



MEDIA RELEASE

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“Faithful Love easy winner in the Peter Mosman Memorial Classic Final”

(Story supplied courteous Greyhound Recorder – written by Tony Megahey)

It might have been a deluge at Wentworth Park, but at Jupiter’s Casino on the Gold Coast it was fair weather flying and the celebrations were long and loud as Faithful Love “swamped” them in the prestige Peter Mosman Memorial last Saturday night.

Faithful Love’s owner, knockabout bookmaker turned punter Harry Markou – currently on holidays - is having the streak of his career and its likely the TAB at Jupiters suffered a reversal rarely experienced at the nearby card tables or the roulette.

Harry and his wife Helen were among a large contingent of Sydney greyhound identities up north for the Tweed Heads Galaxy series and Harry and his mates cleaned up when Faithful Love, favoured by the heavy conditions, was too strong for popular little south coast bitch Lake Stunner.

Eventually Faithful Love prevailed by several lengths over a brave Lake Stunner with Odnoc Beau third with the 30.52 winning time emphasizing the state of the track.

“When we drew box six we were all depressed, no hope, but as it turned out the ‘heavy’ favoured stronger dogs ahead of the bitches and the inside was nowhere near as good as out where we were,” bubbled the Markou’s popular trainer Ruth Matic.

“Once he got behind the bitch, I knew he’d be far too strong if he didn’t tangle up and the conditions on the inside for her were a lot different to a fast track in the heats and semis.

“After our set back in the draw, it all turned for us on the night; that’s the way it goes but this dog has had so many problems.”

Ruth has had to work overtime on the injury prone Faithful Love and it was no certainty that he’d get to the boxes for the Final.

“He could hardly hobble the day after the Semis, he’s got a problem fibula and he’s broken down a few times and usually three runs is his limit - he’s out again now for a few weeks.”

“He can’t cope with successive races on two turn tracks, we got him ready trialling up the straight at Appin and now he’s having a break.”

The disappointments of the final were the well performed Group sprinters Captain Odessa and Jinderra Flame but the going on the inside may have been a factor.

Also there was a humourous aside to the night’s proceedings.

“Helen (Markou) rang twice during the presentation speeches....when my mobile went off I was that embarrassed!” Ruth chuckled.

“She was that excited, I left her on the line so she could hear everything.”

Meanwhile, Markou is having a dream run and apart from Faithful Love, Natural Love and Magnificent Love, both trained by Harry, are winning a stack of races at headquarters and at the provincials.

Indeed, Natural Love ploughed through the slosh to win the sixth event last Saturday night, a precursor to Faithful Love’s Group 2 triumph.

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

After the placings the field finished in the following order 4th Top Fancy (\$6.30), 5th Jai Flex (\$9.50), 6th Modern Supreme (\$7.00) 7th Jinderra Flame (\$13.60) and Captain Odessa (\$5.80).

Faithful Love is a White & Black dog whelped January '04 by History Lesson from Gorgeous Lee (Light Of Fire x Miss Birralelee). The Group 2 Mosman Memorial was Faithful Love's 14th win from 23 starts and he has been placed six times. The \$25,000 first prize took his earnings to \$36,735.



**(Faithful Love with Ruth Matic, daughter Danielle and Shirley Mosman, wife of the late Peter Mosman
(Pic taken by Craig Youll)**

The Classic was first run at Harold Park in 1952 when won by Robin Buchanan. In those days the race was called the Bi-Annual Classic and remained the same until 1988 when the GBOTA renamed the Classic honouring legendary administrator the late Peter Mosman. Like all other GBOTA features it moved with the club to Wentworth Park in 1987. Some outstanding sprinters have won the race over its journey going back to Miss Oakey (53), Tell You Why (59), Classy Jane (the dam of Black Top 60), Rokoko (68), The Smoother (70), Satan's Legend (78), Tegimi (79), Promises Free (82), Brother Fox (85), Farmer Wilson (91), How's The Fort (92), Worthy Reward (93), Tap Dance (94), Solve The Puzzle (98), Great Wish (99), Winsome Dollars (2001), Elite State (2003), Surf Lorian (2004) and last years winner Over Flo. Listed below is the honour roll in full.

1952 Robin Buchanan, 1953 Miss Oakey, 1954 Farrago Hawk, 1955 Proto Girl, 1956 Double Jade, 1957 Fine Earl, 1958 Town Ghost, 1959 Tell You Why, 1960 Classy Jane, 1961 Silver Khan, 1962 Nimble Aye, 1963 Keen Linen, 1964 Sudden Linen, 1965 Satyr Rocket, 1966 Perfect Socks, 1967 Dark Durante, 1968 Rokoko, 1969 Silent Ring, 1970 The Smoother, 1971 Alray Lad, 1972 Toouli, 1973 Dusty Trail, 1974 Early Copy, 1975 Arctic Raider, 1976 Proper Calibre, 1977 Ripa's Regard, 1978 Satan's Legend, 1979 Tegimi, 1980 Dick's Gem, 1981 Merry Tempest, 1982 Promises Free, 1983 Acacia Park, 1984 Crathie Drive, 1985 Brother Fox, 1986 Yob Yobbo, 1987 Paris In Spring, 1988 Kinjarra, 1989 Style Leader, 1990 Classy Spider, 1991 Farmer Wilson, 1992 How's The Fort, 1993 Worthy Reward, 1994 Tap Dance, 1995 Patchtime, 1996 Casino Jack, 1997 William Wallace, 1998 Solve The Puzzle, 1999 Great Wish, 2000 Token Wave, 2001 Winsome Dollars, 2002 Big Sam Banner, 2003 Elite State, 2004 Surf Lorian, 2005 Over Flo.

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