

Mill Reef

by Kathleen Jones

Mill Reef was recently ranked 4th on the European Top 100 horses of the Century list as compiled by Racing Post's Tony Morris and John Randall. The only three which were adjudged better were Brigadier Gerard, Hyperion, and Tudor Minstrel. This is indeed extraordinary company.



Mill Reef by Jacqueline Stanhope

They had this to say about Mill Reef:

"MILL REEF and Brigadier Gerard were the greatest pair of contemporaries ever trained in Britain, though the latter triumphed on their only meeting. Mill Reef was the wide-margin winner of the Coventry, Gimcrack, and Dewhurst Stakes as a juvenile and was short-headed by My Swallow in France. He turned the tables on My Swallow in the 1971 Two Thousand Guineas but Brigadier Gerard trounced both of them; Mill Reef was never beaten again."

"After decisive wins in the Derby, Eclipse and King George (by six lengths), he crowned his career with a scintillating three-length victory in the Arc de Triomphe in record time."

"In 1972, having won the Prix Ganay and Coronation Cup, he broke a leg on the gallops but was saved for a successful stud career."

John Oaksley wrote *"In just three years of cheerful service, Mill Reef had given more pleasure and excitement than most men generate in a lifetime."*

Pedigree:

Mill Reef B c, born 1968	Never Bend, 1960	Nasrullah (Ire), 1940	Nearco	
			Mumtaz Begum (Fr)	
	Milan Mill, 1962	Lalun, 1952		Djeddah (Fr)
				Be Faithful
		Virginia Water, 1953	Princequillo (Ire), 1940	Prince Rose (Gb)
				Cosquilla (Gb)
		Count Fleet		
		Red Ray		

(female family # 22-d)

Race Record: 14-12-2-0

At 2:

WON - Salisbury Stakes (5f) (2nd - Fireside Chat, 3rd - Doo Call)
WON - Coventry Stakes (6f) (2nd - Cromwell, 3rd - Twelfth Night)
2nd - Prix Robert Papin (5½f) (1st - My Swallow, 3rd - Avant)
WON - Gimcrack Stakes (6f) (2nd - Green God, 3rd - Grand Chaudiere)
WON - Imperial Stakes (6f) (2nd - Hecla, 3rd - Gertie Millar)
WON - Dewhurst Stakes (7f) (2nd - Wenceslas, 3rd - Lombardo)

At 3:

WON - Greenham Stakes (7f) (2nd - Breeder's Dream, 3rd - Swing Easy)
2nd - 2000 Guineas (8f) (1st - Brigadier Gerard, 3rd - My Swallow)
WON - Epsom Derby (12f) (2nd - Linden Tree, 3rd - Irish Ball)
WON - Eclipse Stakes (10f) (2nd - Caro, 3rd - Welsh Pageant)
WON - K George & Q Eliz Stakes (12f) (2nd - Ortis, 3rd - Acclimatization)
WON - Arc de Triomphe (12f) (2nd - Pistol Packer, 3rd - Cambrizzia)

At 4:

WON - Prix Ganay (10½f) (2nd - Amadou, 3rd - El Toro)
WON - Coronation Cup (12f) (2nd - Homeric, 3rd - Wenceslas)