



Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club.

The Gold Medal



The SNRPC Gold Medal

The Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club was formed in 2005 at that time it was established by the founder members of the club that we would not get down the route of flying for cups but be a bit different from other clubs and compete for medals from all our national races, the medals are won outright each year and this includes the gold medal which make it one of the most valuable prizes in pigeon racing, priced this year at £1200, of course the cost of the medal fluctuates each year with the price of gold but it remains still a very lucrative prize indeed this plus the 1st open prize money of £250. All other national race winners receive a

silver medal and all section winners a bronze in addition to the medals all 1st open winners receive a framed diploma featuring the actual race winner itself these are beautifully produced by Buchanan & McPherson, Ken Buchanan's printing business.



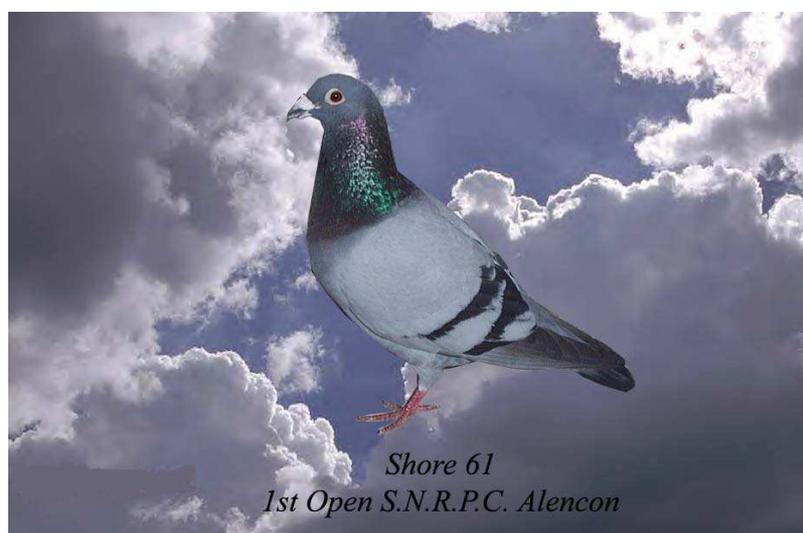
Jnr Vice President Gordon Geddes and Troyes winner Ken Buchanan with the 1st open diploma

We may not be a big organisation but we certainly do things in style.

Our Champion Awards are very popular and also very difficult to win they range from the Gold Champion, Silver Champion to the bronze to qualify for a Gold a bird has to win 5 official Open or Section diplomas racing from the channel ,4 times for a silver and 3 for bronze. Last season saw the start of our Reims Ace Pigeon awards to qualify a pigeon must appear on the result from Reims three years in succession all entrants are then judged by an independent panel of fancier's out with the club. This season we will do the same with the Arras race and these awards will be presented at our Autumn Forum. The idea behind these awards are that birds flying consistently from the channel are being rewarded in some way even though they may not meet the criteria for the champion awards they are still being recognised as having performed well.

2005 The Beginning

The first premier race was held on the 5th June 2005 and was from Alencon situated in the lower Normandy region the outcome of this race was to see the start of an unbelievable era for Walker & Wilson of St Abbs in the Eye Valley fed who went on to win multiple 1st open positions in national racing in Scotland. The race winner was the partnership's blue cock Shore 61. 2006 saw us change our race point for our premier race to Reims, Reims is situated some 80 miles East Northeast of Paris this proved to be a very fruitful move, since changing to this route we have never looked back although we have had some very hard and tough races they have also been very good with pigeons taking excellent open positions in all areas.



