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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**4th April 2010**



**COSMIC RUMBLES RICHEST RACE**

Master Victorian trainer Darren McDonald described his victory in Australia's richest ever greyhound race a career highlight after the fast-finishing Cosmic Rumble landed connections \$250,000 in the Group One Macro Meats Golden Easter Egg.

Looking a forlorn chance after a slow beginning, Cosmic Rumble (\$6.90) produced his trademark flashing finish to overhaul fellow Victorian Banger Harvey in the final strides.



*Cosmic Rumble to strong in the "Egg"*

*(All Pics Craig Youll)*

McDonald becomes the first trainer to prepare two Golden Easter Egg winners after his tremendous sprinter Brett Lee won the 2001 edition.

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## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

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Race favourite Fancy Mandy (\$1.80) was only moderately out of her two alley gifting rails hopeful Banger Harvey (\$15.40) a clear run to the first bend. Robert Birtton's son of Pure Octane held that cushion through the back straight and into the home bend before Cosmic Rumble wound up and dashed down the outside with the post lurking.

For a trainer who has won every major feature race in Australia, McDonald gave a ringing endorsement for this year's Macro Meats Golden Easter Egg.

"They're all highlights, but to win the first race worth this sort of money it is an unbelievable feeling," McDonald said. "Four or five years ago if someone said a greyhound race would be worth this sort of money I would have said 'you're kidding'.

"When he blew the start I thought 'that's it, it's all over'. Then when I looked down the back I was thinking who was in front and maybe he could catch him.

"Then he really put the big strides in and he kept coming – it was a tremendous effort from the dog."

Owner Steve Kavanagh was also understandably overjoyed his long and fruitful partnership with McDonald had reaped the ultimate reward.

"He's a gun trainer and he has been for a long time," Kavanagh said. "He's a good friend of mine and to win this together is fantastic."

NSW star Fancy Mandy, who came within a length of Queen Lauryn's Wentworth Park 520m track record, found the line strongly for third.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4<sup>th</sup> Ruff It (\$6.50), 5<sup>th</sup> Proven Jett (\$23.70), 6<sup>th</sup> Bogie Bomber (\$48.10) 7<sup>th</sup> Full Blast (\$43.20) and High Earner (\$5.20).

Cosmic Rumble is raced by Steve Kavanagh and is trained by Darren McDonald at Devon Meadows in Victoria. By Spiral Nikita form Kavanagh's brood bitch Spiritual Rumble (Brett Lee x Rumble Spirit). He is a Black Dog whelped April 2007 he has won 22 of his 43 starts and has been placed on ten occasions and with the \$250,000 first prize for the Golden Easter Egg it took his current stake earnings to \$321,305.

Listed below is the Golden Easter Egg honour roll it has been won by some superstar sprinters over the years including five Hall of Famers. First conducted in 1990 when won by the Jim Coleman trained Ultra Sense the race quickly took pride of place in the Harbour city. It is one of most sought after on the AGRA Group racing calendar and each year attracts the best sprinters racing in the country, all vying for not only the outstanding first prize but also the glory and their place in history as winners of the Egg.

1990 **Ultra Sense**, 1991 **Highly Blessed**, 1992 **Jessica Casey**, 1993 **Billy Binjang**, 1994 **Mancunian Girl**, 1995 **Malawi Law**, 1996 **Tenthill Doll**, 1997 **Bahama Image**, 1998 **Rapid Journey**, 1999 **Faithful Hawk**, 2000 **Stately Bird**, 2001 **Brett Lee**, 2002 **Carlisle Jack**, 2003 **Cyrus The Virus**, 2004 **Bogie Leigh**, 2005 **Paua To Burn**, 2006 **Edie Beuchamp**, 2007 **Slater**, 2008 **Blazing Token** and 2009 **Dana Beatrice**.

