



Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club

Annual Dinner & Presentation

The SNRPC held their Annual Dinner and Presentation on Saturday 27th January this year at the Leapark Hotel in Grangemouth this is the first time since 2005 that we have had a different venue from the Cairn Hotel but as they were closing their function hall we had no alternative but to look elsewhere, we were very fortunate to manage to get the date we were wanting at the Leapark this was a real stroke of good fortune as it turned out to be one the best presentation nights we have had, if not the best! This is excellent venue. President John McFall welcomed the large company and following a first class meal he introduced the top table and guests. Our main guests this year were Les and Merle Blacklock and Jimmy and Susan Nelson, Les has attended our presentation every year except last year when he was attending the Pigeon Olympiad in his official capacity as Chairman of the RPRA this and as Les commented in his speech the first year in 2005 he was invited as an official guest and every other year he has attended as a friend, this year he was invited for his performances as a fancier and not as a top administrator , Jimmy Nelson is the current Chairman of the Cumbria Region of the RPRA he and Susan have been guests before several years ago but were very happy to accept our invitation again this year.



President John McFall introduces the top table

Peterborough Young Bird National

The presentation got underway with the Peterborough Young Bird National Les Blacklock presented the 2018 winner Gordon Turnbull of Chirnside with his awards.



Les Blacklock presents Gordon Turnbull with his winner's medal.

This was followed by the section winners each receiving their bronze medals, Sect C: Macauley, Ferguson & Curran Forfar. Sect D: Gordon MacKenzie Broxburn. Sect E: Jones & Grandson Kilsyth. Sect F: Barclay McCrindle Glasgow.

(All section winners will be featured in a follow up article to this one.)

Billericay Inland National

Next was the Billericay Inland National 1st Open winner Brain Kelly of Chirnside was presented with his silver medal, both Brian and Gordon are top Berwickshire lofts having previously won several national races each.



Brian Kelly receiving his winners silver medal and framed diploma from Jimmy Nelson.

Section winners were Sect C: J D Armour Leven. Sect D: David McArthur Grangemouth. Sect E: G Harris Dunnipace. Sect F : Ian Ross Kirkintilloch.

Arras Old Bird & Yearling National

Presentation by Les Blacklock 1st Open 1st Yearling Andrew Lees Eyemouth. Andrew is another multi- national winner each year turning out some fantastic performances from his back garden loft.

Sect C: C & G Cameron Arbroath. Sect D: Peter Keogh Broxburn. Sect E: Grahame Bros Carluke. Sect F: Matt Luke & Son Port Glasgow.



1st Open Arras Andrew Lees Eyemouth

Troyes Extreme Distance National

Jimmy Nelson was called upon again to do the honours unfortunately the 1st Open national winner David Crees of Coldstream (Last season's gold medal winner) could not be present due to illness, I was delighted to receive the silver medal and 1st open diploma on behalf of my friend David. Section winners: Sect C: Dave Burns Kirkcaldy. Sect D: Peter Keogh Borxburn.

Reims Gold Medal National

The major race of our season Reims was next to be presented and following our tradition the Reims award presentations are made by our president John McFall.

Stuart Davie of Dundee very proudly came forward to receive his gold medal to loud applause. Section winners were Sect B: Peter virtue Cockburnspath. Sect D: Peter Keogh Borxburn. Sect E: W Mitchell & Son Lesmahagow. Sect F: Ian Lowe Gartcosh. This was the pinnacle of a very successful season enjoyed by
Stewart



President John McFall presents a very proud Stuart Davie of Dundee with his gold medal

The Overall Average

The next presentation on the agenda was the Overall Average President John McFall presented the winner Peter Keogh of Borxburn with the beautiful crystal

claret jug,(these awards are won outright each season and are wonderful mementos for their winners to look back on in years to come.) Peter has enjoyed a truly wonderful season and thoroughly deserves every accolade directed towards him.



Overall average winner Peter Keogh Broxburn

Extreme Distance Average

The winner this year was David Crees Coldstream.

Section Averages

Section C: John Proctor Kirkcaldy, John is one of Scotland's top distance fanciers who always features in the long hard channel events.



John Proctor and Merle Blacklock

Section D: Peter Keogh Broxburn



Peter and family

The John Ellis Memorial Trophy winner Stuart Davie



Susan Nelson presents Stuart Davie with the John Ellis Memorial trophy

John Trail Memorial Trophy winner Dave Burns



Dave Burns Kirkcaldy

Joe Bowman Memorial Trophy winner Stuart Davie



Stuart Davie

The 2018 Champion Awards

In 2018 we had 7 winners of these prestigious awards 4 silver and 3 bronze, these awards are extremely difficult to win it takes tremendous pigeon to score the positions necessary from the channel 3 times to take a bronze never mind 4 and 5 times which is required for silver and gold. These wonderful pigeons rightly deserve to be honoured in this way. Mrs Marcella McFall presented the awards this year, first to be presented was to John Mackenzie who received a silver award for his outstanding champion Mumpy, John unfortunately couldn't attend and his award was collected by Mrs Fiona Berwick.



Fiona Berwick & Marcella McFall

The second silver award went to Dave Burns of Kirkcaldy for the performances of his great blue hen, Dave also collected a bronze award for his chec hen Lynn's girl.



Davy Burns silver & bronze

Next two silver awards to be presented went to Peter Virtue of Cockburnspath for his great pigeons Whitey and Blue Star, two of the top pigeons from this fabulous multi-national winning loft.



Left to right Brodie Rutherford (Peters grandson) Marcella McFall and Peter Virtue

Chic Dinsdale was next to receive his bronze award for his great performance hen “*Balgonie Princess*”.



Chic Dinsdale and Marcella

The last Champion Award to be presented was a very worthy winner Eric Young of Kilmany's fabulous blue cock Treble Blue this cock also won the Reims Ace pigeon earlier in the year.



Eric Young & Marcella McFall

HM Queen 65th Anniversary Medal Winners

The RPRA Cumbria Region and one of our generous members sponsored a medal and £65 prize money for each nominated bird in each section from the Billericay Inland National the first nominated bird timed also received a framed photograph of the winner. The winner overall was Peter Virtue section B, Sect

A J Hodgson & Son, Sect C Matt Shields ,Sect D Billy Graham, Sect E Vincent Smith and Section F Stuart Mullan Port Glasgow. Jimmy Nelson President of the Cumbria Region did the honours.



Brodie Jimmy Nelson & Peter Virtue 1st Nom Winner



Stuart Mullan receiving his medal from Jimmy Nelson

The final presentation of the evening was the RPRC Cumbria Region Awards
Former RPRC President Les Blacklock presented these awards to Jones &
Grandson Kilsyth



Jones & Grandson with Les Blacklock

and Dougie Spittal on behalf of Martin Hughes Glasgow



Dougie Spittal and Les Blacklock

To close the proceedings Les Blacklock gave a very interesting speech informing us of some of the history of the Cumbria Federation, Les was the winner of what is known in Cumbria as “The Big Cup” which is almost an exact replica of footyballs Scottish Cup he was delighted to win this fabulous piece of silverware as his father had also won it many years before.

Duncan Knox

Press Officer

