

Upgrading breed

Waterfield Farms looking forward to Olympics

by Jennifer Barr
In the world of horse breeding, the fashion in hunter type horses has recently (for the last 20 years) leant towards the fine-boned leggy horse seen on Thoroughbred race-tracks. The old-fashioned

heavy weight hunter became a thing of the past relegated to the farm.

With increasing interest in three-day-eventing, a sport combining hunter trials, jumping and dressage, the need for a more substantial

horse became apparent. Waterfield Farms of Brookville are filling that need.

Former Wilke farm
Gareth Jones and his wife Roxanne Carr-Jones are two young people, owners of

Waterfield Farms, who are making their presence felt in the world of horse breeding in a very short time.

It's also interesting to note Wakefield Farms is situated on the former farm of Dr. and Mrs. Sam Wilke. Before his death five years ago, Dr. Wilke was a well-loved veterinarian and horse lover. Once again his farm is filled with fine horses, dogs and wildlife, a fact which would please him.

Gareth and Roxanne have achieved a place in the opulent world of horse breeders by plain hard work and an astute sense of horse business.

Two years ago, they were occupying a leased farm north of Rockwood with two brood mares. Now they are owners, proprietors and managers of a large 20 acre establishment currently under renovation. Twenty broodmares have gone through their hands during the past year and about 30 more have been bred to the three hunter stallions. Foals of excellent quality and breeding occupy spacious box stalls.

The whole farm bespeaks the hard work and industry of its two young proprietors.

'Zoo' background
Gareth came from dedicated horse background in England and Wales. A zoologist by profession, he came to Canada with Expo '67 as head of the animal exhibition in the British pavilion. He ended up staying here and working with the University of Guelph, in the department of wildlife and zoonosis.

Always an enthusiastic rider, Gareth had a sound basis of knowledge for development of the current breeding program at Waterfield.

It was at the U. of G. he met Roxanne, a native Canadian with a degree in Biology. She had also ridden horses but lacked Gareth's horse background so he "put her in training" by allowing her to muck out his horse's stall for six months.

"And I'm still mucking out stalls!" she laughs.

Gareth currently works at the University while Roxanne handles the operation at home with help from a small staff.

Three stallions
Culling practice among the broodmares (selling unsuitable ones) has left the Jones with nine mares in foal for next season. Of the three stallions, they own Windy Storm, a well-known local stallion of exceptional size and good looks. He is currently being

campaign successfully in the hunter show world.

The other two stallions on the property are leased. Gauchesco, owned by Andy Thompson, recent manager of Barcrest Farms, Milton, stood for several years at that farm and is now at Waterfield. The big seal brown horse is well proven as a sire

of good performing foals.

The third stallion, an older gentleman with fine reputation, is Pied d'Or, another large hunter Thoroughbred noted for consistent production.

Mares and stallions from Waterfield have been extensively shown at all the big hunter shows and a fair-sized

contingent will go to the Royal in November. The Jones' are well pleased with showing results.

Using these stallions and good brood mares, the Jones hope to produce good foals with the bone and stamina to compete in gruelling three-day events. Any foals failing to pass muster should still be

excellent heavy weight hunters, Gareth thinks.

"We want to breed a heavy weight hunter with class," explains Gareth, "horses suitable for Olympic competition."

3-day interest
The hunter world has long been plagued with a light flighty type of Thoroughbred horse and breeders of a substantial hard working sensible hunters were few and far between.

When Canada entered the last Olympics in the three-day event field, importing coach Sheila Wilcox from England for the purpose of producing a good team, interest in three-day event horses rose. Miss Wilcox brought most of the team horses with her from Britain to ensure the correct type of horse was used.

Canada, as a nation, is developing well in the field of three-day eventing and thereby hangs the need for good horses.

Waterfield Farm hopes to fill the bill.

Gareth has had much experience judging and assisting with Olympic and World Championship calibre events, plus managing other farms, and constantly sees the type of horse he wants to produce.

Usually that horse is from another country, thus emphasising the need for Canada to produce the same.

Some of the farm mares are part Clydesdale providing the necessary bone and muscle for big foals.

"We really want a horse that looks like a Thoroughbred with the temperament of a cold blooded horse," Gareth comments.

