



MEDIA RELEASE

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Greyhound
RACING SA



“Outstanding field in the Adelaide Cup final”

By Shaun Mathieson

Last night at Angle Park we witnessed Group 1 racing at the highest level with eight heats of the Triple M Adelaide Cup where some of the best sprinters in the land battled it out for a chance to qualify for the Group 1 Final on October 11.



The brilliant Heston Bale (Pic Paul Munt)

The fastest qualifier for the final was the Jason Thompson trained Victorian Proven Nitro in heat 3 who raced his way into favouritism for the final after a blistering display of high speed chasing. He made it three wins in a row when he began well from box 3 to pounce on the early lead and peeled of a sizzling 29.36 for the 515m journey in winning by 3½ lengths with his second split time to the back of 16.71 one of the quickest seen in recent years. The last greyhound to go quicker at the Angle Park circuit was exactly one year ago when Cape Hawke rated 29.33 in winning his heat of the Cup and ultimately finishing third behind the flying Mepunga Nicky in the final. Proven Nitro has blistering speed and will have to show that in next weeks final after drawing box 7 with plenty of speed on his inside. Jason Thompson produced his second qualifier for the final earlier in the night in heat 2 when strong chaser Coal King staked his claims with a powerful display of chasing. He began fairly from box 5 to initially race midfield before stretching out down the back straight and racing past leader Mepunga Geordie over the concluding stages to win by a lengthening 5½ lengths in a flying 29.71. It was his fifth win in his last 6 starts and his run home time of 12.61 was one of the quickest on the night.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

It took the full 515m in heat 4 for Dailly's star chaser Heston Bale to secure his spot in the Group 1 final. Again beginning slowly from box 8 he found himself in all sorts of trouble into the back straight as South Aussie Hope's Up pounced on the early lead however he amazed on course patrons with his finishing burst and will to win as he swept down the outside to score in a photo from Premier Boloney who had forged his way to the front. Heston Bale's time of 29.95 was not the quickest on the night but in the manner that he won could not have been more impressive. The Dailly's will be working hard to make sure Heston Bale can begin quicker after drawing the coveted red marble for next weeks final. SA Derby winner Spud Regis then made it three for Dailly in the final heat when he led throughout as a short priced favourite to score his eighth win from his last nine starts. One of the most promising young chasers on the National stage "Spud" again showed tremendous early speed with a 4.41 first split before stopping the clock at 29.85 for the 515m journey.

Handy chaser Wattle Bee provided Angela Langton with a runner in next weeks final when he showed strength and stamina to race up near the lead in heat 7 before running away with a 3½ length victory in a solid 29.92. He will appreciate box 8 in the final where he can do his own thing whilst most of the field try to lead on the first turn.

Joy for the locals came in heat's 5 and 6 of the Cup when South Australian greyhounds claimed their spots in next weeks final. In heat 5 Andrew's Courage for Andrew's Farm trainer Dean Decrea led throughout from box 5 to score an exciting victory when he held on by a head over fellow croweater Koombooyana Girl in a stirring battle to the line rating a solid 30.06. Then in heat 6 Prank Call for Cooke Plains trainer Paul Barry repeated the dose when he led throughout to score an even tighter nose victory over Victorian Take Me Home in a handy 30.07. Both SA greyhounds have good early speed and should be able to make their presence felt in next weeks hot Adelaide Cup field.

Quo Vadis for Angela Langton went terrific in running second to Proven Nitro and was declared the first reserve as the fastest second placegetter interestingly he was also the second fastest in the series running a personal time of 29.58. Godsend for Jason Thompson was declared second reserve after running second in 29.74.

Another champion will be added to the honour board with the running of the Triple M Adelaide Cup next week where the winning connections will take home the \$75,000 first prize and the title of Group 1 winner.

The final will be race 8 on the program and is listed to jump at 9.23pm (SA time).

