



MEDIA RELEASE
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DECISION PROVES A MASTERSTROKE

A 30 year drought was broken when Cintiarna won the Cranbourne Cup on Monday night, handing Gippsland owner/trainer Sandra Collins her first ever win at Group level.

Cintiarna, a daughter of Bombastic Shiraz and Hello Sienna, led virtually all the way to stun punters and win at odds of \$18.30 by three lengths over Peter Hunt's Gold Town (\$11) and the fast finishing Destini Fireball (\$5.20) in the spectacular time of 29.93sec over the 520m journey.

For more than three decades Sandra and husband Tom have battled gamely in the sport of greyhound racing without reaching any dizzy heights.

However, Cintiarna's victory earned \$42,000 first prize money plus a \$10,000 GOBIS bonus.

Amazingly, the windfall may never have happened had it not be for the persistence of a pup and a life changing decision.



Cintiarna charges to the lead in the Cranbourne Cup (All Pics Clint Anderson)

"Late in 2010 Sandra and I visited a friend of ours, greyhound breeder Paul Galea, just before we were heading on a trip to America."

"At the time Paul had a litter of pups that were two and a half months old, and we were giving them a pat in their yard. When it was time to leave one of the female pups bit on to Sandra's pants and tugged at them and she wouldn't let them go."

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

“A week later we went to visit Paul again and that pup did the same thing to Sandra’s pants again.”

“At that point we were still planning the finer details of our holiday and because that particular pup had caught our attention we really wanted to buy her,” Collins said “due to our financial situation we had to make a decision between going to Las Vegas as part of our trip or buying the pup... We chose the pup, and we bought her, it was Cintiarna.”

The investment was the first time the couple had spent significant money on a greyhound.

“We paid \$4,000 for her and it was the first time we had splashed out and spent a lot of money on a greyhound pup.”

“Sandra and I have trained hundreds of winners over the years but to win a group race for the first time after all these years is an incredible feeling.”

“For years we’ve been training giveaways or bought cheap pups. We once had the first reserve in the Australian Cup, but this win tonight has been a long time coming.

While Tom believes her long term future may be as a stayer, stating “her run home times are as quick as anyone,” his more immediate plans include a crack at the Australian Cup series, which kicks off next month at The Meadows.

A black and white greyhound, Cintiarna’s kennel name is ‘Magpie’, however her race name comes from a combination of the Collins’ two granddaughters names; Jacinta and Tiarna.



Sandra Collins with Cintiarna after the Cranbourne Cup win

After the placed runners the greyhounds finished in the following order: General Destini (\$3.80), Premier Boloney (\$13.00), Boris Fields (\$3.30), Xylia Allen (\$6.10) and Harry The Great (\$20.00).

Cintiarna is raced and trained by Sandra Collins, she is a Black bitch whelped October 2010 by Bombastic Shiraz from Hello Sienna (Bond x Hello Gal). Cintiarna has won 13 of her 27 starts and has been placed on seven occasions and with the \$42,000 first prize for the Cranbourne Cup it took her current stake earnings to \$80,150.

Listed below is the Cranbourne Cup honour roll it contains the names of many champions of the track and many dogs that won a number of other higher ranked group races during their careers.

1975 **Great Power**, 1976 **Ragmaker**, 1977 **Granulator**, 1978 **Elsie Belinda**, 1979 **Panther Bay**, 1980 **Brindle Pixie**, 1981 **Bianca Lee**, 1982 **Golden Impulse**, 1983 **Prince Of Eaton**, 1984 **National Star**, 1985 **National Star**, 1986 **Lightning Boy**, 1987 **Shining Chariot**, 1988 **Calamity Kid**, 1989 **National Asset**, 1990 **Spread Eagled**, 1991 **Eureka Man**, 1992 **China Trip**, 1993 **Kelvin's Pride**, 1994 **Jamb Kid**, 1995 **World Champ Stan**, 1996 **Wild Season**, 1997 **Lansley Bale**, 1998 **Fiery Sal**, 1999 **Arvo's Express**, 2000 **Marsha Brady**, 2001 **Hail A Harley**, 2002 **Isa Brown**, 2003 **Waterview Star**, 2004 **Smack Wallop**, 2005 **Pastrana Bale**, 2006 **Pororooca**, 2007 **Vapour Whirl**, 2008 **Sonador**, 2009 **Stoner Bale**, 2010 **Arvo's Florence**, 2011 **Gold Heritage** and 2012 **Mystic Apple**.

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