

Newsletter March 2012



President & Editor– Danny McCarthy

Secretary/Treasurer – Rupert Braganza

Central Timer – Abdul Hai



CONTENTS

President's Report.....	Page 3
Secretary's Report.....	Page 5
AGM Report.....	Page 7
AFTU Melbourne BBQ Pictures.....	Page 7
AFTU Member Profile – Nathan Browne.....	Page 8
Rupert Braganza Record Fly.....	Page 10
Settling by Dave Black.....	Page 17
Bull System by Dave Burtenshaw.....	Page 20
Birds Imported into Australia.....	Page 23
AFTU Lofts and Birds.....	Page 27
Lofts and Birds from overseas.....	Page 34
36 Stages for the Flying Tippler Novice.....	Page 38
PMV1 virus report from Australia.....	Page 43
Entertainment!.....	Page 44
Q & A Corner.....	Page 45
Members List.....	Page 46

President's Report



2011 found the AFTU still strong in resolution and membership. The club has faced a very challenging year with the BOP (birds of prey) problems that currently exist in this country. Additionally, the recent outbreak of the PMV1 virus that has engulfed the State of Victoria, has resulted in massive losses to lofts, thereby curtailing any flying: this is to stop the virus from spreading. Despite these setbacks, it is great to know that our members are as resolute as ever to ride out this crisis - our membership has

grown (and continues to grow) and there are many enquires by fanciers wanting to join the AFTU, which is very pleasing to say the least.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our new members. I hope their experience and stay with the AFTU will be a very rewarding one - full of fun and camaraderie. Whilst on the subject, I would like to thank all our current members for the help and friendship they have given the Office Bearers over the past year, which has made the running of the AFTU very easy and enjoyable.

It was nice to see the members of the AFTU participate in the Serbian Club's pigeon show, held in Melbourne a few months before the PMV1 virus hit that State. Two of our members - Rupert Braganza and Shahed Hossain - won the Tippler Section in the Show. Apart from attending pigeon shows, the AFTU members in Victoria organised a club barbeque at Con's home, which, from all accounts, was a rip roaring success. On 2 Jan 2012 Rupert held a lunch for the Victorian AFTU members and their families at his home, which was also a great day for all concerned.

Our last AGM, which was held on the 16 November 2011 via a computer link up, was very successful. Existing Office Bearers stood down and fresh elections resulted in there being no major changes.

John Cox, Secretary/Treasurer stepped down due to work and personal commitments and Rupert Braganza was elected to this position.

Mick Hoskins has taken a break from his role as AFTU Editor due to work and personal commitments and Danny McCarthy was elected to undertake this task.

Chris Francis was elected Eastern Vice President and Karim Cooper was elected Western Vice President. There were no further changes to the office bearers.

The following positions remain unchanged: Abdul Hai, Official Central Time Keeper, Aidan McIlhatton, Ring Officer.

One of the main highlights of the AGM was the granting of our first AFTU Life Membership to Karim Cooper, one of our most dedicated members of the AFTU and a fantastic human being, whose knowledge of the sport is second to none. Due to ill health, Karim has had to give up his birds, which is very sad, however we are enriched, and always will be, by Karim's presence as a Life Member of our club.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank John Cox for the great job he has done with the AFTU as Secretary/Treasurer: thank you for all the hard work that you have done for the club and its members John, we really do appreciate your efforts over the years. I would also like to thank Mick Hoskins for the role that he has played as the AFTU Editor: his professionalism and eye for detail are clearly demonstrated in the fantastic Newsletters he has produced over the years. Apart from undertaking this position, Mick has been a great help to all our members and has always been there for the club, continuously advising and encouraging everyone when necessary. His generosity has been exemplary - thanks a million Mick from everyone in the AFTU.

I admire the grit and determination of all our members who have been training their birds in this BOP ravaged, hostile part of the world, incurring heavy losses and spoilt birds. It is heart breaking and depressing to say the least, however, the reason we are in the sport is to fly our birds, and come what may, we will in time to come record some good fly times with our birds. I am sure that time is just around the corner. We have the birds that can do it, make no mistake about that.

Please remember our AFTU motto. We Aspire to Inspire.

Danny McCarthy
AFTU President.



Secretary's Report



Hello to all the AFTU members.

This is the first newsletter after the election and I hope we can have a few on a regular basis: this can only happen if the members send in some articles, photographs etc. plus any articles pertaining to our sport/hobby which could help our members to better their skills in the sport.

I thank you all for choosing me for the position of Secretary. I take this opportunity to thank John Cox for doing a good job while he was the Secretary.

We have finished our flying season with a few members taking part in our AFTU official comps. Quite a few of our members put in a lot of effort to get kits into training, but unfortunately the BOP have either destroyed their kits or spoilt their birds. Abdul Hai and Shahed have taken part in a couple of the competition fly's, but due to the BOP attacks, they were disqualified. Hai was able to finish one comp fly with a 6-hour result. All these fly's were flown before we had dedicated fly dates for the AFTU.

Our President Danny McCarthy had been discussing with senior members for a long time that we needed to have fixed fly dates so that our club would be on the same page as the NTU and other major tippler clubs around the world. This meant we would need to change the AFTU fly rules and constitution. However, it took some time, and with the help of Mick Hoskins, this was achieved and the new AFTU fly rules and Constitution along with the fly dates were mailed to all members. Previously if a member had a kit ready, he would announce a date and fly his birds in a competition fly. Since the new system of the official dates has come into effect, members can now only fly on the designated fly dates. With the designated fly dates in force, our members now have the opportunity to train birds accordingly to get them to their peak performing condition in preparation for the designated fly dates.

If any member has a suggestion or thinks certain changes would help the club or the membership, they are more than welcome to submit their suggestions to the Committee for consideration.

In Victoria, we have had a very bad attack of the PVM1 virus and a lot of pigeon fanciers have had their lofts cleaned out by this virus. The Department of Primary Industries thought that the virus would die off if they quarantined the affected lofts and stopped all pigeon activities, but somehow this did not happen and more and more lofts are getting

affected, so they have decided to import the vaccine for this virus. Which means those that vaccinate their birds are safe but cannot be gifted, sold or traded to any another fancier who has not vaccinated his birds. I think more of this will be addressed by John Cox, who attended the meeting at the Dandenong Fancy Pigeon Club, which was presided over by Dr. Collin Walker.

I am not able to give a detailed account about the AFTU funds and expenses at present as they are still with John Cox, but can tell you that we have a balance of \$1676.44 in the club account.

Those members of the AFTU who want to participate in the ITF fly in April need to get on to the ITF website and register their intention to fly in that comp, and most importantly, get their birds ready at least 5 weeks in advance so they get a good number of training fly's in before they compete. All the best.

Rupert Braganza
Secretary/Treasurer



AGM Report

The AFTU AGM was held on 16 November 2011 via internet hook up. We had a great turn out for the AGM; it was very pleasing to have 12 of our 26 members attend the meeting via the hook up.

