



## *Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club*

### *Update Season 2016*

With the new race season rapidly approaching organisations up and down the country are busily making preparations and holding their annual general meetings, club officials everywhere encourage members to attend these A G M meetings as this is the place to be to air your views, put forward your ideas and make the important decisions for the coming year for the benefit of you the member to allow you to enjoy your racing with your respective clubs.

The SNRPC AGM took place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February and considering the atrocious weather conditions for travelling any distance our turnout was good, the meeting went very well with all management proposals being accepted. The race programme for 2016 was confirmed as:

Billericay Inland National Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June race marking 16<sup>th</sup>, Reims Gold Medal National Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June race marking 22<sup>nd</sup>, Troyes National Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July race marking 29<sup>th</sup> June, Arras Old Bird & Yearling National Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July race marking 6<sup>th</sup> July and Peterborough Young Bird National Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September race marking 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Subscriptions, birdage and prizemoney remain the same as last season

#### **Champion Award Presentation Photos**

The Awards were presented at our recent Annual Dinner & Presentation night by the President's wife Marcella McFall, Marcella is an integral part of the administration team and her help is invaluable to John.



*John Bell of Tranent receiving his Silver Award*



*Dave Burns of Kirkcaldy Bronze Award*



*Lloyd Togneri Cockburnspath Bronze*



*John McCallum of the Smith & McCallum Cumbernauld partnership Bronze*



*Willie Johnstone Carluke Bronze*



*Tommy Steel of the T & G Steel partnership Bronze*

## **The John Fairbairn Shield**

The John Fairbairn shield was presented to the SNRPC by the family in memory of the late John Fairbairn of Cockburnspath. Anyone who had the good fortune of knowing John will substantiate what a real gentleman he was and a great pigeon fancier too; it was a sad day for the sport of pigeon racing when John passed away men of his calibre are alas few and far between. The national winners names are engraved on the shield each year as a lasting record of their success, the shield is presented to the winner of the Reims national to be held for the year. Reims winner Lloyd Togneri took great pride in coming forward and being presented with the John Fairbairn Shield from main guest L.S.C. president elect Chris Knowles.



*Chris Knowles presenting the Reims winner Lloyd Togneri with the J Fairbairn Shield*

## **The John Trail Memorial Trophy**

The John Trail trophy is presented each year to the 1<sup>st</sup> pigeon timed into Fife from the extreme distance race, this year we had a very worthy winner in John Mackenzie of Anstruther whose good 3 year old dark chec cock won 1<sup>st</sup> section 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Troyes flying a distance of 620 miles. Unfortunately John could not attend as his wife wasn't in the best of health but Kingdom Association

president Peter Penman picked up the award on his behalf. Jock is a top distance fancier and has put up many exceptional performances over the years.



*John Mackenzie Anstruther*

### **2016 Autumn Forum**

This season's forum will take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> October a week earlier than last year's inaugural event which was such an outstanding success that we will make this a permanent fixture in our calendar. This year we will endeavour to make it another great night to remember, we will again be presenting our Reims Ace Pigeon Awards and this season we are going to do the same with the Arras national by rewarding good birds that have scored on three consecutive years from these race points, not an easy task in today's climate of channel racing it takes a very good pigeons to be on the result three years on in succession.

### **Race Arrivals and Race News**

Last year saw us launch a new and easier way of reporting in your early arrivals and receiving race news, liberation times etc. by text, to a dedicated number or by email for arrivals this was method was created to make it easier and less expensive for our members rather than using the outdated arrivals line which was very difficult to gather the necessary information from for the officials and quite expensive for the members. This method was heralded by the members and officials as a great advancement for the club and seen as making maximum use of the modern technology available to take the club forward into the future.

## **Young Bird Sales**

The annual young bird sale will take place this year on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August with the late bred sale on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May, these sales are very important to the club and did very well last year when we had some first class youngsters on offer this year we hope to surpass last year and have some quality long distance birds for sale once again so enter these dates in your diary if you want the opportunity to improve your breeding stock you can rest assured that there will be some outstanding specimens donated by our top winning fanciers.

## **Race Sponsors**

We have again this year received some very good and generous sponsorship from the members for this season's national races once again this demonstrates the marvellous spirit which surges through this club.

## **The Ellis Family**

The family of the late John Ellis have indicated that they wish to present the club with an award in memory of John; this award is to be for the best average from Reims and Arras, we are still to decide in which form the award will take as we generally don't compete for cups in the SNRPC we will give it some serious thought and come up with something suitably appropriate in memory of the great man.

## **New Members**

We have picked up a quite a few new members already this year and anyone thinking of joining please contact the secretary on 01698 324638 or by e-mail at [snrpc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:snrpc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk) or any committee member you can be assured a very warm welcome into the club.

Duncan Knox

Press Officer