

Young Stars Take Centre Stage

At Wentworth Park tonight the young stars took centre stage with the best young talent in our greyhound ranks competing for the \$25,000 winner's purse in the Young Star Classic, with Mark Vincent, one of Australia's newest and most exciting vocalists on hand to make the official presentation to the winner of the event.

This Group 2 event brought together a very even field of very promising young greyhounds, and with the age restrictions applying none were older than two years, while Mark Vincent at only 15 years of age,

has achieved so much, winning Australia's Got Talent 2009, and has gone on to immediate success with his debut album "My Dream - My Vision" performing sensationally on the charts.

This is an appropriate and exciting mix, as mentioned by GBOTA Chairman Bill Mangafas during the presentation to the deserved winner of the race, Zambola Bale owned by Paul Wheeler and trained by his son Brendan.

The race was an open affair and the winner started at \$8.60 and had the race well in his keeping when he was the surprise leader. Normally a strong finisher, Zambola Bale lobbed in front and it was always going to be hard for any of the other starters to run him down.

Even though Gazmick Storm and Thanks to You tried hard they were no match for the son of Collision who cleared out to win by 4 1/2 lengths in the smart time of 30.12.

At the presentation, connections of the winner were very proud of their young greyhound's success and received a satin embroidered rug and inscribed trophy from Mark, as well as a signed copy of his debut album and were delighted with this opportunity to meet one of Australia's most talented young performers.

Mangafas explained that Mark has had a long and close association with the GBOTA and has performed at various Association functions since he was a 13 year old. Mark recently performed for Wentworth Park patrons at the

Nice Products Golden Easter Egg final on Easter Saturday, just prior to his emphatic win on Australia's Got Talent.

Mangafas offered his heartiest congratulation to the winning connections and to Mark.

"For Zambola Bale I trust that this Group race victory will lead to an outstanding career similar to the success a number of previous winners of this race, particularly the likes of the Mark Bell owned and trained Go Wild Teddy," Mangafas said.

"Congratulations to all concerned with Zambola Bale's success and a special thank you to Mark for being with us tonight during what has been a very busy time for him promoting his new album.

Reality bites into dreams

VISUAL arts student Isabella Andronos rejects Employment Minister Mark Arbib's advice that gen Y should lower their job expectations, declaring it important to enjoy work.

"When I finished the HSC, I worked as a paralegal at a law firm. I hated it. It was soul-draining and I was depressed. Now I have my dream job. I work in a photo lab. I'm happier there, even though I'm paid much, much less," said Ms Andronos, 19, of Lilyfield, who works part-time while studying at the Sydney College of the Arts.

Stephanie Lau, 20, of Stanmore, is a Sydney University arts-law student who works in a call centre part-time. She agrees with Senator Arbib.

"It's realistic and depressing, and it's probably going to be difficult for a lot of us to get jobs," she said.

"My dream job is to be a self-employed writer."

People's high expectations after three to five years of study were understandable, said Greg Simpson, 27, a graduate



Feet on the ground ... (from left) Isabella Andronos, Katrina Senchuk, Stephanie Lau and Greg Simpson. Photo: Danielle Smith

trainee with the Australian Customs Service.

"It is a shock when they get out of university and find that the majority of jobs involve sitting at a desk, moving around a mouse and pushing on a keyboard eight hours a day," he said.

Even before the recession, double-

degree graduates ended up working as secretaries, said Katrina Senchuk, 19, of Pyrmont, who is doing international studies at the University of NSW.

"When I start [working] I don't expect to get the job I want. It will be like climbing a ladder," she said.

Article from the Sydney Morning Herald

Local groups receive \$3000 to support their activities

Three Western Sydney seniors groups based in the Granville electorate have shared in \$3000 funding from the NSW Government to support their activities in the community.

Minister for Ageing Paul Lynch and Member for Granville David Borger will today visit the Iranian Community Organisation, the Immigrant Women Speak Out Association and the Merrylands branch of the Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Association to present each organisation with a cheque.

Mr Lynch said he was made aware of the organisations' need for support through Mr Borger.

He said the Government was pleased to support efforts to keep older people active in the community.

"These local groups play a critical role in this community, keeping people socially connected and making sure the needs of older people are properly addressed," Mr Lynch said.

Mr Borger said the groups had contacted him about their need for support and he was happy to represent their case for funds to the Minister.

"These funds will help three very important local groups to continue supporting older people in our community.

"Making sure that people remain active as they age is critical to the health and wellbeing of our community.

"I'm happy to be able to support three important groups in our community who ensure this is possible for many of our older people," he said.

Andros ports during the 20th century

Reminiscent of a fairy tale, this exhibition that focuses on boats, boatmen and ports is somehow different.

The "Arodo" photography display, curated by Yiannis Mamais and organized by the To Gavrio association on Andros, opened on Saturday and will run to August 25. The exhibition is, in essence, a tour of the various ports of Andros - from Hora and Korthi to Batsi and Gavrio - from the early 20th century up to 1965. It features all kinds of boats, from early fishing boats (caiques) to motorboats, post-war coal ships and steamships, all of which dropped anchor at the island during the past century. The boatmen used to row passengers and merchandise to and from the big ships, often under very difficult circumstances.

The photographs on display were

put together after an extensive search across the entire island, as well as in Athens, with the contribution of collectors, museums, photographers and families of people who are no longer alive. The exhibits include some rare photographs by Spyros Meletzis and Andreas Embeirikos.

In his introduction to the exhibition, Mamais points out Andros's very special relationship with the sea, adding that the aim of the display is to highlight a part of the relatively recent past which nonetheless now seems to be long gone - even for those who experienced it - because of the rapid developments that have since taken place.

PHOTO: A rare photograph by Spyros Meletzis, taken in 1945 from Hora in Andros.

