

BICC MARCH NEWS UPDATE.

The BICC is gaining ground on the so called and in one case, self appointed "big two" in leaps and bounds. At the time of writing this report in late February, Carol, our secretary, has already received more than 100 new applications for membership. This figure includes some 28 members from Kernow[Cornwall], proving if ever it was required to be proven, the Cornish fanciers desire to take up the challenge of National and International racing with the BICC. On reading the list of new members I also noticed an increasing number of fanciers from the North East and North West of England who are preparing to dip their toes into the National and International racing scene with the BICC. This proves, once again, that the BICC is the only truly National, indeed International club, operating within these Islands as we have members from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales - the pigeon racing equivalent of the British & Irish Lions.

More and more fanciers throughout the length and breadth of these Islands are becoming aware of one simple fact - that with the BICC they have the opportunity to compete in a 15 race programme at National and International level in short, middle, long and extreme distance races under the umbrella of one organisation. No other organisation can offer the same comprehensive National and International race programme.

One membership entrance fee covers the lot! ! Just £5.00 to join and a £25.00 annual subscription with race entry fees as low as £3.00 to race from the shorter National races and only £6.50 to enter the Agen International race; makes the club massively competitive in financial terms as well as racing terms.

The BICC National and International races are, on the whole, spread out at two week intervals so it leaves plenty of time for the family and other interests, giving fanciers the opportunity to overcome the effects of "red card fever" prevalent in weekly club racing!

Here in brief is an outline of the BICC 2015 race programme:-

2nd, May Falaise

16th, May Alencon

30th, May Tours

13th, June Poitiers.

19th, June Pau International [old birds only]

26th, June Agen International

3rd, July Barcelona International [old birds only.

10th, July St. Vincent International

17th, July Marseille International

18th, July Le Mans

31st, July Perpignan .

23rd, August Guernsey Young Bird National.

23rd, August Guernsey Any Age National .

12th, September Guernsey[2] Young Bird National

12th, September Guernsey[2] AnyAge National .

What's more the BICC now has EIGHTEEN marking stations covering an area from Penzance in the far south west to Northampton in the east Midlands and down to Kent in the East. I should also point out that the committee is always willing to listen to requests for new marking stations as long as they are viable with regard to numbers and are logistically compatible with the transporter pick up runs.

I list here the locations of the marking stations presently in use by the club. The addresses and names and contact numbers of the I/C's can be found on the BICC web site. The marking stations are in alphabetical order:-

Ash, Bath, Brighton, Bromley, Chestfield, Diss, Evesham, Gwent, Horndean, Ipswich, Lowestoft, Northampton, Norwich, Penzance, Plymouth, South Ockenden, Stowmarket and St Austell.

Other news is that the new trailer and crates are under construction at Jeff Greenaway's in Northern Ireland and will be ready for the start of the season in two months time.

As I mentioned in my last report, which covered the annual presentation weekend, this proved to be an absolute rip roaring success and I have heard only glowing reports from all those who enjoyed a truly great weekend in good company. Let's hope the weather is as kind to us next year! I've included with this report some more photos taken of successful fanciers on the night of the presentation.

Well that seems to be all the news for the present except to let you know that the complete BICC National and International race programme can be found on the BICC web site. This gives the birdage fees and times of marking for the various races.

Application forms for membership can be obtained from Carol Francis, 319 Feltham Hill Road, Ashford, Middlesex, TW 15 1 LP.

Alternatively you can apply to Carol submitting the membership fee plus your name address, telephone number[emial address] and longitude and latitude.

Come along and join the growing "band of brothers" who are prepared to take on the might of Europe. We already have EIGHT INTERNATIONAL race winners - who knows you could be the ninth!!

Best of luck to all in the coming season.

Gareth Watkins



John Smale flanked by Brian Leadbetter and Carol



Wally Turner pictured with Catherine Cooper and Carol at the recent BICC Presentation



Another Welsh Ace Mark Sparey with Catherine and Carol



Bill Knox at the recent BICC P.D.



Clive & Jill Rogers and Neil Sales



DarranMcFadden flanked by Jill Rogers and Carol



Mark Bulled with Linda Tyerman and Carol



Mr & Mrs M. Errington