



Australian Greyhound
Racing Association

MEDIA RELEASE

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Striker Light wins Golden Easter Egg Thriller

By Jeff Collerson GRANSW Website

Striker Light's blistering mid-race speed carried her into the final and was again the prevailing factor when she edged out Lagoon Jazzy in Saturday night's \$250,000-to-the-winner Ladbrokes Golden Easter Egg final.

Lagoon Jazzy, locally trained by Sharron Webster, was a \$41 outsider but looked set to pull off the biggest upset in the Group 1 event's history when she raced to a clear early lead.



But Striker Light (pictured, black rug), bred in NSW by Toby Weekes but owned by Melbourne journalist George Farrugia and her trainer, Brett Bravo, surged to the front in the middle stages.

Striker Light (\$3) led clearly for home before Lagoon Jazzy rallied in the straight to go down by a half head in 29.99, well outside Fernando Bale's race record of 29.48sec set in 2015. "She has always been able to bust them up in the middle stages, that is her big asset," Striker Light's trainer Brett Bravo said.

Mack Tux jumped smartly from box one but was outpaced by Lagoon Jazzy and Lucky Chap in the run to the first turn, while favourite Up Hill Hill missed the start.

Veteran Sydney trainer John Little took out the Easter Egg Consolation, the \$25,000 to the winner The Ambrosoli with Black Hole Sun.

Bred by Little from his former handy sprinter Chasing Diana, Black Hole Sun has been a fixture in big races over the past 12 months and deserved a group race win.

Fortune was with Black Hole Sun on Saturday as he bungled the start before securing a miraculous rails run at the first turn after pacemaker Nangar Bear ran off the track and collided with Hugo Boss and Barking Bad.

"We had a bit of luck tonight," quipped Little after the race.

Chevy King gave trainer Christine Proctor a surprise second win in the Group 3 New Sensation Final, after she had landed the race two years ago with Lord Gee.

Chevy King drew box seven and after trailing pacemaker Rohan Hill at box rise, he swept to the lead at the first turn to win easily.

"I can't believe he has won," Proctor said. "Chevy King is desperate for an inside box.

"He had his kennelmate Son Of Katie, a wide runner drawn on his left in box six, I thought they would bring each other unstuck."

Blitzing Lass's win in the Group 3 Ladbrokes Magic Maiden final was charged with emotion.

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Trained by Jodie Van Enkhuyzen, Blitzing Lass is owned by Michael Brookes, whose father John passed away 18 months ago after breeding the greyhound.

"Blitzing Lass is a daughter of dad's bitch Miss Blockbuster, who won 14 of 30 races," Michael Brookes said.

"When Miss Blockbuster retired my father took the advice of her trainer John Chapman and mated her with Milldean Panther, and Blitzing Lass is the result.

"It's just a pity dad was not here to see Blitzing Lass win a good race like this."

Saturday night's fastest time came in the 520m Free-For-All when three-year-old warrior El Magnifico powered to the line to score in 29.63.

After the first and second the runners in the Egg the field finished in the following order 3rd Big Flood (\$6), 4th Lucky Chap (\$7), 5th Slamming Thunder (\$21), 6th Up Hill Jill (\$4) 7th Aqua Cheetah (\$19) and Mack Tux (\$6).

Striker Light is raced by George Farrugia and is trained by Brett Bravo, she is a Black bitch whelped March 2015 by Kc And All from Pretty Fancy (Brett Lee x Sweet Fancy). Striker Light has won 13 of her 20 starts and has been placed on three occasions and with the \$250,000 first prize for the National Futurity it took her current stake earnings to \$381,380.

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**, 2011 **Radley Bale**, 2012 **Don't Knocka Him**, 2013 **Grigorieva Bale**, 2014 **Tonk**, 2015 **Fernando Bale** and 2016 **Moreira**.

Trip To Eden's second Group 1 win in Association Cup

Kathrine Earnst Australian Racing Greyhound

TRIP To Eden (\$2.70) won the second group 1 of his career on Saturday night when scoring in the Group 1 Association Cup (720m) at Wentworth Park.

The Seona Thompson-trained greyhound exploded from box three, rolling straight to the early lead over Group 1 Galaxy winner Bogie Bekim (box two).

Slotting into third spot in the early stages was Allen Lottery (box seven), but past the post on the first occasion it was a race in two as Bogie Bekim (\$3.20) tried valiantly to take ground off the leader throughout the race.

However, despite the best efforts of Bogie Bekim, he was no match for Trip To Eden on the night, with the leader kicking home strongly to record a two and a half length triumph in 42.02.

Raced by Newcastle owner-breeder Steve Connor Trip To Eden, is a son of Connor's former top stayer Key To Eden, came from last to win his heat in 42.22 so it was no surprise he cut that time back to 42.02sec when he jumped in front in Saturday's final.

Obi Kenobi (\$26) (box five) flashed home to grab third ahead of Miss Foxy Lee (box one).

Trip To Eden has now won 18 of his 42 starts, including five of his past six appearances.

The Victorian trained greyhound has now won close to \$300,000 in prize money, having already won the Group 1 Super Stayers at The Meadows earlier this year.

After the placed runners, the field finished in the following order 4th Miss Foxy Lee (\$11), 5th Allen Lottery (\$16), 6th Ebby Ripper (\$6), 7th My Boy Brodie (\$41) and Gunnadoo Cove (\$10).

Trip To Eden is a Black dog whelped April 2014 by Solve The Puzzle from Key To Eden (Suave Fella x Wild Chant). Trip To Eden is raced by Steve Connor and trained by Jason Thompson he has raced 42 times for 18 wins and 13 placings. His stake earnings stand at \$293,857.

1965 **Blue Autumn**, 1966 **Rose Moss**, 1967 **Gloavon**, 1968 **Zoom Top**, 1969 **Zoom Top**, 1970 **Heather Rev**, 1971 **Travel Rev**, 1972 **Ragsie**, 1973 **Plunderola**, 1974 **Ascapella Miss**, 1975 **Dotie Wilson**, 1976 **Woolley Wong**, 1977 **Te Ropa Lee**, 1978 **Cyclone Corsica**, 1979 **Little Vogue**, 1980 **Gini's Choice**, 1981 **Black Aztec**, 1982 **Bay Road Queen**, 1983 **Quick Pulse**, 1984 **Lease Of Life**, 1985 **Queen's Cross**, 1986 **Clover Park**, 1987 **Bold Trease**, 1988 **Whip Tip**, 1989 **Frosty Zulu**, 1990 **Valley Mail**, 1991 **Fast Appeal**, 1992 **Equability**, 1993 **Call Me Casey**, 1994 **Worthy Reward**, 1995 **Rob's Rebel**, 1996 **Groovy Dancer**, 1997 **Northern Legend**, 1998 **Thoma Di**, 1999 **Moe's Tavern**, 2000 **Many Tricks**, 2001 **Flash Joan**, 2002 **Nimuay**, 2003 **Big Sam Banner**, 2004 **Irinka Barbie**, 2005 **Classy Customer**, 2006 **Endless Pit**, 2007 **Excused**, 2008 **Miagi**, 2009 **Lilley Criminal**, 2010 **Manta Lad**, 2011 **Seek And Destroy**, 2012 **Miata**, 2013 **Bell Haven**, 2014 **Sweet It Is**, 2015 **Space Star** and 2016 **Lioness Lulu**.

The gala night of racing drew the curtain on a marvelous Group 1 Golden Easter Egg Carnival for 2017.

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

Bring on 2018!



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