

CENTRAL SOUTHERN CLASSIC FLYING CLUB



Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation

The weekend of 25th October saw the 39th Annual Dinner and Prize Presentation for the Classic being held at The Queens Hotel, Bournemouth. The weather was exceptionally kind to us considering we are now approaching November with many of the guests taking advantage of the mild temperatures and walking around the town centre.

Our Guests of Honour for the weekend were Geoff and Barbara Kirkland who are two of the nicest people you could ever meet. It was a pleasure to sit and listen to Geoff who has a wealth of knowledge. On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank Geoff and Barbara for making the trip down and hope they enjoyed themselves.

Our other special guests were Neil Atkins from A E James & Son who sponsor the corn for each race. This was Neil's first dinner presentation which he carried off well. We hope he didn't find it too daunting. It was also lovely to have Brian & Viv Wall attend. Brian has sponsored our Yearling Derby Race from Messac for many years and we are very grateful to him.

There were a couple of our sponsors who were unable to make the evening who I would like to thank for their continued support and that is Mary and Tony from Ponderosa UK Stud for the £150 voucher to the race winners and Steve and Nettie Richards from the British Homing World. Our evening got underway with a very nice 4 course meal. (One person had 7 courses, not mentioning any names "JC"). Once the plates were cleared away our Master of Ceremonies Mr Roy Christopher began the formalities of the evening introducing Chairman Anner Smith. Anner welcomed our guests and thanked our sponsors, those present and the ones absent. Also, Anner thanked Tony Porter from Albion Stone who kindly donated the Portland Stone used to make our much sought after bird bath and Kevin White who arranged the sculpturing of the stone. Kevin White gave his final speech as our outgoing President. Kevin has served the Club well and it has been a pleasure working with him.

Kevin gave a brief account of 2014, mentioning the hard racing season we had, the three successful breeder/buyer sales and the 44 new members who have joined us. He thanked all our Marking Station I/C's Roy Christopher, Barrie Smith, Alen Gibb, Clive Merrills and Eamon Kelly who made sure there was transport available at Steventon, Nigel Rigiani and Anner Smith as Convoyer and Race Advisor. He ended with our Annual Late Bred Sale which made a total of £3,325 and thanked everyone who had donated.

The Pau Blue Riband winner Clive Ret responded on behalf of all the prize winners with a few words and then it was time for Geoff & Barbara to present the cups and trophies.

In charge of the raffle was Christine White with Anne Hooper and daughter Jane once again helping to sell the raffle tickets. These ladies are a Godsend to me and I appreciate all their help. The raffles made a total of £375.

The Mini Auction was hosted by auctioneer and entertainer Tony Cowan who is another person who goes beyond the call of duty for the Classic. He is always thinking outside the box with ways to help the Classic. The birds kindly donated for the auction were from Roger Lowe, Dave & Lisa Waterhouse, Tony Stephens, Padfield Family and Bob Fenech making £950 all together. Thank you to all these people.

Lastly, I would like to mention Lenny Painter from Southampton. Lenny is known to most people as he has been around the pigeon world for many years. If you haven't seen Lenny for a while take a look at this photograph, he looks great. You couldn't keep him off the dance floor and he certainly showed the younger ones a thing or two.



Pete Abrook. 1st Open Guernsey OB



Steve Slade. NW Section Winner Guernsey OB



Tony Swain. Messac Yearling Derby Winner.



Dave Waterhouse. 1st Open Bergerac.



Preece Bros & Son. 2nd Open & NW Section Winners Bergerac.



Andy Parsons. SW Section Winner Bergerac.



Mike Skidmore. The Bunney & Taylor Trophy. Bergerac



Bryan Woods. The Dorset Trophy & The Wessex Charity Cup.



Brian & Linda Dixon. The Oxfordshire Trophy.



Steve Slade. Nw Section Winner Guernsey YB.



Dave Waterhouse. 1st Open Guernsey OH.



Brian Freeman. SW Section Winner Guernsey OH.



Andy Parsons. OB Averages & Combined Averages Winner.



Mark & Julie Gower. SW 3 bird average YB Cup Winners.



Jack Baden. NE Section Winner Pau.



Andy Parsons. SW Section Winner Pau.



Tony Leggatt. The Hopper Bros Shield & The Speedbird Challenge Trophy Winner.



Clive & Tina Ret. 1st Open Pau.



The Race Winners.



Lenny Painter.

Wishing everyone the very best for 2015.

Clare Norman.