

(AUS)). T: J W Mason J: Ms L J Meech
Margins: 0.2 lens, 1 len. Time: 2:08.71.

R5: The Holden Barina Spark Hcp-58, \$12000, 1600m.

1. **PHELLINI (AUS)** (br m 4 **Iglesia (AUS)** - Kahuna's Girl (AUS)).

T: G J Kavanagh J: Ryan Maloney

Margins: 1.5 lens, 5 lens. Time: 1:39.40.

R6: South-East Pest Management-72, \$12000, 2000m.

1. **TAMANU PARK (AUS)** (br g 4 **Bletchley Park (IRE)** - She's

Zeel (NZ)). T: J B Cummings J: Ryan Maloney

Margins: 0.5 lens, 3 lens. Time: 2:08.01.

R7: Tiger's Clubhouse Hcp (62), \$12000, 1400m.

1. **SAK SESA (AUS)** (b h 6 **Jugah (USA)** - Chamatilla (AUS)).

T: G W McGreal J: R Wheeler

Margins: 0.1 lens, 2.5 lens. Time: 1:26.95.

R8: Anco Instant Turf Hcp (C1), \$12000, 1100m.

1. **DE LADY ROYALE (AUS)** (ch m 4 **Delago Brom (AUS)** - County

Royale (AUS)). T: D K Weir J: G Murphy

Margins: 0.3 lens, 1.5 lens. Time: 1:06.54.

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**1ST SEASON
SIRE WATCH**

FOR 2011 SALE DATES
(CLICK HERE)

Sunday 5th December

BULLMORE (Aus)

Stag (Aus) (b/br g 2 ex Sliena (Aus) by Dust in the Wind (NZ))

R2: Sunshine Coast, QTIS Two-Year-Old Maiden Plate, 1000m

CHATEAU ISTANA (GB)

Olympia's Flame (Aus) (ch f 2 ex Kahuna's Girl (Aus) by King of Kings (Ire))

R2: Sunshine Coast, QTIS Two-Year-Old Maiden Plate, 1000m

RED DAZZLER (Aus)

Pocket Money (Aus) (br c 2 ex Free Kick (Aus) by Canny Lad (Aus))

R2: Sunshine Coast, QTIS Two-Year-Old Maiden Plate, 1000m

DAMON IN DEAUVILLE



Villa Strassburger

Well, it seems like yesterday that I was last here and Deauville and the town looks even more gorgeous in the winter than it does in the summer.

I was relived that I passed French immigration without difficulty after my performance here in August. This time round the snowy streets are filled with Christmas decorations and fairy lights make the town look simply magical. The chilly weather however has caused the need for emergency purchasing of thermal long johns. My emergency thermals turned out to be a pair of skins for the elite athlete that are reminiscent of those worn by Ben Cousins. I can assure you that I can't pull it off as well as Cousins.

On Thursday night a few of the strong Aussie contingent headed to Santa Lucia – the best Italian in town. Kieran Moore, John and Fu Mai Hutchins of Typhoon Tracy fame, Neil Jenkinson, Peter Ford, my trusty assistant Heidi Keighran and myself enjoyed a delicious meal. I was just warming up for the weekend, so no tales of debauchery to report on my first night.

On Friday night, Arqana hosted their annual cocktail party to welcome people to the sale at the Villa Strassburger. This was followed by a charity fundraising event. The highlight of the event was a service to the newly retired Makfi that was sold to Princess Zhara for €45,000. Our very own Gary Mudgeway even donned a jacket for the occasion – I did not think he would have even owned one – the combination of the pastel shirt however, was not the easiest on my eyes. As with every evening in Deauville, the fun continued late into the night. Alan Osburg from the AJC was seen dancing till the early hours and Rick Wylie was spotted doing something that looked like the Hukka.

The sale began on Saturday morning (which was probably good as it keeps me out of trouble for a good 10 hours). The Australasian contingent here in Deauville did not let us down on day one and were out in force making a number of purchases.

John Hutchins has also been proudly wearing his Magpie's scarf, which, to say the least, is not the chicest item of clothing to wear in France . . . Some people cannot be helped however.

Lot 64 Diyaraka (3 gr f by Clodovil ex Diamonaka) was bought for €310,000 by Bertrand le Metayer on behalf of Rosemont Stud in Victoria for Anthony Mithen and Nigel Austin of Cotton On Clothing fame. The filly is to stay in France with the aim of getting some black type before she makes the trip down-under.

Kieran Moore went to €110,000 for lot 83 Jarda (3 ch f by Pivotal by Filfilah). She will come back to Australia to continue



her racing career where she is likely to enter the stable of Kris Lees.

