

PIGEON NOTES



RAY FULLGRABE

The 1973 pigeon racing season continued to bring success for Clovelly Park owner Ray Fulgrabe.

Racing in partnership with his 10-year-old son Andrew, Ray finished second in the aggregate points on the SA Pigeon Union.

The father-and-son combination belong to the Plympton club.

Ray 54, is one of the hardest working members of the union.

Many of today's top Plympton flyers have come up through the junior club which Ray has run for the past 18 years.

Ray has been active in the sport since he was 15.

In his early days he flew pigeons in partnership with his father George ("Pop") Fulgrabe.

He then teamed with Harold Rimmer in the Colonel Light Gardens club.

Both associations gave Ray a valuable grounding in the sport.

His team today is based on birds from these lofts as well as champions from Hamley Bridge owner H. S. Gilles and the Sampson loft, of Brompton.

The Fulgrabe team includes birds of the "Plum" and "Latchford-Logan" strains which thrive on hard races.

They have been proven over many distances and on both lines.

Last season Ray and his son had many placings in union races. These included second and fourth in Tarcoola, second in Finke, third in Booroorban, second in the Booroorban Derby, sixth in Temora and third in Morundah.



Ray has won the Plympton aggregate points six times.

Last year was his 13th season as secretary of the Plympton club.

Ray was previously secretary of both the Southern Federation and the Colonel Light Gardens club.

The third successful member of the Fulgrabe team is Ray's wife Thelma. She is a full-time trainer.

Ray and his son are quick to point out that if it wasn't for her the record of the Fulgrabe team would be nowhere near what it is.

Race birds are trained around the loft every morning and given a toss between every race.

Each bird races only once a month in the early stage of the season.

They are fed a 50-50 mixture of wheat and peas with maize added to the diet as the races become longer.

Special seed is used on the day before a race and when the birds return.

GRAHAM BADGER.