

# **AUGUST (adj.) LIPPIZANERS**

Where in this wide world can man find nobility without pride, friendship without envy, or beauty without vanity?

# The Horse Ronald Duncan

The Lipizzaner is one of the oldest domesticated breeds of horse still existing in the world today. They were purpose-bred for battle, making them the iconic war-horse of the Middle Ages. The Lipizzaner breed was established in 1562 when the Hapsburgs began breeding Spanish horses in Lipica, a village in what is now Slovenia. It was the need for military horses of unusual strength, loyalty and courage that inspired them to import Spanish, Italian and Arab-Oriental horses for their breeding programme. Out of this grew the famous white horse – the Lipizzan (or Lipizzaner) as we know it today.

Lipizzaners are almost always exclusively grey as adults despite being born black or dark brown. On the stud farm, the dark foals stand in stark contrast to the silvery-white sheen of their mothers. As Lipizzaners age they gradually lighten until, usually by around 8 to 9 years of age, they adopt their characteristic white coat. Interestingly, some Lipizzaners will remain a dark brown colour their entire life. The very rare colour is a throwback to their ancestry and considered an omen of good fortune. We are very lucky to have three at the South African Lipizzaner Centre.

Stallions need to have the name of the foundation stallion as the first part of their name and the dam must be the second part of their name. Mares are traditionally given names ending with an "A". Because of this, duplicate names are common and the horses are distinguished with Roman numerals after their names. Part bred Lipizzaners are not allowed to carry on with the naming traditions of the purebred horses.

Lipizzaner horses have been endangered numerous times: With various wars being fought in Europe over the past 500 years, there have been numerous instances when the Lipizzaner breed was almost completely wiped out. Their continued existence is because of rescue efforts taken by US troops during World War II, Walt Disney documented these efforts in the movie "Miracle of the White Stallions"

Today, eight foundation lines for Lipizzaners are recognized by various registries, which refer to them as "dynasties". They are divided into two groups. Six trace to classical foundation stallions used in the 18th and 19th centuries by the Lipizza stud, and two additional lines were not used at Lipizza, but were used by other studs within the historic boundaries of the Hapsburg Empire.

The South African Lipizzaner Centre (NPO) is a renowned equestrian establishment located just outside of Paarl in the Western Cape. Their work is dedicated to the preservation of the magnificent Lipizzaner horse in South Africa, and the training follows the strict principles and traditions of classical dressage and the *haute ècole*. Classical training is a historical, systematic approach passed down through generations of equestrian masters, with the goal of achieving absolute harmony with the horse. Our public performances exemplify the harmonious connection between a horse and their rider through carefully choreographed routines set to music; an unparalleled cultural experience. They are a Non-Profit Organisation; tireless efforts are what keeps the now 70-year legacy of the Lipizzaner horse in South Africa alive.

https://lippizaners.co.za



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#### We extend a very warm welcome to Jill and Chris Hinde #15

and

Sally and Kevin Hojem #33



#### **MOVIE EVENING - JOIN US FOR THE EVENING**

**6TH AUGUST at 7PM** 

MEET THE PARENTS - a comedy of note, starring

Robert de Niro and Ben Stiller

Greg Focker decides to spend a weekend with his girlfriend's parents before proposing to her. However, her father instantly dislikes Greg, which makes his stay far worse than he imagined.



Kindly provide your own refreshments and book at reception by no later than Friday 29th July

bergvliet

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#### **GAMES EVENING**

#### **AUGUST 12TH AT 7PM**

The evening will cover Rummikub and Bananagram

Please book by Friday 5th August at reception

Don't forget your liquid refreshments





FRIDAY 26TH AUGUST WILL SEE THE EVENTS COMMITTEE HOSTING ANOTHER PUB EVENING

6PM

BOOKS OF TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM

**RECEPTION - COST R100** 

BOOK BY NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 19TH AUGUST FOR CATERING PURPOSES





Don't use a big word when a singularly unloquacious and diminutive linguistic expression will satisfactorily accomplish the contemporary necessity.



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2nd Alida Oldroyd3rd Roger Cummins3rd David Walker8th Trula Human

9th Hans Hammel



11th Paddy Hawthorne

16th Jean Hargreaves

16th Stewart Fisher

19th Jacky Marquis

26th Joan Misplon

30th Tertia Harrod

# Anniversaries being celebrated this month

9th Gael and Charles Foster

14th Margaret and Alan Baxter

14th Alison and Ian McDonald

18th Carol and Brian Dalton

25th Claudia and Michael Burchell

28th Hannelen and Hans Hammel

# JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ARE THE BREEDING MONTHS OF THE ENDANGERED WESTERN LEOPARD TOADS (WLTs) WHEN THEY ARE ON THE MOVE AND MIGRATE FROM THEIR GARDEN HOMES TO VARIOUS WATER BODIES TO BREED

The biggest dangers to the WLTs are:

Cats and dogs attacking them

Cars running them over

Swimming pool chemicals

Contrary to popular belief, the toads are not poisonous to humans

Should you find toad(s) in your garden, do not move them to a wetland or pond. They can navigate and know where they are going. If one is found in the middle of the road they can be encouraged to the side.

