

OLIVER LAZARUS – INTERNATIONAL SHOWJUMPER

Oliver was born in Swaziland virtually in the saddle and from just a few weeks old would be taken with his mother while she rode around their farm in Malkerns. Since then he has been riding daily as there have always been horses at home. They relocated to Somerset West while he was still young and attended school there until he matriculated. He has been involved in all aspects of riding and since the age of 6 has been a member of the Cape Hunt and ridden in drag hunts. He has also participated in all Pony Club activities.

His first pony was Fizzpop and Penny, Oliver's mother, relates the story – 'Fizzpop I found on the side of the road in the Cape Flats and bought him off an Indian fellow there - he was not broken in, very naughty and still a stallion. In fact I gelded him and he stayed at a friend's house down the road until Christmas Eve, when I washed him, plaited him in red ribbons and took him into my downstairs lounge in my cluster home in Hout Bay where, when Oliver came downstairs to see what Father Christmas had left, there was Fizzpop'. Oliver recalls that on Christmas morning he went downstairs and saw a horsebox in the driveway and when he looked back he saw the tail of a pony in the doorway to the lounge where to his amazement he found his present to great excitement. The



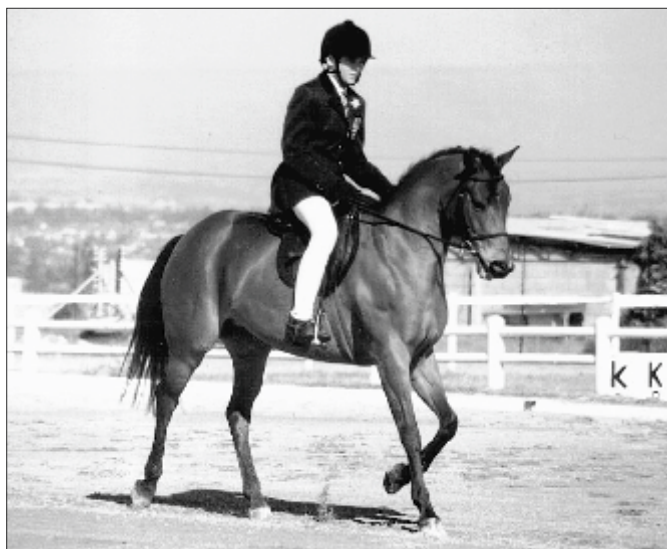
Fizzpop, Oliver's first pony

pony was kept at home in a small grassed yard where he promptly started eating the roses. He developed colic on his first day there and the Vet had to be called to attend to him. He then went to a riding school. They broke Fizz in, Oliver being the rider and then he was away winning most leading under 10 year old classes for children. Super at showing but was pretty difficult to handle as he 'hated' all the other ponies and they had to give him a wide berth. Fizzpop had a temperamental character but as a leadrein pony he was a star.

Shortly thereafter the story continues – 'We bought Brandy Snap from a local riding stable (they said he was too naughty) and he was Oliver's constant dear companion, they were devoted to each other. When Oliver sat on him for the first time they both mutually fell in love. He too, did all disciplines and was like a pet, coming into the house and all. Brandy competed in absolutely everything and eventually went CB with Oliver. He also was involved in all aspects and disciplines - he won the Children's Victor Ludorum at the International Show in Johannesburg when Oliver was 8. Eventually we sold him to some neighbours here in Somerset West and he lived out his life in luxury and died last year (2011).'



Brandy Snap



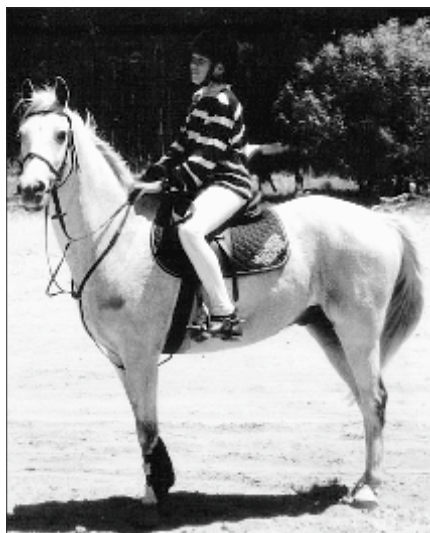
Foresyte Warrior's Song

Oliver remembers that when he was 9 he won the Victor Ludorum again on Brandy Snap.

'Foresyte Warrior's Song (Foresyte Valiant Warrior x Free Song TB) came to us after Jane Sheppard of Tanglewood Stables (see page 113) had told us there was a very lovely Welsh pony for sale at Claire Webb's in Johannesburg. We flew up for the day and after 20 minutes with her and riding her, Oliver said



Foresyte Warrior's Song ridden by Oliver accompanied by friend Victoria Norris



Willowbrook Prospero

she was the one. She certainly proved to be of great quality and was a winner in showing, dressage (no 1 Children's), eventing and CB show jumping. Song went on to become a brood mare in Pretoria and has had some super foals I believe'. She proved to be a super all-rounder and top in showing classes including being the FEI Children's dressage pony in George in the Southern Cape in 2000. When Oliver was 11 years old he was selected onto the Western Province Showing team and the following year in the Provincial team for Dressage, Showing and Equitation. She evented in Children's at Sappi and was the most easy and pleasant outride too. She twice won the gold medal for jumping at the Sappi Horse Trials. More recently she has been successful in the School's league in Gauteng ridden by Francesca Sanne winning amongst others, the Partbred Show Hunter class last year.



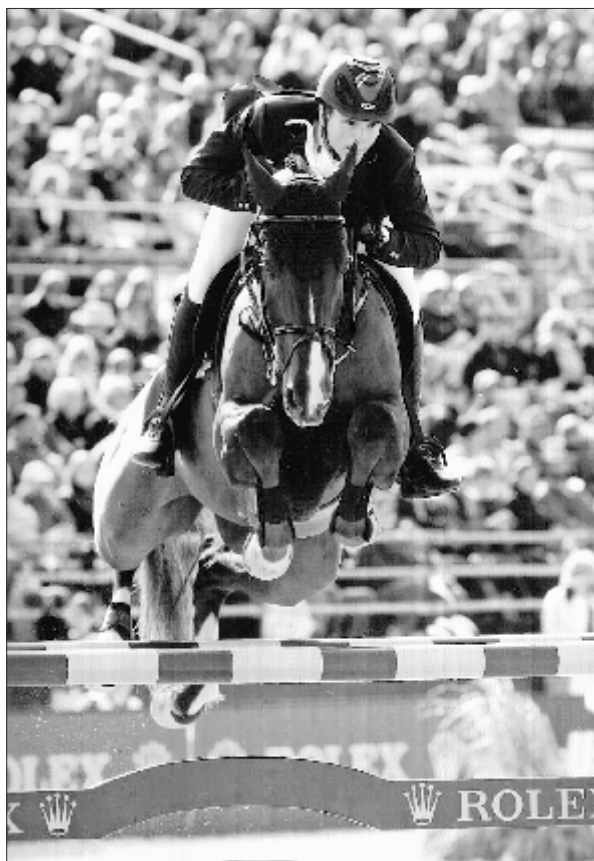
Willowbrook Prospero

Thereafter they got from Jane Sheppard the partbred pony, Willowbrook Prospero who was by the imported Section B stallion Lechlade Periwinkle out of an Arab mare Olford Enchantress (*see 2011 Journal p56*). She was a wonderful competition pony, jumped CA, did eventing and participated in the SA Champs. She unfortunately developed soundness problems.

Oliver lays much of his success on the fantastic foundation to his riding career with the Welsh ponies with which he was so successful. Each pony became a stepping stone to the next level of achievement. They were such characters and wonderful bonds were developed with each one in turn. He feels that without the Welsh Ponies he may not have achieved as much as he has in the time he has done it. A number of these ponies occasionally developed behaviour problems at home but he never had any of his ponies misbehaving in the show ring.



Spring Song Johnny at the World Equestrian Games in Kentucky USA in 2011



Spring Song at the World Equestrian Games in Kentucky USA in 2011

He moved on to bigger ponies and brought on a very spirited youngster, Zingoso, to CA show jumping and Open eventing. In order to progress his career in Showjumping, he realised that he had to move overseas and have his showjumpers in Europe.

Oliver participated in the World Equestrian Games in Kentucky USA last year but now he is working as part of Ludger Beerbaum's team in Germany; in fact in February this year he won the 8 year olds there and a few days earlier, the 6 year olds on a horse called La Calida (a full brother to the grey, Crocket 18, who was Oliver's TOP horse and 7th in the World Cup in Vigo, Spain) but now sadly is riddled with serious melanoma and has had to be retired with Ludger's old horses.

Oliver personally qualified for the Olympics this year but South Africa did not get a spot for show jumping having come

second to Syria in the World Championships qualifier, which was very disappointing, though he is presently working for the World Equestrian Games in Normandy in 2014.

Oliver's lifestyle is not for the faint hearted and his hours are LONG with no days off or let up but he is passionate about the sport and enjoys every minute of it.

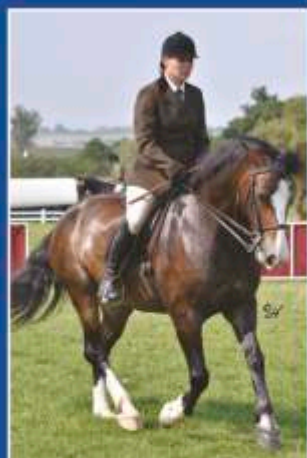
GK 2012

My appreciation to Penny Lazarus who took so much trouble to get me the photographs of the ponies as well as give much of the background to Oliver's career and his formative years on the Welsh breeds. I was also fortunate in being able to speak to Oliver when he took a short break and came to South Africa over the Easter weekend. It became clear that he certainly is passionate about his selected sport and gets great enjoyment out of it despite its onerous lifestyle.

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SUPREME CHAMPION DIMMOCK DRAGONFLY PARTBRED WELSH STALLION

Rand Show General Breed Supreme Champion 1994 and 1995, Rand Show Supreme In Hand Breed Champion 1994 Res Sup Ch 1995, Pretoria International Show Supreme Interbreed Champion 1994



Photo: Karin Evans
HO, Res Ch 2011/2012
Dimmock Dragonaire
Owner: Robyn Bechard,
Rider: Robyn Berry



Photo: Karin Evans
Lara Evans and Dragonfly



Photo: Harriet Barrett



Photo: TB Images
Dimmock Dragonaire
Rider: Patrick Bechard

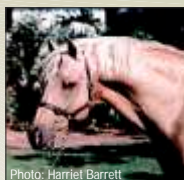


Photo: Harriet Barrett

Dimmock Dragonfly

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Paddock Hill

Welsh Mountain Ponies



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At the 2012 SA Nationals Paddock Hill's eldest mare, Sun Coquet, won the SA Senior Mare Championship and was placed SA Reserve Supreme Champion. Paddock Hill dominated the SA Junior Championships winning both the SA Junior Championship and Reserve.



During 3 years of showing Paddock Hill ponies have won 4 Supreme Championships, 4 Reserve Supreme Championships and 2 Purebred Supreme Championships. Paddock Hill Sun Coquet has taken 5 consecutive Senior Mare Championships and between them our fillies have won all 11 Junior Championships which we have entered.

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ROLY STUD

Lyn King: 083 310 2898

HYDOWN PEPPER

Pepper was one of the last foals to be bred at Hydown before we left South Africa. His story is rather amazing because his Dad was Uyzel Pryd which was owned by Hannes Uys right down in the Cape, and although I had always wanted to send a mare to Pryd, the distances were too great to make it possible. However years later, Pryd and seven other ponies were purchased by a member in the Transvaal as a Span of Eight to drive. He was unable to handle them and that is another story, as they say. Eventually he and his family went to live in America and Pryd and his mares and all the harnesses and carts were rescued by a friend of ours who sent Pryd down to us with a load of racehorses coming to Natal. He got off the lorry a wreck! He was starving, shivering with cold and on his last legs. He was not a young pony anymore, and we felt he may not make it through the night. We wrapped him up, Derek (*who is a Vet*) did his magic and the rest is history. Pepper was born to Hydown Posey, our best little mare, and when we left SA they went to Lyn King in Johannesburg, who is a wizard with show ponies, and had already made a name for the Hydowners in her care; Hydown Pip, and so on. Pepper went from good to better, and has now done the ultimate triumph by winning his latest Championship with Lyn's grandson Trentin. Wow, it just cannot get any better for a Mom! Or Dad!

