

Issue Four 2011

SPORTALOOSA

Quarterly



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Oregon Park Aristokat

CONGRATULATES

Sportaloosa 1-71

AAA #59764

Kerrinna Havin A Katnap

South Aust State Champ
weanling gelding 2011



Kerrinna Kats Frosty Moon

2011 nationals

3rd Stallion/colt Hunter In Hand

3rd yearling colt futurity

4th yearling versatility led hack

6th 2yrs & Under Hunter in Hand
futurity



Oregon Park Sophie Stekat

•17 halter points

•9 performance points

•PCQHA Hi-Point Halter Horse
2009/10



Kerrinna Appaloosas- Horsham

Phone karen Fischer 0353 844 207

Email ckfish@wimmera.com.au



Showing off to the public!

In the past month, we've promoted Sportaloosas to 57,000 + people in Australia and New Zealand, so we're a little bit tired!

With 45,000 people through the gate at Equitana and 12,600 at Equidays (NZ's first equivalent to Equitana), we were rapt at the response our respective Sportaloosa displays received.

This was our fourth time exhibiting in Australia and our first in NZ and we reckon when members of the horsey public run up after displays asking where they can buy one of these horses, we've done an ok job!

We are very grateful to Rebecca McDonald in Australia and Elizabeth Prentice, Wilma Davis and Dave Adkins in New Zealand for their help and of course to stallion owners for everywhere for supporting our promotional efforts. We couldn't do it without you and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We have a very, very special thank you to Sheila Archer (Canada) and Rebecca Bellone (USA) of the Appaloosa Project for their participation in pre-recorded seminars for Equidays.

These must-see seminars were designed to help spotted horse breeders to stack the odds of colour in their favour and are a goldmine of information. There's no better information available anywhere on appaloosa colour and these seminars will be available to Sportaloosa members as an extra bonus very soon.

As more people and horses join the Sportaloosa registry, we'd like to encourage each and every one to go for the various awards we have on offer. Whether you're competing or trekking, breeding or selling, we offer awesome value.

Please don't hesitate to contact us to ask for more information if you're not sure how to get yourself in the running for our awards and competitions; we'd love to hear from you.

Until next time
Petra and Samantha

Cover photo - Palousa San Sebastian, Sportaloosa High Achiever
We always need great photos; please email to petra@sportaloosa.com or post to one of the addresses above. Thank you.

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Inside

The incredible spotted endurance horse	7
Sportaloosa successes	9
The spotted horse in Europe, with Patricia Fallows	11-14
Spots on show at Equitana	17-18
And more spots at Equidays	20
Horse agility	22
Third high achiever for the year	24
LP - an ancient gene	27-28
Welcome to new members	31
Stud prefixes	31
A Colleen Kelly article	35
Let's Ride achievements - first member to 500 hours!	36
Believe it or not, by Maurice Potter	40

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2012 Sportaloosa Calendar



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Our awesome calendars are becoming collectors items, get yours now!

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CA Entourage - colt by Something Jazzy from First Audition
- winner of the 2009 Sportaloosa Video Foal Futurity



Bones The Wizard – the incredible spotted endurance horse

With Cora Becker

On Sunday 12th June, Oz Endurance hosted the AI Reef and Endurance Festival, of which the main event was the 160km FEI*** Australian National Championships. The ride was run at Toorbul, Queensland, and the tracks were through the expansive pineforests.

Due to heavy overnight rain, the footing deteriorated from ideal to slippery, boggy and at times downright treacherous. The competition comprised of Australia's best horses and riders, many from interstate. I entered on a long shot, although I knew my horse had great talent, he had never attempted 160km before.

As the day unfolded, and the first legs were behind us, I found we were maintaining a reasonable position. Because I have only my husband Laurie to help with strapping, we would slip a few minutes behind before being ready to present to the vets, and stop the clock on my ride time. Out on track for the next leg, I would eventually catch the lead, and finish with them again. The ride consisted of six legs.

It was during the final two legs that Boney started to show his incredible form. Amazingly, after running a steady pace for 120km, he was then able to pick up. He began to want to pass other horses and felt a pride in his ability. There were about seven horses which held a level lead throughout most of the ride, but the final hold time separated them considerably. Some horses did not get their pulse below the required 64bpm quickly enough.

We left on the final 17km leg in third place, several minutes behind the lead. Boney ran out strongly and felt fantastic, so I had to give it a go. We caught up at about half way around, were still going strong, he happy to pass the other two horses, maintain his lead and come home in first place.

We vetted through with great scores for metabolics and gait, and with a well recovered heartrate of 52bpm. Our average speed for that last leg was 27.6kph. The ride was won in 8h46m34s.

The story of Boney begins when I was working on a property, where I was required to make some order of an unruly mob of horses. One of these was a spotty mare, with which I formed a strong bond. She had been bred over the fence, when her stockhorse dam lived in a paddock adjoining an appaloosa stud.

The result was a fiery filly they called Yarraman, with spectacularly colourful markings, and she is Boney's dam.

I bred an anglo colt during this time. His name is Obi Rain Dance, and he became a very successful endurance horse for me. Before he was gelded, I bred him to a handful of mares. Bones the Wizard was the third of these four.

He was born in the unusual month of April, 2002.

I became interested in the sport of endurance because I saw it as a challenge in horsemanship. Not only is skill as a rider tested, but also the partnership on many levels. The horse is asked to give his utmost, and so the rider must be acutely aware of how the horse is faring (soundness, hydration, metabolic and in spirit).

It goes even further than that for me, since I breed my horses, break them in and do all their training. I also have an interest in farriery, I always do my own shoeing, and endurance racing is most certainly a test of that skill.

I have worked with horses in many different fields, but what has always awed me most about them is their ability to cover distance so effortlessly. It is pure magic to race through the countryside with the most splendid of creatures.

Spotted horses have great appeal. They are renowned for their inherent toughness, speed and unique character. They have been successful at endurance for many people. I have owned four Sportaloosas, each of which was admirable for the qualities I mentioned.

Bones the Wizard has been the first I have campaigned at the highest level. He has been run to win on three occasions, and was the fastest horse each time.



MOONSHADOW

Registered Sportaloosa pony stallion
Sportaloosa Pony Studbook Two # 216

Sire Elder Moonbug (Palouse)
Dam Limelight (Palouse)

This eye catching Palouse Pony stallion
has a temperament to die for and he
passes it on to his foals.

