

Speccky Wins at Geelong

Tues 12th August: Well it's been a long time for our girl, but after some very good runs and encouraging signs during this campaign, she duly salutes at Geelong over the 1550m on the Thorough Track.

Thanks must go immediately to Tony and his team and Danny Brereton on top. But the story goes back 12 months when Dr Chris Whitton and team at Werribee Equine Hospital fought to keep her after a horrific accident in the truck. Tony had not even laid eyes on her since she had left his stable 13 months earlier to that.

This was to be some reunion. Then all of a sudden... with the ring of a phone late in the day... it all didn't look likely at all.

Any racehorse owner does not want to receive the call from the surgeon "That it doesn't look good".

The team at Werribee then got stuck in to do a wonderful job... and we "were lucky". And then with some post op loving care from the team with Liz down there... things started to look brighter.

When the time came to leave Werribee Equine Hospital I phoned a fab horseman in Bill Riches and knowing very well that he was retiring and that he and Jenny were selling up, I asked for a favour from him to bring her back. The timing fitted okay with him and Jen and being a vet he made sure she got the best care possible and her wounds began healing up. Each visit she got more spritely and stronger ... and one day she was rolling around in the paddocks and Bill said fellas, it's time to pull the pin and go for it!

Back to Tony ... And the reunion was sweet. Tony set about starting with a blank page... Given her previous form when away from Tony all we wanted was to see if she still wanted to race for Tony. The rest is history ... She's had a few good early runs without any luck, and Tuesday at Geelong ... Well it was SpecckyTacular!

Given the last 12 months each time she stepped out was a thankful activity. As Pete said as he watched on ... this was one for the True Believers. For me... it was Fairytales do come true.

In saying Thanks to Tony after the race, Pete and I just about bear hugged him to the ground in the winners enclosure. Thanks Tony. We enjoyed every second and I think we rode every moment with DB, like all the Specckyators all over Australia including Mick in the Pilbarra and JG in Canberra and the hordes in Melbourne TABs and watching or listening. Go Girl!