

## **THE LATE ERIC CANNON'S PIGEONS KEEP WINNING IN 2012!**

My good friend, Eric Cannon passed away in 2000 and I think it is common knowledge that he was one of 'greats' of long distance pigeon racing in the UK. Eric was certainly one of the best pigeon fanciers I've ever met! Through the years since I carried out his dispersal sales in November 2000 I have had countless phone calls and letters from fancier who have done well with Eric's birds and this has always given me great pleasure. In recent times fanciers have won National and Classic races with the Cannon pigeon pure and crossed.

### Fred Dickson of Cramlington.

Probably one of the best Eric Cannon breeders in recent times is Fred Dickson's red cock, which was bred by my self in 2004 out of a son of Champion 'Culmer Sam' and a daughter of Champion 'Culmer Bess', the NFC Pau Merit Award winner. The red cock has bred a dynasty of Bourges (581 mile) winners for Fred, including being the sire and grand sire of 1<sup>st</sup> Federation winners. We named the red cock 'Foxwarren Fred' after Fred Dickson who is still winning big time at the grand age of 85, to his loft on the allotment in the North East of England. He lives several miles away from the pigeons and has to travel to tend the birds every day, what ever the weather conditions might throw at him. I remember one day he rang me up and there was two foot of snow on the ground and he was off to feed and water the birds. This great fancier has to hire a taxi cab on race days to take him to the pigeon club to get his clock read! I have known and spoken to Fred on the telephone many times over the year, but never met him, until in November 2011, when I was invited to judge at the NEHU Show in South Shields and we met in person for the first time. I really enjoyed our pigeon chat and I must say he looked much younger than his 85 years! His great Eric Cannon stock cock, 'Foxwarren Fred' is the sire of many premier long distance champions including: 1<sup>st</sup> Federation Bourges (581 miles), 2<sup>nd</sup> Federation Bourges, 2<sup>nd</sup> Federation Bourges, 2<sup>nd</sup> Federation Bourges, 3<sup>rd</sup> Federation Bourges, 5<sup>th</sup> Federation Bourges, 8<sup>th</sup> Federation Bourges and is grand sire of 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Federation Bourges (581 miles) in the 2012 season. He is the sire of the champion cock, 'The Five Times Bourges Cock', winner of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Federation Bourges and sire of 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Federation Bourges. Sire of 'Foxwarren Fred' is 'Culmer Sam's Lad' bred by Eric Cannon, the last son of Eric's Number One stock cock 'Culmer Sam', who was the product of Eric's Fear Brothers cross. Champion 'Culmer Sam' was the ultimate stock cock and was the sire of Eric Cannon's highly successful 550 mile family. Dam of 'Foxwarren Fred' is 'Culmer Fantasy' bred by Eric Cannon and she is a daughter of Champion 'Culmer Bess', winner of 6<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 170<sup>th</sup> open N.F.C. Pau (540 miles), 47<sup>th</sup> open N.F.C. Pau / Saintes, winning the NFC Pau merit award. This brilliant hen was top priced pigeon at Eric Cannon's dispersal sales, sold for £2,300. 'Culmer Fantasy' is a full sister to the dam of Champion 'Night Flight', winner of 1<sup>st</sup> open Saintes / Pau Grand National in 2003, for Mark Gilbert.

Another wonderful Eric Cannon stock cock for Fred Dickson is the blue cock, 'Foxwarren Prince' and he was also bred by K. & B. Mott in 2004. This brilliant cock is a son of our fantastic original Number Two Eric Cannon stock pair and is sire of many premier 550 mile racers, including 1<sup>st</sup> Federation Bourges (581 miles), 2<sup>nd</sup> Federation Bourges and grand sire of 3<sup>rd</sup> Federation Bourges in the 2011 season. The sire of 'Foxwarren Prince' is the blue cock 'Culmer Prince', bred by Eric Cannon. This champion breeder is one of the best 550 mile stock cock we have ever owned and is a direct son of Champion 'Culmer Marion', winner of 1<sup>st</sup> open NFC Sartilly in 1990, when mated to a daughter of 'Culmer Expected', winner of 22<sup>nd</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 103<sup>rd</sup>, 231<sup>st</sup> open NFC Pau, who is a grand daughter of 'Culmer Rose' winner of 30<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup>, 131<sup>st</sup>, 389<sup>th</sup> and 541<sup>st</sup> open NFC Pau. 'Culmer Rose' is a daughter of the champion breeding cock 'Culmer Sam'. The dam of 'Foxwarren Prince' was the blue hen 'Culmer Rocket Queen', bred by Eric Cannon. One of the best long distance stock hens we have ever