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CONTACT

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Phone 06 752 4039

Email stonydowns@clear.net.nz

Sportaloosa successes

Sportaloosa success at Colourama 2011

Eldorado L'il Miss Henry and her daughter Little Miss Leuwin (both owned by Leane Williams) did the Sportaloosas proud at Colourama this year.

Miss Henry took out Senior Sportaloosa mare with Leane Williams.

Miss Leuwin, handled by Ben O'Sullivan won Junior Sportaloosa mare and supreme Sportaloosa exhibit AND then supreme Appaloosa exhibit against very stiff competition!

She then competed under saddle for the first time ever, ridden by Ben and taking away champion ridden Sportaloosa mare, supreme champion ridden Sportaloosa AND then repeated this feat in the Appaloosa classes!

Also competing was Helena Shanal's Successful Strides Fine Print, who won the Sportaloosa filly class and took reserve champion mare.

Kerrinna Haven A Katnap

Champion gelding at the Murray River Western Performance Club A class show 29/10/11, Kerrinna Haven A Katnap, photographed here with Karen Fisher and judge Brenda Meinhold.

'Harvey' also won yearling lunge line.

Photographer Ev Lagoon



Eldorado L'il Miss Henry



Little Miss Leuwin



Kerrinna Haven A Katnap

Pine Row Dat's A Goer

Johnny and Carolyn Kitchener at the Huon Agricultural show winning Hack and Show hunter classes and res champion Show Hunter.

The week before at the Brighton ag show he won the the ASCOT championship for small show hunter hack.

Cayuse Walkin N Talkin

Tex and Carolyn Kitchener winning Supreme Warmblood at the 2011 Royal Hobart Show.

A week later at the Brighton Agricultural Show, he again won Champion Warmblood and res Champion Appaloosa!

Oregon Park Iftheshufits

Oregon Park Iftheshufits (Lily) placed 3rd in her 2 years and under halter class at Melbourne Regional Appaloosa Clubs' Show at Tatura on 19/11/2011 with Lauren Vearing.

The next day she placed 1st of 3 with Ev Lagoon showing (rarely seen on this side of the camera!)

Photo by Nicole Wilson, ACE Photography



Pine Row Dat's A Goer



Cayuse Walkin N Talkin



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The spotted horse in Europe

A Sportaloosa special interview with Patricia Fallows

Sportaloosa: The spotted horse nowadays seems to be confined to the Appaloosa in peoples minds, originating in the USA?

Patricia Fallows: Nowadays the biggest population of spotted horses as a breed is found in the U.S. indeed being the American Appaloosa.

Nevertheless, there are several horse and pony breeds showing the leopard pattern. Although there is no scientific proof there are many different historical hints that the American Appaloosa has its roots in spotted horses of the old Spanish breeds thus being the same roots of nearly all European spotted breeds existing nowadays.

It is not certain where these "Spanish Spotties" got their colour from. Either this colour was in Europe for some 20,000 years already (as found in cave paintings) or this type of colour was brought to Europe by Mongolian and Altai ponies having their origin in Asia.

In Europe there are several spotted breeds - just to mention a few:

- Knabstrupper
- Dutch Appaloosa (NAS)
- British Appaloosa
- British Spotted Pony
- German Tiger Horse
- European Tiger Horse
- Polish Spotted Warmblood

Sportaloosa: Most students of the spotted horse realise that they were very prominent in Europe in past centuries.

PF: The spotted horse in the baroque times was much adored by the aristocracy, showing wealth and utmost decadence. A real status symbol. And indeed a spotted horse of superb colour was worth its weight in gold.



Sportaloosa: Nowadays what is the position of the spotted horse in Europe?

PF: Coloured horses are becoming more popular, again. But there are differences regarding acceptance. For example whilst in the U.K. coloured horses were always traditionally part of the landscape there still is a strong aversion in German riding competition sectors.

I strongly believe that this is soon to change as a few internationally successful riders recently introduced some spotted horses. On the other hand in Germany horse riding is a sport everyone can afford and if it comes to leisure riding there are many riders that put their main focus on a healthy and reliable horse with a good and easy character.

As to these riders an unusual colour often is an icing on the cake giving some kind of individual statement. Riding and the view of riders on how to work with their horse as a partner changed a lot in the last few years.

Sportaloosa: Is the popularity of spotted horses increasing or declining?

PF: When it comes to breeding you will find that spotted horses are increasing in popularity. Besides more and more people not only accepting the colour, but searching for individual or rare colours in horses, I personally think that nowadays breeders put much more weight on quality of a horse than on its colour only.



Some twenty/thirty years ago most of the coloured horses offered were of awful conformation. Many of them came without a pedigree. This has changed a lot and there are many positive breeding results especially in some coloured breeds. Generally there is an increasing demand for rare breeds that are known for a reliable and friendly character and a versatile behaviour.

Sportaloosa: what are they used for today in Europe compared to in the past?

PF: Speaking for Germany in the past spotted horses were rarely seen. Their number increased steadily within the last 30 years. Nowadays spotted horses are used in every riding style. And a "new" riding trend set up during the last 10 to 15 years: the baroque riding.

Sportaloosa: Which country would have the most spotted horses and why?

PF: This question is hard to answer indeed. My personal guess is that in Europe most of the spotted horses and ponies can be found in the U.K. When it comes to spotted breeds I think most of the spotted horses and ponies can be found in Germany.

Sportaloosa: Please tell us about your stud and position concerning the Knabstrupper

PF: The Knabstrupper Stud "of Independence" is a small and private stud located near Hamburg in Northern Germany. Our aim is to breed Knabstruppers purely, but of classical modern type.

Our goal is to breed Knabstruppers of a size 16 - 16.1 hh that are able to perform in all disciplines requested nowadays. On the other hand we are aware of our duty to preserve this breed and its bloodlines.



The Knabstrupper is a rare breed and its blood is very precious. Especially in Germany, having the highest population of this breed worldwide, most of the Knabstrupper breeders believe in pure breeding programs. They are on a very good way. Present numbers show that every second Knabstrupper foal is awarded with a foal premium nowadays.

As to Knabstruppers of Independence here are some examples of our breeding program:

Hussar of Independence, Champion Stallion ZfdP Spring Grading 2006, also awarded Verbandspremium as well as Best Stallion with ZfdP Branding as well as Best Knabstrupper Stallion. Born 3 May 2003, black based snow cap, withers height 164 cms. Located in Germany, frozen semen available worldwide.

