



2022 YEAR BOOK

(The Year of the Convention)



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOMING PIGEON ASSOCIATION

**SAHPA HEADQUARTERS: 10 Boulderstone Road
Gepps Cross 5094. Phone 0448 883 512
Postal Address: Box 755 Melrose Park 5039
www.sahpa.asn.au**

CHAIRPERSON: Greg Hamilton

TREASURER: Tom Tirrell

GENERAL SECRETARY: John Harper

Mobile: 0448 883 512. Email: sahpa.secretary@gmail.com

RING SECRETARY: Sofia Thalbourne

7 Damien Drive, Salisbury Heights 5008. Mobile: 0409 802 944

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Greg Hodgins, David Walker, Graham Mitchell, Ricky Williams, Warren March

CLOCK CHAIRPERSON: Russell Somerville

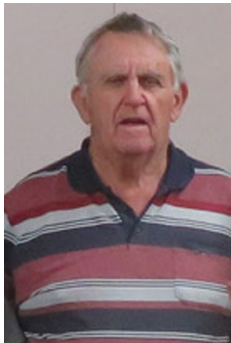
CONVOYER: Nenad Stojakovic /Joe Jackson and Alex Stojakovic (driver).

IT MANAGER: Alan Agar

The SAHPA Annual presentation will be held at
Angle Park Greyhound track - Chasers Restaurant

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 10 Boulderstone Road, Gepps Cross.

The Year Book is a collaboration between Alan Agar, Michael Donnellan assisted by Rolf Goodacre.



Warren March –
Committee



David Walker –
Committee



Greg Hodgins –
Committee



Graham Mitchell -
Committee



Tom Tirrell –
Treasurer



Russell Somerville –
Clock Chairperson



Ricky Williams -
Committee



Greg Hamilton –
Chairman

Trophies and Donors

| Racepoint | Donor | Winner |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Warnertown | Benzing Aust | D. & S. Aquilina |
| Paruna 1 | Benzing Aust | V. Allan and Grand-daughters |
| Stirling North | Benzing Aust | W. & M. Griffith |
| Bookaloo | Benzing Aust | D. Brokensha |
| Paruna 2 | Benzing Aust | Magro, Magro & Lett |
| Red Cliffs | Benzing Aust | A. & D. Williams |
| Pimba 1 | D. Aquilina | G. Bryant |
| Coombah 1 | Benzing Aust | G. Venables |
| Coombah 2 | Benzing Aust | G. Venables |
| Pimba 2 | Paul Gardiner | D. & S. Aquilina |
| Glendambo YBC | Graham Mitchell | T. Fawcett & G. Jackson |
| Little Topar SAD | Warren March | March / Andrewartha |
| Glendambo Open | Tim Fawcett | N. Williams |
| Little Topar Open | Paul Gardiner | M. Molchanoff |
| Alice Springs | Grant Paterson | R. & L. Drew |
| The Twins | Perry Burton | J. & C. Harper |
| Wilcannia | David Walker | A. Scerri & Son |
| Marla – K Wickham | Tim Fawcett | J. Marafiotte |
| Emmdale – D and S Thalbourne | Greg Hamilton | R. & S. Chapman |
| Coober Pedy – Doug Green | Harvey Norman Gepps Cross | D. & S. Thalbourne |
| Cobar – Gavin Harris | Yianis Bakirtzakis | L. Abbott & Son |
| Coober Pedy – Allen Goodger | Greg Hamilton | J. Williams |
| Border Village | Gavin Harris | V. Curea |
| Slowest Winning Velocity | Gavin Harris | V. Curea |
| Aggregate Points – (two longest races) | Mat Ginever | L. Abbott & Son |
| Bird of the Year (North and North East) | Paul Gardiner | P. Burton |
| Vin Blanden Memorial Shield | SAHPA | A. Agar |
| Premier Club Trophy | SAHPA | Metropolitan Club |
| Most Outstanding Perf. (B. Healy Memorial) | Warrnambool RPC | T. Fawcett & G. Jackson |
| Short Distance Benzing Australia Series | Benzing Australia | J. Marafiotte |
| Mid Distance Championship Point Winner | Warrnambool RPC | P. Burton |
| Long Distance Championship Points Winner | Bill Bilecki | V. Curea |
| Small Team Flyer Competition | Warrnambool RPC | R. Varapodio |
| 5 Bird Championship – Prize/Trophy per race | Gavin Harris | P. Burton |
| SA Champion Long Distance Flyer | SALDC | V. Curea |
| North Line Points Winner | Warrnambool RPC | P. Burton |
| Ace Bird (Young – adjudicated by J. Harper) | J. Harper | R. & S. Chapman |
| Ace Bird (Old – adjudicated by J. Harper) | J. Harper | Hinkler Lofts |
| North East Line Points Winner | Warrnambool RPC | J. Marafiotte |
| Aggregate Points | SAHPA | J. Marafiotte |
| Grant Paterson Award | G. Paterson | D. Walker |

Treasurer's Report for the SAHPA 2022

It has been well documented in the past and preliminary figures show the SAHPA in a very strong financial position after the race season 2022. The Convention this year showed a return to the SAHPA in the region of \$25,000 which is a magnificent result for all concerned.

This brings the perpetual question as to what to do with the money and how to ensure the sport remains viable for the members to participate.

Some would have the member base expiring in the next 5-10 years, so there is little need to invest in the future or consider any future development but simply return funds to members and make racing as cheap as possible. I do not see this as building for the future, that I believe is there despite all the issues that endanger the sport we know and I love.

We have members aged under 50 whom it is reasonable to assume given the opportunity will want to continue to enjoy the sport that they enjoy today, however that will develop. None the less these flyers will see a totally different future for the sport than those I mentioned earlier.

It is my belief that the SAHPA should be looking at two issues for the future :

- 1) Transport Truck and Trailer.
 - a. Members would be well aware of efforts made early in the piece to replace the old trailer that had served the SAHPA for a number of years. Members consistently rejected any move to replace it until it became obsolete. Once replaced it was sold for scrap value only. One can only wonder what it would have been sold for when it was fully operational and saleable. I believe the same reluctance to investigate any option regarding the existing truck and unit will cost the SAHPA money (which as an organization we can ill afford to lose) in the long term.
 - b. We should be looking at any of the following options:
 - i. Trade the truck and retain the existing Geraldty unit. A saving in the range of 10% in fuel efficiency can be expected from the new release Hino trucks.
 - ii. Currently the trade in value of vehicles has increased due to the shortage of 2nd hand vehicles.
 - iii. The whole unit because it is relatively new could be on sold to an interstate organization allowing the SAHPA to update its transport unit to state of the art. This would allow those that believe there are issues with the existing unit to raise these and ensure that they will be addressed with the new unit.

- 2) Development of the property at 10 Boulderstone Road, Gepps Cross.

I believe that because of the value of the property, we should investigate the possibility of erecting warehouses at the rear of the property that can be leased to give the SAHPA a long term income, once the buildings have been paid for. A new hall at the front of the property with street frontage would allow access from both the car parks at the rear of the hall and from the street. Here one could investigate having hydraulic loading platforms that would make the loading of the unit easier.

This may well be beyond our capabilities but given we currently have a cash reserve provided we maintain a similar cost structure to the members they would then see their funds developing and strengthening the sport to an even higher level.

I can hear the reply, he must be dreaming as why would you want to do such a thing. I assume that some of the members who used the old SAHPA Hall on Henley Beach Road said exactly the same. But look at the advantage we enjoy today because of this decision.

As treasurer I hope some members will see the future as I do (despite all the gloom that those who have guided the sport to where it is today, from some 400-600 members to 170 in season 2022) and at least consider investigating or carrying out a feasibility process to ensure the sport maintains its strong financial position.

I wish all members the best for the coming racing season and their personal endeavours.

Tom Tirrell, SAHPA Treasurer.

South Australian Homing Pigeon Association Convention 2022

As reported by Michael Donnellan

Adelaide was the showcase of the pigeon fraternity in Australia over four sensational days in November 2022. The South Australian Homing Pigeon Association conducted auctions and a variety of displays in which pigeon fanciers could view with confidence that their purchases would be completed under the knowledge of the manufacturers. Kevin Clarke set up a display with all the Benzing products. The new M3 clock and antennas and all other Benzing products were on display. Rohnfried Pigeon Products with expert advice from Pigeon Vitality Australia representative Garry Gillard and discounted prices for the keen flyer. There was also a grain mix from Semaphore Fodder shop. The ANRPB also had a display with souvenirs for the fancier. The four days consisted of loft visits of a selected group of successful SA fanciers. Saturday and Sunday pigeon auctions and finally Monday a bbq and social get-together at the SAHPA Hall.

The planning for Convention commenced months prior - the SAHPA network was in full force. Seeking pigeons throughout Australia from elite and generous flyers that would ensure this event would be a success. Fanciers from all over Australia came to the call. Not only sourcing superior pigeons throughout Australia but also presenting an expert panel of pigeon flyers who would share their personal knowledge and techniques and maybe some secrets with the attending flyers.

On Friday the members of the SAHPA prepared the Angle Park Greyhound racing complex for the auction area and the product displays. The centre piece was the SAHPA Geraldty transport unit which was purpose built for the SAHPA flyers. You could feel the anticipation in the main arena and the vision of the convention was about to come to fruition.



The main arena of the auction area

Saturday morning again, the dedicated members commenced to set up the auction area, carefully placing the prized pigeons ready for the dedicated pigeon fancier to purchase their choice of numerous extremely well-bred pigeons. Just before 10 am the venue was opened for the keen fancier to view the auction pigeons. The keen fancier commenced to assess the first day of auction pigeons. All were compiling their pigeon knowledge with the view to purchase their future champion. Meticulously handling their selected pigeons, many theories

could be heard being discussed between fanciers, eye sign, wing theory, and pigeon constitution and obviously the studying of the outstanding pedigrees supplied.

The auctioneer, Australia-wide renowned Ray Fewings announced that the auction would commence in 15 minutes. The atmosphere was electric, Ray's firm tone set the venue alight, the first bird to be presented for auction was from A&M Vella of Victoria which was VHA 20 14125 BCH, and the bidding started at \$200 and quickly rose, frantically reaching \$1000 finally selling for \$1050. This price immediately set the benchmark for an outstanding auction. The audience knew there would be no room for the faint hearted nor the hesitant bidder. The first 10 pigeons sold for a combined amount of over twelve thousand dollars. Pleasantly exceeding the expectation of many flyers. The tempo dropped slightly as the astute flyer perceived they had successfully purchased their dream pigeon. But that lull didn't last long with lot 29, DUR 20 1954 BBC an outstanding pigeon donated by Pedavoli Brothers from NSW, this very well bred and presented pigeon was purchased by a dedicated South Australian flyer for \$2400, and it is my understanding the purchaser was extremely happy with his purchase. Day one of the SAHPA presented birds accrued approximately twenty-six thousand dollars.