Lot 153, Mandawara (3 b f Daylami ex Mintly Fresh), a half to two stakes winners including Manighar, who ran in this year's Melbourne Cup (Gr 1) and on his last start ran third in the Sandown Classic (Gr 2), was purchased from the Aga Khan Studs for a mere €30,000 by Neil Jenkinson.

Later on in the day, Alan Osburg purchased lot 115 – Isla Canela (3 b m Gone West ex Islington) privately for €290,000 through Rick Wylie Bloodstock.

As I was just getting ready for another night on the town Peter Ford went to €180,000 for lot 180 Victorian Era (3 b f Cape Cross ex Philae) for Victorian-based clients. She will go into training with Robbie Griffiths before going to stud. Peter, who bought Helsing, the dam of Black Caviar, was keen to get this close relation of Dubai Millennium from the great Fall Aspen family.

I am off to co-host a dinner tonight with honorary Australian Angus Gold at Restaurant 21. My report from the evening will be in tomorrow's edition.

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(NZ)). T: HK Tan J: M Au
 1DH. **VIVA PANATA (Aus)** (ch g 5 **Estambul (Arg)** -
 Blooming Luck (NZ)) T: D Koh J: J Saimee
 Margins: Dead Heat, 0.3. Time: 1:05.87.

R8: Class 5, 1200m (Polytrack), \$535,000

1. **RECYCLE TRIUMPH (NZ)** (b g 6 **Danasuria (Aus)** - Noble Flight
 (NZ)). T: HK Tan J: App J See
 Margins: 2, 2.3. Time: 1:13.57.



KARAKA 2011

33 yearlings by High Chaparral

R9: Class 4, 1700m (Polytrack), \$555,000

1. **DARING SPLENDOUR (NZ)** (gr g 4 **Bertolini (USA)** - Hoot N'

Holler (NZ)). T: J Meagher J: KB Soo
 Margins: 0.5, 4. Time: 1:46.55.



KARAKA 2011

31 yearlings by Zabeel

R10: Class 3, 1200m (Polytrack), \$575,000

1. **SIMPLY THE BEST (NZ)** (ch g 3 **Stratum (Aus)** - Career Start
 (Aus)). T: D Koh J: J Saimee
 Margins: 1, 1.3. Time: 1:12.09.



Maluckyday (NZ)

A Karaka Yearling graduate

DAMON IN DEAUVILLE



Photo: Olivier Delloye & Damon Gabbedy

After a long day at the sales on Saturday, I went back to my hotel to change out of my Ben Cousin skins and put on some more appropriate clothing. I had arranged a table at one of my favourite Deauville restaurants – 21 – to reward the strong performance by the Aussie spenders. Six individual buyers from 'down under' have now spent over €100,000; including John and Fu Mai Hutchins who purchased lot 227 late on Saturday for €240,000 through their agent Neil Jenkinson. Sway is a beautiful three-year-old filly by Monsun who is a half sister to four stakes winners.

I announced that I would treat the table to some French Champagne thinking that I was being both sophisticated and generous until I realized that I was in France and all Champagne was in fact French. Learning something new with each visit, Veuve Clicquot soon became the order of the day.

In my excitement however, I knocked a full glass of champagne over Mrs Hutchins foie gras entrée. Snails, veal with Calvados and mussels were the order of the day and a fine meal was enjoyed by all.

When the restaurant starts to empty at 21, the waiters push back

the tables to make room for a dance floor and the microphone is passed around for Karaoke. Tania Henry May and myself carved up the dance floor and all was going well – especially when some of my best Austin Power moves came to the fore. Peter Ford performed some serious country and western style line dancing and so it was suggested that us agents have a dance off competition. Of course I won.

John Hutchins, still in Magpie's scarf, tried to perform the Collingwood victory song, however, the microphone was quickly ripped from his hand. The usually reserved Terry Henderson of OTI Racing also belted out some tunes and before I knew it, it was 3am and time to go home. The snow lined footpaths made for an interesting walk or rather slide home. If only us Australian's were better at skiing and as with my usual form, my mini bar was cleared of all chocolate. I woke up with half a Kit Kat stuck to my face.

The sale continued on Sunday with Aussie buyers once again being active. Gary Mudgway who enjoyed pin hooking success in August with the foal he bought here this time last year purchased lot 298 for €7,000; a chesnut filly by Astronomer Royal. She will go through the ring again here as a yearling next October.

I bought lot 422; a five-year-old grey mare by El Prado who is a half sister to a Group 3 winner out of a Group 3 winner for €22,000. Sold in foal to Zambezi Sun, Oubliette was bought for Victorian breeder Michael Niall.

Tonight I am off for supper with French-based trainer John Hammond, Georges Rimaud from The Aga Khan Studs and Tom Goff from Blandford Bloodstock, before I head to Paris on Tuesday to do my Christmas shopping.



Photo: Kieron Moore & Damon Gabbedy