

TRAKEHNERS UK

Winter Newsletter 2012



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TRAKEHNERS UK

Winter 2012

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Trakehners UK Merchandise Official Merchandise is available to buy – for full range please see the TBF web site where you will be able to buy your items online. www.trakehnerbreeders.com or Contact Nicky Nash: (Show Secretary)

Again special thanks to Tanja Davis for her lovely photos, used in the 2012 Stallion Plan on the rear of this newsletter.



Chairman's Report

As we draw a close to 2011 we look back on another year with our beautiful Trakehner horses. It has been a financially challenging year for many people and we hope that 2012 will bring a more buoyant horse market.

We have an exciting year ahead with the Trakehner Training Day on 10th March 2012 when Dieter Pothen and Paul Attew will be running a training day on preparing and showing your beautiful Trakehners to show off to their best in grading and showing classes. This training will include both a detailed presentation of conformational requirements followed by practical demonstrations of how to prepare your horse in the months before grading and how to show in hand and train for loose jumping. We do hope members will support this event. Booking forms available online at www.trakehners.uk.com

Stallion owners, it is now time to join the Stallion Plan for 2012. Make sure that your stallion is included in all our marketing for 2012. The stallion plan will include the covering certificates and website listings. Please complete the Stallion Plan application form (available on the website) and return together with the £100 fee. If you do not have access to the website, please contact me by phone or email and I will post a hard copy to you.

This just leaves me to wish all our members a very Happy New Year and we wish you success and enjoyment with your Trakehner horses in 2012. Don't forget to keep us up to date on your news so that we can share with other members.

Susan Attew - Chairman



New Treasurer's Introduction to The Members

I came to own my first Trakehner early last year, Bluewood Umberto. My husband's and my previous experience has been with thoroughbreds, mine at Newmarket, through Polo and owning them. His having bred them for Eventing and now through working for the British Horseracing Authority. After deciding to have myself retrained through classical riding I started looking to buy a dressage horse, and Trakehners seemed to offer so much. I began my search several years ago, and after much deliberation we decided that it would be nice to have young horses at home once again, and so focused our search on youngstock.

Umberto felt like the right boy for us and has been a wonderful addition to our family, much loved by us and our children. After his long journey to Northumberland he has spent the year growing and playing in our paddocks at home, with a few weeks away in the summer to be backed, which he took in his stride. He went to a wonderful eventing yard where he confirmed to me how focused, willing and hardworking he is, and much endeared and impressed everyone that worked with him.

Since then he has been on holiday and we are looking forward to him going back into work in the spring to continue his education. Having him, and working with him, has been an invaluable education for me and through him I have met the most wonderful people who are always happy to listen, offer advice and of course talk about their wonderful horses too. When, earlier this year in Germany, I was asked if I would be interested in the post of Treasurer for Trakehners UK, it felt like the right step to make. I am looking forward to working on the committee and as Treasurer, and hope to meet and get to know you at future events.

Harriett Berg-Rust – Treasurer



Marketing Directors Report

Since taking the helm at the news letter I have tried to use the front cover, to show how versatile Trakehners are. We have had a lovely picture of Ginny Oakley's Saumur, being ridden side saddle, we have had a dramatic picture of the talented Lucy Phillips, upside down on Pitucelli, and this time we have Karen Bassett driving her team of Trakehners, Muschamp Kangaroo, Ebanzah, Amabile, and Leonardo. Helped by sponsorship from Walter Lorch, Karen Basset drove her team of Trakehners and was, in 1995 the first woman in British driving history, to win the four-in-hand National Championships, and went on to win it twice more. She continued the successful partnership with her team of Trakehners well into the 21st century, and although no longer driving Trakehners, says she would have continued with the breed if she had been able to find replacements. She still owns one Trakehner.

On the back page we have shown the current Stallion Plan. However Stallion owners, now is the time to be thinking of renewing.

Your committee has worked hard this year to promote the Trakehner Horse and we have managed to keep the name high profile. 2012 is getting off to an excellent start with an article in horse deals and a lovely picture of Le Rouge on the front cover.

Good luck to every breeder owner competitor, for 2012. We are all so lucky to know what wonderful horses they are.

I have had some wonderful stories from members and I have enjoyed reading every one of your experiences. It is now up to you to send me more for future news letters. Without your news, there is no news letter. The story of Ikaros brought tears to my eyes as I too had a relationship with a horse like that many years ago, and it took me a while to get back into horses......so PLEASE send me your stories.

Marion Fuller - Marketing Director



Registrars Report

Well another Trakehner year is coming to a close and the next is fast approaching. A great deal of hard work has been carried out on your behalf by your current committee an encouraging trend that I am very confident will continue in the coming years, as one of the old campaigners I have to say that it has been an absolute pleasure to have worked along side of them all.

Having started the year thoroughly convinced that the foals would be very thin on the ground due to the economic climate I am very pleased to inform you that we actually have a very healthy foal count when all things are considered. I take my hat off to all of you who have had the courage to keep the show on the road and hope that you reap your just rewards. Well Done.

I know from previous years that you all like to keep up to date with our new arrivals so I have once again prepared a list of our 2011 foals, there are 34 in Total consisting of 19 Fillies and 15 Colts.

I am aware that there are still two foals yet to be registered so the actual Total will eventually be 36.

Good Luck to you all for the coming year and I wish you every success with our new and old four legged friends.

Best Wishes

Terry Hyde - Registrar



2011 Foal list in no particular order :

Fleetwater Capriccio. Bay Colt. Grafenstolz x Fleetwater Caprice.

Rurik Firebird. Bay Colt. Le Rouge x Holme Grove Flambe.

Gershwin. Bay Colt. Contis x Muschamp Gentille Dame.

Godington Pandora. Bay Filly. Godington Hannibal x P.S. SPS. Prettiness.

Godington Ophelia . Bay Filly. Godington Hannibal x PM. Offerte.

Godington Utopia. Bay/Grey Filly. Contis x Godington Uppsala.

Godington Cordelia. Bay Filly. Godington Hannibal x Casablanca.

Socrates. Dark Bay Colt. Abendtanz x Saigon.

Holme Park Vita. Bay Filly. Grafenstolz x PM Holme Park Vogue.

Holme Park Kalika. Bay Filly. Holme Grove Solomonx Elite Holme Park Kremona.

Holme Park Honeymoon. Black Filly. Holme Park Krug x Holme Park Holynight.

Ulysses . Brown Colt. Tycoon x Ublah.

Pacific Legend. Chestnut Filly. Holme Park Legend x Muschamp Princess.

Sylvester. Grey Colt. Contis x Bluewood Sylvana.

Warrawee Illusion. Bay Colt. Fleetwater Swift x Sockburn Isadora.

Three Chimneys Etoile. Bay Filly. Le Rouge x Elysia.

Three Chimneys Gorecki. Black Colt. Holme Park Krug x Holme Grove Gestadt.



Castletown Firecracker. Bay Colt. Grafenstolz x Fabelhafte.

Castletown Firefly. Bay Colt. Grafenstolz x Flora.

Bluewood Kilimanjaro. Black Colt. Titelheld x Kenia VII.

Goldperle. Black/Brown Filly. Titelheld xGoldquelle.

Bluewood Graffiti. Grey Colt. Trocaderox Grafin Inessa.

Uhlivia. Bay Filly. Lord Luciano x Bluewood Ulrika.

Keatinge Halo Harmony. Black Filly. Elfenstein x Halleson.

Keatinge Piri Piri. Dark Bay Colt. Singing Horatio x Polartraum.

Bluewood Virtuoso. Grey Colt. Trocadero x SPS + PS Viola.

Kahlua. Dark Bay Filly. Titelheld x SPS + PS Kasixta.

Felicity. Black Filly. Axisx SPS + PS Feines Maedchen.

Woodcroft Hirtensong. Black Brown Filly. Garuda K x PR. ST. Hirtenfreude.

Woodcroft Nikita. Black Filly. Garuda Kx PR. ST. Nathalie.

Humus v Singing. Bay Colt. Prince Patmos x Henny IV.

Flavias Ballerina v Singing. Bay Filly. Prince Patmos x Flavia VII.

Catalina v Singing. Bay Filly. Prince Patmos ST. PR + PR.ST Charisma.

(Second Stud Book).

FHS Flyte of Fancy. Bay Filly. Godington Hannibal x Bloomin Lucky xx.



Members news

Holme Park Saumur by Ginny Oakley

Following the last article about side saddle riding I thought that it would be nice for other members to know how Holme Park Saumur (aka Mr Puff) has continued to fly the flag for Trakehners in the side saddle world.

We have had a busy season including many displays around the country. Early in the season I was delighted to win the Classical ladies qualifier at our area Spring show. This prestigious class, the finals are held at the Side Saddle Championships in August, combines all aspects of horsemanship. The judging takes in to account conformation, way of going, suitability to being ridden side saddle and turnout of horse and rider! I was equally delighted to be placed 4th in the final. We also won our section of the Concours de Elegance class and stood reserve champion.

His first display was in London. By that I mean the centre of London. A small arena set up in the middle of Triton Square, 7 strides on the long side and four on the short sides, was all the space we had to strut our stuff to entertain the office workers at lunch time. The most un horsey place you could imagine with sky scraper buildings, a building site with 3 massive cranes and the main road on the other side filled me with dread! I felt that I was testing him in temperament to the limit especially as we were unable to warm up prior to the display! Mr Puff took it all in his stride, literally, and caused great amusement to the large crowds by standing and watching the outside glass lifts on the Santander building going up and down!

