



# ● Harold Webber

**Windsor Gardens racing pigeon owner HAROLD WEBBER would probably be the most consistent flyer in SA.**

Although he has never won an association race, Harold has been placed second, third and fourth in SAHPA points in the past four years.

He has been a member of the Hampstead club for the past six years. Prior to this Harold, his wife Hilary, and teenage daughter Janet lived in Brisbane.

His association with the sport began at the age of 14, and his philosophy all along has been to compete fairly and wholeheartedly, even if he cannot win.

Harold is quite content not to have won an association race, so long as his birds can perform consistently.

He is a thorough man and this is mirrored in his work as a carpenter and at home.

His loft complex would equal any in the State for cleanliness and hygienic living conditions. Cages of the racing birds are cleaned out every day during the racing season to ensure minimal chance of disease from droppings.

This year Harold finished third in the aggregate points of the SAHPA and third in Hampstead club.

Each day his birds are exercised twice around the loft at set times. Most other flyers have their birds up only once. Harold flatly states that he would not fly his pigeons if he were unable to let them out twice daily.

His feed is wheat and peas. This is never varied, even during races, and it all comes from a supply he builds up prior to the racing season. The grain is the best he can obtain.

During the breeding season the Webber loft produces about 130 youngsters, but Harold loses a number of these when breaking them in. He is not alone in this problem, as most flyers in the surrounding area also lose birds at this time.

Harold, the long distance point winner in the SAHPA this year, believes there is a great deal more to the game than racing birds. He says you need to take a lot of time observing the racers in orde

progeny of Bob Woodhead's loft.

He is a critic of flight paths which include water courses, and he believes that unnecessary obstacles should not be placed in the way of the birds, as their "lot" is demanding as it is.



Birds show no preference in the main for either line, but Harold doesn't hold much for the new east line instigated in the association this year.

Luck, he says, plays an important part in the game, especially if you are to have a bird with the leaders.

Tight club boundaries are a must in his book, and he believes Hampstead is an ideal example. Harold regards the club as the best he has ever flown with.

He has made it his policy not to sell pigeons although he has given quite a few away. The sporting interest appeals more to him than any possible business benefits.

He can see a bright future for the sport in SA and believes that the State will follow in the footsteps of Sydney and Melbourne.

The effects of wind and overfly are matters which affect every flyer, and Harold has no quirks, being content to take it as it happens.