Next on the auction programme was the Australian National Racing Pigeon Board fundraiser. The list was stacked with famous flyers from all over Australia. The likes of Len Vanderlinde from QLD, Paul and Helen Gibbs and Stephen Shears from NSW, F Scerri from WA, from Victoria Tenaglia Brothers and Paul Gardiner and SA's established flyers: Greg Kakoschke and Gavin Harris. To say this part of the auction was as electric would be an understatement. The second bird, lot 42 sold for \$3100 was a superbly presented pigeon from Greg Kakoschke. The ANRPB total was above twelve thousand dollars. Again an outstanding contribution from some well supporting fanciers, who in supporting this venture also strengthened their breeding stock. No doubt all participants were busily studying the programme and pedigrees in anticipation for the next day auction.

The entertainment did not stop there. Upstairs the participants were treated with the expert knowledge from pigeon flyers from around Australia. A panel made up of: John Share, Ross Chapman, John Van Beers and David Wetering hosted by Greg Hamilton (*picture below*). This outstanding group of flyers shared their wealth of knowledge to all that would listen. They discussed training, feeding and breeding techniques. (a recording is on the SAHPA web page for all to view).



There was a brief break post the auction in which the SAHPA would hold their presentation night. As usual, the who's who of the SAHPA were there receiving their trophies for outstanding performances and obviously acknowledging their supportive partners and fellow club members. The members were treated with racing royalty: SA's own John Letts dual Melbourne Cup winner as guest speaker. One of the many highlights was the junior's presentation. Tim Fawcett presented all the junior's with trophies and vouchers, he was like the pied piper, children coming from everywhere keenly accepting their rewards. Hopefully they will become our next generation of successful flyers.

SUNDAY: Day two of the Convention. FOMO was the theme of day two (fear of missing out)

The second day commenced as swiftly as the first, lot 51, CCF21 4177 BBPH bred by Rudy Diener from NSW set the arena alight again, with frantic bidding by the flyers with this lot reaching \$1500 for a magnificent hen. The bidding continues to be fierce with lot 53, SA 21 21251 BCC, from Greg Hamilton fetching \$1800. David Wetering and Van Beers & Barlow from Victoria achieved prices around \$1000 for their two donated birds.



The last section of the auction programme was South Australia Long Distance Club fundraiser. If you thought the fanciers pockets were empty; you were wrong. The third bird auctioned, Lot 93, SA 21 18697 bgrc donated by Russell Somerville reached \$3700, not to be outdone Greg Kakoschke presented Lot 94 SA 19 9676 bbpc which was well sought after by numerous flyers, eventually selling for \$5200 to an enthusiastic flyer from Adelaide. Then more strong bidding came for lot 100 a well-bred SA 20 18976 bgrz hen by Lee Abbott & Son, reached a hefty \$5000, bought by Stevan Gazzola from Meadow One Loft Race Victoria. Stevan gracefully spoke to me post his many purchases at the auction **(picture at left)**. He stated he had a great respect for

South Australian long distance flyers and was keen to improve his bird's performance by introducing the long distance bloodline from the purchased birds. He humbly admitted he spent over fifteen thousand dollars on pigeons at the auction. He purchased lots 93, 96 and 100, \$8,900 on three pigeons, money well spent if results are achieved.

The Long Distance Racing Club also present a diverse team of long distance flyers. The panel consisted of Gavin Harris, Bronte Andrewartha, Lee Abbott, Greg Kakoschke and Russell Somerville. This group of flyers are considered to be the best long distance flyers in South Australia. The information shared during this conference was invaluable. Any flyer considering flying long distance races would be well advised to watch the recordings on the SAHPA webpage.



From left: Gavin Harris, Bronte Andrewartha, Lee Abbott, Greg Kakoschke and Russell Somerville.

The generosity wasn't just from the fanciers. Kevin Clarke from Benzing donated a Benzing club system at the end of the auction and a lucky bidder successfully purchased the club system. Pigeon Vitality and the Long Distance club and the ANRPB all made generous money donations. This event would not have happened without the vision of the COM. In particular Greg Hamilton, Gavin Harris and Grant Paterson. Without Greg's Australia wide pigeon network, there is no doubt the extensive donated list of pigeons would never have been of such a high standard. There are numerous people behind the scenes that deserve a sincere thank you. Leo Duits who housed and nurtured the birds prior to the auction and all those responsible for the organizing of the venue, transporting the Geraldty truck to and from the venue, the catering, setting up the venue, the list is endless. I apologise if I have forgotten anyone.

“Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received, Thankfulness is the natural impulse to expressing that feeling (Henry Van Dyke).

To all the flyers who donated pigeons to the SAHPA they are eternally grateful. Everyone who purchased pigeons also contributed to the success of this event.

The SAHPA in their benevolent philosophy donated \$11,500 to two charities. The first was Make a Wish Foundation Australia. The second was the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. Again, this gesture reflects the vision and compassion of the current committee. In saying that everyone that purchased a pigeon also contributed to this charity and can be proud that they have contributed to well-deserved charities. This extract from the prostate foundation expresses their gratitude.

On behalf of Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, I would like to thank you for your generous donation and for helping us change the lives of Australian men and their loved ones who have been affected by prostate cancer. We are so pleased that you are with us as we work to create a future where prostate cancer is no longer a killer, where side effects are minimal and where all men are well informed and supported. A future where every man diagnosed with the disease has access to a Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse and where research leads to new treatment options that will ensure our men can live longer and better lives.

Finally, all who attended should celebrate the success of this event and reflect how team work and true vision can unite the pigeon racing fraternity. Hopefully this will only be the beginning of a new era of pigeon racing in South Australia. Thank You.