Sire: Norkrons Harlequin

Dam: Elite and Verbandspremium Catherin of Independence
7/8 pure bred in 3rd generation.

All of his foals were coloured, all of his foals received high foal premiums, some of the became Best Youngstock, Best in Show, Best Foal, Champion Foal, etc.

Helios of Independence, graded by RPSI, USA in 2007 with average 8 scores. Winner of the Knabstrupper Performance Test in the US. Born 2004, full bay leopard, withers height 166 cms
Located in the U.S.

Sire: Norkrons Harlequin

Dam: Elite and Verbandspremium Catherin of Independence
7/8 pure bred in 3rd generation.

Pendragon of Independence, Reserve Champion Stallion ZfdP Spring Grading 2008, also awarded Verbandspremium as well as Best Stallion with ZfdP Branding as well as Best Knabstrupper Stallion. Born 15 May 2005, full black leopard, withers height 163 cms
Located in Germany; presently located in the U.K. for the season 2012 and competing.

Sire: Verbandspremium Pegasus vom Niehaus-Hof (also KNN premium awarded)

Dam: Elite and Verbandspremium Catherin of Independence





8/8 pure bred in 3rd generation, 13/16 pure bred in 4th generation.

Edalar of Independence, Verbandspremium awarded Equus International stallion grading 2007. Born 2004, solid bay, withers height 163 cms. Located in Germany
Sire: Harlequins Earl

Dam: Cedar of Independence

8/8 pure bred in 3rd generation, 14/16 pure bred in 4th generation.
Competing in endurance.

Sportaloosa: Please tell us about the different types of Knabstruppers?

PF: As to Knabstruppers the word "pure" does not refer to a type of horse, but to its breeding status. A pure bred Knabstrupper has to have a pedigree showing at least 6 of 8 ancestors in the third generation being Knabstruppers.

The Knabstrupper horse comes in three different types nowadays:

- the baroque horse type
- the classical horse type
- the modern type (sporthorse type)

The baroque type should show the following characteristics:

The head: desirable is an expressive, strong head with a big, calm eye and a slightly convex nose line. Non-desirable is a non-expressive head too small compared to the body and a concav noseline; small covered eyes.

The neck: desirable is a strong, well muscled neck with a crest and relatively highly set up showing space for check of jaws. Non-desirable is a short, low set and non-muscular neck showing insufficient set up and a heavy bridle path.

Body: desirable is a square shaped to long square shaped body; a long and slope shoulder, a wide and deep chest; a fairly well built saddle area; the back should not be too long; a well muscled and round croup with a tail not set too high.

Non-desirable is a high square or a rectangular shaped body; a small and steep shoulder; a narrow chest; a long unclosed back; a straight short croup with a tail set too high.

Foundation: desirable is a fitting solid foundation with correct, big joints and correct setting of the limbs; medium long pasterns; correctly formed, hard hooves.

Undesirable are incorrect limbs badly set; small, narrow joints; too short or too long, weak pasterns; too small hooves.

Movement: desirable are movements safe in tact; elevated and mechanically a bit knee high. Un-desirable are flat, tightened, unelastic or clumsily movements lacking of tact.

The modern type should be very similar to the type of a modern sporthorse. The classical type is a combination or mix of the baroque and the modern type. Often there are tendencies to either the baroque or the modern type.

Sportaloosa: What attracted you to the Knabstrupper?

PF: Every Knabstrupper is a real personality. The breed is very versatile and trainable. Or to say it with Bent Branderup: A cat will look down on you, a dog will look up to you, a Knabstrupper will look straight into your eye.

Sportaloosa: What do you see as the best/worst qualities of the breed?

PF: Knabstruppers are intelligent horses. They are very willing and trainable. They love to learn and they love to perform. They have a very positive working attitude and always want to please the rider. Especially when working young Knabstruppers you have to be careful not to overdo it not to break their spirit.

Sportaloosa: And your ideas to promote the spotted horse?

PF: Knabstruppers are allrounders. They are found competing in dressage, show jumping, eventing, endurance.

They are also excellent para-riding horses; especially the baroque type is highly regarded as a therapeutical riding horse and as a horse for high schooling above ground.

Also due to the trainability Knabstruppers are used in circus or as show horses.

It is a pity that Knabstruppers are often shown and compared to sporthorse standards. It would be great to see them shown to public in all the other disciplines mentioned above more often.

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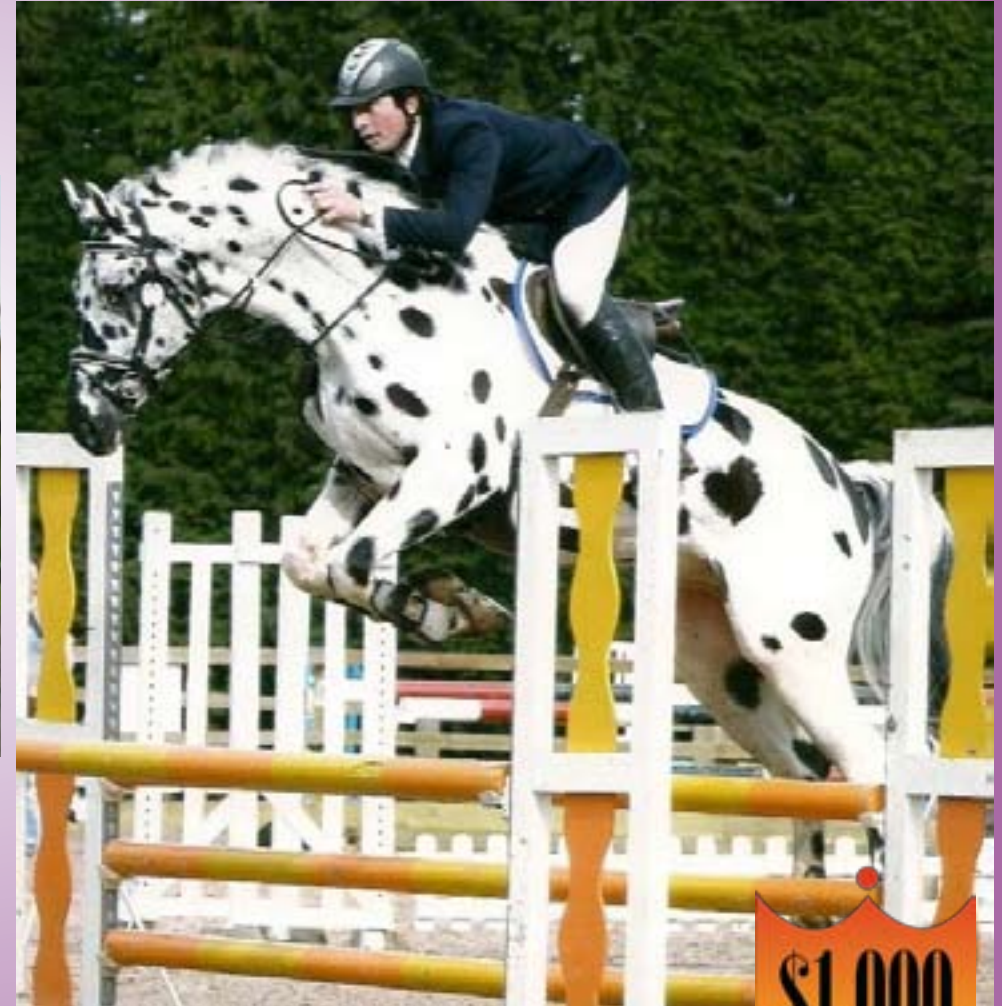


