



THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS WA

Son of a God stays in WA

South West breeder Shaun Maiden has turned down a sizeable offer for Son Of A God from Hong Kong.

Son Of A God attracted international interest after kick-starting a winning streak at Bunbury on February 27. The untapped talent is trained by Simon Miller and has kept on raising the bar with Willie Pike aboard at Pinjarra and Ascot (twice).

Son Of A God (3g Playing God – Faslizan by Fasliyev) has also built his bank balance to \$133,090 including Westspeed Bonuses of \$58,350.

"He's had a quick spell and is back in work with Simon," Maiden said.

"We will target more of those Westspeed bonuses and then give him another freshen-up before coming back for next season. And if he keeps winning, the agents might come back with more money."

Playing God's 3yo division is going gangbusters with G1 Kingston Town Classic winner Kay Cee leading the charge. Other black-type performers include Mood Goddess, Wine Night and Pambella.

Those results are off just 20 individual starters but the numbers will continue to swell now that Playing God is covering double the mares of his early books at Mungrup Stud. Son Of A God's dam Faslizan will go back to him this year.

"Playing God is doing a good job and hopefully there's a good race in Son Of A God," Maiden said.

"He was still figuring it all out in his first prep. Simon reckons the penny hasn't dropped yet but said watch out when it does because he has a tremendous will to win."

Maiden is a Director of Dash Civil Contracting and is based in the South West at Stratham. His mares foal down with Wayne and Jane Beynon nearby at Einoncliff Park in North Boyanup.

"Jane told me Faslizan's filly foal is one of the best on the property from about 40 born there earlier this season. She's by Universal Ruler and the mare is in foal to Ducimus who stands at Rivercrest Park. Last year was his first season at stud and he's an awesome looking stallion." Maiden said.

Playing God (Blackfriars) will head the Mungrup Stud roster this season at a service fee of \$16,500 (inc gst).

PHOTO: SON OF A GOD



New President at TBWA

Fiona Lacey took over as the new President of Thoroughbred Breeders' WA in April.

She succeeds Brent Atwell who had been a member of the committee for six years and served as President for the last three. Troy van Heemst is the new vice-president in addition to his role as treasurer of TBWA.

Lacey owns the Olive Grove Equine Veterinary Clinic and is a partner in Mogumber Park Stud with her husband Colin Brown.

"We're very lucky to have a really good team on the committee with a wealth of experience from quite diverse backgrounds," Lacey said.

"I would also like to thank Brent for his service to TBWA."

"There are tough times ahead and one of our biggest challenges will be steering through the effects of COVID-19. We also have to bring the governance and culture of our committee into line with modern times and attitudes.

"The increasing awareness of animal welfare, transparency and traceability are all issues we hope to work through with the respective bodies.

"That said, we are fortunate to have just completed one of our most successful yearling sales in recent years, thanks in no small part to the efforts of David Houston and Magic Millions.

"Their massive investment in our State and the new Swan Valley sales complex is a positive signal for our breeders to have the faith and foresight to reinvest in the industry."

Born and bred in Perth, Fiona loved horses from the outset despite not having a family background in the industry. She left school at 16 to pursue a career with trainers like Greg Harper, Lou Luciani and Paul Jordan.

"I took out a trainers licence for a brief period prior to returning to school and then completing a veterinary degree. After graduation, I worked in racetrack practice before discovering a love of equine reproduction that took me around the world."

Returning to Perth in 2005, she met Colin and they started a family as well as launching Mogumber Park from very humble beginnings. Starting out with 50 acres of weeds, the Bullsbrook couple have developed the property into one of the larger stud farms in WA.



PHOTO: Fiona Lacey and Mogumber Park's stakes winning stallion Rommel

Scenic Lodge fees unchanged for 2020

Scenic Lodge has pledged its ongoing commitment to the WA industry by keeping all service fees at the same level as last year.

Snippetson and Universal Ruler remain at \$6,600 and Dash For Cash at \$2,750. All fees are GST inclusive with a free return.

"We have made the decision not to make any changes with the uncertainty due to COVID-19," stated Scenic Lodge General Manager Jeremy Smith.

"In saying that, Snippetson and Universal Ruler are definitely worthy of fee increases on the back of their superb form in the last year or two."

"We are confident our stallions are standout choices for broodmare owners this season. All three are completely free of Danehill blood which gives breeders some great options looking for an outcross to their mares."

Snippetson (Snippets) is the leading active stallion in Western Australia this season with progeny earnings of \$2.6 million as at May 1. He has an excellent chance of also winning the WA 2YO premiership.

He sired Champion WA 2YO Tinsnip in his first crop from Scenic Lodge in 2018-19 and he's done it again with Gemma's Son who won the RL Magic Millions Classic and LR Perth Stakes earlier this year.

Snippetson leads the 2YO table with \$593,720 and there's more to come in the final quarter of the season with the likes of Pinjarra winner Samsurian and smart trialists Playing For Keeps and Snipilicious.

Universal Ruler (Scenic) was WA Champion active sire last season and that success has been reflected in his popularity with breeders. He has been the busiest local stallion for the last two seasons covering 93 mares at \$4,950 in 2018 and topping that with 117 mares at a \$6,600 fee in 2019.

His Melbourne-based mare Bam's On Fire won the G3 Victoria Hcp at Caulfield and then produced a career-high performance when Group 1 placed in the \$400,000 Robert Sangster Stakes (1200m) at Morphettville on May 2.

Closer to home, Universal Ruler sired six winners over the Anzac long-weekend and his LR Sheila Gwynne Classic winner Angelic Ruler will be set for more black-type during the winter season at Belmont.

