

Bloodlines and Bi-lines.....by Bob Grocott(breeding analyst)

Back in the early 1960's Australian bloodlines were dominated by three classic sire lines. Firstly, the WHARMINDA(1) line(which produced legends like Roccabright, Chief Havoc, Rocker Mac and Black Top. Then there was the incredible ROCKET JET(2) line(Magic Babe and Tell You Why). The third line was that of DREAM'S IMAGE(3).

Over the next 20 years these dominant lines gradually began to fade in Australia as we saw two highly potent Irish lines start to take hold of our bloodlines. They were the BELLA'S PRINCE(4) line(through Which Chariot and Tivoli Dreamer) and the HI THERE(5) line(through Come on Wonder, Newmore King and Waverly Supreme). These two sirelines have virtually dominated Australian bloodlines for the last 20 years. The key questions are "how much longer can this last and which direction might it now go?"

Major transformations usually only occur with the help of "change agents". These are greyhounds whose breeding potency transcends conventional breeding patterns. An extremely rare group of these is called 4-LINER's, which means each of their four grandparents comes from a different sireline. Given that Australia historically has had only 2 or 3 major lines in vogue at any point in time then some sort of outcross element becomes necessary in order to breed a 4-LINER.

This week's article looks at the first subgroup of 4-LINER's who helped change the shape of breeding in Australia. Further articles will follow in coming weeks culminating in a look at where the next set of breedshapers might possibly emerge from.

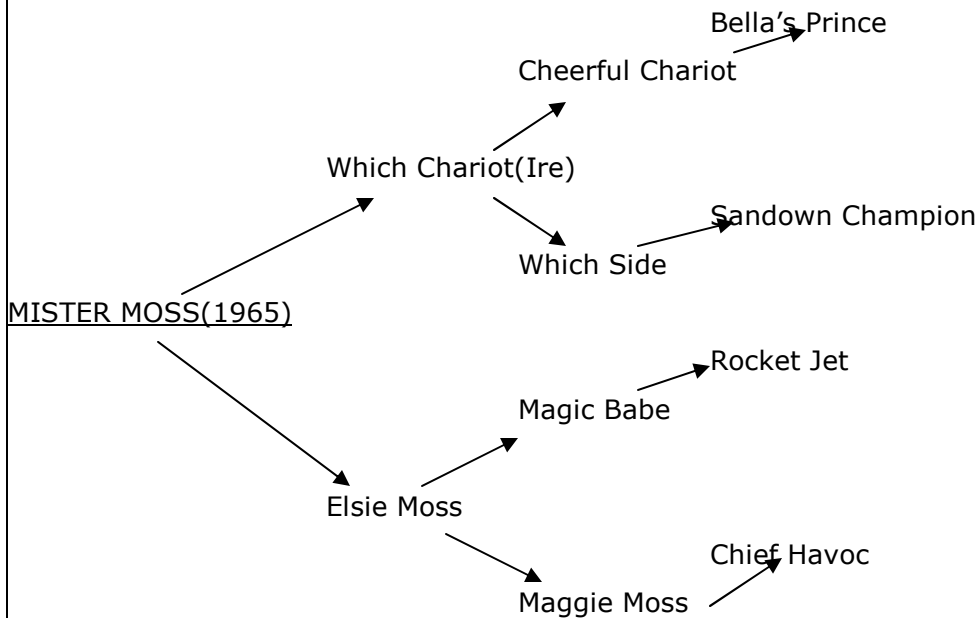
BREEDSHAPERS(Part 1..... The changing of the guard)

