

WARREN GAVENLOCK RACING



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When the truck turned up with a Star Witness mare on board Warren thought to himself *"this is going to be a long road"*. She had her issues and rehabilitation would be the focus as the team worked out how to get her sound and more importantly happy.

ALTERNATIVE FACTS began her career at Broadmeadow with the Kris Lees stable and after a couple of average performances she was moved on. Coffs Harbour is a popular destination for horses that don't make the grade in the south and the list is

A STAR IS BORN

ALTERNATIVE FACTS STEPS UP

endless of Warren Gavenlock winners who began their careers in bigger metropolitan stables.

She began the long road to recovery and was given the opportunity to build up to the races with stable mate Money Travels. The son of Snippetson had a similar history with Bjorn Baker Racing providing the education and he showed enough to give the team plenty of hope.

Those close to the Gavenlock yard will know that nothing is rushed and the horses are given every

opportunity to progress at their own pace with the spelling facilities at Bonville used quite frequently.

Late in 2018 Warren headed to the Newcastle trials with a full truck looking to give his equine athletes a good hit out against quality opposition. Alternative Facts returned to the track where previously was 2 lengths inferior and left a 3 length winner over the 800m.

Warren had to re think the initial thoughts that he might get over

ground and looked with optimism to his first assignment on the race track.

It was fitting that the stable mates went head to head in the 1100m maiden at Grafton after both came through their trials in great order. Raymond Spokes got the mare out of the gates without a hitch and after dictating terms from the front she kicked hard on the bend to establish a winning break. Money Travels was ridden stone cold and to his credit he chased gamely beating the rest of large field and grabbing the Gavenlock quinella. Warren knew he had a couple of nice horses in the stable but he wasn't getting ahead of himself because the next win is always the hardest stepping up in grade.

Alternative Facts recovered beautifully from the run and headed to Armidale where she became acquainted with Mikayla Weir. After missing the kick and settling 10 lengths off the leader its safe to say that a few tickets would have gone astray. Mikayla



"I KNEW AFTER ARMIDALE THAT I HAD A VERY GOOD HORSE"

didn't panic and rode the horse like she was a superstar straightening 6 wide with no cover and unleashing a devastating turn of foot that can only be described as **WHOOSH**. She stamped herself as a real horse of the future and increasing the grade was the only option.

The Tab Highway's provide country trainers with the opportunity to give their stable stars the opportunity to race against the best up and coming race horses. The \$75,000 ensures the fields are hotly contested and Alternative Facts was part of this group of country sprinters looking to make her mark. She was strong to the line showing versatility and that touch of class that saw her match motors with the Country

Championships winner Noble Boy and Skelletar runner up I'm A Cool Kid.

Her campaign came to an end at Newcastle where again she powered to the line to finish in the placings. It gave Warren a good gauge moving forward and she is now safely tucked up in the paddock letting all of the racing sink in.

Warren recently commented that ***"its a real pleasure to get the opportunity to train a quality race horse like Alternative Facts. Seeing her win that race at Armidale got me very excited and if she had some luck in the Highway's we could have seen her finish just off the best in the bush. She will be given a good break now and i will leave it up to her to let me know when she is ready to return. The future is bright"***.

A big thankyou to **Tony Gorman** who is the primary handler for ALTERNATIVE FACTS. Your dedication is appreciated and we are confident the best is yet to come.

PLONKA LOOKS TO MAKE HIS MARK

There is a lot of excitement in Coffs Harbour as the son of Epaulette PLONKA announced himself as a real horse of the future.

Warren commented that *"when you finish second on debut and third is 8 lengths behind you could feel a little hard done by. I feel this was a blessing in disguise because it allowed us to put the breaks on and allow him to have another good hit out at Tamworth where he dominated again to win by 4 lengths. We nearly lost him early on and the patience is starting to pay off as we can look to the future with optimism."*

It's hard not to get ahead of yourself in this game but the prestige of heading to town looks very likely for this smart gelding.



THE WINNERS

SERENE BEAUTY

GRAFTON 3YO MAIDEN S-W (1000M) 2/12/18

ALTERNATIVE FACTS

GRAFTON 4YO+ MAIDEN (1100M) 2/12/19

ARMIDALE C1 HCP (1100M) 18/12/19

MISS VEGAS

COFFS HARBOUR F&M BM58 HCP (1300M) 13/1/19

NO QUALM

PORT MACQUARIE C4 HCP (1206M) 01/2/19

AMBITIOUS PRINCE

BALLINA CG&E BM58 HCP (1255M) 28/2/19

PLONKA

TAMWORTH MAIDEN HCP (1000M) 28/4/19



CALENDAR



JUNE

- 16th- WAUCHOPE CUP
- 21st- COFFS HARBOUR
- 30th- JOHN CARLTON QTY

JULY

- 7th- SOUTH GRAFTON CUP
- 10th- RAMORNIE HANDICAP
- 11th- GRAFTON CUP
- 14th- MACLEAN CUP

AUGUST

- 1st- COFFS HARBOUR CUP
- 3rd- BONVILLE CUP