

Impact Sire

CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH

ASH Reg: 1

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Photos from the Australian Stock Horse Society Archive

Being number one, the first, in anything is quite special. So it was with CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH. He was the first horse classified, branded and registered with the Australian Stock Horse Society, hence having the Registration Number 1.

The horsemen and women of Macksville in New South Wales were right behind the formation of the new breed society for stock horses in 1971. John Stanton was part of that group as the first President of the Mid-North Coast Branch. They had a local Committee set up, and well-placed to get their horses classified as soon as the Society was open for business. There were others who also had horses classified on that day, but John presented 23 horses to the Classifiers, and CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH had the good fortune to be at the head of the queue.

John put him forward as the first horse as he thought it fitted that it be a sire since his others were geldings and mares. John explained that the Society was doubtful that one breeder could have so many horses all worthy of the A brand and Bryant Gavin, the inaugural Society President, personally visited John to look at the horses and verify the work of the Classifiers.



So while ending up in this position of No 1, due simply to luck, CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH was an excellent horse that set a few records. John said he was one of the very best. CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH set a record when he was sold at auction and also has impressive progeny figures, reflecting his status as a well-bred and well performed Impact Sire of the breed.

CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH was a blood bay, born in 1968, who stood at 15 hands high. John described him as ‘a top thing’, and explained that he was easy to break-in and quite mature.

John said, “After he was broken-in but not yet educated, Jack Palmer said to me, ‘he’s not a bad looking horse, but how does he go?’”. That was enough of a challenge for John who rode him for Jack, there and then. “He went magnificently”, said John, “as if he had already been educated and I had ridden him only the day before.” He was very successful at led classes, winning all but one event in which he competed.

John continued, “I took him to a cutting school in Kempsey where people were keen to buy him. In the end, I sold him to the keenest of those, my father Jack, at the age of two, for \$1,500. He was a good stock horse, and Jack used him with the cattle, but one day went to block a cow down by the riverbank when the girth broke, and Dad had to carry the saddle home. He was never ridden again by us.”

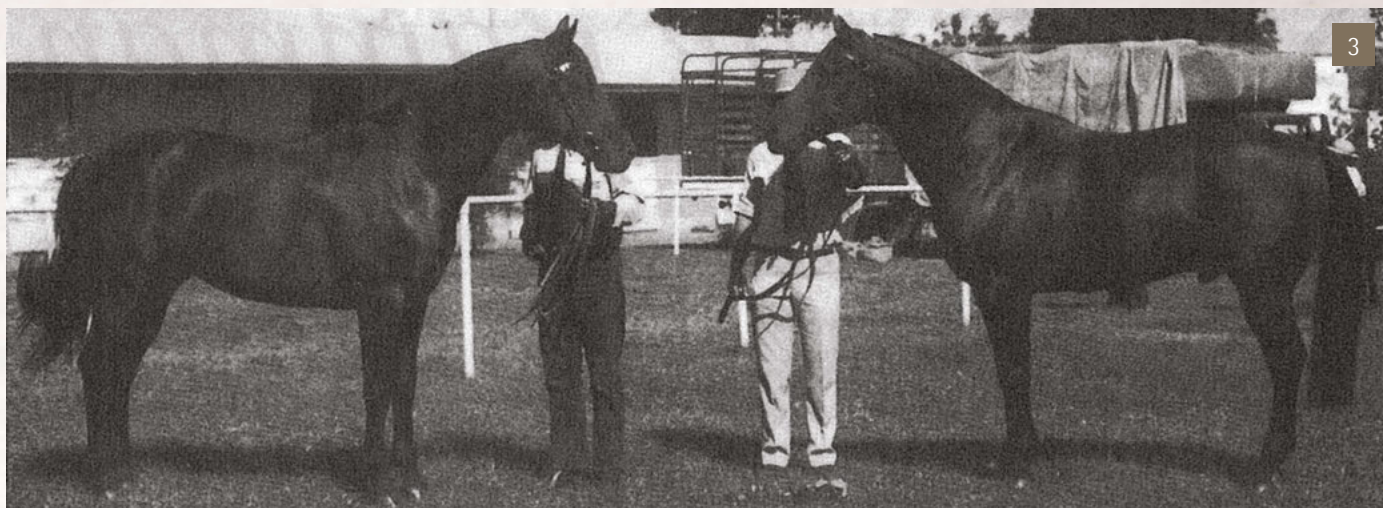
This was the first chapter for CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH as after breeding with him for a few years at his Carroona property and later at Kempton Park at Currabubula, Jack put him through John’s horse sale in 1976.