Pat Moore 2012

Hydown Stud

Now Turks & Caicos Islands

When I first met Pepper I thought wow! What a gift. What a job to get him to walk. He jiggled and bounced and was “on show” 24/7. Pepper won his first class and stood Reserve Supreme Champion Purebred next to Hydown Folksong as a two year old. We'd had a fantastic show where our ponies won every Purebred Championship, in hand and under saddle. I thought, what more is there to win?? Little did I know!

The pony of the moment was the magical mare, Destiny Style produced by the Dunkid Stud. She floated beside Peter from championship to championship whilst Pepper curled around us jogging at every opportunity. Of course it's no disgrace to come second to such an exceptional pony, but it would be nice just once.....

I started teaching Wesley Scott on his Arab pony who was already much too tall for a Welshie. Wes loved Pepper from the second he saw him and without much encouragement, took him over. He spent hours looking after his mane and tail and still more taking him for walks, preparing him for Pretoria Show. They walked and walked and jogged around the cattle stalls, over piles of straw trying to encourage Pepper to stale. David and Charlotte Stubbs fell in love with him, watched his class, which he didn't win, but were very enthusiastic about his future. After his class we put him into the “Peppermobile” (a single berth trailer), where he immediately relieved himself, in private!

The Human family from Bloemfontein caught us just as we were leaving and booked a service with Pepper for their daughter's pony; we became firm friends. We have met and made friends with many of Pepper's fans all over South Africa and indeed the world.



*2003 Interbreed Supreme Champion with Wesley
Photo: Harriet Barrett*

In February 2003, Wesley was 15, our tack room was broken into and a lot of tack was stolen, along with Pepper's show bridle. We were unable to get to the Welsh class at HOYS. My friend Bridget lent me her stallion bridle, a little hard and green, but it polished up a treat; Wesley ran Pepper into the Supreme Interbreed class qualifying through the General Breed Section. It was a scorching hot day.

Bathed and groomed to perfection, Pepper arrived at the show in his smart new day sheet and promptly rolled. Wesley was devastated, his pony was covered in dust, mane and tail tangled. Quickly we cleaned him up and they entered the Bob Charter Arena with 25 other champions from all different breeds, to be judged by five judges. We had invited everyone, there was a huge audience; the grandstands packed, creating an exciting atmosphere for which this show is famous. Even Roger, my partner, was there. Years before he had been banned from shows for taking photos of the wrong child on a grey pony and for enthusiastically telling our daughter's pony to "trot on" during the walk phase of a dressage test! "I like the little chestnut pony being led by the tall young man" he said with great authority. "Don't be daft", I said, "That is ours!!" The top ten horses were called in, then the top five in reverse order. Pepper won, Interbreed shown by 15 yr old Wesley Scott and the much coveted YA El Trophy. What an honour! "I knew he would win it" said Roger, still not really realising it was our horse.

At Pretoria Show later that year, he was also in the top 5. Czoye, our daughter was pregnant when it was time for him to be ridden so I long reined him until Trentin, our grandson was born. The first time she rode Pepper, he walked, trotted, cantered and jumped. She loved him, he was never naughty, but at his first ridden show, I held my breath – very glad when it was over.

Pepper went better and better under saddle for Czoye when two years running they won National Supreme Purebred on show under saddle in Bloemfontein. Czoye has won this title 6 times, on 3 different ponies all of whom she produced.



Pepper with Czoye, a winning combination



On the way to winning the HOYS Somerset Trophy with Wesley Photo: Harriet Barrett

Pepper was Reserve Supreme Champion, all breeds, under saddle at Summer Showing Festival, beautifully ridden again by Czoye; a joy to watch. At home Czoye gives the little children pony rides on Pepper as a treat, he is very gentle and steady with children; a real gem.

In January 2012, Trentin, who shares his birthday of January 1st with Pepper, decided to take Pepper out of semi-retirement and take him to HOYS. Rather ambitious for a twelve



2012 HOYS Supreme Interbreed Champion with Trentin Photo: H2 Photographers

year old's first attempt at showing a stallion – but what fun to qualify. Wesley gave him lots of help and donated his lucky waistcoat that he had worn in 2003, a special tie and they were good to go. Although we had spent more time preparing for the ridden class, I believe you should never ride a horse that you cannot manage on the ground. Pepper was beaten in the ridden class by Trentin's mother riding his pony, Eros! We crossed our fingers and sent Trentin and Pepper into the class for prejudging with 26 other Supreme Champions! Not a chance I thought. As usual, in the Bob Charter Arena, Pepper rose to the occasion sat on his hocks and floated past the five judges, leaving us with our mouths open! A perfect show, but I was biased. That afternoon we again sat in the grandstand with family and friends, as the horses paraded into the ring. The atmosphere was electric and the top five were dramatically announced in reverse order, prolonging the suspense, you could hear a pin drop. “The Supreme Champion Breed Horse of the Year 2012 goes to the Welsh Mountain Pony stallion, Hydown Pepper, owned by the Roly Stud and shown by Trentin Varrell!”.

Pepper and Trentin were featured on a front cover and in every major equestrian publication including “Showing World UK”. So this charming partnership is literally viewed all over the world.

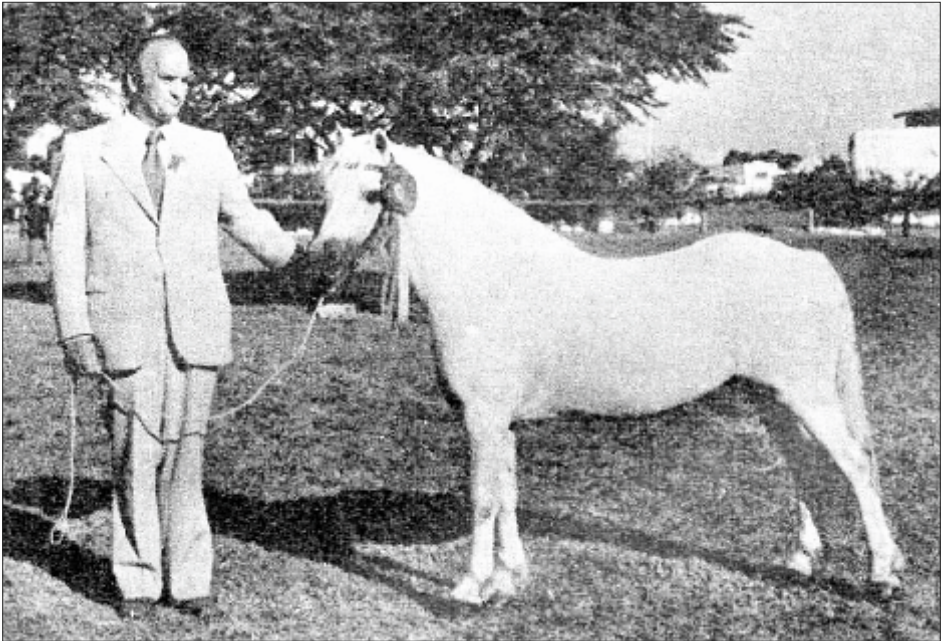
My appreciation goes to Pat and Derek Moore (Hydown Stud), Czoye and Wesley for helping to train him, to Trentin for his professional and sportsmanlike behaviour and to Pepper, our “Champagne Moment!”, you intoxicated us all.

Lyn King
Roly Stud, June 2012

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 1982

Although the old faces were smiling their annual welcome to the Welsh nationals at Bloemfontein, the accent at the 1982 championships was definitely on the crowd of new exhibitors. They arrived from all part of the country and each and all brought with them a string of quality ponies for the judges Miss Rosemary Phillipson–Stow from the Welsh borders and Mrs Gertruida Wessels from the Free State.

Miss Phillipson-Stow is a well know breeder under her Pendock prefix and has judged in most countries where Welsh are shown and has just recently held a most interesting seminar on Welsh in Canada. Her last judging trip to South Africa was in 1975 and it is most pleasing to be able to record her comment that the local ponies have improved a great deal since then both in type and presentation.



Monnow Paper Boy, Senior Stallion and Supreme Section A Photo: Landbouweekblad

Having said that I must point out that the Mountain Pony Supreme Champion was Mr P B Wiese's Monnow Paper Boy who actually won this event in 1975 as a youngster. Paper Boy at eleven is now an outstanding mover and every inch is packed with quality. He has won the single harness championship for the third year running. Another pony who is now in his teens and getting better each year is Aberdare Prydus' Flight, who won the most points in the finest of styles going in harness to the sulky, team of six, team of eight and having an enthusiastic crack at the obstacle events both under saddle and in harness.



Bannut Larkspur, Junior Colt and Supreme Section B

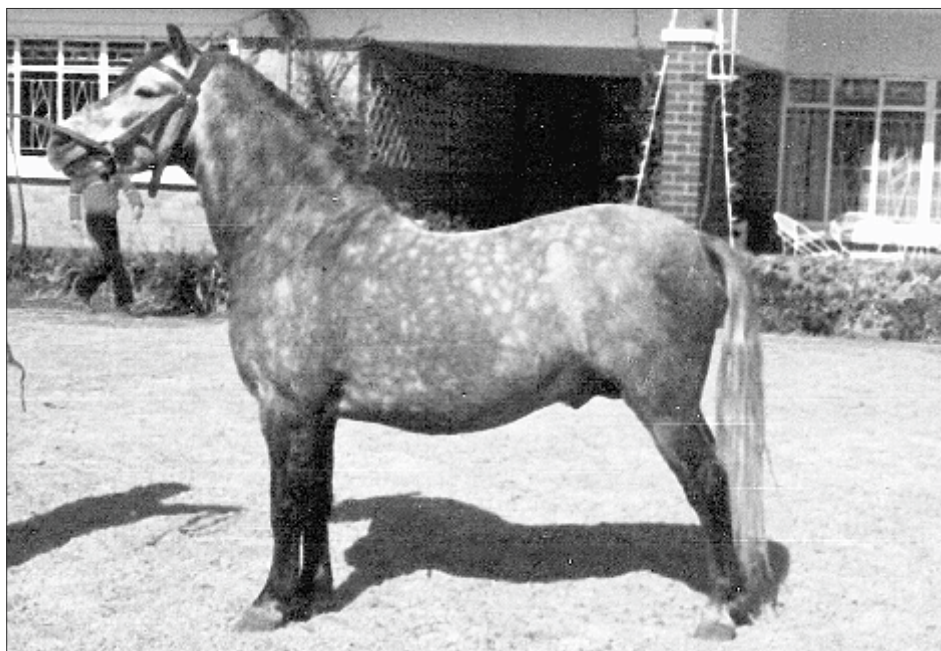
Youth had its time of glory in the Section B (ponies of riding type) events. Several young animals won top honours. From Natal came the newly imported 2 year old colt Bannut Larkspur looking really magnificent for the Foresyte Stud to win the Supreme Championship in the Section B's. Young Moddervlei Honeysuckle, ridden by Ann Ward for Mrs Herholdt had a nice show too, winning her own in-hand class and ridden events and going on to a smooth win in the show pony and finally supreme ridden championships. She is settling very sweetly to look an elegant show pony despite being still very young. It was nice to see Ann saving her legs too by not hard riding her. It is a shame when good ponies have their legs spoiled by too much hard work too young. The Welsh mature slowly and get better and better until well into their teens, but no legs can cope with too much hard banging on sunbaked ground.