| Lot | Body | Ring | Assoc | Year | Colour | Price | Donated by |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|------|--------|----------|--------------------------|
| 1 | SAHPA | 14125 | VHA | 20 | BCH | \$ 1,050 | A & M VELLA VIC |
| 2 | SAHPA | 8080 | VHA | 19 | BBH | \$2,100 | VAN BEERS & BARLOW VIC |
| 3 | SAHPA | 361 | SA | 20 | BBH | \$1,200 | JIM MARAFIOTE SA |
| 4 | SAHPA | 693 | SA | 20 | BBPC | \$2,800 | RUDY DIENER NSW |
| 5 | SAHPA | 1959 | DUR | 20 | BBH | \$2,000 | PEDAVOLI BROS NSW |
| 6 | SAHPA | 603 | PHS | 20 | BBPH | \$ 700 | D & B CUNNINGHAM SA |
| 7 | SAHPA | 1652 | RPA | 21 | MLYPC | \$1,600 | PHILADELPHIA LOFTS QLD |
| 8 | SAHPA | 3680 | SA | 21 | BCC | \$ 100 | VASILE CUREA SA |
| 9 | SAHPA | 101 | LIV | 22 | BBPC | \$ 300 | KEN MARSHALL NSW |
| 10 | SAHPA | 21158 | SA | 21 | BCH | \$ 700 | GREG HAMILTON SA |
| 11 | SAHPA | 6098 | SA | 21 | BBH | \$1,100 | JACK VANDERLINDEN SA |
| 12 | SAHPA | 3931 | VHA | 20 | BBC | \$ 500 | JOHN BRISLIN VIC |
| 13 | SAHPA | 17165 | SA | 21 | BCC | \$ 350 | FRED DIMELLA SA |
| 14 | SAHPA | 250 | BCPC | 21 | BBH | \$ 50 | GLEN MATHEWS VIC |
| 15 | SAHPA | 19942 | SA | 21 | BGH | \$ 900 | ROSS CHAPMAN SA |
| 16 | SALDC | 2951 | SA | 22 | BBP | \$ 150 | PERRY BURTON SA |
| 17 | SAHPA | 3580 | VHA | 21 | BCH | \$ 800 | STEVAN GAZZOLA VIC |
| 18 | SAHPA | 5965 | SCF | 20 | BBC | \$ 300 | GRAHAM KERR NSW |
| 19 | SAHPA | 14404 | SA | 21 | BBH | \$ 750 | TIM FAWCETT SA |
| 20 | SAHPA | 74 | CH | 21 | MLYC | \$ 250 | ANTHONY AGIUS NSW |
| 21 | SAHPA | 53 | CH | 21 | BBC | \$ 100 | GREG AGIUS NSW |
| 22 | SAHPA | 2798 | VRPU | 21 | BCC | \$ 400 | JOE DENARO VIC |
| 23 | SAHPA | 514 | CCF | 17 | BCWF | \$ 200 | P & H GIBBS NSW |
| 24 | SAHPA | 348 | CCF | 21 | BCC | \$ 600 | RUDY DIENER NSW |
| 25 | SAHPA | 7940 | WPF | 21 | BBH | \$ 500 | J & M PORTELLI VIC |
| 26 | SAHPA | 6479 | VPU | 20 | BBH | \$ 300 | J & L SHARE VIC |
| 27 | SAHPA | 3013 | VRPU | 20 | BBH | \$ 700 | STEVE CINI VIC |
| 28 | SAHPA | 7032 | SA | 20 | BBH | \$ 700 | ROSS HOCKING SA |
| 29 | SAHPA | 1954 | DUR | 20 | BBC | \$2,400 | PEDAVOLI BROS NSW |
| 30 | SAHPA | 10922 | SA | 21 | BBC | \$ 200 | W & M GRIFFITH SA |
| 31 | SAHPA | 760 | PHS | 19 | BBPC | \$ 500 | D & B CUNNINGHAM SA |
| 32 | SAHPA | 3496 | LM | 19 | BCC | \$ 250 | WARREN MARCH SA |
| 33 | SAHPA | 448 | AUS | 20 | BCH | \$ 250 | R & M SIMMONS & SONS VIC |
| 34 | SAHPA | 23081 | SA | 20 | BCH | \$ 100 | NEL FAMILY SA |
| 35 | SAHPA | 243 | VRPU | 19 | BBPH | \$ 550 | STEVE CINI VIC |
| 36 | SAHPA | 405 | VHA | 20 | BCC | \$ 500 | VAN BEERS & BARLOW VIC |
| 37 | SAHPA | 15661 | SA | 18 | BCH | \$ 400 | NEIARD STOJAKOVIC SA |
| 38 | SAHPA | 7808 | VHA | 21 | BCC | \$ 100 | WILLIAMS & HUNTER VIC |
| 39 | SAHPA | 6005 | QPF | 20 | PenBBH | \$ 650 | PETER GRIDLEY QLD |
| 40 | SAHPA | | | | | | VACANT |
| 41 | ANRPB | 292 | AUS | 22 | BBP | \$ 450 | LEN VANDERLINDE QLD |
| 42 | ANRPB | 11995 | SA | 21 | PenBBC | \$3,100 | GREG KAKOSCHKE SA |
| 43 | ANRPB | 27 | CCF | 19 | BCH | \$ 600 | P & H GIBBS NSW |
| 44 | ANRPB | 293 | AUS | 22 | BBP | \$ 450 | LEN VANDERLINDE QLD |
| 45 | ANRPB | 6389 | PRF | 19 | BBH | \$ 100 | FRED SCERRI WA |
| 46 | ANRPB | 139 | WPF | 22 | BBH | \$ 450 | TENAGLIA BROS VIC |
| 47 | ANRPB | 4913 | PRF | 19 | BBPH | \$ 250 | NEIL MOURITZ WA |
| 48 | ANRPB | 9588 | VHA | 20 | BBC | \$ 300 | PAUL GARDINER VIC |
| 49 | ANRPB | 13900 | SA | 21 | BCPC | \$1,000 | GAVIN HARRIS SA |
| 50 | ANRPB | 55 | HD | 19 | BCC | \$ 350 | STEPHEN SHEARS NSW |
| 51 | SAHPA | 4177 | CCF | 21 | BBPH | \$1,500 | RUDY DIENER NSW |
| 52 | SAHPA | 681 | DUR | 21 | BCPC | \$ 600 | STEPHEN EGGLETON NSW |
| 53 | SAHPA | 21251 | SA | 21 | BCC | \$1,800 | GREG HAMILTON SA |
| 54 | SAHPA | 2899 | DUR | 19 | BCC | \$ 700 | PEDAVOLI BROS NSW |
| 55 | SAHPA | 4254 | VHA | 21 | BBC | \$1,000 | DAVID WETERING VIC |
| 56 | SAHPA | 11828 | SA | 21 | BBC | \$ 600 | JIM MARAFIOTE SA |
| 57 | SAHPA | 6537 | SA | 21 | BBC | \$ 700 | J & C HARPER SA |
| 58 | SAHPA | 8048 | VPU | 17 | BCC | \$ 500 | J & L SHARE VIC |
| 59 | SAHPA | 11805 | SA | 20 | BCH | \$ 300 | ROSS CHAPMAN SA |
| 60 | SAHPA | 8147 | VHA | 19 | BBC | \$1,200 | VAN BEERS & BARLOW VIC |
| 61 | SAHPA | 8 | AUST | 20 | BCH | \$ 800 | JACK VANDERLINDEN SA |
| 62 | SAHPA | 7111 | VHA | 21 | BCC | \$ 500 | A & M VELLA VIC |
| 63 | SAHPA | 332 | BH | 21 | BBPC | \$ 300 | JOHN BANFIELD NSW |
| 64 | SAHPA | 1647 | RPA | 21 | BBC | \$ 450 | PHILADELPHIA LOFTS QLD |
| 65 | SALDC | 2952 | SA | 22 | BBP | \$ 250 | PERRY BURTON SA |
| 66 | SAHPA | 88870 | AUST | 20 | BBH | \$ 900 | TIM FAIRFAX NSW |
| 67 | SAHPA | 150 | PHS | 16 | BBPC | \$ 700 | D & B CUNNINGHAM SA |
| 68 | SAHPA | 1116 | LM | 21 | BBH | \$ 300 | WARREN MARCH SA |
| 69 | SAHPA | 3832 | SA | 21 | BCC | \$ 250 | VASILE CUREA SA |
| 70 | SAHPA | 3943 | VHA | 20 | BBC | \$ 500 | JOHN BRISLIN VIC |
| 71 | SAHPA | 352 | BCPC | 21 | BBH | \$ 500 | GLEN MATHEWS VIC |
| 72 | SAHPA | 11752 | VHA | 20 | BCPC | \$ 700 | STEVAN GAZZOLA VIC |
| 73 | SAHPA | 4620 | QPF | 21 | MLYC | \$ 800 | PETER GRIDLEY QLD |
| 74 | SAHPA | 7139 | VHA | 21 | BBC | \$ 300 | A & M VELLA VIC |
| 75 | SAHPA | 4454 | VHA | 21 | BBC | \$ 800 | JAMIE ENNIS VIC |
| 76 | SAHPA | 10229 | SA | 15 | BGR | \$ 700 | ROSS HOCKING SA |
| 77 | SAHPA | 3307 | AUST | 21 | BBC | \$ 400 | KEN MARSHALL NSW |
| 78 | SAHPA | 4784 | SA | 22 | BB | \$ 150 | NEL FAMILY SA |
| 79 | SAHPA | 14946 | VHA | 21 | BBC | \$1,200 | VAN BEERS & BARLOW VIC |
| 80 | SAHPA | 19399 | SA | 19 | BBH | \$ 50 | JP & N NICOLI SA |
| 81 | SAHPA | 11026 | NSW | 19 | BCH | \$1,000 | GRAHAM KERR NSW |
| 82 | SAHPA | 7925 | VIC | 21 | BCC | \$ 200 | J&M PORTELLI |
| 83 | SAHPA | 2933 | VIC | 19 | BBH | \$ 800 | STEVE CINI VIC |
| 84 | SAHPA | 2857 | NSW | 19 | BBH | \$ 700 | PEDAVOLI BROS NSW |
| 85 | SAHPA | 474 | VIC | 20 | BBC | \$ 150 | R&M SIMMONS & SONS VIC |
| 86 | SAHPA | 341 | SA | 17 | BCH | \$ 400 | D&B CUNNINGHAM SA |
| 87 | SAHPA | 972 | VIC | 19 | BBH | \$ 300 | STEVE CINI VIC |
| 88 | SAHPA | 4148 | NSW | 21 | CCF | \$ 900 | RUDY DIENER NSW |
| 89 | SAHPA | 5941 | VIC | 18 | WPF | \$ 700 | WILLIAMS & HUNTER VIC |
| 90 | SALDC | | | | | | VACANT |
| 91 | SALDC | 1302 | SA | 22 | BGrzH | \$ 150 | BRONTE ANDREWARTHA SA |
| 92 | SALDC | 19603 | SA | 22 | BCPH | \$ 600 | GREG HODGINS SA |
| 93 | SALDC | 18697 | SA | 21 | BGrC | \$3,700 | RUSSELL SOMERVILLE SA |
| 94 | SALDC | 9676 | SA | 19 | PeBBPC | \$5,200 | GREG KAKOSCHKE SA |
| 95 | SALDC | 13792 | SA | 21 | BBH | \$1,200 | GAVIN HARRIS SA |
| 96 | SALDC | 1301 | SA | 22 | BGrzH | \$ 200 | BRONTE ANDREWARTHA SA |
| 97 | SALDC | 19604 | SA | 22 | RCPH | \$ 900 | GREG HODGINS SA |
| 98 | SALDC | 18982 | SA | 20 | BCC | \$ 200 | LEE ABBOTT & SON SA |
| 99 | SALDC | 389 | SA | 21 | BCPH | \$ 400 | TIM FAWCETT SA |
| 100 | SALDC | 18976 | SA | 20 | BGrzH | \$5,000 | LEE ABBOTT & SON SA |

SAHPA CONVENTION 2022



Top row shows auctioneer Ray Fewings and Grant Paterson. The third picture is of Gavin Harris with Greg Hamilton, Warren March and John Harper. Other pictures are of the buyers and viewers that attended.

SAHPA Juniors 2022

| Flyer | Stir. Nth. | Bookaloo | Pimba | YBC | Twins | Total |
|----------------------------|------------|----------|-------|-----|-------|-------|
| Kakoschke G'kids | 20 | 19 | 14 | 12 | 11 | 76 |
| Yang Bros. | 19 | 5 | 17 | 20 | 13 | 74 |
| Harry Caon | 6 | 17 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 58 |
| Lorenzo Aquilina | 16 | 20 | 1 | 18 | 0 | 55 |
| Rory Williams | 17 | 3 | 8 | 16 | 10 | 54 |
| Jack and Max Abbott | 4 | 16 | 15 | 17 | 1 | 53 |
| Thomas and Henry Tirrell | 12 | 18 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 51 |
| Cooper Roberts | 11 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 2 | 50 |
| Jackson Andrewartha | 15 | 11 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 46 |
| Lucas Williams | 1 | 10 | 7 | 15 | 8 | 41 |
| Mia Williams | 5 | 14 | 3 | 14 | 0 | 36 |
| Kaylee Keszler | 18 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 34 |
| Jim Kokolakis | 0 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 33 |
| Charlotte Horrocks | 8 | 7 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 31 |
| Somerville Cousins | 10 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 29 |
| Nirike Nel | 13 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 28 |
| Hugh Mahney | 9 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 26 |
| Isobelle & Patrick Snyders | 3 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 21 |
| Lilly Harrison | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 19 |
| Chaos Kids | 0 | 0 | 13 | 6 | 0 | 19 |
| Olivia Freschi | 0 | 6 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 16 |
| Mia Heemskerck | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| Hayley Heemskerck | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Oscar and Percy Walker | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

An outstanding 2022 SAHPA Juniors season has come to an end with 24 Juniors competing in the 2022 competition for the Doug Searle Shield. Congratulations to all competing and to the winners for each race:

Stirling Nth 1 - Kakoschke Grandkids. Bookaloo - Lorenzo Aquilina. Pimba 1 - Yang Bros. Glendambo YBC - Yang Bros. The Twins - Yang Bros

Congratulations to the Kakoschke Grandkids for winning the 2022 Doug Searle Shield, with some great consistent flying all year. A big thank you to our sponsors for 2022-Rick & Len Drew, Alan Chapman, Alex & Nenad Stojakovic & Russell Burnett. Also to the Yarraville Club-WPF Victoria for making a kind donation to the SAHPA Juniors trust fund to ensure

we can continue to promote pigeon racing and keep our juniors involved at a local level. Tim Fawcett, SAHPA Juniors Co-ordinator.

Pictures below include:



Top row: All the Juniors at presentation-Mia Williams, Lucas Yang, Rory Williams, Lucas Williams, Eugene Kakoschke, Kai Kakoschke, Grandma Stephanie Kakoschke, Lorenzo Aquilina, Jeffery Yang. Middle: Lucas and Jeffery Yang. End: Lorenzo Aquilina. Second row: Jamie Williams with Rory, Jasper and Lucas. Middle: Greg Kakoschke with grandsons Eugene and Kai. Third pic: Mia Williams with Tim Fawcett.

Darren Aquilina and Son partnership



2022 year was a remarkable year for partnership Darren Aquilina and Son. With five club wins in the strong Para Hills Club, eight Top 30 Association point positions, third in the Association Short Distance Points, and ninth in the overall Assoc Points competition. But the most special achievement for the partnership was winning a life long goal of winning an Association Race. They were fortunate enough to double this, with two Association winners in 2022.

First Warnertown with a two year old bc pied hen 6114, who flew a speed of 1643.986 m/min. The bird was bred by Darren's brother in Sydney, from a Cook and Edwards Cock crossed with a Hereman from Steve Summers (Sydney).

Second win was Pimba with a young blue bar hen 20656 who flew a speed of 1739.638 m/min, bred

by Darren's good friend Joe Jackson from Cook and Edwards bloodline. Seeing both these birds come home, racing and diving into his lofts in Modbury was remarkable.

