

Yuill

NEVER WORK ALONE AT LIMERICK

South-west horseman Graham Yuill is all set for another busy season educating graduates of the Perth Magic Millions Yearling Sale at Limerick Park

The Burekup property sits on 150 acres and Yuill usually limits his intake to 25 yearlings with the inclusion of young ones from his client base of owner-breeders.

The former policeman commenced the business with his wife Belinda after leaving the force in the 1990s. Regarded as one of our best breakers, he has shaped the early careers of some top-class racehorses and he also has a trainers ticket to augment the operation which has grown in recent years.

"Our daughter Kyra and Shelby Colgate are integral to the business and we also have two ground-staff helping out," Yuill said a few weeks out from the 2022 Sale in the Swan Valley.

"It can be hard work but it pays off when your clients keep coming back."

Kyra Yuill began her career in a blaze of glory winning the 2011 Perth Cup on Western Jewel for Peters Investments. Nevertheless, she found the transition from apprentice to open ranks a tough road to hoe.

Success waned as a senior rider but cream eventually rises to the top and she resurfaced with that inimitable winning smile aboard numerous feature winners like Searchin' Roc's in the latest edition of the G3 Champion Fillies Stakes (1600m) at Ascot.

Shelby Colgate chose a career-path in physiotherapy before signing forms with Albany trainer Steve Wolfe. She was Champion Great Southern Apprentice in 2019 and represented WA in that year's National Apprentice Race Series.

The Limerick team work hand-in-hand with trainers and most yearlings normally have a month off before learning the ropes required of a racehorse.

"It depends on the individual and we usually take a little longer to complete the process," Yuill explained.

"Experience has shown you end up with a better product for the client.

"They have a four-to-six week prep initially and after another break, all going well, they then begin an eight-week pre-

training program. It's a one-stop shop here. We get them to three-quarter time and hopefully they stay up for a jump-out or barrier trial."

"You can usually tell the real good ones early although some others can stay under the radar and then improve out of sight overnight. Clairvoyance was a cracking filly from the outset. You just knew she was going to make the grade."

Trained by Darren McAuliffe for the Impressive Racing syndicate, Clairvoyance kicked-off an unbeaten Belmont hat-trick in July 2020 and went to another level last season with feature wins in the Crown Perth 3yo Classic (1000m) and Marjorie Charleson Classic (1200m) at Ascot.

Graham can be contacted for further details about yearling education on 0400 811 040.

The Maschino yearlings are also held in high regard and that's not surprising since Graham trained him to 7 wins in 22 starts topped by a G3 R J Peters Stakes (1500m) at Ascot.

Renowned for his explosive finishes, the son of Encosta de Lago injured a tendon and retired to Alwyn Park where he has built a tremendous black-type strike-rate in Perth.

"It was disappointing to lose such a quality galloper that early," Yuill recalled.

"We never got to see the best of Maschino so it's great to see him doing so well at stud."



PHOTO: Winners are grinners - Kyra and Graham Yuill after Artie's Comet won at Northam

Marwick's

ALL FOUR FESTIVITIES

Great Southern breeders Tony and Di Marwick stocked up for the festive season with four winners off their Elleker property in December.

Beads (Star Turn) kicked off a festive season for the Secret View Thoroughbreds couple at Ascot on December 11, Carlin Road (Lucky Street) won a Narrogin maiden on December 18, Heavenly Waters (Headwater) was a class above her rivals at Ascot on December 22 and Le Grand Amour (Denman) bobbed up closer to home at Albany on Boxing Day.

Beads had won a Belmont nursery in June for trainer Steve Wolfe before making another trek to town for the Glenroy Chaff Hcp (1000m) at Ascot. He let down to score by the best part of two lengths while clocking 33.90s for the final 600m under stable jockey Shaun McGruddy.

"He was just found out first-up by that smart filly The Front Page," Wolfe confirmed.

"It sharpened him up and it was a beaut ride by 'Shooter' from the inside gate. He's a nice horse in the making and we will keep him at these short sprints for the time being."

Beads was purchased privately by Wolfe for a syndicate that includes Kevin and Pat Patten, Greg Green and Pink Panther Racing. He had been pin-hooked as a foal for \$62,500 by the Marwicks from Torryburn Stud at the 2019 Magic Millions National Sale.

Carlin Road is no world-beater but his victory in the TABtouch Maiden Hcp (1100m) at Narrogin was a milestone for young trainer Indianna Weinert.

"He's my first winner," she cried.

"It's so exciting. I was jumping up and down in the straight."

The 24-year-old Hopelands conditioner leases the 3yo gelding from Perth trainer Kieran McDonagh who originally bought him as a yearling from Secret View at the 2020 Perth Magic Millions.

"Carlin Road has thrived in a new environment and is enjoying the beach work," Weinert told RWWA journalist Julio Santarelli.

"I feel lucky to have won my first race because I know it's not easy to do it so soon."

Heavenly Waters notched her third city win when cruising home in the Amelia Park Lodge (1000m) at Ascot. She's

all heart and the 3kg allowance for stand-in jockey Beau Banovic-Edwards brought her right into the race with 59kg.

Heavenly Waters earned top-weight after a debut season that saw her win the Crystal Slipper Stakes (1100m) and finish a close second to Ex Sport Man in the WA Magic Millions 2YO Classic (RL, 1200m)

Trainer Roy Rogers engaged Banovic-Edwards after his stable apprentice Maddy Cornick was sidelined with a fractured pelvis.

