



Randwick Bloodstock's Fillies and Mares For Sale

Contact details

Dear ,

We'll it is not quite business as usual just yet for New South Wales and Queensland, but things do look to be heading in the right direction at present. One thing I've always maintained about racing and breeding people is their great resilience. This game can take you to the highest of highs one day, and the lowest of lows the next. Many people reading this will have been riding the "roller coaster" for years, some will have just jumped on board it, some will be standing excitedly in the queue, while others are contemplating whether or not to take that leap of faith that's required to take the ride. Talking from personal experience, once you're on the ride, it is addictive. Since the middle of August, things haven't been great for many industry participants, but as I write, I haven't heard of any people wanting to get off that roller coaster, as tough as it has been.

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Prior to the EI outbreak, the economic fundamentals for the Australian Thoroughbred Industry were quite sound. Both the racing and breeding economies were at or near record levels and showing no signs of slowing down. There are no reasons why our industry cannot return quickly to these levels. The Australian economy continues to prosper, as does the Australian thoroughbred internationally.

Last month, concerns were voiced by Stephen Van Eyk, NSW Racehorse Owners Association President, in respect of a recent survey of some of their members on whether they would buy yearlings in 2008. 100% of those who responded answered no. But Australian Thoroughbred Breeder's Association President John Messara is confident yearling buyers will regain their optimism as he stated when replying to NSWROA survey "At the moment people are negative because we are in the middle of the EI crisis, but by the time March and April come around and the sales are with us, we'll have resumed racing and I'm sure confidence will have lifted," said Messara.

I don't disagree with John Messara's comments. Confidence will lift, but somehow, you and I as industry participants should be putting on our thinking caps and coming up with ideas on how we can accelerate this. It is important we have a healthy market at next year's yearling sales. We can choose to sit on our hands and just let things hopefully fall back into place or we can be proactive and give our industry the much needed boost it will require to get back on it's feet as soon as possible. If you have ever thought about trying to get friends, relations, neighbours, work colleagues, etc, into a racehorse or broodmare, perhaps next year's sales will be the time to give it a try.

Until next time,

Best Regards
Brett