Blenheim International Horse Trials followed where we set up camp for the 5 days of the trails. Performing 2 displays a day the horses had their work cut out. On this occasion Mr Puff was ridden by a friend of mine Hazel Allin as I was designated commentator. He was so good for her and it was lovely to meet up with one of Holme Grove Solomon's grooms (Mr



Puffs sire) who instantly recognised him as they look so similar! The show was finished off with a wonderful display of hounds in the main arena where Mr Puff led the way behind our local pack, The Farmers



Bloodhounds. It was a sight to behold as the four side saddle ladies galloped alongside each other in perfect harmony.

The following week we were out again at the opening of a new RDA centre. Mr Puff, as

usual, looked and behaved beautifully and was more than happy to have children patting him and putting their fingers up his nose. Often mistaken for Victor Meldew in his own stable he seems to have a great understanding of "little people" especially those with special needs.

We finished the season displaying at the Royal County of Berkshire Show. It was at this show that I realised how far we had come together regarding trust. Standing on a narrow horse walk I realised that I was trapped as 13 four in hand London coaches came towards us. Bailing out was not an option as I was dressed in a historical costume with layers of velvet attached around my right leg as I sat on the side saddle. Mr Puff's heart was thumping and so was mine. Dropping the rein contact and scratching his withers he stood like a rock as they hurtled past us on the start of their marathon drive.

As they left he calmly walked forward and into our display arena as if nothing has happened.

What an amazing horse!

Ginny Oakley



A horse of a lifetime.

Ikaros was a wonderful horse he was my friend for twenty years' and I loved him.



He was my horse of a lifetime I went to see the Danish breeder and he said "I have just the horse for you" and we drove to an empty field where he pulled a little Shetland out of the hedge! I laughed but wondered if he was serious and then this wonderful little bay flew out of the hedge and jumped all over the shetty! The poor shetty had taken to

living in the hedge rather than be bullied by Ikaros!

Ikaros had Ibikus as his grandsire he competed in dressage and won and was placed in many competitions but he always had his own ideas! One young horse championship he did flying tempi changes instead of counter canter and played up so much in one warm up he completed the test with only two shoes left on! He was a devil and I loved him and he loved me.



When I lost him my world stopped. I didn't want another horse and I didn't have much money. Friends offered me horses but none compared. Time passed then I saw an advert from a Trakehner breeder. I wrote to her and said I had a limited budget but I could offer a loving forever home and amazingly she called me and said she would love to show me her "babies" and that's when I met Kate! The



Horse!

She is big black and beautiful and so lovely and gentle I can't believe how lucky I am to have her. She's only three and we're having a great time getting to know each other. She was bred in France by a wonderful lady called Karen Colman by the Trakehner sire Maestro. I can't thank Karen enough for letting me have her and I hope we will do well out in the big wide world for her!

Jackie Murphey

<u>Little Lion Man - BEF 2011 Eventing Foal Champion</u>

Little Lion Man -Dark Bay Gelding. Born 19th May 2011.

Sire – Grafenstolz (Trak) Dam – Pembridge Copycat (Shire x TB)

Little Lion Man is my first attempt at breeding out of my mare, Pembridge Copycat. 'Cat' has been my horse for 11 years & is a real all-rounder. I got her as a 5 year old from the Pembridge Stud, in Wales. Together, we have



competed at British Eventing Novice, Newcomers Show Jumping and up to Advanced Medium in British Dressage. She is a lovely well put together mare who is a real tough sound horse and I always knew I wanted to breed from her.

Grafenstolz was a slight last minute decision. Cat didn't take to the stallion I originally decided to use & through an odd twist of fate, Cat being ready to inseminate over a Bank Holiday weekend & 'Graf' living at the time 10 minutes down the road – I made a big decision early on a Sunday morning



to swap! It was all rather scary, but Cat conceived first time. There was a lot of joking that she obviously liked 'a bit of posh'!



As this was my first foal, the pregnancy was rather long and nerve wracking for me! My vets at Hampden Veterinary Practice and Victoria Richards at Harding's Stud Farm gave me amazing advice & support the whole time. So it was an easy choice to send Cat back to

Victoria for foaling. Cat wasn't ready to foal on time — so he was a few weeks late! She also was very 'neat' in her bump size so it was a massive shock to get the phone call from Victoria to say I was the new owner of a huge bright bay colt. I'd sworn blind it was going to be a small dark bay filly & out came a giant 'Exmoor pony'! As I only live half an hour away, a swift drive later & I got to see him stand for the first time.

The vet came out to check Cat that night – and asked what I was going to call him. We had joked the whole pregnancy about 'Cat & Mouse' – but it seemed to suit perfectly! Although Victoria did comment he was more like a great sewer rat! So 'Mouse' has stuck!

His show name came from the journey to see him for the first time. I was not sure what to call him — but as I dashed across country, the radio played 'Little Lion Man' by Mumford and Sons. I love this band and it totally fitted. I wanted something that highlighted his mother — and her being called Cat against Little Lion Man seemed perfect! After getting to know him, he is so brave & confident; the Lion is a perfect comparison. I'm not sure how little he will remain though!

In August, we took him and Cat to the BEF Futurity Evaluations at Keysoe (1) in Bedfordshire for the Eventing section. I knew that he had more bone than most & still had the 'Exmoor' pony look! As my first foal, I really went in blind as to what we had to do & what they were looking for in a good



foal. Mouse is quite an 'enthusiastic' character, so our practicing at home had been interesting! His enthusiasm didn't waver at Futurity as in the Veterinary Examination; he managed to trip me up on the first trot up. I fell on my bottom & he shot off across the lorry park, only to turn round and trot back to me as if to say 'what ARE you doing down there?!' Pride damaged (only mine – Mouse thought it was all fabulous fun), we went in front of the evaluators. We had barely seen him trot at home as he loves to gallop & leap about or just amble. He was so good on his loose evaluation – I was one very proud foal owner. He was graded Elite with a score of 9.0. The evaluators were very complimentary about him & made the whole experience a very positive one. As a 'first timer' I would defiantly recommend going – it was a very relaxed day & very foal friendly. Mouse was exhausted from all the attention & excitement – but travelled & behaved better than I could have hoped! (Apart from tripping me up!)

After being graded Elite at Keysoe, we were lucky enough to be invited to Osberton International Young Horse Championships for the BEF Futurity Eventing Finals. We made the big journey up and stabled over night in very luxury stables just off site. Cat knows exactly what big events are about and was so excited!

Mouse was being immaculate until leaping off the top of the lorry ramp on arrival at the event in the morning. Queue my two horses pegging off across towards the CCI** cross country course.......with a rather frantic shouting of 'Loose Foal!!!' from myself & my best friend Ceri, who has helped me with them both the whole time. Naughty ponies re-captured, off we went to the collecting ring. Mouse was totally overwhelmed by the whole experience — cross country running, flags, banners, trade stands, spectators, more horses than he's ever seen and the other mares & foals who were all immaculately behaved.

Before we even entered, Mouse had shown the crowd his best handstands, karate kicks, voice and given every one plenty of two handed



waves......I was very grateful for my hard hat and short lunge line! He continued to display what HE thought the judges wanted to see in the ring. I clung on for grim death, Ceri looked very smug to be leading Cat & Mouse was thrilled so many people had arrived to watch his acrobatics!

We all were brought back into the ring – and we shame faced crept round the ring, deciding that 6th out of 6 was a good place to be and it was worth coming for the experience. Our disbelief as the commentator said 'In first place – he's shown off all his enthusiasm today – Little Lion Man' left us opened mouthed, to the point we had to be told twice! I'm not sure it sank it for some time – my face must have been a picture!



For my first attempt at breeding to result in a fabulous foal that, on paper, is now Champion Eventing Foal 2011 – is crazy! The reason I wanted to breed was to have a replacement for myself for Cat. He has

masses of potential and I would love him to fulfil this, but if not, I will still keep him! He has been gelded now — the 'enthusiasm' was quite a lot to manage & I wasn't sure a ¼ Shire Stallion was what the breeding world needed! He is also now weaned & is becoming the most charming young horse. He is still full of sparkle & cheek, but a real people person. I'm very excited for his future & so lucky to have him.

Jenny Gray Wallis



Holme Grove Constable & Holme Grove Gwygion aka Tom & Henry

Hello all fellow Trakehner lovers!

I work in a very creative, high octane, office environment in London. A Design Room at M&S. My colleagues mostly live locally and so they have cats, which is great because I have 5 of my own and cat stories are very funny!

So it was, I was at my desk when I received an email from someone I didn't know in Kidswear, inviting me to an M&S Horse owners Club Lunch!!! Well you can imagine!!? It's great working here but it just got so much better. We endeavour to meet every month and all we do – whilst we eat – is talk about our horses and share pictures and stories, its brilliant!

Our members have a variety of equines from thoroughbreds to Irish sport horses, I am alone in my Trakehner ownership. And while many beloved pictures of coiffure'd horses are passed under my nose, of course I am suitably complimentary, but I can't help feeling sorry for them for not having Trakehners in their lives — they have such great bums and personalities!



Did I mention Tom and Henry have incredibly gorgeous arses, suspect all Trakehners are built this way, pretty heads, great necks and oh so amazing rear ends!?

