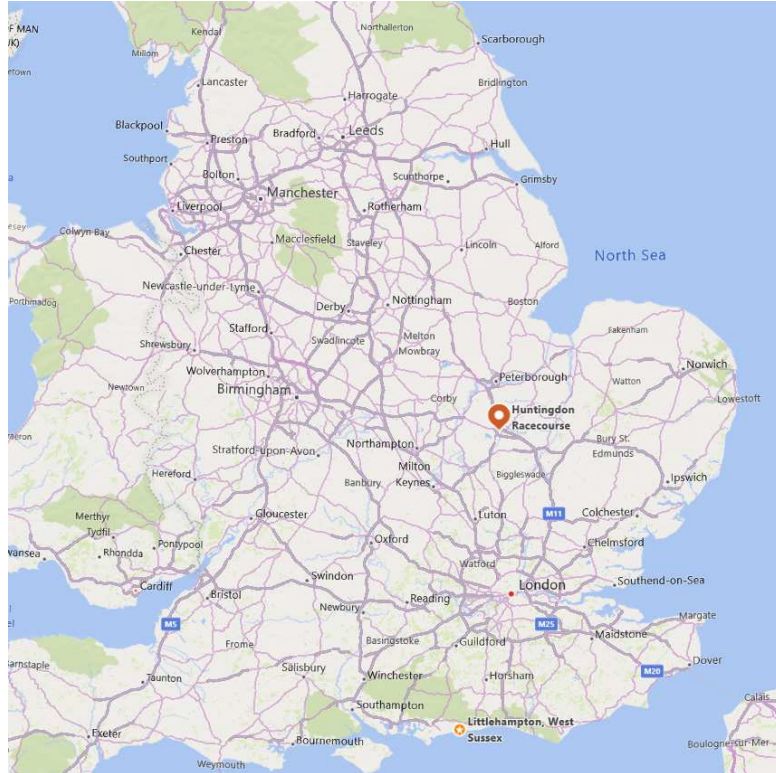




Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club

Huntingdon National

Originally this race was scheduled to be from Eastbourne on Saturday 19th June but due to the inclement weather in some areas in the country the race control team decided to hold over. The race controllers made the decision to bring the convoy back to Billericay on the Saturday morning but were still unable to liberate, they were eventually moved to the market town of Huntingdon in Cambridgeshire where the convoy of 313 were liberated at 9.30 on Sunday 27th June. Convoyer Mathew Boyle reported that although being a little overcast the birds cleared the race point well.



Map of England showing the Huntingdon race point

Due north easterly winds in many parts of the route home it became apparent that they were in for a hard shift, many estimated around six and a half hours for the 269 mile journey into the south east of Scotland, the first reported on the arrivals line was from new member John Dean of Duns Berwickshire clocking in at 16.11 taking 6 hours 41 minutes (not far out of the estimated time of arrival) the president and officials were delighted to see a new member having some early success. Second bird reported was to the much in form loft of A & E Luke Dunbar at 16.33 followed by Lewis and Kate Dickson of Cockburnspath at 16.40.

1st Open, 1st Section B. A & E Luke Dunbar.

I was not in the least surprised to see Adams name at the top of the sheet this 1st

National win is no more that he deserves, a fitting conclusion to another wonderful season, in saying that I wouldn't bet against seeing his name around the top of the sheet again in our last old bird national form Little Hampton on the 9th July. Adam is always the man to beat in this area and generally if you time in before him you are well in the running. This is his third National win

having won Portsmouth in 2007 and 1st & 2nd Peterborough Young Bird National in 2011. Adam had a fantastic race with his entire 7 entries home in good time 6 of them making the open result. The national winner is a blue Jeff Van Winkle cock late bred in 2019 he was un-flown as a youngster his sire is a good racer for Adam having scored in both Billericay and Arras national he is a grandson of Adams 2007 Portsmouth national winner.



Adam Luke 1st Open

2nd Section B 2nd Open John Dean Duns.

John is one of our new members this year and fly's in the Norham club and the Up North Combine his 2nd open winner a yearling hen remarkably this was only this little blue hen's third race she had one race as a young bird and one race to Worksop prior to Huntingdon, but this man certainly knows his pigeons as she was well fancied for this one. She was bred by John's friend Geoff Agan who races in partnership with John Watts in the Forrest Hall club Tyne North fed of the Up North Combine. There is some Marshall & Smith bloodlines in her breeding. While verifying John's pigeon he showed us some of his stock pigeons bred down from Colin Wilson of Craster through Colin Crees of Norham these Wilson pigeons have served Colin well over the years breeding him some outstanding pigeons.



3rd Open, 3rd Section B. L &K Dickson Cockburnspath.



Great result for Lewis and Kate Dickson they have not been racing at their present address for too long and have been faced with problems with Neighbours and the Housing Association from the very start, thankfully they have managed to get an area of ground at a nearby farm thanks to the generosity of the farmer who even cleared the ground for them. They have done exceptionally well considering the limited space they have available in their rear garden. The 3rd open winner a yearling blue cock was bred by their good friend David Sara he was their best youngster in 2020 winning 1st club 3rd fed, 3rd club 3rd fed and 2nd club 2nd fed he was then sent to the Peterborough Y.B. National but homed next day with a nasty injury to his crop, Lewis was very grateful to Steven Aitchison of Eyemouth who stitched him up for him. They are very fortunate to have Lewis's uncle Stewart Roberts now retired from the sport on hand whenever any advice is required. Stewart was a top fancier in his day winning a good few national races.