The usual galaxy of lively little ponies bounced into the harness classes, competing with equal dash in all combinations from single to six and eight. Junior single harness champion was Kallista Haydon who surely has a great future. The scurry driving event received a lot of support from spectators and competitors alike, as did the sulky racing and ride and drive scurry. The ladies harness is always well filled and popular with the accent on elegance and turnout.

A magnificent entry of Mountain ponies was a most promising sign especially as so many of the in-hand winners were also successful in the performance events proving that their owners are ready to enjoy their breeding stock in all respects.

Twenty-one little foals scampered and cavorted through the arena for the foal championship with the really excellent little grey Bernet Pinocchio coming first. He is owned by Mrs Hettie Griesel and is by Coed Coch Nerog out of Badgemore Petria, a sweet little mare who goes very kindly under saddle too.

I most sincerely hope that the youngstock shown in hand will return later to compete in performance classes in a year or two. My feeling is that with such sporting and enthusiastic owners to train them, the future is bright for them in this aspect.



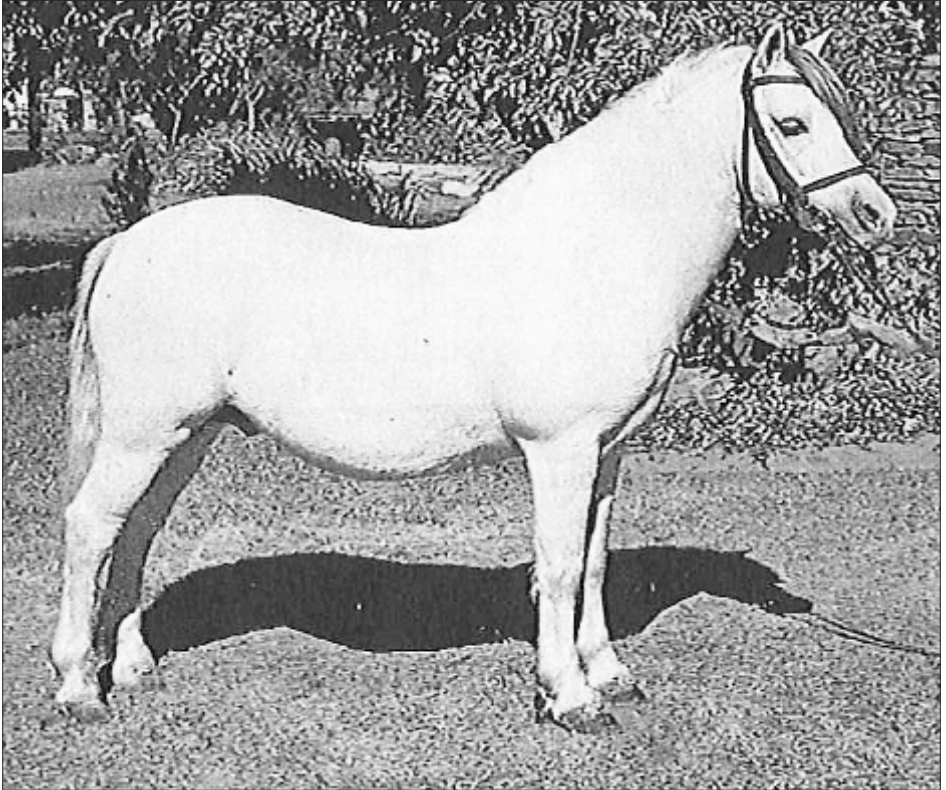
Bukkenburg Joker, Senior Stallion and Supreme Partbred



Monnow Paper Boy, Champion Stallion in Single Harness Photo; Landbouweekblad

It is to be hoped that the current shortage of entries in both the partbred classes and the Section B is only a passing phase. The cost of breeding these lovely animals is certainly rising and it is to be hoped that some encouragement will come their way before it is too late

Margie Torr 1982
Secretary



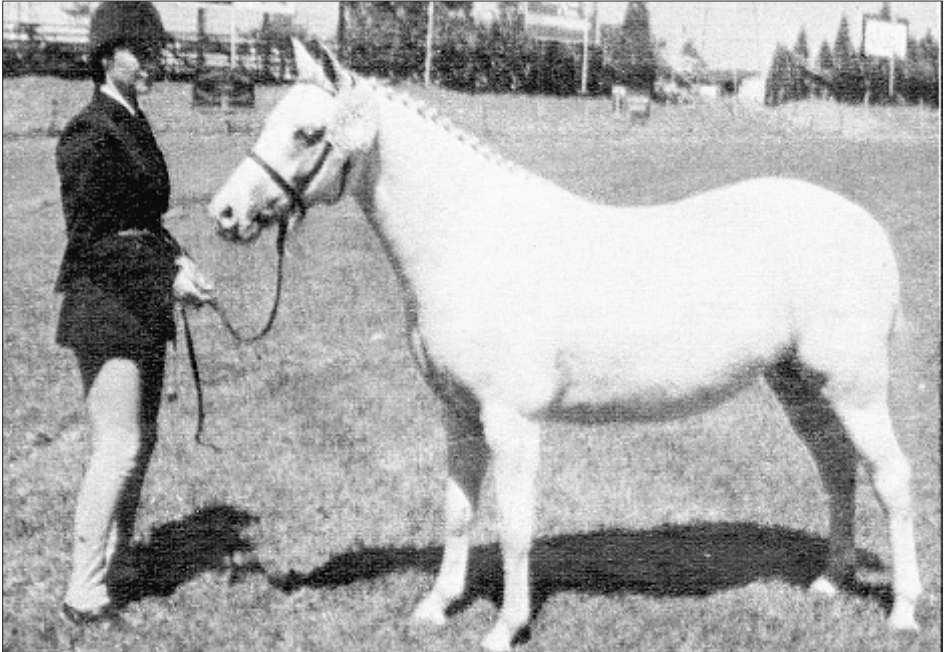
Bukkenburg Marc, Champion SA Bred Section A Stallion Photo: Landbouweekblad Archives

Judge's Comments

Here are a few thoughts about the ponies I saw at the shows in South Africa.

First of all, I thought that the ponies at Bloemfontein had improved beyond my greatest expectations. They were much better in type with better heads and more bone. Their hind movement, which had worried me so much in 1974 is greatly improved. Also the whole

standard of presentation, condition of the ponies, and showmanship on the part of the leaders. Some of the bridles did not fit too well! Obviously the way the people show their ponies in Bloemfontein differs from the way we do things here, and I would think that the majority of ponies at that show would be driving rather than riding – so their owners want them with a lot of spirit – whereas in Johannesburg it is the opposite. There the ponies were shown much more in the way to which I am accustomed.



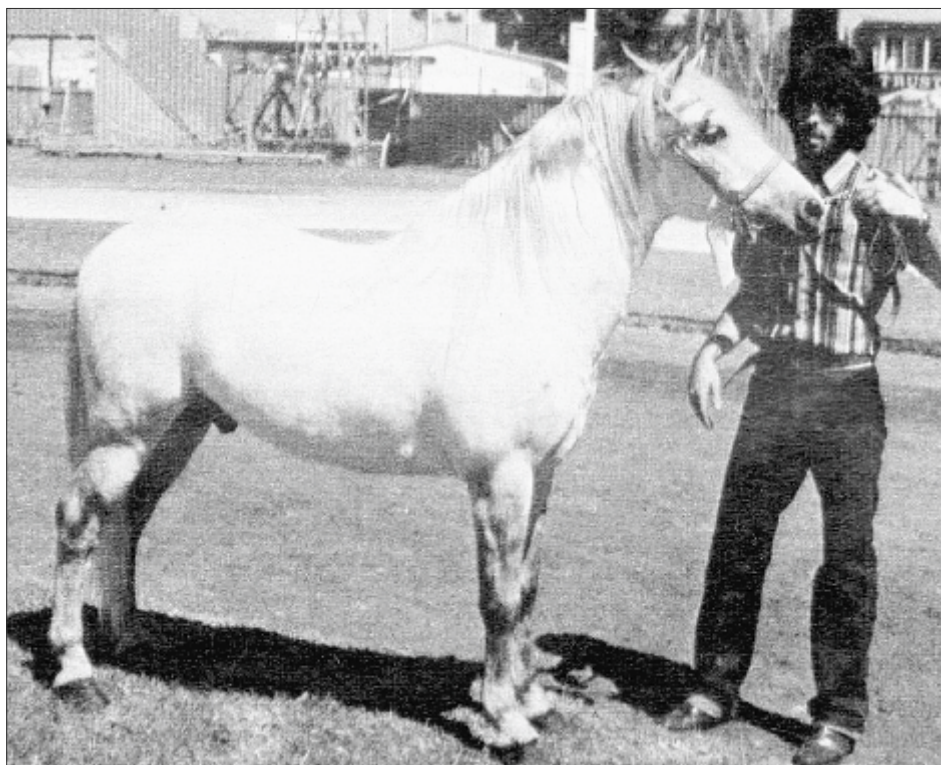
Moddervlei Honeysuckle Champion Novice Mare Section B Photo: Farmer's Weekly

In Johannesburg the B's were very much stronger in both numbers and quality than the Sec A's, while in Bloemfontein, as you saw, it was just the reverse.

However, I did meet some very keen Sec A breeders in Johannesburg and I hope the Society will do all it can to encourage them to improve their stock. It is a pity there are such great distances in SA because obviously all of the Stud Book would benefit from greater exchanges of ideas and blood ties.

I thought the whole Welsh situation in South Africa was much more encouraging than when I was last there. People seemed much more open to suggestions and the exchange of ideas, which can do nothing but good.

I think if you can encourage a few more of your members to visit the UK and go to some of the bigger shows, particularly in Wales, that would also be a good thing.



Steger Fire Cracker Snr Stallion Section B Photo: Farmer's Weekly

It is obvious that the high standard of Section A's in the Cape Province is due to the visits of Mrs Lasbrey, Bobby Torr and Myburgh to this country and the ponies they took back with them.

**Rosemary Phillipson-Stow 1982
Pendock Stud**

Nationals 1982 Show Results (The WPC Society has no record of the results of this show):- *(Incomplete – taken from a partially marked catalogue)* Because of the low number of entries in the individual classes, many classes were combined.

Section A: Foal <12m Ch Bernet Pinocchio Res Usnad Bambi 3 Manilla Gypsy-Girl 4 Midspruit Beauty 5 Midspruit Lady 6 Goulet Michelle 7 Jan Louis Bandit 8 Haelline Coleen **Filly >1<4** 1 Manilla Paper-Gina 2 Midspruit Shela 3 Midspruit Suzy 4 Bukkenburg Pixie 5 Jan Louis Belinda **Colt >1<2** 1 Bukkenburg Harri 2 Jan Louis Fire Boy 3 Bukkenburg Pedro 4 Bukkenburg Halo 5 Midspruit Starlight **Colt >2<4** 1 Bukkenburg Tomboy 2 Kallista Stephan 3 Snowdon Barney 4 Kallista Hydon 5 Manilla Chipps Boy **Mare 4+ Novice** (never won a 1st prize before) 1 Aberdare Flashlight 2

Welgemeend Kate 3 Bukkenburg Heather 4 Welgemeend Cribsara 5 Manilla Classic 6 Aberdare Floret **Mare 4+ Open** 1 Bukkenburg Model 2 Breevlei High Society 3 Bukkenburg Beulah 4 Snowdon Ballet Girl 5 Bukkenburg Tanya **Stallion 4+** 1 Monnow Paper Boy 2 Bukkenburg Marc (1st SA bred stallion) 3 Bukkenburg Bowdler 4 Torbry Twilight 5 Torbry Paddy

Section B: Foal <12m Ch Aerolite Billy Boy 2 Frosty Nun 3 Pemandus Miempie 4 Manilla Ghost 5 Bernet Heidi **Filly >1<4** 1 Glanwyn Harmony 2 Pemandus Manda 3 Pemandus Ada 4 Kallista Hestia **Colt >1<4** 1 Bannut Larkspur 2 Pemandus Triomf 3 Spasido Lucky **Novice Mare >2<4** 1 Moddervlei Honeysuckle **Novice Mare 4+** 1 Welgemeend Llewellyn's Katinka **Mare 4+ Open** 1 Foresyte Cambrian Gardenia **Stallion 4+** 1 Stegar Fire Cracker 2 Frosty Friday 3 Frosty Grey Velvet **Supreme Champion** Bannut Larkspur

Section C/D: This was the first Nationals catering for Cobs but there were no entries.

