

Second Sydney Gold Ring Race

by Paul Gibbs

The second Sydney Gold Ring Race was competed for on the weekend of the 3/10/20 with the weather contributing to a very hard race that saw the birds having to fly with a stiff and very hot northeast wind. The race point for this year's event was held from Byrock which is located around 560km northwest of Sydney, and while the north component of the wind provided some assistance the easterly component is not one the pigeons enjoy at the best of times, especially as they had to cross the Blue Mountains as they neared home, besides as I say it was a very hot day with temperatures in the low to mid 30's that contributed to many reports of poor returns on the day.

In total 255 SGR pigeons from an entry of 550 (that included prize rings from the previous year) that



Alan and Kylie.

LADY OREGON

BB H SGR 19 1873

1st Club Byrock 8 fliers 150 birds.

Also winning all pools to \$10 & Jackpot.

1st North Section 23 fliers 248 birds

4th CCF Federation 167 fliers 2652 birds

1st Sydney Gold Ring Race Winning \$13,500 prize money

plus Gold ring valued at \$3500

90 fliers Competed 550 rings.

Raced by Alan Brown

Sponsored by Anpario Australia



were purchased by 90 fanciers made it to the race, with only 62 SGR race birds being timed in on the day. These 255 birds were released along with 2652 birds belonging to 167 Central Cumberland Federation members with the winning entry being a Blue Bar hen rung SGR-19-1873 belonging to the Mt Druiitt Pigeon Club member Alan Brown.

This pigeon, along with two others were paid for and entered on behalf of the Orego-Stim company Anpario who's Australian Finance and Operations Manager Ms Kylie Foxall, after speaking with race organiser Stephen Shears, nominated Alan Brown to train and race these three birds for Anpario as Alan has been a long time user of Orego-Stim, always having praised its benefits. Well the proof of the pudding so to speak is in the eating so they say, and this result



Alan's loft.

was not only a great achievement for Alan, but also for Anpario.

Anpario's home office in the UK and the Australian office in Sydney ran a competition to name their three entries, with the three birds eventually being named 'Son of Bullet', 'Anpario Miss' and 'Lady Oregon' with the winning pigeon being 'Lady Oregon' with a fly time of six hours 24 minutes and 45 seconds recording a velocity of 1412.85mpm beating the second place pigeon owned by P & P Weynton by over 7mpm.

Just as a matter of interest, the pigeon named 'Son of Bullet' was sired by Alans 2019 Federation Young Bird Derby winner, winning \$4,033 along with several other prizes (refer to attached photo for details).

Alan also told me that 'Lady Oregon' was his second bird home on her previous start, no doubt she was coming into form at the right time. Alan went on to also inform me that a cousin to 'Lady Oregon' won 1st prize in the Merrylands Pigeon Club Squeaker Sale Race earlier this year from Girilambone a distance of 465km winning \$3,500. The dam of

both these birds being full sisters.

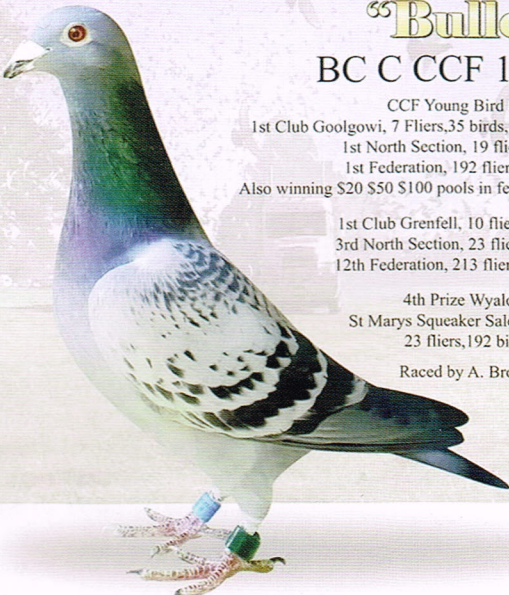
When asked about the breeding of 'Lady Oregon' Alan said that she was a straight Janssen whose sire and dam were obtained from two different fanciers and could be traced back to the early Janssen imports to come to Australia in the late 80's.

