



## MEDIA RELEASE

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# You'll Never Beat the Villa

By Michael Floyd

Dyna Villa etched his name into greyhound racing folklore with a brilliant win in tonight's \$600,00 Group 1 TAB Melbourne Cup at Sandown Park.

Unbeaten in three starts from box 8, Dyna Villa began brilliantly to cross the stellar field and lead through the first turn. As the rest of the pack settled Dyna Villa shot clear, opening a six length break over his rivals down the back straight in what proved to be a race winning break, stopping the clock in a slick 29.36 seconds. Chica Destacada (\$7.20) chased valiantly to reduce the margin to two lengths at the line, with favourite Keybow a further two lengths away in third.



Dyna Villa clears his opposition at the first turn setting up a winning break (All Pics Clint Anderson)

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# AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Despite qualifying for the final as the fastest heat winner, Dyna Villa opened a \$4.40 chance after the box draw before being backed into a \$3 second favourite by starting time.

The win extended Dyna Villa's remarkable unbeaten record at Sandown Park to eight starts and improved his overall record to 14 wins from just 22 starts. The \$420,000 first prize took his career earnings to \$466,635, a remarkable figure for a greyhound that has only just turned two years of age.



Trainer Jenny Hunt with Paul Wheeler Dyna Villa and handler after the Cup win

After the placings the field finished in the following order 4th Above All (\$5.70), 5th Cosmic Wise (\$27.00), 6th Awesome Project (\$14.10) 7th Star Recall (\$13.90) and Luca Neveelk (\$9.40).

Dyna Villa is a Black dog whelped October 2012 by Collision from Roxio Bale (Droopys Vieri x Francesca Bale). Dyna Villa is raced Brendan Wheeler and trained by Jenny Hunt. He has raced 22 times for 14 wins and six placings. After adding the \$420,000 first prize for the Melbourne Cup his stake earnings stand at \$466,635.

Listed below is the honour roll of winners of the Melbourne Cup.

1956 **Rocketeer**, 1957 **Rookie Rebel**, 1958 **Marine Jet**, 1959 **Capital King**, 1960 **Chief Rane**, 1961 **Bybrae**, 1962 **Saskagay**, 1963 **Saskaview**, 1964 **Rocket Streak**, 1965 **Kinta's Son**, 1966 **Cheltenham Lass**, 1967 **Swan Opal**, 1968 **Mr.Spot**, 1969 **Milimsimbi**, 1970 **Chris' Dandy**, 1971 **Gerard The Gent**, 1972 **Gold Grotto**, 1973 **New Mariner**, 1974 **Kwik Metal**, 1975 **Dynamic Dean**, 1976 **Carrington Jade**, 1977 **Milepost**, 1978 **Tangaloa**, 1979 **Acclaim Star**, 1980 **Black Aztec**, 1981 **Satan's Shroud**, 1982 **Kid Scandal**, 1983 **Lady Lilly**, 1984 **Rustic Venture**, 1985 **Sydney Dinggaan**, 1986 **Legendary Kid**, 1987 **Speedy Mick**, 1988 **Hua**, 1989 **Fair Sentence**, 1990 **Highly Blessed**, 1991 **Fox Hunt**, 1992 **Master Giant**, 1993 **Silver Chisel**, 1994 **Light Of Fire**, 1995 **City Blitz**, 1996 **Henry Hand**, 1997 **Roanokee**, 1998 **Rapid Journey**, 1999 **Kantarn Bale** 2000 **Go Wild Teddy**, 2001 **Classic Capri**, 2002 **Excite Ability**, 2003 **Bombastic Shiraz**, 2004 **Hallucinate**, 2005 **Closing Argument**, 2006 **Betty's Angel**, 2007 **Shanlyn Prince**, 2008 **Surgeon**, 2009 **Lord Ducal**, 2010 **El Grand Senior**, 2011 **Dyna Tron**, 2012 **Got A Moment** and 2013 **Black Magic Opal**.

