

**The Goodger Story - Part 3 - Temora: The Famous Five - By John Capel**



Left: Grant Patersons SA-90-22491, is still prominent in winning pigeons all over Australia. Top Right: Brian Donovan's Temora winning cock from 2003. 2nd on Left: Syd Randall's winner of 1st Temora in 1996. 2nd on Right: Ivan Wareing's 1st Glendambo (502km), bred from a sister to Grant Paterson's Temora winner. 3rd on Left: Greg Kakoschke's 1st Sydney (1190km). 3rd on Right: Tim Fawcett's hen SA-96-13873. She was bred from the Port Lincoln Cock. Bottom Left: Ken Waters' Temora Winner. Bottom Right: John Pryor's Temora winner.



3rd on Left: Greg Kakoschke's 1st Sydney (1190km). 3rd on Right: Tim Fawcett's hen SA-96-13873. She was bred from the Port Lincoln Cock. Bottom Left: Ken Waters' Temora Winner. Bottom Right: John Pryor's Temora winner.



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On Easter Monday this year, I had the pleasure of spending the afternoon with both Neville and Greg Kakoschke, in the presence of Greg's delightful wife Stephanie. When we talk about formidable competitors in the field of pigeon racing, then the name Kakoschke ranks with the great long-distance fanciers within the South Australian fraternity. The brothers assisted in providing me with a great amount of information which aided my knowledge and understanding of the Goodger, Pryor, and indeed their own great family of pigeons.

One such story was the question regarding the background of a hen SA-83 39313, which returned home to Greg Kakoschke's loft injured at the end of a difficult Temora race in 1984. Her sister, bred the same year was to win 18<sup>th</sup> from Alice Springs (1320km) in 1985, and 20<sup>th</sup> the following year, a phenomenal performance, almost reminiscent of Allen Goodger's Elliott Hen's 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> from Finke (1120km). Hens like these are rare indeed. But why discuss a hen which returned injured from Temora? Answer: because like so many birds which completed races from this difficult point she was to become a phenomenal producer, and will eventually become a significant part of our story.

I've recently had a chance to look back at the reasons why so many people trekked to Adelaide to buy long-distance pigeons, and the major factor is that there was a serious culture of racing right through to the longest events... and these were long events indeed. The program would end at Finke (1120km) or Alice Springs (1320km) on the north line, and Junee (820km), Bathurst (1030 km) or Temora (820km) on the south-east line..... and these races were invariably difficult..... in fact they eventually stopped racing from Bathurst altogether. Over Easter this year, Jim Marafiotte and I called to the residence of Doris Goodger for yet another meeting with this delightful lady. During our conversation she went to a different room and reappeared with a number of pigeon books under her arm, and promptly presented them to me. Among them was a single piece of cardboard upon which was printed her late husband's copy of the SAHPA's program for 1956, and on the program were four races - Oodnadatta (880km), Alice Springs (1320km), and two special races from Benalla (690km) and Junee (820km). Each of the four events attracted an entry fee of ten shillings each. Now ten shillings in 1956 was a lot of money; my guess is that it may be equivalent to an entry fee of \$35 or thereabouts per bird today... and that's a hefty entry fee. Suddenly it put things into a little perspective. I'd considered that Allen Goodger's 'Elliott Hen' had survived only because she'd placed in two races from Finke (1120km), and that this had been somewhat of a last resort by Allen to learn if she had any ability. It is probably more realistic to recognise that people didn't pay the sort of entry fee Finke required in order to learn if a pigeon had any ability... they'd needed to have shown that before they were sent. Hence Allen must have already has some sort of opinion of the Elliott hen.

Secondly, here's the names of some of the SAHPA's officials against whom Allen was competing that year - Tom Horsfall, Dan Cudmore, Keith Wickham, Ross Wickham, Stuart Gregerson, A.G. Richardson, Vin Blanden etc... very tough competition. And consider this: in that weekend with the races scheduled from the tough racepoints Benalla and Junee, the exceptional Keith Wickham won both races! It just may be that the real reason the South Australian birds were so good was the fact that **they had to work so hard to get into the stockloft**. Many of the champion producers had multiple performances behind them - consider the following:

\*Greg Kakoschke's hen referred to above - 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Alice Springs. Another Kakoschke hen raced successfully every second Saturday from Benalla (690 km) during a four-week period. Each of the three races became a two-day race, and this particular hen was placed in the SAHPA on each occasion!

