



THE GREAT CHASE

Community Events

2018



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About the TAB Great Chase Community Days

The TAB Great Chase Community Days are one of Australia's most successful community support initiatives by a sporting code, delivered as a partnership between Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV), Victoria's greyhound racing clubs and the TAB.

Since 2003, hundreds of community groups have shared in over \$600,000 in cash prizes to buy equipment and to pay for excursions and activities, had a great time at the races and got to meet the sport's athletes, the greyhounds.

Each racing club invites local community groups that care for the intellectually and physically disabled members of our community, including their staff, clients, their families and carers, to a day or night out at a TAB Great Chase race meeting. During this Community Day, they enjoy entertainment, prizes, gift bags and lunch or dinner. Each group is matched with greyhounds racing on the day to share in a prize pool of \$2000 if their greyhounds win or place.

All participating groups are invited to the Great Chase Final at The Meadows where eight are randomly selected to draw greyhounds running on the day for a share of \$24,000. The group with the winning greyhound takes away the grand prize of \$10,000 with the other seven groups each receiving \$2000.

Join us in a look back at the 2018 TAB Great Chase where more than 2000 clients, carers, family members and staff from upwards of 100 community groups enjoyed Community Days and a Grand Final hosted by Victoria's 13 metro and regional greyhound racing clubs.



Geelong Greyhound Racing Club

4 September 2018

The 2018 Great Chase kicked off in 2018 with the Geelong Community Day, attended by 45 people from 5 community groups. Local group Estia Health were back for the second time and one of their staff, Pam said the day brought back memories for some of their residents from when they used to go to the races.

“One of the residents is still the keen punter and picked winners throughout the day for himself and other group members.”

Also returning was the Endeavor Foundation which won a cash prize of \$700 to fund more outings by its social club, including a trip to the Great Chase Grand Final. Other winners on the day were Shannon Park Scope and Estia Health, which won \$550 and 350 respectively and Riverside Community House and Rhett Syndrome which each took home \$250.



Sale Greyhound Racing Club

6 September 2018

Despite some rugged weather, 205 people from 12 community groups made it to Sale's Great Chase Community Day, including last year's winners of the \$1,000 first prize, Sale Special School, who put the money towards a new playground. Staff member Pauline from the Bairnsdale chapter of EW Tipping Foundation, Great Chase regulars since it began 15 years ago, said

“the community inclusion and socialisation means so much to our clients, they get to see people from other groups and have a fantastic day out”.

St Elmo's Nursing Home picked up \$1,000 for drawing the most winners and while Yooralla Society-Topping St received \$400 and Mirradong Services, the EW Tipping Foundation and Stretton Park Aged Care each won \$200.



Bendigo Greyhound Racing Club

7 September 2018

Bendigo's Community Day saw 115 people from 14 groups turn up to enjoy a day at the races, including students and staff from Kalliana Specialist School who have been represented at the Great Chase for many years.

"It's a fantastic way to engage the community, the guys get to socialise with friends and have a great day out,"

said Mervyn, one of the School's staff. Attending the Great Chase for the first time, Interchange Loddon Mallee's Janelle brought along 20 clients and agreed their two table were among the most enthusiastic in cheering on their greyhounds. At the end of the day, Vahlad Complex OPU took home \$1,200, Individual Services Scope won \$600 and Scope-Weeroona Avenue picked up \$200.



Ballarat Greyhound Racing Club

10 September 2018

Ballarat's Great Chase Community Day attracted 150 people from 11 local groups including McCallum Disability Services who won the Chase's 2016 Grand Final.

"It's a fantastic initiative by Greyhound Racing Victoria and the TAB to engage the community and more organisations should do something like this,"



said Angela from McCallum Services. Residents of Eureka Village Hostel, which won \$600, also had a great day out. Debbie from the Hostel said "Some of them used to come to the greyhound track and race dogs, so it's a great opportunity for them to keep coming to the tracks and experience the races." Other winners on the day included McCallum Club-Lowd with \$1,100 while Riding Develops Abilities and Pinnacle each took home \$150.

Horsham Greyhound Racing Club

11 September 2018

Last year's winners, the Woodbine and the Warrick Warriors, were among the nine groups and 75 people who took part in the Horsham Community Day. The Warriors' Recreation Officer, Heather, said they put their winnings towards a trip to the 2017 Great Chase Grand Final where the group came second. "It's a delight for our guys to be part of something that everyone else is a part of."

"It's an opportunity for them to interact with other people and have some fun," said Heather. This year, Wood and Crete won \$1,200 with the Horsham Rockets taking home \$600 and the EW Tipping Foundation-Warunda picking up \$200.



Shepparton Greyhound Racing Club

13 September 2018

Around 90 people from eight community groups came along on the day including Connect GV which has been represented at every Community Day hosted by Shepparton since 2003, and Inspired Carers attending for the first time. Christine from Inspired Carers said, "any winnings today will go towards organising and running education programs, NDIS support programs and Positive parenting classes for our clients". Kerry from Connect GV said

"It's a fantastic night out and the clients we bring love connecting with the other groups and the whole social aspect of the night".

Eight groups won cash prizes on the day: Goulburn Options with \$700; Rangeview with \$400; PALS Inc and Vision Australia, each with \$200; Shepparton Access and Inspired Carers each with \$150; and Connect GV and Riding for the Disabled with \$100 each.



Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club

17 September 2018

Dalkeith Residential Aged Care, a Great Chase regular over the past 10 years, was one of the six community groups that brought 50 people along on the day. Karen and Tina from Dalkeith said some of their residents used to race greyhounds and that

“It’s a tradition for the group and the residents ask when its coming up and when they are having the day out”.

