

International Caspian Society

12/31/2017

NEWSLETTER



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residency but this is awaiting the outcome of new Data Protection rules.

It is extremely sad that a number of Caspians bred from registered stock in both the U.S.A. and Australia are not recorded in the ICSB.

Number of Caspians registered in the ICSB

Living	1828
Living and deceased	2151

FROM THE ARCHIVE

Foundation stallion Zeeland in training at Ghara Tepe Sheik



THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING INFORMATION UP TO DATE

We are constantly being asked for details of Caspian stock and it is clear from the following statistics that deaths are drastically under-reported.

The figures are also misleading where European Caspians are registered in the U.K. and to rectify this it is hoped to create a new field to record country of

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

A Sad Goodbye to Cheleken Grischa

Shauna Mills-Swart (Astara Caspian Stud)

Shauna Mills Swart reports that her lovely New Zealand imported stallion "CHELEKEN GRISCHA" was euthanized on Wednesday 20th December, 2017 after breaking his shoulder.

"We have no idea how it happened. I just noticed him walking on three legs when I glanced out of the lounge room window. He was in his mid-twenties so had a fairly long life. 'Eddy' was the pride of our herd and was the most well-mannered Caspian you could possibly wish for. He won numerous classes in South Australia having been shown on many occasions.

I missed him immediately he was gone as I could see him from the house and always kept an eye on his antics in his paddock. He was a fence runner, so I expect he decided to have a go at the fence or something. He did not like birds flying through his paddock air space, no wild rabbits allowed to cross his territory. Definitely no sheep allowed to get through his fence for a visit. He was very territorial,

even though his next door neighbour was another stallion.' Eddy' was dearly loved and is hugely missed. He was extremely well cared for, being stabled each night and out in his paddock by day, and let out into a 42 acre paddock sometimes, just for a really good run and some nice grass.

We loved him so much - such a great Caspian. He will never be forgotten, as he leaves plenty of progeny to carry his genes further on into the future."

[Editor's note: Grischa sired more than 20 foals]



UPDATE ON TEAM KHOJA

After appearing in the Caspian Display Team at the Horse of the Year Show in the U.K, Amelia Waddicor and Kineton Khoja went on to win again at Cricklands on the 19th November with a 100% score. Amelia was also second in her class at the British National Championships against senior drivers.

For a competitors eye view of Team Khoja at HOYS please go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=veD0fRj4KmM>

SOPHIE GOODCHILD

Another young lady who helped us out at the Horse of the Year Show is Sophie Goodchild and you can read about her work with Caspians by following the link below:

<http://www.haddontraining.co.uk/apprentice-spotlight-sophie-goodchild/>

THE HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW Caspian Display 2017 – ‘The Story Of The Caspian Horse’

Brenda Dalton

From the 4th to the 8th October 2017, the Caspian horse enthralled spectators at the Horse of the Year Show at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, England.

Affectionately known as HOYS, the show is the culmination of a year’s competition, bringing together champions in all equestrian spheres in the U.K. Vast numbers of spectators flock to see the greatest show jumpers, dressage riders, hacks, hunters, show ponies etc. ridden by the country’s best equestrians.

Never in our wildest dreams could we have expected that there would be a Caspian display at the Horse of the Year Show so when the CHS were invited to attend it was with some scepticism that many of us received the news. *Could it happen – would it happen? IT DID and in splendid fashion.*

CHS Vice-President, Elizabeth Mansfield-Parnell, is to be thanked for securing the invitation and also, along with CHS President, Jane Holderness-Roddam, for the dedication, display content and training that saw it through to fruition. Farokh Khorrooshi, who produced the beautiful 50th anniversary calendar, is to be congratulated on his sheer determination and for his help with the great theatre and atmosphere which began even before the team entered the arena, drawing the audience into what was an emotive and gripping ten minutes. How fortunate we are to have the backing of such remarkable people and you can read more about them at the end of this newsletter. Throughout the week, all three put a hand to whatever tasks needed to be filled.

Coming from many miles apart, the team had little opportunity to practise together, but despite this, the horses, handlers and riders, from a four year old on lead rein to the mounted games ‘acrobats’ (one of whom had to catch a train home to sit an important exam on one of the days) didn’t put a foot or a hoof wrong over seven gripping performances and a finale

which included swirling bagpipes and ear-splitting drumming.



Disciplines included were lead rein, first ridden, side saddle, riding for the disabled, endurance, dressage, polo, mounted games, stallions, long reining and driving.

Whilst an overhead screen portrayed the pictorial history of the breed, the captivating voice of Martin Clunes, horse lover and one of our best loved TV actors, related it to the audience.

