



19<sup>th</sup> August 2010

### **Canterbury breeders' winning day out**

Despite the wintry conditions many braved the cold to enjoy a day's racing courtesy of Rangiora Harness Racing Club on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August.

The Canterbury Standardbred Breeders' Association sponsored two races on the day, in memory of the late Rangiora harness identity Joan Belcher. Joan bequeathed funds to CSBA last year. The committee decided that it would be fitting if CSBA sponsored two fillies and mares' races in her memory at Rangiora.

In an addition to the race sponsorship, the CSBA also presented a \$250 bonus to the first CSBA member-bred horse past the post in each race.

The first race in Joan's honour was for non-winning fillies and mares. Amelie (Julius Caesar – Becks) was bred by the late Stuart Le Lievre in partnership with his son Justin. Justin and owner-trainer (brother Nick) are both financial members of the association – a wonderful result for the Le Lievre family. It was Nick's first win as a trainer and also the first horse Justin bred with his late father.

Justin commented after the race on the CSBA bonus:

“To get a bonus from the CSBA of which I am a member just caps the win off as a breeder, the only thing missing was my wonderful dad. I feel like breeding another horse.” Said Justin

“Thank you to the late Joan Belcher and CSBA” Justin added.

CSBA and Joan Belcher Memorial sponsored the one to two-win fillies and mares race. Let's Talk Art was the victor for owner, breeders and trainer, Maureen and Steve O'Brien. The four-year-old mare by Art Major out of Natural Talker won by half a length which was its fifth straight win. This impressive looking daughter of Art Major is setting herself some very high standards to keep up. Best wishes to the O'Briens. The second place getter, Wonderful Tonight, was also bred by a CSBA member and former committee member Barry Ward, with his wife Ann Marie. Wonderful Tonight looks well placed to breakthrough for a win at Addington on Friday night.