

# SOEKLIG

**Suid Afrikaanse Sierduif Vereniging  
(SASV)**

Ook beskikbaar op die SASV se webtuiste  
[www.safpa.za.org](http://www.safpa.za.org)



# FOCUS

**South African Fancy Pigeon Association  
(SAFPA)**

Also available on the web site of SAFPA  
[www.safpa.za.org](http://www.safpa.za.org)

## **GENERAL INFORMATION: SAFPA & FANCY PIGEONS** **ALGEMENE INLIGTING: DIE SASV & SIERDUIWE**

*Focus – on the South African Fancy Pigeon Association (SAFPA) Founded 1943*

### **OBJECTS OF THE SAFPA**

The fostering of the love for and care of fancy pigeons through mutual advice and assistance, so as to improve their quality and standards.

### **WHAT TO DO TO BECOME A MEMBER?**

Contact any of the Executive Committee members listed in the SAFPA bi-monthly magazine, The Fancy Pigeon, the website of the SAFPA ([www.safpa.za.org](http://www.safpa.za.org)) or a friend who is already a member.

On your enquiry you will receive FOCUS on the SAFPA and a membership form, on the reverse side on which is a list of ring sizes for banding the various pigeons. After completing the membership form send it, together with a cheque or bank deposit slip for the amount reflected on the form, to the National Treasurer or National Ringmaster. In return you will receive the latest copy of the Associations' magazine "The Fancy Pigeon" and the rings ordered which will be forwarded to you by the National Ringmaster. When you are ordering rings only you should write or email directly to the National Ringmaster.

### **WHO ARE THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE SAFPA?**

The members of the Executive Committee of the SAFPA are listed in the bi-monthly magazine, "The Fancy Pigeon".

### **HOW DOES THE SAFPA FUNCTION?**

The SAFPA is the national body for fancy pigeon fanciers and membership is open to all. The SAFPA consists of ten regions which administer shows within their areas and generally provide means for members to have closer contact. The activities of the regions are co-ordinated through the SAFPA Executive Committee which provides a bi-monthly magazine "The Fancy Pigeon", rings and the central administration of the Association.

Each region is entitled to a representative on the SAFPA Executive Committee, the names of whom are listed in "The Fancy Pigeon". The names of these members are also on the

*Soeklig – op die Suid-Afrikaanse Sierduifvereniging (SASV) Gestig 1943*

### **DOELSTELLINGS**

Om 'n liefde te kweek vir sierduiwe met die oog op die verbetering van die kwaliteit en die standaard daarvan deur wedersydse hulp en advies van lede.

### **WAT OM TE DOEN OM LID TE WORD?**

Skryf aan enige van die Uitvoerende Komitee lede wie se name in die twee maandelikse tydskrif "Die Sierduif", of op die SASV se webblad ([www.safpa.za.org](http://www.safpa.za.org)) gepubliseer word, of nader 'n vriend wat reeds 'n lid van die SASV is.

Op navraag ontvang u die SOEKLIG-inligtingstuk, tesame met 'n lidmaatskap-aansoekvorm en 'n lys wat die ringgroottes van die verskillende duiwe aantoon. Die voltooide aansoekvorm, vergesel van die korrekte bedrag ledegeld, moet gestuur word aan die Nasionale Tesourier of Nasionale Ringmeester. Hulle sal u voorsien van die jongste uitgawe van "Die Sierduif" en u ringbestelling sal deur die Nasionale Ringmeester uitgevoer word. Wanneer u slegs ringe bestel, word u aangeraai om u bestelling direk per pos of epos aan die Nasionale Ringmeester te stuur.

### **WIE DIEN OP DIE UITVOERENDE KOMITEE VAN DIE SASV?**

Die name van die SASV Uitvoerende Komitee verskyn in die twee maandelikse tydskrif, "Die Sierduif" en op die SASV se webblad.

### **HOE FUNKSIONEER DIE SASV?**

Die SASV is 'n landswye organisasie en lidmaatskap is beskikbaar vir enige persoon. Die SASV bestaan tans uit tien streke wat elk oor sy eie bestuur beskik en hul eie duiweskoue reël, asook poog om hul lede deur middel van duiwedae ens. nader aan mekaar te bring. Die Uitvoerende Komitee van die SASV vorm die oorhoofse liggaam en is ook verantwoordelik vir "Die Sierduif, ringbestellings en die sentrale administrasie van die Vereniging.

Elke streek word verteenwoordig op die Uitvoerende Komitee deur 'n persoon wat deur die streek self aangewys word. Die name van die

webpage of SAFPA.