He puts a lot of work into his birds with tossing on a regular basis and loves to treat his birds as part of the family. What he loves is the Sunday baths for the pigeons, where his two children Lorenzo (junior flyer) and young future Junior daughter Anastasia, grab the small seed and hand feed the birds on sunny Sunday afternoons.

Darren also indicated that he took a lot out of the presentation from Len Vanderlinde that the Association organised at the start of March this year.

A small team flyer only nominating 91 birds to enter the 2022 season, and fortunate enough to come in seventh position in the inaugural 100 Team Points competition.

Darren made us aware that his long distance performance was not up to his standards, but now has plans in place to improve his results when he comes back to racing in 2024. He is taking a break in 2023 to do some travel with his young family, and make renovations to his current loft.

The last piece of advice Darren left us with was, in life you generally get out from what you put in. This phrase is the same in our pigeon game.

SAHPA 2022 Bird of The Year Awards

With the new changes to the program there were four awards for Bird Of The Year.

- Short Distance Champion
- Middle Distance Champion
- Long Distance Champion
- Overall Champion

SDC Bird of the Year SA19 05648 bcph

8th Paruna #1, 210km. 7th Paruna #2, 210 km. Owner V. Allan & Gdtrs

MDC Bird of the Year SA21 12609 bbph

4th Pimba, 430km. 10th Glendambo, 506km. 3rd The Twins, 625 km. Owner P. Burton

LDC Bird of the Year SA21 12676 rch

6th Coober Pedy #1, 740km. 19th Coober Pedy #2, 740 km. Owner P. Burton

Overall SAHPA Bird of the Year: SA21 12609 bbph

4th Pimba, 430km. 10th Glendambo, 506km. 3rd The Twins, 625 km. Owner: P. Burton

Perry Burton

What an outstanding year Perry had. Just note the achievements: Third overall Association points, MDC points winner, MDC Bird of the year. LDC BOY, North West line points winner, winner of the 5 bird Championship aggregate points and then - Overall Bird of the year.



Outstanding effort

Perry is originally from Queensland (Toowoomba which is about 125 kms west of Brisbane.) He was destined to race pigeons, his father loved and raced pigeons and his father's uncle also raced pigeons, so from a gene pool perspective "it was in his genes". He moved to Adelaide approximately 9 years ago, strangely enough he originally lived in the late Charlie Forbes house. After about two years he painstakingly searched and found his current address which he chose not only for the location, but also the yard design, north facing, plenty of room for his purpose-built loft and his persistence in searching for this perfect location has now paid off. Perry stated he has long desired to win the well-respected South Australian marathon "Alice Springs." Since from

about 2015 Perry has been preparing birds with a passion and a strong desire to achieve the goal of every long-distance flyer: to win the Alice Springs Marathon. He has placed numerous times in the event, ranging from 30th up to 7th over the past years, but he still has a strong craving to win the Golden Chalice. Noting his current achievements, that goal is not too far away.

Perry's preparation with his BOY was structured, 4th Pimba, 10th Glendambo, then 3rd The Twins, which was a great effort from this hen SA 21 12609 BBPH. In such she deservedly achieved BOY. Perry has a great respect for the old Australian bloodlines, but believes the introduction of European genes has enhanced the makeup of his loft. When breeding his future



12613 SA21 BCC - Bred by P Burton - Sire is Gaby/Hereman - Dam is Goodger x Meuleman/Houban. Gained 3rd Pimba, 22nd Glendambo, 5th Coober Pedy.

winners, he admits 75% of the birds breeding is Gabby x Hereman or other bloodlines. The theory of winners to winners is challenged by Perry's breeding theory. In his stock area he will often let the birds mate up of their own selection, but saying that, having a group of well performed birds from the current race season, the process appears to be fool proof, with high performance birds already in his race stock. The loft design has six sections, and is about 15 metres long and elevated off the ground, it has two modified end sections for race birds to breed in, then post breeding, they return to race

sections. Plenty of ventilation which Perry believes is essential for a healthy loft. The spacious area is also beneficial to the bird's mental health, an aspect which many flyers overlook. Reflecting to a comment from Rick Drew this year, healthy, happy, home. A philosophy that Perry has also adopted.

Perry is a firm believer that the young bird requires nurturing and a sound education before it's tested in long training tosses. He will use his judgement before extending the birds training distance and ensure they are fully educated before training past 50 kms. He trains alone only due to the fact his work schedule is extensive and free time is a luxury. When possible, he utilizes the training unit on Sunday mornings.

He is extremely lucky to have an understanding and helpful partner: Jodie. With ongoing work commitments, Jodie exercises the birds in the morning religiously, this is another aspect of his training regime, *consistency*. This could not happen without the support from Jodie. Many a flyer underestimates the support and dedication that their partners contribute to their race season, and are extremely lucky to have the support of their partner.

Perry's grain selection is no secret; he states he uses Green Valley Grains; high flyer mix. Its an interesting mix; containing peas, corn, safflower, wheat, sorghum, hempseed, linseed, canola, multi strain pro biotic and then Perry mixes his own extra mix to ensure his birds get optimum energy intake, hence why he was so successful this year. There is no doubt his conscientiousness towards his bird's preparation has proven to be beneficial.

Recovery is straight forward: observation and a sound knowledge of his pigeon's ability is the first step in Perry's assessment. He has tried electrolytes in the past but found no advantage to his recovery programme, but this year he has used filtered water for his birds. Obviously, rest day one, day two access with the main team, note he does not push birds that do not want to leave the loft post-race. This is an indicator that the birds require a longer respite period. When Perry was in Queensland, he would often send birds three to four weeks in a row, even if the race was a 10-hour event, but stated in Adelaide that has proven unsuccessful. Perry races about 240 pigeons, but this year with the 30-bird limit he had about 60 unraced birds. I can hear the nay Sayers saying mob flyer! but note his outstanding achievement in the 5 birds' series! So, his ability to continuously select five outstanding pigeons' week after week is testament to his racing ability and his racing stock.

Perry's Tip: Clean grain. Plenty of ventilation.



J. & C. Harper

SA 21 6564 BBH 1st SAHPA The Twins 634 km 2,087 b v 992.181 mm 10 hrs 39 mins



My focus has been 'On the Day' racing (500 km-800 km) which I have based my breeding around, with a particular emphasis on velocities under 1200 m/m. Considering the distance, velocity and the winning margin of over 5 minutes I regard this as my best SAHPA win.

Pedigree: 6564 is bred from bcc North Suburban Bird of the Year 2019 which is all Andrew Muirhead ('Limpy' x Dtr '04444') mostly Gaby via Jack Vanderlinden, when mated to a hen bred by Jack (performed son of the #1 pair for Cook & Edwards x dtr 'Gold Dust' Van den Bulck). I have named the mother of 6564 'Gold Digger' as she has bred 2 x 1st SAHPA & 2nd SAHPA YBC in her first two seasons with two different cocks.

Preparation: Once the young bird team has had around 5 or 6 shorter tosses up to 80-100km on their own they are tossed every weekend on the SAHPA unit. As there was no midweek service this year my tossing was limited to Sundays but usually as far as possible when the races became longer, which could be up to 2 hours. Exercise around the loft is once a day anywhere from 40-60 mins, no flags, I leave it up to them. My early morning daily walk with the dog is important to me so they are not let out until 10:00am. Earlier in the season the birds are left together but I will separate cocks and hens around Derby time if the cocks are holding the hens back in their work around home. 6564 had 3 lead up races to The Twins: Stirling North, Pimba1 and Glendambo Open where she started to come into form being my second bird home. She had taken my eye earlier in the season with her personality, being a little different to the rest of the team.

Feed: Basically, the same mix all year round: Peas, wheat, milo, safflower and corn, with no corn and more peas in the breeding season. I also use pink powder a couple of times a week during the season which is sprinkled on grain that has been moistened with a little oil. Birds come home from tosses or races to a light mix which is basically the John Pryor small seed mix. I believe grit to be important and it is always available to the birds.

Management: I don't believe I do anything special or much different to the average pigeon flyer, I like to keep things as simple as possible. As long as the birds have access to sunshine, fresh air, clean water and feed and a happy environment they will come into form when the time is right. The most important thing is observation by the owner, making sure that the birds remain healthy and adopting the principle of alternate stress and rest.

Breeding: As a small team flyer my race team must be bred for the job and for me it all starts with the pedigree. The greatest importance is placed upon the performance of the parents and grandparents, with no need to go back any further. Obviously, this is no guarantee but if *top performance* is not in the first two generations the chance or expectation of it coming out in the offspring, in my opinion, is pretty slim. I also apply the 80/20 rule to my breeders, continually refining and focusing on the 20% that produce 80% of the results.

The beauty of pigeon racing is that each individual is free to explore different ideas and come up with a method that is right for them. There is really no right or wrong in this game, and as the saying goes, many roads lead to Rome. I believe we as humans are very privileged to be able to be involved with such an intelligent and special animal that has been around for over 150 million years and are now the only living descendants of the dinosaur, so please treat them with due respect and enjoy our great hobby of pigeon racing.

John Harper's SA21 6564 bbh (Gaby/Van Den Bulck)

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Alias "Ironman" Color: BC North Suburban Bird of the Year 2019 Sire of: 'Golden Twins' 1st SAHPA THE TWINS 634km v992.181 | COLOR: BB EYE: (0) 1st SAHPA THE TWINS 634km 2,087b, v992.181 by over 5 minutes. | SEX: Hen D.O.B: 3/01/2022 1st SAHPA MAREE 587km 1,126b v1117.238 | Alias "Gold Digger" Color: BBP Bred by Jack Vanderlinden Dam of 2 x SAHPA Winners when mated to 2 different cocks. 1st SAHPA MAREE 587km 1,126b v1117.238 |
| UNRUNG 10 001 Alias "Limpy" Strain: Andrew Muirhead Color: BB Sire of: 2nd SAHPA Roxby Downs 10b Sp 503km 1,500b v1032.45, 2012, 9th SAHPA Marree 587km 1,126b 2021, 19th APC Lyndhurst 487km 2013, 23rd SAHPA Lyndhurst YBC 517km 2,324b 2017, | SA 11 04123 Strain: Andrew Muirhead Color: BC 1st Club, 13th SAHPA Poochera 422km 3,932b 2012 4th Club, 68th SAHPA Nullabor 812km 2,429b 2012 Full sister to 19126 1st APC Lyndhurst 487km \$5,400 2011 Dam of: | SA 15 08309 Strain: Cook & Edwards Color: BB Son of the #1 Stock Pair for Cook & Edwards 1st SAHPA HAWKER 328km 3,543b 2016 9th SAHPA Lyndhurst YBC 506km 3,449b 2016 | NL 17 1826400 Alias "Dtr Gold Dust" Strain: Dirk Van Den Bulck Color: BBP Imported by Adelaide Premier Lofts. Gdam of: 1st SAHPA The Twins 634km 2,087b 1st SAHPA Marree 587km 1,126b 2nd SAHPA Glendambo YBC 515km 2,326b |



SAHPA Ace Pigeon Awards

An explanation from John Harper

The **Ace Pigeon** Awards are presented to individual birds performing in SAHPA races from the YBC onwards. There are two categories, Young Bird and Old Bird. The scoring is established using the Universal Performance Rating (UPR) system. Percentiles for each race performance are calculated by dividing the bird's position in a race by the total number of birds entered in the race and converting the result into a percentage. These percentages are then averaged over the number of required races to determine the Unirate (averaged percentile rankings). Birds are then ranked in their order of increasing Unirates. Smaller Unirates are better, i.e.; 1% Unirate is better than 5%.