\*Roy Dangerfield's champion grizzle hen which won the SAHPA's Bird of the Year title in 1990 when she won 5<sup>th</sup> Little Topar (480 km against 6624 birds), 3<sup>rd</sup> Wilcannia (574 km against 5467 birds), and 4<sup>th</sup> Gilgandra 1000km against 1644 birds. Another of Roy's hens won 2<sup>nd</sup> Booroorban (561km), 3<sup>rd</sup> Inglewood (510km), and 2<sup>nd</sup> Temora (820km) in the SAHPA.

\*Max Smith's wonderful hen 'Alice,' which won 4<sup>th</sup> from Alice Springs (1320km) in three consecutive years.



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\*Keith Wickham's champion hen 'Junee Joy', which won 1<sup>st</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Junee (820km), or another hen which took 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> from Junee.

\*Or Vin Blanden's famous 'Kalgoorlie Girl,' the first pigeon to fly the 1040 miles (yes miles!) into Adelaide in 1965. And consider her background: she was bred from cousins, both being children of daughters of a hen which had flown Alice Springs (1320km) three times, taking 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> position from two of those events. ....and her own mother had won the SAHPA's event from Finke, 1120km!

This is what Allen Goodger's birds had to consistently beat to earn the reputation they subsequently acquired. It was relentless, tough competition.

We began with reference to a hen which homed injured from Temora, and you are to hear a lot more about her in the future. But first, what is it about Temora which merits our attention? Simple: it seems to truly separate the corn from the chaff, and seems to identify great producers. There may be the occasional Temora race which may be favoured by the winds, but racing from east to west ensures that there won't be many of them!

In the thoroughbred world, certain races are referred to as 'Stallion-races,' because the winners often become great stallions afterwards. Sydney's Golden Slipper Stakes is such a race, yet the Victoria Derby isn't. The Caulfield and Melbourne Cups are handicaps, often won by geldings, and they can't breed. 'Stallion-races' produce winners that subsequently become excellent producers. In the pigeon world, Temora has a similar reputation. Many winners and placegetters from this tough racepoint become great producers. Syd Randall's champion producer hen won 20<sup>th</sup> from there. The excellent hen with which Ray Fewings won a very tough Morundah (700km) race on the second day, had finished 12<sup>th</sup> from Temora as a yearling. Keith Wickham's excellent Golden Girl won the race. ....and there are plenty of similar examples, because the race seems to call for something special, something beyond the abilities of ordinary pigeons.

Subsequently it came to my knowledge that there were five Temora winners with a common linkage... their relationship to the Goodger family, though it is not suggested there are *only* five. However these five tell a special story about how clever fanciers used these famous genes to their benefit... and the special reward is that these genes are still available for the taking.... if we want them....

First, the *absolute gem*. Grant Paterson's Temora winner (1991). We commenced the story on the Goodger pigeons with remembrance of that fateful day when three hens, sired by three different sons of Allen Goodger's 'Lot 60' raced home on the second day of that year's Temora event to take the first three positions. It's a story which still seems impossible, but the hen which won that race truly merits attention, for not only was she a racebird on a par with anything Allen produced, but she became a stockhen comparable with the four great stockhens we discussed in the second part of the Goodger story. Here's her pedigree:

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Pedigree; BCPH SA-90-22491 bred and raced by Grant Paterson. 21<sup>st</sup> Mitiamo (550km), 20<sup>th</sup> Benalla, (690km), and 1<sup>st</sup> Temora (820km). Champion race and stock hen.