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Spots on show at Equitana

Equitana stress syndrome is now a new condition!! As they say, if it can go wrong before a big event it will, but thankfully it all worked out at the very last moment!

New posters and stable banners came from the printers looking super, calendars, stubby holders, fridge magnets, halters, shirts, rugs and feedbags all were spot on too. T-shirts and extra halters missed the mail but were sitting here waiting for us when we returned!

With our seasoned Sportaloosa ambassador Cayuse A Grand Illusion now in his new home it meant a hard decision whether to take the young stallion Loris Flashpoint Af Lyn (Alf) in the middle of breeding season with limited rides under saddle and never actually having been anywhere public.

The thought of being locked up in a small stable for four days when used to running free in a large paddock daily was also daunting. But with so many people wanting to see him we decided to take the chance and loaded him up, squashed beside a pile of gear and products for the exhibition.

Thankfully we could break the long trip to Sydney at the Heath Harris Entertainments stables. A lot of the trick riding stars were there practicing before their big show at Equitana, which was awesome to watch. Oh to be young, fearless and super fit again!

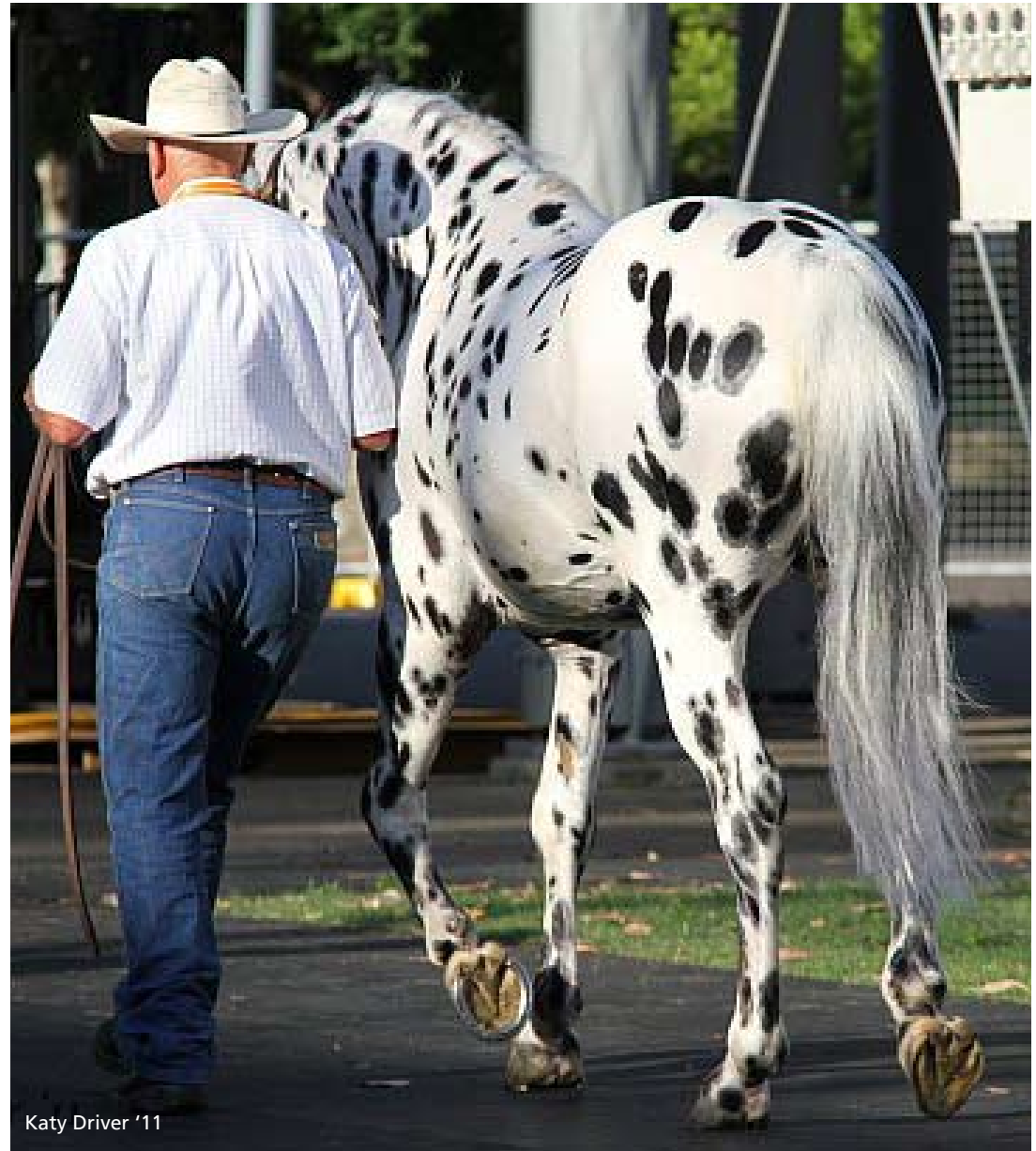
Alf entertained them with his antics in the arena! Luckily we Bushys could follow Krissy Harris to the Sydney showgrounds the next day which meant we arrived hassle free without getting lost.

