

Variety Club

chestnut, 2008 • height 16.1 hh

RACE RECORD

17 wins, 1000-1600m at 2 to 5, in South Africa, Dubai and Hong Kong, on turf & tapeta

Rated **Timeform 131**

Twice voted South African Horse of the Year, at 3 and at 4

at 2 **WON Gr3** Langerman S. (1500m)
2nd **Gr3** Champion Juv. Cup (1400m)
at 3 **WON Gr1** Cape Guineas (1600m)
WON Gr1 Gold Challenge (WFA) (1600m)
WON Gr2 Selangor Cup (1600m)
WON Gr2 KRA Guineas (1600m)
WON Gr3 Matchem S. (WFA) (1400m)
WON Gr3 Winter Guineas (1600m)
2nd **Gr1** Queen's Plate (WFA) (1600m)
2nd **Gr1** Cape Derby (2000m)
at 4 **WON Gr1** Queen's Plate (WFA) (1600m)
WON Gr1 Gold Challenge (WFA) (1600m)
WON Gr2 Green Point S. (WFA) (1600m)
at 5 **WON Gr1** Champions Mile (WFA) (1600m)
WON Gr2 Godolphin Mile (WFA) (1600m tapeta)
WON Gr3 Firebreak S. (1600m, tapeta)
2nd **Gr3** Burj Nahaar (1600m, tapeta)

SIRE LINE

VAR – 7 wins, 1000-1200m, incl Gr1 Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp; European Champion Sprinter; rated Timeform 124. Sire of Gr1 winners of both sexes. Sire of Champions of both sexes. Sire of sires.

Notable progeny incl. **Variety Club** (08c - Secret Prospector, Northern Guest); **Val de Ra** (06f - Elliodor, Tilden); **Via Africa** (09f - Qui Danzig, Quick Turnover); **Contador** (09c - Fort Wood, Roland Gardens); **Villandry** (06c - Complete Warrior, Capture Him); **Normanz** (10c - American Chance, Roy); **August Rush** (06c - Huntingdale, Sparkler); **Princess Of Light** (07f - Foveros, Mariache); **Schiffer** (09f - Jallad, Argosy); **Valdivia** (09f - Irish River, The Minstrel); **Valetta** (06f - Goldmark, Truly Nureyev); **Happy Forever** (08c - National Assembly, Pompeii Court); **Miss October** (08f - Huntingdale, Sparkler); **Vacherin** (06c - Golden Thatch, Fluorescent Light); **Twitter** (09c - Confidential Talk, Storm Bird); **Varikate** (09f - Modern Day, Badger Land); **Bolting Cat** (07c - Model Man, Gay Fandango); **Harry Lime** (11c - Alami, Jallad); **Valberg** (09c - Western Winter, Model Man); **Bois De Var** (06c - Dancing Champ, Harry Hotspur); **Censored** (09c - Among Men, Waterville Lake); **Sabadell** (09c - Badger Land, Golden Thatch); **Solarium** (08f - Cure The Blues, Golden Fleece); **Bastille Day** (07c - Zabeel, Balmerino); **Lady Var** (08f - West Man, Persian Wonder); **Le Var** (09c - Western Winter, Model Man); **Dollar Dazzler** (10c - Joshua Dancer, Dancing Champ); **Wounded Knee** (09f - Al Mufti, Savonarola); **Mastermind** (11c - Jallad, Argosy); etc.

KIN-BREEDING: Var is kinbred 2x2 *Victoria Beauty x *Halley's Comeback (3x3 *Abifaith x *Promised Princess), and (3)4x4x3 (Terlingua) Secretariat x Bold Example x Key6 To The Kingdom.

Storm Bird line sires in South Africa:

Black Minnaloushe, Brave Tin Soldier, Mogok, Tiger Dance, Where's That Tiger (**Storm Cat**); Var (**Forest Wildcat**); Variety Club (**Var**); Eightfold Path (**Giant's Causeway**); The Apache (**Mogok**)

STUD ANALYSIS

First season at stud in 2015

PEDIGREE

The significant female line ancestor of Variety Club appears to be the mare Jinnipet, whose pedigree elements are matched by notable female line ancestors of the covering sires along the bottom

