

## WINTER RACING PIGEON SHOWS 2011.

### Esher & Dist. RPC Winter Open Shows.

The Esher club held their series of open racing pigeon shows at their HQ, The West End Sports and Social Club in November and December and the turn out each week made them the 'hottest' shows in Surrey this winter. The club got the up stairs committee room for the shows this year and what a brilliant venue it turned out to be, with plenty of good light, space and ventilation. Mike Charlton and Roy Barnett organized and ran the shows this time and on behalf of the membership, I must say, well done to those two gentlemen, they were some of the very best shows we have had at Esher and we have had very good ones through the years. The birdage was very good with all the pens being filled up most weeks, making the £50 a class prize money outstanding and the winner take all £1 nominations were also well supported. Talking to Mike Charlton on the last evening he said, 'We have maintained decent levels of prize money as well as making £224 profit for the club. This will enable us to purchase a new laser printer and some computer consumables for the club ETS marking system, which was one of our main objectives'.

Betty and I were lucky enough to winner the Esher 'Show Points Trophy', making it 18 times that we have won a show points trophy and this time we lifted it with 60 points. We did show a few old birds which took some good cards, but because of the intent of pairing up early we exhibited mostly young birds this winter. My team of eleven young birds were strong this year and I decided to show them this winter, with some good success. The competition at the Esher Friday night open shows is 'red hot' with big birdage and good prize money. While I was away in Newcastle judging the NEHU Show my wife, Betty, and Peter Taylor took my six young hens to the Esher for the handled show and won 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. The following weekend was the big one for me as I had entered five young hens and four young cocks in the C.H.A.S.E. Show hoping to win my dad's trophy, 'The Fred Mott Memorial Cup' for the second time. On the Friday night I entered my sole five young cocks in the Esher YC handled class and won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and BIS. The BIS winner was our Keith Arnold / Staf Van Reet blue pied cock, 'Foxwarren Wonderer', and he is a grandson of the 'Perfect Pair'. I took my little team to the C.H.A.S.E. Show on the Sunday morning to win 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> young cocks (38 birds) and Best Young Bird in Show, lifting the 'The Fred Mott Memorial Cup'. It was a great thrill to win the ol' man's cup again and finished off a very special weekend of showing for me! The Best Young Bird was my Brian Denney blue chequer pied cock, 'Foxwarren Saga' who also recorded 3<sup>rd</sup> at Esher on the Friday night and he was bred from two grand children of Champion 'Tuff Nut'. On the weekend 'Foxwarren Wonderer' won BIS at the Esher open show and 2<sup>nd</sup> young cocks at the C.H.A.S.E. Show. A couple of weeks later Betty and I entered four young cocks in a very strong through the wire class at Esher and won 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>. The winning pigeon this time was a grand son of Brian Denney's Champion 'Tuff Nut', in the form of our handsome blue chequer cock, 'Foxwarren Renegade' and he previously won 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Esher handling show.

The 2011 Esher open show winners were: **Week 1:** Old Eyesign (Judge: Dennis Sheppard) 1<sup>st</sup> Malcolm May: Young Bird Eyesign (Judge Dennis Sheppard) 1<sup>st</sup> Slight & Taylor: **Week 2:** Old Hens TW (Judge: Richard Nicholas) 1<sup>st</sup> Trussler Brothers: Young Hen Handled: (Judge Richard Nicholas) 1<sup>st</sup> Keith & Betty Mott: **Week 3:** Old Cocks TW (Judge John Cudmore) 1<sup>st</sup> Allen Palmer: Young Cock Handled (Judge Brian Goodwin) 1<sup>st</sup> Keith & Betty Mott: **Week 4:** Old Hen Handled (Judge John Keywood) 1<sup>st</sup> Trussler Brothers: Young Hens TW (Judge Steve Appleby) 1<sup>st</sup> Trussler Brothers: **Week 5:** Old Cocks Handled

(Judge Terry Haley) 1<sup>st</sup> Roy Barnett: Young Cocks TW (Judge Brian Chitty) 1<sup>st</sup> Keith & Betty Mott: **Week 6: AA Fancy Colours** (Judge Angela Stockbridge) 1<sup>st</sup> Malcolm May.