Partbred Foal <12m 1 D'Leni Sue Ellen 2 Manilla Beatrix 3 Foresyte Bronwellyn 4 Millenium Pomp 5 Amiens Joko **Filly >1<4** 1 Foresyte Karaway 2 Amiens Jennifer 3 Millenium Darkie 4 Ben-Hur Lady Chaterly 5 Millenium Dolly **Colt >1<4** 1 Pemandus Danny Boy 2 Frosty Fire Fly **Mare 4+** 1 Foresyte Kerrid's Ballerina 2 Bukkenburg Pride 3 Bukkenburg Jenny **Stallion 4+** 1 Bukkenburg Joker **Gelding 4+** Frosty Paul

Progeny classes: Stallion, mare & foal 1 Bukkenburg Marc, Welgemeend Kate, Usnad Bambi 2 Monnow Paper Boy, , ? 3 (M G Wessels) 4 Bukkenburg Bowdler, Bukkenburg Model, Goulet Michelle 5 Torbry Paddy, ,? **Mare and foal** 1 Welgemeend Kate, Usnad Bambi 2 Bukkenburg Model, Goulet Michelle 3 Bukkenburg Tanya, Midspruit Lady 4 Manilla Classic, Jan Louis Clover **Stallion and 2 Mares** 1 Bukkenburg Marc, Welgemeend Kate, Welgemeend Cribsara 2 Stegar Fire Cracker, Ben-Hur Lady, Ben-Hur Lady Chaterly 3 (M G Wessels group) 4 Bukkenburg Bowdler, Bukkenburg Model, Bukkenburg Heather 5 (M G Wessels group) **Mare and 2 Progeny 1** (M G Wessels group) 2 Badgemore Petria, Bernet Pinocchio, Bukkenburg Pedro 3 Bukkenburg Heather, Goulet Haydn, Bukkenburg Halo 4 Snowdon Ballet Girl, Jan Louis Belinda, Jan Louis Bandit 5 Foresyth Cambrian Gardenia, Pemandus Miempie, Pemandus Ada **Group of 3 Progeny** 1 Coed Coch Nerg – Bukkenburg Heather, Bukkenburg Model, Bukkenburg Bowdler 2 Torbry Twilight – Midspruit Beauty, Midspruit Lady, Midspruit Suzy 3 Snowdon Barney - Jan Louis Clover, Jan Louis Belinda, Jan :Louis Bandit 4 (Gilfillan)

Ridden: Section B Mare 4+ 1 Moddervlei Pansy 2 Frosty Friday 3 Moddervlei Riempie 4 Stegar Fire Cracker 5 Frosty Grey Velvet **All Sections Welsh Show Pony** 1 Moddervlei Honeysuckle 2 Badgemore Moondazzler 3 Frosty Friday **Child's First Riding Pony** 1 Welgemeend Cribsara 2 Frosty Paul 3 Welgemeend Llewellyn's Katinka 4 Haelline Jota

Harness: Single - Section A <4 1 Manilla Katinka 2 Kallista Hydon 3 Snowdon Barney 4 Haelline Psi 5 Snowdon Barbara **Stallion 4+** 1 Monnow Paper Boy 2 Torbry Charlie 3 Aberdare Flight 4 Torbry Paddy 5 Bukkenburg Marc 6 Bukkenburg Bowdler **Partbred 4+** 1 Manilla Boutiek 2 Frosty Paul 3 Manilla Bonanza Boy **Tandem** 1 Torbry Paddy, Haelline Jota, 2 Monnow Paper Boy, Manilla Katinka 3 Bukkenburg Marc, Welgemeend Kate 4 Manilla Noble Boy, Welgemeend Katinka **Double** 1 H Gilfillan 2 M G Wessels 3 M Muller 4 PB Wiese 5 S J Schlebusch

AEROLITE DANNY BOY

A PONY TO REMEMBER

Little did I think that, when the tiny fire-breathing dragon flung himself from the racehorse carrier one dark night, ignoring the ramp, my life would be forever changed and enriched. Bought unseen from his breeder, Simon de Witt, of Koffiefontein, he was an impulse buy under the influence of my sister, Cathy Andrews, owner of Penmynnyd Stud, who thought that my son needed a Welshie rather than the scruffy pony he had been riding. Almost all my experience was with thoroughbreds, and I related happily to their reasonableness and biddability; Danny Boy was to display nothing with which I was familiar. However, here he was, no beauty, in no way typey, hairy heeled, coarse headed and of an independence of mind that I had seldom encountered in any horse.

He was turned out with the other horses next morning, and kept himself completely aloof. It seemed to me that he was showing an arrogance to which I was unaccustomed, but which was to make him the invincible little hellion in competition. Some interesting behaviour patterns began to emerge when we attempted to catch him. It was like trying to catch a greased pig. Eventually the neighbours came to help and we cornered him and grabbed, even then there was nothing submissive about him. Long sessions of bribing with carrots and kindness, often with gritted teeth because he was just so bolshie, ensued, but eventually he became happy to be caught. Simon had warned me that he did not know if he would be suitable for a child's pony as he was "bietjie haastig". Talk about an understatement. He knew only one pace, and that was flat out, only one way of cornering, and that was skidding around motorbike racing style. My son Sean spent most of his "riding" sessions face down in our muddy paddock.

The time had come to try something else, because the thought of selling Danny was simply not there; he had by now become the most beloved of animals, more for his zany attitude than for anything else. Attempts to show him under Welsh rules were hysterically funny, although less so for his rider, he simply did not get it. Why on earth would someone clean up beautiful functional hairy heels, pull and plait a thick barbed wire protective mane, pull and torture a tail resembling a garden broom, and then tittup around a ring, at a funereal pace when there was all that galloping to do. It was like trying to squash Mike Tyson into a tutu. The neighbours' children and my son Sean tried in vain to make of this little bundle of derring-do a dressage pony, as his movement and cadence were spectacular. But the suround presented to him not a confine but a challenge, and he would invariably jump out of and back into the ring, his scarlet faced rider helpless. He would become bored halfway through a test, and simply increase his speed without changing pace, so that I would find myself calling faster and faster to keep up with him, to the great amusement of the spectators. So the new mission was launched, Danny had done well for Simon in single harness, and as leader in a span of eight, but even that seemed to require too much confined work for this little fiery spirit.

Combined driving seemed to be the answer, so I attended shows, questioned everyone I could, finding fantastic mentors in Alan and Fiona Crompton, and had a carriage built and a harness made to fit his disproportionate frame. After I had sent his measurements to



Sagorins they telephoned me, asking me to re-measure his head, as I had measured it incorrectly and it did not match the body measurements, but that was Danny, big headed also in the literal sense. The carriage when it arrived, was too big for him, and hysterically funny mishaps followed. He managed, in a marathon hazard, to get one shaft lying on his back, the other somewhere in space, the carriage tipped precariously backwards, my groom and I hanging on by our eye brows, and the spectators shouting advice. Luckily I was too ignorant to expect accidents, and despite bits of wood flying off the hazard, no injury to either Danny or his driver and groom ever ensued and his speed and nippiness in hazards became legend. It soon became apparent that a lighter carriage would make Danny really competitive, and Rudi van den Berg welded up a skeleton of a vehicle on scrambler wheels, with tiny short shafts, just clearing the tugs, and Danny was off!

Suddenly we presented no longer just comic relief, but a threat, Danny was by far the tiniest competitor in Natal, but he just slid to victory under the long superior noses of the horses and bigger ponies time after time. I trained him like a racehorse; he became lean and incredibly hard. At one of the vet checks in Johannesburg, the vet could not believe his heart rate, he was a supreme athlete, which he demonstrated not just in hazards, but also in his rebellious moments when he would jump the paddock fence just for the fun of it. He did not enjoy confinement, and we used to go to Johannesburg regularly for the combined driving events. I would let down the ramp, Danny would back out, make a tour of the stables, upset a few horses, and then settle down to graze with no one in attendance. He never strayed, he just became a real little professional, saving his energy for the competition.



Despite his good movement, accuracy and metronome like cadence, he became very excitable when the bell rang, and his tests took on a pattern of x, halt, back, rear, plunge, proceed at working trot while I was still trying to arrange my neck and head back onto my body. The rest of his test was always good enough to give him a good lead, and I learned to allow him his moment of rebellion rather than sacrifice the test if I did not allow him his moment of wickedness. I could never, in training, drive a test through, because he anticipated uncannily, but we developed a rapport that allowed me to almost just think a movement for him to execute it.

His favourite leg was the marathon, he would save himself on the roads and tracks and my groom and I would run a great deal of the track to relieve him of our weight, as he was so tiny, probably unnecessarily; he was immensely strong. Waiting for the marathon off was nerve racking; he would rear and plunge, but once through the start, focus completely, going straight into a rhythmic energy saving trot, his ears would go up as he saw the hazards and he would plunge into a gallop as we cleared the first flags, skimming the elements by a hairsbreadth, and when we did hit a pole, the carriage would slide off it across the bent tubing which Rudi had built to prevent us getting hung up. So Danny became a bit gung ho, but made spectacular times, immediately coming back to his relaxed trot when he passed through the finish flags. One year at Derby a railway sleeper formed a barrier to what would be a fast route through a long hazard. I had had no thought of doing anything other than what everyone else did, and that was to slowly navigate the sharp turn presented by the sleeper. But when we got into the hazard, Danny just felt so right that I presented him straight at the sleeper, and he jumped it. The scrambler wheels and harness



withstood the jolt as we bounced and Danny smirked and preened for the cheering spectators; he loved applause. We did overturn on a few occasions, but never in a hazard, as the carriage sacrificed stability for nippiness, and Danny would simply stay down until we had righted him and the carriage, and continue coolly. He even managed to become Natal champion despite turning over just as we had come out of the last hazard, and was never injured throughout his career.

He loved the obstacle phase, and I learned to leave him to his own devices, other than to guide him from obstacle to obstacle; he seemed to be able to read his wheel width relative to the cones. We were never elegant, my groom would have to lean right out, as if on a yacht, around corners, but this meant that we could take chances, and make winning times.

The prize line-up presented a whole new challenge to Danny; he became completely silly with excitement, and expressed it by biting anyone within reach. Many a judge was surprised by what appeared to be a cute little pony turning into a raging monster when he was presented with the red rosette. When he attended a course by the Swiss trainer, Heiner Merck, he disgraced himself by never missing an opportunity to bite Heiner, who thought this quite unacceptable, but I felt that if Danny wanted to express himself by becoming a man eater, it was a fair exchange for the generosity and honesty that he showed in all competitions. He never bit out of competition, it was just his way of handling stress; he took competition so seriously.

The press loved him, calling him by various names like Mighty Atom, Pocket Rocket, Jack the Giant Killer, which made a nice change from the expletives caused by his teeth.



He won numerous major prizes; he was Victor Ludorum at the Royal Show five times, was in the Natal team eight times, was South African Combined Driving champion, won the FEI Single Harness Obstacle competition, was Natal Champion several times, and many others which I have forgotten, but that was just the cherry on the top. It was Danny, the character that made our partnership the most memorable of my life. We had absolute mutual trust, we were extensions of one another.

Danny retired after winning his final Royal Show Victor Ludorum, and lived out his final years sound and fit until he developed COPD and was put down when it became too pronounced; but that indomitable spirit lives on in our memories, and how much richer my life was because of him.

Now that the closest I get to horses is the zebras on the lawn, my dreams are filled

with the memory of that pony with the fire in his eyes, the smell of victory in his nostrils as he entered the arena, and that blazing character, which was prepared to overcome any challenge, and always come out on top. Go well Danny, some of the best hours of my life were spent with you. I remember the nights when I would do a final check of the stables, go into Danny's box and he would push his face against me, and just stand there, joyful in the moment. A pony to remember.

