

Some of the
e-mails I
sent back
home!

WEEK
1 + 2

Dear All,

I arrived at 32 Booran road, Caulfield on Thursday the 5th May, very tired from the long journey but eager to meet everyone and see what was required of me!

As Mr. Moody was in Brisbane with Black Caviar, I didn't get to meet him until Monday morning, which was a bit of a relief as it gave me a few days to find my feet around the yard!

There are about 70 horses in training at the Caulfield track split over three yards, each with a couple of foreman in charge, plus two assistant trainers overseeing everything.

The daily routine begins at 3:30am, and all horses have bridles and headcollars on and are tied up in their boxes until being tacked up and ridden out. Boxes are mucked out and the first lots are tacked up. Riders arrive at 4am and the first ones leave the yards around 4:10am. We have approximately 12 riders and they will ride anything between 5 and 7 each.

Mr. Moody is a big believer in swimming his horses, and all horses (unless galloped) will swim two laps after being worked. Any horses that "tie-up" will swim a lap of the pool before being worked.

Tuesdays and Saturdays are the main fast work mornings. The stable jockeys, Luke Nolen, Linda Meech, Jason Benbow and apprentice Daniel Stackhouse will come into ride the main gallops.

Unofficial jumpouts (trials) are held at Caulfield every Tuesday from 7:30am - 9:30am, and there can be anything between 8 and 20 horses trialling for the stable. The jumpouts are used to educate the younger horses, and tighten up older horses and are usually (but not limited to) 800m. Most horses will have two jumpouts (in successive weeks) before heading for a race start about a fortnight later. Young horses may just have a couple of jumpouts for education and then go for a break to the paddock, this all depends on whether Mr. Moody feels that they would be ready for a race start or would benefit further from a spell.

I have attended one official trial (colours are worn by jockeys) which was held at Cranbourne (about 40 mins outside of the city). Official trials will go against the horses race record.

I have also attended two race meetings since my arrival. The first was at Caulfield, we had 5 runners with 2 of them winning, a second and two third placings. Black Caviar also ran (on the same day) and won in the Doomben btc cup over 1200m which was a fantastic celebration for the whole team!

The second meeting i attended was at Flemington, the home of the Melbourne cup! We had three runners with a 2nd, 4th and 6th placing. Flemington is a lovely course with an enormous grandstand view and beautiful 1200m straight.

I have definitely been kept busy since my arrival and am learning new things every day. I will update you every two weeks!

Hope all is well back in the UK

Best wishes

Laura Morgan

sue@brs.org.uk; rory@brs.org.uk; gemma.waterhouse@k
Sent: Tue, 7 Jun 2011 00:30:12 +0000
Subject: 4 weeks at the Moody camp!!

Dear All,

Another very busy couple of weeks, with plenty of runners a couple of winners and many in the placings. We have 6 horses up in Brisbane as there has been a carnival on for the last 5 weeks. The biggest racing on there beeing this weekend. We have 'Turnitup' running in the Queensland Derby and we will be hoping for a big run.

I am hoping to fly up to Brisbane on Thursday to go and see how everything operates up there and if it is any different to the life style down here in Melbourne!

Mr Moody is heading over to England tomorrow for two weeks, with our Royal Ascot runner 'Hinchinbrook'. Who is currently staying at Geff Wraggs yard in Newmarket. Good reports have come back saying he travelled over well and seems to have settled in well. He is due to run in the Golden Jubilee.

We had 27 horses trial this morning, alot of them beeing two year olds having there first time barriers certificates. This is great for them and the owners to see what stages there at and whether they need more time to mature or develop any problems. The boss decided this morning there were 6 that needed to go out and 2 of them were no good.

We have 3 different yards where our yealings are broken in. They are broken in over 4 weeks, then they will be given a break for 4 to 6 weeks, brought back in for a refresher and to see if they are ready to come here for a few days at the track. They will only ever stay here for a maximam of 4 days to learn abit then go back out for a break then if ready to carry on with go to the pre-trainers for further education. The boss is very good with his babies and is never hard on them, this allows them time to develop and grow. Giving them every possible chance of making it.

Im very sorry as i have been unable to get you any photos to see on here but i have taken lots and

WEEK
3 + 4

From: Laura Morgan [mailto:lauramorg@hotmail.co.uk]
Sent: 22 July 2011 06:09
To: Gemma Waterhouse; Rory MacDonald;
dpackard@mayshiel.com
Subject: only 8 days left in Oz, learnt so much and made some wonderful friends!

Hello All,

Hope all is well back in the UK?
This week i've been trying to get around as many different places as possible and see different things.
Mr Moody took me up to Albury this week to see all of the yearlings work and to look at horses spelling out in the fields!
It took us four hours to get there and we stopped off at several different yards on the way back down! We left the yard at 3:15am, so it turned out to be a very long day!

We also had 4 runners that day with two winners, a second and third.

It is starting to get very busy in the yard with Black Caviar back in from her spell in Brisbane and looking super. Mr Moody has alot of press and media to deal with involving Black Caviar and now everyone knows she is back in work at Caulfield they all want to see her and know how she is going!

Ive kept a diary of my day to day activities and have around 300

photos to put in my folder! Ive also collected alot of newspaper reports which i thought might interested you and give you an idea of how things work over here!

There is not to much different to report in now but i am really looking forward to coming home and telling you all about it.

Thanks again,
See you all soon,
Laura x

Conclusion

In conclusion I feel my time in Australia has been of great value to me. I have learnt a great deal which will be very beneficial to me in my future career in racing.

I feel very privileged to have had this opportunity to visit Mr Moody's yard and know this scholarship will benefit many others in the future.

Whilst being in Melbourne and going racing a lot I couldn't believe the prize money. For example your average week day city meeting, the horses would be racing for \$70,000.

Bookmakers put 20% back into racing there, making racing much more appealing to owners and people just wanting a bit of fun. As prize money goes down to 10th place!

I feel racing in England may only get worse as so many people are backing horses to lose and race fixing. There is no doubt it is the best racing in the world but if bookmakers don't support the industry a lot more I could see many more owners and trainers leaving the sport.

Thank you again for the amazing opportunity I have been given, I am sure the next candidate will gain as much as I have.