



MEDIA RELEASE

15th December 2019

Ladbrokes

Even Hobart 1000 Final

By Adam Dobin Greyhound Recorder Website

EXCITING Victorian youngster Tiggerlong Tonk (pictured) thundered into next week's Ladbrokes sponsored Group 1 Hobart Thousand Final with a stunning 25.55 heat victory on Thursday night.

Heading into the heats fresh off a slick 25.66 trial at Hobart, the son of Dyna Double One was simply awesome taking out the fifth and final qualifier, defeating track record holder Stanley Gordon by 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths.



Winner at eight of his 16 appearances, the talented Correy Grenfell-trained juvenile rubber-stamped his Hobart Thousand claims with a sizzling 24.91 Ballarat victory on November 27.

Next week's \$75,000 to-the-winner decider is shaping up as an absolute cracker, with one of the key points of interest the expected improvement Hooked On Scotch will take out of Thursday's runner-up second to fellow Victorian Grey Ghost in 25.74.

Australia's number one sprinter went into the series without the benefit of a trial at the tricky Hobart circuit, with the general consensus he'll come along in leaps and bounds with the benefit of his first Hobart hit-out, looking to secure a second group 1 title.

On a night of fantastic racing, Jillian Stamford's duo Stop Line and Leica Prayer were victorious in their heats, running 25.99 and 25.98 respectively.

First and second in the recent group 3 Devonport Chase Final (452m), Stop Line looked a forlorn chance in running before sprouting wings to runaway with the prize over a tiring Peco Can late in proceedings.

Later in the program, Raging Ralston put up a similar performance, charging home along the fence to defeat Atley Quick by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lengths in 25.91.

The three fastest seconds joining the five heat winners in next week's bumper group 1 finale are Hooked On Scotch, Atley Quick and track record holder Stanley Gordon.

The 25.67 Stanley Gordon recorded finishing second to Tiggerlong Tonk sees him go into next week's rich final as the second fastest qualifier.

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Box Draw and TAB Fixed Market for the Ladbrokes Hobart 1000 461m

\$75,000 to the winner Group 1 Ladbrokes Hobart 1000 Final 461m

Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price	B/T
 1	Atley Quick	Sonia Martin	\$15	25.92
 2	Hooked On Scotch (VIC)	Jason Thompson	\$2.50	NBT
 3	Stanley Gordon	Ted Medhurst	\$6.50	25.44
 4	Raging Ralston	Ted Medhurst	\$7.50	25.46
 5	Grey Ghost (VIC)	Jeff Britton	\$9	25.74
 6	Leica Prayer	Jillian Stamford	\$34	25.84
 7	Tiggerlong Tonk (VIC)	Corey Grenfell	\$4.40	25.58
 8	Stop Line	Jillian Stamford	\$5.50	25.62
 9	Peco Can (RES)	Robin Grubb	\$7.50	25.55
 10	Black Taxi (RES)	Robin Grubb	\$34	26.09

Local expert's selections for the final are as follows.

Peter Hayes1st Raging Ralston2nd Hooked On Scotch3rd Stanley GordonColin McNiff1st Tiggerlong Tonk2nd Hooked On Scotch3rd Stop LineShane Yeats1st Hooked On Scotch2nd Tiggerlong Tonk3rd Raging Ralston**What's happening on race night?**

The Ladbrokes Hobart Thousand Final is Tasmania's only National Group One race and you can witness the action live.

Date: Thursday 19th December Time: Gates open 6pm - first race 7.30pm

Venue: Ladbrokes Park Elwick

Admission: Adults \$10 | Concession \$5 | Under 16 Free

Two great dining packages available:

2 course buffet in private dining area, racecourse entry and racebook \$65 per person

2 course buffet in private dining area + 4 hour drink package, racecourse entry and racebook \$110 per person

On course: Kids corner including movie zone, free popcorn, pop top and face painting. See Toy Story 4 on the big screen from 7pm.

Santa on Course, Owner for a day – 8 lucky people will ‘own’ a finalist for the day and if their dog wins they collect \$500. Boys & Girls Toyworld Gift Vouchers to be won.

Lucky Door Prize and drawing of the HGRC Xmas Raffle.

