

# Kildonan

## Rich Man's Gold – Cathay Firth by Philippi

**Figuring out what might make a future stallion tick often resembles a giant jigsaw puzzle. All the pieces are there. What remains is to simply to fit them together, dear Watson. Where to start?**

The best progeny of the stallion's sire (and his immediate family), plus the best runners from the young sire's female line carry all the clues. In the case of Kildonan's sire Rich Man's Gold there's plenty to draw on, notably under his third dam Romanita.

**C**hampion 2yo filly in the US in 1956, Romanita won 11 races during her career, including five notable stakes races. She was a daughter of once-raced Mablen, who in turn was by influential sire Blenheim out of closely inbred Golden Manda, 2x3 to Fair Play & a full sister. In Golden Manda's pedigree Fair Play is the sire of her sire Man O'War. Mablen's make-up, in other words, provided a highclass foundation.

Romanita was given every chance at stud. She visited Bold Ruler three times, for two stakes winning fillies. She twice went to Bold Ruler's son Bold Reasoning (whose main claim to fame is as sire of Seattle Slew), getting two stakes placed colts. And with Damascus she got Dimashq, grandam of Rich Man's Gold. The best of Romanita's Bold Rulers was highclass stakes winner Terentia who produced three stakes winners by Round Table, two colts and filly. That filly, Gr2 winning Ponte Vecchio, visited Damascus to produce Edge, the Gr3 winning dam of Gr3 winning sire Boundary.

A son of Danzig, Boundary produced two spectacular colts, Minardi and Big Brown. Their

pedigrees make interesting reading.

Bought for \$1.6 million as a yearling, European Champion 2yo Minardi is half brother to Tale Of The Cat and to the dam of Johannesburg. His pedigree shows kin-breeding through the female lines of his sire & dam, 3x2 Ponte Vecchio x Narrate (the latter is known locally as the dam of sire Lecture).

Big Brown, winner of two legs of the US Triple Crown in 2008, also shows kin-breeding through his sire & dam's female lines: 2x3 Edge x Syrian Circle.

To summarise, Boundary is kinbred 2x2 Northern Dancer x Terentia (by Bold Ruler, and a daughter of Romanita), Minardi's kin-line is through Terentia's daughter Ponte Vecchio (by Round Table), Big Brown's kin-line is through Ponte Vecchio's daughter Edge (by Damascus). Romanita Rules, it seems.

### **On to Rich Man's Gold and his progeny.**

By Bold Ruler's grandson Honest Pleasure, Rich Man's Gold is out of the mare Dimashq, by Damascus out of Romanita. He started his studcareer in Chile in 1996 before coming to South Africa five years later. That gives an opportunity to evaluate him against two radically

different gene-pools. Or are they?

A look at some of the pedigrees.

**Rich Man's Gold:** 4x3 Pocahontas x Romanita, and 2x3 Mr Prospector x What a Pleasure

**Isola Piu Bella** (CHI), Champion 3yo filly: 4x3 (4) Romanita x Reason to Earn (Hail to Reason)

**France Soir** (CHI), Champion 3yo filly: 3x2 File x Salt Marsh (5x4x4 Pocahontas x Romanita x Pocahontas)

**Twingo** (CHI), Champion 2yo colt: 3x4 Dimashq x Never Bend

**Kildonan**, Champion 2yo colt: 4x4 Romanita x Welsh Pageant, 3x5x4 Honest Pleasure x Tudor Melody x Free For All, 3x5 Dimashq x Never Bend, 4x5 What a Pleasure x Never Bend

**Lucky Find:** 2x5 Honest Joy x Leucothea

**Royal Vintage:** 3(4)x5 Dimashq (Romanita) x Bold Reason; 4x4 What a Pleasure x Jungle Cove 92%

**Pirate's Gold:** 4x2 Romanita x Cordoba; 4x3 What a Pleasure x Gay Seniorita; 4x5 Romanita x Never Say Die; 3x4x3 Mr Prospector x What a Pleasure x Gay Seniorita