Tom & Henry of course, take fame in their strides now so any news from me that more people at work are hearing about them goes by without so much as a sniff. They recently had their photos taken for HORSE magazine for a safety feature I worked on with them and that was an interesting



morning. Plus they star in my blog, which is where it all began with my writing about them.

HORSE magazine interviewed me for a safety feature; the Editor Jo Browne had read my blog and thought my work for road safety was inspiring. And it only started because I will go above and beyond to protect my boys from anything that might ruffle their manes; I wasn't aiming to be a campaigner. Then she asked me if she could send a photographer to my cottage to take shots of me riding my boys around the village to support the story of safety. Well I jumped at the chance for my boys to star in a three page spread!!!

I took the day off work, my boss didn't really understand but she humoured me. I got my farrier Steve out of his sick bed to come a check their shoes (thank you Steve), I brushed the boys to within an inch of their lives and even cleaned their tack, and I surprised even myself when I remembered how to put it all back together again!

The photographer took some great shots. My husband John on his bike (because it all started with cycle safety), my friends and neighbours and their son on his bike, all drove and cycled past me. I was a glowing beacon of illumination head to hoof in hi-viz, so the message was clear, safety. They are the funniest horses, they took everything in their beautiful floaty strides, that Trakehner stride we are all familiar with, and anyone who has seen the November issue will agree they looked gorgeous; well they are sons of Solomon and Prokofiev!

A quick Trakehner question though:

Not sure whether it's a Trakehner thing, but they eat out of the bin instead of the freshly filled haybars, they bob for apples, they chase the cats around the land, they stand still with no headcollar to get groomed and tacked up, they turn their bottoms to me for a scratch and I know what they want, they've trained me! this seems perfectly normal to



me....but I'm getting comments that perhaps Trakehners are just a bit too clever...well we'd all agree with that I'm sure?

Tune in boys and girls next time for 'What Tom & Henry did next'.

Shelly Rand

News From The Studs Home and Abroad

Romarnic Stud

2011 was a busy year for us and we are looking forward to 2012.

Romarnic Ranger has spent the year training as he has had time off to have two teeth removed. The result of an accident as a two year old. Thank you to the team at Rossdales for sorting him. Amy is hopeful that she will be able to compete him in some junior FEI classes and he is working towards PSG at the moment in anticipation off young rider classes.

Three of his foals went to the Bef in 2011. They were Darkwaters Dejavu out of the premium Westaphalian First Love.



He gained a dressage first premium. He then went on to be the champion at the Trakehner show and was graded and branded by the Westaphalian Society. He was also well placed in all his classes at the National Foal Show. This foal is also a premium foal for

the AHS and his breeder Douglas Jones hopes to keep him entire as he carries some very good bloodlines.



The second foal was VBedfords Mullberry out of a mare of un known breeding. Dispite an accident on the morning off the grading she achieved a first premuim in the eventing section. Thanks again to Rossdales and Swanspool vets for looking after her so well.

The third foal was Cossacks Cartier. She achieved a high first premium in the dressage pony section. Since being weaned she has won numerous foal classes including being the reserve champion sports pony foal at the national foal show.

We wish all three foals the best for the future.

Rangers first crop will be out under saddle in 2012 and we are looking forward to seeing Downlands I'm Hello Dolly on the event circuit with her young rider Evie Peel. Dolly is out of Holme Grove Infini and is half sister to Romarnic Rainbow who is doing well eventing.

Nicky Nash

First time Trakehner breeders report by Ruth McMullan



I was honoured to be asked to provide an update for the TBF newsletter on my current small scale breeding efforts – I must say though that we are very new to horse breeding entirely and of the Trakehner horse in particular, so please forgive any inaccuracies that may be caused due to our still being on a learning curve!

I first came into contact with the Trakehner breed when I purchased my mare Hurricane Rose in 2006 as a 6 year old. Hurricane Rose is a Trakehner/British Sport Horse cross, and her combination of Trakehner



and mostly Thoroughbred/Holsteiner breeding produced a horse with natural grace and high intelligence, plus excellent movement and sustained stamina.

We decided in 2011 to try to breed a foal from Hurricane Rose, but using embryo transfer in order to avoid her having to take a couple of years out of work. After attending an excellent course at Twemlows covering the entire process and meeting the very well looked after recipient mare herd, we decided to proceed and set about finding a suitable stallion. Following much research and reviewing of many stallions, we settled on Future Sport Horses' Future Illusion – a successful young stallion sired by UK elite Trakehner stallion Fleetwater Opposition, himself out of foundation mare Opuska.

Hurricane Rose went to Etchingham Stud near Malton to start the Al process, where she had the benefit of being looked after not only by Polly and John who have 30 years stud experience, by also by Jonathan Pycock's excellent Equine Reproductive Services. We decided to take Hurricane Rose in person to Twemlows for the embryo flush to try and maximise the chances of a successful transfer and undertook the journey from Yorkshire to Shropshire. Unfortunately although there was an embryo present at the flush, it was smaller than expected and it didn't take in the recipient mare.

Hurricane Rose went back to the stud and we set about the second Al attempt. This time we were excited to discover two embryos (one of which of the highest quality grading) at flush time at Twemlows, and these were both duly transferred to two recipient mares. After waiting in anticipation for the recipient mares to be scanned our hopes were dashed again when unfortunately neither embryo had taken.

At this point we decided to give up (at least for 2011), and let Hurricane Rose have a rest. We started to look for a companion for Hurricane Rose and our other horse Morgan, and after a week or so we found a lovely



Trakehner mare called Ublah for sale, with a new foal at foot sired by Tycoon. Ublah achieved the highest marks in her mare performance grading in 1998 and is a beautiful dark bay mare with fantastic movement. We were amazed to find that that Ublah was half sister to Hurricane Rose, sharing the same sire (Handstreich).

We made the long journey from Yorkshire to Hastings to see Ublah and her foal with Sian Reade at Bluewood Trakehners. The red arrows flew over the field whilst we were meeting Ublah and her foal, and this seemed to be a very positive sign! We decided to buy Ublah and her foal who we named Ulysses.

We brought Ublah and Ulysses home in mid June 2011. After some initial leg issues in the foal (luckily now all resolved), they settled in very well and we started learning how to safely handle a young foal (both of us receiving a couple of good kicks before we completed that element of the learning process!). Ublah had been covered on the foal heat to Sian's lovely stallion Titelheld, but unfortunately did not scan in foal.

Given Ublah's fantastic breeding, her relationship to our other mare Hurricane Rose and the fact that she is 17 and is coming up to her retirement (which she will spend with us and our small herd); we decided to have one last try to get the foal with her from Future Illusion which had been our original intent. After the AI attempt we got the great news that Ublah was in foal and we are hoping for a safe foaling in June 2012.



This has been a whirlwind year including lots of new experiences (eg AI, ET, dealing with growth spurt issues, training a new foal in all usual handling techniques). We are now very much looking forward to continuing to bring up our lovely young foal Ulysses together with the forthcoming Future Illusion foal and to having the best of both worlds — one beautiful pure bred Trakehner who is already proving to have a wonderful temperament and

movement (sired by Tycoon who has sired many champions, premium



daughters and top competition horses); together with a part bred Trakehner sired by a fantastic young event stallion with BEF Futurity first premium or higher event foals from all of his 4 crops to date.

Ruth McMullan

Mynachdy Trakehners

Our two mares Gute Wein by Bruddenbrock and Gute Gold by Connery (7 yrs old) having been graded and performance tested as 4 yr olds have each bred a foal by Grafenstoltz. This year we decided to put them in training to see which discipline suited them. Gute Wein was taken on by Clemmie Prest and evented. Within 5 months she was placed in several BE90's and completed BE100 and shows great promise for next year. Gute Gold was brought on more slowly and taken to Gerd Heuschmann's

Gute Gold's yearling was taken to two county shows at the end of the summer by her owner and won the youngstock championship in both.

clinic in September and is continuing her training.

Gute Wein's yearling continues to grow into a beautiful horse owned by Freda Clark

We decided we would like to breed a foal by Elitaer and have taken a very well bred (Saddlers Wells) mare, You Bet I Do, and the foal is due at the end of April which we are looking forward to and is very exciting .

Heather Ireland



News from Holme Trakehners

Sad Goodbye to two wonderful mares at Holme Trakehners

PM Holme Grove Genesis by Camelot out of SPS Gassandra by EH Tenor This beautiful mare was purchased from Germany as a foal from Neumunster auction in 1988. She has outstanding Dressage bloodlines including the Grand Prix Dressage Stallion Arsenal. In 1992 she graded Premium and the TBF 1997 Reserve Champion TBF Broodmare She has bred many outstanding progeny including Holme Grove Goldcard who was exported to South Africa and has passed been approved as a Stallion with the European Warmblood Association and he has achieved many championships in South Africa. Her two fillies Holme Grove Gineta and Gardet took the Youngstock Championship at the TBF Show in 2000 and 2001 respectively. Holme Grove Genie went to USA. Holme Grove Gershwin is competing Advanced Dressage. All her children have proved to have outstanding characters and the family shows great trainability under saddle.

Genesis final showing outing was to the TBF Show in 2003 where she was awarded Champion Mare and Supreme Champion 2003.

Her filly by Holme Grove Prokofiev, Holme Grove Goya will be kept as her replacement in the Holme Grove Herd. Her last son Holme Grove Guinness by Holme Park Krug was born in 2009 being her 12th foal. He is promising a great future dressage career with his new owners.