Also featured on a fabulous nights racing is the \$15,200 Triple M Adelaide Cup Consolation along with the \$7,000 Premier's Cup to be run over the 731m staying trip.

GROUP ONE – TRIPLE M ADELAIDE CUP \$75,000 to the winner



Heston Bale (VIC)

29 starts 16-4-3 (\$97,500)

Bartrim Bale – Amelia Bale

Black Dog October '09

Owner: Paul Wheeler

Trainer: Andrea Dailly

Angle Park best: 29.95 (8) (3 Starts 2-0-0)

Star performer he appears to back to his best after a long break due to injury. Gets back early on in his races and has to put up some outstanding performances to win. This may play against in a top class field with a few quick beginners. However he is a class act and never out it. Big Chance.



Andrew's Courage

55 starts 18-8-4 (\$26,645)

Bombastic Shiraz – Call Me Donna

Black Dog June '09

Owners: **RS & IM Turner**

Trainer: **Dean Decrea**

Angle Park best: 29.90 (7) (19 Starts 7-3-0)

Local sprinter with ability and seven wins on the track. Did a good job last week to claim some big names at \$12 the win. Will need to find the front again as he did last week to have any chance in this top class field. Great thrill for connections and he will give the locals a dog to cheer. Place chance best.



Coal King (VIC)

30 starts 13-3-6 (\$37,280)

Surf Lorian – Domaaf

Black Dog September '09

Owner: **Cliff Durrant**

Trainer: **Jason Thompson**

Angle Park best: 29.71 (1 Starts 1-0-0)

Well performed Victorian chaser he has come along extremely well in the past month or two. Is a very strong run on dog, as on display last week we he got to second last then storming home to win in an impressive time of 29.71 first up on the track. Can't afford to give away a big start next week. Not without a chance.



Prank Call

43 starts 13-3-5 (\$20,110)

Big Daddy Cool – Hot Zepha

Blue & White Dog September '09

Owner: **Robert Maher**

Trainer: **Paul Barry**

Angle Park best: 29.99 (6) (6 Starts 4-1-0)

The other local to make the final he also has an impressive record at Angle Park with four wins from six starts. He also beat some highly fancied performers last week and from box five. Like Andrew's Courage he led all the way. Not the best of draws here with speed on his outside will need some luck. But always great to have a couple of Croweaters in the final. Place chance best.



Spud Regis (VIC)

12 starts 9-1-0 (\$52,785)

Bombastic Shiraz – Phiona

Black Dog December '10

Owner: **Treloar Syndicate**

Trainer: **Andrea Dailly**

Angle Park best: 29.85 (2) (4 Starts 4-0-0)

Outstanding youngster from Victoria he won the Group 3 SA Derby here in the last month. Has great box manners and a heap of early speed, he looks the leader again. Recorded the best first section last week of 4.41 and he is unbeaten here. Smart pup entitled to start favourite and is the one to beat.



Big Black Mac (VIC) (Scratched)

11 starts 6-0-1 (\$24,295)

Bombastic Shiraz – Phiona

Black Dog December '10

Owner: **Treloar Syndicate**

Trainer: **Andrea Dailly**

Angle Park best: 29.66 (6) (1 Starts 1-0-0)

Sadly had to be put down from injuries sustained in a car accident on the return journey to Victoria. A most unfortunate situation and condolences go out to connections of this highly promising youngster.



Proven Nitro (VIC)

23 starts 12-4-4 (\$44,620)

Nitro Burst – Proven Cobalt

Black Dog July '10

Owner: **McGrath Syndicate**

Trainer: **Jason Thompson**

Angle Park best: 29.36 (3) (1 Starts 1-0-0)

Smart Victorian sprinter he is the second finalist for Jason Thompson, went super last week recording the fastest time of the night 29.36. Has an outstanding race record so far in his short career 12 and 8 from 24. Didn't begin brilliantly last week but mustered pace quickly and recorded the fast fastest back section 16.71. With a bit of luck looks a solid winning chance.



