

Scottish National Flying Club
Established 1894

Newbury 2 Report flown 8th June 2009

Section D;	1st	Jimmy Jamieson Cambusbarron	1292
	2nd	Robertson Brothers Stirling	1291
	3rd	Jim Smith Polmont	1285

Winning section D 10th open is **Jimmy Jamieson** of Cambusbarron who timed in a yearling blue pied hen known as 'Wee Ava' she was entered to the race feeding a 6 day youngster. She was paired up the 3rd week in February and reared 1 youngster.



Jimmy Jamieson winner of 1st section D 10th open

She then had 5 races prior to the Newbury National these being Otterburn 94 miles; Seaham Harbour 132 miles; Ripon 169 miles and Newark 245 miles. Wee Ava sire is an 8 year old grizzle cock purchased from the Natural Breeding Stud and is a Jos

Thone. The dam is a daughter off Jimmy's old Hofkens pair which was a gift from the late John Gray. Wee Ava is small to medium sized hen and very tame to the extent of being a nuisance at times. Jimmy lost her mate at the 3rd race and she had just laid that night and she sat these eggs all week in fact she kept on sitting these eggs on her own that a week before the National Jimmy slipped a chipping egg on basketing morning of the Scottish Central Combine yearling Derby where she flew a steady race. The following week she started to fan her tail at Jimmy but he just ignored her until basketing day when he started to make a fuss of her. He does not know if this had any bearing on the performance but that and the 6 day youngster did not do her any harm. As a matter of interest Jimmy recently retired and had to move house as it came with the job; he was going to give up the birds but after some ear bashing from Colin Stewart who along with Ian Robertson built a loft in the compound in the Raploch estate he decided to continue. Jimmy wishes to thank these lads and all the boys in the compound for welcoming him into the area; never in his wildest dreams did he think he would win the section in the SNFC as he just broke his team of pigeons to the new location 2 weeks before the first race of 2009. In closing Jimmy would like to congratulate Mr Van Nuil on winning the national race from Newbury.



Robertson Brothers and their 'helper' Kjeron holding 2nd section D 11th open

Second section D 11th open; are **Robertson Brothers** also from Stirling Homing Society; Ian and Chris timed their red chequer cock named 'Scarlet' at 18.35pm. He was sent to the race on the roundabout having been paired on 2nd January 2009 and reared 2 youngsters. He had 4 training spins before racing commenced and has been to 4 races before the National these being Otterburn 94 miles; Seaham Harbour 132 miles; Newark 245 miles and Leicester 269 miles. As a youngster he only had 3 races out to Otterburn 94 miles. The sire of Scarlet was a bird the brothers obtained from J

Lafferty and is a blue Cattrysse his dam is a chequer Van Loon hen from Peter McGowan. As a matter of interest the brothers had a great race timing 4 birds on the night; my thanks to John Stewart for obtaining the information on the 1st and 2nd bird in section D for me much appreciated.

Third section 14th open is **Jim Smith** of Polmont who timed in a 4 year old blue bar hen sent on the roundabout system; she was paired up in February and reared 2 youngsters in her first nest she was then put on celibate and given heavy training along with the others in the race team from Wallyford / Tranent area; the birds take between 40 and 45 minutes to cover the distance involved. As a matter of interest Jimmy told me he stopped this training 5/6 weeks ago; and the birds where then given an hour's fly in the morning and evening; with the hens going out first and then the cocks. The blue hen has been to every race this year going to Coldstream 60 miles; Otterburn 80 miles; Seaham Harbour 118 miles; Ripon 155 miles; Wakefield 186 miles; Leicester 256 miles the week prior to the National; the birds were treated the same as normal and Jimmy gave her the cock for about 15 minutes prior to basketing for Newbury. As a youngster she was flown to the young bird national (all Jimmy's youngsters have to go this distance) then as a yearling she was raced to the coast; as a 2 and 3 year old she was raced as far as Maidstone. Jimmy is so impressed with her condition on return that he is thinking of pairing her up in the middle of next week along with the others and he will then decide if she is going to the Maidstone open or Alencon national; he will observe the team and pick birds to go to each race accordingly. Sire of the blue hen is a Dave Hawkins from Doncaster Vandenabeele while the dam is a Busschaert hen from John McNeil of Broxburn. Jimmy timed another 3 birds on the day which should make the open result; I would like to thank Jimmy for supplying me with the details on his winner and I wished him luck with his entries into the classic race which are now coming thick and fast.