The Secretary and the President's reports were accepted unanimously. The AFTU at present has 26 financial members Australia wide.

The AFTU funds, I am happy to say, look great. We have at present \$1676.44 in the bank.

There is a small sum of \$50.00 to still be banked, and an additional \$60.00 in petty cash.

Overall, the club at present is reasonably healthy, and it will continue to improve as our membership grows.

The date for the next AFTU AGM has not been decided, but will take place later in the year.

(For) John Cox

AFTU Melbourne B-B-Q held at Con's home



AFTU Member Profile

Nathan Browne

Introduction to one of our AFTU members from WA.



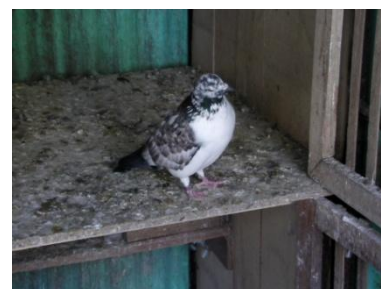
Hello fellow club members, my name is Nathan Browne, yes Brown with an E.

This is a short article on myself and how I got interested in the hobby of Tipplers and Roller pigeons.

I have been exposed to pigeons for most of my life, even though it was purely from a spectator's point of view in the early years, it was not till I was 15 years old that I started keeping pigeons myself.

As is the case with most fanciers, I kept a few different breeds before finding my true love. These, of

course, being the English Rollers and Tipplers.



I was aware of the tumblers and their performing capabilities as my elder brother had kept them in the past. It was not until I started reading books on pigeons that I got my introduction to the English tipplers and rollers, which started me on my journey. After stumbling around for some time trying to find fanciers who had these breeds of birds, my efforts were finally rewarded in the form of an advertisement in the Sunday Times our Perth Newspaper. It read Tipplers for sale \$5.00 each.

At this point of time, I had no means of transport so I had to rely on my older brother who also had a keen interest in pigeons and also the fact that he had his driver's licence. We were soon off to meet our first tippler fancier. The fancier that we went to meet was none other than Malcolm Barker.

At the time we could only afford to purchase one pair of tipplers each. As Malcolm was trying to reduce his stock of tipplers, he gifted me one extra pair for free, which needless to say, did not impress my brother a great deal. (1978-1979)

Malcolm's birds were typical small, neat looking Tipplers. They were self grizzles and recessive Red. He also had what are known as chuck pattern tipplers. These birds have a pure white body, pearl eyes and colour-tipped flights and tail and a chuck under the throat. I'd say, very reminiscent of the Cumulet. I think these tipplers are pretty much extinct now. At that time, Malcolm said his tippers were capable of ten hour flights. One of the cock birds I received was not of Malcolm's family. It was a self Blue Bar. I later figured that the cock was a mixture of a John Van Hyst and Terry Pollette Tippler.

Later on, I gave my Tipplers and Tumblers to a friend who lived about a five minute walk down the road and then got into Rollers. Even though I had rollers, I was always curious about tipplers and other highflying breeds. It was not till 2000 that I started looking for tipplers again and I had come full circle. After speaking to various fanciers, I was able to get in contact with Malcolm once again – some 30 odd years later.



So after arranging to meet up with Malcolm, I arrived, only to find that all those old type tipplers had gone. All that was left were a few blue prints, which were remnants of the Chuck Pattern Tippler and Barred Grizzles. The good thing was they were still only \$5.00 a bird.

Well, after mucking about with Australian Tipplers for a few years, I came across an ad in a Pigeon Magazine, which was promoting the AFTU.

I then contacted Paul Windler – then Chris Francis and after many hours of tippler talk, Chris sent me some birds. As you can imagine, I was thrilled to receive these birds. So to thank Chris I sent him some English Rollers. Chris and I have had some good long chats on the phone and I reckon it beats that computer stuff.



Well guys, that's my condensed story. Even though I have had English Tippers since 2005, I'm ashamed to say I have not done much with them.

I hope this year will be different as I am planning to build a flying loft just for tipplers – individual boxes and all that stuff.

Keep them flying high, wide and long and all the best for the New Year.

Nathan Browne



Rupert's Record Fly!

Rupert Braganza broke the old AFTU official Tippler flying record, previously held by Abdul Hai from NSW, and created a new official AFTU and Australian Record as well on the 10th of October 2010.

Rupert if you don't mind I would like to ask you a few questions about yourself and your love for the hobby/sport of pigeons. I would like you to go way back when, when first you got the pigeon bug in your system. How old were you when you first started in the hobby?

Danny, first of all I would like to thank all the guys who called and emailed me, congratulating me on my successful fly. Secondly I would like to thank the senior members of the AFTU for being so helpful and supportive, as well as giving me a great start by gifting me the birds that I have in my loft.

I was born and raised in Mumbai India, however my family hails from Goa, now also a part of India. I lived in a three-story apartment building. Most of the teenage boys who lived there had pigeons on the apartment terrace - no particular breed of pigeons, just pigeons. The birds were housed in wooden boxes on the terrace. Most of the teenage boys would save and collect their pocket money so as to buy food for these birds. As the boys grew up and moved on in life, some of the younger ones who lived in the apartment would take the birds over. As a small kid I used to feed and look after the birds, and make sure that they were secure at night, locked away in their wooden boxes. As I grew older, my love for pigeons also grew. I had a few of them by then, but did not know anything about their flying ability etc. One day the caretaker of the apartment pointed out three of my birds that were flying in dots, and told me about the competitions that were held in his native state of Rajasthan. This is what got me hooked on high-flying pigeons. I then, over a period of time, bought a few high flyers from the market, however, not all of them lived up to their potential - very few of them flew well. I was in my twenties when I took an interest in the Indian Game Fowl, and I used to enter my Indian game roosters in tournaments (fights) which was a legal sport then.



On one of my visits to the cock fight arena, one of the guys whose bird was supposed to fight my bird the following Sunday, requested a postponement to the fight date, as he was flying his pigeons in competition on that date and had a personal bet riding on it. I asked him if I could visit his home to watch the birds fly: he kindly agreed.

The next Sunday I was at his place before sunrise and observed the referee noting the colours of the birds and stamping their tails. 21 pigeons were released that morning with 2 referees and 4 other onlookers present. As the day continued, more and more

fanciers came to watch the fly, and some of them explained how the tournaments are organized.

Tournaments are usually held on three Sundays during the month of December: the flyer must release a minimum of 17 birds which are required to fly for 6 continuous hours in order to qualify: any bird landing before the 6 hour mark is disqualified. For those birds landing after 6 or more hours, an aggregate time is taken, and the flyer who has the highest aggregate time is declared the winner.

Now that I had witnessed an official comp fly, I got the pigeon bug again. A couple of months later I found myself with a friend on a train making our way down to Lucknow in the North of India. I was told at the time that Lucknow was the head quarters for highflying pigeons. Once I arrived at Lucknow, I contacted some local breeders and bought 10 pairs of breeders and 30 young ones for flying. It was in December 1988 that I participated in my first competition fly. From then on until 2002 I flew every year - in both the summer and winter competitions: and included the local and "All India Competitions. I was lucky enough to win many prizes.