owned and is a champion breeder! Dam of many winners and is a daughter of 'Culmer White Flight', winner of many positions in the N.F.C., including 1<sup>st</sup> Section A. 14<sup>th</sup> open NFC Pau, when mated to Champion 'Culmer Channel Queen', winner of 23<sup>rd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 98<sup>th</sup> and 183<sup>rd</sup> open NFC Pau and winner of the NFC Pau merit award, also 346<sup>th</sup> open Young Bird National. This wonderful hen is a daughter of the champion stock cock 'Culmer Producer', who is a son of 'Culmer Pat', winner of 27<sup>th</sup>, 80<sup>th</sup>, 104<sup>th</sup> open N.F.C. Pau and dam of 1<sup>st</sup> open NFC Pau for G. Stovin. 'Culmer Rocket Queen' is a full sister to '80993', highest priced young bird at Eric Cannon's dispersal sales, being sold for £520.

### Ronnie Young of Northern Ireland.

In August 2012 I received a letter from Ronnie Young, a premier fancier in Northern Ireland and he owns two outstanding Eric Cannon stock cocks bred by us in 2004. Living in County Down, Ronnie's pigeons fly the hard rout on the long distance from France and he has enjoyed brilliant success with the Cannon pigeons in recent seasons. His blue stock cock, '01152', is another son of our fantastic original Number Two Eric Cannon stock pair and is sire of many premier 550 mile racers, including 54<sup>th</sup> open INFC Friendship National Portsmouth, 2009: 6<sup>th</sup> section, 104<sup>th</sup> open INFC St. Milo (1904 birds), 223<sup>rd</sup> open INFC St. Milo, 2010: 1<sup>st</sup> section, 45<sup>th</sup> open INFC St. Milo (1695 birds), 2011: 128<sup>th</sup> open INFC 'Kings Cup' Plaudlen (2792 birds), 2011: 308<sup>th</sup> open INFC Sennen Cove Yearling National (4882 birds), and grand sire of : 2011: 268<sup>th</sup>, 296<sup>th</sup> open INFC Sennen Cove Yearling National (4882 birds), 2012: 250<sup>th</sup> open INFC Sennen Cove Yearling National (4319 birds). The famous Pair Two success story continues! The other stock cock Ronnie wrote to me about was the Eric Cannon blue white flight, '01148' and he is a full brother to Fred Dickson's great stock hen, 'Foxwarren Northern Complete'. '01148' is the sire of many premier racers including: 2011: 191<sup>st</sup> open INFC St. Milo (OB) National (1597 birds), 2012: 215<sup>th</sup> open INFC St. Milo (OB) National (1408 birds) and grand sire of: 2012: 200<sup>th</sup>, 250<sup>th</sup> open INFC Yearling National (4319 birds). The sire of '01148' and 'Foxwarren Northern Complete' is 'Foxwarren Black Splash' a grand son of Eric Cannon's Champion 'Culmer Gold', winner of 21<sup>st</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>, 83<sup>rd</sup>, 103<sup>rd</sup>, 111<sup>th</sup> open NFC Pau (550 miles), 164<sup>th</sup> open NFC Nantes, winning the NFC Pau Merit Award, Best Average Nantes / Pau, also 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> open Combine. 'Culmer Gold' was the champion of all Eric Cannon's champions! The dam of '01148' was 'Foxwarren Complete', bred and raced by Keith & Betty Mott. The champion 550 mile racing hen, being the winner of 2003: 32<sup>nd</sup> open L&SECC Dax (530 miles), 2<sup>nd</sup> East Grinstead CC Dax, 2004: 29<sup>th</sup> open L&SECC San Sebastian (560 miles), 2005: 116<sup>th</sup> open L&SECC Pau (552 miles), 2007: 109<sup>th</sup> open L&SECC Pau. 'Foxwarren Complete' was bred from the very best of Eric Cannon and Brian Denney's long distance families and is the dam of the champion long distance breeding hen, 'Foxwarren Northern Complete'. A late bred son of 'Foxwarren Complete' was donated and sold at the 2008 BHW Blackpool Show Charity Auction for £740. A real class hen! (Photos can be viewed in the Website 'Album')

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