### **REGIONS WITHIN THE SAFPA**

- Western Cape
- Northern Cape
- South Western Districts
- Eastern Province
- KwaZulu Natal
- Eastern Region (Mpumalanga)
- North-of-the-Vaal (Gauteng & Limpopo)
- Western Transvaal
- Northern Freestate
- Freestate

### **HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE THERE IN THE SAFPA?**

Approximately 250 members

### **WHICH SPECIALIST BREED CLUBS OPERATE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SAFPA?**

The SAFPA fosters the various breeds through a number of specialist clubs which ensure the development and improvement of the various breeds of fancy pigeons. These are:

- SA Blower Club
- SA Heavy Breed Club
- SA Wattle Breed Club
- National Mookee Club
- SA Toy and Trumpetter Club
- National Modena Club
- SA Fantail Club
- SA English Shortfaced Club
- SA Tumble Club
- SA Frill Club
- Chinese Owl Club
- SA Frillback Club
- Birmingham Roller Club
- SA Homer Club
- SA Parlour Roller Club
- SA Rare Variety Club
- SA Colour Pigeon Club
- International Brunner Club

These clubs generally advertise the names and addresses of their Chairman and Secretary in “The Fancy Pigeon”. However, if this is not the case, the name and address of the Secretary can be obtained, from the Secretary of the SAFPA.

### **WHERE AND HOW OFTEN ARE SHOWS HELD?**

Each region hosts an annual show. Agricultural Societies throughout the Republic usually include

persone word in die “Die Sierduif” en op die SASV se webblad vermeld.

### **STREKE VAN DIE SASV**

- Wes Kaap
- Noord Kaap
- Suid Westelike Distrikte
- Oostelike Provinsie
- KwaZulu Natal
- Oostelike Streek (Mpumalanga)
- Noord-van-die-Vaal (Gauteng & Limpopo)
- Wes Transvaal
- Noord Vrystaat
- Vrystaat

### **HOEVEEL LEDE BEHOORT TANS AAN DIE SASV?**

Ongeveer 250 lede.

### **WATTER SPESIALITEITSKLUBS BESTAAN ONDER BESKERMING VAN DIE SASV?**

Die standaard van die verskillende sierduifrasse word ook bevorder deur verskeie Spesialiteitsklubs, wat onder die jurisduksie van die SASV funksioneer. Hulle is soos volg:

- SA Swaarras Klub
- SA Sponsduif Klub
- Nasionale Mookee Klub
- SA Troetelduif en Trompetter Klub
- Nasionale Modena Klub
- SA Engelse Kortgesig Tuimelaar Klub
- SA Waaierstert Klub
- SA Tuimelaar Klub
- SA Strikduif Klub
- Sjinese Uil Klub
- SA Kartelrug Klub
- Birmingham Roller Klub
- SA Homer Klub
- SA Bodemtuimelaar Klub
- SA Skaarsras Klub
- SA Blaasduif Klub
- SA Kleurduif Klub
- Internasionale Brunner Klub

Die name en adresse van die Voorsitters en Sekretarisse word gewoonlik in “Die Sierduif” en op die SASV se webblad gepubliseer. Indien dit nie daar verskyn nie, kan u die naam en adres vanaf die Sekretaris van die SASV verkry.

### **WAAR EN WANNEER WORD SKOUER GEHOU?**

Elke streek reël jaarliks ‘n skou en meeste Landbougenootskappe het ook ‘n duiwe afdeling

a pigeon section on their annual show, which is generally organised by the respective region. The Annual Championship Show of the SAFPA is held in a region decided upon by the Executive Committee, after invitations to stage the show have been received from the regions.

The regional committee also organises match meetings from time to time to enable members to meet and discuss pigeons and pigeon problems.

### **WHEN IS THE SHOW SEASON?**

April to mid July. There are also some agricultural shows which are held later in the year.

### **WHAT ARE THE PRIZES THAT CAN BE WON ON SHOWS?**

Trophies, special cash prizes, medals, certificates of merit, prize cards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> places, as well as useful household items.

### **WHO ARE THE JUDGES THAT OFFICIATE AT THE SHOWS?**

The Judges Officer of the SAFPA arranges for prospective judges to be examined in the various breeds before awarding successful judges with judging certificates. A list of judges authorised to judge the various breeds can be obtained from the Judges Officer whose name and address appears in "The Fancy Pigeon".

### **WHEN DOES THE BREEDING SEASON BEGIN?**

Moulting season - January to April  
Breeding season - May to December

Best breeding results are usually obtained from August to end November.

### **DO ALL PIGEONS REAR THEIR OWN YOUNG?**

No. In many instances foster parents must be used. Generally speaking feeders are essential for raising short beaked birds.

