

# Protect Our Pigeons

In the UK and Ireland there are **six unions representing the sport of pigeon racing** and they are committed to protecting and safeguarding racing pigeons' welfare, including but not limited to birds who take part in the sport.

There are approximately **42,000 pigeon fanciers** in the UK, the most famous pigeon fancier is HM The Queen, who famously keeps pigeons in the Royal lofts at the Sandringham Estate.

**The Raptor Alliance lobbies on behalf of UK pigeon fanciers for a change in the protection of racing birds from predatory raptors.**

**Unregulated reintroduction programmes of the falcon and hawk has resulted in record high populations, posing an indeterminate threat to racing pigeons.**



**Pigeon fanciers want the legal right to protect their birds from predators, an acceptable ecological balance through new Government regulations on bird of prey population levels..**

## How to lobby...

- **Lobby in small groups**— get together groups of two to three people
- **Get your local MP involved**—speak to your MP and invite them to a club meeting
- **DO NOT be confrontational**
- All we want to do is **protect our pigeons, changing the law will enable us to do this**



Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret using carrier pigeons in 1943

For more information on Raptor Alliance and homing pigeons, please visit:

[www.rpra.org/raptor-alliance](http://www.rpra.org/raptor-alliance)

Or call:

**01452 713529**



PIGEON RACING UK & IRELAND  
**RAPTOR ALLIANCE**  
PROTECT OUR PIGEONS AGAINST RAPTOR PERSECUTION

## WE NEED YOU



The Law Commission, appointed by the Government, has concluded their revision of the 1981 Wildlife act (and others).

The Law Commission has listened to us, considered our submission and **their revision of the act includes all of our recommendations.**

In summary the proposed act includes **ALL** the necessary amendments to the existing law so that **individual pigeon fanciers will be able to make licence applications to Natural England.**

The revised law may be included in government business following the May General election.

**You** need to help and ensure that it is not amended to the disadvantage of pigeon fanciers.

**You** need to "lobby" your existing and prospective parliamentary candidates to ensure they support the Law Commission's recommendations to ensure we can apply to Natural England for licences in the future.



## Did you know:

The commercial impact of pigeon racing is significant to the UK and EIRE economies, **contributing over £106m per year.** Charitable events raise over **£250k per annum** whilst the **Blackpool Show of the Year** has raised over **£3m** in the past 40+ years!