

THE SECTION C OF THE WELSH STUD BOOK

First of all, I would wish to thank the Welsh Ponies and Cobs, South Africa, Journal for the invitation to contribute my thoughts, opinions and recollections of the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section C for inclusion in the Annual Journal.

Growing up in Ceredigion, an area bordering on the Mid Wales coastline, and a main breeding ground for both the Welsh Cobs and Welsh Pony of Cob Type, one was vastly influenced by the achievers of that time, both man and animal.

Those early years of the 1950's the Welsh Pony of Cob Type I witnessed were very few in numbers. Prior to modern times the Welsh Breeds were bred for a working life, very much a part of the farming scene and key to the running and profitability of the farm holdings. The Section C's main contribution to farm work were the lighter jobs of planting and working the green crops, such as potatoes, swedes, mangolds or beet. The C was popular as a sure-footed shepherding pony. It was also popular with local butchers, being the complete animal both around the streets and for pulling the butchers' cart along the country roads.

Following the Second World War, mechanisation took over on the vast majority of farms. As a result, the need for horses in general, as is well documented, decreased dramatically. The Welsh Breeds, particularly the Section C registrations suffered. The number of Section C's entered at the 1960 Royal Welsh Show at Welshpool was three.

From the early 1960's the rebirth of the Section C's began. A new type of breeder and showman began to emerge. No longer the majority tied to the land and rural rooted, the new Welsh Breed's enthusiasts stemmed from all walks of life and would prove instrumental in the development of the Section C to this day.

From a certain point and position, you would be justified in identifying the Section C as the Cinderella section. It was fashionable during the early years of the Welsh Stud Book to cover the Mountain Pony Section A with the Welsh Cob Section D to produce a Pony of Cob Type Section C. Due to the low numbers of Section C's in being in the 1960's, early 70's the practice of those early years was rekindled by mating the A to the D. This continued intensively for a very lengthy period and is still being practised by a few to this day.

As a result of this exercise the Section C of the Welsh Stud Book began to swell, confirmed by increasing number of C's being shown and offered at Society's sales.

By the mid 1980's the Section C was fast becoming not only popular but was also making up ground on the other Welsh Sections in the showing, sales ring, as well as meeting a keen demand as a 13.2h.h. ridden animal.

Historically, and in contrast to my earlier point, you could also argue that the Section C was the bedrock or Goliath of the Welsh Stud Book. For a period of time what we consider to be the key and most influential Section D Welsh Cobs Stallions and Mares, and all others at a time, were registered in the C section of the Welsh Stud Book.

The position and standing of the Section C today is at a level which compares favourably with the other Welsh Stud Book Sections. The success of the Welsh breeds globally over the last half century is something that all members are proud of. But we must not rest on our laurels, like all other Welsh Stud Book Sections different questions and situations emerge within a section at any one time.

Current topics regarding the Section C's centre around the wording as of defining the section, the long-term effect of the A+D crossing and whether the section is ready, if ever, to close the Stud Book to C+C, eliminating crossing from other sections.

As my opinion only, I have laid a brief foundation to the Section C background and history. The second part of the invitation contained a request for my personal memories of some individual Section C's.

Having digested the request I decided that seven males and females each would be a suitable number to touch upon. To obtain that number and who to include was an interesting task. Therefore, I chose twelve Males and twelve Females, put each twelve in a hat, and drew seven of each.

As of your personal memories, the situation within any surrounding circumstances at a moment in time will, invariably, influence you over the short and long term. This has become slightly apparent when considering the individuals that I wish to touch upon. I have tried to only include animals that were matured and active from the 1950's to the year 2000.

One of the main factors or traits I look for in a Section C is the type. Evaluating the Welsh Pony of Cob Type encounters a very narrow path towards excellence. That being the fact that there are certain constraints. The 12h.h. to 13.2h.h. limit leaves only so much room for manoeuvre, with the Section A and B on the one flank and the Section D's the other. The C is neither a pony nor cob but a Welsh Pony of Cob Type. It fulfils its own role in the Welsh Stud Book as do the other three Sections. It has to have its own definition and purpose in order to confirm the versatility of the Welsh Breeds.

As mentioned previously in this article, the way I view the Welsh Pony of Cob Type, as a Section within the Welsh Breeds, has a strong bearing on the animals I have put forward in this article. Of course, other individuals would have a different outlook and, probably, would have put forward some different animals.

Some of my selection stems from being drawn to the animals by having a close contact with the animal and owner and appreciating them close up, a few I have admired from afar. Among the mentioned animals there hangs many a personal tale.

Of the Section C Stallion or colt, the first one I became aware of was **Teifi Brightlight** 2093 WSB. Brightlight was born in 1949. Bred by Peter Davies and



Son, at LLanddewi Brefi in Cardiganshire he was got by Welsh Patriot and out of Dewi Pride. When the Royal Welsh was relaunched after the Second World War, the first show was held in Carmarthen in 1947; the following years saw the Welsh Section C struggling for exhibits to enter and compete.

Indeed, you would be justified in claiming that Teifi Brightlight was the saviour of the Section at the time, flying the flag in those lean years and keeping the Section's reputation alive with his quality and movement, until, hopefully, the next generation were there to follow in greater numbers.

Of the few times I witnessed Teifi Brightlight in the showing there was none more impressive than at the 1962 RWAS at Welshpool when he was, again, Section C champion. At the time I was a young schoolboy at Primary school leaving age. As young as I was, I would encounter almost daily the milk wagon picking up our daily milk supply. It was an annual happening during those years when the milk wagon driver R.J. Thomas would take a week off work in mid-July to put the final touches and prepare Brightlight for his annual Royal Welsh outing. By showtime R.J. would prepare Brightlight in tandem with W.P. Lloyd Jones, Ystrad Dewi, who would then take over the show ring duties.

The milk collecting fleet was owned by Brightlight's owner Peter Davies and Son who, thus, obviously employed R.J. Thomas. We were therefore always kept well informed of Brightlight's conquest's and day to day management.

Even though Teifi Brightlight was in his prime at a time of low Section C matings, his stock still surfaced, and his own particular line runs in the veins of Studs such as Menai and Glanteifi.

One Teifi Brightlight mating of interest in later years resulted in Penardd Dyddgu. Dafydd Gwyn Evans, in the early 1970's returned from his family business in London to his roots in Tregaron, Cardiganshire. Soon after he developed a passion for the Welsh Breeds, Welsh Cobs and Welsh Pony of Cob Type in particular, to be based on the oldest lines possible. He established the Penardd prefix.

In the mid 1970's we at Geler travelled our Welsh Cob stallion Geler Ifan-Ho 11718 a few times to Dafydd Gwyn's yard in Tregaron. At that time, he had a pocket dynamo of a Section C Stallion with tremendous hock action in Ffrwdlwyd Flying Childers. Amongst the mares he owned was a Pentrebrain Welsh Cob mare and two Poppit Welsh Cob mares by Llangybi Seldom Seen. One of them, Poppit Mayflower, we covered two successive seasons with Ifan-Ho. Mayflower also ran with Flying Childers, the mating giving birth to Pennardd Bore Mai, dam of Crugybar Mabon Mai. Dafydd Gwyn Evans was very proud of breeding Penardd Bore Mai as are all his family. But from what I gathered the little Section C Ffrwdlwyd Flying Childers was equally close to his heart.

A Stallion which not only dominated the Section C's in the 1960's and 70's but also the Welsh Breeds as a whole was **Lyn Cwmcoed**, bred by Lady Chetwynd, Arthog. A palamino in colour and a very correct conformed animal who had that doyen of handlers in Jack Lloyd, Meiarth.



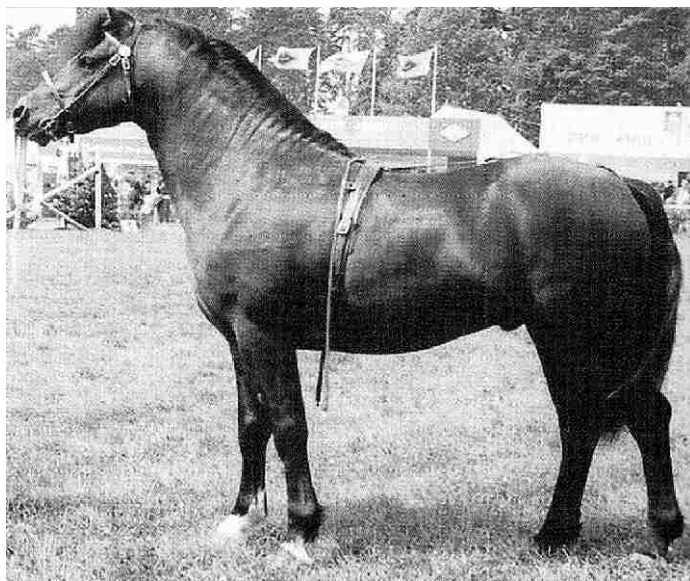
Lyn Cwmcoed 3458 was born in 1960, was by Coed Coch Madog out of Piercefield Ladi Lilian, tracing back to Cilwen Ladi Lilian a female line, in my opinion, that is amongst the two most