**Made Of Money:** 4x5x4 Romanita x Portage x Little Hut; 3(4)x5 Dimashq (Romanita) x Bold Reason

### **Next a look at the kin-breeding in Kildonan's best female line relatives.**

**Kildonan:** 4x4 Romanita x Welsh Pageant, 3x5x4 Honest Pleasure x Tudor Melody x Free For All, 3x5 Dimashq x Never Bend, 4x5 What a Pleasure x Never Bend

**Kale:** 2x3 Ellida x Pentland Firth; 4x4x5 Martial Loan x Free For All x Pharis (x Joy Ride) ; 4x3 Vimy x Croix du Risque

**Carry On Katie:** 5x5x5x5x4x5 Mixed Marriage x Nearctic x Court Martial x Nearctic x Turn To x Free For All (x Pharis x Joy Ride)

**Sound of Rhum:** 3x3 Abadan x Free For All (x Affair x Joy Ride)

**In the pedigree build-up of Kildonan's female line**, the mare Joy Ride appeared to hold the aces. Her pedigree makes her kin to Pentland Firth' dam Free For All. When the two came together, in Caprica Firth, the number of topclass descendants increased dramatically. We note that Caprica Firth is kinbred 2x3x5 Free For All x Pharis x Joy Ride, 2x3 Free For All x Abernant and 3x5 Donatello x Joy Ride.

Kildonan got the best of all worlds, because his sire Rich Man's Gold's key-ancestor Romanita is kin to Joy Ride, and he also has a kin-link to Free For All.

Interesting in this context is Elliodor, whose dam is kin to Pentland Firth. From Elliodor and son Model Man, Cathay Firth's daughter Kyle produced SA Derby winner Kale and Majorca/Paddock Stakes placed Pratique.



## PICK OF THE BUNCH

*Suitable mares for Kildonan could include:*

1. Mares with Elliodor, Model Man; Saumarez; Second Empire
2. Mares with Fairy King or full brother Sadler's Wells (Second Empire, Casey Tibbs, Fort Wood, Ernani)
3. Mares with Golden Thatch, Royal Prerogative
4. Mares with National Assembly (National Emblem, Announce), Jungle Cove
5. Mares with Al Mufti, Captain Al, Complete Warrior
6. Mares with Lecture, Windrush
7. Mares with Western Winter, Count duBois
8. Mares with Cordoba, Northern Guest

### Female Line build-up

(the term 'kinbred' is used to identify close genetic relatives; a benchmark percentage of about 90% is required to qualify; for each dam the kinbreeding percentage is shown as well)

6<sup>th</sup> dam

**Grande Corniche** (86%) (by Panorama 87%)

kinbred 2x1 Happy Climax x Joy Ride 92%

5<sup>th</sup> dam

**Grande Cornette** (83%) (by Kingsway 87%)

kinbred 2x3x3x2 Fairway x Yane x Happy Climax x Joy Ride 89-92%

4<sup>th</sup> dam

**Cormorant** (83%) (by Abernant 84%)

kinbred 3x3x3 Hyperion x Fairway x Joy Ride 90-93%

3<sup>rd</sup> dam

**Belle Caprica** (84%) (by Alcinus 83%)

kinbred 2x4 Pharis x Joy Ride 90%  
kinbred 1x3 Alcinus x Kingsway 92%  
kinbred 2x3 Pharis x Owen Tudor 90%

2<sup>nd</sup> dam

**Caprica Firth** (84%) (by Pentland Firth 84%)

kinbred 2x3x5 Free For All x Pharis x Joy Ride 90-92%  
kinbred 2x3 Free For All x Abernant 90%  
kinbred 3x5 Donatello x Joy Ride 90%

1<sup>st</sup> dam

**Cathay Firth** (78%) (by Philippi 80%)

kinbred (3)4x3 (Welsh Pageant) Tudor Melody x Free For All (89%) 92%  
kinbred 3(4)x4 Welsh Pageant (Tudor Melody) x Abernant 90% (94%)  
kinbred 5x4 Lalun x Tanis 90%

**Kildonan** (75%) (by Rich Man's Gold 81%)

kinbred 3x5x4 Honest Pleasure x Tudor Melody x Free For All 89-90%  
kinbred 4x4 Romanita x Welsh Pageant 90% (NB Romanita = 91% Joy Ride)  
kinbred 4x5 What a Pleasure x Never Bend 90%

### Where From Here

The very best opportunities for Kildonan should be with well performed mares who provide kin-links into his two grandams, Honest Joy and Caprica Firth, keeping in mind the influential grandams of those mares, Romanita and Free For All.