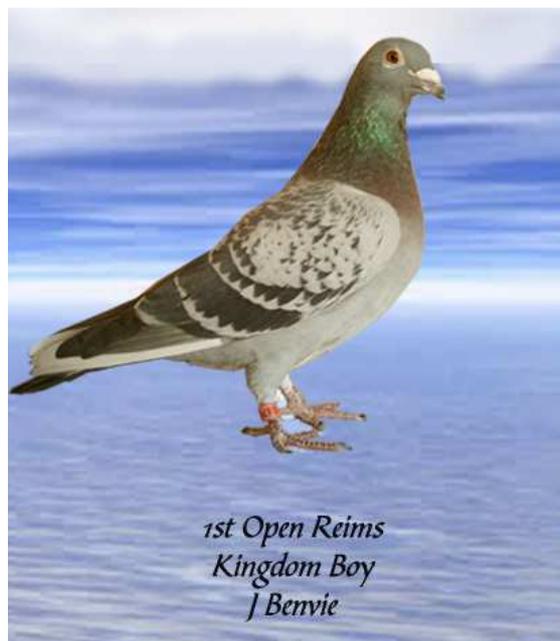
Gold Medal Winner 2005 Walker & Wilson

The 2006 gold medal was won by one of the top East of Scotland lofts of the time that of W & G Flockhart of Tranent with their good dark cock Gladiator. The bloodlines of their gold award winner Coal Neuk King featured prominently in this fine dark cock.



Gold Medal Winner 2006 W& G Flockhart

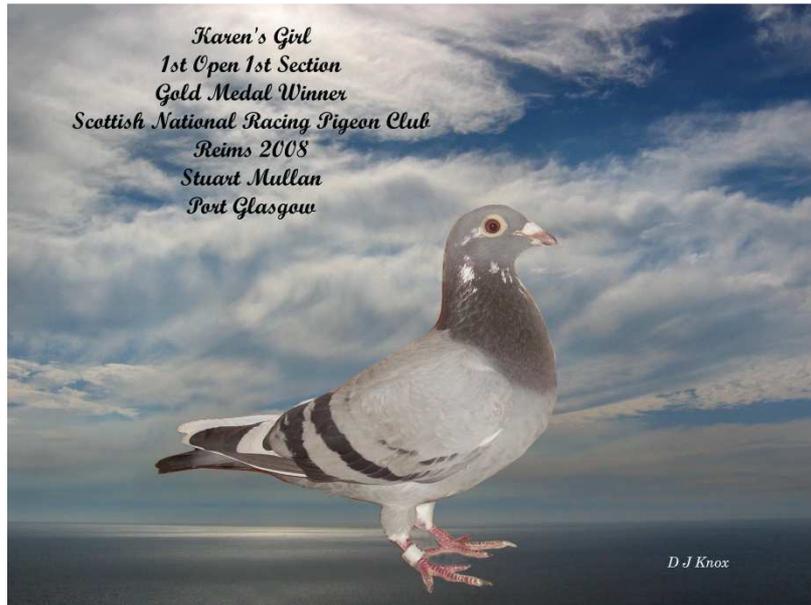
Another great name in Scottish national racing Jim Benvie of Kirkcaldy in Fife won the gold medal the following year in 2007 with the great Kingdom Boy making him our first double national winner as this super pigeon won the Lessay national the previous year in 2006.



Gold Medal Winner 2007 J Benvie

2008 was to herald another great performance this time the 1st open was to go to a West of Scotland loft that of Stuart Mullan of Port Glasgow, Stuart won this race with his well fancied 4 year old blue Pied hen Karen's girl. With

the next 5 open birds being from the East of Scotland and Fife making Stuarts win all the more exceptional.



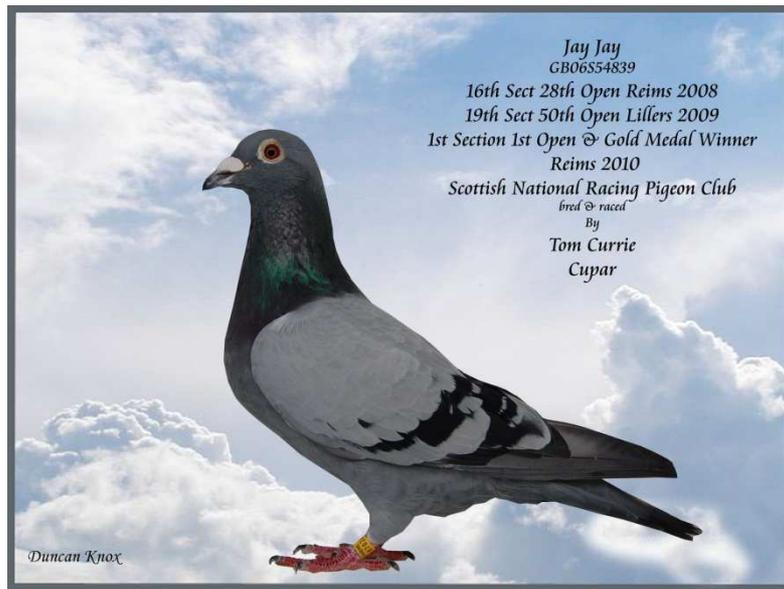
Gold Medal Winner 2008 S Mullan

The East of Scotland was to triumph again in 2009 with a very popular winner in the late Harvey Butterworth of Haddington this time the birds were liberated at 06.15 in no wind, a very fair race prevailed with the 2nd and 3rd open positions being won in the West section 4th & 5th and 6th open back to the East and 7th again in the West great racing all round. Harvey's winner was a fine blue cock Harperdean Blue Bullet.



