

Hickmott sweeps Townsville Young Guns



A Michael Hickmott trifecta in the Townsville Young Guns ... Bert Randall with runner-up Endabills, Michael Hickmott with winner Archie Valentine, and Alex Gallaher with third placed Shop A Docket. (Picture Christine Hickmott)

Worthy Reward	Worth Doing
Valentine's Boy	Kirsty's Return
Pilbara Jewel	Hay Dinney
ARCHIE VALENTINE	Hello Pop
Malawi's Prince	Malawi
Shocking Pink	Duchess Marina
Elusive Beauty	Amerigo Man
	Elusive Osti

IN the past few months, Townsville trainer Michael Hickmott has won a swag of races with Archie Valentine, the ultimate in home-bred gallopers.

The son of Valentine's Boy-Shocking Pink was bred by Hickmott from two of his former stars. But Hickmott reckons there is one better in the litter, and he's just given him away.

"Roy Valentine is the best of the litter, but I've had a lot of problems with him and I've given

him to my mate Bert Randall to give him a try," said Hickmott.

On the other hand, Archie Valentine has been slow coming on.

"But he's really firing now," said Hickmott.

Archie Valentine recently won the Young Guns (380m) at Townsville in something of a trifecta for Hickmott.

He trained runner-up Endabills and Shop A Docket, who finished third, is another member of the litter but prepared by Alex Gallaher.

"Glory Grabber is the best dog in my kennel, but Archie Valentine has really improved in recent months and has put together a few wins in a row," said Hickmott.

"But he is also off south for a campaign with Tom Noble."

Noble has just been in Townsville, winning the Cup final with Devine Gem and Hickmott asked the Brisbane trainer to give his dog a try in the south.

"He's bred for more ground but it's hard to get longer races up here," he said.

Shocking Pink has a litter of pups by Trendy

Leigh that are breaking in at the moment and is due on in a few weeks.

“I’m going to mate Valentine’s Boy and Shocking Pink again,” said Hickmott.

“The first litter has already won 33 races and they are just 30 months and have been slow coming to hand.”

Hickmott also praised runner-up Endabills.

“He’s been a good dog for the kennel,” he said.

“He’s so keen and that makes up for a lot in greyhound racing.”

Young Guns (380m)

Townsville

1 **ARCHIE VALENTINE** 1-1

(Valentine’s Boy-Shocking Pink)

Owner-trainer: Michael Hickmott

2 **ENDABILLS** 5-2

(Hotshot-Berrigaan Bid)

3 **SHOP A DOCKET** 12-1

(Valentine’s Boy-Shocking Pink)

Others: 4 Apparent 12-1,

5 Canny Cruiser 3-1,

6 Learning Curve 7-1,

7 Sir Optimist 12-1,

8 Farmor Tropics 3-1.

Time: 22.50.