Ruth Maguire 2012

My sincere appreciation to Ruth for sharing these experiences and photographs with us

Think when you talk of horses, that you see them putting their proud hooves i' the receiving earth – Shakespeare

Men are generally more careful of the breed of their horses and dogs, than of their children – William Penn

Horses and children, I often think, have a lot of good sense there is in the world – Josephine Robinson

Man has received the best of the one-sided partnership that exists between the horse and rider

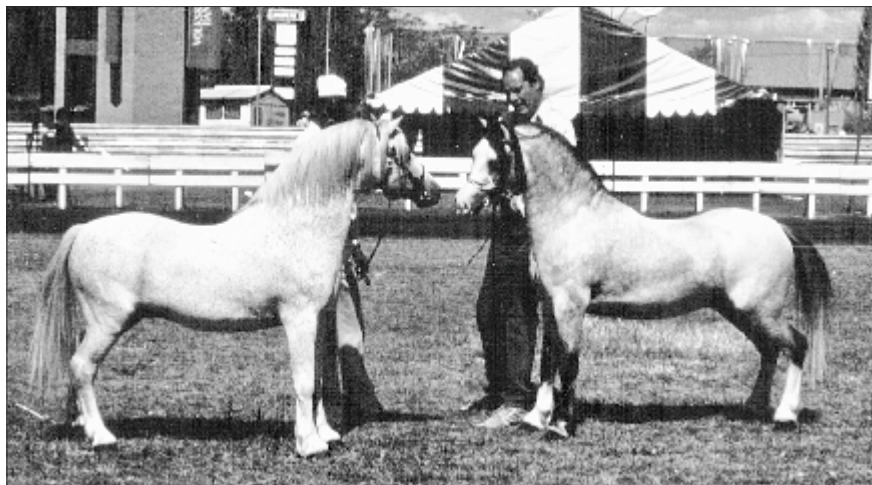
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 1992

It was on the 22nd March that Ruth and I landed at Johannesburg airport, about halfway between Pretoria and Johannesburg and were given a great welcome by Sue Cook (whose sister lives near the WPCS offices at Aberystwyth) vice-Chairman of the WPCS of South Africa. We collected Peter Duncan, Secretary of the SA Society and drove about 500km to Bloemfontein where the 1992 National Championships were to be held. Peter is a retired Bank Manager, expert with finances and computers; the ideal person to be in charge of the SA Society! South African roads are excellent, sometimes 20 miles of straight road without houses and with little traffic. South Africa has suffered a very serious drought for two years; alongside the motorways were thousands of hectares of burnt-up maize crops.

The WPCS SA National Championships took place on 24th/26th March but the show had been going on for three weeks with nightly parades of prize-winning cattle, sheep etc of typical African breeds eg Brahman cattle. The Welsh classes were interspersed between the Hackney Championships and the Arab Championship classes.

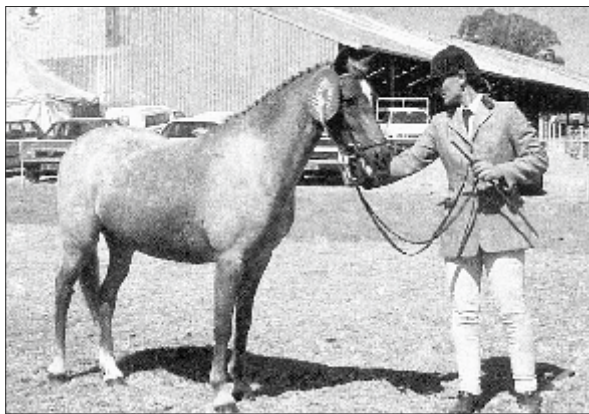
The emphasis was very definitely on versatility and performance, many of the exhibits appearing in several classes e.g. stallion in-hand, single harness, pair harness, tandem harness, teams of four and spans of eight as well as ridden classes for lady drivers and child drivers etc! Some exhibitors (assisted by a large army of helpers) brought very many animals to the Show e.g. Jurie Wessels brought 46 ponies along with harnesses and vehicles to compete in every conceivable type of competition. One team of four driven stallions were put together for the first time in the collecting ring and their driver Brian Bowles had never driven a team previously, but after a few initial problems, they performed magnificently!

The Section A winners were of an exceptionally high standard, the Championship and Reserve, both owned by Jean Budler, going to the two stallions Bukkenburg Nero (6

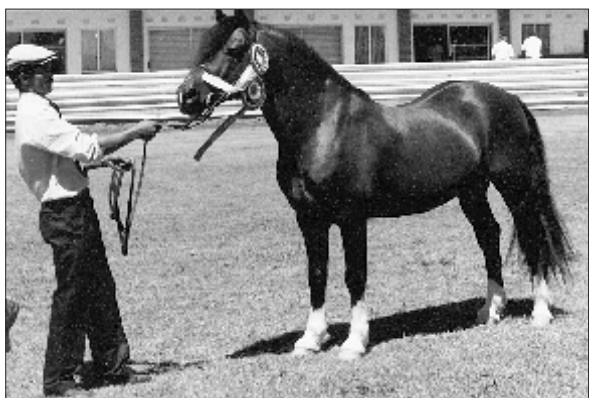


Bukkenburg Nero (right) and Bukkenburg Vintage, the Supreme and Reserve Section A

years) and Bukkenburg Vintage (14 years) two sons of Coed Coch Nerog, that I would have been proud to show at any Show in the UK. Nerog looked and moved like Coed Coch Bari who is the sire of his dam (out of Pendock Harebell) and Vintage reminded me of Clan Pip who is the sire of his dam, Revel Velveteen. The champion mares were also outstanding with Mr Steyn's Dawray Melita just getting the edge over Mrs Budler's former champion Bukkenburg Valerie on movement. Dawray Melita is a daughter of Bukkenburg Hope who is half-sister (same dam) to Bukkenburg Nerog. Bukkenburg Valerie is half-sister to Bukkenburg Vintage. All these Bukkenburg ponies were bred by Myburgh Streicher who last year sold his 175 Section A's and kept about 80 Section C's and D's. The youngstock winners were also very promising though some young colts were not good enough to be kept entire but the emphasis with South African Section A's is on driving of all sorts and stallions make stronger driving ponies than geldings.



D'Leni Bannut Gwendoline, the Supreme Section B shown by Ille Mitchell



Persie Nimrod, the Supreme Section C/D shown by Jacob Joseph

Rosemary. Rosemary was a very clever mare to produce both first and second prize foals (allowed under 12 months at entry) one of which was 12½ months and the other 5 weeks!

Section B's were not present in any great numbers, their Champion being D'Leni Bannut Gwendoline (also Champion last year) whose sire Bannut Larkspur did not compete in hand but won a driving class and sired most of the best part-breds.

It was exciting to find that my Champion Cob was Persie Nimrod, one of many of Synod Ranger x Parc Nest family which have become famous in several overseas countries and I have one of them – Persie Nanette – at Ceulan. Parc Crusader was Reserve Champion and he and Nimrod later competed with distinction in harness. The female champion Kallista Rosemary was a very good mare, her dam Hewid Cymdoges Dda was exported in 1983 in foal to Derwen Adventure Boy but sadly died (as have so many good ones, such as Penllwynuchel Taran) soon after producing Kallista

David Stubbs (who represented South Africa many times in the show-jumping team) judged some very good riding classes, but the outstanding display came from the harness classes. These were superb, with 50 section A's competing in single harness then re-appearing in pairs, tandems, teams of four and spans of eight judged at full gallop, sometimes with one driver for the two wheelers and another for the front six!



Parc Crusader, the Reserve Supreme Section C/D



Persie Nimrod, Champion Section C/D in Single Harness



Parc Crusader, Reserve Champion Section C/D in Single Harness

On the Tuesday night we were honoured to be invited to attend the AGM of the Society where there was a good attendance and agreement was reached on most topics despite the difficulty of many of the members speaking only Afrikaans. After the meeting I gave them a talk on the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of the UK and sang them some Welsh folk songs! After the Show was over, everyone was invited by the Chairman Koos Botha and his wife Anna (who had won the ladies driving class) to the Presentation dinner where some of the trophies presented were as big as the recipients.

A few days were spent with Shirley and Gerald Sadleir and their children James, Nicholas and Emma and friends were invited to a video evening where 'Cefn Gwlad', 'Horses in our Blood' and 'The Llanarth Story' was shown.

To anyone visiting South Africa, a visit to Miss Ida Illingworth's Foresyte Stud is a must. Miss Illingworth went from Cheshire to South Africa in 1924 and amongst the Welsh ponies which she has imported are Valiant (Royal Welsh Show champion in



The line-up of the Tandem Class

1955), Belvoir Gazania (still alive at 26 years), Pendock Foresight and Bannut Larkspur. The star of the stud is the twenty-seven-year-old Foresyte Valiant Cymro (Valiant x Coed Coch Pala) who has sired so many of the champion children's riding ponies in SA. Miss Illingworth accompanied us for a few days into the Kruger National Park (about half the size of Wales) where we saw large numbers of elephants, giraffes, lions, crocodiles, zebras, etc. We also visited the little town of Pilgrim's Rest where there were buried so many miners from Wales and the grave inscriptions were in the Welsh language.

Finally, a return visit to Shirley and Gerald Sadleir where a large luxury hotel lecture theatre had been booked for another talk, film show and videos; an excellent attendance of very friendly people and marvellous food! For our last day in South Africa we have to thank Sally Garside (Ty Gwyn Stud, Harrogate, Yorks) who is now resident in SA, for showing us around the sights of Johannesburg and taking us down a disused gold mine.



The Supreme Champion Tandem Pair of Midspruit Sunlight and Midspruit Brand with Jurie Wessels



One of the Midspruit Stud's Spans of Eight



The Homestead at Forsight with Ida Illingworth and Noël Wight viewing the ponies being shown to Dr Wynne Davies

There were so many people to thank for a most memorable time in South Africa. We were pleased to welcome to Ceulan (after they attended the Lampeter Stallion Show) Anna and Koos Botha who heard on BBC Radio Wales my talk on the Welsh gravestones in Pilgrim's Rest and Shirley, Nicholas and Emma who came with us to the United Counties Show at Carmarthen in August.

Wynne Davies 1992
Ceulan Stud, Wales

My appreciation to Dr Davies for providing so many of the photographs used in this and the following article by Pat Moore.

BLOSSOMING AT BLOEM

Children shine at the Welsh Pony and Cob Society's National Championships



The line-up of one of the progeny classes

Young riders and drivers of the future were well catered for at the Welsh Pony and Cob Nationals Championships at the Central Show, Bloemfontein. The children showed what they could do in the major arena. It was a pleasure to see how competently the young girls handled the ponies. The nationals are a family pony show with daughters, mothers and dads showing their skills.

At night, mothers and older sisters take turn, in glittering evening dress, with the ponies under the spotlight. The South African Welsh Pony Society invited Dr Wynne Davies from Wales. He is a judge whose name is legend in Welsh pony circles. Dr Davies's books on the

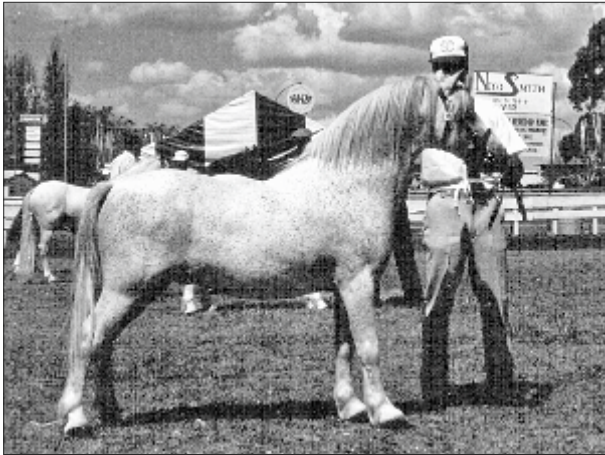
history of the breed are regarded as definitive works. His family has had an interest in Welsh ponies and Cobs for several generations. Name a particular pony or Cob and it is likely some member of the Davies family of Ceulan stud in Misken, South Wales, has either owned or bred one of its ancestors.



