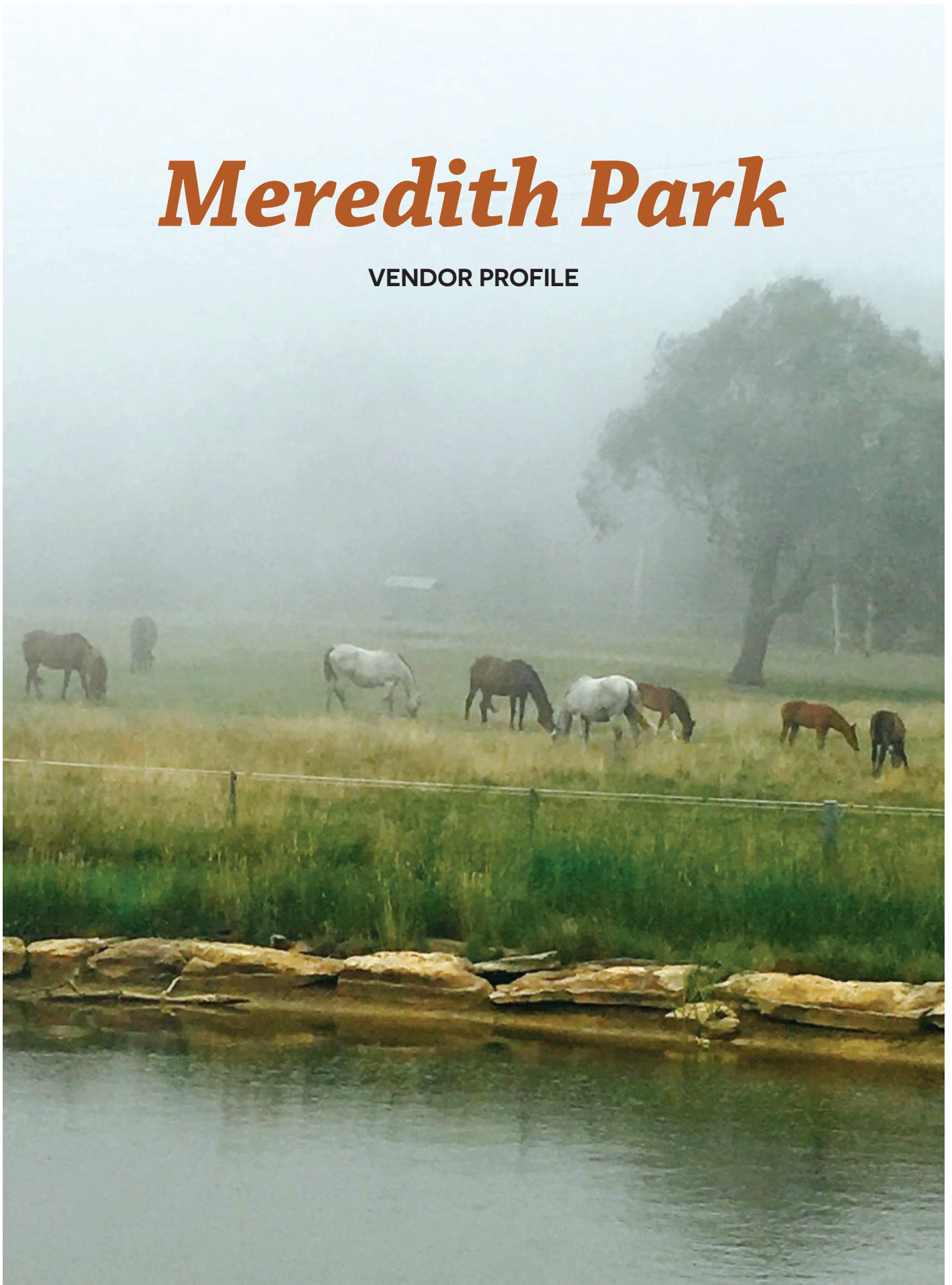


# *Meredith Park*

VENDOR PROFILE





WITH 10 YEARS SALES EXPERIENCE BEHIND THEM SUE WOODCOCK AND HUSBAND MIKE EVERETT OF MEREDITH PARK ARE EXCITED BY THE PROSPECT OF PRESENTING THEIR INAUGURAL MAGIC MILLIONS DRAFT IN JANUARY. EIGHT YEARLINGS IN BOOK 1 WILL MAKE THEIR WAY FROM BERRIMA IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS OF NEW SOUTH WALES WITH NO STONE LEFT UNTURNED IN ENSURING THEY HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE A PREMIUM PRICE.

story: GLEN LATHAM photos: MEREDITH PARK

#### How many mares did you breed with in 2017?

"We bred 15 mares in total using a variety of stallions standing on either side of the Tasman. We'll send the mares where we think the 'type' will give us the best chance of return on investment, both in capital and time spent.