<b>Sire: BCC SA87 32956</b>	<b>GS: BCC SA81 428 Lot 53 (A Goodger)</b>	<b>BBPC SA76 9548 'The \$1900 Cock'</b>	<b>SAD69 13279</b>
		<b>BCH SA78 1635 Lot 52 A Goodger</b>	<b>SAD71 22674</b>
	<b>GD: BlkPH SA78 1593 (Lot 60)</b>	<b>BlkPC SA77 5622 Half Bro to 1<sup>st</sup> Cook</b>	<b>SA77 7233</b>
			<b>SAD73 25504</b>
		<b>BCH SA77 41299 <u>The Nundroo Winner</u> Lot 75 A Goodger</b>	<b>SAD70 16030 Son of Elliott hen</b>
			<b>OSBN70 1750</b>
<b>Dam: BCH SA87 18573</b>	<b>GS: SA77 5610 Lot 143 A Goodger sale</b>	<b>BCC SA74 56922 (Verco Cock)</b>	<b>SA74 50643 (Webber)</b>
		<b>BCH SAD71 22703 <u>The famous Cook Winner</u></b>	<b>SA75 43596 GD of Elliott hen</b>
		<b>SAD70 16030 Son of Elliott hen</b>	
	<b>GD: SA82 3269 4<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Benalla</b>	<b>SAD79 15991</b>	
		<b>SAB1 255</b>	<b>SA76 9580</b>
		<b>BCH SA81 460 Lot 100 A Goodger sale</b>	<b>BlkPC SA77 5622 (Son of 16030)</b>
		<b>BCPH SA76 9505 (13718 x 13716)</b>	

All the familiar names are there within this crafted pedigree: The Elliott hen (several times), the 2<sup>nd</sup> Oodnadatta Hen, The \$1900 cock, the Nundroo Winner, the Cook winner etc. It was a fantastic combination, and to show the powerful genetic make-up in her composition, consider this: the Temora winner's brother was to breed Brian Donovan's Alice Springs winner (1320km) of 2005, while her sister bred Ivan Wareing's Glendambo (502km) winner.

In winning from Temora, 22491 was earning her third SAHPA certificate in her initial year of racing, having already won 21<sup>st</sup> Mitiamo (530km), and then 20<sup>th</sup> Benalla (690km) before her Temora triumph. *She was a truly great race-hen.*

Then her domination as a stockhen became immediately evident. In her first year in the stockloft she produced a daughter which won 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from Booroorban, (560 km) and duly won the SAHPA's coveted Bird of the Year title..... and all this within 22491's first two years of life! Gradually her fame spread throughout South Australia and elsewhere, as her children became wonderful producers for those who gained them.... and her influence was heightened when Grant purchased from Con Moukas 'The Port Lincoln Cock,' a son of the champion producing hen 51397, which Grant had sold at his 1983 sale. The Port Lincoln Cock (1062) was a full brother to John Pryor's Ref 'B,' and Con Moukas's equally prepotent 24405....each of them being sons of Lot 60's famous son 11829, and Grant's champion hen 51397.

Thus Grant suddenly had an opportunity to put together one of the greatest pairs of pigeons ever seen in South Australia - Grant's champion race-hen (the Temora winner) mated to a son of Grant's champion stock hen (51397). How many fanciers do you know who produced two hens in their lifetime of this exceptional quality? In 2003, Brian Donovan's Temora winner was to reveal the dynamics emanating from this base pairing. Here's the pedigree of his dam

Pedigree BCH 1625 Bred by Grant Paterson. Dam of BBC 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Temora 2003 (B Donovan).

<b>Sire PTL84 1062 The Port Lincoln Cock</b>	<b>GS: SA82 11829 John Pryor's Ref 'A'</b>	<b>SA81 428 Lot 53 A Goodger</b>	<b>SA76 9548 The \$1900 cock</b>	
		<b>SA78 1593 'Lot 60' Ace Producing hen</b>	<b>SA78 1635</b>	
		<b>*SA75 43549 Lot 21 A Goodger</b>	<b>SA77 5622</b>	
	<b>GD: SA76 51397 Ace Producing Hen</b>	<b>SA72 7535 16<sup>th</sup> Finke 1100km</b>	<b>SA77 41299</b>	<b>SAD72 17392</b>
			<b>SAD68 17316 The famous 2<sup>nd</sup> Oodnadatta Hen</b>	<b>SAD71 22704 Nestmate to 1<sup>st</sup> Cook</b>
			<b>SAD71 13771</b>	
<b>Dam SA96 13873 Bred by Grant Paterson</b>	<b>GS: PTL84 1062 The Port Lincoln Cock</b>	<b>GS: SA82 11829 John Pryor's Ref 'A'</b>	<b>SA81 428 Lot 53 A Goodger</b>	
		<b>SA76 51397 Ace Producing Hen</b>	<b>SA78 1593 'Lot 60' Ace Producing hen</b>	
		<b>PTL84 1062 The Port Lincoln Cock</b>	<b>SA75 43549 Lot 21 A Goodger</b>	
	<b>GD ***SA93 31756</b>	<b>SA72 7535 16<sup>th</sup> Finke 1100km</b>	<b>SA76 51397 Ace Producing Hen</b>	<b>SA72 7535 16<sup>th</sup> Finke 1100km</b>
		<b>SA90 22491 Grant Paterson's 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Temora Ace racing/stock hen</b>	<b>GS: SA82 11829 John Pryor's Ref 'A'</b>	<b>SA76 51397 Ace Producing Hen</b>
			<b>SA76 51397 Ace Producing Hen</b>	<b>**SA87 32956 Son of 'Lot 60'</b>
		<b>SA87 18573</b>		