"Roy said to just rate her in front and Maddy also told me she could be a bit touchy out of the gates," Banovic-Edwards explained.

"I was confident on the corner and she gave me a good kick."

Heavenly Waters was bred by Glastonbury Farm's Duncan Grimley and was pinhooked as a foal by the Marwicks for a mere \$3,500 as a foal at the 2019 Magic Millions National Sale.

Le Grand Amour had been runner-up on debut at Pinjarra prior to landing a barrier-to-box victory in the Byron Bay Maiden (1100m) at Albany.

He's the final foal of former NSW mare French Valour (Honour And Glory). She had previously foaled Brave Nick, Medal Afrique and Medal Of Glory to wins in the Eastern States.

Le Grand Amour is a Secret View homebred and is raced by Di, Mark Bayliss, trainer Rebecca Wallrodt and a syndicate from the Railways Football Club who are the reigning premiers of the Great Southern League.



Photo: Beads win at Ascot

Magic Millions

CATALOGUES 338 LOTS FOR PERTH SALE

The 2022 Magic Millions Perth Yearling Sale catalogue has a total 338 lots going under the hammer across two days of selling in the Swan Valley on Monday, February 14 and Tuesday, February 15.

Previous graduates of the sale include Group 1 winners Portland Sky (Deep Field), Black Heart Bart (Blackfriars), Boom Time (Flying Spur), Silent Sedition (War Chant), Great Shot (Magnus), Scenic Blast & Scenic Shot (Scenic), Moment of Change (Barely A Moment) and Eagle Regiment (El Moxie) ensuring the Perth Yearling Sale is regarded as one of the best producing auctions in Australasia.

There will be 84 individual sires represented at the sale with 13 of them freshman sires, including WA-based first season sires Bondi (Snitzel) and Ducimus (Snitzel) featuring 12 and 15 youngsters respectively. Jimmy Choux (NZ) also has a pair of yearlings from Dawson Stud and Gold Front Thoroughbreds out of his first crop conceived at Roselee Park.

Moreover, 93 per cent of the yearlings catalogued are eligible for either the Westspeed Platinum or standard Westspeed scheme, while 76 lots are BOBS eligible and all lots offered are eligible to be paid up for the Magic Millions Race Series.

The sale will be preceded by the Magic Millions Raceday at Pinjarra on February 5 – featuring the \$250,000 Magic Millions WA 2YO Classic (RL, 1200m) and \$200,000 Magic Millions WA 3YO Trophy (RL, 1200m). The 2YO Classic is boosted with the \$75,000 Magic Millions WA Racing Women's Bonus.

Thoroughbred Breeders WA will conduct a Yearling Showcase on Friday, February 11 at the Swan Valley sales complex.

It will be followed by the 2022 Own the Dream Grand Finale when three lucky teams will win a Magic Millions voucher to use towards a Westspeed Platinum breeder nominated yearling. The first-place team will also receive their training fees paid for two years!



KARNUP UPGRADES FOR *Durrant Racing*

Adam Durrant won his ninth WA premiership last season and, apart from a warm well-done to his staff, it was straight back to the business at hand. Winning races.

Durrant Racing did just that at the recent Ascot summer carnival with feature winners like Beret (G3 La Trice Classic & LR Starstruck Classic) and Son Son (TBWA Stallion Tender Scheme Trophy).

Beret (Helmet) is the most improved mare in Western Australia this season but Durrant wasn't resting on his laurels after her fourth victory in a row at Ascot on New Year's Day. He was back at the Belmont midweeks to win with Soviet Spy (Belmont) and at Pinjarra the following day with Prized Miss (Dundeel).

A hands-on approach gives Adam the advantage of knowing exactly what is going on with all of his horses although he's the first to admit delegating is part of the deal in the hurly-burly of a seven-days a week industry.

His parents Geoff & Vicki are integral members of the team as are stable foreman Jason Miller and Racing Manager Duran Carter. He prepared 67 city winners in the 2020-21 season to finish well ahead of runner-up Grant and Alana Williams (51). And the overall total of 127 was just one off his PB.

The big pay-days have also arrived at regular intervals in the Group 1 Railway Stakes and Group 2 Perth Cup. Durrant Racing bagged its first Sydney Group 1 when they sent Come Play With Me across to Chris Waller to win the 2019 Metropolitan at Randwick.

"It's been a bit tough with COVID and getting staff," he told The Western Australian journalist Jay Rooney.

"It would be nice to creep up towards 150 but I just want to train as many winners as possible this season."

The infrastructure at Karnup is continually being upgraded to cater for increased numbers.

"We have 90 horses stabled here at Karnup and you could halve that again with pre-trainers and horses out spelling," Carter revealed.

"The system in place is working but the pressure is always there to keep improving the winner-count year-on-year.

"We're extending the bottom paddock to build new yards and horse bays. We also use Prism software (www.prism.horse/plus) for client communications and stable management. The feedback has been very positive with Prism. It's perfect for keeping owners up to date with vision of pre-race gallops, travelling plans and nominations."

The next batch of yearlings will be targeted at the 2022 Perth Magic Millions in February. Durrant Racing purchased 11 yearlings last year led by the Magnus filly from Bellbridge Park (as agent) for \$120,000.

Her dam Black Carat (Lonhro) is a proven broodmare having foaled LR Beaufine Stakes winning mare Nerodio (Playing God). The Magnus filly has been named Magnificent Carat and she will be raced by a syndicate that includes Adam, Oakland Park, Fred Fairthorne jnr and Divitini Racing.