Var(USA) 1999	Forest Wildcat 1991	Storm Cat	Storm Bird - NORTHERN DANCER
		Victoria Beauty	Terlingua - Secretariat
	Loma Preata 1994	Zilzal	Bold Native - RAISE A NATIVE
		Halley's Comeback	Abifaith - Seaneen
La Massine 1992	Secret Prospector 1982	Mr Prospector	Nureyev - NORTHERN DANCER
		Secret Asset	French Charmer - Le Fabuleux
	Karpakova 1986	Northern Guest	Key To The Kingdom - Bold Ruler
			Promised Princess - Promised Land
		Novenna	RAISE A NATIVE - Native Dancer
			Gold Digger - Nashua
			Graustark - Ribot
			Numbered Account - BUCKPASSER
			NORTHERN DANCER - Nearctic
			Sex Appeal - BUCKPASSER
			Hobnob - Gyr
			Fidelis - Utrillo

line leading to Novenna and Variety Club. The most influential of these appears to La Troienne, who in make-up is very close kin to Jinnipet. In modern pedigrees La Troienne is most often found through her male descendant Buckpasser and his close female relatives, in close combination with each other.

There are noted Buckpasser carriers in the South African context. Al Mufti, through his dam Lassie Dear. Al Mufti's son Captain Al, out of a mare by Complete Warrior, whose dam is Buckpasser family line and close kin to Lassie Dear. Others with Lassie Dear include Duke Of Marmalade, Mambo In Seattle, Jay Peg, Judpot and other A P Indy's. Northern Guest is out of a Buckpasser mare, as is the dam of National Assembly. The latter is close kin to Danehill, whose grandam is by Buckpasser. Capture Him is from the La Troienne female line. The list seems endless. The key may well be to find options that give multiples.

SUITABLE LINES for Variety Club could include multiples of descendants of La Troienne, often through Buckpasser and close relatives; these are widespread incl Lassie Dear (Al Mufti, Captain Al, Mambo In Seattle, Duke Of Marmalade, A P Indy, etc.); Best In Show (Northern Guest, El Gran Senor, Redoute's Choice; Atso); National Assembly; Danehill; Capture Him; Complete Warrior; Qui Danzig; Quick Turnover; Seattle Slew (A P Indy, Mambo In Seattle, Sail From Seattle, Ashaawes, Bezrin, etc.); etc.

Other options are Fort Wood (and sons Elusive Fort, Dynasty, Horse Chestnut) and other descendants of Change Water/Fall Aspen (Kabool, etc.); Graustark/His Majesty (Caesour, Danehill, etc.); Toulouse Lautrec (Hawaii, Crusade, Hobnob); female line descendants of female line ancestor Jinnipet (through Candida, Fiesta, Rosary).

FEMALE LINE

1st dam

La Massine (92f, Secret Prospector): won, 1200m; dam of
VARIETY CLUB (08c, Var): subject stallion
RHYTHMICALLY (99c, Joshua Dancer): 11 wins, 1000-1800m in SA/Mauritius, Duke Of York Cup, Barbe Cup; 2nd Barbe Cup; 3rd Duke of York Cup; **Horse of the Year** in Mauritius
La Destina (03f, Restructure): 6 wins, 1000-1300m
Lapis Lazuli (01f, Joshua Dancer): won, 1000m at 2; dam of
Mystic Express (11f, Mambo In Seattle): 4 wins, 1200-1600m; 2nd Emerald Fillies S.
Western Whodunnit (97c, West Man): 2 wins, 1600m
Matchless Dancer (00f, Joshua Dancer): won, 1000m at 2
Masada (04f, Joshua Dancer): won, 1000m at 2
Lamarr (06f, Jallad): won, 1600m

2nd dam

Karpakova (86f, Northern Guest): won, 1200m; dam of
La Massine (92f, Secret Prospector): - see above
Kiss Me Kate (97f, Rocky Marriage): did not race; dam of
KNOCK ON WOOD (07c, Muhtafal): 6 wins, 1150-1800m, Gr3 London News S.; 2nd Gr1 Champions Challenge

3rd dam

NOVENNA (80f, Hobnob): 7 wins, 1200-2400m, Gr1 SA Oaks, Gr3 Summer Champion S.; 2nd Gr1 Paddock S, Gr1 Stuttards Cup; dam of
SECRET RITES (88c, Secret Prospector): 7 wins, 1200-1800m, Gr1 Mainstay Int., Gr2 SA Invitation S.; 2nd Gr1 Schwepps Challenge, Gr1 Mercury Sprint; 3rd Gr1 J&B Met
Karpakova (86f, Northern Guest): won; see above