The sire of Brian Donovan's cock (BBC SA-02 10772) was also bred by Grant Paterson, and although his pedigree isn't precisely recorded, I am assured that he carried much of the 'Port Lincoln Cock' x 'Temora Winner' lines." Now, take note of the following pigeons within the pedigree:

\*SA-75 43549 This is Allen Goodger's Lot 21, the cock John Van Beers purchased at the Goodger sale, and which duly became a dominant producer for him. His daughter 51397 created a separate branch of the family in her own right. Note that her son 1062 (used on three occasions within this one pedigree is a direct son of a champion Goodger producer cock (11829, the son of Lot 60). 1062 (son of 51397) and his sire 11829 (son of Lot 60) and 43549 (son of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Oodnadatta Hen) were all dominant producer cocks – *yet note that they were each sons of dominant Goodger producer hens.*

\*\*SA-87 32956 is by SA-81 428 x SA-78 1593 (Lot 60), and is thus a full brother to John Pryor's dominant producer cock Ref 'A' (SA-82 11829)

\*\*\*SA-93 31756 was a phenomenal producer in her own right. In one year alone, she produced five youngsters which each won at least one SAHPA position!

Hence the pedigree really begins when the 1991 Temora winner was mated with 'The Port Lincoln Cock,' the son of 51397. Their *prepotent* daughter 31756 was then mated back to her *prepotent* father to produce the *prepotent* 13873 (see photo), which was again mated to the Port Lincoln cock which is by now both her sire and grandsire. Grant was experimenting here, to find out how far he could go, and so the mating of 13873 to her own sire/grandsire produced the remarkable 01625, the hen which produced Brian Donovan's Temora winning cock of 2003.

But then comes our third example, the recent Temora winner for Ken Waters, and we soon see the influence of similar Goodger champions, yet again

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Pedigree: BCC Mudgee -01-2318 12<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Wilcannia Sires Produce for Grant Paterson  
 Bred by Wayne Pepper. Sire of BBPH SA-02-8844 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Temora for Ken Waters in 2004

<b>Sire BCPC SA99 17650</b>	<b>GS: SA94 BCC 02613 Sire of 2<sup>nd</sup> Coleambally.</b>	<b>SA89 16903</b>	<b>BCC SA87 18639 Sire SAHPA Bird of the Year 1990</b>	
			<b>BCH SA85 41097 The famous 'Mt Willoughby Hen'</b>	
			<b>BCH SA 87 16320 Bred by Geoff Dangerfield</b>	
	<b>GD: BCPH SA90 22491 The SAHPA Temora winner for Grant Paterson Ace racing/stock hen</b>		<b>BCC SA87 32956 Brother to John Pryor's ace producing cock</b>	<b>SA81 428 (Lot 53 A Goodger)</b>
		<b>BCPH SA87 18573</b>	<b>SA78 1593 (Lot 60)</b>	
			<b>SA77 5610</b>	
			<b>SA82 3269</b>	
<b>Dam: BCH Mudgee 97 1200</b>	<b>GS:BBC SA96 13891 Excellent producer cock</b>	<b>BCC SA94 05959</b>	<b>SA92 47605</b>	
			<b>SA91 6290</b>	
		<b>BBH SA95 11454 Sister to sire of 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Temora for John Pryor</b>	<b>SA88 22298 (Ref 'D' J Pryor</b>	
			<b>SA88 22310, 2<sup>nd</sup> SAHPA Alice Springs</b>	
	<b>GD: BCH SA96 13946 Excellent producer hen</b>	<b>BCC ROC93 08 294</b>	<b>* SA81 496 Lot 164 A Goodger sale.</b>	
			<b>SA88 23290</b>	
	<b>BCH SA92 16839 Sister to 2<sup>nd</sup> SAHPA Temora (J Pryor)</b>	<b>SA86 33566 (Son of Lot 60)</b>		
		<b>SA87 17108</b>		

