



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**17th February 2008**



**Flashing Floods wins the AGRA 2007 Australian  
Greyhound Of The Year Award**

At a gala AGRA Awards night at the Sandown the Australian Greyhound Racing Association last night announced Flashing Floods the winner of the 2007 AGRA Australian Greyhound of the Year.

It was a night of highs on the National scene with Delegates and club members coming together from all over Australia to celebrate the 2007 AGRA Awards night.

Hosted by the Sandown Greyhound Racing Club the club's team led by CEO Matt Corby and Chairman Geoff Dawson staged a glittering affair and maintained the standard set by the M.G.R.A. last year setting a bench mark for the other states to follow in the years to come.

Victorian super stayer Flashing Floods recently crowned Victorian Greyhound of the Year took the covered double as Betty's Angel did last year. She beat New South Wales stayer Miss Grub and Victorian sprinter Slater.

The winner was selected by panel of judges consisted of administrators and media representatives from each state and a group of national media representatives from Print, Radio and Television. The panel was asked to allocate votes 3, 2 and 1 to the three finalists in order of each judge's preference in a secret vote.

Accepting the award from Sky Channels Michael Radley, Tom Daily representing his brother-in-law owner-trainer Gerald Cunnold expressed what a thrill it was to be judged the winner against such outstanding competition and acknowledged the achievements of Slater and Miss Grub.

"It has been such a fantastic year with Flashing Floods she started so well and was able to maintain her top form all the year. I think she let us know it was time to retire in November and she is due to have a litter of pups shortly to Brett Lee let's hope she has ten." Tom Dailly said.

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# AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Listed below are Flashing Floods achievements during 2007.

## **FLASHING FLOODS**

**(Fawn Bitch – April 2004 Bombastic Shiraz-Floodfawn)**

***Race starts 2007: 36 – 21 wins, 7 second, 3 third***

***Owner: Gerald Cunnold***

***Trainer: Gerald Cunnold***

***Winner: Group 1 Gleeson & Tonta; Group 1 National Distance Championship, Group 1 Perth Galaxy, Group 3 New Year's Cup, Group 3 Easter Chase, Group 3 Chairman's Cup.***

***Finalist: Group 1 Albion Park Gold Cup (2nd), Group 2 John Dillon (3<sup>rd</sup>), Group 2 Zoom Top (2<sup>nd</sup>), Group 2 Maidment Memorial (3<sup>rd</sup>), Group 2 McKenna Memorial (7<sup>th</sup>), Group 2 Sydney Cup (4<sup>th</sup>), Group 2 Hume Cup (4<sup>th</sup>).***

***Total Career Prizemoney: \$354,190.***



**Flashing Floods winning the Galaxy in Perth**

The previous five winners of the AGRA Australian Greyhound of the Year are 2002 **Boomeroo**, 2003 **Bombastic Shiraz**, 2004 **Whisky Assassin**, 2005 **Pure Octane**, and 2006 **Betty's Angel**.



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Earlier in the night under the guidance of M.C Rob Testa who did a sterling job, AGRA announced its award winners in the following categories.

### **2007 Dam of the Year was Floodfawn**

Lauren Gorman accepted the award from MGRA Chairman Eddie Carauna on behalf of her father Peter Giles.

Floodfawn won in a tight contest with 54 points from Leprechaun Yap 45 who was also runner-up last year and Brandon Sky third on 35.

Floodfawn's main stay was Flashing Floods the Greyhound of the Year who had a magnificent year she also produced a litter to Surf Lorian that produced Overflow Breaker the Shepparton Cup winner and a number of pups the scored points.

### **2007 Sires of the Year was Brett Lee and Token Prince**

Keith Pedrano & Brenton Scott accepted the award from GBOTA Chairman Bill Mangnfas.

Brett Lee won the award easily with 1759 points from 58 group finalists, then followed Token Prince 1338 from 50, Awesome Assassin 977 from 31 and Just The Best 569 from 25.

Brett Lee's better performed dogs in 2006 included. Spaulding, Cromlah Bale, Betty's Angel, Sensation Lee, Superman, Brilliant Lee, Two Up Larry, Bentley Jane, Bank Manager, Miss Mini Mouse, Airbourne Bale Leefull, Meticulous, Regal Brett, Ace Hi Rumble, Strike Attack, Highlee, Leica Paper Boy, Black Chantilly, Laurie Banner, Rooney, Banklee, Leprechaun Pace, Oxley Gazelle, Binga Flo, Torque Bale and Big Tone Bale.

Brett Lee sired the winners of the following group races Perth Cup, Vic Peters, Sapphire Crown, Melbourne Cup, Hobart 1000, Warrnambool Cup, Queensland Derby, SA Oaks, Traralgon Cup and Nowra Puppy Classic.

**2006 Run of the Year went to Miss Grub** for her outstanding performance in the Group 1 VIP Gold Cup at Albion Park.

Owner Charlie Northfield accepted the award from .

The Run Of the Year was determined from the 12 runs of the month, then by a panel consisting of John Brasch (Qld), Peter O'Neil (WA), Brenton Yeats (SA), Peter Hayes (Tas), Michael Radley (NSW) and Neil Brown in Victoria. They were encouraged to enlist who ever they saw fit to offer an opinion then cast their state's nomination.

### **2006 Trainer of the Year was Jason Thompson**

On hand to accept the award Thompson was delighted with the accolade acknowledging it as the highlight of his carrerr to win such an award, he thanked his partner Sona Hood for her enormous support and input to their successful partnership.

The Victorian mentor had a fantastic year all around Australia winning group races and enjoyed tremendous success with his top line kennel stars Run's House, Miss Hot Gossip, Uno Joel and ----.

The trainer of year was determined after nominations were put forward to the AGRA CEO's from a sub-committee that consisted of Brenton Scott (NSW), Luke Gatehouse (QLD) and Neil Brown (AGRA).

The committee then took into account a number of different aspects of the training side of things it included. Group wins, and finalists, state city wins, number of runners and dogs in work, percentage per runners ect.

The other contenders for the award included: **Troy Murray (SA), Don McMillan (NSW), Engin Gemci (VIC), Tony Brett (QLD), Paul Felgate (QLD) and Linda Britton (WA).**

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The final accolade of the evening was the inductions of **Black Top and Sam Bladon** into the AGRA Hall of Fame. Accepting on behalf of the late Frank Holmes owner- trainer and stud master of Black Top his niece June Butler together with her daughter Karen from Newcastle gave an emotional response expressed the family's fond memories of the time that Frank raced "Nigger" and just what he had meant to her uncle both on the race track and as the phenomenal stud dog he later became.

**Sam Bladon** was the first person inducted into the AGRA Hall of Fame and he is one many who will be included in the years to come. A coursing man who held no peer he trained no less than 10 Waterloo Cup winners, Bladon was born in England in 1828 and he came to the Bendigo gold fields in 1852. He went on to rewrite the coursing record books of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and early 1900's. An interesting character it was written that Bladon was without doubt the greatest personality who ever graced an Australian coursing enclosure and his deeds would live on forever amongst the coursing fraternity.

Bladon induction was accepted by 93 year old New South Wales NCA identity Jack Bell, Bell father had coursed greyhounds against Bladon and Jack gave an attentive audience a firsthand account of coursing as he had experienced it in the 1920's and 30's although long his acceptance speech was acknowledged by all present with the attention it deserved.

It concluded a fantastic night and we can only look forward to the next night of nights in Sydney in 2009 which will no doubt be one of many spectacular award nights to come in the future. The awards night will rotate from state to state and take place in February- March each year coinciding with AGRA's Bi-Annual Meeting and Conference.



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