All toads have toxins which will be distasteful to dogs.

Slow down when driving during breeding season, especially on rainy nights





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# The History of Imhoff Farm, Kommetjie

In 1741, the Directors of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) finally decided to admit defeat to Mother Nature. To save their ships from the constant barrage of her deadly winter storms, they put a halt to the anchorage at Table Bay.

However, the new, safer destination at Simon's Bay was a less than perfect alternative. The return trek on foot to Cape Town to source vital supplies for the fleet would take a full four days.

To overcome this challenge, the Governor General of the Dutch East Indian Company, Baron Gustav Wilhelm van Imhoff, ordered the construction of the Simon's Bay refreshment station in 1743. Among its mandates was the cultivation of lands in the Fish Hoek and Noordhoek valleys.

Baron van Imhoff soon realised that he was not alone in his quest to alleviate the problems of supplying fresh produce. The widow Christina Rousseau (nee Diemer) also supplied the ships from her farm Zwaansweide (now Constantia Uitsig).

The Baron was so impressed by her efforts that he awarded her a gift of land near Slangkop ridge. This area – which also encompassed the land now claimed by Kommetjie and Ocean View – became known as "Imhoff's Gift".



Baron Gustav van Imhoff grants Noordhoek Farm to Christina Rousseau

In 1912 the farm was bought by Johannes Gerhardus Pieter van der Horst, who transformed the property into one of the original show farms of the Cape.

The four decades that followed were relatively uneventful by all accounts. That was until a fateful day in 1958 when a raging fire swept across the valley and all but destroyed the farm.

The original homestead on the farm was gutted and the two historic wooden figure-heads – salvaged from shipwrecks and given pride of place at the front entrance – were sadly also destroyed.

Less than 10 years later, in 1967, another portion of the farm was expropriated by the then apartheid government. Under the Group Areas Act this land became the township of Ocean View. This was to be the new home of so-called 'Coloured' people forcibly removed from the surrounding 'white' areas of Simon's Town, Glencairn and Noordhoek.



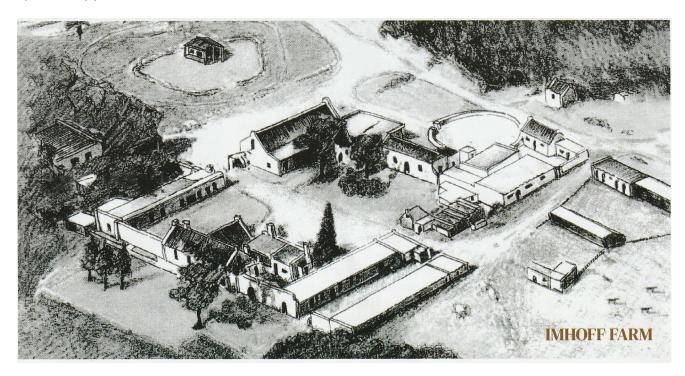
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In 2003, the land between the 'vleis' (marshes) and the sea was transferred to the Table Mountain National Park, creating a protected corridor for indigenous fauna and flora.

Today, the dairy and livestock farming of yesteryear is no longer viable on this once remote stretch of land. Now on a busy tourist route, the farmstead has evolved into Imhoff Farm, a commercial hub with old-world charm. The homestead now houses the Blue Water Café while the stables, silo, smithy, slave quarters and milking sheds are occupied by local artists and interesting craft, furniture and food shops.

Present owners the Van der Horst family are committed to maintaining the country farm atmosphere, providing an excellent one-stop venue for visitors to the Cape Point Route.

https://imhofffarm.co.za



#### **LUCKY DRAW**

Our monthly Lucky Draw is a way to raise funds by the

Village Entertainment Committee to provide live

music, décor and a variety of items for the

benefit of residents' functions.

One ticket costs R20/three tickets R50.

The draw sheet is available at reception.