Grant Paterson's Temora winner (22491) was a nine-year-old when she sired the cock 17650, her influencer within this story. The bird in the above pedigree allows us to see the enormous reach in crossing the Goodgers into an established South Australian long-distance family. Consider for a moment some of the other pigeons in the pedigree: a sister to the hen which had finished only seconds behind the Paterson Temora winner, both hens being granddaughter of Lot 60. The there's a sister to the sire of John Pryor's Temora winner, again being descended from Lot 60's famous son 11829 when mated to Grant's champion Goodger hen 51397!

But there's an additional influence within this story which needs inclusion, for within the top part of the pedigree is Roy Dangerfield's famous '2<sup>nd</sup> Mt Willoughby hen,' a pigeon of exceptional class and character. This is the hen which took 2<sup>nd</sup> from the SAHPA's difficult Mt Willoughby (800km) racepoint. In a later distance event she homed to Adelaide at the end of an all-day race from Coober Pedy, and was noticed sitting in the middle of a suburban road, with cars narrowly missing her as they straddled the gallant hen. She was rescued by a driver who caught, and duly reported her, so that her owner might reclaim his exceptional bird. How good was she? In 1992, her owner, Roy Dangerfield, won ten races in the powerful Hampstead Club, and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the SAHPA aggregate..... and every point won in that aggregate was from a son or daughter of the Mt Willoughby hen! *That's some pigeon.* And so the incredible Goodger influence, crossed with other top-class genes, provided yet another Temora winner.



Fourth: Syd Randall's 1996 Temora winner (SA94 05138), was clocked at 6am on the second day, one and a half hours in front of the second bird, and provides yet another demonstration of how the best Goodger blood so readily combined with other top available lines. Her dam's sire 17573 is entirely bred from Grant Paterson's birds, and again we see the prepotent 'Port Lincoln Cock', son of 11829 (son of lot 60) and Grant's champion stock-hen 51397.

But now take a look on the dam's side: first the red chequered 23493 (see photo), herself winner of 20<sup>th</sup> Temora (820km) as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> from Mt Gambier Special (a race of just 380km). Here's that incidence of hens performed at Temora again being proficient breeders, for this red hen duly became a champion stockhen. Her own mother produced three grandchildren which each won SAHPA races, and she was a granddaughter of one of the most famous stockhens in Adelaide – a hen simply known as 'Jim Cox's red hen.'

That famous red hen was acquired in a most unusual way, when Jim called at Vic Pape's lofts one day and sought to buy a bird. Vic told Jim that the birds in a certain loft were available at \$10 each. He duly selected a red hen and upon going to pay for her was told that this particular hen would in fact cost \$20! Jim put the hen back, but upon returning home his wife enquired about his purchase, and learned that Jim had returned empty handed because of the price differentiation...remember the comment in an earlier article that Allen Goodger was outraged at having to pay ten pounds (\$20) for the Ford Cock. Similarly, Jim wasn't intending to pay \$20 for this hen...well, not until his wife persuaded him to return and buy the hen. It was the best day's work he ever did! In one SAHPA race from Morundah (700km) she provided the first and second placegetters!

And here's how she fits into the pedigree:

BCH SA-93-30589 Dam of 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Temora 1996 for Syd Randall.