### **WHICH PIGEONS ARE THE BEST FOSTER PARENTS?**

tydens hulle jaarlikse tentoonstellings wat gewoonlik deur die betrokke streek self gereël word.

Die Kampioenskapskou van die SASV word jaarliks gehou in 'n streek wat deur die Uitvoerende Komitee aangewys word, nadat die komitee alle aansoeke van belangstellende streke oorweeg het.

Die bestuur van die elke streek organiseer ook byeenkomste waar lede mekaar ontmoet en oor hulle duiwe kan gesels.

### **WANNEER IS DIE SKOU SEIOEN?**

Jaarliks vanaf April tot middel Julie. Sommige Landboukoue word egter later in die jaar gereël.

### **WAT IS DIE AARD VAN PRYSE WAT VEROWER KAN WORD?**

Trofees, spesiale kontantpryse, medaljes, meriete-sertifikate, pryskaarte vir 1<sup>ste</sup>, 2<sup>de</sup>, 3<sup>de</sup>, 4<sup>de</sup> & 5<sup>de</sup> plekke, asook huishoudelike items, word veral deur Spesialiteitklubs aan hulle lede as pryse uitgelooft.

### **WIE IS DIE BEOORDELAARS WAT TYDENS SKOU OPTREE?**

Die Nasionale Beoordelaarsbeampte van die SASV reël dat voornemende beoordelaars in verskillende rasse getoets word voordat beoordelaarsertifikate aan suksesvolle aplikante toegestaan word. 'n Naamlys van die verskillende beoordelaars, met die rasse wat hulle kan beoordeel, kan op versoek vanaf die Nasionale Beoordelaarsbeampte verkry word. Sy/haar naam en adres verskyn in "Die Sierduif" en op die SASV se webblad.

### **WANNEER BEGIN DIE BROEISEISON?**

Gewoonlik na verveertyd en nadat die belangrikste skoue afgehandel is.

Verveertyd - Januarie tot April  
Broeiseisoen - Mei tot Desember

Goeie resultate word veral tussen Augustus tot aan die einde van November verkry.

### **KAN ALLE DUIWERASSE HUL EIE KLEINTJIES GROOTMAAK?**

Nee. Vir baie rasse word pleegouers gebruik veral vir duiwe met kort bekke.

### **WATTER DUIWE IS DIE BESTE PLEEGOUERS?**

Vliegduiwe, Rollers en Gekruisde Rasse. Die

Homers, rollers, long beaked cross breeds. The Magnum, a South African breed was bred for fostering other pigeons.

#### **WHEN ARE YOUNGSTERS RUNG?**

Approximately 8 to 15 days after hatching, before the feet become too large. The ring may be placed on either leg. If placed upside down, the ring can be more easily read when handling. Always use the correct ring size as indicated on the reverse of the membership form.

#### **HOW LONG DO EGGS TAKE TO HATCH?**

17 to 18 days after the first egg is laid. Two eggs are usually laid.

#### **HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT PIGEONS?**

By consulting judges and other members, reading books on pigeons, find information on the internet, as well as attending shows and special pigeon get events.

#### **WHAT BOOKS OR MAGAZINES ARE AVAILABLE?**

1. **The Fancy Pigeon** – published bi-monthly by the SAFPA, issued free to members.
2. **Purebred Pigeon** – bi monthly magazine (USA). [www.purebredpigeon.com](http://www.purebredpigeon.com)
3. **Aviculture Europe** – a bi monthly electronic magazine. [www.aviculture-europe.nl](http://www.aviculture-europe.nl)
4. **SAFPA Book of Pigeon Standards** - obtainable from the National Judges Officer
5. **SAFPA Bulletins** – Obtainable from the National Ringmaster and National Vice President.
6. **Internet** – the place where the most information on pigeons can be obtained.

Books on Fancy Pigeons are not readily obtainable in the book shops but can be ordered on the internet. The most comprehensive book published to date is “The Pigeon” by Wendell Levi.

#### **WHERE SHOULD I PURCHASE PIGEONS?**

From members of the SAFPA. The Fancy Pigeon magazine includes a Breeders Register listing breeds bred by members and giving their addresses. It is generally difficult to purchase good pigeons during the breeding season.

Magnum is `n Suid-Afrikaans geteelde ras wat hoofsaaklik geteel is vir voerdoeleindes. Hulle besit baie goeie ouer eienskappe en voer goed.

#### **WANNEER WORD JONG DUIWE GERING?**

Vanaf 8 tot 15 dae nadat die kleintjies uitgebroei het en voordat die poot te groot is. Die ring kan aan enige been gesit word, verkieslik onderstebo sodat die nommer maklik gelees kan word. Gebruik altyd die korrekte ringgrootte soos voorgeskryf deur die SASV.