Foresyte Valiant Prince of Wales, the Section B gelding, winner of many rosettes

Dr Davies looks for an elegant, long front on a pony. At the show, he picked out some of the older imported ponies; Monnow Cloudy, for example. A marvellous 'matron', she was rescued recently from starvation and

is carrying her 20th foal. A true mountain pony, she has the courage to keep going and give her best. She won her class – and everyone’s hearts.



Bukkenburg Vintage, Section A Reserve Supreme

On the other hand, the Supreme Champion Mountain Pony was an all-out African bred pony. Bukkenburg Nerog was born in the Cape mountains. He is a frequent champion and is by the imported Coed Coch Nerog out of Bukkenburg Helen, whose own dam was the lovely Pendock Harebell.

Dr Davies felt there were too many ungelded colts about for the good of the breed in SA. He advised breeders to be more choosy about retaining their colts as entires.

Supreme Champion Welsh Pony (Section B) was a mare, the attractive roan D’Leni Bannut Gwendoline. The stallion Pemandus Triomf was reserve. Triomf rides and drives and executes all kinds of performance classes brilliantly. This, to me, is the ideal stallion.

Also doing a fine job was Bannut Larkspur, sire of Gwendoline. He won the Section B harness class. It is good to see South African breeders working and enjoying their top stallions. Mountain Top Jackpot, already a prizewinner in the breed classes, was driven by young Cindy Swart to win the child driver’s championship.



Seen at the Section A Children’s Single Harness Class line-up is Bukkenburg Marvel (left) and Bukkenburg Puzzle. Marvel is driven by Koi Coetzee (aged 8)



Seen at the Senior Mare class, from right, Fronarth Gwenllian, Bukkenburg Glory, Bukkenburg Parc Lady and Kallista Rosemary

More than 60 classes and dozens of championships were dealt with during the three days of this Welsh bonanza in Bloemfontein.

Pat Moore 1992 PRO WPCSSA



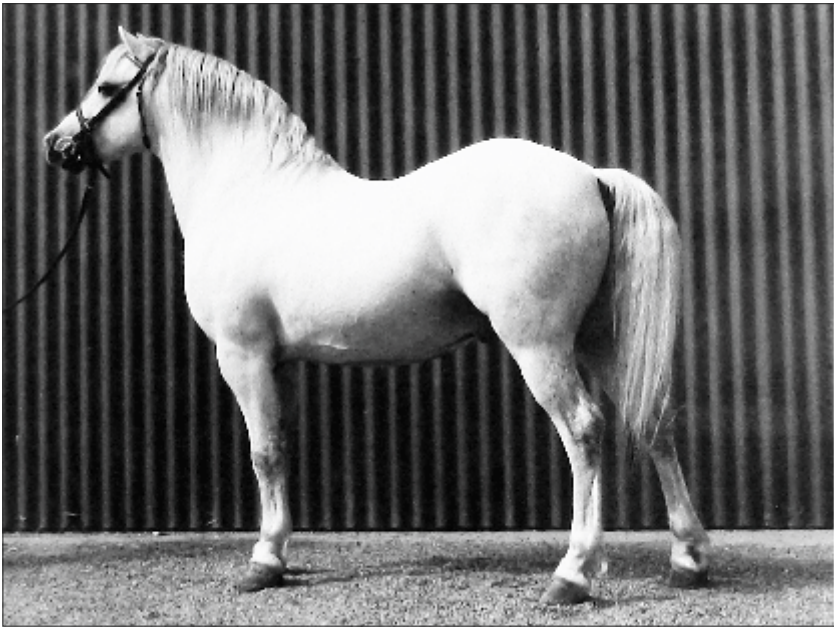
The line-up of the Four-in-Hand with the Midspruit Stud's winning combination of Bukkenburg Tomboy, Midspruit Tony, Midspruit Milo and Uyzel Hino, driven by Jurie Wessels

Supreme Champions *(See page 151 for the full results)*

Section A Bukkenburg Nerog **Section B** D'Leni Bannut Gwendoline **Section C/D** Persie Nimrod **Partbred** Foresyte Christmas Carol **Ridden Purebred** Mountain Top Jackpot **Partbred** Foresyte Bannut Heide **Harness Section A** Korja Calvyn **Section B** Bannut Larkspur **Section C/D** Persie Nimrod **Partbred** Bukkenburg Pronk **Double** Uyzel Hino / Midspruit Milo **Tandem** Midspruit Sunlight / Midspruit Brand

DESTINY STUD

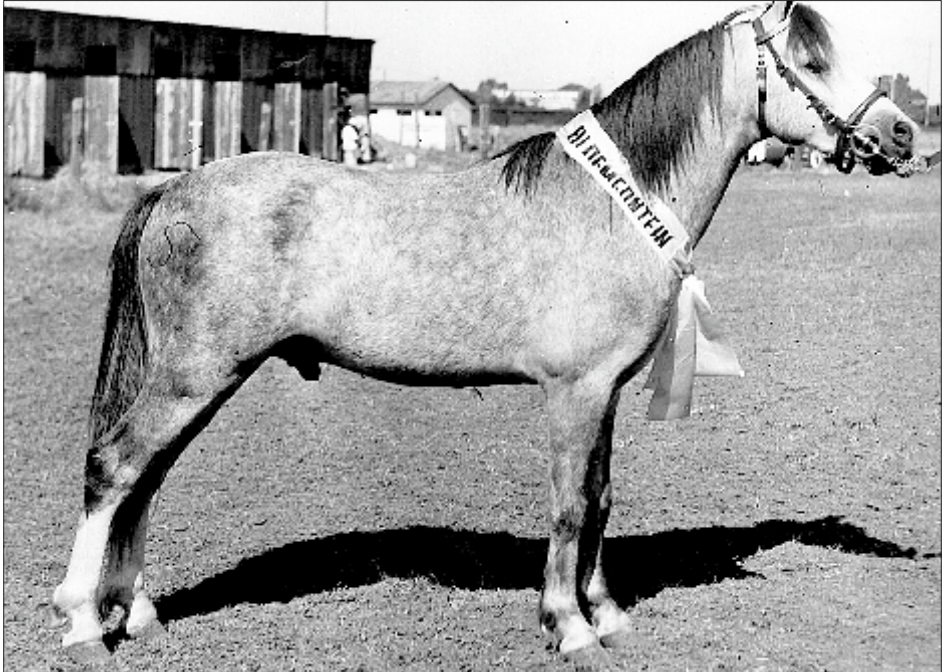
'FC' Bester farms wheat, sheep and cattle on the farm Malkopvlei in the Swartland near Riebeeck West. In 1982 one of his friends near Oudtshoorn got meningitis and FC and his brother decided to help him by harvesting his wheat. While FC was there, he mentioned that as his son was still small he wanted to get a pony for him to ride. Someone mentioned Koos du Plessis of the Spasido Stud at Misgund. One Saturday afternoon FC visited him and after a long chat he bought two ponies from him; Torbry Dandy and Torbry Pearl, both of whom were already under saddle. While discussing a stud name Koos Dup, as he was known, said that he always wanted to have a stud named 'Destiny', and so this became the stud name of FC. FC admits that initially he did not know anything about what a Welsh Pony should look like but as he had a keen eye for any animal, he liked what he saw and guided by Koos Dup, he was satisfied with his acquisitions. He thought that some of the other ponies at Spasido were prettier but he loaded his purchases onto his truck and took them home.



Torbry Sattelite

Pearl was in foal to Torbry Sattelite and on October 13, 1982, Destiny Lady Di was born. This was to be the start of the Destiny Stud which produced some fantastic children's ponies and who also performed superbly in the show ring. Shortly thereafter he also bought Spasido Limelight and Badgemore Bright Light, who at that stage was already an old pony and was known by his nickname 'Charlie'. FC kept in contact with Koos Du Plessis who was a respected judge. One day a competitor went to Koos Dup after the class and asked him why he had placed his pony second in the class. Without hesitation Koos Dup told him that his pony was definitely better than the pony he placed third!

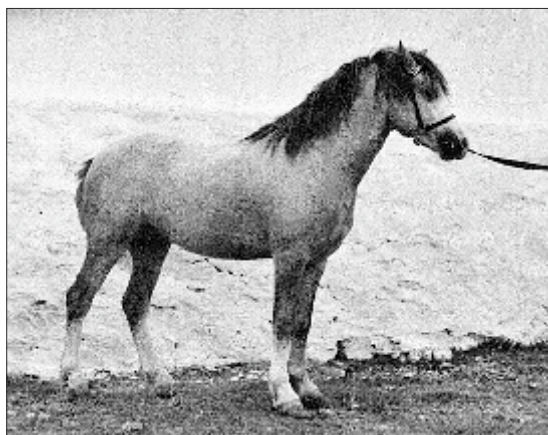
Shortly thereafter Koos Dup was judging a show at Porterville, also on the West Coast, and asked whether he could come and visit FC. After viewing the ponies, Koos Dup told FC that he could have all the ponies of the Spasido Stud. FC was overwhelmed by this generosity and considers himself fortunate in being able to have acquired a ready-made stud as his foundation. This offer included all the harnesses and carts as well. No ponies were retained at Spasido. FC never had need to buy any other ponies from any other studs as he had all the breeding ponies he needed.



Badgemore Bright Light at Nationals Photo: Farmer's Weekly

FC's first show in 1983 was at Heidelberg where he got one 3rd prize. He learnt a lot at this show which stood him in good stead for his future shows, mostly in the Western Cape. At the 1985 Porterville show the judge was Miss Rosemary Russell-Allen from the UK and Torbry Sattelite was her Supreme Welsh Mountain Pony. Later that year at Heidelberg he won the Champion and Reserve Foal with Destiny Spring Fever and Destiny Dawn, the Champion Mare with Spasido Rusty, the Junior Colt championship with Destiny Fighter and the Senior Stallion championship with Torbry Sattelite who also went on to become the Supreme Welsh Mountain Pony. He only exhibited at the SA Nationals twice. The first time was in 1986 when Koos du Plessis was the Judge when he took 7 ponies and won 6 SA championships and the second time he took 13 ponies and won 7 championships.

Unfortunately his sons showed no interest in the ponies and his two daughters learned to ride on horses in the surrounding district, not on ponies, and they did not compete.



Destiny Fighter as a young colt

FC was keen not only to breed ponies which matched the breed standard as closely as possible but it was imperative that they had the right temperament. Any pony which did not meet this strict requirement was sold. Destiny Fighter was so named because while he was still a foal, one Sunday morning FC saw that Fighter was being particularly difficult and when FC tried to intervene, he slipped a disc in his back putting him out of action for some time. He considers that Fighter was a well-named pony. He put Fighter in harness and at the

following Nationals he came 5th in a class of some 54 senior stallions in single harness. At that show Destiny Rustlight as a foal was reserve SA Champion. But then Spasido Rusty, her dam produced 8 foals of which 5 were SA Champions. Rusty was a lovely mare but was rather nervous. Although she was also in harness, she had to be watched carefully as she was inclined to spook.



Destiny Fighter in harness as a 3 year old driven by FC Bester



Destiny Style, Supreme Section A at the 1999 Nationals
Photo: Landbouweekblad

Sattelite x Spasido Rusty). They saw Destiny Style running in the field with Destiny Sterretjie and asked whether she was for sale. He first of all refused to part with her but later they made him an offer he could not refuse and Style went to Johannesburg. He later thought that he had made a mistake as Style was most probably the best filly that he had bred. Peter and Sydney also acquired Destiny Fighter from Koosbad and for Sydney's birthday one year, FC gave him Destiny Karen (Torbry Sattelite x Destiny Spring Fever).