The three support features on Easter Egg final night consisted of a Group 2 and two Group 3 events. Starting with the Multiquip Magic Maiden series. The final was taken out in fine style by Humdrum (Bombastic Shiraz x Molly's Osti). A \$6.20 chance he proved too good for Hitman Sandow and the favourite Perfect Fancy he won by two and a quarter lengths in 30.51 after sections of 5.55 and 14.12. The Red Brindle chaser ran down early leader Kablammo to score racing away. The June 2008 whelp appears to have a big future in front of him. First included as part of the Carnival in 2003, the past winners are listed below.

2003 **Winsome Revenge** 30.31, 2004 **Infinite Beauty** 30.47, 2005 **Gilderoy** 30.68, 2006 **Modern Supreme** 29.93, 2007 **Breeze It In** 30.19 and 2008 **Albino Rossi** 30.43 and 2009 **Devine Road** 29.97.

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Next feature was the Group 3 De Bortoli Wines Ambrosoli formerly conducted as the Egg Consolation the race honours AGRA Hall of Fame member Paul Ambrosoli. This year's event was won by outstanding sprinter the 2009 AGRA Greyhound of the Year Cindeen Shelby. Beginning perfectly from box four she gave the high quality field a galloping lesson recording 29.91 best of the night on the slowest track. Trainer Kel Greenough hinted at a possible staying direction for the superstar with perhaps a start in the Group 1 Sandown Cup in the middle of May. She took her stats to 51 starts for 29 wins and 12 placings and her current stake earnings standing at \$407,390. Previous Winners of the Easter Egg Consolation and Ambrosoli are as follows:

2003 **Sally's Lass** 30.57, 2004 **Sparge Banner** 30.21, 2005 **Miss Bekkie Lee** 30.29, 2006 **Oxley Hero** 29.84, 2007 **Catmando** 30.35, 2008 **Mandagery Man** 29.94 and 2009 **True Kihael** 29.82

## JARVIS BALE BREAKS HIS DUCK

The last of the three features was the Group 2 Globe Memorial Easter Chase, The ever-consistent Jarvis Bale (\$12.90) opened his Wentworth Park account at the best possible time with victory in the Globe Memorial Easter Chase (720m).



**Multi Group winner Jarvis Bale races to the line to take out the Easter Chase**

Winless in 10 attempts at Wentworth Park ahead of the \$25,000-to-the-winner Group final, the Graeme Bate-trained marvel held off the country's best stayers including Drill 'Em, Dashing Corsair and Lochinvar Vogue.

Jarvis Bale was quickly away from his unfavourable box five draw and waged a magnificent battle with Queensland's Dashing Corsair (\$2.20) before having one length to spare at the post in a rain-affected 42.75s.

"We knew if he gets out in front, he just gets a bit of a free run and he's up there with the best," owner Brendan Wheeler said. "He just needs to be left alone to do his own thing.

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“He only won his first race at The Meadows the other week and now he’s won his first race at Wenty. He seems to be coming better in his old age.”

Robert Smith’s heat winner Lochinvar Vogue (\$4.80) stuck admirably to her task to finish third.

But it was the connections of Jarvis Bale who were again left to toast another big race victory for their veteran having his 75<sup>th</sup> start.

“When dogs like Dashing Corsair and Drill ‘Em get out in front and do their own thing you can’t get them - they’re gone,” Wheeler said. “But if you can get there in the first 100 and make them work, the result is often different.”

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4<sup>th</sup> Blue Lorian (\$8.90), 5<sup>th</sup> Drill ‘Em (\$3.70), 6<sup>th</sup> Beware (\$41.80) 7<sup>th</sup> Perfect Pedro (\$61.50) and Santino Marella (\$50.60).

The Globe Memorial Easter Chase was first conducted as part of the carnival, as a feature distance event in 2003, listed below are the past winners and their winning time.

2003 **Tipper’s Comet** 42.71, 2004 **Irinka Barbie** 42.63, 2005 **Thai Again** 42.86, 2006 **Best Quoted** 42.27, 2007 **Flashing Floods** 43.25, 2008 **Lyn’s Daisy** 42.33 and 2009 **Lilley Criminal**.



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