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NEWS JANUARY 2009

Having a shot at the Creek

Courtesy GRAQ website

27 Jan, 2009.

GARRY Gilbert just loves leftovers.

Not that he is talking about the food supplies in the fridge at his Tivoli home ... although he admits to be a "good doer".

He's talking about dogs he's been given from top kennels with which he has had great success.

That's the partnership between Gilbert and Dave and Christine Robartson in recent times.

It worked again at Capalaba on Saturday when Double Shot (**Whisky Assassin-Double Guess**) won his fifth race in six starts.

The Robartsons have pretty high standards.

Dogs like Miss Hot Gossip and El Galo have proven that.

So they are happy to give to Garry dogs that may not be in that class.

"That's how I got Take A Squizz and she's been very good to me," said Garry.

Double Shot has been in the Gilbert kennel since October.

On Saturday at Capalaba he won a final in a flying 19.85 the only dog on the day to win under the 20-second mark.

He backs up tonight in a 520m final at Ipswich but from box four.

"He won his heat last week out of the four," said Garry. "He's going really well and I think there is a bit more in him yet.

"He keeps stepping up every time I test him."

The only time the dog was beaten, Double Shot snapped a toenail when fourth at Ipswich.

Now Gilbert will head to Albion Park with the dog.

"I'm happy to take him along steadily," he said.

The Robartsons have given Garry a Collision-Double Guess dog to train. He is a litter brother to the Robartson's boom youngster High Earner.

JANUARY 2009

Bookies don't want to be 'Burnt'

Courtesy GRAQ website

19 Jan, 2009.

SHANE Ellis, riding a high after the birth of he and wife Tina's first baby, is itching for another bet with Burnt Discipline.

Burnt Discipline, a son of **Whisky Assassin-Miss Ross**, runs in a 520m Novice at Albion Park on Thursday night.

Ryan Ellis was born a few weeks early on January 3 the first baby for Tina and Shane.

"We were going to call him Kevin, but changed our minds pretty quickly," said Shane.

Burnt Discipline has raced three times winning a qualifying of the rich Renzo Park Future Stars series at Lismore in December.

He was then fourth in a semi-final and followed that by landing a betting plunge to win a maiden at Albion Park on January 9 in 30.78.

"The Lismore race was too short for him," said Shane.

"But he came out running in the maiden win which followed a pretty slick post to post at Albion Park."

The dog firmed from \$8 to start the \$2.20 favourite.

Ellis trains Burnt Discipline for the Velocity Lodge Syndicate which includes Steve Williams and Steve Mason.

"I've got a few dogs for the boys including Velocity Thunder who has already won at Ipswich in 37.40 at her first run over 630m," he said.

That bitch has just returned to training after coming on season and Ellis is confident she will get back to her best quickly.

"I've also got a couple of others for the boys including a litter brother to Burnt Discipline who has improved out of sight in the past few weeks," he said.

Toowoomba greyhound educator Merv Miller suggested to Steve Williams that Shane Ellis could be an excellent option as a trainer for some of his ever-expanding team of greyhounds.

Of Burnt Discipline's chances on Thursday night, Ellis is confident but has respect for several of his rivals.

"I thought he would go quicker the night he won his maiden at Albion Park," he said.

"But he does come out good and is well placed. It is a race he can win."

The race has five last start winners engaged as well as High Play and Roxy Rocks who were placed in Novice class behind Premier Chief at Albion Park last Thursday night.

The interesting runner of the night at Albion Park is Black ruler dropping back to a 520m Best 8.

He has run the past two weeks over 710m at headquarters winning in 42.22 and then runner-up last week to Smart Choice in 41.97.

The box draw has done him no favours. He has the four and comes up against Bogie Ace drawn perfectly in the rails, his littermate Eskimo Dancer in the three, greyhound of the year finalist Size Can Matter, and in-form Watts Wise as well as Lucky Alive

JANUARY 2009

Brothers Trek To Bulli

Written by: Johnny Aitken

Courtesy GRNSW website

21/01

With their mother Thai Again one of the most prized broodbitches in the land, Thai Alert and younger sibling Drover line up in the two big races on the card tonight at Bulli as pronounced favourites to continue the rise of her family's aura.

Thai Alert (**Hallucinate x Thai Again**) is much heralded on the back of his dominance at Wentworth Park last year where he won ten races including a run of four in a row at the highest level possible culminating in a heat win of the New South Wales Sprint Championship.

Surprisingly he will debut tonight at Bulli which has been the training ground of a number of his siblings including Repeated who was a big winner on debut at the venue last February. He gets a nice box in the South Coast Heats 4/5 Grade Stake tonight to add a sixth track to his win list and give trainer Richard Dean renewed confidence with the Golden Easter Egg around the corner.

One race earlier in the feature race of the programme, younger brother Drover of the Brett Lee crop looks to have the Sports Factory 4/5 Grade Final in his keeping. Drover made headlines when he debuted here in a scorching time of 26.37 seconds and prepared by breeder Julie and Bruce Fletcher, the black chaser is sure to start a popular elect with bookmakers.