*Elliodor* and his son *Model Man* have been successful with Kildonan's female line, as outlined earlier. *Elliodor's* dam is close kin to *Pentland Firth*.

*Saumarez's* dam *Fiesta Fun* is a key horse in his own pedigree. *Fiesta Fun*, a daughter of *Welsh Pageant*, is kin to *Caprica Firth*.

*Welsh Flame*, the grandam of *Second Empire* is by *Welsh Pageant* out of *Crepello* mare *Electric Flash*. *Welsh Flame* is kin to *Caprica Firth*. Also noted is that *Second Empire* is a son of *Fairy King*, full brother to *Sadler's Wells*. The brothers are sons of the mare *Fairy Bridge*, by *Bold Reason* out of *Special*. *Bold Reason* is kin to *Dimashq*, noted earlier through *Rich Man's Gold* interaction with *Sadler's Wells (Fort Wood, Ernani)*. *Dimashq* makes up a trio with *Bold Reason* and 3-part brother *Never Bend*, leading to *Mill Reef*. We note *Casey Tibbs*, by *Sadler's Wells* out of a mare by *Mill Reef*, with his third dam *Feemoss* kin to *Free For All*.

A variation on the *Fairy King/Sadler's Wells* scenario comes through one whose sire and dam are both from the same (*Dalmaly*) female line. That is *Golden Thatch*, whose dam *Abella* is kin to *Free For All*, to *Welsh Pageant*, and also to *Pia* (grandam of *Philippi*) and *Tularia* (dam of *Honest Pleasure*). A potentially explosive mix, especially if it can be mixed with something that worked well with *Golden*

*Thatch*. One such sire is *Royal Prerogative* (damsire of *Goldmark*), another *National Assembly* (sire of *Historic Lady*, *Bold Thatch*).

*Royal Prerogative's* dam *Bride Elect* is kin to *Free For All*, his second dam *Netherton Maid* links to *What A Pleasure*.

*National Assembly* looks most interesting. He's by *Danzig* (sire of *Boundary*), his dam *Renounce* is by *Buckpasser* out of *Bold Princess* (*Bold Ruler* x *Grey Flight*, and thus a full sister to *What A Pleasure*). That makes *Renounce* kin to *Rich Man's Gold's* dam *Honest Joy*. Any mare who has *National Assembly* together with *Jungle Cove* (a successful combo) would get an additional kin-link from *Jungle Cove*.

*Hail to Reason* looks important. He's kin to both *Romanita* and *Free For All*, and is well represented in the population. *Hail to Reason* is sire of *Bold Reason*, of *Reason to Earn* (mentioned earlier as dam of sire *Bold Reasoning*). He's also sire of *Roberto*, which leads to *Al Mufti*. That link continues to *Lecture*, in a connection mentioned earlier when discussing *Boundary*. *Al Mufti's* son *Captain Al* looks the part: his damsire *Complete Warrior* is kin to *Honest Joy*, while his third dam *Beylic* is kin to *Free For All*.

*Western Winter* is interesting, as he is the sire of stakes filly *Carry On Katie*, from *Kildonan's* female line. *Carry On Katie* is kin-bred through *Free For All*. With *Kildonan* and *Western Winter* there is additional kin-breeding *Forty Niner* x *Gone West*, plus *Honest Pleasure* with the dam of *Gone West*. Another *Gone West*-line stallion is *Count du Bois*. His dam *Madame du Bois* provides two kin-links to *Pentland Firth*, through her two grandams *Lupe* and *Milly Moss*.

*Cordoba* was noted earlier, as the damsire of *Rich Man's Gold's* son *Pirate Gold*. *Cordoba's* sire *El Gran Senor* is kin to *What A Pleasure*, and is a full brother to *Northern Guest* who must count for that reason.