prolific and successful in the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section's history. Lyn Cwmcoed was many times a RWAS Championship winner, and a prolific sire of prize-winning stock.

My first experience of Lyn Cwmcoed was as an unshown yearling at Lady Chetwynd's residence in Arthog, Nr. Fairbourne, Meirionethshire. Again, at Primary school age I was then, as now, a glutton for reading, and I came across this

story of a bull terrier who had saved his master from the jaws of death, which installed the inspiration to own a bull terrier. The difficulty was getting mother's blessing, but thanks to my father's approval, the bull terrier duly arrived. Following the acquisition, the time was soon upon us to breed from the female bull terrier. Lady Chetwynd bred and stood Bull Terriers at stud, so in the spring of 1961 my father and myself set off for Fairbourne. That was my first sight of Lyn Cwmcoed. Before leaving Arthog, Lady Chetwynd brought Lyn Cwmcoed out to the yard for us to view him; he was eventually, after much deliberation, taken to the orchard where I was asked to run him. Little did I think then of the success which was to follow for this palomino Welsh Pony of Cob Type, and the opposition he would mount in show championships across the country to all Welsh Breeds.

Most breeds experience highs and lows, you could argue that future survival and success stems from the low points, at that time there could possibly emerge, as history often confirms, a saviour. This was certainly the case in 1963 when Menai Fury was born at the Menai Stud of Willie Jones and Son, Pantydefaid, Llandysul, Ceredigion.



Menai Fury 4382 was by Gredington Oswaltt out of the influential Menai Ceridwen tracing back to Menai Queen Bess. A bay, with tremendous presence and elegance. I became very aware of Fury on many fronts. During the mid-1960's and early 70's I called regularly at Menai. Had the privilege of many a conversation with Willie

Jones, who always had a very balanced judgement and view of all Welsh Stud book animals that he knew of and had contact with, and they were many. He bred all four Sections with much and equal success. Of the Sections C and D of the time at Menai, he spoke much about the Menai Stud's D stallion Trefaes Spark and of his special attributes, but his main course was Menai Fury, and the role he would

hopefully play in the future of the Welsh Pony of Cob Type's development. Needless to say, his prophecy came true.

Menai Fury was a phenomenal threat in the showing, very ably shown by Peter Jones with his own special brand of showmanship. On most occasions he would invariably be the first to get the Judges nod, save at the Royal Welsh Show where he was second, probably, on a record number of occasions.

As much success Fury achieved in the showing, his legacy will live on through the prolific number of successful stock he sired. Fury is very much the Section C sire that is responsible for many C Stud's wellbeing of today. At a time of very limited sires of stocking capacity, Fury has gone a long way to secure a sound future for the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section and for major and lesser known Stud's as well as prominent individual registered Section C's.

Among the Section C Stud's Menai Fury has influenced and firmly conformed, are Menai itself, Synod, Parc, Brynmair, Tyssul, Fronarth, Stremda, Ty'r Eos, Khan and Kingdown.



In the 1970's a Section C Stallion we would occasionally come up against in a Welsh Breed Championship would be **Synod William** 8244. Born in 1969. Bred by Cerdin and Doreen Jones, Gellihen, Nr. Llandysul. A beautiful dark bay, by Menai Fury and out of Gerynant Rosina tracing back to Cilwen Ladi Lillian.

William is credited with the rare distinction of winning the Royal Welsh Section C

championship as a two-year-old, this feat was achieved in 1971. A prolific ratio of show success to competing at the Major Shows, the bloodlines within his veins not only made sure of show ring success but also was a certain bet to be a stockgetter of the highest merit.

