



MEDIA RELEASE

27th December 2011



Silver Chief final for the ages: Young Guns Clash on New Year's Day

By George Farrugia

The 2012 greyhound season is set to start off with a bang as The Meadows host a star-studded Group 1 AJS Corporation Silver Chief final over 525 metres on New Year's Day.

All the big guns progressed safely through to Sunday night's \$75,000-to-the-winner final, despite the shock defeat of Heston Bale, who finished second behind the underrated Godsend to qualify for the first Group final of his much-publicised career.

Two greyhounds who continued on from their amazing heat efforts were Cape Hawke and Queensland star Glen Gallon, both stopping the clock at 29.77 (Best of Night) in their respective semi-finals. Cape Hawke – a Ballarat and Adelaide Cup finalist – will start from box seven in the January 1 final, while Glen Gallon's chances were dealt a blow after drawing away from his preferred rails draw in box eight.

Track record holder Heston Bale will start from box three, seemingly surrounded by early speed, while giant killer Godsend – who finished second in the Group 2 Great Chase at The Meadows in November – has drawn perfectly in box one.

Gates open at 6pm on New Year's Day for the running of the Group 1 AJS Corporation Silver Chief, which will include heaps of free kids entertainment, mystery bets with great bonuses and bikes to be won. Dining packages are still available.

Check out a replay of the Semi Finals at the [TheMeadowsGreyhounds](#) on YouTube.

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

GROUP ONE – AJS CORPORATION SILVER CHIEF CLASSIC

\$75,000 to the winner



Godsend

14 starts 6-4-1 (\$34,375)

Bombastic Shiraz – Sensation Lee

Black Dog September '09

Owner: **Sergio Buccilli**

Trainer: **Jason Thompson**

Meadows best: 30.02 (5) (7 Starts 3-2-0)

Only a youngster he caused a boilover in the semi when he beat series favourite Heston Bale at long odds last week. Trained by Jason Thompson who has won the Group 1 feature four times, he will be looking a fifth. Box one always a help, but a place chance looks best.



Hutmaker

30 starts 10-10-4 (\$58,970)

Premier Fantasy – Beekeeper

Black Dog July '09

Owner / Trainer: **Robert Britton**

Meadows best: 29.85 (2) (11 Starts 4-4-1)

Personal best win on the track last week in 29.85, he races well here with four wins. Drawn okay but would have to find a handy position early to challenge down the back in solid form and not without a chance. Place best.



Heston Bale

13 starts 8-2-0 (\$39,465)

Bartrim Bale – Amelia Bale

Black Dog October '09

Owners: **Paul Wheeler**

Trainer: **Andrea Dailly**

Meadows best: 29.45 Rec (3) (3 Starts 2-1-0)

Star sprinter he appeared to race a little flat last week after his gut busting track record run in the heat 29.45. Has heaps of speed and ability and will start favourite even after his shock defeat last week. Only has to be handy down the back then turn on the after burners to prove very hard to beat. Strong in the run home and nicely drawn. The testing material no doubt.



McCosker Speed

30 starts 5-11-6 (\$14,765)

Bombastic Shiraz – Brood Saquan

Black Dog August '09

Owner: **Jeff Galea**

Trainer: **William McMahon**

Meadows best: NBT (5 Starts 0-2-1)

Racing in solid form, a handy second in his semi behind Hutmaker. Not the best of draws and will need some luck in running. No wins on the track, place chance best.



Whispering Wind

13 starts 5-4-2 (\$17,115)

Collision – Seminole

Brindle Dog January '10

Owner: **Champagne Syndicate**

Trainer: **Angela Langton**

Meadows best: 30.21 (2) (6 Starts 2-2-0)

Will need a bit of luck from box five, but he is racing well. Finished second to Glen Gallon in his semi and his best on the track is 30.21. Would need to improve that time to trouble a few of these. Place chance best.



Soda Boy

12 starts 9-2-0 (\$27,650)

Bombastic Shiraz – Pure Elle

Fawn Dog December '09

Owner: **Daniel Mizzi**

Trainer: **Peter Giles**

Meadows best: 30.10 (2) (4 Starts 3-1-0)

Very handy youngster with good form nine wins and two placings from 12 starts. Was a solid run in the semi behind Cape Hawke in 29.77. He would need to improve his best winning time of 30.10 to match motors with the more fancied in this final. Will need a bit of luck from box six but certainly not without a chance.



