



MEDIA RELEASE

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Witch Magic casts a spell over the Ballarat Cup

Talented youngster Witch Magic made every post a winner in the Ballarat Cup last Wednesday night in a high speed chasing performance that gave Devon Meadows owner-trainer Paul Westerveld back to back wins in the rich Country Cup after he owned last years winner Magic Trance when trained by Andrea Dailly.

Westerveld has enjoyed years of success with his brood bitch line that has continued to produce outstanding greyhounds and group winners with Witch Magic no exception.

The \$2.90 favourite looked a big chance when she drew box one for the final after an impressive heat win in 25.25. The speedy black bitch begun well and pushed up hard on the rails to take a clear lead after 50 metres and from that point on she never really looked in danger of defeat conformably holding Vapour Whirl (\$4.70) in the run to the line. He had done a good job after early trouble to be the chaser in the home straight beaten two and half lengths with Rooney (\$4.50) running on for third in the excellent overall time of 25.09 with a fast first spit of 8.49.

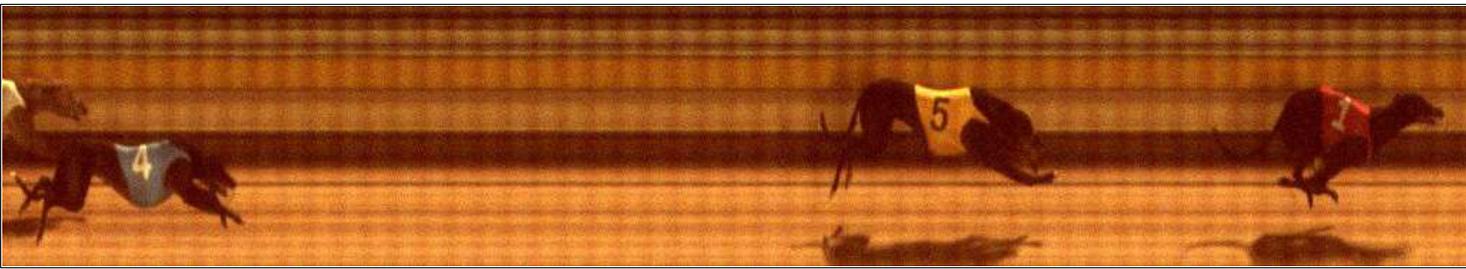
Westerveld made the unusually decision earlier in the year of breeding with Witch Magic when she came on season after only a handful of starts. I asked him why?

Mainly because we lost her mum Star Which that was quite a blow and she is the spitting image of her I would say they would be on a par speed wise by Witch Magic is stronger. I also knew how good she was, she had shown us plenty in trials and had broken in the quickest at Kevin McNamara's since Big Daddy Cool so I thought why not. Darren McDonald had a straw of Larkhill Jo so I made an arrangement with him and we have shared the litter one dog and five bitches they were whelped in May and are lovely looking pups being reared at my place." Westerveld said.

In a very accomplished training performance the 30 year old Westerveld produced Witch Magic in top order to win the Ballarat Cup. Since her whelping trial at Shepparton on the 7th of August she has only been beaten once in eight starts leading all the way in most of those wins at Shepparton, Geelong and Ballarat recording best of the night on three occasions.

I asked Westerveld the future plans for Witch Magic. "Too be honest we have no plans and I'm thinking perhaps we might retire her. I couldn't forgive myself if something happen to her. She is a very good bitch with a lot of ability so her worth as a brood bitch is enormous. The prizemoney she might win is not really the important thing she can run a strong 500 having won at Angle Park and the Meadows and came home in 10.60 in a trial at Sandown so I don't have to learn anything about her. I'll see what happens maybe I'll run her in the Warragul Cup in the New Year, I'll think about." Westerveld concluded.

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The photo finish strip photo of the Ballarat Cup shows Witch Magic an easy winner

Witch Magic is raced, trained and bred by Paul Westerveld at Devon Meadows she is a Black bitch whelped November 2003 by Awesome Assassin from Star Witch (Bearability x Witchita). Star Witch was an outstanding race bitch for Westerveld a bitch he also bred she was successful in winning the 2002 Group 1 Hobart Thousand, the 2002 Ledgerwood Classic at Wangaratta was runner up in the 2002 Group 1 Sapphire Crown. She was also runner up in the 2002 listed Provincial Cup and third in 2002 Group 3 S.A Interstate Challenge. From 29 Starts she won 17 races and was placed nine times.

Witch Magic has won 10 of her 14 starts and has been placed on one occasion and with the \$25,000 first prize for the Ballarat Cup it took her current stake earnings to \$38,320.



Paul Westerveld with his champion Star Witch

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The Ballarat Cup was first held at the old Broadway Park complex in 1960 over 496 yards. The first winner was Rebbly Boy a greyhound sired by Rookie Rebel listed below is the honour Roll of past winners.

1960 **Rebbly Boy**, 1961 **Dalemee**, 1962 **Eerie Town**, 1963 **Alrarniv** 1964, 1965 Unknown, 1966 Unknown, 1967 Unknown, 1968 **Baytown's Son**, 1969 **My Gina**, 1970 1971 **Fawn Metal**, 1972 **Master Caleb**, 1973 **She's My Girl**, 1974 **Fawn Capri**, 1975 **Ben Boro** 1976 **Ernie Diro**, 1977 **"Not Held"**, 1978 **"Not Held"**, 1979 **Nelson's Mate**, 1980 **Swift As Light**, 1981 **Johnny's Monaro**, 1982 **Satan's Shroud**, 1983 **Total Claim**, 1984 **Lady Lilly**, 1985 **Trisun**, 1986 **"Not Held"**, 1987 **Shining Chariot**, 1988 **Kepler**, 1989 **Hay Dinney**, 1990 **Welcome Stranger**, 1991 **Malawi's Prince**, 1992 **Wild Pirate**, 1993 **Dallas Duo**, 1994 **Tivoli Man**, 1995 **Malawi Law**, 1996 **King Of Talent**, 1997 **Young Darren**, 1998 **Lansley Bale**, 1999 **Tom's Legacy**, 2000 **Puff Daddy**, 2001 **Carlisle Jack**, 2002 **Knockabout Wok**, 2003 **Puzzle Prize**, 2004 **Whisky Assassin** and 2005 **Magic Trance**.

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