As his words faded, the stallion, Henden Troy, whose rider was resplendent in a specially made Iranian costume, trotted serenely forward, whilst the commentators took over the narration.



Henden Troy ridden by Jessica Lee

Having been broken, before spending the majority of his life grazing quietly in a field, Troy, had been trained for just five weeks by Jane Holderness-Roddam.

All the people involved in the display, from the preparation and production of the horses, to the riders, handlers, administrators and assistants, deserve enormous gratitude for their outstanding efforts.

A full description can be found on the Caspian Horse Society website and two excellent amateur videos have been posted on-line.

<https://www.facebook.com/emma.janerushton/videos/10214157655913124/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2P351bjXDY&feature=em-share_video_user



Costessa Feysul ridden by Zara Clark



Runnymede Felfel with Vicky Leggett

Three stallions appeared in the ring together, including father, Runnymede Felfel, (bottom left) and son, Bytham Justin Time, all displaying perfect manners.



Bytham Justin Time ridden by Millie Bowler



Bytham Churchill and Bytham Swallow, ridden by Chloe Wheeler-Chapman and Jessica Rivers

People who had never before heard of the breed sought us out at the stands, sometimes quite emotionally, to let us know how much they had enjoyed it.

It was unfortunate that the breeders of the Bytham and Costessa Caspians weren't able to attend and extremely sad that the breeders of Runnymede, Henden and Kineton Caspians are no longer with us to see their horses take part in the display.

And how we wished that Louise Firouz could have seen it.



Bytham Swallow - stand exhibit in the morning and polo pony in the afternoon



It was quite overwhelming to meet TeAra Bergstrom and her family who visited us from New Zealand



And from Scotland, Anna Bergmann and Sheilagh Nisbet-Brown, second and third from left

Thanks go to:

Jessica Lee
 Rebecca Mann
 Penny Walster
 Millie Bowler (6)
 Polly Clark
 Zara Clark (8)
 Ellie Goff
 Arijana Goff (6)
 Rachel Horsfall
 Anna Horsfall (4)
 Molly Dear
 Zoe Basford
 Charlotte Archer-Goode
 Joanna Mason
 Annie Mason (6)
 Jessica Rivers
 Chloe Wheeler Chapman
 Vicky Leggett
 Lizzie Sales
 Maya Clements
 Lauren Firth
 Charley Thornton
 Geoff Thornton
 Phil and Jackie Kinsey
 Amelia Waddicor
 Morag Patrick

**And to Display
 Directors/HOYS
 Committee**

Jane Holderness Roddam
 Elizabeth Mansfield-Parnell
 Farokh Khorooshi
 Janet Dediccoat
 Elizabeth Webster

Exciting News from The Caspian Horse Society of the Americas

CHSA has been working in conjunction with Livestock Conservancy on a census to identify the rarest Caspian bloodlines in North America. Thanks to a very generous financial gift from a Livestock Conservancy member, funds have been secured to begin a long term semen collection and storage program for our critical bloodlines in North America. Below is a brief overview of the program, located on page 5 of Livestock Conservancy's year-end report.

CHSA sent a representative to the annual Heritage Breed Conference sponsored by Livestock Conservancy in November in Williamsburg, Virginia. Our representative attended a number of workshops including "The Tricky Business of Breed Registries", "The Importance of Pedigree Registration" and "Card Grading Protocol", an educational program designed to evaluate livestock according to their Breed Standard for sale, show, and breeding. CHSA is enthused by the connections we've made with Livestock Conservancy. Our common desire to move Caspians off the Critical list has strengthened our connection and made many new resources available to us. Livestock Conservancy invited the CHSA to participate in an upcoming Endangered Equine Summit, to be held at Texas A&M University this coming February and we will send a representative. "Through collaboration with Texas A&M University and Virginia Tech, the Livestock Conservancy plans to bring together approximately 50 endangered horse breed associations to participate in a National Endangered Equine Summit. Together with leaders of the scientific, rare breed and horse communities, this targeted working group will be tasked to identify the leading causes of breed population declines, decide what actions may be taken to stabilize the loss of breeds and develop a list of achievable and fundable action points." We look forward to sharing a future report with you on the outcome of this Summit.

[Please also see page 11]

We do wish everyone a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year

Introducing Mrs Jane Holderness-Roddam LVO, CBE (CHS PRESIDENT)

Jane has a long involvement with horses and with the Horse of the Year Show at top level.

