



MEDIA RELEASE

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AGRA GREYHOUND OF THE MONTH MARCH 2014

“BUCKLE UP WES”

AGRA's Greyhound of the Month for March 2014 is outstanding Tasmanian owned & trained, sprinter Buckle Up Wes.

In March the talented speedster won his first Group 1 event when he beat an outstanding field assembled for the Australian Cup on March the first.



Buckle Up Wes winning the Cup at the Meadows (Pic Clint Anderson)

Trained by astute conditioner Ted Medhurst, the son of Collision and Everlong Bale gave nothing else a chance, spearing out of box seven to achieve splits of 5.04 and 17.74 before recording a famous victory in one of the world's premier greyhound races.

It was a huge thrill for Medhurst, winning his first Australian Cup, with race night handler Debbie Cannan also training the 2011 winner (St Pierre), again handling a chaser who has scored on the biggest stage. Race favourite Keybow (\$2.60) missed the start before showing his superb chasing ability, winding up one and three quarter lengths away from the winner, while West Australian star Dyna Nalin overcame early bother to rattle home for third.

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In an easy month for the classy sprinter he had another hit out at his home track at Hobart on the 27th of March for an all the way win in the best time of the night 25.83.

This was a preparation run for a tilt at the Group 1 Golden Easter Egg at Wentworth Park in Sydney. Buckle Up Wes takes his place in heat eight on the first night of the series from box number 3.

No stranger to the Glebe circuit he has three impressive wins there two in September and October of 2013 when he recorded 29.82 and 29.93. The black speedster returned for a Free For All win in a fast 29.65 on January 11th indicating a particular liking for New South Wales premier track. He is no doubt going to be very competitive with Australia's leading sprinters in town for a crack at the \$250,000 first prize and Group 1 glory.

Buckle Up Wes is a Black dog whelped June 2011 by Collision from Everlong Bale (Primo Uno x Shique Bale). He is raced by the Johnson Sutton Syndicate and is trained at Mangalore in Tasmania by Ted Medhurst. He has now won 22 races and been placed on nine occasions from his 36 starts. Adding the first prize money of \$250,000 for the Australian Cup his stake earnings went to \$325,740.

The month of March has seen eight group races decided. Buckle Up Wes beat the other Group 1 winner Destini Firball and a number of high class Group 2 winners for the monthly award.

AGRA congratulates owners Johnson Sutton Syndicate, trainer Ted Medhurst and Buckle Up Wes on being awarded the AGRA Greyhound of the Month for March. He joins the January winner Iona Seven, February winner Keybow as the Greyhounds of the Month for 2014.

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