### **C.H.A.S.E. Charity Show 2011.**

The annual C.H.A.S.E. Charity Show was held at the Horsham YMCA Football ground in late November and as in past years the support for this great event was first class. On show day the pens and hall were packed. Entry looked like one of the biggest for some years and judges were David Bridger, Phil Mott, Terry Haley, Brian Goodwin, Roy Underdown and I normally judge, but stood down this year in favour of showing a few birds. A vote of thanks to the London & South East Classic Club who sponsored the C.H.A.S.E. show for the class prize money again this year. Best in Show was won for the fifth year on the trot by Des and Darran McFadden of Cranleigh and once again it was with their good Red Pied Meuleman / Marcellis Cock 'Chloe's Boy'. He is the nest mate to the McFadden's 2006 SMT Combine winner 'Sparrow' and has won three firsts on the road as well as many seconds and thirds. This wonderful cock is the sire of many prize winners and too date has bred two first prize winners including 'Messac Express', a winner from Messac in 2008. He has won eight firsts showing and his C.H.A.S.E. Charity Show wins are: 2006: 1st Young Cock / Best Opposite Sex: 2007: 1st Old Cock: 2008: 1st Old Cock / Best in Show: 2009: 1st Old Cock / Best in Show: 2010: 1st Old Cock / Best in Show: 2011: 1<sup>st</sup> Old Cock and Best in Show. Des and Darran had a very special day at C.H.A.S.E. this year winning four of the six classes, BIS and BOS, and six of the seven open show trophies, including 'The Charity Cup', 'The Clare Cup', 'The 400 Mile Cup', 'The Crammond Cup', 'The Ralf Forman Cup' and 'The Tony Millis Cup'. Congratulation to Des and Darran!

This year's show saw over 200 birds entered in the six classes, which were all handled. Racing Pigeon Class winners were: **Old Cocks** (Judge: Phil Mott): 1) D. & D. McFadden 2) J. Salt 3) B. & J. Gumbrill: **Old Hens** (Judge: Brian Goodwin): 1) D. & D. McFadden 2) C. Turner 3) A. Muir: **Young Cocks** (Judge: Terry Haley): 1) K. & B. Mott 2) K. & B. Mott 3) A. Muir: **Young Hens** (Judge: Roy Underdown): 1) A. Muir 2) A. Muir 3) W. Cable: **400 mile Cock & Hen** (Judge: David Bridger): 1) D. & D. McFadden 2) W. Cable 3) A. Muir: **Eyesign** (Judge: Roy Underdown): 1) D. & D. McFadden 2) G. & D. Marsh 3) D. & D. McFadden.

Betty and I had entered five young hens and four young cocks in the C.H.A.S.E. Show hoping to win my dad's trophy, 'The Fred Mott Memorial Cup' for the second time. On the Friday night I entered my sole five young cocks in the Esher YC handled class and won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and BIS. The BIS winner was our Keith Arnold / Staf Van Reet blue pied cock, 'Foxwarren Wonderer', and he is a grandson of the 'Perfect Pair'. I took my little team to the C.H.A.S.E. Show on the Sunday morning to win 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> young cocks (38 birds) and Best Young Bird in Show, lifting the 'The Fred Mott Memorial Cup'. It was a great thrill to win the ol' man's cup again and finished off a very special weekend of showing for me! The Best Young Bird was my Brian Denney blue chequer pied cock, 'Foxwarren Saga' who also recorded 3<sup>rd</sup> at Esher on the Friday night and he was bred from two grand children of Champion 'Tuff Nut'. On the weekend 'Foxwarren Wonderer' won BIS at the Esher open show and 2<sup>nd</sup> young cocks at the C.H.A.S.E. Show. The other class winner at the C.H.A.S.E. Show was Alasdair Muir of Dorking and he had a brilliant show taking numerous cards on the day. He won the young hens class with a quality blue chequer hen which was typical of his highly successful long distance family. Alasdair is another of our best long distance fanciers! Winning 1<sup>st</sup> open L&SECC Pau, 1<sup>st</sup> open L&SECC Bordeaux, 1<sup>st</sup> open

L&SECC Angers and has been five times in the first 50 open NFC Pau in recent seasons, plus 2<sup>nd</sup> open BICC Dax in 2003 and 1<sup>st</sup> open BICC Tarbes in 2010.

A small draft of eighteen gift birds were auctioned and helped to push the donation to the C.H.A.S.E. Charity up to a wonderful £2,200 this year. This time they had one of the best sales ever, with some unbelievable pigeons being donated! Every year we all look forward to the C.H.A.S.E. Charity Show and Auction, and this year we enjoyed one of the best ever, with over 260 birds being entered! Thanks to the donors of the auction birds, it was a magnificent gesture! The show is put on by the Horsham Pigeon Club, under the leadership of Show Secretaries, Clive Turner and Gordon Marsh. I consider several pigeon clubs to be very special in our sport and the Horsham RPC is one of them! It's a quality pigeon club, with quality fanciers and has a good long friendly and family orientated tradition. The club holds the now famous C.H.A.S.E. Charity show every winter and have raised thousands of pounds for the children's hospice at Godalming over the last few years. The raffle on the day was massive with prizes donated by most who attended the show, but a special 'thanks' must go to 'Pets Pantry' of Cranleigh who donated a mountain of pigeon items, including six bags of corn for prizes. Thanks to Darran and Des! The show has been extended in recent times and included four classes for Show Racers, which I enjoy judging. Well done to the Horsham Pigeon Club, on another brilliant effort!

**TEXT & PHOTOS BY KEITH MOTT ([www.keithmott.com](http://www.keithmott.com))**