

# PIGEON NOTES

Gilles Plains High School teacher Fred Delsar is a member of the SAHPA five-man administration committee, and one of the association's top flyers.

Last season he finished fifth in the aggregate points.

He is one of the few Adelaide flyers who successfully race pigeons on the open door method.

Most local owners use the American trap method, where the returning race bird has to be herded or coaxed into the bob wires for removal of the race ring.

Fred simply leaves his large loft doors open and the birds fly straight onto their perches. They tend to be more placid when Fred approaches them to remove the race rubber.

And the success Fred has had in the strong Hampstead club proves the system.

Fred, now 60, is married with six adult children — three sons and three daughters.

His wife Lynette is a tireless co-worker of Fred's in looking after the training, feeding, racing and up-keep of the pigeons.

Fred is club auditor, and has been one of the SAHPA's auditors for almost 20 years.

He has been flying pigeons since 1946.

A few years ago he gave them up temporarily when shifted to Port Lincoln for three years.

His loft is founded upon birds from the loft of Cliff Kennett (Croydon club) and on a single bird from the loft of Campbelltown club flyer Allan Pearce.

Since introducing a cock bird of Henry Ford (Glynde) which was loaned by Allan Goodger (Hampstead) Fred has had many winners.

Although he did not win a race last season Fred was one of the most consistent flyers in the SAHPA.

He gained 11th and 13th posi-



**Fred Delsar**

tions in one Tarcoola event and seventh and fifteenth in the smash Tarcoola.

The 11th and 15th placings were won by the same bird.

In club events Fred trained second placed birds in two Carrieton, both Tarcoolas and Temora.

In the Temora event his pigeon took second association place to Bob Blyth (Hamstead).

The same pigeon was placed 23rd in the Morundah Association event. It won the Hampstead "Bird of The Year" award — the second consecutive year that Fred's pigeons have won this title.

The Delsar loft won just over \$1,200 in prizemoney and pools last season.

Fred races both hens and cockbirds, although he perseveres mostly with hens.

He feeds his pigeons a "cockatoo" mixture of Dun and Collegian peas, wheat, maize and safflower and/or sunflower seed.

His birds are exercised round the loft once a day during the season and they receive "heavy" tossing.

Each January, Fred tosses his youngsters over short distances to cut losses when training begins around Anzac day.

However he did not do this at the start of this year because of the unusual hot spell— **GRAHAMBADGER.**