

# ATBC Newsletter

November 2011



## ATBC

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This publication is the official Newsletter of the

### Australian Thoroughbred Breeders Club Limited

The Club, which currently has over 200 members, was formed to assist thoroughbred breeders through the presentation of talks, seminars, stud visits and social activities as well as providing incentive schemes and a Stallion Tender Scheme. New members are always welcome and the membership can be arranged by contacting the Club Secretary. Annual membership fees are \$ 50 for a single member or \$ 70 for a joint membership, which includes families, partnerships or corporate bodies

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Wishing All  
a Cool Yule  
and  
a happy and  
prosperous New  
Year

**Production Deadline:** Please note that advertisements and articles must be received by the third Tuesday of Each month to guarantee their appearance in that month's Newsletter

## New Members

This month we welcome Hamish Rogers of Pitt Town and Louise Ellis of Argyle Stud Orange

## Billeting Japanese Students

Di Lanham regularly hosts Japanese agriculture uni students at her property. The deal is that the students stay with you for three nights at \$120 per student per night. The students are required to undertake some 'agricultural' activity during their stay.

A group is coming to the Hawkesbury again at the end of January. Hosts need to pick up the students from the visitors centre at noon on 29th January and drop them off at 8.00 a.m. on February 1st.

Anyone thinking of becoming a host should contact Di on (02) 4579 6451 for further and better particulars

## The Autumn Carnival

Before we join Harahan with a "We'll all be rooned" it should be pointed out that despite the internationalisation of the Melbourne Cup, Australian-bred racehorses more than held their own over the Spring Carnivals of Sydney and Melbourne. Of the 23 Group races held in both cities, 16 were won by Australian bred horses, 4 by New Zealanders and only 3 by Europeans. Of course, one of these was the Melbourne Cup.

Much was made of the failure of Australian breeders to produce stayers, although it is doubtful if much is to be gained by following the breeding theory that led to Dunaden's birth. As Brian Russell has pointed out the French bred Cup winner's "*immediate breeding is modest and leans towards speed rather than as a source of stamina, the first five dams, according to the Australian statistical site Bloodhound, are all non winners, the first three produced nothing of consequence and the other nearest Group1 winner is eight generations away. Also, he appears to be the only stakes winner by his sire, 1997 England foaled Nicobar, and the only one out of a mare by his maternal grandsire Kaldounevees (France)*". Not quite bred in the purple one might say.

It seems hardly surprising that foreign horses come to plunder our riches. A\$ 3.6 million for winning the Melbourne Cup must look pretty tempting when compared to UK prize money. This years the winner of the Ascot Gold Cup, the only open British Group 1 run at longer than one and a half miles, pocketed about A\$ 320,000. Indeed at current exchange rates you earn 50% more for a third in the Melbourne Cup.

I understand that for the sprinting races there are important breeding considerations, but at about A\$270,00 the King Stand Stakes, which we seem able to win quite regularly, hardly balances the prize money ledger.

The TAB turnovers on the Cup was down sharply, by about 14% in most cases. It is difficult to determine why exactly. The economy and the effect of the corporate bookmakers may be a large part of the reason, but there is some question as to whether the Australian Public is as interested in a field dominated by foreign horses, some of whom were being seen at the races for the first time.

Footnote: One punter was happily collecting his winnings on Dunaden. Easy, he claimed, this year it was all about alliteration. Caulfield Cup: **Southern Speed**. Cox Plate: **Pink Panther**. For-

Unfortunately no one told him before the Cup that **Dunaden** was a single word, one less than the minimum required for his alliteration theory. I don't suppose that he minded much.

## Super Saturday for Club Members by Virginia Harvey

Club members John and Trish Muir, and Gavin Burke and Michelle Thuillier mixed it with the best at Sydney's Super Saturday of Racing at Randwick on October 1.

John and Trish Muir race Secret Admirer, the Grahame Begg trained chestnut mare who convincingly took the Group One Epsom Handicap. By former Darley stud shuttle horse Dubawi, Secret Admirer was bred by Darley stud's John Sunderland and wife Mel, and sold as a weanling by them to John Muir's Milburn Creek Thoroughbreds.

