



SPORT RACING AUTUMN RACING CARNIVAL

## Bloodlines: \$2.3m Fastnet Rock colt long tipped for the top

By John Holloway  
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There was never any doubt the Fastnet Rock colt from The Broken Shore would be the sales-topper at the first Inglis Easter Sales held at the lavish Riverside stables set-up this week.

One look at the colt took away your breath. His coat was gleaming and he stood like a true aristocrat. Rightly so, considering his dam is a half-sister to greats such as Redoute's Choice, Manhattan Rain and Platinum Scissors.

Another million-dollar baby: Lot 268 sold to George Moore Bloodstock for \$1.8 million.

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*Photo: Supplied*

And not forgetting The Broken Shore's first foal Shoals has won twice in group 1 company and she was bought for \$1.9 million. Shoals is trained by Anthony Freedman, who also has her full-brother, the unraced colt Tides. The Broken Shore is owned by John Messara and Jonathan

Munz and both high-profile breeders have kept large shares in the Fastnet Rock colt sold on Wednesday for \$2.3 million.

Freedman was on a mission to buy – and ultimately train – the colt. “I think that knowing the family as well as I do gave me the confidence to buy the youngster who sold as Lot 400,” Freedman said. “He was the colt of the year, in my opinion, and he will have a great future as a stallion. He is truly a magnificent individual.”

Despite the hot conditions at the Warwick Farm stables, the Inglis-owned Riverside stables were applauded by buyers and onlookers alike.

The Book 1 sale was a massive success with Inglis boss Mark Webster stating it was second only to the 2008 crop. The rundown of figures revealed:

- ❑ 335 yearlings sold for \$116,457,000 – up 6 per cent from last year.

- ❑ An average of \$347,634.

- ❑ 22 yearlings fetched seven-figure sums, with 71 lots selling for \$500,000 or more.

- ❑ The 22 seven-figure yearlings were sired by eight stallions: Snitzel (7), I Am Invincible (5), Fastnet Rock (4), Deep Impact (2), Redoute’s Choice, Frankel, Pierro and Not A Single Doubt.

One can only wait for 12 months hence when some of the yearlings sold this week will be vying for victory in the Golden Slipper after the win earlier this month by Estijaab, a \$1.7 million buy from the 2017 Easter Sales.

**THE STALLIONS:** The big three of Australian racing – Snitzel, I Am Invincible and Fastnet Rock – were once again to the fore this week.

Snitzel was the leading stallion by aggregate with 41 lots amassing an amazing \$21,685,000, the highest-priced being \$1.55 million for Milburn Creek’s colt from Walk With Attitude. I Am Invincible was second with a return of \$18,650,000 for his 34 sellers, the highest being \$1.4 million for The Quarterback’s half-brother from Gilgai Farm bought by Team Hawkes. Fastnet Rock was third with a gross return of \$16,625,000 and he produced the two top-priced lots at \$2.3m and \$1.8m to Anthony Freedman and George Moore respectively. He had four seven-figure lots sell among his 30 yearlings which changed hands. Fastnet Rock was the leading sire by average with three or more lots selling. His average was \$554,167 which narrowly edged out I Am Invincible (\$548,529) and Snitzel (\$528,902).

**THE VENDORS:** Arrowfield Stud romped home in this category for the third successive year, selling 31 yearlings for an amazing \$18,285,000, an average of \$589,194. The John Messara-led farm sold seven million-dollar horses with Shoal’s full-brother topping the sale at \$2.3m.

Segenhoe Stud had a formidable three days of selling with 19 lots fetching \$7,506,000 and an average of \$395,000. Kitchwin Hills celebrated with two million-dollar-plus yearlings with the Snitzel x Go Indy Go colt selling to a syndicate formed by Glenlogan Farm, Max Whitby and RIFA Mustang for \$1.5m, and an I Am Invincible colt for \$1m to the Hong Kong Jockey Club. Yarraman Park had two million-dollar horses – a Snitzel colt from Tetsuko selling for \$1.4m and an I Am Invincible colt from Hoss Amor for \$1.05m which will enter John O’Shea’s Randwick stables.

