

Bunn Snyders and Dave Buxton

Coober Pedy 2017 1st Association



BEGINNINGS: Bunn started with pigeons at age 14 in around 1969. He began racing at 16 with the Nairne Racing Club, a club with over 20 members back in 1969. John Smith, Don Andrewartha, Robinson and Clark, Peter Dobvreesky, Fred Elston, Pimlott Bros, John Lange and others. Lots of pigeons would be coming overhead and our birds would pull out. Because of where he lives he wouldn't see that today. Tossing fifty years ago was with Bob Blyth.

HISTORY: When Bunn began work as a shearer, the birds were agisted with

John Lange at Birdwood. John Lange was a very astute line breeder and focussed the breeding to ensure Kalgoorlie Girl was the dominant contributor. John bought the complete loft from Patterson and Grigg at Williamstown. In time the Lange birds passed from John to his brother, Rex, who supplied Bunn with the base pair. These genetics have been carefully nurtured and today's birds are still very strongly Blanden focussed. The base pair were a blue checker pied cock and a red chequer pied hen, and these origins are still obvious. Alan Thede has also contributed generously and his birds have blended in well. Both Bunn and Dave and their families have moved a number of times in the nearly thirty years they have been flying together. Following a year at Sellicks, where he won races with mainly Janssen pigeons, Bunn set up the loft at his present address in Aldinga in 2014. When Dave returned from Sydney the partnership set up two lofts which are approx. twenty kilometres apart. This has enabled extensive testing of the birds. Other European bloodlines like Koopmans, Janssens, Hereman Ceusters have mixed in well with the Blandens. John Doyle has been influential with important advice. The current pedigrees continue to show Kalgoorlie Girl and Vin Blanden's red pair are dominant. Probably it is because of the extensive inbreeding of unrelated families that enable these birds to perform. The 1st SAHPA The Twins 2016 was a Blanden cross bred by Dave, and the 2 cock birds that were clocked on the same second from Coober Pedy in 2017 were Blanden and Blanden cross. 80 pc of Assoc placings are Blanden or Blanden crosses. 2nd Assoc Alice Springs in 2007 was a daughter of the base RCPH, and 2nd Cobar 2009 is a grand-daughter of this base RCPH.

Bunn doesn't keep prisoner stock birds. Over the years Dave and others have bred birds which Bunn flies. The best are allowed to breed before racing on in subsequent years. Like many serious pigeon flyers, Bunn has found a way to have birds in places where he has moved, including the Ord River, Darwin and Gippsland. While in Gippsland he had to drive an hour to get to the Melbourne Pigeon Club. Unfortunately, during the Gippsland year in 1992, there was a heavy storm which blew the loft over and all the old stock birds were lost which has probably contributed to not wanting to keep prisoners.