<b>Sire: BCPC</b> <b>SA92 17573</b>	<b>GS: BCPC</b> <b>SA91 16557</b>	<b>PTL 84 1062</b> <b>The famous</b> <b>'Port Lincoln cock'.</b> <u><b>Ace Producer Cock</b></u>	<b>SA82 11829</b> <b>No 1 cock for John</b> <b>Pryor. Son of Lot 60.</b>
		<b>SA90 37807</b>	<b>SA76 51397</b> <b>Ace Producer Hen</b>
	<b>GD: BCH</b> <b>SA90 23708</b> <b>(Grant Paterson)</b>		
<b>Dam RCH</b> <b>SA90 23493</b> <b>Champion race and</b> <b>producer hen</b> <b>(See photograph)</b>	<b>GS: RCC SA89 17514</b>	<b>SA87 11083</b>	
		<b>SA87 29573</b>	
	<b>GD: BCH SA86 25647</b> <b>Granddam of three</b> <b>SAHPA winners</b>	<b>SA84 14366</b>	<b>SA81 42487</b> <b>SA74 28506</b> <b>The famous Red hen</b> <b>Jim Cox purchased from</b> <b>Vic Pape</b>
		<b>SA80 31151</b>	<b>SA79 25805</b> <b>SA79 18860</b>



And finally, our fifth example: John Pryor's excellent Temora winner. This hen's win meant a great deal to John, because her success allowed him to win the SAHPA's Aggregate for that year. .... and he'd known he virtually had to win this final race to take home that great prize.

Pedigree: BCPH SA-92-16892. 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Temora (820km), 12<sup>th</sup> Little Topar (480km) for John Pryor. Lot 82 at the sale in Sydney 6<sup>th</sup> August 2000.

<b>Sire: BCC SA90 23588 Ref 'E' Sire of fourteen Association placings</b>	<b>GS: BBPC SA88 22298 Ref 'D.' Prolific sire</b>	<b>SA87 17175 Won 6<sup>th</sup> Mt Willoughby. Sire of 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Emmdale 635km</b>	<b>BBC SA86 24469 Ref 'B' Champion sire, and son of Ref 'A' 11829 x 51397</b>
		<b>SA85 40748 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 17<sup>th</sup> Alice Springs 1320km</b>	
	<b>SA88 22310 2<sup>nd</sup> Alice Springs, 1320km</b>	<b>Sire: won 5<sup>th</sup> Alice Springs</b>	
		<b>Dam: won 1<sup>st</sup> Alice Springs.</b>	
<b>Dam: SA91 16426</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Alice Springs 1990 (Sister to 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Benalla 690km, and half sister to 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Booroorban 560km</b>	<b>BCC SA82 11829 (Ref 'A')</b>	<b>Goodger's Lot 53</b>
		<b>SA83 39313 (G. Kakoschke) Ace Producing Hen. Dam of 3 Association winners</b>	<b>A Goodger's Lot 60 Ace Producing Hen</b>
			<b>Son of 1<sup>st</sup> Oodnadatta</b>
			<b>BBH 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Rawlinna 1330km</b>

By now you'll instantly recognize the influence of Lot 60's famous son 11829 on both sides of the pedigree: on the sire's side through a champion line of producers beginning with his son (Ref B), sire to fifteen SAHPA placegetters, including the famous Morundah winner, and the incredible cock which won 6<sup>th</sup> from Mt Willoughby (800km) when homing in the dark late on the day of release.

It was that son (the 6<sup>th</sup> Mt Willoughby cock) which carried the male line through his son (Ref 'D'). At the time of John's sale he'd bred eight SAHPA positions, but it was as a sire of producers that John recognized his proficiency. Mated to his auntie (the Morundah winner) he produced the three cocks which famously sired the first three SAHPA placegetters in a sensational race from Coleambally, an event which mirrored that Temora race of 1991 when three of Lot 60's sons provided the first three placegetters. These were both incredible performances, stamping the extraordinary merits of this exceptional family of pigeons.

And of course it was Reference D's son (Ref 'E') which duly bred the Temora winner and fourteen other SAHPA placings. Another of his daughters won 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from Alice Springs, and duly bred John's famous Coober Pedy winner, victor from that racepoint 750km north of Adelaide, homing alone in the dark at 10.37pm to take her third SAHPA position in winning the distance event. *This is some family!*

So is there something to be learned from all this information? Yes: Two main things:





1. The Goodger pigeons can be inbred and linebred without difficulties. In fact, there is evidence that their propensity for breeding top class birds may increase with inbreeding, be it close or distant. The dam of Brian Donovan's Temora winner is a prime example. She was the daughter of a cock which was also the sire of her mother and granddam, and the line started when he was mated to Grant Paterson's Temora winner.

