

# West of England South Road Combine with Alen Gibb

Saturday, 23rd January once again saw the Combine join up with Farrington Gurney FC for the annual prize presentation. Approximately 90 members and friends assembled at Farrington Memorial Hall, which was a 20% increase on last year. As usual we were treated to an excellent meal consisting of a choice of two starters, a roast beef, courtesy of master butcher Brian Millard, and veg main course, a with choice of two desserts and finally cheese and biscuits.

The winners of the first Combine race from Lyndhurst received a rousing reception when they went to collect their trophy, as these two very young lads from Taunton, Raphael & Diego da Silva and still not old enough to go to secondary school, yet they have achieved something which many very good Combine flyers have never managed. Mike Bullingham,

Jenkins & Bullingham, of Nailsworth won the 3rd Combine race from Bedhampton and the following week the same pigeon was 2nd Combine from Littlehampton winning Mike the Champion OB Trophy. Dave Brown of Towers won the 1st Channel race from Carentan also the Trophy for Best Performance by a Club Secretary. Next up was Phil Emery, L. & P. Emery, of Midsomer Norton who topped the Combine from Bedhampton, followed by dad Tony Emery who won the Combine and Combine Open from Fougères the following week.

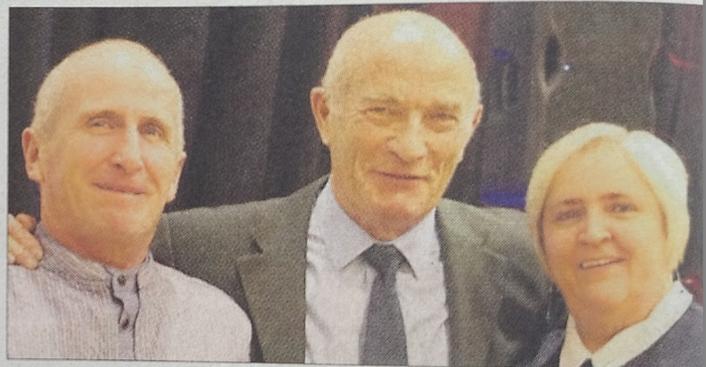
Andy & Sarah Florek contributed to a great OB season for the Gloucester & District Club by topping the Combine from Bedhampton. Chris Sims of the hosts, Farrington Gurney, had a clean sweep at the longest race from Bordeaux, winning 1st and 2nd Combine, both

birds also being entered in the Combine. 'Buzzer' & Bev Bees of Carlingcott took honours from Niort also winning the Year Trophy. The final inland OB race was won by new members at Gloucester, Johan Else & Murrey who were 1st Combine from Littlehampton.

It was great to see that at least members of the Combine reaching the top for the first time in their racing careers from thirteen OB races. Nobody usually dominates this highly competitive Combine although an exception was made in the YB season where two lofts won six of the eight races. Partnerships in the Glastonbury Club saw the YB season, each winning the Corn three times. Nigel Nutt made history by winning the first three races from Lyndhurst, Lyndhurst & Bedhampton. Gary & Prilly Hodges won



R. & D. da Silva with dad Vasco.



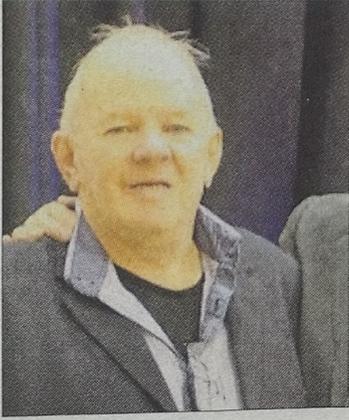
Mr & Mrs Florek.



'Buzzer' & Bev Bees.



Mike Bullingham.



Dave Brown.



Phil (L. & P.) Emery.



Tony Emery.