

Warrnambool Open No.2 Winner

Wayne and Margarite Griffith won the Warrnambool Open No. 2 with their BGH SA09 29851

The hen's breeding is Silver Shadow on the sires side and Dangerfield on the dam's side.

The mother of Wayne's Warrnambool No.2 winner, was bred for stock, also bred his Booroorban Assoc winner. He has a few other birds that have also bred well in Assoc races.

He has two basic families that he keeps together, he then crosses these families, and this is where the two winners have come from.

If Wayne was to introduce any new pigeons into his loft there are two flyers he would see: his step son Phillip Jacobs and John Cock where the original Silver Shadows came from.

Wayne started with pigeons when he was eight with some fan-tails. He then flew with the Hampstead Juniors for a couple of years and he has been a member of his present club Vitesse since 1970.

He cannot see why the imported birds can't fly the long ones especially when he was placed 1st 2nd 3rd 5th and 15th in Marla with all imported blood lines.

This year he has cut back a little bit and bred two hundred young birds as well as 70 to 80 old birds left over from the previous year.

Training starts six weeks before the first race if they are working around the loft. First toss is Pt Gawler.

He does not separate the cocks and hens, they are flown all year together.

Wayne keeps to a regular pattern and worms his birds all year long. They are wormed on the first of every month to keep the worms and feather lice at bay.

He basically mixes his own feed of peas and wheat which comes off the farm and to this he adds maize and the John Pryor small seed mix which he purchases from Gilbertsons.

He increases the carbohydrate ration towards the end of the season but only maize is used for this.

Wayne medicates his birds on vet's advice.

Most week-ends he will medicate the returning race birds. He does this as a preventative. He uses Turbasol and XXX for this purpose.

Wayne likes middle distance racing and sending the birds first up to these races, "if you know how to do it you can do it quite successfully".

His most memorable moment in pigeon racing would have to be the Marla race where they just dropped out of the sky like a toss.

Wayne prefers the North line but would like the N/East line when there is plenty of water out there, he thinks they would do better on that line than on the S/East line.

Wayne thinks the sport in ten years time will be non-existent the way we are losing members, but where the answer is he has no idea.