

Kym Karagiannis - Marla Winner - SA05 33251 BCH

Kym is 32 years of age and has been flying Pigeons since 1989. He was introduced to racing pigeons by his friend Mathew Ginever and they both flew as Juniors in the West Torrens Club for two years. Kym has raced with Woodville, Pt Adelaide, Riverside and now with the Southern Districts. He describes the people in the Southern Districts Club as 'good blokes' and notes that Craig Renton, L Abbott, Andrew Scerri and A Ellul were the flyers to beat in 2006. Kym is most interested in the long distance events, and has flown Alice Springs with some success.



In 2004 when he flew with a Cousin, Peter Minalotoulous at Riverside, his birds finished 4th, 5th, 7th, 11th and 13th Alice Springs - a terrific performance.

Kym has a small breeding and flying loft. He has space for 16 pairs of breeders (currently using 12 pairs), and aims for between 40 and 60 youngsters a year. His 2006 breeding year was interrupted by his move to Morphett Vale and consequently he started with 27 young birds, flew 4 races and finished the year with 11 young birds.

His breeding stock is a mixture of Dangerfield, Artie Morris and Peter Mathews - essentially stock he procured during his 11 years with Pt Adelaide from Ziggy Zyczko. His Marla winner though was purchased at the Southern Vales Squeaker sale (bred by T. Baldock & Family of Southern Vales). Kym noted that its dam was a pigeon that had flown Alice Springs, and thought he could 'do something' with the squeaker! He will retire the bird to stock and breed it though his Alice Springs family.

Kym credits Mathew Ginever with providing him with the basic habits for good loft management, and Ziggy Zyczko for providing good racing technique advice.

To get his young team started prior to racing he waits till they are flying well around the loft then gives them three consecutive days of light tossing, before arranging to send the birds on the association tossing unit. During racing he varies the program with either a long toss a week before the race, or a series of short tosses (4-5 days consecutively) before the race. The variations depend on his assessment of need.

The thing he enjoys best about racing the long distance events is being able to sit on his back Verandah, look out over his Pool, his Backyard, his Pigeon Loft and watch for his birds to fly in - 'over that Telegraph Pole to the left of the Tree in the distance!' He has enjoyed the shift to Morphett Vale and access to the Beach and Fishing at Pt Noarlunga.

In addition to racing Pigeons, his interests are Family, Camping and Fishing - a combination he indulges at places like Ardrossan (Crabs and Mulloway) and Pt Lincoln (Salmon and Tuna).