Cape Hawke

21 starts 13-0-3 (\$50,790)

Where's Pedro – Viva Odessa

Black Dog October '09

Owner: **Terry Wales**

Trainer: **Jamie Ennis**

Meadows best: 29.73 (8) (6 Starts 5-0-0)

Brilliant young dog with a great turn of speed made the Adelaide Cup final at Group 1 level and has performed well in this company in a short career of 21 starts. Has a best winning time of 29.73 and recorded equal best in last week's semi of 29.77. Expected to run a big race, has the ability to win and is one of the main chances.



Glen Gallon

22 starts 12-5-1 (\$124,911)

Flying Stanley – Incoherent

Red Brindle Dog August '09

Owner: **Velocity Lodge (PTN) Syndicate**

Trainer: **Tony Brett**

Very talented Queenslander he won the Group 1 Brisbane Cup earlier this month has a super record of 12 and six from 22. Has raced superbly during the series so far with wins of 29.69 and an equal best of 29.77. Not the best of draws in eight but is good enough to overcome it. Will start second favourite and quite rightly so, another of the main chances.



Mepunga Geordie

28 starts 11-4-6 (\$33,575)

Premier Fantasy – Mepunga Diamond

Finished third last week to Godsend, is a handy type with a fair bit of ability. Could run a forward race if he gains a start.



Flip Bale

23 starts 6-3-5 (\$14,295)

Where's Pedro – Horizon Bale

G Bate's only involvement in the final finished third behind Glen Gallon last week and would need to improve if he gains a start.

Local expert's selections for the final are as follows.

Ron Hawswell

1st Heston Bale
2nd Cape Hawke
3rd Glen Gallon

Eddie Carauna

1st Heston Bale
2nd Glen Gallon
3rd Cape Hawke

George Farrugia

1st Cape Hawke
2nd Heston Bale
3rd Hutmaker

Local Market for the AJS Corporation Silver Chief Classic:

\$75,000 to the winner Group 1 AJS Corporation Silver Chief Classic (525m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
 1	Godsend	Jason Thompson	\$15.00
 2	Hutmaker	Robert Britton	\$17.00
 3	Heston Bale	Andrea Dailly	\$2.50
 4	McCosker Speed	William McMahon	\$34.00
 5	Whispering Wind	Angela Langton	\$26.00
 6	Soda Boy	Peter Giles	\$9.00
 7	Cape Hawke	James Ennis	\$4.50
 8	Glen Gallon	Tony Brett	\$3.50
 9	Mepunga Geordie	Jeff Britton	RES
 10	Flip Bale	Graeme Bate	RES

What's happening on race night?

On Course, Robbie Testa is MC and will conduct interviews in the lead up to the Silver Chief final. Heaps of free entertainment for the kids.

There will plenty of Mystery Bet Combos on sale. (i.e) \$10 worth of bets with bonuses attached, they have proved very popular on other big nights.

Plus there will be plenty of prize bonuses and Bikes on course to be won as well.

There are still some fabulous dining packages still available on one of The Meadows' biggest nights. Contact The Meadows on **9355 5222** for more information.

The History of the Silver Chief Classic

The AJS Corporation Silver Chief Classic is certainly one out of the box and is sure to produce yet another champion who will go on to great heights; as have previous winners.



The Great Silver Chief after winning 1939 Waterloo Cup

The Classic is one steeped in tradition, first being run in 1964. Directors of the Melbourne Greyhound Racing association saw fit to name The Classic after the greyhound "Silver Chief" who was whelped in 1936 and owned by Ray Herbert. Silver Chief was a "Waterloo Cup" winner in 1939 and performed admirably on the speed coursing circuit as well. He raced in both Melbourne and Sydney and was keenly sought after for stud duties once his racing career was finished.

The cream of racing have won this event referred to as the Derby of Greyhound Racing.

