

# \$17,300 In Prizes

The SA Homing Pigeon Association paid out more than \$17,300 in ordinary prizes and specials this year.

Richest races were the Maryborough derby, \$2,088, and Marree derby, \$1,933.

The Oodnadatta \$200 event provided 1,846 and the Benalla counterpart was worth \$1,545.

Other races worth over \$1,000 included the Maryborough Open, \$1,512, Marree Open \$1,484, Maryborough Five-bird \$1,379, Marree Five-bird \$1,370, and the Oodnadatta Open \$1,186.

Excluding specials the fine total of 516 cash prizes were awarded.

The total was made with 287 in races of 300-400 miles and 229 in events of over 400 miles.

Hampstead topped the club list of most prizes won with 70 prizes of which 43 were gained in events of 300-400 miles and 27 were won in races of over 400 miles. North-West, 55 (26 and 29), West Suburban, 50 (23 and 27), Glynde, 47 (33 and 14), Le Fevre, 45 (26 and 19), North Suburban, 39 (26 and 14), Campbelltown, 39 (28 and

11), Hyde Park, 37 (20 and 17), East Suburban, 34 (26 and 8) and Henley and Grange, 26 (seven in the under 400 and 19 in the over), all followed Hampstead.

## Move On Falcon

Because of the increasing damage done by the Peregrine falcon, the Association has submitted an application for the Peregrine to be removed from the protected bird list.

Only two hawks are not protected, the Goshawk and Wedgetail eagle. The former is a constant menace, not so much while the pigeon is in flight, but it's prowling habit of stealthy approach is responsible for heavy losses when it's prey is grounded.

Apart from the Black falcon the other varieties of predators are comparatively harmless to the racing pigeon.

The Little Falcon will give chase, but it apparently lacks the strength of the Peregrine and Black falcons and depends on smaller birds for its survival.

The Grey falcon is so rare that it does not present a problem. The Peregrine is increasing in numbers at a steady rate and reports of its attacks are consequently becoming more frequent.

## Pigeon Notes By Vin Blanden

The recent incident at Finke when three falcons grounded several hundred contestants provided a good example of the hawk manace.

There is little doubt that the pigeons' lot is becoming more hazardous each year when it is forced to run the gauntlet of the Flinders Ranges in the north and the Murray Mallee in the east, especially at this time of the year when the falcons are nesting and have a family to feed.

## "The Advertiser" Trophy

"The Advertiser" trophy, awarded to the owner with the best combined performance in the SAHPA's two long-distance races, was won by M. Bird and Son.

One of the most difficult trophies to win, the award has created great interest among long-distance specialists for the past 15 years.

The winner must be placed in both races — a feat that only three owners accomplished this year.

Bird and Son's successes of fourth Finke and 12th Junee gained 26 points.

The other two to qualify were Cliff Patterson (Gawler), 13 points and M. Harshegyi, SAHPA aggregate winner, also 13.

The trophy will be presented at the Association's annual fixture early next year.

## Club News

"The Recorder" Homing Medallion to the winner of Port Pirie H.S. aggregate, was won by S. Staker and Son with 156 points. Then followed M. Bickley 135, H. Jackson 131, Poschens and Waters 102, D. Labue and Sons 100, J. Derner 82, A. Macdonald and Sons 87, C. Bowering 73, K. Partridge 73, K. Saint 61 and J. Shenley and Son 52.

Two fine hens recorded good performances. The sixth prize-winner, a pied raced by M. Bickley, has now completed Port Pirie six times.