Section E;	1st	Mick McCormack Uddingston	1306
	2nd	Tallis & McDonagh Blantyre	1299
	3rd	Leo Ralston Plains	1288



Mick McCormack with his 1st section E 1st west region 8th open winner

First section 1st west region 8th open is **Mick McCormack** from Viewpark in Uddingston with his good hen now named 'Easterwood Lass'; she is a 2 year old blue chequer hen who was purchased by Mick as a late bred from Mr Mason at Cromer in Norfolk from his very successful Busschaerts lines that have served himself and others well for many years. The sire of Easterwood Lass won 12 positions in club racing and was bred from the Thurso Hen who had flown Thurso 10 times a distance of 416 miles winning along her career 40 prizes when paired to a cock that won 1st club 5th federation from Fraserburgh 345 miles. The Dam of Easterwood Lass is the mother to the 2003 North Road Championship Club Dunbar winner who in turn is a grand daughter of Champion Bruno winner of 1st federation from Lerwick 512 miles and 12th federation Fraserburgh 345 miles.

Easterwood Lass is of medium cast good balance, strong back with an eye that is rich Yellow/Red with plenty of depth, as a yearling she had 3 races were she was coming well until injured and therefore stopped by Mick for the year. In 2009 she was paired up on 14th of February and reared 2 young birds in the first nest, Lass has flown all the Lanarkshire fed races and is trained on a Tuesday and Wednesday weather permitting from Crawford approx 28 miles and is given the freedom of the outdoors the rest of the week to come and go from the loft as she sees fit. She was sent on the Thursday after thrown her 2nd flight and sitting 2-3 days overdue to hatch. After verifying Easterwood Lass Mick was overjoyed at being told that he had won his section with the SNFC and added to that a proud man at the accolades that come with this position including; 1st Uddingston, 1st Lanarkshire Social Circle, 1st Lanarkshire Federation. At federation level Mick and his small team of pigeons have been on fire with winning positions as follows; 6th; 9th & 10th Kelso 4945 birds; 38th Otterburn 8502 birds; 7th &

9th Hexham 8944 birds; 5th; 6th & 7th Hexham (2) 7332 birds and 3rd open Wakefield 8658 birds competing. Our congratulations go to Mick and I'm sure with the form that this loft has been showing it will not be the last time that fanciers throughout Scotland will be hearing about you.



The Tallis & McDonagh with their 2nd section E 2nd west region 9th open winner

Second section E 2nd west region 9th open is **Tallis & McDonagh** from Blantyre who race to The Burnbrae Lofts, the partnership consists of Jimmy Tallis who is slightly the older one and the calming influence of the loft and Tommy McDonagh the enthusiastic and professional half of the partnership, These two fanciers joined forces in 2006 were beforehand both had experienced success throughout their careers. The pigeon that gave the partnership success on this occasion is a 3 year old blue chequer hen who like the winner of the section E from Newbury is also a late bred, so any fancier out there with concerns about late breeds should fear not if they are good enough they will come through. As a yearling this hen won 1st Blantyre club from Maidstone; 12th west section & 32nd open from an entry of 1900 birds flying a distance of 360 miles. Her potential was not fulfilled in 2008 as she had a sleep out from the Wincanton and Falaise races where she was the partnerships fancied pigeon. This year now as a 3 year old she was paired in November reared 2 youngsters in the first nest and separated the middle to end of January and then kept celibate until being repaired on the 8th of May. This was the nest she was sent sitting with her eggs due to hatch at basketting, her final race in the build up to the Newbury national was from Newark 224 miles being the partners fancied pigeon but a little late that had possibly put her in tip top condition. Road training comes at the start of the season after which time the loft only flags the pigeons for 1 hour 3 times a day with the exception being

basketing and race days. The pigeon was sent with a full wing with her 1st flight already being thrown this season. The breeding of the hen comes in the form of Hartog crossed Janssen with the sire being the Hartog bloodlines from a John Gerard cock with a Alistair Kerr hen and the dam of the 2nd section hen winner being a Janssen that originates from the best of the late Eddie Wright's pigeons from Yorkshire. Well done to the partnership on another fine performance and I have been informed that this pigeon will be going back to the SNFC Eastbourne or Ypres race where being the class pigeon that she is with great balance, back and character in abundance we could possibly be hearing more from this good pigeon.

My thanks to Gareth Rankin who obtained the details and photographs for this report he did a first class job and when you consider he is also one of the race controllers he puts in a lot of 'hard graft' for the club which is very much appreciated believe me.



