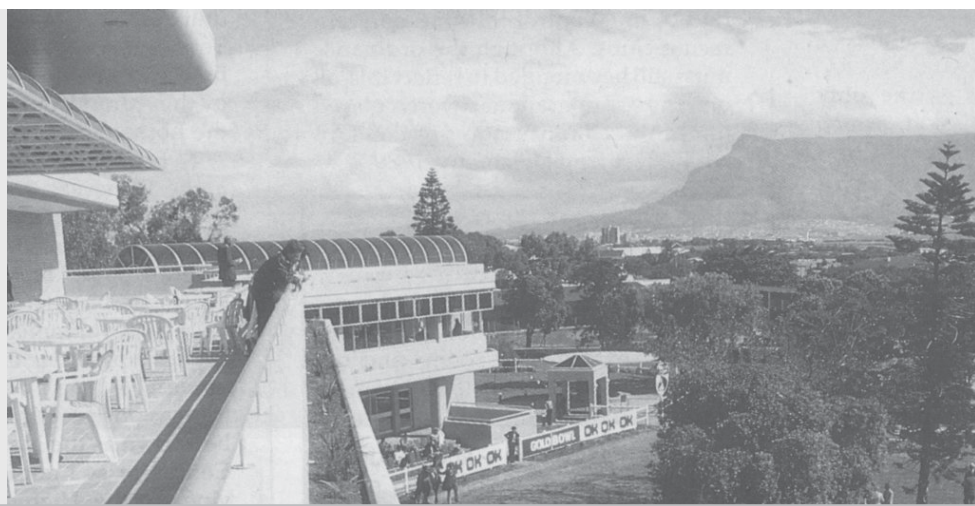


The Great Classic

The Cape Guineas started life as the 2400m Western Province Derby and in 1924 was won by Wild Cat. It changed to the Western Province Guineas in 1945 and the distance was reduced to 1600m. That year it was won by Felto.



1955 This has been one of South Africa's premier classics since introduced in 1955 by Jack Stubbs, handicapper Selwyn Langerman and Abe Bloomberg. That year, run for a stake of £4200, it was won by Marion Island on the Milnerton near bend. After a proud history of great winners like Colorado King, Hawaii, In Full Flight, Sentinel and Politician, the Guineas action switched to its present home, Kenilworth, in 1992.



What a Party!

In 1963 Cape Mellowood came on board as sponsors until 1970. The race was without branding from 1971 to 1974. Against the background of the Cape Town Festival of 1975 it was called the Argus Festival Guineas and won by the brilliant 'ugly duckling', Gatecrasher.

Met Hero



The first Guineas winner Marion Island was bred by George Kramer at Broadlands Stud and was raced by Mr & Mrs R Engestrom and Mr J Carney, who was also the trainer. The horse changed stables to Syd Garrett after his Guineas win and went on to score in the first of the £10 000 Mets in 1957.

Fairer Sex

While there are no members of the fairer sex in Saturday's line-up, we have to go back 26 years to the last filly to win - Little Ballerina in 1993. Other female winners are Empress Club (1992), Star Effort (1991), Renounce (1965) and Response (1957).

STAR EFFORT!

Star Effort is the only horse in history to have won both sexes classics - the 1991 Cape Fillies Guineas and the Cape Guineas.

Masterful



Jet Master triumphed over a star studded field, when he won the Cape Guineas of 1998. It was one of eight Gr1 races won by the star, who was South Africa's Horse Of The Year in 1999.

Magic Mike

Mike De Kock won the Guineas in 1999 with seven length winner Horse Chestnut, as well as in 2002 with Flight Alert and Domino Man - beating Dynasty - in 2003. There was a gap until 2015 when Noah From Goa won, leading up to Soqrat giving de Kock his fifth success last year, and his 118th Gr1 winner overall, when he stormed to victory under Randall Simons. That win saw the champion trainer surpass the tally of 117 Gr1 winners held by the legendary Terrance Millard.



CAPTAIN'S CLASS

A son of champion sire Al Mufti and broodmare of the year Off To War, Captain Al went into the 2000 Guineas as a 7-1 shot behind the well fancied visiting contenders, Badger's Coast and Glamour Boy. However, the Vaughan Marshall trained bay prevailed by three parts of a length from subsequent SA Classic winner, Glamour Boy. Captain Al would go on to sire two Guineas winners - William Longsword (2016) and Tap O'Noth (2017) - both trained by Marshall.

Ride of the Century

One of just a handful of horses to win both the Cape Guineas and Cape Derby, Jay Peg won the classic in 2007 and went on to be named Equus Champion 3yo Colt of his year. He won the 2008 Gr1 Dubai Duty Free in one of the most memorable riding displays in history. Anton Marcus was the hero in the Guineas and the Duty Free - Jeff Lloyd partnered Jay Peg to win the Cape Derby.



Anton Marcus

Classic JR The Double

Joey Ramsden's Variety Club beat a top class field in the 2011 Guineas. The chestnut swept clear to register a three and a half length win over a field which included champions Princess Victoria and Heavy Metal, as well as subsequent L'Ormarins Queen's Plate winner Gimmethegreenlight.

Dean Kannemeyer's Capetown Noir went on to complete the Guineas-Derby double beating Dynamic in the Investec Cape Derby of 2013. He also put up a magnificent performance to win the 2014 Gr1 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate.