

# 2014 Twins Open Winner

Tony O'Loughlin and Rolf Goodacre won the Twins Open race with a Koopman hen SA13 18050 BCPH. The sire is a nest mate to Ermerdream, the dam is a daughter of Kline Gerard & New Delight.

These birds bred Rolf some top Adelaide \$10,000 birds also.

This is Tony's first Assoc win after flying pigeons for approximately fifty years.

They don't use any vitamins on the birds, they mix their own feed which is 50% peas and wheat.

They usually start training their birds on or near the end of April at a distance of approximately 30km. and usually toss from a Southerly direction. They like to have the birds working well around the loft for a month prior to training. Once racing starts they train once a week. They prefer racing hens. Tony's favorite bird is The Twins winner. Worming is done prior to the start of the race season.

They don't medicate when they return from a race or during racing, except this year they had to, because the birds became unwell and were coming home late from tossing, Turbosole was used along with epsom salts.



They prefer racing the east line, but like racing all distances and lines, they also try to race all races.

They breed approximately 100 to 120 young birds per year and have 30 odd old birds from previous years. Breeding usually starts in November.

As Tony says they keep too many stock birds and would like to get down to 25 pair. Tony said one day he would like to put a ceiling in his race loft. They put best to best when breeding.

The race loft dimensions is 18 feet with 3 sections and faces North.

The main lines that are kept are the Goodgers along with some Koopmans and Janssens also a

few Barkers are kept, but the Goodgers have been by far the best.

Tony has had the birds for 50 odd years, everyone had pigeons when he was a boy, "there like a drug, who needs drugs when you have pigeons."