

Di's line as Smooth as they come

ABOUT 11 years ago Diane Hannon decided to give greyhound racing away.

Her husband Joff had recently died and she felt she needed a break.

She sold up most of the greyhounds they had and had a break.

So how is it that Diane is now riding the crest of a winning wave with some of the best dogs she's had?

And with it has come a host of feature race wins with Smooth Syrah (Just The Best- Kalka Kate) including the recent Clem Jones Cup at Albion Park.

"When I decided to get back into dogs a few years ago, I decided I needed a good broodbitch line," Diane told The Journal.

So she went straight to Tom and Lorraine Paterson who sold her a couple of pups for \$3000 each.

They were a dog and a bitch by Worthy Reward-Brute Girl.

The cross had already worked to produced the flying sprinter and subsequently Group 1 producing sire Deep North.

Diane bought the pups and the bitch, racing as Kalka Kate, won 15 races (four at Albion Park) and was placed in the Ipswich Auction final.

It was also a producing damline ... just what Diane was looking for.

Brute Girl, twice at winner at the Gabba, had also produced such quality gallopers as Tiger Chariot, who eventually won 13 races at Angle Park, Mareeba Man, a winner at Albion Park, Wenty and Sandown, and the smart Shin Char who also won in three states.

Deep North had finished the closest of seconds in the National Derby.

When Kalka Kate, a full sister to Deep North but from a later repeat mating, retired to stud Diane put her to Just The Best.

It's been a superstar mating.

Diane is the first to admit Smooth Syrah is the best she has owned.

The bitch has also won the Group 3 Interstate



Robbie Morgan and Smooth Syrah.

Challenge in Perth, and the Anniversary Trophy and Publicans Cup at Albion Park.

But also from the litter are smart gallopers, and city winners Kalka Jak, Mylora Plain, Red Syrah and Tom Boy Tom.

Kalka Jak set a track record for 720m at Lismore.

Diane is the first to heap praise on Robbie Morgan and his partner Belinda Reid who prepare Smooth Syrah and have done such a wonderful job with her.

"She's the best I've had and full credit to Robbie Morgan and Belinda Reid who have brought her on to such heights," said Hannon.

While Kalka Kate is still producing litters for Diane, Smooth Syrah and Red Syrah are also destined to be broodbitches sooner rather than later.

But while Smooth Syrah is in the form she's in, that will have to wait.