Holme Grove Genesis was sadly PTS on 4th November 2011 aged 24.

Holme Park Fantine by Holme Grove Solomon out of Holme Park Fantine by Holme Grove Istanbul

This beautiful home bred mare by Holme Grove Solomon proved to be an outstanding broodmare. Her foals were all stamped with outstanding type and most of all a very strong movement and trainable character. Fantine is directly descended on her motherline from our first Mare at Holme Park who was Farah von der Insel by Marlon, a most outstanding mare who lives on today through this family. Her Fantine scored 51 at her grading in



2000 which included a 9 for type. Her offspring are all extremely trainable under saddle. Fantine proved that her bloodlines mix extremely well with Holme Grove Prokofiev. Her daughter Holme Park First Class is now living in Texas USA at "Holme Ranch" where she has been successfully ridden by my sister in law, Sandra Wilkes and she is now in foal to Tzigane as the foundation mare for this new branch of Holme Trakehners in USA. I receive regular updates from the owners of Holme Park Flirt and Holme Park Fortius who are both doing very well in dressage.

Holme Park Fantine was sadly PTS 31st October 2011 at the age of 15 following an injury.



Photo by Pam Scott HP Flirt ridden by Gill Brittle had double elementary win in Scotland.

Susan Attew

Three Chimneys Trakehners

Having prepared ourselves for another bad Winter, we have been pleasantly surprised by the lovely long warm Autumn and so far, mild Winter..... I know it is still only January.

The horses have flourished, and the two newly weaned foals are thriving. Millie has, so far had a trouble free pregnancy and our second Le Rouge foal is due in early May.





We have decided to send Gestadt back to Holme Park Krug, as her little colt has grown into a lovely young horse with fabulous movement, great confirmation and a cheeky but calm and kind personality. We would rather like a filly, from the union, but accept this is not guaranteed.

Suddenly in the first week of January, I can feel all the enthusiasm returning, that gets a bit drowned out as the days get shorter and the horses more demanding, and I look forward to 2012, and the exciting prospect of our British Olympic horses and riders making us all proud to be producing top quality British bred Sport horses.

Marion Fuller

Beacons Trakehners (previously Black Rock Stud)

2011 has been a mixed year for us. Our first crop of foals from Elitaer arrived, each one being born in what amounted to a different season of weather although less than six weeks apart!

First to foal was Fleetwater Caitlan (by Fleetwater Swift out of Covergirl) who had a beautiful colt foal who is the spitting image of his father. Second to foal was Bluewood Lalique (by Ivernel out of Laska's Charly) who had a very pretty filly who is as bold as brass about anything and everything! Thirdly, was Kopelia (Pernambuco out of St.Pr Koralle) with a colt foal who had the longest legs I've seen on a first foal.

All three foals will be presented for the BEF Futurity this year, and if anyone wants to see them or Elitaer they will be most welcome – just give us a ring in advance!



We took two of the foals to the Trakehner show where Coulthard (Fleetwater Caitlan) won his class and Lustre (Bluewood Lalique) at only 7 weeks old, came second in hers. Lalique was presented for grading as was a new addition to our family of Trakehners, Lanwood Chikara (full sister to Caitlan), who returned a pleasing mark apart from being a little overwhelmed at the beginning of the day!

Due to family circumstances, we didn't put any mares in foal this year, but Elitaer will be standing at stud for chilled or fresh A.I. again this year. Please visit www.beaconstrakehners.co.uk - also coming soon on Facebook!

Penny Jenner

Muschamp five years on.

An Online Interview Questions set by Marion Fuller. Answers written by Janet Scollay-Lorch from Haras de Muschamp in France/Muschamp Stud.





So why did you decide to move to France and continue breeding Trakehner horses?

Well, I have always been 'charmed' by the French culture, and after marrying a New Zealander, whose mother was French, and who didn't really want to stay in the UK we started doing some research into the then current horse market and found that the 'dressage world' in France was some ten years behind England.

I personally had travelled there a lot and felt I had a good enough grounding of the French language so I foresaw an opportunity to follow in the family tradition and become a 'promoter of the Trakehner breed' - this time in France - by transferring Muschamp's breeding programme to that country.

The UK was by then (autumn 1996) more than well catered for in the world of Trakehners and for me it was time to 'move on'......little did I know what was in store for us all!!

So where did you end up in France?

We decided on the central area of France where we already had some friends in the agricultural world and therefore would have support from local people. The daughter of our friends, Charlene, had been in England on our stud for a year as a trainee and had subsequently landed a job in La Chambre d'Agriculture — the equivalent of our Agricultural Chamber of Commerce. She was head of the equestrian development, so another good support.....plus she has a Trakehner horse!

So we finally found a place with 33 Ha (80 acres) of land – not easy to find in France, because if the property you want to purchase has more than 1.85 acres it has to be offered first to all the neighbouring farmers at the same price. In short they have a right to purchase as priority should they



so wish. The fact that the farm we found had a lot of outbuildings was an advantage as this actually put off the local farmers.

However the 80 acres were 90% arable with no fencing, and no stables, just one massive barn!

So did you set up everything first and then bring over the horses?

Well we thought it would be best if we rented our stud farm in Fulmer, Bucks, and then move, but fortunately (or unfortunately, whichever way you decide to look at it!) we found some really nice people to rent the stud, but under one condition—they wanted to move in immediately. So we decided to pack up and go. We had 28 horses at the time and Paul Betteley, who is familiar to many Trakehner members decided to move with us. Roger from Godington Stud offered to take over one lorry load as did Karen Bassett, so we left in convoyand there the French story really begins!

So once you had sorted out stables and fencing I suppose you had to lay grass as well?

So what did you do about feed?

The majority of breeders in France mix up their own feed in the old fashioned way – oats, soaked maize and barley plus they add some extra



minerals. Bear in mind that they are mainly breeding France's own national breed the SELLE FRANCAIS.

This is not a pure breed, and the size and type of a Selle Français can vary enormously, but the famous blood lines are those for jumping. Everyone in our area is mad keen on jumping, with dressage still in its infancy.

So to go back to feed: we tried a couple of the French brands with very poor results. We had trouble with bone growth in the youngsters and lack of muscle structure with the horses in work. We did manage to bring in some Dodson & Horrell on our lorries, but it wasn't a consistent enough supply to rely on.

In our first year I made a big effort to get out and visit other stud farms, horse events and other associated activities. On one of these occasions I visited Haras des Briandes, aTrakehner stud near Lyon belonging to Suzanne Barthod, president of the French Trakehner Society (AFT). Her horses looked great and she was feeding the ST. HIPPOLYT range, imported from Germany. Now we feed St Hippolyt to all our Trakehners and it has made an enormous difference to the way they look and feel. To help with the financial burden we have become the main agent for this feed in the centre and west of France

Was it easy to go out and compete with your young horses?

Nothing is easy in France! The administration and paper work is a mammoth job for whatever one wants to do! First, each and every imported horse has to be registered into the French system − it costs 120€, plus a new ID done by a vet in French and a further mountain of paperwork. Once this is successfully completed, then the rider has similar hoops to jump through!

The good part is that the French Equestrian Federation (FFE), official organisers of competitions has a brilliant web site with data base. All horses and riders are recognised and each competitor has his own



account. To enter a competition is a few clicks and closing date is only seven days in advance of the event!



Times are also posted on the site. One of the advantages is that one can look up the results of any horse or rider and find out immediately their results, the but disadvantage is that one is not allowed to

ride hc (their word!), so if you just want to take a young horse out to a competition for a practice run, whatever the result, it is for ever against the name of your horse. So we got caught out with a young Trakehner event mare when we came to sell her, because she had some faults and elimination against her name, and so no-one wanted to come and view her!

The French are fixated on competition results, so any horse over the age of 5 has to have a good record or its value is seriously compromised.

What about the dressage tests; are they all in French?

Yes, of-course! The first rider we had here in 2008 was Victoria Jenner, the owner of the stallion Elitaer. She took French lessons on a weekly basis and then with the help of a local Dutch trainer all the movements gradually became clear. But it was not easy for her going out to a competition and not being able to speak the lingo!

Do you have many Trakehners under saddle?

When we arrived it was never my intention to do much more than have a small breeding herd and promote Trakehners, but it soon became very



clear that in order to get established we had to be 'out there' competing! There just was no other way.

This year we had five young horses under saddle with our own rider Rebecca Rooke. It was through my contacts in the horse world down under that I met Becky who is 22. She had been riding since a child, and had some good experience in the eventing and dressage world in NZ. It was her dream to come over to Europe and compete on this side of the world.

Becky has mastered the French language pretty well. She now has a French boyfriend which helps too!

Unfortunately good dressage trainers are hard to find. However we have two people that train Becky on a regular basis. One is Jacqueline Oldenburg, originally from Holland and an International judge, and the other person is a French lady called Mme Hélène Schulte who has been a real support to us during this summer.

She also helps me with any written admin problems that crop up, (which is quite often!)

Before you tell us about this year's successes tell me a little about your Trakehner breeding programme

Muschamp has a small herd of brood mares with well-known pedigrees orientated towards dressage and eventing and most importantly the ability to perform.

My best mare is the state premium mare Hoffnungsvolle by Herzzauber out of a mare by Hemingway/Flaneur. It was she who produced the two champions under saddle this year. Then I have a beautiful black state premium Hohenstein mare, a premium home bred mare by Sponek out of Pour La Joie and two young mares for the future with whom I intend using Embryo Transfer in 2012.



