

With her background and trendsetter status, Kate Waterhouse is sitting pretty as horse racing's fashion doyenne

STAR STRUCK  
KATE WATERHOUSE

# Racing's Thoroughbred

She may be racing royalty, but Kate Waterhouse is as lovely inside as her exquisitely fashionable exterior. She shares her love for life on the racetrack with us

WORDS KATHY BUCHANAN PHOTOGRAPHY CYBELE MALINOWSKI

**“My** first job was as a bookies’ clerk at the races,” laughs 26-year-old Aussie socialite and racing personality Kate Waterhouse, flashing a perfect set of pearly whites. The style and fashion editor for Sydney’s *Sun Herald* newspaper, and presenter (and face) of Foxtel’s Lifestyle You channel, Waterhouse is racing royalty.

Waterhouse’s mother is the legendary thoroughbred trainer Gai, her father is bookmaker Robbie Waterhouse and she’s the granddaughter of racing legend Tommy “TJ” Smith. Despite spending her life under the media spotlight, Kate Waterhouse has blossomed into a graceful and sweet young woman.

With sparkling diamond earrings, perfectly styled hair, and a classic navy blazer, white T-shirt and skinny jeans on her slim frame complemented with four-inch heels, Waterhouse is considered the style queen of the races.

“I remember always being at the races,” she says. “Mum said she took me from the day I was born. There’s something for everyone and all budgets at the races. It’s a great day out for families, for couples, for singles — everyone.”

Waterhouse grew up riding. “I went to every single equestrian event and every holiday was horse-riding camp,” she says. “I was absolutely obsessed with horses. Forget Barbies, it was all about My Little Ponies!”

Shot on location at Sydney’s Shangri-La Hotel’s Blu Bar. Styling by Melissa Boyle; hair & make-up by Allison Boyle; Kate’s dress by Camilla & Marc and shoes by Mia Mia from David Jones

**MAIN: Waterhouse does Derby Day style in black and white while admiring Blu Bar's harbour views**  
**BOTTOM: Waterhouse is always picture perfect on the field**



## Kate's Tips for Spring Dressing at the Races

- Guys, put a suit on, wear cufflinks, shine those shoes and have a handkerchief that matches your tie.
- Spring racing is all about hats made from straw or lighter material. If you don't feel comfortable in a hat, wear a fascinator.
- Open-toe shoes are recommended.
- Don't take a massive handbag. Use a clutch or a small bag with a handle.
- This spring is all about feminine, pretty colours. We're seeing a lot of neutral tones this season. Dress appropriately for the weather too — I can guarantee every racetrack will get cold by the afternoon. Take a jacket, coat or pashmina to keep you warm.
- It's not a nightclub, so leave the sequins at home. No midriffs or miniskirts, and to be proper, you should have shoulder straps covering your shoulders. Wear something sophisticated and elegant, like what you'd wear to a stylish lunch with your grandma.
- It's a long day, so my mum always says wear comfortable shoes, but I wear the highest of high shoes. Protect your shoes with Party Feet and fold up ballerina flats in your bag.



Kate's dress by Arthur Galin AG and resin bangle by Tillich

Given her first horse as a Christmas present when she was only four, this style guru's future seems predestined. "I was given a race horse when I was 10 and I was this tiny grasshopper on this massive white horse," she laughs, while sipping her peppermint tea daintily at Blu Bar in Sydney's Shangri-La Hotel. "I still love riding, but it's more of a luxury these days."

She studied graphic design before realising her real passion was writing about fashion, so Waterhouse did a Bachelor of Arts in media communication at Sydney's Macleay College. Before she'd even graduated, she was writing as a special correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph* on race days.

Her big break arrived in the UK. "Just before I finished with uni I went to Ascot Races and

the *Sunday Telegraph* asked me to write an article about it, so I wrote about all the restaurants, nightclubs and celeb spotting. It was a fun article, and when I got back they offered me a full-time job. I was only 22, so at first I did party and social reporting. It wasn't hard to convince my friends to go out!"

