



Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club

Annual Presentation Dinner, Part 1

The 2015 Annual Presentation and Dinner of the SNRPC took place on the 30th January once again at our regular top class venue the Cairn Hotel Bathgate.

Following the top table guests and the 2015 national winners being piped into the hall president John McFall welcomed everyone to the evening.

The main guest this year was the new president elect of the Lancashire Social Circle Chris Knowles along with Secretary Brian Dearn. The evening kicked off with past president Ian Brown saying grace then followed an excellent meal in keeping with the Cairn's customary high standards. Before the presentation began Lancashire Social Circle Secretary Brian Dearn proposed a toast to the SNRPC.



Top Table left to right Les Blacklock, Brian Dearn, John McFall, Chris Knowles

Following a short interval the presentation got underway with the **Peterborough Young Bird National** awards being presented by Chris

Knowles: 1st Open 1st section B and Silver Medal Colin Crees of Ladykirk,
Section winners: 1st Section C Macaulley, Ferguson & Curran Forfar, 1st Section
D Gordon McKenzie Broxburn, 1st Section E Robert Clark Motherwell all
receiving Bronze Medals.



1st Open Peterborough YB National Colin Crees

The Billericay Inland National presented by Brian Dearn: 1st Open 1st Section
B and Silver medal Andrew Lees of Eyemouth, 1st Section C Davy Glen Forfar,
1st Section D Peter Keogh Broxburn, 1st Section E Wilson & Jack Lanark, 1st
Section F Jim Moffat Glasgow.



Inland National winner Andrew Lees

1st Open Billericay In Arras Old Bird & Yearling National Brian Dearn did the honours again and presented Colin Crees of Ladykirk with the 1st Open 1st Yearling and 1st Section B Silver Medal, 1st Section C J & C Caird Dundee, 1st Section F Smith & McCallum Cumbernauld. Unfortunately Grant was another member not well enough to come and receive his award Bruce McKenzie of Dundee collected the medal on Grants behalf.



1st Open & 1st Yearling National winner from Arras Colin Crees

Troyes Extreme Distance National, Chris Knowles Presented 1st Open 1st Section E Silver Medal to Ken Buchanan of Hamilton, 1st Section B John Bell Tranent, 1st Section C John McKenzie Anstruther.

Ken received a great reception when he came forward to collect his medal this indicated just how everyone felt about his great pigeon's magnificent performance



1st Open Troyes Extreme Distance National winner Ken Buchanan

Next presentation was the main national of the year, the clubs flagship event **The Riems Gold Medal National**. Club president John McFall had the great honour of presenting the 2015 Gold Medal for 1st Open and 1st Section B to Lloyd Togneri of Cockburnspath, John highlighted what a tremendous race he had timing 6 of the 19 birds on the day. 1st Section C John Ellis Wellbank, 1st 1st Section E Wilson & Jack Lanark, 1st Section F Smith & McCallum Cumbernauld.

Section C winner John Ellis sadly passed away earlier in the year and his young grandson Jack collected the section bronze medal on behalf of the family (his granddad would have been so proud), Mrs Ellis and her daughter Joan I'm happy to say were both present as guests of the club



1st Open and Gold Medal winner Lloyd Togneri



Young Jack being presented with the section Bronze medal

Next in the proceedings was the presentation of the Average winners for the season.



Overall Average and Claret Jug Winner 2015 – John Bell, Tranent Extreme Distance and Crystal Decanter Winner 2015 – John Bell, Tranent.

Both awards went to John Bell of Tranent an indication of just how well John's birds did performed last year, to win one of these great crystal prizes takes some doing but to win both is exceptional, this is the second time John has won the Claret Jug in the last ten years.

Extreme Distance and Overall Average winner John Bell

**Section Average and Crystal Plaque 2015 – John R Bell Tranent Section B
John Proctor Kirkcaldy Section C**



Section B Average winner John Bell Tranent



Section C Average winner John Proctor Kirkcaldy

John Trail Memorial Trophy 2015-John Mackenzie –Anstruther,
unfortunately John could not attend due to illness and Peter Penman Kingdom
Federation President collected the award on his behalf.

John Fairbairn Memorial Plaque 2015- Lloyd Togneri – Cockburnspath –
Gold Medal Winner



The 2015 National and Average winners left to right Colin Crees, Lloyd Togneri, Ken Buchanan, John Bell, Andrew Lees.

The presentation concluded with RPR President Les Blacklock presenting the Cumbria Region (Chanel Award) to Kevin Whitham of Dunbar, this was thoroughly deserved as Kevin narrowly missed the 1st Open position on several occasions last year.



Les Blacklock presenting Kevin Whitham with his award.

Following the presentation Chris Knowles made an excellent speech in which he highlighted the importance of the social side of pigeon racing and just how

vital this was to the progression of any club he went on to explain how his own organisation the L.S.C. was very much based on friendship and comradeship and has been so for the last 150 years Chris was perfectly correct when he said that sadly the decline of the fancy over the last few decades is partly down to the social side of the sport being ignored. No it's not just about winning; of course we all love to win that's why we race but the importance of taking part and being part of the club, enjoying each other's friendship and company is also vitally important, this happily is the foundation which the SNRPC is based on and long may it continue into the future.



Chris Knowles

The follow up to this article will include the section winner's photographs

Duncan Knox

Press Officer