

Impact Sire

STANTON STUD CHANCE – IS HSH



ASH Reg: 2

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Photos from the ASHS Archive

You often hear someone say, "What's the chance?" In this case, we need to say, "Which Chance?", as with 249 horses in the ASHS Stud Book with Chance in their name, we need to be sure we are referring to the right horse. This one, like nearly all of John Stanton's horses, has Stanton Stud as his prefix. His name was derived from his lucky birth and while there's elements of luck in the story of this Impact Sire, we will see it is largely about making one's own luck.

This horse earned John's admiration through his conformation, his ability, his nature and his breeding performance.

Referring to STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH, John said, "You can take Abbey, Cadet and Dodge; all of them. If I could only have one horse; one foal by one sire, out of all the horses I've had, it would have to be by him."

John went on to say that when he told his son Tom of this conclusion of his life's work in horse breeding, Tom thought for a bit and replied, "If that was possible, I would dig him up myself!"

Let me explain why this is such a big statement by John. He got his horses classified very soon after the formation of the Australian Stock Horse Society. In fact, his horses hold registration numbers one through

to 23, and John has been on the Society's Prominent Breeders list since its inception. The Stud Book shows that he has 455 horses registered with the Stanton Stud prefix alone and many horses were sold unregistered.

"I have no idea how many extras I have bred," said John.

Like his sibling who is ASH Registration 1, STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH was classified at the same time and had the number two placed on his registration papers. This bay sire stood around 14.3hh and was well-put together. John explained that he had a good front that united his body well. It was not just his conformation but his 'good mind' that impressed John.

"He was a real proper horse, exceptional to ride. You could do anything with him. You could just go for a ride on him or work cattle. He was no trouble at all and very fast," said John.

"Where you looked, he'd go and he could go up hill and down dale. He was a cattle horse that could block anything."

His luck started with the story of his birth. John explained, "In 1968 I had my polocrosse mare STANTON STUD MISS G - IM HSH in hard condition when I broke my leg and ended up in hospital. I had gelded my sire STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH just 26 days before. When Jack Biffen was visiting me in hospital and had been past my place on the way he asked, 'Are you breeding the polocrosse mare? I just saw the stallion serving her.' I thought it wouldn't be a problem," said John, "but eleven months later she had a colt foal." What's the chance?

Buyers always had the pick of John's horses so he also had some luck in retaining this colt when he offered him for sale as a weanling, along with half-brothers, BLENHEIM WONGA BOY - HSH and CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH. John O'Keefe inspected all three and chose to buy BLENHEIM WONGA BOY - HSH over the other two siblings.

The horse's luck continued when, as a yearling, he got badly tangled in some barbed wire and while held by the ear, they were lucky enough to get him out safely. As he grew he was broken-in and got a lot of sale yard work.

John continued, "I ran him at a draft in Dungowan where there were three or four of us were on the same score, at second or third place, but he didn't get out much as I didn't like to tour sires around. The best place for them is home in the paddock with their mares."

John and many others, valued him as a good sire.

"He could put good-shaped heads on his progeny and gave them a good eye. He didn't sire one without a nice head, neck and shoulders, which is a very good thing as what most people look for first is a good front on a horse," explained John. "Unfortunately, I put him down at a quite young age due to a sarcoid injury he had on his back leg. These days it probably would have been more treatable."

His sire, STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH was an exceptional working horse. (see ASHS Journal July/August 2004, p17). He was the outcome of John's deliberate crossing of two Radium blood horses, the sire Rayon and the mare Glamour. He had quick success in 1972 by



winning the ABCRA Open Horse of the Year for Campdrafting, with John winning Calf Roper of the Year, as well as Campdraft Rider of the Year on him. STANTON STUD DODGE - FM HSH only sired seven progeny, then John gelded him, as in 1968, John couldn't see too much future in breeding too many working stock horses. In those years before the formation of the Society in 1971, demand for horses was not so strong.

STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH's dam was largely of Thoroughbred blood and out of the Foundation Mare, STANTON STUD HENRY - FM. Apart from being an excellent polocrosse horse she was a very productive broodmare with 11 foals. Looking at the female line, this Impact Sire had an Impact Mare as a dam and a Foundation Mare as a grand-dam. Three generations with Hall of Fame status.

STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH spent his time productively while left at home in the paddock, siring 99 foals over his relatively short breeding life of seven years, between 1971 and 1978.

"I probably sold more \$10,000 horses by STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH, than anyone else with other stock horses at the time," said John.

A good number of these horses were sold into Queensland where station-owners appreciated their good looks and workman-like performance. Others were sold elsewhere in New South Wales and south into western Victoria where there was great enthusiasm for the horses of this new breed.

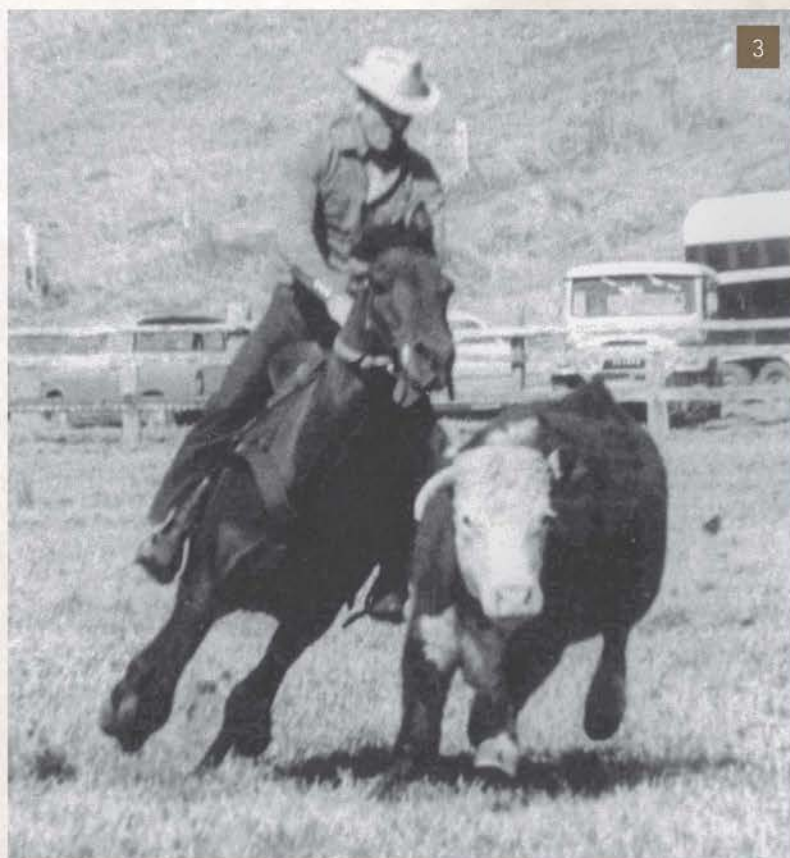
John had a policy of using his sires to breed horses for sale, and not standing them to the public. However, partly due to John's friendships and connections, progeny from this horse were purchased and got spread around to other breeders with good horses. For example, Alec Martin and Clem Barnett, both significant breeders were friends of John at the time and had a few of his foals.

The list of progeny is long, but it's worth mentioning a number of them. While essentially bred as cattle horses, the range of activities for which they were used, demonstrates their versatility.

A bay, Thoroughbred-type mare off the Belltrees Station, won Champion polocrosse pony at Sydney Royal with John and had two foals by STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH, that were amongst his earliest progeny. As a sire he had a very positive influence on the Boon Hill horses at the time.

Alec's son, Arthur Martin recalls those days and said, "they contributed to our stud in a big way over the years. We still have one from that family, four generations later."

The first filly, BOON HILL DIMPLE - HSH, was crippled while young but as a brood mare produced nine foals. The next year BOON HILL BON - HSH was born and was a good mare that won three of four drafts and played polocrosse, then produced seven foals. A colt out of her, BOON HILL BONNER - HSH sired 27 foals.



1. STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH. Photo: Dan Redgen

2. John Stanton and STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH. Photo: Kathy Core

3. Chance's sire STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH. Photo: Dan Redgen

STANTON STUD FEATHER - HSH, out of STANTON STUD BREEZE - IM HSH was a brilliant mare according to John, winning many campdrafts. She had nine foals, including the very good sire, STANTON STUD FEATHERSON, whose line John has continued with today.

John used another very well-performed polocrosse mare to put to this Impact sire, in STANTON STUD SAUCER - FM HSH. Amongst her seven progeny, including CECIL BRUCE - IS HSH, she produced three good brood mares by STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH. One was STANTON STUD SUGAR - HSH who was purchased by a repeat customer of John's in Lennie Knuth. STANTON STUD TEA CUP - HSH was a mare bought by another regular customer from Queensland, Kathy Core. STANTON STUD SPICE - IM HSH was an attractive horse and was a wonderful broodmare for the Kooroon stud of St George who now has 582 descendants.

In 1981 John won ABCRA Campdraft Horse of the Year on the palomino mare STANTON STUD PERSONALITY - HSH. He put her to this Impact Sire to get the filly STANTON STUD FIDELITY - HSH, who won two drafts herself and produced nine foals. Without any limelight, there were those that were simply good broodmares such as STANTON STUD FAIR CHANCE - HSH and STANTON STUD GREY CHANCE - HSH who produced 20 foals between them.

His genetics spread, perhaps even more widely through his numerous sire sons. STANTON STUD ALLMAN - HSH was a first-class campdrafter and sire that John used, then later sold to the Daley's at Julia Creek for \$15,000. Amongst his 70 progeny is the sire BARNETTS CATTLEMAN - HSH who has produced 67 foals.

An interesting one was a colt with a good-stepping action named STANTON STUD POITREL HEROIC - HSH. He was bred out of one of Frank Scanlon's mares and bought back by John. He ended up winning harness classes at the Brisbane Royal Show and sired 30 foals.

STANTON STUD KIDMAN - HSH, out of STANTON STUD MERRIMBA - FM HSH was sold to the Hannaford stud and sired 102 foals. STANTON STUD GENEROSITY - HSH had 23 foals and was a horse named by Jack Stanton after John had given the colt to him.

John joined this Impact Sire five times to another Foundation Mare in STANTON STUD TARA - FM HSH and two brothers resulted. STANTON STUD NOORINBEE - HSH was bought by Gerald Ventry, who claimed he never had a better horse and was very pleased with his 34 progeny.

STANTON STUD JAYMAN - HSH was sold to Ron and Sharon Muldoon of Victoria, who described him as, "very strong and powerful, quick and sure-footed and very cowy. He had a lovely, quiet nature and

produced some really tidy mares, but died young with only 17 foals."

It was lucky for John that STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH was conceived and lucky for the breed as a whole, that this good genetic nick resulted in the sire that John considers as his all-time best. John's focus on the crossing of the Radium bloodline, with itself and with other good families, where warranted, was part of the reason for his success, and that wasn't luck. He was also in a position where with this good sire, he was able to put him to the very best of mares. Using four Foundation Mares as dams for the progeny of this Impact Sire, there are now over 3,356 descendants.

Unlucky though, that he died young and his breeding career curtailed, or he may have set even more records. What's the chance? 🐾



3. STANTON STUD TEA CUP - HSH and Kathy Core and her daughter Sarita in 1982. Kathy won her first ACA Lady Rider title and won led classes to be named Champion Mare at Springsure with Tea Cup

STANTON STUD CHANCE - IS HSH

ASHS Registration Number: 2
Colour: Bay
Height: 14.3hh
Lifespan: 10 years (1969 - 1979)
Breeder: John Stanton (The Stanton Stud Pty Ltd)
Performance: Station horse and sire
Progeny: 99 recorded progeny, with many of note



Sire	STANTON STUD DODGE - FS HSH	rayon 02	radium 02 - WH
			black beauty 02
		glamour 04	dimray 02 - WH
			comanche mare 02
Dam	STANTON STUD MISS G - IM HSH	red race 02	cape race 02
			alphees 02
		STANTON STUD HENRY - FM HSH	cadilly 02
			eclipse mare 02