In 1992 I was introduced to the Rastriya Pigeon Flying Club, which organized the All India Summer competition. At that time no one in Mumbai had ever flown in the All India Competition, so I got a few guys together and flew in the All India Comp. I was lucky enough to win a consolation prize. The prize distribution for that comp was held in Jabalpure in Central India, where I met many pigeon fanciers from all over India. It is here that I came to know about the ALL Indian Pigeon Flying Club, which was a much bigger club than the Rastriya Pigeon Club. This club organized all the winter tournaments, which were held in the month of November.

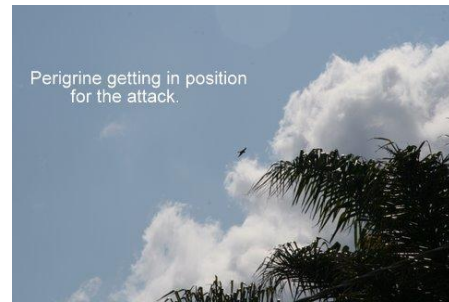


The following year I went to the prize distribution of the All Indian Pigeon Flying Club, which was held in Rampur at the farm house of Mr. Dalbir Singh Sandhu. Mr. Sandhu asked me how the sport of pigeon flying was progressing in Mumbai. He also asked if I would consider becoming a member of the committee, and handle the affairs of the

Maharashtra region of the pigeon club. I agreed to do so, and became a member of the Executive Committee.

I have contemplated giving up the hobby of pigeon flying on two occasions. The first was when I got married, however I could not part with my birds regardless of all my intentions to do so. The birds never left the terrace. The second time was when I immigrated to Australia and arrived in Melbourne on 30 June 2002. However, after leaving India I did not get rid of my birds in Mumbai, but was fortunate to have a good friend look after them for me. My passion for the sport was far too strong to get rid of my birds, and as such I went back to Mumbai in November of the same year and flew my birds in four winter comps. However, on this occasion, before I left Mumbai for Melbourne in January 2003, and as the family home had been sold, I was compelled to give my birds away to friends before returning to Australia.

When I returned to Melbourne I had no intention of keeping pigeons. However I joined the Tippler Talk forum and enjoyed reading the comments that were posted on this site. Until this time I had not read any books on pigeons – on how to breed and fly them. Everything I know about the sport of pigeon flying and breeding I learnt from the fanciers in India who have been in the sport for years, and in turn have gathered the knowledge from their fathers and grandfathers who have been steeped in the sport for generations. I learnt a lot from these fanciers about things such as the configuration and value of seeds: when to feed such seeds to the birds, i.e. during their molt, what to feed when flying etc etc. One such person is Mr. Dalbir Singh Sandhu from Rampur the sole creator of the All India Pigeon Flying Club, who has successfully run it for 40 years.



In India most of the feed ups consist of almonds and some other dried fruits mixed with some herbs and roots, which are found locally. The dried fruits give the birds the stamina required for them to perform in the air, and the herbs and roots act as a



purgative, to remove the excessive feed that is sometimes given to the birds and in addition, relieves any ailments that the birds may be suffering from (i.e. aches & pains).

When you did finally decide to stay in Australia, what got you back into pigeons? Why Tipplers?

I came to Melbourne Australia on the 30 June 2002. After a couple of years I could not resist the craving to keep pigeons again, the passion was too strong. My first port of call was a local racing pigeon club. I soon found out that if I wanted to compete. I would have to have at least a hundred birds in my loft. As I was renting my premises at the time this was not possible. I then visited various high flying pigeon Clubs, and realized that nobody competed. A couple of guys tried to sell me birds for \$100.00 each, but when I asked them to fly the birds for me, as I would like to see them fly before I bought them, they were not willing to do so. At the local market I met a Guy by the name of Bogdan Vasil. Bogdan had Serbian highfliers and Budapest highfliers. He invited me to his home and opened his loft to me and asked me to take whatever I wanted from his loft. When I told him I was into endurance flying, he offered me the last two pairs of tipplers he had in his loft. He told me both pairs were from a man known as Jack from Wangaratta. I took the blue bars that he offered me, and that is what got me started. Needless to say Bogdan and I have become very close friends.

Why did you join the AFTU?

A guy from India who was on Tippler Talk at the time informed Paul Windler who was the then Secretary of the AFTU about me. Paul called me up and chatted with me about pigeons, and told me about the AFTU. I then got a call from you (Danny McCarthy) and you introduced me to the



rest of the members of the AFTU. From the word go, I hit it off with the guys from the AFTU, as they were all down to earth guys.

A few months later Danny bred me 10 youngsters to fly. As soon as I received them I knew they were good birds. I homed all of them, but lost four of them to the falcons while training them. I then decided to stock the rest. Since our first telephone conversation, Danny and I have become very close friends: I only have to mention that I would like a certain strain of tippler, and it would be on the next flight to me from Danny's loft. As a matter of fact my wife and I consider Danny and Pat as our own family.

At present I am flying the Potts and Shannon strains of tipplers. I have also flown the Dunseith strain of tippler, and I love their flying style, however they seem to attract the falcons a lot. I am yet to try the Hughes strain of tipplers that Danny has sent me which are quite a few of them, all bred from his Hughes imports from the UK. At present I am breeding from them, and hope to fly the young ones shortly.

Do you have any secrets to your feed-ups? Only joking. I am sure many in the tippler sport here in Australia would like to know how you get the best out of your birds in the air.

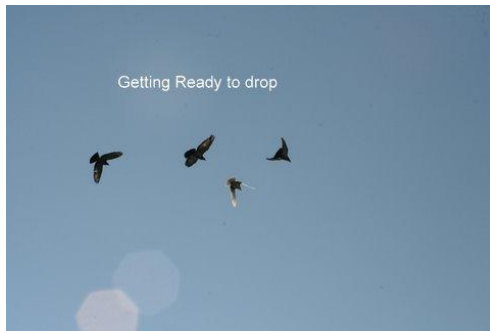
Regarding my feed ups I am still in a trial and error mode and cannot say for sure if I have hit upon the perfect feed-up. However, one things for sure - I never use barley to train my birds. I did try it at one stage and found I lost a lot of birds. It does not give them enough strength to return back to the loft if and when they drift away, or they go so light they go into the pins and disappear. In training I work my birds to the maximum and do not stop even if they are being attacked by the falcon. I use the natural method for training my young ones. When they are just about covered with



feathers I put them out and then walk them into the loft. Then introduce them to the top of the loft. This is done everyday even if it means for 5 minutes no matter what the weather, and the droppers are always with them. Within 10 days you will find the young ones going on to the loft roof and coming down on their own. The droppers are starved but not the young ones, this is just in case one of them takes off and gets lost he

has enough in him for a couple of days to find its way back.