Leo Ralston holding his 3rd section E 3rd west region 13th open winner

Third section E 3rd west region & 13th open is **Leo Ralston** who flies his pigeons in the Airdrie club in the Midland federation. Until 3 years ago he formed a very successful partnership with his brother Kenny, flying as K. & L. Ralston winning several federation trophies. A house move brought the partnership to an end and this is only his 2nd full season flying on his own to his new address. An exchange of birds was arranged between Leo and Alex Stewart who is a club mate of Leo's and has a particularly successful family of birds. One of the Stewart youngsters came to Leo's loft in the village of Plains. The mother of the youngster won 1st federation 4th west region SNFC Maidstone, and a sister won 1st federation 3rd west region in SNFC Eastbourne race; this hen also won 1st club; 1st federation Leyland and was voted Bird

of the Year in the Midland federation in 2007. Leo's timer is a lovely 2 year old chequer cock; now named Caitlyn's Boy after his granddaughter. He scored as a young bird, but returned hawked from an early race as a yearling and was set aside. This year he had five races up to the federation Leicester open race where he was given his hen two days before basketting and he took a creditable 44th open position. He was then left with his hen and sent to Newbury driving, which obviously worked – with this great result; my thanks to Andrew McKee for this information and photograph on Leo.

Section F;	1st	John Campbell West Kilbride	1267
	2nd	Tom Smith West Kilbride	1242
	3rd	Tom Smith West Kilbride	1219



Happy John Campbell with his 1st section F 20th open winner

First section 20th open is **John Campbell** who time in a 3 year old chequer cock flown on the roundabout system; this pigeon has an old ring on it which I will explain later on. The section winner was mated the last week end of February and reared one youngster he was allowed to go back down on eggs and these were replaced by dummies as John only keeps a small team of pigeons and has only about 20 youngsters and 24 or so old birds to race. The chequer cock had a couple of training tosses from 12 miles before going into the club racing and he was sent every 2nd week. His last race was from Wakefield he was then given a 12 mile toss by John good friend Tom Smith who won 2nd & 3rd section F. As a matter of interest the last time Tom tossed John's pigeons he topped the federation from Appleby; and here he is doing it again from the second toss; Tom told him 'This is the last bloody toss you will be getting' as they burst out laughing. The chequer cock was not raced as a youngster as he was a late bred (another one) bred in September of 2006. He was hawked as a yearling and only given the comeback race at the end of the year. As a 2 year old he had every club race out to Newbury returning the next morning with some tail feathers missing; in fact he returned from this Newbury race with a couple of feathers missing from his wing. As I said he was given every 2nd race this year out to Wakefield and was put on the roundabout for this race; this is the first time that John has tried this system as he has always been a natural man; however his system is different to others in the fact that his cocks are on the open bowl all day and have the freedom to go in and out as they please; then in the evening they are let out with the youngsters and have a good fly. Now to the breeding of the chequer cock; John had one of his youngsters reported by a fancier called Joe Palmer from Kilbirnie; which is only about 10 miles from his home; so he went to collect it; lo and behold Joe had mistaken the ring number and it was not John's bird, while at the loft Joe showed John his stock pigeons and he was quite taken by a lovely dark chequer hen; Joe told him he would breed him a pair from them and in September he phoned to say the 2 youngsters were ready. As it was so late in the year Joe did not have rings to put on them so used old rings hence the reason the chequer cock is rung 2000. The following year poor Joe died and John attended his entire clearance sale and purchased the dark hen that it turned out was unringed; however she and her mate were bred from Chris Gordon bloodlines. Typical pigeon story John lost the dark hen while trying to settle her to his loft. John's loft is having a good season and he has 3 candidates for the Eastbourne race and I wished him every success with them. It was lovely to speak to John and his good friend Ian Cameron from Lincolnshire is over the moon at his success. John asked me to express his gratitude to the convoyers for the work and effort they put into looking after the birds; he timed in another bird at 19.00 and a 3rd at 07.00am the second morning.

