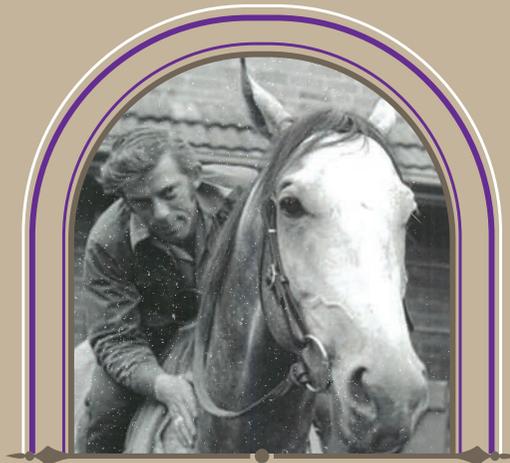


# STATISTICS

<b>Years Alive</b>	1967–1983 (16 years)
<b>Colour</b>	Grey
<b>Breeder</b>	Joe McNamara
<b>Owners</b>	Bill Bishop, G Pippas, GN McMicking and Jim Coorey
<b>Trainer</b>	Bill Wehlow, Ti Smith (at age 4)
<b>Record</b>	54 starts. 29–1st; 7–2nd; 8–3rd
<b>Race Career</b>	1969–1973

## Major Wins

- 1969 Hopeful Stakes
- 1970 Chelmsford Stakes
- 1971, 1973 Rawson Stakes
- 1971 Epsom Handicap (51kg)
- 1971 Toorak Handicap (58kg)
- 1971 Sandown Cup
- 1971 George Adams Handicap (58kg)
- 1972 Futurity Stakes
- 1972 Frederick Clissold Handicap
- 1972 Hill Stakes
- 1972 VRC Queens Plate
- 1972 Doncaster Handicap (60.5kg)
- 1972 Colin Stephen Stakes
- 1972 Caulfield Stakes
- 1972 Cox Plate
- 1972, 1973 VRC Queen Elizabeth Stakes
- 1973 Blarney Stakes
- 1973 AJC Autumn Stakes



## HIS LATER YEARS

Gunsynd was retired to Kia Ora Stud when his racing days were over, he sired Ammo Girl, the dam of Emancipation, who was named Australia's champion racehorse for the 1983–1984 season.

The great horses' grey coat turned to almost pure white in later years and he succumbed to cancer aged 16 on April 29, 1983. He is buried on the Kia Ora stud next to his great rival Baguette.



**For more information**  
Goondiwindi Visitor Information Centre

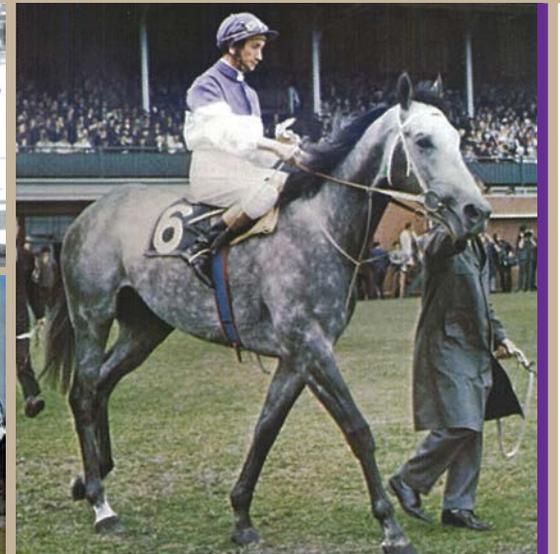
**Open** Monday to Saturday  
**Phone** 07 4671 7474

**Email** [information@goondiwindi.qld.au](mailto:information@goondiwindi.qld.au)



# GUNSYND

## THE GOONDIWINDI GREY





## GUNSYND

### THE GOONDIWINDI GREY

Gunsynd was a champion Australian thoroughbred who dominated racetracks in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne during the early 1970's. Known as 'The Goondiwindi Grey', the stallion went on to win an impressive 29 races from 55 starts earning \$280,455, an Australian record at the time. The grey was a huge crowd favourite, and being a true showman he put on an almost human-like performance before and after each race. For many, especially here in Goondiwindi, he was a true legend of the racecourse.

### FROM ORDINARY STOCK

He was born on the 4 October 1967 at the Dip Stud, Breeza on the Liverpool Plains near Gunedah in NSW. The stud

was owned by John Clift, his family were pioneer settlers originally breeding racehorses for their own use. At the time of Gunsynd's birth, Clift had been very active in local amateur horse racing but was a relative newcomer to the lucrative thoroughbred racing industry.

### GUNSYND'S FATHER

Sunset Hue, a placid, nearly white stallion, had a promising start to his racing career but an injury forced him into early retirement at the Dip Stud. With Gunsynd's success demand for Sunset Hue's services increased significantly.

### GUNSYND'S MOTHER

Woodie Wonder, a little chesnut mare from nearby Currabudbula. Born a twin foal she was lucky to have survived her own birth. Gunsynd was the second foal she gave birth to that had been sired by Sunset Hue.

### WHAT MADE HIM A LEGEND...

He was affectionately known as the Goondiwindi Grey, as his owners came from Goondiwindi, and he was pure grey in appearance. Purchased in 1969 for a pittance approximately \$1,300 by 4 bush owners (Bill Bishop (newsagent owner), G Pippas (hotelier), GN McMicking (grazier) and Jim Coorey (business executive) who only wanted to win a race on the local track. The deal was done in the famous old Goondiwindi pub, the Victoria Hotel.

It was his character and loveable antics that saw him adored not only by the racing fraternity but also by people not remotely interested in the sport who flocked to the tracks to watch him perform. It is even said, that after a particularly good victory, Gunsynd would stop in front of the grandstand and bow to the applauding crowd.

As a four-year-old (1971-72), Gunsynd did something that had never been done before and may never be done again. He won all four of the major mile handicaps in Australia; the Epsom, Doncaster, Toorak and Emirates (it was known as the George Adams back then). He also won an additional six other races that year, all of Group standing, over distances between 1200m and 2400m.

### EXTRAORDINARY STUFF!



### PERHAPS GUNSYND'S MIGHTIEST PERFORMANCE

came in the 1972 Melbourne Cup where he ran third carrying 60.5kg. The winner, Piping Lane had 48kg, or 12.5kg less than Gunsynd. Gunsynd was Handicapped out of this cup, because of both the 60.5kg and the low limit.