When the young are 5 weeks old I start feeding them only wheat and reduce the feed. I throw one bird up at a time with the droppers out and until that one drops to the droppers regularly when signaled to do so, I will not let another one out. That is because no matter how hungry they are if they get company they get into the fly mode, and you will run into trouble, as the two young will just keep flying, because they have company. Once you have one of them trained to the droppers, and it is doing all the right things, I then let out the second one, then the third one and so on.



My wife Rorine is a big asset to me: she does everything from feeding, flying and dropping the birds. The only thing she won't do is clean the loft or handle the birds. She is a great help to me on days that I can't release the birds due to work commitments as she does the needful, as well as drops them for me in the evenings when I can't make it back home on time to do so myself.

There are days when I lose birds in the evening due to the fact that my birds are not dark trained. If and when they return the next morning when I am at work and are flying over the loft, if my wife spots them, she will release the droppers, and make sure the birds are down and trapped before she leaves for work.

Last but not least, how do you fit both your sport of tipplers and your family into the equation, with such limited time that all of us have during a long working day?

Danny I don't have a problem with that equation. My family will always come before my pigeons. It's a no contest situation, and that's the way it will always be.

In closing I would like to say that it takes a lot of time and dedication along with a fair bit of patience to get these little flying machines to do the times we want them to do, and it takes just as much time, dedication and patience to get them to drop to your command. There are no short cuts, one has to put in the time if one wants the results.



Thank you Rupert for being so kind and answering all my questions. I wish you the very best of luck with your birds and hope you break some more records.
Danny McCarthy.



Official Refree's Report



Good evening all AFTU members today Sunday the 10/10/2010 I witnessed

Rupert's record flight in Melbourne, Australia.

I arrived at 6.00am, took photos and verified the 4 birds that were going to compete in today's fly. The weather conditions on release at 6.30am was misty and not very clear the birds started to kit and move with a fast motion. At approx. 10.00am the misty conditions started to clear to a blue sky.

The birds flew low to medium height for most of the time at this stage but always in a tight kit, beautiful to watch.

Mid afternoon Robert Verbeek arrived to watch a falcon strike but the birds won for a change and regrouped within a few minutes and got back into their routine. At about 4.00pm the birds then lifted to pin height and stayed there for 1/2hrs.

The birds started to show signs of coming down near the 10hr-15min mark then Rupert put the droppers out at 5.55pm 3 birds dropped and the last one dropped 5.57pm.

I take this opportunity to thank Rupert's lovely wife for all the great food and drinks that just never stopped coming all day, and to Rupert for making a new Australian Tippler record.

Cheers to All.
Darryl Sinclair



Settling

By Dave Black

Sunderland, England

My system of settling young tipplers is to take the youngsters away from the parents checking them over first that they have no health problems from the breeding part at around 25 days old. I place them into a weaning cage or section of the loft where they can have access to good corn and water. I use little seeds that they can easily pick up and learn to eat that way first. What I find at this stage is the youngsters appear to be nervous and all of them will crowd in one corner and look very reluctant to want to come to the food or take a drink. A good idea at this stage is to place a good young dropper hen in there with them that will show them the way. They would normally find the food ok but some don't seem to find the water - a good sign to look for is the eyes squinting or blinking meaning they are not finding the water. This is when you need to dip the bird's beaks into the water. Birds getting no water can cause all sorts of problems later so it's best that they can have access to water at all times during this stage and should be checked upon regularly. Any youngsters falling behind can be put back in with their parents to catch up then put back later. I do this for around 3 days before taking the food and water away.



The next stage is getting the tipplers in and around the trapping area. My weaning cage has access to the trapping cage so the tipplers get the first look out at the outside world. Some are reluctant to go out into the open area. So sometimes I place them in there myself - this then is the start of the first stage.

Learning the tipplers to trap at this stage is easier since none of the tipplers can fly and can easily be picked up and placed on the loft top. I pick one bird out at a time leaving the rest of the youngsters in the trap. I have a few white droppers out with them to associate home and make them feel safe. The bird out on its own doesn't like it by itself and like sheep it wants to be next to the rest of the youngsters in the trap. My trap device is a box with a square missing from the roof of the box which the youngster can see through and it drops no more than a foot deep to be next to the rest. This is repeated by changing a different bird until all have had a few turns and accustomed to going into the trap. Once trap trained they can be called back into the weaning cage which again most are reluctant to go back in but once one bird reacts again like sheep the rest will follow. I would then have the white young dropper in there to encourage them back in. When all are back in only a few grains are given because the next day they need to earn their food. Again I repeat the process the following day putting out the hungry droppers first then allowing the youngsters into the trap. The youngsters may be more inquisitive than last time and it's then you can place again one at a time on the loft and throw a bit of seed in there, it will soon be in next to the youngsters competing for food. Also at the

same time they are getting used to being handled and it is then when you are sure all the youngsters know why they are dropping into the trap. Now more can be placed on the top once they all know the drill and eventually all can be placed on the top along with the droppers, which means the youngsters have to be fast to the seed or no dinner. Depending on how well the tipplers reacted to your instructions and to this process is how well they are fed when getting them into the trap - remember they are back out again the next day so always have them wanting more. Keep an eye on which tipplers are winning the race to the seed and which are been left behind, they may need pulling to one side to be given more feed. This is repeated for around a week or so getting them on the loft top as much as you can to compete with the droppers and this is the only time they re going to be fed on the loft top or in the trap. Under no circumstances should they be chased or scared. This is their routine now; loft top only and only feed with droppers no free food because they have to earn it.

By the second week the tipplers will be well drilled into chasing seed and a good way to get them to fly a little bit is to have an area for them to fly to. I had another loft opposite about 14 feet away which when you throw the seed from one loft to another the droppers will be used to this drill and the tipplers will follow. Some will miss the odd time and have to spin around and land back onto the loft with the trap. This still gets them used to landing back to the loft top and gives them the little practice they need to



stretch the wings. This is about the time you think the birds should be ready for the air.

By the 3rd week or just before depending on the weather conditions of being parted from their parents all the recent work put into the tipplers should put them into good stead. It is then the risk of losing them starts. The day I want to settle tipplers I start the normal process out with the droppers in the trap with the tipplers. I open the lid and by this day have them extra keen. I play with them a few minutes to remind them once again.

I then put away all but one of the tipplers and

leave only one of them out - normally a big ugly beaky cock that you are not worried about losing. Everyone has favorites and I don't want the lot up at once losing all the nice hens. The droppers are put away with the trap locked so he can't get in. This is the first time he has been on the loft top left alone so he will probably be confused and strike to the air. As soon as he gets any height, out with the droppers. Without anything to fly with down he will come no bother, he now becomes the leader bird.