Buy your ticket for our next draw which will take

place on 26th August





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#### **MOVIE EVERGREEN RATINGS**

For those residents who have Britbox

BLOODLANDS a crime thriller starring James Nesbitt

Series 1 / 4 episodes



# A Duesenberg in miniature by Louis Chenot Another engineer with time on his hands!



Louis spent ten years building this incredibly detailed 1932 SJ Duesenberg LaGrande dual-cowl phaeton. Not only does it look good, but the engine runs, the lights work, the top mechanism functions and the transmission and driveline are complete. Lou started his research on this project over fifty years ago with the purchase of a book and through the following years, collected many drawings and studied a number of Duesenbergs while they were being restored, taking photographs and recording dimensions.

For more outstanding photographs and text, visit

www.craftsmanshipmuseum.com/Chenot.htm



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#### FRANZ KAFKA 1883-1924

At 40, Franz Kafka who never married and had no children, walked through the park in Berlin when he met a girl who was crying because she had lost her favourite doll. She and Kafka searched for the doll unsuccessfully. Kafka told her to meet him there the next day and they would come back to look for her.

The next day, when they had not yet found the doll, Kafka gave the girl a letter "written" by the doll saying "please don't cry. I took a trip to see the world. I will write to you about my adventures."

Thus began a story which continued until the end of Kafka's life.

During their meetings, Kafka read the letters of the doll carefully written with adventures and conversations that the girl found adorable.

Finally, Kafka brought back the doll (he bought one) that had returned to Berlin.

"It doesn't look like my doll at all," said the girl.

Kafka handed her another letter in which the doll wrote: "my travels have changed me." the little girl hugged the new doll and happily brought her home.

A year later Kafka died.

Many years later, the now-adult girl found a letter inside the doll. In the tiny letter signed by Kafka it was written:

"Everything you love will probably be lost, but in the end, love will return in another way."



FB post, contribution Lynne Perry

Franz Kafka was a German-speaking Bohemian novelist and short-story writer, widely regarded as one of the major figures of 20th-century literature. His work fuses elements of realism and the fantasy.

Wiki

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#### **GETTING TO KNOW YOU -**

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#### A FLORAL AFFAIR - JACKY ORTON

Just before I retired many years ago aged 55, I was invited to a meeting of the Rondebosch flower club, and there began my everlasting affair with flowers, plants and design. It wasn't long before I studied for The National Design diploma, followed by the National Demonstrators diploma. During this time I became chairlady of the club for several years. The club was very large at this time and we were a strong committee. Apart from doing church festivals, weddings, Provincial and National competitions, our own children's weddings (such a pleasure) we had a lot of fun entertaining our club, and other clubs.



We were invited to put on a "Flower Show" at the then famous Addo Rose show in the Eastern Cape. What a lark it was, the five of us plus our music fundi, (who often got the cues wrong, causing much hilarity), three car loads packed to the hilt with our plant material, costumes, stands and accessories. Our theme was "Around South Africa" and we wore great costumes and had great music to accompany us whilst we did our very large floral designs and danced to the music. The audiences loved us and we were invited back the following year.

We then decided we could do better. One of our little group (the 5 Jays) had two grandchildren in a special school in George, funded solely by the parents and other private funding. Their PTA asked us to put on a show, the tickets were a sell-out and off we went to perform for them in George. This was such fun for everyone, that we did a couple more shows for the school in George and Knysna always with different themes. We then "performed" in Cape Town for other charities in a variety of venues, ranging from the Baxter Foyer, the Castle in Hout Bay, WP Cricket club etc. I think our success was more to do with our enthusiasm and fun rather than our expertise in floral art.

We gracefully called it a day around the time we became septuagenarians but I can still say that flowers are my passion.







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## WORLD HERITAGE SITE - THE ROMAN BATHS, BATH

The Roman Baths are well-preserved *thermae* in the city of Bath, Somerset, England. A temple was constructed on the site between 60-70AD in the first few decades of Roman Britain. Its presence led to the development of the small Roman urban settlement known as *Aquae Sulis* (waters of Sulis) around the site. The Roman baths - designed for public bathing - were used until the end of Roman rule in Britain in the 5th Century AD. According to the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, the original Roman baths were in ruins a century later. The area around the natural springs was redeveloped several times during the Early and Late Middle Ages.

The Roman Baths are preserved in three main features: the Sacred Spring, the Roman Temple, the Roman Bath House. The name Suliis continued to be used after the Roman invasion, leading to the town's Roman name of *Aquae Sulis*. The temple was constructed in 60–70 AD and the bathing complex was gradually built up over the next 300 years. During the Roman occupation of Britain, and possibly on the instructions of Emperor Claudius, engineers drove oak piles to provide a stable foundation into the mud and surrounded the spring with an irregular stone chamber lined with lead. In the 2nd century it was enclosed within a wooden barrel-vaulted building, and included the caldarium (hot bath), tepidarium (lukewarm bath), and frigidarium (cold bath). After the Roman withdrawal from Britain in the first decade of the 5th century, these fell into disrepair and were eventually lost due to silting up, and flooding. The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* suggests the original Roman baths were destroyed in the 6th century.