Dash For Cash (Secret Savings) is great value for a proven stallion with 395 individual winners at an amazing 65% strike-rate. He reached 1200 wins on Anzac Day before turning the corner with I'm Pretty at Pinjarra on Sunday.

For more information or bookings, please contact Jeremy Smith on 041 994 3356 or jsmith.sceniclodge@bigpond.com

PHOTO: SCENIC LODGE 2020



Long Leaf to stand at Rangeview Stud

Long Leaf has settled in at Rangeview Stud ahead of his first book at the Burekup property owned and operated by Robbie & Jody Gray.

A precocious 2yo colt, Long Leaf commenced his career with a winning hat-track culminating in the LR Blue Diamond Preview at Caulfield in 2018. From that point, he competed in the very best of company with a 6th in the G1 Golden Slipper Stakes from barrier 15 and 4th in the G1 Sires' Produce Stakes. In both races, he was the second colt past the post in a filly-dominated season.

"He's a very professional colt and we were thrilled the way he won today," co-trainer Ben Hayes said after the Blue Diamond Preview.

"He's a very exciting and, as a son of Fastnet Rock, is a real stallion prospect now."

Lindsay Park kept the bar high for Long Leaf as a spring 3yo and he responded with Group placings in the Vain Stakes, Caulfield Guineas Prelude and Sandown Guineas. He then showed his

versatility when travelling to New Zealand to win the LR Karaka Million (1600m) at Ellerslie. All up, Long Leaf won 4 races from 1000m to 1600m and collected \$947 000 in stakes.

His sire Fastnet Rock (Danehill) is a dual Champion Australian Sire with 37 individual Group 1 winners allied to an outstanding 71% winning strike rate. He's also established as the sire of sires Hinchinbrook, Smart Missile and Foxwedge.

Long Leaf's dam Frustrating is a daughter of Stravinsky from the family of 'blue-hen' Parfore. She is a half-sister to four individual million-dollar earners including Group 1 gallopers Tiger Tees (The Galaxy) and Terravista (Darley Classic & Lightning Stakes) plus Group 2 winner Ball Of Muscle and Singapore Champion Super Easy who is now a successful Stallion in NZ.

Long Leaf has been purchased by a group of prominent WA breeders to stand at Rangeview Stud alongside Galah (Redoute's Choice) and So Secret (Danetime).



PHOTO: LONG LEAF



THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS WA

Mogumber Park farewells

Natural Blitz

Mogumber Park reported its resident sire Natural Blitz died a day before his born-again gelding King Blitz won at Ascot last month.

King Blitz is a homebred for Geraldton owner-trainer Barry Newnham and was winning for the first time since a hat-trick during the 2018 winter season at Belmont. An injury-enforced spell stretched to 18 months before his return to racing in February.

"It was so fitting for King Blitz to win as we've just lost Natural Blitz on what was a very sad day for all of us," Mogumber owner Colin Brown said.

"I am sure 'Blitz' was barracking hard from his big paddock in the sky."

Natural Blitz (Dehere) was rising 21 and stood alongside Safeguard (Exceed And Excel) and Rommel (Commands) in Bullsbrook. He was a Group 2 winner at Caulfield, Moonee Valley, Rosehill and Eagle Farm for Victorian trainer Doug Harrison. It took an all-time champion like Northerly to deny him a Group 1 in the 2003 Australian Cup at Flemington.

Initially retiring to Rangeview Stud in 2007, he made subsequent moves to Cromarty Park and Touchstone Farm before settling at Mogumber Park in 2012.

His first winner Classic Blitz saluted at Ascot in December 2010 for owner-trainer Mike Santich and there were numerous city winners including Destroy (LR Bunbury Cup), Ningaloo Blitz (Albany Cup) & Bollywood Blitz (Coolgardie Cup).

PHOTO: KING BLITZ



Free trade books ticket to

Railway Stakes

Trainer Michael Lane will give Free Trade a chance to make the grade in Group 1 company following a running double in WA's premier provincial sprints this campaign.

Free Trade won the LR Pinjarra Classic (1300m) by three lengths and he was just as impressive in the LR Bunbury Stakes (1400m) when stable jockey Chris Parnham settled him outside the leader Flower Of War (War Chant) before cutting the ribbons rounding the home turn.

It improved his record to 8 wins in 15 starts while clocking 1:22.69s to get within 0.08s of the race record held by Black Heart Bart.

"We will put him away now and get him ready for the (G1) Railway Stakes," Lane said at Bunbury.

"He's an amazing animal but the pressure was on today as a \$1.65 favourite.

"I didn't gallop him after Pinjarra and all credit to the horse. He's a natural but didn't start racing until he was a 4yo so he's still a bit raw."

Lane won the 2009 Bunbury Stakes with Keytomoney (Key Business) who led them up in that year's Railway only to get a stitch when Sydney raider Sniper's Bullet let loose in the straight.

Free Trade is the 14th stakes winner by Trade Fair (GB) who died Alwyn Park in March 2018. He was bred by the late Harry Capararo and is raced by his son Peter under Canal Enterprises.

His dam Lady Xena (Dr Johnson) descends from a celebrated English family that includes Royal Ascot Group 1 winners Matatina (King George & Queen Elizabeth Stakes) and her half-brother Showdown (Queen Anne Stakes) who later reigned as Australia's champion sire at Stockwell Stud in Victoria.

Heytesbury Stud owner Robert Holmes a Court imported Matatina's daughter Kallissima (Tudor Melody) to Western Australia and among her foals was successful Mungrup Stud sire Steel Glow (Pago Pago).



PHOTO: FREE TRADE