

LITTLE MAY - FM

ASH Reg: 695

LITTLE MAY - FM was bred by David Henry of Walcha. Laurie Henry, his son, recalls, "LITTLE MAY - FM was actually a twin - that was how she got her name because she was so small."

We arrived not long after the mare had foaled and unfortunately, the other twin, who was a colt and the bigger foal, had been smothered by the after birth across his nose. Laurie Marshall of Bendemeer won a maiden campdraft at Woolbrook on her but she wasn't an easy horse to ride. When she was broken in she had a very high head carriage and wasn't easy to control. She was a non stud book Thoroughbred mare but Dad never raced her, even though her dam, Lyncourt, was a very good galloper."

It probably was this trait that caused her to be used as a broodmare when she was quite young which turned out to be a blessing in disguise. She produced nine foals of which eight were fully registered and they all went on to be either very good performers or producers or, in the case of seven of them, both.

Her first foal, EINNOR SHERRY by ABBEY-FS proved a very capable mare.

"I won the Gunnedah Show Campdraft on her," recalls Dan Germon, "At that time I think it was the biggest show campdraft in NSW. She probably could have won a lot more with a bit more opportunity but she went on to be a good broodmare."

EINNOR SHERRY produced eight foals including the successful sire, EINNOR BLACK JACK by FLADBURY STUD A BECKETT who has 48 registered progeny.

LITTLE MAY-FM then passed into the Eulabah Stud of Ross McPhee, so most of her progeny then carried the Eulabah prefix. Ross McPhee, at that time, had the very successful, ABBEY-FS stallion, LITTLE ABBEY-IS (162 progeny) so LITTLE MAY-FM, in 1969 produced a filly to this horse, registered as EULABAH MAYBE.

"I rode Maybe," recalls Dan Germon, "she was a handy brown/bay Galloway mare who was very good outside when you were campdrafting."

Although this was a very good mare, she has no registered descendants as, unfortunately, she was found dead in the paddock before she was bred.

In 1970 LITTLE MAY-FM, put to LITTLE ABBEY-IS, produced a colt, ABEBE.

"I owned him until he was about 5 years old," said Dan Germon, "He was a great horse out in the bush, there was nothing you couldn't run down on him. I remember I won the cut out on him at Luddenham and also a maiden campdraft, but then he hurt his stifle and I took him to see the well known chiropractor of that time, Cec Mottram, when he was at Theo Hill's property. He worked on him and suggested we give him a good spell which we did and he appeared to be OK. I didn't have a set up to stand a stallion so I sold him to Murray McKinnon over on the North Coast (NSW). I always felt he was a pretty fair horse."

In 1972 LITTLE MAY - FM produced another colt by LITTLE ABBEY - IS, called MY ABBEY. This colt was sold to Arthur Summerville in Queensland and proved a wonderful performer winning, amongst other things, the SEQCPA Open Campdraft Horse for 1979. He then went on to be an extremely successful sire with 172 progeny registered with the Society.

In 1973 LITTLE MAY-FM's foal was by the successful sire, CECIL BRUCE - IS. This foal was registered as EULABAH NEON, who was sold to Mr LL Jones. He proved a successful sire with 53 registered progeny.

In 1974 it was a return to LITTLE ABBEY - IS that produced the mare, EULABAH SIMILAR. This mare was to have 17 foals. She was purchased, after she had had one foal, by Clem Barnett of the well known Barnett Stud.

"She was a lovely mare," recalls Clem, "I remember top pricing the Dalby Sale with a foal out of this mare. We kept two of her daughters in the stud to use as broodmares, BARNETTS SERENE and BARNETTS MAYBE."

ABBEY-FS was the sire of her 1975 colt, EULABAR CINNABAR.

"I worked on Cinnabar when he came back from the breakers," recalls Dan Germon, "and then he was sold to people in Queensland."

Cinnabar was purchased by MG Kinneally and once again proved a successful sire with 28 registered progeny.

Her 1977 filly by LITTLE ABBEY - IS was only foal recorded as EULABAH DABEL, and no record is available as to what happened to her.

Her final foal, EULABAH REMAE, was born in 1978 and this mare was by Ken Rumbel's very successful but ill fated stallion, WILJOHN RAYMUS. Ken Rumbel purchased this mare from the Eulabah Stud. Remae proved a very versatile mare and very adaptable. At one stage top polocrosse player, Julie Davison was short of a horse to play at the Hunter Valley Championships so Ken obliged by lending her Remae. With very scant preparation time, she was shown the basics of the game of polocrosse and took to it like a duck to water, playing in the Maitland team that won the A Grade Championships and taking out the best No 1 Pony. A foal out of this mare was born in August 2005 which made her 27

LITTLE MAY - FM ASH Reg: 695	Foster	Hua	Heroic
			Gladioli
		Ennyeye	Genetout
			Aiwai
	Lyncourt	Agincourt	Unknown
			Unknown
		Unknown	Unknown
			Unknown

years old when she foaled so longevity was also a key factor in her make-up.

It would probably be hard to find a mare whose progeny performed as well as LITTLE MAY-FM's and then went on to produce so successfully. The fact that she only ever went to top sires also played a role in her success. It is no wonder that she has gained the status of a Foundation Mare.

It is interesting that the Late Ross McPhee has not only LITTLE MAY-FM in the Foundation Mares, but another mare as well, registered as EULABAH GLEAM-FM. Prior to his death, Ross had proved one of the most successful Australian Stock Horse breeders during the 70s and the early days of the Society. He consistently took horses to ASH sales and top priced with his horses. His stallion, LITTLE ABBEY - IS out of EULABAH GLEAM - FM by ABBEY - FS, is an Impact Stallion of The Australian Stock Horse Society. Ross McPhee and his Eulabah horses have left a lasting legacy in the Society.

