

## Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club Season 2009

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The 2009 AGM was held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February at Newbridge bowling club and it was very encouraging to see such a large turn out from the membership.

The officials for 2009 were re-elected unanimously as 2008 apart from the junior vice president post, John Baillie stepped down due to increased work commitments and Ian M Brown was elected to the position.

John should be commended for the sterling work he has done for the club in the past.

Although Ian Brown could not attend the meeting as he had another long standing prior engagement he had forwarded a letter to the club informing the committee that he had decided to retire as PRO, I was proposed by Chairman George Wilson to take over the post which I accepted and will endeavour to do my best to follow in Ian's footsteps, he will be a very hard act to follow but I have plenty good people in each area whom I can call on when the need arises for information.



The 2009 SNRPC Officials and Committee

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A proposal from Ken Buchanan and Ian M Brown was approved by a large majority of the members present, on two counts. First was to change our current Hall of Fame awards name to, The Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club Champion Awards and the second was to extend to four levels the awards certificates achievable, which at present is only one. The criteria set for a fancier's pigeon to achieve Champion status is as follows: all qualifying races must be from the Continent with the SNRPC, the fancier must be a full member of the SNRPC. All pigeons achieving an official SNRPC open diploma will qualify to be considered and a few Official section diplomas depending on the amount of entries in that section may also be entitled to qualify.

An Official Qualifying Diploma is granted to one in every ten entries for all continental races, the same for certain section diplomas.

The first Champion status is called the SNRPC Bronze Champion; three official diplomas required for this certificate should the pigeon gain another diploma in the future making it four it would then become an SNRPC Silver Champion, five diplomas would be required for a bird to become a Gold Champion and six for Platinum, the highest award.

Members winning these awards would when talking about his birds' achievements be entitled to class his bird as SNRPC Champion in which ever category it has achieved raising his own status, his birds and the SNRPCs.

The highest awards the Gold and Platinum will be framed and will have a photo of the fanciers winning pigeon, his name, his bird's performances and positions won, if another status is achieved at a later date it will be altered to raise it to the next championship level and so on accordingly.

It has been further suggested that an illustrated recording be produced, this suggestion is under discussion but in the meantime copyright on the whole Champion Awards arrangement is pending and will be applied to the whole scheme.

All SNRPC members who feel they have pigeons that qualify should contact by phoning the following number 01577 840358 or by contacting myself with their information and we shall be delighted to confirm their pigeons eligibility.

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We look forward to the new season with great anticipation as it rapidly approaches the final arrangements are being made to tie up all the loose ends to ensure that everything runs to plan at the various marking stations we have one or two changes of venues this year and we will confirm these with dates and times as soon as possible.

For the benefit of our members who have not as yet seen the transportation used for our National races or for anyone contemplating joining the S.N.R.P.C. this is a brief up-date on our method of transporting the birds and the expert care they will receive when competing with the SNRPC.

Due to the generosity of Gordon Geddes, Willie Johnstone and the South Lanarkshire Federation we are conveying our National candidates in the latest “State of the Art” Geraldly built transporters pictured below.



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Our Race Controller is the very experienced Ian McLaren of Largoward in Fife, Ian has been race controller for the Kingdom Federation for a good few years and leaves nothing to chance with the bird’s welfare being paramount in Ian’s final decision. He is a very experienced pigeon fancier in his own right with his fair share of successes over the years, so you can be well assured that your birds are given every chance with a great deal of thought and research going on behind the scenes before any instruction is given for the release of the convoy. Extensive line of flight forecasts are sought and what is even more important is the list of contacts

Ian has developed over the years the length and breadth of the country who can give him exact weather updates immediately when required whatever race point we are racing from.

Assisting Ian in the race control team is our Chairman George Wilson and Senior Vice Chairman Ken Buchanan two very experienced officials and fanciers in their own right.