A breeder of Welsh ponies tried to buy FC's stud but he had to decline as he had grown too fond of his ponies.



Destiny Diva, Supreme Section A at the 2008 Northern Region Champs *Photo: Tanneth Bern*

Another wonderful foal was Destiny Apple, a superb colt who looked as if he would go far. However, one day they found him in the field with a broken leg and he unfortunately had to be put down. This had a terrible effect on FC.



*Destiny Vagabond, Supreme Purebred Riding Pony at 1999 Nationals ridden by Jordana Malkoff
Photo: Landbouweekblad*



Destiny Riptide

FC believes that the Welsh ponies made up a wonderful part of his life. Especially Torbry Sattelite who had a wonderful temperament and did not have a mean streak in him. Sattelite's first show was at Moorreesburg and FC was being helped by a friend. Sattelite had never been seen before and this friend closed him up in the stable and blindfolded him. All the other exhibitors were talking about their stallions but when Sattelite came out of the stable he was on fire and 'blew away' the competition winning the championship. Then he also came out in single harness that evening and FC could not help but have goose bumps seeing the way Sattelite performed, winning that championship as well.

Although FC felt that his stud was complete, he did not hesitate to use other stallions, so in 1988, he took Destiny Twiggy and Destiny Spring Fever to the Bukkenburg Stud at Diepkloof in Albertinia to run out with Myburgh Streicher's stallion Lottesmore Super Star from March 1 to May 30. The foals born in 1989 from these matings were Destiny Twinkle and Destiny MacGyver respectively. So impressed was FC with MacGyver that he immediately sent Spring Fever to be covered again by Super Star, and in February, 1990, Sterretjie was born.



Destiny Fighter shown in-hand by Sydney Kidson

He has also worked closely with his brother-in-law Pieter Walters of the Salvador Stud in Paarl, although they did not agree on the same type of pony. Three of his foals are by Salvador Vogue; Fighter, JJ and Lime Light. However, it was obvious when a stallion and mare ‘clicked’ and then produced the most wonderful of progeny. This happened with Sattelite and Rusty who had eight foals, 4 colts and 4 fillies, all out of the top drawer.

When Spring Fever was 18, Koosbad saw her and persuaded FC to let her have one last foal. Koosbad brought over his stallion Bukkenburg Puzzle to cover Spring Fever and in 1999 Destiny Diva was born. Sydney saw her running in a field with her dam and a donkey who had been a companion to so many of the ponies and persuaded FC to sell her to him. Diva was used by the Dunkid Stud and thereafter by the Gwyddls Stud (*see 2008 Journal p65*). This was the last pony to carry the Destiny prefix.



Salvador Valencia with the 29 year old companion donkey

The last of the Destiny progeny that died on the farm was Spring Fever out of Spasido Limelight and Badgemore Bright Light. This was to be Bright Light’s last foal he sired. In May this year Pieter Walters let FC have a filly, Salvador Valencia who is running on the

homestead yard with the companion donkey who in now 29 years old. He is sure that she will never leave Malkopvlei, the farm which has become synonymous with quality Welsh Ponies. In all, 36 Section A foals were registered, 14 colts and 22 fillies. FC spent a lot of time naming his foals. One colt by Sattelite out of Rusty born in 1992 went through a number of trial names such as Rustic Romance, Rustwin, Rusty Gleam, Rustic Shine and Rubtide before he settled on the name Destiny Riptide.

GK 2012

I was fortunate in being able to visit FC on his superb farm Malkopvlei and obtain so much of the information above, also some of the pictures

UYZEL SMART

SIRE OF CHAMPIONS: A LIVING LEGEND



Soon after his arrival at Paddock Hill

Having got to know and greatly admire Uyzel Smart since his acquisition by Paddock Hill in 2007, I thought it fitting to write something of the achievements of this pony's outstanding career as a breeding sire.

Beginnings:

Smart was foaled in October of 1985 in the district of Bredasdorp in the Western Cape. Bred by Mr Hannes Uys, he acquired the Stud's prefix Uyzel.

His impeccable breeding assured his success in both the showring and as a sire of champion ponies. His own sire, the imported Hinton Heather Bee, was by Hinton Pepe out of Criban Wee Bee. The Criban bloodline also featured prominently in Hinton Heather Bee's paternal line. Accordingly, with the arrival of this stallion in South Africa, the sought-after Criban bloodline was imported into South Africa (the records of the Criban ponies go back 200 years, although the Criban prefix was only registered in 1910). The dam of Uyzel Smart, Torbry Shelly, was also out of the top drawer, she being by Revel Society who had been imported by Mr Bobby Torr in 1963 as a two-year old colt. Revel Society was by the legendary Coed Coch Madog, son of the great Coed Coch Seryddwr. Revel Society's dam, Revel Spring Song, was Royal Welsh Supreme Champion in 1957. She was also the dam of Twyford Splendour.

As was his sire, Hinton Heather Bee, and his maternal grandsire, Revel Society, Uyzel Smart is chestnut, with four white socks, the back socks being a little longer than the front.



More recently at Paddock Hill

The Smart Progeny:

There can be little doubt that this wonderful pony has left his biggest impression on the breed through the fillies which he sired. Nor is this regrettable since the claim is that “upon the quality of the matron depends the success of the Stud”. Smart’s career as a sire began in 1993 when he was acquired by Jean Budler of the well-known Llandilo stud. Jean has written (2005 *Journal p 121*) of Smart’s early success on the V-line of the Bukkenburg mares which Llandilo Stud had purchased from Myburgh Streicher. (The Bukkenburg and Llandilo studs named the different families with the same initial letter in order to identify future progeny). Accordingly, out of Bukkenburg Valerie (by Coed Coch Nerog out of Revel Velvetten) the very successful ponies, Llandilo VIP (b 1995), Llandilo Vanity Fair (b 1997), Llandilo Valour (b 1999) were sired by Smart. Out of Bukkenburg Vesta, full sister of Valerie, he sired the top class trio of fillies, Llandilo Foxy Lady (b 1995) Llandilo Fleur-de-Lis (b 1996) and Llandilo Fiji (b 1996). (The “V” of this family became an “F” in the case of Vesta in order to distinguish Vesta’s progeny from that of Valerie). The above-mentioned daughters of Smart, Llandilo Vanity Fair and Fiji, both became SA Supreme Champions (the latter 2 x SA Purebred Champion), while his son, Llandilo VIP won SA Senior Champion Stallion. The Vesta/Smart combination also produced the successful harness pony, Llandilo Farouk. A Smart grandson and granddaughter, Llandilo Valentino and Llandilo Vanilla Sky (out of Vanity Fair) have continued the success of the “V” line having won SA Supreme and SA Reserve Supreme respectively.

Smart has put his stamp on the H-line ponies bred through the redoubtable broodmare, Bukkenburg Helen, (out of Pendock Harebell by Coed Coch Bari). Accordingly, out of Helen's daughter, Llandilo Hollyhock (by Bukkenburg Vintage), he sired the filly, Llandilo Hyacinth (b 2002) and, more prolifically, through Harebell (full sister of Hollyhock), he sired the fillies Llandilo Hapenny (b 2002), Llandilo Heirloom (b 2006) and Paddock Hill Hello Dolly (b 2008). Out of another daughter of Helen, Bukkenburg Honeysuckle (by Coed Coch Nerog), Smart sired Llandilo Gossamer (b 1997), his first contribution to the G-line. There were other notable "nicks", for example, out of Helen's half-sister, Pendock Rosemarie (1995), Smart contributed to the R-line siring Llandilo Romany and out of Rosemarie's other daughter, Bukkenburg Bluebell, he is represented in the B-line by siring the top performance pony Llandilo Belamy.

The winning combination of Torbry Sungleam and Bukkenburg Vintage produced the successful Llandilo "S" line out of which Smart also sired good fillies, for example, the successful harness mare Snow Crystal (out of Llandilo Snowfinch). A grand-daughter of Smart from the Torbry line is Llandilo Sundew (by Llandilo VIP out of Torbry Sungleam). Acquired by Paddock Hill in 2005, Sundew has produced four Paddock Hill fillies, Sun Coquet, Sun Frolic, Sun Kissed and Sun Splash, which respectively over the last three years have taken Supreme, Reserve Supreme, Junior and Reserve Junior Championships at both National and Regional levels. Smart's most recent daughter, Paddock Hill Sun Kissed, has won every Junior Championship in which she has been entered.

Widely respected as an outstanding performance pony, Smart excelled in harness winning the SA Ladies Single Harness Class as well as the SA Single Harness Stallion over 5 Years Class driven by Jean Budler.

With a successful career behind him, both in the ring and as a sire, Uyzel Smart arrived at Paddock Hill in the spring of 2007. Among our band of grey broodmares, he stands out by the chestnut colour of his coat, which turns to burnished copper in the summer months. Despite his 28 years, he carries himself with a purposeful and jaunty stride. He has been put to all Paddock Hill's broodmares and today he is either a sire or a grandsire of the Paddock Hill stock.

Adrienne van Blerk 2012 Paddock Hill Stud

When your horse follows you without being asked, when he rubs his head on yours, and when you look at him and feel a tingle down your spine, you know you are loved.
Do you love him back? Life is short. Hug your horse.

Welsh Cobs: Welsh Cob Heights – The majority of large Welsh Cobs (over, say, 15hh) lose the character and become 'carty'. Reliable judges will certainly not favour them because they are not true to type. It is noticeable that all the leading cobs, in-hand, driven and ridden are of the middle height range. Horse & Hound 19.08.1986

I felt that some of the cobs had lost type in favour of size.
Kathy Shiel after judging Northern Regionals SA in 2010

BUDDIES FOR LIFE

BUKKENBURG MATHRAFAL & BUKKENBURG ATLEET

When Madeleine and Sven Mahieu bought the Lovemore Park Equestrian Centre from Dave Emslie in 1995, there were amongst the ponies bought, two wonderful pony geldings both born in 1987 which were to have a marked effect on their lives. One was Bukkenburg Mathrafal, a chestnut by Parc Crusader out of Bukkenburg Glory whose sire was Persie Nimrod, and the other was Bukkenburg Atleet, a black also by Parc Crusader but out of Bukkenburg Archly whose sire was Moddervlei Gold Dollar. Mathrafal had a stable name of 'Mattie' while Atleet's name changed over the years to 'Elite'

Mattie was the naughtier of the two and when he started getting that very peculiar look in his eyes, Madeleine knew that the next child would be bucked off. So she would quickly get on him and take him for an energetic ride around the school to correct his negative



Mattie at a show ridden by Claire



Elite at a show ridden by Keith Spargo

outlook on life. Initially he had to be disciplined strongly to discourage him from bucking and eventually as he matured he outgrew that behaviour. He also had a very strong character. One day while it was very hot, Madeleine was giving a lesson and part of the course they were riding went through a water feature. Mattie walked into it, lay down and started to roll in the water, saddle and all. The young rider luckily was able to crawl away from under him.

Elite was totally different as he religiously followed the school pony in front of him and Madeleine could put a young child on him knowing that he would take the child anywhere safely.

The children at the riding school had great fun with all the ponies, especially these two and during the Christmas camps they decorated the ponies as can be seen from the accompanying photographs. But sometimes the children were very naughty in that they used to get onto the ponies when they were being fed in the paddocks. This was very

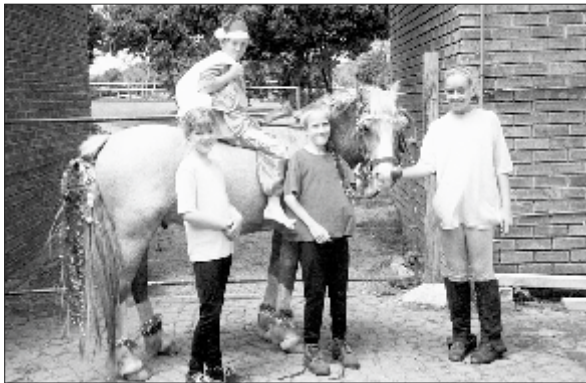
unnerving as the ponies often chased each other around after the feed was dished out to get the best bits.