Jane's mother was Ann Bullen (1914-1963) who was well known for painting horse portraits and as an author. As a child, I well remember reading her self-illustrated pony books. She was also one of the first people to produce top riding ponies by spotting quality moorland ponies, often covered in mud and in poor condition, and crossing them with carefully selected small thoroughbreds. The ponies were ridden and shown by her children.

She formed the world famous Catherston Stud and, having an uncanny eye for a good horse, she later acquired the exquisite dark bay show hack, Desert Storm, who was ridden by Jane's sister, Jennie (Loriston Clarke), then just sixteen, to win the show hack of the year (at HOYS). Prosperity of Catherston, another mare that held me spellbound all those years ago, along with Desert Storm, was extremely influential in Catherston breeding.

The Bullen family became top equestrians, competing for Britain in eight Olympics: Michael and Andrew in the eventing team, and Jennie in the dressage team five times, while Jane won an eventing gold medal at the Mexico Olympics, and both the Burghley and Badminton three-day events. The first of her successes at Badminton, riding Our Nobby, whilst training to be a nurse, came directly after a stint on night duty and earned her the nickname 'the galloping nurse'.

The stud now produces competition horses and both the Catherston Stud (run by Jennie and her husband) and West Kingston Stud (run by Jane and her husband) are respected worldwide experts in the field of AI.

<http://catherstonstud.com/our-history/>

<http://www.westkingtonstud.co.uk/>

A link to Jane's report on HOYS can be found on the home page of the West Kingston Stud web site.

Introducing Mrs Elizabeth Mansfield-Parnell (CHS VICE PRESIDENT)

Elizabeth Mansfield-Parnell owns the world-famous Rotherwood Stud of British Riding ponies and Welsh show ponies. She was one of the first breeders to become involved with AI.

She first became acquainted with the Caspian on her way home from Australasia in November 1976, following an extensive lecture tour.

Waiting on board to continue her journey from Teheran airport she noticed a number of in-foal mares, a stallion and a yearling waiting in crates to be loaded onto the plane. Intrigued, she began to film the incident.

Nervous passengers were aware that take-off was subject to a strict deadline.

Meanwhile Louise Firouz made continued attempts to conform to demands that would allow the Caspians to be loaded onto the plane to the U.K. where they would join the Caspian Stud U.K. owned by Elizabeth Webster and her partners, prefix Hopstone.

The filming was brought abruptly to an end when two Iranian out-riders wearing pistols at each hip seized the film and threatened Elizabeth with jail.

The plane finally left Teheran airport with only minutes to spare, ten hours behind schedule.

The Caspians in this shipment were tagged 'the wolf batch' due to the herd having been attacked by wolves during which some of the Caspians destined for the U.K. had been killed.



Elizabeth Mansfield-Parnell (right) judging at the CHS Breed Show in 2004 with Louise Firouz

For further information please go to:

<http://www.rotherwoodstud.co.uk/index.html>

Introducing Farokh Khorrooshi (CHS Council member)

Born in Teheran, Farokh is a keen conservationist who has taken a serious interest in helping to preserve the Caspian. When not directing commercials for TV and cinema he keeps rare sheep and produces honey on his organic farm.

A selection of five of the lovely photographs taken for Farokh's 2016 international calendar were produced as packs of blank cards to raise funds for HOYS.

Sets are available from the CHS and apart from being useful greetings cards they make ideal gifts. Complete with envelopes, they are left blank for your own message. At just £5 a pack they could also be framed to make a set of lovely inexpensive Caspian pictures.



Postage within the U.K. is:

£1.50 for 1 pack

£2 for 3 packs and

£3 for 4 packs

Contact Ruth Staines

chs.registrar@dial.pipex.com

The Swedish Caspian Horse Association

Lena Carrasco

December 2017 newsletter to ICS from SCHA.

The Swedish Caspian Horse Association has had a busy couple of months starting with an event at Tyresö Castle 16th-17th of September. The organizers for this event were the national Nordic museum in collaboration with an event company called Slottshästen. Here, six equipages showed a quadrille to the audience, they also participated in a breed parade with about fifteen other breeds which are members of the Swedish Horse Board. Two of the Caspians also participated in the pony riding event. The show was successful and the audience showed a big interest for the breed.



From left to right: Johannesbergs Doria-Tamela Melander, Ann's Zamiro-Bianca Dahlsten, Ann's Sweet Zafirah-Livia von Stedingk, Maks Zpirit-Isabelle Olofsson, MCC Tabriz's Sham-Paulina Carrasco and Nordiclights Firouzeh-Juliette Carrasco.

Photo by: Lena Carrasco. Tyresö Castle 2017.

