

MACKAY NEWS

Mackay held its Anniversary night on July 5, its 28th year. The club celebrated with a cake and drink after the last race and it was fitting that Mackay's oldest trainer, Wally Pinnington cut the celebration cake. The Anniversary Sprint over 310m went to Sports Coupe trained by Vicki Mifsud from Best Ed trained by John McNamara and My Missy trained by Tony Camilleri.

In conjunction with the Anniversary night we ran the Colleen Jackson Memorial over 541m.

Colleen started training and racing greyhounds in conjunction with the opening of the Mackay track. Her success started on opening night with the win of Rusmic Flash.

That win was the first of many for Colleen who was top lady trainer at Mackay on numerous occasions. She had the uncanny knack of training dogs that others had given up on and

having success was one of Colleen's many traits.

Possibly the highlight of Colleen's career was winning the Mackay Cup in 1992 with Leroy My Man. This dog was raced in partnership with her husband Neville and friend Merv Stevens. She also shared success with friend Peter Rayner in an earlier Mackay Cup with Tuxola.

Such was Colleen's love of greyhound racing that the hour of her death was none other than Anniversary Night after the last race had been run in July 1997.

It is also fitting that during the seven years this race has been run it has been won by a lady trainer except in 1999 which was won by John McNamara. Mackay's vice-president Barb Sam has won the race twice, 2001 with Silver Champ and now in 2004 with Get Committed having his first start over this distance.