

Gavin is brewing up a storm in training ranks

TEN years ago Gavin Whitehead had nothing to do with greyhound racing.

Three years ago he had never trained a dog of his own. Now he's virtually living off the industry in Rockhampton and wants to get more dogs.

So what's brought about the change?

"I met my wife Jeannine at work, and her parents Albert and Carol Harker have been running as trial track at Ridgeland for 20 years," said Gavin. It wasn't long after that Gavin had moved to Ridgeland and started helping out around the track. "Albert and Carol were famous in this area for the gymkhanas they ran," said Gavin.

"I often went to the dog for a bet, but never thought about training."

A few years ago Gavin decided to get a trainer's license and the rest is history.

He recently prepared Aston Storm to win the Young Star Classic on his home track and he now has nine dogs in training.

"I started out with a few dogs and the best of them was Martini who won 15 races for me including the Christmas Cup and finished second to Oaks Blokes in the Derby up here," he said.

But Gavin realised he needs a big team and a big turnover to become a success.

"And I hope to get bigger," he said.



Kayla Whitehead, 10, and her brother Matthew, 8, are the biggest fans of Aston Storm recent Rockhampton Young Stars Classic winner.

Young Star Classic (510m) Rockhampton

1 **ASTON STORM** \$2.20
(Just The Best-Temnick Queen)

Owner-trainer: Gavin Whitehead.

2 **MARTIAN MAN** \$5
(Yo Yo's Boy-Impatient Fool)

3 **BURST OF SPEED** \$6
(Yo Yo's Boy-With Attitude)

Others: 4 Tom's Regret \$13, 5 Hitech Sausage \$2.50, 6 Anabus Boy \$13, 7 Internal Trip \$13. **Time: 30.39.**

But all his dogs are his own. "I'm not looking to train for owners," he said.

Aston Storm came from the Tom Tzouvelis kennel in Brisbane.

Gavin approached the GRA for contact number for trainers in Brisbane and was given a number of contacts.

Tzouvelis bred Aston Storm but was not convinced he would run a strong 500m in Brisbane company so sold him to Gavin.

Gavin recently sold his milk run and now works for fellow Rocky trainer Dallas Beckett in a newspaper delivery run.

It gives him plenty of time to work on his ever-expanding kennel. "I'm having a great run with my team, averaging a winner a week," he said.

Including a Young Star Classic.

Credibility	Worth Doing
Just The Best	No Liability
Flying Amy	Amerigo Man
ASTON STORM	Tenthill Flyer
Highway Jon	Tarana Boy
Temnick Queen	Top Priority
Merry Chariot	Chariot Supreme
	Merry Frolic