4th dam

FIDELIS (71f, Utrillo): 3 wins, 800-1200m, TR Lewis Mem. S.; 4th Breeders Fillies Ch'ship; dam of
NOVENNA (80f, Hobnob): 7 wins, see above
Pentecost (79f, Hobnob): did not race; dam of
PETROS (88c, Take Your Place): 6 wins, Gr2 Dingaans; 4th Gr2 Gosforth Juvenile S.
Advent (83f, Buck's Bid): did not race; dam of
KING SINGER (91c, Hobnob): 4 wins, Transvaal Breeders P.-L)
Hail Mary (78f, Sledgehammer): won; dam of
Penance (85f, Hobnob): 4 wins; 2nd Gr2 Natal Oaks, 4th Gr2 SA Oaks; dam of
Carmel Dancer (97f, Rambo Dancer): 6 wins, 1600-2000m; 2nd Gr2 SA Fillies Classic, Gr2 Gerald Rosenberg S., Gr3 Jacaranda Hcp
Flying Mary (87f, Aeropasser): won, 1200m; dam of
FUN FLY (98f, Fahal): 3 wins, 1000-1200m, Gr3 SA Fillies Nursery; 2nd Gr3 Pretty Polly S.
Angel Flight (03f, Fahal): 3 wins, 1450-1600m; 2nd Gr1 SA Fillies Classic, Gr1 Garden Province S.; 3rd Gr2 Gold Bracelet, Gr3 Cup Trial

5th dam

Rosary (64f, Joy): 6 wins; dam of
FIDELIS (71f, Utrillo): 3 wins, see above
ARCHBISHOP (c, Port Merion): 6 wins, Hollis Trial Hcp; 3rd Administrators Champion Juv. S.
AMAZING GRACE (72f, Port Merion): 6 wins, Smirnoff P., Chairmans Cup; 3rd Flamboyant S.; 4th Allan Robertson Fillies Ch'ship; dam of
SON OF A CHAMP (87c, Dancing Champ): 5 wins, 1000-1400m, Gr2 Gilbeys S., National 3yo Sprint-L; 4th Gr1 Gilbey's

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2015 FEE:
R100.000 live foal
(R20.000 nom. R80.000 LIVE FOAL)
Owner: Mayfair speculators
Derek@mayfair.co.za
Derek Brugman 083 229 4216



Variety Club

Var – La Massine by Secret Prospector

The Italian stallion? You might be forgiven to think that Federico Tesio inspired the female line ancestry of Variety Club. Tesio (1869-1954) is still regarded as the most successful breeder in the history of horse racing.

What is remarkable about the successes of the 'Wizard of Dormello' is that he was not a man of great wealth, and had started with a relatively small band of inexpensive foundation mares. Tesio was a scientist, geneticist, philosopher and artist – and horseman.

The preface to Tesio's book *Breeding The Racehorse* (published after his death) says it all:

In a study of heredity, animals provide a more reliable field of research than man, for their matings can be controlled and the results checked with less likelihood of deception.

Among animals the most suitable for the purpose is undoubtedly the thoroughbred racehorse, since a record has been kept of many millions of individuals, giving us their breeding, their performance and their characteristic markings, all accurately catalogued, carefully preserved and easy to consult.

With these facts in mind I chose the thoroughbred as material for experiment, and in 1898 I started a breeding farm at Dormello on Lake Maggiore. My aim was to breed and raise a racehorse which, over any distance, could carry the heaviest weight in the shortest time. To achieve this result seemed to me a difficult but by no means impossible undertaking, for I had seen many horses and read many books. I thought I knew.

Presumption was not long in changing to disappointment. My recipes for success were of no avail against the persistent success of my rivals.

The truth was that in spite of all I had seen and read, I had not yet learned to reflect – to reflect, that is, on the whys and wherefores.

Today's breeding 'experts' have the luxury of a wide array of computer generated information. Tesio merely had a split-pedigree book – which makes the success all the more amazing.

But this essay is not about Tesio per se. It's about the influence, many generations on, from the horses he created. On, then, to Variety Club, one of the best racehorses ever bred in South Africa.

Some way back on Variety Club's bottom female line there's Italian bred Jinnipet, imported to South Africa as a broodmare. She's by Cavaliere d'Arpino, out of a half sister (by Michelangelo) to Crapom. Tesio regarded Cavaliere d'Arpino as the best racehorse he bred. Michelangelo, who like his dam Fausta won the Derby Italiano, was a leading sire in Italy for decades. Crapom wasn't a Tesio-bred, but he was the Italian champion and also won the Arc.

