

SPRING RACES IN AUSTRALIA

Australia's spring racing campaign opens brilliantly at Randwick Race Course on glamorous Derby Day. It's not only a horse parade, it's a fashion parade. Believe it or not, it's the hat we're looking at not the face. Away, before somebody asks what they've got. He's got a horse that can't lose. A Derby sensation New Zealand colt "Night Team" he loses his mount and bolts off down the course. Open the gate, open the gate, nearly down. Amazing luck, he is trapped in the official enclosure. Send him back to the post, he's held up the Derby for 18 minutes. Finally they are racing, the slowest run Derby for 22 years. Sprint to the finish and Sand Deck the winner in a close finish. Here's the Randwick straight mile race, the field approaching the straight. Watch for an extraordinary incident. Early Bird's forced nearly over the fence, here it is, what a bump, still there's no fall. Close to the rails is hot favourite Bowley with jockey Munroe bringing him along with a rattling run. In the straight Bowley gropes right out of the race. Beaten in a flash and High Class flashes to the front. Slow motion shows the stirring finish, High Class won't give in, he continues his brilliant run to give him a narrow victory. High Class, almost a non-starter because of a foot injury comes back to take 2,250 pounds as his winning end of the prize. A triumph of courage for a really high class horse. On the same day in Melbourne another champion shows what quality means. Roman Stakes and the mighty Ajax is streaking away from the field, the champion scores his 36th victory, and makes his straight earnings 39,929 pounds. Back at Randwick, the ladies are still trying to find out which horse and jockey they like best. There's every punter in Sydney and an echo of Hampstead Heath ... just a rub for luck. Now they're racing and as soon as the field of stayers begin to get underway Bow Peep goes to the front. What madam, two shillings on Bow Peep. Now they thunder to the

turn Bo Peep still in front, just look at him madam, what speed, what stamina and the favourite romps home. Yes we know madam, this sudden wealth. In triumph Bo Peep returns two minutes and forty-two seconds has smashed the Australian records. Half Randwick including the lady ascended on the poor bookmakers to collect. Pretty, pretty, pretty.