

## **Port Adelaide season news..**

No doubt 2011 will be remembered for many reasons and none more so than the outbreak of Paramyxovirus in Victoria (which brought about a sudden halt to the racing season with 3 races remaining on the program). Up till this point in the race programme the **Port Adelaide club had encountered some terrific racing** and returns were very good on both lines. Our early club series saw returned member **Terry Underdown grab a win in his first race** back - his hen put in a terrific performance finishing well up the pointy end of the top velocities in the state. Terry carried this form through the year and he should be very happy with his team. At club series end, **Ross Chapman took out the North Port club points** from Geoff Verrall with **Rick Williams winning the South club points** from up and coming flyer Slavko

Piliskic. Other memorable racing efforts in the club series was Ross Chapman topping the velocity in Keith #2 and Geoff Verrall in Keith #3. After 8 weeks we moved into the start of the SAHPA races or as some like to call it, 'the Serious Stuff'. **Parachilna was a steady fly and was won by Ross Chapman** with the partnership of Terry McBeath and Kevin Buttfield grabbing second and third. Race 2 was **from Edenhope and once again it was a steady affair with Ross Chapman winning** again and Slavko grabbing second from Rick Williams in a very close race with 2 mpm separating the top 3 and the Port group collecting 4 SAHPA certificates. Next on the agenda was the **YBC derby from Lyndhurst and Des Evans put in a terrific performance taking out 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** in a fast race and finishing 22<sup>nd</sup> assoc. Also flown on the same day was the **Mortlake 10 bird special** and it was a tough affair with the birds tackling some rough weather on the trip home. **Ross Chapman again picked up a win** and was really showing the way with Terry Underdown 2<sup>nd</sup> and southeast line specialist Eddy Lenkic grabbing third. Must make mention of the 6 association certificates picked up by our guys including 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> with Rick collecting 3 by himself. Next up was the **Hamilton SAD and Eddy Lenkic** pushed his southeast line expertise to the forefront with an excellent win in both the group and the SAHPA. This was his second SAHPA win in 10 years racing. 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the group went to Terry Underdown with Des Evans third. In SAHPA placings we finished with 9 in the top 30 - a top effort from a group of 11 owners competing in what was a good hitout. Eddy Lenkic confirmed the quality of his pigeons with 22/30 on the day and finished the follow on with 29/30 in total. Same day we had the **Glendambo 10BS with Geoff Verrall taking out 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>** with Des Evans 3<sup>rd</sup>. Next off the rack was **Lyndhurst Open and Geoff Verrall took the honours** from the McBeath & Buttfield combination with Ross Chapman in 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Geoff's bird finishing 28<sup>th</sup> assoc. **Maryborough the following week was a good fly at 1100 mpm and Eddy Lenkic grabbed the win** with a young cock with Rick Williams also clocking a young cock for 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ross Chapman in 3<sup>rd</sup> with 4 SAHPA placings collected including 11<sup>th</sup> for Eddy Lenkic and 2 for Rick Williams. **The Twins Open** was upon us quickly and the end of the season was nearing fast. **Geoff Verrall took the win** with a young hen closely followed by Terry Underdown and Des Evans in 3<sup>rd</sup>. **The Twins CBS was held the same day with Geoff Verrall grabbing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** - finishing 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> SRC - homing 7 of his 8 on the day (his winning cock being a full brother to the hen he clocked and won with in the Lyndhurst Open with another brother winning Hawker early on in the year). **Seymour followed a week later and Geoff Verrall** was on fire clocking a young hen and finishing 18<sup>th</sup> SAHPA with Eddy Lenkic finishing only 2 mpm behind and placing 20<sup>th</sup> SAHPA with Ross Chapman running 3<sup>rd</sup>. This was a terrific race with most of our club competitors clocking in and most with multiples. Ultimately our final race was Glendambo (because of the warm conditions) and with the birds having a strong northerly pushing them right wing down, the birds ended up down the gulf with most of the top velocities registering in the Southern suburbs. Terry Underdown and Geoff Verrall had 2 bolters with them 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> place in the SAHPA, with 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the group grabbed by Ray Legierski with a young cock. Also raced on this weekend was **Alice Springs with only Eddy Lenkic and Geoff Verrall entering their hopefuls**. Geoff clocked 10.45 on day 2 with Eddy clocking 8 minutes later with **Geoff finishing 13<sup>th</sup> and Eddy 16<sup>th</sup>** in his first Alice attempt. Incidentally Geoff Verrall's hen is a full sister to his 14<sup>th</sup> Alice in 2009 (he has flown the race twice) and finished 4<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and homing 2/3 in 2009 and 4/4 in 2011 -

some good lines to work with there. All in all it was a great season and our club were certainly happy with the race returns on both lines. Our **group points** were taken out by the very consistent **Terry Underdown with 75 points** followed by Geoff Verrall with 72 and Ross Chapman with 71. Thanks this year go to our clock committee, treasurer, table workers and Trevor Tonkin who keeps us fed and watered during the season. Good luck to all flying in 2012 and Seasons Greetings for now...Regards Geoff Verrall secretary P.A.R.P.C.