

NEW SIRES FOR 2011

PEDIGREE PROFILE ■ JOHN RICHARDSON



PACO BOY – Waikato Stud \$12,500

I have always believed that the prime attribute that a stallion can transmit to his progeny is the ability to quicken with a decisive turn of foot in the closing stages of a race, and this is true in no country more than is so in New Zealand and Australia, where we race in tight quarters and rely on last 200 speed to win races. Some of the more spectacular stud failures have been talented racehorses, who relied on destroying their opposition by keeping up a relentless gallop right from the start, as for some reason this talent does not seem to have a high degree of heritability.

It was, I think, H.H. the Aga Khan back in the 1930s, who, when asked what he considered the most important attributes, replied, perhaps tongue in cheek, "Speed, Speed and more Speed". This great breeder had it about right, but I would add to that, acceleration, which is not quite the same thing.

The greatest influence for such speed in the modern thoroughbred, and by that I mean class and not just 'whoa to go' sprinting speed, is the Lady Josephine branch of the No. 9 female family through such as Mahmoud, Nasrullah, Tudor Minstrel, Royal Charger and Fair Trial. It is the latter, Fair Trial, whom I consider holds much of the key to Waikato Stud's latest acquisition PACO BOY. Fair Trial, a son of four times Champion British Sire Fairway, was foaled back in 1932 and whilst a very good racehorse at around a mile with wins which included the Royal Ascot Queen Anne Stakes, he was not by any means a champion. Line bred to speed through brother and sister Sainfoin (damsire of Phalaris) and Sierra (dam of Sundridge), he became incredibly successful at stud in spite of a truncated career which spanned World War Two, siring a number of classic winners and being Champion British Sire in 1950.

But before we delve further into Paco Boy's background may I suggest that you obtain a copy of Waikato Stud's promotional DVD and carefully watch his races. I cannot recall seeing a horse that was able to produce a comparable finishing burst of speed that can only be described as devastating. His regular jockey Richard Hughes riding for his father-in-law trainer Richard Hannon's stable, can almost always be seen sitting motionless right in the thick of all the traffic until, with only a furlong to go and Hughes still unmoving, the horse seems to work himself unaided into a challenging position and then – whoosh – with scarcely 100 metres to run Hughes suddenly asks him to go. Head down and showing the utmost class, gameness and unrivalled speed, he is suddenly well clear and the race is won. This pattern occurs in most of his scintillating victories.

His race record is impressive, racing 24 times in five countries for 11 wins from two to five years. He scored twice from three starts as a juvenile and the following year won five stakes races at seven furlongs or 1400 metres viz. the Gr.1 Longchamp Prix de la Foret with some ease, Gr. 2 Goodwood Lennox Stakes, Gr. 2 Newbury Hungerford Stakes, Gr. 3 Greenham Stakes and Lingfield Spring Cup (last to first in 100



Waikato Stud's new sire for 2012, Paco Boy.

metres). Off the back of this he was considered by some pundits to be just a sprinter, but back on track at four years he caused many red faces at Royal Ascot when he destroyed a crack field in the Gr. 1 Queen Anne Stakes following up with the Gr. 2 Sandown Mile both over a mile. He also defeated classic winner Ghanaati decisively when a creditable second in the Gr. 1 Goodwood Sussex Stakes after Rip Van Winkle got first run on him.

At five years he scored a Group One victory for the third successive year in landing the Newbury Lockinge Stakes over a mile and again took the Gr. 2 Sandown Mile. It was world record holding Group One winner Goldikova who denied him further successes in the Queen Anne Stakes and Prix de la Foret amongst other top rank places in world company.

His annual Timeform rating of 129 testifies as to his class and he was rated the Champion Older Miler of 2009.

His sire Desert Style is another topnotch sire son of Green Desert to join the likes of Volksraad, Cape Cross, Invincible Spirit, Oasis Dream and Desert Sun. Desert Style won three times in Group company in Ireland and was placed to Group One level and was second in the Hong Kong International Bowl. He has sired 19 stakes winners so far including the elite winners; Champion European 3YO Filly Mandesha (Prix Vermeille, Prix de l'Opera and Prix d'Astarte, all Group One), Bachir (French 2000 Guineas, Irish 2000 Guineas), Next Desert (German Derby) and Caradak (Prix de la Foret).

The dam of Paco Boy is Tappen Zee, who won twice and has bred six winners. She is by Sandhurst Prince, winner of the Goodwood Waterford Crystal Mile, and a son of Pampapaul, who will be remembered for besting The Minstrel to win the Irish 2000 Guineas after a stirring tussle.

