

## Ken Wallace & John Doyle - Little Topar 10 Bird Special winner - SA06 04494 BCH

Ken and John have been involved in racing pigeons for over 40 years, and as a partnership since 2001. They are very much into the sport for the love of pigeons and pigeon racing, and they obviously enjoy being in the partnership together. In past years John has done most of the breeding and the birds raced from Ken's house at Blakeview near Gawler. They both adhere to the 'kiss' principle.



To date the partnership has won 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Booroorban SAD 2003, 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Coober Pedy 2004, 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Moulamein SAD 2004, plus numerous SAHPA top 30 placings.

Achievements this season include 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Little Topar 10BS and 2<sup>nd</sup> SAHPA Aggregate points. The breeding of the winning bird is a

combination of bloodlines from the partners. The sire was 1<sup>st</sup> Moulamein SAD and the dam was 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Wedderburn (2000). SA06 04494 was raced to Keith, Nhill, Mitiamo, and Berrigan twice in 2007, and Peterborough, Yunta, 1<sup>st</sup> Little Topar 10BS and 30<sup>th</sup> Emmdale in 2008. 25 pairs of stockbirds are mated in September and they aim for around 150 race birds of which around 30 are two year olds. Cocks and hens are trained together.



The original varieties of pigeons were mainly Chown (purchased at the Chown sale 25 years ago by Ken Wallace) and Blanden/Harrison (from John Doyle). Since the partnership in 2001, they have interbred the two families extensively to create the 'Wallace & Doyle' racing pigeon brand and have won at all distances. Race birds are handfed twice a day on a peas/wheat mix (60/40) with a little maize for variety. Little variation feeding is practiced throughout the week or during the year. Golden Boost is provided weekly usually on Mondays. After weaning and following their initial flights, young birds are moved in with the two

year olds. Birds are flown daily during their moult except in extreme conditions. Training starts after the season breaks (for Ken and John this means an obvious change in weather from Autumn to Winter and usually follows a good rain). If this is late, then they start racing late, as they treat the club races as training tosses for the SAHPA series. Medication used is Turbosole (on an as required basis).

Once toss training starts (at around 15kms) they aim for 12-15 tosses up to a distance of 50kms for the first race. Once racing starts, they are tossed with the race unit and have two tosses a week to 100kms and 50kms where ever the toss unit goes. They are very appreciative of the efforts of Don Swartz and his care of the toss birds. The partnership does the extra occasional toss if they feel the birds require the work.

Breeding birds are hopper fed mainly peas with some wheat (5%) and small seeds provided by hand as variety. Birds are paired in September and pairings are best to best plus specifically for stock. Ken and John are keen to continue in their chosen sport but recommend to the SAHPA that consideration be given to members who are retired by way of discounts in SAHPA membership, and tossing charges. Regarding race rules, they are very much in favour of retaining the 30 bird limit for SAHPA races.