Performance requirements

The pigeon must clock in the top 10% of the total number of birds competing in the race in three (3) different SAHPA races, commencing from the YBC. The Unirates of the qualifying races must average 10% or less.

The 2022 Ace Young bird was awarded to **SA 21 19962 BCH 0.92%** raced by R & S Chapman.

Returning an average unirate of 0.92% Based on 3 top 10% performances in SAHPA races 13th Little Topar SAD 1,500 b unirate 0.86 21st Little Topar Open 1,483 b unirate 1.42 5th Wilcannia 1,246 b unirate 0.47

The 2022 Ace Old bird was awarded to **SA 20 1207 BBC 3.90%** raced by Hinkler Lofts.

Returning an average unirate of 3.90% based on 3 top 10% performances in SAHPA races - 4th Little Topar 1,483 b unirate 0.27 - 17th Wilcannia 1,050 b unirate 1.62- 62nd Cobar 631 b unirate 9.82

Club Report: North Suburban IHPC

Season 2022 was quite challenging for the members, racing under a new format, with SAHPA races and overall points starting from the very first race of the season which in the past, up to the Derby, were traditionally club races. Some members chose not to participate in many of the North East line races and at times we were down to only 5 competing members but numbers were back up to full participation on the North and North/West line.

Our 2021 club champion Fred DiMella again proved the man to beat and set up a commanding lead by winning 4 races before the Derby and another 2 later, thereby winning the overall points with a total of 143 from John Paul Nicoli who was very consistent throughout the year, coming home with a late charge to finish with 142 points. David Brokensha and John Harper tied for third. |

The North Derby was won by Jack Vanderlinden and the North East Derby by Fred DiMella, resulting in the combined points for both Derbies finishing in a tie between Fred DiMella and Barnes & Duits. The Club points went to Fred DiMella, Middle Distance points to J & C Harper and Association points to Fred DiMella.

Three notable 1st SAHPA wins for club members were David Brokensha: Bookaloo, Michael Molchanoff: Little Topar Open (1st & 2nd), J & C Harper: The Twins Open.

Our monthly barbeque/pizza night was well received by the members and was a great opportunity for all to catch up in a more relaxed atmosphere. John Harper (Secretary)

Alice Springs

From Russell Somerville

Tuesday 30th August saw 52 owners hamper 301 birds to compete in the annual Alice Springs 1320 km distance event. The birds were transported by Greg Hamilton in the LDC unit over the two-day journey to the release point.

Friday 2nd September saw a bit of light fog at the release point so the birds were held till 7.30 am and were released into a 7 km hr s/sw wind. They cleared the release point in 2 min.

Day 1 was forecast most of the way to Glendambo as SE winds up to 20 km hr. I think the wind was more *east* for most of the day however, in hindsight of the result. Saturday saw a forecast as south s/e again up to 20 km/hr and considering how far west the birds would have ended up no birds made it that night.

Sunday morning at 10.20.43 sec Rick and Len Drew homed SA 19 19643 BCPH, the eventual winner doing a velocity of 780.456 mm and winning by 1 hr 2 min.

Second bird is owned by Greg Kakoschke clocking at 11.54.37 sec and arriving covered in salt crystals.

Third bird John Crummey, fourth bird Geoff Rayment and Bronte Andrewartha, fifth bird Tim Fawcett and Jackson, sixth bird ABY Lofts. This completed the results within the allocated race time. Over the next few days, a handful of birds continued to arrive for a number of owners.

Alice Springs takes a special bird to complete the journey and to be able to do the probably 1600 km that these birds had to do is remarkable. Congratulations to the owners who got birds through. These birds will be valued greatly in their lofts.

Russell Somerville PO SAHPA LDC

And from NEW ZEALAND



Our ring secretary had an unusual lost bird report and below are the emails that ensued:

Hi Shaun.- (From Brian Dawson)

Re Report from you to South Australian Homing Pigeon Association here in SA of one of my racing pigeons that has taken the wrong turn in its return to my loft here in Adelaide, SA.

This is beyond belief that a bird can endure such a journey without assistance either on the wing or even by ship! The bird being a blue bar, registered in my name. I believe on checking did not return from race point "The Twins" some 620 kms north of Adelaide.

Its parents who were loaned to me by fellow club members R.Pimlott and his brother G.Pimlott both had success with this family from John Pryor and Doug Green who were both excellent performers, especially in the longer distance races.

You may be interested to know that the SAHPA have shown interest in this story and are seeking more info. re happenings.

If you do not object are you able to provide anything further: I.e.-condition of bird on arrival.

-where/which part of NZ do you reside? - did bird join your flock?

Finally, I would sincerely like to thank you for going to the trouble of your initial report to the SAHPA ring secretary. Look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Brian Dawson, Chairman/SDIRP(inc)

The reply from New Zealand:

Morning Brian. Thanks for your reply, happy to help out with any info required.

So our location is Martinsbay, west coast of the South Island, just north of Milford Sound, New Zealand.

We are a Wilderness lodge that runs guided walks and operates over the summer months only and we are part of the set up crew, it's a remote part of NZ and access by boat, plane or helicopter only. It's part of the Fiordland national park so all native bush and apart from a few private fishing huts there is no one else about or in residence.

Westline and Border Village

Report from Geoff Rayment

Firstly I would like to thank all of my friends and fellow flyers (too many to name) for all the support given to help get this series up and running and keep it going successfully for five seasons. Thanks to the volunteer conveyors who used their own vehicles but also the financial donors along the way and all the guys that supported donating a bird for auction to fund the running costs which enabled us to use 100% of the entry fee as prize money, which spread quite evenly from north to south which was pleasing to see.

Sadly it has come to an end, but I feel it ran its course and the flyers who took advantage of the series can be seen in the results of this year's Border Village. In particular Vassile Curea winning and obtaining four out of the first five results and homing 20 birds is quite a remarkable fly. Rayment & Andrewartha finished 2nd, 7th, 13th, 14th with 20 birds homed, P. Burton 6th, 8th, Fawcett & Jackson landing three together 9th, 10th, 11th! These performances can only really be appreciated when you consider its 960 km, was an 18+ hrs on the wing with the winning velocity 898 metres per minute.

This year's series winners are: Warnertown 186 km, Perry Burton. Kimba 288 km Buxton & Snyders families. Warnertown 186 km P. Vranek. Poochera 417 km J. Williams and Ceduna 540 km J. Jackson. Aggregate points winner was Perry Burton. Well done.

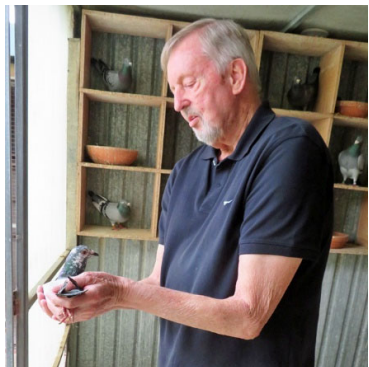
Special thanks goes to Russell Somerville and Len Colegate for all their support and work they did over the whole series, cheers everyone. Regards Geoff Rayment.

R. and S. Chapman

1st and 2nd Emmdale D & S Thalbourne Special. Distance 640.455 km

1st SA 21 19965 bch. Velocity 1088.962. Fly time 9:48:08, birds 673

2nd SA 21 19913 grzl h. Velocity 1088.901 fly time 9:48:10



Ross has raced in the Port Adelaide area for many years and has had a long and distinguished record in pigeon racing. Just to mention a small number from a large list which includes the SAHPA points winner, numerous association wins, Sires Produce winners (once 4 on the drop) and too many club wins to mention. For a flyer with only approximately 70 race birds, the Emmdale win was an outstanding effort. Also take into account two landed together, clocked two seconds apart.

The two birds are also closely related to his famous NH15 1120 bbc. Ross has had outstanding success when crossing this bird that he was given as a stock bird from Allen Limeburner. The grandsire of SA21 19965 is NH15 1120 and

SA 21 19913 dams sire is also 1120. This is justification that Ross has mastered the art of selecting a winning bloodline.

He states the birds are often “love matched” but if you have a high standard of race birds in your loft, then the love match becomes performance based by stealth. This selection process is a time-consuming process, I don't think there is a fancier out there who doesn't ponder “what if I mate A to B? will it be successful?” and Ross is no different. Ross uses points score to gauge his bird's performance. This assessment tool also indicated his bird's performance outcomes, which by the end of the year he will have an indication not only of his bird's performance but also his performance. He admits there have been highs and lows in his racing career and noting this purple patch will not last forever. The philosophy that he has adopted is to review his flying methods continuously, if you do not you *will* fall behind. The future of both these two hens is straight into the stock loft, with the same philosophy to maintain a high standard of racing pigeon.

Ross states his training methods are no different to many other flyers. Tossing starts with education, short tosses along the local coast area, then on the association truck with the view of “safety in numbers”.

Feeding is also no secret, the basic wheat, peas, milo, safflower, and corn. The mixture varies with the birds indicating their dislike of certain grains, such as if they leave the wheat after they are fed, Ross will reduce the amount. Ongoing assessment of his bird's health will indicate the increase or decrease in the mix. Bird health is paramount to a successful race team, Ross practices basic loft hygiene, clean loft, clean water, quality grain. Medicate only if the birds are unwell, if you supply an adequate, sound, balanced diet, then the risk of illness is reduced. All his birds are vaccinated yearly to provide maximum health quality.

Recovery is usually pigeon indicated: rest upon return, nil additives in the water and race mix upon return.



NH15 1120 and SA21 19965 (Emmdale winner)

Ross only races on the one line of flight as his health restricts his level of activity and this one line also give him more leisure time to spend with his family. He also believes this line is advantageous to his loft location.

A couple of comments from Ross during this interview will make it a little clearer why he has been so successful: “The more things you do right the more successful you will become”.

Planning: if you don't have a plan, you will have no future. Finally have a system that enables you to manage and maintain your bird's health and race progress.

Jim Marafiote - Marla winner 2022

SA20 17368 bbph Distance 965 km. birds 1081 Velocity 1325:113. Tape 06.11



Another successful year for a famous SA flyer. Jim succeeded in winning the Aggregate points once again. There isn't much more to say about one of our States most successful flyers, but I will briefly describe his 2022 Marla winner.

