



STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS & DISTRICT FEDERATION

President's Ramblings



14 July 2010

Greetings All

The 2010 Old Bird Season is now a thing of the past and I am sure you will all agree with me that it has been one of the best seasons recently for the quality of the racing, with our Race Controller and Convoyer giving us everything we could have asked for – sadly they can't control the direction of the wind!

I think we all owe Roy and Derek an enormous vote of thanks for all their hard work. I would also like to thank, on your behalf, all the other individuals involved in the marking and transporting of the birds particularly our friends at Meir who do a sterling job on Friday nights without very many thanks.

The 2010 Old Bird Season will also be remembered for the enormous co-operation we received from our colleagues in the North Staffordshire Federation. Not only did they contact us every Friday or Saturday to discuss liberation times – so as not to have birds arriving at joint member's lofts at the same time – but they kindly agreed to transport our birds with theirs to the final race from Saintes.

From what I have heard everybody seems to have enjoyed working together and the race was regarded as a huge success. Let's hope this is just the start of a new bridge building exercise between the two Federations and that we can continue to join forces in the future – rest assured I will be doing everything I can to make sure this happens.

The grapevine will, I am sure, have been ticking but just to make it official I can confirm that the Transport and Finance Committee are now seriously looking for a vehicle to replace our existing transporter – after almost 25 years on the road EEG is finally giving up the ghost so 2010 YB season will be it's last.

We are also looking at various options to improve the racking and release mechanism on the Transit so that greater use can be made of this vehicle in season's to come.

The forthcoming YB season does present us with one big problem and that is the number of crates that can be carried on the Transit. With so many more Young Birds being raced, particularly at the start of the Season, it is vitally important that every club fills their crates with 17 birds. If they don't there will not be enough room on the Transit to put the later pick-up club's birds on board and you can imagine what chaos that would cause.

So, would those clubs that don't normally fill their crates please spare a thought for those clubs that come later on the round and play their part by leaving some space for them. Failure to do so will mean us having to restrict the number of crates that can be allotted to each club – that's something we don't want to do but we may have no option. The answer is in your hands.

That's just about the lot for now, so all I can do is wish you all a very successful YB Season and a fruitful race from Carentan at the end.

Cheers for now

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Brian

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