



## MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 8 February 2017

### Champion trainer goes for gold

One of Australia's leading trainers, Pearcedale local Jason Thompson will compete for his first Cranbourne Cup this Saturday night as the Gippsland Carnival enters its third stage.

Four greyhounds local to the Cranbourne Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) will vie for victory in the Group Two Backman's Greyhound Supplies \$67,000 Cranbourne Cup.

Thompson's dogs make up three of the eight dogs in the final being Big Flood, Sleek Master and Extreme Magic, plus one reserve in Aqua Cheetah.

Big Flood has won nine of his 10 starts and is quickly becoming one of Victorian greyhound racing's brightest stars.

The Cranbourne Cup, which is a twilight meeting will kick off with the first race at 6.22pm.

The Gippsland Carnival is a new concept for Greyhound Racing Victoria which incorporates the Sale, Warragul, Cranbourne and Traralgon Greyhound Racing Clubs.

The carnival has linked all four clubs country cups together culminating with a final at Traralgon on March 25, where a Gippsland Champion Sprinter and a Gippsland Champion Stayer will be crowned.

The carnival was launched in Seaspray at the end of last year with Western Bulldogs captain Bob Murphy announced as ambassador.

CGRC Manager Amanda Cameron said she is excited for her club to help continue the momentum that has taken Gippsland by storm over the last two months.

"We're excited to host the third leg of the Gippsland Carnival here at CGRC with plenty on offer both on and off the track," Ms Cameron said.

"A strong field of dogs will contend for the Backman's Greyhound Supplies Group 2 \$67,000 Cranbourne Cup as we get closer to finding out who will be crowned the Gippsland Champion Sprinter and Gippsland Champion Stayer.

"I would encourage all members of the family to get along to the Cranbourne Cup as there is something here for people of all ages, including plenty of entertainment for the kids."

The Colours on Course competition is also back again with TAB presenter Jaimee Rogers set to host the trackside event at the Cranbourne Cup.

Ms Rogers said she excited to be part of this new concept.

"I love getting behind new initiatives that drive people to track," Rogers said.



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environment that everyone can get behind, and with fashion so synonymous with racing, it's good to see this extended to greyhound racing."



TAB's Elly Wicks, as well as Riley Pearce from Riley Pearce Designs and Olivia Alcock from Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club will judge the competition and have urged people intending to apply to dress to the ten colours and patterns of the greyhounds.

Turbo's Trackside Corner is also expected to be a hit once again, including a 10-metre screen greyhound game that has captured the attention of all the kids so far.

There will also be an inflatable slide, jumping castle, outdoor games plus more.

The carnival's entertainment doesn't stop there, with live bands and food trucks to taste the colours of the world.

Families can also go in the draw to win a trip to Disneyland, by getting their 'passport' stamped at two of the four cups.

For VIP or family packages and more information go to [gippslandcarnival.com.au](http://gippslandcarnival.com.au).

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