

RED ANCHOR'S DAUGHTERS SAILING AHEAD

by Jane Henning

Daughters of Red Anchor started retiring to stud about thirteen years ago and with his youngest progeny being current two-year-olds, there are certainly many more opportunities for breeders to acquire Red Anchor mares and take advantage of their significant success.

Most recently credited as the damsire of Hire, he is also responsible for producing the dams of stakes winners Align, Lease (half brother to Hire), Prince Benbara, La Rieuse, Storm Zero, Royale Exit, Nevet, Red Ivory and Dynaliebe. A further eleven stakes placegetters include Sengiggi Beach, Superb Lady, Hot Beat, Interbank, Zonked and C'est le Reve.

While it must be remembered that the damsire only constitutes half of the broodmare's genetic input, there seems to be some common threads through nearly all of these matings. Analysis of the pedigrees of these successful racehorses can help us to pinpoint the families on which Red Anchor's pedigree is picking up and to indicate with what other new or current sires his daughters will also nick.

Align is by **NIGHT SHIFT**, a son of Northern Dancer. It appears that Northern Dancer has a couple of features which suit Red Anchor. He is by Nearctic, a key member of the elite **PRETTY POLLY** family. Red Anchor carries two more members of this line, namely Donatello II and Supreme Court. In addition, he carries Blenheim, sire of the speedy Mahmoud on Northern Dancer's third remove. Red Anchor carries Blenheim and his half brother King Salmon.

Hire is by **CANNY LAD**, who is also the sire of the stakes placed Superb Lady. The presence of three lines to Fair Trial in Canny Lad reinforces the three lines to this prepotent ancestor in Red Anchor. Hire's dam Charter also carries Fair Trial up close through her dam, further reinforcing this pattern. Canny Lad carries three lines to Blenheim and the less commonly seen King Salmon. Hire's half brother Lease is by **QUEST FOR FAME**, who also contributes more Fair Trial.

Storm Zero's sire **DANZERO** adds another dimension to compatibility with Red Anchor. Alycidon is great grandsire of Red Anchor, and appears in Danzero as the sire of Idomeneo on his third remove. Alycidon is a member of the **MARCHETTA (1)** family, which also has Turn-to, My Babu, Ambiorix, Cagire II, Sayani, Borealis, Acropolis, Agricola, Klairon, Hotfoot, Bustino, Rapier II, Imperial Prince, Blevic, Irish River, Stunning and Pharamond II as members.

Storm Zero's second dam is also by Idomeneo, further compounding the pattern. A winner between 1200 and 1400 metres to-date, this three year old should be able to win over further ground with three lines of the stayer Alycidon prominent in his pedigree.

La Rieuse is by **BRIEF TRUCE**. This is another mating based on reinforcement of the **MARCHETTA** family. Brief Truce's sire Irish River is a member as is Irish River's damsire, Klairon. With Northern Dancer as his damsire, as discussed in the paragraph regarding Night Shift, Brief Truce looks particularly appealing.

The pedigree of Prince Benbara brings in reinforcement of another influential family. Red Anchor's grandsire is Alcide, who traces to **ALOPE**. Further back through the pedigree of his damsire Decoy Boy is Foxlaw, another member. Prince Benbara's sire **FRAAR** carries a duplication of Round Table, one of Alope's best known descendants. Gone West, Doutelle, Known Fact, Atan, Above Suspicion, Mukddaam, Song of Tara, Parthia, Prince Bright and Knight Commander are other family members who can reinforce this line. Again, Northern Dancer is present in this mating – he is grandsire of Fraar.

One family which hasn't had much airplay in matings with Red Anchor's daughters is that of his sire, Sea Anchor. He traces to **FELUCCA** (11), who is also the ancestress of Sea Road, Hermes, Sharp Edge, Buoy and Thunder Gulch. Reinforcement of this family has been proven in Australia by the good Queensland stallion Sea Road, whose second highest money earner, Seawinne, is out of a mare by Sharp Edge. The BATC Foster's Cup (Group 2) winner is a full relation to Marine Drive, who was second in the Group 1 QTC Castlemaine Stakes.

SEA ROAD matings look interesting with Red Anchor mares – the rising 21 year old is still proving popular with breeders in Queensland. The mating creates 3f x 4m inbreeding to Felucca's great granddaughter, Anchor.

THUNDER GULCH is a direct descendant of Felucca and also contributes Precipitation's half brother Persian Gulf, **PRETTY POLLY** members Nearctic and Donatello II and sex balances Owen Tudor for Red Anchor mares.

Canny Lad's son **DODGE** carries fellow Felucca family member Buoy.

Other stallions around Australia carrying Felucca family members include **BLACKFRIARS**, **GREIG** and **WATERFORD ROAD** who all carry Hermes via Grosvenor in their pedigrees. Cossack Warrior and of course his son Brave Warrior also carried Hermes, and while unfortunately neither is now at stud, Brave Warrior's brother **PIERCE ARROW** is available at a modest fee in Queensland.