



MEDIA RELEASE

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Sonador breaks through for a group success in the Cranbourne Cup

Talented Victorian sprinter Sonador (\$7.10) broke through for her first group success in the final of the Group 2 Karingal Hub Tab Cranbourne Cup final last Monday night. An interesting field of top sprinters made the final after many of the bigger names entered fell by the way in the heats on a night of upsets. In a wide open betting race punters made the Jason Thompson trained Proven Alias favourite at \$3.10 from box eight.

At box rise the favourite Proven Alias (\$3.10) missed the start as he usually does, also poorly away was equal fastest heat winner Randle from box one. As the field sorted themselves out in the run to the first turn Ballarat Cup winner Go Wild Jack (\$3.60) found the early lead and recorded a slick 5.38 first split. He led down the back with Couлта Bomber (\$7.60) in hot pursuit, Sonador next from Avon Lee (\$29.00) with the rest going to find it hard winning from that point.

As the field approached the home turn Go Wild Jack started to come back to them and the big danger appeared to be Couлта Bomber, however Sonador was not done with and saving all the ground she could, she chased hard along the rail getting too the front metres from the post landing the prize in fine style.

The \$35,000 winners cheque was well deserved after the consistent top quality race bitch had been racing in career best form of late.



Sonador rails hard to win the Cranbourne Cup (All Pics Peter Bryce)

Recording a winning time of 30.33 the second slit on the final was 21.33 for Go Wild Jack with the margins a length and three quarters by two and a half lengths.

Sonador has a solid record at Cranbourne winning four of her five starts there and has been a model of consistency throughout her career winning 21 and running a place in 19 of her 63 starts.

I spoke to her handler Stan Ralph on track just after the finish “She made her own luck tonight begun okay and held a forward position for most of the race. To be quite honest I was looking at her finishing third off the back but she railed hard and got up on the fence to race home well.” Ralph said.

I noted to Stan that she has been in great form racing against the best without a lot of luck in the group races and she disserved the win? “I think so she is a very honest little bitch who always does her best and she just got to the right place tonight.” Ralph said.

I posed the question in regard to big races Stan having had his fair share including winning an Australian Cup? “You never miss the thrill of winning a major race this is special as she involved the whole family with Amy (Stan’s daughter) doing most of the work with her.” Ralph said.

What is next for Sonador? “I not sure what Amy’s got in mind for her, she is not going to Adelaide but the Australian Cup and the Easter Egg aren’t far away so I suppose we have a go at those races.” Ralph concluded.

Once again in 2008 the Cranbourne club had staged a wonderful event enjoyed by the big crowd in attendance and they continue to lead the Victorian country clubs with prizemoney at \$35,000 to winner the club pays more than all the provincial clubs around Australia.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Go Wild Jack (\$3.60), 5th Overflow Breaker (\$10.70), 6th Proven Alias (\$3.10 fav) 7th Why Not Gail (\$24.50) and Randle (\$7.50).



Amy Ralph proudly holds the Cup with dad Stan Ralph and Sonador after the presentation

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Sonador is raced and trained by the Ralph family with principle partner's father Stan and daughter Amy of Tooradin. She is a Dark Brindle bitch whelped December 2004 by Primo Uno from Dame Kiri (Hot Shot x Miss Epicentre). Sonador has won 21 of his 63 starts and has been placed on 19 occasions, with the \$35,000 first prize for the Cranbourne Cup took her current stake earnings to \$95,820.

Listed below is the Cranbourne Cup honour roll it contains the names of many champions of the track and many dogs that won a number of other higher ranked group races during their careers.

1975 **Great Power**, 1976 **Ragmaker**, 1977 **Granulator**, 1978 **Elsie Belinda**, 1979 **Panther Bay**, 1980 **Brindle Pixie**, 1981 **Bianca Lee**, 1982 **Golden Impulse**, 1983 **Prince Of Eaton**, 1984 **National Star**, 1985 **National Star**, 1986 **Lightning Boy**, 1987 **Shining Chariot**, 1988 **Calamity Kid**, 1989 **National Asset**, 1990 **Spread Eagled**, 1991 **Eureka Man**, 1992 **China Trip**, 1993 **Kelvin's Pride**, 1994 **Jamb Kid**, 1995 **World Champ Stan**, 1996 **Wild Season**, 1997 **Lansley Bale**, 1998 **Fiery Sal**, 1999 **Arvo's Express**, 2000 **Marsha Brady**, 2001 **Hail A Harley**, 2002 **Isa Brown**, 2003 **Waterview Star**, 2004 **Smack Wallop**, 2005 **Pastrana Bale**, 2006 **Pororooca**, and 2007 **Vapour Whirl**.

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