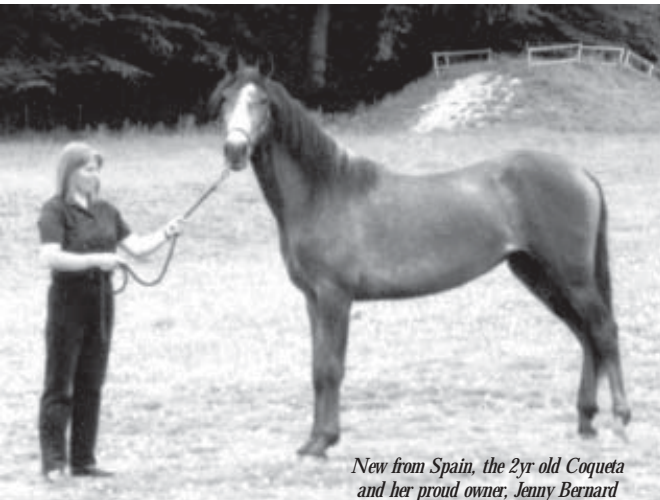


The BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE PUREBRED SPANISH HORSE 1982-2002

This year it will be 20 years since the BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE PUREBRED SPANISH HORSE was founded in September 1982 as the 'British Andalusian Horse Society'. The idea of forming an organisation to look after and promote the Andalusian in the UK was sparked by a rally that Linda Lawrance de Rodriguez organised in June 1982. Advertisements had been placed in Horse & Hound calling for all enthusiasts of the Andalusian to meet up for the day at Mr & Mrs Whittings stables near Horsham, Sussex. There was a good response, bringing together people from all over England, and some people who actually owned Andalusians very kindly brought them to the rally for everyone to see - for many of us it was the first time they had seen a real, live Andalusian, having subsisted on a diet of photos and magazine articles for many years. Included are photos of some of the horses that were present at this historical rally.



New from Spain, the 2yr old Coqueta and her proud owner, Jenny Bernard



Orgulloso. This stallion did not have full papers and was eventually registered in Register IIA

Subsequent to this rally, Mary McBryde made the decision to start up a society for the Andalusians, and, armed with lists of names and addresses of potential members, and lots of useful advice from Linda Lawrance de Rodriguez (who had returned to Spain at the end of August) the organisation got off the ground and achieved recognition from the BHS. There were 12 founder members, and 6 of these founder members, Mary McBryde, Linda Lawrance de Rodriguez, Jenny Bernard, Neil Dougall, Jill Tyler, and Marion Larrigan, are still members 20 years later. The first AGM was held on 5th February 1983, and then affiliation to the Jefatura de Cria Caballar (Spanish State Stud Book Authority) in Madrid, Spain was requested by the society. This was granted by the Cria Caballar towards the end of 1983, and

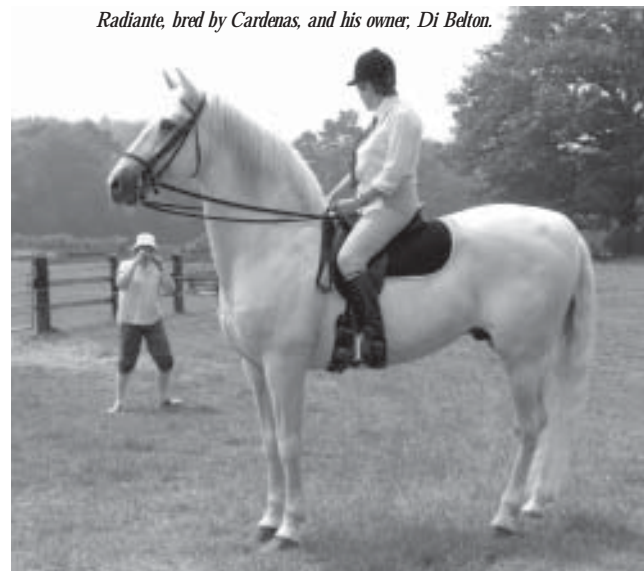
the BAPSH (BAHS) is officially recognised as the sole body responsible for all matters pertaining to the Spanish Horse within the UK.

As a result of the affiliation to Spain the society was able to hold its first Grading and Inscription day for the assessment of the UK's small population of Spanish Horses (Andalusians) by the Spanish Commission from Madrid in the summer of 1984. Three mares passed their Grading, Mr M Curson's Diplomada and Convenida (photos p.11), and Mrs Jenny Bernard's Coqueta VII 1980 (photo p.26) - the only adult mares in the UK at this time, and one stallion passed, Mr Desi Lorent's Alcor IV (photo p.39). In combination with the Grading the society also held the very first Breed Show which was won by Lyn Whiting's stallion Bailaor II (photos p.11), and since 1984 there has been a National Breed Show every year except one. Nowadays the Breed Show has 56 plus classes and runs over 2 very full days with excellent entry levels, for example the ridden PRE stallion class in 2001 had an



Afonso, bred by Cardenas & owned by the Hussein family.

Radiante, bred by Cardenas, and his owner, Di Belton.



entry of 18. The 2002 show will be held on 17th & 18th August and will act as a qualifying event for the National Championships of Spain - ECUMAD- held in December.

Today's members of the BAPSH may be Full (with voting rights) or Associate (no voting rights), Life Membership is also available, however all new members must join as Associates for their first year. Members need not be horse owners to join the Association, all that is required is an enthusiasm for this most ancient of riding horses. All members receive a substantial quarterly magazine, plus the biennial National Horse Register booklet, discounts on all horse registration fees, discounts on books, videos etc. Membership at the end of 2001 was standing at 345, which is a 33% increase on this time two years ago when the last NHR was produced.

At the time that the BAPSH was first formed there were 2 PRE Mares, Diplomada & Convenida, 1 PRE filly, Coqueta, and around 10 PRE stallions, including Alcor IV, Bailaor II, Ultimado II, Jubiloso VI,

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Ganador V, and Radiante. Two years later, August 1984, Mary McBryde and Jenny Bernard drove all the way from their homes in England, across France and Spain pulling horse trailers to Albacete in order to collect their yearling PRE fillies, Anisada and Aguadora, that they had purchased in May. In those days paperwork took months to arrange and the journey was made very difficult by Basque terrorist bomb threats and obstructive border officials - so different to today's common European market which enables speedy movement around the EU countries. The adventurous saga of this importation was written up in detail in the quarterly newsletter and it seemed to trigger a spate of much needed imports by various other members. Today, the number of PRE horses in the UK has reached the 400 mark with 45 foals due this summer, the registered Spanish Partbreds are around 300 with 25 foals due in 2002, and the Hispano-Arabs are increasing slowly but steadily and now number, 44, with 5 foals due in 2002.

To mark the arrival of our 20th anniversary year the 2002 National Horse Registry is enhanced by a selection of photos spread through the pages of some of the Associations earliest registered horses, quite a few of which are still alive and well and approaching or already into their 20s themselves.

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Aguadora, right, and **Anisada**, left, aged 12 mths old being shown in the huge yearling filly class at the popular Expovicamen show in Albacete , May1984. Both fillies later passed their Grading in the UK and became foundation brood mares for their respective owners. They will both be 19 years old this Spring.