By this time CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH had a good reputation both in competition and as a sire. A good crowd attended that auction sale, and there were two very keen bidders for the horse. Morton Knuth, from Charters Towers, had some cattle properties and was looking for a station sire. He had sent his agent down to bring the horse home. On the other bench was Rona, a Dalgety stock and station agent representing George Altomonte, of the car dealership Alto Ford in Sydney. This buyer had a livestock operation and was looking for a polo sire. It was a dream auction for the vendors as both sides bid on top of each other.

“For the last \$5 to \$10,000 dollars of the bidding war, the crowd clapped every bid. In the end, the Sydney bidder won the battle at a record price of \$28,500. I made more out of the commission than I did out of breeding, breaking and selling him in the first place”, exclaimed John.

Converted into today’s value, the price was \$124,000. CECIL BRUCE – IS HSH then stood at Lochnager Park, at Branxton and Corumbene at Dunneydoo.





It was no surprise that CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH fulfilled his potential as a sire since he had considerable depth of breeding. His name reflects the strong heritage on both sides of the pedigree that go back to two of the breed's Waler Horses of Significance, Cecil (great, great grandsire and forebear of his Radium dominated topline) and Bruce, from the bloodline of his dam who was a grand-daughter of Bruce.

CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH's sire, STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH was born in 1964 and proved to be an exceptional working horse. He was the outcome of John Stanton ordering a foal from Tiger Batterham by the crossing of two of his Radium blood horses, the sire Rayon and the mare Glamour. John started working this colt as a 2yr old but was strongly advised to let him mature. So, after picking up his education again at the age of four, he had quick success by winning the ABCRA Open Horse of the Year for Campdrafting in 1972. In the same year, John won Calf Roper of the Year on him as well as Campdraft Rider of the Year. His dam, Glamour was seven times Open Campdraft winner and a champion flag racer winning 49 Open races.

STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH was gelded young, and as a result, there are only seven progeny some of which also made their mark. STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH is the sire that John considers as his all-time best, and BLENHEIM WONGA BOY - HSH is the sire and grandsire of Warwick campdraft placegetters.

CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH's life may have ended up differently as he and his brothers mentioned above were all paddocked together at John's Taylors Arm property. Buyers always had the pick of John's horses, and while the horses were youngsters, John O'Keefe chose to buy BLENHEIM WONGA BOY - HSH over the other two siblings.

CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH's dam STANTON STUD SAUCER - FM HSH was also classified in the initial batch and designated as ASH Registration Number 5.

John said, "She was a beautiful, brown horse, about 15hh with good action and very fast. She was by Bobbie Bruce, and we first saw her when travelling to a tournament in Sydney. She was a wonderful polocrosse horse and won Champion Mare at Sydney Royal Show. I was lucky to be given her when her career finished."

CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH stood at stud to the public and produced 374 progeny. People who bred mares to him while Jack owned him also returned to the stallion under new ownership. The Stanton Stud bloodlines were very popular at the time, but John did not stand his sires to the public. Short of buying one of John's colts or mares, getting access to his successful horse families was not possible until Jack threw the door open. Some of the studs of the time that benefitted from his genetics are Barnetts, Strathmua, Green Gully, Forest, Edenhope, Boon Hill, Austock, Mt Hope, Turners Stud, Carmona, Wundurra, Eulabah, Slaters and Yallatup.