Further down the line, Jinnipet's descendant Rosary was mated to Utrillo, a son of Tesio's Italian champion sire Toulouse Lautrec (whose damsire is a son of Michelangelo). Utrillo won in his native Italy and the Cesarewitch in the UK, then later at stud in South Africa sired champion Hawaii.

The pedigree elements of Toulouse Lautrec make him (and his dam Tokamura) close kin to Jinnipet, and they appear 2x4 in the pedigree of Rosary's daughter Fidelis. To produce Novenna, winner of the SA Oaks, Fidelis was mated to Hobnob. The latter's sire Gyr is out of a mare by Toulouse Lautrec, to give Novenna a double of that stallion to link to his close kin Jinnipet (the pair 4x3x5 in Novenna, who is the third dam of Variety Club).

Jinnipet's pedigree elements are matched by notable female line ancestors of the covering sires along the bottom line leading to Novenna and Variety Club. The most influential of these appears to La Troienne, who in make-up is very close kin to Jinnipet (and also to Tokamura, dam of Toulouse Lautrec). In modern pedigrees La Troienne is most often found through her male descendant Buckpasser and his close female relatives, in close combination with each other.

A word about Jinnipet and her female line legacy. Her daughter Castania lead the way with two daughters, Castanella and Caramba. Their most notable descendants include Caramba's daughters Candida (going to Fantasia, Military Mission) and Fiesta (to Poetry, Poetic), and Castanella's daughter Rosary (going to Fidelis, Amazing Grace). The Caramba descendants landed in numbers with the Koster Bros., where resident sire Complete Warrior sired a host of highclass runners from them. Complete Warrior's grandam is a half sister to Buckpasser, and provides a notable link in top-stallion Captain Al through Al Mufti's dam Lassie Dear, by Buckpasser (Captain Al is by Al Mufti out of a mare by Complete Warrior).

Jinnipet's granddaughter Castanella is kinbred 2x2 Akra x Jinnipet; the closely inbred Akra is the dam of Castanella's sire Giafar.

Both Akra and Jinnipet are close kin to La Troienne.

Novenna's best offspring was Gr1 placed Gr1 winner Secret Rites, a son of Secret Prospector. The latter's dam Secret Asset is by Graustark (son of Tesio champion Ribot) out of Numbered Account, whose sire Buckpasser and dam Intriguing are both female line descendants of La Troienne. Numbered Account established a sire-producing female line. In 2014 she appeared 3x3 in the dam of Kentucky Derby winner California Chrome. Numbered Account is full sister to Playmate, the dam of Woodman. This is La Troienne's line coming through the mare Glamour.

Novenna's daughter Karpakova (grandam of Variety Club) is by Northern Guest, whose dam Sex Appeal is by Buckpasser. Furthermore, Sex Appeal is a daughter of influential broodmare Best In Show whose dam is by Mr Busher – a La Troienne-line descendant and 3-part related to Buckpasser's dam.

The next step cemented things further, as Karpakova visited Secret Prospector, also the sire of her half brother Secret Rites. The outcome of that mating was La Massine, dam of Variety Club. La Massine thus ended up with doubles of La Troienne in both a her sire and dam (4 lines

Variety Club - continued

Variety Club - continued

altogether), plus the double of La Troienne's kin-related Akra & Jinnipet from female line ancestor Castanella. La Troienne and Jinnipet are descendants of Family 1.

Variety Club is by Var, who has one line of La Troienne, from the female line of his damsire Zilzal. The latter's third dam Lady Be Good is by Better Self (grandson of La Troienne) and is close kin to Numbered Account and to Sex Appeal.

Var's Gr1 winning progeny include

Via Africa - dam by Qui Danzig out of mare by Quick Turnover (son of Buckpasser); Qui Danzig's grandam is by Francis S. whose 3rd dam is La Troienne and who is close kin to Buckpasser.

Val de Ra - the sire and dam of her 4th dam Chrysanthemum are Lombard and Mendere, both direct descendants of Tropical Sun (Fam 1), whose dam Brulette is close kin to La Troienne

Villandry - dam by Complete Warrior out of mare by Capture Him, both female line descendants of La Troienne

Normanz - dam has five lines of La Troienne, from a double Dr Fager, Seattle Slew (dam has a double), Never Bend

Where from here

The suggestion is that Variety Club may well respond positively to mares with pedigrees containing multiples of La Troienne.