Compared to Melbourne, the Sydney showgrounds, although new, aren't very horse friendly with acres of tar and cement and a very crowded venue to unload and load gear again. It also took until the next day to find a suitable exercise arena so Alf could let off some steam! Luckily the weather was good with just a small shower the first morning early, which meant a quick rearranging of some of the precious paperwork.

Forty five thousand people came through the gates, so it was a full on four days, with breed parades daily and two mounted displays in a small indoor arena. We were overwhelmed by the interest in the Sportaloosa horse with a lot of people excited about a coloured horse being promoted so well.

Four lucky people happily walked away with the daily give-away special sportaloosa shopping bag packed with goodies. The feedbags with the sportaloosa logo were popular too especially the blueones that sold out day one. There were people from all over Australia, New Zealand and other parts of the world. Several Danish visitors were pleased and surprised to see the Knabstrupper stallion.

Many thanks to member Rebecca McDonald for all her hard work helping during the weekend. It was wonderful to meet members from all over who stopped by for a visit and a cuppa over the days. As usual we went home nearly hoarse from answering all the questions and chatting about the spotted horse.



Katy Driver '11

Alf turned out to be a shining example for the Knabstrupper temperament. Apart from the first morning when he thought being in the stable in the daytime meant he was going to breed a mare and one was over behind his stable, he settled well and took all the new sights and sounds in his stride even being ridden in the scary arena like an old pro!

On the second day he starred in Horsetalk TV's interview. Actually he, not us, was interviewed by Trisha McCagh a world famous animal whisperer! We were a bit worried he might tell some home truths but apparently he told her about his baby years in Germany and how he didn't like the high pitched noises at the showgrounds and how he needed to be treated like a king!! Watch for that interview on the TV.



He caused quite a stir with the many visitors as a lot of people had never seen a horse of his colour and type before. So he had a million pats and photos taken and loved every minute.

Talking of photos I'm indebted to Katy Driver for stepping in and taking photos for me as my camera battery went dead after my first photo!!

Alf also had to learn to eat apples as although he had hoped for carrots, everyone turned up and offered apples.

He loves them now and hopes he can be selected to be taken to Equitana 2012 in Melbourne. See you there!



Nnamtrah Appaloosas/Sportaloosas

Nnamtrah Prince's Tattoo

Kaywana Prince Halfway x Pasadena Spotlight



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2011

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And more spots at Equidays

When we learned that NZ was to host its very first Equitana style event, we were in with bells on! At first, it seemed the event would be held in alternate years to Equitana but then, Equitana became an annual event and was scheduled to happen the week before Equidays so kiwi Sportaloosa was on her own. Nothing like a bit of pressure!

In true Sportaloosa style, we decided to tackle an extra ambitious project, to bring precious information to keen Sportaloosa breeders attending the event.

The result is a spectacular seminar series delivered by Sheila Archer and Rebecca Bellone of the Appaloosa Project. Its theme (of course) is stacking the odds of colour in your favour and the series has produced incredibly well and played to fascinated breeders amidst the hustle and bustle of the event.

We've not forgotten about those who couldn't make it though.... more on that when we've had a chance to draw breath!

The stylish gelding Commanche Warrior (Daniel) made the big trip up from Wanganui accompanied by his owner Wilma Davis and Elizabeth Prentice; huge thanks to both of them for an enormous effort and so much help during the event. Thanks also to Dave Adkins for helping on the stand and manning the fort while we were busy in the breed parades.

Daniel was a great hit with the crowd, always coming over to chat to every visitor to the stand and we couldn't have asked for a better ambassador. He was cool and calm in the daily breed parade and his height, frame and coat pattern made him a crowd favourite!

Over 12,600 came through the gates, which was an outstanding turnout for this first event and we talked up a storm on each of the 3 days. It was wonderful to be able to put faces to names of Sportaloosa members and to meet so many people who own and ride spotted horses. We couldn't believe how many there were!

Equidays was such a hit with visitors and exhibitors alike that it's set to return in 2012, see you then!



Ace High Appaloosa Stud presents

Mighty Windsong

Mighty Windsong is a black roan, snowcap blanketed Appaloosa stallion. Athletic and active with very quick responses, he is the ideal sire of performance Appaloosas.

At 14.3hh he is a superb cross with Thoroughbred mares for added height, while retaining the athletic ability and fabulous temperament he shows in abundance.

A multi-champion at halter, Mighty Windsong's conformation, presence, versatility and teachable temperament are just what you're looking for in a stallion.

His colour producing ability is an added bonus.

An information pack, including a service contract, is available on request, and his service fee is just \$360 plus GST. Live foal guarantee.



For more information, contact
Dave and Jean Gant

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Horse Agility

We all know how much fun people have training their dogs for agility and how marvellous they look performing, so now you and your horse can do it too!



Horse Agility is perhaps one of the fastest growing new horse sports in the world and could be coming to a show near you soon.

This is a great spectator sport also especially at the higher levels when the horse is entirely at liberty and is a timed event.

All horses, ponies and even donkeys benefit from this discipline. Because it is an unmounted sport all ages of both human and equines can participate as long as they have reasonable fitness levels. Its great for people who can't or don't want to ride, giving everyone the opportunity to train and compete without having to ride or spend long hours preparing for show classes.

The people do the training, the horse does most of the physical work. It's a marvellous way to keep your horse from getting bored as it encourages them to use their minds constructively, they understand the purpose of what and why they are doing the obstacles. It also develops a deeper bond and confidence between horse and handler.

In competitions there are different levels so you are always learning and developing new training skills. Also a great way to meet like minded people, and a great new sport for existing horse clubs to bring into their programmes both for competition and training.

The FIHAC (Federation of International Horse Agility Clubs) was set up to ensure the core values of Horse Agility were maintained and upheld worldwide and that the horse is treated in a humane and ethically sound way throughout its training. The aim of the horse agility training is that the horse has a choice whether it completes the obstacle or not by making the ultimate aim of any participant to turn the horse loose to complete each obstacle at liberty.

By joining the International Horse Agility Assoc you can also compete by video from the comfort of your own paddock at the various levels each month. Both Australia and New Zealand have clubs formed now. Find their websites with an easy google search.

The competition course is made up of ten obstacles, the horse has a normal halter on with no chains and a lead rope not less than ten foot long. Safety of both horse and handler is paramount; horses can wear boots and the handler should wear a hard hat.

