

## My First Experience at the 2016 National



**M**y name is Essa Hassim I'm from Durban central and 19 years old.

First and foremost I would like to thank my Mentor Mr George Norval for everything he has done for me from the bottom of my heart as I am here today thanks to him.

It was a dream come true seeing so many top quality birds in one area and my heart just was about to jump out when we benched the birds.

The best part was meeting so many new friends, who are true gentlemen of this fantastic hobby. I just sat smiling to myself knowing I am in the company of the legendary breeders who have spent half their life in the bird room experiencing every up and down of the one bird we all love.

I was a Steward for Mr Ian Bleasdale on the day and it was amazing how much I picked up from seeing the same varieties with different feather types and features.

Many thanks to everyone who made this wonderful weekend and a memorable moment in my life, it was more than perfect.

I wish everyone a Happy breeding season with lots of quality chicks.

Yours in feathers

Essa Hassim