

Feature – Cliff Nagle – Adelaide 10,000 Winner



Cliff in disguise without 'sunnies'!

Cliff started flying Racing Pigeons in 1958 as a Junior in the LeFevre Club. He restarted in 1995 and has accumulated 20 years in the game. He has been flying from Elizabeth Park in the Central Districts Club since 1995 and he has a willing assistant in the form of his grand-daughter. Hannah is aged five, and takes great delight in feeding, holding young to be rung and generally organizing her Grandfather around the Loft!

Cliff's restart into Pigeons was assisted by Grant Paterson and Bill Walford. Both supplied birds, and these have been bred together and the offspring raced for around 5 years. He then introduced some 'old family' from John Kokalakis in year 2000. He has since introduced Ponderosa Janssens and Bouffler Janssens.

The cornerstone pigeons of his current breeders are gifted birds - one from Grant Paterson and one from John Kokalakis. He breeds from 25 - 30 pairs, breeds 150-200 which he culls back to 130-140. He culls mainly cocks but some hens. He normally finishes a racing year with around 20 birds.

He races in the Central District Club which manages to win around two S.A.H.P.A. Races each year and lots of top 30 placings.

His general feeding regime is 50% peas, 20% wheat, 20% corn plus 10% small seeds. This he feeds all year round with minor variations for weather conditions, race line and distance. He worms twice a year - before breeding, and before racing.

Before the racing he employs a two week programme of alternating 1hr and 1^{1/2}hr tosses. Once racing starts, he generally uses the shorter tosses for the imported Janssens and Janssen crosses, and the longer tosses for the Australian birds. This programme is followed through the S.A.H.P.A. Races. Cliff alternates his training to the east line or north line as races dictate. As well as winning the Adelaide 10,000 Cliff rates his 2nd S.A.H.P.A 2006 in the Booroorban Sires Produce as good as or better than the 10,000 win. Cliff has a preference for east line hard day races and pigeons.

The Adelaide 10,000 Winner was bred by a Ponderosa Janssen cock (chosen by Grant Paterson at Cliffs' request) mated to a hen from the Peter Bouffler Stud. This hen was chosen and purchased by Cliff at the sale at the Adelaide 10,000 in 2004. Siblings have raced to Lyndhurst in 2006, and following the 10,000 win, have also been sent to the breeding cage!