Do you have a good stud vet nearby?

That part of my research into our area of France went very wrong. I won't go into detail, but it got to the point where I was going to give up breeding



start our own insemination or centre! So we did the latter and in the spring of 2008, eighteen months after arriving, we opened the doors to our new business. The admin and protocol for actually getting to this indescribably point were complicated, but by good fortune I had met an experienced gynaecological vet who was looking for a seasonal contract, so together

we marketed the facility. Out of the wood work arrived all these Selle Français mares wishing to be inseminated with frozen semen! In 2009 we had 80 mares pass through our centre.

I assume that you were speaking good French by this time.

Yes that's right, but it was somewhat daunting handling all the phone calls when the admin lady was not available, (which was more often than not!)

So to get back to Trakehners, how many are bred each year in France?

There are 20,000 horses born each year, but of pure Trakehners there are only approximately 20 born in any one year. We have just five or six studs throughout the country, but a lot of breeders are looking to cross their Selle Francais with a warm blood, so, for example Grafenstolz is used quite extensively in the eventing world. We are an agent for his semen.

The Trakehner Association known as the AFT was founded by Dr Dirk Langle who still acts as the registrar. The AFT mainly caters for the breeders and organises one promotional event annually as well as the foal



branding. Because France is such a large country the branding takes place at various studs throughout France. There is no annual show as the French don't like to travel their horses very far and never seem to travel mares with foals at foot, except for the finals in Saumur.

Do you do any in-hand showing?

Not very much as there is only one main show for the warm blood horse in the year. It is run by France Dressage and takes place at Saumur at the end of September together with the French National Dressage Championships.

There are in-hand classes for foals (not brood mares) and two year olds.

The horse has to qualify for this event at a regional show in August.

At the Saumur championships there is also a class for three year olds. They have to be shown in hand and are judged by a panel of judges including judges from Germany and Holland, and then the day after under saddle. It is this class that we became champions of in September this year with our Trakehner filly Muschamp Harmonie by Titelheld out of the mare Hoffnungsvolle.

Were there many Trakehners present at this event?

No, I would say that 75% were warm bloods – Hanoverians, KWPN and Oldenburgs - and the rest Selle Français. Trakehners probably made up about 5%, but interestingly the Trakehners that were present accounted for several of the top placings.

How do the young horse classes work in France?

All three disciplines work on the same principal. There are classes for each age group of 4 to 7 year olds and competitions throughout the whole country running from March to August. (No winter competitions for young horses).



They are divided into two rider categories. One for amateurs and one for pros.

We decided that our rider, Becky should go into the amateur section. She had to qualify for the Saumur Championships by getting over 68% on three outings.

Four year olds - and five year olds who have not competed in their fourth year - are lumped together in the Dressage secteur.



Four old Muschamp year of Handsome Harry out qualified Hoffnungsvolle this summer and then went on to actually win the championships at Saumur. There were 64 horses in his section and it was the best average after two days competition. We were all thrilled.

It was a great team effort and a big thank you goes to all those who have helped behind the scenes to make this happen.

Is it easy to sell Trakehners in France?

The answer to that question is very easy – it is a big NO! However I have to admit that after five years of learning about this market it is becoming easier for us. The word is getting around that we are producing top quality Trakehners, and the breed is becoming better known.

Sadly the standard of riding here is not high, so we have to be ultracareful to whom the horses go. It is no good some young girl falling in love with an attractive Trakehner with lovely paces and the history that goes with it if they do not have the ability to ride the horse! The French trend is to have a 'project' and they do massive research before purchasing,which is not a bad thing. However as they don't like to



travel they want to see videos and more videos, masses of photos and then, of course, the trainer has to be involved too! Vet checks are as difficult as in the UK.

Nevertheless we have actually sold our Trakehners quite well when we look back over the five years. We now have a waiting list for 4 & 5 year olds under saddle......which can't be bad

After Muschamp's successes at the French National Championships what are your goals for 2012?

Well – not the Olympicsyet! However we have decided to keep the three year old champion Muschamp Harmonie by Titelheld so that Becky can try to win with her in the four year olds next year and we have a smart five year old Rhapsodie de Coeur by Herzruf out of a Connery mare who is not for sale and will be out competing and hopefully winning next season.

In addition we want to take part in the Trakehner Bundeschampionat in July in Hanover.

We will have four three year olds to bring on, so hopefully they will also qualify if they don't get sold before September! Plus a couple of good moving two year olds, - all in all plenty to work towards for next season.

So, to sum up it seems that Janet and her Family and Horses have made a very successful transition from the UK to France, and the Muschamp name continues to flourish, in France, having made it's name as the first Stud to bring the Trakehner to the UK under the guidance of Janets' Father Walter Lorch.

Janet Scollay-Lorch



LESSONS LEARNED, AND MORE TO COME!

When Marion asked me if I would like to write an article for the member's



newsletter my immediate thought was, as a new breeder and relatively new owner of Trakehners, I really do not have any pearls of wisdom or useful information that I could impart onto the very knowledgeable reader of

the British Trakehner Breeders Newsletter. However, as Marion explained, my experience of importing our mares from the UK to Texas, and setting up our facility in Celina, Texas, might be an interesting read! Raised on a farm with three brothers I was not so much taught to ride as thrown on a pony that had been broken by my father and his good friend by dragging a beam behind it. The original idea, I believe, was to put the pony behind a cart; somehow the plan changed and I became the test pilot. Amazingly I learned very quickly how to stay on board and organize the pony in some manner that looked as though I knew what I was doing, although I think for the most part the pony had control! School and "other callings" distracted me from my ponies and then came along marriage and children. Through my husband Steve's work we moved to the USA in 2000 with our two young sons. The plan was to stay for three years then go back to the UK, but somehow we find ourselves here 12 years later! Once our boys graduated from high school we began to toy with the idea of moving into the country and maybe owning our own horses and I could finally learn how to ride "correctly".

By now my brother Paul Attew and Sister-in-law Sue had been very successfully breeding their fabulous Trakehners in the UK for over 25 years. During that time, I watched Holme Park Stud grow and



experienced the beauty of their Trakehners. This lovely breed, therefore, was the natural choice for us; we decided to import two mares so that 'down the road' we could perhaps start our own little breeding program here in Texas. Premium Mare Holme Grove Devaux and Holme Park First Class were chosen and they began their travels together to the USA early in November 2009. We decided to bring them over in the Autumn so they would have time to adjust over the winter when the weather was cooler; allowing us to introduce them gradually to the brutally hot summers here in Texas. When the girls (as we like to call them!) arrived I discovered very quickly the importance of FOUNDATION TRAINING. PM Devaux was to be my school master in dressage and I was strongly encouraged by sister-inlaw Sue to find a "good" trainer to work with me. I was so fortunate to find a wonderful trainer very quickly in Jennifer Jones of Half Pass Training here in Celina (www.halfpasstx.com). Jennifer was immediately impressed with how well mannered the girls were, both under saddle and on the ground. At first we boarded the mares with Randy Cavness at Legacy Equestrian Center (www.legacyequestriancenter.com); again we researched facilities and met the people who ran them to ensure our mares were going to be well cared for and that we were going to get quality guidance and instruction to prepare us for going "solo". Once the girls had arrived Sue jumped on a plane to come over and 'inspect' us to make sure her girls were going to be well cared for. Fortunately she went home reassured; I do believe she would have paid to have them shipped home again if all was not OK! I learned from Sue and Paul how important it is to get the right fit for horse and owner / rider; this is something Holme Trakehners take very seriously and I hope to bring that philosophy to our program.

Devaux was wonderful in training and worked incredibly well through the summer heat of 2010. We earned scores high enough to get us to the regional Championships in Houston that first year and, at this same venue, we were fortunate enough to ride the next test level for the very first time and earn a score that would qualify for the 2011 Championships. Devaux



was just amazing this entire year and looked after me so very well. As you may well know Texas is a huge state and to get to most of the qualifying shows one has to travel, sometimes, 5 – 7 hours with the horses. Logistically it's very different from the UK; Devaux travelled very well and always settled when she arrived at her destinations. We only had one incident down in San Antonio where, for some reason, in the warm up arena just before our class she decided to rear up four times. Apparently it looked very impressive; I managed to stay with her and we went on to ride our test with adrenaline still rushing through our veins. Amazingly once we stepped into the test arena she settled down and got down to work. We think her little outbreak might have had something to do with her being in season and one or two feisty stallions running around, Jennifer had just tightened her girth too so that might have just tipped her composure that day!

First Class was not as advanced in dressage, so we began some low level jumping with her along with dressage schooling; mentally she appreciated the diversity we offered her. She loves to hack out and is always very brave and curious about everything. Since owning these two mares I have discovered how important it is to know your horse, they are both very different in conformation and personality. I can see that it is essential to find out what your horse is good at and enjoys in order to achieve their full potential and to enable horse and rider to have fun together.

Steve and I were so relieved that both mares came through their first summer without a blemish, they took everything very much in their stride. Much of how they settled was, I am sure, to do with how they were handled; lots of hosing down and sensible turn out; sometimes no turnout when it was too hot. I learned very quickly that these horses are very people orientated, however, their 'people' have to earn their trust and respect; this takes time and patience. Once again, the benefit of a good trainer and sound foundation training made this process so much less stressful. Their endurance and tolerance I am certain can be attributed to their ancestors and a strong breeding line.