Gold Medal Winner 2009 S H & E Butterworth

Again in 2010 we saw another very hard but fair race with good open positions won in all regions that great distance fancier from the Kindom of Fife Tom Currie of Cupar won gold this time with his great blue cock Jay Jay, sadly Tom passed away later that year and never had the honour of being presented with his medal and enjoy the accolades that went with this great win.



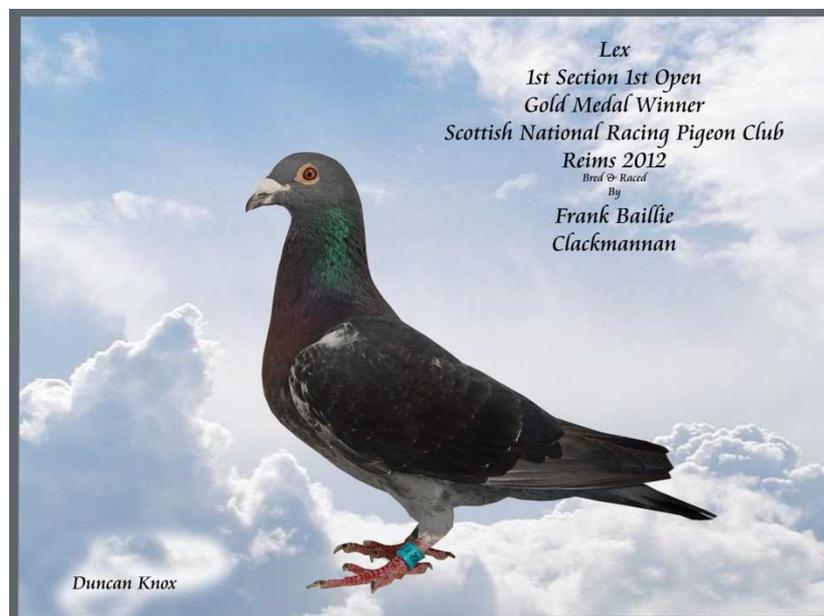
Gold Medal Winner 2010 T Currie

Back to the East in 2011 with the loft of the great Peter Virtue of Cockburnspath winning the medal this time with that superb racing machine Virtues Pride, the first ten open positions in this race were a virtual Who's Who of distance fanciers, only 16 birds made it on the day this time with 5 of them belonging to the gold medal winners loft.



Gold Medal Winner 2011 P W Virtue

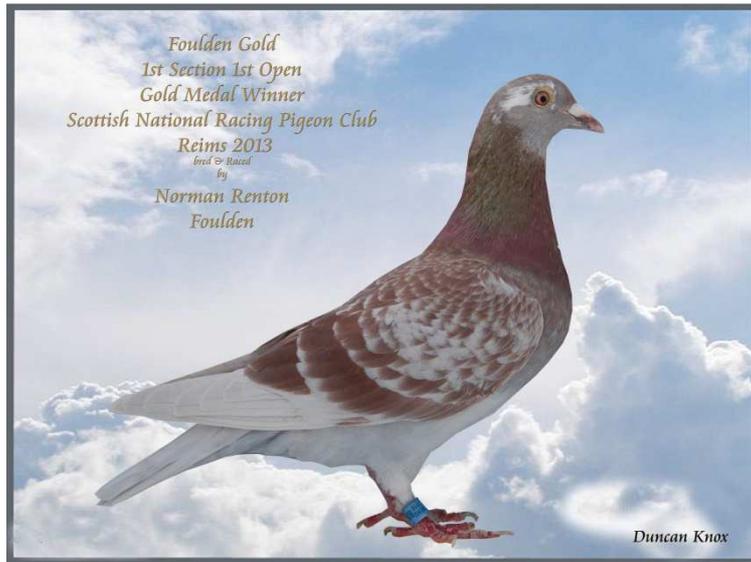
In 2012 the club celebrated Her Majesty the Queens Diamond Jubilee in the form of a 1 bird nomination from Reims, the gold medal went to a very popular and worthy winner indeed the late Frank Baillie of Clackmannan with his good dark cock Lex. The Queens nomination was won by 84 year old Jock Robertson of Port Seton.



