

# Pigeon Notes

By  
Vin Blanden

## Race Programme Finalised

*The SA Homing Pigeon Association finalised its 1966 race programme at a meeting held last week.*

Similar to last years' schedule of alternate racing from the onset, the programme differs in race points and it has also reverted to the system of holding all races under 400 miles before any of the six long-distance events are conducted.

Last year one race was held from Tarcoola and Maryborough after the £100 events were flown from Cook and Benalla.

The South-East route is made of the same race points as last year, but the north line has again been adopted in preference to the North-West.

Pimba has been retained instead of Parachilna, but events from Marree, Oodnadatta and Finke will replace those from Tarcoola, Cook and Forrest in the same order.

The starting date of May 21 is the same week-end as the opening of the 1965 schedule.

The matters of entry fees and conveying charges have yet to be decided.

The railways training roster will probably remain unchanged, and full particulars of the schedule will be given in this column as soon as possible.

### DISEASE

Association members are advised that the rule covering pigeon pox still applies.

All pigeons must be immunised against pigeon pox before they are eligible to compete in any club or association race. Clubs must provide the association with certificates of guarantee that its members have complied with the new rule before May 21.

There is no doubt that compulsory vaccination has done much in eradicating the disease in SAHPA lofts.

Keepers of fancy varieties too, will be wise if they spend the small amount in cash necessary to stamp out this complaint which can disfigure a bird for life and often prove fatal.

Isolation does not always provide immunity for there is little doubt that mosquitoes can carry the disease from an infected loft to another in the near vicinity.

Racing owners should play safe by making sure their birds

are immunised no later than ten weeks before the first race.

Clubs desirous of holding novelty races as a prelude to the racing season are advised that the association has decided to give it usual support for a fixture from Redhill on May 14.

The association has fixed its price for SA rings this year. SA rings will cost 10 cents each — one dollar for ten.

### OFF COURSE

East Suburban member, Charles Day, reported an item of interest recently.

The story concerns yearling cock 21809 SA 64, a Knoolaugh Harrison, which performed well enough to be first bird to the loft in the Tarcoola derby race. He was then sent to the Cook £100 event on August 28.

This race gave a poor result with about 20 p.c. returns at the end of the second day.

It is not likely that weather conditions caused the poor return, and although the result was not as bad as the June event when only 10 p.c. were reported home, or the SAHP Combines smash from Oodnadatta which only gave a two p.c. return, the reason for the poor result is still a mystery.

Many believed those which failed to return fell into the sea.

However, since then a lot of the missing ones have returned home.

There is now no mystery where 21809 finished in the Cook race, because he was recently reported in the loft of Mr. J. Alex of Baillie street, Horsham (Victoria).

Why this pigeon went to Horsham we do not know, but we do know that he had to fly more than 800 miles to get there, and like many of the others which were not home early, he didn't finish in the sea.

### RENMARK

Here is the Renmark club's programme: — May 28, Allawoona (41 miles); June 4, Allawoona; 11, Karoonda (75); 18, Karoonda; 25, Coonalpyn (115); July 2, Bordertown (147); 9, Bordertown; 16, Naracoorte (190); 23, Naracoorte; 30, Mt. Gambier (245); Aug. 6, Karoonda; 13, Bordertown; 20, Naracoorte;

27, Mt. Gambier; Sept. 3, Dimboola (170); 10, Ararat (250); 17, Bannock Burn (320); 24, Colac (345); Oct. 1, Bordertown; 8, Naracoorte; 15, Naracoorte, and 22, Mt. Gambier.

The two Alawoona races do not carry points. Young bird races will be held from Bordertown on July 9 and Mount Gambier on July 30.

The races from Bannock Burn and Colac will be held in combine with the Mildura club, and a one-bird special event will be flown from Bordertown on October 1.

Publicity officer, Mr. R. Yonker, advises that his club has 16 members this year.

The Renmark body is trying to promote the sport in other areas of the Upper Murray and would be pleased to hear from eligible owners of racing pigeons or other prospective fanciers interested in the sport.

Readers of these notes who may be interested in the project should write or call on Mr. R. Yonker at 18th street, Renmark. The chairman is Mr. M. Carslake and the secretary, Mr. R. Lockett.

### PROGRAMME

Here is this year's association programme: — Club races, May 21, Carrieton (170 miles); 28, Keith (125); June 4, Carrieton; 11, Keith; 18, Carrieton; 25, Keith; July 2, Pimba (270); 9, Dimboola (220); 16, Pimba; 23, Dimboola; association races, July 30, Marree derby (365); Aug. 6, Maryborough derby (320).

August 13, Marree Open; 20, Maryborough Open; 27, Marree Open; Sept. 3, Maryborough Open; 10, Oodnadatta £100 (540); 17, Benalla £100 (425); 24, Oodnadatta Open; Oct. 1, Benalla Open; 8, Finke (690); 15, Junea (510 miles).

Full moon dates: — August 1, August 31, September 30, October 29.

### WANTED TO BUY

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