#### **HOE LANK NEEM EIERS OM UIT TE BROEI?**

Ongeveer 17 tot 18 dae nadat die eerste eier gelê is. Duiwe lê gewoonlik twee eiers op ‘n keer.

#### **HOE KAN EK MEER VAN SIERDUIWE LEER?**

Deur beoordelaars en ander lede te besoek, boeke te raadpleeg, inligting op die internet op te soek en om gereeld duiwedae en skoue by te woon.

#### **WATTER BOEKE EN TYDSKRIFTE IS BESKIKBAAR?**

1. **Die Sierduif** – Twee maandelikse publikasie deur die SASV, wat gratis aan lede verskaf word.
2. **Purebred Pigeon** – ‘n Twee maandelikse tydskrif (VSA). [www.purebredpigeon.com](http://www.purebredpigeon.com)
3. **Aviculture Europe** – ‘n Twee maandelikse elektroniese tydskrif. [www.aviculture-europe.nl](http://www.aviculture-europe.nl).
4. **SASV Standaard Boek** – Verkrygbaar vanaf die Nasionale Beoordelaarsbeampte.
5. **SASV Bulletins** – Verkrygbaar vanaf die Nasionale Ringmeester & Nasionale Vise President.
6. **Internet** – die grootste bron van inligting rakende duiwe.

Boeke oor sierduiwe is nie maklik verkrygbaar nie, maar deur middel van die internet, kan baie inligting verkry word. Die belangrikste boek wat nog oor sierduiwe verskyn het is “The Pigeon” deur Wendel Levi.

#### **WAAR KAN EK DUIWE KOOP?**

By lede van die SASV. In Die Sierduif of op die SASV se webblad sal u ook ‘n telersregister vind met telers se adresse. Skakel hierdie persone maar onthou dat dit gewoonlik moeilik is om goeie duiwe gedurende die broeiseison te bekom.

### **HOW SHOULD I BUILD MY LOFT?**

Refer to books for information. Visit other members for ideas.

### **WHAT FOOD SHOULD I USE?**

A stock pigeon grain or pellet mixture obtainable at produce merchants. Feed shelled grit mixed with a small quantity of iodised salt. Feed green foods at regular intervals. Keep the water clean and give fresh water daily.

### **WHAT IS THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION?**

Details of annual subscription and the entrance fee payable by new members are given on the membership form. Subscription renewals are due before 31 December in respect of the following calendar year.

### **GENERAL NOTES**

When you receive the subscription renewal form towards the end of the year, order your ring requirements for the next year in advance. Also the National Treasurer may have to advise the National Ringmaster of your ring requirements and postal and other delays can cause delay before you receive your rings.

Please support the magazine editor with notes, letters etc., for publication and submit them early. Have your letters, notes, articles, etc., written clearly, or preferably type the letter and send it to the Editor.

Please do not expect letters or ring orders to be answered by return of post as the National Treasurer, National Ringmaster and National Secretary cannot always handle matters immediately. In all cases, however, they will endeavour to deal with your requirements as soon as it is possible.

### **Focus – on Pigeons**

Pigeons are those birds of the pigeon family “Columbidae” that have adopted Man as their protector and lived with him wherever he has made his home. Man has made modest cages for them and also built lofts of expensive material and exquisite design. In some countries man has shared his home with his pigeons and they have virtually become part of the family. During their history, parallel to that of man himself, the species *Columba livia* (the common

### **HOE BEHOORT EK MY TE HOK BOU?**

Besoek eers ’n paar telers en besigtig hul hokke. Raadpleeg ook artikels wat oor hierdie onderwerp handel

### **WATTER SOORT KOS IS DIE BESTE OM TE GEBRUIK?**

Gebruik slegs erkende gemengde rantsone of duiwekorrels (pille), verkrygbaar van alle toonaangewende handelaars. Gee ook ’n goeie tipe skulpgruis en groenvoer elke week. Waterbakke moet altyd skoon wees en vars water daaglik is ’n vereiste om duiwe gesond te hou.

### **WAT IS DIE JAARLIKSE LEDEGELDE?**

Die jaarlikse ledegeld, soos aangetoon op die inskrywingsvorm, moet deur u vereffen word. Nuwe lede moet ook in die eerste jaar ’n intreefooi betaal. Ledegelde moet voor 31 Desember hernu word vir die daaropvolgende kalender jaar.

### **ALGEMENE OPMERKINGS**

Wanneer u u jaarlikse ledegeld hernu, is dit wenslik om al u ringe gelyktydig te bestel aangesien dit posgeld kan spaar. Onthou ook dat u die Nasionale Tesourier die Nasionale Ringmeester van u ringbestelling in kennis moet stel, wat kan meebring dat u tot drie weke sal moet wag vir u ringe. Bestel dus vroegtydig.

