

## Feature Mr. Consistency - Max Taylor - 4<sup>th</sup> SAHPA

Max started his racing career in Mt Gambier some 60 years ago racing from a tin shed (wooden floor) in fairly miserable weather conditions (but maintains that he was able to get his birds fitter then, than he can now at Rostrevor).

He purchased birds from Doug Green in 1960 and as Max says, 'one pair was absolute rippers!' and after breeding and learning to fly the progeny, he did extremely well.

He went to Brisbane in 1964 and flew with the South Coast Homing Club for 1 year then 1 year with the Garden Centre Invitation Homing Club - a Club which Max enjoyed being a part of.

Max then returned to Adelaide for two years then decided to retry Brisbane, but returned to Adelaide after 6 weeks. He then built his House at Rostrevor where he currently lives.

Max (being the pigeon craftsman that he is) has built up a store of knowledge about his birds and now provides training, feed and racing to suit his birds and the conditions of the week. In this, he has been consistently successful.



Max beside his Trophy cabinet - the Qld Cup and SAHPA medal top and centre

His last 11 years of results are a model of consistency and worth noting:

- 1996 - 5<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 1997 - 2<sup>nd</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 1998 - 15<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 1999 - 4<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 2000 - 12<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 2001 - 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 2002 - 9<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 2003 - 2<sup>nd</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 2004 - 3<sup>rd</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 2005 - 7<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Aggregate
- 2006 - 4<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Aggregate

Max has a very practical loft and the birds are very calm and confident. He has split his loft for North racing and for East racing (the best thing he has done for years he says), and flies cocks and hens together. He only culls birds that do not conform to his requirements. Due to a bad start to 2006 (due to Falcon losses), he started with only 24 young hens for the North line, so he 'just had to do more with the cocks!'

Max's best bird for the year was a BBH gaining 1<sup>st</sup> Club Ouyen#1 (fastest in SA Metro), 1<sup>st</sup> Club Ouyen#3 and 1<sup>st</sup> Club, 1<sup>st</sup> Group, 7<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Booroorban.

The Busshaerts he has added to his loft have done very well enabling Max to compete more favourably in the Club and Group races. Highlights in Max's recent career include winning the Qld Cup and Alice Springs in 1999, winning Adelaide 10,000 in 2000 with a bird donated to the Campbelltown Club, and winning the Adelaide 10,000 (Max was so excited he became speechless!) and S.A.H.P.A. Aggregate in 2001. He can truly be judged Mr Consistency in the S.A.H.P.A.