At the end of June 2010, we sold our house in North Dallas and purchased our new home in Celina, Texas. We quickly moved in, both to the new home and into "full throttle mode!" We had a barn to build, arena to construct, land to nourish, pool to install (a must have in Texas), and two mares to get pregnant!

2011 has, consequently, been a productive and busy year for us, all building work is now complete and our mares have been in their new home (barn) with us since August. Oh boy, did we choose a great year to get the girls pregnant and try to squeeze some grass from the dried up soil here in Celina! The most severe drought on record according to a professor at Texas A&M. Hay had now become my obsession; we had zero grass, two mares and a donkey to feed. Very quickly I learned to watch the weather trends, listen to locals and buy hay early if we wanted to get it at a good price! I managed to secure 180 bales before the price went nuts, enough to see us through to the Spring, hopefully, along with alfalfa.

When researching stallions for the girls I asked my sister-in-law Susan to take a look at the ATA silent auction list, she said she had seen Schiffon *Ps* at Neumunster, and she and my brother Paul really liked him and so my bid went into the auction and we won him for Devaux! I had already decided that Tzigan *Pb* would be a great choice for First Class; his impressive performance record as an eventer and jumper will be a great match for her. We bid on him also in the Silent Auction but, unfortunately, were pipped at the post! We decided to pursue Tzigane anyway and met with Kim Hunter, his owner, to discuss her contract, as luck would have it Kim lives relatively close to us here in Texas so we were able to get together. She came over to visit our property and take a look at First Class. It's so nice to have a fellow Trakehner breeder close by and Kim is very knowledgeable, a great source of information and support for us.



With our breeding contracts in place we started the process early in the year; we were fortunate that First Class took first time; Kim did tell me that Tzigan's semen was potent! Devaux was a little more resistant; after three attempts and a lot of patience we were successful (she is a slightly older mare with "no previous experience" so this was not such a surprise). I decided if we were not lucky on the third try we would stop, put her back to work under saddle and try again next season. It is interesting that once I "relaxed" into this plan the tension seemed to disappear from our trips to the vets and, perhaps, this reflected on her too, so on this third attempt she took and her foal is due in May 2012. However, I know that we are not home and dry we still have to see healthy foals on the ground; then there are all the horror stories about complications and foal fatalities! Our first 'baby' is due from First Class on February 25th, so now (mid-December) First Class is beginning to look very pregnant and showing signs of being perhaps a little uncomfortable. It is interesting to observe how her mood seems to change, but, I suppose, not that surprising – having gone through a couple of pregnancies myself! She can be most indignant with me when I clean out her stall these days and turns her bottom on me the whole time I am in there; Paul, my brother, tells me that her mother, Holme Park Fantine, was very possessive over her foals so perhaps this is a trait that is coming through in First Class. I will have to watch out for that when baby arrives.

With the two mares advancing nicely in their pregnancies I found myself without a horse to ride. Steve and I took a trip back to the UK in October 2011 and, combined with our plans to attend our first annual convention in Neumunster, my thoughts were focused on finding a riding horse for me. Neumunster was an amazing experience; we met some very interesting people, some from America! It was educational for us to sit with Paul and Sue and other breeders from around the world, listening to them critique what I thought were already very nice horses, the cream of the crop that year! I had already ridden and fallen in love with a little chestnut gelding back at Holme Park Stud though; so Holme Park Versace



packed his things and followed us back to the Texas via New York. The old maxim that "size matters" is true; Versace was a small foal and slow to grow, at 8 years old, he stands 15.3 hands, but for me (I barely make 5' 1") he is perfect! He has been with us for coming up to five weeks now and has settled in very well; he has amazing movement and really is a 'big' horse inside! We gave him a week of rest, to recover from his travels, and in his second week we began work in our new outdoor arena. Then nature intervened, however, and at last we started to get some much needed rain fall so I had to trailer him over to Legacy for his schooling, where they have a covered arena. He coped with this first trip out so well, but we came across a problem when we tried to back him out of our horse trailer. The poor boy had no idea what we wanted of him and he just froze; there was no way he was going to blindly back himself off this trailer with no ramp into what, for all he knew, was a sheer drop into oblivion!! It was a little early for him to trust us that much! We had to call for back up and Randy kindly came over to rescue Versace from his inept owners! We had to be quite firm to get him off the trailer, however, the next day he was still tentative but, once he got the idea, he managed to back himself off quite well. The next time it was my turn to back him off and I completely messed up; before I knew it he had turned himself around and exited front first like every self respecting horse would do given the opportunity! He didn't panic though he just turned and looked at me once he was on the ground as if to say "see; it makes perfect sense to come out forward"! The reason we don't like to lead the horses off front first is for safety, some horses can get over excited and might jump on their human leader when unloading that way.



Given the above, and since having the horse's back at the ranch, I have had days when I seriously doubt myself of being anything but ready to take care of my own horses yet alone new born foals! Since Versace arrived the temperature here dropped dramatically to freezing almost overnight, we had several days of rain fall so no turn out and a new horse on the premises! Until recently I had been leading the mares to turn out together, we were in a smooth routine, we all knew what was going to happen and it worked like a dream. Suddenly overnight First Class started getting feisty on turn out and taking both mares out at the same time began to be a challenge.



I should probably mention that we had moved them to a new paddock which was rich with green rye grass and, new to them, bounded by electric fencing. I decided to try taking First Class down to the paddock first and going back for Devaux; not my best idea! First Class went bonkers, broke through the electric fencing, galloped all the way back to the barn and dove straight into her stall for safety and to be close to Devaux! After catching my breath, relieved that no one was hurt, and so glad I had left her stall door open, I had to remind myself how sensitive these animals are to change in routine, weather, new arrivals to the barn and how attached they get to each other. The harmony on our little farm was temporarily thrown out of kilter. Today, however, I feel it is restored somewhat, Versace has calmed down after his stressful few days of having to back off the trailer without a ramp and getting used to his new



environment, the girls are back to their turn out routine and munching happily on the lovely green grass; even the donkey seems happier.

So another great lesson for me, with a lot more I'm sure to come! It seems you just never know what curve ball your horse will throw you, one day everything is running smoothly and then something changes and puts you back on your toes again! My lesson here is not to become complacent around horses no matter how well you know them.

Finally I should mention our first American Trakehner Association Annual Convention which was conveniently held just a few miles up the road from our property! We took our mares and showed them in the mare and young horse show, they both behaved very well and Devaux won Reserve Mare. Fortunately we had great weather that weekend. It was very interesting to meet other ATA members and to attend the meetings and educational clinics which were very informative for me, especially as a new member. I was so glad to have the opportunity to speak with Joe Carr, FEI Safety Representative; he really opened my eyes to seeking adequate insurance coverage. Since Steve and I are hoping to open our barn to boarding clients it is important we are fully aware of liability and protection. I really had not thought of the consequences of my horses breaking out of their paddock, for example, getting onto the road and perhaps causing an accident yikes! I was also happy to have the opportunity to meet Lea Ann Hansen owner of Schiffon in person at the Convention, we managed to find a moment in the busy weekend schedule to bring Lea Ann out to our barn and meet Devaux for the first time.

You can find us at www.holmeranch.com come visit us if you are ever this way or just visit us on line for updates on our new foals in 2012.

By Sandra Wilkes



Freeze for the Future

By Kate Kate Ashmore BSc (Hons)



The days of leading one's mare to the local stallion in the village have all but disappeared with more and more breeders turning to advanced methods to maximize their potential of achieving a pregnancy producing a foal of choice with high genetic merit

In the past, using frozen semen has been somewhat overlooked by breeders through fear of high veterinary costs linked with lower conception rates in comparison to fresh or chilled semen. Although this still remains to be generally true, in recent years conception rates have



improved greatly thanks to advances in freezing, thawing and insemination techniques. For this reason it is now far more likely for breeders to choose frozen semen and therefore it is a more viable option for the stallion owner. However,

with this in mind there are many more reasons why it may be beneficial to freeze semen from your stallion, and their appeal is simply magnified by these improved techniques.

It is becoming increasingly popular for the competition stallion to have his semen collected and frozen, enabling him to have a breeding career simultaneously with an uninterrupted competition career. It is almost relatively unheard of for top equine athletes to juggle stud duties with a tough international competition schedule. Having frozen semen stored and distributed means that stallions can still meet their supply and demand requirements without the risk of fatigue or lack of concentration disrupting competition.

One of the greatest opportunities the recent advances in cryopreservation has offered us is the ability to conserve the gene pools of our



rarest equine breeds. The Rare Breeds Survival Trust monitors the female breeding populations of horses and ponies and identifies those breeds most at risk. On behalf of government agencies they provide funding toward the cryo-preservation of selected stallions to ensure the conservation of the breed.

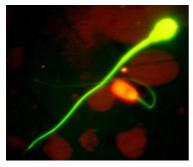


Preserving the genetics of a stallion before castration is also common practice, whether it be an unproven colt or a competition stallion whose career may benefit from a little more concentration! Often unless a colt has improved sale prospects or potential

as a sire, life on the farm is a whole lot easier when these youngsters are castrated. Harvesting sperm from the stallion's testicles (epididymis) post castration is now possible and is a procedure seeing much more interest in recent years. There are new and improved methods for freezing epididymal sperm which should maximise its fertility after thawing.