Wattle Bee (VIC)

27 starts 9-6-2 (\$28,320)

Westmead Hawk – Que Sera Sera

Red Brindle Dog April '10

Owner: Champagne Syndicate

Trainer: Angela Langton

Angle Park best: 29.92 (2) (1 Starts 1-0-0)

Beat a very smart field last week in the best win of his career had the advantage of an inside draw and box eight presents a more difficult task this week. Victorian Angela Langton no stranger to big race success. If he comes out of a box and with some luck may feature in this classy final. Place chance best.



Quo Vadis (VIC)

27 starts 12-9-2 (\$35,495)

Westmead Hawk – Que Sera Sera

Smart Victorian he was second last week behind Proven Nitro. Gains a start in the final going into box six due to the unfortunate loss of Big Black Mac. I'm sure connections would have been much happier making the final in different circumstances.



Godsend (VIC)

39 starts 11-8-4 (\$133,462)

Bombastic Shiraz – Sensation Lee

Group 1 winner this year he finished second last week behind Big Black Mac very smart type, some sort of chance if he gains a start.



Early market for the Triple M Adelaide Cup this market is likely to change as the later in the week.

\$75,000 to the winner Group 1 Triple M Adelaide Cup (525m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
	Heston Bale	Andrea Dailly	\$4.50
	Andrew's Courage	Dean Decrea	\$15.00
	Coal King	Jason Thompson	\$8.50
	Prank Call	Paul Barry	\$25.00
	Spud Regis	Andrea Dailly	\$3.00
	Big Black Mac (SCR)	Andrea Dailly	SCR
	Proven Nitro	Jason Thompson	\$5.00
	Wattle Bee	Anglea Langton	\$10.00
	Quo Vadis	Anglea Langton	\$7.00
	Godsend	Jason Thompson	RES

Local expert's selections for the final are as follows.

Brenton Yeats

1st Spud Regis
2nd Heston Bale
3rd Quo Vadis

Shaun Mathieson

1st Coal King
2nd Spud Regis
3rd Heston Bale

Tom Biddington

1st Spud Regis
2nd Proven Nitro
3rd Heston Bale

What's happening on race night?

As usual Racing Greyhounds SA have planned plenty of free entertainment for Cup night.

Highlights of the Triple M's 40th Adelaide Cup on Thursday October 11 include;

- Chasers Buffet selling fast with very limited tickets still available – Just \$40.50 per person.
- Entry still only \$10! Under 18's free
- Mansland which features pinball machines, pool tables, juke box and plenty of other things to keep you entertained whilst the racing isn't on.
- The Greyhound Hunnies taking photos and handing out goodies, including pens, Angle Park Entry vouchers and stubby holders!
- The Jim Bean Party Crew
- The Army of Autism Awareness Angels will be mingling and spreading the Autism Awareness message plus will be on the catwalk.
- Bellarouge Adelaide's premier cabaret dance party.
- Belcar Group showcasing some classy cars
- Free rides and amusements for the kids.
- DJ Ash keeping the crowd moving and grooving
- Greyhound Adoption Program (GAP) display – come and meet some retired greyhounds that are now pets
- And, of course, Triple M's Mark 'Roo' Ricciuto and Chris 'Ditts' Ditmar will be here.... along with their dog, Rush Hour, that will be running in a lead-up race on the night

The History of the Adelaide Cup

From its humble beginnings the Group 1 Sky Channel Adelaide Cup has now become the stepping-stone to stardom for some of Australia's household names in greyhound racing.

The first Adelaide Cup was held at Waterloo Corner in 1956 and won by the Fred Grimes-owned Oakland Chief. From Waterloo Corner the cup was moved to Bolivar, near the current Globe Derby trotting complex before taking pride of place at South Australia's headquarters for greyhound racing, Angle Park, in 1972.

And it didn't take long for the 'boy from Broken Hill', the late, great Doug Payne to etch his name into the archives of Adelaide Cup history.

