



Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club

Wanstead Flats Inland National

The club's first National race of the season got underway on Saturday 4th June when convoyer Mathew Boyle liberated the 1,279 entries at 6.30am into a North East wind. Line of flight weather reports were fairly good up to the Scottish Borders area where they encountered low cloud and a cold brisk North Easterly wind blowing off the sea.

A hard race is always on the cards when the wind is from the North East and this one was no exception, this was one of the toughest inland nationals we have encountered to date.

There were a great many empty perches on Saturday night but all credit to the brave pigeons that made it home.

The winning pigeon was timed at 15.18 to the lofts of Hendry Brothers of Hamilton who's second bird timed some 32 minutes behind the race winner took the second open spot this shows just how difficult a race this was.

Vince Hendry's pigeons must have been in top condition to accomplish this excellent performance; he also had another two on the result.

The winner a two year old checker cock raced on roundabout was on his second flight and had 4 races up to Leicester before the national. His breeding is 50% A S Hamilton of Netherburn and 50% Mr & Mrs Woolis Grimsby, he was unraced as a youngster and lightly raced at the yearling stage up to 110 miles. He has been a steady racer this season being 5th to the loft on two occasions. Vince is indebted to the members of the Lowaters club and South Lanarkshire federation for providing him with training facilities. The second open pigeon was another two year old checker cock this time a 100% John Callan Van Der Wegan he was similar to the winner being unraced as a youngster and had 4 races up to Newark 225 miles as a yearling and again like the winner was raced to Leicester before being sent to the national.



Vince Hendry 1st & 2nd Open

Third Open goes to J Drummond and Son of Clydebank, this father and son partnership (both keen golfers) had a great race scoring 3rd 29th and 44th Open. The section winner is a blue chequer cock who's breeding is a mix of G Rankin, J Hannah and his own family. He had 6 races as a youngster and 6 races to Peterborough as a yearling this season he had all races except 1 then a 70 mile toss on the Tuesday prior to basketing. Feeding is Super breeding and Gerry plus.



J Drummond Clydebank 1st sect 3rd open

Section Winners

Section B

1st Section B 5th Open is **Ben Veitch** of East Saltoun, Ben is a young man with a great future in pigeon racing ahead of him, I was very impressed at his loft set up when I visited to verify his winner. The breeding of Ben's yearling hen is through Norman Renton of Foulden, Ben went to Norman a few years ago as he felt he needed birds that could do the longer distance needles to say Norman being the kind of guy he is supplied him with just that and from his best, his section winner is a great grand daughter of Norman's Sonny G and the Performer. She was stopped after a bad Whitton Castle race as a youngster and this season she flew 5 races to Peterborough although never in the clock Ben felt she was coming into form in the last two races, her mate was taken away from her on the Sunday as he had left their eggs and was put back with her on the Thursday morning.



Ben Veitch 1st sect B 5th Open

2nd Sect B 8th Open **W & M Smith** Macmerry, once again this dedicated fancier comes to the fore, Willie lives and breathes pigeons and thoroughly deserves the success he has had over the last few seasons. They have had a tremendous season so far in the club; their 2nd section winner is a nice sized blue pied hen she flew 152 miles to Weatherby as a young bird and missed the first two races of this season due to injury her, she is Willies own family with some Silvere Toye bloodlines also, her

nest mate has won 4 firsts in the Tranent club this year and also topped the East of Scotland Fed and was 9th section 33rd open from this race.

The birds are flown on roundabout.



Willie Smith Macmerry

3rd Section B 15th Open is the first class partnership of **A S Thomson & Son** of Port Seton, Sinclair senior and Sinclair junior have been winning very consistently for many years and have the roundabout system off to a fine art. Their winner a yearling chec cock is bred direct out their 8th open SNFC Allencon pigeon which is bred from Van Loon stock from Taylor Brothers Newbiggin on Sea SylvesterX Silver Shadow lines.

On the dams side there is a constant stream of winners at club, federation and national level with the SNFC.



A S Thomson & Son 3rd Section B

Section C

1st Section C 13th Open **J McKenzie** Anstruther. Jock's winner is a two year old Red Pied Hen sent sitting an 8 day old youngster, she has raced steadily this year and was sent to this race with confidence, the sire of this hen who won 1st sect 2nd open from the very hard Tours national last season, the Tours cock was bred from a red hen bought at the late Jimmy Keirs sale. The dam on the Wanstead section winner is a blue hen bred out of John's noted Golden pair which contain the bloodlines of Jimmy Hamilton's Iron Lady, pigeons the same way bred as the blue hen have won numerous prizes from the channel. This is a family of pure quality and when it comes to long distance racing John certainly takes some beating, genuine pigeons raced by a genuine fancier.



