breaks the track record in his Newcastle romp – Coffee Photography and Framing

Former champion pacer Tiger Tara was credited with his first winner from his first starter when King Tiger blitzed his rivals in a two-year-old track record of 1:53.9 at Newcastle.

The brown colt led throughout from the pole, carving out fractions of 27.5, 29.9, 28.1 and 28.4.

Breeder-owner-trainer Kevin Pizzuto, who also trained Tiger Tara, rates the colt highly.

“He’s got speed and stamina. He’s been working with my free-for-all horses back home,” Pizzuto said.

“I’ve got three two-year-olds by Tiger Tara and they’re all qualified and all will be going to the racetrack.

“Tiger Tara really stamps his progeny. They are good sized, have good straight legs, nice heads and outstanding conformation,” Kevin said.

Tiger Tara, the 2018 Inter Dominion champion and 2019 Grand Circuit Champion and Horse of the Year, served 72 mares in his first commercial season last year.

The \$2.3 million winning son of Bettor’s Delight is standing his first season at Yirribee Pacing Stud for a fee of \$3,500 including GST.

## GROUP 1 SUCCESS FOR TINTIN

Tintin In America, the Breeders Crown champion and dual Harness Jewels winner, was represented by his fourth Group 1 juvenile winner when Tims A Trooper outfinished a top field in the \$150,000 NSW Breeders Challenge Final for two-year-old colts and geldings at Menangle.

The gelding, who was bred, raised and sold by Yirribee Pacing Stud, who stand his sire, clocked a career-best 1:51.9 for the 1609 metres with the last 800 in 56.2. He is out of the Life Sign mare Elizabeth Kelly, a daughter of Broodmare of the Year Miss Paula.

It was his second success and lifted his stake tally to beyond \$100,000.

The previous night, the Tintin In America two-year-old Teddy Disco also reached the six-figure mark, winning his sixth race from nine starts at Albion Park.

Tintin In America has sired eight individual two-year-old winners to date this season, including four in the last week of October – Tims A Trooper (1:51.9), Teddy Disco (1:55.1), Billy Glanvill (1:57.1) and Tash’s Spartan.



Bruce Trogdon (left) with Fear The Dragon in 2017

## Q & A WITH BRUCE TROGDON

Bruce Trogdon is the breeder and owner of the North America Cup and Adios Stake winner and now highly successful first crop sire Fear The Dragon (1:48.8), the winner of more than \$1.5 million.

### What first attracted you to harness racing?

I used to go with my dad to bet on the horses at Northfield Park in Ohio when I was a little kid back in the 1960’s. I ending up claiming one for \$3,000 with my life savings in 1975 while going to college. I bought a 30 acre farm in 1982 and learned to take care of them myself - that farm kept gradually growing to 260 acres by 1989. I learned to do all the jobs on the farm, and did my own breeding, foaling, prepping the yearlings, etc.

I raised Fear The Dragon and did not sell him as a yearling because I was just attached to him. There was just something about him, he just seemed like a racehorse. And he was.

### What was Fear The Dragon’s greatest ever performance and why?

Well, until he got hurt right before the Little Brown Jug, he was undefeated so he had a lot of them. The biggest was probably the \$1 million North America Cup where he came from way off the pace (like he often did) and blew past Downbytheseaside and Huntsville in the stretch.

### What were Fear The Dragon’s greatest assets as a racehorse?

His attitude - so game. He just wanted to win, and could do it anyway you asked him. He never seemed to get tired.

### Who were the best horses that Fear The Dragon defeated and raced against?

Downbytheside and Huntsville. Huntsville never could beat ‘Dragon’ and Downbytheside couldn’t either until right at the end of his three-year-old season when he wasn’t right.

## What are some of the characteristics of Fear The Dragon's progeny on the score of conformation?

They are generally very correct and are very athletic.

## How is his fertility?

Excellent. His sperm are like him, they can live a long time! Also, we use frozen semen because it freezes very well.

## How many mares did Fear The Dragon serve this year and how many are in foal?

Stallion books are strictly limited here to 140 mares. 'Dragon' has bred the limit of 140 every year and has over 100 live foals from each crop.

## And anything else you think is of interest to Aussie breeders?

We think he might do even better down there because the style of racing suits him.



## RENAISSANCE MAN THE PERCENTAGE SIRE

The Art Major horse Renaissance Man continues to churn out the winners in WA.

He has sired 31 individual winners from 73 foals three-year-old or older – an amazing 43 percent strike rate – and his progeny has earned \$1.12 million – an average of \$25,550 per starter!

Renaissance Man's winners this season included the Listed winner Fifty Five Reborn (\$178,497) and the Gloucester Park winners Medieval Man, Arma Einstein, My Prayer, Longreach Bay, Addisyn, Another Snag, Mister Ridgewell, Yo Te Amo Haitch, Ourboybart, Kobe Edward and Apologize.

## BREEDER PROFILE: MATT PAINTING

Coleambally mixed farmer and hobby breeder Matt Painting belongs to a well known Riverina trotting family.

His father, Joe Painting, was a successful breeder and trainer with his best horse being Go Like Lyal, a winner of 21 races including four at Harold Park in the early 2000's.

"I used to help dad around the stables. That really got me interested in the sport," Matt said.

For Matt it was a case of beginner's luck as the first horse he bred and raced himself was Wongalea Lil, a brilliant filly who won five of her nine starts and was a finalist in the Victoria Oaks before a leg injury cut short a promising career.

Two of Wongalea Lil's siblings in Wongalea Bingo and Wongalea Charli have won 12 and six races respectively.



Bryce Cooper, the winner of 18 races including three at Melton and \$105,000 in stakes, and Good Girl Shirl (10 wins) have been other smart performers bred and owned by Matt.

However, Dilinger's Comment, an unraced mare gifted to Painting by Wagga couple Bernie and Dianne Kelly, has been the cornerstone for his biggest successes in the sport to date.

She ranks as the dam of Rusty's Reject, a winner of 15 races including three derbies and four country cups and \$102,000, Rusty Crackers 1:51.3 (\$136,090), whose 18 victories so far include three country cups and three at Menangle, and promising three-year-old filly Rusty El (4 wins).

"Rusty Crackers has been nominated for the Inter Dominion," Matt said.

Matt normally breeds around three or four foals a year, but with daughter Lily showing a real passion for the horses he is contemplating increasing his breeding numbers.

## "The last 19 foals that I've bred are by Yirribee stallions," he said.

Matt foals all the mares down himself and does the weaning, handling and early breaking-in of the foals before they are sent to a horse breaker.

"I enjoy the breeding side of the sport. I favour linebreeding," Matt said.

Matt's daughters Lily and Annie have followed their father into the sport.

"Lily is very keen on the horses and Annie is a veterinary nurse," he said. "My other daughter Ella, who died last year, used to help out around the stables after finishing work."

Matt's wife, Melissa, is a partner in the breeding and racing business, while his nephews, Jack Painting and Blake Jones, are two of the most successful reinsmen in the Riverina.

## RECENT FOALINGS

Forty-two foals have been born at Yirribee Pacing this season (to October 31). They include:

Espeshlimade Lombo	Larazus	Filly
Change The Talk	Warrawee Needy	Colt
Panorama Sunshine	Warrawee Needy	Colt
Lombo La Fe Fee	Warrawee Needy	Colt
Lurah NZ	Tintin In America	Colt
Mainland Banner	Tintin In America	Colt
Rarified Air (recip.)	Warrawee Needy	Filly

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