Voorsien ook die Nasionale Redakteur van “Die Sierduif” met artikels, foto’s en algemene nuus. Skryf of tik u briewe en versend dit aan die Redakteur.

Ongelukkig is dit nie altyd moontlik vir die Nasionale Sekretaris, Nasionale Tesourier en Nasionale Ringmeester om u briewe dadelik te beantwoord nie. Wees dus asseblief geduldig want hulle sal so spoedig moontlik u brief beantwoord.

### **Soeklig – Op Duiwe**

Duiwe is daardie voëls van die duiffamilie “Columbidae” wat die mens as hul beskermer aangeneem het en saam met hom in die groot stede gewoon het. Die mens het vir hulle klein koutjies gemaak maar ook groot hokke van duur materiaal en lieflike ontwerpe. In sommige lande het die mense selfs hulle huise met hulle duiwe gedeel en het hulle in werklikheid deel van die familie geword. Gedurende hul geskiedenis wat gepaard met die van die mens gegaan het, het die spesie, naamlik

rock pigeon) has developed into our modern *Columbia livia domestica* – a favourite pet of man.

Charles Darwin thought that the breeding of so many varieties from an original standard type was evidence confirming his theory of the evolution of the species, but it actually points to the fact that evolution is confined to within each species and that no jump from one species and that no jump from one species to another is evident.

Every species of creature, including man, can be developed into different varieties, the obvious purpose being to adapt to the environment, but breeding between the distinct species is obviously not part of nature's plan.

Of all the great wonders of the creation none is more remarkable than the highly developed homing instinct of the pigeon. This instinct which is common to all varieties has been given full rein in the development of the modern racing pigeon. The racing pigeon has been bred to the highest degree of stamina and endurance enabling it to fly home over hundreds of kilometres of unfamiliar country or sea.

One of the problems confronting a beginner is the difficulty of telling the sex of a pigeon. There are no visible sex organs, nor are there any of the convenient differences in colour as are found in many other birds. Such differences that exist are relative and consequently it is quiet possible for even the most experienced fancier to make a mistake. As a general rule, a fancier will be able to distinguish the males and females of his own family of pigeons without much difficulty but may be unable to do so with other strains of pigeons. The male and female pigeon are called the cock and hen respectively and they stay mated for life if left alone by man. The hen usually lays a clutch of two eggs which are incubated by both the cock and the hen. The hen usually sits on the eggs during the night and the cock during the day. After about 18 days the eggs hatch and the helpless nestlings are fed by both parents on crop milk, a cheesy substance produced by the lining of the crop. The crop milk is fed for 6 – 10 days with whole grain gradually being introduced from about the forth day onwards until only hard grain is regurgitated. The baby pigeons (squabs) grow quickly and pin feathers start appear when about seven days old. At this stage the squab is banded with a seamless ring which has the year, a number and the club's initials stamped on it. At 28 – 30 days the squabs are completely feathered and ready to leave the nest. They soon learn to eat and drink by themselves and when 5 – 6 months old they moult into adult plumage and thereafter they moult once a year during summer. Young cocks start to show their sex when about three months old and young hens may start laying at

*Columbia livia* (die gewone rotsduif) tot ons moderne *Coluba livia domestica* – 'n gewilde troeteldier van die mens – ontwikkel.

Charles Darwin het gemeen dat die teel van so baie soorte uit 'n oorspronklike duif as bewys gedien het om sy evolusietoerie omtrent die spesie te bevestig, maar dit vestig in werklikheid die aandag op die feit dat evolusie binne elke spesie beperk is en dat geen sprong van een spesie na 'n ander merkbaar is nie.

Elke skepsel, die mens ingesluit, kan tot verskillende vorme ontwikkel word met die klaarblyklike doel om by die omgewing aan te pas, maar teling tussen afgebakende spesies is baie duidelik nie natuurlik nie.

Van al die groot wondere van die skepping is daar niks wat so merkwaardig soos die hoogs ontwikkelde tuiskom instink van die duif is nie. Hierdie instink wat aan alle soorte eie is, is tot sy volle diepte in die moderne posduif ontplooi. Die posduif is tot die hoogste graad van lewenskragtigheid en uithouvermoë ingeteel wat hom in staat stel om oor honderde kilometer van onbekende land of see huis toe te vlieg.