Pampapaul is line bred to Mumtaz Begum. The grandam of Paco Boy is juvenile winner Rossaldene, who is by the crack sprinter and grandson of Tudor Minstrel, Mummy's Pet; twice

Champion Sire of 2YOs. She bred four black type getters including Cape Town (Desert Style) a three quarter relative to Paco Boy and winner of the Newmarket European Free Handicap and Ascot Silver Trophy. Third dam Palestra, by Palestine, is half sister to stakes winner T V, left seven winners and is ancestress of Brazilian Group One winner Irving.

Paco Boy's sire Desert Style is sex balanced line bred to Petition and Nearco; grandsire Green Desert is the same to Mahmoud and Hyperion, and Desert Style's dam likewise to Nearco. On the distaff side the damsire Sandhurst Prince is similarly endowed to Hyperion and Nearco, whilst the grandam, significantly, is sex balanced to Fair Trial and to that horse's dam Lady Juror. Paco Boy's chart displays a number of patterns involving Hyperion, Nearco, Owen Tudor, Fair Trial and his dam.

Sex balanced line breeding in Paco Boy is as follows; Fair Trial (seven lines), Lady Juror (eight), Nearco (11), Hyperion (six), Owen Tudor (three) and Abernant's dam Rustom Mahal. Most telling of all will be the 18 lines of Lady Josephine. Added balance can be obtained through sons of Sir Ivor, Never Bend, High Top, Grey Sovereign, Native Dancer, Palestine and Court Martial, especially the last pair, and through daughters of Green Desert and his sire line, Sir Gaylord, Turn-to, Dante, Darius, Derring-Do, Red God, Buisson Ardent, Bahram, Fairway and Tudor Minstrel especially the latter two. There is, unusually, just the single line of Northern Dancer in the fourth remove.

It is not hard to source suitable matings for Paco Boy, although I feel sure it will not have escaped Waikato Stud's notice as to the potential with O'Reilly mares. Other sires that appealed were Bachelor Duke (yet again), Justice Prevails, Jungle Pocket, Danske and D'Cash, also City On A Hill, Elusive City, Golan, Johar, Kaapstad, Kilimanjaro, Pentire, Quorum, Sakura Seeking, Stravinsky and Thorn Park.

With so much going for him, I predict that Paco Boy will prove another great success for Waikato.

■ BRIEFS

Son of two champions to stud

JOHN RICHARDSON

Royally bred MAN OF POWER has retired to stud and will stand the coming season at Barbara Brough's Riverlea Lodge Stud just outside Huntly, where she stands the now elderly successful sire Lowell.

Man of Power is a fine upstanding son of the great Australian sire Redoute's Choice and stands just over 16.2 h.h., whilst his dam is the fine racemare Mannerism, the Champion Older Mare on the 1992/1993 Australian Classification.

His sire Redoute's Choice is one of Australia's premier sires and has been Champion Sire twice and Champion Sire of 2YOs twice. He is currently second on the Australian Sires List. He has 76 stakes winners to date including 20 Group One winners and many champions, and his early sons at stud are already making their mark. Not A Single Doubt, Snitzel and Stratum are all in the top ten on the 2YO sires list, whilst Nadeem and Duelled have both got major winners. Clearly Redoute's Choice is going to follow his sire Danehill, as a major sire of sires.

Man of Power is out of Mannerism, who won the Caulfield Cup, Australasian Oaks, VATC Futurity Stakes, and Show Day Stakes all at Group One level, and ranks among the very best racemares of the modern era. She has had nine foals to the races and they have all been winners including two Group winning three quarter brothers to Man of Power, sired by Danehill. These are Dandify, winner of the Gr. 2 Moonee Valley Oaks and Gr. 2 STC Peter Pan Stakes, and Manner Hill, winner of the Gr. 3 AJC Craven Plate and Gr. 3 STC N.E. Manion Cup. Her daughter, the Sydney juvenile winner Mammoth, is dam of the stakes placed Tobique (by Redoute's Chocie). The grand-dam of Man of Power is three race winner Northwood Manner, a half sister to Always Welcome (AJC All-Aged Stakes, VRC Craven 'A' Stakes, VATC Futurity Stakes, all Group Ones).

Man of Power was a winner over 1400 metres and offers New Zealand breeders the opportunity to breed to a horse with a pedigree full of quality on both sides of his pedigree, a recipe which has provided this country with many of its sire stars – and all this for a most reasonable \$2,500 stud fee. •