

## KOLBEACH SHOWGIRL 7/10/2003 – 30/5/2010

The first foal of the very successful show mare *Healden Park Calendar Girl* and by *Camargue Tribute (Imp)*, *Showgirl* was offered for sale at the Kolbeach sale at Tatura in 2005 at the age of two. She was light in frame, and very typey. The late Pauline Van Heythuysen was the discerning final bidder and she returned to Kolbeach Stud to grow out. During the following year, we bought the filly out of the paddock - she was hairy and had teeth lumps so large that only a mother could love her. Time proved to be a great healer and she developed into a very beautiful filly. Her saddle career did not start until she was five, she was very fine in stature and physically she required time. She proved to be beautiful to handle on the ground from day one, and 'quirky' one could say, in the saddle from day one. Never dirty, just 'quirky'. Often we would be asked at the local shows in the first season, "Is that the naughty one"? By her second season she was then called the pretty one - but to be honest she still had her moments - if Charlie took her for granted she would quickly remind her of her obligations as a rider, in particular no big pony club style kicks in the marshalling yard at Sydney Royal 2010 two minutes before the 12.2 – 13hh open show pony class!! Charlie's dedication to *Cally's* education under saddle was a credit to her. From September 2009 to April 2010, she had a win, four seconds, and two thirds and a Reserve Champion at Royal shows, Runner-Up Show Horse Council Horse of the Year, third EA-SA Horse of the Year, top 10 Grand Nationals, Supreme Senior Led Show Pony and Grand Supreme Ridden Pony of the Show at the SA Riding Pony of the Year Show and finally Supreme Champion Ridden Show Pony at the National Riding Pony Show.

The spring of 2009 began with a win in hand at Adelaide Royal and this started a very successful, and what was to be her last show season. Under saddle she won the EASA Graduate Garland for large ponies and was third in the open. At the SA Show Horse Council Horse of the Year she was Runner-up large Pony, qualifying for the Grand Nationals. Melbourne Summer Royal she was second and at Canberra Royal made her Riding Pony under Saddle debut, where again she was second. At the South Australian Riding Pony of the Year show she was awarded Supreme Senior Led Pony and Grand Supreme Ridden Pony of the Show. On to the National Riding Pony show where again she was second in hand and was sashed Supreme Ridden Show Pony. She was starting to become a model of consistency.

Her final interstate trip was to the Grand Nationals and Sydney Royal. She made the top ten at the Grand Nationals in a very strong class and did not put a foot wrong for the duration of the show. At Sydney she was third in hand in her Riding Pony class and second under saddle. We were thrilled for her to have the chance to work out for Reserve Champion Ridden Riding Pony and in fact receive the sash.

The sadness at the loss of our little friend cannot be expressed; it was sudden and totally unexpected.

The loss for our stud of a mare of this quality who was able to hold her own in both led and saddle classes at the highest level will never be realised but only speculated. She will be sadly missed by her best friend *Kolbeach Symphony*, fondly called 'the nannas' they were joined at the hip and were never far apart.

*Andrew Hunt*