At present there are five levels of competition and horses are divided into heights. The lead rope is loose and the handler maintains the position in front of the shoulder throughout. Obstacles vary at the different levels but can include seesaws, passing through a curtain, back over and trot over poles, bridges, weaving, tunnels, jump through hoops, step up on pedestal, climb overs etc, plus obedience test through the paces at different speeds.

Horse Agility could add that revitalising spark to get people back to some of the boring horse shows around. Sportaloosas are the natural partner with their sensible trainable natures and spectacular good looks, they're the crowd's favourite to watch.



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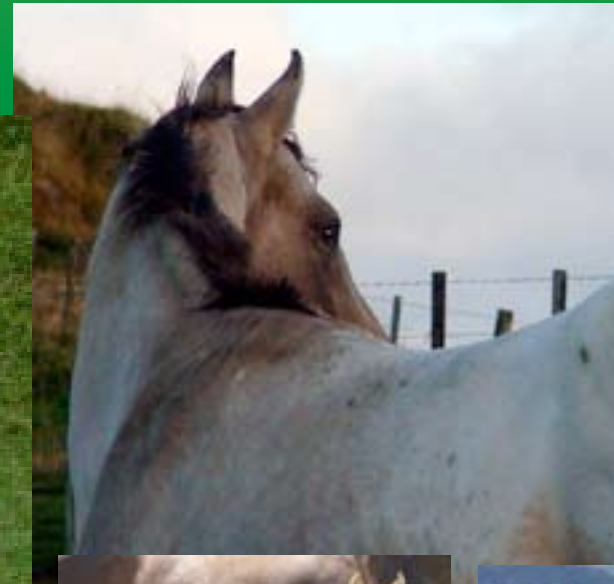
Mighty Gay Bar GG (USA) by Mighty Bright (Hall of Fame)

Cayuse Mighty Enchanting

Cayuse Mighty Bobsong x Mighty Storm Song (USA)



Photo at 3 years by
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HIGH ACHIEVER *Palousa San Sebastian*



Although only back in training for just over 2 weeks after being quarantined for semen collection, 'Seb' tackled his first show at the beginning of July, after being out of action for nearly 2 months.

With Andrew Williams, a young (but experienced) showjumper from Cornwall in the UK, in the saddle, they they won on two consecutive days a second and a first place.

Three weeks later they had another second place, and following two more placings in big attended classes, all double clears. Very recently 'Seb' moved up a class and they won again with a double clear at 1.20m.

Be the next high achiever

If you and your registered Sportaloosa are out competing in open company, make sure you send us your points forms, completed and signed by a show official and note any performance that should be considered for the High Achiever Award.

Download the points form at www.sportaloosa.com/forms/Record-Points.pdf

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EXHIBITOR'S REPORT

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Club: _____

Competition Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

Result: _____

Points: _____

Comments: _____

Signature: _____

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Multi-champion colt at halter
Photo at 27 months by Ev Lagoon

LV Lane Frost

LP - an ancient gene

Article courtesy horsetalk.co.nz, published 8 Nov 2011, reprinted with permission.

Ancient DNA has shed new light on the realism of horses shown in prehistoric cave paintings dating back 25,000 years.

An international team of researchers has found that all the colour variations seen in Paleolithic cave paintings - including distinctive leopard spotting, was present in horse populations before they were domesticated.

The DNA findings lend weight to the argument that the artists were reflecting their natural environment and were not painting abstract or symbolic works about their surroundings.

The study, published on 8 November 2011 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, is also the first to produce evidence for white spotted phenotypes in pre-domestic horses. Previous ancient DNA studies have produced evidence for only bay and black horses.

Archaeologists have long debated whether works of art from the Paleolithic period, particularly cave paintings, are reflections of the natural environment or have deeper abstract or symbolic meanings.

This is particularly true of the cave painting "The Dappled Horses of Pech-Merle" in France, which dates back more than 25,000 years and clearly depicts white horses with dark spots. The dappled horses' spotted coat pattern bears a strong resemblance to a pattern known as "leopard" in modern horses.

However, as some researchers believed a spotted coat phenotype unlikely at this time, pre-historians have often argued for more complex explanations, suggesting the spotted pattern was in some way symbolic or abstract.

Researchers from Britain, Germany, the United States, Spain, Russia and Mexico, genotyped and analysed nine coat-colour gene locations in 31 pre-domestic horses dating back as far as 35,000 years ago from Siberia, Eastern and Western Europe and the Iberian Peninsula. This involved analysing bones and teeth specimens from 15 locations.



They found that four Pleistocene and two Copper Age samples from Western and Eastern Europe shared a gene associated with leopard spotting, providing the first evidence that spotted horses existed at this time. In addition, 18 horses had a bay coat colour and seven were black, meaning that all colour phenotypes distinguishable in cave paintings - bay, black and spotted - existed in pre-domestic horse populations.

"Our results suggest that, at least for wild horses, Paleolithic cave paintings, including the remarkable depictions of spotted horses, were closely rooted in the real-life appearance of animals," said Professor Michi Hofreiter, from the Department of Biology at the University of York in Britain.

"While previous DNA studies have produced evidence for bay and black horses, our study has demonstrated that the leopard complex spotting phenotype was also already present in ancient horses and was accurately depicted by their human contemporaries nearly 25,000 years ago.

"Our findings lend support to hypotheses that argue that cave paintings constitute reflections of the natural environment of humans at the time



and may contain less of a symbolic or transcendental connotation than often assumed."

The data and laboratory work were led by Dr Melanie Pruvost, from the Department of Evolutionary Genetics at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research and the Department of Natural Sciences at the German Archaeological Institute, both in Berlin. The results were replicated in laboratories at the University of York.

Pruvost said: "We are just starting to have the genetic tools to access the appearance of past animals and there are still a lot of question marks and phenotypes for which the genetic process has not yet been described.

"However, we can already see that this kind of study will greatly improve our knowledge about the past.

"Knowing that leopard spotting horses were present during the Pleistocene in Europe provides new arguments or insights for archaeologists to interpret cave arts."

Dr Arne Ludwig, from the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research in Berlin, added: "Although taken as a whole, images of horses are often quite rudimentary in their execution, some detailed representations, from both Western Europe and the Ural mountains, are realistic enough to at least potentially represent the actual appearance of the animals when alive.