Eighteen months later, she became the fashion editor for the *Sun Herald* and began a society column "Date With Kate", in which she interviewed celebrities like Kim Kardashian, Delta Goodrem and Kristy Hinze.

When not in the eye of the fashion storm, Waterhouse is dating the dashing former Roosters rugby player Luke Ricketson. "He's such a gentleman," she gushes of Ricketson, who now works in sales for Channel Nine.

Supporting photo: Lisa Maree Williams/Getty Images

The party season has arrived for the elegant fashion editor and presenter as the Spring Racing Carnival kicks off nationally this month

“WEEKENDS ARE VERY UNGLAMOROUS. I LOVE WATCHING MOVIES OR GIRLIE SHOWS

Kate's dress by Rachel Gilbert, main hands by Tillysh and shoes by Miu Miu from David Jones

She adds with a laugh, “Weekends are very unglamorous. I love watching movies or girlie shows on Lifestyle You.” For now, Waterhouse lives with her older brother Tom. “He’s a bookmaker, so he’s followed in my dad and grandfather’s footsteps. He’s about to launch a betting website, so he’s taken what dad does to a whole new level.”

Waterhouse’s father introduced her to another side of the track. “When I finished school, dad was like, ‘you’re coming to work with me’. Everyone thinks the races are very glamorous, but in the betting ring it isn’t. I was putting on bets, collecting money, giving pay-outs. The characters I met! I did it for a couple of years for long hours, morning to night. Dad was right, it was the biggest learning curve of my life.” She hasn’t strayed far afield though, having previously been a David Jones racing ambassador. This spring, she plans to attend at least 10 race days.

But Waterhouse’s true love is clearly being in vogue. “I love writing about fashion because it’s always changing with new trends. It’s a great way to express yourself.” As for whether she prefers presenting or writing, that’s an easy choice. “These days you need to be across all of them.

“However, I find writing a lot easier than presenting, because you can sit there in your

### In Our Words

This year, the Melbourne Cup will celebrate its 150th anniversary. To commemorate, a glossy book, *The Story of the Melbourne Cup — Australia’s Greatest Race*, will be published. Endorsed by the Victoria Racing Club, it offers an extensive historical and cultural account of the Cup, and the characters who made it great.

Similarly, Sydney’s champion trainer will release *Gai Waterhouse, In My Words*. This diary of the racing season of 2009–10 is from one of the world’s most successful women in racing. The diary covers all the hard work, drama and excitement of the racing world — from a distinct Waterhouse point of view and with commentary from the whole family.



## Kate's Favourite Holiday Spots

### Port Douglas



**Port Douglas:** "It's amazing if you have kids — as a child I loved it. There are loads of water activities and nice restaurants."

**Byron Bay:** "The restaurants are good, the accommodation is great and the pubs are fun. I love going to the beach there."

**Thailand:** "Bangkok is fun. There are great bars, restaurants and nightclubs. I've also been to Phuket and the beaches there are stunning. The snorkelling is beautiful, and I love Thai food and having lots of massages. The people are so friendly and lovely."

## Waterhouse is a regular at Australia's red carpet events

trackies and Ugg boots. But when on TV, you have to deliver your lines well and look good 24/7. There's a lot of pressure."

She's clearly learnt her grace-under-fire mentality from her racing legend mother. "I admire mum so much. She's so talented at what she does. She has time for everybody and so much energy. She works seven days a week, although while we were growing up she was always there for us. She had dinner on the table for us every night and was there to help us with our homework. Mum is out in the mud but you only see the end product of her in a hat and a pretty outfit. She's such an inspiration. It's really exciting watching the horse's progress and always hoping mum has a winner." With such a strong matriarch, no wonder Waterhouse is effortlessly elegant.

