

# D. C. Cudmore Retires

Because of age and health reasons  
grand old man in pigeon racing, Mr. D.  
C. Cudmore, recently announced his re-  
irement from the sport.

Life-member of the SA  
Pigeon Associa-  
tion, and foundation mem-  
ber of the Association's  
stees elected in 1928.  
Cudmore who is now  
in his mid-eighties can no  
longer take an active part  
in his hobby.  
Famous throughout Aus-  
tralia for his Jurion im-  
portations he has contrib-  
uted more than his share  
in founding many success-  
ful lofts — the fine strains  
made by the late "Barney"  
Horsemann and "Rocco"  
Horrocks are but two of  
the great families which  
carried the Cudmore  
Jurion blood.

For more than forty  
years Mr. Cudmore has  
been content to keep his  
Jurions in all their origi-  
nary purity of blood, and in  
so doing his fame as a  
breeder is far greater than  
that of a performer.  
He has derived his plea-  
sure from others doing the  
winning with birds carry-  
ing his Jurion cross.

In order that only his best  
birds should be retained for  
breeding purposes Mr. Cudmore  
has participated in races held  
by the Association every year  
and no doubt with the ambi-  
tion that some day he would  
win one of the big events with  
one of his "pures."

As the years passed it  
seemed that he would be  
deprived of his moment of per-  
sonal achievement.  
However, on October 14, 1939,  
he clocked his yearling blue  
che. hen to win the SAHPA  
540-mile Oodnadatta race to  
record one of the most popular  
victories in the history of the  
association.

Over the years countless  
association winners had carried  
the Cudmore blood and it was  
only fitting that he should  
enjoy the same thrill with one  
of his own in all its purity of  
strain.

It is doubtful whether there  
is another loft in the world  
in which the inmates are all  
of the original blood made by

August and Ernest Jurion of  
La Rosiere, Braine-Comte,  
Belgium. The foundation  
of the Jurion blood was  
laid by the late Pittevil  
and Van Buren. It is  
estimated that that  
strain has been in the  
country for more than a  
century. When an  
outcross was introduced no  
matter how great the strain  
was originally.

Unlike Mr. Cudmore there  
are few owners willing to de-  
vote a lifetime to the preserva-  
tion of a great family without  
being attracted by the prize-  
money to be won.

There is also no doubt that  
the main value of the present-  
day Cudmore Jurion is in its  
use as an outcross. More  
than its worth as a "pure" in  
the race basket.

Fanciers everywhere who  
have given the opportunity to obtain  
this cross of Jurion blood  
when the Cudmore Jurion stud  
is auctioned later this year.

## Almost The 4000

Former successful long-  
distance owner Peter  
Sampson, of Whyalla,  
writes to say the 1,000 miles  
has never been flown to Why-  
alla, but events from Boulder  
(WA) have been held in past  
years.

The distance—982 miles—  
is 18 miles short.

About 20 birds, representing  
several owners at Whyalla  
were sent to Boulder in 1943  
where they were cared for  
by members of the Boulder  
club and released in favorable  
conditions on a Friday  
morning.

The winner was timed on  
Sunday evening with a flying  
time of 28 hours—about 35  
m.p.h.—and six birds homed  
from the race.

In 1945 Mr. Sampson sent  
11 birds to Boulder privately,  
but conditions were not good.  
His first bird, a hen, flew it  
in just over 31 hours and his  
only other arrival was a cock  
which arrived home several  
days later.

About 1948 the Whyalla club  
held an event from Boulder  
and didn't home a bird in  
race time although several  
came home later.

There appears to be a lot  
in the adage "horses for  
courses" as four of the birds

## Pigeon Notes

By Vin Blanden

which covered the 982 miles  
successfully were grand-  
children of the S.A.H.P.A.  
1933 Goulburn winner for the  
late Perce Hight.

In 1933 noted Perth fancier,  
B. Oliver, flew a grizzle hen  
from Barton to Perth. Weat-  
her conditions were not good  
and it took 14 days for this  
grand hen to complete the  
flight.

Mr. Sampson has this to say  
about the eventual result of  
the association's attempt to  
fly the 1,000 miles: "I think  
you will fly 1,000 miles alright,  
but only if good birds are sent  
and the race is not used to  
eliminate doubtful plodders."

It is certain that all experi-  
enced owners will be in entire  
agreement with Mr. Sampson  
in this respect.  
If good pigeons, in top phy-  
sical condition are released in  
favorable weather conditions,  
there is no reason why the as-  
sociation should not enjoy a  
successful result from Boulder.

In passing Mr. Sampson  
mentioned that Zanthus had  
been flown quite well to  
Whyalla.

## Blue Is The Color

Some fanciers, because  
of success won with birds  
of a certain color, tend to  
concentrate on racing as many  
birds of the color of their  
choice as possible.

Such an owner is Waikerie  
member Mr. A. Noack who, due  
to the progeny of a Blue Bar  
W.F. Cock, owns a loft in which  
the inmates are mostly blue  
birds.

A fancier of only a short  
time Mr. Noack is keen enough  
to attempt to make his own  
strain of blues.

One blue daughter of the  
white flight cock won second  
prize in the club's 400-mile  
Tarcoola race last year.

She is a beautiful hen which  
handles and looks as good as  
her performances have proved.