Jock McKenzie 1st Sect C

2nd & 3rd Section C is **Davy Whyte** of Cardenden near Kirkcaldy. Davie timed a yearling chec cock bred from a hen which won 1st fed 16th East of Scotland Amal Leicester with over 10,700 birds competing, the sire was a pied cock home bred from Davies own family.

The 2nd section winner was sent to the national sitting a big youngster and believe it or not he would not pair up to a hen and he paired up to another

cock one of 9 spare cocks in the loft he was also feeding a youngster in the next nest box, he previously won 2nd club Ripon.

The 3rd Section winner is another yearling cock sent sitting 5 days and was raced every week up to the week before Wanstead his sire won 31st open Allencon, 136th open La Ferte Bernard and 86th open Falaise, he was bred through his old family which originated from Davy Herd of Cardenden the dam of the 3rd section cock was a gift from his good mate Jim Anderson also of Cardenden and is 50% House of Aarden 50% Jocky King of Kirkcaldy.

Section D

1st Section D 6th Open **Alistar McNaughton** Falkirk.

Alistar triumphs again from the inland nation last season he won the section and was 3rd open in a fast race, this season his 3 year old blue hen wins the section on what was a very difficult day well done to Alistar for making it two in a row. The section winner was bred by Rab Jack of Maddiston (a well known top fancier in the North West Fed) and purchased at his clearance sale 2010. After settling her she was trained only as a two year old this season she has 4 races to 184 miles, winning 6th club 26th fed at 80 miles she also had 4 training tosses from 30 to 40 miles her breeding is Van Den Beele x Jimmy Cowan Newcastle Van Loon. His second timer took 5th section 43rd open. Interestingly Alistar's winner last year was a gift bird from Rab Jack of similar bloodlines. Wouldn't it be great to see this dedicated fancier pull off the hat trick next year?



Alistar McNaughton Falkirk 1st sect D

2nd & 3rd section 19th & 23rd open was **Bert Sharp** of Clackmannan. Bert is no newcomer to the winner's rostrum and has won well with the SNRPC from Wanstead Flats before. This year he timed two birds 3 minutes apart and had 11 birds up by the Sunday and had his 12th entry reported nearly home in West Kilbryde on the Monday, this was an exceptional performance in a very hard race when other lofts all over the country were struggling for returns in these conditions, Bert must be commended for the condition of his birds sent to this one. His first bird is a yearling blue hen bred from a Rab Jack Van Loon cock when paired with an Andy Millar Janssen hen, this yearling was raced up to 160 miles as a youngster and had every race this year to Newark 242 miles. The second pigeon is a blue chec cock, another yearling, again the Rab Jack pigeons feature in the breeding with the Dams side being through David Fox distance bloodlines David Fox is the son of the well known Eric Fox of Bakewell. This pigeon is favoured by Bert and flew the young bird programme to Leicester 265 miles, he has also won in the club this year and was raced up to Newark prior to the National, one to watch for the future perhaps.



Bert Sharp 2nd & 3rd section D

Section E

The first two in section E are Vince Hendry's 1st and 2nd Open winners, 3rd Section 7th Open is **Garry Steel of Coalburn**, Garry is another excellent young fancier who is highly thought of in the South Lanarkshire area he is the grandson of Jackie Harrison and it looks like Garry is set to carry on the winning ways of his grandfather, it's fantastic to see these

young fanciers achieving success at an early age it's very encouraging for the sport. Garry's winner a two year old late bred chek cock is through the Harrison distance lines which tend to be medium to big, he was sent sitting 14 day eggs. In the lead up to the National he was trained then had 4 races up to Leicester winning from Newark the previous week.



Garry Steel 3rd Sect 7th Open

Section F

1st Section and 3rd Open is **J Drummond & Son**.

2nd Sect 4th Open is **J Alexander and Son** of Glasgow this was great flying from Jim's team only two sent and both in the result a credit to the fitness of his pigeons. The 2nd section winner a 2 year old blue cock is a blend of Louella Busschaert, G Rankin and D Donaldson of Glassford, the second pigeon is a Donaldson. Trained as a young bird, raced up to 240 miles as a yearling and this season 3 races to 240 miles a 70 mile training toss on the Tuesday and basketed Thursday. He lost his hen a few week previously and was given a new mate prior to basketing.



Jim Alexander Glasgow

3rd Section 11th Open is **Matt Luke & Son** of Port Glasgow
Matt and Mathew's winner is bred from birds bought from Ken Hines
(Mr Palamos) he is a 2 year old cock and had 5 races prior to basketing,
he was sent driving his hen.



Matt and Mathew Luke 3rd section

For our next national race on Friday the 24th June when we go to Reims
our supreme race of the season where we compete for the magnificent
gold medal and this year a prize of £500 to the race winner courtesy of
our race sponsors Mr & Mrs A Forrest and Son and Hendry Brothers.
The very best of luck to all members and lets hope for a great race.

Duncan Knox Press Officer