Champions such as Plunder Road, Black Diro, Satan's Legend, Tempix, Chariot Supreme, Ginger, Light of Fire and Awesome Assassin to name a few. Many have gone on to produce sons who have also won the Classic.

The mighty Tempix won in 1978 then produced sons who won in (81) Tempix Image and Bold Assail in 1982.

Australian super sire Chariot Supreme won the race in record time in 1983. His progeny took out the honours in 1986 (Hopeful Supreme), 1989 (Autumn Chariot) and 1991 (Bomber Gleeson).

In recent years Light of Fire won in 1994 then produced greats such as Awesome Assassin and Kantarn Bale. Awesome Assassin went on to sire 2005 winner Ben's Fury. Leading Sire Primo Uno sired the 2009 & 2010 two winners Fedex and Enry Walt.

Silver Chief Honour Roll

DATE	GREYHOUND	SIRE	DAM	ODDS	TIME	BOX	STAKE	TRAINER
29/06/1964	BARUNAH	Sunagari	Northbound	3/1	31.00	4	800	A.BELCHER
27/09/1965	SPARTAN PRINCE	Shan's View	Bylane	7/4	30 11/16	1	1000	G. MAKRIS
8/08/1966	PHANTOM'S RETURN	The Stripper	Shifnal	5/1	30 14/16	7	\$2,000	R.TINK
7/08/1967	LORD BADEN	Fawn Scout	Brocatel	6/4	30 14/16	5	\$2,000	J.CURRAN
5/08/1968	DUPONDY TWO	Dupondy	Belle Linen	4/6F	30 11/16	1	\$2,000	R. OXENHAM
28/07/1969	PLUNDER ROAD	Nulla View	Glenda Gale	4/5F	30 7/16	1	\$2,700	R.DEAKIN
20/07/1970	BLACK DIRO	Venetian Court	Lena Black	3/1	30 11/16	5	\$3,500	T.BLEAZBY
26/07/1971	MICHAEL TAKIRI	Takiri	Bon Fides	5/1	30 10/16	5	\$3,500	R.DINGFELDER
24/07/1972	GETAWAY	Sammy Sparrow	Blonde Shan	6/1	30 1/16	8	\$3,500	R.DRAKE
6/08/1973	FLASH GORDAN	Gala's Dream	Real Tapestry	3/1	30.81	8	\$3,500	I.MACKAY
22/07/1974	PETILLANT	Gabriel Mist	Montano	7/4F	30.47	3	\$3,500	F.CAREW
25/08/1975	NIGGER CHIMES	Fawn Roamer	Mini Chimes	7/2	30.66	1	\$3,500	M.THOMAS
26/07/1976	FRITZ MAC TAVISH	Newmore King	Gundy	9/10F	30.83	3	\$3,500	H.SIAKEW
25/07/1977	SATAN'S LEGEND	Temlee	Cyclone	8/11F	30.75	1	\$5,600	D.GILLARD
9/10/1978	TEMPIX	Temlee	Pixie Dianne	11/2	30.60	8	\$5,600	B.SMITH
22/10/1979	SAN REMO	Come on Wonder	Riviera Moss	11/8	30.78	2	\$7,000	B.FLANNERY
20/10/1980	MORK THE STORK	Bowetzel	Miller's Cottage	5/1	30.42	3	\$10,000	A.HUGGINS
10/08/1981	TEMPIX IMAGE	Tempix	Simply Honey	5/1	30.31	2	\$10,000	B.SMITH
9/08/1982	BOLD ASSAIL	Tempix	Brindle Hermes	10/1	30.64	3	\$10,000	F.LA BOZZETTA
8/08/1983	CHARIOT SUPREME	Waverly Supreme	Mixed Blessings	4/1	29.80	5	\$10,000	K.RICHARDS
17/12/1984	RUMPUS PAPPA	Royal Rumpus	Newmore Glenys	6/1	29.89	3	\$10,000	S.AMORE
23/12/1985	SUPREME SPOT (SA)	Waverly Supreme	Miss Lemoss	100/1	30.57	4	\$10,000	C.WATCHEL
