The exact date of the 100th anniversary was January 24, 2014 so when the Club had to choose a Show Hall to house their Jubilee Show, they chose the Champion Show, because it was held on the same date as the Anniversary Day.

To add something special to this Centenary, we asked and was granted permission by the European Entente to make this a European Breed Show for the Dutch Cropper.

We attempted to excite all of our club members to enter a few of their pigeons and if possible a few extra. We opted by sending each member a personal letter, but also tried a personal approach. The latter probably worked the best. Participants were offered € 2,00 reduction per bird, being € 1,00 offered by the NBS (Dutch NPA) which was celebrating its 90 years Jubilee at this Show, and another € 1,00 offered by the Dutch Cropper Club board.

Left: The beautiful and valuable figurine created by Marleen Brouwer, was undoubtedly the most appealing. All participants that entered a minimum of four birds are to receive this figurine.

Right: During the jubilee ceremony, Marleen Brouwer received a copy of the jubilee book from the hands of the author, Fedde vd Ploeg. She was presented this as a thank you for allowing the use of a picture of her figurine on the cover of this book.

We also approached some German and Belgian breeders to show. Unfortunately,
this did not show results, so we could not welcome any foreign exhibitors. Our target of at least 200 entries was amply achieved. Eventually 215 Dutch Croppers in all 22 colour varieties were present to admire. Everyone was very happy, especially the organizing HKC board. They are appreciated and thanked for their organizing the event. In all, 24 participants were members of the Dutch Cropper Club HKC.

Right and below:
Dutch Cropper, black tiger, young hen.
Awarded 97 points. Best Dutch Cropper of the show.
Owner: F. van der Ploeg.

Right: This is the Medal of the European Entente, won by F. van der Ploeg and presented to him during the Ceremony by Hans Schipper.

Wednesday evening 23 January all pigeons were cooped. A special committee of HKC members adorned the hall with a beautiful aviary with 8 Dutch Croppers, a Giant Cropper of 100 cm, beautiful panels, etc. The next day 3 judges had their hands full judging the many entered birds. The judges were Rikus Hagenauw, Robin Woudstra and René Snijders.

Globally spoken, Woudstra judged the Selfs and some Pieds, Hagenauw judged the other Pieds and Snijders judged the Tigers, some Selfs and the AOC Class with Ash Red Grizzle, Ash Yellow Grizzle, Dun and Dun Pied.

Left: An aviary with among others, a number of beautiful black pied Dutch Croppers. With such a freedom of movement, of course, the birds show to their better advantage.
For a full list of participants I like to refer to the catalog of the Champion Show 2014, http://www.championshow.nl/Files/2014/Catalogus%20CS%202014.pdf

To highlight a few things;

**Very well represented colour varieties were:**
Blue black barred (35), Blue pied black barred (32), Black (31), Black tiger (27) and Black pied (26).

**Rare and therefore a challenge for the future:**
Red (2), Silver dark barred (2), Blue grizzle (4), Red tiger (1), Yellow tiger (3), Red pied (2), Silver pied dark barred (3) and Ash red pied barred (3).

The overall quality was very high, especially the Black, Black pied and Black tiger are doing very well. All together there were 6 pigeons awarded the maximum of 97 points:
- a Black, entered by F. van der Ploeg;
- a Black tiger entered by F. van der Ploeg;
- a Black pied, entered by G.H. Sterling;
- a Blue pied black barred, entered by R. Woudstra;
- an Ash red pied, entered by Evert Buter and
- a Yellow pied, entered by H. Snijders.
Best Pigeon in Show was won by F. van der Ploeg with a Black Tiger hen. This colour variety hardy ever wins a show. Most times it is the Blue black barred or Blue pied black barred that win. This Black Tiger hen won also the Medal of the Entente, presented for Best Pigeon in Show.

Because it was an European Breed Show for the Dutch Cropper, there were special prizes to win, such as the European Champion certificate for:
G.H. Sterling (Best Cock), F.v.d. Ploeg (Best Hen), and for B. Feenstra (Blue black barred), F.v.d. Ploeg (Black), R. Woudstra (Blue pied black bar), F.v.d. Ploeg (Black tiger), D. van Putten (Class of other colours) en H. Snijders (Class of other colours).

European Master Breeders (Best four in one colour variety):
F.v.d. Ploeg (Black, 385 points), R. Woudstra (Blue pied black bar, 385 points), G.H. Sterling (Black pied, 384 points), Joh. Kramer (Blue black barred, 383 points), F.v.d. Ploeg (Black tiger, 384 points). Other prizes were: a silver plated medal by the NBS, a medal from the Judge’s Association and all sorts of Club’s prizes; these will be awarded in September at the Annual Club Day.

Inserted is a picture of the Jubilee book; one of the focuses at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the HKC.

(You can see the video on the website of the HKC, by clicking the below link).
http://www.sierduif.nl/hollandsekropperclub/honderd_jarig_jubileum_index.html

Saturday afternoon 25 January 2014 over 80 club members and interested people were present at the celebration in the Show hall. Each one was offered tea or coffee with pastry decorated with the Club’s logo.
Above, right: Honourable member of the HKC; Jaap van Tol, and his wife, are presented with the jubilee book.

Above, left: Honourable member of the HKC; Adrie van Wel, and his wife, are presented with the jubilee book.

Around 13:15 pm, master of ceremonies Gert Sterling gave the floor to Show Chairman Grinding. He outlined the merits of many board members from the past and stated that cooperation with others would become more important, and that the word 'trust' here is important.

Next the presentation of the new book: 100 YEARS OF DUTCH Cropper CLUB, published by the HKC in honour of its 100th anniversary.

Fedde van der Ploeg was invited to talk about his experiences in producing this book. Honorary members Jaap van Tol and Adrie van Wel were the first to receive the book, and also Lies Beljaars, the wife of deceased Honourary Chairman Jack Beljaars. Marleen Brouwer, designer of the figurine on the front of the book, was presented a copy.

Below: With a glass of Champaign or orange juice all club members toast the Club and the new book, with a loud "Cheers".
Left: On behalf of the NBS, chairman Thom Laming was giving a speech and Hans Schipper (below) gave a speech on behalf of the Standard Committee and the European Entente.

A very special moment was the speech of Theo van Dissel, who offered a massive silver goblet from 1921, on behalf of the two sons of Pigeon King SPRUIJT. (Spruijt was a known Dutch pigeon keeper and author of many pigeon books.)

Left: Theo van Dissel presenting the Goblet.

Right: Close-up of the Goblet with engraving.

After the ceremony all members and visitors were invited to congratulate the board for the 100-Year’s Jubilee of the Dutch Cropper Club HKC.

Our thanks to the board of the Dutch Cropper Club for this report, also thanks to D.J. Hamer for the use of his photos and of course the congratulations of Aviculture Europe at this magnificent 100-year anniversary.