Jim won the Marla Keith Wickham Challenge with a 2020 BBPH which he was lucky enough to be gifted this hen by Vasil Curea. Jim has a strong rapport with Vasil since he joined the Metro club. Vasil wanted to show his deep appreciation to Jim for all his assistance during his time at the club. I think the hardest thing for Vasil was, what do you give a man who has so many achievements in the pigeon world? A pair squeakers. So,

Vasil bred a beautiful pair of birds for Jim. As it was close to Jim's birthday they were presented to Jim as a birthday gift. Who would have known back then this grand gesture would have produced an association winner. Originally Jim was reluctant to accept the pair, as we all know; all flyers have way too many pigeons, but when Vasil arrived with the two pigeons, Jim was so impressed that he wanted to put them straight into his stock loft. Vasil insisted he race the pair and Jim did so.

Jim raced this hen sparingly in 2021, her first race was Coober Pedy where she gained 31st in the association. The cock bird from the gifted pair was 15th from Emmdale this year. The hens race programme this year was: Stirling North, Glendambo Open, Twins, then first place Marla.

The future of this BBPH is now in Jim's stock loft. Selecting a worthy mate is often the vain of many flyers, and this dilemma is no stranger to Jim. The age old saying: winners to winners is not so straight forward. Jim's method is somewhat different. He assesses all his birds' performances at the end of the year and then decides which bird goes to which. Jim reviews the bird's pedigree and ensures it will match the selected pair. Endurance, navigation ability, vitality, and structure are all qualities Jim reviews before mating, and as we all know the rest is in the lap of the gods.



Jim Marafiote with wife Frances

Jim's feeding regime is no different to many fanciers, utilizing multiple grains. The basic grains: peas, wheat and maize are not sufficient to maintain adequate energy levels of the modern racing pigeon. A minimum of six grains are required to ensure the dietary needs are met, Jim uses about 10 different grains during the season. Jim selects a feed mix that provides energy and a protein balance needed for any given racing period throughout the racing calendar. The ongoing observation and assessment of his race team is the key to his feeding programme. He will feed the race team a lighter mix during the week and then modify it closer to the race

date. One interesting comment, is that Jim liaises with the race conveyer and reviews the allocated feed mix on the truck for that race. This gives Jim some insight to the feed balance the birds receive in transit to the race point and assists him in monitoring the birds progress and nutritional needs upon their race return. It is up to the individual fancier to attain this knowledge for their birds to remain healthy and competitive.

Recovery is paramount to every pigeon's wellbeing. Jim's basic steps commence when the pigeon lands on the board, this is when the first phase of the assessment takes place, is it fatigued? is it thirsty? did it hesitate to enter the trap? These questions all fanciers must ask themselves. This assessment will help all fanciers decide the next part of the pigeon's recovery. The next recovery step is respite. Isolation from the rest of the pigeons ensures any fatigued bird recovers without intrusive pigeons exerting more pressure on the raced birds. Jim then handles each bird to assess their weight, and structure for injury or weight loss. If any bird has not recovered it will be given more respite in one of the lofts many sections, until fully recovered. Day two the returned race team are exercised by themselves, if they appear vibrant, they will join the main team the next day. The race team normally fly for about 1-2 hours so introducing a fatigued bird to the race team is not appropriate.



Jim has a Benzing clocking system. He also utilizes the modern technology of Benzing live. Jim believes this system is the future of pigeon racing, with the ever-increasing time poor person of today, the need to spend precious time with your loved ones become paramount. One does not have to sacrifice quality time between the birds and family. The goal is not to lose flyers from the sport, so technology has presented us with the tool to clock birds whilst still spending valuable time with our loved ones. The days of sitting in the back yard for hours waiting for the birds to arrive have been reduced so quality time can be spent with family.

When asked what tip you would give new flyers, not the general one like, get the best pigeons you

can but something different; Jim said, a fancier must display attention to detail. Cutting corners will reflect the performance of your pigeons.

Colin Hayes once said; the harder you work the luckier you get!

Finally, acknowledgment of the fanciers' wives and partners must be noted. Without their support and tolerance, the pigeon fancier would be a lonely man.

CLUB REPORT: Metropolitan Invitation Racing Pigeon Club Season 2022

Metro Club Members Jim Marafiotte, Vasile Curea and Perry Burton had their birds consistently performing with distinction in season 2022 with Jim Marafiotte once again taking out the highly prestigious SAHPA Champion Flyer Award; with Vasile Curea and Perry Burton winning the other two SAHPA Championship podium positions.

In the 5 Bird Series Perry Burton demonstrated that he knows his birds well and combined with the outstanding form of his loft, won the inaugural series by a commanding margin. Veterans David and Sofia Thalbourne were very popular winners of the Doug Green Coober Pedy tribute (quite fitting in that both Doug Green and David Thalbourne have been past long term Office Bearers of the SAHPA) Jim Marafiotte and Vasile Curea also won highly prestigious long distance events from Marla and Border Village, with Vasile demonstrating good sportsmanship by gifting Jim his Marla winner as a squeaker. Vasile then went on to win the final race of the season from Border Village to seal second spot in the SAHPA Aggregate points. Metro Club also held a successful fundraiser on Tim Fawcett's website. Last year these funds were used for an end of season Christmas function, and to cover SAHPA membership fees. **Greg Kakoschke Chair: Metro IRPC**

SAHPA PRESENTATION 2022



Top row: Jim Marafiote and Kevin Clarke, Perry Burton, Rocky Varopolio. Row 2: Tim Fawcett, Nanthan Williams; J & C. Harper. Row 3: Andrew Scerri, Ros Chapman, D & S Thalbourne. Row 4: Lee Abbott, J. Kokalakis, R. & L. Drew.

SAHPA PRESENTATION 2022



Top row: Tim Fawcett, Fred DiMella, Perry Burton. Row 2: Jim Marafiote, the Marafiotes, J. Harper, T. Tirrell & others. Row 3: G. Goodrich & G. Sheehan, visitors, John Letts, D. Thalbourne, G. Cummings. Row 4: Mrs Cummings & Mrs Harris, G. Sheehan & wife, R. & L. Drew.

Rocky Varapodio

100 Club Winner

The 100 club was a new concept in 2022, it was developed for flyers who have under one hundred pigeons registered. The concept gives the member a gauge of his performance against other flyers who also have no more than 100 birds registered.

Rocky is a member of the Para Hills club and has only been flying pigeons for two seasons. He like many flyers has had pigeons since he was a child. He has always wanted to race pigeons, but like many people time and work commitments hinder this venture. Rocky noticed the SAHPA web site had member's requests and attended the association headquarters to become a social member. The first person he met was a great ambassador Geoff Cawte. Geoff orientated Rocky and embraced him into the world of pigeon racing. This is when Rocky's journey commenced!

The welcoming committee didn't stop there, Mark Seiboth also rolled out the welcome mat. Rocky was firstly a social member for 12 months, absorbing numerous hours of pigeon history at the club. Then Kaz Stencil took Rocky under his wing and a great friendship developed. Kaz gave Rocky birds and mentored him during his racing journey. There's no doubt that Kaz has made a strong impression on Rocky which has reflected on the results board. He has also acquired good birds from Brian Stevens from Riverton.



Rocky accepting his award

Rocky first sourced birds from the fodder store at Globe Derby with the view to start off slowly and not having a strong network within the pigeon fraternity. Obviously purchasing these birds and crossing them with Kaz's birds reaped great results.

Rocky's performance has been outstanding in his first two years of racing. This year he achieved not only top of the hundred club but also gained 20th in the association, 1st Emmdale cock special, 7th from Marla and 12th from Border Village. It's obvious that he is in contention with all aspects of his pigeon management. His Emmdale cock bird's parents were well performed. The cock was 7th Marla in 2021 and the dam was also clocked from Marla in the same year, as I can recall it was a tough Marla last year. So this mating was

well thought through and produced great results. When asked what the future was for this Emmdale bird, he was ambivalent about its future; stock loft or continue racing! Upon reflection he wants to build his own bloodlines, so this cock bird is now in the breeding barn.

Rocky races about 80 birds a year, with about 12 breeding pairs. As many fanciers do, breeding the odd pair late in the race loft. His stock birds are formed mainly from European bloodlines, crossed with the old strong Australian bloodlines. His philosophy is to breed performing birds to other consistent birds; winners to winners. Rocky stated he prefers a small constitution in a bird, last year he had what he perceived was a well-bred pigeon, but was too large and did not perform, and from this knowledge he has refined his breeding regime to a smaller race bird.

Tossing commences much like other fanciers, a few weeks prior to the racing season. Education is the first priority for his birds. Initially the first toss is from about 30 kms, then north to Dublin and then finally Port Wakefield. Rocky, like many flyers starts tossing alone as work commitments often hinder joint traveling partners. Then on the tossing unit on Sundays, which he admits is beneficial to his racing programme. Once the racing season has commenced tossing is modified to the watchful eye of the fancier. If he believes the birds look well and fit and have that “glow”, tossing is reviewed and he may just give the birds a short sharp toss to keep them fresh.



Rocky's loft

Race recovery is fairly basic, observation is prioritized; then respite for the rest of the day. Day 2 race birds are assimilated back with the main race team. Never are they forced to fly with the main batch, if more respite is required, then they will receive more rest. Rocky uses P180 electrolytes before and after a race to ensure the birds are totally hydrated. Feeding is, as with all fanciers a selective process. The basic grains; peas, wheat, maize make up the bulk of his feeding regime. Then small grains such as milo, safflower, canola and multi vitamins (soluble) are added to his feeding programme. Rocky's loft is quite

unique, his stock loft is adjoined to his race loft, and his young birds have access to an elevated platform on top of his loft. This gives his squeakers a 360 view of his yard with a viewpoint that enhances their orientation to the loft. Access to the elevated section is by a ladder and Rocky admits this will have to be modified in the coming years as age catches up to him. Climbing ladders daily will obviously become taxing in the years to come.

Rocky voiced his concern regarding the decline of the sport, believing that the costs for the senior members are restrictive especially in the current economic climate and hopefully the SAHPA will consider this when addressing their budget.

Tip: a seasoned flyer once said; there is only one rule! There are no rules. Meaning every flyer should listen, but be open to change.

Club report: Para Hills/

Rocky Varapodio - Terrific year, 2nd year flyer, winning five club races, winning Assoc cock bird special and taking out 1st position in 100 team. Only nominated 74 birds.

Great clubman and great bloke.

Justin Horrocks Also 2nd year flyer. two club wins and 2nd prize in Sires. Made renovations to his loft after 1st year and produced great results. Always wanting to improve.

Kas Stencil. Always consistent and won two club races. Only nominated 66 pigeons. Sends small teams but always up with the winners.

Darren Aquilina - best year I ever had. five club wins. eight top 30 Assoc positions, won two Assoc races, 3rd in SDC and finished in top 10 of assoc points. Quite a disappointing end of year, but overall great improvements from previous seasons.