Bookings Essential: call Hobart Greyhound Racing Club (03) 6214 4261 or email hobartgreyhounds@hotmail.com

The History of the Hobart 1000

The Hobart Thousand was the brainchild of M.A. (Arthur) Morgan, widely regarded both in Tasmania and on the mainland as one of the founding fathers of greyhound racing in Tasmania, and one of the greatest administrators the sport has seen. Morgan was inducted into the AGRA Hall of Fame in 2009. The Hobart 1000 remains the longest running Classic event on the Australian greyhound-racing calendar.

Greyhound racing commenced in Hobart at the T.C.A. ground on January 30th 1935, Morgan and his original committee established the Hobart Cup as the Classic race of the year and it was run on February 2nd that year. The winner Elwick Boy collected 20 pounds for his owner S. Burton.

Morgan in his great desire to establish Hobart as the leading greyhound track in Australia, saw the Hobart Cup as the way to achieve this. The race was advertised as the Hobart Thousand in 1939 with a first prize

of an Australian record 500 pounds. This started the mass influx of the top mainland chasers, searching for “Thousand Glory”, an influx that continues to this day.

The race reverted back to the Hobart Cup for 1942/43, because of financial constraints, and the fact that the mainlanders struggled to get here during the war. Further war restrictions saw the race in recess during 1944 and 1945. When the race resumed in 1946, it was again the Hobart Thousand and was run for a first prize of what Morgan had always wanted it to be, 1000 pounds. It was won by popular Hobartian Dick Baker with his top chaser Ebon’s Own, trained by Claude Best. The late 40s and 50s were indeed the halcyon days of the H.G.R.C. When Morgan started up the Maiden Thousand in 1949, (which was the richest Maiden series in Australia until the 1980s) it created a greyhound racing carnival of sorts with leading mainland trainers migrating to Tasmania with greyhounds to compete in the Maiden Thousand, Hobart Thousand double and sometimes Launceston Cup as well. Legendary NSW trainer Charlie “Chika” Morris would often bring up to 20 chasers and stay for 3 months. He did this for decades.

GRAND OPENING
GREYHOUND
TOP CRICKET GROUND **RACING** Hobart Cup Night
Jan. 30, 1935

Under Direction HOBART SPEED COURSING CLUB PTY. LTD.

PROGRAMME

The MacRobertson Cup | **The Von Alwyn Cup**
£50 HANDICAP | **£10 HANDICAP HURDLE**
(Kindly donated by Sir MacPherson Robertson, K.C.M.G.) | (Kindly donated by J. Von Alwyn, Esq.)
For 48 Dogs at a Guinea | For 8 Dogs at a Guinea

Prize Money guaranteed irrespective of the number of entries received. Last three performances, if any, to be given.
Entries close at 8 p.m. on FRIDAY, JANUARY 25th, 1935, with the Secretary,
154 Collins Street, Hobart, and Mr. A. Morgan, 93 George Street, Launceston.

It is proposed to hold similar meetings on SATURDAY, 2nd; TUESDAY (Regatta Night), 5th; SATURDAY, 9th FEBRUARY,
1935, when a considerable amount of money will be added to the stakes

LICENSED BOOKMAKERS WILL BE OPERATING **ADMISSION: 2/- (Inc. Tax)**

Advertisement for initial meeting of the Hobart Speed Coursing Club.

An Advertisement for the first Hobart 1000 then known as the Hobart Cup

For 9 years straight ending in 1953, the Hobart Club distributed more stake money than any other club in Australia and the Hobart Thousand was always the lure for top quality racing and large public patronage. Until 1965 the race was run as a handicap, with Morgan having sole discretion, as was the case with most matters. Since 1965 all runners have been from the same mark.

Ill health forced Arthur Morgan from the helm of Hobart in 1967, but his dream race, known by all simply as "the Thousand", has continued through all the thick and thin that Hobart has encountered, right to the present day, where it is now a National Group 1 race with a first prize of \$75,000.

The most notable effort in the history of the Hobart Thousand must be the training feat of Hilda Williamson of Beaconsfield. She won back-to-back Thousands in 1961/62 with her grand bitch Ophir Doll, and just for good measure made it a hat trick with Ophir Gold in 1963. Another notable feat was that of Beaut Dina. She won the event run in 1976 and was the dam of Scene Control, which won the last ever Hobart Thousand run at the T.C.A. in 1980. Both were owned and trained by Ted and Laurie Rigby of Evandale.