The water is sourced from rainfall on the nearby Mendip Hills, which then percolates down through limestone aquifers to a depth of between 2,700 and 4,300 metres (8,900 and 14,100 ft). Geothermal energy raises the water temperature, and under pressure, the heated water rises along fissures and faults in the limestone, until it bubbles up from the ground into the baths.



About 130 curse tablets have been found. Many of the curses are related to thefts of clothes whilst the victim was bathing!

The museum houses artefacts from the Roman period, including objects that were thrown into the Sacred Spring, presumably as offerings to the goddess. These include more than 12,000 Denari coins, which is the largest collective votive deposit known from Britain. Gilt bronze head of the goddess Sulis Minerva, which was discovered nearby in 1727, is also displayed.



The spring overflow



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#### THE CONTINUED STORY OF A SPECIAL LADY – JOANI-WP THE XK8 COUPE JAGUAR

Can one have a love affair with a car – I would definitely say YES especially when she has been specifically and meticulously assembled as regards to choosing the exterior (Winter Gold) and interior colours, polished burrs wood dashboard, steering wheel and mag wheels. Durban was where the magic took place with many photos and descriptions flowing back and forth between the enthusiastic interior designers and myself. She eventually arrived in Cape Town on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2008. Something remarkable to see – a state of pure perfection as everything I had asked for had come together splendidly. She and I became a great part of the Jaguar Club enjoying the camaraderie of other beautiful Jags and their proud owners. I originally joined the Jaguar Club in 2005 being the owner of an S-Type Saloon Jag at the time. The club was founded in 1979.

The first drive was one of the most nervous trips experienced behind the wheel – here was this exquisite vehicle and I had to control her. I had mostly driven large cars but this was something very different and once you have power within your hands it is difficult to let go – it gave me control of the road I never thought possible and felt alive and after all these years I still do when driving "Joani".

She is now here with me in 2022 a little aged with a few wrinkles and also retired but up until a few years ago she was competing in rally events, fun runs and Jaguar Concours days and winning many prizes. The Concours was the most prestigious event of the year and I used to start preparing for it several days in advance polishing and dusting every nook and cranny, this included the engine, under carriage, wheel wells, wheels, boot etc., "Joani" couldn't have a blemish not even the smallest speck of dust. My first Concours was 2009 at Vredenheim Estate, Stellenbosch (1 win) also 2010 (2 wins) – Timour Hall, Plumstead 2011 (2 wins), Harcroft Estate Constantia 2014 (3 wins). One special day, in 2015, was when" Joani walked away with 4 trophies with 198 points out of 200 and in so doing winning the Overall Winner Concours de'Etat. On checking back I see an overall 12 awards so you can guess I am very proud of her.

I have experienced many wonderful trips with "Joani" - the rallying and fun runs usually finishing off at some great venues/wine estates where we could indulge in a well deserved meal and a "small" glass of wine i.e. after serious negotiations around the countryside and not knowing where you were going to land up. I fortunately, on most trips, had a good navigator. Most exciting was taking "Joani" at speed around the Killarney track in Cape Town, needless to say not on my own – had an experienced racing driver holding my hand.

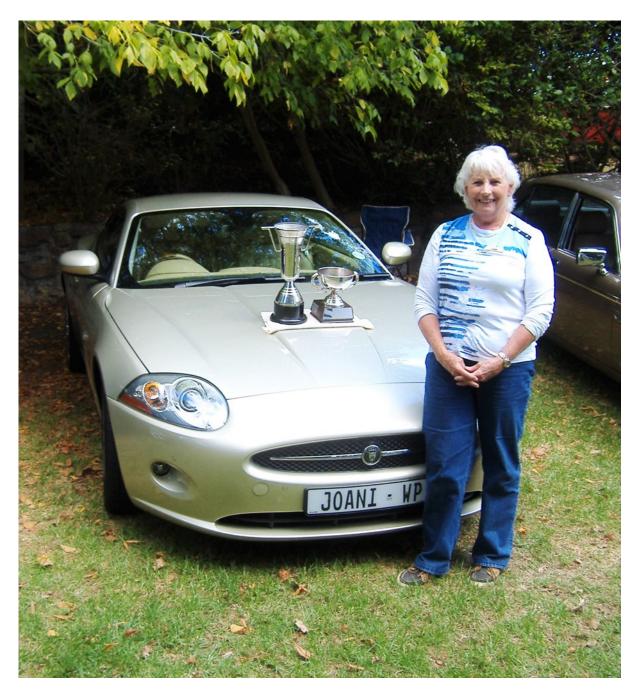
To many a car is just a car to get one from A to B but just sometimes a strong connection is justified and I and "Joani" have that.

