

Dan's living a dream as an owner

A COUPLE of years ago, Gladstone racecaller Dan Saville decided he'd had enough of thoroughbreds. So he bought a greyhound and hasn't looked back.



“That first dog was called Plexine and Harold McArdle from Calliope got her for me,” Dan told The Journal. “She was nearly four and won a Fifth Grade at Rockhampton.”

Not a great start but Dan was hooked. When Harold decided to cut back his string, Dan moved to Lynn Smith's kennel in Rocky.

And his success has been beyond his dreams, recently winning a treble at Rockhampton with Party Starter, House Of Fools and Can't Add Up.

Dan is racecaller at Gladstone (12 meetings a year), Thangool (8 meetings) and Calliope (Boxing Day meeting).

He's been calling for 25 years at Gladstone.

“I had horses for a while but gave them away two years ago,” he said. “They were

pretty average.”

A former Brisbane boy, he owned a dog called Ross Que which won at Capalaba in the early 70s in his initial foray into the canine sport.

Dan buys all his own dogs.

“I got Party Starter as a maiden from Eddie Caruana the boss at The Meadows and she is now top grade in Rockhampton,” he said.

“House Of Fools was an unbroken pup in Melbourne and I bought Can't Add Up from the Attard boys.

“I'm always on the lookout for dogs.”

Lynn Smith describes Dan as the most enthusiastic owner she has had.

“I try to go up every time the dogs are racing and the three winners in one day recently was the best day I've ever had,” said Dan.

A railway worker, Dan does shift work which sometimes restricts his attendance at meetings.

He is full of praise for Lynn as a trainer.

Gladstone is 120km from Rockhampton, but an easy drive home for Dan ... specially when he has just had a treble.