"In these cases, attributes of coat colours may also have been depicted with deliberate naturalism, emphasising colours or patterns that characterised contemporary horses." Exact numbers of Upper Paleolithic sites with animal depictions are uncertain because of ongoing debates about the taxonomic identification of some images and dating.

However, art of this period has been identified in at least 40 sites in the Dordogne-Périgord region, a similar number in coastal Cantabria and around a dozen sites in both the Ardèche and Ariège regions. Where animal species can be confidently identified, horses are depicted at the majority of these sites.

Professor Terry O'Connor from the University of York's Department of Archaeology was involved in the interpretation of the results. "Representations

of animals from the Paleolithic period have the potential to provide first-hand insights into the physical environment that humans encountered thousands of years ago," he said.

"However, the motivation behind, and therefore the degree of realism in these depictions is hotly debated. The depictions of horses at Pech-Merle in particular have generated a great deal of debate. The spotted horses are featured in a frieze which includes hand outlines and abstract patterns of spots.

"The juxtaposition of elements has raised the question of whether the spotted pattern is in some way symbolic or abstract, especially since many researchers considered a spotted coat phenotype unlikely for Paleolithic horses.

"However, our research removes the need for any symbolic explanation of the horses. People drew what they saw, and that gives us greater confidence in understanding Paleolithic depictions of other species as naturalistic illustrations."

Leopard complex spotting in modern horses is characterised by white spotting patterns that range from horses having a few white spots on the rump to horses that are almost completely white. The white area of these horses can also have pigmented oval spots known as "leopard spots".

Dr Monika Reissmann, from Humboldt University's Department for Crop and Animal Sciences, explained: "This phenotype was in great demand during the Baroque Age. But in the following centuries the leopard complex phenotype went out of fashion and became very rare.

"Today, leopard complex is a popular phenotype in several horse breeds including Knabstrupper, Appaloosa and Noriker and breeding efforts have intensified again because there is a growing interest in the restoration of these horses."

The fact that four out of 10 of the Western European horses from the Pleistocene had a genotype indicative of the leopard complex phenotype suggests that this phenotype was not rare in Western Europe during this period.

However, bay seems to have been the most common colour phenotype in pre-domestic times with 18 out of the 31 samples having bay genotypes. This is also the most commonly painted phenotype in the Paleolithic period.

Cayuse

Blizzard-O-Lena

Ric O'Lena x Cayuse Skip N On Ice by Skip's Supreme



N/N for HYPP, Herda & PSSM1

Ice's pedigree is full of names to brag about and he is a looker to boot. Being a Palomino fewspot, we expect Ice will produce loads of colour including dilutes in a full range of coat patterns. Blessed with a stunningly thick, wavy mane & tail, Ice really looks like a fairytale horse when all scrubbed up.

He's quick on his feet and can turn on a dime. Ice is now freshly broken and is showing promise for numerous sports including reining, cutting and campdrafting. Ice has a kind, gentle nature and a relaxed, sensible disposition. He is handled by the whole family and is an absolute pleasure to own.

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	Ara Awa Apuski Dusky	Plaudit Silver Fox	Morgans Jaguar	
		Miss Hancock	Bonnie Ann R	
			Plaudit Silver Fox	Saguaro Quick Step
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Emily Addis
Wayne Lacy
Sue Todd
Anna Bergmann
Gemma Robinson
Amanda Burton

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Apache - Dianna Nelson
Arabec - Rebecca Leet
Arawood - Arawood Appaloosas
Ascot - John D Noble
Avenlee - Heather Lee &
Joachim Blatchly
BL - Max Schofer
Blacklaw - Jon Firmin
Blackwatch - Lisa Bell
CA - Debra Bawden
Cayuse - Cayuse Appaloosas
Centennial - John & Robyn Twaddle
Clearview - Sheila Dandy
Danneker - Tamar Baker
DayDream - DayDream Stud:
Dave Gundry & Dianne Udy
DC - Double Cross Sportaloosas
Double A - David & Lynne Adkins
Double S - Pat Simpson
Elleon - Noelle Krooks

Fairisle - Diane Johnston
Frog Rock - Kirily Rimmer
GAB Horses - Allison Alderton
Geralee - Tracy Allender
JCJ - D & S Lindley
Kerrinna - Karen Fischer
Khesan - Natalie Fries
Leatherfoot - Jenny Baker
LV - Lewisville Appaloosas: Warren & Ann Lewis
Mc - Flying Horse Stud
Mighty - Sparkling Acres Appaloosas
MVA - Lee Mannix
NN - Nikki Robertson
Nnamtrah - Ron & Kerry Hartmann
OPH - Outrageous Performance Horses
Oregon Park - Ev Lagoon
Rocking M Stud - Amanda McHugh
Rocking Spur - Shane Plowman
Savannah - Valmai Jones
SD - Sandy Beardmore
Shawin - Shawin Appaloosas
Shady Glen - Sue Todd
Shoshoni - Jason & Natalie Wilkinson
SS - Marian Noonan
Successful Strides - Helena Shanal
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Our thanks to Colleen Kelly for allowing us to use her excellent articles.

Colleen will be in Australia and New Zealand in November and December 2011.

Keep an eye on colleenkellyriderbiomechanics.com for clinic dates and don't miss her!

ARTICLE colleenkellyriderbiomechanics.com

How the horse rider holds their hands can put the horse on the forehand

For hundreds of years (certainly since the American Civil War) riding manuals have required riders to have the "thumb the highest point of the hand".

But why?

In our ridden demonstrations (you can see this on both these DVDs: Rider Seat & Posture and Full Training Package) you can see that when we roll the rider's thumb over to make the hand flat that we can EASILY pull the rider forward.

Back in the civil war they didn't want to "look pretty". They needed to be safe under the most terrible circumstances: the enemy trying their hardest to pull the rider to the ground. Therefore, they were very strict about the horse rider's thumb being the highest point of the hand, as the rider simply stays on the horse far better in this position.

We're not at war anymore – so why bother?

On our tradestands at the big shows we get a saddle stand with 4 bathroom scales underneath each "foot". We have tested hundreds of riders and just rolling the thumb over puts approximately 11kgs onto the two front feet of the horse. That's almost the weight of a bag of feed!