Andrew Scerri & Son

Wilcannia Open. SA21 1530 bbh. Velocity 1130.728. Birds: 1050. Fly time 8:41:52



Andrew flies with the Glenelg club and he has been with them for approximately four years, previously with Southern Districts. Started as a junior with Port Adelaide for a short period. Andrew is lucky enough to have a relative (Steve Summerton) involved in pigeon racing prior, which one would perceive was the emergence of his successful entry into the sport of pigeon racing. His reintroduction was by chance - he was doing some work on a house next door to Viv Allan and peeked over the fence and noticed his racing team and the desire to race again arose. With encouragement from Viv his journey back to pigeon racing commenced.

The hen that won Wilcannia for Andrew has an intriguing background. The dam was gifted to him by his uncle Steve Summerton from Wallaroo. This hen was injured while in Wallaroo and Steve gifted it to Andrew as he believed the bloodline was worth preserving. So, it arrived at Andrews stock loft but unfortunately it did not take to any of Andrews stock cocks. Andrew persisted without any success for approximately three years. Sadly, one day the hen escaped from Andrew's stock loft, and luckily enough returned to Wallaroo. Steve bred some youngsters from her for Andrew one of which produced his first Association winner from Wilcannia.

The winning hens' bloodlines consist of Fin Fraser x Goodger. This hen only had one race prior to her Wilcannia win which was Little Topar when she returned home the next day from a tough race. Post that win, her future was destined for the breeding barn. Andrew has mated her to a cock with Bill Markou x Fraser bloodlines. As it is well known to many, Billy had great success with many of his birds on the east line. The hens mate is a full brother to a bird that was 7th Assoc from Little Topar this year for Andrew, also the cock itself was 24th from Farina 2021.

Andrew's race team consist of about 120 pigeons, he usually targets about 90 young birds to commence the next race season. Breeding starts about a month before the end of the race season, depending on weather conditions.

Race preparation starts with tossing of about 20 kms, Andrew trains alone for the first few sessions which will consist of gradual increments of 30 kms until they reach reasonable fitness then he utilises the association unit from Castle Plaza. He has a firm belief that educating the birds on the line of flight is beneficial to their race performance. He trained for the NE line with consistent trips over the hills. He would often travel to Murray Bridge by himself to ensure his birds knowledge is expanded. With work commitment's Andrew would often take the birds with him in the morning, even if it was only 30 kms from his home, with the aim to freshen them up and educate his race team. Obviously, this method proved successful for Andrew.

Andrew's feeding regime is not that much different to many flyers. The normal grains, peas, wheat, safflower, milo, maize. But he did state he reduced the amount of peas this year as he believed it could affect the performance of his birds. Like many fanciers fats are increased during the longer races. Soluble vitamins are used and the traditional apple cider vinegar added on a regular basis.

Recovery is paramount to his team. Utilizing electrolytes upon race return, rest post-race day, followed by a bath the next day to reduce muscle fatigue.

The race loft comprises of four individual sections and is about 10 meters long. The stock loft is directly adjacent it and has ample ventilation. His clocking system is Benzing. He has recently acquired Benzing Live as this ensures he spends time with his family and still has the advantage of evaluating while not at home. Andrew did acknowledge his good rapport with Viv Allan and Frank Magro for their ongoing support and encouragement and he stated their wealth of knowledge has been beneficial to his racing methods.

Len and Rick Drew

A combination of Wisdom and Vitality

First place Alice Springs 2022

SA19 19643 bcph. Velocity 780.323. Distance: 1297.456, owners 52. birds 301



As usual this long distance race exceeded everyone expectations. The weather conditions indicated that it would be a true test of endurance, and that it was. Released on Friday 7.30 am, the winner arrived home on Sunday morning at 10.20.

This father and son team produced an outstanding effort in preparing an amazing hen to win the marathon race. The breeding of this hen is diverse. The Drew team explore all avenues when purchasing their stock and racing team. They attend numerous squeaker auctions and purchase many young birds. They also have a strong affiliation with flyers at Port Augusta which has strengthened their bloodlines. Wickham and Matthews make up the basic foundation of their stock. They race approximately 230 pigeons. The stock loft consists of about 30 pair. Rick believes that racing is

so competitive and to ensure he has a greater chance of winning he breeds about 200 birds per year. The winning hen only raced once this year, Paruna, then intensive road training, then straight into the Alice race. The hen raced consistently in 2021.

Len and Rick live on approximately 30 acres at Penfield north of Adelaide, so the opportunity to utilise the association training unit is impossible. So the team does countless hours and kilometres of road training. Another disadvantage of living on this beautiful location is the menacing raptors, which Rick describes as challenging. Both the partners believe education is paramount to establishing good strong youngsters. Tossing starts with hamper training, then only a kilometre away with the view to reduce stress of hampering and the transport trauma. Then like most flyers, 50 kms, 100 kms and so on.

The Drew's race loft is expansive, measuring about 30 meters in length by about 3 m in width and with 9 individual sections. An advantage of living on this property is the opportunity to build a spacious loft. Overcrowding is never a problem at the property. They are mindful of adequate ventilation and space.

Recovery is common sense based. Rest and little disturbance. Again the advantage of being located on acreage. No additives are added to the drinking water, it was tried before but the birds didn't like it so they ceased using any additives. Rick describes his feeding programme as non-descriptive, like many flyers they mix grains to suit their racing team, but they did acknowledge they increased the amount of fats into the bird's diet prior to the Alice race.

The line of flight is of no great concern for the team, but Len believes the flight path over the hills produces stronger, fitter pigeons. Rick's clocking system is Benzing with the added bonus of Benzing Live. He believes this system is the future of pigeon racing. The advantage of having access to arriving birds straight to his mobile phone also arrival times of his competitors is an advantage. No more endless hours of waiting for your birds to arrive, so in our ever time poor era, Benzing Live is priceless.

It would be remiss of any person not to acknowledge the outstanding effort of the other flyers and their birds for a magnificent effort in completing this marathon race: Alice Springs.

Nathan & Jamie Williams

Nathan Williams Glendambo Open. SA20 1757 BBC. Vel 1231.179. Dist. 493.600. Birds 2533.

Jamie Williams. Coober Pedy 2. SA21 659 BCPH. Vel 1334.979. Dist. 725.183. Birds 1015.



Nathan and Jamie are brothers who share a unique bond now both have successfully won association races in the same year. Both are members of the Gawler club and only live approximately 2 kilometres from each other. The desire to fly pigeons stems back from when they were boys, their grandfather flew pigeons in Balaklava, so there is pigeon history in their genes.

Nathan has been flying in the Gawler club for about 5 years and this current success has reignited his passion for pigeon racing. Nathan stated he wanted a short break from racing but like many, the taste for further success has encouraged him to continue flying again this year.

Jamie has just recently moved to Adelaide, he previously lived on a hobby farm near Port Wakefield and flew as an affiliate member with the Gawler club for about 6 years. His unique circumstances arose when he decided to move to Adelaide. He discussed this move with Tony Perkins who was contemplating moving and as fortune has it, Jamie purchased Tony's house, with an outstanding ready-made loft full of exceptionally well bred pigeons in the package. *How lucky can you be?*

Nathan's winning pigeon was purchased at their Gawler squeaker sale for only \$30 and was bred by Nick Heemskerck. This shows that you don't have to spend big money to have a successful pigeon. Nathan is fortunate enough now to have the parents of his winning bird in his stock loft and now hopes to extend his winning total. Jamie's Coober Pedy winners sire was from Geoff Cawte with the dam from Fred Dimella crossed with a bird from Vassile Curea and his fortune didn't just stop at purchasing a top loft, but Tony Perkins also bred the association winner which came with the property. Again, how lucky can you be! When selecting future birds, both admitted they look for flyers with performance based pigeons, like the ones in the top ten on the association table. Clearly this indicates the top flyers performances are in their results.

Both Nathan and Jamie decided to cease racing their association winners and have made the decision to mate both the winners together hoping to emulate the parent's achievements. Asked how they select the birds they purchase, both stated they try and purchase from squeaker sales as the online sale prices are at times exorbitant. Obviously, this strategy has reaped rewards for both of them.

Being close brothers, their racing philosophy is very similar; both believe that the Australian bred pigeons have more endurance than the imported birds and are more suitable to the Australian flying conditions.

Nathan races about 100 pigeons and voiced his pleasure in the new concept of the 100 club, believing it acknowledges the smaller flyer and gives them a form of recognition for their achievements. Jamie on the other hand races approximately 160 birds, as his loft structure is larger. Both commence breeding their youngsters just after the Derby.

Training is conducted solo, as both found that their birds would not return directly home post tossing. Nathan's birds would venture to Jamie's loft instead of returning directly to his loft, so

both train individually. Jamie was disappointed with the tossing unit collection point being removed from the previous location, but clearly this did not have a detrimental effect upon his results, as the Coober Pedy win shows.

Jamie's success would not have been achievable without the ongoing assistance from his son Lucas. There is no doubt that Lucas is a passionate young 10 year old boy with a strong desire to fly pigeons. Due to Jamie's work commitments Lucas feeds and exercises the birds in the morning. Lucas sets his alarm clock for 6 am every morning to ensure the birds receive adequate exercise and then prepares himself for school. Jamie states that its refreshing to see the excitement on Lucas's face when the birds return from a race. Hopefully this enthusiasm will continue and Lucas becomes an independent flyer in his adult years.

Feeding for Nathan was back to basics this year; wheat, peas and corn. Obviously, this regime was not detrimental to his bird's outcome. Grits and essential needs were met with green leaf vegetables, such as spinach. Jamie's feed structure was a little more involved, also using the basic feed mix, but uses safflower, peanuts and canary mix in the recovery mix.

Recovery for Nathan is kept basic and structured. Upon returning from the race the first 24 hours is rest. Day two reintroduced back into the main batch, never made to fly, letting the fancier know that they will exercise when they are ready. Finally close observation during the return period checking for injury or fatigue.

Jamie's recovery programme similar: 24hours rest upon return. Day two separation from main batch; bath with recovery salts. Encourage flying to relieve tight muscles. Day three return to main batch.

Their biggest influences in the sport have been each other's support. Nathan and Jamie demonstrate a clear bond that many other fanciers would be envious of.

Both have the Benzing clocking system, but don't utilize the Live aspect of the brand, but enjoying the camaraderie of the club setting and the anticipation of seeing who has been successful when result are penned on the clubs board.

Both agreed that the sport is becoming more challenging for everyone and costs continue to increase. Optimistically prize money would be offered to assist flyers with increasing cost of racing.

Nathans tip: listen to all advice, but back your own judgement when making racing decisions.

Jamie's tip: be patient when selecting stock birds. Be aware, the best intentions from other flyers are not always best for you.

Gawler & Districts Racing Pigeon Club 2022 season

Nathan Williams had his first ever Association race win in the Glendambo Open.

Rick & Len Drew won Alice Springs.

Jamie Williams won his first ever Association race win in the Coober Pedy race No. 2.

Redcliffs Jamie Williams placed 4th, 7th, 12th and 13th Assoc and Nathan Williams placed 6th Assoc

Lincoln Gap saw Nathan Williams 4th and Jamie Williams 5th.

