



MEDIA RELEASE

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MACRO MEATS

Thompson Lands Maiden Easter Egg

By Adam Dobbin GRANSW Website

In front of a bumper crowd, leading Victorian trainer Jason Thompson claimed his maiden victory in the Group One Macro Meats Golden Easter Egg at Wentworth Park on Saturday night with Don't Knocka Him (\$2.10).

Ideally drawn from box one in the \$250,000 to-the-winner feature, the Reg Kay-owned race favourite Don't Knocka Him - a son of Knocka Norris - defeated second favourite Dyna Bert (\$4.60) by 1 ¼ lengths, with the Brendan Wheeler-trained Desalle Bale (\$7.90) third another 1 ½ lengths away. It was a perfect finale to the series for Thompson, with the Golden Easter Egg one of the few Group 1 races that has eluded the Pearcedale mentor throughout his decorated training career.



Don't Knocka Him charges away with the Egg (Pic GRNSW Website)

Thompson was beaming following the race.

"What a thrill, it's great to take out the Golden Easter Egg," Thompson said.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

The old adage that 'boxes win big races' certainly rung true, with Don't Knocka Him using the fence to rail underneath Desalle Bale in running.

From there victory was never in doubt for the 14-race winner – not three years of age until November.

Time for the final was a race record run of 29.60 after sections of 5.38 (4) and 13.78.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Fancy Dean (\$9.40), 5th Wez Da Risk (\$23.60), 6th El Caballo (\$45.20) 7th Hot Irish (\$7.40) and Time And Money (\$24.20).

Don't Knocka Him is raced by Reg Kay and is trained by Jason Thompson at Pearcedale in Victoria. By Knocka Norris form Surf Queen (Surf Lorian x Queen Size). He is a Blue Brindle Dog whelped November 2009 he has won 14 of his 30 starts and has been placed on 12 occasions and with the \$250,000 first prize for the Golden Easter Egg it took his current stake earnings to \$286,278.

Listed below is the Golden Easter Egg honour roll it has been won by some superstar sprinters over the years including five Hall of Famers. First conducted in 1990 when won by the Jim Coleman trained Ultra Sense the race quickly took pride of place in the Harbour city. It is one of most sought after on the AGRA Group racing calendar and each year attracts the best sprinters racing in the country, all vying for not only the outstanding first prize but also the glory and their place in history as winners of the Egg.

1990 **Ultra Sense**, 1991 **Highly Blessed**, 1992 **Jessica Casey**, 1993 **Billy Binjang**, 1994 **Mancunian Girl**, 1995 **Malawi Law**, 1996 **Tenthill Doll**, 1997 **Bahama Image**, 1998 **Rapid Journey**, 1999 **Faithful Hawk**, 2000 **Stately Bird**, 2001 **Brett Lee**, 2002 **Carlisle Jack**, 2003 **Cyrus The Virus**, 2004 **Bogie Leigh**, 2005 **Paua To Burn**, 2006 **Edie Beuchamp**, 2007 **Slater**, 2008 **Blazing Token**, 2009 **Dana Beatrice**, 2010 **Cosmic Rumble** and 2011 **Radley Bale**.

HOTHAM BODY REPAIRS

The Mighty Miata thrills the Crowd in the Cup

On a night of champagne racing, star attraction Miata (\$1.20) didn't let her legion of followers down, annexing the Group 1 Hotham Body Repairs Association Cup in terrific fashion.

Overcoming a bumping duel with leader Shimaguni (\$9.00), the star Western Australian rallied to win by 2 ¾ lengths over a fast finishing He's My Future (\$13.90) in 41.94.

A large portion of the crowd came to see the Paul Stuart-trained conveyance in full flight and they didn't leave disappointed.

Stuart stated after the Cup he would head back to Perth before embarking on a Melbourne campaign including a first up run at Sandown Park in the Lizrene Classic a best 8 over the distance on May the 3rd. The Lizrene is a lead race to the Sandown Cup on May 10 and 17 the richest distance Group 1 in the country and looks like another big Group 1 at the mercy of Miata.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Hot Buzzard (\$15.20), 5th Hotwire (\$43.70), 6th Thrilling Brat (\$11.30), 7th Lavana (\$59.40) and Gail Allen (\$46.90).

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Miata is a Red Fawn bitch whelped October 2009 by Bombastic Shiraz from Winsome Bluebird (Lansley Bale x Winsome Duchess). She raced by Nicole Wheeler-Whye & Paul Stuart and trained by Paul Stuart at Oakford in Western Australia. She has now won 22 races and been placed twice from her 25 starts. The Association Cup first prize of \$75,000 brings her overall prizemoney to \$279,895.

The final of the Group 3 Centrebet Magic Maiden was a one-act affair with the Chris O'Brien-trained Tifia going through the series undefeated, taking out Saturday's final in 29.86.

Scooping the \$25,000 winner's cheque, the daughter of Collision staved off the challenge of the Jason Mackay-trained Trident Catch, winning by a length.

Mark Gatt left Wentworth Park a happy man, taking out the Group 3 \$25,000 to-the-winner 'The Ambrosoli' with talented sprinter Ritza Ryder.

Railing to victory in 29.71, Ritza Ryder defeated Taswegian Rewind by 2 ¼ lengths with Lektra Johnson third another nose away.

The gala night of racing drew the curtain on a marvellous Group 1 Macro Meats Golden Easter Egg Carnival for 2011.

Full credit must go to race sponsor Ray Borda for helping elevate the Golden Easter Egg to the world's richest greyhound event.

The three week series was compiled brilliantly by the NSW GBOTA and GRNSW.

Bring on 2013!



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