



### ***BICC AGM Report.***

*The 2017 AGM of the BICC took place on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February at the club H.Q. the Lion Brewery at Ash. Prior to the AGM the committee held a short meeting to finalise the business for the 2016 season and amongst those items on the agenda discussed were the minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising from these. Next we moved on to the treasurer's report on the financial position of the club and I can say that under the committee, treasurer and secretary's stewardship, the club is in a very healthy financial position, this despite the fact that we have renewed various components in the transporter fleet, purchased and fitted out a brand new trailer and almost completely renewed the race crates by replacing the old wooden crates with state of the art aluminium crates. Russell was given a vote of thanks by all present for all his hard work on behalf of the club's members.*

*Carol then gave a brief report on the feedback she had received from the superbly organised Annual presentation weekend and this was all positive with many well satisfied revellers having already booked their tickets for the next presentation. The committee decided to stay with the Queen's Hotel in Bournemouth for the coming year and will book both the dining room and the ballroom for next year's dinner as in this year's event. All who attended commented that the food and service this year were both of the highest standard.*

*Next up was an extremely short discussion as to the positions of Secretary and Treasurer and both Carol and Russell had the unanimous approval of the committee and so both will remain in post. The subject of new marking stations was then discussed at length and it was decided that both the HULL and SPALDING marking stations will go ahead for an initial one year trial period. Obviously, if the support from the Northern and Lincolnshire members warrants an extension to this trial period then both marking stations may well become*

*permanent. It's now up to you lads in those areas to support the BICC with sufficient entries to make both these marking stations viable.*

*Also an additional marking station has been granted at RUNCORN for some of the International races, providing the entries are transported to one of the more southerly marking stations for collection by the main transporter.*

*The Stowmarket marking station will discontinue for the 2017 season but a new marking station has been granted for the IPSWICH area so hopefully this will not cause much hardship for BICC members in the Suffolk area.*

*Carol mentioned that she had been approached by a fancier in the Harrow area of London to see if they could be granted a marking station as the fancier concerned thought that he could muster some 25 or so new members for the BICC. However, after discussion it was decided that it was logistically impossible for the transporter to pick up the birds under the tight deadline that we have on race marking days, given the traffic in and around London. It was suggested that the interested fanciers take their birds to be marked at either Northampton or Ash.*

*A letter had been received from the NFC regarding holding a joint race from Agen International in 2018 to commemorate the end of the First World War. This will be discussed again nearer the time.*

*Carol had received a positive reply to our letter to the International race organisers about our concerns over race day weather and how it affects the British entries in some International races.*

*That was the final item on the agenda, so after a short break it was on to the AGM.*

*The minutes of the 2016 AGM were accepted as read with no matters arising and the Balance sheet was unanimously accepted without comment.*

*Carol then announced that she had received 128 resignations but this was counter balanced by more than one hundred new applications for membership with hopefully a considerable number more as a result of the granting of the new marking stations.*

*Election of officers – all those in post were re elected en bloc.*

*The voting result on the Notice of Motions was as follows:-*

- 1. Carried 158/29.*
- 2. Carried 162/16.*
- 3. Carried 175/14.*
- 4. Withdrawn.*
- 5. Carried 180/16.*
- 6. Carried 184/9.*
- 7. Carried 174/19.*

*That ended the 2017 AGM. This years AGM will be held at the Lion Brewery on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> so you have all been given fair notice. All are welcome.*

*A short committee meeting then followed which was open to all members who attended. The subject of members who do not pay their annual subscriptions on time was discussed and it was decided that we introduce a penalty fee of £10 for late payment, this to cover the administrative costs, extra work and inconvenience caused by those members guilty of late payment, this to come into effect from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.*

*Finally, it was agreed that as from 2017, the Z pool charity monies will be donated to the "Helping Harvey Fund", in support of one of our members' relatives who is suffering from a debilitating illness.*

*All business done and dusted it was back to the bar for a couple of convivial pints before making the 150 mile trip home to South Wales.*

*Sadly I have to report the death of Dickie Nash, a long standing member of the BICC who died on Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup> after suffering a long illness.*

*In recent years he had raced his pigeons with the Bognor and Chichester RPC. Dickie flew an outstanding pigeon and this past season more than held his own among the top prize winners in the local Club. In 1991 he won the coveted BICC Marseilles International.*

*In his early days in London Dickie played an important role as a BICC and NFC Clock setter and was a well respected member of the BICC Committee when he lived in Ashford. John Wills and John Tyerman visited him shortly before his death, at his home in Bognor and although very ill, he was in good form and looking forward to the new season. Dickie was undoubtedly very popular and one of the sport's gentlemen. He will be sadly missed by his many friends in the fancy. To his dear wife Jackie and all the family we extend sincere condolences at this very sad time.*

*My thanks to John Tyerman for the above information on a stalwart of the BICC now sadly passed.*

*Also included with this report are additional photos of some of the revellers at the recent BICC Presentation weekend.*

*Gareth Watkins*

*BICC Presentation weekend - additional photographs below.*



*Alan Wally Turner a consistent performer at the distance picking up his diplomas from the Belles of the ball*



*Heath Archibald another regular at the distance and past Barcelona winner and RU*



*John Rumney with Trevor Cracknell and Carol.*



*Mr & Mrs Leigh Preece of the Preece Bros & sons partnership  
1st Open Falaise AA race 2016*



*Mr & Mrs Bill Knox winners of Europa Cup plus Certificate of Merit*



*Our hard working secretary Carol Francis*



*Ray Strawbridge of the Strawbridge & Williams partnership  
with Carol and Mick Bunney*



*Ron Dove with his trophy for 1st Open Barcelona and the  
Chris Sutton Portrait of his winning pigeon*



*The late Dickie Nash with grandson Jack pictured at the loft*