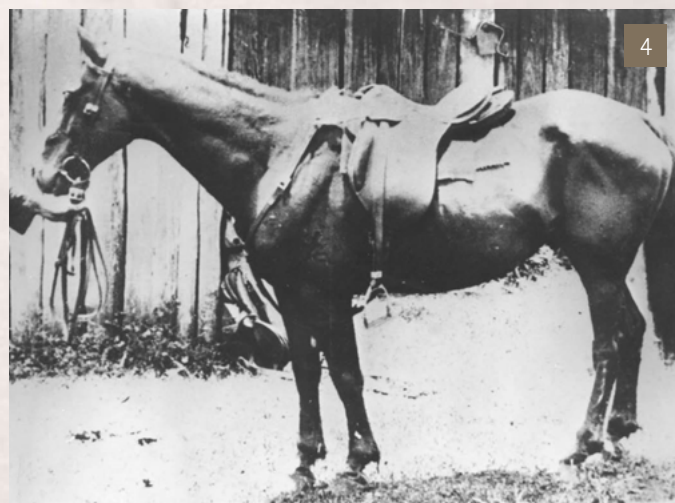
He was a prolific producer of sire sons, with 66 registered in the Stud Book. Those with ten or more progeny are recorded in the following table

and altogether his sons sired 1,511 offspring. Of course, there were many good broodmare daughters that also contributed to his breeding success. His progeny has led to 5,600 descendants at last count, which places him fourth in the list of Impact Sires ranked by a number of descendants.

As recorded by Dan Redgen in his campdraft breeding publication, as of 2011, CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH sired three individuals who achieved a place in the Warwick Gold Cup; a win in the Canning Downs; and two places in the Chinchilla Grandfather Clock campdrafts. Collectively, he is grandsire to eight individuals placing in those major campdrafts, including Paradise Lagoons and also great grandsire to four individuals placing in those campdrafts.

Some of these more successful ones are MASTER JACK - HSH who came 4th in the Warwick Gold Cup in 1980. Another was RIO BRANCO - HSH who won the Canning Downs campdraft in 1978 ridden by his owner, Ron Parbury. Ron knew the qualities of this family as he had previously bought from John, the gelding SHORTCUT - HSH by the Rayon son ASSET - HSH, who was the younger full-brother to CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH.

CARMONA TRIGGER BRUCE - HSH, out of the Foundation Mare FOREST NANCY - FM HSH, is his sire's son with the most progeny (159). I saw this horse in about 1978 and recall he was impressive-looking. He produced many horses for his then owner, Ron Underwood, but has gone on to sire most of his progeny while standing at the Australian Agricultural College in Queensland. Two of his sons have gone on as sires themselves, TRIGGER LUKE - HSH and ANJOWA BLAZE OF VICTORY - HSH.



Main. CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH

1. STANTON STUD SAUCER - FM HSH, page 7 of *Horses of Historical significance on the Australian Stock Horse Society website*
2. CARMONA TRIGGER BRUCE - HSH and CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH from the July/August 2004 *Australian Stock Horse Journal*, page 18
3. CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH's great-great grandsire, the stallion Cecil, taken in 1913



5. STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH from the July/August 2004 ASH Journal, page 17

CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH

ASHS Registration Number: 1 **Colour:** Bay **Height:** 15.0hh

Lifespan: 1968 - unknown

Breeder: Mr J Stanton

Performance: Performance horse and sire

Progeny: 374 recorded progeny

See above for list of significant sire sons



Sire	STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH	rayon 02	radium 02 - WH
		glamour 04	black beauty 02
Dam	STANTON STUD SAUCER - FM HSH	bobbie bruce 02 - WH	dimray 02 - WH
			comanche mare 02
		unknown dam	bruce 02 - WH
			cadger 02
			unknown sire
			unknown dam

CECIL HENRY - HSH, a full brother to RIO BRANCO - HSH, was a colt sold in 1975 to one of the Western Victorian Branch's Founding Members, Reg Rowbottom. This horse was one of the few Hunter Valley horses in the western district at the time and crossed well with the local Thoroughbred mares siring 79 progeny, helping to spark strong interest in this new breed of horses.