The operation, which has recently been relocated from North Richmond to Wildes Meadow in the Southern Highlands, re-offered Secret Admirer at the 2009 Inglis Classic Yearling Sale, however failed to reach expectations and was passed-in by Milburn Creek Thoroughbreds for \$38,000. Just as well for the Muirs, as she is now a highly valuable broodmare and has returned \$840,030 to date!

Another passed-in horse, this time for \$65,000 at the 2008 Inglis Easter II Yearling Sale is Neeson, much to the delight of his breeders and owners Gavin Burke and Michelle Thuillier of Monmarc stud, Maraylya.

Three races prior the Epsom, Gavin Burke, and son Mark, watched Neeson trackside to

easily win the Group Two Premiere Stakes. Michelle was absent from Randwick, and according to Gavin, she gets too nervous to go to the races, and prefers to watch at home.

By Vinery stud's highly successful sire Mossman, Neeson (trained at Warwick Farm by Joe Pride) has won eight races (and has had six placings) from 22 starts for \$634,100.

Congratulations must also go to Sydney owners Viive and Glenn Williams who race brilliant filly Karuta Queen, honoured as the Country Horse Of The Year at a glitzy Darling Harbour Wharf ceremony at the recent Country and Provincial Awards 2010-2011. Trained at Queanbeyan by Neville Layt, Karuta Queen (who won the Heritage Stakes-LR at her previous Sydney start last month), had won the Wyong and Gold Coast Magic Millions races last season. By Arrowfield stud's Redoute's Choice horse Not A Single Doubt, Karuta Queen has won \$1.628 million.



Owner/breeder Gavin Burke of Monmarc Stud, Maraylya with Neeson (and strapper Aaron Colley), after his easy win in the ATC Premiere Stakes



Owners Viive and Glenn Williams (right) with chairman of Racing NSW Alan Bell (left) and Queanbeyan trainer Neville Layt,

## Personal Property Securities Act

I know that most of you return from long days in the paddocks, racecourses and breeding barns and settle down with a cup of cocoa and a copy of the Government Hansard and flick through to see what legislation the pesky polities have been passing to help you in your equine endeavours.

For those of you that don't the following may be of interest.

In February ***The Personal Property Securities Act 2009 (PPSA)*** is expected to come into effect. Not very horsey you might think. Wrong. Personal property includes almost everything except land, fixtures and some specifically excluded property such as water rights. It applies to all horse owners, lessees and trainers, be they syndicates, companies, trusts, partnerships or individuals

The Act sets up a register of security interests. Anyone with a security interest in a horse may register. That interest may arise from ownership or lease of a horse. They may arise from agistment agreements, trainer agreements of greater than 12 months or where on an indefinite basis.

The failure to register may result in the loss of rights as against a third party such as a bank that has registered. The example of a New Zealand case where they have had a PPSA for years gives a chilling warning of the dangers of not registering the interest may be.

In Waller (the liquidator not the trainer) v New Zealand Bloodstock Limited, New Zealand Bloodstock leased a stallion named *Generous* to Glenmorgan Farm for three years, under terms that title at all times remained with New Zealand Bloodstock. A couple of years earlier Glenmorgan Farm granted a debenture over all its present ***and future*** assets to its creditor S. H. Lock (NZ) Limited. Both arrangements were before the commencement of the NZ PPSA. Only the Debenture was subsequently registered.

Glenmorgan defaulted on its lease payments, so New Zealand Bloodstock terminated the lease and re-took possession of *Generous*. Glenmorgan also defaulted on its arrangements with S. H. Lock, which then appointed receivers and claimed priority over *Generous*. Because the owner, New Zealand Bloodstock had not registered its interest, it lost priority and S.H. Lock got *Generous* and pocked the \$2 million sale proceeds.

