

The Story of a champion Australian race-horse and how it changed the lives of its 18 owners

Includes Foreword & Introduction by jockey legend Roy Higgins and current superstar jockey Craig Williams

“He's got there!”

Three simple words with a lot of history behind them. The story of a horse.

Fields Of Omagh, the thoroughbred hero who on October 28 2006 dived on the line to win the W.S Cox Plate, Australia's most prestigious test of equine class.

He was not the best horse to win the race in its long history, not the most famous. But his story of durability, courage and toughness takes us beyond the race track. To the tales of his three trainers, his 18 enthusiastic owners, his dedicated vet, to the many people behind the scenes who helped to get a crippled horse to the track.

Back to the track after two major break downs, to contest five consecutive Cox Plates, to win two of them. To win 13 races and over \$6.49 million in stakes. To travel around the world – to Dubai, Hong Kong and Japan.

To the story of the owner diagnosed with cancer who credits Fields Of Omagh with bringing her back from the edge of despair. To the owner whose husband died and to whom Fields Of Omagh became a saviour. To those whose lives were changed because of the deeds of a horse.

One very special horse.

Published by Melbourne Books

To be launched at Moonee Valley Race Course on September 15th with Fields of Omagh in attendance.

Includes exclusive link to Bryan Martin's emotional calls of Fields of Omagh wins.

Available in all good bookshops: 256 pages, large format paperback with front and back flaps. Includes 16 pages of colour photos.

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About the Author

Kristen Manning is a journalist specializing in thoroughbred racing and breeding, Kristen Manning has been involved in the world of horse racing since she was 15. Hooked when her father took a share in a horse who was to win nine races, she embarked on her racing career as a cadet journalist at Truth Newspaper.

After three years at that infamous Melbourne paper, Kristen became a freelance writer, working for the racing publications Winning Post, Racetrack, Australian Bloodhorse Review, Breeding & Racing, Pacemaker (UK) Turf Monthly, Inside Racing, Sunspeed, On Course (editor) and Owner/Breeder (US).

She has also worked for Racing Victoria, the Moonee Valley Racing Club, the Thoroughbred Racehorse Owners Association, the Victorian Bookmakers Association, on community radio and she contributed four chapters to the book “Great Thoroughbred Sires of the World.”

An enthusiastic racehorse owner and breeder, Kristen also works as a pedigree analyst, providing advice to individual breeders and studs. She has always held the ambition to write a book and is thrilled to document the life of Fields Of Omagh, a horse she has long admired.

“The Horse Racing Book of the Year!”