



Australian Greyhound
Racing Association



MEDIA RELEASE

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High Fives all around for Above All's Cranbourne Cup Win

By GRV Marketing and Commutations

Former Kiwi sprinter Above All won Saturday night's \$67,000 Group 2 Cranbourne Cup (520m) leaving trainer Robert Britton in awe.

"He is the best and most determined greyhound I've ever trained," the highly successful Britton said after his star greyhound claimed the \$47,000 first prize.

Little over 12 months ago Above All won the Group 1 Hobart Thousand and Group 1 Silver Chief in the space of 16 days and was touted as one of the premier greyhounds in Australia.



Above All wins the Cranbourne Cup 2016 (All Pics Clint Anderson)

However it has been a tale of frustration since then as two stints on the sidelines totalling nine months because of stopper bone injuries saw Above All grace the track a total of 10 times in 2015.

"It has been an unbelievable effort to come back from these injuries," Britton said.

"He's not the dog he once was but he's only six runs into this campaign so he may improve a little bit on what we've seen tonight."

"But he doesn't have the same zip he used to have."

"When he won the Silver Chief (in January 2015) he came from behind to win running away against the likes of (Melbourne Cup winners) Dyna Villa and Dyna Double One, which gives you an idea of the potential he was showing."

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Above All (\$20.80) began well in the Cranbourne Cup, settling second behind early pace setter Shared Equity, who tracked wide on the first turn allowing Above All to cut to the lead along the rail.

From that position he was always going to be hard to beat, and he eventually scored by two lengths over Shared Equity (\$5.60) with Rare Pearl (\$10.60) third in 30.00sec.

“All three of his group wins have been from box five,” Britton pointed out. “It’s a draw people don’t normally like but he doesn’t seem to mind it.”

Britton said he was unsure where he’d race Above All over the coming weeks, but features such as the Warragul Cup and Perth Cup appear among the possibilities.

After the placed runners the greyhounds finished in the following order: Unlawful Entry (\$2.90), Blue Revolver (\$12.20), Cosmic Owl (\$18.70), Tommy Brislane (\$12.60) and Secret Spell (\$3.40).

Above All is a Black dog whelped July 2012 by Magic Sprite from Kara Janx (Fashion Thief x More Than This). He is bred and owned in New Zealand by Alison Lee and Merv O’Brien and trained by Robert Britton at Lara in Victoria. He has now won 14 races and been placed on six occasions from his 27 starts. The Cranbourne Cup first prize of \$47,000 brings Above All’s overall prizemoney to \$281,185.

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 **Pororo**, 2007 **Vapour Whirl**, 2008 **Sonador**, 2009 **Stoner Bale**, 2010 **Arvo's Florence**, 2011 **Gold Heritage**, 2012 **Mystic Apple**, 2013 **Cintiarna**, 2014 **Banjo Boy** and 2015 **Avondale Porche**.

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