

Scott, Sharon & Jack Carpenter - Little Topar SAD Winner - SA07 12630 BBPH; The Twins Open Winner - SA07 12706 BCH

Scott started in pigeons in 1982 through his uncle Alan Thede. He has four SAHPA wins (which includes his two wins in 2008). His other wins were The Twins in 2003 and Coober Pedy in 2005. He won the inaugural Adelaide (1997) 10,000 one loft race.



His achievements in 2008 include 1st Little Topar SAD, 1st The Twins Open and gaining 15th SAHPA Aggregate points.

Following the death of his father-in-law Larry Mayne, he lost some interest in the sport but this year has regained the spark due to the interest his son Jack has shown in racing pigeons. He has especially enjoyed the manner in which the Para Club members have assisted Jack on club nights with his

racing pigeon education.

Bloodlines of SA07 12630 BBPH (a very late bred pigeon) are Goodger/Fred Delsar. Sire of SA07 12706 is a John Brislin Dordin, and the dam is an imported Ponderosa Van Loon (GB rung) imported by Larry Mayne in 1997.

The Little Topar SAD hen had normal loft training plus the usual twice weekly short/long tosses, plus a Snowtown toss then into the Little ToparSAD.

The Twins hen had a similar initial preparation, followed by the Glendambo YBC then into The Twins race.

Scott breeds from 24 pairs of breeders and aims to breed around 100 youngsters and has a race team of around 150 race birds. The loft is based around Goodgers from Alan Thede and Grant Paterson, plus the imports based on birds imported by Larry Mayne (Ponderosa Janssens, de Klaks and van Loons), plus some Laurie Thamm Dordins.

Feeding and tossing is generally done or organised by Sharon as Scott's work does not always allow the time to complete these tasks. He recognises the value and skill that Sharon brings to the results of the Carpenter racing team. Race birds are hand fed twice a day on a mixture based around peas (60%) wheat (30%) plus maize, milo, rice and safflower for the balance of the mix.

Multivitamins are provided twice a week and a bath (with Condies Crystals) is provided on a Monday. Babies are kept separate from the old birds until March. The babies are probably only allowed some 3 - 4 flies by March but they have access to a large 'breaking cage' which sits on the landing board and the babies enter and exit the trap whenever they feel like it. Their first real 'outing' is in March and Scott has few problems with this methodology.

Hens and cocks are mixed and flown together, and whatever second year cocks have not been used for breeding are sent back racing (generally 5-6) each year.

Loft training starts properly about 8 weeks before racing and after he gets a reliable one hour loft fly and ranging he starts the toss programme. The initial toss is from 5 kms and then by racing the birds will have completed around 12 tosses to a maximum of 100kms. Once racing starts they start a programme of twice weekly tosses (end of week to 100kms, mid week to 50kms). Scott generally tosses north but races both lines of flight. His prime requirement is to get fit birds. No medications are used.

Hens are chosen for the stock loft on the basis of performance, but cocks are generally unflown.

Cocks are bred from hens with performance as the key. Scott would like to have a consistent race programme (lines of flight and race points) for a number of years as the basis of SAHPA planning. He admits the falcons can be a problem, but notes that 2008 was a year when they didn't cause too many problems.

