

Life change again for Kevin

A DOZEN years ago, lifetime Maryborough resident Kevin Bryant ran into a mate who trained greyhounds. It has ended up changing his life. "I've always lived in Maryborough, in the same house actually," said Kevin. "I knew a guy from this area who had moved down to Forest Hills and bred a litter of greyhounds.



Kevin Bryant and Bundaberg Young Guns winner Just Like Tammy.

"I decided out of the blue to buy a couple." That was back in the early 90s. Kevin was working as a plumber and didn't really have time to train them himself. "One of the pups was named Forest Glen and it won a race at Toowoomba and two at Bundaberg but got off the lead one day, hit a fence and had to be put down," he said. But it has tempted Kevin into greyhound racing. His next dog almost forced him out again. "I bought a bitch and called her Northern Lass," he said. "She won at Toowoomba and Capalaba and I decided to breed with her." Sent to Nobody's Fool, Northern Lass produced a big litter which Kevin whelped at his Maryborough quarter-acre property. "I got a nice dog called Special Fool which won 10 races, two at the Gold Coast and eight at Bundaberg," he said. "But that litter taught me a lesson and I decided to give it away for a while." That was a little over a year ago. Kevin had sold everything. He was out of greyhound racing. "That was when I got a call from Jim Green at Torbanlea who had bought four pups by Shape Shifter-Tammy Tambosity and wanted to know if I was interested in two of them," he said.

Green wanted only \$250 for each. "I thought even a bad dog is worth \$250 so I bought them," he said. Kevin had to go out and buy everything again ... collars and leads, kennels, scales etc. One of the two 14-month old pups was called Just Like Tammy. From a \$250 pup, already broken in with moderate reports, Kevin has turned her into a Bundaberg Young Guns (550m) winner. He pulled a kilo off her when a youngster and it turned her around. She won a maiden final at the Gold Coast and a heat and final at Ipswich. To time of writing, her record stands at 22 starts for 11 wins and eight placings ... and a Young Guns victory. Kevin's back into greyhound racing in a big way. He has bought a five-acre property at Tiaro and already has plans to breed with Just Like Tammy when she retires. He also gives much of the credit for keeping Just Like Tammy on the track to a close friend, former New South Welshman Jimmy Drysdale.

"Jimmy does all the muscle work on my dogs and he is fantastic," said Kevin. "He had moved to Maryborough and called me out to his house for a plumbing job and we got talking about greyhounds." Kevin admits he has picked up his training technique from "a lot of people".

"I've received a lot of positive advice from a lot of people, but I like to do my own thing now," he said. That includes winning a Young Guns final.

Young Guns (550m) Bundaberg

- 1 **JUST LIKE TAMMY** \$3.40
(Shape Shifter-Tammy Tambosity)
Owner-trainer: Kevin Bryant
 - 2 **BLUEY SKYWALKER** \$4.40
(Master Havoc-Sweet Freedom)
 - 3 **SAMETTE** \$3.50
(Darcy's Reward-Joint Mission)
- Others:** 4 She's Dynamite \$5, 5 Barnacle Bob \$1.60, 6 Rare Chloe \$8, 7 Mitchy's Boy \$10, 8 Nanna Tatam \$77. Time: 32.26.

	Acacia Ablaze	Acacia Park
Shape Shifter	Pretty Wanderer	Watusi Rose
	Tammy Tambosity	Pretty Fearless
JUST LIKE TAMMY	Running Rapid	Fifi She's Not
	Tammy Tears	Rapid Supreme
		Helen's Blade
		New Tears
		Ruslyn Flyer