



Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club

MP Visit's the SNRPC

Member of Parliament for East Lothian Mr Martin Whitfield visited SNRPC section B marking station at Macmerry Village Hall on Friday 7th September. This was a result of the recent Raptor Petition organised by the Royal Pigeon Racing Association, many of our members signed the petition and Mr Whitfield responded by joining the All Party Parliamentary Pigeon Racing group and requested that he meet our members to discuss some of the problems facing our sport. The group is chaired by Mr Chris Davis MP, Mr Davis commented that he was delighted to be the first chairman of the group and that the sport was part of the social fabric of Great Britain he hopes that it will help colleagues in Westminster gain a better understanding of some of the problems our sport is facing and also appreciate the great charitable and educational work pigeon fancier undertake in their communities.

We were delighted to meet Mr Whitfield and arrangements were made through the senior parliamentary assistant Ryan Norton for Mr Whitfield to attend our young bird national marking. During his visit Martin informed us that he also participated in the recent Lords v Commons pigeon race held in June arranged by the RPRA to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, unfortunately his sponsored pigeon did not manage a prize.

Originally from the North East of England he recalled that his grandfather was a keen pigeon fancier and he remembers when pigeons were transported by rail.

He was most impressed with the Gerald Transporter and spent some time admiring its many excellent features namely the air conditioning and feeding and watering systems.

Mr Whitfield enjoyed his visit and spent an enjoyable time chatting to some of our members he was also delighted to undertake ringing the first of the entries under the watchful supervision of Kevin Whitham and Andrew Lees, poor man imagine inflicting these pair on him!



Left to right Andrew Lees, Kevin Whitham and Martin Whitfield MP.

Duncan Knox

Press Officer