Gold Medal Winner 2012 F Baillie

Moving on to 2013 and another great name in distance racing Norman Renton of Foulden in Berwickshire was the winner this time with his lovely red pied hen Foulden Gold. Norman is another multinational winner and was

thrilled at this latest great performance again only 16 day birds made it from the convoy.



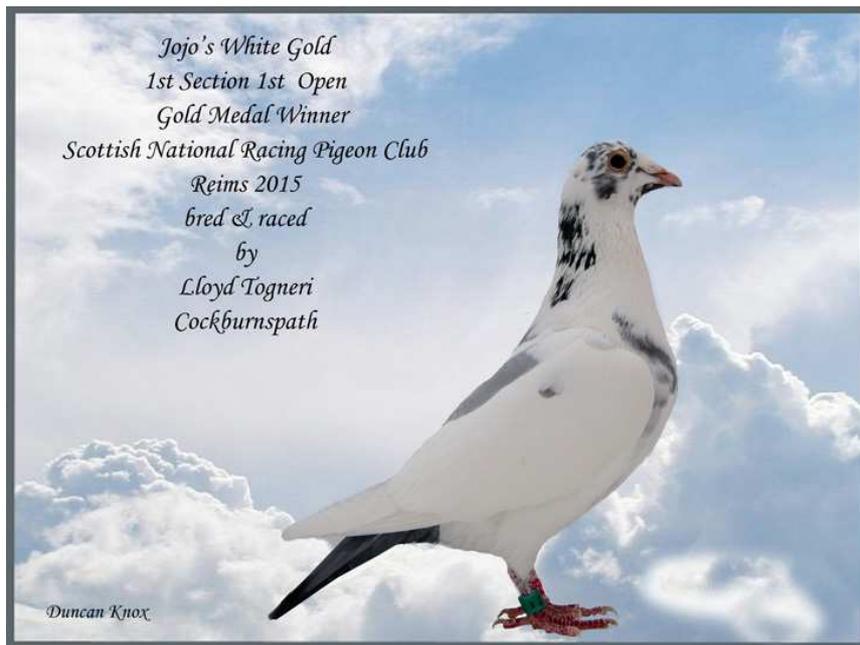
Gold Medal Winner 2013 N Renton

The 2014 Reims race proved to be a bit special this was to be the first double gold medal to be won in the SNRPC and appropriately it was to be won by the master distance flyer Peter Virtue of Cockburnspath not only did he win the gold but he took the first 3 open positions (another record in the club) with only 4 birds on the night 3 went to Peter and the fourth to Dave Owen of Coldingham. A tremendous feat the like of which I doubt will ever be equalled in the club. Peter's winner was a magnificent checker Pied cock appropriately named Double Gold.



Gold Medal Winner 2014 P W Virtue

Bringing us up to present time and our last season's medal winner was to be yet another Cockburnspath fancier Lloyd Togneri, Lloyd has set the heather of fire since his return to the sport with some outstanding performances at the distance this latest performance being the pinnacle of them all, with only 19 day pigeons Lloyd timed 6 of his 12 entries to record 1st, 8th, 9th, 11th, 17th and 18th open. His winner is a medium white pied cock named Jojo's White Gold.



Gold Medal Winner 2015 L Togneri

Well that completes a run-down of all our gold medal winners to date this year it could be you stepping proudly up to receive the gold medal but as they say you've got to be in it to win it!

Young Bird Sale Sunday 8th May

Once again we have some outstanding youngsters on offer from the top distance lofts, advert to appear soon in the British Homing world and our website. Come along for a good night out at Newbridge Bowling Club.

HM Queens 90th Birthday

This year we are celebrating the Queens 90th birthday with a special free 1 bird nomination from our inland national Billericay with the nomination winner to receive a special medal and framed photograph.

Duncan Knox

Press Officer