22/12/1986	HOPEFUL SUPREME	Chariot Supreme	Hopeful Victory	9/2	29.95	1	\$10,000	K RICHARDS
28/12/1987	CALAMITY KID	Kid Campbell	Juliet	12/1	29.96	3	\$10,000	G.BRYANT
19/12/1988	GINGER	Eaglehawk Star	Rinaldi Lass	7/4	29.80	3	\$15,000	S.CONDO
18/12/1989	AUTUMN CHARIOT	Chariot Supreme	Autumn Road	EV.F	30.03	2	\$15,000	H.HILL
17/12/1990	ENFIELD	Pop Gun	That's Lika Flash	2/1F	30.10	4	\$15,000	S.JOHANNSEN
23/12/1991	BOMBER GLEESON	Chariot Supreme	Hoppy's Girl	6/1	29.72	4	\$20,000	G.BATE
21/12/1992	NEVIK	City Skopos	Two Dots	14/1	29.74	6	\$20,000	J.CONNELLY
27/12/1993	PLUGGER FEVER	Shining Chariot	Eaglehawk Midge	16/1	30.14	4	\$20,000	L.KETELAAR
12/1/1994	LIGHT OF FIRE	New Tears	Centrefire	11/8F	30.47	4	\$20,000	J.THOMPSON
12/1/1995	ZEALOUS GUY	Little Denver	Plus Velvet	6/4F	30.46	2	\$20,000	T.PROCTOR
Dec 96	AWESOME ASSASSIN	Light Of Fire	Tranquil Flame	2/1	29.96	6	\$30,000	J.THOMPSON
12/1/1997	HOT SHOT	Acacia Ablaze	Mary La Maze	5/2	29.99	8	\$30,000	R.REDENBACH
1/1/1999	JAMELLA PRINCE	Malawi Prince	Bindari Fox	7/2	30.08	7	\$30,000	D CROSWELL
12/1/1999	KANTARN BALE	Light Of Fire	Jindara Bale	6/4F	29.91	1	\$30,000	G.BATE
10/9/2000	DAVE'S MENTOR	Head Honcho	Best Of Bev	4.40	29.74	2	\$40,000	D.BOOBY
9/22/2001	BURALI BALE	Gun law Osti	Louisa Porta	2.90	30.36	6	\$50,000	G.BATE
4/01/2003	JIMMY NEUTRON	Big Ginger Boy	Reeba Honcho	3.40	30.04	6	\$50,000	S. MCKENNA
3/01/2004	BIG DADDY COOL	Just the Best	Sobbing Sal	1.40F	29.62	1	\$50,000	N.JANJIC
8/01/2005	BEN'S FURY	Awesome Assassin	Bonnie April	3.30f	29.82	1	\$50,000	J THOMPSON
7/01/2006	CLOSING ARGUMENT	Exceptional	Maddy Shiraz	2.60f	29.85	4	\$50,000	C TAYLOR
6/01/2007	METICULOUS	Brett Lee	Dance Portrait	5.10	30.11	2	\$50,000	M BRIGANTI

5/01/2008	REGAL THYME	Bombastic Shiraz	Thyme Travel	14.90	29.92	6	\$50,000	G LONG
4/01/2009	FEDEX	Primo Uno	Tranquil Goddess	1.60	30.01	1	\$50,000	J THOMPSON
3/01/2010	ENRY WALT	Primo Uno	Awesome Saint	16.20	29.84	7	\$50,000	G ENNIS
1/01/2011	KILTY LAD	Superman	Cisco Train	5.40	29.66	5	\$50,000	K Bravo



Last year's winner Kilty Lad an easy winner of the Silver Chief (Pic Paul Munt)

Any further information contact:

Marg Long
 Ph: 0417 252 253
 Email: mlong@grv.org.au

The M.G.R.A. Office at Tel: (03) 9355 5222 Fax: (03) 9355 5255 Address: 80 Northcorp Bvd,
 Broadmeadows, VIC 3047. Email: meadows@grv.org.au



For more information please contact:

Neil Brown
 AGRA Publicity Officer
 Tel: 03 97691234
 Mob: 0423 129 950
nbrown@agra.com.au

Howard Ashton
 AGRA Executive Officer
 Tel: 08 8243 7100
 Mob: 0438 042 838
hashton@agra.com.au