



MEDIA RELEASE



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Keybow dazzles his Brisbane Cup rivals

By Paul Dolan Racing Queensland Website

Top Victorian sprinter Keybow (\$2.40) scored a comprehensive win in last night's group 1 Brisbane Cup final at Albion Park.

The Darren McDonald trained son of Take the Kitty and Key Exit took his prizemoney earnings to almost half a million dollars. Keybow went into last night's race as the winner of \$408,885 to which \$75,000 has now been added.

Peter Ruetschi's long priced You Can Talk began brilliantly from box three and carved out a fast first sectional of 5.52. Keybow began on terms from his seven box draw and positioned himself second going to the first turn.



Keybow races away with the Brisbane Cup

Keybow and Glenda Dart's Fusaichi Khan (\$30.80) loomed large near the 600 metres boxes where Keybow dashed to the lead.

Continued on Page 2...

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Fusaichi Khan momentarily looked like matching it with the favourite but Keybow proved too strong, drawing clear to win by three and a quarter lengths. Last year's winner Kiss Me Ketut (\$8.40) got to the line well for third, just ahead of Queenslander Cyndie's Special.

Keybow was bred by Kelven and Michelle Lean from Maitland in the New South Wales Hunter Valley region.

"We've still got Key Exit at home, she's a pet now," Kelvin said.

Two of the Lean family's friends made the trip to Albion Park to be part of the Keybow cheer squad and planned to take in the first cricket test at the Gabba between Australia and India. With that game postponed due to the death of Phillip Hughes, the Brisbane visitors are on the lookout for a beer garden to relax today and celebrate the win of Keybow.

Darren McDonald was high in praise for Keybow. "For a male dog he's not big, thirty kilos, but everything he does is just right," the 2013-2014 Australian trainer of the year said.

"The plan now is to tackle the Cranbourne Cup back home in the New Year, then the Paws of Thunder in Sydney," McDonald told the Albion Park crowd who rallied to acknowledge a fine race performance and a great trainer.

The Cranbourne Cup is a group 2 series run over 520 metres on December 29 and January 7, worth \$45,000 to the winner. The group 1 Paws of Thunder kicks off just three nights after the Cranbourne Cup final. Heats are at Wentworth Park on Saturday, January 10 with the final on January 17 worth \$100,000 to the winner.

Keybow's winning time of 29.98 was slower than the 29.81 he ran in his Brisbane Cup heat win. But the effort to claim the leaders at the top turn no doubt was a contributing factor.

The quadrella on last night's Albion Park meeting saw the jackpot starting pool of \$12,664 swell to \$77,336. The winning dividend for the combination of (7) Dream River \$4.30, (8) Regal Lauryn \$2.60, (2) Bill's Fantasy \$2.50 and (7) Keybow \$2.40 paid \$268.40. A one dollar all up bet on that combination would have only returned \$67.10 so on this occasion, quadrella winners received a decent dose of "overs."

The First Four pool on the Brisbane Cup started with a jackpot amount of \$5,000 and grew to \$36,119. The dividend for (7) Keybow, (6) Fusaichi Khan, (8) Kiss Me Ketut and (1) Cyndie's Special was \$953.40.

Two feature race heats will be run at next Thursday's Albion Park meeting. The 520 metres Christmas Stocking series is for fifth grade performers, with a \$10,000 final the following Thursday. The Big Dog Challenge is a 600 metres series, with heats open to all grades. There's also a \$10,000 final of that series on December 18.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Cyndie's Special (\$22.40), 5th Iva Vision (\$2.80), 6th Le Sirenuse (\$35.00), 7th You Can Talk (\$42.30) and Exhibitionist (\$6.10).

Continued on Page 3...

Keybow is a Black dog whelped December 2011 by Take The Kitty from Key Exit (Over Flo x Atlanta Belle). Keybow is raced by Kelvin Lean and trained by Darren McDonald of Devon Meadows in Victoria. He has raced 38 times for 18 wins and 11 placings. His stake earnings stand at \$483,885.

The Brisbane Cup has had a few name changes when it was first run in 1972 and won by Victorian Garron Court the race was known as the Gabba Sprint Championship. It remain that name until 1976. It was then called the Brisbane Cup from 1977 until 1981 changed in 1982 to be known as the Coca-Cola Cup until 1999 when it changed back to the Brisbane Cup. The race was conducted at the Gabba until the track closed in 1992 and since has been staged at Albion Park. Listed below is the Honour Roll containing some of the champion greyhounds among the past winners.

1972 **Garron Court**, 1973 **Top Simbi**, 1974 **Mister Oollee**, 1975 **Alpha Brava**, 1976 **Clover Duke**, 1977 **Rebel Attack**, 1978 **Young Breeze**, 1979 **Acclaim Star**, 1980 **General Jeff**, 1981 **Picture This**, 1982 **Peter Glider**, 1983 **Acacia Park**, 1984 **National Lass**, 1985 **Super Max**, 1986 **Pretty Fearless**, 1987 **Whip Tip**, 1988 **Dancing Gamble**, 1989 **Golden Fox**, 1990 **Whisky Bale**, 1991 **No It's Not**, 1992 **White Coonowrin**, 1993 **Star Title**, 1994 **Toss The Teddy**, 1995 **Flying Amy**, 1996 **Silver Pageant**, 1997 **Barrio Babe**, 1998 **Questions**, 1999 **Bob's One**, 2000 **Kantarn Bale**, 2001 **Tricky Creek**, 2002 **Tricky Creek**, 2003 **Bogie Leigh**, 2004 **Malfoy**, 2005 **Pororoca**, 2006 **Pure Burst**, 2007 **Uno Joel**, 2008 **El Galo**, 2009 **Mr Metz**, 2010 **He Knows Uno**, 2011 **Glen Gallon**, 2012 **Got A Moment** and 2013 **Kiss Me Ketut**.

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