Second and 3rd section 31st & 60th open is **Tom Smith** who timed in a 2 year old dark chequer cock flown on roundabout; he was mated on the 15th February and reared 2 youngsters in the first round when he was sitting 6 days on the next set of eggs his hen was removed and he was celibate. He was given a few training tosses in stages up to 12 -14 miles prior to the first race; however he receive a set back when Tom heard a thump at the back of the loft and found a hen sparrow hawk on top of him; as he approached she flew off and he picked up the bird who was covered in blood from an open wound on the butt of his wing. Tom told me he recovered quickly and was then given 3 or 4 races with the last being Leicester the week prior to the Newbury event. He was given the normal routine with the only difference being Tommy gave the pairs a little longer together prior to this race about 10 minutes or so. As a youngster he was given a few races then as a yearling he had every race and won the yearling cup in the



Tom Smith winner of 2nd & 3rd section F 31st & 60th open Newbury 2009

Ayrshire federation; he also won 14th section F from Eastbourne in 2008. He is much inbred to Tommy's good Busschaert hen who won 1st section F 135th open SNFC Alencon in 2007 for McDonald and Smith. The sire of the dark chequer cock was a yearling cock that was lost racing. The dam is a full sister to the dam of the 1st section F winner from the Gold Cup race. Tommy's second pigeon is a yearling blue cock whose sire was bred by the late Brian Hovell from North Nottinghamshire (his obituary was in the 8th May issue) Brian donated a pigeon to the local transporter fund sale and Tommy purchased it. The dam of the blue cock is from a ½ brother and sister pairing both birds being bred by Robbie Rome of Annan direct from his 1st open SNFC Reims winner 'Reimus', The blue cock had 3 races as a youngster and this year has flown celibate every race this being 5 or 6 out to Leicester; he has not been mated or sat a pair of eggs, he is shown a hen prior to going to the race and that's it; however as a reward for doing so well Tommy has given him a mate and he is on the drive as we spoke. Tommy like John would like to congratulate the race convoyers and controllers on a wonderful job it is not often we have pigeons winning so high up the open prize list in this area so they had to be just right and after 4 days in the basket they returned in immaculate condition. In closing Tommy asked me to once again highlight the wonderful achievement by John Campbell on winning Section F, he said 'Joe he is a great doo man; who does not keep a lot of pigeons. However I will have to try harder in the next race I cannot have it said that an old man with 2 hip replacements beat me'. I thought this was priceless and shows the feel good factor we now have in this the greatest club in the land. My thanks to Richard Thornhill for the photographs of John and Tommy much appreciated

Section G;	1 st	Glen Cameron Aberdeen	1194
	2 nd	Jim Coutts & son Kintore	1092
	3 rd	Mike Main Portlethan	1080



Glen Cameron winner of 1st section G 1st north region 94th open playing with his winning widowhood cock 'Alf'

First section 1st north region 94th open is **Glen Cameron** who clocked a yearling GB rung Schallie cock now named "Alf" after the legendary Alf Baker. After a bad training flight earlier in season Glen was very despondent but was reminded by my father (Charlie Cameron of Arbroath club; who won 1st region C in this race last year JM) of the writings of the famous Alf Baker that he was never more dangerous than when he was left with only a small team, these words kept my motivation strong. 'Alf' while being named after a former great of the sport is actually bred by modern day equivalents namely the partnership of Wall, Lunt and Green from Manchester. He is bred from their race team of 2008 and he is a grandson of 'Handsome Henri' and 'Gem 84' with a sprinkling of Van Der Merwe and Camphius bloodlines. Alf raced all races this season being slightly injured earlier in the season coming home with a few tail flights missing, while being late on a few occasions he always arrived home fresh. The Saturday previous to the Newbury National was his first showing of form when he recorded 7th club from a 170 mile race. Incidentally Glen clocked a 2nd pigeon on the night which was also bred by the partnership of Wall, Lunt and Green from Manchester this time being a daughter Katie. Glen would like to use this opportunity to thank a number of people who have assisted him during the year. As part of his job he is often works away from home during the week. Therefore Glen expresses thanks to Karen his girlfriend; Willie Davidson who looked after the pigeons during much of the breeding season and finally his mum who has looked after them when he was away during the racing season.



Alf showing off how pleased he is to be back home in Aberdeen

Second section 2nd north region 328th open is **Jim Coutts & son** who timed in a 2 year old blue chequer white flight hen, she only had 3 races a youngster, then as a yearling she won 2nd club 8th federation from Newark a distance of 293 miles and the following week she won 1st club 12th federation Leicester an increased distance of 323 miles.



