



WILCANNIA SIRES PRODUCE

Southern Districts flyer Bronte Andrewartha has emulated what his father Don had done in 1989, by winning the SALDC Sires Produce from Wilcannia, 600 km NE of Adelaide. His BCH SA 12 21374 was a clear winner by 16 minutes with only 15 birds from the 334 sent on the day. This was a great result as Bronte is one of the longest flyers in the Association from this race point. Bronte's winner had plenty of work before going to the Sires event; she flew Stirling North1, Hawker, Parachilna then Lyndhurst YBC. The winner is a combination of Kakoschke and Eitzen on the Sires side and Eitzen on the Dams side, these pigeons have been very good for Bronte and his father over the

years. Bronte started racing pigeons with his father in 1971 with the Nairne club in the Adelaide hills and shifted to Aldinga in late 2008 so he could help his aging father to keep on racing his pigeons.

Bronte's family of birds consist of Goodger, Metcalfe, Eitzen and Dangerfield's, and a few Janssen's. He starts the season with around 150 birds bred from 25 pairs and 30-40 old birds and inbreeds to keep his family, and outcrosses for racing, the race birds are fed a light and heavy mix with more of the heavy mix used towards hampering day.

The birds are worked in the mornings and usually fly for an hour, tossing begins around Anzac day and consists of 10 or more tosses of around 50km and then onto the training units for tosses around 100km for the long races more short tosses are done as well as the long toss on the weekend. The birds are on a 3 week cycle for medication once racing starts, treatments for canker and respiratory are used and no medication is used during breeding season.

Bronte believes that a subcommittee of 3 or 4 businessmen that could help with suggestions to the five man committee on certain decisions that will have major effects on the Association may be a progressive step.

He would also like to see 3 bird special races held in conjunction with the main races. This would give the small team flyer a greater chance to compete on a more even playing field. He is a great believer in making racing more interesting and actively nominates for the five Bird Series so he can see how he performs against the flyers that are trying to pick their clock birds and would like to see more fanciers compete in this series.