



MEDIA RELEASE
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“Betty’s takes the Cup on a Super night of racing in the West”

Superstar Victorian sprinter and reigning AGRA Australian Greyhound of the Year Betty’s Angel captured another major Group 1 sprint final after her brilliant win in the Sky Channel Perth Cup last Saturday night.

Beginning well from box 1 Betty’s Angel (\$1.80) was beaten for the early lead by the locally trained Decathalon (\$26.10) he held that advantage through the first turn and down the back, with “Betty” in hot pursuit. Unfortunately at the first turn youngster Kostic Burns fell heavily causing havoc for a number of finalist’s behind the two leaders.

Decathalon was still in front into the home straight and for a fleeting moment looked like winning, but the last section has always been Betty’s Angel’s best and she raced pass Decathalon going on to win by one length and three quarters with Brother Knows (\$29.80) seven back in third, time for the final was 30.47.



Betty’s Angel powers to the line to win the Perth Cup

Greyhounds WA delivered once again with a spectacular evening of greyhound racing, a record cup crowd of 5545 and record breaking turnover figures. The record crowd on-course bet \$224,000, easily beating the previous best figures of \$183,000 and punters off-course wagered \$375,000, which was \$47,000 higher than the previous record.

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Greyhounds WA CEO David Simonette was very pleased with the night.

"It was another successful night for us, last year punters bet \$327,000 off course so it was well up again and to see people waiting outside the gates at 5.30 was amazing. We tried free entry for the first time last year and it worked well so we went with it again. However it is also important that we providing a diverse range of family activities to keep the big crowd entertained all night." Simonette said.

Betty's Angel's win was the seventh Victorian in succession to win the Cup and eight overall.

Betty's Angel is a Black bitch whelped November 2004 she is raced and trained by the Bartolo family and is by Brett Lee from Leprechaun Yap (Hotshot x Leprechaun Miss) she has raced 27 times for 17 and four placings with the Perth Cup first prize of \$120,000, it took her overall stake earnings to \$406,170

Betty's Angel has overtaken Brett Lee (\$405,106) as the third highest Australian stake earner and only has Bogie Lee \$488,335 and Rapid Journey \$530,995 in front of her.

Betty's Angel's trainer Paul Bartolo would very much like to see her become the country's highest stake-money earner.

"I would like her to break Rapid Journey's record, because if she did she would go into greyhound's Hall of Fame," Bartolo said.

"In saying that we don't race our brood-bitches beyond 40 starts and she has now had 27 runs.

"But the record is attainable with such good prize money on offer.

"We had plans to put her over a distance because her second sectionals are so strong. But I think we will keep her for the National Sprint now."

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Mandagery Man (\$6.40), 5th Buttsie Bale (\$18.70), 6th Back Tonight (\$16.00), 7th Global Warming (\$5.00) and Kostic Burns (\$12.80).



The Happy Bartolo Family after the win (All Pics Joe Maulder)

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Listed below is the Perth Cup honour roll it has been won by some outstanding sprinters over the years most coming from the eastern states. The race has had a number of sponsors over the years and was known as the Brownes Gold Cup from 1976 to 1986. In 1987 it was called the Australis Mining Gold Cup, in 88 it was the Fairplay Gold Cup then from 1989 until 1992 it was called the Winfield Gold Cup. In 1993 a long sponsorship began with Be Active and it was known as the Be Active Gold Cup in 1993 and 94 before being called the Be Active Perth Cup until this year when the club welcomed their new sponsor Sky Channel.