Of his mares, there was Glen Gough's YALLATUP CANDY - HSH who placed in the Chinchilla Grandfather Clock Campdraft in 1984 and won the Bob Porter Memorial Campdraft at Charters Towers. Glen bought her at a Dalby Sale and was attracted to her as she paid particularly close attention to her breeder and handler, Mrs Hunt, as she was led about in the sale ring.

He said, "I campdrafted her, and she proved to be a very honest and reliable little mare who always gave her best. She achieved top score the first round and was leading after two rounds going into the final of the Warwick Gold Cup, but like many others that year, bogged down and fell in the deep sand that was placed on the arena."

This mare provides a link to the record price achieved at auction for her sire. YALLATUP CANDY - HSH is the grand-dam of the successful sire YALLATUP REGAL REMEDY - HSH, the horse on which Glen Gough demonstrated the breed so well during the Sydney Olympics. This stallion, who has himself produced 144 progeny to date, was privately sold for an undisclosed amount in 2001 but is reputed to be the breed's record price at the time.

The Society's first horse, its number one man, although randomly selected for that position, was an appropriate horse for the honour. He was well-conformed and of good nature, typical in colour, a size and type suitable for the purpose, fertile and a horse that bred on. Bred from a Foundation Sire and Foundation Dam, this Impact Sire did just that. 🐾

Sire Sons of CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH

(with ten or more recorded foals, with numbers of their progeny)

Is your horse related to the ASH Breed's Number 1 horse?

ABLE BRUCE - HSH, 18
 AVONMORE JACK BRUCE - HSH, 14
 BANNERMAN BRUCE - HSH, 42
 BARNEY BRUCE - HSH, 17
 BAY BRUCE, 10
 BENJAN KIND BRUCE - HSH, 27
 BOONDEROO CHECKMATE - HSH, 23
 BOON HILL BONNER - HSH, 27
 CARMONA TARZAN - HSH, 27
 CARMONA TRIGGER BRUCE - HSH, 159
 COCK ROBIN - HSH, 77
 CECIL HENRY - HSH, 79
 CECILS HIJACK, 21
 CHIMES - HSH, 17
 CORUMBENE LA - HSH, 12

CYRIL - HSH, 11
 DARK BRUCE - HSH, 19
 EULABAH NEON - HSH, 54
 HUNTERS HILL BAROONA - HSH, 34
 KEMPTON BRUCE - HSH, 11
 KEMPTON PARK - HSH, 18
 KEMPTON PARK ADGILE - HSH, 35
 KEMPTON PARK BARNARD - HSH, 45
 KEMPTON PARK CECIL JNR - HSH, 19
 MASTER JACK - HSH, 18
 MCFARLANES TONY BRUCE, 19
 MIGHTY BRUCE - HSH, 33
 MT HOPE MATE - HSH, 27
 MY MAN CECIL - HSH, 38
 OUR BYANDAH PRIDE - HSH, 64

RIO BRANCO - HSH, 54
 ROYAL BRUCE - HSH, 10
 SLATERS MR BRUCE - HSH, 62
 STANTON STUD WRANGLER - HSH, 65
 STATELY BRUCE - HSH, 15
 STERLING BRUCE - HSH, 25
 SUPERIOR BRUCE - HSH, 16
 TRINGADEE CRACKER JACK - HSH, 11
 TURNERS STUD DODGE SPOT, 10
 TURNERS STUD SPECULATION - HSH, 10
 VALIANT BRUCE - HSH, 12
 WINLALEY JACKY BRUCE - HSH, 41
 WUNDURRA SCHYLOE - HSH, 87