2. The Goodger pigeons are 'upgraders' in that they often bring their beautiful feathering and racing qualities to any mating and tend to produce excellent pigeons. The only drawback I hear is that their youngsters are often 'too small.' Well, its these small pigeons which often win tough races, however if you don't like smallish pigeons, then maybe you won't enjoy the Goodger racing qualities. Greg Kakoschke told me that both John Pryor and himself, liked 'small, tightly-feathered birds'. No wonder they both enjoyed success with Goodger pigeons.

It was Greg Kakoschke who took home from an SAHPA Sires Produce Sale, a young Goodger hen that came with a special pedigree. She was a daughter of SA75 43549, the excellent son of the famous 2<sup>nd</sup> Oodnadatta hen (Goodger's Ref 'B'), and he'd already produced the ace stock hen 51397 for Grant Paterson before he sired this young hen, SA80 42297. And to which hen had Allen mated 43549 to produce this sale entrant? Well none other than the famous 'Cook Winner,' who was at that stage nine years of age.

In her first year in Greg Kakoschke's loft, the yearling 42297 produced a dark pied hen (SA81 1341 – see photo), typical of the Goodger family, and she was to win the SAHPA's race from Sydney (1190km)..... a race so difficult that only three birds had returned by the end of the second day, to be joined by just one more on the Monday. This is indeed the top shelf in pigeon racing!

**Again it was yet further proof of what a top-class older hen could still do – produce a top class young breeding hen.** On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May Barry Ward held his sale at the VHA's rooms, and listed at Lot 177 was a twelve-year-old hen bred from the cock which had been nestmate to Roy Dangerfield's Bird of the Year in the SAHPA more than a decade earlier. Their mother was none other than Grant Paterson's Temora winner, having registered her great success only a few months before the Bird of the Year and her brother were hatched in her first year in the stockloft.


It was interesting to ponder if anyone could see the potential in this excellent old twelve year old, described as "a top producer with many Fed placings, including two double fed birds in one season." She was to sell for \$200, with somebody fortunately realizing the potential to utilize the excellent genes she carried. She could be taken to anyone with a top class Goodger cock, and the youngster shared, just as Con Moukas and John Pryor had done with the children of the ten-year-old champion producer hen 51397... with both men winning so handsomely.

Which leads us inevitably to the one certain place any expose on the Allen Goodger pigeons must surely lead – the story of John Pryor, the man who took the Goodgers and built a phenomenal dynasty of his own. His quest was ably assisted by that young racehen which homed injured to Greg Kakoschke's loft at the end of a difficult Temora race. Rung SA83 39313, Greg gave the young hen to John, who at that time enjoyed relatively minor success, but was destined to soon become a household name throughout Australian pigeon racing. The young hen immediately bred for her new owner an SAHPA winner from Booroorban (560km), however she was thereafter mated to the dark chequered 11829, a young son of Lot 60, the Goodger champion. They were to breed two phenomenal SAHPA winners, one from Benalla (690km), and another from Alice Springs (1320km). The young gifted hen which had returned injured from Temora thus left John with three Association winners.



However Lot 60's champion son 11829 was to also prove a phenomenon in his own right, and established another branch of the family with the ace producer hen 51397 (bred by Grant Paterson, and loaned to John by Con Moukas), and the two sides of the family of this great son of Lot 60 would make their owner, John Pryor, famous. When the two branches of the family (11829 x 39313, and 11829 x 51397) finally met, they produced a masterpiece which would win a dramatic race within the SAHPA when she homed to be the only bird on the day from a difficult race, being clocked after 10.30pm in the full darkness of an Adelaide night. Following her master's untimely death, she would sell at public auction for \$5,500. These were, and remain, great pigeons!

Next month: John Pryor and his Goodger based family.



**Brian Donovan's  
1st Alice Springs 2005  
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