

Cawte / Field

12th September 2015. Marla. Winner SA13 5630 bbph raced by Cawte & Field. The sire is SA11 02522 bloodline is Eucla / Gus Grundall Nyngan winner crossed Wickham / Abraham. Dam SA11 28266 Peter Millay. 5630 was also 4th SAHPA Twins 10-bird in 2014.

“A great debt of gratitude must go to David Cawte who is the backbone of our team. Without David we could not fly.”

Geoff had tumblers as a boy, started flying in 1971 in partnership with S. Bojko. Geoff is one of the most respected members of the SAHPA being a great worker for both SAHPA and club. He has appreciated help from John Pryor, Peter Millay, Leo Duits and George Last. Geoff's most memorable moments was winning points with Harold Donovan and winning Eucla in the SAHPA.

I am the other partner (Stephen Field) and highlights of my career include 5th SAHPA William Creek YBC as a lad. Illness has stopped my involvement and now I love breeding. Over five years I have developed a family of mongrels and a highlight this year was breeding SA14 29869 9th SAHPA Lyndhurst, 9th SAHPA Twins 10-bird. Also SA14 29841 bbh, clockbird Lyndhurst YBC, Moulamein SAD, Morundah 4th club, 10th group and Temora 3rd club, 10th group.

Help in my younger years was from Wally Gertig and Roger Lehman. Flyers that I respect now are George Last, Butch Abraham, Ross Chapman and Terry Underdown. We would like to see more limit racing (5 and 10 bird races from the Derbys) and we like middle and long distance racing on any line says Stephen

In General

The partnership thinks the new unit is good and also the pre-paid system will make the assoc. run better. They think there could be more help for new flyers. Hard decisions have to be made in the Assoc. looking to the future.

Have been flying from the same location since 2004. Their advice to new flyers is not to lose faith, try and approach small team flyers who have had good results. Don't have too many stock birds and try not to keep prisoners. They like to line-breed and in-breed with their team. Winners are mated to winners but certain lines are maintained as well. Friends are a great source for new birds and they never have to pay



for new stock. Major influences have been Ron Peckham, Peter Arriola and Bob Rust.

The Loft, training and racing

The loft has three sections, one with a flyout and a trapping section. Most important to be dry and not draughty. Training is once daily around the house and tossing begins on Anzac Day. Sexes are not separated and the preference in racing is hens. Once racing begins training is twice a week. Early tossing is to Pt. Wakefield and longer as the season goes on. Young birds will get 4 or 5 races in their first year (including doubling back).



The birds are not educated to eat or drink in the basket and single up tossing is not done. The team is around 100 at the beginning of the season. Droppings are not tested but an effort is made to read the droppings for themselves. The birds are not medicated on returning from races. However the birds are wormed and vitamins are given during the year. Consideration is given to the carbohydrate the birds are getting.

Feeding is by feed trays, as much as they want within a half hour. Small seed is used but the diet varies all the time according to what the pigeons encounter in racing and tossing and the weather conditions.

Tips

Keep a keen eye out, use good food and good training. Ask questions of flyers your respect and look to top flyers for new birds. Try to be a good worker for the Assoc. and club and be willing to listen and learn.



Andrewartha & March

Member of Racing Pigeon Clubs: Nairne, Alexandra, Strathalbyn, Adelaide Hills and now Southern District. Has held the office of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Publicity Officer at various times.

At the age of 12, having chooks, fantails, nuns and scrubbers, My father, Don Andrewartha, came home from work one day saying the chooks are going and we are going to race pigeons like your grandfather Roy did. In our first year (1971) we flew as D Andrewartha & Sons (4 boys).

Highlights of racing career: 1989 my father, Don won "The Sires" race in SA. Prize money was \$5000. In 2013, sadly Don passed away, however in a fantastic memorial to him, I won "The Sires" race in SA, in that same year in 9 hrs, 7 mins, distance of 614 kms and velocity of 1122 mpm. Now the race is known as the car race with total prize money in excess of \$30,000. Another highlight is when dad and I won SAHPA Temora 1971, a very tough race, 2nd day clock, no birds on the day. In 1995 my father moved to the South Coast to a milder climate for his health. In 2009 I followed him and we again raced in the same club until 2012.

In General: Around 80 stock hens and cocks are kept. The racing birds number around 220. They are Goodger, Metcalf, Eitzen, Dangerfield (G. Harris) and Koopman (Warren March). The birds exercise once a day in the morning and not forced. Feeding is twice a day for the race birds and they are fed either a light mix of wheat, barley, safflower and milo or the heavy mix which is peas, wheat, corn, safflower, milo, rape and linseed. The mixture is not varied during the week. Vitamins are given once a week in the water. During the breeding season the feed is peas, peas and more peas. Tossing is one long toss of 120 km and one short toss of 50 km every week. They are tossed on the line of flight. The loft is cleaned every day during the racing season. Turbosole and Resfite are given every three weeks to keep canker and respiratory under control. Birds are selected for racing based on buoyancy and white chalky wattle. They fly to the perch. Flyers can lose birds if they are not prepared properly i.e. tossing too far too early. Education is what is needed.

