



MEDIA RELEASE

2nd September 2013

Black Top Win A Real Buzz For Connections

Written by Noel Ovington GRNSW Website

Rising star Billy Buzzard (\$5.30) used his early brilliance and local track knowledge to score a popular win in the Group 2 Black Top at Unibet Gardens on Saturday night.

Billy Buzzard began brilliantly from box two and sped to the first section in 4.92. Up the back the favourite Zipping Willow – one of five finalists for Jason Mackay – loomed as a real threat when she moved within striking distance of the winner but Billy Buzzard showed plenty of heart to fight on and score by 1 ½ lengths from Zipping Willow (\$3.70), with kennelmate Zipping April (\$8.00) a further one-length away third in 29.65.

Amadeus Strikes was last away and had a chequered passage in running, but flashed home late to finish an eye-catching fourth.



Billy Buzzard after winning the Black Top (Pic GRNSW Website)

Trainer David Richardson took Billy Buzzard to Grafton for the Winter Carnival in July where he won one of his three starts, all over the 407m trip. He then had a month off before resuming at Wentworth Park on August 16 where he finished a luckless fourth behind Kentucky Grove.

Billy Buzzard then led throughout to win his heat of the Black Top in 29.61, ironically after a first section of 4.92.

“He’s always hard to run down on this track because he consistently runs a fast first section like he has done the past two weeks here,” Richardson said.

“He loves this track which is why I nominated him for the Black Top.

“He is getting stronger, too. I’ve just brought him back over the 500m because he was a bit crook and I had a few problems with him.

Continued on Page 2 ...

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

"Then I took him to Wentworth Park and, although he blew the start, I thought it was a good hit-out for him for the Black Top and it has worked out well.

"It's a big thrill to win it on my home track. He was brought up on the track and I think that's a big advantage."

Billy Buzzard is by Cosmic Rumble from Flying Buzzard, a five-race winner trained by Richardson and owned by the 10-strong Buzzard Syndicate, the same connections that shared in Saturday night's Black Top victory.

"I've been training for the Buzzard Syndicate for around five or six years and they are a great bunch of blokes who really love their greyhound racing," Richardson said.

"We've won a lot of races together but this is their biggest win so far."

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Amadeus Strikes (\$4.10), 5th Tricky Terry (\$16.20), 6th Electro Storm (\$7.90) 7th Zipping Joe (\$20.00) 8th Zipping Summah (\$9.20).

Billy Buzzard is a black dog whelped March 2011 by Cosmic Rumble from Flying Buzzard (Premier Fantasy x Firing Zone) he is raced by Buzzard Syndicate and trained by David Richardson from Holmesville in New South Wales. He has raced 18 times for nine wins and four placings, adding the Black Top Final's first prize of \$40,000 it took his overall stake earnings to \$50,210.

The NSW NCA could not have selected a better name for this on going feature at the Gardens. The race is now operated by the GBOTA Black Top by Top Linen from Classy Jane was an icon of the sport, he was raced by Frank Holmes of Highfields (near Newcastle) and his breeder Mrs. Edna Hanson bred him in Birmingham Gardens the suburb in which the Gardens track is located. He raced in the early 60's only contested 20 races for 17 wins and two seconds. He retired as Australia's highest stakes winner with 5352 Pounds. His introductory stud fee set at 65 pound was a record service fee in Australia. A breeding success of extraordinary proportions Black Top created his own dynasty which continually re-wrote the record books on greyhound racing in this country. The feature races his progeny won and the stars he produced are to numerous to list, he served a record 1326 bitches and sired 6000 puppies earning approximately \$150,000 in service fees. There is no doubt we will never see another Black Top, he was the one and only. Black Top was inducted into the AGRA Hall of Fame at the AGRA Awards night at Sandown in March 2008 and again in March 2009 in Perth when he went into the Sires category.



The Immortal Black Top in action

Previous winners of the Black Top **2005** Buddy Rich 29.41, **2006** Mojestic 29.87, **2007** One Tree Hill 29.44, **2008** Lochinvar Prada 29.65, **2009** Cindeen Shelby 29.64, **2010** Snozz 29.34, **2011** Penthouse 29.53 and **2012** Bye Bye Bucks 29.71.

For more information please contact:

Neil Brown
AGRA Publicity Officer
Tel: 03 97691234
Mob: 0423 129 950
nbrown@agra.com

Howard Ashton
AGRA Executive Officer
Tel: 08 8243 7100
Mob: 0438 042 838

MULTICAM
CNC ROUTING MACHINERY