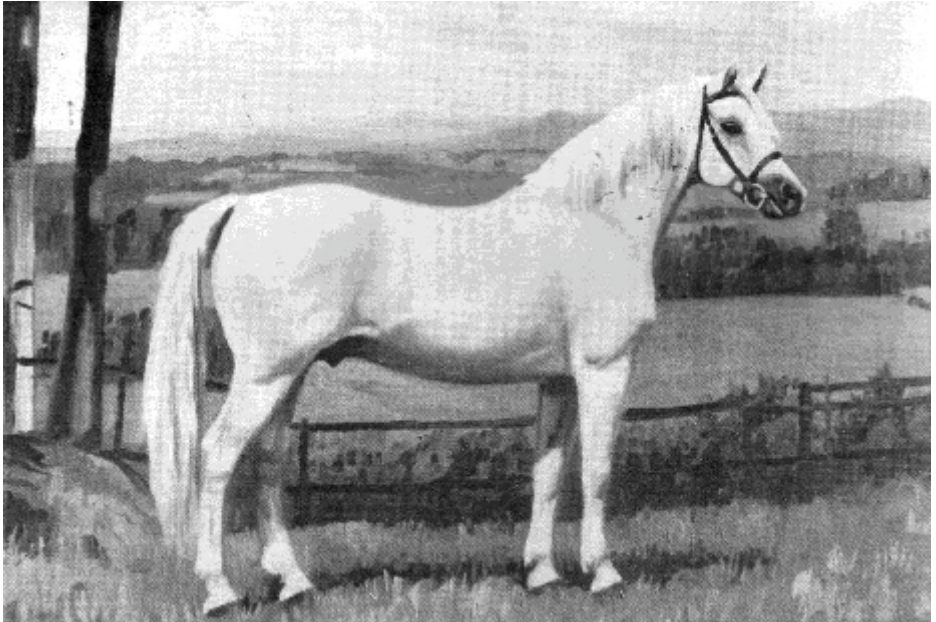


## VALIANT – OBITUARY TO A CHAMPION

That Valiant was an apt name for a pony of the qualities of the Welsh Section B pony who bore the name so justifiably for his lifetime, is without doubt. Valiant was his name and valiant was his heart. He died in February at his home in White River, and the pony world lost a great one.

Valiant was a son of Criban Victor, a pony who is also a legend in the Welsh pony world, both of whom lived well into their late twenties. In fact, Valiant was nigh on 30.



He was a prize winner at the Royal Welsh Show in 1955, beating his sire Victor, and came to South Africa soon after, immediately starting his career as a stallion, and soon proving his worth as his youngstock hit the show rings and swept away all the top prizes. Dorian Williams paid tribute to his influence of Welsh stock when on a judging trip to South Africa in 1958 and again in 1964 (*J2014 p17*), Valiant taking many of the major awards at the biggest shows including the SA Welsh Championships.

A really beautiful pony, with an exceptionally kind eye and a really lovely riding action, Valiant was undoubtedly one of the greats in the breed and

would have held his own in any country. South Africa was lucky to have had the benefit of him, and should treasure his influence on the stock of the future, whether it be purebred or part-bred.

## **PAT MOORE 1962**

Valiant 2174, a Section B, by Criban Victor 1775 out of 9388 Coed Coch Silian, was foaled in 1953 and died on 3 February, 1982. He carries the number 4 in the South African Studbook.

In the 1963 Journal of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society UK Journal, an article by Ida Illingworth reflects the first 10 years of his life and how his legacy in South Africa was developing. This was reproduced in our Journal in 2014 on page 68.



*Valiant meeting some of his progeny*

According to the stud records Valiant sired 93 ponies of which 80 carried the Foresyte prefix, the remainder being 6 for Running Waters Stud (of which 5 were colts from 1963 to 1967), one for Aberdare Stud (in 1962, who bought an in-foal mare, foaling a filly), 5 for Llanel Stud (3 fillies and 2 colts, all in 1959) and one filly for Llanabas Stud in 1961.

Of the 93 ponies birth notified only 64 were registered/recorded, 42 fillies and 22 colts. 21 Purebred ponies, all Section B's were registered, 10 fillies and 11 colts; 11 of the purebred ponies were out of Coed Coch Pala. There were 43 Part bred ponies, 32 fillies and 11 colts. The first pony sired was Foresyte Valiant Deb out of Dusty in 1958 and the last one was Foresyte Valiant

Warrior out of Coed Coch Pala on 11 November, 1979; 93 foals over a 22 year period

Miss Ida Illingworth kept a thorough record of all her ponies and their achievements and I have been fortunate in being able to have a record of all the documentation of the Stud. The hand-written record of Valiant's achievements are shown on this and the next page.

Valiant attended 28 shows and achieved 1<sup>st</sup> every time going on to be awarded the Welsh Pony Championship or the Supreme in some cases. It was only on 5 occasions and then in the stallion class open to all breeds that he did not win, but came 2<sup>nd</sup> on 4 occasions and 3<sup>rd</sup> once.

