



TATURA 123 owners 1800 birds

Southern Vales club member Shawn Manuel only resumed racing in 2010 after a break from the sport. Shawn flew as a junior in the Southern Districts club with the help of his mother who herself had raced pigeons, it is in the family as Shawn's Grandfather and uncle had raced as well. With only 35 birds home on the day his BBH SA12 09100 won this race by 17min 30 seconds from West Torrens Flyer Allan Harris. She was bred by Graham & Heather Goodrich of the Glenelg club, from his Maryborough Open Association winner, and when we look into the breeding we

find in the same race (Maryborough Open) the second place pigeon for Stewart Hodgson was off a half brother to Graham's winner we also find the 2nd SAHPA Marla for Phil Loveridge was a full sister to Stewart's 2nd Maryborough these birds are mainly Pryor blood, the Granddam was purchased at John Pryor's sale and her pedigree goes back to John's number one pair, she is dam and Grand dam of 11 top 10 placings in the Association including 2 firsts .

Shawn mates best to best when breeding, and breeds from 25 stock pairs, he likes to start the season with around 140 birds, he splits them 60% on the south line and 40% on the north. The cocks and hens are flown together up to the derby's then cocks are flown in the morning and the hens at night.

Feeding is comprised of Peas and wheat plus some John Pryor small seed mix and Linseed is added when the birds are moulting.

Shawn starts his training program with 2 x 15km then 2x St Kilda beach then 2 x Two Wells tosses then onto one of the units for flock training. His birds are trained over the hills and this is



done with a couple of local flyers. Training is twice a week early in the season then one long toss as the longer races approach with the odd mid week if he feels they need one, the old birds are raced every fortnight and the youngsters are raced every month in the early races then after the Derby's the teams are split and fly every 4 weeks. The Tatura winner was having her third race when she won.

Shawn uses a three week cycle with medication and worms the birds and uses Turbosole and Resfite.

Vitamins are used on a regular basis along with Apple Cider Vinegar. As he works for Telecom and is on the road with his work, he has limited time with his birds but wishes he could spend

more time with them. In the future Shawn would like to see the unit replaced with a more modern one.