November 5th SCHA had their annual RIKS exterior show where Astiz Ghalayah (Henden Namdar-Sulay-Kinetin Houdini) took home the big prize with 40p. Congratulations to owner Mrs. Sofia Ekblom and breeder Mrs. Asta Bergström.



From left to right: **Astiz Inez** 38p (Henden Namdar-Sulay-Kineton Houdini), **Qveians Anosheh Bahareh** 38p (Henden Hector-Fredens Padideh-Kineton Houdini), **Astiz Kapriņa** 39p (Rosmear Rakhshan-Khosh-?) **Astiz Ghalayah** Best in Breed, **MCC Tabriz's Sham** 38p (Spark Tabriz-Woodstock Taliyeh II-Hopstone Shabdiz) and **Nordiclights Firouzeh** 39p

28th November to 3rd December, SCHA attended the Swedish International Horse Show at Friends Arena in Stockholm, Sweden. Here we were allocated a position in the small paddock where six equipages first did a quadrille, after that two of them showed jumping and the other four showed the horses by hand. They did that three times during the week.

During opening night, the SCHA got to do a short number in the big arena and the speaker talked about our lovely breed. Here they were dressed in various outfits such as native, western, show jumping, dressage, race and eventing.

We also participated in various events in the small paddock such as agility, handler jumping, show jumping and show by hand, all the Caspians and their handlers/riders did a great job!

During SIHS we had a display stall where the audience got to meet with the Caspian horse up close and we also had a stand where people could ask questions, buy books and look at some nice pictures!



From left to right: Juliette Carrasco-Nordiclights Firouzeh, Tamela Melander-Astiz Inez, Bianca Dahlsten-Ann's Zamiro, Isabelle Olofsson-Maks Zpirit, Lilly Carrasco-MCC Tabriz's Sham and Livia von Stedingk-Ann's Sweet Zafirah.

Photo by: Eva Dahlsten, SIHS 2017.

All the horses and riders have done a very good job promoting the breed. We have had people contacting us after the events, eager to know more about the lovely Caspian Horse and the preservation of the breed.

[The ICS sends its congratulations and thanks to all who took part in these extremely successful events]

Greetings from Sue Eiffler –WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Although we have nothing to report, we send our very best wishes to all for a very happy Christmas and for the New Year.

CHECK YOUR PADDOCKS FOR POISONOUS PLANTS



Ragwort



Yew



Laburnum



Potato -
Deadly
nightshade
family



Rhododendron



Foxglove



Bracken



Sycamore
(see below)

Poisonous plants are a menace to the horse owner. A watch needs to be kept on neighbouring gardens where plants such as laburnum, yew and rhododendron can grow quietly to within reach of stretched necks. Others, such as ragwort, bracken and deadly nightshade grow unashamedly in horse paddocks and should be pulled by hand and removed from the paddock as soon as they appear in order to eliminate them.

Over the last few years there has been an alarming rise in Atypical myopathy ("*Sycamore poisoning*"). Virtually unknown until 2013, this disease is often fatal in *horses* and is caused by eating sycamore seeds ("helicopters") saplings or possibly leaves. Owners who have kept horses on the same paddocks for many years without any problems are now experiencing cases of sycamore poisoning and it is a serious threat.

Owners of horses liable to laminitis and therefore kept on a bare pasture, need to take particular care to ensure that they do not have access to sycamore.

It is advisable to feed extra hay when pasture is sparse.

Concentrations of the toxin hypoglycin are thought to vary from seed to seed, tree to tree. If alternative grazing is not available it is recommended that areas around sycamore trees are fenced off.

Cutting down or trimming sycamore trees in the spring or autumn, therefore spreading the seeds, should be avoided.



6
Stallions have
been identified
from
4
states



Securing Valuable Genetics

Thanks to a generous donation by Lowell and Carolyn Larson, critically rare Caspian horses are one step closer to safety. Conservancy staff completed a United States comprehensive census of Caspian horses and obtained pedigree and registration information from three breed registries. A deep pedigree evaluation revealed that several of the original foundation Caspian lines are quite rare in the United States and elsewhere.

Six stallions representing some of the rarest bloodlines were identified in Texas, Kentucky, Missouri, and North Carolina. Stallion owners have been approached to participate in creating a conservation collection of semen for the long-term preservation of these bloodlines due the importance and rarity of this breed. Semen collections are planned for Spring 2018 to secure these valuable genetics for the future.



Evidence that a Caspian type horse existed as early as 3000 B.C. can be found in ancient writings and artifacts. Photos courtesy of CaspianHorseSociety.org. Visit their website for more information.