The export of frozen semen is a rapidly expanding market where often the demand for superior genetics and new bloodlines in certain countries is significantly outweighed by its current supply. Equine frozen semen can be shipped throughout the world safely without altering its quality and there are no costs and stress associated with the movement of animals, therefore increasing revenue streams. However, it is important to understand that with wider distribution comes greater responsibility. We are all familiar with the horrors of disease outbreaks resulting from animal derived products moving across borders. This equally applies to frozen equine semen shipped into and out of the UK. To prevent unwanted sexually transmitted diseases such as CEM, EVA and EIA, it is extremely important that all semen collected and frozen for export adheres completely with the health requirements for the country of destination and is accompanied by original export health papers.





There are many reasons why today's breeder may choose cryo-preservation for their stallion with varying motives from preserving a breed to increasing the revenue or as insurance against injury or death of the stallion. As equine breeders we have a great opportunity to embrace new technology and use it to its full

potential. This undoubtedly means that more stallions will be available to a wider market, with better reproductive success. This can only be beneficial as it leads to a healthier gene pool with more choice for all.

Stallion AI Services - http://twemlows.co.uk

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A Modern Approach to Worming

Make 2012 the year to change your approach to worming.

Change is always hard and it is easier to keep on doing what you have always done, especially if your horses look healthy, however there is now a time bomb ticking inside many horses, youngstock particularly, of which many owners and breeders are unaware.

In 2010 The British Veterinary Association announced that worming all horses with the same product at the same time was contributing to the development of resistance to the wormers available in the UK. They recommended that each horse is treated as an individual and are wormed according to their risk and known infection.

Horse owners and breeders have been slow to make this change as it makes worming more complicated, and more expensive, however the impact of this is starting to show. When a horse starts Intelligent Worming historically 20% had a medium – heavy worm burden. This rose to over 50% in 2011, and looks set to rise further in 2012 unless horse owners actually decide to make this change. Over 75% of studs joining in 2011 had worm resistance that they were unaware of. The way that your horse looks now has no relevance to the damage that could be happening right now, today, inside his stomach; damage that is irreversible.

Worming is becoming more complicated and the word 'refugia' becoming more common. By leaving some horses untreated with low levels of parasites can help prevent resistance from getting at an uncontrollable level. This is because these worms are not exposed to the drugs and are therefore not under pressure to survive. It also encourages the horse's immune system to work, and wormers can be used once the burden gets too high for the immune system to cope alone. The management of whether your horse has a level of worms suitable for refugia or suitable is something that needs to be carried out by a professional parasitologist



specialists, especially with young horses as the normal rules of worming do not apply.

Young animals are parasitically immature until around 4 years of age, they are born with no natural immunity against intestinal parasites and therefore need additional support. They are generally at higher risk of infection especially if they are born at stud. Therefore standard, basic faecal egg count interpretation rules can be dangerous, if not combined with a risk assessment.

Worms are clever life forces; they can react to their environment and evolve to survive the drugs that kill them. We need to remain one step ahead, and we cannot do this by bombarding them with wormers every few months. By understanding the lifecycle we can use other tools to keep them at bay.

The time is here to change your focus from preventative treatments to preventative strategies. It sounds complicated but it is quite simple.

Don't worm your horse 'assuming' that it has worms

Prevent the worms from completing their lifecycle by making changes to your pasture management and stock rotation system

Risk assess your horse and its environment

Find out what level of worms are inside the horse and worm them accordingly.

It should be possible for most adult horses to live happily and healthily with just one or maybe two treatments a year, taking into account those parasites that are not detectable using worm egg counts. It may take time to get to this, but it is possible. However, in order to develop into adult horses that can achieve their full potential, it is important that you know for certain what level of parasites your foals and youngsters are exposed to. You will not see the damage, as it can take 5-10 years to become



apparent, but Trakehners are special horses bred to achieve excellence. Worms can take the WOW factor away, and cap the potential if not identified at an early age in the horse.

New Year's Resolutions

Remove your horse's dung from the pasture every two to three days.

Use faecal egg counts to see what level of worms your horse is carrying.

Only worm your horse when you know what is going on inside.

You would not trim or shoe your horse yourself, it is time to take the same approach to a disease that can permanently damage or even kill your horse.

Act now, don't wait until it is too late.

Photo of Trakehner on weigh scales at Futurity.



The wormers that are available in the UK now are precious. There are no new wormers set to ioin the shelves and therefore we must use the drugs we have carefully and strategically otherwise we could end up in a situation where none of

the drugs work. We all need to act more responsibly for the long term health of our horses.

Intelligent Worming use information gained from our ten years experience, and include the infection risk and details you provide about



your horse into account when we write a programme specifically for that individual. Horses are only wormed when necessary and we make sure that the wormers we use are effective and only used in a timely manner. We use worm egg counts to monitor the parasite burden inside the horse and to determine the level on the pasture. It is the best and most cost effective way to move to a more informed way of worming. We have many studs and smaller breeders already benefiting from our programmes. For more information, call one of our consultants on

01267 223322.

Now is the time to change.

Intelligent Worming are offering the first 100 callers from 'The Trakehners Breeders Fraternity' their first consultation free of charge. Find out now if your worming programme meets British Veterinary Association guidelines and is 'fit for purpose' for 2012.

Comments from Intelligent Worming's Technical Manager, Simon Daniels on the risks in 2012 to foals and young horses, in particular from ascarids and small redworm infection.

Parasitically immature animals are at risk of small redworm infections in the same way as mature animals are, however they are also at risk of ascarid infections. Ascarids are commonly known as roundworms and are long and white in colour. As horses mature generally, but not always, their own immune system will cope with the presence of ascarids and fight back to keep levels very low. Immature animals lack this immunity and can become infected with this parasite. Ascarids can grow up to 40cm in length and are found in the small intestine. If they are present in high numbers in the gut, then due to the size, the youngster is at risk of impaction colic and in the worst case scenario intestinal rupture.

Parasitically immature animals are also at greatest risk of larval cyathastomiasis, this is the condition where a mass emergence of



encysted small redworms in the large intestine leads to colic and diarrhoea, this condition generally has only a 50% survival rate.

Traditionally, youngstock programmes have used anthelmintics (chemical wormers) repeatedly at short dosing intervals to prevent these parasites taking hold within the young stock. Some establishments treat from birth and at regular intervals onwards to keep parasites at bay. Ivermectin has been the chemical of choice in many breeding establishments for many years. The reason for this choice being its efficacy against both red worm and round worms in the adult and larval stages, however, it does not treat for encysted larval stages of the small redworms. It is also safe for use in mares and foals throughout gestation, lactation and early stages of foal development.

This type of worming programme is not sustainable. Firstly, if the foal's immune system is never exposed to the parasites then it will never learn to fight back. The balance is all about allowing exposure but providing the chemical support so their system is not over burdened. The second problem is the over use of anthelmintics and at much shorter periods than they were designed for, this increases the speed of resistance building. A low level of worms is necessary in the animal and the environment collectively to ensure that if resistant worms are present there are some drug sensitive worms for them to breed with to dilute the resistant population. Overuse of anthelmintics long term will lead to a population of drug resistant parasites within the animal and environment that cannot be treated.

Unsurprisingly this situation has been documented in veterinary science research from stud farms worldwide where the ascarids have become resistant to ivermectin. There is already reduced efficacy and resistance to ivermectin in small redworms. Therefore it is important for the sustainability of the chemicals that we have that this type of worming must change.



Intelligent Worming provides a sustainable solution to stud animals and young stock worming programmes. Each horse is looked at as an individual as a one size fits all programme does not work. Some animals will be at higher risk than others due to where they are kept and how they are managed.

Intelligent Worming will grade the situation risk and design a programme to provide the necessary chemical support which still allows the immune system to be stimulated. By using faecal egg counts the worm burden intensity is carefully monitored to ensure that the parasite level is kept within a manageable level. Efficacy tests are used to ensure chemicals are working for the length of time they are expected to, if not then the programme is amended so only effective chemicals are used. As the young stock mature the additional chemicals are gradually removed from the programme as the immune system is trained to fight the parasites. By using the Intelligent Worming programme, as the horse becomes parasitically mature, a monitoring programme could be used with reduced chemicals, allowing the horse to lead a healthy parasite free life.

To find out more, please visit $\underline{www.intelligentworming.co.uk}$ or

call **01267 223322.**

With white horses and black bulls

Trakehner horses in Andalusia? This quite hilly region in the south of Spain, that is stamped by far cork oak forests and is not only the home to the famous black pigs, that produce the tasty Serrano ham, as well as the Toros, the black fighting bulls, but also home to the horses of Pure Spanish Breed, the P.R.E. .

Since primeval times this horse has been living here and is perfectly adapted to the conditions of the land. Presenting itself in mainly the grey colour, this horse is so associated with this region, that it seems there could be no room for another horse breed. Far from the truth. The East



Prussian colours are already present through white horses and black bulls, recently also the horses originating from East Prussia managed to make it their homes and conquer the hearts of the people. Yet the way here was so hard and rocky like the ground of the country and the starting point of the Trakehner Breed in Andalusia so terrible, that it would have not been able to be any worse.

An animal drama of unimaginable size happened in the years 2008 and 2009 in Cadiz, when a herd of about 60 horses, mostly Trakehners bought in Britain, was left to suffer in the heat and the bare land with insufficient feed and water. Many of the poor horses died of starvation and thirst.