#### How would you sum up your 2018 draft?

A group of quality racehorses in the making.

#### What is your favourite place to eat and drink at the Gold Coast?

Bistro Chico at Main Beach. Great Tapas, an extensive cocktail menu and great company. Nothing else needed.

#### What do you wish more people would take notice of?

Each other.

When interviewed Sue explained that selling on the Gold Coast was a natural progression in line with the upgrade in bloodstock the farm now housed. Underpinning their investment is one principle, only send to market horses that horsemen/women would want to race. "Over the last decade we have developed our version of best practice, experimenting with every aspect of management such as a preferred feeding regime, and we feel we've reaped the benefits from the results we've achieved in the ring elsewhere. We feel we now have the right horses to stand out in the Gold Coast market." The colder climate of Berrima and surrounds lends itself to developing tough, hardy horses and while looked after impeccably the Meredith Park draft haven't been pampered when it came to sheltering from the elements. "Our logic is the more time the horse spends in the paddock the less susceptible it should be to ailments and wind infirmities."

With type being all important the eight are made up of a mixture of homebreds and pinhooks; of stock by young sires and, for balance, colts by Champion Sire Snitzel and Artie Schiller and a filly by the evergreen Choisir. When asked for her standout Sue couldn't choose "All five colts are tremendous, they are all types we would want to race and we think the market will feel the same."

"The Snitzel colt has a lovely girth, a good length of rein and has done everything we've asked of him so far in a professional manner. Importantly for a Snitzel he isn't overly big" said Sue. She bought his dam, the American bred Angel Smoke by Smoke Glacken, from the Magic Millions ring in foal to Snitzel, the resulting filly Nostariel winning the rich two year old race at the Wagga May carnival.

"The Artie Schiller was an inexpensive pinhook which was surprising at the time given what Flying Artie achieved last season. He proved that a sire didn't need big books to get people to pay attention to him." Of course besides Flying Artie, Artie Schiller can get middle distance horses like Rosehill Guineas winner Desert Hawk.

On pedigree a first crop son of Olympic Glory out of Fastnet Rock's unraced daughter Steps To The Beat has plenty to offer, the dam being a half-sister to Gr.1 Coolmore Classic winner Steps In Time. Sue loves that the colt is by a grandson of Danehill Dancer, sire of Steps In Time, which spelled at Meredith Park throughout a successful racing career. Sue and Mike remain part owners with Steps In Time now at stud.

Meredith Park will also offer a first crop son of Deep Field out of the New Zealand bred Marmi by Lion Heart. "He's an early foal, well put together and an attractive sort," said Sue. "This is a particularly attractive Deep Field youngster with a lot of scope which is pleasing." Marmi hails from a family developed by the late Robert Sangster and is a half-sister to Prince Of Passion, runner up in the most recent Gr.1 Thorndon Mile at Riccarton.

The first of the Hallowed Crowns make their appearance on the Gold Coast and Sue and Mike have a colt of his out of Crimson Lady who was twice Gr.3 placed including a second in the South Australian Fillies Classic. Sue said "I see him more as a Classic colt and I love the Street Cry - Green Desert cross," Crimson Lady being a daughter of former Champion New Zealand Stallion Volksraad.

Of the fillies the Choisir - Manon filly looks the pick. "She's a big, strong filly despite being a first foal with a November foaling date," Sue offered. It doesn't hurt that Manon is a three-quarter sister in blood to four-time Gr.1 winner Silent Achiever and by a sire that even in the twilight of his career continues to regularly serve up Gr.1 winners, Divine Prophet, Obviously, The Last Lion and The Mission a quartet that have added to his imposing tally recently.

### 2018 draft

Lot	Col/Sex	Sire	Dam
63	B. F	Choisir (AUS)	Manon (NZ)
69	B/Br. C	Deep Field (AUS)	Marmi (NZ)
108	B/Br. F	Wandjina (AUS)	Most Secretive (AUS)
351	Br. C	Olympic Glory (IRE)	Steps to the Beat (AUS)
380	B. C	Artie Schiller (USA)	Taraneem (AUS)
498	B/Gr. C	Snitzel (AUS)	Angel Smoke (USA)
639	B. C	Hallowed Crown (AUS)	Crimson Lady (NZ)
952	Ch. F	Toronado (IRE)	House Right (GB)
630	B/Br. F	Fighting Sun (AUS)	Coolroom Candidate (AUS)

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