



The South African Million Dollar Pigeon Race is now moving into its 21st year with the continued support of Sara Blackshaw, Director of Air Sport Internationale, 'The Presenters' of this prestigious international pigeon race. From day one this race has been the one that every pigeon fancier in the world would love to win and already 20 different fanciers have achieved the accolade of being declared World Champion in this classic one loft race. It has been won by pigeon fanciers or syndicates from the United Kingdom, South Africa, USA, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium,

Czech Republic and Kuwait. Other countries that have also competed and won good positions in past Final Races are: Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Denmark, Egypt, France, Hong Kong, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Qatar, South Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Swaziland, Tanzania, Thailand, Taiwan, Trinidad, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Zimbabwe. Any foreign country, pigeon fancier

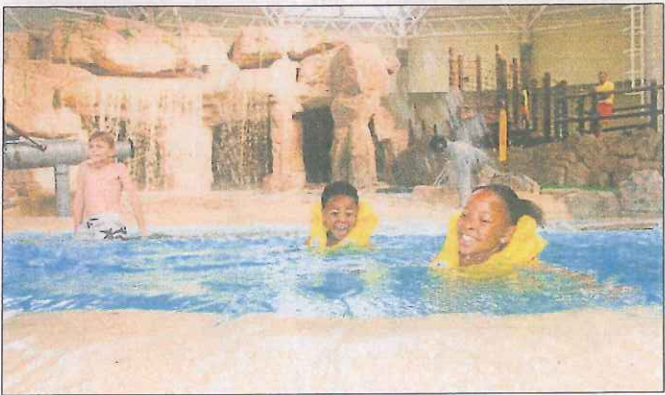
or syndicate can win this great race, perhaps if you decide to enter some pigeons into this race, it could be your turn to win the 21st SAMDPR? This event has always paid out all the advertised/projected and promised prize money from day one and has the tag of 'The Greatest & Biggest One Loft Race In The World' and 'The Race With The Proven Track Record'. It has also been classed around the world as 'The Olympic Games' in the pigeon racing world. Over the past 20 years this race has gone from strength to strength and has



The entrance to the stunning 4-star Emerald Hotel.



A hotel room in the Emerald Hotel.



The Aquadrome in the Emerald Hotel.



The VIP lodge at Emerald Casino & Hotel.



A superb bush lodge at Emerald Casino & Hotel.

paid out in excess of US\$33 million or £23 million in prize money. The prize money and Awards in the 21st SAMDPR will once again exceed US\$2.2 million or £1.55 million. The final race offers in excess of US\$1 million or £715,000 in prize money with a US\$200,000 or £143,000 1st prize, plus 299 other top cash prizes. In the run up to the Final Race there are five Hot Spot Car Races, all of which offer a new car for the first activated pigeon clocked in each race, plus 19 prizes of US\$1,100 (£785) for the next 19 activated pigeons in each result. There is also the 2-Bird Average and US\$2,000 (£1,429) and a 3-Bird Average and US\$3,000 (£2,143) cash prizes to be won in all five races. In the final race there is a US\$1,000 (£785) Nomination and the first pigeon clocked wins the Zandy Meyer Memorial Award, which is a new Mercedes car worth a cool US\$85,000 (£60,715). Many other top cash prizes can be won during the race series. In nearly all the races there are Global and Country Nominations and literally thousands in cash up for grabs. There is also a knockout competition with a US\$25,000 (£17,858) 1st prize, his classic competition runs over the last four Hot Spot Car Races and the Final Race. There is also a US\$5,000 (£3,572) Hot Spot Ace Pigeon Award plus a US\$17,500 (£12,500) Grand Average Cash Prize Fund which is split into three cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The Final Race also offers 10 superb Gold Medals to be won by the first 10 activated pigeons. If you want to see all the listed Prize Money and The Rules just log on to: www.samdpr.com, everything is on the website for all to see.

So once again exciting times are ahead of us and after 16 successful years in Sun City and four great years in Linbro Park, Johannesburg, the South African Million

Dollar Pigeon Race is now moving to a new venue and a fantastic new state-of-the-art loft will be built in the stunning surroundings and on the exclusive Heron Banks Golf & River Estate, situated in Minnaar Street, Sasolburg, Free State, South Africa and it will be completed in plenty of time to cope with the intake of pigeons that will be entered into the 21st SAMDPR. The ground work and building

work is already underway and numerous updates will be published on the dedicated South African Million Dollar Pigeon Race website, www.samdpr.com so if you want to follow the progress and see what is going on it will be there for all to see.

Heron Banks Golf & River Estate (www.heronbanks.co.za) is situated just 95km (60 miles) by road from O.R. Tambo



Parts of the Heron Banks golf course with the Vaal River and the Emerald Casino & Hotel in the background.



