

PONY PROFILE: MONAHAN HARRISON

Sire: Ben Dhui Diccon

Dam: Wychwood Lady Ann

Gaye & Tim Haworth purchased Harrison (or Harry as he is known as) in May 2003 from Christa Jone's Monahan Stud. They were looking for that special pony for their daughter Kristy, and Harry being a newly broken in 3 year old, seemed to fit the bill perfectly.

Initially it took a while for the two to "click " as Harry had a strong personality, but after a while the two found common ground and the rest is history.

One of the first outings for the two was the BRAG Pony Sports Day in 2004. Harry and Kristy came along for the experience, but ended the day by taking out the Ballantrae Cup for the Best Performed Connemara on the day. No mean feat, as he was up against some of the more experienced and well known ponies. Even then he showed his potential for show jumping, only being beaten by "that damned wave jump".

Since then Harry and Kristy have gone to be a formidable combination in show jumping circles. They consistently place and win junior jumps at many of the local shows and are jumping clear rounds at EFA D grade level (easily clearing rounds at 1.1 mtrs.)

Harry does have a couple of pet hates, those being, dressage (boring!!!!), working cattle and becomes disgruntled when the odd occasion arises when a rug leg strap comes undone. Even though he "hates" dressage, he is still placing at PC grade 3, plus also in open company at prelim and novice levels, which is a pretty good effort for a horse that gets bored with it as easily as he does.

Some of Kristy and Harry's achievements over the last 18 months have been:

2nd working hunter

St Arnaud Show

Reserve champion working hunter

Donald Show

1st working hunter

Colac Show

Two 2nd placings

Wannon Zone PC Qualifying Day

2nd C Grade Championships Barastoc Inter School Show jumping Championships

4 out of 5 rounds clear (team placed 5th) PCAV State Dressage & Show jumping Championships

Overall C grade Champion South West Victorian PC show jumping Championships (1st in championship round, 1st in power & speed, 2nd in top score)

Harry is not quite ready to tackle cross-country courses as yet but he is mellowing with age and it won't be long before this talented combination are taking the eventing world by storm.

With his extravagant movement (courtesy of Diccon) and his long wavy mane and tail (Diccon and Lady Ann), Harry has that "look at me" appeal and at only 61/2 years of age he and Kristy have a big future in front of them. Especially when you think he is now jumping 1.3 mtrs at home. How high will he be able to go is the question?

Emu Creek Pony Club which Kristy and Harry attend is the largest club in the Wannon Zone. There are three other Connemaras at the club along with Harry, and they are Ballantrae Hoopla (featured in a previous article) Ballantrae Bracken and Celtic Fairy, all of whom are going extremely well for their owners, proving that South West Victoria is once again becoming a stronghold for these fantastic ponies.

Peter Brown