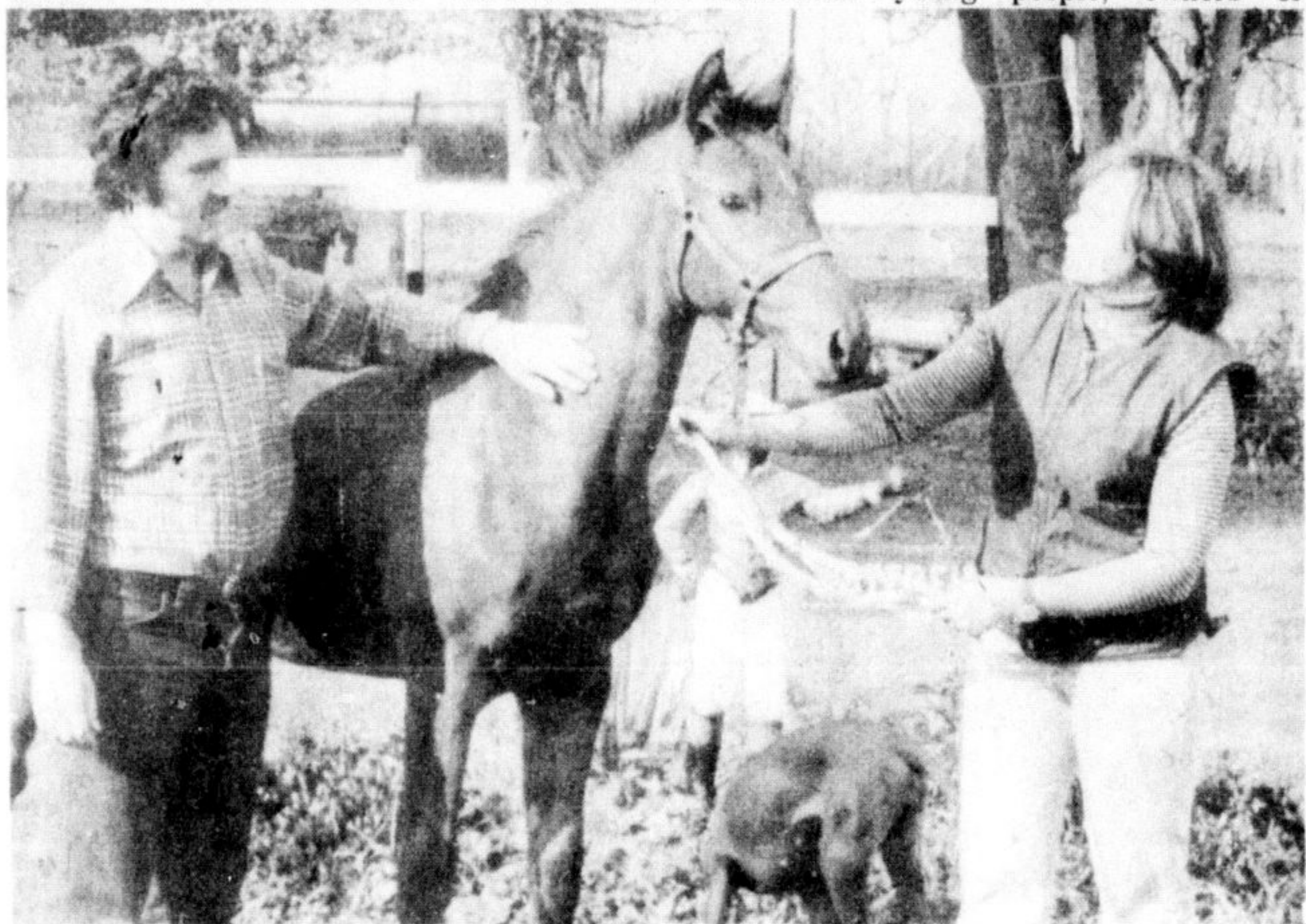
The Jones care very much what happens to the foals produced from other mares off the farm and give a foal-care pamphlet they produced themselves to every potential owner.

They also keep mare bookings low to ensure productivity. Last year 98 percent of mares covered are due to produce foals in the January-March '79 season—a very good rate of success.

Being fussy about bookings also ensures the right kind of mare is accepted so that the chances of producing a foal of Waterfield type is increased.

Gareth and Roxanne Jones are two people with a goal in mind albeit a large goal. With their kind of determination, one feels they'll achieve that goal.

"We know what we're doing and we do it our way," Roxanne has the last word.



GARETH AND ROXANNE JONES show off one of their fine hunter fillies destined to go to the Royal next month. The filly is a good example of the Jones' breeding program of heavyweight hunters. She is half-Thoroughbred and half Clydesdale and is owned by Waterfield Farms, the Jones establishment.



PRIME MINISTER Pierre Elliott Trudeau examines a rare 1906 Dutch half penny coin held by Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook. The coin was presented to the Canadian government by a Dutch family through a Milton family, William Tielemans, his wife Rita, and their daughter Carolyn. The coin was donated to complete a set of Dutch coins resting in the Royal Canadian Mint.

Rare Dutch coin presented to PM by Milton family

Sometimes it pays to maintain your contacts with friends overseas.

Such an example occurred recently in Milton and the end result was a trip to Ottawa and an audience with Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, and all because of a coin.

William Tielemans, a Milton businessman, emigrated to Canada from Holland in 1957, and two years ago entertained visitors to Canada from Holland.

They went to Ottawa where, on their tour of the Royal Mint, the visitors, Mr. and Mrs. Jan van Gorp, from the town of Bladel in The Netherlands, noticed something peculiar about a display of Dutch coins.

One of the coins was missing. The Mint had an incomplete set, missing the half-penny coin.

This oversight was not unexpected, considering the Dutch government last minted a half-penny coin in 1935.

The van Gorp mentioned to the Tielemans that it could be possible to get such a coin in Holland, and they would like to donate it to the Government of Canada as a gift in consideration of the wonderful time they said they had on their tour.

Upon their return to The Netherlands, the van Gorp scouted high and low for a

half-penny coin, and finally were able to mail a 1906 Dutch half-penny coin to the Tielemans.

The Tielemans got in touch with MP Dr. Frank Philbrook who arranged to have the coin presented to the Prime Minister, who met with the Tielemans family and Dr. Philbrook in his office recently.

The Prime Minister also sent a letter to the van Gorp in Holland thanking them for their gift of such a rare and valuable coin.

Special food at 4-H club

Hornby North Junior 4-H homemaking club met at the Reid home near Georgetown on Oct. 23. Debbie Routledge read the minutes of the senior meeting and Marg Griffin the junior group minutes.

Members studied the project pamphlet and made Cod Italiano and Pink Velvet which they enjoyed with hot and cold drinks.

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Children baptized

Three children were baptized at St. Paul's United Church on Sunday morning by Rev. George Lewis.

The three were Daniel Lawrence, son of Ronald and Heather Cordell, David Brian, son of Brian and Jeanette Crossley and Robin Joy, daughter of Robert and Judy Wallace, all of Milton.

—Santa's coming soon. His parade into Milton will be staged Nov. 18.

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