Arguments will always rage over the greatest dogs to win the Thousand. The best interstate chasers to gain victory would have to be Rookie Rebel (1958), Benjamin John (1969), (which ran down the immortal Zoom Top), Black Aztec (1981), and the freak Brother Fox (1985). Amongst the very best of the locals to salute would have to be Ophir Doll (1961/62), along with Royal Griffin (1978), True Vintage (1988), Bomber's a Flyer (1996), Top Shiraz (2000) (who held off the speedster Brett Lee) and Black Caleb (2002) who defeated Melbourne Cup winner Classic Capri. Race record over the 457m trip - 2005 winner Ralph The Mouth 25.60. Dyna Tron (2011) and Paw Licking (2013).

The Hobart 1000 is the oldest feature race final in Australia it was first run as the Hobart Cup at the old TCA circuit in 1935. The race first became known as the Hobart 1000 in 1939, it reverted back to the Hobart Cup for two years in 1942 then was not held during the war years of 1944-45 and when the race recommenced in 1946 it was again known as the Hobart 1000.

Victorian Champion Trainer Graeme Bate holds the record for most number of winners he has won the race on no less than four occasions. Victorian trained greyhounds have won eight of the last 10 Hobart 1000's decided since the race moved to Tattersall's Park at the Elwick Racecourse. Superman, Train A Journey and the 2009 winner Prankster were split by local speedster Little Spaniard in 2008. In 2011 the winner was AGRA and Victorian Greyhound of the Year Dyna Tron he beat local star Rewind by a nose. In 2012 the 1000 went to another Victorian trained horse shoe star Shepparton Cup winner Blackalls Boss for Michelle Mallia-Magri. He run down local superstar Rewind and for the second year in succession and again the local champion had to be content with finishing second.

In 2013 in a race that was expected to be a cakewalk for reigning Melbourne Cup winner Black Magic Opal, Paw Licking ruined the script and announced his arrival as a superstar.

Paw Licking began brilliantly from box seven and quickly cleared the field to lead while Black Magic Opal (\$1.40) also was well away from box eight and camped on the leader's heels turning for the run home.

When Black Magic Opal loomed to win it looked a foregone conclusion but Paw Licking refused to wilt and with fighter-like instincts he dug deep like never before and held on to score by under a length from Black Magic Opal with Tasmanian star Yappin' Jack a gallant third ahead of Ronan Izmir.

New Zealand - owned greyhound Above All (\$5.20) from the Robbie Britton's kennel dispensed with a top class field in the 2014 Tattsbet Hobart Thousand. Above All was having only his 11th start in Australia and 13th career outing but he delivered a performance that was more like that of a seasoned star. The Allison Lee-owned dog began well from box five and had the lead after travelling 50 metres and was never headed. He powered his way up the home straight to score by almost eight lengths from Ride The Rails with the favourite Dyna Villa (\$2.80) a head away third. Above All smashed Paw Licking's track record of 25.64 that he set in winning the 2013 1000 Britton's kennel star stopping the clock at a scintillating 25.52 which was two lengths quicker than the previous best.

2015 the Brett Bravo-trained dog began fairly from box two but settled midfield while Tasmanian-owned star Bearville Azza (\$4.50), that produced the fastest time of last week's six heat winners, led clearly and turned for home with what looked to be a winning break. But when the son of Knocka Norris-She Ain't Late slipped into overdrive he quickly reduced the margin and eventually ran down the Tasmanian to win by a head.

In 2016 Country Victorian greyhound trainer Mathew Lanigan burst into tears when his courageous sprinter Zipping Bruiser stormed home to win the Group 1 Hobart Thousand over 461 metres at Luxbet Park Hobart.

"I can't believe I've just trained a Group 1 winner," Lanigan said.

Zippering Bruiser (\$13.50) began well from box six to settle third behind the favourite, El Grand Amigo that began brilliantly from box one to share the lead with another interstate invader American Monster. The race changed complexion when their field wheeled for home when American Monster forged to the lead with the Ted Medhurst-trained Chief Jetpilot motoring home along the rails and looking the likely winner. But he had no answer to Zippering Bruiser's powerful finishing burst that gave him a three-quarters-of-a-length margin on the line over Chief Jetpilot (\$10) with the same margin to American Monster (\$3.70).