It felt as if half of the children in and around the Port Elizabeth region learned to ride on these ponies which during the school holidays were leased to the children. Jade Hooke, the winner of the SA Derby twice, used to lease Mattie during the school holidays as her pony for that period. She at that stage already was a good rider. Nothing fazed her because she was good at all sports especially when she got older, cycling and participating in triathlons, etc.

They were tried vaulting but it soon became quite obvious that these ponies were not particularly partial to being lunged around and around the lunging arena, so that project was shelved.

When Madeleine gave up the riding school both these ponies were leased to Melissa Whitehead of the Hillside Riding School, and not sold. Then Elite was leased out to

Brinley Barclay and then the Finestones but Mattie stayed at Hillside. When Melissa decided to stop teaching, Mattie followed his friends being leased to the Crestview Riding School which was owned and run by Kirsten Rorich.



Mattie ridden by Kezia Trzebiatowsky together with friends

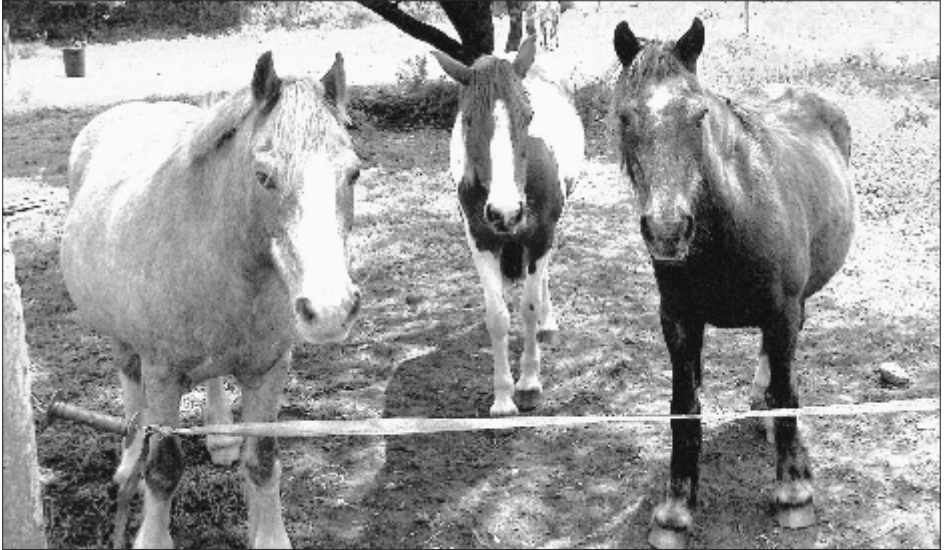


Elite with Candice, Vanessa, Janecke, a visitor and Louise

At this stage Mattie and Elite had been separated for a number of years. However, when they came back together to Madeleine's property, the delight shown by these ponies in being together again was wonderful to see. It was obvious that the one recognised the other. They greeted one another as long lost friends and then just stood there while they groomed each other as they had done in years gone by. This action together with the fact that Madeleine has ever in her life only sold one pony with which she eventually lost contact, led to a decision that the other ponies on the property would never be sold, nor separated.

The Welsh breeds eat very little and are therefore inexpensive to keep but not only that, they have brains and serve a very functional purpose.

Christmas 2011 was a very sad festive season. Mattie, while at Melissa had injured his left eye a while back and this was treated and healed well. When he was with Kirsten he was galloping around the paddock and caught his off side eye on something, injuring it. Despite intensive treatment he lost the sight of in this eye which luckily did not have to be removed.



The two boys in 2011 in retirement at Madeleine's property together with friend Thandi

In November last year, while he and Elite were cavorting around the paddocks like two year olds, he managed to bang his good eye again. It started swelling badly and it was obvious that the injury was severe. Treatment required that ointment be put in the eye initially every two hours and later every four hours. Madeleine and her mother spent two months sleeping on the couch in the lounge taking turns in trying to save the eye but unfortunately when ulcers developed on the eye they had to call it a day. Mattie and Elite were put to rest together on January 19, 2012 as they had been life long buddies and Madeleine just could not imagine the one being without the other. They had a good life and an excellent last year. It was truly a sad day in their home and it took quite a while before the tears dried up. They will always be remembered by the family and occupy a very soft spot in their hearts.

GK 2012

My sincere appreciation to Madeleine Mahieu for initially making contact with Glynis to learn of the identification and breeding of these ponies and to her and Sven for all the information and photographs to prepare this article on two very special boys.

TANGLEWOOD RIDING SCHOOL

ITS WELSH PONIES AND THEIR RIDERS

Jane Sheppard of Tanglewood is well known as a riding instructor for children. She has had very many pupils through her hands and many of them have acquitted themselves well in the show ring. However, no instruction can be given unless one has a pony which is both intelligent enough to understand the basic functions and with the temperament to be able to carry children safely. The Welsh pony is most admirable for this task. This is what she has to say about the ponies which were at Tanglewood -

BADGEMORE PAMPAS (Ulnod Saturn x Badgemore Peony)



1986 Worcester Show with Vicki Sheppard

What a wonderful pony to start my children's riding careers. Little in size (12.2hh) but big in heart, this little pony taught all three of my children to ride and then went on to teach many others, including Kim Overton and Tamryn Koning who won the FEI showjumping and rode for SA. Pampas was Amber Ramsden's first pony (*see 2011 Journal p56*) and then he came to Vicki. Samantha Kling and Vicki met each other through their ponies, and one of my best memories of them was when they were playing in the paddock with the ponies. They were riding bareback and would have races sitting backwards, sideways or facing each other, half the fun being to

see who could stay on the longest. They would also "mount" by standing in front of the pony when he was eating, tickling his neck when he would then pick his head up and then



1987 with rosettes and Vicki Sheppard and Claire Brice



1985 with Vicki Sheppard: Fancy dress - to be dressed up as the name of the pony (Pampas grass)

Vicki or Sam would slide down his neck onto his back!! These ponies taught the children to be fearless and make riding a fun adventure. They mounted backwards and had races to see who could go the fastest. He was a beautiful pony with a rich chestnut coat and a blonde mane and tail with a big white blaze that looked like an ice-cream cone. Vicki and my younger daughter Kim, won numerous rosettes, mainly red, on Pampas in the lead rein and also the child's first pony classes but the best times were had at home where he gave endless fun time for the children. He would be ridden by the 4 year-old who then would lead him around while riding her bike with its stabilizers still on. Then when she needed a cool drink, Pampas would accompany her into the kitchen while she got a drink and he helped himself to the sugar bowl!

GLANWYN MASTERPIECE (Firby Cronos x Al Gamila Mara (Arab))

When Victoria outgrew Pampas, I bought her Masterpiece, a black Welsh cross Arab, and what a pony he turned out to be. Victoria started showing him and represented Western Province in the showing, equitation, show jumping and dressage teams. He also won the WP equitation championship.

No one thought he would be a great show-jumper as he was so economical with his jump that he just skimmed across them, but this was because he did not believe in doing more than he had to. He jumped CA (1,10m) with Victoria and was in the SA children's show-jumping team in Johannesburg, being the highest qualifier there. He was a brilliant event pony and won numerous children's eventing shows.

Equitation was a very strong point with Masterpiece. He would go sweetly for Victoria and then, in the changeover when he got a new rider, would suddenly decide to put in a large standback at a jump and take the rider by surprise – he certainly had a great sense of humour.



WINDRUSH SWEET VALENTINE (Bannut Larkspur x Foresyte Valiant Viva)

I bought this pony for my younger daughter, Kim, when she grew too big for Pampas. She lived up to her name and was a really sweet, pretty pony, teaching Kim in the show ring and the dressage arena but also being a wonderful pony at home. She was also in the eventing team on this pony.



With Kim Sheppard

CAEGWYN EDWARDIAN ROSE (Foresyte Prince Edward x Sable Rose (TB))



I bought Edwardian Rose after Sweet Valentine died and on this pony Kim represented Western Province in the showing teams, the dressage team and the eventing team. She had loads of fun with her.

WILLOWBROOK PROSPERO
(Lechlade Periwinkle x Olford Enchantress (Arab))

I bought Prospero from Lorna Ramsden who bred him at her small holding in Noordhoek (*see 2011*

Journal p56). I broke him in and then all three of my children rode him, starting with my son Simon who won Best Child Rider at Robertson, thereby ending his riding career on a



With Vicki Sheppard

high note! With Victoria and Kim he won the Western Province eventing championships, numerous CA classes and represented WP in eventing, show jumping and equitation with both of the girls. He also won the SAPPI Horse Trials twice, once with Vicki and then with Kim. Both girls won in every discipline on him and represented WP on him too. He was an outstanding pony and taught both my girls to love show jumping and especially eventing. After Kim outgrew Prospero, Oliver Lazarus took him over for a while and jumped him CA as well (*see p68*).

RUNNING WATERS GILBERT'S GOOD HOPE (Sinton Gilbert x Sea Harvest (TB))



Vicki then went on to ride the dun pony in the picture who was Running Waters Gilbert's Good Hope.

Some of the children who all started off on Welsh ponies at Tanglewood and have ridden for SA in various disciplines are Oliver Lazarus on Foresyte Warriors

Song and Willowbrook Prospero in show jumping. He rode in the World Games last year.

Victoria Sheppard on Badgemore Pampas, Glanwyn Masterpiece, Willowbrook Prospero. She rode in Ireland in the SA team. Kim Sheppard on Badgemore Pampas, Windrush Sweet Valentine, Willowbrook Prospero. She also rode for SA in the eventing team. Phillippa Braithwaite on the Section A ponies, Badgemore Bonny (Ulnod Saturn x Badgemore Bo Bubble) and Badgemore Suns Sparkle (Badgemore Pimento x Badgemore Sunshade). She won the FEI show jumping and rode for SA.



Badgemore Pampas ridden by Vicki Sheppard with Samantha Kling on Badgemore Bonnie

Welsh ponies had this wonderful ability to adjust to their riders. Because children outgrew their ponies, these were passed down from one child to the next. They just seemed to last forever, which was just as well, otherwise their talents in teaching children to ride would have been lost. Many of these ponies lived to well into their late twenties or early thirties. They eventually just 'fade away'. Jane feels that what these ponies give to children is priceless – this bond and mutual enjoyment cannot be achieved in any other way. A child who has not had the enjoyment of a pony in his/her youth, somehow is not the same as one who has. Jane Sheppard has only once sold a pony which she afterwards regretted but luckily was able to get him back. There are 6 years between Vicki and Kim, so when Vicki outgrew Prospero it meant that he would have to be kept 'on ice' for Kim for a few years. An offer was made by a family in Johannesburg which was accepted. Some time later when Jane went to Johannesburg she took the opportunity of going to see how he was getting on. She found a very unhappy pony and this attitude was having a detrimental effect on everyone around him. It was obvious that the problem with his temperament was that he was not used to being in a stable for 23 hours a day, it broke his heart and he hated it. Hence he got a bad name because of this. Fortunately the opportunity of getting him back arose shortly thereafter. When he was unloaded at Tanglewood in the bottom paddock, he just stood there and looked down at the sea for a long, long time, gave a great sigh and relaxed. He went straight to the drinking water and when the gate to the paddock was opened that afternoon, he went straight to the stable that he used to have, and made as if he had never



*Badgemore Pampas with Simon Sheppard, Badgemore Prunus
with Amber Ramsden and Smokey with Vicki Sheppard*

left, this after four years. He knew he was back home and having seen this behaviour, Jane vowed never to sell on any pony thereafter. On his return he would not jump, not even going over a cross, but slowly, slowly he got over whatever was bothering him and once again became the pony he had been and succeeded in show jumping again.

GK 2012

My appreciation to Jane Sheppard for all the information and photographs of her experiences over so many years, without which this story would not have been told.



Paintings of Willowbrook Prospero and Windrush Sweet Valentine by E Richardson