Repeat this process a few times a day being careful that he is responding ok after a few minutes in the air and coming straight to the droppers. This is when you can add another bird, the next one out of the batch that is not appealing to the eye. They then go up together hopefully the leader bird keeps next to it and again any sign of height or pulling apart the droppers are out working the loft. From above this is seen as competition for food and down they should come. This is when patience is most vital, you may have to stand and wait. Sometimes having other youngsters from the batch working with the droppers gets them down plus the youngsters get a look at them above coming to land.

Try and have plenty of time on your hands around this period each time adding another bird until they are kitting well. Remember you are not after any sort of time but drilling

the birds by teaching them to drop and dropping is a priority at this stage. As you go you will realise that its all to do with food and you will get the food right as you go. I have had plenty of success settling youngsters over the years this way - losing very little.
Hope this works for you!



Dave's young champions top and Pilot hens bottom



The Bull System

DAY 1

On the day you are ready to proceed make sure that the hens have been well fed and watered. It will work a little better if you introduce the hens later rather than earlier in the day. Feed & lock the cocks into the aviary then place the hens in the locked half of the nest boxes of their selected cocks. If the hens are fit and ready to pair they will tell you so without a cock being present. It is a good sign that things will go easy when the hens are very amorous.

With the hens secure in their half of the box allow the cocks into the loft. They perform their usual stuff with plenty of billing between the bars of the partitioned box. There is not a chance that the cock can tread the hen. Leave the birds like this until morning.

Now is a good time for pen and paper, so make sure that you have a clipboard or such in the loft, with the ring numbers and box numbers for all the hens laid out. This will help you re-place the hens into the correct boxes until they are fully versed and keep good records of the days to come.

DAY 2

The first thing that I check as I walk in the loft is that all the hens are still in their boxes, none having escaped previously. This will be the first item on the agenda every morning for the next few days. If any hens have escaped it is not a problem at this stage but you must remedy the situation and prevent it happening again as it is vital to the purpose of your program. Feed the cocks and lock them in the aviary with their own drinker. Once secure you can allow the hens freedom of the loft to eat and drink, pickstones etc. As each hen returns to a box (hopefully its own) lock her in. When all the hens are back in their boxes let the cocks come back in. you will get a feel for how things are going at this point. The cocks should rush to their boxes spinning and cooing. Repeat this again at some stage of the day, allowing the hens a chance to stretch their wings, eat & drink and find their own box. You can also fit little drinkers to the nest box if you wish.

DAY 3 and DAY 4

Exactly the same as day 2.

DAY 5

This is the day to introduce the stud cock. The cock I used was 10 years old and I thought this could be a problem, but it turned out to be quite the opposite. This system can work with a cock that is already paired or sitting but you will get quicker results if he is un-paired.

Feed the cocks and lock them in the aviary. Release the hens to eat etc. Lock all hens back in box. Bring in the stud cock and release him into the loft, he will strut his stuff and the hens will respond from the boxes. Allow the stud cock to roam around, he will fly up to many of the hens introducing himself. They will all respond to his attentions. After 10/15 mins release the hen from the first nest box, in no time at all she will get down for the cock. As soon as the deed is done get the hen back in her nest box and remove the cock. Mark down on your record sheet a note alongside the hens ring number that this occurred. Place the stud cock back in his own section. Rest for 30 mins and repeat with the second hen. No need to allow the stud cock time to get his bearings, just place him in the section and release the next hen. Copulation will be swift; the chances are that all the hens saw the first procedure and are now competing with each other. Remove the stud cock and re-place the hen. Repeat this every 30 mins to cover the first 6 hens. Then give the stud cock a couple of hours rest, re-starting later in the day with the last six hens. Do not forget to mark down each hen in turn. If one of the hens refuses to mate, make a note of it as she will be the first one the next day. When all is done make sure all the hens are secure and allow the cocks back into the loft from the aviary, they are none the wiser.

DAY 6

If all went well the previous day, do exactly the same procedure but this time in reverse, starting with the hen that was last the day before. Not forgetting that the hens must be well fed etc. before you commence.

DAY 7

Exactly the same procedure as day 6.

DAY 8

Now depending on the hens you are using you could be getting eggs at this stage. If so, I suggest you concentrate on any hen that has not laid as it is my experience that once the hen has laid she will have nothing more to do with the stud cock, (sounds about right!!) Carry on with the procedure until all the hens have laid. But be warned, I have never known a hen that has already laid her 1st egg to allow the stud cock to tread her again, so the theory of 2nd egg fertilisation needs looking at.

At this stage I allow all the cocks into the loft (but no contact) whenever possible to see that their hens have laid. As soon as the hen lays her 2nd egg I open the box and allow the cock to enter. Many of them rush in and instantly sit the eggs, no matter what time of day it is. Once all the hens have laid you can treat the section with ordinary everyday management. The cocks will have no problem believing that the eggs are their own and will sit normally. Let them sit 4/5 days and then check the eggs are full. If you find that any are infertile you can check your records to see if there is a reason for this. When I used 12 hens every single egg hatched using just this method, ending up with 24 young birds that all resembled each other in various ways. If you paired up correctly in the first place you will now be able to let these cocks and hens lay a 2nd round in the normal fashion.

I agree this method can take up some time, but the wise amongst you will plan this carefully to fall on a weekend or a holiday. It is well worth the trouble and does not take up any more time in respect of days.



Cock



Hens



Birds Imported into Australia

And some of their Progeny

Pott's Blue Bar Cock, Pott's Grizzle Hen, Shannon Blue Bar Cock and Shannon Silver Hen from the first importation by Mick Hoskins.



import shannon cock



brown/dun shannon hen

Shannon/ Bristow White Flighted Silver Hen and Brian White Blue Saddle cock from the first importation by Chris Francis.



import shannon x bristow hen



import brian white cock

Bertenshaw Blue Bar Cock from the first importation by Colin Jones. No picture available of the Bertenshaw hen that was also from the first importation. It died after two years in Australia.



dave bertenshaw cock

However there were a few hens that were bred from this original pair, and the daughters, over a period of time have been put back to the father to keep the Bertenshaw strain going strong.

Aidan's Bertenshaw line of birds bred from the imported cock and it's daughters and grand daughters.



Mick Hoskins also imported two hens of Tom Dilks strain of Hughes tipplers from the loft of Tex Brooks into Australia. They were both blue bars. No Picture available.

In 2004, Danny McCarthy imported a Hughes Blue Bar Cock from the loft of Davey Warrenner, as well as three Dunseith's, 2 Hens and 1 Cock and One black Heaton hen.



In 2008 Danny McCarthy imported his second lot of imports from the UK. Three birds, 1 Hughes Blue Bar Hen, 1 Dark Bronze Dunseith Cock and 1 Black Dunseith Hen again all from Davey Warrenner's loft.



A Shannon Blue Badge Hen from the Loft of Harry Shannon was also Imported in 2008 by Danny McCarthy.



Mick Hoskins imported, in 2008 from the UK, a Grey Grizzle Shannon Cock from the loft of Harry Shannon. He also had 3 birds in Quarantine in the UK. Two died, only one arrived in Australia.