JANUARY 2009

Group One Lilley Is All Class

Courtesy GRNSW website

Written by: Johnny Aitken 19/01/09

Delivering on the all the pre-race hype that surrounded her, Lilley Criminal (**Hallucinate x Que Dee Tee**) blasted to the front from the boxes to lead all the way in the Group One GBOTA Association Cup at Wentworth Park on Saturday night to the raptures of her ownership syndicate Bigger Than Life Australia with a \$50,000 payday awaiting them.

Qualifying fastest for the final after an electric heat win, she drew the red rug for the final and was immediately posted a \$1.70 favourite in early markets as her brilliant early speed and ability to rail made her look a very hard prospect to topple in the final. Dana Lou Lou from box eight was expected to be a late danger with her price at \$4.50 early while Tasmanian champion Fallen Zorro had admirers at \$9.00 even though she had yet to win at Wentworth Park.

As if scripted, Lilley Criminal began like a slingshot from the boxes to lead from Calhoun Park as both bitches set a tempo that resembled high class sprinting affair to breakaway from the main pack headed by Abbi Taylah. Passing the winning post the first time around, Lilley Criminal had run the first section in a scorching 16.14 seconds as she breezed into the back straight with a handy break.

Calhoun Park and Abbi Taylah were trying hard but just couldn't peg back Lilley Criminal as she let down in the straight to land Group One glory in the time of 42.24 seconds. Calhoun Park was valiant in second three lengths back while Abbi Taylah gave her all in third another 4 lengths adrift.

With many "Lilley" caps prevalent on the terraces of Wentworth Park, her win was certainly a popular one and looks set to continue with trainer Anthony Azzopardi eyeing a return to the track for the Group Two Gold Cup heats early next month.

Disappointingly, Fallen Zorro was involved in some early interference and dropped right out to run a career worst last place.

JANUARY 2009

Radio Star Rides The Wave

Courtesy GRNSW website

Written by: Johnny Aitken

19/01

Stepping out of the large shadow cast by brothers Repeated and Thai Alert, black sprinter Radio Star notched his third win in a row with a scorching 29.80 second victory in Saturday night's GBOTA Life Members Free-For-All Stakes.

Long seen as the second tier of the **Hallucinate-Thai Again** crop that also includes the smart Hendrix, Radio Star overcame a tricky middle draw in box four to again jump to the lead and close to hard for his rivals. Running 0.11 seconds to the first sectional, Radio Star held a break from Boom Gate who is known for his closing power. But accelerating through the back straight, punters who had taken the \$2.30 had little to worry about as he broke 16 seconds in the run home to score a two length victory from an improved Boom Gate (\$13.00) with Ravenstoke (\$13.20) another three and half lengths adrift in third.

Trainer Richard Dean has this family flying yet it may seem Radio Star has jumped ahead of the more heralded Thai Alert and Repeated to be seeded one in the family as he has run the fastest 520 metre time at Wentworth Park and has broken 30 seconds there on four occasions.

He might have a new threat in the coming weeks with the Kristy Sultana trained Blue Osti a winner of the Give Me Five @ Stud Stakes later in the evening, running down leader Special Kid in home straight to run 30.14 seconds. Having clashed with Radio Star back on Boxing Day where there was only a half head separating the pair, a rematch looks set to be an enthralling affair.

JANUARY 2009

Kathy to step up to 600m

Courtesy GRAQ Website

15 Jan, 2009.

RIDING the quest of a winning wave, Margaret Quarrell does not intend to let it stop.

Which is why she will now step Kathy's Recall up to 600m racing to keep her in fifth grade racing.

The daughter of **Hallucinate-Kathie's Memory** scored in a fast 30.17 when winning a 520m 5th Grade at Albion Park on Thursday night.

"She's strong and I'd like to keep her in the low grade when she steps up to the extra distance," said Margaret.

Kathy's Recall was the second leg of a winning double for Quarrell who had earlier won with Premier Chief in a Novice.

Kathy's Recall had also won on Monday night at Albion Park.

She scored by a length and a half over Voodoo Prince with three lengths to Phantom Ben in third.

It was her 12th win in 42 starts.

The bitch is one of three Margaret has in training. Her litter sister Cobbell Lass is on the sidelines after hitting the running rail at Albion Park recently and hurting her back.

Quarrell has long been one of the best trainers in Queensland.

And she has certainly learnt to be patient with her dogs and proved that again with Kathy's Recall and her sister Cobbell Lass.

"When I was first trialling them as babies, I was asked one day if I had brought in my house dogs, they went that slow," she said.

"But I tossed them out in the paddock for three months and it worked wonders on them.

"They didn't start racing until they were two and had improved out of sight."

The winner certainly showed by her victory that 600m will hold no fears for her.

She finished off her race with a 12.57 final section.