



MEDIA RELEASE

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**Wes Wins Australian Cup for
Tassie**

History made with brilliant Group 1 performances

By George Farrugia

The coveted Maurice Blackburn Australian Cup will head to Tasmania for the second time in four years after Buckle Up Wes (\$7.60) powered to a sensational 29.74 victory in the Group 1 classic at The Meadows.



Buckle Up Wes races away with the Australian Cup (All Pics Clint Anderson)

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

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 last night's 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 (\$5.10) overcame early bother to rattle home for third.

It was win number 21 for Buckle Up Wes from just 35 starts, with prizemoney now pushing past \$324,000.

After the placed runners then followed: Hallelujah Henry (\$17.70), Musquin Bale (\$23.00), Marcus Joe (\$17.00), Kiss Me Ketut (\$5.70) and Innocent Til (\$7.20).

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 21 races and been placed on nine occasions from his 35 starts. Adding the first prize money of \$250,000 for the Australian Cup his stake earnings went to \$324,130.

The Australian Cup was first run in 1958 at North Melbourne the M.G.R.A.'s first home then moved with the club to Olympic Park becoming the famous race it is today when promoted with flair and style by the late Ken Carr the club astute manager for many years. When Olympic closed the club flagship event was conducted at Sandown while the club established its new home at the Meadows. It has been conducted at the new complex since it opened in 1999. Listed below is the classic honour roll of the past winners that have won this mighty race.

1958 Rookie Rebel, 1959 Rocky Ros, 1960 Meadow Vale 1961 Copeland, 1962 Take A Bow, 1963 "Not Held", 1964 Old Tops, 1965 Worthing, 1966 Billy Vee, 1967 Fawn Nulla, 1968 Swanston Lass, 1969 Benjamin John, 1970 The Smoother, 1971 Black Diro, 1972 Blackamoor Lad, 1973 Half Your Luck, 1974 Kim's Monaro, 1975 Ungwilla Lad, 1976 Odious, 1977 Listowel Sue, 1978 Count D'Argent, 1979 Boundless, 1980 Tangaloo, 1981 Pete's Advice, 1982 Royal Rumpus, 1983 Drop Of Wine, 1984 Tangairn, 1985 Eaglehawk Star, 1986 Bright Judge, 1987 Regal Post, 1988 Golden Blessing, 1989 Ginger, 1990 Spread Eagled, 1991 Franklin Deano, 1992 China Trip, 1993 China Trip, 1994 Mancunian Girl, 1995 Bonjase, 1996 Tenthill Doll, 1997 Smooth Rumble, 1998 Fibba, 1999 Mandataro, 2000 Arvo's Express, 2001 Brett Lee, 2002 Isa Brown, 2003 Most Awesome / Blackjack Tom D/H, 2004 Bogie Leigh 2005 Pure Octane, 2006 Miss Spicy, 2007 Pete's Conquest, 2008 Tasman Queen, 2009 Velocette, 2010 Dyna Lachlan, 2011 St.Pierre and 2012 Zara Zulu and 2013 Spud Regis.

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Destini Complete: Back to Back Superstayers for Fireball

Rinaldi's star does it again over the distance trip at The Meadows

By George Farrugia

Earlier, old campaigner Destini Fireball (\$8.50) created history by winning consecutive Group 1 Macro Meats SuperStayers finals with a sensational 42.57 win over the 725-metre journey. Dismissed by many after seven months of racing without a win, the son of Where's Pedro and Greys Destiny looked back to his best in last week's heat before showing vintage form Saturday night to win the fifth Group 1 of his career.

Dyna Kayla (\$3.10) had ever chance finished second and Dyna Willow (\$5.50) third.

The victory propelled Destini Fireball's prizemoney to an amazing \$641,170 – an incredible feat considering a serious hock injury almost derailed his career in 2012. Before the event, connections claimed that last night's SuperStayers final would be Destini Fireball's last appearance on a racetrack.

The Group 3 Cosmic Chief Vic Breeders final was taken out by impressive young chaser Pappa Gallo for trainer Mario Cortese, leading from go to whoa to claim the \$25,000 first prize in 30.30.

After the placed runners then followed: Sweet It Is (\$5.10), Whodat Knockin' (\$6.80), Lethal Three (\$16.30), Hala Belle (\$8.60) and Maddison Dee (\$29.80).

Destini Fireball is raced and trained by Norm Rinaldi, he is a White and Black dog whelped March 2010 by Where's Pedro from Grey's Destini (Kiowa Sweet Trey x Greys Nose Dive). Destini Fireball has won 25 of his 61 starts and has been placed on 17 occasions and with the \$100,000 first prize for the Superstayers it took his current stake earnings to \$641,170.

Listed below are the past winners of the renamed Group 1 feature the Macro Meats Super Stayers. In recent years the race has been known as the Australian Super Stayers and the Gleeson & Tonta Trophy. First run at Olympic Park in 1978 the staying feature had stood the test time. This year the race was sponsored for the third time by Macro Meats who have become involved with a number of high profile events at both metropolitan tracks in Victoria.

1978 **King's Domain**, 1979 **Misty Fabric**, 1980 **Sue's Repeat**, 1981 **Parachute Luck**, 1982 **Mira Donna**, 1983 **Dark Harlequin**, 1984 **Tesoro Mio**, 1985 **Planosec**, 1986 **Bay Supreme**, 1987 **Mystic Hope**, 1988 **Magic Lightning**, 1989 **High Flight**, 1990 **Pebbles' Beach**, 1991 **Modern Express**, 1992 **Saltwater Sid**, 1993 **Gold Roulette**, 1994 **"Not Held"**, 1995 **Just Barby**, 1996 **City Blitz**, 1997 **Nowhere To Go**, 1998 **Ringside Fire**, 1999 **Moe's Tavern**, 2000 **Sunblest Kid**, 2001 **Proven Dreams**, 2002 **Boomeroo**, 2003 **Oh Behave**, 2004 **Skipper Rip**, 2005 **Malfoy**, 2006 **Quidame**, 2007 **Flashing Floods**, 2008 **Just Friends**, 2009 **Lilley Criminal**, 2010 **Drill 'Em**, 2011 **Bobby Boucheau** and 2012 **Thrilling Brat** and 2013 **Destini Fireball**.

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The Macro Meats Superstayers final and the Group 1 Maurice Blackburn Lawyers Australian Cup capped off an amazing three weeks of racing at The Meadows. In excess of over \$1,000,000 in prizemoney was won in another outstanding carnival.



Destini Fireball back to back wins in the Superstayers

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