This will include direct female line descendants of La Troienne, and her descendants in other combinations, notably through Buckpasser (Numbered Account/Sex Appeal & descendants, Woodman, etc.), and combinations of descendants listed above (and their kin-relatives in bottom female lines, which is a rather open-ended category).

There are some noted Buckpasser carriers in the South African context. Al Mufti is one, through his dam Lassie

PICK OF THE BUNCH

*Suitable mares for
Variety Club could include*

- multiples of descendants of La Troienne, often through Buckpasser and close relatives - widespread incl Lassie Dear (Al Mufti, Captain Al, Mambo In Seattle, Duke Of Marmalade, A P Indy, etc); Best In Show (Northern Guest, El Gran Senor, Redoute's Choice; Atso); National Assembly; Danehill; Capture Him; Complete Warrior; Qui Danzig; Quick Turnover; Seattle Slew (A P Indy, Mambo In Seattle, Sail From Seattle, Ashaawes, Bezrin, etc); etc.
- Fort Wood (and sons Elusive Fort, Dynasty, Horse Chestnut) and other descendants of Change Water/Fall Aspen (Kabool, etc.)
- Graustark/His Majesty (Caesour, Danehill; etc.)
- Toulouse Lautrec (Hawaii, Crusade, Hobnob)
- female line descendants of Jinnipet (through Candida, Fiesta, Rosary)



BUCKPASSER – US Horse of the Year and multiple champion broodmare sire, and a direct female line descendant of famous mare La Troienne. Mares with multiple lines of La Troienne, easy to get through Buckpasser, might fit in well with Variety Club.

Var (USA) 1999	Forest Wildcat 1991	Storm Cat	Storm Bird - NORTHERN DANCER
		Victoria Beauty	Terlingua - Secretariat
	Loma Preata 1994	Zilzal	Bold Native - RAISE A NATIVE
		Halley's Comeback	Abifath - Seaneen
			Nureyev - NORTHERN DANCER
La Massine 1992	Secret Prospector 1982	Mr Prospector	French Charmer - Le Fabluleux
		Secret Asset	Key To The Kingdom - Bold Ruler
	Karpakova 1986	Northern Guest	Promised Princess - Promised Land
		Novenna	RAISE A NATIVE - Native Dancer
			Gold Digger - Nashua
			Graustark - Ribot
			Numbered Account - BUCKPASSER
			NORTHERN DANCER - Nearctic
			Sex Appeal - BUCKPASSER
			Hobnob - Gyr
			Fidelis - Utrillo

Dear, a daughter of Buckpasser. Al Mufti's son Captain Al is out of a mare by Complete Warrior, whose dam Splendid Spree is from the Buckpasser female line and is close kin to Lassie Dear. There are a good few stallions with Lassie Dear in South Africa, including Duke Of Marmalade, Mambo In Seattle, Jay Peg, Judpot and other A P Indy's.

Northern Guest is out of a Buckpasser mare, as is the dam of National Assembly. The latter is close kin to Danehill, whose grandam is by Buckpasser. Capture Him is from the La Troienne female line (see Var's Gr1 winner Villandry)

The list seems endless. The key may well be to find pedigrees with multiples.

A look at the damsires close up in Variety Club's female line.

Secret Prospector is damsire of four Gr1 winners: Variety Club, Elusive Fort (Fort Wood - his grandam Change Water is very close kin to Secret Prospector's grandam Numbered Account), Key Of Destiny (Qui

Danzig - see Var's daughter Via Africa) and Bilateral (Lateral).

A ryder to the combo of Fort Wood with Secret Prospector mares: there are six mares with ten offspring bred that way between them - nine are winners, five are black-type horses. For good measure, Var with Fort Wood stands at 16r/12w/1sw (Gr1 Contador). All of which should make Fort Wood mares (and those by his sons) candidates.

Second damsire of Variety Club is Northern Guest, which makes inbreeding to him (or other descendants from Best In Show) an option.

Third damsire Hobnob got third dam Novenna, who is kinbred through Toulouse Lautrec (to 4th damsire Utrillo, by Toulouse Lautrec) - Hobnob's line coming through Fera, the dam of his sire Gyr. Fera is very close kin to Tesio's champion Ribot, the sire of Graustark - damsire of Secret Prospector. Graustark and full brother His Majesty should be options, notably from Caesour and Danehill.