1976 **Marcus Rate**, 1977 **Canonero's Gift**, 1978 **Biafra's Son**, 1979 **Rare Discovery**, 1980 **White Panther**, 1981 **General Jeff**, 1982 **Wotta Wizard**, 1983 **Superstar**, 1984 **Legatee**, 1985 **Supreme Carmen**, 1986 **Farquhar**, 1987 **Pretty Fearless**, 1988 **Karinya Flash**, 1989 **Miss Crisp**, 1990 **Sand Pebble**, 1991 **Frantic Night**, 1992 **Wynlee Supreme**, 1993 **Amy's Doll**, 1994 **Just Like Whisky**, 1995 **Brisk Bill**, 1996 **Tenthill Doll**, 1997 **Star Tribute**, 1998 **Rapid Journey**, 1999 **Bliss Bale**, 2000 **Nifti Fire**, 2001 **Sammy Mint**, 2002 **Modern Assassin**, 2003 **Elgrando**, 2004 **Kilby Supreme**, 2005 **Sun Hero** and 2006 **Superman**.

GALAXY FINAL

Earlier in the evening Australia's number one stayer of the moment Flashing Floods added another Group 1 victory to her resume when she was again too good in the \$60,000 to the winner Sky Channel Galaxy Final over 715 metres.

Equal to the highest stake money on offer for a distance final the Galaxy has fast become a much sought after event. Flashing Floods (\$1.80) jumped to the lead early in her customary racing style and as she has done on so many occasions she dictated terms out in front in another masterful display. Up and coming young WA hope Will You Behave (\$6.10) chased her hard all the way finishing a solid second, one and half lengths behind the winner. Speedy Lino (\$52.30) ran into third place while second favourite Miss Grub was caught at the rear of the field in her usual position and was never a chance of making up ground she finished a disappointing fifth.

Time for the final was a race record of 41.56, having set the three sectional records last week she ran close to them again.

The Gerald Cunnold trained Flashing Floods will now return to Melbourne and attempt to jag the Sandown Cup with heats on May the 10th. It promises to be another hotly contested Group 1 with the return of Miss Brook and last year's winner Sargent Major along with a few old sparring partners including Miss Grub.



Flashing Floods wins the Galaxy

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After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Abbadale Affair (\$30.60), 5th Miss Grub (\$4.00), 6th Bralyn Mel (\$10.50), 7th Bon Bon Roxon (\$40.90) and Tis Grand (\$25.70).

Flashing Floods is a Fawn Bitch whelped April 2004 by Bombastic Shiraz from Floodfawn (Assassin Awesome x Floodgate). Flashing Floods has now won 24 of her 39 starts and has been placed on seven occasions with the \$60,000 first prize for the Galaxy it took her current stake earnings to \$233,475.

Cup night was a clean sweep for the Victorian's after the Darren Murray trained Give Me Five won the Group 3 Sky Channel Perth Cup Consolation in a race record time of 30.09 and Big Time Max won the second consolation in the quickest time of the night over 530 metres 30.01.

The Galaxy first became a group race in 2002 as the major distance support race to the Perth Cup Carnival prior to then it was conducted as a minor feature and was first run in 1982.

1982 **Afro Freeway**, 1983 **Supreme Carmen**, 1984 **Aulfee**, 1985 **Lady Temlock**, 1986 **Abilene**, 1987 **Lassie's Girl**, 1988 **Red Rambo**, 1989 **Ghetto's Glider**, 1990 **Busy City**, 1991 **Galahad County**, 1992 **Petite Emma**, 1993 **Cousin Johnny**, 1994 **Floral Kwondo**, 1995 **Wits End**, 1996 **Rocket Racer**, 1997 **Gemarly Park**, 1998 **Paradise Street**, 1999 **Harvard Bale**, 2000 **Alencia Bale**, 2001 **"Not held"** 2002 **Jennev** 2003 **Why Complain** 2004 **Winter** 2005 **Best Quoted** and 2006 **Ronray Dancer**.

The curtain fell on very successful \$500,000 Autumn Chasing Carnival that appears to be going from strength to strength. The West had again showcased Australia's best chasers in the Sky Channel Group 1 Perth Cup (\$120,000 to the winner) and Group 1 Galaxy (\$60,000) and there is no doubt West Australia is the place to race.



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