



## NEW YEAR UPDATE

The date for this year's Annual Young Bird sale is on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at the Salisbury Livestock Market. Food and refreshments will be available on the day. We have just over 30 pigeons donated so far, so if you would like to donate please let me know. There will be a selection of Stud pigeons available as well. All money raised from the sale helps the Club tremendously to keep all costs for members at a minimum. The money raised from the BBC Stud birds is the only money that is used to support the Blue Riband Race.

The Committee held a meeting on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January and a lengthy discussion took place regarding our longest race. We have had several suggestions from members, one repeated suggestion being that we should seek an alternative race point on the west side of Spain to see if this would make it easier for the birds with the Pyrenees mountains they have to face at the start of their journey.

It was decided to seek the advice from our members who in the last 2 seasons have sent to either Barcelona or Palamos for them to let us know what their feelings are, as they are the ones experiencing this race. A feedback letter along with a map has been sent to these members. If the members concerned could send in a reply we would be very grateful.

Work is underway on the new racking system for the transporter. This racking system will provide a different way the crates are stacked to allow air flow around all sides of the crates. Feeding and watering can still be carried out from inside the transporter. We will keep everyone updated on the progress as it continues.

The Club has very kindly received a £100 donation from George Wood on the Isle of Wight to thank the Club for all their help over the years. Unfortunately due to hawk problems George has had to call it a day. The Committee thought it only fitting that the money should be somehow awarded to an Isle of Wight member and it was agreed to award it to the IOW member with the best average from all old bird races.

We would like to say a big thank you to George and send our best wishes for the future.

Another topic that was raised was the proposed new marking station at The Lion Brewery, Ash. Due to the Convoyer's tight schedule for collecting the birds, this marking station is

unable to go ahead. If there was someone who was willing to transport the birds from Ash to Salisbury once they were marked then we would not have a problem and the marking station would be fine. If anyone is able to transport the birds, please telephone or email me.

All 2016 fees are now due and must be paid before 1<sup>st</sup> April. Paperwork will be sent out to all paid up members at the end of March beginning of April. Young bird rings are still available at £5 per ring. All rings sold on a first come first served basis.

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