If we look at the breeding of LITTLE MAY - FM we find some interesting connections. LITTLE MAY - FM, as mentioned earlier, is an unregistered Thoroughbred mare.

LITTLE MAY - FM is by a horse called Foster that was owned by Fred Brazel of Walcha. Once again this horse was an unregistered Thoroughbred but was listed at the time of LITTLE MAY - FM's registration as being by Hua. The Thoroughbred stallion, Hua (AUS-1934) was a registered Thoroughbred and a very good one, winning six Principal Races from 7 furlongs to 14 furlongs. In 1937 he won the VRC Sires Produce Stakes and the VRC Victoria Derby and in 1938 he won the MVRC William Reid Stakes, the VRC St George Stakes, the VRC St Leger Stakes and the CF Orr Stakes. As a sire he proved just as successful, producing



15 Principal Race winners of 37 Principal Races including San Domenico, who won 16 Principal Races including winning twice in consecutive years the AJC Warwick Stakes, the AJC Challenge Stakes and the STC Canterbury Stakes - quite a remarkable achievement.

Hua was by the great sire Heroic who figures prominently in ASH breeding. Heroic was an outstanding racehorse winning 19 Principal Races including the 1924 AJC Derby and the 1926 WS Cox Plate. As a sire he was nothing short of amazing, producing 29 Principal Race winners of 112 Principal Races including his great son, Ajax, who won 33 Principal races, some of them for three consecutive years and his other amazing son, Hallmark who won 16 Principal Races including, as a three year old in 1933, the Golden Crown, consisting of the AJC Derby, the VRC Victoria Derby and the Melbourne Cup - one of the few three year olds to ever do this if any others ever did!

Hua's dam was Gladioli who was by the

Principal Race winner, Ethiopian.

The dam of Foster was a mare called Ennyeye (AUS-1940) This mare was by the good sire, Genetout, (FR-1933) who produced 18 Principal Race winners of 35 Principal Races. Horses by him included Columnist (AUS-1942) winner of 11 Principal Races and Dickens (AUS-1946) winner of 3 Principal Races. Genetout was by Vatout (FR-1926) who was also the sire of the well known sire Bois Roussel (FR-1935). Genetout's dam Lady Genevieve (FR-1926) was by Sir Gallahad (FR-1920) who had such illustrious sires in his pedigree as Bay Ronald (GB-1893), Carbine (NZ-1885) and St Simon (GB-1881). The dam of Lady Genevieve, White Crystal (GB-1922) also carried St Simon in her breeding as well as The Tetrarch (GB-1911).

Ennyeye's dam, Aiwai, (NZ-1934) was a Principal Race winner herself and produced a Principal race winner in Timor (AUS-1952) who won 3 Principal Races including the 1957 AJC Epsom

Top: MY ABBEY Below Left: LITTLE ABBEY-IS

Below: Right L-R: Mid-North Coast Show Judge Bob Wade from Dalby and Ross McPhee "Eulabah", Niangala holding his stallion EULABAH ABU, 1st in Colt 3 yrs and under 4 yrs class and later sold in the night sale for \$3,000 to Vic Bates of St Marys NSW.



Handicap. Aiwai was by a super sire in Chief Ruler (GB-1920) who stood in NZ and produced 31 Principal Race winners of 96 Principal Races including Gold Rod (NZ-1933) who won 14 Principal Races including the 1936 VRC and AJC Sires Produce Stakes and the 1939 AJC Doncaster Handicap and the 1937 AJC Epsom Handicap. Chief Ruler was by The Tetrarch which gave LITTLE MAY - FM a double cross of this horse. The Tetrarch was the sire of 6 Principal Race winners of 8 races. Chief Ruler's dam was the very good mare, Jest (GB-1910) who won the 1913 GB Epsom Stakes and the 1,000 Guineas and produced the Principal Race winner Humorist (GB-1918) who won the GB Epsom Derby Stakes in 1921.

LITTLE MAY - FM was out of a mare called Lyncourt. "The whole district was shocked when Paddy Reid, who was always careful with his money, went to the Scone Thoroughbred Sales and bought Lyncourt as a yearling for a thousand pounds, which was a lot of money in those days," said Laurie Henry. "Lyncourt was a bit of a handful to break in," recalls Laurie, "prominent Tamworth jockey and later

trainer, Arthur Gore, very quickly realised a jockey pad was not the way to go with this feisty mare so he settled for a stock saddle to get her started."

The effort was worthwhile as she turned out a very capable galloper.

"She could even still hold the 41/2 furlongs' record in Tamworth," exclaimed Laurie, "I know she held it for a lot of years. Over that distance she was unbeatable. I know she went on to win another 5 or 6 races but at 41/2 furlongs she was extremely fast!"

Lyncourt was by Agincourt who was a very good sire producing 9 Principal Race winners.

Unfortunately Lyncourt must not have been an AJC registered Thoroughbred as we can find no trace of her in the Australian Stud Book, which is more the pity. Laurie Henry and Laurie Marshall thought she was out of a Linacre mare but we have no way of checking that information.

You may wonder why such well bred horses were never returned in a lot of cases to the Stud Book but we assume that it was because the people tied

up with the horses were away at war and as amazing as it seems to us, the Australian Stud Book made no exceptions and mares not returned had their foals disqualified from being registered.

LITTLE MAY - FM is a tantalising mare from a breeding research perspective, a lot known but a lot unknown. The one thing we can be sure of is that her descendants in the future will continue to keep her name to the fore as they appear to be a line of horses that not only perform themselves but can pass it on to their descendants. 🐾