The number of stock he sired were numerous and, again similar to his sire, Menai Fury, William emerged at a time the Section was growing and in need of a sire to stamp that period in time, which he did with aplomb. His winning progeny are far too numerous to mention, but, as an example, will mention his son Synod Roger, many times Royal Welsh Section C Supreme Champion.

One of William's secret stemmed from the fact that the two nearest females to the surface of his pedigree derived from two of the most influential lines within the breed. William himself was as true to breed type as you would wish to see. His contribution to maintain and conserve Breed Type within the Section has been immense. Very many Studs that have profited from his usage and in doing so have enhanced their own Studs and secured a sound future for their breeding programme.

Occasionally there comes along a partnership which endear themselves to the vast majority, borne out by the public's reaction to their appearance, and the overall feel and atmosphere they create when entering and participating in the showring.

Parc Marvel and Teifi Jones were such a partnership. They competed at all levels



and principally supported numerous local shows far and wide, contributing much to the survival of village shows as well as participating at County and National Shows, gaining success at all levels.

Parc Marvel 18919 was born at the Parc Stud of S.D. Morgan and Sons Nr. Lampeter in 1978, by Tyssul Coram out of a Parc Model, both sire and dam descending

from the Cilwen Ladi Lilian bloodline. Marvel was a very true breed type, of mahogany bay, very compact and achieved tremendous success in his lifetime.

Marvel was popular at Stud, he produced much good stock at Maesllwch for Geoff Kingham. He continued his good work both as a getter and show phenomenon in the hands of Teifi Jones. He was much used by most C Studs including his friend and neighbour Roderick Rees at Horeb.

Personally, I will remember both Marvel and Teifi at the local shows in our home area here in Ceredigion. Marvel majestically presenting himself in an alert and upstanding manner. Teifi at his head as one, always jovial and welcoming, with a smile on his face when entering and exiting the showring, somehow you detected a smile with Marvel also.

Even though we called at Nebo Stud periodically, the first time I ever set eyes on Nebo Bouncer was at the NPS Summer Show 1982. My father, John Lloyd, had been invited to Judge the Section's C and D, and asked me to drive him to Malvern. Whenever my Father was Judging or, indeed, left home on any journey, all of us had to be all hands-on-deck to get him on the road, whether as a driver or passenger. I often thought by the time mother prepared father to leave on his journeys, she either ran out of time to prepare herself or was too exhausted to go with him.

Such it was that sunny morning in August 1982. As we were about to leave, he wanted to check the bird scarer in the barley field, he spent 40 minutes in the field watching the crows and adjusting the bird scarer. He found the crows were sitting on top of the scarer, not taking any notice of the frequent bangs, indeed every time it went off, they just bounced on the scarer and never fled. All this meant we had to step on it, but we did arrive in Malvern in good time for the Judging.



Nebo Bouncer 23380 was born in 1981 and bred by the Jones Family at Lluest Hen, Nebo, nr Llanon he was by Nebo Brenin out of Nebo Siani Lwyd. By the mid 1980's **Nebo Bouncer** appearance on the scene provided an outcross to previous popular bloodlines. This along with his ongoing show successes meant the path to his stable door was consistently utilised.

Bouncer must rank as one of the most prolific of Welsh Breed Stallions. As a show animal he enjoyed and earned massive plaudits and winnings, gaining the major awards at all level of competition. As a stock getter he sired umpteen winners and introduced a hardiness and longevity into his stock which his sons and daughters passed on to their progeny.

What follows popularity as a stallion at stud and a stock getter is getting close to the summit of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society's Sire Rating Chart. Bouncer not only achieved top spot, but did it annually for what seemed an eternity. This

dominant factor shone through, especially in the catalogued major Shows, where a large percentage of winners were sired by Bouncer.

We all have some travel limitations, often dictated by work, other commitments and where we appear on the map. This scenario sometime prevents us gaining the necessary information and knowledge of a desired subject and awareness of the big picture. Some activities and events going under your radar.

Probably this was the case with myself, for I was not aware of a certain Section C Stallion until he reached middle age. But when I did eventually cross his path, he was everything that a Welsh Pony of Cob Type should be.

Troedymnydd Tegwyn 31350 was born in 1988 by Ty'r Eos Sovereign and out of



Penraig Rhianon and bred by Anthony McDonald. In my opinion he came straight out of the type production line. His breeding is very interesting, his sire a son of Lyn Cwmcoed, therefore tracing back to Cilwen Ladi Lilian, his dam by Brenin Dafydd, who must be one of the most influential Welsh Cob Stallions within the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section.