Een van die vraagstukke waarvoor 'n beginner te staan kom, is om die geslag van 'n duif vas te stel. Daar is geen sigbare geslagsorgane nie en ook nie enige van die gerieflike verskille in kleure wat by soveel ander voëls gevind word nie. Die verskille wat wel bestaan is relatief en dit is dus selfs moontlik vir die mees ervare duiwe liefhebber om 'n fout te begaan. In die algemeen sal 'n liefhebber in staat wees om sonder veel moeite te onderskei tussen 'n mannetjie en wyfie van sy eie familie van duiwe. Maar dit mag onmoontlik blyk te wees met 'n ander bloedlyn van duiwe. Die manlike en vroulike duif word gewoonlik respektiewelik die mannetjie en die wyfie genoem en hulle bly hul lewe lank 'n paar as hulle deur die mens ongehinderd gelaat word.

Die wyfie sit gewoonlik op die eiers gedurende die nag en die mannetjie gedurende die dag. Na omtrent 17 tot 18 dae broei die eiers uit en word die hulpelose kuikens deur albei ouers op kropmelk, 'n kaasagtige stof wat deur die voering van die krop gelewer word, gevoer. Die kropmelk word vir 6 – 10 dae gevoer wat stelselmatig vanaf die sesde dag met heel graan vervang word. Die duiwekuikens groei vinnig en penvere begin reeds teen die sewende dag hul verskyning maak. Op hierdie stadium word die jong duif met 'n naatlose ring waarop die jaar, 'n nommer en die klub se voorletters gestempel is, gering.

Op 28 – 30 dae is die jong duiwe vol vere en gereed om die nes te verlaat. Hulle leer baie gou om self te vreet en te drink. Wanneer hulle 5 – 6 maande oud is, verveer hulle en daarna verveer

five months. Pigeons kept in captivity are fed a grain mixture usually containing yellow maize, wheat, peas and sorghum.

The many varieties of racing and fancy pigeons that can be viewed are modern representatives of an ancient breed whose story runs through every page of history – as the carrier of the olive branch; as the shape in which the Holy Spirit descended upon the Saviour; and whose form still represents Peace on Earth and Goodwill towards all men.

We can certainly recommend pigeon keeping as a hobby. Pigeons have brought excitement and pleasure to millions of people all over the world. Those of us who have been keeping them for years have grown to love our little feathered friends and have found the time spent with them to be rewarding and informative. It is a wonderful way to relax from the cares of our modern world.

## FANCY PIGEONS

Fancy pigeon keeping is a very economical hobby – depending, of course, on the number of birds one keeps. Pigeons are easily satisfied, interesting and an endless topic of conversation. Good stock can be obtained from reputable breeders at reasonable prices.

Although Fancy Pigeons are mainly bred for the show bench, certain breeds have been developed as table birds and others are bred for their performance in the air.

Although fancy pigeons are exhibited in many breeds, they can, for easy reference, be divided into nine basic groups.

### 1. Blowers

Blowers are pigeons that perform by blowing up their crops. There are quite a number of them including the Brunner Pouter, Pigmy Pouters, Holle Croppers, Dutch Croppers. The Norwich Cropper is perhaps the best known and probably blows the biggest globe of all.

### 2. Fantails

The modern fantail has been developed from the ancient Indian Broadtail Shaker and today its unusually large, fan-shaped tail makes it the most easily recognisable fancy pigeon to the man in the street. South Africans have made great strides in the development of the Fantail though importing birds from the major pigeon breeding countries and blending them in with their own birds. Due

hulle een keer per jaar gedurende die laat somer. Jong mannetjies begin hul geslag op sowat drie maande te toon en jong wyfies kan vanaf 5 maande begin eiers lê. Duiwe wat in hokke gehou word, word gewoonlik `n graanmengsel gevoer wat uit geelmielies, koring, ertjies en sorghum bestaan.

Die groot verskeidenheid van pos- en sierduiwe wat op tentoonstellings gesien kan word is moderne verteenwoordigers wat geteel is in antieke tye. Hulle word op elke bladsy van die geskiedenisboeke gevind – as die draer van die olyftak, as die vorm waarin die Heilige Gees op die Saligmaker neergedaal het en as die vorm wat nog steeds Vrede op Aarde en aan die mens `n Welbehag versimboliseer.

Die aanhou van duiwe kan werklik as stokperdjie aanbeveel word. Diegene van ons wat reeds vir jare met duiwe boer, het ons klein geveerde vriendjies leer lief kry. En watter aangename wyse is dit nie om die sorg van hierdie wêreld te vergeet nie!

## SIERDUIWE

Die aanhou van sierduiwe is `n baie ekonomiese stokperdjie, na gelang natuurlik van die hoeveelheid duiwe wat aangehou word. Duiwe word maklik bevredig, is interessant en `n eindelose item van bespreking. `n Goeie stoet kan teen redelike pryse van telers met `n goeie naam gekoop word.