Nice enough to grace a perch  
in any top metropolitan loft  
this hen, if handled right, could  
play a major role in building  
the strain sought after by her  
owner.

Another lovely hen to catch  
the eye is a Kennett Diamond  
in the loft of George Elliott.

Typical of the old blood this  
black hen is a ringer, pink  
eye cere and all — for the  
Black Princess strain which per-  
formed so well for Mr. T. W.  
V. Richardson.

## Pigeon Notes

By Vin Blanden

## THE CLAY BARKER

Although the Clay is recognised as an  
old English strain, the original pair res-  
ponsible for making the name famous  
throughout the world were bred in Bel-  
gium.

The cock of the pair,  
bred 84 years ago by Mons  
Leopold Habsaer of Ant-  
werp was a red che. of  
unusual clay color and the  
hen, a dun, was bred by  
Mons G. Gits in 1852.

The peculiar color of  
the progeny of this great  
pair was responsible for  
the resultant strain being  
named Clay.

The Clays soon made a  
name for themselves in  
English pigeon racing be-  
ing particularly under  
notice for their great  
courage and ability to win  
in adverse weather condi-  
tions especially in races  
over long distances.

The original pair were  
unrelated, but inbreeding  
to the children of the pair  
was carried out by many  
owners with marked suc-  
cess.

The performances of the  
Clays were such that the blood  
was introduced, as a cross to  
but many famous strains in-  
cluding the S. P. Griffiths, W.  
Sharrock, J. W. Toft, E. E.  
Jackson, T. W. Thoroughgood  
and others of equal note.

Many of the N. Barker  
strains of the time carried  
Clay blood in their base.

The hen of the original Clay  
pair was a grand-daughter of  
the mighty Gits pair "Do-  
keren" and "Queen" and full  
sister to C25, the noted "brown"  
Gits cock.

There is no doubt that hun-  
dreds of good winners in South  
Australia carry the same blood  
in their ancestry, unknown to  
most of their owners, perhaps  
because of the passage of time.  
For instance, the noted S. P.  
cock imported by the late Spencer  
Evans from W. H. Bell of  
Liverpool more than sixty years  
ago must surely be in the an-  
cestry of thousands of pigeons  
here today.

It may not be generally known  
that 89 was a son of the  
"brown" C26 (full brother to  
the Clay hen) and so was first  
cousin to all the progeny  
of the Clay pair.

Then there is the Gits blood  
to be found in many of our  
present-day winning families in-  
cluding the Wickham.

The value of "The Donkeren"  
and "Queen" progeny in the  
Gits loft was such that it is  
extremely unlikely that many,  
if any, of the Gits importations  
to this country were without a  
dash of the blood in their an-  
cestry.

So much for the Gits side  
of the bloodlines, but what  
about the strain introduced by  
the clay red Habsaer cock of  
the Clay pair?

It is also extremely likely that  
traces of this cock are to be  
found in the ancient pedigree  
of pigeons carrying Toft, S. P.  
day, May 2.

Griffiths, Thoroughgood and  
even the "pure" Barkers.

Older fanciers will remember  
the E. E. Jacksons imported by  
the late Bessen Bros.

As Jackson used the Clay  
cross for a part of the founda-  
tion for his strain it can be  
taken for granted that de-  
scendants of the pair once oc-  
cupied perches in the Bessen  
lofts.

However, with the passing of  
the years the "Jackson" has  
been swallowed down and han-  
dled by the names of the more  
recent crosses introduced into  
the various families here.

Nevertheless, if one went to  
the trouble to trace the line-  
ages back there is no  
doubt that dashes of the blood  
be found in odd places  
and there in the family  
tree.

Despite the fact that many  
descendants of the Clay pair  
must have been winning here  
over the years it was not until  
the late Len Broad, in more  
recent times, imported a lot  
of the family that the Clay  
name became more familiar.

This importation is the an-  
cestor of the present-day Clay  
Barkers.

Famous for his Barker im-  
portations, Mr. Broad used his  
Clay cross to such extent, and  
success, that many good win-  
ners today carry the Clay  
Barker in their pedigree.

Traditionally, in most cases  
the successes are gained in long  
arduous races where it takes  
courage and determination to  
win the event.

And what of the peculiar  
clay color? Although it is more  
than 80 years since the mighty  
pair was hatched the same  
unusual color can still be seen  
in the descendants.

While the blues and blue  
chequers of the Broad Clay  
Barker are more or less usual  
in coloring, many of the reds  
and malles still carry  
peculiarity of color which  
distinguishes them from the  
others.

Like other good families, the  
Clay adage "a good horse is never  
a bad color" fits the Clay  
Barker admirably.

It may not be an ideal show  
specimen, but it is a picture  
of all that is beautiful in the  
winning owner when it hits the  
loft after a long and arduous  
race.

## CORRECTION

It was stated in last week's  
notes that the late Perce  
Hight won Goulburn in 1933.

It has since been pointed out  
that Mr. Hight won this race  
in 1935. The 1933 event was  
won by G. Dally, and is the  
only occasion that Goulburn  
has been flown in the day.

## CLUB FUNCTIONS

Fanciers are reminded of two  
functions in aid of club funds  
to be held soon.

Oaklands club will hold a  
cabaret in the S.A.H.P.A. hall  
on Saturday, May 1, and Henley  
and Grange club has a barbe-  
cue to be held at 478  
Grange road, Pyram on Sun-  
day, May 2.