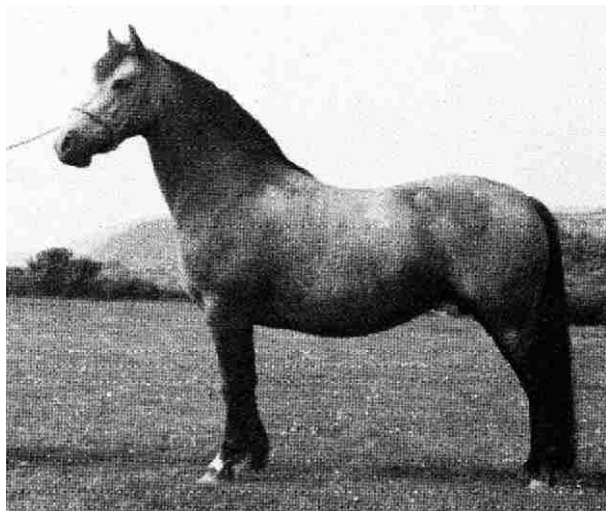
Observing Tegwyn in the showring was a joy, his rich bay coat gleaming in the sun, with his sweetness and compactness creating a picture of Welshness. Over a long and fruitful career and life he sired a creditable number of progenies, was instrumental in the development of a number of Section C Studs. Many of his progeny competed successfully at the Major Shows. Also, at the shows within our vicinity we witnessed Tegwyn progeny. He had much influence at Studs such as Henfynyw and Joyton not to mention his own prefix Stud of Troedymnydd.

As mentioned previously, I believe there surfaces in the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section at least two female lines that have been dominant in the development of the Section, and in being so have also ensured the continuation of some of the Pony of Cob Type original treasured bloodlines.

The Menai Stud's contribution to the success and future of the Section C since the Welsh Stud Book was established has been consistently committed, but throughout the time have kept loyal to their beliefs.

Whenever you converse with Peter Jones, he waxes lyrically about certain Menai individuals, none more so than a certain dun section C mare, tracing back to one of Menai's original breeding lines in the early years of the last century.

11517 **Menai Ceridwen** was born in 1953 at the Menai Stud of Willie Jones and



Son, Sire Caradog Llwyd, Dam Menai Queen Bee. A dun, her colour probably influenced by her dun sire who travelled South Cardiganshire under the then Stallion Premium Scheme. Peter Jones, now senior partner of the Menai Stud, whom I accompanied in our younger days to many meetings and functions, often mentioned the invite he received from John Evans, Caradog's owner, to show his stallion at the Royal Welsh Show.

Ceridwen bred consistently for over twenty years, her female progeny mainly named and identified with the initial letter C. Her lifetime contribution to the Menai Stud and the C Section of the Welsh Stud Book has proved immense, without her contribution the Section would have taken a different route.

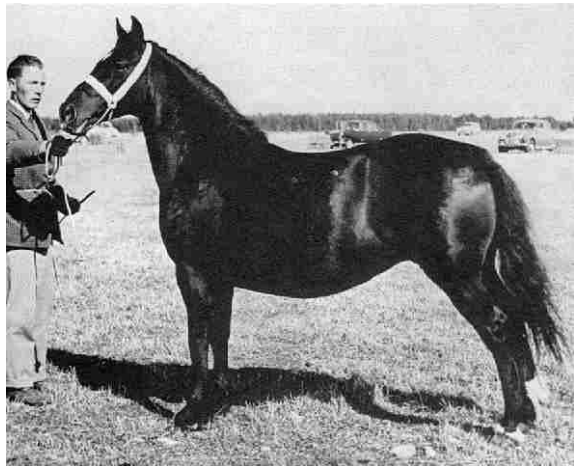
A true C Pony of Cob Type that were very few during her maturing years, though her female descendants went on to cement the type at Menai, Ceridwen's masterstroke, enabling her to spread her own bloodlines and contributing long term to the Section C came in 1963 in the form of Menai Fury, whose feats I have already documented earlier in this article.

Growing up in the 1950's and living with continuous daily horse talk, one became familiar with the personalities and the talked about horses of the time. Many points of conversation centered around the Llanybydder horse market, which was held monthly just over the River Teify on the Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire border.