Some of them were valuable Broodmares, originally sold at auction in Neumuenster,

Juan Berges Torres from Sevilla took in the surviving 34 horses, 24 of that Trakehners. On his Finca 'El Zurrador' about 100km northwest of Sevilla he did everything in his power to nurture the extremely weakened animals back to health.

The work and efforts of Juan and his wife Christina in the following months did pay off. Except for one mare that was too far gone to recover, all the horses recovered under their care. Yet new problems presented themselves. What should happen with these horses in the future? Horses of a breed that he had never heard of before. Horses whose passports were irretrievable and therefore the identification near to impossible.

With the help of British breeder Susan Attew and registrar Terry Hyde, the Pedigrees of every single Trakehner could be researched and determined. And through DNA testing the fathers of the foals and young horses could be ascertained.

After months of intensive care and careful training the rescued horses were ready to be shown to the public for the first time in September 2010. Juan Torres invited interested riders and breeders to his Finca. As



delegates of the TBF and of the German Trakehner Verbands Susan and Paul Attew, accompanied by Susan's mother Barbara Watkiss, Terry Hyde and Erhard Schulte accompanied by Beate Heise, went to participate. They also did the identification and registration of the last remaining horses.

Little more than a year later Erhard Schulte and Ilonka Danowski went to visit 'El Zurrador' again in November 2011. On their flight over there they were wondering what might have become of the large numbers of Trakehners. They also had to do the evaluation and registration of this year's foals.

They were shown three foals out of registered dams, but from an ungraded stallion, a situation that originates in the animals' past. The highest marked foal was a filly out of Holme Grove Laluna by Holme Grove Solomon-Istanbul. Even though the father is not graded, he has been valuably bred with Latimer and Induc in his bloodlines, the proven genes, also from the foal's mother's side, reflect in the quality of the foal.

Juan Torres chose three mares as the foundation to start off his own Trakehner Breed: two granddaughters of the in England proven Holme Grove Solomon and the very impressive mare Polarstern by Latimer-Van Deyk. For the next season he has planned coverings with stallions standing at stud in Germany.

Regarding the whereabouts of the other horses, the visitors were impressed with the engagement of Juan Torres, as he had managed to find new homes for over 20 of the rescued horses within a 14 month period. Without exception the new owners are amazed by the temperament and the rideability of their Trakehners. Juan Torres maintains contact with the new owners and follows the path of every single one of these horses.

During our trip we had the chance to visit the farm of Ricardo Ruiz de la Riva. On his 280 ha farm north of Sevilla, we met a few Trakehners



amongst the 80 horses there. Same at Paco Duarte, who runs a Training and competition stable near the Portuguese border. Both are experienced horse people, who until now had never been in contact with Trakehners, but are now convinced about these horses.

Older mares make good riding horses for their new owners and the young colts have gone to be reared as stallion prospects. Even though their fathers were not approved, they have proven Sires like Kostolany, Sixtus, Santiago or Van Deyk in their Pedigrees. The plan is to prepare them for the grading of the Spanish Sports Horse.

You can now find promising horses in the stables of Trainers, who didn't even know a year ago what Trakehners are and that they exist. Now they have pictures and articles of their horse's ancestors on their walls.

Juan Torres' Finca 'El Zurrador' has been renamed last year to 'Yeguada Sierra Norte', 'Sierra Norte Stud', and in their Logo you find the Trakehner antlers.

Together with Paco Duarte and Ricardo Ruis de la Riva he is thinking of forming an interest group of Spanish Trakehner breeders and riders. At the moment they are searching the whole of Spain for other Trakehner horses to present their owners and riders with this idea and get them on board.

The surviving horses of Cadiz were able to win new friends of the Trakehner horse. Through uncontrolled breeding within the herd in those bad years, the horses don't fully comply with the breeding goals of the Trakehner and especially their growth was stunted due to the lack of nutrition during their first years. Still every single one of them became an ambassador for their breed. An achievement in itself that deserves respect.

Written by Ilonka Danowski Translated by Tanja Davies



Bursary Winners Update

Linda Prescott Clements and Menelaos

"well, in terms of progress with our training its been rather a frustrating summer / autumn for Monty and I. We started going out at medium level and it was soon clear that this was quite a leap for both Monty and myself (neither of us have been there before!). Whilst he finds the work generally easy, he's such a forward going horse we're taking time in getting the necessary collection for the work to be good enough for the higher marks. He's also getting a lot hotter as he enjoys working and loves to anticipate! A few walk to canter transitions result in several minutes of jogging from sheer excitement.

We had qualified for the summer regionals, and in our preparation I included his 'treat' a week before the big day which was a physio and massage session by Lisa Cleeton, a local veterinary physiotherapist and shiatsu massage expert. Its safe to say she is one of Monty's favourite people! He absolutely loves his treatments and Lisa says he is one of her most 'expressive' clients! He's clearly in heaven and almost ends up climbing the walls, especially when it comes to the shoulder rub... Anyway, Lisa found a small tear in his hamstring which came as quite a shock, although he had been enjoying the summer tearing around his field a bit more than my nerves could stand. Although he wasn't lame as such, I decided it just wasn't worth the risk, so sadly we withdrew from the competition and he had a few weeks off followed by a few weeks gently walking only.

We just got going again and then he threw a splint (oh no! His first blemish!) - again down to more high jinx in the paddock - and that was a few more weeks off. he wasn't lame with it, but I wanted to rest him just in case. Then, he lost a shoe on the day my farrier went on holiday for 2 weeks.... So all in all, it was amazing that we managed to get to enough competitions to qualify for the winter regional championships at



Elementary. As we were lucky enough to do so well at the 2011 winter national championships getting 9th place, it means that we are in the 'open' section and competing against the big boys! Still, Monty held his own in their company and we managed to get the necessary 18 points (9 from qualifiers).

So several weeks later when the results were uploaded onto the BD website it came as quite a shock when the qualification status was not there! When I queried this, BD said that one of the venues had misidentified a class as a qualifier (when it wasn't) and so I still had more points to get. After challenging the mistake, I'm pleased to say that BD honoured the qualifying points and reinstated us. So we're heading to the Scottish Regionals at Rowallan early February!

All of this is weather permitting of course. Today (4th Dec) it snowed here for the first time. Grim! Luckily it was a tiny shower here and didn't lie, but I think other parts of Scotland have had it worse. Its going to be a challenge getting the necessary work into him through the winter again. As it is I have to ride at 5am during the week due to a long commute and full time job, and its freezing at that time! So it might be time to invest in some winter breeches. My legs were actually blue when i finished riding today... and I'm not kidding! Luckily Monty had the fleece exercise rug that we won with the bursary from Takehners UK on for the first time, and I rather think he enjoyed it!

I'm really looking forward to some lessons with Corinna Wyse in Fife next weekend, and we've booked in for some training in Glos at AM Dressage in the New Year. As well as lessons with Monty, I've booked a few Schoolmaster lessons to help me learn how to do flying changes and some more advanced work. They have a lovely grand prix schoolmaster called Wizard, whose grandfather is a trakehner I'm told! I'm really looking forward to it. I don't think Monty will find changes difficult - although I might - but I image any hope of a counter canter after that may be in vain.



He loves to anticipate so I imagine he will think he's in charge as usual and do them when he thinks its a good idea.

Either way, I'm feeling really motivated and really looking forward to getting going again. Just keeping everything crossed.... pleeeease don't snow!!!!"

Linda Prescott Clements

Emily Laughton and Kishon



When we won the bursary in September I was working hard to prepare for our first CCI ** at Osberton International. This involved training once or twice a week with Caroline Moore and going to the gallops every fourth day. We stayed for five days and Kishon coped really well with being stabled onsite. There were ninety-

four people in the class and most were well known professions – not daunting at all!

I walked the Cross Country course when we arrived with my mum, who rarely joins me as she finds it too worrying and would rather not know what we're jumping. I was impressed with the course, there was a lot that could go wrong but nothing Kishon wasn't capable of.

Dressage is his weakest phase so I spent hours before the event trying to get it up to scratch. The Dressage was in the main arena, surrounded with trade stands and flags — the sort of scenario that would normally send Kishon in to a spin. Fortunately we were allowed some familiarisation time the evening before so he had chance to see the spooky arena, which was great.





I did my Dressage test on the Thursday and I was very pleased with how he warmed up. He often gets very tense in his tests but he did one of the best he's ever done and I was very proud of him. I was picked at random to be dope

tested - 10% of the entrants have to be checked under the FEI rules. As soon as I'd completed my test, we were taken off for samples to be taken and Kishon was a model patient.

I walked the XC again with Caroline and felt really confident about it, Kishon's very brave and clearly loves it. On the day it was thirty degrees and the course was over eight minutes long; so I was glad I'd got Kishon really fit. He made the course feel easy and gave me an amazing feeling the whole way round. I couldn't have been happier with him, he tried his heart out and really looked after me.

I show jumped the next day and Kishon wasn't his usual lively and excitable self, the course the day before had certainly taken it's toll. We had two poles down which I was happy with as the course was tricky and a lot were having problems. Overall we came 42nd which was an amazing result considering I was in such good company.

We ended the season on a real high and I gave Kishon a seven week holiday, he enjoyed chilling in the field with his buds. I've just brought Kishon back in to work and have started training again. My bursary has already helped so much and enabled me to have the training I needed before Osberton and will fund my training this winter.

Emily Laughton



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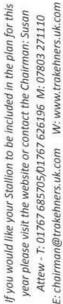


















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