



MEDIA RELEASE

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CARTWRIGHT PROPERTY GROUP

Chinatown Seals Crown

TASMANIA'S pride and joy Chinatown Lad (\$1.30) did it tough, but he did it anyway, landing the Group 1 Albion Park Gold Cup (710m) on Thursday night. And in the process he clinched the crown as Australia's undisputed staying star. Raced by Katrina Gregory and trained by Shane Whitney, the son of Lilli Pilli Lad-Chinatown Babe scored by two and three-quarters of a length in 41.91.



Chinatown Lad wins the Gold Cup at Albion Park (All Pics Corey Pearce)

He downed his litter sister Fallen Zorro (\$9.90) in a repeat of the Group 1 Sandown Cup result, with a neck to local bitch Nicely Done (\$22.80) in a fantastic effort for third. He brought up win 15 in 28 starts. Chinatown Lad from box one was expected to be in or near the lead throughout and just win easily.

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

But it didn't work out anything like that and Whitney admitted he had given up hope of the dog beating his sister Fallen Zorro in the back straight.

"I thought when she loomed up in the back straight to join the lead that she would win easily," said Whitney. "But he is such a fantastic chaser and he really put in from the back straight."

Both Chinatown Lad and Fallen Zorro will now head to the McKenna Memorial at Sandown and then are likely to come back for the Superstayers Challenge at Albion Park.

For Gregory it is a dream come true.

"I've known Gavin and his family since I was 10," she said.

"When I was 13 I told Gavin I would train a greyhound of my own one day."

She waited until she was 38 to approach Gavin with those plans. She had already got her trainers license and Gavin gave her the dark brindle dog pup then 12 months old that was top become Chinatown Lad.

Katrina trained the dog for his first 10 starts.

"I was talking to Gavin about my plans for the dog and he convinced me to run him in the Launceston Cup that was coming up," she said. "I decided then that he had to go back to Gavin and Shane to train.

"He was too much dog for me."

Shane was happy to take him back of course.

"He's easily the best dog we've had," he said. "We've had a lot of good dogs over the years, but this is our first Group 1 dog."

Albion Park's "pin-up boy" Bob Giltinan was overjoyed with his bitch Nicely Done's great third.

"She just got beaten for speed early and was giving them a huge start in the back straight, a good few lengths off the winner," he said.

"But when she was looming up coming to the home turn I was getting very excited. But the winner was just too good but my bitch was a fabulous run."



**A big team on the winning dais after the Gold Cup presentation**

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4<sup>th</sup> Bye Bye Bones (\$18.90), 5<sup>th</sup> Just Friends (\$8.10), 6<sup>th</sup> Kulu Spirit (\$25.90) 7<sup>th</sup> Misty Bear (\$54.30) and Xanadu's Image (\$22.10).

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

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Chinatown Lad is a Dark Brindle dog whelped December 2005 he is raced by Katrina Gregory and trained by Shane Whitney at Brighton in Tasmania. He is by Lilli Pilli Lad from Chinatown Babe (Fortified Rush x Counter Power) and he has raced 28 times for 16 wins and 10 placings, adding the Cup's first prize of \$50,000 to his overall stake earnings it took that amount to \$180,925.

The Gold Cup was first run at Gabba in 1974 and was known as the Gabba Gold Cup until 1980 when sponsored by SGIO for a year and by Woolworths of another year. It went back to the Gabba Gold Cup until 1988 when the race became the FAI Gold Cup for four years. It changed to the Albion Park Gold Cup when racing transferred there in 1993 and has been sponsored by current sponsor VIP Petfoods since 2002. It has been won by some champion stayers over the year's Dotie Wilson the only dog to win it twice in 75 and 76. Mandarin Girl 77, Picture This 82, National Star 85, Trojan Tears 94, Miss Cruise 95, Boronia Blossom 96, Totally Ablaze 98, Questions 99, Total Denial 02, Miss Brook 06 and last year's winner Miss Grub.

1974 **Captain Winter**, 1975 **Dotie Wilson**, 1976 **Dotie Wilson**, 1977 **Mandarin Girl**, 1978 **Dusty Ginny**, 1979 **Mockacindy**, 1980 **Gini's Choice**, 1981 **Final Dream**, 1982 **Picture This**, 1983 **High Monakii**, 1984 **Shy Deena**, 1985 **National Star**, 1986 **Clover Park**, 1987 **Shy Nimbus**, 1988 **Gary's Hope**, 1989 **Mary Casey**, 1990 **Rocket To Tubrid**, 1991 **Cobbalena**, 1992 **Elusive Odie**, 1993 **Pilgrim's Star**, 1994 **Trojan Tears**, 1995 **Miss Cruise**, 1996 **Boronia Blossom**, 1998 **Totally Ablaze**, 1999 **Questions**, 2000 **Amazing Dancer**, 2001 **Hotshow Vintage**, 2002 **Total Denial**, 2003 **Dooley's Mist**, 2004 **Toss O'Reilly**, 2005 **Last Quoted**, 2006 **Miss Brook** and 2007 **Miss Grub**.

**Thanks for content used in above release David Brasch Queensland GRA Website**



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