Each month John Lloyd, father, with Rowland Harris of the Rhystyd Stud and John Hughes of Pentre Eiddwen Comet fame as passengers, would attend Llanybyther Horse Market and on returning home, the activities of the day would be poured out by John Lloyd, father, to us all at home whether there was time to listen or not. On this one sale night the name of a certain black Section C mare kept resurfacing, thus from an early age I became very aware of this particular Pony of Cob Type and her virtues, and built up a picture of her without actually seeing her in the flesh.

11585 Gerynant Rosina was born in 1955 and bred by W.J. Jones, Gerynant, Cellan, nr. Lampeter, by Valiant Flyer and out of Dyffryn Rosina. Her breeding, as I later learnt, was very much the bloodlines that attract my attention. Rosina's grand sire being Llethi Valiant and her g.grand dam on the female side, Cilwen Ladi Lilian. Dyffryn Rosina was owned by Freddie Lewis, a well-known personality in our area, closely related to a neighbour of ours and father of Elfed Lewis, now retired, our practice Veterinarian.

With W.J. Jones, **Gerynant Rosina** gained much prominence in the showing, but



fate intervened with the passing of W.J.Jones, and Gerynant Rosina became available, she was entered at Llanybyther Horse Market and purchased by Cerdin Jones, then under the Tydi prefix.

Gerynant Rosina carried the blood of a classical female line of Section C's. Immediately under the guiding hands of the Jones families of Castell Crugiau and, later Gellihen, she went forth to confirm and demonstrate this virtue to all Welsh breeders and the big

wide world. Rosina has been key to the development of not only the Synod Stud but the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section as a whole.

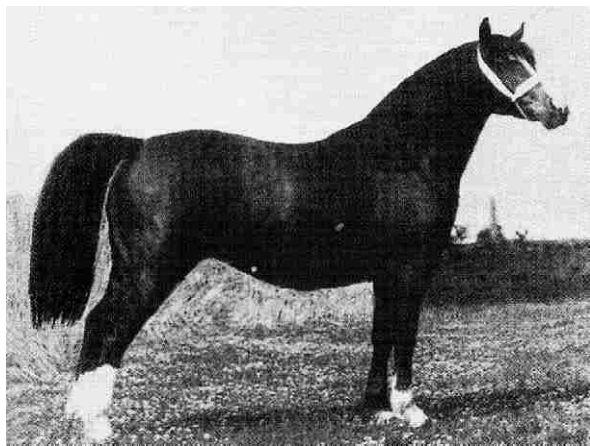
These few paragraphs are a recognition to Gerynant Rosina herself. Sometimes a slight pause is needed to appreciate individuals and their contribution. Gerynant Rosina utilised her purpose in life and passed on her genes to the next generation, not only via her own progeny such as, to name two, the noted Synod William and Synod Rosemary, but also to future offsprings within the Synod Stud and beyond.

Her legacy as a breeding mare will live on and will for ever remain within the annals of the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section C.

In our household 1971 was a year of much expectancy and apprehension. John Lloyd, father, had been invited to Judge the Welsh Cobs Section D at The Royal Welsh Show. He had spent most of his life around horses but his mind had been theirs all of the time.

Most of us from home attended the Show on that Wednesday the 21st of July, 1971 to witness the Judging, then a one-day event, taking from 9am to 1pm to complete the whole Section. Whilst keenly surveying the Judging, I was also keeping an eye on the Section C Judging nearby in the Main Ring, which had got under way at 11am, when into view came this perfectly conformed, attractive Section C mare, she had much body depth, a little white sock in front, and white to half cannon on both rear legs, with a very correct and complete silhouette.

The Synod Stud's 23378 **Tydi Red Rose** was born in 1967 and bred by D.I. Jones and Sons, Castell Crugiau, Plwmp, Nr Llandysul, she was by Menai Fury and out of Tydi Rosina a daughter of Gerynant Rosina.



