

GLAMOUR PUSS PASSES AWAY



It was a sad day at Waikato Stud yesterday, with dual Gr.1 winning matriarch Glamour Puss passing away. Glamour Puss, who was 16, was put down after complications following colic surgery.

“She was a wonderful mare for the stud. Not only did she win two Gr.1’s and five black-type races in Australia for trainer Danny O’Brien, but she produced a foal each and every year since she retired, with all to race winning, including the two stakes performers Beckham and Ngarimu,” said Mark Chittick.

“She gave us a heck of a lot of great memories and was a very special mare to the stud.

“She is buried alongside O’Reilly, with whom she had four of her nine foals.”

THE NAME

"I WAS SITTING THERE FLICKING THROUGH A LADIES MAGAZINE AND CAME ACROSS THE HEADING GLAMOUR PUSS.

BEING OUT OF ESCADA, WHICH IS A FASHION LABEL AND BY TALE OF THE CAT, I THOUGHT THIS WAS PERFECT!,"

- Mark Chittick

THE RACE RECORD

9 wins at 1200m & 1300m,
8 placings,
26 starts
\$A1.25 million in earnings

Gr.1 VRC Salinger S
Gr.1 SAJC Goodwood H.
Gr.2 VRC Age Classic S
Gr.3 AJC Sapphire S.
Listed MRC Geoffrey Bellmaine S.



THE TRAINER

We fell in love with Glamour Puss the moment she came into the stable.

She was a most attractive style of mare and on top of this, she had real brilliance and was incredibly brave.

She often felt her feet on the firm ground. One of my most vivid memories of her was the week she won the Gr.1 Salinger and the Gr.2 Age Classic Stakes at Flemington.

After the Gr.1 Salinger on the first Saturday, she had a pulse in her foot, so we were icing it day and night. She turned up the next Saturday for the Age Classic Stakes and on pure courage and ability she beat an outstanding field that included Gr.1 winners Stratum, Takeover Target, Cape of Good Hope, Dance Hero and Bomber Bill.

She was a super horse.

-Danny O'Brien

THE CELEBRATIONS



Danny O'Brien's good friend Tim Rourke was getting married. Before doing so, he calculated what he needed to bet on Glamour Puss in order to recoup his wedding costs.

The wedding was due to start, but Rourke waited 5 minutes outside the Chapel in order to hear the running of the Gr.1 Goodwood.

Glamour Puss duly delivered.

To prepare for the Savabeel launch in 2004, Mark Chittick arranged for Butch Castles to come down to the farm after he finished his Ellerslie commitments that day.

"I said to him, come down, Lisa will cook a roast and we can go through what's needed for Savabeel's launch party," explained Mark.

Well, when he was here, Glamour Puss won the Gr.1 Goodwood, so of course we started to celebrate. The celebrations went well into the next morning and during the course of which, we made up a drink involving rum, kahlua and milk, which we named 'The Puss'.

Butch had a radio trackside shift the next day and upon his arrival he said to his producer 'You better get me some pizza'. So the producer did, but after eating it, Butch fell asleep during the course of a race!

Because he was on air, the door into the studio was locked, so they were outside yelling at him to wake up. As a result, when the race finished there was a seven and a half minutes of silence.



THE TRAVELLER

Glamour Puss began in New Zealand where she had two wins with Paul O'Sullivan, Garry Chittick explains.

She was a 4YO when Paul was transferring to Hong Kong, so we took the opportunity to send her to Danny O'Brien, who was an up and coming trainer in Australia

She won seven under his guidance, including the Gr.1 Goodwood at four.

At five, she achieved something only few can do, winning the Gr.1 Salinger and the Gr.2 Age Classic at Flemington in the same week. Mary and I were both there and obviously we had a very exciting week.

Later on that campaign she ran second in the Gr.1 TJ Smith, and as a result of that run, we were invited to Ascot.

In those days, which was early on, they would invite you and pay a significant part of the cost. I was reluctant to go because it was at the end of the campaign - the danger of this is it comes as an after-thought. However Danny was keen, and Mary had got carried away at a CatWalk dinner and bought a return trip to Europe for both of us at great expense, so I thought I might as well have the horse there too to have some fun.

Royal Ascot were wonderful to us. All the visitors were given a table for ten, and they were extremely hospitable, but she was at the end of her campaign and finished 7th of 28 in the Gr.2 King's Stand Stakes and 10th of 18 in the Gr.1 Golden Jubilee.

In hindsight, it was a mistake taking her at the end of her campaign, but it was a wonderful experience.

She returned home and on the way visited Redoute's Choice and the rest is history."



THE FIRST FILLY WAIKATO STUD SENT TO AUSTRALIA TO BE TRAINED WAS NONE OTHER THAN GLAMOUR PUSS' DAM ESCADA



THE PROGENY

Glamour Puss retired as a 5YO. In every year since her retirement, she produced a foal.

Dam of seven named foals, six to race, all winners.

2007 g. Heritage, by Redoute's Choice. Winner at 1300m in Australia.

2008 f. Hollywood, by Pins. 3 wins from 1200m to 1600m in Australia

2009 f. Vogue, by O'Reilly. 2 wins at 1200m in New Zealand

2010 c. Beckham, by Pins. 7 wins to 1400m in New Zealand and Australia. Stakes placed in the Listed Ipswich TC Eye Liner Stakes (pictured above and right)

2011 f. Simply You, by O'Reilly. Winner at 1100m in New Zealand

2012 g. Ngarimu – Royal Elite (H.K.), by Savabeel. Winner at 1300m in Australia. Stakes placed in the Listed VRC Hilton Hotels & Resorts S.

2013 c. by O'Reilly.

2014 c. Ocean Class, by Ocean Park. Unraced.

2015 f. by O'Reilly.