Afgesien van die feit dat sierduiwe hoofsaaklik geteel word vir tentoonstellings is sekere soorte geteel om geëet te word en andere vir hulle uitvoerings is die lug.

Sierduiwe kan vir maklike verwysings in basiese groepe verdeel word:

### 1. Blaasduiwe

Blaasduiwe is duiwe wat vertoon deur hul kroppe op te blaas. Daar bestaan heelwat van hulle met inbegrip van die Brunner, Pigmy Pouter, Holle Kroppe, Voorburg Skild Kroppe en Hollandse Kroppe. Die Norwich Kroppe is miskien die mees bekendste en het die grootste krop.

### 2. Waaiersterte

Die moderne Waaierstert is uit die antieke Indiese “Broad-tailed Shaker” ontwikkel sodat sy buitengewone groot waaiervormige stert hom vandag maklik die herkenbaarste sierduif vir die leek maak. Suid-Afrikaners het groot vooruitgang gemaak in die ontwikkeling van die Waaierstert deur duiwe van die vernaamste telers wêreldwyd in te voer en met ons eie duiwe te kruis. Weens die bedrewendheid en geduld van ons vernaamste



to the skill and patience of our top Fantail breeders our birds can now hold their own on any show in the world.

### 3. Frills

Frills are so-called because of the reverse growth of feather on the neck and /or breast. The most popular varieties kept by fanciers in South Africa are African Owls, Chinese Owls, Blondinettes and Satinettes. They are beautiful pigeons with wonderfully patterned lacing, but because of their very short beaks, they rear their own young with difficulty. It is preferable therefore that the eggs be transferred to feeders or foster parents i.e. pigeons with normal beaks, for rearing.

### 4. Tumblers

Probably the breed of pigeon which has the greatest number of offshoots is the Tumbler. Britain has given us the English Short Faced Tumble and the English Long Faced Clean Legged and Muffed Tumblers which were developed from performing Tumblers and are now strictly show birds. Then there are the Tipplers, Rollers and a great variety of Continental Tumblers. They are usually bred and trained for their performance in the air but are also found at shows in ever increasing numbers. The SA Botternek Tumbler is one of the few breeds that originate in South Africa.

### 5. Modenas

The Modena, originally a flying pigeon, was raised in the city of Modena, Italy, for a flying sport called "Triganieri". Then in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Modenas were imported into Germany and England where they were developed and bred for the show pen and today they are a great favourite with fanciers. Modenas are found in Gazzi, or pied, which means they have a white body with the head, wings and tail coloured, Schietti, or plain, with no white feathers. A century ago over 150 colours were known to exist but some of these have been lost over the years and present day breeders are striving to breed them back into their birds. Modenas are independent pigeons able to look after themselves and rear their own young without difficulty.

### 6. Toys

In the group the majority of breeds are known as German Toys which are thought to have been produced over the years from the original common German Field pigeon. This group also has some of the most beautiful and remarkable feathered breeds of pigeons. The Jacobins, Ice

waaierstert telers kan ons duiwe vandag op enige skoue in die wêreld hul man staan.

### 3. Strikduiwe

Strikduiwe word so genoem weens die omgekeerde groei van vere op die nek en/of bors. Die mees algemeenste soorte wat deur Suid-Afrikaanse liefhebber aangehou word is Afrikaanse Uile, Sjinese Uile, Ou Duitse Meeue en die Oosterse Strikduiwe, te wete Blondinettes en Satinettes. Blondinettes en Satinettes is pragtige duiwe met mooi kleurskakerings in die kleuromlynde vere maar weens hul baie kort bekke maak hulle hul kleintjies baie swaar groot. Die eiers moet dus verskieslik aan voerders of pleegouers, dit wil sê duiwe met normale bekke, oorgedra word om groot te maak.

### 4. Tuimelaars

Waarskynlik die ras wat die grootste aantal afstammeling het, is die Tuimelaar. In Brittanje is die Engelse Kortgesig tuimelaar en die Engelse Langgesig Kaalbeen- en Veerpoot tuimelaars geteel wat uit vertoontuimelaars ontwikkel is en nou volkome skouduiwe is. Daar is die Tipplers, Rollers en 'n groot verskeidenheid van Kontinentale Tuimelaars. Hulle word gewoonlik geteel en geleer vir hul vertonings in die lug maar word al meer op skoue gevind. Die SA Botternek Tuimelaar is 'n tuimelaarras wat in Pretoria, Suid-Afrika ontwikkel is en in 1992 finaal goedgekeur as 'n volwaardige ras.