Sometimes in life you only catch a glimpse of an impressive item or living thing, that moment leaving a big impression and a permanent mark. That day during her ring appearance from a distance, Tydi Red Rose left a mark on myself as a model Section C, becoming

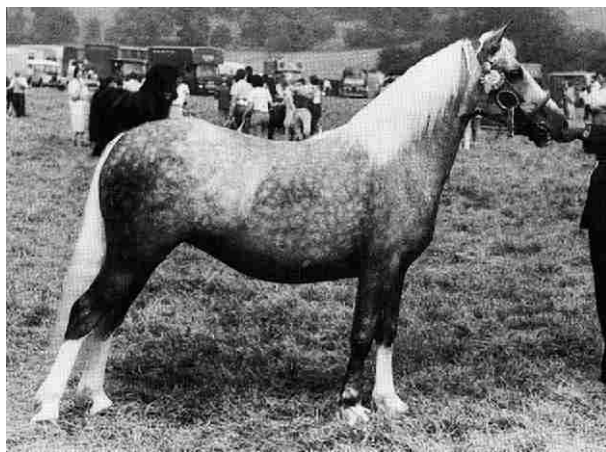
influential in the type and shape I look for when evaluating animals of that Section.

The following year, 1972, Tydi Red Rose was crowned Section C Royal Welsh Champion. I never saw Red Rose close up, but almost certainly would have if events had not intervened, for she tragically passed away as a young mare. Her achievements for one so young certainly confirms and gives one the confidence that my brief encounter from a distance in 1971 never lied.

History confirms the development of the Welsh Breeds as one of an ever-expanding bases, with interest spreading further afield annually. New breeders appearing and contributing, both here in Wales, the United Kingdom and Globally.

As a result, by the 1970's classes for the Welsh Breeds were increasing, new Shows were organised for Welsh Breeds participation. Show people were travelling further afield to compete, it was during one of these outings I met both a unique Section C mare and her gentleman owner.

29352 **Cefn Moonlight** was born in 1969, bred by Colin Davies at Reynoldstown ,



Gower, Swansea. By Maylord Starlight out of Cefn Princess, a Palamino in colour and of a type that profiles a true Welsh Pony of Cob Type.

Colin Davies spent a lifetime flying the Section C flag on home ground and beyond. Moonlight was his beacon and witness to his devotion to the Shows and his Section C's. Moonlight was a successful Show mare with many winnings

under her belt, her progeny has both fuelled and furthered the Cefn Stud's influence both close by and further afield.

Even though she gained many other successes, one of the too few times I watched Moonlight from the ringside was at the 1972 Royal Welsh Show, putting on a very correct performance and going on to win her class and then achieving Overall Section C Female Champion and Section Overall Reserve Champion.

I have given tuition to very many young people in the art of Welsh Pony and Cob Judging, and the giving of reasons for your placings and deliberation. I have also been invited, when there is no conflict of interest, to Judge the competitions both near and further afield.

It was during one of these Judging appointments that a certain circumstance came in to being. Both Mary Jones of the Nebo Stud and myself had been asked to Judge a County Federation Welsh Cob Judging competition, it was in the early morning hours when we arrived back at LLuest Hen, Nebo, Llanon.

On arriving Geraint Jones and Lisa were back and fore to the field keeping an eye on a mare about to foal. Geraint mentioned the fact that they did not need a flashlamp as the full moon was sufficient light, a further visit to the field and Lisa came back with the news that a filly foal had just been born.

66444 **Tyngwndwn Moonlight** was born in 1980 and bred by the Jones family, by Nebo Brenin out of Nebo Siani. A chestnut, encompassing all the attributes of her bloodlines and ancestors.



Even though born at the Nebo Stud, Moonlight acquired the Tyngwndwn prefix but could be equally comfortable with her position and standing as for maximising herself as both a brood and showing mare.

Tyngwndwn Moonlight bred prolifically to Nebo Bouncer, both the progeny and Moonlight herself were shown regularly with much success. As a yearling she was immediately thrown in to the cauldron that is the showing, winning Lampeter Stallion Show yearling filly class. Universal showing success followed, it became a habit, peaking by twice achieving Section C female and Reserve Overall Champion at the Royal Welsh Show.

The influence and contribution in the long term of animals born in the last decades will not come to the fore and cannot be envisaged or analysed, sometimes, for generations to come. Tyngwndwn Moonlight's influence is beginning to shine through. As Moonlight's bloodlines and type stand for a definite type, it will almost certainly increase.

At any time, life is full of surprises. The 1980's and 90's was the busiest and most intensive period for myself to receive invitations to Judge the Welsh Breeds, the C and D Sections in particular. It meant travelling all over the United Kingdom and quite often abroad. Travelling distances meant you would get to see and become aware of Welsh Ponies and Cobs you had never seen before.

