



Media Release
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Four new voices to join Trackside team

Four new voices have joined the Trackside race commentary and broadcast team, the New Zealand Racing Board announced today.

The new voices are experienced race caller Bruce Sherwin and three new young talents - Jason Teaz, Thomas Wood and Jayne Ivil.

Sherwin returns to the Trackside airwaves after spending 11 years commentating with the Macau Jockey Club. He returned to New Zealand this year to manage the Cambridge thoroughbred breeding and agistment property - Raffles Farm.

Sherwin spent three years calling races in New Zealand before heading overseas and will be calling all the races from New Plymouth in his new role.

Ivil joins the NZ Racing Board as a broadcasting cadet and will spend her first 12 months being trained up in all areas of broadcast operations.

The personable young strapper has spent the last few months travelling with Seachange on her overseas campaign, which included lining up at Royal Ascot in England as the first ever New Zealand trained horse to run at that event.

"It's really exciting to be starting a new career but it's great for me to have the opportunity to stay in the racing industry at the same time," Ivil said.

NZ Racing Board Head of Broadcasting Glen Broomhall said the other two new voices – Jason Teaz and Thomas Wood – were joining the commentary team as part of a robust succession planning process.

"We held an initial day of tuition in October last year and 12 people from around the country who had been calling trials and workouts from all three Codes attended," Mr Broomhall said.

"The passion and dedication of everyone there was fantastic. Eventually, following two rounds of interviews, Jason and Thomas were identified as the preferred candidates."

Mr Broomhall said Wood would be based in Christchurch and mentored by the recently retired godfather of New Zealand race calling - Reon Murtha and Teaz will be based out of the Waikato regional office and mentored by Mike O'Sullivan, who has more than 22 years experience in broadcasting.

Young Waikato talent Thomas Wood, 18, comes from a racing background as both his parents are involved in training horses.

Wood started his own photography business when he was just 14 and was the official photographer for six race clubs as well as the TRAC group, which operates five racing venues, before he secured his new job as a full-time commentator.

Jason Teaz also comes from a strong racing family. His father has held a public trainers licence for about 35 years and his mother is a successful amateur rider.

"I became interested in racing from an early age after always being dragged along to the races with my parents," Mr Teaz said.

"I've always had a passion for race calling and I even used to ride my bike round the house as a kid commentating imaginary races," he added.

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