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**THE BUYERS:** Sheikh Hamdan’s Shadwell Stud’s southern hemisphere team, headed by Angus Gold, once again played a huge role in the Easter Sales and was the biggest spender with nine purchases for an outlay of \$6,140,000. Gold is one of the most diligent lookers at major yearling sales worldwide and figured in the purchase of two of the 22 million-dollar sellers. He went to \$1.4m for the Snitzel x Tetsuko colt and \$1m for a Snitzel filly from Reply Churlish. Most of

Shadwell's team will be trained by the David Hayes stable with South African trainer Mike de Kock usually getting one or two of the purchases. The team of Gai Waterhouse, Adrian Bott and Blue Sky Bloodstock came away with 15 yearlings for \$5,250,000, including the \$1.2m Snitzel x Asscher colt in conjunction with renowned international buyer Kerri Radcliffe, and an I Am Invincible colt from Eye For Fun for \$1,050,000. The Hong Kong Jockey Club finished the sales with six lots at a cost of \$4.6m. The China Horse Club was once again extremely active and Michael Wallace, its racing and breeding manager, was responsible for eight purchases in partnership with a several clients. Their total cost was \$3,190,000, with the I Am Invincible-Hoss Amor colt being its only seven-figure buy. Wallace was to buy the Dissident colt (Lot 22) from Assail who was involved in a mishap while parading before entering the sale ring. Inglis's allowed the colt to be sold after the final lot on the first day of the sales following a veterinary inspection and Wallace went to \$800,000 to buy the handsome youngster. Wallace told Bloodlines he considered the Dissident colt one of the best lots in the Easter catalogue, claiming his physical structure was outstanding and the vet's inspection showed the incident in the parade ring caused no problems. James Harron, Chris Waller and Guy Mulcaster's buys were limited but as has become customary they buy quality rather than quantity at the Easter Sales. Harron signed for five lots for \$4,430,000 – the two highest lots being colts by Redoute's Choice (\$1.5m) and Not A Single Doubt (\$1,050,000). Waller and Mulcaster struck early on day one buying Lot 11, a filly by Japanese sire Deep Impact, for \$1.1m, and Lot 32, a Snitzel filly from Azmiyna bred by the Aga Khan, for \$1.3m. Waller and Mulcaster's total buys were four for \$3,040,000. Team Hawkes will walk away from the Easter Sales with several costly yearlings, with The Quarterback's brother costing them \$1.4 million. However, they are likely to prepare the Snitzel-Walk With Attitude colt for Spendthrift while Emirates Park, headed by Bryan Carlson, bought a number of expensive yearlings as they try to follow up with another Golden Slipper winner. Carlson signed for two I Am Invincible yearlings for \$750,000 each and a Not A Single Doubt filly for \$520,000. Tony McEvoy was quiet by his usual standards, buying just four yearlings, but with a healthy average of \$465,000. Like Team Hawkes, McEvoy will receive some of the higher-priced lots and he has a huge group of yearlings purchased at the Magic Millions on the Gold Coast and Inglis Select and Premier Sales.

### **Real Revolution**

Newgate Farm has issued its 2018 stallion prices, and Russian Revolution joins Golden Slipper and Magic Millions winner Capitalist as its top-priced stallion at \$55,000. Russian Revolution, a magnificent individual by Snitzel, has been booked out since Newgate announced his retirement. The China Horse Club is the major shareholder in Russian Revolution and will be sending 30 of its best mares to the sire in his first stud season. Newgate has 13 stallions standing this season and has made some reductions. Extreme Choice is now \$22,000; Flying Artie (\$33,000); Wandjina (\$22,000) and Winning Rupert (\$16,500). All prices include GST. Elsewhere, Written Tycoon's price has increased to \$110,000 after another tremendous racing season by his offspring, and breeders are anxiously awaiting the costs for Snitzel and I Am Invincible.

Bloodlines is confident Snitzel will rise to \$275,000 including GST and I Am Invincible will be \$175,000 including GST. These prices are surely justified taking into account the sales of their progeny in 2018, plus their group 1 performances.

Coolmore will increase Pierro's price after a fantastic run of successes by his three-year-olds with wins in the Australian Derby and the Victoria Oaks.

Pierro stood at \$49,500 (including GST) in 2017 and the progeny of his yearlings at this week's Easter Sales showed just how much trainers want his sons and daughters with 15 of his yearlings selling for \$4,465,000, an

average of nearly \$300,000.

### High achiever

Remember the fabulous mare Silent Achiever who dominated the autumn of 2014 for trainer Roger James and owner Kevin Hickman with wins in the Ranvet and The BMW? The winner of \$3.6 million was

retired in 2015 and sent to Europe for her broodmare career, foaling a filly firstly by Frankel and then a colt by the champion sire which are both certain to be trained in New Zealand by James. The trainer told Bloodlines that Silent Achiever is in foal to Coolmore's champion sire Galileo and a booking to Sea The Stars has been pencilled in to southern hemisphere time later this year.

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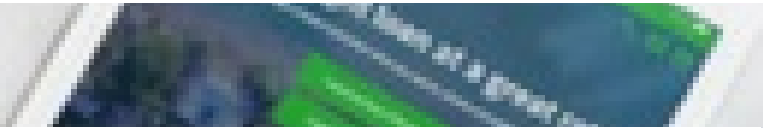
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