Such was the case on a few occasions, none more-so than in an Association Show in Huntingdon, Cambridge, in the mid 1980's. The Section classes were strong and competitive. I was moving through the Section C classes in good time, considering the substantial amount forward. While waiting for the mares to enter their class, I noticed this gleaming bay typey mare walking towards the ring, she made an immediate positive impression.

70104 **Glynwyn Diamante** was bred by the Heppenstall Family in Yorkshire. Both her Sire Isamman Dafydd and her dam Peris Blackie were by Brenin Dafydd, who again demonstrates his contribution to the Section C.



That day in Cambridgeshire, Glynwyn Diamante went on to win the C Championship and by the end of the day, without much persuading the other Judges, she went on to win the Overall Champion of the Welsh Breeds.

Diamante bred regularly, mated to Persie Ramrod and the Synod Stallions Regan, Armstrong and Raynier, she bred a number of show winning stock for the Glynwyn Stud and ensured that her special attributes would survive for generations to come and an asset to the Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section.

Back then, with no social media, it was difficult for all breeders and show people to view animals a long distance from their fixed abode. Most Show animals would make the annual trip to The Royal Welsh Showground which offered an opportunity to view animals from further afield. If you did happen to come across some top-class animals, similar to Diamante, you would follow their progress with interest.

When the telephone rings, very little do we think at that particular moment what

circumstances is prevalent at the other end of the line. Such a call came to our household on the Friday night, eve of the 1993 Lampeter Stallion Show. We were informed of the passing of a certain young shining Welsh Section C Female star performer and one of the youngest Royal Welsh Section C Overall Champions of all time.

87531 **Fronarth Red Rose** was born in 1989, bred by the Jones family at Frongoy,



Pennant, Llanon. Sired by Synod Roger, out of Lleuci Queen, again the Brenin Dafydd element. Both her Sire and Dam were Section C Supreme Champions at the Royal Welsh many times. Fronarth Red Rose's career was mapped out from the very beginning, the stars being her destiny.

Fronarth Red Rose was definitely one of

the most attractive Welsh Pony of Cob Type young stock you could ever lay eyes upon. She achieved so much in her short life as many would in many a lifetime. A beautiful bay, with an exquisite head and three white socks, she captured the hearts of all who saw her.

We shall never know what influence Fronarth Red Rose would have delivered to the long-term future of the Section C of The Welsh Stud Book, rather to exercise the old saying 'The Good Die Young'.

We are in the year 2020, there are many Welsh Section C animals World Wide who are today making a mark and will in time provide long term certainties and solidity to the Section's future. A future where we need to cherish the breed's history, and ruthlessly guard and protect all Sections of the Welsh Stud Book's Native's identity.

In conclusion I would again emphasis that this article is built around my own experiences, opinions and a number of facts, some of my own, in an attempt to

deliver a response to a specific invite from the South African Welsh Journal on the subject of the Welsh Section C Pony of Cob Type.

William Lloyd 2020

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All photographs, except where indicated, are from Dr Wynne Davies' books 60 years of Royal Welsh Champions and Welsh Ponies and Cobs, for which, our thanks

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RECIPE OF A WELSH MOUNTAIN PONY

Take one large slice of a Welsh mountain. See that it is well covered with mountain grass and laced with ever fresh cascading streams. There must be dingles for shelter, here and there the aged thorn for shade. There must be long undulating slopes where exuberant young things may run, leap and dance, developing limbs, muscle and bodies and perhaps lie sleeping in the summer sun. Hazards there must be – steep banks, rock strewn where feet must learn to tread cautiously and a bog here and there, for life is not always what it seems.

Put upon your mountain in the springtime your herd of selected mares having first mated them with stallions of your choice. Send your stallion out with them in case of perhaps an intruder or the unmated mare.

Having obtained your mountain and mixed or mated mares and stallions with patience, many moons you must wait with faith, hope and charity. Faith in your own wise choice, hope of that elusive thing – the perfect foal! And charity in your heart before.

And for next year the mixture as before? Perhaps we will add a touch of colour, chestnut or gold, a dash of spice, a suspicion of pigment, something which will make your foal of the future the perfection we all dream about.

Dinah Griffiths

The Revel Stud

This note by Dinah Griffiths discovered by Emrys after her death in 1994

From a Hill Ponies of Wales Newsletter