



Media Release
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**GCA GREYHOUND OF THE MONTH AWARD NOVEMBER
2018**

“MY REDEEMER”

By Mick Floyd Sandown Racing Manager



The GCA Greyhound of the Month for November has been awarded to star Victorian sprinter My Redeemer. He was the outstanding winner of the Melbourne Cup at Sandown Park on November 23th.

My Redeemer gave David Geall his biggest thrill in greyhound racing by winning the TAB Melbourne Cup at Sandown Park on Thursday November 23.

In one of the most eagerly anticipated editions of the world's greatest greyhound race, My Redeemer began cleanly from box 1 but was headed by favourite Black Opium to the first turn. My Redeemer held his position on the rail and after a brief bumping duel, he emerged a length clear entering the back straight. From there he was never challenged, doubling his margin off the back straight and powering to the line to register a brilliant 4½ victory in 29.38.

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Nineteen-month-old Black Opium finished a gallant second – her first defeat in eight career starts – while She's Gifted finished an impressive third after coming from last past the post the first time.

But it was all honours to the winner and his trainer David Geall who could barely contain his emotions after the victory.

"It's just the greatest feeling in the world," Geall told Sky Racing.

"As a trainer, a Melbourne Cup is what we all want. Just to see him jump so well in the biggest race in the world – I tell you what this is sensational."

Geall and owner Brendan Sinfield had a large contingent of family and friend's trackside to experience the moment in what proved one of the most popular victories in the race's 63-year history.

My Redeemer was bred by Geall and his wife Rose and was their second Cup finalist after Up Hill Jill – My Redeemer's older half-sister – was unplaced in the 2017 edition.

The win was My Redeemer's second group 1 at Sandown Park following his Harrison-Dawson victory in May. So impressive was that performance that he was rated a \$10 the chance to win the TAB Melbourne Cup when markets opened soon after, however luck would desert the son of Fernando Bale over the following months, winning just 3 of his 13 races leading into the TAB Melbourne Cup series, blowing out to \$21 ahead of the heats. Remarkably, despite his impressive heat victory and drawing ideally in box 1 for the final, My Redeemer eased from \$3.50 following the box draw to \$4.60 when the lids opened.

The TAB Melbourne Cup was My Redeemer's 20th win from 42 starts and the \$435,000 winner's cheque boosted his career earnings to \$648,370.

It was also another triumph for My Redeemer's sire Fernando Bale. In his first full season, his progeny have won 15 group 1 finals in 2018, winning almost \$11m in prize money.

My Redeemer had four starts for four wins in November starting with a Meadows 600 metre win on November 5 a best of the night 34.04 defeating Dyna Chancer. An outstanding Melbourne Cup heat win in a battle all the way with Haste Slowly recording 29.27, the Cup win and a 595 all the way victory last Thursday in another best of the night 33.90.

My Redeemer is a Black Dog whelped April 2016 by Fernando Bale from Where's Demonica (Where's Pedro x Demonica). He is raced by Brendan Sinfield and trained by David Geall at Lara in Victoria. He has now won 21 races and been placed on 11 occasions from her 43 starts. His current prizemoney stands at \$654,990.

GCA congratulates owner, Brendan Sinfield, trainer David Geall and My Redeemer on being awarded the GCA Greyhound of the Month for November. He joins Mystic Riot, Zipping Tayla, West On Augie, Dyna Patty, Tornado Tears May & June, Trouper Monelli, Up Hill Jill, Out Of Range and Rizza Lenny as the GCA Greyhounds of the Month winners for 2018.

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