In 2005 Aldo Skender imported two Lovatt's from the UK, from the loft of Jimmy Johnson.

One a Silver Grizzle Cock and a Dark Blue Check Hen.

The Hen died in quarantine, and he only received the cock. Aldo then imported another Dark Blue Check from Jimmy Johnson, this hen was the daughter of the one that died.



Aldo later imported another 7 Lovatts from the loft of Paul Green from the UK. Pictures not available at present.

Some of the progeny of the imported birds.



All Shannon progeny

AFTU Lofts and Birds

Australia

Aidan McIlhatton' Loft – QLD



Aldo Skender – WA



Bonny Singh – Melbourne, VIC



Chris Francis – NSW



Kevin Smith's loft – VIC



Con's Loft – Melbourne, VIC



Darryl Sinclair's Loft – Melbourne, VIC



John Gasper's Loft – WA



Lucky's Loft – Melbourne, VIC



Philip Ching's Loft – Melbourne, VIC



Darryl Lester's Loft – Shepperton, VIC



Nathan Browne's Loft – WA



Shahed's Loft – Melbourne, VIC



Many thanks to all our AFTU members who took the time out to send me pictures of their loft and birds.



Lofts and Birds from Overseas

Oskar Zovic's Birds- Toronto Canada



Davey Warrener's Loft – UK



Luka Kapac's Loft – Toronto Canada



Ian Elstob's Loft – UK



Thank you to all our overseas friends who helped us by letting us use pictures of their lofts and birds in our newsletter.

Lofts from the USA

Cazim Kuduzovic - Jacksonville, FL.



Walt Dimek - Dixmont, ME.



Dorel Borlovan - Sacramento, CA.



Charles Samuel - Baltimore, MD.



Maceo Price, Sr. - Baltimore, MD.



**A big thank you to Dave Fuller for sending me the pictures of lofts and birds
of his friends in the USA.**

Thirty-Six Stages for the Flying Tippler Novice

by E. W. Matthews

1. When the youngsters are five weeks old, they should be removed from their parents and placed in a loft by themselves.
2. For the first two days or so, food and water will be left for them at will. This ensures that they can feed for themselves.
3. Then they should be fed by hand and the water trough withdrawn and only offered after feeding.
4. It would now be an advantage to introduce the dropper. This should be a White Cross-bred Fantail, either a hen or a youngster. This bird should remain in the loft with the young Tipplers at this stage. 5. The object is to impress on the young Tippler that the Fantail is part of home. When the youngsters are about six weeks old, they should be fed once a day only (I will deal with the food later) and encouraged to chase about after their food. The dropper will soon take the lead for they are usually greedy. Now we can remove the dropper from the youngsters' loft, and only introduce it during times of feeding.
6. So up to now the mind of the Tippler is that the Fantail is always associated with food. The Fantail is a White bird used as a decoy. Almost any White bird would do.
7. That completes stage one.
8. The youngsters should now have the opportunity of seeing the outside surroundings of the loft and to do this the loft should have an open wire netting enclosure, either at the side, or preferably, on the loft top. They should spend some time, say afternoon, outside so that when evening falls they can be called in, introducing the dropper, and fed and watered.
9. Now you will be wondering when the birds should have their liberty. Well, always remember, a good Tippler youngster is stronger on the wing than in the head. Bearing this in mind, I find that the best time to let them out is when the eye colour has changed. This is an indication of better reasoning powers of the bird. They might now be eight weeks old. So, with the dropper out on the loft top, chasing about after grains of food, open the wire enclosure door and allow the young Tipplers to follow the Fantail chasing after the grain. By throwing grain first outside and then inside the pen, the young bird will soon learn its way in and out of the loft. After a short lesson, call them in and feed and water, carrying on this procedure each evening until the young birds start to take to

flight. It is a good plan to have more droppers available now and they should be kept on the move while the young Tipplers are airborne.

10. Assuming that the Tipplers have been up and down for a few evenings. The next stage is to liberate the kit, without the dropper. When the birds have been flying for 10 or 15 minutes, liberate the dropper. The young Tipplers will now see the dropper, and associating dropper with food and home they will come down. They should be then called in and fed.

11. This procedure is carried out henceforth, each time allowing the kit to fly longer before putting out the dropper. (By longer I do not mean many hours, only two or three).

12. Up to now we have been drilling the young Tippler to do what is required of him – fly until he is summoned to alight. This, of course, is simply mental drill, and the next stage is to equip for physical endurance. This I find the most fascinating part, for it depends on my judgment whether it succeeds or not.

13. Now to refer to analogy. Suppose I had a motor car whose petrol capacity would allow me to drive non-stop for 300 miles. At the commencement of the journey, the car would be at its greatest weight because of the full tank. Another point, the car would have to be in good condition, so as to be trouble-free throughout the journey. So we must have our Tippler with his tanks full and he must be thoroughly fit on the selected day when he is put to test for long-time flying. We can follow the analogy. When first he is liberated his weight may be 10 oz. and at the end of the day will have used up his fuel and would weight six to seven oz. Now suppose I wished to use the same motor car to make a journey of only 10 miles, surely I would not want the tank filled up for this short journey.

14. So I would make it with only a small amount of fuel and, of course, I would be carrying less weight. So if we want our Tippler to fly only for three to four hours we make sure his tank is not full. Now do not take this analogy too much for granted. I do not wish to convey that all we have to do is to fit up and fatten a Tippler and he will fly all day; far from it, for he has to be trained physically in stages like any other athlete. Now imagine that the Tippler is liberated, say at 4 a.m. and has flown 14 hours. He will have consumed most of his fuel and will be much lighter in weight. This is conspicuous when seen flying, for he will alter his style as the day progresses, for later in the evening he will be seen to be gliding instead of batting his wings like he did when fresh and full tank in the morning.

15. From this we can arrange to train the bird by liberating him in the late afternoon, with only enough in his “tank” to simulate the condition he would have been in if liberated in the morning with a full “tank”.

16. So to get back to our kit of youngsters that have been drilled mentally and are free from vice in so far as making mistakes such as dropping away or alighting before the dropper signal.

17. Suppose we have decided on a target day, say three weeks time. It is our aim to possess for this date at least a kit of three-all to be in the best of condition – for, after all, mistakes are such that at least one of the kit is going to fail first and seeing that we must have a complete kit for competition flying, we cannot allow one to fall out and then see what the others do. So, to commence, it is wise to start with a kit of five, so that on the day the best three can be selected. Having selected five youngsters and to do this at this stage try to get five as near similar as possible. They can be decided on by their blood relationship and their outward appearance. Also try to decide that they bat or fly alike. For as you know, any three men taken at random and made to walk a long distance, should one of them be out of gait or step with the other two, he will surely be the first to tire. The . Tipplers should be placed in a loft to themselves in which there are individual coops. These should be arranged so that the birds cannot see each other (it is not so important with young birds as it is with adults, especially hens). The birds should be fed individually by placing a feeding trough in each coop, (the size of the coop, 14' x 14", is ample) and only fed late in the evening. Drink should be withheld for two hours after feeding and then the drink should be given and should contain a purgative. I use Epsom Salt, about one cubic inch capacity to a pint of water.