There are many more learned pieces on this subject available on the net and I suggest a Google of PPSA + Thoroughbreds. RISA will publish material and are considering arranging seminars. To express interest you can [email pps@risa.com.au](mailto:pps@risa.com.au)

## Melbourne Cup Calcutta

The Club held another highly successful Melbourne Cup Calcutta at the Hawkesbury this year. These events have been so much fun largely due to the generosity of the Hawkesbury Race Club in letting us use their premises, the antics (dare I call them antics?) of auctioneer Wayne Boyd, the technical input of Chris Lawlor, the accounting skills of Brian and Flo Bresnahan and drink delivery skills of barmaids Ethne Potowski and Barbara Robinson. A warm thanks to all.

There is a rumour that the Lawlors are threatening to descend on Flemington next year to watch the race live and so there might be an opportunity for someone to step up to the plate and take over the role of Spruiker/ Keeper of Order next year. I wonder if Harry Jenkins might be available?

And the winner were...

- 1st Peter Marsh  
Peter Marsh  
Lynda Barton  
Joss Flicker
- 2nd John Holloman  
Lachlan Lawler  
Lyndsa Barton  
Heather Robbiliard & Virginia Harvey
- 3rd Joss Flicker  
Wayne Boyd  
Geoff Timmony  
Tiffany Lawlor



## Nursery News

Colleen Goth has sent a couple of photos of her new babies. She writes in respect to a third, a colt, Prince from Craigend Rose by Presence by Rubiton, that

*"...he has two whorls on his forehead - one is between the eyes that is quite common in horses. But the other is the whorl of the browband - it sits in the middle of the ears where a browband might sit.*

*According to my book on the Byerley Turk, in Turkish lore this browband whirl means that the horse will be fast.*

*As you know the Presence - Rubiton- Better Boy line goes back to the first thoroughbred, the Byerley Turk. The Byerley Turk (named Azarax, the Son of Fire according to the book - which though written as a novel is based on ten years of serious research) also had the browband whorl and also an upward whorl on his flank which meant that he would come through battles unscathed - which is something that Azarax did in both the battle of Budapest and the battle of the Boyne in Ireland where he had a cult-like following in his cavalry unit. (I have not checked Prince for this whorl yet though it might come in handy when he gallops into the fray of an Australian*



Colleen's colt by Botswana out of her mare Tidlywink, by Commands at one month He was born 30 August, and is named Leo for obvious reasons

Group One race!)

This book - **The Byerley Turk, The True Story of the First Thoroughbred by Jeremy James** is a wonderful read and I am looking forward to the film. Actually the story of the writing of the book would make a film itself as James travelled the breadth of Turkey and Europe on a Turkamene-line stallion that he found in some obscure market town on the Anatolian plain.

Presence is one of the only living stallion links back to this remarkable horse of history. Another was the recently deceased Indian Ridge, sire of Dunaden, the Melbourne Cup winner.

Hope you all find this as fascinating as I obviously do. Of course, Craigend Rose is the ultimate omen horse herself - discovered on Turnbull Stakes day - the race we jokingly say is named after Presence's owner James Turnbull, then 'gifted' to me which was a great surprise - as was finding out that Presence is out of a mare called Avid Gift. And then the Shergar connection - and yes, little Prince has that same tongue hanging out the side of his little mouth when he is concentrating.

Where would we all be without omens, stories and gifts from history? I will try to get some more recent photographs to you all."



Colleen's filly Honor Bright out of Rafeiki Fox (Rancho Classic - Maneroo Fox Whiskey) by Honor in War. She was born 17 November.

**Where on earth did Julia get the idea from?**



**Jennifer Churchill** accepts **Hot 'n' Breezy's** Broodmare of the Year Award from Arrowfield's **John Messara** at our AGM . Don't know what the other pair are up to, but it looks hot and breezy too.

## Club Badges

We have a number of enamel badges showing the emblem of the club. Anyone who wishes one of these exclusive fashion accessories need only inform the Club and we shall arrange to have one dispatched to you forthwith.



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Tour Leader is Virginia Harvey (The Land's 21 year Thoroughbred specialist).

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