He attended the second Welsh Championships held in De Aar in 1958 (*J2007 p33*) where the judge Mrs Cecily Norden wrote 'Valiant ... with magnificent action both front and hind and very good showing presence'. He was, however, defeated in the Overall Supreme Championship by the more mature Coed Coch Seryddwr 'with his superiority of topline and superior masculinity'.

He did not attend the Beaufort West Show in 1960 because the judge Miss Daisy Brodrick of the Coed Coch Studs stayed at Forsight farm, the home of the Foresyte Stud, before the show. (*J2010 p41*)

(19)

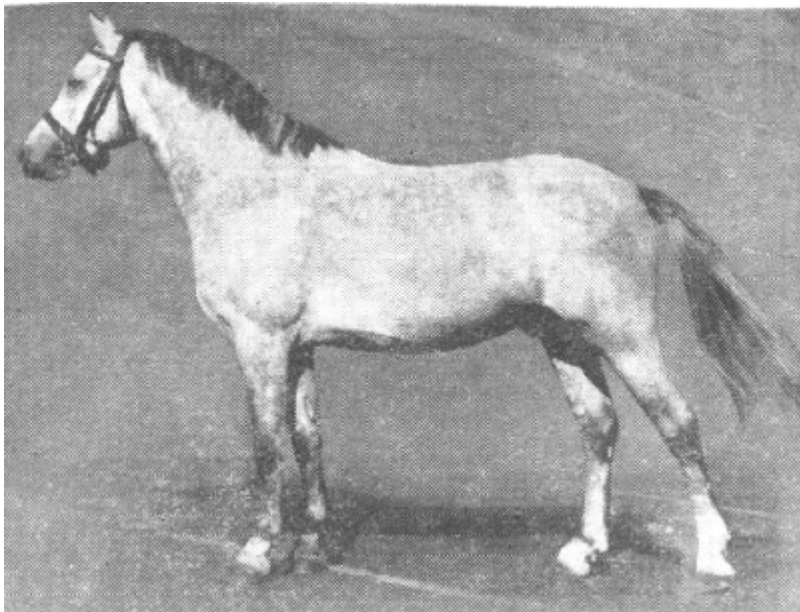
<u>VALIANT</u>	
	GN STALLION IMPORTER
1957	LOWFIELD SHOW
	OPEN STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>
1958	DE AAR WELSH CHI. MRS NORDEN
	SECTION B STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>WELSH (PONY) CHAMPION</u>
	<u>RESERVE SUPREME CHAMPION</u>
	LOWFIELD SHOW
	OPEN STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>
1959	LOWFIELD SHOW
	OPEN STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>
1960	LOWFIELD SHOW
	OPEN STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>
1961	LOWFIELD SHOW - PETER WILSON
	OPEN STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>ROYAL SHOW (P.M.B.)</u>
	STALLION TO BREED
	CHILDREN'S PONY 1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>SPECIAL AWARD</u>
1962	LOWFIELD MRS IWARONER
	OPEN STALLION 2 <sup>nd</sup>
	<u>STANDERTON SHOW</u>
	STALLION (PONY) 3 <sup>rd</sup> OVER 1 <sup>st</sup>
	W.A.S. WELSH CHI. COLI HARRIS
	WELSH SEC. A + B STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>SUPREME CHAMPION A + B</u>
1964	BLOMFORTEIN W.P.S. CHAMPIONSHIP
	JUDGES DEBBIAN + JENIFER WILSON
	SECTION B STALLION 3 <sup>rd</sup> OVER 1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>SUPREME CHAMPION - SECTION B</u>
	LOWFIELD SHOW
	OPEN STALLION 1 <sup>st</sup>