### 5. Modenas

Die Modena, oorspronklik 'n vliegduif is in die stad Modena, Italië, geteel vir 'n vliegsport wat "triganieri" genoem is. In die laat 19<sup>de</sup> eeu is Modenas na Duitsland en Engeland ingevoer waar hulle baie gewild by liefhebbers was. Modenas word verkry in Gazzi of bont, wat beteken dat hulle 'n wit lyf het met kop, vlerke en stert gekleur, en Schietti of eenkleurig, met geen wit vere. 'n Eeu gelede was dit bekend dat daar 150 kleure bestaan het, maar sommige hiervan het deur die jare verlore gegaan en op die oomblik streef telers daarna om die verlore kleure weer by hul duiwe in te teel. Modenas is onafhanklike duiwe wat vir hulself kan sorg en hul kuikens maklik grootmaak.

### 6. Troetelduiwe

In hierdie groep staan baie rasse as die Duitse troetelduiwe bekend en word die mening gehuldig dat dit deur die jare uit die oorspronklike Duitse veldduif ontwikkel is. Hierdie groep behels ook die pragtigste en merkwaardige geveerde duifrasse. Die Raadshere, Ysduiwe, Swaeltjies, Vinkduiwe, Kartelrûe en Trompetters kan in baie

Pigeons, Swallows, Archangels, Frillbacks and Trumpeters can be found in many of our lofts. The Bokhara Trumpeter has a voice which has been described as the “sound of wine pouring from a barrel”, and a pigeon named the SA Toy, is a variety developed during the last century by South African fanciers.

## 7. Heavy or Utility Breeds

As the heading implies these are large pigeons and were, and in many cases still are, bred for the table. When these pigeons are used for commercial purposes they are known as squabbling breeds and their youngsters (squabs) are slaughtered at an early age and are considered a great delicacy in America and on the European Continent. They have gained much favour with the South African fancier and those fanciers belonging to the farming community have especially been attracted to them. Three notable heavy breed pigeons are the Kings, Runt and the Gros Mondain.

## 8. Wattle Breeds

Wattle breeds are so named because of the excessive development of the flesh on their beaks. This flesh is known as the wattle. Two good examples of Wattle breeds are the Carrier and the Dragoon both of which featured prominently in the development of the Racing pigeon as we know it today.

## 9. Other varieties

There are many other breeds of pigeons that cannot easily be grouped together with other breeds. The Mookees appear on our shows in great numbers. They are attractive, friendly little pigeons and have a fascinating habit of shaking their necks which is a very important requirement in the ideal specimen. Then there are the Nuns, Lahores, Strassers and Magpies, all beautiful pigeons and to obtain the correct marking and colour is a constant challenge to the breeder.

van ons hokke gevind word. Die Bokhara Trompetter het ‘n stem wat beskryf was soos die geluid van wyn wat uit ‘n vat stroom. Die Arabiese Lagduiwe het ook ‘n unieke “gelag” en word op hul geluid beoordeel. ‘n Duif wat die “Afrikaanse Troetelduif” genoem word is ‘n ras wat ontwikkel is gedurende die afgelope eeu deur Suid-Afrikaanse telers.

## 7. Swaar of Kommersiële Rasse

Soos die opskrif aandui, is hierdie duiwe groot en word dikwels vir tafeldoeleindes geteel. Wanneer hierdie duiwe vir kommersiële doeleindes gebruik word, is hulle as “squabbling” – rasse bekend en hul kuikens “squabs” word op vroeë ouderdom geslag. In Amerika en op die Europese Vasteland is hulle ‘n gesogte lekkerny. Hulle is gewild, veral onder telers wat by die boerdery betrokke is. Die bekende swaar rasse is die King, Runt, Giant Runt en die Gros Mondain.

## 8. Sponsduiwe

Sponsduiwe word so genoem weens die oormatige ontwikkeling van vleis op hul bekke. Hierdie vleis is as die spons bekend. Twee goeie voorbeelde van Sponsduiwe is die Carrier en die Dragoon, beide het ‘n prominente aandeel gehad in die ontwikkeling van die posduif soos ons dit vandag ken.

## 9. Ander Rasse

Daar is nog baie ander rasse wat nie maklik saam gegroepeer kan word nie. Die Mookees verskyn in groot getalle op ons skoue. Hulle is aantreklike, vriendelike klein duifies en het ‘n bekorende gewoonte om hul nekke te skud wat ‘n belangrike vereiste is vir die ideale voorbeeld. Dan is daar ook die Nonne, Lahores, Strassers en Magpies, almal lieflike duiwe en om die regte merke en kleur te verkry, is vir die teler ‘n voortdurende uitdaging.