

EDITORIAL

It is pleasing to know that the editorial staff of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society in the UK requested to re-publish the article on the ‘Horses in the Anglo-Boer War’ published in the 2022 Welsh Ponies and Cobs, South Africa, Journal. In addition, both the UK Society and the Australian Society published a summarised version of the Welsh Ponies and Cobs imported into South Africa between the Anglo-Boer and First World Wars in the 2023 editions of their journals.

STUDS: Continuing with the reporting on the Welsh pony and cob studs, articles are found on the Braidwynn Stud (p40), Pajayhu Stud (p58), Dimmock Stud (p74), Running Waters Stud (p122) and Lavendale Stud (p98). A number of studs have promised to co-operate but when the time comes, fail to provide the history of their stud and any photographs of their foundation stock, or the progeny of their stud. This is so unfortunate because the intention of this exercise is to record the colourful and diverse history of the Welsh breeds in Southern Africa and if all studs are not covered, a part of the history is lost, thereby failing to be inclusive. The owners of those same studs are, however, very keen to receive the Journal, assumedly to read the history of other studs!

PONIES/COBS: There are also articles on some of the earlier ponies such as Valiant (p148), Revel Vada (p90), Coed Coch Pala (p114) and Astley Film Star (p53), together with those of Fronarth Brynmor (p131) and the only living one, but only fortunately, Freyja Taliesin (p107).

I was fortunate in finding a memo signed by Charmaine Grobbelaar about the Welsh stallion to Arab mare cross; normally the cross was Arab stallion onto a Welsh mare. The progeny proved that this cross is also highly successful. (p120).

SHOWS: As usual the various shows are covered, from the 2022 Royal Welsh (p6), the 2022 International Show held in Aachen (p66), the Villiersdorp Spring 2022 show (p17) and the Beaufort West Silver Medal show 2023 (p32), together with shows in the history of the breed such as Bloemfontein Nationals of 2003 (p136) and the International Show of 2003 (p96).

PHOTOGRAPHS/ARTICLES: In ‘The Arabian Horse and its influence in South Africa’ published in 2007, the author, Charmaine Grobbelaar writes ‘Pictures help to tell a story more effectively and also help to authenticate the written word. Please treat old photographs of horses with sympathy and

understanding. Although these photographs are often not flattering, they are rare and the fact that they still exist is of historical value and makes them precious.'

I want to call on all readers to let me have photographs, or, by arrangement, scanned copies, for future editions of the Journal. Very often an old photograph leads to the development of another article recording the history of the Welsh breeds in Southern Africa. In addition, a number of photographs record successes at shows. Even though the year of the show may not be known, it may well be identified from show results which are spread throughout many publications.

There is an article on the Educational value of Exhibitions found in an old Transvaal Agricultural Journal of 1907 (p164) and is reproduced in its entirety as it leaves much food for thought. Some of the earlier publications had many interesting articles, the contents of which are still relevant to this day.

I sincerely trust that you enjoy this edition of the Journal, the 19th in the series which started in 2005. Some of the earlier Journals are still available and if anyone would want a copy, a donation to the Welsh Pony and Cob Foundation would be required. Unfortunately, some editions are out of print.

GK 2023

In closing, an old sketch by Pat Moore



Badgemore Fairylight