



# *Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club*

## *Annual Dinner & Presentation*

The Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club Annual Dinner and Presentation of awards for season 2022 was held at the Leapark Hotel Grangemouth on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January. A good crowd of members and friends gathered to celebrate the occasion. The race winner's, guests and officials were piped into the hall which has now become a tradition of the club. Senior Vice President

Duncan Knox welcomed the company and following an excellent dinner introduced the top table and guests. Our guests this year were Billy Bilsland, Ronnie Reid, Les Blacklock and his wife Merle. Duncan introduced Billy, one of the country's top fanciers and winner of 13 national aces and Ronnie who is the president of the Lanarkshire Social Circle Ronnie position he has held for the past 17 years> Ronnie and Billy both made excellent speeches which were very well received by the members. During Les Blacklocks closing speech he mentioned that he and Merle had been invited to the clubs first presentation night in 2006 as guests and they have returned every year since except one as friends. Les also went on to recall some of the great old fanciers like Benny Martin and Jimmy Hamilton who were an integral part of formation of this club now sadly no longer with us but are very much part of the SNRPC history.

The first award to be presented was the Billericay Inland National won by Kenny Droog of Forfar presented by Ronnie Reid



*Kenny Droog receiving his award from Ronnie Reid*

Next came the Huntingdon Inland National race the winner was Peter Virtue, he and grandson Brodie (who is a great help to Peter) were also presented by Ronnie. Peter also won the yearling National with his 1<sup>st</sup> open pigeon.



*Peter Virtue and grandson Brodie receiving their award from Ronnie Reid*

The Eastbourne national the longest race on the 2022 programme was next up and race winner John Baillie of Tranent Ronnie Reid again did the honours



*John Baillie receiving his silver medal and framed diploma from Ronnie Reid*

The last national race awards to be presented was the Newark Young Bird National the Port Seton father and son partnership of Sinclair Thomson and son Sinclair junior this time Billy Bilsland did the honours.



*Sinclair Thomson & Son with Billy Bililand*

This concluded the 1<sup>st</sup> open winners and the following awards to be presented were the Averages.. Overall Average winner was Peter Virtue of Cockburnspath



*Peter and grandson Brodie receiving the beautiful Claret Jug from Billy Bililand, all the crystal overall and section trophies are won outright each year*



*Peter and Brodie with the Cumbria Trophy.*

The Cumbria Region Friendship trophy won by P W Virtue.



*The National Race Winners L to R Billy Bilsland, P Virtue, B Rutherford, S Thomson snr, S Thomson Jnr, J Baillie, K Droog and Ronnie Reid*

The Section Averages were the next awards to be presented each winner receiving a crystal Plaque

Section B: P W Virtue Cockburnspath. Section C: B McKenzie. Section D: R W Hamilton Cambus. Section E: D Graham Lanark. Section F: I Ross Kirkintilloch.

Old Bird National Races Section Winners each received a Bronze Medal the winners were as follows:

**Billericay** Sect B: P W Virtue. Sect C: K Droog. Sect D: R W Hamilton. Sect E: Geddes Hillis & McGuinness. And Sect F: G Donaghy.

**Eastbourne** Sect B: J Baillie. Sect C: D Bridges. Sect D: Mr & Mrs Forrest. Sect E: D Graham. Sect F: W Smith.

**Huntingdon** Sect B: P W Virtue. Sect C: J D Armour. Sect D: D Graham. Sect F: G Donaghy.

Newark Y.B. Sect B: S Thomson & Son. Sect C: J D Whyte. Sect D: T Manger. Sect E: B McCrindle. Sect F: W Smith.



*R W Hamilton Sect D.*

*D Graham Sect E.*



*I Ross Sect F.*



*W Smith*



*G Donaghy Clydebank*



*Mr & Mrs Forrest Newbridge*



*D Armour Leven*



*P Virtue Cockburnspath*

With the presentation complete the members and their guests were able to enjoy a great social evening in the comfortable surroundings of the hotel with fancier's circulating happy to meet old friends and also make new ones. The Lea park hotel proved to be once again an excellent choice of venue and I'm sure it will continue to be so for the foreseeable future.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The club's AGM will be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 1pm at Newbridge Bowling Club were we hope to see a good turnout of members so please make a

note in your diary to attend, this is where the decisions are made then it's down to the management committee and officials to carry out the members wishes.

### **Membership**

Anyone thinking of joining the SNRPC please contact the secretary David MacArthur on 07311792669 email [snrpc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:snrpc.secretary@hotmail.co.uk)