Payne won the first three Adelaide Cups held at Angle Park - Bristol Miss (1972), Valjuka (1973) and Bristol Sue (1974) - a record that has never been equalled.

Revered in SA for his dominance of the SA training ranks, winning a record 14 training premierships, Payne always rated Bristol Sue as the best greyhound he ever trained.

When one considers some of the big names who passed through his kennel - Ascapella Miss, Red Pulse, Fullock's Fancy, Yodel High, Harada's Pick Bristol Chant and Bristol Miss - Bristol Sue certainly had something going for her.

Former Gawler Greyhound Racing Club chairman, Bernie Neal, was successful in the 1974 Adelaide Cup with Turn Pillage before a three-year dominance by Victorian trained greyhounds of SA's biggest race started.

Golden Spur (1976), Cavalier Queen (1977) and Riviera Tiger (1979), in controversial circumstances, broke the drought for interstate kennels. Riviera Tiger's win created headlines Australia-wide when the Adelaide Cup was declared a no-race and was re-run the following week after the lure had broken down.

The controversy arose as greyhounds who were engaged in that year's final were also engaged in heats of the Australian Cup at Olympic Park but, because of the no-race, were forced to miss that series to return to Adelaide for the cup re-run.

Following Riviera Tiger's win SA again dominated its premier sprint race for the next seven years.

The Clem Mitchell-trained Encanto, a natural front runner, was successful in 1979 before the Howard Gray-trained Youthful Prince, who was owned by a syndicate of 20 headed by former Adelaide Greyhound Racing Club committeeman, and since Greyhound Racing SA board member, Leon Chapman, won the race in 1980.

Colin Wachtel, now a household name in greyhound racing circles, won the 1981 Adelaide Cup with rank outsider Lady Tornquest who, in pre-post betting was a 100/1 chance to win the race.

Then based in the Riverland, Wachtel still rates Lady Tornquest, who went on to win the AGRC and Gawler Anniversary Cups as one of the best greyhounds he has trained.

The Cyril Boston-trained Smithy's Belle won the cup in 1982 before the ambitiously named Superstar won in 1983.

Trained by Darrell Johnstone, who later became a part owner of Australian 'superstar', Brett Lee, Superstar lived up to his name by not only winning the Adelaide Cup but also the 1983 AGRC Anniversary Cup and also representing SA in the 1983 National Sprint Championship at the now defunct Gabba circuit.

With greyhound racing thriving in SA during the mid 1980s, the win by the Blair Cross-trained Knocklaun Gold in 1984 set a new benchmark at Angle Park. Knocklaun Gold, in winning his heat of the cup, became the first greyhound to break the 30-second barrier in a race - clocking 29.99.

Knocklaun Gold also holds the distinction of being the shortest record holder in the history of SA, and probably Australian, greyhound racing when, just 20-minutes later that time went by the wayside with the record being lowered to 29.74.

The Gary Mellor-trained Thundering Two, one of SA's best young greyhounds to grace the Angle Park circuit took out the 1985 cup to cap off a memorable year for the Mellor kennel. A year earlier Thundering Two had won the Colin Viney Memorial Champion Puppy, the SA Derby, the WA Young Star Classic and also the Gawler Produce Stake.

The Alan Kelly-trained Farquhar took out the 1986 Adelaide Cup before the well-bred Joe Hili-trained Club Edition ran a race-record 29.94 in winning the cup in 1987.

Bev Hall, and her partner Charlie Merrett, were colourful characters in SA greyhound racing during the 1980s and they combined to win the Adelaide Cup in 1988 with High Wonder. The 1988 Adelaide Cup was the first time the race was held in January - a place it now firmly holds on the Australian greyhound racing calendar.

After winning the first three Adelaide Cups at Angle Park the 'Meadows Maestro', Doug Payne, broke a 14-year drought when rank outsider Kuriarkin, owned by the late Bill Hocking, was successful in 1989.