A typical bush braai in South Africa.

International Airport or 80km (50 miles) by road from Johannesburg which should take about 45 minutes. It invites you to discover the freedom of 3km of river frontage on the Free State bank of the Vaal River. Surrounded by beautiful natural parklands, the area offers an exclusive safe haven for corporate executives, young families or retired couples. You can also enjoy an outdoor lifestyle at its best, with top facilities that include a superb 18 hole Danie Obermeyer designed golf course, boating centre, walking trails and more. You could if you so wished also design and build your own home on this exclusive site. Look at their website for more information. The venue is close to the R57 motorway and won the 2014/15 African Property Awards Development in Association with Rolls-Royce Motor Cars and it has also recently won a Highly Commended Golf Development Award in South Africa. It certainly is a fantastic venue and the pigeons will be in a much better environment with very few big buildings in the surrounding area. Something new and another first for the SAMDPR team, is an 18 hole International Golf Challenge on this magnificent golf course. Once a format is worked out we will publish it in future reports. If you want more information just log onto their superb website and see for yourself.

On the other side of the Vaal River we have the outstanding Emerald Resort & Casino, situated in Vanderbijlpark, Gauteng, South Africa which will be hosting all the official functions and they can offer you accommodation by the way of the luxurious Emerald Hotel (4 star), Bush Lodges (VIP Lodge & 4 star) and River Chalets (3 star). Also on this site is the Emerald Casino, conferencing & venues, restaurants & bars, experiences & activities, entertainments & events, river cruises, water sports, bush braais, Virgin active gym, golf, emerald spa, business centre, medical station and a multitude of other things to do during your stay in paradise. This fabulous resort won the Travellers' Choice Trip Advisor Award in 2016. If you want to see what else is on offer at this great place then just log onto (www.emeraldcasino.co.za) you will be amazed at the things you will be able to do during your stay.

The SAMDPR will be privatising the whole venue during the pigeon race and so all enquiries and bookings should be addressed to Deirdre Kallmeyer at African Olive Travel Concerts, her email addresses are as follows deirdre@africanoliveconcepts.co.za or kallmeyerd@gmail.com, you can also go to her website at www.aotc.co.za for further information. Deirdre will be only too pleased to



River Resort chalet at Emerald Casino & Hotel.

quote for any pre or post tours that you might be interested in bookings during your visit in South Africa.

Numerous photographs are included in this press release to give pigeon fanciers and friends and family all over the world an opportunity to see what this fantastic new venue has to offer to everybody.

The final decision to move from Linbro Park was a tough one but was virtually forced upon the organisation (Air Sport Internationale) because of the massive industrial units that were being built right up to the boundary fence where the lofts were situated. It was getting to a situation where the pigeons had to come first and it was then that Sara Blackshaw (Director of Air Sport Internationale) took the decision to look for a new venue in an area that would benefit the pigeons and the pigeon fanciers and friends who visit for the Final Race. So now after months of looking for a new site one was finally found and now everything has been signed and sealed.

I hope you decide to enter this great race and also consider visiting South Africa, I assure you it will be an experience you will never forget.

If you do decide to enter there are two shipping dates for pigeons from the United Kingdom, Monday 9th May and Monday 30th May. All pigeons need to be with me at my home address by 3pm on the appointed days.

Your official registration and entry form and booking form must accompany your pigeons whether you deliver them by hand or use a pigeon courier. Please also make sure your pigeons have been vaccinated against PMV and that you have used one drop or sprayed them for lice before bringing or sending them to me. Your help in all these matters will be greatly appreciated. If you are intending to enter this race, please call or email me to let me know how many pigeons you would like to enter, so that I can order enough shipping crates to ship out our National Race Team to the 21st SAMDPR.

If you do require any further information on the pigeon race or even South Africa, I will be only too pleased to help you in any way I can, just call me or email me. My contact details are: Paul Smith, United Kingdom Race Team Co-ordinator/Shipper and International Race Co-ordinator for The 21st South African Million Dollar Pigeon Race, Regency Lofts Limited, 2 Highmead, off Coltsfield, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex, CM24 8LJ. England. Tel/Fax 01279 812005. (Int. Code:- +44-1279-812005), mobile 07860 568216, email reglofts@aol.com. Regency Lofts website www.regencylofts.com. Skype address [talbot7944](https://www.skype.com/en/contacts/talbot7944). Twitter address [PaulSmith@SmithReglofts](https://twitter.com/PaulSmith@SmithReglofts) The South African Million Dollar Pigeon Race website www.samdpr.com.



Stunning views over the Heron Banks golf and river estate.



Another stunning view over the Heron Banks golf and river estate.