

PRETORIA 2000

It was a great honour to be asked to judge at the first Pretoria Show of the new millennium. After an evening flight from Heathrow to Johannesburg, I was driven to the home of Eleanor and Tony Rodrigues and their four daughters. This was going to be my base for the next eight days. The first two days were spent quite relaxed, enjoying the glorious sunshine and Eleanor took me around the village in her cross-country vehicle drawn by two strong Welsh Part-breds.

My task was to judge the Welsh In-hand on the Saturday and the Riding and Driving on the Sunday. The show started at 8.00am and carried through the timetable until 5.00pm. I was very impressed with the quality of the ponies and they were presented in beautiful condition, taking into consideration that this was the beginning of the Spring season. Although daytime temperatures are very hot, the evenings are quite cold, often falling below freezing point.

The first section to judge was the Welsh Mountain ponies. Entries were not so numerous, but quality is always better than quantity! My champion came from the stallion class, Korja Biskop, a lovely moving stallion going back to Coed Coch Nerg and Twyford Peach.

Section B's were most numerous of all the Sections with some beautiful ponies, many of the old fashioned type with plenty of substance and bone. The championship went to a young filly Rhys Gwyllian by Windbourne Smalltalk, with her dam Rhys Cariad in reserve. The Rhys Stud had their hands full with 13 animals to show over the 2 days.

Next came the section C's and D's. These two sections were combined as there were only two section C's entered. The champion C and D was a bright chestnut stallion, Kallista Russell. He is a powerful stallion that enjoys the showing. His dam, Kallista Rosemary is by Derwen Adventure Boy and out of Hewid Cymdoges Dda. His sire was bred by Mr Myburgh Streicher, Bukkenburg Ringo, by Parc Crusader and out of Fronarth Gwenllian. This stallion was also champion of the ridden section. The reserve champion came from the older mare class, Bukkenburg Getha.

The Part-bred classes were very strong, great emphasis is devoted to performance. It was quite a task to judge both the Part-bred riding classes. Many of the top ponies would firmly stand their place here in the UK. The In-hand champion was Caegwyn Dark Secret. Both champion and reserve were by the section B stallion Foresyte Prince Edward, again going back to the Coed Coch bloodlines.

After the completion of the Show, I had a few days to relax and visited several Studs and saw the pictorial landscapes and monuments surrounding Johannesburg.

I would like to thank the members of the South African Society for devoting their time to make my stay so memorable, especially the Rodrigues family for such wonderful hospitality. I hope we at Nebo can replace some of this kindness to the many friends who are visiting the UK for the Centenary International Show

**OWEN JONES 2000
NEBO STUD**



Harriet Barrett

Kallista Russell – Ridden Champion



Equerry

Koria Biskop – Section A Champion



Equerry

Rhys Gwillian – Section B Champion



Kallista Russell – Section C/D Champion



Caegwyn Dark Secret – Part Bred Champion