

MEDIA RELEASE

30th September 2013

**WENTWORTH PARK PROVES
THE GOLD TOWN FOR HUNT**

By Ellen Dwyer GBOTA

Victorian trainer Peter Hunt continued his love affair with Wentworth Park, with Gold Town taking out the 520m Group 2 Bob Payne Spring Sprint on Saturday night (September 28).

Hunt's two runners in the final, Gold Town and Cracker Jack Lil, had a combination of 11 starts for six victories and two placings at the Glebe Circuit prior to the weekend's start, with Saturday's win scoring connections another \$40,000 in prizemoney.

First appearing at Wentworth Park as part of the Golden Easter Egg series in March, Gold Town has continued to post sensational times, with the weekend's 29.59 victory adding to the swag of sub 30 time-honours for the son Surf Lorian x Golden Gwen.

Sitting close to early leader Good Odds John, Gold Town (\$5.30) took up the lead coming to the home turn and held out a strong finishing Xylia Allen (\$3.00), who gained a start from box four following the scratching of Purcell Bale, while NSW prepared Luck's Changed (\$21.10) finished in third for trainer Peter Lagogiane.

First run at Harold Park over 457m in 1964, when the race was known as the Winter Stake it has a quite remarkable honour role.

The likes of Woolley Wilson, Better Future, Switch Blade, Snow Report and John McDonald's champ Camden's Ghost boast Winter Stake scalps.

More recently How's The Fort, Go Wild Teddy, Winsome Dollars, Solve The Puzzle, Over Flo, Train A Journey and Oaks Road have tasted success.

This was the 26th Winter Stake (now the Spring Stake) conducted at Wentworth Park and only five bitches (Midnight Flirt, Winsome Dollars, Kumta Chase, Juney Reltub and Dana Gretel) have thwarted the males.

The likes of Kumta Chase, How's The Fort, Go Wild Teddy and in 1986 Camden's Ghost were awarded NSW Greyhound of the Year honours with Winter Stake success an important element in their selections.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Gold Town's time of 29.59 was a race record and the quickest time recorded since last year's winner Transcend Time ran 29.83 the same time recorded by 2005 winner Over Flo and the only other sub 30 second winners.

Gold Town is now expected to return to Melbourne in time to campaign for the Topgun and Melbourne Cup.

Gold Town is a Black dog whelped December 2010 by Go Wild Teddy from Golden Gwen (Brett Lee x Natural Class). Gold Town is raced by John Lenehan and trained by Peter Hunt and he has raced 61 times for 19 wins and 22 placings. With Saturday's night first prize of \$40,000, it took his stake earnings to \$168,465.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order Good Odds John (\$13.50), Cracker Jack Lil (\$12.40), Zipping Willow (\$2.30) and Apollo Reign (\$33.50)

First run in 1961 the Winter Stake is a time honoured GBOTA feature sprint event. It was sponsored for many years commencing in the early 80's by Bradshaw's Waste one of Greyhound racing's major contributors during that period. The company shared a long affiliation with former GBOTA Chairman of eight years (1978-1985) Bob Payne and following his retirement from that position Bradshaw's requested the Winter Stake be named after Payne to commemorate his massive contribution to Greyhound racing in New South Wales and in particular the GBOTA, he had first joined as a member in 1943. The feature race has remained named in his honour and is now held as a memorial following Bob Payne's passing nine years ago. For the first and only time the event was conducted twice this year as the Summer Stake in January but has now been moved to late September and renamed the Spring Sprint with the cross over period causing no race to be run in 2011. The race has been won by some of the sports finest sprinters and listed below is the honour roll.

Harold Park 457m – Grass Track:

1964	CREAM RANGE	26.60
1965	KEWIN	26.90
1966	JET AGAIN	26.90
1967	MEGS DELTA	26.80
1968	GOLD HERO	26.50
1969	SILENT RETREAT	26.90
1970	LINDENS CHARM	26.90
1971	GEMINI TODD	26.50
1972	WOOLLEY WILSON	26.60
1973	SILENT WONDER	26.52
1974	BUFFATEER	26.76
1975	SMOOTH APPROACH	26.49
1976	LORD ZEPHYR	26.58
1977	TREACHEROUS GAL	26.45
1978	RIVIERA TIGER	26.53
1979	RUSTY BRAIN	26.71
1980	LOVELY KATHY	26.71
1981	FRANC METEOR	26.42
1982	BETTER FUTURE	26.52
1983	BOBBY RICH	26.38
1984	SWITCH BLADE	26.61

1985	SNOW REPORT	26.58
1986	CAMDEN 'S GHOST	26.43
1987	CROTTY KID	26.37

Wentworth Park 520m – Grass Track:

1988	RUMPUS BRANDI	30.43
1989	VALLEY MAIL	30.47
1990	NOBLE SPADES	30.51
1991	MOUNTAIN RED	30.39

Wentworth Park 520m – Loam

1992	HOWS THE FORT	30.85
1993	DYNAMITE LAD	30.70
1994	GALLANT RULER	30.39
1995	WARRIGAL ROAD	30.45
1996	MIDNIGHT FLIRT (VIC)	30.45
1997	HONCHO FLASH	30.99
1998	SOLVE THE PUZZLE	30.03
1999	FAITHFUL HAWK	30.21
2000	GO WILD TEDDY	30.14
2001	WINSOME DOLLARS	30.58
2002	PHANTOM DEVIL	30.59
2003	KUMTA CHASE	30.37
2004	JUNEY RELTUB	30.70
2005	OVER FLO	29.83
2006	STRYKER'S SHADOW	30.25
2007	TRAIN A JOURNEY	30.16
2008	DANA GRETEL	30.14
2009	DENTAX BALE	30.05
2010	DID I ENTERTAIN	30.13
2012	OAKS ROAD (January)	30.28
2012	TRANSCEND TIME (September)	29.83

Thanks for story content in above release Ellen Dwyer GRANSW Website

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