Payne often referred to Kuriarkin's win as one of his greatest training achievements. Drawn awkwardly in box four, Kuriarkin, who had only scraped into the field, flew the traps to snare the early lead before taking advantage of a first-turn scrimmage to score in 30.44 and, in doing so, landing some very nice wagers for loyal kennel supporters.

With the prizemoney for the Adelaide Cup on the spiral, SA's premier race was becoming a 'must' for the leading interstate kennels.

The Gerry O'Keefe-trained Sandi's Me Mum, winner of the 1989 National Sprint Championship, was the star attraction for the 1990 Adelaide Cup and she delivered the goods running out an easy three-length winner over the Payne-trained Packard in 30.23.

O'Keefe, one of the industry's gentlemen, was always receptive to the media and one of the best advertisements for greyhound racing was his promotional shot leading into that year's cup - a man and his dog - O'Keefe and Sandi's Me Mum stretched out in bed having an afternoon 'kip'.

Following her Adelaide Cup win, Sandi's Me Mum confirmed her status as one of Australia's all time great bitches by winning her second National Sprint Championship.

Another of Australia's highly-feted bitches, the Doug Ferrami-trained Highly Blessed and a slick 29.95 in winning the 1991 cup before the Ray Cunneen-trained South Road Sid ran a race record 29.83 in winning the 1992 cup.

With three victories on the trot in the Adelaide Cup it again was SA's turn when the Joe Perovic-trained Croation Star became the youngest winner of an Adelaide Cup when scoring a 30.17 win in 1993. At just over two years of age, Croation Star defeated a classy line up which included Gun Law Osti and 1993 National Sprint Champion, Casino Tom.

Don and Helen Foster, one of SA's most successful husband and wife teams, landed the 1994 cup with Perplexed in a new race-record time of 29.49. On occasions injury-prone, Perplexed flew the traps to lead throughout and beat Golden Currency, who deadheaded in the inaugural Topgun, and Golden Mike, who also was owned and trained by the Fosters. In the twilight of his career, Golden Mike, who had won the 1992 Gawler Gold Cup, was very gallant in defeat.

Perplexed also holds the distinction of being the last SA-trained greyhound to win the Adelaide Cup. Since 1994, interstate raiders have won the \$50,000 winners' cheque.

In 1995 New South Wales tasted its first success in the Adelaide Cup when Forest Fin, a son of arguably one of SA's finest sprinters, Ginger, ran a new race-record of 29.33 in beating Jurassic Vapour and Golden Currency. 1995 also heralded another amazing piece of history for SA's only Group 1 feature.

In finishing second the John Keep-trained Jurassic Vapour had just started to make his mark on the Adelaide Cup.

Based in Queensland, Keep vowed to return again in 1996 to try and avenge Jurassic Vapour's defeat. True to his word, Keep did come back and Jurassic Vapour was successful in beating the Both Barrels in 29.55.

Despite his rising years, and having competed at the highest level for almost two seasons, Jurassic Vapour returned to SA in 1997 to again tackle the cup.

A third placing behind the Merv Patching-trained Rare Deceit and Grand Illusion was enough for Jurassic Vapour to snare his piece of Adelaide Cup glory. He is the only greyhound to have won, and been placed in two Adelaide Cups, in three consecutive years - a feat which may never be equalled.

Rare Deceit's Cup win, like that of Riviera Tiger in 1978, was shrouded with controversy when a no-race was declared in one of the heats, necessitating a re-run the following Monday night to allow the final to be staged on the Thursday night.

Ironically, it was Rare Deceit's heat which was declared the no-race and, after winning the re-run and drawing box one for the final, she proved too classy in leading throughout.

However, it was the no-race, which destroyed the Adelaide Cup aspirations of two of SA greyhound racing's stalwarts - Brian Lee and Edlin Lienert. Lee and Lienert owned star SA sprinter Oak Raider who crashed into the outside running rail when the lure failed and was scratched from the re-run.