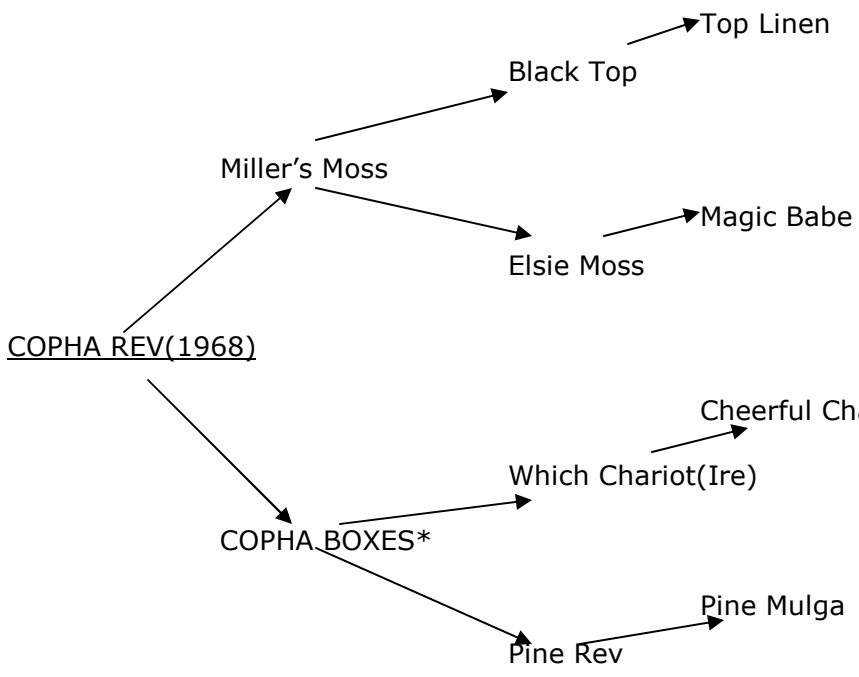
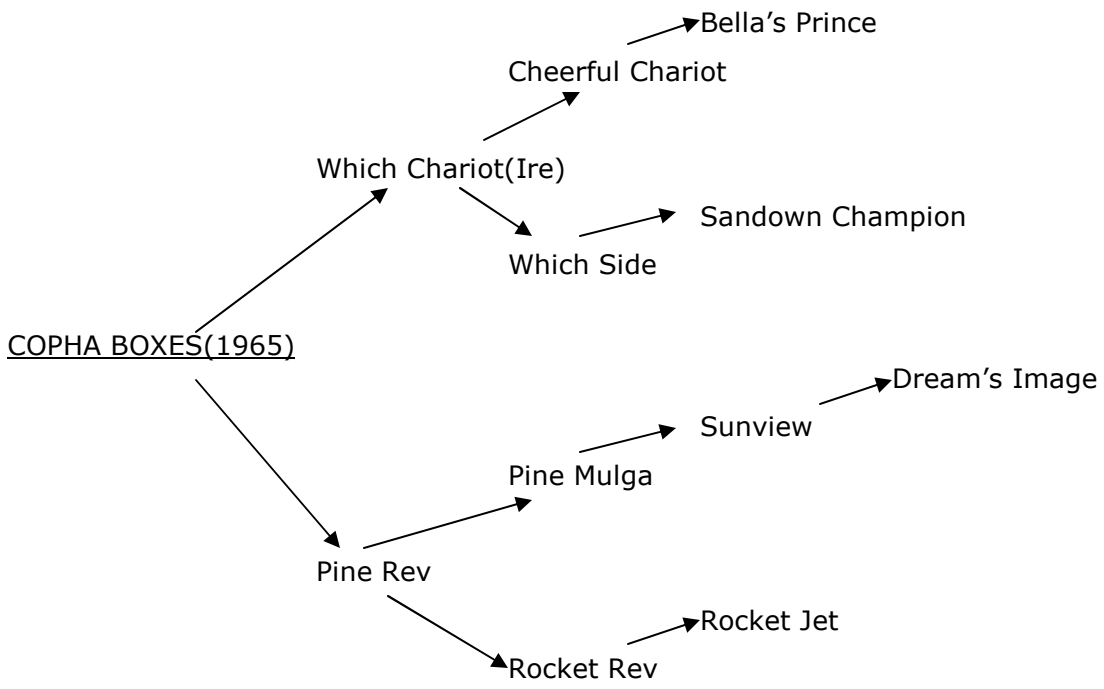
It all began in 1965 with the birth of 4-LINER's Mister Moss and Copha Boxes. They each were a result of crossing classic Australian lines to Irish import Which Chariot(Bella's Prince line over Sandown Champion(6) line). Mister Moss's dam was Elsie Moss(Rocket Jet over Wharminda line) and Copha Boxes' dam was Pine Rev(Dream's Image line over Rocket Jet line).