Glendambo YBC Nathan Williams 23rd Assoc.

Little Topar Pete Mundy 12th Assoc .

Poochera Jamie Williams finished 1st Joe Jackson 4th.

The Twins Open Tim Wickham 10th Jamie Williams 14th Harrison/Atkins 15th Assoc.

Ceduna Joe Jackson 1st Jamie Williams 2nd and Neville Tymms 3rd.

Emmdale CBS R & L Drew 3rd, 8th and 13th Jamie Williams 20th Assoc.

Coober Pedy race 1 Tim Wickham 24th R & L Drew 25th Assoc.

Border Village R & L Drew 19th and Jamie Williams 27th Assoc.

- Nathan Williams Club Secretary

CLUB REPORTS

Central Districts Racing Pigeon Club

Looking back on this year the members seem to have all had some good results at some point. With all races now Association races we kicked off with Graham Mitchell winning the Bookaloo 100 club and 5 Bird then A. & D. Williams winning Red Cliffs 1st Assoc. over 324 km in July. Alan Agar finished third in the Glendambo Open in August and then took out the Vin Blanden from Emmdale over 600 km in September.

Adrian Stacey was the 100 club winner from Coober Pedy in October and 3rd Assoc in the same race (open). Nick Molchanoff achieved 27th owner from Border Village in a particularly hard race as well as 7th bird from Coober Pedy in October. Colin Tunbridge won the first two club races and then dominated the middle section ending the year with 6 club wins.

Alan Agar won the tail end of the year with 4 wins in succession ending with 8 club wins. Looking at the Association's new initiative the "100 club" for small team flyers Centrals did quite well for a small club. We had 3 flyers in the top ten (Tunbridge, Agar, Mitchell). Adrian Stacey and Nick Molchanoff featured high up as well. Colin Tunbridge achieved 393 small team points just 9 points behind the winner Rocky Varapodio.

Graham Mitchell was the best result for us in the 5-bird finishing 14th with 177 points. Adrian Stacey was our best long distance performance certificate earner with 36 points and finishing 28th. Alan Agar finished 10th with 109 points in the middle distance.

Southern Fleurieu Racing Pigeon Club

The members started the season with approximately 380 registered birds. Most members chose to toss their birds along the coast, Wellington and Salt Creek areas to avoid the predators that frequent the hills south of Adelaide.

Highlights of the season were Brian Lintern recording a velocity of 1101.305 mpm in the Paruna one race and Ida Bay Loft vel 1488.221, Eric Joy vel 1449.436 and W & K Moyle vel 1364.695 in the Paruna two race. The North Derby from Glendambo was won by Brian Lintern and the NE Derby from Little Topar was won by Rhubarb Racing Loft. The Alan Solly Trophy was the Glendambo Open race won by RRL. RRL also clocked 7th in the inaugural Cobar Grand National SA section race. This hen also won the Cobar club race, Wilcannia club race and was the second club bird home in the Little Topar open race. It has the best of Bronte Andrewartha blood with a touch of McRostie and W & K Moyle blended in. Overall all it was a good season with a good spread of wins amongst the members

Glenelg Invitation Pigeon Racing Club 2022

The Glenelg club has 15 current members, some who try to fly out the season and some who only fly one line due to family commitments. Some flyers had an interrupted season due to family issues. I believe we have had a successful season this year.

The Glendambo Derby was won by Troy Tirrell. A good effort as the race was held over due to poor weather conditions. The SAD Little Topar was won by Grant Sheehan another great effort in tough race conditions. John Crummey won the Alice Springs race in the club and overall 3rd in an extremely hard race with limited returns. (The only one in our club to get a result in the marathon event).

One of the highlights was Andrew Scerri reaching his Everest moment in pigeon racing; 1st Association from Wilcannia. Trevor Madigan won 6 club races and was very consistent. Tim Buxton is our resident Royal Show fancier and always supports the Royal Show.

Finally, Michael Donnellan won the club aggregate points. He was also successful in achieving second in the Cobar National (SA section) narrowly beating Grant by 5 seconds and Tom Tirrell by 7 seconds. Overall, it was an outstanding year for the Glenelg Club. *Well done to all involved.* Club secretary, Michael Donnellan.

CLUB REPORTS

Club Report: Kingsford IRPC 2022

The start of every year is filled with high expectation and optimism from the members for a successful season. The first race was no exception from Warnertown with young Grant Roberts winning the race and finishing 15th in the SAHPA result. A well deserved win as Grant transported our birds to SAHPA Headquarters every week.

The Glendambo YBC was won by Tim Fawcett & Geoff Jackson which was one of the most outstanding performances for the year gaining the ultimate prize of 1st SAHPA and also gaining 4th, 5th, 6th and 9th all in the top 10 WOW what a result. Tim's other top results included 3rd SAHPA from Wilcannia Open and 2nd 3rd 4th from Coober Pedy No. 2, 5th Alice Springs in the LDC with only six birds home in race time and 9th 10th 11th from Border Village to finish the season. An outstanding season.

The successful partnership of Geoff Rayment & Bronte Andrewartha also had a top year finishing off strongly in the long races. Geoff & Bronte were 4th Alice Springs in the LDC with only six birds home in race time 7th SAHPA from Marla and 2nd, 7th, 13th, 14th, 25th and 26th SAHPA from Border Village a top effort. Geoff & Bronte are becoming a formidable team and a model of consistency in the long distance races, and very tough to beat. Keith Saberton was also a model of consistency all year winning six races and finishing 2nd SAHPA from Glendambo YBC and was always very hard to beat each week.

Other Club winners were Fawcett & Jackson six wins, Geoff Rayment & Bronte Andrewartha six wins, Mark & Elaine Skelland two wins, Ken Waters two wins with Ken nearly winning the ultimate prize finishing 2nd 11th and 19th from Glendambo Open in just his second race back into racing again, and Grant Roberts with one win. Congratulations to all those that won races and had excellent race season well done to all.

I would like to mention that the Kingsford IRPC accepted Emmanuel Magro from Moonta Bay as an affiliate member of the club. Emmanuel flew his pigeons with the Kadina Homing club but folded several years ago which forced Emmanuel to then join the Balaklava Club until they eventually folded some five or six years ago leaving him without a club in close proximity and in the wilderness. He tried to join other clubs in the northern areas without success. He applied to join our club in 2022 as an affiliate and was accepted. He flew the entire north line, driving to the club every fortnight, the journey being approximately 3.5 hour round trip. He said it has given him a new lease of life as he now watches his birds come home under proper race conditions and at times very testing weather with the SAHPA convoy. Leli as he is affectionately known sits in the back yard every fortnight with at times his mate and on the odd occasion with his partner Betty having a few drinks hopefully (alcoholic) of course waiting arrival of his birds. He has absolutely loved it and it has brought a smile to his face and enjoyment to the sport he loves. Although he is unable to compete at the top level he gets a velocity each race and is able to compare it with the Adelaide flyers, and at times was competitive. Emmanuel sent 30 birds to Border Village and managed to get 15 home in race time with his first bird being in top 30 with his velocity. Emmanuel is forever grateful and appreciative to the club and members for accepting him as a member. Club Secretary/Treasurer Keith Bowen

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOMING PIGEON ASSOCIATION INC.

DRAFT RACE PROGRAM 2023

| DATE | REL. | RACEPOINT | STATUS | HAMPER NIGHT | Distance to Adel. (km) |
|----------|------|---|--------|--------------|------------------------|
| June 3 | Sat | Stirling North / Carrieton | SDC | Friday | 280 |
| 10 | Sat | Peterborough | SDC | Friday | 220 |
| 17 | Sat | Stirling North / Carrieton | SDC | Friday | 280 |
| 24 | Sat | Peterborough (noms close Sires Produce) | SDC | Friday | 220 |
| July 1 | Sat | Bookaloo | SDC | Friday | 360 |
| 8 | Sat | Yunta | SDC | Friday | 270 |
| 15 | Sat | Bookaloo | SDC | Friday | 360 |
| 22 | Sat | Yunta | SDC | Friday | 270 |
| 29 | Sat | Pimba | MDC | Thursday | 430 |
| August 5 | Sat | Olary | MDC | Thursday | 330 |
| 12 | Sat | Glendambo YBC | MDC | Thursday | 570 |
| 19 | Sat | Little Topar SAD | MDC | Thursday | 490 |
| 26 | Sat | Glendambo Open | MDC | Thursday | 570 |
| Sept 2 | Sat | Little Topar Open | MDC | Thursday | 490 |
| 9 | Sat | The Twins Open | MDC | Thursday | 620 |
| 9 | Sat | The Twins 5-bird | MDC | Thursday | 620 |
| 16 | Sat | Wilcannia | MDC | Thursday | 580 |
| 16 | Sat | Wilcannia 5-bird | MDC | Thursday | 580 |
| 23 | Sat | Marla | LDC | Wednesday | 980 |
| 30 | Sat | Emmdale | LDC | Thursday | 640 |
| Oct 7 | Sat | Coober Pedy (Vin Blanden) | LDC | Thursday | 750 |
| 14 | Sat | Cobar | LDC | Thursday | 770 |
| 15 | Sun | Byrock | LDC | Thursday | 870 |

| SAHPA AND CLUB PHONES | | | | BIRDS PER CRATE - MAXIMUM | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| General Secretary | 0448 883 512 | Kingsford | 0499 401 954 | Race Type | Birds | Crates | Total |
| North Suburban | 0413 171 697 | Port Adelaide | 0403 768 301 | One night | 30 | 156 | 4680 |
| Barossa Valley | 0457 446 778 | Southern Districts | 0439 812 231 | Two nights | 25 | 156 | 3900 |
| Central Districts | 0414 467 959 | Southern Vales | 0448 588 013 | | | | |
| Glenelg | 0450 141 308 | Vitesse | 0449 611 281 | | | | |
| Hyde Park | 0450 107 545 | West Torrens | 0405 507 031 | | | | |
| Gawler & Districts | 0412 477 674 | | | | | | |

SPECIAL EVENTS

| | | | | | | |
|---------|----------|-------------------------------|-------|----------|---------|--------------------------|
| Aug 25 | Friday | Alice Springs | SALDC | Tuesday | 1320 km | \$25 per bird |
| Sept 10 | Sunday | Marree Sires Produce | SALDC | Friday | 582 km | |
| Oct 7 | Saturday | Coober Pedy Cock Bird Special | SALDC | Thursday | 750 km | \$5 per bird (5th free) |
| Oct 20 | Friday | Kulgera | SALDC | Tuesday | 1130 km | \$20 per bird (5th free) |

ADELAIDE PIGEON CLUB

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|----------------------------|--------|
| June 17 | Sat | Stirling North / Carrieton | 280 km |
| July 15 | Sat | Bookaloo | 360 km |
| August 12 | Sat | Glendambo YBC | 570 km |
| September 9 | Sat | The Twins | 620 km |
| October 7 | Sat | Coober Pedy | 750 km |