Twelve months later Oak Raider won through to the Adelaide Cup final but in his swansong, was no match for Australia's emerging superstar, Rapid Journey.

Trained by Jane Carruthers, Rapid Journey had little form leading into the cup series but, after a power-packed performance to land an effortless 9.5-length win over Plumb Bob and Brookside Cindy, he was the name on everyone's lips.

From Adelaide Cup glory, Rapid Journey went on to win the Australian Cup, Perth Cup, Golden Easter Egg and Melbourne Cup amassing almost \$500,000 in prizemoney for the year. Now standing at stud, Rapid Journey's progeny has really made its mark on the Australian racing scene.

The strong, wide-running Ken Welsh-trained Young Harrison took out the 1999 cup in one of the most open Adelaide Cup finals before history-making performances in 2000 and 2001.

Peter Giles, one of Australia's leading mentors, had never tasted success in an Adelaide Cup but that changed with the turn of the century when Jack Junior record a track and race-record 29.32 win.

From Knocklaun Gold becoming the first greyhound to break the 30-second barrier at Angle Park in 1984 to Jack Junior's track-record gallop in 2000, greyhound racing in SA had come a long way.

Late in 2000 greyhound racing circles were abuzz with the 'new kid on the block', Brett Lee. Greyhound Racing SA's prime objective was to lure connections of Brett Lee to Angle Park.

He was the hottest piece of property. Get Brett Lee to Angle Park and the crowd would be hanging from the rafters.

GRSA was successful in attracting Brett Lee to Adelaide. And, following a sizzling 28.96 solo trial around the Angle Park circuit, he was the cynosure of all eyes.

Trained by Darren McDonald, Brett Lee won the Group 3 Interstate Challenge Cup before streeting his opposition in his heat of the Adelaide Cup.

Despite meeting a classy field in the final, which included recent Group 1 winners Classic Capri and No Intent, an air of expectancy hovered over the track as Brett Lee was paraded towards the boxes for the final. Drawn awkwardly in box three Brett Lee exploded from the boxes to lead throughout for a six-length win over Classic Capri and Renzo Bale in a new race and track record 28.88 - yes, Brett Lee had become the first greyhound to officially break the 29-second barrier at Angle Park.

Like Rapid Journey, Brett Lee was destined for stardom with the Adelaide Cup providing the stepping-stone. His 28.88 track record run was his fifth individual track record.

Following his Adelaide Cup win Brett Lee went on to win the Australian Cup, Golden Easter Egg and Warrnambool Classic. The Adelaide Cup honour roll contains the names of no less than four AGRA Hall of Famers Sandi's Me Mum, Highly Blessed, Rapid Journey and Brett Lee.

Following Brett Lee local star Brookside Bear won the cup in 2002 recording 29.67 he was raced by Ray Borda and trained by Terry Cahalan Brookside Bear defeated Victorian's champions Carlisle Jack & Henerik Bale.

In 2003 the Peter Dapiran trained Waterview Star defeated Melbourne Cup winner Excite Ability and Arvo's Junior who later become a superstar of the staying ranks winning the National Distance Championship at Angle Park. Waterview Star ran a smart 29.34 but unfortunately had his career cut short due to serious injury.

Underrated Victorian sprinter Hotline Hero won the cup in 2004 and became the first group 1 success for outstanding trainer Kelvin Greenough. Raced by Greenough's good friend Corey Siekman, the black and white chaser upstaged the more fancied finalists' including long odds on (\$1.50) favourite Big Daddy Cool and Hall of Fame superstar Bogie Leigh in 29.56. from box 4.

Darren McDonald returned in 2005 to win the cup with the talented Collide raced by AFL superstar Tony Lockett. Collide defeated Go For Forever and Black Lee in 29.52.

After another drought of local trained winners classy sprinter Miss Spicy upset a team of Victorians with a brilliant win in the 2006 cup. The former Queenslander raced by Sarah Pringle was trained by Troy Murray who with his father Ray had enjoyed a long association with Pringle. Miss Spicy recorded 29.46 and proving it was no fluke when she also took out the Australian Cup in March only to have her career cut short in the lead up to the Easter Egg.