Year	Event	Stallion	Age	Class	Rank
1965	W.A.S. EASTER SHOW	STALLION 15 W/L + UNDER			1 <sup>st</sup>
	LOWVELD SHOW	OPEN STALLION			1 <sup>st</sup>
1966	MIDDELAARDE (JUL)	LIGHT TYPE STALLION			1 <sup>st</sup>
	PONY STALLION 15 3/4 + UNDER				1 <sup>st</sup>
	SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SHOW				
	<del>W.A.S. EASTER SHOW</del>				
	BLOEMFONTEIN WELSH CHAMPIONSHIPS	JUDGE M <sup>rs</sup> PENNELL U.K.			
	<u>CHAMPION WELSH PONY</u>				
	SPECIAL AWARDS (WATER JUG) FROM SHOW SOCIETY FOR PONY HAVING DONE THE MOST FOR THE WELSH BREED IN SOUTH AFRICA				
	STALLION OVER 3 YRS OPEN				2 <sup>nd</sup>
	W.A.S. EASTER SHOW. PENNELL	STALLION 16 W/L + UNDER			1 <sup>st</sup>
	LOWVELD SHOW JUDGE LESLEY TAYLOR	BREEDING STALLION - OPEN			1 <sup>st</sup>
1967	W.A.S. EASTER SHOW	PONY STALLION 15 W/L + UNDER			1 <sup>st</sup>
	LOWVELD SHOW M <sup>rs</sup> STUBBS	BREEDING STALLION OPEN			1 <sup>st</sup>
1968	W.A.S. EASTER SHOW M <sup>rs</sup> MOUNTAIN	STALLION 15 W/L + UNDER			2 <sup>nd</sup>
1968	SHOW. WELSH CLASSIC	KIMBERLEY WELSH CHAMPIONSHIPS			
	JUDGE - M <sup>rs</sup> A MOUNTAIN U.K.	STALLION 3 YRS + OVER (U.K.M)			1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>SUPREME CHAMPION WELSH PONY</u>				
	BLOEMFONTEIN WELSH CHAMPIONSHIPS	JUDGE M <sup>rs</sup> MOUNTAIN			
	STALLION 4 YRS + OVER (A.M)				1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>SUPREME CHAMPION WELSH PONY</u>				
	LOWVELD SHOW				
1969	W.A.S. EASTER SHOW	JUDGE M <sup>rs</sup> JENNY LORISTON CLARK			
	STALLION 15 W/L + UNDER				2 <sup>nd</sup>
	LOWVELD SHOW DAVID STUBBS	BREEDING STALLION OPEN (BEND)			1 <sup>st</sup>
1970	NO STALLIONS SHOWN AT W.A.S. OR AT WELSH CHAMPIONSHIPS - KIMBERLEY	UNDER D <sup>s</sup> ARMYN WILLIAMS			
	LOWVELD SHOW TRED LEAS	BREEDING STALLION OPEN (BEND)			3 <sup>rd</sup>
	PRETORIA WELSH CLASSICS	M <sup>rs</sup> STUBBS M <sup>rs</sup> DAVID HUFFAN			
	STALLION 3 YRS + OVER (10 MONTHS)				1 <sup>st</sup>
	<u>RESERVE CHAMPION STALLION</u>				
1971	LOWVELD SHOW - FRED TAYLOR	BREEDING STALLION UNDER 18TH (10 MONTHS)			2 <sup>nd</sup>

The Rand Easter Show in 1962 hosted the Welsh National Championships where Col Hurrell was the judge. Valiant was the Supreme Champion Welsh Pony stallion. (J2012 p21)

He was again Supreme Welsh Pony at the Welsh National Championships held at Bloemfontein in 2014 judged by Mr and Mrs Dorian Williams. (J2014 p17)

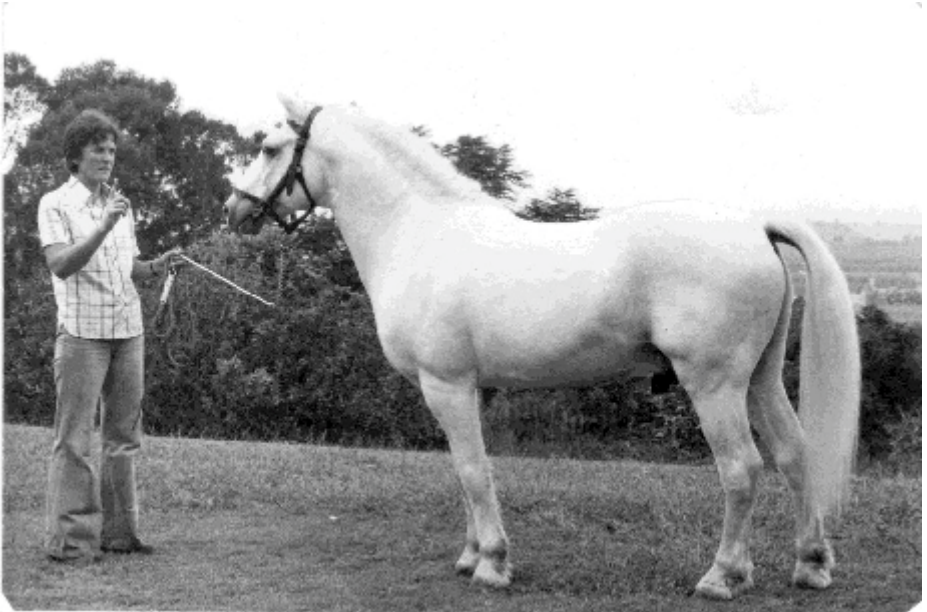
He started (1957) and ended (1971) his showing career in South Africa at the Lowveld Show. The results make interesting reading.



*Valiant in 1958, shortly after his arrival in South Africa*



*With Willy Shabangu, who always showed Valiant magnificently*



*Valiant with Sue Goodman of the Foresight Stud*

My appreciation to Sue Goodman for all the assistance she gave me in being able to study and reproduce the records of the Foresyte Stud.

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## **NOTES ON JUDGING BY COLONEL G T HURRELL**

To the young and enthusiastic who hope to become expert judges, and to the mature, whose duty it is to assist the young, I can do no better than to quote from Mr John Horrocks: 'We must all creep afore we can walk, and all be bitten afore we can bite. But let no ingenious youth despair. If his 'oss is not so good as might be, let him cherish the reflection that he might have been far worse. Let him apply that moral precept as beautifully inculcated towards his better 'alf: *Be to his faults a little blind. Be to his virtues ever kind.*'