The J Coutts & son partnership with their 2nd section G 2nd north region 328th open winner

This year she had 1 toss with the Aberdeen federation lorry from Montrose then into Alnwick 129 miles; 2 weeks later she was entered into the Rotherham race a distance of 266 miles then the comeback race from Witton Castle 179 miles and she was sent to Newbury on a 2 day old youngster which she never came off before race marking. The plan for her now is to send her to either Ypres or Falaise with the SNFC later in the season. She was bred by Ian McKay the SNFC management committee member; president of Aberdeen federation as well as organiser of the Kingslea One Loft Race. Sire is Kingslea Carnival who raced in the South Africa one loft race and in turn is a son of Naylor's Pride 1st North Road Championship Club Lerwick for John Norris of Grantham. The dam is a dark chequer hen bred from a son of Donkere Barcelona that flew Barcelona 5 years on the trot and was bought from 1st prize pigeon in Holland he was paired to a daughter of another son of the same pigeon. My thanks to Ian McKay for supplying me details and photographs of the first 2 birds in the north section;



Mike Main with his 3rd section G 3rd north section 374th open winner

Third section 3rd north region 374th open is **Mike Main** who timed in a 3 year old grey grizzle cock flown on widowhood. He was paired up the end of January and reared one youngster in his first nest; he was then given one training toss from 50 miles prior to racing starting. He received 7 races prior to Newbury National these being 2 Thornton's a distance of 75 miles; then St Boswell 106 miles; Alnwick 116 miles; Witton Castle 167 miles; Rotherham 254 miles and the week prior to the National he was back again to Witton Castle he receives no other training. The grizzle cock was not raced as a youngster as he was a late bred from the previous year and therefore was raced out to the 200 mile mark as a 2 year old. His sire and dam were purchased from Ponderosa UK, with the line back to grandparents being Van Loon all the way back to Silver Shadow and he has the exact look and colour of Silver Shadow. Mike only bred 2 from that pair in 2006 and his full brother has had exactly the same races, including this National being his 4th bird timed at 9.30 am second morning. As a matter of interest this is the first year Mike as been back racing his pigeons on widowhood for the past 10 years. He sent 15 birds in total sent to the Newbury race and timed 4 widowhood pigeons in the clock. Mike informed me that when the birds arrived at the loft they were in superb condition and went straight into their boxes. He has asked me to compliment the convoyers on how well they looked after the birds considering the time they were in the basket; my thanks to Mike for supplying his details and photographs for this report.



Mike Main 3rd section G winner happy to be home with his hen

Trophy Winners

Billy Van Nuil of Gretna wins the Five Times a Lady trophy and 1st national cock trophy; Brown and Black of Dalkeith win the 1st national hen trophy. The Under 18 Shanks trophy is won by K J McDermott of Galashiels. The SNFC are indebted to the following sponsors; The British Homing World: - Publication of result in BHW; Bamford Feeds: - for supplying feeding for all the SNFC races; Unikon: - For supplying base stations; William Shanks Junior: - sponsor of Under 18 trophy.

Conclusion

As I write this report on Thursday 3 days after the first birds were timed in some fanciers have all their birds home while others have about 60 to 70% home; the majority missing seem to be yearlings which is a little disappointing, however the east in the wind and 4 days in the basket would be a new experience to many of these. We could not have asked for a better race with the leading pigeons spread right across the country for example; 1st open in south, 1st east 7th open; 1st west 8th open; 1st north 94th open flying nearly 400 miles; throw in the other section winners 1st D winner flying 344 miles being 10th open; 1st C winner flying 332 miles 25th open; 1st F winner flying 331 miles 20th open into West Kilbride which must be the most westerly point in the club radius and if any of you care to look at a map of Scotland you will see West Kilbride is opposite the Isle of Arran. The overall result is first class with the last open place being 453 with a velocity of 1052; I thought the result may last to about 21.00 hours in Fife but the last bird is at 20.14 which will show you how good a race it has been. You have read the positive comments from the winning fancier on how good their birds have returned and many are going to send these back to the other national races coming up. The birds that returned the next day have also picked up and the hours on the wing will have done them no harm whatsoever in fact it will have brought many of them right into condition for the French races later this month.

Can I once again congratulate all the winners mentioned above and also thank all the fanciers who helped me in some way by supplying the information or photographs to compile this report on behalf of the SNFC. Some members contacted me personally with their details which is a great help in allowing me to assemble this compressive report. To have details on each section winner is superb and we have worked together as a team which makes all the difference in the world. By the time this is in print we be in the process of having our 2nd national race from Eastbourne so can I just wish all the members every success in this race and can I once again ask them to assist me and the management committee by supplying as much details as possible on their winners; Good Luck to All

Joe Murphy
SNFC Press Liaison Officer