For this Sydney socialite — who admits her secret talent is changing the TV remote with her toes — it seems like her race to the top of the media has really only just begun. ★

**Visit Melbourne from now 'til 17 November for one of the Spring Racing Carnival events, including the Melbourne Cup's 150th birthday on 2 November. Jetstar flies direct to Melbourne from across Australia, and from Bangkok, Bali and Christchurch. JetSaver Light fares from AU\$39 one way. Book online at Jetstar.com**



Main photo: Don Arnold/WireImage.com

## 競馬界のサラブレッド

名門の血をひき、自らも競馬を愛するケイト・ウォーターハウス

社交界に属し、競馬のパーソナリティも務めるケイト・ウォーターハウスは26才、オーストラリア出身だ。シドニーのサン・ヘラルドのスタイル&ファッションエディターであるとともに、フォックステルの「ライフスタイル・ユー」のプレゼンターでもある。彼女の母親は伝説的なサラブレッド調教師であるガイであり、父はブックメーカーのロビー・ウォーターハウスだ。競馬界の伝説的存在であるトミー・「TJ」・スミスの孫でもある。

光り輝くダイヤモンドをあしらったイヤリング、完璧にととのえられた髪型、上半身には白のTシャツの上からクラシックな紺のブレザーを着て、足はスキニージーンズで包み、約10cmもあるヒールを履いている。彼女が競馬場のスタイルクイーンと言われる理由は、これでおわかりだろう。

彼女の生活はこれまで、乗馬とともにあった。ほぼすべての競技会に参加し、毎週末には必ず乗馬クラブで過ごした。最初に自分の馬を持ったのは、4歳の時。クリスマスプレゼントだった。こういうエピソードを聞くと、その後の馬との関わりは、この頃にはもう定められていたのだとさえ思える。乗馬を好む気持ちは変わらないが、今ではそんな時間が持てることがとても贅沢なことだ。以前は、グラフィックデザインを学んでいた。

シドニーのマクレー・カレッジで、メディア・コミュニケーションで文学士を修得している。卒業前から彼女は、特別執筆者としてデイリー・テレグラフに競馬についての記事を書いていた。大きな機会は、イギリスからもたらされた。サンデー・テレグラフにアスコット・レースの記事を依頼されたのだ。この記事を書きかけに、彼女は執筆を仕事とするようになる。

18ヶ月後、彼女はサン・ヘラルドのファッション・エディターとなり、コラム「Date With Kate」がはじまる。これまでに、キム・カーダシアン、デルタ・グッドレムやモデルのクリスティ・ヒンゼなどにインタビューをおこない、記事にしてきた。彼女はまた、ラグビーチーム、ルースターズの元プレイヤー、ルーク・リケットソンとのデートを楽しんでいる。「彼は、本当の紳士なの」と、彼女は夢中で彼のことを話してくれる。リケットソンは今、チャンネル・ナインのセールスを務めている。

週末のお楽しみは映画と「ライフスタイル・ユー」の女性向けコーナーを見ること。現在彼女は兄のトムと同居している。トムは祖父と父のあとを継ぎ、ブックメーカーとして活躍している。

彼女は、様々な経験をしてきた。兄と一緒に働いて、放課後には賭けの受付、お金の回収、賞金

の払い戻しなどを覚え、その過程で様々な人々と出会った。この頃が、人生のなかでも一番多くの物事を吸収することができた時期だったという。

彼女はどうか、馬に関係ある事柄とは強い縁があるようだ。彼女がファッションについて文章を書くのを好むのは、ファッション業界が常に変化をしているから。もちろん、トレンドにも敏感だ。何よりも、書くことは自分を表現するのに最適な方法だと彼女は信じている。番組のプレゼンターと著述業、どちらを選べと言われれば、彼女は躊躇なく決心を固めるだろう。今の時代、様々な知識が必要になるが、彼女にとって文章を書いていくことは何にもまして、やりやすいことのように。今ではテレビの前に立ち「すてきな言葉と容姿」をふりまいている。

自信を失いそうになるとレース界の伝説と言われ、尊敬している母親に相談した。彼女の母親は既婚をそうじすることはなく、私たちは彼女の仕事の最終成果しか見ることができない。そういった優美な雰囲気をごく自然に出せるウォーターハウスの優雅さは、生まれつきのものなのだ。

シドニーを拠点とするこの優美な美女の秘密の自慢は、足でテレビのリモコンが操れること。彼女自身のレースは、まだ始まったばかりだ。