In 2017 Rock Up Top (\$11.70) gave Rob Britton his third Group 1 Hobart Thousand victory in a thrilling final at the spacious Hobart circuit. The 2017 edition of Australia's longest running Classic was one for the ages with only a neck separating the first four chasers on the line, in the most exciting finish in the rich history of the time honoured Feature. The favourite Kouta Mayhem had been challenged strongly by the Ted Medhurst prepared High Treason to the turn into the stretch and was left a sitting duck halfway up the home straight. The challenges came left, right and centre with Rock Up Top hitting the front in the shadows of the post, only to have Print The Money (\$5.10) swoop late out wide on the track and its kennel-mate Blue Gum Hill (\$5.40) surge through late in the centre. When the judge examined the print there was plenty to look at, the margins coming up as a head, by a short half-head, with Kouta Mayhem a short half-head away fourth.

2018 in many ways, it couldn't have been a more fitting result to Group 1 Hobart Thousand Final than Leeroy Rogue's stylish victory for trainer Debbie Cannan and owner/breeders Jeff and Jane Crawford. Without question Tassie's predominant sprinter over the previous 12 months, he won a swag of races at the Elwick circuit, the son of Big Daddy Cool and Fantasy Royale was sent to the boxes at a whopping \$18.00 fixed odds before bringing up his 26th local victory in the \$75,000 to-the-winner final. Trainer Debbie Cannan celebrated another milestone when Leeroy Rogue surged to the front soon after the start, before leaving his opposition in his wake, charging into the top turn with a winning break. Once out in front there was an almighty cheer from the crowd as the "King of Elwick" charged away in the straight, scoring by 3 ¾ lengths from the gallant Peco Can, with Despacito flying home late to grab third.



Last year's Hobart 1000 winner Leeroy Rogue (All Pics Peter Hayes)

Listed below are the names of many champions that have tasted victory in the time honored event. It is certainly an impressive list of past winners.

1935 **Elwick Boy**, 1936 **Miafort**, 1937 **Loch Maree**, 1938 **On Par**, 1939 **Mr Whackles**, 1940 **Silver Rover**, 1941 **Cavalry**, 1942 **My Kenya**, 1943 **Askalon**, 1944 **"Not Held"** , 1945 **"Not Held"**, 1946 **Ebon's Own**, 1947 **Young Sign**, 1948 **Hero Minda**, 1949 **Erin's Ace**, 1950 **Neat Brandy**, 1951 **Pleasant Foam**, 1952 **Baron Dhu**, 1953 **The Mudlark**, 1954 **Pasha Chief**, 1955 **Minda Go**, 1956 **Baron Woomera**, 1957 **Rising Ace**, 1958 **Rookie Rebel**, 1959 **Peter's Treasure**, 1960 **Bow Rock**, 1961 **Ophir Doll**, 1962 **Ophir Doll**, 1963 **Ophir Gold**, 1964 **Sandy Stone**, 1965 **Fairbairn Lady**, 1966 **Ipswich Low**, 1967 **Fiery Bob**, 1968 **Sue Narila**, 1969 **Benjamin John**, 1970 **Plunder Road**, 1971 **Trion Scout**, 1972 **Beau Palomino**, 1973 **Sue's A Credit**, 1974 **Jamin John**, 1975 **Snowsim**, 1976 **Beaut Dina**, 1977 **Check Vista**, 1978 **Royal Griffin**, 1979 **Astradome Lad**, 1980 **Scene Control**, 1981 **Black Aztec**, 1982 **Kudaleen**, 1983 **Stony Point**, 1984 **Double Time**, 1985 **Brother Fox**, 1986 **Solitary Simon**, 1987 **White Gigolo**, 1988 **True Vintage**, 1989 **Scott James**, 1990 **Bacchant**, 1990 **Shantytown**, 1991 **Jenny's Legacy**, 1992 **Bomber Gleeson**, 1993 **Extra's Boy**, 1994 **Storm Hero**, 1995 **Clint's Pirate**, 1996 **Bomber's A Flyer**, 1997 **Shantung Tiger**, 1998 **Mirren Bale**, 1999 **Latest Lad**, 2000 **Top Shiraz**, 2001 **Black Caleb**, 2002 **Star Witch**, 2003 **Nobody Knew**, 2004 **Regent Thunder**, 2005 **Ralph The Mouth**, 2006 **Superman**, 2007 **Train A Journey**, 2008 **Little Spaniard**, 2009 **Prankster**, 2010 **Octane Show**, 2011 **Dyna Tron**, 2012 **Blackalls Boss**, 2013 **Paw Licking**, 2014 **Above All** 2015 **Unlawful Entry**, 2016 **Zipping Bruiser**, 2017 **Rock Up Top** and 2018 **Leeroy Rogue** .

The Ladbrokes logo is displayed in a white, italicized serif font against a solid red rectangular background.

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