1Section C 4th Open Bruce McKenzie Dundee

Bruce clocked his three year old red cock at 18.03 to win section C and a fantastic 4th open he is a son of his SNFC Clermont national winner Red Tornado, this was the first direct offspring to do anything special in the nationals but Bruce has had a lot of success with grandchildren and great grandchildren from this cock. 1140 raced as a youngster but did not race as a yearling as he broke his end flights pre-season, raced up to Hazebouck last season and this season he featured in the fed result on two occasions. Bruce timed both his entries on the night his second pigeon taking 35th open 7th section flying further than any other bird on the result.



Bruce McKenzie 1st sect 4th open

2nd Section C 6th Open Matt Shields East Wemyss

Matt's pigeons have been bang on form these last two seasons what a tremendous run of success he has had following on from last season and his excellent 1st open national win from Billericay this season. The 2nd section winner is a four year old medium sized chec cock flying to a 6 day old youngster he is from Matt's very successful Delbar/Janssen family he same bloodlines as Matts Billericay national winner and his 2nd open Arras last year. Prior to Huntingdon he was his first timer out of Newark and his second bird from Kettering before going to the national.



3rd Section C, 11th Open John Proctor Kirkcaldy.

John timed his three year old grizzle cock at 17.49 to win 3rd section 11th open he is a medium sized pigeon and was raced natural to 14 day eggs with his 2nd flight just burst through he had 4 races before being sent to Huntingdon the last one being Kettering 280 miles. His sire was a red cock bred by Norman Renton of Foulden and his dam a grizzle the last daughter of John's great pigeon "Lucky Jim" 1st open SNRPC Tours when paired to a gift bird from Billy Davidson & Son of Coalburn. We would like to wish John a speedy recovery from his recent hip replacement operation on the 3rd July.



John Proctor 3rd sect 11th open

1st Section D, 7th Open Robert Hamilton Cambus.

Here we have another great performance from one of our top fanciers this latest 1st section win takes it to 5 on the trot, we should remember this man is racing into a difficult area which makes these fantastic performances all the more special. Cambus is located slightly north east of Stirling on the north side of the river Forth. Robert's section winner is a yearling blue cock he had 5 races as a youngster and this year 6 races up to Billericay winning 4th section 34th open he was in great condition and would not leave his nest sitting overdue on 18 day eggs. He is another one from his Geoff Kirkland pigeons and is a grandson on both sides to his No1 cock who has produced many winners with several different hens.



Robert Hamilton 1st section 7th open

2nd & 3rd Section D, 16th & 18th Open D Cowan & A Craig Cowie



Duncan Cowan with his grandson

The partnerships 2nd section winner is a four year old blue hen bred down from pigeons from Mr & Mrs Purver of Skinning Grove Vandenebeele family brothers and sisters of this hen have been winning for Duncan and Sandy. The partnerships 3rd section winner is again from the Purver lines, these pigeons have been winning for them since they first got them in 2008.

1st Section E, 25th Open Ken Buchanan Hamilton



Hamilton's Ken Buchanan with his section E winner.

Ken's winner is pretty much the same way bred as his Billericay section winner the previous week, his Brownlie Van Hee family have certainly served him well over the years. Ken's team were not trained prior to the first race only exercised for 45 minutes round the loft the dark cock had 4 races in the build up to the national and was sent sitting on overdue eggs. Interestingly these birds had no racing last season.

2nd Section E, Willie Watson Kirkfieldbank.

Willie timed his two year old chec hen at 21.16 to win 2nd section she was unraced as a youngster and four races as a yearling up to Wetherby, she was sent to Huntingdon with her eggs due to hatch. Both her sire and dam were won in Raffle's the sire was a Kerr Stainthorpe cock won at the South Lanarkshire sale and the dam a Pete Patrick of Thornton won at a SNRPC sale.

3rd Section E, W Mitchell & Son Lesmahagow.



The partnership of Wull senior and son William have been very successful for many years flying in the long distance events, the last two Reims races have been classic examples of this, in 2018 they were 1st & 2nd section E 2nd & 4th open in what was a hard race with the gold medal winner on 931ypm, again in 2019 they recorded 1st section and 9th open again a very hard test they were also 5th section flying 555 miles to their loft in Lesmahagow. Their 3rd section winner had 5 races up to Peterborough then 2 x 60 miles tosses from Dunbar. As a youngster he was 1st to the loft at the first race but sat out for 90 minutes, a certain convoyer friend of Willies told him he should bin it but Willie said he would eventually score from Reims I believe there's a £10 bid riding on this !!!



Willie Watson Kirkfieldbank 2nd section E

1st 2nd & 3rd Section F, 24th, 27th & 30th Ian Ross Kirkintilloch

Ian's birds are paired to suit racing on that particular weekend which is usually the Reims gold medal race they have around four races to at least the 200 mile mark prior to the race. All three of Ian's winners were sitting either overdue eggs or just hatched. The section winner was a three year old blue hen that Ian purchased at the SNRPC sale donated by Billy Bilsland, she was also 1st section F Arras last year. The second section winner is a 2 year old chec hen bred from Scammel and Pablo cock and a Dennis Ford hen both were gifted to Ian by David Carlin of Carlin Brothers now retired from the sport. 3rd section is a 2 year old grizzle hen which is Jock Allen lines crossed with Dennis Ford pigeon.

This will be the 15th first section SNRPC Bronze medal that Ian has won since 2005 a remarkable record to be proud of well-done Ian.



1st section F for Ian Ross Kirkintilloch



2nd section F for Ian Ross



The 3rd Section winner for Ian Ross

Late Bred Sale

Our annual late bred phone in sale is scheduled for Sunday 29th August where there will be some outstanding young birds on offer from some of the best lofts in the country. An advert will be placed in the B.H.W. and website soon.

Duncan Knox

Press Officer.