

# Lagoonside Divinity (1500)

15 February 1987

Sire: Exmoor Quicksilver (122)	Glenormiston McInerney Muskerry (III) (95)	Atlantic Sentinel (CPS 239)
	Silver Mill (Imp) (1038)	Macaroon of Calmore (Imp) (1079)
		Carna Bobby (CPS 79)
		Silver Lining (CPS 3292)
Dam: Wychwood Grey Gull (1385)	Coomel Kestral (88)	Inis O'Hara (Imp) (29)
	Ardan (1001)	Little Lark of Abbeyleix (Imp) (1020)
		Inver Rebel (93)
		Leam Lassie (1838)

Lagoonside Divinity celebrated her twentieth birthday in February 2007 and I thought it an opportune time to review her life and contribution to the Connemara family in Australia.

Divinity brings together the Red and Green lines via her sire and dam, as well as the Blue line through their respective dams. She is by Exmoor Quicksilver, a grandson of Atlantic Sentinel (by Mac Dara) and out of Wychwood Grey Gull. Grey Gull was by the Green line stallion Coomel Kestral (a grandson of Thunderbolt) and out of the mare Ardan. Ardan was distinctive as she contained no foreign blood in her pedigree and represented the Blue line (Inver Rebel x Leam Lassie {Tooreen Laddie}), as did Exmoor Quicksilver's dam Silver Mill, who was by Carna Bobby. Divinity provides an important mix of bloodlines and she has had the opportunity to be at stud with three different stallions where she has proved to be a quality broodmare.

Divinity was bred by Mrs Mary Dowd who sold her to the Hendry family at Geelong Grammar School as a weanling. Divinity was purchased by Ingrid and Phillip Rowe of Newlands Stud in 1993. Here, Divinity was campaigned successfully by the Rowe children for many Champion and Reserve Championships, including success in hand, and ridden competition at the Melbourne Summer Royal Show. In one of her first shows she competed unbeknownst to the Rowe's against her dam, Wychwood Grey Gull. Divinity also attended Pony Club where Claire Rowe rode her in a 40km ride with a relatively short preparation after her first foal was weaned and Claire's other horse was injured. She finished at the front alongside the group leader. She also competed at eventing and showjumping.

Divinity produced her first foal, a grey colt by Ben Dhui Berin in 1995. Newlands Gideon now stands at stud in NSW and represents the Blue line.

Divinity was then purchased by Mrs Suzanne McTaggart of Wychwood Connemara Stud while in foal to Glenormiston Freedom (Abbeyleix Finbarr x Oxenholm Dulcinea). She produced a grey colt in 1999 at Wartaka Station. Wychwood Free as a Bird was sold to a family in South Australia where he was gelded and still resides as a valued family pony.

Divinity then entered what so far has been a six year partnership with Wychwood Willy Wagtail. Wagtail is by Coomel Kestral out of Vale Southern Cross and thus also carries forward the Green line. This partnership has produced six foals to date, four fillies and two colts and these six foals contain a 'double line' to Kestral.

The first filly, Wychwood Twinkle (2000) was sold to Victoria while the second colt Wychwood Dan O'Rielly (2001) was retained by the Templewood riding school. Wychwood Snowbird, a grey colt foaled in 2002 travelled to Queensland while Wychwood Cheeky Bushbird (bay filly 2003) and Wychwood Happy Songbird (grey filly 2004) will be retained by Wychwood with Songbird recently successful in her first outing at a local Agricultural show. After a well earned rest from stud for one season, Divinity produced her current foal, Wychwood Starbird (2006), a sweet bay filly.

The Stud hopes that Divinity and Wagtail will produce a foal or two yet before she is retired from stud to enjoy her latter years in the open pastoral country of Moonaree and Wartaka Stations in South Australia.

After a successful show and ridden career, Divinity has produced 8 excellent foals, four grey colts and four fillies (two bay and two grey) that will carry forward her bloodlines. She is truly a remarkable mare.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY DIVI!!**

Catherine McTaggart  
February 2007