Another group returning for 2018 was Mitchell House Hostel, who are putting their \$200 win at Traralgon towards more resources for Hostel residents. Other winners on the day were Yallambie Aged Care with \$900, Dalkeith Care with \$500, All Abilities Sports with \$300 and Moe Life Skills with \$100.



Warragul Greyhound Racing Club

20 September 2018

With 160 people on course from 16 groups, it was big day for Warragul. Gippsland’s biggest disability support group, Mawarra Centre, which has attended every Community Day since 2003, came second with \$600. 2017 winners at Warragul, Headway Gippsland, also returned after spending the winnings

last year on iPads for the group’s clients. Janet from Headways said,

“there are not many other organisations that have functions for disabled people and to be so welcome at the greyhounds is fantastic”.

First prize of \$1,600 went to Yooralla-Drouin and Scope Gippsland won \$200.



Healesville Greyhound Racing Club

21 September 2018

This was only the second year Healesville hosted a Great Chase Community Day yet managed a strong turnout with 50 people from 5 local community groups. Attending for the first time, the Alkira Centre won the first prize of \$1,000 which staff member Kara said would go towards more resources for the Centre. Returning this year was the Caladenia Friday Fellas because, as Jo from the group said,

“It’s socially inclusive and has such a strong community feel”.

The Caladenia Friday Fellas also won \$500 on the day while Estia Health picked up \$300 and the Monkami Centre won \$200



Sandown Greyhound Racing Club

23 September 2018

Sandown’s Community Day, with the theme ‘spring racing’, attracted 100 people from 10 groups, including the Wallara Disability Services’ Close Street facility, back for their fifth year. Celeste from Wallara said

“it’s a holistic approach to an experience, the atmosphere is fantastic, the food and drinks and the giveaways are fabulous”.

Entering for the first time, Yooralla Disability Services, had a great time according John from the group. “It’s a great day out for the clients and also a fantastic reward for the hard work of the support staff and if we win some money, we can do more for the clients.”

Lubrano House won \$1,100 on the day followed by Blind Sports with \$600, Blairlogie Living and Learning with \$200 and Wallara-Close Street with \$100.



Cranbourne Greyhound Racing Club

26 September 2018

Blairlogie Living and Learning, one of 3 community groups that brought 30 people along on the day, won \$1,200. Jarrod from Blairlogie said the money would go towards the group's Tri State Games team and that "today is a great day we look forward to, it's a chance for the clients to come down and experience a 'normal' activity that they wouldn't get to do otherwise". Great Chase regulars for five years now, Bridge Inc, won \$600 that will be part of a fund to help clients with financial issues. "It's the social aspect of the day, everyone gets to come down and have a day out, meet other groups and win prizes" said Hershey from Bridge Inc,

"and we all feel so special when we come here".

The Cerebral Palsy Education Centre also took home \$200 on the day.



Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Club

4 October 2018

Warrnambool hosted 220 people from 20 groups with the East Warrnambool Rotary Club again providing catering support which this year included cooking more than 500 sausages and 250 hamburgers. The WDEA Socialisers, a group that hold social gatherings for members of the disability community in Warrnambool, won the first prize of \$1,000. "We get to come to the club and have a bet, have great food, and meet up with all our friends and each year" said Ami from the group,

"And the money we won is a bonus as we just love a great night out at the greyhounds".

Other winners at Warrnambool were DHS Carramar Crescent with \$500, Themar Heights Special Accommodation with \$350 and Getaway House and Warrnambool Special Development School who each won \$125.



The Meadows (Melbourne Greyhound Racing Association)

10 October 2018

The Meadows Community was very well attended with 230 people from 23 groups, including Autism Plus Melton, winners of the 2017 \$10,000 grand final prize which was invested in programs and outings for the group's clients. This year, they won \$250 which went towards travel to the 2018 Great Chase Grand Final. Fresh from a big win at the Healesville Community Day, the Alkira Centre brought more clients to The Meadows and Sarah from the group said,

"it's a fun filled day out where the clients get to have great food and listen to good music and it's nice for the carers as well, we never get to sit and have a relaxing day out".

Other winners on the day were: St John of God, the Araluen Centre- Orana and Riding Develops Ability- Oakland who won \$600 each;

Mclean Lodge and Carinya Society Day Service with \$250 each; and Wintringham Community Services - Housing, the Eunice Seddon Hostel and Wintringham Community Services- Port Melbourne who each took home \$150.



The Grand Final at The Meadows

24 October 2018

More than 500 people from 50 Victorian groups turned up for the TAB Great Chase Grand Final where they enjoyed a great day of racing, entertainment and a gala lunch and shared in \$24,000 in prizes. Thanks to a huge upset win by Go Commando to claim the \$47,000 first prize on the track, Broadmeadows Disability Services landed a \$10,000 cheque which is going towards upgrading disability support equipment and buying a bus. Broadmeadows Disability Services' Acting CEO, Simon McDowall, said "Our people always enjoy the experience of the Great Chase days. They really feel like they are part of the greyhound racing community for the day and are often getting on the stage with the band and singing and dancing.

"We often come across initiatives for the disability sector that end up being a flash in the pan and they disappear very quickly, so the commitment from GRV for the past 16 years to the Great Chase is quite admirable."

Sharing in the prizes at the Grand Final were:

Aurora Support Services - Vasey Venue
Aurora Support Services - Social Links
Scope - Heidelberg West
McCallum Community COS - I AM 2

SenseAbility
McCallum Community CDS - Blast
St John of God

If you're a member of a community care group that wants to take part in the TAB Great Chase Community Days or would like to know more about the event, contact: events@grv.org.au



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