17. The object of this is to enable me to start them off level, for at first I will treat them all the same. The only way to ensure a balance is to start at the bottom. The next morning the birds will look a little for themselves. But don't feed them until the evening; just clear out the coops. We use barley, complete with its skin or husk, to feed birds in training. It has the desired effect for it does not provide the birds with much energy and can be analogous to the fact that we don't fill the birds' tank.

18. They keep quite well and satisfied because they can have a reasonable crop-full. This bird thinks is good to have a full feed and it has a pleasing effect on his bowels. Thus we are assured that his digestive apparatus is not being affected adversely.

19. If you cannot obtain barley, then use something similar, something with plenty of roughage, for you will appreciate roughage does no harm to digestion, providing energy is not expected.

20. On the second evening allow the kit out. If they show no desire to fly, do not chase them up for they may be too low in condition and too keen for food. On the other hand, they may take to the air and appear quite brisk. Here is a point of observation, for in the first place, it was desired that the kit should fly rather unwillingly for about one hour and then to put out the droppers and feed. So if they were too frisky, then they are not low enough in condition and if they show no desire to fly then they are, perhaps, too low. Here is your guide for the amount of the next meal. For measurement of feed I shall use the word "crop-full". To enable you to gauge what amount of crop-full is, take a pocket handkerchief and place an amount of grain in it and then screw it up so that the grain content is bulbous in shape. Compare this amount with a bird that has just been fed and allowed to have its full by feeling, and you should arrive at a bulk measure by either adding or removing grain from the handkerchief until it compares favorably with the feel of the bird's full crop. Now lace the amount of grain into a suitable measure and this will be your guide for quantity.

21. Now you will appreciate that we can nearly always give a quantity feed, and the quality will decide the amount of the fuel or energy providing feed, so here we have a means of control for the amount of time a Tippler can fly. With the bird trained mentally and the quality of food controlling its staying powers, all that is left is that observation of the owners to be capable of judging when his birds have had enough and when to drop them, for if we fail in this respect, then the bird is more than likely to become a “scrounger”. Sure enough, if left, he will come and alight on his own, and this is because he was allowed to empty his tank. As soon as he has done this, he has broken the habit he has been trained to – that of waiting for the dropper and food.

22. You will have to experiment with the quality of food you can obtain by the result of flying, assuming that you now have the kit fed so that they should fly $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours. They have all been fed the same quantity and quality and we find after $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours one desires to alight. Then put out the droppers and get them down. Now suppose we were three in the kit and after putting out the dropper, one bird alights immediately, the second follows, and the third takes 10 to 15 minutes to get down, here we have found we have an unbalanced kit. What shall we do? We can either lift the $2\frac{1}{2}$ hour bird to three hours or we can starve or lessen the food of the bird that did not readily alight when the droppers were put out.

23. Handle each bird and Endeavour to compare each with each and note especially the first bird and the third bird, for we know they are opposites and the second bird was probably in right condition.

24. Having decided to reduce the quantity of the feed for the third and increase the first, we should then, next evening, have three balanced birds and to get back to my analogy, all three will have the same quality of fuel in their tanks, and it should run out at three hours running.

25. Having three the same and assuming you have mastered and understood each birds necessities by now, we can increase the quality of the feed all round by adding $\frac{1}{2}$, wheat to the $\frac{1}{4}$, barley to make the crop full. The birds should now be flown alternate evenings and they should fly 4 to 5 hours. Then put out the droppers. This is carried on for 10 days, or so.

26. We have now got the kit nicely teamed up and they are being trained to fly in a condition that they would normally be in if they had been topped up and had flown all day and would be like this is the evening. During this period of training the birds should be introduced to the various seeds and grain that they will receive during latter part of training. Only give u vc rv smal) sample and give on the day they have been out. The seeds will be canary, millet and rape (the kinds we give our cage birds); the grain will be maize (small) and maple peas. They can also be given small breadcrumbs. All this is part of the young bird’s education.

27. We have now arrived at 6ve days off the target day. When the birds have been in after their three to four hours fly, they should be fed $\frac{1}{4}$, crop mixed seeds, $\frac{1}{4}$ crop barley, $\frac{1}{4}$ crop maple peas, $\frac{1}{4}$ wheat. Because we have made a somewhat sudden change in their diet, we must be sure that the bird will digest it in good time. By this I mean it usual!! takes 13 to 14 hours for a healthy birds’ crop to empty. Should there be

delay in this, there is always a tendency to crop sourness and, of course, we cannot tolerate any sickness at this stage. So, to make sure, give the birds a smaller amount of Epsom salts in their drinking water.

28. Next day rest them, but feed the same and if they have digested the food then no salts are necessary.

29. Next day let them out with 8 hours daylight before them, but do not allow them to fly more than 4 1/2 to 5 hours. Reason: Should they be too forward as a result of the better quality, and then you will not have an accident and fail to get them at dark, for you have catered for that by allowing 8 hours of daylight. They are dropped after 4 1/2 to 5 hours because at this stage we have no desire to empty their "tanks".

30. When they are down and in their coops, feed on 1/2 maple, 1/2 seeds and water to drink.

31. Next day, 1/2, maple, 1/2 wheat, and keep shut up in their coops (water to drink with a little iron tonic helps).

32. Next day, 1/4, maple, 1/4 maize, 1/2 seeds. Give the maize first, then maples and allow them to eat as much seed as they like. This feed should be about 12 hours before they are to be liberated. Delay the drink at this last feed for about an hour. This ensures a good thirst and the birds will drink plenty. Now close them up in their coops so as to darken the place. This encourages sleep.

33. Next morning early, with at least 16 hours daylight to spare, offers them a drink and then liberates them. Most birds will not take a drink, but don't worry on that account. They should, if all has been well and they were bred right, fly 12 to 16 hours on this treatment.

feeding, for I find I never feed exactly the same each time, but the principle is the same.

35. You will, no doubt, have to experiment.

36. By the way, always have grit before the birds during training.



Birds for Sale or Gifting

Aidan McIlhatton has some spare birds that he is offering to AFTU members ONLY.

Please contact him on
aidana1@optusnet.com.au
if you are interested.

If there is any AFTU member who wishes to sell or gift birds please contact me via email on danny.4919@bigpond.com and I will publish it in our newsletter.

PMV1 virus report from Australia

By John Cox

Rupert, Fred and I were invited to represent the AFTU at the Dandenong Fancy pigeon club meeting and as Rupert was at work Fred and myself attended. The guest speaker was Dr. Colin Walker Avian Vet. He set us up to date on the Paramyxo problem down here in Victoria, and the status of a vaccine. Now it is my understanding that a vaccine is only 1 or 2 months away, but it will be available to Victorian pigeon breeders ONLY because the other states will not allow it in until it is proven that they have the disease in the local flocks. Which means we will still be isolated to our separate states, therefore no National Shows, or Interstate shows, nor any racing across borders until this terrible virus is National.

