

## Queensland Racing Pigeon Federation Diamond Jubilee Race 2005.

To commemorate 60 years since its inception the QRPF conducted an Open Federation race from Cunnamulla, approximate 733 klms from Brisbane.

A total of 2,627 pigeons were basketed in the 5 sections of the QRPF by 144 members on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2005 and dispatched to the race point. They arrived safely at Cunnamulla at 12.15 am Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> and were released at 6.30am the following morning into fine and clear conditions with no wind at the start.

The race proved to be one of the hardest so far this season, prior to this race the winds had been more favourable on race days with flying times & velocities quite fast up to this point. After 10 hours 37 minutes on the wing the leading pack reached their home lofts in the Diamond Jubilee race.

This extended time on the wing presented a challenge for some birds that had been more comfortable with the faster lead up races. Only 37 lofts clocked birds in daylight hours of the first day, with a further 9 lofts clocking birds after dark. The remainder had to wait until the second day to clock-in.

The winning bird was clocked by D Leaders & Son of the Logan City Club in the South East Section at 5.07pm to record a winning velocity of 1157 mpm. With North in the wind the race was dominated by the southern flyers with the SE Section taking the top 3 places and a total of 6 placing's in the top 10, followed by the South Section with 3 placing's in the top 10 and the West Section taking tenth place. The North & North Coast were just not competitive in that wind.

1.	D Leaders & Son	South east	5:07:43 PM	1157.761
2.	B Broderick	South east	5:07:16 PM	1145.134
3.	Logan Lofts	South east	5:12:59 PM	1138.269
4.	P Vale	South	5:14:40 PM	1133.727
5.	R Hazelgrove	South east	5:18:40 PM	1124.716
6.	C Porter & Son	South	5:29:20 PM	1118.782
7.	L Vanderlinde	South	5:32:36 PM	1117.118
8.	4 Winds Loft	South east	5:12:06 PM	1116.462
9.	R Hatherly	South east	5:31:41 PM	1111.576
10.	Balcke & Lane	West	4:41:58 PM	1109.022

D Leaders & Son clocked a yearling Blue Bar Pied hen QRPF 04 13301 to win the Diamond Jubilee race. David takes up the story:

*She endured the usual racing program & was generally in the first half dozen to the loft. She was always a nice bird in the hand, but had a spooky disposition. This spookiness spread through my team after continuous raptor harassment around the home loft. The DJ Commemorative was her 8<sup>th</sup> race & the first time she'd been in the clock.*

*She wasn't outstanding in the fast blow home races but her breeding indicated she would be suited to more challenging races that demanded the stamina of an all day fly.*

*Her sire is from my race proven long distance Janssen family. He's the cock pictured in 'Wilc n' Hill-Bushfires Dust & Drought' story in Journal a few years ago. At the time, he was the only bird home in race time in LCPC & S/E Section for 4<sup>th</sup> Open Fed Wilcannia (1041 km) when only 8 birds made it home in Fed race time. Her dam was on loan from fellow long distance enthusiast & friend Peter Emery. Her breeding is S.M.Evans, long kept pure by Tyack & Son in Melbourne. The cross was a good one, as another hen from same pair placed 10<sup>th</sup> Fed early in the season.*

*The DJ winning pigeon had purposely been kept fresh for this particular race. Her previous outing was from Bollon (556 km) three weeks earlier. I'd kept half a dozen fresh, just in case the race turned out to be a test of stamina. The opportunity to fly a Fed Diamond Jubilee race can happen only once in the lifetime of a pigeon flyer. With this in mind I'd rested those 'most likely' to do well in this QRPF milestone commemorative race. At clock reading on Sunday, I was surprised to learn that vast majority of birds didn't make it home until the second day. This was one of those times*

when the team must have been just right. Lady Luck was smiling on me on this occasion as I had five of those six 'fresh' birds home on the day.

That the little avian athletes had to prove their mettle was fitting tribute for such a special occasion in QRPF history. Sixty years is a long time for any organization.

Continuing the tradition of naming Fed winners, this lovely pied hen has been given the appropriate title of 'Diamond Jubilee'. She now enjoys special status among my stock loft residents. She's the only QRPF Diamond Jubilee Fed winner ever, which makes her a very unique racing pigeon. I'm pleased to say she has proven to be an excellent producer also. Some of her yearling progeny have recorded excellent race results in this past month. In recent Quilpie Open Fed (891 km) I was lucky enough to get 3 on the drop early on second day. These were clocked 30 seconds apart by ETS.

I was asleep in bed. These 3 had velocities only decimal points apart. We won LCPC by 1 hour 45 mins & placed 8<sup>th</sup> Open Fed. Two of these were from the DJ winner & sired by 2 different cocks. The following week another cock from DJ winner was with clock bird from Nat (690 km). That particular cock had been clock bird from Morven (618 km) 3 weeks prior. He was also with clock bird from Roma YBD (452 km). He was well performed in races & has excellent performance in pedigree & is perfect in type, so I put him aside for stock. His nest mate (cock) was clock bird from other Fed race from Augathella (690 km) on same day as Nat. They both placed well in overall Fed results for each.

I sent two cocks from DJ hen on to Windorah 1077 km (clocks read today 14/10/07). These 2 sons of DJ hen again did well. One was second to the loft @ 19:37 pm (night bird) when not many were home on the day. Our clock bird came @ 18:36 pm & another one later @ 22:45 pm. These 3 were the only birds home on the day in S/E Section. We won Club & Section, placing 5<sup>th</sup> Open Fed. Another cock from the same pairing homed early on second day. With such history, the Diamond Jubilee Hen has proved to be an excellent all round pigeon.

See photo, taken 4 days after QRPF Diamond Jubilee Fed win.