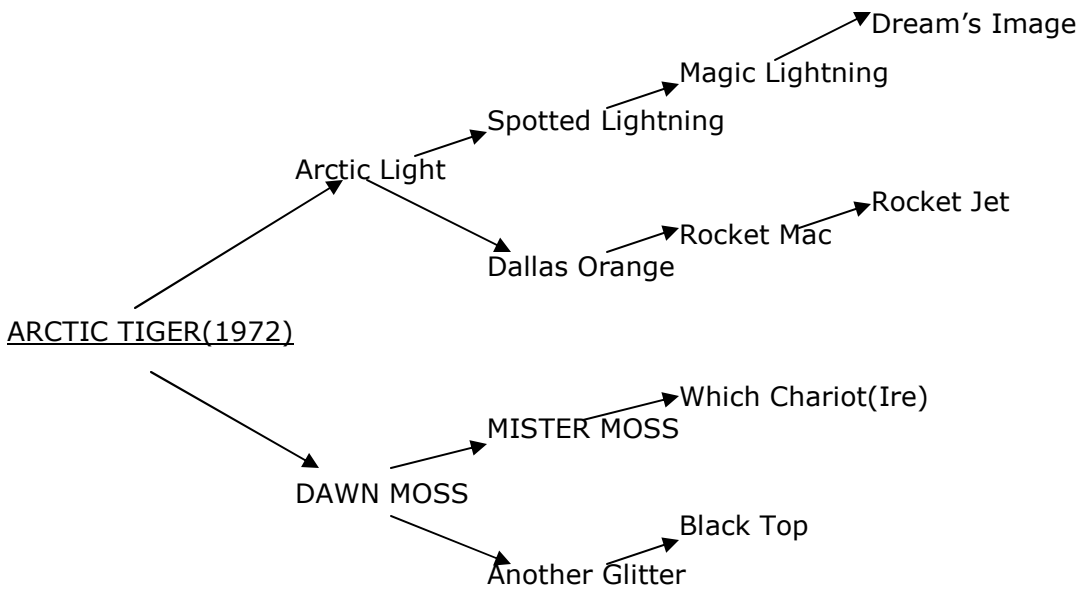
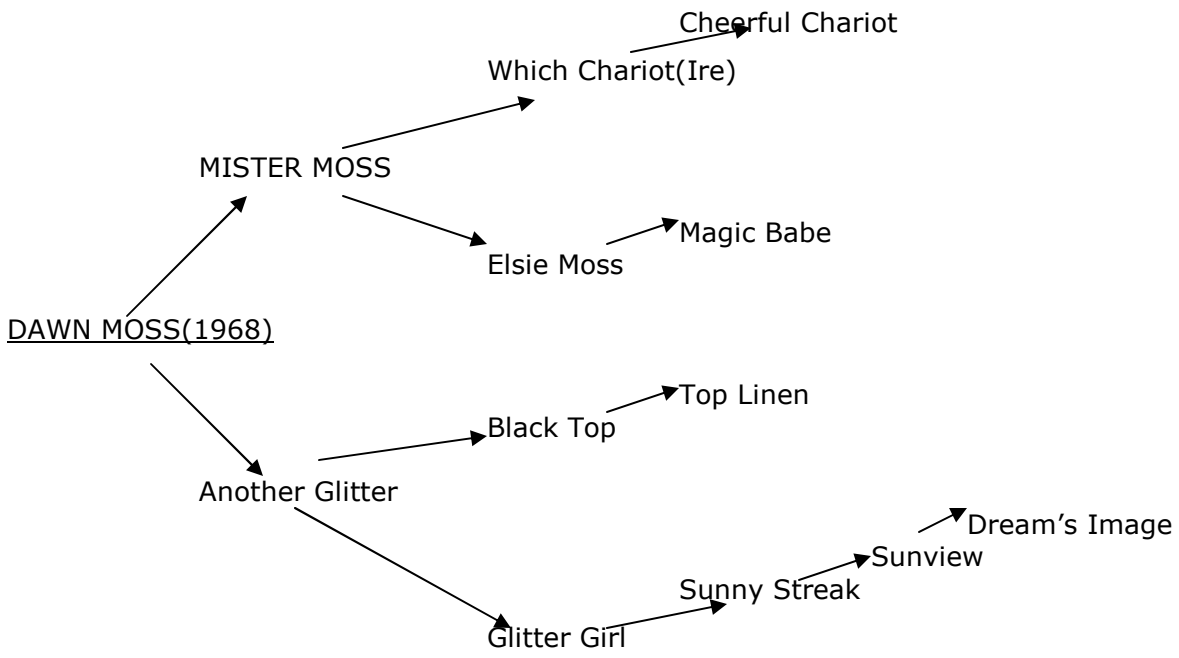
Together they formed the breeding foundation of one of Australia's truly dominant 4-LINER's Brother Fox, whelped in 1983. In the process it indelibly stamped Brother Fox as the nucleus from which the most potent strain of the most dominant sireline in the world today emerged..... that of Temlee. One need look no further than Brett Lee(Australia) and Top Honcho(Ireland) for proof of such.