He also said that there has been up to 20 host species of birds shown to catch and carry the virus plus pass it on, but not suffer any clinical conditions themselves. He also stated they typically can carry it for around 3 weeks, and that water birds were the worst as the virus can flourish in damp conditions, even salt water conditions. I then asked him if the Peregrine Falcon is one of the identified species that can carry and pass it on and he said a definite YES,

The virus is now well established in feral flocks around Victoria, so they have given up hope of it running its course.

It is proposed that the vaccine will be available from all local vets Victoria wide, they are proposing that the vet gives you a lesson on administration of the vaccine then you do the rest at home. You will have a sheet of paper with bird numbers and ring numbers to sign off as the birds are vaccinated.

The vaccine is annual so all birds in your loft will need to be done on a yearly basis, starting with your weaners at 28 days old. A vaccinated bird can still catch the Virus, carry it and spread it without showing any clinical signs.

I asked him an approximate cost per bird and he thought about 20cents each, but it is up to the drug company that the government licences as to what the cost will be.

I also asked him if this would affect our ability to Import birds from other parts of the world, e.g. India and he said it should make it easier for us.

In addition, as a side note He (Colin Walker) has just been appointed the chief Vet adviser to AQUIS, he is all for doing more testing and treating for problems detected while in Quarantine so the birds come out a bit healthier.

Entertainment!!

Did you hear about the scientist who crossed a carrier pigeon with a woodpecker?
He got a bird that not only delivers messages to their destination but knocks on the door when it gets there.

But baby pigeon said, "I can't make it; I'll get too tired." His mother said, "Don't worry; I'll tie a piece of string to one of your legs and the other end to mine."

The baby started to cry.

"What's wrong?" said the mother.

"I don't want to be pigeon towed!"

Two old Fanciers, Abe and Sol, are sitting in Sol's loft feeding the pigeons and talking about the races they had flown, and all the narrow wins they had won, which they liked to talk about every day.

Abe turns to Sol and says, "Do you think there is pigeon racing going on in Heaven?"

Sol thinks about it for a minute and replies, "I dunno. But let's make a deal: if I die first, I'll come back and tell you if they are racing pigeons in Heaven, and if you die first, you do the same."

They shake on it and sadly, a few months later, poor Abe passes on. One day soon afterward, Sol is sitting out in the loft, watching his birds and missing Abe, when he hears a voice whisper, "Sol...Sol..."

Sol responds, "Abe! Is that you?"

"Yes it is, Sol." whispers Abe's ghost.

Sol, still amazed, asks, "SO, is there pigeon races in Heaven?"

"Well," says Abe, "I've got good news and bad news for you Sol."

"Gimme the good news first," says Sol.

Abe says, "Well...there is pigeon races in Heaven."

Sol says, "That's great! What news could be bad enough to ruin that?"

Abe sighs and whispers, "You're shipping with us Friday Night."



Q&A Corner.

This is a page for all AFTU members who would like to ask any questions pertaining to the hobby of tipplers and about rules etc about the AFTU. It is a section where we can learn from one another and thus improve our knowledge with regard to our hobby and the rules of our club. How it works is this: In each issue of the AFTU newsletter our members will ask a few questions, and **everyone** is free to answer the question/s. Please submit your questions and answers to me, the newsletter editor, via my email address, danny.4919@bigpond.com and I will ensure that they are included in the next Newsletter. I look forward to receiving many questions from our members so that we can all gain further knowledge of our sport. In order to get the ball rolling, here are my three questions.

- Question 1.** When is a young tippler considered an old bird?
Question 2. What qualifications must a referee have to be eligible to referee an AFTU Official Fly?
Question 3. What is the difference between a breed and a strain?

Pigeons

i	g	h	b	r	e	e	d	w	s	r
l	t	u	s	h	s	o	f	a	h	g
o	e	g	t	b	l	u	e	b	a	r
f	i	h	r	p	i	g	e	o	n	i
t	w	e	a	n	e	r	d	w	n	z
i	t	s	i	a	f	t	u	a	o	z
p	b	a	n	d	s	a	p	s	n	l
p	n	i	d	d	p	n	p	d	e	
l	o	v	a	t	t	s	k	i	t	e
e	h	k	i	t	b	o	x	r	a	o
r	e	d	m	o	t	t	l	e	e	t

aftu
breed
kit
pigeon
tippler

aspire
feedup
kitbox
redmottle
weaner

bands
grizzle
loft
shannon

bluebar
hughes
lovatts
strain

AFTU Members

Aidan Mcilhatton QLD

Pece Mihailov NSW

Abdul Hai NSW

Frank Comitogianni NSW

Raj Sandhar Cairns QLD

Aldo Skender WA

Darryl Sinclair VIC

Mick Cullbrk North Vic

Danny McCarthy WA

Nathan Brown WA

Mick Hoskins NSW

Jim Lero Vic

Tahir Useini VIC

Darryl Lester VIC

Hassan Showally WA

Shahed Hossain VIC

Kevin Smith 7 VIC

Gurpreet Singh VIC

Con Leonidas VIC

Phillip Ching VIC

Tarandeep Singh VIC

Aaman Sidhu VIC

Rupert Braganza VIC

Karim Cooper WA

Chris Francis NSW

John Gasper WA

Bogdan Vasil Dandenong North VIC

John Cox VIC



AUSTRALIAN FLYING TIPPLER UNION

aussietipplers@yahoo.com

Application For Membership

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

An application of a person for membership must be lodged with the Secretary in writing on the approved application form.

As soon as possible after the receipt of an application the Secretary must refer the application to the committee.

The committee will determine whether to approve or reject the application.

The committee reserves the right to reject an application without giving a reason.

If the committee rejects the application, the Secretary will advise the applicant in writing as soon as possible.

If the application has been approved by the committee the Secretary will as soon as possible;-

- (a) Request payment of \$35 annual subscription
- (b) Payment can be made at any Commonwealth Bank
Australian Flying Tippler Union Inc BSB : 062519 Acc :10121297
Please attach your Postcode as an Agent Nr when making a direct deposit
- (c) Cheques to be made payable to;- The Australian Flying Tippler Union Inc

Send application form to;- A.F.T.U. Secretary/Treasurer

Rupert Braganza, 181 Elder Street South Clarinda Victoria 3169

E-mail: rupertoos@yahoo.com

APPLICANTS NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

EMAIL ADDRESS

STRAINS OF PIGEONS KEPT

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF ANY OTHER PIGEON CLUB? YES/NO
IF SO WHICH CLUB.....

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANTDATE.....

PARENT'S SIGNATURE IF UNDER 18DATE.....

NOMINATED BY **Rupert Braganza**.....



Edited and Produced by
Danny McCarthy
and
Sabrina McCarthy.

I would like to thank Sabrina for the immense help with the layout
and structure of this newsletter.