



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**31<sup>st</sup> December 2013**

# **AGRA GREYHOUND OF THE MONTH – DECEMBER 2013**

## **“PAW LICKING”**

AGRA's Greyhound of the Month for December 2013 is outstanding former New South Wales sprinter Paw Licking.

In December the talented speedster won his first Group 1 event when he beat an outstanding field assembled for the Hobart 1000 on December 19.



**Paw Licking winning at Sale in June (Pic Daniel Gangur)**

In a race that was expected to be a cakewalk for reigning Melbourne Cup winner Black Magic Opal, Paw Licking ruined the script and announced his arrival as a superstar.

Paw Licking began brilliantly from box seven and quickly cleared the field to lead while Black Magic Opal (\$1.40) also was well away from box eight and camped on the leader's heels turning for the run home.

When Black Magic Opal loomed to win it looked a foregone conclusion but Paw Licking refused to wilt and with fighter-like instincts he dug deep like never before and held on to score by under a length from Black Magic Opal with Tasmanian star Yappin' Jack a gallant third ahead of Ronan Izmir.

# AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

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Paw Licking clocked a sizzling 4.99 seconds for the first split and 10.86 for the second and he then powered up the home straight to stop the clock at 25.64 which carved one-hundredth of a second off Black Magic Opal's track record he set the week before in winning his Hobart Thousand heat.

Paw Licking has been a model of consistency since joining the Greenough kennel in January he has made the final of no less than nine group races winning three. In December prior to his Hobart 1000 win he won his heat in 25.77 and finished a gallant second in the Ballarat Cup final behind Ronan Izmir on December the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Paw Licking has shown high speed in most of his race starts since transferring to the Greenough kennel. The distinctively marked speedster arrived having won nine of his 12 starts with all but one in the best of the meeting. He had won six races at Casino over the 411 where he holds the track record at 22.48 and three over 420 at Lismore. The decision to send him to one of Australia's best trainers has proven a masterstroke.

Owner Allan Lang acting on the advice of fellow Northern Rivers owner-trainer Charlie Northfield who had raced the mighty Miss Grub with the Greenough's and Brisbane trainer John Dart, had no hesitation recommending the talented Greenough kennel to Lang.

Paw Licking is a White & Black dog whelped March 2011 by Elite Sate from Kingsbrae Di (Solve The Puzzle x Pretty Jacalyn). He is raced by Allan Lang and trained by Kelvyn Greenough at Pearcedale in Victoria. He has now won 27 races and been placed on nine occasions from his 44 starts. Paw Licking's overall prizemoney stands at \$282,150.

The month of December has seen eight group races decided. Paw Licking beat other Group 1 winners Dyna Nalin and Kiss Me Ketut for the monthly award.

AGRA congratulates owner Allan Lang, trainer Kelvyn Greenough and Paw Licking on being awarded the AGRA Greyhound of the Month for December his second after winning the award in June 2013. He joins January winner Sheikha, February winner Destini Fireball, March winner Spud Regis, May winner Irma Bale, July winner Proven Impala, August winner Smart Valentino, September winner Ernie Bung Arrow, October winner Dyna Nalin, plus April and November winner Black Magic Opal.

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