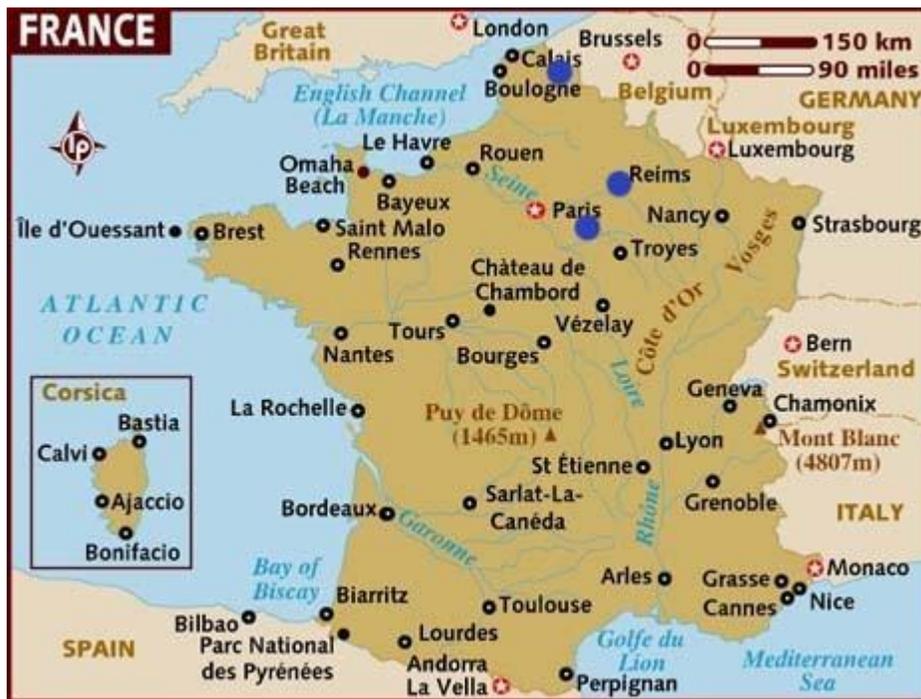
We are again very fortunate to have Mathew Boyle as our head convoyer Mathew does a tremendous job for the club and like Ian leaves nothing to chance when the pigeon's welfare is concerned, it is very reassuring for our members to know that they can send with the SNRPC confident that they will be expertly cared for.

### 2009 Programme

Our season kicks off with the Inland National from Wanstead Flats on the 6<sup>th</sup> June this race point is situated at the southern most portion of Epping Forrest in East London we have enjoyed some good racing from here in the past then we go to **Reims** for the **Gold Medal** race on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, Reims is approximately 80mls North East of Paris again we have had some excellent racing from this race point following Reims on the 4<sup>th</sup> July we are at Andrezel convoyed with the Up North Combine this is a new race point for us and it is approximately 568 miles into central Scotland then we complete the old bird programme on the 18<sup>th</sup> July from Lillers again with the U.N.C. another new one for us situated in North East France near to the Belgian border this race will again incorporate the Yearling National which proved to be very popular last season.

The Young bird National will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> September again from Leicester.

Although not part of our official programme the club will continue to support the extreme distance race again from Saintes with the National Flying Club this season.



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Dates to look out for are the **annual young bird** sale to be held at Newbridge Bowling Club on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May viewing 6pm sale starts 7pm we will again have a select batch of quality youngsters on offer from the best long distance lofts in Scotland. Anyone interested in any of the birds for sale and cant attend can contact Ken Buchanan on 01698 282903 Monday to Friday between 8am and 5pm or evenings on 07793258376. **The Late Bred sale** will take place on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September, not to be missed, more details and sale lists for both sales will be published in the press nearer the time.

*Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club  
2008  
Champions*



*Wanstead Flats John Ellis*



*Reims Stuart Mullan*



*Arras Peter Virtue*



SCOTTISH NATIONAL  
RACING PIGEON CLUB



*Messac Wilson & Jack*

*DJ Knox*



*Leicester Dave Owen*

Last years National winners are pictured above; this year it could be your bird featured on the winners montage so good luck to all, let's hope the weather is kind and we can at the very least emulate some of the great performances of last season.

For application forms to join the SNRPC contact our secretary Jessie Keir on 10592 748801 or e/mail [jessiekeir@yahoo.com](mailto:jessiekeir@yahoo.com)

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