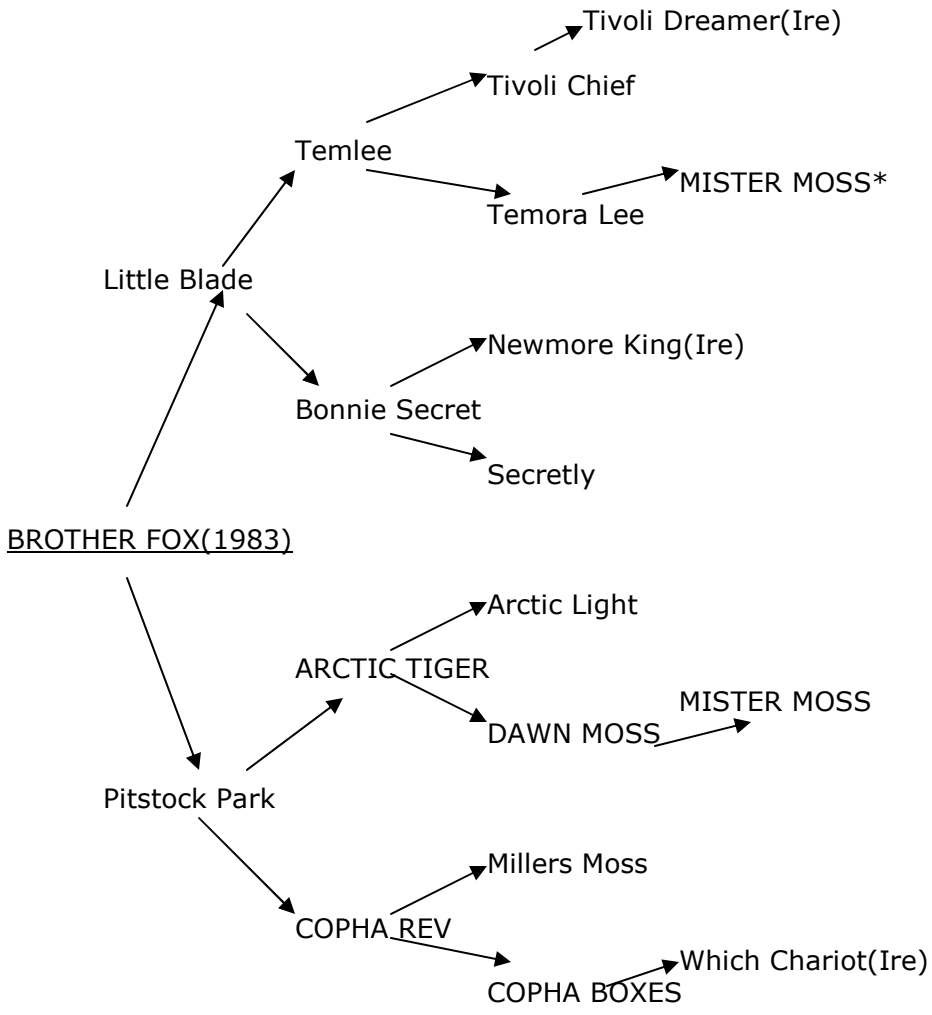
Set out below are the 4-LINER greyhounds and pedigree charts involved in the Brother Fox evolution.

4-Liner	Born	Sire's grandsire	Sire's damsire	Dam's grandsire	Dam's damsire
Mister Moss	1965	Bella's Prince(4)	Sandown Champion(6)	Rocket Jet(2)	Chief Havoc(1)
Copha Boxes	1965	Bella's Prince(4)	Sandown Champion(6)	Sunview(3)	Rocket Jet(2)
Copha Rev	1968	Top Linen(1)	Magic Babe(2)	Cheerful Chariot(4)	Pine Mulga(3)
Dawn Moss	1968	Cheerful Chariot(4)	Magic Babe(2)	Top Linen(1)	Sunny Streak(3)
Arctic Tiger	1972	Magic Lightning(3)	Rocket Mac(2)	Which Chariot(4)	Black Top(1)
Brother Fox	1983	Tivoli Chief(4)	Newmore King(5)	Arctic Light(3)	Millers Moss(1)









It is not hard to see then how such a phenomenal sire Brother Fox was put together pedigree-wise. His dam Pitstock Park carries 5 individual 4-LINER's and when mated to Little Blade she herself produced a special 4-LINER in Brother Fox. Mister Moss, the sire who started the ball rolling, plays an integral role also as damsire of both Temlee and Arctic Tiger.

One wonders where Australian and world greyhound bloodlines would be today without Brother Fox. The contribution of his "litter of the 20th century sons"(Amerigo Man, Walkabout Sid, West Cape, Bogenfel etc.), Worth Doing and Gun Law Osti, plus his multitude of daughters, has been monumental to say the least.