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## Sweet It is Group 1 Win Number Four

Earlier in the night, crowd favourite Sweet It Is took out her fourth Group 1 success in 2014 with a stunning victory in the \$145,000 Solo Bold Trease.

Despite running second in her heat, Sweet It Is was sent to the boxes a \$2.25 chance and favourite punters had their hearts in their mouths when the popular daughter of Mogambo drifted back to second last at the winning post the first time.

With Zipping Maggie and Space Star (\$4.00) duelling for the lead, Sweet It Is found trouble. Six lengths adrift after one lap, Sweet It Is weaved her way through the field before again being held up coming off the back straight. However once finding clear running room, Sweet It Is unleashed a finishing burst worthy of the race's namesake, sweeping past Space Star to claim the \$100,000 first prize by a rapidly expanding 5¾ lengths.

Sweet It Is ran an eye catching sixth in the same race in 2013, however it wasn't until the move to master trainer Darren McDonald's kennel in March 2014 that saw her elevate herself to the upper echelon of history's great stayers.

In 20 starts in McDonald's care, Sweet It Is is yet to miss a place, winning on nine occasions including four times at Group 1 level. Remarkably, in each of her Group 1 wins, Sweet It Is ran second in her heat before claiming the final.

Following her victory tonight, Sweet It Is improved her overall record to 15 wins from 47 starts and boosted her career prize money to \$594,565 elevating her to sixth position all time.

The SOLO Bold Trease was just one of the highlights of a stellar card of greyhound racing headlined by the world's richest greyhound race, the TAB Melbourne Cup.



Sweet It Is with trainer Darren McDonald (right) and Norm McCullagh, trainer of the legendary Bold Trease.

Completing a big night of racing, Hostile used box 1 to perfection to take out the Listed Cup Night Sprint for Darren Beasley, while Brooke Ennis Cup Night claimed the Listed Berwick Mazda Middle Distance with Oscura.

Sweet It Is a Black bitch whelped November 2011 by Mogambo from Off Springer (Flying Penske x Skulring). She raced by the Two Bear's Syndicate and trained by Darren McDonald at Devon Meadows in Victoria. She has now won 15 races and been placed 15 times from her 47 starts. The Bold Trease first prize of \$100,000 brings her overall prizemoney to \$594,565.

After the placings the field finished in the following order 3<sup>rd</sup> Reap The Benefit (\$51.70), 4th Zipping Maggie (\$14.90) 5th Beks (\$17.00), 6th Blinkers On (\$3.90) 7th Mystic Twist (\$31.10) and Couлта Rock (\$38.20).

TAB Melbourne Cup night was a tremendous success for the club, with the largest crowd in modern history witnessing a memorable night of greyhound racing. A bold move by the club to shift the Cup from the traditional Thursday night to a Friday proved the bonus it promised. The big crowd helped the Club top all previous records for TAB turnover on a greyhound meeting. All forms of betting set a record on the night for greyhound racing and the Melbourne Cup continues to go from strength to strength as the premier event for the sport in not only the state and Australia but now worldwide.

The large crowd was a fitting reward for the hard working administration, catering and track staff at Sandown.

The Sandown team led by CEO Greg Miller introduced a number of changes to how Cup night is run and promoted over the last few years and the results have been stunning. Another big crowd enjoyed a wonderful night of excitement and atmosphere plus a host of entertainment and action.

### **Bold Trease Carnival Cup Honour Roll.**

1999 **Chain Of Lagoons**, 2000 **Mr Boswell**, 2001 **Sara Magee**, 2002 **Naughty Nita**, 2003 **Proven Adonis**, 2004 **Arvo's Athena**, 2005 **Texas Gold**, 2006 **Sargent Major** and 2007 **Cash Express**, 2008 **Fallen Zorro**, 2009 **Drill' Em**, 2010 **So Seductive**, 2011 **Zipping Malfoy**, 2012 **Miata** and 2013 **Cheetah Zorro**.

**Thanks for information above provided by Michael Floyd, Racing and Media Manager**

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