Along with winning the SGR race that was worth \$13,500 plus the Gold Ring valued at \$3,500 'Lady Oregon' also took the following places in the Club and Federation – 1st Club against 8 members that entered 150 birds winning all pools to \$10 along with the Jackpot, 1st Federation North Section against 23

Mt Druitt Racing Pigeon Club

"Bullet"

BC C CCF 18 3862



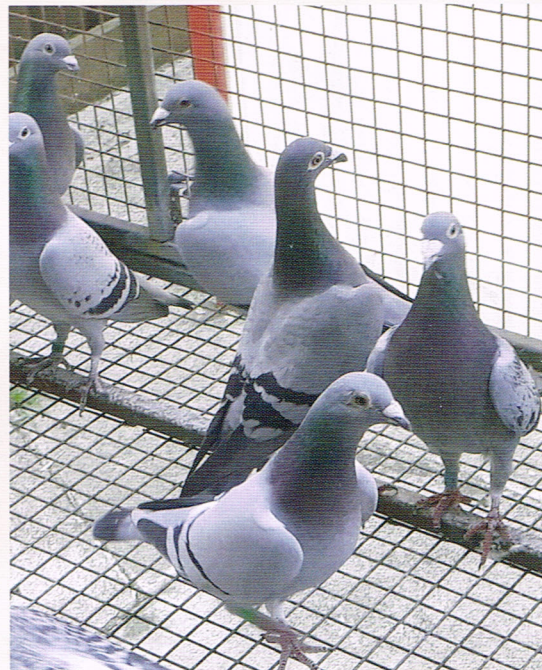
CCF Young Bird Derby
 1st Club Goolgowi, 7 Fliers, 35 birds; also winning the Jackpot
 1st North Section, 19 fliers, 94 birds
 1st Federation, 192 fliers, 943 birds
 Also winning \$20 \$50 \$100 pools in fed Total prize money \$4033

1st Club Grenfell, 10 fliers, 212 birds
 3rd North Section, 23 fliers, 457 birds
 12th Federation, 213 fliers, 4236 birds

4th Prize Wyalong
 St Marys Squeaker Sale Ring race
 23 fliers, 192 birds
 Raced by A. Brown



Alan's stock birds.



fanciers that sent 248 birds and 4th Federation O/A against 167 fanciers that sent 2,652 birds. Not a bad day's work to say the least.

This race paying out a total of \$45,000 in cash prizes along with \$6,400 worth of rings for the 2021 SGR race. In total there were 31 prizes which makes this race great value for the money.

The Sydney Gold Ring Race is gaining rapid interest and I believe will become one of Australia's premier events in coming years, attracting fanciers from near and far. Rings will sell quickly and as there is no limit as to how many a fancier can purchase so it won't take long for the 500 to be sold.

While talking to Alan about his great win in the SGR race I thought readers may be interested in a little more detail about Alan with regards to his loft set up, bloodlines of stock birds kept and a little of some of his other great wins. I asked Alan about his loft of which a few photos are included with this article. Alan said that his race loft consists of five sections and that all internal walls are lined with plywood. The race loft being 8.4 metres long, 2.4 metres in depth and has a 1.4 metre wide timber deck along the front. His stock loft is 4.8 metres long and 3.6

metres deep with aviaries fitted to the front.

Alan informed me that he generally breeds around 150 young birds each year with the rest of his race team consisting of those birds retained from the previous year's racing. The stock loft consists of 24 pairs that are mostly short/middle distance birds with a few pair of "Old Aussie" birds to breed youngsters for the long races.

Bloodlines kept are a blend of Houbens, Heremans-Ceusters, Koopman, Janssens, Gaby Vandenabeele and Barry Bennetts 'Old McLean's' for the distance races.

It's always nice to know that when a fancier wins such a prestigious race as the SGR race that it wasn't just a one off as I found out when talking to Alan about his previous racing results with two examples being winning the Central Cumberland Federation Young Bird Derby (National) on two occasions. The first in 2009 with a Blue Bar Pied hen rung MTD-08-985 competing against 304 fanciers and 1502 birds, from a distance of 501km with a velocity of 1199mpm. This pigeon also winning 1st Section, 1st Club and all pools to \$10.

Alan's second win in this race was last year in 2019 with a blue chequer

cock named 'Bullet' (refer to attached photo for details). So as you can see, Alan not only has good bloodlines that produce winning birds, but he also possess a knack of being able to prepare his birds for these special races.

Anyway, just to finish up on this year's report on the SGR race I would recommend to anyone interested in entering next year's race and would like to purchase rings (only 500 will be sold) you should not hesitate to contact the race coordinator Stephen Shears on Mob 0419 695 407 or by e-mail at sydneygoldring@gmail.com. Out of area, interstate and overseas fanciers are encouraged to participate and have a friend or nominated fancier race your birds on your behalf.

Remember the Gold Ring alone this year was valued at \$3,500 (due to the gold price increase) and there won't be many of these circulating in the pigeon fraternity. If you are an interested overseas fancier and would like to enter then just e-mail Stephen Shears or an Aussie friend to race a bird on your behalf, it would be something special to 'show and tell' and boast about to your fellow country fanciers.

Remember the old saying – **"If you're not in it, you can't win it"**.