



MEDIA RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

3rd November 2006

Heartbreak for sprint diva

Oxley Gazelle to miss Sapphire Crown final due to injury

Oxley Gazelle set Sandown Park alight in tonight's heats of the Group 1 Sapphire Crown Classic, but will miss the final after suffering a devastating career-threatening injury.

Oxley Gazelle (\$1.50F), who became the fastest bitch ever to race at Sandown Park after her effortless win in the World Class Sires, shattered her elbow in an accident in the catching pen. Her 29.67 heat win was the fastest heat win of the night, and she is likely to be replaced in the final by runner up Cash Up (\$6.40), who finished seven lengths adrift.

Group 1 Laurels winner Pure Burst won a thrilling race with Paul Bartolo's exciting young bitch Leprechaun Pace. Jumping from boxes 1 and 8 respectively, the \$2.20 equal favourites raced neck and neck for the entire 515m journey, Wayne Vassallo's consistent star prevailing by head on the line in 29.98.

The Wayne Vassallo trained chaser is now in line for the \$10,000 bonus on offer for the Laurels-Sapphire Crown Classic double after she sensationally won the Group 1 Laurels in June this year.

Betty's Angel (\$1.50F) scored an impressive victory in 29.82 after drawing unfavourably in box seven, and will need to repeat the dose to claim victory in the final after again drawing the black box. Three lengths away was Why Not Gail (\$12.70), her time good enough to join the victor in the final.

Elgrando Gold (\$2.30F) resumed from an eight-week lay off to win her heat in 30.12 in a master training performance by Carolyne Jones.

Also making next week's final is the exciting Ja Ja (\$2.30F) who won her heat in an impressive 29.92, and Dosses Angel (\$4.50) who proved too strong in the run to the line, winning in 30.21.



Continue

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

2

### GROUP ONE – SAPPHIRE CROWN CLASSIC

\$50,000 to the winner



#### Pure Burst

20 starts 10-5-3 (\$86,115)

Token Prince – Hotburst

Fawn Bitch August '04

Owner: **A Cuschieri, J Yusi**

Trainer: **Wayne**

Vassallo

Sandown Park best: 29.85 (5) (7 Starts 4-1-1)

Group 1 Laurels winner that looked back to her best with smart heat win in 29.98. Had to battle all the way but came out on top. Has won four races here and with aid of the red box she should start favourite and be hard to beat.



#### Oxley Gazelle

20 starts 10-3-1 (\$47,105)

Brett Lee – Magical Omen

White & Black Bitch

June '04

Owners: **Alwyn Watts**

Trainer: **Tina Womann**

Sandown Park best: 29.48 (4) (10 Starts 5-2-0)

Tragically injured in the catching Pen last week and won't start would have been very hard to beat.



#### Elgrando Gold

16 starts 9-2-1 (\$44,220)

Elgrando – Sweet Liberty

Fawn Bitch April '04

Owner/Trainer: **Carolyn Jones**

Sandown Park best: 29.84 (1) (10 Starts 4-2-0)

Was first up after eight weeks on the sidelines with a nice win in her heat in 30.12 likes Sandown where she has won four races. Was runner-up in the Laurels final behind Pure Burst and with a bit of luck in running could win, honest type.



#### Dosses Angel

47 starts 12-12-4 (\$36,225)

Royal Assassin – Proper Angel

Blue Bitch May '03

Owner: **Alan Williams**

Trainer: **Peter Wishart**

Sandown Park best: 30.22 (1) (2 Starts 1-0-0)  
Formally raced in NSW and returned to her best form last week when she accounted for some high rated contenders. Had box one last week so the four no bonus this week will need luck to win but has plenty of experience.



Continued on Page 3 ...

3

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION



### Leprechaun Pace

12 starts 7-5-2 (\$30,790)

**Brett Lee – Leprechaun Yap**

Black Bitch

November '04

Owners: **Diane Bartolo**

Trainer: **Paul Bartolo**

**Sandown Park best: 29.97 (8) (4 Starts 2-1-0)**

One of two litter sisters from the Bartolo kennel, went hammer and tong with Pure Burst in the heat and narrowly went down. Won a heat of the SA Oaks in a fast 29.34 best and has a heap of ability not without a chance. Will need to begin quickly from five to win.



### Ja Ja

33 starts 20-5-3 (\$43,655)

**Token Prince – Unopposed**

Black Bitch

April '04

Owner: **Deborah Ho**

Trainer: **Robyn Massina**

**Sandown Park best: 29.92 (3) (4 Starts 2-0k-1)**

Very talented bitch with a nice bit of experience won a heat of the Paws of Thunder defeating the eventual winner of the final Suave Fella. Looked good in winning her heat last week and has claims if she can find a run from box six.