In 2007 Victorian Big Time Max ran down Airbourne Bale to win the cup brilliantly in 29.30. The talented sprinter begun well and stalked the leader for most of the trip before racing away in the home straight to win well. It was a star studded field including AGRA Greyhound of the Year Betty's Angel.

In 2008 a youngster with only 15 starts under her belt blasted out the seven ally to win brilliantly in 29.40 for Victorian trainer Jason Thompson. Whippy's Image was to race only briefly for the rest of the year because of injury and we perhaps never saw the best of her. Raced by New South Wales legendary greyhound man Dennis Reid it was another success after decades of breeding and racing top class chasers.

Jason Thompson made it back to back cups in 2009 when his Superstar El Galo held off a late challenge from the popular local star Scull Murphy. The "Scull" almost brought the house down when turning for home he appeared a winning chance but it wasn't to be and the 2008 AGRA Greyhound of the Year El Galo added another Group 1 to his already impressive resume.

Outstanding Paul Wheeler owned and bred Dyna Lachlan made a one act affair of the 2010 Cup with an all-the-way win from box two. Recording a fast 29.63 it was his 22nd career victory for the Dailly camp from Anakie in Victoria and took the star sprinters stake earnings to over 271 thousand dollars.

Due to a change in the AGRA calendar the Adelaide Cup is being conducting twice in the one year. The race will change to an October fixture after being run in January most years. The first Adelaide Cup for 2011 was won by smart Victorian Kilty Lad. The outstanding sprint talent made it 17 and four from only 27 starts and collected his second Group 1 in 20 days after scoring in the Silver Chief final at the Meadows on New Year's day. The brilliant youngster, had also made the Hobart 1000 in late December 2010 so he was no stranger to elite level racing, he had won the Group 3 WA Young Star Classic at Cannington in November and made the final of the Group 3 SA Derby in October. In the second edition of the cup for 2011 Victorian youngster Mepunga Nicky who only a month before had claiming the Group 3 SA Oaks led all the way to beat a top quality field. Mepunga Nicky, who started \$4.10 on Tattsbet, flew the lids and cleared the field from box eight, railing hard and holding off a late challenge from \$2.90 favourite Radley Bale she claimed her first Group 1.

Adelaide Cup Honour Roll

1972 **Bristol Miss**, 1973 **Valjuka**, 1974 **Bristol Sue**, 1975 **Turn Pillage**, 1976 **Golden Spur**, 1977 **Cavalier Queen**, 1978 **Riviera Tiger**, 1979 **Encanto**, 1980 **Youthful Prince**, 1981 **Lady Tornquest**, 1982 **Smithy's Belle**, 1983 **Superstar**, 1984 **Knocklaun Gold**, 1985 **Thundering Two**, 1986 **Farquhar**, 1987 **Club Edition**, 1988 **High Wonder**, 1989 **Kuriarkin**, 1990 **Sandi's Me Mum**, 1991 **Highly Blessed**, 1992 **South Road Sid**, 1993 **Croatian Star**, 1994 **Perplexed**, 1995 **Forest Fin**, 1996 **Jurassic Vapour**, 1997 **Rare Deceit**, 1998 **Rapid Journey**, 1999 **Young Harrison**, 2000 **Jack Junior**, 2001 **Brett Lee**, 2002 **Brookside Bear**, 2003 **Waterview Star**, 2004 **Hotline Hero**, 2005 **Collide**, 2006 **Miss Spicy**, 2007 **Big Time Max**, 2008 **Whippy's Image**, 2009 **El Galo**, 2010 **Dyna Lachlan** and 2011 **Kilty Lad (1) Mepunga Nicky (2)**.



The October 2011 Adelaide Cup winner Mepunga Nicky (Pic Walter Bulyga)

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