

SOUTH AFRICA IN 1981

The South African pony scene has consolidated itself once again and stands ready to enter 1982 with further enthusiasm and a vastly swelled membership. In my own humble opinion we still need to encourage the novice enthusiast and educate the fringe of pony enthusiasts who would like to join our ranks but do not yet have the knowledge of horse management to own or keep a pony. Welsh ponies have a great reputation for their kind temperament and as such they can fall into the wrong hands and suffer ill use simply because their new owners do not have enough knowledge to care for their ponies correctly, thus causing unnecessary misery which is the last thing they intend to do. The pony breeders and trainers are in a position world wide to help. In fact, it is our duty to do so. If we breed animals we should do our utmost to help improve their lot in life.

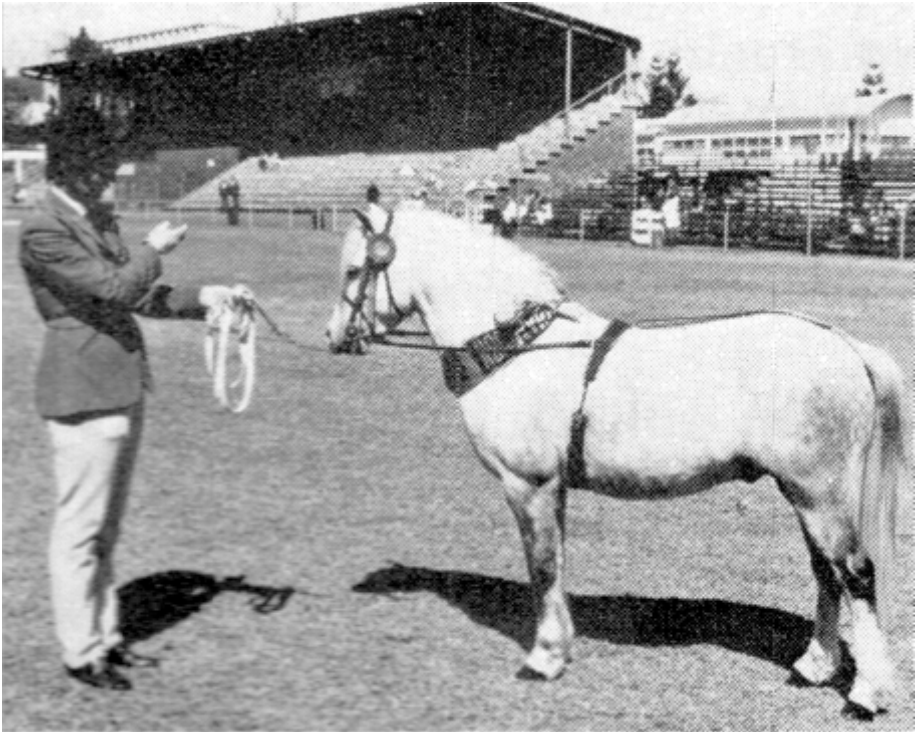
Bloemfontein Show: see page 115

Importations: South African Section B breeders were facing a major crises in lack of bloodlines and have now been given the green light to import after a long period of restriction. First on the scene came Greenlinks Olympic Marathon, who won a large foal class at indoor international show only 24 hours out of quarantine and wearing his full winter outfit of hair. In temperatures in their nineties, full of oats and having had no exercise to speak of for weeks, he hit the South African showring like a dancing bear, and Graham Goodwin had quite a hard time to see him with four hoofs on the ground simultaneously. He travelled home to Natal on our open lorry, behaving like a seasoned traveller he is, while summer storms raged about us, roads flooded ahead and behind and not a drop of rain hit us for the entire 600 kilometres. Surely a very lucky pony!

We wish as much luck to Bannut Larkspur who is currently on the high seas, voyaging southwards to come also to Natal and reside within a few miles of Hydown. The Foresyte Stud which pioneered Section B in the country when based at White River with Miss Ida Illingworth and the late Miss Noel Wight, both of whom did a fantastic job of promoting Welsh in South Africa, is now relocating in Natal with Mrs Pat Vale at D'Leni Stud. It will certainly be a joy to have these lovely ponies to help swell our crowd in a very thoroughbred-orientated area.

Natal: The Natal All-Welsh Show doubled its number of entries this year and saw Foresyte Valiant Gwynedd, who is now a twenty year old going champion in-hand over Knighton Belinda.

Transvaal: There does not appear to be any show results for the Transvaal Regional Show except that Torbry Rusty was the Section A Senior Male Champion and Hydown Mister Playful was the Junior Male Champion.

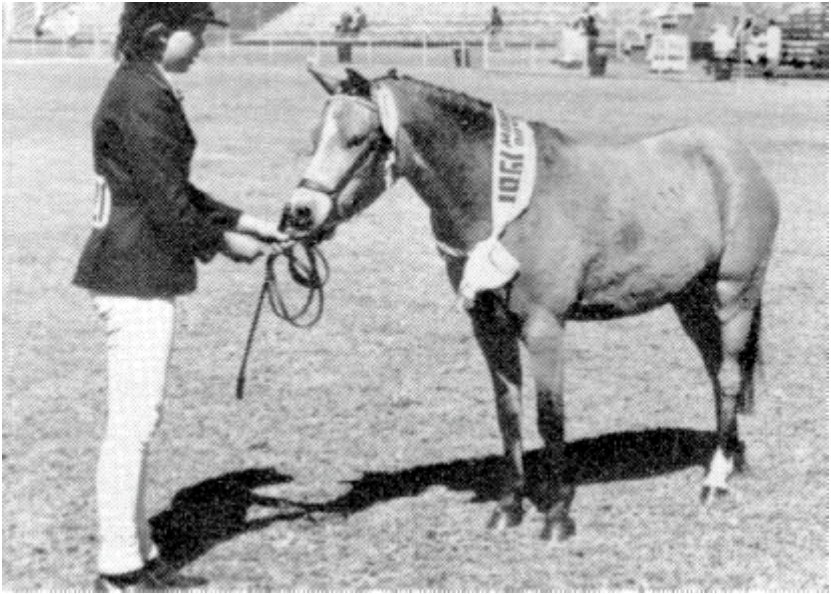


Torbry Rusty: Transvaal Regional Section A Senior Male Champion

People in South Africa still tend to think that Part-bred Welsh are actually Welsh ponies and we are now making it mandatory for shows to give separate championships, which may sound fairly basic, but in fact has not previously been done. The Supreme Champion Welsh Pony at many shows was often a part-bred and frequently stood fifteen hands high. Performance Awards were divided into some six sections. Each province has its own placings and Purebred competed within themselves for the first time. Purebred Champion, being the Section A stallion Torbry Rusty with a nice fat score and a year of success in harness and under saddle as well. Part-bred Supreme Champion was Foresyte Chivitos Chipmunk.

PATRICIA MOORE 1981

Extracts from the 1982 Journal of the Mother Society



Hydown Mister Playful: 1981 Transvaal Region Junior Male Champion



Foresyte Chivito's Chipmunk: 1981 Partbred Performance Champion