

BOOK REVIEW
OCTOBER 2011

PETER PAN

THE FORGOTTEN STORY OF PHAR LAP'S SUCCESSOR



Jessica Owers is a relative newcomer to the Book Racing scene but boy does she know how to write. With comparison's to Black Caviar's modern day feats of winning 14 sprint races in a row , Phar Lap has been in the news again but Peter Pan which won 23 Stakes races in the same era as Phar Lap is often forgotten. This is Owers first book and clearly won't be her last.

In this new book to be released in Australia late October, Owers tells us an exciting story involving the horse, its owners and the Racing characters of the time. Her description of the races and events are told as if she is there to witness them. It is a tribute to her writing skills that she is able to do this. You won't find stories about our current day races described as clearly as Owers details the events of the far past.

You get a sense of the Races from the starter, and the jockeys down. The events and the times are well recorded in the archives and to say they are pieced together here would be an injustice to the writer. Owers brings the characters to life, from the rich owner, a Nathan Tinkler like character who continued to race Peter Pan in Australia for the lowest prize money due to the effects of the depression, and shunned offers of millions in today's currency to follow Phar Lap overseas and the people around him. He preferred instead to race Peter Pan at Randwick and Flemington to repay the faith of his followers, the thousands who came to the races to see him and bet their shillings on him.

I enjoyed reading Peter Pan and I know you will too.

Review by Garry Robinson
Tuesday October 11, 2011

Winform Publishing
Horse Racing Australia
PO Box 7067, Mannering Park, NSW 2259
www.horseracingaustralia.info