Safe driving.

Joan Misplon



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Timour Hall 2011



**Jacky Orton** 



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# HOME MILK DELIVERY WAS ONCE A REGULAR SERVICE THAT THE 'OLD BRIGADE WILL NO DOUBT RECALL. THE MILKMAN OFTEN CARRIED EGGS AND OTHER ITEMS.

Here is a collection of notes left by British householders in milk bottles by the front door:

- \*\* Dear milkman: I've just had a baby, please leave another one.
- \*\*Please leave an extra pint of paralyzed milk.
- \*\*Cancel one pint after the day after today.
- \*\*From now on please leave two pints every other day and one pint on the days in between, except Wednesdays and Saturdays when I don't want any milk.
- \*\*Sorry about yesterday's note, I didn't mean one egg and a dozen pints, but the other way round.
- \*\*Please leave no milk today. When I say today, I mean tomorrow, for I wrote this note yesterday.
- \*\*Please cancel milk. I have nothing coming into the house but two sons on the dole.
- \*\* Sorry not to have paid your bill before, but my wife had a baby and I've been carrying it around in my pocket for weeks.
- \*\*Please send me details about cheap milk as I am stagnant.
- \*\*My back door is open. Please put milk in 'fridge, get money out of cup in drawer and leave change on kitchen table in pence, because we want to play bingo tonight.
- \*\*When you leave my milk please knock on window and wake me because I want you to give me a hand to turn the mattress.
- \*\*Milkman, please put the coal on the boiler, let dog out and put newspaper inside the screen door. PS Don't leave any milk.
- \*\*No milk. Please do not leave milk at No. 14 either as he is dead until further notice.





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## There's a tree in this North Carolina swamp that's at least 2,624 years old!



There's a specific stand of bald cypress trees along the Black River in North Carolina that are some of the oldest trees in the country. Locally known as the Three Sisters Swamp, there are several trees in the group known to be more than 1,000 years old.

To understand how old this tree really is, Smithsonian explains it was alive "when Nebuchadnezzar II built the Hanging Gardens in Babylon, when the Normans invaded England, and when Shakespeare first set quill to paper."

Lead author David W. Stahle, a University of Arkansas scientist, says, "It was like walking back into the Cretaceous. It was essentially a virgin forest, an uncut old-growth forest of 1,000 to over 2,000-year-old trees cheek to jowl across this flooded land."

Although the bald cypress trees are in a protected area owned by The Nature Conservancy, they are still imperiled by continued logging and water pollution, as well as sea level rise.

The researchers conclude: "To counter these threats, the discovery of the oldest known living trees in eastern North America, which are in fact some of the oldest living trees on earth, provides powerful incentive for private, state, and federal conservation of this remarkable waterway."

https://www.treehugger.com/FB Post



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#### SMILE AND LOVE THE IRISH



Paddy shouts frantically into the phone "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!"

"Is this her first child?" asks the Doctor.
"No", shouts Paddy, "this is her husband!"

Paddy's in jail. Guard looks in his cell and sees him hanging by his feet.

"What on earth you doing?" he asks.

"Hanging myself" Paddy replies.

"It should be around your neck" says the Guard.

"I know" says Paddy "but I couldn't breathe."

Paddy spies a letter lying on his doormat. It says on the envelope "DO NOT BEND."

Paddy spends the next 2 hours trying to figure out how to pick it up.

An answer I can understand. An American tourist asks an Irishman: "Why do Scuba divers always fall backwards off their boats?"

To which the Irishman replies: "They have to go backwards. If they fell forwards, they'd still be in the boat."

#### A LOVELY WALK ON A BEAUTIFUL WINTER'S DAY



Happy snapper: Jenny Fisher



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From the notice board of a golf club in England:

"The Ladies section will be very pleased to play a match against the Senior Gentlemen when they have nothing on."

Underneath, the Senior president's response: "The Senior Gentlemen have great pleasure in accepting the challenge providing the weather is warmer."



Contribution: Mike Smith

Thank you to everyone for their contributions - keep them coming to davidwal@iafrica.com

Articles not published in this newsletter will be used in the September edition

Cut off date for submissions is Wednesday 17th August

**FW** 

