R. Watson Wins Benalla Race

Ralph Watson, Millswood, won the SA Homing Pigeon Association's 425-mile Benalla race in which 168 owners and 1,756 birds competed last Saturday.

This is his second major success after only a few years in the sport. He won the two-bird limit Springhurst race last year.

Released at 6.15 a.m., the winner was clocked at about 4.48 p.m. to average about 40 m.p.h.

Returns in the day were patchy with many owners getting several birds on top of each other and then waiting a long while for another arrival.

The winner is a yearling red che. hen which flew the three Maryborough races before her Benalla victory.

The sire, a red che., won 1st Dimboola and 13th SAHPA Maryborough, and is kaffir bred from a pair of T. Robertson's noted strain.

The dam was also bred from a pair of the same origin.

Second prize went to K. Wickham who clocked a well-performed four-year-old blue bar hen which had only two races, Dimboola and Maryborough before this race.

The sire was clocked at Oodnadatta and the dam is the champion 745 hen which won 1st SAHPA Benalla, 2nd SAHPA Benalla, 4th SAHPA Ballan and scored another place in the first twenty.

P. Arriola, West Suburban, won third prize with a blue che. yearling hen which flew all stages to two Maryborough events.

The sire won 19th SAHPA Oodnadatta and is a mixture of G. H. Downes, D. C. Green and Mr. Arriola's Alice Springs blood.

The dam is from a son of the Alice Springs hen out of the Wilowski winner of 8th SAHPA Alice Springs.

The Port Adelaide Association raced from Coonabarabran. The event was won by Riverside owner, F. Morris.

RESULTS

Benalla. — SAHPA (168, 1756) — R. Watson 1196, K. Wickham 1195.87, P. Arriola 1195.82, R. Huff & Son 1195, W. Walford 1192.8, T. M. Butcher 1192.4, R. Eitzen 1191, C. Pitt 1190, H. Sykes 1188.3, L. A. Pitt 1188.16, P. Arriola 1188.14, H. Parker 1188.11, K. Bright & Son 1183.8, R. Rust 1183.2, H. Parker 1183, R. Rust 1182.9, R. Rust 1182.17, Ross Burford 1182.13, K. Shillabeer 1180.9, W. Stern 1180.6—subject to check.

Oodnadatta. — PAA (33, 202) — F. Morris 1110, L. Thamm 1083, Smith & Son 1080, L. Thamm 1079, Kerley Bros. 1066, J. Sterejko 1065, A. Weaver 1050, J. Axon 1046, F. Morris 1043 Wear & Son 1040—subject to check.

South Fed. (12, 69) — E. Clark 1059, L. Brown 1036, R. Rosser 1032; South West (4, 13) — A. Alsop 862, A. Langsford 843, W. Lehman 829; Victor Harbor (5, 19) — R. Hanson and Son (two birds) 14.29.56.

BIRDS ON RADAR

The Bureau of Meteorology at Forrest Airport traced the progress of the Forrest race birds in the early stages of the event last Friday.

Within 30 minutes of release the birds were already 24 miles from Forrest and flying at 40 knots in the direction of Adelaide.

S. J. Gregerson took first and second prizes with two birds together at 5.20 p.m. Saturday.

Then followed:—K. Wickham, P. Arriola, K. Bright & Son, C. De Laine, J. Quinn & Son, M. Bergin, L. A. Wallace, Blanden and Bailey, C. Copeland, Warren Moyle & Son, B. Salter, T. Freak, H. Ford and C. Rayner.

Full particulars of the event will be included next week.

Pigeon Notes
By Vin Blanden

MILLICENT

The Millicent Homing Club has just ended a most successful season which gave a fine return of pigeons.

Its last three races were held from Carrieton, 371 miles, Parachilna 459 and Marree, 563 miles. The winning velocity from Carrieton was 791 yards and 16 of 28 birds returned.

A total of 15 out of 21 returned from Parachilna, 1,174 yds. a min, and 8 of 14 from Marree with the winner recording 273 ypm.

The club competes only for trophies donated by the local business houses.

The aggregate trophy which must be won three times by the same owner before it goes out of the competition has now been won by B. Carthew, J. Dean and Son, and J. McRostie twice.

This year's aggregate was won by J. McRostie with 89 points from S. Hunter 64, J. Dean and Son 42, F. Carthew & Son 30, B. Carthew 27 and B. Ross 17 points.

Dead Bird

Brian Lock, Coulta, via Pt. Lincoln reports finding 18649 SA 64 dead on a roadside.

He writes:—"Apparently there have been several Adelaide birds in the area in the last few days, some with blue race rubbers and some with yellow.

"On September 25 the Lake Wangary club flew its two final races from Cook and Finke. Returns from Cook were quite good and first bird was clocked at 6.08 a.m., Sunday, but up until now (28/9/65) we haven't seen a bird from Finke.'

Note: Kalgoorlie birds carried white race rubbers.

Country Results
25/9/65

Mount Gambier.—From Renmark, 252 miles (11, 104) — A. Wilson 1199, L. Dally 1196, J. W. Butler 1194. From Bendigo, 206 miles (3, 12) — A. Wilson 5.10.1, A. Walters 5.10.26, W. Harvey 6.2.22.

Angaston.—From Benalla, 426 miles (7, 30) — M. Fairey 13.53.30, R. Thiele 14.55.6, L. Parish 15.16.20.

Port Pirie HS. — From Edward Creek, 364 miles (12, 98) —D. C Laube and Sons 1187, J. A. Shepley and Son 1184, M. J. Bickley 1182—trophy by D. Berry.

Renmark. — From Naracoorte, 187 miles (7, 28) — R. Jonker 784, F. Peters 552, C. and H. Van de Wiel 542.

Whyalla. — From Nhill, 325 miles (9, 68) — A. R. Willard 746, B. Byfieldt 701, Mrs. F. Preuss and Son 687—trophies by Cox Foys Ltd., Malcom Reid & Co., Hartman Motors.

Murray Bridge. — From Benalla, 391 miles (7, 26) — W. Siebert, B. and J. Harris, G. Waye — trophies by P. & I. Jones and G. Waye. The placed birds were clocked just after 4 p.m.

Solomontown. — From Maryborough (10, 73) — Argent and Leggett, L. H. Tee 939, R. H. Manfield 936 — trophies by Northern Bottlers, Sawley & Noble, C. Higginbottom.

Clare. — From Cook, 530 miles (5, 30) — J. R. Lane 708, Wilson and Hicks 674 — trophies by L. R. Bull and E. Norton. From Junee, 518 miles (5, 17) — J. R. Lane 586 — trophies by W. Kerslake and D. Smart.

Three birds came in racetime from Cook, one from Junee, and no birds out of 18 from Kalgoorlie.

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