### Betty's Angel

13 starts 8-1-1 (\$32,850)

**Brett Lee - Leprechaun Yap**

Black Bitch

November '04

Owner: **Diane Bartolo**

Trainer: **Paul Bartolo**

**Sandown Park best: 29.82 (7) (3 Starts 2-0-0)**

Bartolo's second finalist and very talented sprinter won the SA Oaks in fine style and has scored a couple of times at Sandown in good time. A lot of early pace and must cross the field to lead, just gets the 515 and isn't that strong but will certainly give it shake. Will be well supported by punters,



### Why Not Gail

15 starts 2-7-2 (\$5,125)

**Brett Lee – World Mover**

Black Bitch

December '04

Owner: **Gail Carter**

Trainer: **Greg Carter**

**Sandown Park best: NBT (2 Starts 0-1-0)**

Rank outsider of the field lightly raced with best performance at Sale in September. Has been placed in most of her starts and place chance looks best. Would cause a major boilder if she found the front and won.

**Cash Up**

65 starts 16-10-4 (\$63,668)



Primo Uno – Reeba Honcho

Should start from box two and would have to improve to trouble these.

Avon Lyla May 23 starts 11-3-2 (\$19,070)



Elgrando – Avon Joy

Continued on Page 4 ...

4

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

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

**Matt Corby**

1<sup>st</sup> Betty's Angel

2<sup>nd</sup> Pure Burst

3<sup>rd</sup> Leprechaun Pace

**Ron Hawkswell**

1<sup>st</sup> Ja Ja

2<sup>nd</sup> Betty's Angel

3<sup>rd</sup> Pure Burst

**John Pearson**

1<sup>st</sup> Pure Burst

2<sup>nd</sup> Betty's Angel

3<sup>rd</sup> Dosses Angel

Local Market for the Sapphire Crown Classic:

\$73,000 G1 Sapphire Crown Classic (515m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
	Pure Burst	Wayne Vassallo	\$3
	Oxley Gazelle	Tina Womann	INJ
	Elgrando Gold	Carolyn Jones	\$8
	Dosses Angel	Peter Wishart	\$16
	Leprechaun Pace	Paul Bartolo	\$5
	Ja Ja	Robyn Massina	\$8
	Betty's Angel	Paul Bartolo	\$3.25
	Why Not Gail	Greg Carter	\$26
	Cash Up (RES)	Graeme Bate	\$16
	Avon Lyla May (RES)	John Norden	\$51

### What's happening on race night?

Sapphire Crown Classic night is Ladies night at Sandown Park with all ladies receiving free entry and the first 250 through the gate will also receive a show bag of goodies especially for the Ladies.

The club is also providing free pamper services for all the Ladies in attendance. Throughout the night up stairs in the Henry Harrison Grandstand a number of stalls will be set up offering a wide range of interesting products and services only for the girls. Massage, Make up and Clairvoyance are but a few of the services available.

The Sapphire Classic was first run in 1974 as an age restricted race for dogs and bitches. The event was relaunched in 2002 as the Sapphire Crown Classic bitches only feature. Listed below is the impressive list of past winners.

1974 **Bristol Sue**, 1975 **Dynamic Dean**, 1976 **Tawny Brad**, 1977 **Overflow Love**, 1978 **Rubin Caine**, 1979 **Monica's Mist**, 1980 **Worthy Weston**, 1981 **Shamrock**

Flight, 1982 Wynlee Spirit, 1983 Rocky Pyramid, 1984 Currency Lass, 1985 Rembrandt, 1986 Sydney Dingaon, 1987 Rothwell, 1988 Hogan, 1989 Super Gun, 1990 Ravello, 1991 Heza Mullrook, 1992 Dashing Eagle, 1993 Magnacarter, 1994 Stylish Raider, 1995 Ben's Surprise, 1996 Sarah's Deano, 1997 Token Prince, 1998 Time Framer, 1999 Ashlee Jeannine, 2000 Dutchy's Angel 2001 Let It Be 2002 Bye For Now 2003 Bogie Leigh 2004 Paua To Burn and 2005 Paua To Burn.

*Continued on Page 5 ...*

5

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION



The 2004 and 2005 winner superstar Paua To Burn

(Pic Paul Munt)

**Thanks for information supplied by Michael Floyd Sandown Administration.**

**Any further information contact:**

**The Sandown Office at Sandown: 039546 9511**



[admin2@sandowngreyhounds.com.au](mailto:admin2@sandowngreyhounds.com.au) or [www.sandowngreyhounds.com.au](http://www.sandowngreyhounds.com.au)

For more information please contact:

**Neil Brown**  
**AGRA Publicity Officer**  
**Tel: 03 97691234**  
**Mob: 0423 129 950**

**Donna Summers**  
**AGRA Executive Officer**  
**Tel: 02 96465711**  
**Mob: 0414 524 907**