

Canny Scot finds another smart dog

HE'S been pottering about with a dog or two for years, and has always had a handy one or two in his kennel.

He's former Scotsman, Jock Campbell, and he's back in the limelight now with promising youngster Jock's Girl (Bright Ebony-Deo Volente).

Jock is 71, has been in Australia since he was a 23-year-old but hasn't lost that accent even after 50 years.

"I was born in Motherwell in Scotland, worked as a bricklayer and at 23 decided to come out to Australia," Jock told *The Journal*. "It was 1959." Jock first came across the idea to head down under when working on a building site and a fellow worker mentioned he had been nominated to go to Australia but had to decline.

Jock jumped at the chance. Contacted the Australians who had made the original nomination and get the OK.

"My wife Janette and I had just been married," he said. "She came out three months after Jock and they have been in Brisbane ever since.

"My wife was a bit 'yes and no' about coming out, but she hasn't regretted it."

For 10 years Jock shifted from job to job as a bricklayer and then started his own business sub-contracting. And then 22 years ago, he was bitten by another bug that's stayed with him since.

"A friend was getting a greyhound and I went halves with him," said Jock.

The bitch was named Tartan Girl (naturally) and Ted Guy trained her at Coominya for wins at the old Gold Coast track, Tweed and Ipswich.

"It wasn't long after this that Ted Guy suggested I start training myself," said Jock.

He got a pup from Brad Woods, reared it at home himself, and won 10 races with it as Volpine including the Silkstones Esk Shire Cup at Ipswich in 1985.

"I took the dog to Graham Beh every week to get it checked out and he told me what to do and what not to do ... and I usually do what I'm told," he said. By then Jock was hooked ... well gone.

"I only ever have one dog, and only when I had Flying Cross and Final Cross at the same time have I had more than one dog in the kennel."

He's had plenty of success.

Knockie Forest won "four or five" QBIS races in a row and was a great earner for the kennel, while Flying Cross was a Gabba winner.

And Campbelltown Lock, which he got from good friend John Aquilina, won nine races at Ipswich, the Gold Coast and Albion Park and was a finalist in the Gold Coast Cup when fourth to Ngartao.



Jock Campbell and his latest pride and joy Jock's Girl.

"Being in that Gold Coast Cup was my biggest thrill," said Jock. "The favourite knocked my dog down early."

His latest star is Jock's Girl who was given to Jock by Ray Gilmore in return for a favour.

"I looked after some furniture for Ray for 12 months when he and his wife moved back to NSW," said Jock.

Jock's Girl is all class. She was unlucky through the Vince Curry series and Jock was offered \$10,000 then.

"What am I going to do with \$10,000," he said. "I'd only have to go out and get another one."

Jock's Girl recently finished a great third in the Puppy Classic final at Albion Park after winning a heat and Jock is looking forward to stepping her up in distance.

"She's slow early but is strong," he said. "She's the only dog I have got. At my age you have to play it day by day."

Jock and his wife have been home to Scotland on holiday. "I was there a couple of minutes and couldn't wait to get back to Brisbane," he said. And Jock's Girl ... no doubt.