

Come Cup time, Nev has fond memories

WHENEVER the Sandown Cup comes around, Arana Leagues Club TAB boss Nev Renshaw thinks back to 1985.

That's when Nev was riding high in greyhound racing, training one of Australia's foremost stayers, the Waverly Supreme*-Quality Jade bitch Tashla.

Tashla won the Sandown Cup (718m) in '85 beating the great Sheila's Teresa and Rumpus King.

Nev also took her to a second National Distance Championship in succession when she finished fourth to Melmade Gazza in Tasmania.

The bitch had been third in the 1984 National Distance in WA behind Princess Baden when trained by Carl Haas.

"I've been in Queensland for five years and still follow the dogs regularly," said Nev, 66. He moved from Victoria and bought management rights at Arana Hills after a 25-year career as a TAB agent. He has worked in the TAB industry for 30 Melbourne Cups. Nev fondly remembers his days in greyhound racing. "I thought there was a way to train greyhounds, and it was differently to everyone else," he told The Journal.

"My wife Susan and I were into show dogs and we used principles taken from a Dr Delevy," he said.

Nev's greyhounds were never fed kibble, but he incorporated Slippery Elm, oats and barley etc, and on the seventh day of every week would feed his dogs a honey and water mixture.

"I was training at Mt Macedon outside

Melbourne and the dogs all looked superb on our methods, but were not particularly fast," he admitted.

"I was talking to Tashla's owner about that time and said I would like to give her a try. I was given the bitch virtually at that moment."

When Tashla won the Sandown Cup in 1985, she was backed for a fortune and cleaned out the bookies ring at Sandown.

Nev scaled down his training soon after.

"I was working 80 hours a week in the TAB and couldn't do them justice," he said.

"But I still love the dogs. It is a wonderful animal and local trainer Greg Cannon has been trying to talk me into getting one for a while. One day I will."



Nev Renshaw hard at work at the TAB at Arana Leagues Club.