The rider's hands rolling over puts approx 11kgs onto the two front feet of the horse "on the forehand". Photo courtesy Emily Peake Photography
If rolling your thumbs over puts 11kgs on the two front feet, then putting the horse rider's thumbs on top puts the weight on the two back feet. That's the difference in balance between on the forehand, and on the quarters (or engaged).

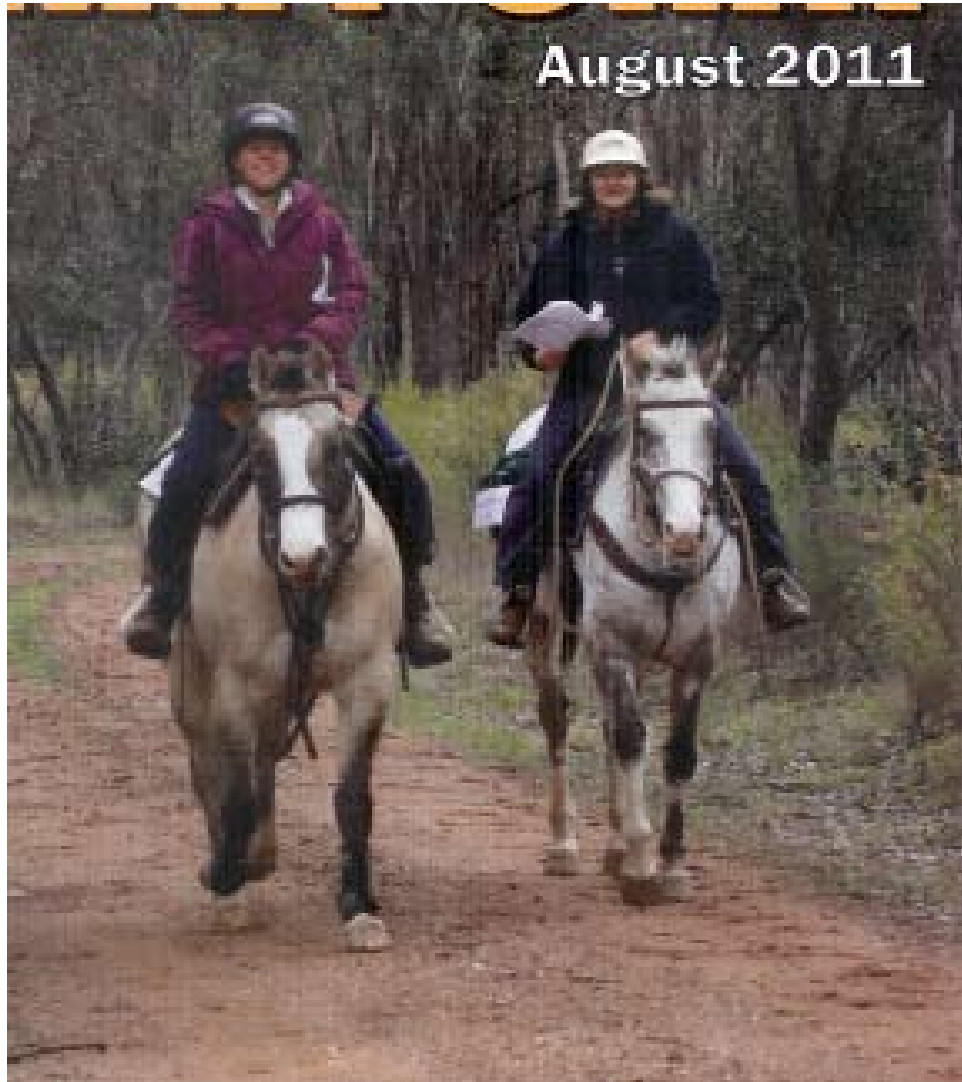
And...for dressage riders there's a rule about the rider's hands! The FEI Rule book is clear how we should hold the hand, and if it's in the rule book, then judges who are judging the rider mark can mark the rider down who rolls their hand over!



Photo courtesy Emily Peake Photography



Mel Torr and friend Julie on a Navigation ride... they looked so good, they ended up on the Navigation magazine cover!



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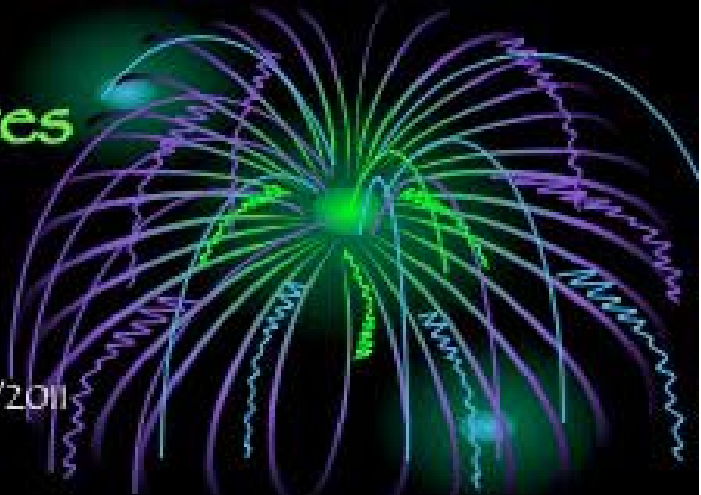
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Believe it or Not Courtesy of Maurice Potter

Between taking hay to the Eastern Seaboard and Qantas strikes, I'm running close to the deadline of printing this newsletter.

I hitched a ride to Melbourne Royal Show to watch the Draught Horse Day, while there I talked to a lady who drove turnout class in the next ring and she thought she might consider looking at a Sportaloosa to drive in the future.

Hope everyone has a coloured Sportaloosa foal or a lot in their paddocks.

Arrived in the Murrundi "Old Timers Rodeo Reunion" was a great day, some cowboys I had not seen for years, even the ones I owed money didn't remember.

One old boy had his 90th Birthday cake with us, we sang "Happy Birthday" most of us didn't remember the words, but still joined in the hip hip hurrah chorus.

One ancient was a proper "American Indian", told us he was a direct pedigree to "Chief Joseph". Knew a lot about appaloosa horses said the reason his ancestors went to war on Appaloosas, they didn't want to get their Quarter Horses injured.

The way he came to Australia amazed us, said he was an extra in a "John Wayne" movie and "Big John" was chasing him and he jumped through the "Big Screen" and landed in the movie venue and high tailed it out the front door and has been in Australia ever since.



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Stallion classification (over 24 months)	\$168	\$150
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